



JARLGA SECTION

JAPANESE STUDIES LIBRARY RESOURCES IN AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES

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I have very limited experience with Japanese studies library resources in the United States, so this comparison is based only on my past experiences. Library resources can include the areas of *Human, Technology, Physical Materials, Funding, Access* and even *Users*. I feel that Australian academic libraries are very rich in their quality of human and user resources, being advanced in *Technology* and *Access* in finding required materials. Due to the financial strain and the late development of Japanese studies, Australian Japanese studies collections suffer from a shortage of funding and human resources except at the National Library of Australia. The differences in status between Australian Japanese-studies library resources and those of the United States lie in: their development, different cultures in university policies and donors, and the actual number of institutions.

The one thing I would like to point out is the uniqueness of some Japanese collections in the United States. The Prange Collection, which I work for, is one of these examples. This enormous collection consists of publications issued in Japan during the immediate post-World War II years, 1945-1949. These publications were collected by the Civil Censorship Detachment (CCD), an operating unit of the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers' (SCAP) for the purpose of censorship under the codes applied by the SCAP. Conservatively, up to 50 percent of these materials are not publicly available in Japan today. With technology making the world a smaller place, it is getting much easier to find resources which users require, no matter the location. I would now like to recommend that it is time for Japanese librarians to promote improving the physical access of the items located at their institutions. I should also like to see the Japanese resources unique to Australia, such as the Australia-Japan Research Project, established or identified in Australia under the initiative of the National Library of Australia.