

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

Fine, Harold, Collector

**Harold Fine Collection - Japanese Surrender of Northern Japan -
WWII photographs, ca. 1944-1945**

PCA 525-8

3 Folders
40 b&w photographs
NARA photocopies of photographs

Processed by: Sean Lanksbury
Revised by: Alea Oien 5/2009

ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Steve Henrikson of the Alaska State Museum to the Alaska State Library Historical Collections and is accessioned as 2007-6. Mr. Henrikson purchased the collection from a Ms. Christine Liimatta of Lexington, KY via eBay in 2006.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian. Photocopying does not constitute permission to publish.

PROCESSING: This collection has been described at the item level. All items have been placed in Mylar and into pH-neutral folders.

BIOGRAPHICAL and HISTORICAL NOTE

Corporal Harold M. Fine (Army Serial # 36 566 600; Organization: 373rd Air SV SQ 23rd SV GP) was born 1/23/1921 in Detroit, Michigan. He completed four years of high school, graduating from Northern High Detroit, Michigan, in 1939. After graduating he worked in the Detroit Board of Assessor's Office. He enlisted in the U.S. Army 2/10/1943 and served as an administrative and technical clerk and postal clerk during his tour in the Aleutian Islands until 12/11/1945.

USS *Panamint*

On 12 August 1945 the ship sailed for Adak, Aleutian Islands, where she reported for duty to Commander North Pacific Force and Area. On 29 August Vice Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher, Commander North Pacific Force and Area, hoisted his flag on *Panamint*. Two days later she left Adak with the 9th Fleet and headed west for the occupation of northern Japan.

On 7 September the flagship pulled away from the anchored task force and proceeded to a rendezvous point to await the Japanese surrender ship from nearby Ominato Naval Base. On schedule a Japanese destroyer escort bore down the Tsugaru Strait carrying emissaries to hand over northern Japan, and pilots to guide the American ships through Japanese waters. The commissioners were quickly transferred to *Panamint*. Commodore R. E. Robinson, Jr., represented Vice Admiral Fletcher, and Rear Admiral Densuke Kanome was the head of the Japanese delegation.

On the morning of the 8th the massive naval force got underway led by a Japanese frigate through the mineswept channel and Tsugaru Straits leading to Ominato Anchorage. *Panamint* moored off the shattered naval base that afternoon, and the following morning the formal occupation ceremony was held on her decks. Surrender had come so quickly that two weeks passed before American troops arrived to occupy the countryside. On 20 September *Panamint* returned to Adak, and proceeded to Kodiak 2 October.

(taken from <http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/p1/panamint.htm>, last accessed 01/18/2007 at 23:00:00 UTC)

Aleutian Islands in WWII

Dutch Harbor, on Unalaska was bombed by Japanese forces June 3-4, 1942.

Japanese forces invaded Kiska Island on June 6 and Attu Island on June 7th, 1942. The islands were reclaimed by the United States on May 11, 1943.

In August 3 of 1944, U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt visited Alaska as part of his Inspection Trip to the Pacific (07/13/1944 to 08/13/1944.) He spoke at the naval air station at Adak, Alaska. Text of the speech available at:

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=16542&st=&st1=>

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

This collection contains photographs of Harold M. Fine, his military records, photographs of the surrender of Northern Japan by the Japanese September 8, 1945 on the ship *Panamint* and photographs of President Roosevelt visiting troops in the Aleutian Islands, August, 1944. The photographs in this collection were found in the estate of Harold M. Fine.

Photographs of Japanese Emissaries aboard USS *Panamint* (AGC-13) for conference on surrender negotiations for Northern Honshu, Japan, September 7, 1945. (See PCA 80 for photos of ceremony) Photographer unknown (possibly Harold Fine or W.F. Anderson?) Identification of U.S. and Japanese soldiers made possible through National Archives Special Media Archives Services Division. Images held at 80-G-XXXXXX) and of U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's visit to Aleutians in August of 1944.

