

The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

Number 137

★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

arv@colorado.edu

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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.

A Short Linguistics Story

Before I become the OLS pain... of all time, I'm signing off (too late?) with a short linguistics story that came back to me recently. In 1967 my wife, daughter and I were getting on a train in France at a busy stop. In the rush of the crowd, they were pushed to the car on the left and I was pushed to the correct car on the right. While I was waiting for them, I checked our tickets for our seats and found people occupying them. In my 36 year-old high school French, I fumbled through a tortuous speech telling the man on the aisle seat that those were our seats.

The man, who was looking up at me, smiled and said, "I'm from Cleveland."

*Duane Flaherty
OLS 1945*

IN MEMORIAM**J. HARRY BENNETT**

J. Harry Bennett, who died in Austin, Texas, on April 25, 1966, was born at Oelwein in northeastern Iowa on September

29, 1919. He grew up in California, graduating from Compton Union High School in June 1937 and from Compton College (J. C.) with an A.A. degree two years later. He then entered the University of California at Los Angeles, whence he received an A.B. with highest honors in June 1941, an A.M. "with distinction" in October 1943, and a Ph.D. in history on September 11, 1948. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and was for two years a university fellow. He had taught history and English at Willowbrook High School in Compton, 1942-1945, and attended briefly the United States Navy's Japanese Language School at Boulder, Colorado. (to be cont'd)

William R. Braisted, OLS 5/43

William S. Livingston

Barnes F. Lathrop, Chairman

IN MEMORIAM

**Richard C. Rudolph
Professor of East Asian
Languages and Cultures,
Emeritus, UCLA**

OLS Chinese Dept. Head
(1909–2003)

(Cont'd) Almost immediately after coming to UCLA, Rudolph was awarded a Fulbright for research in China. This was for 1948-49, the culminating years of the Chinese Revolution. Always staying just a step ahead of the advancing Communist army—several of his friends who neglected to do this were either executed or spent the rest of their lives in prison—he managed to excavate an early seventeenth-century official's tomb in Qinghai, in northwest China, and to study the cliff tombs of Sichuan. Shot at on one occasion, threatened with death on another, and left for dead when very sick on another—still, his adventures are too numerous to relate here. (He was once approached to sell the movie rights to this academic research trip.) Unwilling to surrender a minute, his was the last plane out

of Chengdu, headed for Guangzhou. When he finally reached Hong Kong, bodies were already floating down the Pearl River.

But as he always remembered it himself, it was book buying that was the greatest adventure of this journey to China. When he left UCLA, the university library possessed but a single volume in Chinese: a Shanghai telephone directory. By the end of that research year, it had 10,000—some of them rare, many of them important, all of them needed—the core of a functioning research library that is currently among the top ten East Asian libraries in the U.S. A true bibliophile, he was never happier than when examining some rare book or manuscript—or a number of works by some famous Chinese calligrapher, separated for centuries and now brought together again by him after years of tireless searching—unless it was when he was showing someone else these latest finds. He was always as well acquainted with the campus librarians as he was with his fellow scholars.

Rudolph was best known for his work on the famous tomb reliefs of the Western Han (*Han Tomb Art of West China*). But he also worked on a wide range of interests including the history of Chinese printing (*A Chinese Printing Manual*), ancient Chinese archaeology, ancient Chinese historiography, literature, bronzes, tomb objects, tomb iconography, the salt industry, botanical works, medicine, riddles and games, the application of carbon dating to ancient Chinese artifacts, Chinese porcelain in Mexico, early (14th century) Italians in China, Manchu studies, Japanese maps, and the work in Japan of the Swedish naturalist Thunberg. He co-authored what was probably the best textbook on literary Chinese of its time (*Literary Chinese by the Inductive Method*). One of the few Western scholars who kept

systematically abreast of ongoing archaeological efforts in China, he was asked to direct the American Council of Learned Societies important project "Abstracts of Chinese Archaeology" from 1968 to 1973.

