

The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

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★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

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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.

The JLS Experience of T. Howell Breece

(Cont'd) I have long thought that the Navy's Japanese Language School was a silly enterprise. The assumption, that anyone who had excelled in any branch whatsoever of university education would, of course, be capable of learning a foreign language, was simply quite wrong. I have known many very intelligent people who were quite incapable of learning any foreign language, let alone a non-Indo-European language. And as far as needing to have done well in some university discipline, consider the concierge of any great European hotel, who probably speaks five or six languages without the benefit of any higher education at all. Second, I think that teaching adults by a purely inductive method is a terrible waste of time. We were left to puzzle out problems that a few minutes of grammatical analysis would have cleared up. I remember spending a long time trying to work out the difference between *de*

arimasu and *desu*. If someone had simply told me that the second was a contraction of the first, I would have saved a lot of time. We were not children learning our own language, and it was not sensible to refuse us grammatical explanations that could have simplified the learning process for us. (to be cont'd)

T. Howell Breece
JLS 1944

[Ed. Note: As Mr. Bush, in Captain Hornblower, remarked, "For what we are about to receive, may we be truly grateful."]

James M. Wells

30 Years at the Newberry

56 years a Caxtonian

And Enjoying Every Minute

(Cont'd) Wells mentioned other collections he snagged. There was the Katherine Mansfield collection amassed by Jane Dick, wife of Adison (subsequently a trustee). "We were both Stevenson supporters, so we got along well." When Rose Hecht, Ben's widow, sent the Newberry her husband's papers, in one of the 67 boxes they discovered a spatula with egg still stuck to it.

Rudy Ruggles was particularly generous with his collection: along with the 400+ priceless books, he gave funds for the publication of a catalog. When Everett Graff gave his collection of Americana, he hired Colton Storm to do a complete bibliography and left a fund for future acquisition.

The Newberry Associates was an important innovation during Wells' tenure. "It was an excellent source of volunteers, books, and money. People would become involved, learn more, and develop collections of their own which they would leave to the Newberry."

He thinks it reached almost 2000 members while he was there. During Wells' Newberry years, until his death in 1967, Stanley Morison was a great

friend and influence. William Benton, who, through his role as Vice President of the University of Chicago, controlled Encyclopedia Britannica, appointed Morison to its board. As a result, Morison spent several weeks a year at the Drake Hotel. But the board meeting only took a day or two, so the rest of time he spent at the Newberry looking at books with Wells.

"Morrison was great fun. He had an infectious laugh, and he loved gossip. In London, 'elevenes' with Morison meant champagne. He called himself a socialist, but he managed to do quite well. When he retired he kept contracts with the Times, Monotype, and Cambridge, with generous pensions from each," Wells observes.

Morison is famed for the design of Times New Roman [*the font used by the Archives and in this newsletter*], cut by both Monotype and Linotype, and which has become ubiquitous on today's computers because of its inclusion in the first Apple Laserwriter (Linotype version) and every copy of Microsoft Windows (Monotype version).

In the 90s there was a flurry of controversy whether Morison had actually been the moving force behind the design of Times. Wells says, "I'm firmly of the conviction that Morison was responsible. Certainly, much of the drawing work was done by others. But Morison was the vision behind the design. And the newspaper benefited a great deal from the typeface, particularly the very small version which allowed them to get many more words of advertising into less space, yet still maintain legibility."

Morison introduced Wells to Beatrice Warde, who worked for first the American Typefounders and then Monotype Corporation. One day when Wells and Morison were dining at the Garrick in London, people kept talking about "Tom" being there.

Tom turned out to be Tom Eliot (T.S. to the rest of us). They talked a bit and he asked Wells to visit him at his office at Faber and to lunch afterward. After Eliot's death in 1965, Wells kept in touch with his wife Valerie, who now lives in New York and is a member of the Grolier Club.

Morison also introduced Wells to Arthur Crook of the Times Literary Supplement. "Their articles paid well," Wells admits, "so when I was asked, I generally accepted the assignment. But I refused to write reviews, because they weren't so remunerative."

