

# FACTS, STATISTICS, AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES

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## *Facts*

- GUERRILLA AND TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS: A WORLD DIRECTORY AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.* By PETER JANKE, with RICHARD SIM. (New York: Macmillan, 1983. Pp. 531. \$60.00.)
- WORLD ARMIES.* Second edition. Edited by JOHN KEEGAN. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1983. Pp. 688. \$80.00.)
- INTERNATIONAL MARKETING HANDBOOK: DETAILED MARKETING PROFILES FOR 138 NATIONS, SPECIAL INFORMATION ON DOING BUSINESS WITH EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES AND IN THE NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA, AND FUNDAMENTAL DATA FOR DEVELOPING AN EXPORT MARKETING EFFORT.* First edition supplement. Compiled by FRANK E. BAIR. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1983. Pp. 1232. \$95.00.)
- INDEX TO SPANISH AMERICAN COLLECTIVE BIOGRAPHY.* Volume 3. By SARA DE MUNDO LO. (Boston, Mass.: G. K. Hall, 1984. Pp. 360. \$75.00.)
- BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF LATIN AMERICAN HISTORIANS AND HISTORIOGRAPHY.* By JACK RAY THOMAS. (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1984. Pp. 420. \$49.95.)
- COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD AND THEIR LEADERS YEARBOOK, 1984.* Edited by FRANK BAIR. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1984. Pp. 1524. \$80.00 two-volume set.)
- A HANDBOOK OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN NATIONAL ARCHIVES / GUIA DE LOS ARCHIVOS NACIONALES DE AMERICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE.* By ANN K. NAUMAN. (Detroit, Mich.: Blaine Ethridge, 1983. Pp. 127. \$9.50.)
- SOURCES FOR WEST INDIAN STUDIES: A SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO MANUSCRIPT SOURCES.* Compiled and edited and in part described by K. E. INGRAM. (Zug, Switzerland: Inter Documentation, 1983. Pp. 412.)
- SOURCES FOR WEST INDIAN STUDIES: A SUPPLEMENTARY LIST GUIDE TO*

*THE NOTARIAL RECORDS OF THE ARCHIVO GENERAL DE NOTARIAS, MEXICO CITY, FOR THE YEAR 1829.* Compiled by ROBERT A. POTASH in collaboration with JAN BAZANT and JOSEFINA Z. VAZQUEZ. (Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Computing Center, 1982. Pp. 301. \$28.00.)

*Statistics*

*STATISTICS SOURCES: A SUBJECT GUIDE TO DATA ON INDUSTRIAL, BUSINESS, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL, FINANCIAL, AND OTHER TOPICS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONALLY.* Eighth edition. By PAUL WASSERMAN, JACQUELINE O'BRIEN, DAPHNE A. GRACE, and KENNETH CLANSKY. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1983. Pp. 1875. \$185 two-volume set.)

*INTERNATIONAL HISTORICAL STATISTICS: THE AMERICAS AND AUSTRALASIA.* By B. R. MITCHELL. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1983. Pp. 949. \$95.00.)

*THE HANDBOOK OF NATIONAL POPULATION CENSUSES: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, NORTH AMERICA, AND OCEANIA.* By DOREEN S. GOYER and ELIANE DOMSCHKE. (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1983. Pp. 710. \$75.00.)

*LATIN AMERICAN POPULATION AND URBANIZATION ANALYSIS: MAPS AND STATISTICS, 1950-1982.* By RICHARD W. WILKIE. (Los Angeles, Calif.: UCLA Latin American Center Publications, University of California, 1984. Pp. 433. \$65.00.)

*Bibliographies*

*THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN: A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.* By ALMA JORDAN and BARBARA COMISSONG. (Boston, Mass.: G. K. Hall, 1984. Pp. 411. \$55.00.)

*THE JAMAICAN NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY, 1964-1974.* By the INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA. (Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus International, 1981. Pp. 439. \$120.00.)

