

The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

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★ Remember September 11, 2001 ★

May 15, 2006

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.

Knecht Recollects

...Yesterday morning we had to "fall out" and march over to the men's drill field to stand at "parade rest" and watch the regimental review of the V-12 sailors. On November 30, if we are in uniform, we will have to take part in one for the benefit of "the highest officials of the US Navy." They are coming for graduation exercises. For the next few weeks we have to have drill four times a week instead of the usual two.

...This week brought another innovation to the school. We have been assigned to definite tables at lunch, with classes sitting together. At each table are three of the Japanese teachers, and conversation is supposed to be entirely in Japanese. One of the teachers at our table chatters all the time at a great rate of speed. Usually I don't know what she is talking about. Another teacher is very nice and one day three of us at one end of the table had quite an intelligent

conversation about books. Mostly there are strained silences.

*Betty Knecht to her Mother,
October-November, 1943
JLS 1944*

WAVE 50th Reunion Entry, 1993

Hugh Deane JLS 1944, (1916-2001)

Hugh Deane, began his association with China in 1936 when he was a Harvard exchange student at Lingnan University. After graduating, he returned to China for several years and wrote articles for the *Christian Science Monitor* and the *Springfield (MA) Union and Republican*. During World War II, Deane worked for the Coordinator of Information (later the Office of War Information), trained at the US Navy Japanese Language School at the University of Colorado, and then served as a naval intelligence officer on MacArthur's staff in the South Pacific. From 1946 to 1950, he was a Tokyo-based correspondent, writing for a variety of publications on topics concerning eastern Asia, especially the origins of the Korean War. Blacklisted during the McCarthy era, Deane operated Laundromats for a short time. In 1960, Deane began an editorial job for the paper *Hotel Voice*, working as chief editor most of the time until his retirement in 1986. Deane was a founder of the US-China Peoples Friendship Association, and continued to write articles and books until his death on June 25, 2001.

The collection, in the Western Historical Manuscripts Collections- Kansas City, includes correspondence, research notes, publications, conference transcripts, an FBI file on Indusco, manuscripts (published and unpublished), clippings, and a military map drawn by Zhou Enlai. ca. 1936-1991. The collection is 4.5 cubic feet.

"I knew Hugh as a regular at the Wednesday 'brown bag lunches' at the office of *Monthly Review*, where I worked in the 90s. He was a decent, dedicated progressive with a penetrating intelligence. In the mid-1970s, the *Guardian*, under the editorship of Irwin Silber and Jack Smith, ran a long series of op-eds debating China's foreign policy. The first 'anti' piece came from Wilfred Burchett, the journalist who chronicled the Indochina war; the first 'pro' piece came from Deane, reflecting his stature in China friendship circles. He had defended China's line because he agreed with it; when it moved in a direction he no longer could accept, he was forthright with his differences, while remaining a friend of the Chinese people. He is missed.

Hugh was one of a number of independent left intellectuals who, while not Maoists themselves, identified with the Chinese revolution in the 50s and 60s. These included W.E.B. DuBois, Shirley Graham DuBois, Annette T. Rubinstein, the *Monthly Review* and *National Guardian* circles, and others. [Their European counterparts included Sartre, de Beauvoir, filmmakers Joris Ivens and Felix Greene, and philosopher George Thomson.]

He wrote two books, *Good Deeds and Gunboats* and *The Korean War 1945-1953* and contributed to *The Nation*, *Christian Science Monitor* and others. He was a founder of the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association and chief editor of its *U.S. China Review*. After Harvard, he traveled to China and wrote a ten-part series for the *Monitor* reporting that the Kuomintang was losing support. Ten years later, he was blacklisted, a victim of the notion that conspiring Americans had lost China. From 1960-1986, he was associate editor and then editor of the *Hotel Voice*, a union newspaper. In 1963, he wrote one of the first anti-war critiques

in "The War in Vietnam" with a forward by Bertrand Russell.

Born in Springfield, MA, he was a descendant of Francis Cooke, a member of the Mayflower company.

*WHMC-KC;
Ethan Young,
ethanyoung@earthlink.net;
New York Times
August 19, 2001*

What a Way to Wage War III

There were three possible assignments for us Ensigns. My first choice was Australia, second was Hawaii, and the dead-last-and-far-behind choice was Washington. They sent me to Washington. Along with others from the Boulder group, I worked in a big office that got pretty hot in the summer in those pre-AC days. The translating work was not very hard, but we quickly learned that our main job was to stay out of the bad graces of our boss, a Captain with enormous talent but a terrible temper. When we heard roars coming out of his office, our instinct was to cower under the desks, certain that wrath was about to descend. Still, Washington had its advantages. We didn't have to live in a BOQ, and our duties left enough time to enjoy the city's social life. And there was one big advantage. One evening at a cocktail party, I met a WAVE officer. She now accuses me of not remembering that encounter, but I do. And we kept meeting, then and after the war in various places in Europe, and in 1954 we were married, and lived happily ever after. Patience paid off.

