

# The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

Number 106

★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

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December 1, 2006

## 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.*

## Michael V. Forrestal Lieutenant, USN

From a contemporary news report:

"After work with the Marshall Plan in Paris and graduation from Harvard Law School in 1953, he joined the New York law firm of Shearman and Sterling. In 1962 he went to Washington, D.C. as a member of the small, elite National Security Council staff under McGeorge Bundy in the Administration of President John F. Kennedy. In Washington, he lived with the Averell Harriman's, who, since his father's death, had taken him under their wing almost like an adopted son. After JFK's assassination in 1963, he was back in his New York law practice, where he remained for the next twenty-five years as a partner and later senior partner of the firm.

"He worked quietly and effectively to promote trade and better understanding between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. He was President of the US-USSR

Trade Council (1978-80) and later was founder of the American Trade Consortium, which sought to arrange joint ventures with Soviet commercial interests. He served as President of the Board of Trustees of Phillips Exeter Academy and was also a long-time patron of the Metropolitan Opera in New York, as well as an avid deepwater sailor who voyaged extensively in the Caribbean and other seas of the world. He never married.

"He died instantly on January 11, 1989 of an aneurysm while chairing a committee of the governing board of Lincoln Center. He was an international lawyer and former Government official who frequently served as an intermediary seeking to improve relations between the U.S. and the USSR. He was 61 and lived in Manhattan. He was stricken while the committee was discussing a search for a director to succeed Bruce Crawford, who will leave that post later this year. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital Center where he was pronounced dead. At his death, he was Senior Partner of Shearman and Sterling, a law firm which specializes in international finance and arbitration of international disputes. Much of his work centered on the oil and gas business and for more than 2 decades he was the legal adviser to Sonatrach, the Algerian Oil Company.

"For many years, Forrestal, who was a son of James Vincent Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy from 1944 to 1947 and the first U.S. Secretary of Defense in 1947, acted in a quiet way to increase friendly contacts between the superpowers. His interest in foreign affairs, and in the Soviet Union in particular, dated from his Naval service. He received a commission in the United States Navy in 1946, at the age of 18, after attending the US Navy Oriental Language School at the University of Colorado at Boulder in Russian,

and was appointed Assistant Naval Attache in Moscow under Ambassador W. Averill Harriman. He also served as Secretary to the Quadripartite Naval Directorate of the Allied Control Council in Berlin. From 1948 to 1950 he was Deputy Director of the East-West Trade Division of the U.S. European Cooperation Administration. From 1962 to 1965, while a member of the senior staff of the National Security Council, he dealt with Asian affairs and was a participant in early decisions relating to the U.S. military presence in Vietnam.

"Born in New York City, he graduated from Phillips-Exeter Academy before joining the Navy. He attended Princeton briefly in 1949 before earning a law degree from Harvard four years later. He joined Shearman and Sterling in 1953 and became a partner in 1960. A man of many interests, he was an avid sailor, participating in many voyages along the East Coast of the U.S., in the Caribbean and in other parts of the world. His lifelong interest in young people was reflected in his service as President of the Board of Trustees of Phillips-Exeter. At his death, he was trustee of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and a director of the Institute of East-West Studies. In addition to serving as chairman of the Executive Committee of the Metropolitan Opera Association, he was a director of the Metropolitan Opera Guild. He was survived by a niece, Francesca C. Forrestal.

He is buried in Section 30 of Arlington National Cemetery, along with his father, mother and brother, Peter O. Forrestal.

*[Ed. Note: I found this obituary on the web after receiving a number of queries regarding Mr. Forrestal from JLS/OLS graduates and attendees. Unfortunately, there was no attribution.]*

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## Comment on JLS 1943 Class Stories

I got so carried away by putting together an account of my "reunion" with Mrs. Yumura, Ensign Nakamura's sister, that I forgot to say how much I enjoyed your "double issue" of the January (2005) newsletter [*How about that for slow-motion response?*]. So many more wonderful stories!

Being reminded of old June 1943 classmates (Larry Vincent, Gene Sosin, Jim? the Jazz pianist, Hart Spiegel, Glen Slaughter, Thorlaksson) and my former sensei, Henry Tatsumi, and their lively personalities was just the beginning. Then to learn of the unique relationship between Larry and POW Kuwahata, the Tinian school story, and the Chinese language school was most inspiring. And, of course, thank you for including my own "JICPOA TALES." I hope the other 580+ persons on your mailing list will enjoy them.

