CHAPTER VII

NATIONAL LIBRARIES

There were 100 national libraries in the world at the end of the 1970s. These are either officially titled as the national library of the country or are so characterized by their governments and their scholarly communities. But the matter of definition — what a national library really is — remains a problem while the national library is accepted as being a unique form of institution, and while the national library is generally perceived as being dissimilar from public, academic or special libraries for nearly a century the profession has been enable to agree on a single accepted definition.

In the first half of the 20th century library scholars tried to define the institution in terms of universals. Herman Liebaers suggested in a 1958 UNESCO study:

The main characteristics of a national library is without doubt the leading place it occupies compared with the other libraries in the country. This position is due to extent and encyclopaedic character of its collections, the variety of
material held and the diversity of specialised departments and services. It thus has a general and national responsibility within the profession in all cases, outside it, more often than not."

As time progressed, the Humphrey's definition failed to satisfy the national librarians so that in 1973 an IFLA colloquium on the subject tried to focus on the essential tasks and obligations required to national libraries. The participants sought to determine what a national library does rather that what it is. The sponsors identified the following that they believed to be typical:

Collecting and preserving the nation's literature.
Collecting foreign literature for research and teaching.
Caring for special forms of records such as maps, music, pictures, films etc.
Maintaining a collection of manuscripts and rare books bearing on the nation's heritage.
Preparing appropriate bibliographic information.
Indexing the national literature and publishing a national bibliography.
Distributing catalogue cards.
Keeping a rational central catalogue.
Controlling the nation's lending services.
Participating in the international exchange of publications.
Providing advisory services to other libraries.

Training the nation's librarians.

Coordinating acquisition policy, documentation projects, and automation at the national level.

Postering international cooperation at the "supra regional" level.2

But this attempt failed to survive the conference. By the close of the meeting for which it was designed, almost every element on the list had been rejected by enough of the participating national librarians to make it inappropriate to be called a "common characteristic." "The national library of a country is the one responsibility for collecting and conserving the whole of that country's book production for the benefit of future generations."3

This description held shakily until it was finally rejected by a substantial proportion of the national librarians of the developing countries. They maintained that the quoted task was not the obligation of the national libraries but properly belonged to the state and local universities and thus the hoped for definition reached the point that ARUNDELL ESDAILLE, Secretary of the British Museum, had anticipated in 1934." Uniformity is not to be expected the political and social traditions of one country will produce a quite different type of library service from

2. International Librarianship: Surveys of Recent Developments in Developing Countries and in Advanced Librarianship, submitted to the 1971 IFIA Pre-session Seminar for Developing Countries Sponsored by UNESCO (1972).

3. Ibid.
those in another.**4 Whereas public libraries serve the whole of the local community and academic libraries and students, national libraries are provided to serve the interests of the national as a whole.

National libraries are entitled to receive free of charge at least one copy of every publication printed in their countries, which they have the duty to make available for consultation in the national library and to conserve for posterity.

National libraries should acquire and preserve many foreign publications but could not and should not aim at complete comprehensiveness.

They have, however, a duty to ensure, as far as possible, that many foreign publications are purchased and preserved as part of a national cooperative scheme centred in a national library.

National libraries should also ensure that complete national bibliographies are published, based on material deposited with them.

It is the primary duty of national libraries to be reference libraries of last resort, where any books in their collections can be seen at any time, and where books on different subjects can be consulted together.

Because of the huge bulk of modern state records

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and the administrative value of modern records, most states maintain a separate national record office. In a few cases, the record office forms a division of the national library, just as local record offices are often departments of the local public library. The national library, even though it does not contain the national record office, will inevitably acquire some national records, for records are legitimate library material.

National libraries ought also to act as lenders of last resort, either by direct loan from their collections to other reference libraries, or by ensuring that loans are made through some other agency under their control or on which they are represented.

When the Ghana Library Board decided to establish a national library its director was sent on a world wide tour of national libraries, and the Board adopted the following statement of duties of the proposed national library:

1. to acquire, preserve and make available all library and related materials concerning Ghana whether they are produced locally or abroad;

2. to acquire, preserve and make available library materials in all fields of knowledge for the benefit of scholars, research workers, advanced students and government personnel;

3. to serve as a permanent depository for all publications issued in Ghana;

4. to compile and publish the national bibliography;

5. to compile and maintain a national union catalogue of all books owned by the country's libraries (except light fiction and children's books);
6. to serve as an inter-library loan centre on a national and international scale;
7. to serve as a national and international exchange centre;
8. to publish special bibliographies of important collections;
9. to serve as a centre for cooperative activities among the nation's libraries;
10. to provide library services to Parliament and government departments.