But that was all in the future. Back in January 1945, by now a Lieutenant (junior grade), I was finally shipped off to Australia. Melbourne in those days was rather staid and proper, but it had great charm and offered quite a range of activities. My American colleagues and I lived in a residential hotel that provided comfortable rooms and

all our meals. We had bikes on which we rode back and forth to the office, a small building that we shared with Australian, British, and New Zealand counterparts. Here too the work was pleasant, though a little more exciting than Washington, as we felt closer to the action. It was as close as I was going to get. (To be cont'd)

Wallace M. Erwin
JLS 1943
from The Princeton Class of 1942
During World War II: The Individual
Stories. Ed. Charles B. Blackmar,
The Class of 1942
Princeton University, 2000.

different offerings of his club. And then I discovered another asset offered on Guam: flush **So You Want to Study Japanese...? (5)**

One of our general assignments [on Saipan] at that time was to examine whatever evidence we could find bearing on the Japanese preparation for their acts of aggression, such as the raid on Pearl Harbor. One interesting bit of evidence we uncovered revealed rather long range planning. The Japanese wanted to use Saipan as an airbase but it was covered with tropical growth, particularly palm trees. The amount of work

Boulder days and a picture of him taken with a Japanese officer in Tokyo while doing an and obvious use of heavy earth-moving equipment to clear it would have been noticed by visitors to the island. To achieve the desired results without being so obvious, they brought to the island certain pests which would kill off the palm trees in short order and make it possible more easily to create landing fields for their military aviation. Through testimony that we took we were able to put together a report to submit to Tokyo for use in the war crimes trials that were already underway.

At some point during my stay

man and we kept in touch until his death in 1983 or 1984. He was within a week of visiting us on Saipan we discovered a young man from Guam living in the native village of Chalan Kanoa (sp?) who was wanted for some infraction by the authorities in Guam. He needed to be sent under guard to Guam. I was asked (perhaps I volunteered) to escort him to the authorities there. I carried a sidearm which I probably had never even been trained to use [Ah, prisoner escort. Performed that duty several times myself. I was likewise bemused by my effectiveness with the M1911, and by the paperwork I would

have had to fill out if I ever pulled my 45]. Its presence was enough to keep our prisoner from bolting. Once I had accomplished that task, I was free to enjoy the delights of 6th Fleet HQ, to which my friend Jim Gunn was eager to introduce me.

Unlike the meager officer's club on Saipan, which offered Pepsi, beer and whickey, the Guam Club had mixed drinks: daiquiris, whiskey sours, martinis and manhattans, for example. With Jim's assistance I was delighted to sample the

toilets! Eventually, I had to return to my duty station [It's amazing what sort of grass looks greener after a stint of the "simple life"]. (to be cont'd)

Charles D. Cook
OLS 1945

W.E. Winebrenner, **OLS 1945 (3)**

[My reading of your JLS/OLS materials] has caused me to go through my husband's papers which revealed his US Navy service history, letters from him to his family during his

interview.

While going through all his stuff, it felt like a movie in the making. Who knows, you may get a good writer to do a script for a movie regarding your students during the Japanese war period.

Carolina Iñigo Winebrenner
Widow of Walter Winebrenner

[Ed. Note: I notified Mr. Stone about Ms Winebrenner and he answered:]

Thank you for your message. We had lost contact with Lina Winebrenner so are particularly happy to receive her address. Her husband, Ted, was a remarkable

man and we kept in touch until his death in 1983 or 1984. He was within a week of visiting us on Saipan we discovered a young man from Guam living in the native village of Chalan Kanoa (sp?) who was wanted for some infraction by the authorities in Guam. He needed to be sent under guard to Guam. I was asked (perhaps I volunteered) to escort him to the authorities there. I carried a sidearm which I probably had never even been trained to use [Ah, prisoner escort. Performed that duty several times myself. I was likewise bemused by my effectiveness with the M1911, and by the paperwork I would

Semper Fidelis
Elmer J. Stone
OLS 1945

[Ed. Note: The Navy may have had more reasons not to mix such old salts with recruits beyond their advanced Japanese training and rank. Bill Croyle, Jr. has indicated that the Samoa Marines may have let loose a bit, not that I blame them. Hard not to let off steam after service

*in the Pacific. Must have been like
“Li'l Rascals” let loose among altar
boys.]*