Wells got the assignment from the *World Book* to write 26 articles. You can guess their subjects: the letters A through Z. "At the time, the fee they paid me, \$100 per article, seemed princely. I was able to take a month in Greece with the proceeds. But as the years rolled by and they reprinted the articles every year, I came to think they got a bargain." (to be cont'd)

Robert McCamant
The Caxtonian
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An EAA Interview

with

Houghton Freeman

(China in 1948/1949 Cont'd)
Houghton Freeman: At AIU, our biggest obstacle was a large marine claim. We were insuring vessels going up and down the coast and up and down the Yangzi. These routes were dangerous because of the Nationalist air superiority. One ship owner bringing a cargo from Hong Kong to Shanghai refused our expensive war risk premium and took only the ordinary marine risk coverage. He got as far as Wenzhou when his ship was bombed. The ship owner then could not cover the losses or the wages, and told his crew members that, if they wanted their wages, they should see Mr. Freeman at AIU. The crew and their families came

down to our offices, and this time it was our turn for long negotiations. Ultimately, we had to bring the case to the People's Court. With this claim against us, we were not allowed exit visas to leave the country.

In September, our daughter Linda was born in the Shanghai Foreign Hospital, but there were very few foreigners left. The communists had taken over the hospital and in true communist style, they took all the expenses for any given day and divided the amount among all patients for that day. There were three patients in the hospital for the two or three days that Doreen and Linda were there. Our share came to \$10,000, which was horrendous – a lot of money in those days.

Although we were hoping to leave by a repatriation ship at the end of September 1949, when Linda was about two weeks old, we weren't optimistic about getting out because of the AIU claim at the People's Court. Then, the day before the ship was scheduled to leave the People's Court called two of us in. We were seen by an old judge from Hunan who had been on the Long March. He was willing to let me go as long as one foreigner was staying on at AIU to settle the shipping claim, which was the case. But it was still up to him to issue the exit permit. We were chatting and, in Chinese, he asked me, "Isn't Shanghai a wonderful city?" I said I had spent twenty years of my life in Shanghai and was very fond of it. Then he asked me if there were any buildings in New York as tall as the Park Hotel. I told him that probably two thirds of the buildings in New York were at least four times higher than the Park Hotel. He asked why the US did not treat its oppressed workers better., and I remarked that American workers at least owned their own homes and cars. We were getting nowhere. I wasn't giving him the answers he wanted, and I wanted that exit visa. So then he raised the issue of the "San K," as the KKK was known in Chinese propaganda. I said yes, that parts of the US did have problems with the KKK. My response made him beam – he had hit on a topic on which we could agree,

so he issued our exit visas. We had less than a day to pack the apartment and our newborn daughter.

We boarded the ship the evening before. About twelve women shared one cabin, and I was in a cabin with about twenty men. Also on board were bachelors from American firms who were vacating the city. People had much to leave behind, but the bachelors brought their best booze – no one was going to leave that. The men began partying and eventually sang the nationalist anthem – the "San Min Jui." The communists on shore rushed onto the ship and told the captain that if the singing didn't stop, the ship would not be allowed to leave and the perpetrators would be detained. With this threat, the captain finally quieted them and we were allowed to leave as planned. The ship sailed to Hong Kong. The company immediately assigned me to Tokyo – and we started all over again. Japan was under occupation; things were still a bit chaotic. (to be cont'd)

Education About **ASIA**
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CONVERSATION BETWEEN MARINES

Dear Aubrey [Farb]:



*Photo of US Plane down in Tsingtao
<http://www.haroldstephens.net/image/tid/51?page=12>*

