



## LAW LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

**E**STABLISHED BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS on July 4, 1832, the Law Library of Congress serves the foreign, international, and comparative law research and reference needs of Congress and the federal government. It also provides U.S. legal and legislative information services to Congress, a responsibility it shares with the Congressional Research Service. During the Law Library's 170-year history, it has given congressional inquiries the highest priority. In fiscal year 2002, Law Library legal specialists and analysts wrote 1,120 legal research reports and special studies on the legal aspects of headline issues and on an array of other concerns for Congress and other federal government requesters. Services rendered to all categories of clients—government, international organizations, and the American public—totaled 96,726.

The number of in-person reference requests dropped from 75,209 in fiscal 2001 to 66,057 in fiscal 2002. The decline was a continuing consequence of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and was also made worse by a weeklong closure of all Capitol Hill buildings at the beginning of October for precautionary anthrax testing. However, the number of inquiries answered by fax, mail, and e-mail rose to 38,414 (up from 21,250 the previous year) and telephone responses totaled 11,539. The Law Library's Internet inquiries increased as more constituents submitted their inquiries electronically or located information on the Law Library's Web site. Delays were experienced in incoming correspondence as the Library instituted new procedures to ensure the safe receipt and distribution of mail.

The Law Library, like other departments, instituted many new security procedures, including staff awareness training, the formation of emergency evacuation teams to participate in Library-wide evacuation exercises, and the staffing of security monitors at the main access points to the Law Library's research areas. In the wake of the terrorist attack on the Pentagon, the Law Library provided special facilities and services for the Pentagon Library, thus hosting one Pentagon librarian for several months. The Law Library also provided office facilities and special services for the Supreme Court Library staff during a period of anthrax testing in the court building.

## CONGRESSIONAL SERVICES

Providing Congress with comprehensive foreign legal and comparative law research based on the most current information available from various sources is the primary task of the Law Library's international research and reference staff. During the year, staff members wrote 578 research reports, studies, and memoranda in response to congressional inquiries.

To provide speedy access to vital resource works, reference specialists in the Law Library Reading Room reserved and maintained collections for use by Congress and the Congressional Research Service relating to terrorism, aviation safety, and war powers. To assist congressional users, Law Library reference specialists also prepared, maintained, and updated bibliographies on those topics on the Law Library's congressional Web site.

In fiscal 2002, members of Congress and congressional staff members made 2,087 requests; of those, 441 were made in person. In addition to providing fifty-one hours per week of service to the public and Congress, the Law Library Reading Room remained open beyond the standing Reading Room closing time of 9:30 P.M. when either chamber of Congress was in session. During those extended and for-Congress-only hours, some 258 congressional staff members received assistance.

In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, congressional interest in the approaches to those antiterrorist strategies undertaken by legislatures around the world elicited several multinational antiterrorist studies, including a 347-page comprehensive analysis of antiterrorist legislation, regulations, and enforcement initiatives covering twenty-four European jurisdictions. Several staff attorneys presented expert witness testimony at both open and closed congressional hearings on the subject.

Other important issues that elicited congressional requests for foreign legal research included the legal structure of national security agencies, the legislation on human cloning and stem cell research, the allocation of costs in civil litigation, the restrictions on Internet content, the computer security and protection of computer information, the national ID card debate in various nations, the residency of a corporation for tax purposes, the protection of cultural patrimony, the rights of people with disabilities, and the carrying of firearms by aviation security personnel.

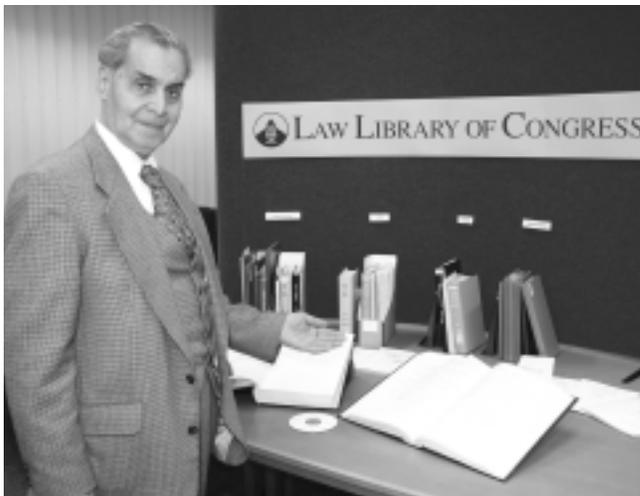
In fiscal 2002, the Law Library departed from past practices by using contract personnel to perform research work. As a result, the Law Library engaged the services of two outside legal specialists from Great Britain to provide research on numerous congressional and agency research projects to meet congressional needs. Similarly, the Law Library entered a contract with a Japanese attorney who answered congressional and agency requests for research about Japan.