And to learn you still have "news" to keep you going until January 2008 and that you are ever searching for new, "lost" members is very welcome news. I will be encouraged to keep myself going despite annoying ailments.

Arthur Dornheim  
JLS 1943

## Winter '42 to FSO

Having enjoyed *the Interpreter* since its inception, I finally recognize the need to get off the dime and put in my ten yen's worth.

I was in the 1942 Winter class, the first large group to arrive at JLS in bell-bottoms and pea-jackets, in the case of 8 of us Y-3-C's, from the *Boston*: Receiving Ship, a 4-story brick building imaginatively dubbed the *USS Fargo*. We were led (as a "troop movement") by Sol Levine, whom we called "Pop",

as the most appropriate honorific for the occasion. The group included Jim Satterthwaite, Bob Schwantes, Frank Dawson and Joe LoBrutto—my apologies to the others for failing memory. I was among those who enjoyed life on the “Range of the Buffalo”, much of the time getting by on “what you learned on Friday night” as the anthem put it.

After graduating in March '44 I made my way to JICPOA via Bethesda Naval Hospital where I had measles during what would otherwise have been pre-shipping-out leave, New

York to learn what every Navy intelligence officer should know, and a stint as a shore patrol officer in San Francisco where I learned a number of other things.

My time in the JICPOA translation section routine was broken by TDY on the staff of Admiral Blandy (Phibs Grp One) for the Palau operation. Dan Karasik had been good enough to nominate me to succeed him on the staff. This involved the Anguar end of Palau, where an Army division found very light opposition, in contrast to Peleliu a few miles north. I got

to maintain the action plot on the flag deck, safely distant from any Japanese-speakers. That evening I was transferred, on about five minutes' notice, to the APD Sands, a WWI four-stacker with an Army reconnaissance platoon aboard. The next morning we arrived in Ulithi, together with the cruiser *Denver* and a bevy of minesweepers. I was put aboard the *Denver* while the recon platoon went about its business.

After about an hour they picked up the native chief, who was desperately trying to get

picked up, and brought him to the *Denver*, where he assured us, in passable English he said he'd learned in Manila and Hong Kong while Ulithi was German, that there were no Japanese at Ulithi. The Admiral felt this should be checked out, and I felt sure the chief was not a Kamikaze, so I went ashore with the chief and an LCVP-crew to complete the “conquest” of Ulithi, which became for a while the largest fleet anchorage in the western Pacific. (To Be Cont'd)

Thomas W. Ainsworth  
JLS 1944

## ***A Halcyon Place For Honeymooners!***

About two years ago, through a coincidence, your group was made aware of the fact that my husband was in Boulder in the language school [in Russian] from November 1944 until graduation in May 1945. Since then, we have received *The Interpreter*, which is dedicated to the Japanese Language students of that time. Though I find some of the reporting interesting, since my husband was in the Russian Program, we don't remember any of the people reminiscing in

those issues (Oh, we did become friends with one Japanese student “Brunt” Battey and his wife Jean).

Since my husband and I are now in our 80s we are beginning to downsize and among our myriad photographs are some of the Russian group there at the Language School. Since they will have little meaning for others, I am sending them to you just to have them in your files.

Many of us were newlyweds and Boulder was surely a halcyon place for honeymooners! We are still in touch with the Brinks and Behrmans from those long ago

days and still reminisce about our times there.

We wish you well in your venture of adding to the Boulder archive.

Barbara & Tom Deering  
OLS 1945

[Ed. Note: Since Issue #89A, I have placed 16 stories or obits about Russian Program people. The JLS/OLS Archival Project and this newsletter are dedicated to all who taught or attended the JLS/OLS in all languages. The other language programs were, however, well outnumbered by those who studied Nihongo. I sent them an up-to-date list of Russian graduates on the mailing list.]

## **A Reluctant Goodbye Pat**

Thanks for sending on the missing Interpreters -- I hadn't seen them all, and I was pleased not to have missed the note about Jean Harlow's Cord Phaeton. Stanley Heath and Ivan Morris were using it when I arrived in Boulder, and when I (regrettably) was transferred to Stillwater I gave it a reluctant goodbye pat. Later in Tokyo I talked about it with Stanley (who had become Japan manager for Revlon).

I don't know whether you have noted the death of Daphne Shaw Stegmaier, Boulder WAVE and daughter of OLS director Glenn Shaw.

William C. Sherman  
OLS 1946