The national libraries of African States vary greatly in scope, but most of them are being developed rapidly owing to widespread recognition of the need to improve facilities for higher education and research.

Regarding access, the developing countries tend to be more liberal. Ethiopia's National Library is open to all "and there is no charge for reading on premises!" Two books may be borrowed at a time and kept for a month.

While reader service varies markedly among the national libraries, bibliographical services are uniformly triumphant, effective and ever expanding. Some form of deposit arrangement appears in the majority of the institutions (80 of the 100 in 1977 were primary depositaries of their national publishing), and one of them earliest obligations was thus the preparation of printed cards, printed catalogues, and the ultimate preparation of the national bibliography. The later service is one most

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name of Library</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Date Founded</th>
<th>Number of Volumes</th>
<th>Legal Depository</th>
<th>Produces National Bibliography</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Ethiopian National Library</td>
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<td>1944</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Dar-es-Salaam</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Name of Library</td>
<td>Place</td>
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<td>Benin</td>
<td>Bibliotheque Nationale</td>
<td>Porto Novo</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ambia, The Gambia</td>
<td>Gambia National Library</td>
<td>Banjul</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>60,300</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hana</td>
<td>Central Reference and Research Library</td>
<td>Accra</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>inea</td>
<td>Bibliotheque Nationale</td>
<td>Conakry</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vory Coast</td>
<td>Bibliotheque Nationale</td>
<td>Abidjan</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>ali</td>
<td>Bibliotheque Nationale</td>
<td>Bamako</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>igeria</td>
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<td>Lagos</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>190,000</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>era Leone</td>
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<td>Freetown</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>398,000</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>Bibliotheque Nationale</td>
<td>Cote</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
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</table>
frequently agreed upon by the national libraries, 61 out of 100 produce a national bibliography.

In the developed countries the national bibliography frequently indexes periodicals and newspapers as well as monographs, but this is not typical in the developing countries.

71. EAST AFRICA

71A. BURUNDI

Burundi has no national library.

71B. ETHIOPIA

Founded together with a National Museum, by Emperor Haile Selassie in 1944, in the Capital of Addis Ababa, the National Library offers loan and reference facilities to the public, acting as a central public library and as the national repository of Ethiopiana. A proclamation conferring depository privileges was enacted in 1975, a year after the Revolution.

The Library's valuable collection of several hundred Ethiopian Christian orthodox manuscripts, some finely illuminated and dating from as early as the 15th century, also includes Ethiopian "incunabula" from the period when local printing began at the end of the 14th century. In the 1960's the library opened branches in several provincial centres, notably Debre Zeit, Yrgalem,
and Harar, stocking them with volumes from its own collection.

71C. **KENIA**

Kenia has no national library in the conventional meaning of the term. The Kenya National Library service runs a nation-wide public library service with the head quarters in Narrobi. Most scholarly researches use the University of Narrobi. Most scholarly researchers use the University of Narrobi Library service. Both of the libraries are legal deposit for Kenyan publications.

71D. **RWANDA**

There was no national library in Rwanda at the end of the 1970's, although the government considered creating one. The Ministry of National Education was considering establishing a national archives.

71E. **SOMALIA**

There are no public libraries that meet any significant standards. At the most there may be few reading rooms in some regions of the country. A National Library set up in June 1976 on the initiative provided by Unesco was still in a formative stage of development three years later. Its holdings comprise hardly a few thousand items. Under library legislation of 1976, the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture was given responsibility of
library development. In spite of the enactment of library legislation and formulation of guidelines for evolving a national library system, there was no strong commitment on the part of the country to undertake development of libraries within the framework of an overall plan as the 1980's began.

7.1F. TANZANIA

As of 1978 there was no separate national library. The National Central Library operates both as a national and a public library. Plans were under way to establish a separate national library in the new capital, Dodoma. The National Central Library was founded in 1964 as a pilot library in temporary premises with a collection of 30,000 books from the East African Literature Bureau and 20,000 from the British Council. The new building was opened by President Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere on December 9, 1967, and is the headquarters of a nation-wide library service. It has a public reference and lending service for both adults and children, a central book processing and supply unit, and a central advisory service. Since 1969 Tanzania Library Service has compiled a National Bibliography of Tanzania, and it enjoys legal deposit status.