In mid-December 1945 two F7F twin-engine *Tigercat* fighter planes and one SB2C Helldiver, en route from Okinawa to Tsangkou airfield outside Tsingtao became disoriented when they encountered bad weather and made forced landings along the northern coast of Shantung Peninsula. The SB2C aircrew survived and made its way back to the Tsingtao area, which must

have required some expert evasive traveling, since there was reported to be a lot of assorted "bandits" in the interior. One F7F landed in the beach area of YUNG CHENG WAN, toward the end of the peninsula, Lt. Bland, the pilot, was rescued by light plane, with the cooperation of the Chinese. He reported that the plane was intact and should be flyable. The other F7F crash-landed in the sea in the WEIHAIWEI area. The body of one of the crewmen was recovered by the Chinese but they were unable to locate the second. The decision was made to dispatch a party by LST from Tsingtao to attempt to fly the plane out, or at least salvage some of the sensitive instrumentation. If it was not possible to fly the plane out it was to be destroyed. An effort was also to be made to recover the body of the pilot at WEIHAIWEI.

A Task Force was assembled to go to the site of the beach - landed F7F by LST 755. The party comprised one company from the 29th Marines, commo and airfield technicians, two Amphibious Trucks (DUKWs) and myself as G-2 representative. On arrival off the beach a small party was to be sent ashore to contact the Communists, giving them reward money for caring for the pilot and crew, of the downed plane and to request a guarantee of safety while the salvage operation was performed. If granted, the balance of the Force personnel was to be landed to conduct salvage and provide security. If refused, return to the ship and regroup. During the salvage operation air support was to be on call from MAG 32 at Tsangkou. There was to be no shooting unless fired upon and then only on the order of a commissioned officer. The Task Force order stated "US Forces will conduct themselves with decorum, making every effort to appear friendly...." Lt Bland reported that at the time of his forced landing there were about 100 Communist troops in the vicinity of the plane, armed with rifles and grenades.

Per instructions from my chief, G-2 COL Thomas, I took notes and compiled a lengthy report on my observations

during the operation. This appeared in the G-2 PERIODIC REPORT of 29 December 1945. I will cover this in Part 6 (to be cont'd)

*Semper Fi
Glenn Nelson
JLS 1944*

Albert Karr JLS 1944 1916-2007

As you may or may not have heard by now, our father Albert Karr passed away Friday morning October 26, 2007. Though troubled by an assortment of chronic ailments, Dad's health has been remarkably good overall. However, in early October, Dad took a fall and was hospitalized. Although it initially seemed that he would recover and return to once again play the piano for his friends at Castle Hill Retirement Village, Dad's condition worsened. During his hospital stay, complications with his long-standing heart condition set in, with the end coming peacefully at about 9:05 AM Friday morning October 26th.

The staff at both the hospital and hospice care facilities did an exceptional job of meeting Albert's needs and making him as comfortable as possible. Friends and family, through numerous visits and phone calls, were able to share in his final days and hours. We would like to extend our thanks to those of you who had the opportunity to speak to or visit with Dad recently. And for Albert's many friends who weren't given the opportunity to see or contact him in this difficult time, we apologize for not realizing that time was running out. In his 91 years Dad made many friends in Pasadena where he grew up, at Pasadena City College, Occidental College and USC where he did his undergraduate and post-graduate work, as well as at Redondo High School, El Camino College, Long Beach State, and USC where he taught for a combined total of over 35 years. Additionally, Dad maintained contact with old friends from the US Naval Language School [see his story in *Issue #67A*], the so-called "Gardenia Bunch," Mom's

friends from Homeowners' Emporium, his many friends from Huntington Beach, and of course, most recently, his new friends at Castle Hill Retirement Village.

Albert valued the people in his life more than anything. He loved a great conversation, a good laugh, or a well-told story. His piano playing brought a lifetime of smiles to the faces of people who loved the popular standards he played so well. Albert always took great interest in learning, and never missed a chance to encourage a child or student. And he particularly loved to finish the day sipping a glass of sherry, sitting in the front yard (or lobby of Castle Hill) and greeting people passing by.

