

There are other queries with regard to his China career. It seems to have followed immediately upon a medical discharge from the Navy that in turn came at a time when the military were deliberately drafting men for limited service. This means pull, accident or he had a serious injury. Or, that he was not fit for vigorous and rigorous duty just before he was assigned to it. From that I would assume that there is a good chance that his China job ~~was~~ was, at least at the outset, not one requiring extensive physical activity or exertion. It could have changed with time and healing.

He could have made himself inconspicuous in China. He could have had an inconspicuous job. He was in OSS and there were enough others who had to know him for him not to be anxious to lie too much about his career then. So, I'm inclined to the belief that he was in China or on China duty. You are probably closer in wondering about the duration. He could have been on the supply end and remained unknown in China and been on it long.

Where you have a real point is our not knowing of any real use he made of the local scene. This is heavy in his devil books. He goes in for it big, so not going in for China is a major observation in analyzing him. Too atypical, as you note. Could you retreat to shrinkery and wonder if unpleasant associations could account for it? Or would that, too, be too out of character? He is a wierdo.

We'll find out if JL knew about the Tai Li end when he sees what you wrote.