

# 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.*

## Flashback of Boulder 1943-1944

It had been a long crowded 2 \_ days of train travel to Boulder from Miami Beach (where I had been working on the Brazil desk of G-2 Military Intelligence). After the monotony of palm trees, the foliage of Boulder delighted.

Rebecca Smith, our fearless leader, came from Kentucky and knew my aunt and uncle in Lexington, one of life's coincidences.

Recollections include pork-pork in the midst of beef country! Studying in the music room on the Library's fourth floor – Marching (or running for Helen Kiehn and me – for we were the shortest). Lilacs and their scent in May along the hillside streets – cokes at the Sink where it always seemed that Kay Armen was singing “Cuddle Up a Little Closer, Lovey Mine.”

Dancing on Saturday nights in that barn-like place on the corner south of the Sink – the

funeral march for the Secretary of the Navy Knox [William Franklin Knox, 1874-1944 was Secretary of the Navy from 1940-1944. Frank Knox died on April 28, 1944.]. Saturday afternoon movies with that one lonely leaf floating endlessly down a slow moving stream. Our field trip to Arapahoe Glacier where I sprained my ankle on the ice. The Sensei and the dinner one of the Methodist Sensei gave us in their home – Tennis in bright sunshine and hikes along the creek nearby. Horseback riding in dust and sun. And studying inside, outside, everywhere. 10-day leaves to go to California, back east or anywhere – lucky us.

All of it was hard, good, bad and unforgettable.

Barbara MacVey  
aka “Mac”

or Mrs. J. Edward Hitchcock, Jr.  
JLS 1944

[Ed. Note: This piece of stream of consciousness is taken from the 1993 WAVE 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion materials in the Japanese Language School Collection. While some of the WAVES have seen this piece, the rest on our address list have not.]

## Japan Occupation Tales

In July 1946 we [Joe Levenson JLS 1943 and Art Dornheim] visited Shikoku, then under the British Commonwealth Zone of Occupation. One fine day we took our jeep on a narrow dirt road between the rice paddies in the southern half of the island. There wasn't a Brit, Aussie, Canadian, New Zealander, or Indian to be seen for miles. Then we saw this long column of people coming towards us. We pulled the jeep to the side of the road and stopped. Soon we noticed the people were carrying wooden boxes supposed to be carrying the ashes of servicemen killed in the war whose photos had been placed in front of the boxes. Later we learned that the column of people was headed for the local Buddhist temple to commemorate the dead of *ireisai*

(honor the souls day). The people passed by our jeep very closely without looking at us or saying anything to us. We would not be attacked, because the Emperor had said the war was over.

It was a very interesting time in my life.

Arthur Dornheim  
JLS 1943

[Ed. Note: This is the last of a set of stories we received from Art Dornheim. We value such detailed reminiscences. These will go into his collection.]

## Hart Spiegel JLS 1943

Nationally Renowned  
S.F. Tax Attorney

Hart H. Spiegel, a prominent San Francisco tax lawyer and a decorated World War II veteran who was an outspoken opponent of the Vietnam War, died March 16, 2004 of congestive heart failure at age 85.

Mr. Spiegel was a nationally known tax lawyer who had served as chief counsel for the Internal Revenue Service from 1959 to 1961. He spent most of his career, though, as senior partner at Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison, one of the oldest and most prestigious law firms in California.

He joined the firm in 1947, when there were only a dozen partners, and by the time he retired in 1992, he had helped transform it into one of the most distinguished law firms in San Francisco. It closed its doors last year.

Colleagues called him “a lawyer’s lawyer” who had a fine intellect and a keen judgment as well as a warm, down-to-earth style with his clients. “He had a terrific touch with people,” said his son, John H. Spiegel. He was the guy from Topeka, Kansas, who could talk to anybody about anything.”

“He was just an exceptionally fine person, and everybody loved him,” said Walter Pettit, a retired

San Francisco attorney who until recently had lunch regularly with Mr. Spiegel, discussing the war in Iraq and other world affairs.

Mr. Spiegel was unafraid to stand up for what he believed and was a vocal critic of the Vietnam War from the very start. At one point during the 1960s, he got nearly a 100 lawyers to sign an opinion piece that ran in the *Chronicle* challenging the wisdom of the nation's foreign policy and defending the free speech rights of the war's opponents.

