

David D. Acker Library

DSMC's Own Repository of Defense Systems Acquisition Management Information and Reference Services

For Helen Haltzel, the director of DSMC's Acker Library, coordinating National Library Week is a labor of love. Says Haltzel, "I find it very satisfying to be part of the exciting technological revolution that is transforming libraries. Thanks to computers and the Internet, today's libraries are able to provide both global reach and in-depth retrieval on a scale never before possible. National Library Week is an opportunity for us to broadcast that message."

A career librarian who holds two master's degrees —one in Soviet Studies from Harvard University and another in Library and Information Science from the State University of New York — Haltzel came to DSMC in 1985 as a cataloguer. Since then, she and her staff have seen the library grow from a modest collection, to what many would argue is the finest defense systems acquisition management collection of books, newspapers, journals, microfilm, and CD-ROM publications in the world.

Providing information and reference services to staff, faculty, and more than 10,000 students a year, the library also provides online access to other technical information centers and gateways. A reading room, study area, and computers with Internet access also provide a setting conducive to learning, relaxing, "surfing" the net, or simply reading for pleasure. National Library Week presented Haltzel and her staff an oppor-



tunity to not only showcase the library's collection, but also perform database demonstrations throughout the week.

A Tradition Since 1958

In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions, and musical instruments. Concerned that Americans were reading less, the American Library Association (ALA) and the American Book Publishers formed a non-profit citizens organization called the National Book Committee in 1954.

The committee's goals were ambitious. They ranged from "encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time" to "improving incomes and health" and "developing a strong and happy family life." In 1957, the committee developed a plan for National Library Week based on the idea that once people were mo-



I live for books.

—Thomas Jefferson

Accessing Acker Library and Its Resources

Acker Library supports mainly the staff and faculty and students of the Defense Systems Management College, but is widely used by researchers in defense acquisition and reform. We welcome visitors to use the collection; however, full borrowing privileges are restricted to current DSMC faculty, staff, and students. DSMC alumni may use the library and register for weekend borrowing privileges. Hours of operation are 0630-1730, Monday through Friday, and we are closed on federal holidays.

Program Office staff and others in the acquisition community are also welcome to use the library materials onsite. For materials needed for a longer period of time, interlibrary loans can be arranged through your own technical library.

Acker Library's catalog is available on the Internet at <http://library.dsmc.dsm.mil/>. The David D. Acker Library Home Page not only provides access to the catalog but also

guides users to additional Net-based resources and information important to the acquisition community. Our annotated Webpicks list leads users to frequently used Web sites that include comprehensive business and government sites as well as the more familiar military sites.

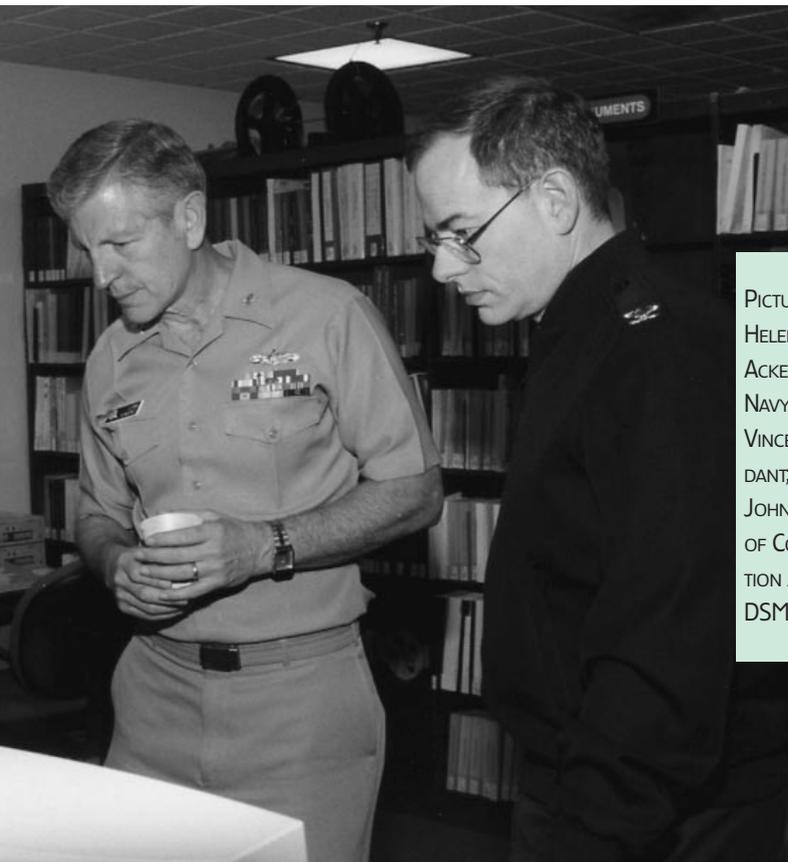
Hotlinks to other repositories of information are also listed. These include the following: Air University Library Index to Military Periodicals (AULIMP); *Commerce Business Daily*; Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) (technical reports); Government Printing Office; Library of Congress; MERLN (Military Education and Research Library Network); Pentagon Library; and THOMAS (Library of Congress web site for legislative information).

Connections to commercial databases are also found on our home page. These can only be accessed from the DSMC main campus: Britannica Online, CCH Government Contracts Service, First Search (pe-

riodicals), ProQuest Direct (for business periodicals, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Standard & Pools).

Instructional tutorials can assist you in finding information in Acker Library and on the Internet. The following tutorials are currently available both on the Web and as printed handouts: CCH Government Contracts Service; Defense Acquisition Deskbook; Directives, Instructions and Regulations; Early Bird; OCLC FirstSearch; Periodical Articles and Indexes; Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage; and information on using the World Wide Web (finding information, terminology, using search engines, and using Netscape).

For additional information about Acker Library and its resources, contact the Reference Desk at (703) 805-4551, or visit the virtual library at <http://library.dsmc.dsm.mil/>. If you haven't discovered us, try our main DSMC Home Page at <http://www.dsmc.dsm.mil/>.



PICTURED FROM LEFT:
HELEN HALTZEL, DIRECTOR,
ACKER LIBRARY, DSMC;
NAVY REAR ADM. LENN
VINCENT, DSMC COMMANDANT;
ARMY COL. JOSEPH
JOHNSON, DEAN, DIVISION
OF COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION
AND SERVICES,
DSMC.

tivated to read, they would support and use libraries.

With the cooperation of ALA through local and state committees, and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958. National Library Week is now a national observance for libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries – school, public, academic, federal, state, and special – participate.

The Public Information Office of the American Library Association coordinates the promotion, placing articles and public service advertisements in national media. The President of the United States issues an annual proclamation. Librarians, friends, and trustees of libraries join in sponsoring local promotions.

Their message: "Wake Up and Read!"