The service is responsible for the promotion, establishment, and management of all public libraries in the country in both urban and rural areas. By 1978, 14
branch (regional) libraries had been established in major towns in mainland Tanzania and rural library services were being offered to several areas by book mobiles and village libraries.

710. UGANDA

The structure of Uganda's library services differs from that of in the developed countries but is comparable to that in many developing countries. First there is no National Library. Second most library services are founded by the Central Government. Consequently, very few libraries have developed as a result of local initiative. This partly explains the homogeneity of library development and the marked concentration of large libraries in the capital city of Kampala. Some of the conventional functions of a national library are performed by the large academic libraries.

72. WEST AFRICA

72A. BENIN

The Bibliothèque nationale was established in the capital, Porto Novo in 1961 and was reorganized in 1975. Under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Youth, Popular Culture, and Sports, it houses 1500 volumes and over 20 periodicals at the time of establishment.
72B. CAMEROON

Until November 1977 the Cameroon National Library was attached to the National Archives in a single department (headed by the same person), established by a decree issued August 17, 1966. By the provisions of another decree issued November 3, 1977, the National Library became attached to the Department of Culture in the Ministry of Information and Culture.

On November 20, 1978, the President issued a new decree, restructuring the Ministry of Information and Culture, and with it under Article 48 - the National Library became part of the department of Cultural Affairs, with three sub-sections: Acquisition and Legal deposit, classification and Cataloguing, and History of Cameroon and National Bibliography. The holdings of the Archives and Library in 1973 numbered about 5000 books and 700 files.

72G. GAMBIA, THE

The National Library of The Gambia is in the capital city of Banjul. The Gambia government did not have a public or national library service of its own until April 1962, when the British Council closed its office and handed its library in Banjul to the government. The British Council, which ran a subscription library service in The Gambia from 1946, had provided the only public library in the country apart from smaller libraries in
schools, government departments who materials were loaned only to their clients. When the book stock transferred it numbered 25,000 volumes, excluding phonographs records. On May 1, 1971 the name was changed from the British Council Library to The Gambia National Library. Before the change, Roy Flood had been sent from the British Council in London to evaluate and recommend a library service suitable for The Gambia. His recommendations for a complete reorganization of The Gambia library service were accepted.

In 1974, the British Government, through the British Council and the Ministry of Overseas Development, provided 300,000 dalasis (£ 75,000) for the building, books, furniture and equipments. On December 15, 1976, when the new library was opened, the collection numbered 54,620 added books manuscripts, films recordings and other items brought the figure to more than 60,300 by the end of 1978.

Under an act of Parliament, the National Library was made the depository Library and also the bibliographic centre (The Gambia Library Board Act of 1976). Its six departments are the National collection (mainly materials by and about The Gambia and Gambians). Adult lending; Adult Reference; Children's lending/Reference Library; School Library service and Mobile and Book-Box services.
The National Library serves dual purposes: as a National Reference and Lending Library and also as the public library of the nation.

72D. GHANA

Even though Ghana has been in the forefront of library development in black Africa, the idea of a national library was not given the importance that the institution deserved. The result is that a national library as an institution with statutorily defined functions does not exist in the country. In 1961 the Padmore Research Library was founded by the Ghana Library Board in Memory of the West Indian Pan-Africanist, George Padmore, to support research on African affairs. It was envisaged that the Library should from the nucleus of the country's national library. Thus from its birth the Research Library on African Affairs, the name given to it in 1966 after the overthrow of the first Republic of Ghana, has been performing those functions usually performed by National libraries throughout the World; that is, the collection, preservation and dissemination of the nation's intellectual output.

The Research Library on African Affairs is in the Capital city of Accra and is administered by the Ghana Library Board. A building extension designed to increase the capacity of the library from 20000 to 50000 volumes
was completed. Services including compilation of the 'Ghana National Bibliography', which lists all the publications issued in Ghana within the periods covered. It acquires everything written or published in or about Ghana. This includes materials not normally mentioned in the press and other media. Staff are sent to all parts of the country to fulfill this responsibility. The library, in its capacity as the national bibliographic centre for Ghana is the national agency for the administration of the ISBN system.

