

By Donald K. deNeuf

Probably I have a copy of most codes and key-boards which have been used over the globe in the past hundred years but I never knew that the Underwood Typewriter Company made a mill with Japanese Kana characters in WWII called a RIP-5. Paul Dane, executive secretary of The Society of Wireless Pioneers was in one of the outfits during the war which intercepted Japanese transmissions. The operators had to be proficient in both the International code and Japanese Kana code. He is one of the few members of the U.S. Naval Cryptographic Veterans Association who owns his own RIP-5 machine. He says the RIP-5 keyboard looks like this lower case.

NOTE the two diacritical signals:

• indicating semi-hard sound on preceding letter - example: HA becomes BA, sent as two dots in Morse. (Negori).

◉ indicating hard sound on preceding letter - example: HO becomes PO, sent as signal in Morse. (Hanagori). Kata Kana Kode on a Keyboard by Donald K. deNeuf, president of The Society of Wireless Pioneers.

The Kata Kana Code. The characters in the right hand column are the cursive type. Numerals use the International Morse signals. In non-telecommunications Kanji (Chinese) characters representing an entire word or idea are often employed especially for foreign words for phrases.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| E | KO | N | TE | KI | SE | SU | NO | TO | MI | WI | |
| NE | YA | HE | NA | MU | KE | U | RE | TU | A | SO | |
| I | RA | HO | TI | RI | NU | WO | WA | KA | SA | RU | HI |
| FU | MA | NI | KU | HA | TA | YO | YU | MO | SI | ME | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | Ø | ° |
| Q | W | E | R | T | Y | U | I | O | P | () |
| A | S | D | F | G | H | J | K | L | - | RO // |
| Z | X | C | V | B | N | M | ? | . | O | WE |



Photo/Paul Dane



| | | | |
|------|-------|---|---|
| A | ----- | P | あ |
| I | .. | イ | い |
| U | ... | ウ | う |
| E | ----- | エ | え |
| O | ..... | オ | お |
| N | ..... | ン | ん |
| KA | .... | カ | か |
| KI | ..... | キ | き |
| KU | .... | ク | く |
| KE | ..- | ケ | け |
| KO | ---- | コ | こ |
| SA | ----- | サ | さ |
| SEI | ..... | シ | し |
| SU | ----- | ス | す |
| SE | ..... | セ | せ |
| SO | --- | ソ | そ |
| TA | -- | タ | た |
| CHI | .... | チ | ち |
| TSU | .... | ツ | つ |
| TE | ----- | テ | て |
| TO | ..... | ト | と |
| NA | ... | ナ | な |
| NI | ..... | ニ | に |
| NU | .... | ヌ | ぬ |
| NE | ---- | ネ | ね |
| NO | .... | ノ | の |
| HA | .... | ハ | は |
| HI | ----- | ヒ | ひ |
| FU | ---- | フ | ふ |
| HE | . | ヘ | へ |
| HO | ... | ホ | ほ |
| MA | ----- | マ | ま |
| MI | ..... | ミ | み |
| MO | - | ム | む |
| ME | ----- | メ | め |
| MO | ----- | モ | も |
| YA | --- | ヤ | や |
| (Y)I | .. | イ | い |
| YU | ----- | ユ | ゆ |
| (Y)E | ----- | エ | え |
| YO | -- | ヨ | よ |
| RA | ... | ラ | ら |
| RI | --- | リ | り |
| RU | ----- | ル | る |
| RE | --- | レ | れ |
| RO | .... | ロ | ろ |
| WA | --- | ワ | わ |
| (W)I | ----- | ヰ | ゐ |
| (W)U | ... | ウ | う |
| (W)E | ----- | ヱ | ゑ |
| (W)O | --- | ヲ | わ |