SUBJECTS

Alaska, Aleutian Islands, WWII, World War II, Japan, Hokkaido, USS *Panamint*, Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher, Commodore R.E. Robinson, Jr., Rear Admiral Densuke Kanome

INVENTORY

Folder 1

Harold M. Fine photographs (8) and personal Army records.

1. Group Portrait

Verso:

Chas [alaloni?], Roswell, N. Mex

Jack Fetz, Elwood, Ind.

Jack [Corbett?], Springfield, N.J.

Leo Fidrych, Mass.

Bill Cown, Calif.

Jack Cooperman, N.Y.

Jim Farrell (Iowa)

Cyril F. Fey (Ohio)

Milton Dub[in?] (New Jersey)

Anthony Cerillo, Bronx, N.Y.

Rollin S. Eaton, Drakesville, Iowa

X Good luck to a S.F.O!

Sgt. E Yakes, Chicago, Il

Irwin Eisner, Louisville, Ky

Dale Darland, Iowa

Bernard Elman, Pgh, Pa.

Arthur Falkowski, Cleveland, Ohio

Murrell E Collier, Raliegh, Tenn.

Sgt. Robert Gunn, Frankford, Delaware

Charles [?] Eklers [F?]

Arthur Duniven, La. Angeles, Calif.
 G.T.F. Ja. C[?], Cottonwood, Ariz.
 Evin Duschaneck, Corniel [?], Iowa
 Bert W. Davidson, Oklahoma
 Tom A. Ellison, Memphis Tenn.
 [A[sary?] Fisdlsk, Ilsivyovk, Ily]?
 Elton S. Dunn, Jr., Box[?] Springheel, La
 Doyen Louis Coy, 1714 Houston Ave, Port Authur, Tex.
 Cuff Churchill, Box 190 Rt. 8, Denver, Colo.
 Dalton A. Fisher, R St. Albert, Alberta, Canada
 J.T. Auty, 241-87 St. Bkyn, N.Y.
 Jack De Kyle, New Jersey
 Stewart A. Cunningham, [Lonisa, Va?]
 Wayne J. Falkenstien, Onago, Kans.
 To a swell guy + ned [?.] [Fellows?], Cots, New York
 H. C. Clark 314 Front St., Marietta, Ohio
 Lawrence J. [Fahez?], 41 Garden St. Pittsfield, Mass.
 Philip [H.?] D[?]orsk, Sch[?] Nebr.
 Albert A. Eickhorn, Pleasant Green, Mo.
 Manuel [Negreto?], [?]360 E108 St. Los Angeles, Calif.
 William L. Aaskins, 120 Middle Ave., Jackson, Tenn.
 Frederick P Segal, Staten Island, N.Y.
 Keneth Carley, Oklahoma
 Fred Christopher Smith, Laramy, N.Y.
 Duane B. Mosman 146 N. Maple St. Stockton, Calif.
 Harold Erickson, 820 Villa Ave, San Jose, Calif.
 James G. Bushey, Detroit Michagan 15379 [Mailawe?]
 Aldo P. Cebrario, 12920 Arlington Detroit Mich.
 Peter A. Anastos, 77 [?]apper St. Newport, NH

Folder 2

1-26: Japanese Emissaries aboard USS *Panamint*.

1. [Two Ships in ocean taken from distance.]
2. [Japanese soldier (Lt. {jg} Okia Namie) on ship's ladder, another Japanese soldier (Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita) holding rolled document and standing on deck, surrounded by U.S. Military personnel.]
3. [Conference table. L-R (backs to camera): R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita. L-R (facing camera): Capt. M. Van Metre, Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr., Capt. D.R. Weiss, and unidentified scribe.]
4. [Conference table. L-R (backs to camera): R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita. L-R (facing camera): Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr., Capt. D.R. Weiss, and two unidentified scribes.]