The Research Library cooperates actively with other Africana Libraries in Ghana in order to pool library resources. Union lists of certain types of library material are kept so that each library is aware of their existence. Africana libraries that enter into this cooperative endeavour are the Institute of African Studies Library, Lagon, the African Library of the Palme Library, University of Ghana, Lagon and the African Library of the University of Cape Coast.

The library has an active programme for the collection and preservation of oral tradition. This covers not only oral literature but also history, music, and dance, on films, tapes, and records.

72E. GUINEA

When Guinea gained independence from France in October 1958, it had no professional librarians. The only library open to the general public was the research library of the Institut Francais d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) in the capital city of Conakry. It was rich in history and natural sciences, and it served as the nucleus of the new National Library. In 1976 it had about 11000 volumes in its stock.
The foundation stone of the National Library of the Ivory Coast at Abidjan was laid on March 9, 1971 and the fully equipped library was officially opened by the President of the Republic of the Ivory Coast, Mr. Houphouet Biogny, on January 9, 1974 in the presence of Mrs. Chevrier, representing the Canadian Government and of many other well known personalities.

Preparations for this venture, which is part of a national plan for systematic development of the reading habit, seen as one of the key social factors in promoting development date back in 1966, when Mrs. Liquer-Laubhouet, Chief of the libraries and Publications Department in the Ivory Coast's Directorate for Cultural Affairs, and Miss Delrieu, a Unesco expert, entered into close collaboration proposed by Unesco between the Government of the Ivory Coast and the Canadian International Development Agency.

The total cost of the project was 648 million CFA Francs, in other words more than $2.5 million, which paid for the premises and equipment and training of some of the specialized staff: two-fifth of this sum were financed by the Ivory Coast and three-fifth by Canada.

Since 1969 six of the seven copyright deposit copies have been made available to the National Library which uses them in the main as a basis for exchange transactions. Since 1970, it has published the 'National Bibliography' which brings it in some statutory revenue.
The National Library was built up round the National Documentation Centre, which was previously the main repository for ancient publications of national interest, and is now one of the library's specialised departments. The other departments or services are: the national publications exchange bureau, working and reading rooms, sales counters, the record library and the film library.

**ORGANISATION**

The services of libraries and publications works closely with the National Library. The service and the National Library have been placed under the same authority, which assures full coordination of action.

As specified in its charter and in the presidential decree of September 1971 which recognized it, the National Library has the following characteristics:

- To receive, keep and disseminate all production printed in or about the country.
- To constitute a National Documentation Centre and to furnish readers and researchers with as varied and complete documentation as possible.
- To be a general information centre on all the library collections in the country and to publish a national bibliography based on legal deposit.
- To provide support for the coordination of the development of libraries assigned to the service of libraries and publications.

The National Library was created on April 8, 1968 by the transfer of the National Centre for Documentation, which was the former Bibliothèque de I.I.P.A.N. d'Abidjan.
and which, connected to the centre for Natural Sciences, was primarily a scientific library, with important holdings on Africa.

The National Library currently has holding of 7500 books and 800 periodical titles of which 500 are current.

Legal deposit was assigned to it in January 1969 with a retroactive caluse, it receives, for exchange purposes, six or seven copies on legal deposit. The National Library has been publishing the 'Current National Bibliography of the Ivory Coast' since 1960 based primarily on legal deposit, but also announcing works on the Ivory Coast appearing in any country or in any language. The bibliography is annual.

CONSTRUCTION

Since 1964, the development of libraries in the Ivory Coast has received the support of UNESCO and it was through this initiative that Canadian and for the construction of National Library quarters was obtained.

A programme was established by the service of libraries and publications and adopted by an inter-ministerial communism (March 1969). At which Ministries of National Education, Construction, Planning, and Economic and Financial Affairs were represented.

The programme indicated the functions of the National
Library, the plan for its development upto 1980, and the budgetary requirements for its functions.

72G. LIBERIA

In 1978 legislation was passed by the National Legislature creating a centre for National Documents and Records, which merged the Public Library system and Bureau of Archives. Liberia does not have a national library, but the public library system and the academic libraries are providing national leadership in library development.