Examples of foreign law reference questions received from Congress involved topics such as the application of international labor standards in Central and South America; the domestic relations law in Liberia; the freedom of conscience in Uzbekistan; the law on religion in Kazakhstan; the Romanian Criminal Code; a governmental agreement between Egypt and Bavaria, Germany, regarding the recovery of antiquities; the petroleum law in the Middle East; and religious marriages under the law of Côte d'Ivoire.

The Congressional Legal Instruction Program taught by the Law Library's Public Services Division staff members provided fifteen seminars, which 428 congressional staff members attended. A total of thirty-six briefings and orientations concerning services of the Law Library were presented to 218 congressional personnel as part of a continuing orientation program for congressional staff members conducted jointly by the Law Library and the Congressional Research Service.

### NONCONGRESSIONAL SERVICES

During fiscal 2002, the Law Library continued to provide research and reference assistance to its noncongressional constituents, including the federal agencies, the judicial branch, and the public. In all, the Law Library produced 643 research reports for federal government agencies and the judiciary. There were 103 requests from executive agencies for foreign law analyses that were handled by the Law Library's Directorate of Legal Research. Those requests came from agencies such as the Department of Justice, the Census Bureau, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Defense, the National Institutes of Health, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Social Security Administration.



*Senior legal specialist Gholam Vafai unveils rare volumes that contain Afghanistan's laws and that were found in the Law Library's collection of more than 2.4 million items. The Law Library participated in a State Department effort to reconstruct the laws of Afghanistan that were destroyed under Taliban rule. (Photo by Michaela McNichol)*

The examples of subjects on which research was supplied for the executive branch included Philippine law on marriage, Jamaican law on custody of children and establishing paternity, China's new population control law, Indian law on marriage registration requirements, adoption in Cambodia, legitimation in Vietnam, replacement and reissuance of ID cards in China, extradition in Estonia, divorce by proxy in Egypt, and major principles of copyright legislation in the Russian Federation.

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The Law Library continued its advisory legal opinion research work for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), as it has done since 1992 under an interagency agreement. In fiscal 2002, the Law Library received seventy-four requests and supplied sixty-five reports or letters to nineteen INS offices on questions concerning the laws of fifty-three foreign jurisdictions and one U.S. territory. Law Library responses included numerous telephone consultations. The INS received a subscription to the Law Library's legislative awareness monthly, *World Law Bulletin*.

Law Library staff members responded to twenty-seven research requests from judicial agencies. Among the studies completed was a multinational report on the question of how foreign countries provide for continuity planning for the highest court after a major disaster. Another major Law Library project was completed for a U.S.

commission examining the salary structure of the senior judiciary in various nations. The recipient judicial agency expressed great appreciation in a letter dated July 2, 2002, and characterized the work as having provided "extraordinary research assistance on a multi-year project involving numerous foreign legal systems."

The Law Library continued to provide reference services to all its clients, including the public, primarily through the Law Library Reading Room. During the year, the Reading Room staff provided reference services to 70,045 noncongressional users, of which 63,426 were assisted in person and 6,619 were assisted by telephone.

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

The Law Library continued to expand the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), maintain the Guide to Law Online, prepare the Multinational Collections Database for public release on the Law Library's Web site, and make additions to the Web site titled *A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation*.

### *Global Legal Information Network*

During the year, the Law Library made progress on GLIN, an online parliament-to-parliament cooperative exchange of laws and legal materials from some forty countries and institutions. Seventeen of those jurisdictions contributed the records themselves; the records of the other twenty-three countries were entered by the Law Library staff. During the year, legal analysts in the Law Library added 2,663 laws to the GLIN database covering twenty-three jurisdictions. Those jurisdictions were primarily in the Americas, including the United States, but also covered other Spanish-, French-, and Portuguese-speaking countries around the world. The GLIN Web site was accessed 405,999 times during the year.

