

# The Interpreter

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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.*

## JLS/OLS Chiefs

The *und* director during my stay in Boulder (July 42 - June 3) was Hedge. So far as we were concerned his first name was Chief. In the memorable follies skit he became Chief Fudge, played with much realism by the late R. Paul Brown.

Paul. Hauck  
JLS 1943

[Ed. Note: Hedge, Criss C., CSp (A) (AA). He was not listed in the JLS/OLS Staff, but was listed in the Radio School staff in 1943-1944.]

Re John McCubbin's February 1<sup>st</sup> query about the Chiefs, the two chiefs under LT Conover were Freels and McGill. I remember them as presiding over PT for an hour daily.

Glenn W. Nelson  
JLS 1944

[Ed. Note: "Close enough for government work" as my father says. The chiefs mentioned hear are Friels, Eulan W., CSp and McGill, Charles E., CSp. from the CU Student, Staff and Faculty directory. We have contacted some widows and kin of some of the staff. Mostly no luck, though.]

## A Judicial Career II

In January of 1951 I was recruited in Honolulu by a long-time friend who represented the newly-created government of Guam, to go to Guam as an assistant to the Attorney General. About eighteen months later I was appointed to the position of Attorney General, which post I filled until entering into a legal partnership with the firm of Spiegel and Turner in late 1953. Subsequently, our firm (Spiegel, Turner and Stevens) had offices in Guam, Okinawa and Santa Monica, California. We were active in legal matters throughout the Pacific, including the Marianas Islands, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and the Ryukyu Islands. My familiarity with the Japanese language again was quite useful. While on reserve duty in Guam, I actively assisted Naval duty officers and local police officers in locating, capturing and interrogating stragglers. I still have copies of some of the interrogations, which were accomplished in part by the use of polygraph machines. Also, while on Guam, I wrote a book entitled, *Guam, USA - Birth of a Territory*. The first edition was published by Tongg Publishing Company of Honolulu in 1953, and a revised edition was published in 1956.

The senior partner in our law firm became quite busy with private affairs and as an advisor to the government of Israel, and our partnership was dissolved. In 1957 my family moved to San Diego, where I became manager of Solar Aircraft's Purchasing Division and served as legal advisor. About a year later I was asked (at the behest, I later learned, of Roy Morgan, whom I did not know, and who was Chief Justice of the court system for the Ryukyus) to come to Okinawa as a judge, for approximately 18-24 months. I agreed, and my family and I moved to Okinawa, where I tried many cases, civil and criminal.

Justice Morgan resigned his position on 1963, and I was appointed as his successor, with responsibility for all judicial matters in the Ryukyus. The system was comprised of a division for cases of interest to the United States (three American judges for trial of cases, as well as several appeals judges appointed ad hoc) and a division for cases of local interest (approximately 60 Ryukyuan judges). I supervised all personnel, directly in American courts and indirectly in Ryukyuan courts, established judicial training programs in coordination with the Supreme Court of Japan, instituted a jury system for the American Division and adopted rules for the American courts based upon the US rules of civil and criminal procedure. I tried a large number of cases in which there was no possibility of conflicting interests. As necessary, cases in the American courts were tried through interpreters. I found my Japanese training invaluable, and later learned that such training was one of the reasons for my appointment.

We stayed on in Okinawa until 1966, when we moved to Seattle, primarily to live closer to our children. I served as Chief Counsel of the Economic Development Administration (Department of Commerce) for the western states.

In 1972, I was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge for the trial of federal matters. After serving a year in San Bernardino, California to hear matters for the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare, we moved to the San Francisco area, where I was assigned to hear cases involving the Department of Labor (primarily Taft-Hartley labor matters). Our area included all states west of the Rocky Mountains, but I tried cases in many other places.

I retired in 1986, and my wife and I have lived in Fallbrook, California since then. During the first four years of retirement, I tried cases for the US

Department of Labor and drafted proposed decisions for other Administrative Law Judges.

Judge Russell L. Stevens, retired  
JLS 1944

[Ed. Note: I will notify Gigi York of the Museum of the Marianas of Judge Stevens, for a possible oral history.]

## From a Navy Commission To CU

In every group of students entering the US Navy Japanese/Oriental Language School there was a very small group, a half dozen or so, who were already commissioned officers and had been transferred out of the Fleet on orders from Commander Hindmarsh.

