

# The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

Number 71A

★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

January 15, 2004

## 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.*

## Blue Parrot/Waves

I was glad to read the name Blue Parrot in Glenn Nelson's piece. I think I wrote you about the wonderful hand-cut linguine and the aperitif of vermouth, neat. And the obvious pleasure that the mother/cook had in taking care of the Boulder navy. We visited that restaurant in the sixties and found it pretty tame. Mama was gone, and they had turned to commercial spaghetti. *Sic transit gloria mundi.*

I also remember the huge meat balls. Heady stuff in those days, but not haut cuisine by today's standards. Now try *Laudisio!!* I hope you will use the bit I sent some time ago about Lt. McAndrew trying to train the first group of WAVES to be able to desert a sinking ship including hand-to-hand combat in the water and jumping off a platform high in the rafters of the men's gym pool. Didn't he know no WAVES would be sent overseas?

Marylou Williams  
JLS 1944

## BUT THINKING MAKES IT SO

*A Musical Skit in Two or Four  
Scenes (Just as you prefer)*  
By

Instigator Larry Vincent  
and

Collaborators William Voelker, Stan  
Kapner, Jean Sosin, Harold Rogers,  
Harry Muheim

CHORUS OF THE Y2c V-4 USNR:

Paul Anspach  
Ned Coffin, idle rich  
Jim DiCrocco, college sophomore  
Tom Flournoy, white-collar  
employee  
Joseph R. LoBrutto, B.I.J.  
Harry Muheim, stevedore

Cast

Callahan of Harvard – L. LaBianca  
Larry Richards, social – H. Barrand  
Elsworth, musical – R.H. Hagan  
Ethel the maid – P.E. Hauck  
Chief Fudge – R.P. Brown  
Van Gaunt, handsome – D. VanBrunt  
Goldneedle, athletic – J.L. Decker  
Bill Miller, studious – W. Voelker  
Girl – P.E. Hauck  
Voice of Sec. Knox – H. Muheim  
C.U. Coed – L. Vincent

Scenes

Before the curtain – Opening Chorus  
Scene I – Dorm Room of Ellsworth  
and Richards  
Before the curtain – New Orders, and  
A Coed's Plight  
Scene II – Same room as Scene I  
(or is it?)  
Costumes, settings, properties and  
lights by Wellwishers, back-biters,  
and the US Navy.

*[Ed. Note: This program for the  
Revue was provided by Lance  
LaBianca. I had not seen this  
program and thought I would include  
it. I had to abbreviate names just to  
fit them in properly]*

## Daniel D. Karasik JLS 1944 Comsat Employee

Daniel David Karasik, 81, a former television newsman who worked at Comsat from the mid-1960s until 1981, retiring as director of television services, died July 7 at his home in Bethesda. He had kidney failure.

At Comsat, Mr. Karasik was a liaison between television networks and the satellite communications company.

A Chicago native, he served with the Navy in the Pacific during World War II. He studied Japanese at the US Navy Oriental Language School and was a combat intelligence officer attached to the Marine Corps. He participated in the battles at Peleliu and Okinawa.

He was a Far Eastern studies graduate of Yale University. He received a Ford Foundation fellowship to study in Japan and did graduate work in applied economics at Tokyo University.

Early in his career, he was assistant editor at the *Chicago Daily News*. From 1954 until 1958, he worked for CBS News as a television reporter. In 1956, he participated in presidential convention coverage. He also covered such assignments as the Hungarian Uprising and the Suez crisis, and was Vienna Bureau Chief.

He settled in the Washington area in 1958 as senior editor of Voice of America. After 14 months, he joined NBC News in Washington, where he specialized in documentaries, some of which won prizes at the Venice Film Festival.

In retirement, he wrote fiction, attended ballet, and did bird watching.

His wife, Lois Schaeffer Karasik, died in 1981.

Survivors include two children, Betsy Karasik of Washington; Peter Karasik of Rockville; and two grandchildren.

Washington Post  
July 12, 2003

*[Ed. Note: Dan Karasik's story, regretfully, appeared several days after his death, one of life's coincidences. When we sent out the article on the JLS/OLS in the Coloradan in 2001, Mr. Beath was able to see his picture in the article days before he passed away. We were not so lucky this time. Sorry for the lateness of the obituary]*

## A Very Peculiar Language Barrier

I served with the Third Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment as Battalion Intelligence Officer during the operations on Guam and Okinawa in World War II. Recently, I read in the paper that it was this battalion which pulled down the statue of Saddam Hussein. I was reminded of an incident which took place at the time of the Okinawa landing. Our battalion was urged to get ashore as quickly as possible, find an Okinawan, and determine where the [enemy] troops were located. I told Col. Hoyler, our C.O., that I could speak Japanese but I did not know whether I spoke Okinawan, as I had never tried it and no one seemed to know how close to Japanese it might be. He said, "Do your best".