72H. MALI

The National Library, which provides traditional library services (cataloguing, acquisitions, circulation, bibliography, and publication), is in Bamako, the capital of Mali. It became the National Library in 1960 as a branch of the Institute for Scientific Research of Mali and in 1962 as a branch of the institute for the Humanities of Mali. By 1966 it had its own quarters, distinct from those of the National Archives and of the Research Department. In 1973 it became an autonomous unit, although it remained the headquarters for the researchers of the Institute for the Humanities of Mali. In 1976 it was integrated into a network of documentation within the Division for the Arts and Culture, Ministry of Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture.
Its first collections were African-Oriented, geared toward the former FOA (French Occidental Africa, Afrique Occidentale Francaise) and the former French Sudan. The collections were mainly books and periodicals in history, ethnography and sociology and natural sciences.

The National Library is in charge of the copyrighting and of the loan programme with other countries. It houses a bindery and the main public library, and it is also the headquarters for the Librarians, Archivists, and Library Researchers Association of Mali (AMBAD, Association Malienne des bibliothecavies, archivists, et documentalistes).

The National Library owns about 5,000 books, mostly in French, fewer in English and in national languages (especially the Bamanan).

The National Library as well other libraries in Mali, suffers from a lack of qualified staff and from the absence of an interloan programme with other libraries in Mali and in other countries.

72I. NIGER

Niger has no National Library.

72J. NIGERIA

The National Library of Nigeria has become a leading library in Black Africa. It is the National focal point of
Unesco's GIP (General Information Programme).

The National Library of Nigeria derived its authority from legislation. Its director was responsible to a Governing Body appointed by the Federal Military Government.

The functions of the Governing Body were to establish and maintain in accordance with the National Library Decree of 1970 the National Library of Nigeria, and to provide such services in the opinion of the Board are usually provided by National Libraries of the highest standing. 5

Other major responsibilities are to establish and maintain a branch of the National Library in each state and to make its facilities available to members of the public and others on proper terms.

To make such arrangements as it considered appropriate with respect to the exchange of materials, the preparation and publication of catalogues, indexes, and similar aids.

To provide assistance to other persons in the organisation of libraries and with respect to the manner of using facilities under the control of libraries.

To give advice and make recommendations on library development or organisation to any department or agency of

THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT hereby decrees as follows:

1.—(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the National Library Board.

(2) The Board shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.

(3) The provisions of Schedule 1 to this Decree shall have effect with respect to the constitution and procedure of the Board and the other matters therein mentioned.

2.—(1) The functions of the Board shall be—

(a) to establish and maintain in accordance with this Decree the National Library of Nigeria, and

(b) to provide in accordance with this Decree such services as in the opinion of the Board are usually provided by national libraries of the highest standing.

(2) For the purpose of carrying out the general functions imposed on the Board by subsection (1) above, it shall be the duty of the Board, so far as its resources permit—

(a) to assemble, maintain and extend a collection of books, periodicals, pamphlets, newspapers, maps, musical scores, films and recordings and such other matter as the Board considers appropriate for a library of the highest standing,

(b) to establish and maintain a branch of the National Library in each State,
(c) to make the facilities of the National Library available to members of the public and others on proper terms, which may include provision for—

(i) the imposition of a scale of fees, subject to the approval of the Commissioner, for services rendered to the public,

(ii) safeguarding the property of the Board, and

(iii) specifying the categories of persons who may be admitted to premises under the control of the Board,

(d) to make such arrangements as the Board considers appropriate with respect to—

(i) the exchange of matter included in the collection aforesaid,

(ii) the preparation and publication of catalogues, indexes and similar aids,

(iii) the provision of assistance to other persons in the organisation of libraries and with respect to the manner of using facilities under the control of libraries,

(e) to make recommendations and give advice on library development or organisation to any department or agency of government of the Federation or a State or to any local government authority,

(f) to be responsible for the development of the National Bibliography of Nigeria and national bibliographical services, either in a national bibliographical centre or elsewhere.

(3) The Board shall have such powers as may be necessary or desirable for the proper exercise of its functions; and in particular, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Board may—

(a) sue and be sued in its corporate name,

(b) acquire, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property in general, and in particular—

(i) acquire, construct, maintain or repair any property required for the purposes of the National Library, and

(ii) let on lease or otherwise dispose of any property which appears to the Board to be unnecessary for the time being for the purposes of the Board,

(c) do anything for the purpose of advancing the skill of persons employed by the Board or the efficiency of the equipment of the Board or of the manner in which that equipment is operated (including the provision by the Board, and the assistance of the provision by others, of facilities for training, education and research).