The Law Library circulated a Request for Information in April to assess the technical capabilities available in the marketplace that might be used for a major upgrade to GLIN. A GLIN Technical Committee was asked to review GLIN members' suggestions for system enhancements. The committee's goal is to use that information to create a requirements document that will be circulated as a Request for Proposal in early 2003.

The large project to incorporate retrospective laws into GLIN that is for the countries of Latin America and was started in 2001 continued in fiscal 2002 with scanning from the microfilm of official gazettes from Mexico and Brazil and conversion into portable document format (PDF) files. A total of 262 rolls of microfilm containing Mexico's official gazettes and 509 rolls of microfilm containing Brazil's official gazettes were converted to PDF files by year's end. Some 375 Mexican laws were linked to their corresponding summaries in GLIN, making this legal material fully accessible online.

A GLIN training session was held at the Law Library in May 2002 for GLIN teams from Mali, Mauritania, the Supreme Court of Nicaragua, and the Organization of American States (OAS). As a result of that training, Mauritania, the Supreme Court of Nicaragua, and OAS began transmitting data to GLIN, thereby becoming fully participating members of the network. El Salvador joined the network, and the Philippines sent a formal letter of intent to participate in GLIN. Mauritania's full membership in GLIN was made possible by cooperative relations with the World Bank, which enabled a nongovernmental organization in Mauritania to establish a functional GLIN station. After its GLIN training session at the Law Library, the organization began contributing the environmental laws of Mauritania to the database, which was an important contribution given the difficulty of acquiring legal materials from some African nations.

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The Law Library continued to work in partnership with various institutions to expand and enhance GLIN. With the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), it implemented the first phase of its “GLIN-Americas” initiative to expand GLIN membership in Central America. A GLIN representative from Uruguay assisted the IDB by conducting GLIN technical assessments in Central American countries. Representatives from the Law Library traveled to Panama in May and to Nicaragua in June to conduct training for GLIN team members in the parliaments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. The IDB provided equipment to those legislatures to establish stations for the input and transmission of GLIN data.

Under the auspices of the American Bar Association (ABA) Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress and the Legal Technology Resource Center of the ABA, a panel presentation on “Establishing Standards for Reliable Legal Information in a Digital World” was given at the annual ABA meeting in Washington, D.C., in August. Law Librarian Rubens Medina organized the panel and delivered a presentation on “Establishing Standards for Reliable Legal Information in a Digital World: The Experience of the Law Library of Congress” that focused on the development of GLIN as a reflection of completeness, the reliability standards of currency, and the inclusion of only official legal writings and court decisions.



*Law Librarian Rubens Medina speaks at an all-day workshop titled “Creating Commercial Connections: Trade Laws of Latin America,” which was held at the Library on March 13, 2002. (Photo by Larica Perry)*

For the second year in a row, the ABA Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress arranged for Law Library representatives to staff a booth in the ABA Source area of the exhibits hall at the annual ABA meeting. The booth workers provided information about Law Library services, including GLIN, and distributed a survey to gauge research and reference interests of ABA members, who are important constituents of the Law Library.

The Ninth Annual GLIN Directors Meeting—the largest such meeting to date—took place at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., on September 10–13, 2002. GLIN members attending included Ecuador, Guatemala, the Republic of Korea, Kuwait, MERCOSUR (the Southern Cone Common Market), Mexico, OAS, Romania, Taiwan, Uruguay, the United Nations, and the United States. The potential GLIN member nations of Albania, Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Panama, and Peru sent their delegates to the meeting. Also in attendance were representatives from three long-standing GLIN partner institutions: the IDB, the World Bank, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Among the highlights of the meeting were reports on the growth of regional cooperation. For example, Uruguay's GLIN team reported on GLIN training programs that were held for other nations in South and Central America. The IDB discussed implementing the first phase of its GLIN-Americas initiative, which is rapidly expanding GLIN membership beginning with the nations of Central America. In addition, several GLIN member nations discussed their efforts to expand the scope of their contributions to other categories of legal information such as legal writings and court decisions. Representatives from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras signed the GLIN charter at the meeting. Taiwan's GLIN team received the "GLIN Model Station" award, which is given to a contributing member for compliance with all GLIN standards in several areas for at least one year. Accepting the award at the meeting was Bin-Chung Huang, director of the Taiwan GLIN station, which is located in the Library of the Legislative Yuan.