*HANDBOOK OF LATIN AMERICAN ART / MANUAL DE ARTE LATINOAMERICANO: A BIBLIOGRAPHIC COMPILATION.* Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2. Edited by JOYCE WADDELL BAILEY, ARACY ABREU AMARAL, RAMON GUTIERREZ, and ALBERTO S. J. DE PAULA. (Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio Information Services, 1984. Pp. 1193 in two parts. \$150.00 set.)

*BIBLIOGRAFIA JURIDICA: LATIN AMERICAN LEGAL BIBLIOGRAPHY, 1810-1965.* Volume 2: BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CHILE. By ALBERTO VILLALON GALDAMES. (Boston, Mass.: G. K. Hall, 1984. Pp. 820. \$96.00.)

- LATIN AMERICA, 1979–1983: A SOCIAL SCIENCE BIBLIOGRAPHY.* By ROBERT L. DELORME. (Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio Information Services, 1984. Pp. 225. \$45.00.)
- LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS: A HISTORICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.* (Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio Information Services, 1984. Pp. 290. \$60.50.)
- HUMAN RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA, 1964–1980: A SELECTIVE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY.* Compiled and edited by the HISPANIC DIVISION, U.S. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1983. Pp. 257. \$13.00.)
- EL SALVADOR BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESEARCH GUIDE.* By DAVID SAMUEL KRUSE and RICHARD SWEDBERG. (Cambridge, Mass.: Central America Information Office, 1982. Pp. 233. \$17.00.)
- HUMAN SERVICES IN POSTREVOLUTIONARY CUBA: AN ANNOTATED INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.* Compiled by LARRY R. OBERG. (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1984. Pp. 433. \$45.00.)

The steadily increasing numbers of reference works serving the scholarly community present the opportunity for improved access to knowledge. To justify incorporation into one's repertoire of reliable and distinguished resources, however, a reference work must improve upon its predecessors. Why it is an advancement should be self-evident as well as clearly indicated in prefatory comments. The user must be fully apprised of the sources consulted, the time frame covered, and what is included and excluded and be offered access through several approaches.<sup>1</sup> The works reviewed fulfill these standards to varying degrees and may either enhance or reduce the utility of a source to a particular scholar. Certainly, such major publishers as G. K. Hall, ABC-Clio, and Greenwood recognize the long-term contributions of these works; but publishers specializing in other fields may find the methodical detail necessary in reference works to be fussy embellishments that are attractive only to librarians. These publishers and editors operate under a mistaken assumption as to who their real users are.

### *Facts*

Three categories of fact books appear in this grouping: informational, biographical, and guides to archives and their holdings. Students should remember that because this kind of reference work provides quick answers to a diverse range of queries, sophisticated research questions might not necessarily require a monograph to provide information. Increasingly, some specialized fact books exist with the pertinent information. To start at the base level makes sense more often than supposed. Peter Janke's *Guerrilla and Terrorist Organizations* and John Keegan's *World Armies* illustrate this point. Both subjects are not

easily documented and require much preliminary work before graduating to detailed cases. Janke takes groups committed to the violent overthrow of a government (this criterion does not satisfactorily explain why national military forces are excluded) as well as clandestine and legal groups on both the right and the left operating since 1945. The descriptive summaries of each movement emphasize leadership, ideological links, a chronology of key events, and specific actions. In the bibliography, short comments accompany the citations of major monographs about a country or its guerrilla and terrorist movements. These citations should be considered a highly selective beginning point for future research. Because of the worldwide scope of *Guerrilla and Terrorist Organizations*, the bibliography is particularly helpful for comparative research purposes.

The necessary opposing question concerning terrorism is whether it is state-sponsored or condoned through death squads or the country's armed services. In Keegan's *World Armies*, many aspects of this institution are discussed in succinct essays for each country. The question of matériel receives attention, as does the often-shadowy role of the arms industries and information on recruitment, budget, and organization. What is particularly valuable about these essays is the emphasis on the domestic context with its historical, political, social, and military dimensions. The user quickly gains a factual basis of the army's organization and its role in the state; for more detailed information on armaments and the total military presence in a country, one would have to consult relevant volumes of Jane's *Infantry Weapons* (published since 1975), Jane's *Weapon Systems* (published for 1969–70 onward), and publications of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Keegan probably relied on such sources and others from individual countries and foreign governments, but the absence of any bibliography of nationally issued publications or other studies, when such information was accessible to the author, is an unfortunate omission that mars an otherwise useful addition to the literature.<sup>2</sup>