Before his retirement in 1976, he served as departmental chair for 16 years and sat on many editorial boards. He was awarded two Guggenheim fellowships (plus one renewal), two Fulbright fellowships (plus one renewal), a Fulbright Distinguished Senior Scholar Award, two American Philosophical Society Grants, a University of California Humanities Institute Award, a Ford Foundation Grant, and an ACLS fellowship. But the honor that he was most proud of was when, in 1981, the UCLA Oriental Library was renamed the Richard C. Rudolph Oriental Library in acknowledgment of his untiring efforts in building the collection. (It was renamed the Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library in 1990.) Never a person who sought personal recognition, he remained deeply touched by this for the remainder of his life.

With retirement, Rudolph took up the direction of the UC Education Abroad Program in Hong Kong and continued his research. But he became increasingly absorbed with collecting ancient maps, paintings, printing blocks, manuscripts, and rare books—even a little porcelain—focusing especially on Chinese and Japanese printing, medicine, botany, physiology, and the reception of Western science by the East. Radically failing eyesight became a great frustration to him, as did a seemingly unending succession of life-threatening but largely passing ailments, his phenomenal resistance to which constantly amazed his doctors.

To the end, he remained a scholar, devoted to learning and to Asian culture. In the most

idealistic way, he was completely devoted to UCLA as a specifically public institution of higher learning, and would have been very pleased at the words recently written about him by a colleague, "there is much of him that is still very much alive at UCLA."

He is survived by his wife, three children, and five grandchildren.

Conrad Rudolph

New Recruits

Harold S. McGinnis, OLS 3/45-
Jill Bischoff, kin (O.C. Schroeder)
Robert K. Gideon, JLS 1944
Frederick W. Moore, JLS 1944

Certainly Worthy Of a Look

(Cont'd) My memory was jogged when the newsletter mentioned Dr. Dunleavy. He delivered our daughter. He was an obstetrician in civilian life and was so busy that he asked for submarine duty, but he was sent to Boulder where a good majority of the couples were having babies. He may have been kidding, but it made a good story.

Sandy Sims was also mentioned and it reminded me that he had borrowed \$30.00 from my husband at one time. Many, many years later at a BIJ reunion, he returned the \$30.00 [What? No interest, or vig?].

My husband spent most of his time talking with Japanese prisoners at the POW camp near Pearl Harbor. Knowing the Japanese as he did, he played Japanese chess with them and found he could get more information by being friendly than by being mean. He would pass that information to the powers that be. The one and only bit of information he told me about, after the War, was about one-man kamikaze boats lined up on the western side of Japan. They were not used as they did not have the proper batteries to make them go. They found the boats after the War.

After the War ended, he was sent to Japan to interpret for the medical doctors. I have found a couple letters from the Major he worked with.

When my husband went to Pearl Harbor, there were three of us wives who moved in together, each with a small child. Our three husbands left at the same time: Carl Nelson JLS 1943 and Wayne Shumaker JLS 1943. Carl and Lucy Nelson live in Florida. Grace and Wayne Shumaker were from Berkeley, both teaching at the University and both now gone.

Freda Thorlaksson (Mrs. S. O.)

The Further Recollections Of Bernard J. Martin

Initial orders changed

As I mentioned in Issue #102, in March 1945, upon graduation as a deck officer from Notre Dame Midshipmen's School, South Bend, Indiana, I was initially given orders to be asst. navigator on an "AKA" - an assault ship that carried cargo and personnel for amphibious landings. These orders were promptly revoked and new ones issued to proceed (via the Denver Zephyr) to the University of Colorado at Boulder to study the Japanese language for 14 months - a somewhat less perilous-sounding assignment. I wish I had saved the name or number of that ship as I often wonder how it fared. Quite likely, the ship served at the Battle of Okinawa.

Duty at war document center

After graduation from OLS-Japanese in June 1946, I was assigned to duty at the War Document Center in Washington, DC (ONI OP 32-f5 - I think).

The job was to evaluate captured enemy documents from the war in the Pacific. I served in the Classification Section where we screened items from the incoming pile, sorted them according to the Dewey Decimal System, and passed them along for further processing. I recall that many of the publications that crossed my desk related to mining and industrial activities in occupied Manchuria and North China in Japanese.