Dad was preceded in death by our Mom, Joy Karr, in 1998 [see mention of her in Issue #12]. Albert is survived by sons Jeff and Warren, daughters-in-law Heather and Deborah, grandsons Randall and David & his wife Phoebe, granddaughters Denise and Jordyn, Neice Ann Goding & her son Drew and daughter Elsa and nephew Steven Schneider. Albert was also honored to be a positive influence in the lives of many people, who he also thought of as family.

When we consider our Dad's life, we are filled only with good memories and laughter. Somehow the recent sadness just gets pushed aside and only the love and admiration remain. While no one is perfect, both of us agree, that for us, we had the perfect Dad.

Warren Karr &
Jeffery Karr

[Ed. Note: This obituary was passed to me by classmate William Hudson. I have sent our condolences via email. Mr. Karr was an active and generous supporter of the USN JLS/OLS Archival Project. We will miss him.]

A Man with a Brilliant Mind

I am sorry to send this about my classmate, Albert S. Karr, but it came today. He was one of my best friends at Boulder and also later at JICPOA Z Section. Did you know he got a letter of commendation from Admiral

Nimitz for some kind of translation of vital interest to high command?

A man with a brilliant mind.
Sorry to report this.

William Hudson
JLS 1944

Sensei Hirabayashi's Career

Martin Y. Hirabayashi, 91, a retired FSO, died peacefully in his sleep of natural causes on June 14 in Edina, Minn. [I had created a partial obit from JLS/OLS sources in an earlier issue].

Mr. Hirabayashi was born in Seattle, Wash., and grew up with seven younger brothers and sisters on a small farm outside the city. He graduated from the University of Washington in 1939 with cum laude honors, receiving a B.A. degree in business and economics. He subsequently pursued graduate work at the university with an emphasis in international trade and economics, followed by Japanese-language training at Kyoto Imperial University.

In 1942, Mr. Hirabayashi married Joyce Higuchi, whom he had met and courted at the university. During World War II, Mr. Hirabayashi worked as a Japanese-language instructor and also as a research analyst and translator for the U.S. Navy, moving frequently with his wife and including stays in Boulder, Colo., New York City and Cambridge, Mass. Following the war, he was assigned to Japan. There, he worked for the U.S. War Department on the Strategic Bombing Survey, helping to assess the impact of American bombing on the facilities and people of that country. In 1946, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he joined the State Department as an economic research analyst.

In 1956, Mr. Hirabayashi joined the Foreign Service and was assigned to Tokyo as a economic-commercial officer. In 1961, after two tours, he joined the Far Eastern Bureau's Japan Desk as an economist. In 1964, he was appointed a member of the U.S. delegation to the sixth round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade negotiations,

held in Geneva, where his focus was on U.S. trade talks with Japan. Following the negotiations, he was named chief of the Special Trade Activities and Commercial Treaties Division, Bureau of Economic Affairs, in Washington, D.C. In 1969, Mr. Hirabayashi was assigned to Helsinki as counselor for economic and commercial affairs, where he remained for two tours. In 1974, he was assigned to Stockholm in the same capacity. Retiring in 1976, he moved with his wife to the Minneapolis suburb of Edina to be close to their families.

In retirement, Mr. Hirabayashi stayed active, serving as a board member of the Minnesota World Trade Association, the United Nations Association of Minnesota and the Minnesota International Center. He was executive director and later president of World Trade Week, Inc., a board member and president of the Japan America Society of Minnesota, and a volunteer for the Service Corps of Retired Executives, where he assisted small businesses and entrepreneurs interested in international business opportunities. His wife, Joyce, who had been in declining health following a stroke, passed away on Dec. 5, 2006. Besides five brothers and a sister, survivors include two sons, Tim of Monroe, Mich., and Jim of North Potomac, Md., and four grandchildren.

