December 1, 2000

The Japanese Language School Project

The Interpreter
Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

The Japanese Language School Archival Project

In the Spring of 2000, the Archives continued the original efforts of Captain Roger Pwine and William Hudson, and the Archives first attempts in 1992, to gather the papers, correspondence, photographs, and records of graduates of the US Navy Japanese Language School, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1942-1946. We assemble these papers in recognition of the contributions made by JLS graduates to the War effort in the Pacific, the successful occupation of Japan, the creation of Japanese language programs across the country, and the development of cultural reconciliation programs after World War II.

JLS WAVES' & Wives' Materials Begin to Arrive

Addie Busch began writing her memories of being the first JLS wife in Boulder. She was uncertain, at first, whether such reminiscences would be desired. We assured her that, aside from her delightful prose, her memories were an important source for those studying WWII women’s history. We look forward to many more letters from Ms. Busch.

In addition, the wife of Norman Meller, Terza Meller received the newsletter issue calling for papers from JLS wives. In response, she sent a letter of memories and her copy of “The Censored Cookbook”, edited by Laura Fischer and Joy Karr and typed by Terza Meller, Mary Downing, Artiey Hellner, and Merrie Erickson, published in 1944.

In addition, Shirley Whan sent her side of the correspondence with her husband during WWII, after one of our female students prevailed upon Mr. and Mrs. Whan, that half of the correspondence was half of the story.

We strongly implore those considering the archiving of their WWII correspondence to include both sides of the correspondence, if possible. My female student assistants, Megan, Sarah, Lena, and Cynthia always ask where the wives’ letters went.

Emma McClay Layman, WAVE and JLS graduate, sent her US Navy papers. We look forward to gathering more collections from WAVES.

We encourage JLS wives to send memoirs, diaries, letters, and other materials documenting their JLS and wartime experiences. All faculty with whom I have raised the issue of JLS wives’ and WAVES’ materials have enthusiastically supported our effort to collect this material. The women of JLS would be gratified to see the enthusiasm and interest expressed in their papers by the young female students working at the Archives. If they could hear their comments and see their faces, the JLS women would be eager to send their materials.

David M. Hays
Instructor/Archivist

JLS Collections Cross-Reference Index Begun

As a method to streamline research, we are developing a cross reference index to all of our JLS collections. Topics such as Atomic Bomb, Careers, Diaries & Journals, Display Materials, photographs, Family Correspondence, Locations, Occupation of Japan, POWs, US Navy JLS in Boulder, Colorado, and Wartime Assignments have already been included in the index. Books will also be listed as an aid to reduce duplication.

As we process more collections our list will include more topics and categories.

Sarah A. Johnson
Student Assistant

Philip Bridgham & Ross Ingersoll Papers Organized

Two small collections, the Bridgham and Ingersoll Papers, have been organized and processed by Sarah A. Johnson (CU, 2003), one of our student assistants. The Bridgham Papers contain WWII correspondence sent home to his fiancée. In addition to this correspondence the collection contains military documents, resumes, and memorabilia. The Ingersoll Papers are largely made up of a diary that was given to Ingersoll written by James H. Durbin. In addition to this diary Ingersoll included an autobiography detailing is own time spent in the war. These materials have been preserved in acid free folders and boxes.

Sarah A. Johnson
Student Assistant

Email List

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I regret it has taken so long to publish the above email addresses. The addresses do not exhaust the email addresses the JLS Project has received. They are, however, the ones we have received permission to publish in the newsletter. All of those wishing to have their email address published in the newsletter, please email Bill Amos (1st address) and copy the Archives (arv@colorado.edu). All of you on email, please send us your stories. They enliven what can otherwise be fairly boring newsletter. We hope you have enjoyed the pieces we have found so far.

The roll call so far, is:
Amos, Bill
Cox, H. M. (2 addresses)
Hamilton, C.
Harrington, J.T.
Ingersoll, R.H.
Juster, N.
Karasik, D.
Levine, S. & E.
Massar, W.
Packman, M.
Sosin, G.
Wahn, E.
Weil, B.
Williams, N. and ML.

Stuart Hummel
Copies, Binds & Donates
JLS Portion of his Diary

Stuart Hummel, JLS 1942, has recently donated a photocopyed handsomely bound volume of the diary entries he kept while a JLS student at both the University of California, Berkeley and at Boulder in 1942.

Mr. Hummel served in FRUPAC on Hawaii during the war. Following the war, he became a US State Department Official, working in the Office of Chinese Affairs. Hummel was then placed in charge of 65 Libraries and Cultural Centers throughout the Far East in the US Information Service. He later directed USIS Voice of America broadcasts in three Chinese dialects.

The diary will be cataloged for the Archives book holdings.

JLS Illustrations to Come

On the reverse side, where we usually place our standard contact information, we will be putting maps and illustrations.
The Campus
In 1943

Much of the old campus of 1943 looks the same today. From the corner of University and Broadway to Claire Small Gymn, to Sybell Wolle Fine Arts past Hellems, to the Old Memorial Building, now Economics, most of the buildings are the same, with facelifts and additions. However, southeast from Hellems and east from Norlin, a great deal has changed around the few buildings you may remember: dorms after the War, the science and engineering complex after Sputnik, and from 4,000 to 25,500 students by 2000.