

The Japanese Language School Archival Project

In the Spring of 2000, the Archives continued the original efforts of Captain Roger Pineau and William Hudson, and the Archives first attempts in 1992, to gather the papers, correspondence, photographs, and records of graduates of the US Navy Japanese Language School, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1942-1946. We assemble these papers in recognition of the contributions made by JLS graduates to the War effort in the Pacific, the successful occupation of Japan, the creation of Japanese language programs across the country, and the development of cultural reconciliation programs after World War II.

Ed Jucker, 85, Cincinnati Basketball Coach, Dies

{I am almost certain this is the Ed Jucker I knew at the JLS in January 1943 where he was a chief athletic specialist (along with Chief Hodge, Chief Barefield and Chief Brelsford and later Chiefs Thompson and Macgill and Friels). The age 85 is right and the fact that he was in the Navy is strongly suggestive I am on the right track. Early on, he was promoted to Ensign Jucker and sent to Norfolk, also in early 1943.

*-William Hudson
JLS 1943]*

Ed Jucker, who coached the University of Cincinnati basketball team to three consecutive N.C.A.A. tournament finals died Saturday at his home on Callawassie Island, S.C., near Hilton Head Island. He was 85 and had prostrate cancer, his wife, Joanne, said.

After seven years as an assistant at Cincinnati, his alma mater, Jucker became the head

coach for 1960-61. Oscar Robertson, one of basketball history's outstanding players, had just graduated, and Jucker abandoned a successful racehorse offense and emphasized defense.

His first team started with a 5-3 record. Then it won 22 consecutive games, culminating with a 70-65 overtime victory over Ohio State in the national championship final. The next season, it extended its winning streak to 37 games and went on to a 71-59 triumph, again over Ohio State, in the tournament final.

The following season, Cincinnati ranked No. 1 in the nation in defense. In the N.C.A.A. final, it led Loyola of Chicago by 15 points with 14 minutes left, only to lose in overtime, 60-58. After two more seasons, Jucker resigned, saying the job pressure was affecting his health and his family.

"I hardly know my family," he said. "I have four children growing up who hardly know me. They have to come first."

His five-year record was 113-28. His N.C.A.A. tournament record was 11-1, the best ever. He explained his success this way:

"I wanted us to run only when we had the advantage, but to concentrate more on a half-court game, press and power the ball inside because of the makeup of our team. I firmly believe that their chances of making a 1-foot shot inside were better than those of hitting a long shot."

Edwin Louis Jucker was born July 8, 1916 in Norwood, Ohio. He played on the basketball, baseball and golf teams at Cincinnati and served in the Navy in World War II.

Before his Cincinnati tenure, he was an assistant coach at the United States Merchant Marine Academy and head coach at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Later he was coach of the Cincinnati Royals of the N.B.A. and Rollins College. In addition to his wife, Jucker is survived by

two sons, Steven of Heathrow, Fla., and Kenneth of Gainesville, Fla., two daughters, Judy Pregler of Memphis and Karen Rettig of Atlanta, a sister, Doris Flaig of Cincinnati, and five grandchildren.

In Jucker's early years at Cincinnati, when he also coached the baseball team, he recruited a left-handed pitcher from Lafayette High School in Brooklyn and signed him to a basketball scholarship. After one season, that pitcher, Sandy Koufax, signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

[Ed. Note: We checked the student directory and found an Edwin L. Jucker amongst the Navy staff, so the names appear to be almost identical. Only someone who has his military records would be able to tell exactly.]

Yet Another Aspect of Later JLS Grads

My father was a Marine Captain while enrolled at the JLS. He is mentioned in The Interpreter, no. 26, July 15 2001 article titled "Another Take on Late JLS Graduates" written by Harry Pratt. He retired from the Marine Reserves as a Lieutenant Colonel. One minor update to Harry's article is that my father should be included in the few who had combat experience against the Japanese before attending the JLS in Boulder. Initially deployed to Am. Samoa, where he attended an ad hoc language school. He arrived on Guadalcanal in October 1942, as a second lieutenant with the 8th Marines.

My father and mother were married in Boulder while enrolled at the JLS. They lived in a small house on Spruce Street that still stands today. They visited that location a couple of years ago when they stayed with us in Littleton. After graduating from the program in Stillwater, my father deployed to Japan and worked in civil affairs and also spent considerable time in north China repatriating Japanese

soldiers and civilians to Japan. I do not recall his unit designation, but he recalls that his teams regularly exchanged gunfire with the Red Chinese army as the trains moved back and forth. Many of the repatriating Japanese had NEVER lived in Japan, since their families had settled in Manchuria (Manchukuo) in the late twenties and early thirties (I used this experience as reference material for a research paper when I was in college). By the way, it was also during this time period that Harry Pratt, author of the article mentioned above, was one of the interpreters at the war crimes trials. Harry and my father still stay in touch.

After the China stint my father mustered out of the Marines, but was recalled for the Korean War. He was again stationed in Japan and attached to division intelligence and doubled in civil affairs because of his language skills. Some years later, while living and working in Seattle, he arranged for the first direct shipment of steel between Japan and Alaska, negotiating on behalf of his employer at the time York Steel, and a division of the Mitsui Company.

Today my father still studies Japanese today and has interested my son in the subject as well.

*Bill Croyle
for William Croyle
LTC, USMCR (ret.)
OLS 1946*

Reprise On "Tony" Komesu

May I add a postscript to the letter which Glen Slaughter received from Uchizono Yozo, published in the 15 May 2002 *The Interpreter*. My husband, Roger Pineau, arranged a reunion in Okinawa several years ago of the Marines Glen Slaughter, Glenn Nelson, Jim Jefferson and "Tony" Komesu, the Okinawan/Japanese aide, a sentimental journey overseen by Masatoshi Uehara. Roger learned

that Komesu's favorite sport, indeed his obsession, was baseball. A trip to the United States, with a Washington, DC destination, was suggested and Komesu readily accepted. I remember his dining in our home on a meal which he declared "good", but mostly the memories of his trip linger on a visit to Baltimore to see the Orioles play and to enjoy seeing his name appear on the scoreboard with accompanying applause and a standing ovation. I am glad to

know that Glen found him still alive. His cooperation with the Marines and his trip to Washington, DC are still fresh memories for me.

*Sincerely,
Maxine Pineau*

[Ed. Note: I would like to take this opportunity to again thank Mrs. Pineau and praise the late CPT Pineau for expending so much effort to keep the JLS grads together, hold reunions and to develop research materials for his history of the JLS. His efforts are the centerpiece of our US Navy JLS Archival Project.]

\$Donations Accepted

There are those of you who may not have papers to donate to the Archives, but who may wish to support the Japanese/Oriental Language School Archival Project in other ways. We are setting up a cash account to fund Archives activities regarding the JLS/OLS Project. To date, the Archives has spent in excess of \$10,000 of its own funds on the project. If you wish to donate, make your check out to The University of Colorado and mail it to our contact address.

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