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[Ed. Note: Carol Hirabayashi found this more complete obituary on the web (January 2008)]

USN JLS/OLS & The Manhattan Project

Reviewing *The Interpreter*, 15 January 2005; Gene Sosin's letter refers to Maguerite Anderson. I knew them both at OP-20G, 1944-45. Her reference to working with Leo Szilard on the Manhattan Project reminds me that in 1939, Dr. Szilard went with Dr. Edward Teller to see Albert Einstein and to prepare with him the letter he wrote to President Roosevelt advocating

what became the Manhattan Project. After the War, Leo was a guest of our hiking group on a climb near Colorado Springs, 15 October 1949.

It might be said that the aggregate of wartime Language School grads compared somewhat with the sojourners in Los Alamos, NM, during the war; in talents and promise, though their specialties and missions were quite different.

If I may note one ironic *nexus* of Los Alamos with things Japanese, in attending performances of *Madame Butterfly* at the Santa Fe Opera, one observes that when that opera's scene requires that the lights of Nagasaki are seen in the background, the back of the stage is opened, letting the lights of Los Alamos beyond substitute for those of Nagasaki.

Frank Tucker
JLS 1944

[Ed. Note: Wow! That is some furious irony. One wonders whether it was intended or not. Another point of connection, Robert L. Stearns, CU President from 1939-53, and who acquired the USN JLS/OLS for CU Boulder, was a member of the atomic targeting team that selected Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Also the University of Colorado hired a quite a number of Los Alamos scientists, staff and faculty onto its faculty after the war. Frank Tucker also alerted me to the passing of "his good friend" Howard Boorman, obit below.]

Howard L. Boorman 87, JLS 1944 Foreign Service Officer who witnessed The Chinese Revolution

Howard L. Boorman, who witnessed the Chinese Revolution as a Foreign Service officer stationed in Peking in 1949, died on February 17, 2008 in Nashville Tennessee, where he was Professor of History Emeritus at Vanderbilt University.

Born in Illinois in 1920, he received his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1941 and served in the Department of State and then the U.S. Navy during World War II, where he was in the Pacific theater as a Japanese-language translator and radio intelligence officer stationed in Pearl Harbor

and Guam. In 1945-46 Boorman was attached to the First Marine Division in Tientsin, involved in overseeing surrender of Japanese forces. This gave him opportunity to observe at first hand U.S. naval power in the Pacific inserted into a land power vacuum between the collapsing Japanese Empire and the rising power of the Chinese Communists.

Boorman spent the 1946-47 academic year studying Chinese history and modern Chinese language at Yale, where he wrote a pioneering study of the politics of Sinkiang Province where China abuts the Islamic world. Entering the Foreign Service in 1947, he was assigned to Peking. There he observed the first stage of the Chinese civil war, the consolidation of Chinese Communist control in North China in early 1949, and the formal establishment of the People's Republic of China at Peking in October 1949. In the spring of 1950 Boorman was assigned to the American Consulate General in Hong Kong, where he organized and directed a new unit responsible for monitoring and translating the mainland press, a major window on Communist China at a time when reliable information sources were scanty.

Boorman was awarded a Rockefeller Public Service Award (1954-55). He left government service in 1955 and moved to New York for over ten years to direct, with Ford Foundation funding, a biographical dictionary project on the careers of some 600 prominent Chinese spanning many walks of life. The resulting *Biographical Dictionary of Republican China* was published by Columbia University Press in four volumes (1967-71).

Following the dictionary project, Boorman became Professor of History at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. He retired in 1984.

Besides the biographical dictionary he had numerous scholarly publications. While based in New York, Boorman was active with the Council on Foreign Relations and lectured on contemporary China at the National War College, the Naval

War College, and other institutions.

He was predeceased by his first wife Margaret Echlin Boorman and second wife Mary Houghton Boorman. He is survived by his son by his first marriage, Scott A. Boorman, of New Haven, Conn., and by children and grandchildren from Mary Houghton Boorman's first marriage.

*Professor Scott A. Boorman
Sociology Department
Yale University*

[Ed. Note: Howard Boorman was an active correspondent with Roger Pineau and Bill Hudson, and was an enthusiastic supporter of the USN JLS/OLS Archival Project. We will miss him.]