Another wide area of interest centers on business enterprises and the receptiveness of Latin American states to foreign capital. Despite the foreign debt and weakened domestic economies, publishers continue to produce works answering questions posed by potential investors. The *International Marketing Handbook* provides economic and commercial information collected by the International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. A broad interpretation of U.S. commercial interests includes facts on industry trends, marketing areas, utilities, transportation systems, and communications. Several other sections also merit noting, particularly by scholars requiring either quick access to statistics or an introductory survey. In the brief overview of sectors, basic information appears for the financial system,

trade regulations, and foreign investment. Sources of economic and commercial information provide the addresses of government agencies and key trade associations. The listing of U.S. government documents and specialized serials from and about each country is also a useful feature. Although restricted in coverage to Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Guatemala and Mexico, the *International Marketing Handbook* can save time in comparison with consulting a myriad of documents.

The biographical area has long been a focus of Latin American reference books because of the expectations set by the availability of similar works covering Western European countries and the United States. Seeking to record the lives of the same kinds of elites—national leaders, intellectuals, and professionals—these compilations provide access to individuals dominant long enough to merit the attention of biographers. Frequently unknown to foreign specialists, however, are many other contributors to a nation's life who for various reasons escaped biographical inclusion in the internationally accessible sources. To uncover the biographical details of individuals surrounding a president or contributing to an intellectual movement requires a specificity of identification that previous reference sources could not consistently provide. Recognizing this problem, Sara de Mundo Lo compiled the *Index to Spanish-American Collective Biography* (Volume 1 on the Andes, Volume 2 on Mexico, Volume 3 on Central America and the Caribbean, and Volume 4 on the Río de la Plata countries). Geographically arranged with subdivisions by subject, Volume 3 carries four thousand entries and includes citations for Puerto Ricans among the one hundred thousand biographies spanning the pre-Colombian period to the present. Based on monographs (but not journal articles) that cite biographical information, each work carries library location information. This union list should be appreciated by those seeking scarce titles while working far from a research library. Indices for authors, short titles, biographies, and geography further enhance the work. The excellent annotations throughout provide brief commentary for each title. Inclusion of all subject areas ranging from agriculture to literature to economics makes the *Index to Spanish-American Collective Biography* a permanent major contribution to Latin American reference sources.<sup>3</sup> Its thoroughness indeed facilitates scholarship.

Jack Ray Thomas's *Biographical Dictionary of Latin American Historians* provides a succinct discussion of the works, methods, sources, and objectives of historians deceased before 1983. For each individual, biographical information with career highpoints and contributions appear. A bibliography of works by and about the historian completes the entry. Citations are limited to six, however, regardless of the stature of the historian or the number of significant works written. Why this artificial

limit was imposed and the criteria for selecting these titles are not explained. Appendices include historians by country, professions held other than that of historian, and topical fields. As a sourcebook, this work is valuable, and Thomas enhances it with a lengthy essay identifying research trends, sources, and methods used by nineteenth-century Latin American historians. This kind of intellectual history is all too frequently lacking in fact books, thereby diminishing their utility. The clarity and overall quality of this biographical dictionary recommend it as a companion volume to Griffin's *Latin America: A Guide to the Historical Literature* and Cortés Conde and Stein's *Latin America: A Guide to Economic History, 1830–1930*.

In *Countries of the World and Their Leaders*, Gale Research Company offers a work based on the U.S. Department of State's *Background Notes on Countries of the World*, *Status of the World's Nations*, and other specialized U.S. government documents. The organization of this voluminous literature is a service appreciated by those desiring a quick overview on various sections of government. Arranged by country with subject area subdivisions, this work contains information on chiefs of state and cabinet members. The bibliography accompanying each country, however, is often outdated and marred by errors in spelling or bibliographic information. Much of the same information with better economic and political coverage can be found in *Kaleidoscope: Current World Data* (formerly *Deadline Data on World Affairs* for the years from 1956 to 1985), which provides continual updating. Nevertheless, Gale Research has demonstrated how much information can be compiled from an uncritical reading of U.S. government documents. *Countries of the World and Their Leaders* is useful for the purely factual questions of undergraduates.

