

# PNG Information Network: A Brief Report on Progress

Alan Butler\*

**Abstrak:** *Di dalam laporan kemajuan ini, penulisnya menerangkan langkah-langkah yang diambil untuk mewujudkan pengawalan bibliografis bagi bahan-bahan mengenai Papua New Guinea. Ini meliputi penerbitan bibliografi retrospektif; mengadakan database bibliografis bagi bahan-bahan New Guinea; memikrofilemkan semua bahan yang disenaraikan dan mengedarkan salinannya kepada beberapa pusat utama; dan mengautomasikan sistem pengkatalogan di Universiti Papua New Guinea.*

## Preamble

The PNG Information Network is a four part project with the following aims:

1. The publication of a retrospective bibliography of printed New Guinea materials;
2. The establishment of a bibliographical data base for New Guinea materials;
3. The microfilming of the New Guinea materials listed in the data bank and the distribution of, initially, 5 sets of the microfiche at different locations in Papua New Guinea;
4. The automation of the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) cataloguing system.

## Retrospective Bibliography

*A New Guinea Bibliography* is being published. Volume 1 is out, volume 2 is at the printers, volumes 3-4 should be ready for printing by December 1985, and volume 5 early in 1986. The bibliography can be purchased from the University Bookshop, Box 114, University P.O., National Capital District, Papua New Guinea at US\$30.00 per volume.

## Bibliographical Data Bases for New Guinea Titles

Separate data bases have been established for monographic materials, journal articles and archival items.

The *New Guinea Data Base* contains monographs, pamphlets, theses, reports, serial titles etc., and at the time of writing has 23,000 records in it. It includes records for items in the UPNG collection and also other items for which locations have been found or for which bibliographical references have been discovered. The target is to complete inputting records for items in the New Guinea Collection by the end of this year.

The *New Guinea Periodical Index Data Base* contains journal articles dealing with New Guinea. The entries can be accessed by author, under broad subject headings, by keywords in the title of the article and also under the name of the province dealt with. There are over 15,000 entries. As of writing there are entries for all the off-prints in the New Guinea Collection and for the articles in journals as far as the Dewey 900s. It is expected that the remaining journals will be indexed by December, and then the major task will be the inputting of the many articles not held in the collection. Work is in progress in trying to download New Guinea records held in the overseas data bases into the New Guinea Periodicals Index Data Base. If this is not possible, then the entries will need to be keyed in.

\*University Librarian, University of Papua New Guinea.

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### **Microfilming New Guinea Printed Materials**

We are hopeful that we can make a start on microfilming the materials in the New Guinea Collection. We have found a local bureau willing to do the job. This would be much preferable than having to supervise the microfilming project done by us since filming some three million pages is a somewhat daunting task. The whole project will be put on about 5,500 fiche which with accompanying fiche catalogues will be a tidy solution to the difficult problem of obtaining third world materials.

### **Automating the UPNG Library Cataloguing System**

The ADLIB software was implemented in April 1984 with initial trials being carried out on New Guinea titles. In June the system was given a more thorough trial on the main collection. The development was not without some difficulties which might be expected implementing a software package at some remove from the supplier. The software, like most packages, has its limitations; but it has met most of our requirements. Some refinements need to be done by the supplier, particularly to the output and filing programmes; but overall it has proved a reasonable tool. There are some 110,000 main library records and over 12,000 medical library records in the data base. The target is to complete the retrospective conversion, which is being done in house, by the end of 1985, though again this may be too ambitious.

Microfiche versions of the catalogues have been distributed to a small number of libraries, and this distribution will be extended, when further improvements have been made to the output.

### **Use of the Data Bases**

One of the thrusts of the exercise is to improve accessibility, both in terms of knowing what is available and getting hold of copies. The data bases are intended for use, and by the end of the year when they should be reasonably complete, they will be available to librarians who wish to use them for their own bibliographical work. Terminal and computing time during office hours are at a premium at UPNG, but outside office hours and at weekends it should be possible to make terminals available for librarians who wish to use the data for their own bibliographical compilations.

### **Other Data Bases Being Worked On**

The Medical Library has input records for its audio-visual collection and the Main Library has almost finished the same task for its film and video holdings. This might well serve as the basis for a national audio-visual union list for any librarian inclined to take on the task.

Two other data bases which are being established are one for archival items in the New Guinea Collection and another for photographs.