

The Interpreter

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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 R. Shively BIJ; COL, USMCR; CIA 1910-2005

John R. Shively died on April 4, 2005 in California. Born on May 20, 1910 to missionary parents in Kyoto, Japan, he lived in Japan for a total of 20 years and was fluent in Japanese. He graduated from Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio in 1933, in the depths of the Depression. He found work teaching English in a Japanese high school in Yamagata, Japan. Mr. Shively earned his Masters degree in Asian languages at the University of Hawaii in 1939; his thesis was on the Noh play. While working on his Ph.D. at Columbia University, he was recruited for his language skills by Marine Corps Intelligence in 1940. Entering as a First Lieutenant, his job was to recruit others with similar backgrounds. Assigned to Pearl Harbor, he taught a course in military Japanese from June, 1941 until the bombing on December 7, 1941. Fortunately, his parents were on sabbatical leave from Japan in the United States. Lt.

Shively was among seven Marines particularly commended by Rear Admiral C.C. Bloch, Commander of the Hawaiian Sea Frontier, for prompt, orderly and efficient action during the Japanese attack. Later, Capt. Shively commanded a squadron of planes that flew medicine and supplies to the survivors of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker's aircrew rescued in the South Pacific. During the War, his knowledge of the language and culture of Japan was used in the conduct of the War in the Pacific. He was involved with both planning and execution of the invasions of many Pacific islands, the interrogations of prisoners, and the analysis of captured documents. Immediately after the War, he was part of the Strategic Bombing Survey in Japan. From 1946 to 1948, he was head of the Japanese Section of the Library of Congress and made trips to Japan acquiring rare books. Between 1948 and 1951, he worked in the Government Section at the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander of Allied Powers (General MacArthur), in Tokyo. As Duty Officer, he had to deliver the message to MacArthur that Truman had relieved him of his command. In 1965, he retired from the Marine Corps Reserve as a Colonel. After working for the CIA, he retired again in 1971.

John was an active member of his church, an avid stamp collector, and was involved in Richmond (CA)-Shimada Sister Cities, entertaining Japanese visitors and traveling to Japan. He honed his language skills by watching Japanese TV news. After retirement, he took up lawn bowling competitively, coming in fourth in the US Open once.

His wife, Beulah and his youngest son, John E., preceded him in death. He is survived by three siblings, Alice Bunce of Chestertown, MD, Mary Pursel of Honolulu and Donald Shively (also a former Marine Corps Intelligence officer fluent in

Japanese) of Berkeley, his son James of Los Altos Hills, CA, grandchildren Linda Fernandes of Fremont, CA and Peter Shively of Rio Vista, CA and great-granddaughter, Jessica Fernandes.

James F. Shively

SHIVELY BROTHERS COMMENT

The many segments of the Navy Japanese Language School at CU Boulder include: the "most distinguished" July '43 graduating class, the Feb '43 group, which started at UC Berkeley, the WAVES, the post V-J Day grads, and many, many other groups. The passing of brothers John and Don Shively, skilled Japanese language experts, both serving in the Marine Corps during WW2, bring up still another group - those who never went to the JLS at all, because their Japanese Language skills were deemed by CDR Hindmarsh to be at least the equivalent of a Boulder JLS graduate. So now we have a "Never Went" segment of JLS history.

Needless to say, the Shively brothers had grown up in Japan, went to Japanese schools with Japanese kids, and could communicate with POWs and other Japanese during and after WW2, as equals. I did meet both Shivelys, during my WW2 USMC days.

This info is from Bob Sheeks, whose Harvard room mate was Don Shively. And, speaking of Bob Sheeks, enclosed (in the snail mail) is a photo of the two of us (taken on 03Sep05), standing by a monument to the only Japanese pilot who bombed mainland U.S. during WW2. It was there, near Brookings OR, and the purpose was to start a redwoods forest fire which would spread up and down the Pacific Coast. Fortunately, the redwoods are kept damp by those reliable NW rains, so neither those two bombs, or the many hundreds of balloon

bombs, delivered by jet stream directly from Japan, had the planned effect.

As mentioned, we JLS people seem forever connected to Japan.

