

# The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

Number 56

★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

November 1, 2002

## Our Mission

*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, letters, photographs, and records of graduates of the US Navy Japanese/Oriental Language School, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1942-1946. We assemble these papers in recognition of the contributions made by JLS/OLS instructors and graduates to the War effort in the Pacific and the Cold War, to the creation of East Asian language programs across the country, and to the development of Japanese-American cultural reconciliation programs after World War II.*

## Hindmarsh Revisited

Dear David:

Thank you for the two photos of Wayne's Café. (Give my thanks to Scott Shaver for getting them off.) How did you manage to recover such a shot? When you got my letter I thought you might say, "Wayne's Café? Never heard of it." It was a thrill to see it as I remembered it. My daughter, who was 8 at the JLS time (she attended third grade in boulder), remembered it too, and got a kick out of the picture.

I have been back to Boulder only once since graduation, when my wife and I went to the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion, and without knowing the exact street number I suspected that the café had been in the mall area. She would have enjoyed the photos.

I hope you took Cdr. Hindmarsh's "one meal a week" as an attempt at a little humor. It fit in with the Sunday dinner and didn't seem too far off course from the other three directives, (Cdr. Hindmarch emphasized

that the Navy was spending a lot of money on the JLS, and if you passed the course, you could expect to stay until 60. I believed him, and under the conditions at the time of the interview I think that he believed it. As a postscript, 60 is still quite a while ago, but my memory isn't quite that bad, unless we're talking 15 or 20 new kanji's a day. I managed out in April 1946.)

I can't close without borrowing from Bob Hope and saying once more, thanks for the memories.

Best regards,  
Duane J Flaherty  
JLS 1945

[Ed. Note: During the reunion when the bus tours passed 15<sup>th</sup> and Pearl I invariably pointed out Wayne's Café to the attendees. Several of those at the reunion remembered the \$1.75 steaks.]

## A Sparrow for Remembrance

[Dear Dave:

*Tom Fournoy's reminiscence about Ashikaga Sensei stirred a warm personal memory which I would like to share as part of the reunion participants' collective responses. I trust you can find room for it in a future issue.*

A. & M.W.]

Tom Flournoy's recollection of Professor Ashikaga's floral pictures stirred a slightly different fond memory for me.

In my case I think I must have expressed my admiration for his artistic creations, to which his surprise response was a charming impression of a little brown sparrow perched near the edge of a branch. During the many years since then we have acquired a number of attractive examples of Japanese art but none that have moved us in the way this small example of the creative skill of an inspirational teacher in a memorable time has.

Al Weissberg  
JLS 1944

## More on British JLSers

The British naval officers were among our most interesting students, and I believe that I can shed some light on them. It would have been splendid if one or more of them had attended the reunion in June [*We were unable to locate any*].

They spoke English with an elegant accent which most of us had only heard in the movies, and they lent a cosmopolitan air to our group. Heath was the one I knew best and he was said to have made the best academic record of any Japanese language student up to that time. W.G. Beasley, the foremost British historian of Japan in the postwar years, graduates from the school in 1944. He told me so, and I was present for the all -British graduation ceremony in December 1944.

Beasley, who had a long career at the University of London, is still living, though he is said to be infirm. My source is: Professor John Breen of the School of African and Oriental Studies at the University of London, the same organization with which Beasley was affiliated prior to his retirement. Breen's address is: SOAS, U. of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H0XG, U.K.; and you could reach Beasley through him, or by using the same address. Breen's telephone numbers are: (work) (01) 637-2388; (fax) (01) 436-3844.

On your list of British students is the name of Ivan Morris, who actually served in the US Navy as an Ensign, but was all-British in life-style and ethnicity. Indeed he was briefly in the British Foreign Service before his distinguished career in Japanese literature at Columbia University. His grandfather was a wealthy meat-packer in Chicago, and the founder of the Chicago Stockyards, Nelson Morris, who served as US Minister to Sweden. Iven's

father was Ira Morris, a novelist, and his mother a Swedish woman who also tried her hand at letters. They lived in England where Ivan was brought up; and he had the option of becoming either an American citizen or a British subject. For his naval career he wore the uniform of a US Ensign, as I have noted, as I have noted, but his academic training was almost altogether English, where he studied with Arthur Waley, and worked with Arnold Toynbee.

Morris was, along with Donald Keene and Edward Seidensticker, one of the three great translators of Japanese literature into English. *The Pillow-Book of Sei Shonagon* was his most notable translation from early Japanese literature, but he also rendered numerous modern novels into English, e.g. *Fires on the Plain* by Ooka Shohei and *The Journey* by Osaragi Jiro. John Catt, the bearded British naval lieutenant, was a unique figure as the only person in uniform allowed to wear his facial hair long. When he asked, "Oh, I say, were you in the queue?" I hardly knew what he meant. "Were you in line" was the American translation.

Sidney D. Brown  
University of Oklahoma  
JLS 1945

## Navy to Cite Sensei

On Saturday November 2, 2002, at 10AM in the Rose Hills Theater, Pomona College, Claremont, CA, a ceremony of recognition for the *sensei* of Navy Japanese Language School will be held. Those who taught at Boulder and Stillwater will be honored by a Distinguished Public Service Award, signed by Secretary of the Navy Gordon England and presented by the current Director of Naval Intelligence, Rear Adm. Richard B. Porterfield. It is hoped that as many of the living *sensei* as possible will be present on this occasion which is meant to honor all of those who contributed as teachers to the

success of the Navy Japanese Language School and its graduates.

The ceremony is free and open to the public. The organizers are hoping that former students, families, and friends in the area will be able to attend. Letters or comments about the *sensei* and their contributions are most welcome. For further information, please contact Dr. Pedro Loureiro, Archivist, Pacific Basin Institute at Pomona College, 333 North College Way, Claremont, California 91711. Telephone 909 607 8035.

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### ***One Cried Murder***

Ross Ingersoll's interesting account of "The Revue" prompts another memory. Shortly after our class arrived in Boulder in January 1943, a group of Language School spouses mounted a play that had been written by one of them. I am a bit chagrined to say that I don't remember the author of *One Cried Murder*, a very well-written mystery with an all female cast. My wife, Clare, was one of the actors as was Jane Burks, spouse of Ardath Burks, who later had a distinguished career at Rutgers (where we

served together for 29 years) as a Japanese Government and Politics specialist. The performance, on May 18, was highlighted by a snowfall of some 15 to 18 inches, but we all trudged through the drifts and felt that we were well repaid for our efforts by a first class show.

Sorry not to have made the reunion. Morris Judd called to urge us to attend, and we hoped to make it, but I've been trying to finish another book and time is short....

*Henry R. Winkler  
JLS 1944*

*President & Professor Emeritus  
University of Cincinnati*

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#### **New JLS Website:**

<http://www-libraries.colorado.edu/ps/arv/col/jlsp.htm>