

*The Interpreter*

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

Number 108

★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

[arv@colorado.edu](mailto:arv@colorado.edu)

February 1, 2007

**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.*

**John L. Riordan Sr.**  
**90, JLS 1944**  
**retired NSA analyst**

John Lancaster Riordan Sr., a retired senior analyst with the National Security Agency, died June 29 of natural causes at Mariner Nursing Care facility in Laurel. He was 90.

Born in Davenport, Iowa, Mr. Riordan graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1937. It was there where he met his future wife, Maude. They were married in 1936.

The couple spent a summer in Heidelberg, Germany, while he pursued his doctorate degree in German literature, which he received in 1939 from Berkeley.

Mr. Riordan enlisted as a junior grade officer in the Navy in August 1939. He was a communications officer on an admiral's flagship during World War II, where he worked on intercepting and translating Japanese communications. He rose to the rank of lieutenant commander.

After the war, he spent

several months on active duty in Shanghai before being discharged in 1946. He then joined the Navy Reserve.

He was a professor at Indiana University and taught German studies at the University of Virginia before being called back to active duty at the outbreak of the Korean War.

He joined the NSA as it was being formed. He worked for the agency in West Germany from 1952 to 1955 and returned to Europe in 1956 during the Hungarian Revolt.

Mr. Riordan remained active in the Reserve until 1961.

Mr. Riordan retired from the NSA in 1976. During his tenure, he served as editor in chief of the NSA Technical Journal.

Survivors include his wife, Maude D. Riordan of Beltsville; a son, John Riordan Jr. of San Diego; a daughter, Kathleen O'Riordan of Alexandria; and three grandchildren.

Washington Times  
 July 16, 2004

**Hill Drugstores**  
**Greenman's and**  
**Quine's**  
**(Continued)**

The drugstores became two of many sites of Boulder's first civil rights crusade during the early 40s. In 1938, after more than 20 years of Jim Crow segregation, the University's Faculty Senate formed a committee to investigate unequal treatment both on and off campus. Robert Stearns, Carl Eckhardt and Earl Swisher (JLS 1943) found that Boulder establishments, including Greenman's and Quine's would not seat or serve African Americans who came in the front door. Some places would feed them if they ate in the kitchen. The quiet persuasion of the Faculty Senate Ethnic Minorities Committee had little effect on the Hill establishments, including the drug stores, even

after they were joined by the noisy importunities of progressive student activists and a student body whose civil rights attitudes had been revolutionized by World War II. One emeritus law professor, William Rentfro, told me that as an under graduate, he had gone through front doors with black friends and sat with them, unserved, throughout the lunch hour in Hill establishments, just so they could take up a table in protest.

In 1943, Greenman's and Quines were visited by several black student leaders and scholars in a campaign of "stand-ins" in Hill establishments. Despite being armed with the Colorado anti-discrimination law, and supported by those whites at the fountain, they were not served. Quine was especially angry in his refusal, stating he wouldn't serve Paul Robeson if he came in his store. That night four anti-segregation white students painted a giant white swastika and "Quisling" on the wall of Quine's, facing Broadway. The next day, President Stearns published an open letter in the newspapers that deplored the vandalism but stated a case that for 5 years other methods of halting such discrimination had not convinced Hill merchants. Paul Robeson did come to campus for a Macky concert and reception a few weeks later. Perhaps fearing a further connection between enemy behavior and their own discrimination, within 10 months, Hill cafes and drugstores decided to open their doors to blacks and other minorities.

After the War, Ernest Greenman clerked at Greenman's University Store which was then owned by W. E. Smith, an arrangement lasting until 1956. Earnest Greenman passed away before the 1960 directory was published, a well known fixture on the Hill, as well as a prominent hiker, parks advocate, and backcountry expert. The store that was his

namesake lasted until 1964, Hill drugstores having been undercut by supermarket pharmacies and their fountains by the growing fast-food industry by this time. A series of small grocery markets have filled that address ever since.

Thomas Quine took over management of Quine's in 1946. By 1949, the Quine Family had turned over their drug store to Fred L. Jenkins who renamed it the Campus Drug Store, and J.F. Quine was no longer in town. That building later housed the "Place Upstairs" a folk music venue in the 1960s, and "The Spoke" bicycle store in the 70s and 80s. Now the old Quine's location houses "Buchanan's" one of the spreading number of gourmet coffee shops in Boulder. A site of a prominent civil rights protest, a folk music haunt when Boulder went musical, the town's main bicycle shop during Boulder's bicycle heyday, and now a coffee shop in the spreading coffee empire, Quine's building has always been on the cutting edge of Boulder trends.