5. [Conference table. L-R (foreground): Capt. M. Van Metre, Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr. Men in background unidentified.]
6. [Conference table. Right side, (front-rear): Capt. D.R. Weiss, Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr., and Capt. M. Van Metre (obscured) Left side, (front-rear): R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie.]
7. [Conference table. L-R: Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita, R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma.]
8. [Conference table. L-R: Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita, R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie.]
9. [Conference table. R. Adm. Densuke Kanome (left side) writing on document, Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita (right side)]
10. [Standing at conference table. L-R: L-R: Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita, R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie., Capt. M. Van Metre, Capt. D.R. Weiss.]
11. [Soldiers standing at conference table and pointing to map.]
12. [Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma (left side) standing at conference table and pointing to map. Capt. M. Van Metre (center), Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr. (right), Capt. D.R. Weiss (far right).]
13. [Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma (left side) standing at conference table and writing on map, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie (behind). Capt. M. Van Metre (center), Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr. (right), Capt. D.R. Weiss (far right).]
14. [L-R: R. Adm. Densuke Kanome (seated), Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma (left side) standing at conference table and writing on map, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie (standing behind). Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr. (seated far right.)]
15. [Soldiers reading documents at conference table. Left side (front to rear): R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie. Right side (front to rear): Capt. D.R. Weiss, Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr.]
16. [Three Japanese soldiers facing crowd of U.S. soldiers. L-R: Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie (holding attaché case of rolled documents.)]
17. [Japanese soldier descending hook ladder. Two men below on small watercraft (GC 13-5, likely the fifth transport boat on the *Panamint*.)]
18. [L-R: unidentified U.S. Naval Officer, Adm. Densuke Kanome, unidentified U.S. Sergeant (Japanese-American.)]

19. [Conference table. L-R: R. Adm. Densuke Kanome writing on document, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie.]
20. [Standing L-R: Lt. {jg} Okia Namie, R. Adm. Densuke Kanome writing on document, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma, Capt. M. Van Metre.]
21. [Seated L-R: Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita, Lt. {jg} Okia Namie (holding rolled documents), Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma.]
22. [Standing L-R: R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma.]
23. [Conference table. L-R (backs to camera): Lt. Comdr. Yasunosuke Okuma , R. Adm. Densuke Kanome, Petty Officer Yoshio Kawkita. L-R (facing camera): Capt. M. Van Metre, Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr., Capt. D.R. Weiss.]
24. Seated at conference table, L-R: Comdr. R.E. Robinson, Jr., Capt. D.R. Weiss, two unidentified scribes, R. Adm. Densuke Kanome.]
25. [Crowd of unidentified U.S. soldiers observing the negotiations aboard USS *Panamint*.]
26. [Two men, unidentified, leaning onboard USS *Panamint*.]
27. [37 U.S. soldiers posed in front of building for group portrait. Sign on the building reads "E294." Names of soldiers written on verso.]

28 - 32: President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Visit to Aleutians, Aug. 1944

28. (23BP4CI56-2) (10:2:1600) President's Visit to Aleutians, Navy Photo, Aug. 1944
29. (23BP4CI56-3) (10:2:1600) President's Visit to Aleutians, Navy Photo, Aug. 1944 [Five men seated at dining table. U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt seated at table's center holding a microphone.]
30. (23BP4CI56-1) (10:2:1600) President's Visit to Aleutians, Navy Photo, Aug. 1944 [Soldiers seated in Quonset hut mess hall. Four men seated at table in foreground with backs to the camera. 2nd from left is U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.]
31. [President's Visit to Aleutians, Aug. 1944. Soldiers seated in Quonset hut mess hall. At far end of hut are five men seated at dining table. U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt seated at table's center holding a microphone.]
32. [President's Visit to Aleutians, Aug. 1944. Soldiers seated in Quonset hut mess hall. At far end of hut are five men seated at dining table. U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt seated at table's center.]

Folder 3

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

Photocopies of NARA photos of surrender of Northern Japan conference and ceremonies.