### *Guide to Law Online*

Staff members worked on the Guide to Law Online, thereby reviewing 6,360 links, updating 3,543 links, deleting 1,906 of those reviewed, and adding 1,100. As a result, links were streamlined from 15,000 at the beginning of the fiscal year to 10,309 at year's end. Three pages on current topics and one new jurisdiction (East Timor) were added. Also added were external links related to World Bank and International Monetary Fund global databases, terrorism, and Enron. Updated links included the ninety-two Department of State Background Notes and twenty URLs for the new National Archives domain.

### *Multinational Collections Database*

More than 5,000 old records in the Multinational Collections Database were edited, resulting in deleting duplicate records and adding more than 1,000 new records. The database was converted from an old software platform to Microsoft Access, and then the entire contents were edited using JavaScript so the database could be loaded as an Internet product. Several demonstrations of the database were provided to Law Library and Information Technology Services (ITS) staff, thus facilitating its electronic publication. A user manual was prepared for interested Law Library staff members, and a technical guide was prepared for ITS to facilitate loading the database onto a permanent service. The database currently contains 6,567 records and can now be accessed on the Internet at <[www.loc.gov/mulp/multisearch.jsp](http://www.loc.gov/mulp/multisearch.jsp)>.

### *A Century of Lawmaking Web Site*

During the year, the Law Library continued to contribute historic legislative collections to the Web site titled *A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation*. Additions to the Web site in fiscal 2002 included *Statutes at Large*, the *House Journal*, and the *Senate Journal* for the 43rd Congress; House Bills for the 6th through 11th Congresses; and Senate Joint Resolutions from the 18th through 42nd Congresses. Also added to the site were more than 100 items from the Law Library's collection of slavery trial documents, including some 70 items from the Law Library's Rare Book Room. This material is fully searchable online.

## COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Developing, circulating, and managing its collection of more than 2.4 million volumes remained a primary focus of the Law Library in fiscal 2002.

Major acquisitions of primary legal source materials included Halsbury's *Laws of Malaysia* (1999–); Halsbury's *Laws of Singapore* (1999–); *Official Gazette of East Timor* (2000–2002); *Laws of the Republic of Zambia* (1995); *Revised Laws of Mauritius* (2000); *Subsidiary Legislation of Mauritius* (1998); and the Afghanistan gazette (*Rasmi jaridah*, 1965–1974, March 1997, and continuation). The Law Library filled gaps in the *Guernsey Law Journal* (1985–1998) and the *Laws of Jersey* (1970–1972 and 1984) using materials obtained on a trip to the Channel Islands by the chief of the Western Law Division. The *Iranian Central Bar Association Law Review* (September 2000 and continuation) and the *Iranian Compilation of Laws* (1997–2001) were acquired by the joint efforts of the Law Library staff and the Library's African and Middle Eastern Acquisitions Section. Other titles acquired included the Northern Mariana Islands' 2000 *CNMI Laws* on compact disc, loose-leaf

publications such as *Laws and Regulations of the People's Republic of China*, West Group's *Employment Discrimination Coordinator*, Weil's *Codes of Louisiana Rules*, and bound volumes incorporating missing issues of more than thirty law reviews. The transcript of the trial of Gandhi's principal assassin was acquired for the Law Library's Rare Book collection.

The Law Library acquired the expert services of a law graduate from Mexico, Andrea Villanueva-Villareal, who evaluated and made recommendations regarding the Mexican law collections, GLIN's electronic files on Mexico, and general improvements to GLIN.

The Law Library also continued to expand its subscriptions to online resources. For example, the acquisition of Hein-On-Line afforded staff members and the public a full text access to selected legal journals as well as more than ten years' coverage (1970–1980) for the *Federal Register*, its annual indexes, and the *List of Sections Affected*. Staff research was facilitated by the acquisition of RIA Checkpoint, an extensive collection of tax materials. Those online resources add to existing desktop software versions of Westlaw and Lexis-Nexis (available for the convenience of those patrons with subscriptions), as well as free patron access to the Commerce Clearing House's online database.

During the year, the Law Library circulated more than 108,097 items, including 3,005 items to congressional clients. Included in that total was service to fifty-six readers who requested 117 items from the Law Library's Rare Book Collection, located in a separate facility in the Reading Room.