My experience was as follows: at the time of Pearl Harbor I was a graduate student at Cornell University about to complete my Ph.D. degree. My major professor was Dr. Harry J. Love who, with his family, had spent 2 periods in the 1920's and 1930's in Nationalist China working as a plant breeder. Love's son, Charles thus came to Cmdr. Hindmarsh's attention, accepted a Navy commission and entered an earlier class; I believe the 1942 S summer class of the Language School. Charles Love urged me to apply for the Language School, which I did 5 months after Pearl Harbor. I heard nothing from Hindmarsh so in August, 1942, I applied for an officer's commission. This received an immediate response and I was ordered to Buffalo to accept the commission. Just before this I had received a letter from Cmdr. Hindmarsh to come to New York for an interview for the Language School in Boulder, which I did, but no offer was immediately forthcoming. I was in a quandary as to what to do. I knew of a Navy Captain residing in Ithaca and decided to telephone him for advice. I have never forgotten his counsel: "Take the Navy commission. Never, never, turn down a commission. It will stay in your

records and haunt you all your life!”

After this decision I wrote Cmdr. Hindmarsh that I had accepted an Ensign’s commission as a Deck Officer, D-V(S), and assumed that was the end of the matter. I entered the Navy Communication School at Harvard University. My arrival in Boston was the morning after the Coconut Grove fire which killed more than 400 people, and taxis, which had been busy all night carrying cadavers to the morgue, were unavailable. At Harvard I

expected to be a Communications Officer on a destroyer in the Battle of the Atlantic in 6 weeks. Instead, Hindmarsh had me transferred without notice to the Japanese Language School at Boulder where I entered the W winter class.

The hundreds of entering students were all Yeoman 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, highly qualified, all college graduated and many with advanced degrees. All became Navy or Marine officers before completing the Language course. The small group of already-commissioned officers in the

School, with their ranks of the times as I remember them, were: Lieutenant Philip Durr, Ensign Neal Jensen, Lieutenant (jg) Charles Love, Lt. Cmdr. Leo Reierstad and Lieutenant Samuel Stratton. I have lost touch with Phil Durr and Chuck Love. Leo Reierstad returned to, I believe, his pre-war position with British Petroleum in China and died there many years ago. Samuel Stratton became a Congressman from New York after the war. He died many years ago. I retired as the Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of Plant Breeding, Emeritus, Cornell University and

live in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Neal F. Jensen  
JLS 1944

[Ed. Note: I was informed by Mrs. Sigerson that Mr. Jensen passed away late last year. His son, Lawrence, is on the address list. It is sad how many articles come out after the passing of the JLS/OLS writer.]

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**Spencer L. Kimball**  
**JLS 1944**  
**(1918-2003)**

Spencer L. Kimball, 85, a well renowned scholar on insurance law and regulation and the oldest

son of the late Spencer W. Kimball, 12<sup>th</sup> president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, died Sunday, October 26, 2003, in Salt Lake City.

At the age of 31, in 1950, he was the youngest dean of the University of Utah Law School. As an insurance lawyer and scholar, he was one of the co-founders and past president of the AIDA, an international insurance law association. Much of his work in insurance law remains a model for insurance codes today.

Born in Thatcher, Arizona, he graduated first in his class from the Univ. of Arizona with a BS in 1940.

During World War II, he attended the US Navy Japanese Language School at the Univ. of Colorado, served as a Lieutenant, USNR, aboard the *USS Franklin* as a Japanese language translator and interpreter. After the War, he took post-graduate study at the University of Utah, was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship and received a B.C.L. from Oxford University (GB) in 1949 and an SJD from the Univ. of Wisconsin in 1958.

Spencer Kimball was an assoc. professor, professor and dean of the law school at the Univ. of Utah, from 1949 to 1957, was professor (1957-1968) and director of legal research

at the Univ. of Michigan Law School (1962-1967). He was professor and dean of the Univ. of Wisconsin Law School from 1968 to 1972, after which he became Seymour Logan Professor of Law at the University of Chicago until his retirement in 1988. He returned to the Univ. of Utah as professor in 1993.

Prof. Kimball also served as staff director of the Wisconsin Insurance Law Revision Project, president, board of directors, of the ACLU (1959-63), Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and was a member of Am., Mich., Utah and Wisconsin Bar Associations, AAUP, Phi Beta

Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and the Democratic Party.

He was the author of *Insurance and Public Policy* (Elizur Wright Award) 1960, *Introduction to Legal Systems*, 1966, *Essays in Insurance Regulation*, 1966, He was co-editor of *Insurance, Government and Social Policy*, 1969, and *Legal Service Plans*, 1977. In addition he was a frequent contributor to professional and academic journals.

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*Taken from the Deseret News*  
*November 5, 2003*  
*and Who’s Who in America, 1974*