

APPENDIX C

Director
Reference Department

September 13, 1965

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Report on 1965 Geography and Map Division Special Project,
June 7-August 27, 1965.

In number of participants and man-weeks of work, the 1965 Special Project (th 15th consecutive one) was the smallest yet sponsored. Five Project members, on LC funds, worked a total of 54 man-weeks, and 26 weeks of work were contributed by cooperating participants whose salaries were paid by six colleges or universities. The combined total of 80 man-weeks of work was 30 weeks less than the total of paid and cooperating works for the 1964 Project. Production and quality were high, despite the small staff, largely because of the unusually conscientious and industrious performance of one young man who set a fast pace for the group.

The eleven members represented ten different institutions, three of which (Boston, McGill and Oregon State Universities) were participating in the Project for the first time. Listed below, with their institutional affiliations and work periods, are those employed on LC funds.

Mrs. Sylvia Alexander	Univ. of Minnesota	6/7-8/27	12 weeks
Frank T. Aldrich	Oregon State Univ.	6/7-8/27	12 "
Merwyn L. Bryan	McGill University	6/7-8/27	12 "
Henry A. Coppock	Michigan State Univ.	6/21-8/27	10 "
Larry L. Rutherford	Univ. of Georgia	6/7-7/26	<u>8</u> "
	Total		54 weeks

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Cooperating participants, with sponsoring institutions and length of employment, were:

Ronald Abler	Univ. of Minnesota	8/20-9/7	2 weeks
Albert Colombo	San Diego State College	6/7-7/16	6 "
Margaret Goostray	Boston University	6/7-7/16	6 "
Mark Hocking	San Fernando Valley State College	6/17-7/28	6 "
John Hollingsworth	Indiana University	6/7-6/17	2 "
Shin-yi Hsu	Syracuse University	6/28-7/23	<u>4</u> "
Total			26 weeks

In addition to the above workers, two part-time temporary Processing Assistants were approved for full-time employment during July and August. They worked in cooperation with Special Project employees and contributed to the summer's accomplishments.

Cooperating participants, in exchange for services rendered, selected duplicate maps and atlases for transmittal, via Exchange and Gift Division, to their sponsoring institutions. The distribution was as follows:

	<u>Maps</u>	<u>Atlases</u>
Indiana University	1,325	26
San Diego State College	7,250	57
Boston University	5,119	38
Syracuse University	5,511	207
San Fernando Valley State College	16,347	222
Univ. of Minnesota	<u>4,530</u>	<u>20</u>
Totals	40,082	570

The major effort of the 1965 Project, as in most previous summers, was concentrated on processing set maps and nautical charts. Notwithstanding the small number of participants, the accomplishments of the group were outstanding. Totals for labeling and filing were particularly high. The statistical summary follows:

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Sorted and arranged	101,500 sheets
Indexed	14,700 "
Labeled	50,400 "
Filed	41,800 "
Duplicates discarded in processing	15,500 "
Duplicates removed from collection	3,900 "

Many of the sheets "filed" and "duplicates discarded in processing" came from the partially processed set-map backlog (pink label drawers). This backlog was consequently reduced from last year's estimate of 70,000 sheets to approximately 40,000. Some sheets, from transfers acquired in recent years, were added to the pink label material.

The large backlog of unprocessed nautical charts also received some attention. Because of the necessity for weeding, labeling, and arranging charts already in the collection, only minor progress was made on reducing the backlog. Some 12 or 14 skidloads of charts remain unopened.

The language competence of Mr. Hsu (Syracuse University cooperative) was used to advantage to renumber (according to the Army Map Service system) some 6,000 sheets of the Japanese 1:50,000 topographic series. Sorting and arranging of these sheets remains to be done.

Ronald Abler (Univ. of Minnesota cooperating participant) had some facility with Arabic. During his two weeks of duty he was accordingly given the task of organizing, numbering, and preparing indexes for several large set maps of Iran. This makes available probably the best coverage in the L.C. collections for this Middle East country.

A secondary accomplishment was the labeling, indexing, and filing of some 6,000 index maps which had formerly been stored in an unorganized collection.

In space made available on Deck 1, S, the Acquisitions and Processing Section had, prior to the start of the 1965 Special Project, organized and systematized the collection of duplicate maps and atlases. This greatly facilitated selection of material by institutional participants and enabled them to devote a larger percentage of their time to map processing.

The Special Project, as in previous summers, included a program of orientation, tours, and special seminars. With the cooperation of the Stack and Reader Division, Project members had

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a tour of the Library shortly after their arrival. Supervised and guided tours were taken on June 18, to the Geological Survey, on June 29, to the Naval Oceanographic Office, on July 1 to the Census Bureau and the Weather Bureau, and on July 9 to Army Map Service.

The Associate Chief conducted a series of six Sunrise Seminars (8:00 to 8:30 a.m.), in which most members of the Special Project participated. Topics covered included "The Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division," "Introduction to Map Librarianship," "Introduction to the History of Cartography," and examination of selected items from the Division's collection of rare maps and atlases.

A luncheon for the Special Project staff, with the Director of the Reference Department as guest, was held at the Dodge Hotel on July 13.

The annual and long-range accomplishments of the Special Project have been abundantly demonstrated over the past 15 years. A formidable unprocessed backlog of one million maps (supplemented by annual transfer acquisitions of some 40,000 items) has been reduced to less than 50,000 sheets. An estimated 500,000 sheets of retrospective maps (unavailable from any other source) have been added to the permanent collections of the Library.

Nearly a million duplicate maps and atlases have been supplied (in exchange for contributed labor) to libraries and geography departments throughout the United States.

The Project has served as a recruiting reservoir to fill positions in the Geography and Map Division. Training received by participants has aided a number of former Project members in obtaining positions in various map libraries.

Recommendation

Because of these and other benefits, to the Library and the Geography and Map Division, we recommend that approval for a 1966 Special Project be granted at an early date, to permit notification letters to go out to prospective participants early in calendar year 1966. The recommendation is for employment by the Library of five GS-4 Processing Assistants for a period of 12 weeks. If approval is granted, arrangements will be made to enlist a number of cooperating participants from various graduate Departments of Geography.