Research in certain fields ultimately requires primary sources, and although North American and a few Western European libraries dominate with their massive collections of printed works, most archival holdings remain in Latin America, Spain, and Portugal. Difficulties and unexpected rewards alike await those able to plumb these repositories. Because of differing national and state laws on transferring record series to the archives as well as the hesitancy of private-sector owners of documentation to place their materials in state custody, the prospective user of archival collections must develop an accommodating strategy. In the case of public-sector documents, city, state, and national archives exist and generally do not restrict their collections to officially produced materials but also acquire some private-sector manuscripts.<sup>4</sup> Personal archives held by families, corporations, the church, or a variety of institutions are much more elusive and require special ingenuity. In all cases, advance preparation must precede visits, and anticipating working conditions along with special regulations is prudent. To help meet

these needs, many research libraries have developed comprehensive collections of guides to every archive that has published even the most rudimentary descriptions and user requirements. Failure to pursue these leads may well result in wasted time or even denied access. For these reasons, the three guidebooks reviewed are welcome additions to substantial, but incomplete, coverage of descriptions and access procedures to primary sources.

Ann K. Nauman's *A Handbook of Latin American and Caribbean National Archives* is a compendium providing a few paragraphs about the history, collections, cataloguing, and services of each national archive, as well as technical information on access. It exemplifies the kind of reference work that necessitates more detailed bodies of information.<sup>5</sup> Nauman's *Handbook* proves adequate as a starting point, but its value could be enhanced by a bibliography of the printed guides for collections. Some archives, or specific sections, have been covered in numerous articles and books, making appropriate citations of more than historical interest. Perhaps a revised edition will provide users with some of this pertinent bibliography.

In *Sources for West Indian Studies*, K. E. Ingram draws on his experience with collections in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the West Indies (Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and St. Kitts) to supplement his two earlier works, *Manuscripts Relating to Commonwealth Caribbean Countries in U.S. and Canadian Repositories* (1975) and *Sources of Jamaican History, 1655–1835* (1976). The nearly twelve hundred citations in the latest work reflect the strength of private-sector papers, particularly personal, literary, family, estate and plantation, church, and mission. Most citations carry helpful descriptive annotations suggesting the range of opportunities for comparative and interdisciplinary research in many of these archives. U.S. and Brazilian scholars studying slavery and plantation economy could profitably review these listings. By including both Old and New World collections, Ingram demonstrates the research potential of each and suggests why consulting sources in both areas can be rewarding. The erudition of this work should provide a prototype for other countries' efforts to identify and describe their public and private-sector archival holdings.

The *Guide to the Notarial Records of the Archivo General de Notarias, Mexico City* resulted from a pilot computerized project compiling name listings for 1829, 1847, and 1875.<sup>6</sup> Because this archive uses a chronological arrangement by the name of the notary, this vast source was previously cumbersome for most researchers. Compilers Robert Potash, Josefina Vázquez, and Jan Bazant extracted names of individuals, contractual status, gender, age, ethnic group, place of residence, and occupation. Cross-checks between such areas as partnerships, contracts for services, assets, and individuals are also possible. Relationships

heretofore surmised or fragmentarily documented can be confirmed: women's role in economic life can be scrutinized, and twisted personal and business links among Mexico's great families can be pursued. This guide relies on basic software; however, with a sophisticated program like SPIRES, storage and printing of information would not be affected by the present limitations. It is to be hoped that this guide will prove to scholars and archivists that enhanced access through computer application is feasible and likely to become the internationally accepted standard.