A short time after his birth in Safford, Ariz., his family moved to Topeka, where he came of age during the depression and where his father, a civil engineer, worked for the federal government conducting geological surveys. The young Hart Spiegel had to struggle with many health complications, defeating polio and later surviving two aortic dissections.

He earned a scholarship to Yale University and, after receiving an undergraduate degree in mathematics, began studying at Yale Law School.

World War II broke out before he completed his studies, and he joined the Marine Corps, serving as a lieutenant in the Pacific from 1942 to 1946. He was on the front lines, fighting in Guam, Guadalcanal and Iwo Jima. He was wounded on Okinawa and received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for bravery in combat.

After the war, he returned to Yale, where he was articles editor of the Yale Law Journal. He married Genevieve Willson, whom he had met during the war in Hawaii, and the two settled in San Francisco.

Mr. Spiegel joined Brobeck, at the time one of the old-line, staid conservative law firms, and quickly made a name for himself as one of the best tax lawyers in the state, representing a long list of corporate clients. He left the firm for two years in 1959, when he was appointed IRS chief counsel by the Eisenhower

administration, despite his longtime affiliation as a Democrat.

He returned to Brobeck in 1961, where colleagues say he was a beloved member of the firm. Years after he retired, he continued to come to his corner office, wearing his suit and trademark bow tie.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Spiegel served as president of the Bar Association of San Francisco in 1983 and as a member of the board of directors of World Airways in the 1980s. He loved squash and

He spent most of his weekends, however, at his place on the Russian River in the Alexander Valley, fixing the sprinkler system, putting up a barbed wire fence and doing other odd projects, said his son, John. "He loved to work with his hands," his son said. "When he became a lawyer, it ruined a great construction worker."

Mr. Spiegel was also devoted to his grandchildren and spent hours regaling them with exotic and wondrous stories. "He was their biggest cheerleader," said his daughter Claire Spiegel

Charles Kenady, a prominent San Francisco lawyer who had known Mr. Spiegel since the time the two were at Yale, said he would remember him as "an inspiration, as a terribly good friend, as a most amusing companion."

Mr. Spiegel died at his home in San Francisco with his wife, Genevieve, and his three children at his side. In addition to his wife, Genevieve Willson Spiegel of San Francisco, and his son John and daughter Claire, both of Los Angeles, he is survived by his daughter Jennifer

Grellman of Kentfield; a sister, Gloria Nelson of Seattle; and seven grandchildren.

Harriet Chiang  
San Francisco Chronicle  
March 17, 2004

*[Ed. Note: Sorry for the delay on this obit. But the space required an almost empty issue, and as we have issues partially filled almost 15 months ahead, many longer stories have to wait. Since the ones in the April and June 2004 issues had waited for 8-10 months, it did not seem right to displace them. Our sympathies go out to Mr. Spiegel's family and many friends and comrades. We will miss him.]*

## The Army Way

As I learned when with the 126<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, there is a normal, civilian way of doing things, and an Army way. The worst example of this I learned in Brisbane. US Intelligence had pulled out of Mindanao by submarine. An Army corporal, who had eluded his Japanese captors during the Bataan Death March, had gotten down to Mindanao and joined a Muslim guerrilla group, and received a radio for communication. was an avid tennis player.

Because of illness, he was put in the same ward *[as me in the Brisbane]* hospital, and soon before his release his doctor asked me to befriend him – he had emotional problems derived from the fact that he had to be court-martialed for going AWOL during the Death March. He couldn't understand it. The punishment consisted of a minor fine, but in his weakened condition, he didn't get it.

S. Paul Kramer  
JLS 1944

Brian.

*[Ed. Note: Most people would not see the distinction between an individual prisoner of war, whose duty it is to resist and escape, and a member of a surrendered unit, whose duty, at least initially, is to surrender with the unit. I am uncertain whether the same military doctrine complies now. It sounds a bit like Bridge Over the River Kwai. I suspect the same distinction existed for a surrendered naval vessel and a captured individual sailor, marine, or naval officer. Those more informed among the readership can correct me or provide the rationale. I was raised a middle child, I am inured to argument and contradiction.]*

## ATIS Website

Peter Dunn [pdunn@st.net.au](mailto:pdunn@st.net.au), has created a website called Australia @ War. One of its aspects is Allied Signal Intelligence Units and other secret units in Australia during WW2. Of the units mentioned is ATIS. In the ATIS section he lists the Allied Naval Forces Unit. I could not help but recognize a number of familiar names. After I contacted him, he created a link to our JLS/OLS website and I have been sending him stories.

