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School Libraries of the Navy

Lockett, George R.

Lockett, George R. (1961) School Libraries of the Navy. Proceedings of the Fifth Annual Military Librarians' Workshop, 4-6 October 1961

<http://hdl.handle.net/10945/70595>

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SCHOOL LIBRARIES OF THE NAVY

presented by

Mr. George R. Lockett
Director of Libraries
U. S. Naval Postgraduate School
Monterey, California

Mr. Lockett stated that in the Navy there are four types of schools that have library services as part of their organization. Of these, three types would be considered at this Workshop: undergraduate, staff, and graduate. The fourth type, the library devoted entirely to training, is concerned basically with the acquisition and issue of textbooks for classroom work, and secondarily with the providing of recreational reading materials. Since, in the true academic sense, such libraries do not render those services generally available in libraries of educational institutions, they were not included in the School Libraries panel.

Mr. Lockett announced that in the absence of a representative from the Library of the United States Naval Academy, the Navy's foremost undergraduate college, he would include in his panel the Librarian of the United States Coast Guard Academy, which operates in peacetime under the U. S. Treasury Department, but which becomes a part of the Navy in time of war. Observing that there are many similarities in the Naval Academy and Coast Guard Academy programs, he asked Lieutenant Commander Donald F. Jay, Librarian of the Coast Guard Academy, to describe his library and its services. Because of the indicated interest in the Coast Guard and its Academy, Commander Jay took the opportunity to review for the Workshop delegates a few highlights of the history of the Coast Guard as an introduction to his topic.

The Coast Guard, a part of the Armed Forces of the United States, is the principal Federal agency for maritime law enforcement and marine safety. It traces its development from the founding of the Revenue-Cutter Service in 1790 by Alexander Hamilton. This later (in 1915) became the Coast Guard, when it was amalgamated with the Life-saving Service. It took on additional duties in 1939, when it absorbed the Lighthouse Service, and later, during World War II, the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, which had previously been under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce. The Coast Guard, along with its antecedent, the Revenue-Cutter Service, has always been a part of the Treasury Department, but by law it becomes a part of the Navy in time of war.

As the smallest of the Armed Services, the Coast Guard is sometimes forgotten because it is outside the Defense Department except in wartime.

It is also the only Service which has a continuing peacetime mission. From the Lighthouse Service, it has inherited the responsibility for maintaining aids to navigation. From the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, it has inherited the responsibility for the licensing of merchant seamen, setting up standards for construction of merchant vessels, and related functions. As the modern-day Revenue-Cutter Service, it has responsibility for port security. The protection of the revenue against smugglers, the original reason for the establishment of the Service, has now ceased to be an important function, but in recent years it has acquired other responsibilities such as the coordination of the International Ice Patrol and the support of oceanographic research. Finally, as heir of the Life-saving Service, the Coast Guard has responsibility for coordinating search and rescue operations at sea and for helping to prevent loss of life and property through such natural disasters as hurricanes or through individual carelessness, by the enforcement of boating regulations. The Coast Guard has also expanded its area of operations geographically. It no longer merely guards America's coasts. Its network of Loran stations stretches from the Pacific Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. In addition to these peacetime duties, the Coast Guard must maintain itself in a state of military readiness at all times.

The mission of the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, is to provide officers for the parent Service in the same way as Annapolis, West Point, or the Air Force Academy, but the proportion of Academy graduates in the Coast Guard is greater than in the other Services. The Academy dates its founding from 1876, when the Revenue-Cutter Dobbin was fitted out as a training ship for cadets. Two years later the Dobbin was replaced by the practice ship Chase, whose home port was New Bedford, Massachusetts. Winter quarters were established at Arundel Cove, Maryland, in 1900, and in 1910 the Academy was moved to Fort Trumbull, New London, Connecticut. Fort Trumbull remained the site of the Academy until 1932, when permanent quarters were constructed elsewhere in the city.

The Corps of Cadets numbers about 600, with a faculty of approximately 70, which is both civilian and military. The curriculum is much like that of the other Service academies. The main difference lies in the manner of selecting cadets. At the Coast Guard Academy, this is accomplished by nation-wide competitive examination only.

The Academy Library theoretically dates from 1876, and the collection of books which was kept on the Dobbin. Prior to 1938, however, there was no professional librarian. Since that time, the collection has grown to over 50,000 volumes, and it is anticipated that it will eventually contain double that number. The collection is, in nature, similar to that of any small college library except that it emphasizes to a degree the physical sciences, naval science,

and engineering. As the only research library in the Coast Guard, it is also rich in Coast Guard and maritime history. Special collections have been built up on the subjects of shipwreck, piracy, and polar exploration.

At present, the Academy Library receives approximately 350 serial titles, in addition to U. S. Government publications sent to it as an official depository. The Library also participates in the Farmington Plan, under which it has responsibility for publications dealing with water transportation and navigation and merchant marine.