When the Law Library moved to the James Madison Building in 1981, space planners forecast that the compact storage ranges constructed to house the vast and comprehensive law holdings would be at full capacity by 2002. With more than 58,000 volumes added during fiscal 2002, the Law Library's collection reached full capacity as predicted. To alleviate the continuing shelving shortfall, Law Library Collection Services Division staff members have taken steps to identify and prepare books for transfer in fiscal 2003 to the high-density storage facility in Fort Meade, Maryland.

The Law Library's Collection Services Division continued work on its four targeted arrears scheduled for elimination by September 30, 2003: loose-leaf filing, monographs and serials receipts, government agency transfers, and binding backlogs. The resolution of problems associated with this work was greatly enhanced by the transfer from Library Services of a full-time senior serials cataloger who specialized in law titles.

Another milestone toward completion of the full class K (Law) schedule was achieved during the year with implementation of the Jewish law schedule (class KBM) on March 5, 2002. The issuance of this schedule facilitated the reclassification of hundreds of Hebrew-language and Western-language materials that had been long relegated to the shelving designation "LAW General."

## SCHOLARS, ADVISORY GROUPS, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Law Library continued to welcome scholars studying legal and law-related topics. Jonathan Bracken, a British lawyer, spent a week in the Law Library to conduct research on the use of legislative histories in the interpretation of statutes; the research was connected with a planned conference on legislative drafting. Per Teglborg, the law librarian of the University of Aarhus, Denmark, came to the Library in December 2001 to study the operations of the Law Library and kindly agreed to evaluate the Danish legal collection. South African Law Librarian Ruth West from the Constitutional Court of South Africa visited the Law Library on December 5 to learn about the “virtual library.”

The Law Library also hosted law student interns, who are assigned to a legal specialist mentor and who provide research assistance and may earn law school credits. This year interns included lawyers from Korea and Japan who were studying in U.S. law schools, as well as U.S. students interested in foreign law; areas researched included Argentine, Chilean, European Union, Japanese, and Korean law.

Law Library staff members served on boards and committees of national and international professional organizations, such as the American Association of Law Libraries, the American Bar Association, the International Association of Law Libraries, and the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C. In addition, staff members also participated in meetings and activities arranged by the American Society of International Law and by the North East Foreign Law Librarians’ Cooperative Group.

To promote use of the Library’s collections and to feature staff expertise, the Law Library continued its series “Fundamentals of Foreign Legal Research,” which had been launched in the spring of 2001 with the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C. The fall lecture, held at George Washington University’s School of Law on November 9, 2001, featured German legal research.

The Friends of the Law Library of Congress presented the tenth Wickersham Award for “exceptional public service and dedication to the legal profession” to James A. Baker III, who is former secretary of state and chief of staff to the president, and who is currently a partner at Baker Botts LLP. The dinner on April 24, 2002, was held at the Supreme Court. Opening remarks were made by the Librarian of Congress; the law librarian of Congress; and Sandra Day O’Connor, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; and Theodore B. Olson, solicitor general of the United States. E. William Barnett, senior counsel and former managing partner, Baker Botts LLP, introduced the honoree.

With the help of several supporting groups, the Law Library celebrated Law Day on May 1 with a program on “The Lawyer as Judge.” The program, the third in the Leon



*Marcia Coyle, Supreme Court correspondent for The National Law Journal; David Tatel, judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit; Paul Kahn, Yale Law School; and Christine Corcos, Louisiana State University, (left to right) participate in a Law Day panel at the Library. (Photo by ABA/Rob Crandall)*

Jaworski Public Program Series on “Representing the Lawyer in American Culture,” was conducted in cooperation with the ABA Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress and with the support of the Federation of State Humanities Councils. ABA President Robert Hirshon; Law Librarian of Congress Rubens Medina; and Judge William Sessions, the ABA’s National Law Day Chair, made opening remarks. The panel was moderated by Marcia Coyle, national bureau chief and U.S. Supreme Court correspondent for the *National Law Journal*. Panelists included Christine Corcos, associate professor of law, Louisiana State University Law Center; Paul Kahn, Robert W. Winner Professor of Law and Humanities, Yale Law School; and the Honorable David Tatel, judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The event was preceded by a reception sponsored by the Friends of the Law Library of Congress.

The Friends of the Law Library sponsored the Law Library of Congress’s traditional reception on July 20, at the opening of the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in Orlando, Florida. The Law Library sponsored the celebration of the American Bar Foundation’s fiftieth anniversary in the Great Hall on August 11, 2002.