Return to Civilian Life

While serving in Washington, DC, I and others, including my good friend Wayne T. 'Watertight' Montgomery,

explored applying for Regular Navy commissions [*as opposed to Reserve commissions*], State Department Foreign Service appointments, or the "real" Office of Naval Intelligence. However in September 1946 our critical occupational category hold was lifted and we were allowed to apply for release to inactive duty, I opted out, finished college, joined Citibank in NYC and went on to various jobs in banking.

Bernard J. Martin
OLS 1946

IN MEMORIAM J. HARRY BENNETT

(Cont'd) He served as teaching assistant in English history at U.C.L.A. He came to the University of Texas as an assistant professor the same month that he took his Ph.D. He was promoted associate professor in 1952, and professor in 1961. He was visiting professor at Rice University in 1962-1963. As a Ford Foundation Fellow he was able to spend a year in England in 1953-1954, and grants from the American Philosophical Society and the University Research Institute permitted him to return for several months in 1960.

While there he gained the friendship and respect of leading scholars in his field. Professor Bennett was a member of various learned bodies, those most germane to his interests being the Barbados Historical Society, the Conference on British Studies, and the American Historical Association. Professor Bennett's work with F. J. Klingberg at U.C.L.A. made the society and economy of the British West Indies the first object of his research, and his writing focused on it to the end.

Much of his publication related to slavery on the Codrington Plantations of Barbados in the eighteenth century. Subsequently he uncovered materials on the beginnings of British sugar planting in Jamaica, deriving from them several articles that looked toward a book on "Seventeenth Century Plantations in the British Caribbean." Professor Bennett's fresh information--and nearly

everything he wrote was wholly fresh--came in the main from highly intractable manuscript materials that required great labor in transcription and even greater labor in analysis. Partly on this account, and partly because he demanded of himself succinctness, exactitude, clarity, and ease in exposition, the extent of his writing was moderate in proportion to the thousands of hours that he worked.

Related to his principal research interest was a secondary attention to the position of the Anglican Church in the British Empire, more especially the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Bishop of London. He directed several students into aspects of this subject, spent considerable time in the episcopal records at Lambeth Palace, and published one paper on the elusive question of the basis of the bishop's jurisdiction.

Another research interest, one that might have become predominant had he lived, was eighteenth century British history, especially politics in the age of Walpole and Pelham. Because this was the area upon which his reading and advanced teaching centered, and because it was obviously in the mainstream of British history, which was hardly true of the West Indies, he often felt that he ought to extricate himself from the Indies and devote himself to Britain in the eighteenth century. Much of his time in England was spent in relevant manuscript collections at the British Museum and elsewhere. He accumulated a mass of notes, and in 1965 even agreed to do a book on politics in the reign of Anne, but his actual writing continued to be about the West Indies. (to be cont'd)

William R. Braisted, OLS 5/43
William S. Livingston
Barnes F. Lathrop, Chairman

Robert S. Teaze Army JLS, BIJ

You mentioned several names of persons like myself who attended the Army JLS at the University of Michigan and Fort Snelling, Minnesota during the War and the year following. George Buffington was a classmate of mine. Baldwin Eckel, who I

knew at the American School in Japan (ASIJ) before the War, and Donald Richardson were in the class ahead of us. Ulrich Straus, who I knew at ASIJ and Allen Meyer were a class behind us. Because I knew Baldwin Eckel and his twin brother Talbot before the war, I was particularly interested in Baldwin's account of what life was like living in Japan in those years just before the outbreak of war in December of 1941 (See *Interpreter* Issues #91, #92, and #92A). I was there in those years living in Yokohama where my father was employed by the Standard-Vacuum Oil Company (SOCONY now Mobil). I had been born in Tokyo in 1925 and moved to Yokohama when I was two years old where I lived continuously except for periodic home leave in the States until march of 1940 when home leave fortuitously again brought me and my family back to the States. It was later in 1940 that Baldwin describes how his family had been urged to leave Japan. When my father's home leave was up in September, the company would not allow his family, my mother, sister, and I, to return with him. He did return to Japan and was caught there by Pearl Harbor. He was interned, then imprisoned, and finally confined to his home in approximately equal amounts of time until he was finally repatriated on the *Gripsholm* in the summer of 1942. (to be cont'd)

Robert S. Teaze
Army JLS, BII

[Ed. Note: I thought all of the BII attendees of ASIJ would appreciate this letter.]

