

Obituaries

John Kenneth Emmerson (1908–1984)

John K. Emmerson, distinguished diplomat and Asian scholar, passed away on March 24, 1984, at Stanford University Hospital in Palo Alto, California. At the time of his death Emmerson was Senior Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution and Chairman of the Japan Program of the Northeast Asia–United States Forum on International Policy at Stanford University.

A thirty-three-year veteran of the U.S. Foreign Service, he was one of America's foremost experts on Japan. He served there during the 1930s, 1940s, and 1960s, rising to become Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy, Tokyo.

Emmerson was born in Canon City, Colorado, and he received his B.A. degree from Colorado College in 1929. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa at the college. He received his M.A. degree from New York University in 1930.

Emmerson wrote two books: *Arms, Yen, and Power: The Japanese Dilemma*, published in 1971, and *The Japanese Thread: A Life in the U.S. Foreign Service*, published in 1978, an autobiography. *The Japanese Thread* earned Emmerson the David D. Lloyd Prize of the Truman Library Institute in 1980 for the best book on the Truman period published in 1978–1979. In addition, in 1973, Emmerson co-authored *Will Japan Rearm? A Study in Attitudes* with Leonard A. Humphreys. At the time of his death he was working on another book about Japan for the Hoover Institution.

Emmerson was awarded posthumously the Second Class Order of the Sacred Treasure by the Japanese Government on November 16, 1984, in recognition of his lifelong work to promote better understanding between the United States and Japan. He is survived by his wife Dorothy; a daughter Dorothy, an accomplished singer and actress; a son Donald K. Emmerson, Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin–Madison; and two granddaughters.

HARRISON HOLLAND
Hoover Institution

Frank Newton Trager (1905–1984)

Frank Newton Trager was New York born, and he was educated at New York University. He was both intellectually vigorous and articulate. He served in the Army Air Force from 1943 to 1945, and became active in Washington thereafter. He became particularly interested in Burma during the period 1951–1953, when he functioned as Director of the U.S. Aid Mission in Rangoon. In the mid-1950s he served in special instructional roles at Yale, the National War College, the Foreign Service Institute, and in the Washington Informational Center. His permanent scholarly role developed as Professor of International Affairs from 1958 to 1981 at New York University, where he covered a wide spectrum of Eastern Asia. Trager's works on postwar Burma include *Toward a Welfare State in Burma* (1958), *Burma's Role in the United Nations* (1959), *Burma from Kingdom to Republic: A Historical and Political*