The staff at present consists of three professional librarians, one full-time civilian library assistant, and one Coast Guard enlisted man half-time. The Library's budget for the current fiscal year is \$12,000 for books, periodicals, and binding, and the Librarian has sole authority for the expenditure of the funds allotted to him. He is, however, administratively responsible to the Dean of Instruction.

Although the Library is not without its problems, such as lack of adequate clerical help, to name but one, these problems are receiving the sympathetic attention of the Administration, and it is anticipated that the more serious ones will be solved in the near future. Working conditions on the whole are good, and relations with other departments at the Academy are excellent.

Mr. Lockett then began consideration of the second part of the Navy School Libraries panel, the staff school, as exemplified by the Naval War College. This type of institution has as its aim instruction and study in the professional areas of warfare, international relations, and inter-service operations. Miss Frances L. Carey, Assistant Director of Libraries, U. S. Naval War College, presented this portion of the panel study.

The Naval War College is the highest educational institution of the Navy and the oldest institution of its type in the world. It was founded in 1884 by Commodore Stephen B. Luce, who served as its first president. He was succeeded by the great naval strategist Captain (later Admiral) Alfred Thayer Mahan. Throughout its history, the Naval War College has had as its objective the preparation of senior officers for future positions of great responsibility. Some of its distinguished graduates -- Admirals King, Nimitz, Halsey, and other -- are familiar to everyone as Naval leaders of World War II.

The present mission of the Naval War College is succinctly expressed in a statement by its current President, Vice Admiral

Bernard L. Austin: "The challenge of complex modern warfare can be met only by officers having a full and deep understanding of the fundamentals of warfare, international relations and inter-service operations, and a broad grasp of strategic principles upon which the mission of the United States Navy is based. The response to that challenge through the education and indoctrination of the mature senior officers who attend this institution is the end to which the Naval War College is dedicated."

Three resident courses are conducted. The first of these, the Naval Warfare Course for senior officers, is comparable to the courses offered by the National War College, Army War College, and Air War College. The Command and Staff Course is similar to the courses on this level offered by the other Services, such as the Army's Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth. A third course, which was inaugurated in 1956, is given for senior officers of foreign navies. Each of these courses is one academic year in length. The Naval Warfare Course is also open to selected civilians from Government agencies; both this course and the Command Staff Course are attended by officers of the other Services.

The Naval War College Libraries play an important role in supporting the curriculum. They trace their origin to a requisition for books in 1885. In 1904, a library annex was erected, and in 1905 the first Civil Service Librarian was appointed. In 1938, an addition was built, providing reference room and stack area. The collection in Mahan Library now numbers 114,000 volumes. The classified Library is a depository and circulation center for 50,000 classified documents. Sims Library was established in 1956 to serve the Naval Command Course for Foreign Officers and the Command and Staff Course. These courses are given in Sims Hall, which is some distance from the main buildings of the War College. This Library consists of a working collection of 7,000 volumes.

The three libraries are operated by eleven professional and six non-professional staff members. All give reference and bibliographic service to staff and students. In addition, service is given to the War Gaming Department, Extension Education Department, and the Institute of Naval Studies.

In the organization of the War College, the Libraries come under the Administration Department, whose head holds the rank of captain. The Library staff works closely with the officers and civilian professors on the staff in compiling bibliographies for course directives. A periodical bulletin which includes an accessions list is issued by the library on a biweekly basis. Each month the Library issues a compilation of book reviews which have been prepared by the officers on the staff.

In considering the third type of Navy school, the graduate-level institution, Mr. Lockett analyzed the Naval Postgraduate School, where he serves as Director of Libraries and holds faculty rank of professor.

The U. S. Naval Postgraduate School, located in Monterey, California, is really a complex of three schools on campus and one located in Anacostia, D. C. There are nearly fourteen hundred students in residence in Monterey, more than half of whom are attending the Engineering School. This school, graduate in nature, provides advanced education for Naval officers in all major fields of engineering (excepting civil engineering) and all major fields of science (excepting medicine). It offers bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees, following academic and research programs lasting from one to three years.

The Navy Management School, the second branch of the Postgraduate School, has one hundred Naval officers as students, all working toward master's degrees in the field of administration and management.

The General Line and Naval Science School, the third of the Monterey group, has a dual program. Undergraduate in level, it offers the B.S. and B.A. degrees as one of its functions, but serves also as an advanced professional school for officers not seeking a degree but who require a broadening of their professional and scientific knowledge to meet the responsibilities of higher rank.

All three schools accept officers of other Services. At present students include, in addition to officers of the U. S. Navy, many from the other U. S. Armed Services, the Public Health Service, and from the navies of many friendly foreign nations.