Earlier this week, a neighbor here, who is a dentist, asked me to come over and then phone a dentist colleague in Tokyo, who speaks only Japanese. I did so, after wanting to consult my non-existent notes, apologized for my lowest primary school student equivalent of Japanese, and did communicate what was needed, using vocabulary limited I am sure, to that contained in the first half of Naganuma Book 1 (of 6 we studied at Boulder).

A favor: will you find out for me, from CU students you know, who are now taking Japanese, what texts (and other material) are being used now in first year and second year Japanese language classes at Boulder?

Dan S. Williams
JLS 1943

[Ed. Note: I sent the syllabi for 1st and 2nd year Japanese provided by Kyoko Saegusa, of EALC.]

Unwarranted Promotion

Thank you for the promotion to Commander [I had inadvertently changed his rank on a few letters from Lt. Cdr. to Cdr.]. You are not, however, the first to do so. When I had just received my last half stripe, I went to a party in New York for Naval Intelligence reservists, with the DNI invited. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., was also there, having a drink with the DNI. A photographer appeared, the admiral's aide reached for the Admiral's glass, and I smiled at Fairbanks and took his glass out of camera range. 1/50th of a second later the flashbulb had gone off, and Fairbanks looked at me in uniform with medals and name tag, and said, "Thank you, Commander Burchill." We never spoke again, but I have not forgotten how he said it.

Phil Burchill
JLS 1944

Reminiscences Of a JLO (6)

With my modest proficiency in Japanese, I was put to use in the occupation efforts. Shortly after the historic surrender ceremony aboard the *USS Missouri* in Yokohama Harbor, I was attached to a small party of officers from the *USS Appalachian* who were charged with preparing the Japanese island of Hokkaido for occupation by the 80th Army Division. We were flown from Manila to Sapporo (in a DC-3) where I was to serve as interpreter between the US Naval officers and Japanese port officials. We stayed a few nights in the old Grand Hotel in the capital city, Sapporo. Many years later, in 1985, I revisited Sapporo and the new Grand Hotel, which keeps a memento museum room of the old western-style hotel.

I remember vividly walking the then forlorn streets of this, the biggest city on the Island. As we would saunter down the street near the Hotel, Japanese women would scurry to the other side. It seems that Japanese propaganda had made us enemy *gaijin* into ravishing, rape-bent fiends.

A few days later we went by special train (on our own, with cases of Sapporo beer!) to the harbor cities of Hakodate and Otaru. The readiness and willingness of the Japanese civilian authorities to cooperate fully was both surprising and reassuring. Our last stint on Hokkaido was a celebratory event, staged at the famous hot springs resort of Josankai. We had a festive, even a bit riotous, evening in the Japanese hotel, complete with "liberated" Japanese Scotch whiskey and beer; as well, the scene was embellished by the presence of Geisha girls. I had quite a time keeping our naval "bucks" in order; they mistook the pristine Geisha for *Joro* (whores).
(to be cont'd)

Arthur R. Kruckeberg
JLO 1944

Morrill Melton Hall

Gilbert Head (University of Georgia Archives) has forwarded to me the inquiry about Morrill

Melton Hall. Gilbert Head found that in one of the last UGA Faculty Registers issued (1994) Dr. Hall is listed as Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership, holding a BBA and M.Ed. from Emory University and an Ed.D. from Florida State University. I don't have a specific biography of him in our vertical file, but our campus directory shows him first listed as an associate professor in the College of Education in the 1960-61 session. He is last listed in 1979/80 as a professor in the College of Education in charge of the Center for Educational Improvement. According to the Athens telephone directory he resides at 755 Epps Bridge Pky, Apt. 106, Athens, GA 30606, telephone 706-548-3805.

Our WWII specialty is the U.S. Navy Pre-flight School designed to wash out weak candidates with a tortuous physical program in which the deeply disappointed (and exhausted) cadets never saw an airplane unless one flew over while they were being run around campus. When we get in touch with them they never have anything nice to say about the program, the heat, or the hills of Athens. They are usually quick, however, to add that they don't blame the University of Georgia itself. I hope your war alumni have better memories of Colorado. [Hall was OLS Russian 1945].

