A bouquet to SXCI

Jill Sinclair, Director of the Non-Proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament Division (IDA), recently wrote to Camrose Burdon, Deputy Director of Information Services (SXCI), to commend the work of two of the Library's information experts. We are please to reprint part of Ms. Sinclair's comments below, which also highlights the value of a particular service offered by the Information Management and Technology Bureau.[1]

"We would like to acknowledge the invaluable assistance provided by Ms. Jane Kurys and Jo-Anne Valentine of your staff, in the preparation of a document entitled Directory of Electronic Information Sources on Arms Control and Disarmament and on the Middle East..." This Directory, which we intend to disseminate to the MEPP (Middle East Peace Process) Arms Control and Regional Security (ACRS)

Have you a comment to make about SXD's services? What you like, what you don't, or how a particular service(s) could be improved? Let us know! We welcome both bouquets and brickbats. E-mail us your views to the SIGNET suggestion box (Suggestions), or call us.

Working Group participants, we hope will encourage positive interaction and, moreover, provide a useful tool to heighten awareness of the importance of arms control options in the region by providing direction to relevant information sources.

The high quality of this publication in large measure is the result of Ms. Kurys skill and dedication. The report will reflect extremely well on Canada, the Department and Library Services."

Hats off to Ms. Kurys, Valentine and Burdon!

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[1]   For more on Library services see "Library Client Services," *Connexions* No. 4, August 26, 1996.

Stabilization Update

As you are aware, the SIGNET stabilization project was launched to ensure reliability and integrity of the communications system so vital to our daily business. Our efforts have been focussed on three key areas of SIGNET: the e-mail software (ICONDESK), the workstations and the servers. The current status of these initiatives is as follows:

ICONDESK Upgrade: A revised version of ICONDESK has now been installed on the majority of workstations at Headquarters; completion of the upgrade is expected by mid-October (see *Connexions* No. 3/96, July 29, 1996, p. 1). Installation of the upgrade will begin at missions in October.

"This new version of ICONDESK fixes the known problems with the software and addresses many of its irritating quirks," says Rick Kohler, Director General of SXD,"and it provides an important measure of stability that our clients have not previously enjoyed."

Workstation 2.0 Upgrade: We expect to begin the installation of Windows for Workgroups at Headquarters in January 1997 and at missions in February. In general, Windows for Workgroups will provide a more reliable workstation environment; specifically, it will reduce the incidence of General Protection Fault error messages.

UNIX Upgrade: Testing of the UNIX upgrade on lmx01 has shown very positive results. The new version of UNIX fixes several bugs that were causing the servers to crash at random. Installation of the new version of UNIX on the remaining servers is scheduled to begin at Headquarters in December and at missions in January 1997.

We will keep you advised as these changes are implemented.