Off campus, but administered by the Superintendent, is the Naval Intelligence School at Anacostia, D. C. Since, for library services, this school is separated completely from the graduate school, and since it does not have a representative present, it was not included in this Workshop program.

The U. S. Naval Postgraduate School Library contains approximately 100,000 books and bound periodicals, and over 200,000 research reports. It subscribes to more than 1,400 periodicals and has a staff of twenty-seven, consisting of twelve professional librarians and fifteen non-professionals. Since its services parallel those of any large university, the Library needs little discussion here. The Library is not unique; it is special only in the aspect of research in engineering and the sciences; it contributes not only to the effort of educating Naval officers but also to the assurance that they are capable of maintaining their education on an up-to-date basis after they graduate.

RESEARCH LIBRARIES OF THE NAVY

presented by

Frank J. Bertalan
Deputy Executive Assistant (Scientific Information)
Office of Naval Research
Washington, D. C.

In his presentation, Mr. Bertalan attempted to show the scope of service rendered by the Navy scientific and technical libraries and to review some of the more significant problems common to most of these libraries. He told the delegates of the efforts made by the Council of Navy Laboratory Librarians, with its East Coast Branch and its West Coast Branch, in support of the research programs of the U. S. Navy. One undertaking of the Council has been the establishment of an index of special bibliographies. The Naval Research Laboratory Library serves as the depository for the special bibliographies. The Council publishes Intercom, an informal bulletin issued between general meetings, which provides a medium for the exchange of notes, labor-saving suggestions, and special announcements. Mr. Bertalan announced that he would include in his discussion of Navy scientific and technical libraries a few brief statements about those representing the following organizations:

- a. Naval Research Laboratory
- b. Naval Medical Research Laboratory
- c. Naval Electronics Laboratory
- d. The David W. Taylor Model Basin
- e. Naval Ordnance Laboratory
- f. Naval Weapons Laboratory
- g. Naval Ordnance Test Station
- h. Naval Hydrographic Office

The Naval Research Laboratory conducts a broad program of research and development. The program includes virtually every area of the physical sciences which are of concern to the Navy Department. The NRL program involves:

- a. Basic research

b. Applied research and development, with emphasis in the developmental aspects.

Its principal areas of interest are sound, chemistry, electricity, metallurgy, nucleonics, radiation, optics, mechanics, and various electronic specialties. The library program is fully as broad and vigorous in scope as the organization with which it is affiliated. In addition to its support of the Naval Research Laboratory, the Library provides research and reference assistance to the Chief of Naval Research.

The Naval Medical Research Laboratory conducts medical research and development in such subject areas as shipboard, submarine, and diving medicine. It applies its findings to the advancement of submarine operations. This helps to make the library an exciting duty assignment.

The program of the Naval Electronics Laboratory is supported by the Navy Bureau of Ships. The efforts of the Laboratory are responsive to the Navy's interest in basic electronic components, communications, radar, sonar, and other related research materials. The progressive library supporting the Laboratory is one of its major assets. Another Bureau of Ships activity is the David W. Taylor Model Basin, in Washington, D. C., whose growing technical library plays an important support role.

The library of the Naval Ordnance Laboratory also conducts an interesting program in support of specialized activities. The research collection is particularly directed toward comprehensive coverage of all offensive and defensive arms and armament. Automation of many phases in the processing and handling of the library collection has been given impetus at the Ordnance Laboratory Library.

The libraries of the Naval Weapons Laboratory and the Naval Ordnance Test Station have similar functions. The Test Station, as its name suggests, conducts research, development, and testing of weapons for the Bureau of Naval Weapons. Technical Library collections and research assistance in support of these activities are an essential element for their progress.

The Naval Hydrographic Office furnishes the Fleet with marine and aeronautical navigation information and oceanography studies. The scientific and technical collections of the Hydrographic Office Library have kept abreast of the rapid advancements in their specialized areas.

Mr. Bertalan stated that time did not permit the review of the mission and function of each Navy research library represented at the Workshop. He thanked those who shared in the preparation of the

material used in his report. In discussing problems common to many Navy libraries, he mentioned the following:

- a. Lack of space for the collections and for personnel;
- b. Lack of clear-cut guidelines that would enable staff members to determine the degree of emphasis to be accorded to archival functions vis-a-vis current needs;
- c. Need for increased acceptance of microfilm usage;
- d. Dissimilarity of standards for personnel grade allocations;
- e. Difficulties of retention and promotion of professional and non-professional staff;
- f. Difficulties arising from lack of publicity given to the issuance of certain types of technical reports, primarily those in which the dictates of security necessarily mitigate against public announcements;
- g. Need for evaluation of systems of automation, particularly in regard to storage and retrieval functions;
- h. Misunderstandings of communication between libraries and the scientific and technical organizations that they serve.

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