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[Ed. Note: I thought all of you JLS/OLS folks might find Mr. Brown's comments on the UGA Pre-flight school to be amusing. I have corrected Professor Hall's address on our mailing list. I assured him that all who came to Boulder had great memories of the place.]

Class of May 1944

Dear Frank[Tucker]:

I hope you're not planning to go up (even half way) up Pikes Peak with them [visitors? Frank Tucker lives in Colorado Springs], but you sound marvelous, and I am too at 101 – nothing wrong but walk with a cane

and shudder at the idea of Pikes Peak! Toby Levin at 86 is not well. Hope Efron came to my birthday party yesterday – given by darling neighbors across the street. Paul Kramer at 90+ is in fine fettle, full of stories about the Japanese Language war experiences. Unknown to all of us, he was always in the CIA. He has a lunch once a year at which he serves a magnificent soup which he makes himself – always a surprise.
(to be cont'd)

Polly Fleming

Boulder to Bombay, To Burma & Back

(Cont'd) Finally it was time to shove off for Burma. So Jean went back to Denver with her folks to have a baby and I went off to London. The plane flew by the Azores though. We stopped there and who did I run into but an old girlfriend to whom I was once engaged, Anna Crews, a very lovely gal. We met and had a chat. She knew I was married, but didn't know my wife and I were having a baby, but I told her that too. After seeing her, we went on to London, where we had a good time for two days and then the fog hit so bad you couldn't even get in a car. There was no way to drive around that town. It was filthy with a really thick fog. So we flew over to Paris [Spring 1945?], stayed a week, met some friends, some old girlfriends of my brothers, just friendliness- nothing more. The next stop was Rome. It was a very nice hotel they assigned me to, but when I got there, there was a movie actress in my bathtub, so we had to negotiate to get her out of there [What is this, a Jack Lemmon movie?]. I wasn't in the mood for movie actresses or a roommate either. From there we flew on to Dhahran. The plane was forced down because we lost an engine. We were lucky we found an airport that was being built by the Arabian American Oil Company, ARAMCO. We stayed there while the plane was being repaired. We went deep sea diving with some of the pilots and so forth. We were having fun diving for pearls on the sea bottom until one of the divers got bitten in the leg by a shark. That was the end of that. Nothing more happened until we finally took off for Bombay.

(to be cont'd)

William Morganroth
OLS (Malay) 1945

New Recruits

Theodore L. Brooks, JLS 1944
Albert I. DaSilva, JLS 1944
Euan G. Davis, JLS 1944
Wilbert B. Fountain, JLS 1943
A. Alan Post, JLS 1944
Wilbur S. Vaughan, JLS 1944
Caroline Tyson Randolph JLS '44 WAVE
Albert P. Raynor, OLS
Dr. Rebecca Rieger, Kin
Ethel T. Tamburello, Kin
Freda Thorlacksson, Kin
Dixon Wansbury, OLS R 1946
Jackson B. Wiley, JLS 1943
Neal Zierler, OLS 1946
Frank E. Rush, OLS 1945
Ms. Aileen V. Leonard, Kin
Ms. Marjorie Thompson, Kin
Charles M. Haar, JLS 1944
George Buffington, USA JLS
Robert Teaze, US Army JLS
P. Victor Morgan, OLS 1945
Doris Uwen Denby, Kin
Susan K. Crimin
Arlo A. Brown, Kin
Julia Chill, Kin
Roy S. Giordano, OLS 2/45-
Lynn E. Gleason, OLS 1945 Russian
Ralph E. Hills, OLS 4/45-
Monroe A. Johnson, OLS 3/45-
David A. McGrath, JLS 1943
Warren D. Noakes, OLS 1945 Malay
George N. Nummy, OLS 1945 Russian

Otis Cary

Otis Cary, JLS 1943, scion of a distinguished family of Japan missionaries and himself a life-long "Japan hand" died on April 14, 2006 in Piedmont, California. "Otie" as his fellow Navy Japanese language officers called him, was especially noted for his work with Japanese prisoners of war during the Pacific War and his efforts to ease their return into a rebuilding Japan. He spent almost all of his postwar career as a professor, - and frequent host to visiting Americans, at Doshisha University. [Obit will follow.]

Roger Dingman
Professor of History
University of Southern California

\$Donations Accepted

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