(d) provide houses, hostels and other like accommodation for persons employed by the Board—

(i) for purposes specifically approved by the Board as being likely to increase the effectiveness of those persons in the service of the Board, or

(ii) otherwise for the purpose of exercising the functions of the Board;

(e) make loans to any person employed by the Board for the purpose of building a house, purchasing a plot of land on which a house for such a person may be built or purchasing a house for the residential use of any such person or his family, and

(f) otherwise promote the welfare of persons employed by the Board.

Fig 7.11
government of the Federation or a State or to any local government authority.

To be responsible for the development of the National Bibliography of Nigeria and national bibliographical services.

The bibliographical and indexing services provided by the National Library had, by 1978, included

2. National Bibliography of Nigeria, 1973 to date

National Library of Nigeria provided national inter-library lending services for books and periodicals but not for non-book materials. It lent 0.002 volumes per 1000 population in 1978. It provided 0.006 photocopies per 1000 population in the same year.

The National Library of Nigeria finds most research and development studies in library and information science in Nigeria. It had in 1978 a designated research and development unit with a staff of 3 and also employed 24 other staff in research and development activities. It published National Digest of Library Statistics 1972; Library cooperation in Nigeria, Inter-Library Lending Handbook, 1976.
The National Library of Senegal exists as a legal entity only. There are three libraries however that together perform the functions of a national library: the Institute Fundamental d' Afrique Noire (IFAN) the Archives Nationales, and the Centre de recherche et do documentation du Senegal (CRDS). The library of the Institut Fundamental d' Afrique Noire (Fundamental Institute of Black Africa) was established in 1938, when it inherited more than 6,000 works from the library of the government of French Accidental Africa. In the late 1970's its collection, specializing in Africana, consisted of approximately 60,000 volumes and 4,000 periodicals. The library owns manuscripts, rare books, and old newspapers dating back to colonial times. The Institute's library received copy righting privilege on July 17, 1946. A new decree on legal deposit requirements was adopted on April 7, 1976.

The library of the Archives Nationales du Senegal was founded in 1913 and is housed in Dakar at the headquarters of the National Archives. The library collects materials on the history of Senegal and the territories that previously were part of French Decidental Africa, as well as publications on law and government. The number of volumes in its collection is approximately 20,000, and it receives 380 periodicals. From 1962, the Archives published a bibliographical bulletin entitled, as of issue
40(1972), the Bibliographie due Senegal, a compilation of bibliographical data on the library's acquisitions. This work can be considered a first draft of a national bibliography. In addition, the Archives has set up an exchange system, for foreign correspondence as a national library world.

Since its founding in 1913, the library has received, every official ministerial and state service publication for deposit. The library of the Centre de Recherche et de Documentation due Senegal in Saint Louis was founded in 1944 when it acquired the former IFAN centre of Senegal. Its collection consists of more than 16,000 volumes and 660 periodicals. In the late 1970's the possibility of combining the collections of these libraries into one national library was under discussions.

72L. SIERRA LEONE

In the absence of a national library, the public library system performs certain national library functions; for example by the Publications Ordinance of 1962 the Public Library became one of two copyright libraries (the other is Fourah Bay College in Freetown) empowered to produce an 'Annual List of Publications'. Though not a national bibliography. Since it is not a comprehensive list of titles published in Sierra Leone, the list is useful in providing information mostly on titles published by the
The Central Library in Freetown opened in 1964 and serves as the National Library in Sierra Leone.
Government Printing Office. The Public Library also provides inter-library loan service which is used locally and internationally.

**72M. TOGO**

The Bibliothèque Nationale in Lomé was decreed a national library on October 1, 1969 under the directorship of the ministere de l'éducation nationale, the library originally was established in 1937 as the service de la documentation générale, a documentation centre to study documentation concerns in museums, archives and libraries. In 1945 it was taken over by the local IFAN Centre (Institut fondamental de l'Afrique noire), and in 1960 that center became the Institut togalai des sciences humaines. The Institut has departments of anthropology, archeology, history ethnography, geography, linguistics etc. In the late 1970's the library's collection housed approximately 15000 volumes and 1000 periodicals; 85 per cent of all holdings are in French. Togo does not have national bibliography.

**72N. UPPER VOLTA**

Upper Volta does not have any national library.