A Japanese-Speaking Bystander

I have enjoyed receiving issues of *The Interpreter*, and I thank you for your excellent project. Not too long ago I stood outside the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth. A group of Japanese high school teachers descended from a bus. Their project consisted of observing high schools in the Waco area. They found some of the teaching practices in Waco quite amusing and were exchanging jokes. They were quite embarrassed

when I greeted them in Japanese, since they assumed that there were no Japanese speaking bystanders!

David P. Appleby
OLS 4/45-

Irene Slaninka Thiel Following Her Sister's Example

I was born in Medford, Mass. in 1920 and moved to Bellingham, WA in 1922. I attended Bellingham Normal School (now Western Washington University) my first and fifth year of college. The other three years of college I went to the University of Washington where I joined the Kappa Delta sorority and the Phi Beta Kappa society. Graduated from the U of W in 1941 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

I returned to the local college for a teaching certificate the following year, and became an eighth grade teacher in the Shelton, WA, School system. During the ensuing winter I read a recruiting notice for the language school in the Key Reporter (Phi Beta Kappa publication), and at the end of the school year I inquired at the Bellingham recruiting office about the school. The recruiter knew nothing about the program and advised me to go directly to Washington D.C. to apply, which I did. Was accepted (reluctantly, due to my lack of training in foreign languages) and reported to Boulder. Looking back, I doubt I would have given the school a second thought had my sister not just joined the army, setting an example.

My roommate in Boulder for much of the time was Orrel Riffe. I remember going horseback riding with her, which was great fun, and I remember hiking with Blanche Belitz. I recall touring a marvelous iris farm, but I don't remember how I happened to go there. I also played some golf, but I believe I must have gone to the course alone, because I don't remember any of my classmates playing. I learned that golfers in Boulder have to beware of lightning storms, something new to me.

The few weeks we trained at Northampton after graduation

were a joy. There was sightseeing in Boston, and stage plays, and the colorful fall leaves on the maples were lovely. Not to be forgotten were the blueberry muffins served at our billet (Wiggins Tavern). They were delicious.

The remaining war years I spent working in Washington, D.C. with some of the other graduates of the school. I doubt I ever translated anything that anyone would need or even bother to read, but I hope I am in error on that score. (to be cont'd)

Irene Slaninka Thiel
WAVE JLS 1944

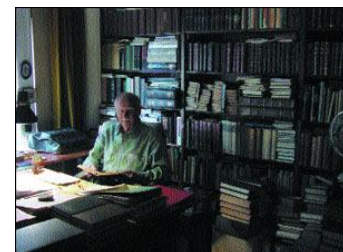
1993 WAVE Reunion Book

'Where are They Now?' with Professor Emeritus John H. Middendorf

(Cont'd) Middendorf, who received his Ph.D. from Columbia in 1953, went on to teach there until 1990, when he was given the Bancroft Award for Distinguished Retiring Faculty, and was elected to the Society of Senior Scholars, which entitled him to teach a course each term. But the demands of scholarship are often great, and he stopped teaching in 1990 to devote himself to his "constant companion," Samuel Johnson.

Middendorf, who has had numerous publications of his own, has devoted himself to the craft of editing for the past few years. He is currently general editor and chair of The Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson and was editor of the *Johnsonian News Letter* from 1949 to 1990. Most recently, Middendorf has worked almost exclusively on editing the three-volume *Lives of the Poets* as part of the Yale Edition, the finished edition of which will total between 22 and 23 volumes. Although such a task might seem daunting to some, Middendorf was served well by advice given. Although the advice of Professor Cox was well received by Middendorf, he quickly admits he learned the most important lesson in editing—not to get too involved with too many other editors—the hard way while working on *English Writers of the Eighteenth Century*. Dr.

