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CINCPACFLT Dedicates Display “History of Naval Intelligence in WWII”

To the best of my observation, Van Campen and myself were the only Boulder graduates attending the June 1, 2001 “Display Dedication”. The display honored the roles played by FRUPAC, JICPOA, and CINCPAC Intelligence Section in the Pacific War. Van Campen had been in cryptography during the War at Hypo Station in Pearl Harbor (underground, hot, unventilated and full of mosquitoes), FRUPAC and shipboard. I had been at JICPOA, the Third Marine Division for the Guam Campaign, an amphibious group and transport division staff taking the first Army troops to Korea, and then with the Intelligence Section of CINCPAC headquarters staff. Several Nisei from Hawaii attended, including Mr. Wada who, among other things, had written surrender leaflets dropped over bypassed Japanese held islands. Intelligence personnel who were not language types, and people connected with the Battle of Midway, the anniversary of which was also being celebrated, were also present.

The dedication ceremony and the occasion itself was done in fine Naval style. It was held outside the CINCPAC HQ Building at Makalapa. CINCPAC Admiral Fargo presided. The flag was raised. Seats were provided for about 100 guests and staff members. The current heads of intelligence for both CINCPAC (Navy) and CINCPAO (Joint Army/Navy/ AirForce) were present (both Rear Admirals, both women). Rear Admiral Showers, who was a lieutenant in CINCPAC Intelligence throughout the War, spoke of OPINTEL during WWll.

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Many Donations Arrive

This May, we began to receive money donations to the JLS Project, the first coming from Ms. Yumoto. In August, we received a $400 gift from Mrs. Maxine Pineau. We are hoping to build this US Navy JLS/OLS Project Fund so that it can pay future student hires to process JLS collections, work on the newsletter, and perform other duties relating to the JLS Project.

We wish to thank donors to this effort for their generosity. We realize how many groups there are out there, worthy and not so worthy, which are seeking your funds. We want our project to be of service to you and your kin, so that the record of your efforts and those of comrades will be collected, preserved, researched, and remembered on into the future.

Please let us know how we could improve service to you. Any suggestions, stories, or other input from JLS graduates and kin would be much appreciated.

The Japanese Language School Project

The Interpreter

Archives, University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries

October 1, 2001

Number 31

Remember September 11, 2001

The Japanese Language School Project

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, correspondence, photographs, and records of graduates of the US Navy Japanese Language School, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1942-1946. We assembled 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.

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Language Officers who had learned their language before the War.

A great deal of credit for the whole occasion is due Captain Richard McDonald who organized the very special event, obtained the intelligence artifacts, and researched the exhibit. He also managed to obtain prints of all the heads of Naval Intelligence at CINCPAC from the War to the present.

A bit of background about the sole JLS attendee: Van Campen was in the first Boulder class from UC, Berkeley. He chose to live in Hawaii after the War. I was in the Fall Class, 1942, having been incarcerated in a Japanese prison in Shanghai, China. I was sentenced to death by a three Japanese Officer military court on not-entirely-true charges of spying, obtaining guns for guerrillas and helping a US Marine POW to escape. I was traded for a Japanese from the US and returned with the first US/Japanese exchange of civilians on the Swedish ship, the Gripsholm. I had the dubious honor of being the “last man” at JICPOA, having to dispose of all the classified and other records. (Two copies were sent to the archives in Washington, DC, and the rest was taken in many truck loads, under guard, to the Hawaiian Power Company and thrown in their furnace.) Having been transferred to CINCPAC HQ Intelligence Staff soon after the War’s end, I am probably the only JICPOA/JLO who never got to Japan for the Occupation. I was in Japan in 1940 and 1998. I remained in the Navy for 33 years. CPT Wendel Furnas USN, ret., JLS 1943

[Ed. Note: Given Layton’s book, it was fitting for ADM Showers to have the last word.]

New Collections

The following are further collections promised or recently received by the Archives:

- Holton Family
- Orville Lefko
- Miya [Joe] Sano
- Sanford L. Schultheis
- J. Owen Zurhellen, Jr.

Donations Received

The Archives has recently received generous donations from:

- Maxine Pineau