We were scheduled to land at 6:00 AM on April 1, 1945 and went down the landing nets at about 5:00 AM. We circled around for nearly an hour while all the landing crafts were being loaded and the word came to head for the beach. By this time, however, naval preparatory shelling had been so intense that the shore and everything else was completely buried in smoke and dust. We were not sure where the island was, and my compass was of no use because there was so much metal around. However, hoping we were headed toward Okinawa and not toward China, and keeping the naval gunfire at our backs, we made it ashore with no casualties.

Very shortly, men from our unit produced a very naked (except for a loin cloth) fellow who was carrying a stick like a shepherd's crook. I immediately asked him (in Japanese) what his name was and where he was from. I got back a sort of growl and a babyish drool. I was never able to make any sense out of his droolings. But soon two more of the same type were produced,

but they were no more coherent than the first one.

I told Col. Hoyler that I was not going to be of much use on this operation because I had concluded that I did not speak Okinawan. We now had about 50 “Okinawans” in a stockade; all naked except for the cloth and the idiot stick. About that time, however, a Japanese soldier was brought in. He had stayed on the reverse side of the hills and was not in bad shape. I asked him who his cohorts were. He said the soldiers had all gone south to

the Naha-Shuri line, and the people in the stockade were all insane Okinawans. He pointed out that there was an island about 200 yards off the coast just south of the Yontan Peninsula (near where our battalion had landed) and that it was customary for all the lunatics, insane, or mentally defective individuals to live on this island.

When the bombardment started, they, and any keepers, simply came ashore as best they could – and we met them on the beach. What became of them, I

do not know. Presumably, they were ultimately collected and cared for as before.

Our battalion left the area within a few days to patrol around the northern portion of Okinawa and later went south to the Naha-Shuri offensive.

*Hart Spiegel  
USMCR  
JLS June 1943*

*[Ed. Note: Presumably, Lt. Spiegel discovered he could speak Okinawan better than he had, at first, surmised. Thanks go to Mr. Spiegel for this interesting story.]*

## **& Yasuko Fukada Visit Archives**

Hallam Shorrock and his wife, Yasuko Fukada, visited the Boulder campus on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

After beginning his Japanese language study in Boulder, Shorrock was transferred with most other OLS students to Stillwater in the Summer of 1945.

Between 1947 and 1990, Shorrock spent some 25 years in Japan, first in postwar relief and

rehabilitation work and then in higher education at International Christian University in Tokyo and with the University of California Education Abroad program. He and his wife of 54 years, Helen, who died in 2001, raised five children in Japan, three of whom are engaged in Japan-related work: journalism, electronics, and education.

Shorrock and Fukada exchanged marriage vows in Tokyo on May 10, 2003. They had first met in Tokyo in 1947 after he and his first wife had arrived as missionary teachers

under the United Church of Christ in Japan (Nihon Kirisuto Kyodan) and assisted in her father's church in Kokubunji, Tokyo.

*Hallam Shorrock  
OLS 1946*

*[Ed. Note: The visit was an event for me, as all such JLS/OLS visits are: Attention! Open Ranks..., March! Port Arms! Inspection..., Arms!]*

## **Oxenfelt Remembered**

It was with regret that I learned of the passing of Alfred Oxenfelt, who graduated from

the US Navy Japanese Language School in June 1944. I would like to add a few notes to the obituary published in a recent issue of *The Interpreter*.

I was a contemporary of Alfred at the Language School and shared a room in the Makalapa BOQ at Pearl Harbor while on duty at JICPOA for more than a year while we were both translating captured Japanese documents. Early in 1945, Alfred became involved in the psychological warfare program. This involved preparing pamphlets designed to

**Hallam Shorrock  
OLS 1946**

persuade the Japanese that it was more sensible to surrender than to face almost certain death. Alfred took part in the invasion of Okinawa and his pamphlets were dropped from US Aircraft during the battle. Who knows how many lives were saved by the surrender of the desperate Japanese?

As far as I know, Alfred was never cited for his actions on Okinawa, but I would like his associates in the JLS to know about Alfred's contribution.

*Lawrence Alan Seymour  
JLS 1944*