

Map librarian attends project

Susan Lytle, map librarian at Sterling C. Evans Library, worked for six weeks this summer at the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress in Alexandria, Va.

Lytle was one of 11 people from across the nation to work as a cooperative participant in the special map project at the Library of Congress. The map project has been held every summer for the past 28 years.

She said her main job was to help other librarians in the Geography and Map Division, which has approximately 3.5 million maps and 36,000 atlases.

Lytle said she learned different procedures for obtaining reference assistance from the Geography and Map Division, and finer points of interpreting Library of Congress classification schedules for maps. She said she also learned of new sources for acquiring maps.

In addition to working in the library, Lytle and the other participants attended library seminars and took field trips in the Washington, D.C., area.

She said the participants were allowed to select maps and atlases that were duplicates and have them sent to their libraries.

Lytle selected 142 atlases, approximately 150 soil survey maps of Texas, and hundreds of maps to add to Texas A&M University's present collection of 600,000 maps and 1,000 atlases.

Lytle graduated from Indiana University and received a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Tennessee. She is currently working on a master's degree in education at Texas A&M.

She has been map librarian at Texas A&M since February. Her main duties include helping faculty with research, ordering maps and atlases, assigning Library of Congress classification numbers to all maps, and helping students and visitors with map information.

Texas A&M's collection of maps includes road maps, geology maps, nautical maps and many others, Lytle said. Some of the maps may be checked out, she said.

The map library is located on the fourth floor of Sterling C. Evans Library.



Susan Lytle, map librarian at Sterling C. Evans Library, is shown with one of the more than 100 atlases that she selected from the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress. Lytle was one of 11 people across the nation to attend the special project at the Library of Congress for six weeks this summer. She said the participants were allowed to select duplicates of maps and atlases and have them sent to their libraries.

Battalion photo by Beth Brucker

Early steel mills found in Africa

United Press International
PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Brown University researchers say their discovery in East Africa of complex steel production dating back 1,500 years may compel a re-evaluation of early technology and civilization on a continent often thought primitive.

Tanzanians were producing steel 1,500 years ago with methods not developed in Europe until the mid-19th century, Professors Peter Schmidt and D.H. Avery said Friday.

"We have found a technological process in the African Iron Age which is exceedingly complex," Schmidt said.

"To be able to say that a technologically superior culture developed in Africa more than 1,500 years ago overturns popular and scholarly idea that technological sophistication developed in Europe but not in Africa," he said.

They said the level of technology found in western Tanzania may include other areas across the African continent.

Tanzanian technicians were producing medium carbon steel in pre-heated forced draft furnaces more than 1,500 years ago, the scientists said.

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Supplies 'windmill power'

New energy alternative is wood

United Press International
MINNEAPOLIS — The spinning top of childhood is being adapted and married to a windmill at University of Minnesota in an experiment to develop a practical alternative energy source.

Researchers say the project also is expected to provide new knowledge on the mechanical potentials of wood, one of the most common and yet least researched products of nature.

Onassis reduces Jackie's fortune, author says

United Press International
NEW YORK — Aristotle Onassis, angry at Jackie Onassis for her high-spending ways, used his financial cunning to cut his wife's inheritance to less than 2 percent of what he had agreed to in their marriage contract, said Stephen Birmingham in his forthcoming book on the former first lady.

Upon Onassis' death, Jackie confidently expected to receive an inheritance of at least \$125 million and perhaps as much as \$250 million, said Birmingham in his book, "Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis."

Instead, at her husband's request, she unwittingly signed away most of her inheritance promised in the couple's famous 1968 marriage contract, he said.

The multi-millionaire Greek shipping tycoon's anger centered mainly on Jackie's freewheeling use of his fortune, Birmingham said.

In 1972, Onassis and his wife argued over \$200,000 she spent on legal fees in a suit against photographer Ron Galella who, she claimed, constantly harassed her and her children. Onassis advised her in vain to ignore Galella, Birmingham said.

In 1973, while on a Mexican vacation, Jackie insisted that Onassis buy her a villa there, but he refused, Birmingham said.

"They argued and the argument continued bitterly on the private plane that brought them home," he said.

"Onassis was a wily man who had not made his fortune by being sweet to people," Birmingham said. Following that scene on the plane from Acapulco, he set about systematically to subvert the terms of the marriage contract, he said.

The experiment is being carried out by Profs. Arthur G. Erdman and Darrel A. Frohrib and Thomas P. Carlson and David L. Hagen of the department of mechanical engineering, and Prof. William L. Garrard of the department of aerospace and engineering and mechanics.

Deep in the bowels of the engineering building a pilot has been built.

The "spinning top" is a flywheel made of laminated Finnish birch, weighing several hundred pounds. It is encased in a near vacuum, which reduces resistance drag and keeps the top spinning far longer.

A shaft through the middle of the flywheel is connected to a variable speed drive shaft which would power an electrical generator. As envisioned by the designers, the flywheel in practical use would be kept in motion by a windmill.

Once up to top speed, explained Erdman, the top could be kept

spinning and producing energy for a week should the wind be calm the windmill.

"A flywheel one meter in diameter," he said, "would weigh several tons. Once it is spinning at 7,000 revolutions per minute, we estimate it could furnish enough energy for an average family for a day."

"We feel the system has the possibilities of being economically competitive with other sources of alternative energy."

As an energy storage system, he said, it has an advantage over batteries, for example, because it could operate with few or no problems in any kind of weather.

"Batteries, of course, have limited life," he said. "And they are limited to the amount of energy they can store at any one time. Batteries also are affected by temperatures, particularly the extreme cold of this climate."

The university research engineers

are working under several grants, including a seed grant from the Minnesota Energy Agency, The 3M Co. and Lord Corp., Erie, Pa., have assisted with adhesive and bonding materials used in the project, and Zero-Max Company of Minneapolis has helped in development of various speed drive machinery.

The spinning flywheel top is built of wood because of its strength and its safety. If it were manufactured of iron or another metal and it disintegrated, Frohrib said, metal shards could cause considerable damage to the vacuum chamber.

"The literature of wood technology lacks extensive research on the mechanical properties of wood with negligible moisture content, as found under vacuum conditions," a project paper said. "The strength of wood increases with decreasing thickness, probably due to reduction of unequal stresses in the early and late-growth sections of wood."

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