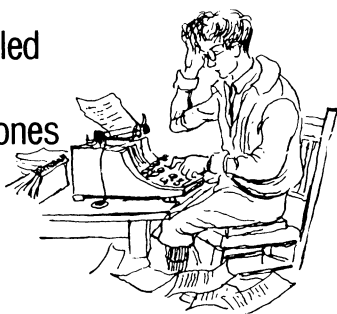


THE SOURCE

edited
and compiled
by
David J. Jones



No handicap

NOT having access to electricity, and therefore having no way to recharge batteries for disc or cassette players, was a problem of one of the users of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

This user lives on the Amazon, 'a hundred dugout canoe miles from Cucui', and she wrote to the NLS requesting braille magazines (which do not need to be returned) rather than cassettes. She assumed that using a player was impossible without a way of recharging the battery.

The NLS is now working on a solar-powered cassette player, with a panel of solar cells and two batteries – one for recharging whilst the other is in use. Problems that also had to be considered included corrosion during the canoe trip, fungal growths and the jungle humidity. All parts will be coated with a sealant before shipment. This is just one example of the creativity and concern of this division of the Library of Congress.

Other news from this organisation appears in *News* from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20542. *News* appears six times a year. (ISSN 0160-9211).

Link-up launched

THE National Library of Australia now publishes a bi-monthly newsletter reporting developments in the area of library services for the handicapped in Australia and overseas.

Prepared by the Library Services for the Handicapped Sub-Section of ANSOL (Australian National Social Sciences Library), the newsletter, which is entitled *Link-up*, also contains news on National Library activities in this field.

Link-up is available on application to any interested organisation or individual. Anyone interested should contact the Principal Librarian (Social Sciences), ANSOL, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600.

Warfare, warfare everywhere

ANYONE interested in areas of political conflict around the world, without wishing to delve too deeply, may find Gerry Smith's *Flashpoints* a useful starting point.

Subtitled 'a bibliography on political conflicts throughout the world', Smith's work lists journal, magazine and newspaper articles on trouble spots in America, Africa, Asia and Europe. He covers countries in which 'internal opposition to the government or intervention by external powers could possibly result in physical violence'. Hence there are references to Northern Ireland, Quebec, South Africa, Afghanistan, Iran, East Timor, Indonesia and over 30 other countries.

Smith has been highly selective in the references he cites, concentrating on those which present background information on political, economic or social tensions. Most of the articles are from British or American

sources.

Flashpoints is the second in the series of Current Affairs Bibliographies published in Britain by Headland Press (the first, *Britain in decline*, was mentioned in *Incite* no6, 18 April 1980). Both bibliographies are available in printed form or in microfiche, and cost £3.95 and £2.95 respectively in the UK. Prices outside the UK are US\$9.95 plus \$1.40 surface postage for the printed version, or \$7.45 plus 60c air mail postage for the microfiche version.

Flashpoints (ISBN 0 906889 01 4; ISSN 0143-5019) is compiled by Gerry M. Smith, and is published by Headland Press, PO Box 9, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS25 5ST, England.

Quick march

A SECOND and 'much-revised' edition of *A Bibliography of armed forces and society in Australia* was published in December last year by the Department of Government, Faculty of Military Studies, University of New South Wales at the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

The previous edition, compiled by Jennifer Shapcott and Hugh Smith, appeared in February 1978, and incidentally had the word 'on' instead of 'of' in the title (bibliographical checkers beware).

The emphasis in this edition is on the post-1945 period, and some items listed in the first edition have been omitted. The compilers comment that the shift in emphasis was made possible by the publication of Jean Fielding and Robert O'Neill's *A Select bibliography of Australian military history: 1891-1939* (Canberra: Australian Dictionary of Biography, 1978).

The Duntroon publication does not claim to be exhaustive, and deliberately excludes wider topics such as Australia's 'defence problems' and accounts of wars or military operations. The main thrust of the work is on items which throw some light on the place of the military in Australian society, and how society reacts to it.

Monographs and journal articles are covered, as well as some unpublished materials. No annotations. No indexes. But that might be overkill in a 32-page work aimed primarily at the civilian and military scholar. But that doesn't mean that reference librarians won't find it useful.

A Bibliography of armed forces and society in

Australia, 2nd edition, compiled by Hugh Smith and Sue Broome, is available from the Royal Military College, Duntroon, ACT 2600. (ISBN 0 908254 01 6).

NUC:H

PLANNING for the National Union Catalogue of Library Materials for the Handicapped (NUC:H) is now underway at the National Library of Australia.

Construction of the National Union Catalogue was recommended by the Working Party on Library Services for the Handicapped in its report, published by the Library in July last year. The catalogue is being constructed as a machine-held file with COM fiche output, and there are plans for it to be regularly updated.

At present only four of the largest agencies in this field have been included, as this is seen very much as a test stage. The agencies are the Royal Blind Society of New South Wales, the Association of Blind Citizens of New South Wales, the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind and the Braille and Talking Book Library (Melbourne). It is expected that the bulk of their complete holdings (some 19,000 titles) will be included in the union catalogue by the end of 1980.

Other agencies, including libraries, will be phased into the program as NLA resources permit. NUC:H is being compiled in ANSOL (Australian National Social Sciences Library), National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600.

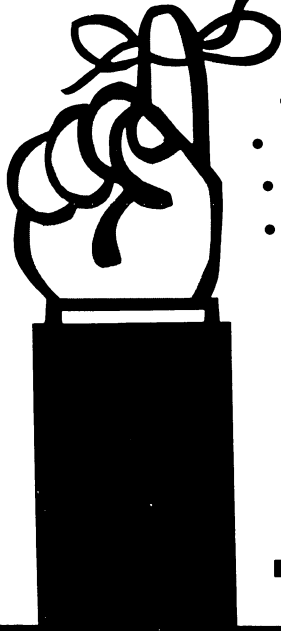
Archives galore

THE second biennial conference of the Australian Society of Archivists was held in Sydney in May 1979, and the proceedings have recently been published in two volumes. The coverage of the conference was wide – from education for archivists to technical services, from school archives to records management – and there is much of interest to librarians.

There are papers on fumigation, map copying, finding aids and on the microfilming activities of the Genealogical Society of Utah, for example, which may be useful.

The two volume set costs \$16.00 and is available from the Secretary, Australian Society for Archivists, PO Box 83, O'Connor, ACT 2601. (ISBN 0 9595565 0 8 – vol 1; ISBN 0 9595568 1 6 – vol 2.) □

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