61 Years Later & Still Interpreting

Approximately two years ago I stood in the parking area of the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas. A group of Japanese High School teachers had just arrived from Waco, Texas, where they had been sent to observe the local schools. The experience convinced them that the best high schools in Japan were far in advance of the methods used in Waco. This was the subject of discussion, which was done with great discretion. They had no idea that an American with Japanese language background was within hearing distance. Although my skills were very "rusty" I was able to overhear the tenor of their conversation, and greeted one of the Japanese teachers in Japanese. The embarrassment of members of the group was quite visible, since they were guests of an American organization and did not wish to be seen as critical of U.S. schools.

*Dr. David P. Appleby, Ph.D.
OLS 4/45 -*

Woody Pitts Commentary

I am returning #139 through #151 of *The Interpreter* [from proofreading]. I like the color photos, though I imagine that they add to the cost of the newsletter [only the originals are in color, the 600+ issues are

photocopied and are thus black and white].

I am glad to learn that Cmdr. Hindmarsh's given name was Arthur. Did you know that he was known as Shikazawa-sensei by his recruits [as well as by other nicknames out of hearing, I have been told]? *Shika* is a deer, or hind, and *sawa* (zawa) is swamp or marsh.

Grayce Nakasone was one of my teachers in Stillwater, and I will contact her daughter.

I noted that I should tell you that Charles Hamilton devoted much of his retirement to translating avant-garde French novels. He had me copyedit one of them, whose title I cannot remember. I was surprised to learn that his B.A. was the only degree he had. He was fully respected by all his co-workers as if he had a doctorate.

*Forrest R. Pitts
OLS 1946*

Val Nolan, Jr.



Val Nolan Jr.

Val Nolan Jr., eminent ornithologist and Indiana University Professor Emeritus of Law and Biology died March 27, 2008 in Bloomington, IN at age 87.

His father Val Nolan was a U.S. Attorney and his mother Jeannette (Covert) Nolan an acclaimed author. After graduation from IU (1941, BA, highest honors), Nolan was first a Deputy U.S. Marshal, then a member of the Secret Service protecting President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

During World War II, he joined the US Navy's Japanese Language School (1944,

valedictorian) and later served in Intelligence.

Following law school (JD, IU School of Law, 1949, highest distinction), he joined the IU law faculty where he was an outstanding teacher of property law during five decades (1949 to 1985) and served twice as Acting Dean. Nolan also pursued his deep interest in the ecology, evolution, and behavior of birds, joining the Department of Zoology (later Biology) in 1965 where he established a lasting tradition of excellence in bird biology. His 20-year study of individually marked warblers in the wild (Ecology and Behavior of the Prairie Warbler) is recognized as a spectacular achievement and led to numerous scholarly honors, including Guggenheim Fellow and two lifetime achievement awards from ornithological societies.

Nolan raised three children with his first wife Susanne Nolan: elder son Val Nolan III and wife Lynn of Bloomington, daughter Ann Nolan of Bloomington, and younger son William A. Nolan and wife Alicia Nolan of Powell, OH. He was the loving grandfather of four: Val Nolan IV of Los Angeles, CA, Jenny Nolan of Bloomington, Thomas and Christopher Nolan of Powell. He also leaves his brother Alan T. Nolan (wife Jane Nolan) and his sister Kay Nolan Lobley (husband Alan Lobley) of Indianapolis. He was married for 28 years to his second wife Ellen D. Ketterson with whom he shared his research and life. Val Nolan Jr. was a man of the highest integrity with an extraordinary mind. He was also a good Democrat, and a man who loved the natural world. A memorial service will be held at a later time. Contributions in his name may be made to the Sycamore Land Trust or the IU School of Law. Day Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

*IndyStar.com Obituaries
April 1, 2008*

[Ed. Note: In a constellation of JLS/OLS luminaries, Val Nolan, Jr. burned brightly. Deputy US Marshal, Secret Service, JLS class valedictorian, and professor in two widely different fields, His light is already missed by his classmates.]