Middendorf didn't care to elaborate, but the spontaneous look of acute anguish that temporarily darkened his otherwise bright-eyed, softly featured face, betrayed a sense that *Writers* was a labor of love. Yet through all the lessons and accomplishments, Middendorf's to him while an undergraduate at Dartmouth. Professor Sidney Cox said, "You'll never be a writer without putting your hands in the guts of the duck," and this is exactly what scholarly editing of this magnitude requires!



(to be cont'd)

Elizabeth Valeri, gs '01

A Note on Gurdon Wattles

I am sending also a few letters from Gurdon Wattles, who was in the class after mine at Boulder. He was undoubtedly the most learned man I have ever known. I became close to him during the year I spent at Harvard (1947-8). We lived in the same house and often ate together. His way of studying for the exams at the Harvard Law School was to read books on topics that intrigued him, such as the anthropology of the South American Indians or the history of Armenia. His knowledge of art and architecture was staggering. He entered the United Nations and rose to a position of importance but not to the top of the legal section (as he deserved) because of the concerted effort to keep Americans from occupying too many high-ranking positions. His second marriage was to the successful novelist and journalist Santha Rama Rau, and this naturally led him to learn everything possible about India. He died about three or four years ago.

I suddenly felt that I could not bear it if these people passed into obscurity. That is why I have

sent the letters, in hopes that some day a scholar, curious as to the kind of people assembled by the Navy for the Japanese Language School, will find answers in the letters. I have written a little about some of these classmates in my autobiographical writings, but these people deserve much greater attention than I have given them.

Donald Keene
JLS 1943

[Ed. Note: Perhaps one of the best favors someone can do for a departed friend is to insure their historical legacy. The Carey, Brock and Wattles correspondence will be placed in the Donald L. Keene Collection here at the Archives. All of our personal papers collections contain correspondence from others. I was asked once to look in the Edward Costigan Collection (30's Colorado Senator) for correspondence from Eleanor Roosevelt. I did find a few things. But then I remembered Costigan's close friend and New Deal administrator, Josephine Roche, whose many causes Eleanor Roosevelt supported. There were forty pages of ER correspondence in the Josephine Roche Collection. It is often said that people live on in the memories of others. In the archival world, the memories of others live on in their papers.]

THE ANCHORAGE & FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS

At Boulder during the war we drank either a blended whisky named Three Feathers or else Southern Comfort, lemon juice and soda. The principal gathering place was The Anchorage, long since passed into history [I referred him to the story in Issue #100A], where a most charismatic black waiter named Al the African held court. We also used to have some pretty vigorous champagne punch retreats at the Fire Warden's watch house on the cliff overhanging Boulder, which used to be available for rent for evening festivities. Later, on Guam the price of a drink at the Officers Club on the cliff above Apapa Harbour was \$0.10!

I have not yet seen the movie but have been distressed to see a number of lukewarm reviews. What I can assure you is that, when the Rosenfeld photograph

appeared, it swept the country by storm. Everyone was extremely excited and inspired. That picture, reports by Ernie Pyle's and Bill Mauldin's cartoons made the history of the war for the general populace. What it is so hard for people today, used to adversarial confrontation at every turn, is to know of the cohesion and the sense of shared national purpose that permeated American society during the war. It was, in every way, a wholly different and a vastly better world.

H.H. Cloutier
OLS Russian 1945

Nace Stories

Here are some stories my dad [George Nace, JLS 1943] told often, I must write in the third person because we do not have a direct transcription, but I remember the bulk of it, minus specific dates, and names of ships. I remember the ship was 'somethingorother' Maru, but all Japanese ships were something or other' Maru, a historian with good resources should be able to figure it out.

