

ODIN: god of war?

A new integrated library management system for the Australian Department of Defence

O DIN is about to arrive. No, not the Norse God of War and Wisdom, but an exciting new Integrated Library Management System soon to be operational throughout the Australian Department of Defence.

The Defence Information Services (DIS) Network is confident that ODIN will cater to the growing and increasingly complex information needs of the Australian Department of Defence.

The Department's library organisation, DIS Network, has over 60 special libraries situated throughout Australia. The combined network collection consists of over a million items, including monographs, serials,

non-book material, technical reports and specialised defence material such as military pamphlets. CADRE, an index of selected defence related journal articles, is part of the DIS catalogue, and is also made available to the wider library community through AUSINET.

ODIN features

Online Defence Information Network, ODIN, uses the SIRSI Corporation's Unicorn collection management system which runs on the Unix operating system.

Extremely user friendly with a powerful search capability, ODIN contains special features full of exciting possibilities.

In the future, Enhanced Researchers Access (ERA) will allow users to formulate a search and run it simultaneously on both inhouse and specified external databases.

SIRSI offers an accountability structure which is of particular relevance to the Defence environment. Access to sensitive material can be carefully monitored.

The enhanced Public Access Module provides OPAC users with boolean, proximity and relational operators and truncation search features.

ODIN offers a versatile and comprehensive report generation facility. Reports can be designed for specific library tasks, and set to run at prescribed times according to need. ■

LISWA information gateway

The Library and Information Service of Western Australia (LISWA) is currently engaged on a \$3.6 million overhaul of

its information technology system. 'Project information access' will bring together the wealth of information sources in the state's public

and government libraries and record collections, and in community service organisations. The project will also provide a link to other information systems in Australia and overseas.

With all of Western Australia's more than 230 public libraries linked into and benefiting from the new system, LISWA will be able to provide a range of information services to even the most isolated library. The system will allow faster and more efficient searching for material throughout the State's network of libraries and retrieval of documents will be aided by the automatic processing of requests. In addition, any one with internet access will be able to gain access to LISWA material.

The new system allows information to be stored as text, sound and image. Both basic and sophisticated searching will be available, according to the needs and abilities of the users. Under *Project information access*, the number of workstations for library users and staff will be increased, particularly at the Alexander Library Building which houses the State Reference Library, the State Archives, the J S Battye Library of West Australian History, State Music Library and the State Film and Video Library.

It is planned that new services provided by *Project information access* will become available progressively from next year. ■

First Australian bookshop on the Net

The Disney Corporation's done it, *Rolling stone's* publishers have done it, so has Windham Hill records — but marketing on the Net isn't just for glamour businesses. The University Co-op Bookshop, Australia's largest academic book retailer has solved a unique communication problem by becoming the first Australian general and academic bookstore selling on the internet.

The Co-op has more than 45 branches on university and TAFE college campuses across Australia and joining the organisation (for \$15) has been a part of student life since 1958.

But staying in touch with its members has always been a problem for the Co-op. Once students leave university and move two or three times they become unreachable, even though they're entitled to store discounts for life.

The Internet has provided the solution. As members can contact the Net from anywhere in the world for less than it costs to

phone or write, they can continue to buy books, software, CD-ROM material, audio tapes and CDs at a discount from the Co-op, no matter where they live.

The free service, called the Online Bookshop, provides the chain's database of 350 000 titles for public access and ordering.

Students, academics, indeed the general public, can log into the databases, place their order and have the books delivered to their own address or to their nearest Co-op branch.

To find the Co-op Online Bookshop, do one of the following: WWW: type <http://mail.coop-bookshop.com.au>; GOPHER: type mail.coop-bookshop.com.au 70; AARNET: type coop-bookshop.com.au or 192.153.158.11 at telnet prompt.

For more information on the University Co-operative Bookshop's Online Bookshop, call Lyndal Coote on (02) 325 9707 or e-mail her at lcoote@mail.coop-bookshop.com.au. ■