David M. Hays  
 Archivist & Editor

**BICs Reconsidered**

To your list, in your January 1, 2007 issue of 41 CU Boulder JLS students with China backgrounds, the following 6 names should be added:

Newton Laverne Steward  
 John Laws Decker  
 John McMullen Farrior  
 Wendell Jess Furnas  
 Laurence Graham Thompson  
 Daniel Smith Williams

This 48-name list consists of the 41 names you listed of JLS students born in China, plus these 7 of people I know personally to be China residents (including myself) who were not born in China. I was born in the U.S. during my parents' home leave. John Decker, John Farrior, and Larry Thompson (I thought he was "Lawrence", but the Boulder list I have shows

"Laurence") were fellow students I knew at SAS, the Shanghai American School, as well as at Boulder.

Wendell Furnas should be included in the LIC, Lived in China, list. He had a regular, fulltime, civilian job in China, would have stayed for years if WW2 had not prevented, was interned by the Japanese as a U.S. resident of China, and was in no way a visitor, as were U.S. students or U.S. servicemen, who were in China temporarily before WW2.

In fact, his time in China was probably longer than that of Boulder classmate Dave Sarvis,

other "Boulderites" (Knode, Smith, Conroy) in Manila right

who, though born in China, was there only a short time before his parents moved back to the States. Newton Steward, who I knew at Boulder, had lived with his parents in Nanking (former China capital, now Nanjing), and I do recall meeting him briefly in that "crossroads" which was Shanghai, possibly during one of the Japanese invasions, when up-Yangtze American residents became temporary refugees in Shanghai.

Being a "BIJ" (born in Japan) at Boulder was meaningful and implied Japanese language

*my Dad tells me, mine were gourmet compared to yours.]*

fluency gained as a resident of Japan. Since no one was studying Chinese, when I was there, BICs were of no consequence, though LCDR Hindmarsh recruited all available BICs, believing that they had a head start in familiarization with Japan. Would "LIC" ("Lived in China") identify properly the 48 names, it being understood that all were either born or were semi-permanent residents of China? Hope this helps JLS/OLS records.

*Dan S. Williams  
JLS 1943*

machine that made it go the other way [*neat trick*]. He gave a very scholarly resume of Hindmarsh and his efforts in recruiting. I met Hindmarsh in Ann Arbor, and then made a trip to see him

## Conversation With Flaherty

I chatted with Duane Flaherty, OLS 1945, about the Guam plane landing incident and he did not remember it. He also said his trip to Guam did not depart Johnston Island, but from another island. I remember this departure because they served us pre-flight breakfast in the pilots' Ready Room and the reconstituted powdered eggs (scrambled) looked slightly green to me so I wisely chose to skip them. As a result,

only a few of us did not turn green and throw up on the flight to Guam. So I wonder if Duane was really with me on that flight. However, he remembered an even wilder plane landing on Okinawa (I was not with him on that one), involving the pilot finding [after touching down] the runway was cluttered with downed Zeros and he had to tear across one runway after another and wound up facing in the direction of his original landing. That beats my story a mile! I ran into Duane and some

After V-J day. We were held over there several days waiting air transport to Tokyo via Okinawa. We were there when the Marines discovered a cache of liquor below the cellar of the O-Club and all drinks were free.

*Norman J. Juster  
OLS 1945  
O-6, USNR-Ret*

*[Ed. Note: Given the traditional Navy-Marine, er, rivalry, that might be one of the few times Marines would buy drinks for Navy men! I remember my experience with Army food, and field rations, but from what*

## Burchill Memories

This morning [July 6, 2005] I came across a history of the Boulderites by Pedro Loureiro [Archivist of the Pacific Basin Institute at Pomona College] given at the Naval History Symposium XIV at Annapolis on September 23, 1999. I pasted it together to read from left to right, as it was copied on a

again in Washington, DC, which got me the necessary orders to active duty and Boulder.

Loureiro's account differed from my own memories of JICPOA, FRUPC, my apartment in Kaimuki, the daily commute to Pearl Harbor and dinners at the Halekulani. In addition there was also music and theater galore and lots of famous names to drop.

*Phil Burchill*

*JLS 1944*

*[Ed. Note: In defense of scholars,  
they rarely get to live the history,  
they mostly have the onerous task of  
recreating experience from the  
scatter of evidence left behind.]*

---