I also recently saw a paper he wrote to your organization that listed some his experiences, I do not know if you ever got it. In it he described the mission to Truk to repatriate the Japanese soldiers, as described in a recent book, but he went on to write that on the trip back to Japan, the Chinese captain of the ship he was on wanted to lock the Japanese on board and scuttle the ship, so he had that captain arrested and took command until they reached Japan. I don't think he ever told that story to anyone in the family, and it was just by chance that I came across it; he was lucky he did not end up in prison for mutiny. All I have for verification is a handwritten sentence my Dad wrote on a slip of paper buried in a book someplace in the house. But I will stand by it as accurate to the sense of his note.

A correction to a story you have from my Uncle Robert: rather than not identifying himself to the prisoner he knew as a child, my father actually did let his identity become known in later interrogation sessions, sent messages to his family through

the Red Cross, and helped him in many other ways.

There are some notebooks I only recently saw that have some bearing on the following stories. They are notes from interrogation interviews, with descriptions of the prisoners. They have no interest to anyone in our family but would be of great use to you, and I will find and send them as soon as possible.

As a postscript I would like to note that on one of his later trips to Japan, my Dad made a promise to the Mayor of Nagasaki that he would give that city his records on the bombing of that city, as he was on the first Navy visit there after the bombing, and wrote the initial report, as dictated by the Chief of Police. I promised him that I would follow through if I ever found those papers, as I intend to do. (to be cont'd)

Bill Nace

Howard Boorman JLO, FSO, & Historian

Howard Lyon Boorman was born in Chicago on September 11, 1920. In 1935 his father joined the sociology faculty at Grinnell College in Iowa and the family moved to Grinnell. Boorman graduated from Grinnell High School and did his freshman year at Grinnell College. He transferred to the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1941.

Boorman went to Washington, DC in 1941 to accept an internship at the National Institute of Public Affairs and in 1942 transferred to the United States Tariff Commission. Later that year, he transferred again to the Department of State.

In 1943, he entered the Navy and was sent to Boulder, Colorado to study Japanese at the US Navy Language School at the University of Colorado. In 1944, as a Navy Japanese Language Officer, Boorman sailed to Oahu, Hawaii and reported for duty at the Joint Intelligence Center Pacific Ocean Area in the Japanese Translation Area. Later, he was assigned to duty in Guam.

After the War ended, LT Boorman was sent to North China, where the US military was providing stability, accepting the surrender of Japanese units, and assisting with Japanese POWs. He was returned to the US in 1946. In September 1946, Howard Boorman began graduate work at Yale. He left in 1947 to become a Foreign Service Officer and was immediately assigned to

Peking (Beijing). He married Margaret Stelle there in 1948. Their only child, Scott, was born in Peking in 1949.

In 1950, he was assigned to Hong Kong to direct a press monitoring unit, translating material from the Communist Chinese press.

By 1954, Boorman was back in the United States at Columbia University. He won the Rockefeller Public Service Award in 1954-55 and from 1955 to 1956, edited the four volume *Biographical Dictionary of Republican China*, Published by the Columbia University Press. In 1967, Howard Boorman moved to Nashville to join the faculty of the History Department of Vanderbilt University. There he mainly taught East Asian History. He retired from Vanderbilt as Professor Emeritus in 1984. In 1970, he married Mary Houghton and she died in 2000.

Howard L. Boorman
JLS 1944
& David M. Hays
Archivist and Editor

A JLO Turned CLO

I was on duty in Yokosuka in 1950 (my third tour in Japan) when the Korean War broke out and I was given an unusual challenge that shaped my future. My OinC asked me if I knew any Chinese, and my answer was negative, but I said the Kanji are identical, with virtually the same meanings. So, with two weeks of self-study I became a Chinese linguist for the rest of my tour until the truce in 1952 [Ah, OJT, know it well. I became an expert on Air Defense Artillery, the same way]. When I retired from the Navy (25 years) as a Commander at the end of 1966 (after 3 years in Korea as Senior NSA Rep.), I went to work at NSA as a Chinese linguist until the end of July 1982. Cryptology and code breaking was fascinating work, and my trade for 38 years, thanks to JLS. I loved it.

Lawrence S. Myers
Commander, U. S. Navy (Ret.)
JLS 1944

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