### *Statistics*

Although research frequently begins with fact books, the quest for additional information may lead to other groups of materials, among them, statistical compilations. Because they can consult a range of materials from the basic statistical abstract (and its enhancements) to specialized sectoral publications, Latin Americanists increasingly have at their disposal either citations carrying statistics or works extracted from national publications for specific time series. At the aggregate level, nearly all areas of legitimate intercourse are available. But the reliability of the figures and the lack of coverage for certain major activities from government surveys and collections (on such topics as contraband, capital flight, the narcotics trade, and nonspontaneous abortions) are questions that must always accompany critical reliance on any figures. Undercounts as well as overcounts may not always be accidental, whether in the colonial or the modern period.

Of the four statistical works reviewed, only one is exclusively Latin American in content (Wilkie's *Latin American Population and Urbanization Analysis*). It has become more common to include Latin America in works with an international or thematic scope; thus one should no longer assume that the only recourse for gathering data is through consulting the appropriate nationally issued publications. For aggregate-level data, the various United Nations and International Monetary Fund compilations exist.<sup>7</sup> Many of their time series and others compiled by different U.S. government agencies are available through computerized statistical base searches. For other kinds of searches, the *Index for International Statistics* may prove most efficient, especially because of its accompanying microfiche set of cited material. Even the *American Statistics Index* can yield statistics for Latin Americanists. With these options and the field's principal compilation (the *Statistical Abstract of Latin America* for 1955 on), any additions to the bibliography should provide new approaches or time series unavailable elsewhere.

In the eighth edition of *Statistics Sources*, Paul Wasserman and Jacqueline O'Brien draw on sources issued by the U.S. government



and intergovernmental organizations, on the *Statistical Abstract of Latin America*, and even on the publications of private-sector trade groups. Arranged by subject, each entry provides citations of publications in which the time series will be found along with the issuing body and its address. Of particular value is a listing of the primary financial source for each country with the publication's title and address. An annotated bibliography on key statistical sources can be the initial point for identifying what exists, regardless of whether other parts of *Statistics Sources* are consulted (pp. xi–xxx). A guide to on-line databases also appears in this section. In all, this two-volume set contains citations of statistical works for virtually every conceivable activity recorded in some published format. The sources cited can be found in any large academic library.

Macro-level coverage is also the objective of B. R. Mitchell's *International Historical Statistics: The Americas and Australasia*. Rather than cite the source for each time series as Wasserman does, Mitchell provides the actual data. Organized by general area (such as labor force, agriculture, industry, transportation and communications, education, population, and vital statistics), this compendium is bound to save much time for those engaged in single country or comparative research. As with similar works, this volume is generally based on official national and international statistics, but it differs from others in recognizing the problems of uniformity of data and definitions. Identifying the principal difficulties by sector for each time series is an important addition to this format. Further enhancements are the work's good qualifying footnotes. Because this work gives data from their earliest published appearance, students lacking access to a research library's collections of nationally issued statistical compilations will nevertheless be able to pursue any topics requiring historical statistics. For research exclusively at the national level, at least, no excuse now exists for failing to obtain obscure historical data collected in official sources.

As the title implies, the *Handbook of National Population Censuses* handles one of the fields of enduring interest to Latin Americanists. Covering the earliest censuses up to those of the 1970s as well as a few 1980s publications, Doreen Goyer and Eliane Domschke elevate the sophistication of compilation by discussing various aspects of a census and how it differs from other tabulations undertaken by national governments. The careful attention given to definitional questions, the conducting of a census, and methods of tabulation will endear this volume to those introducing students to various components of a census. For specific censuses, the authors provide useful annotations and indicate changes from preceding counts. The appendices focus on international population charts for countries and capital and major cities between 1945 and 1984, and the international topical charts include such subjects

as income, education, and fertility. Once again, the interests of comparative research are served. Consulting the *Handbook* in combination with the World Bank's *World Tables, 1980*, which covers 1950–1979, yields new insights and relationships and simplifies data collection. The enduring value of the *Handbook of National Population Censuses* is shown by its having been funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) that recognized the scholarly community's need for such a work.

In *Latin American Population and Urbanization Analysis*, another approach is successfully taken to questions involving human populations. Geographer Richard Wilkie employs computer graphics software and an intimate knowledge of the region to restate tabular material graphically. Given the abysmal level of geographic knowledge of North American secondary and college students, an innovative work like Wilkie's deserves to be consulted and integrated into social science courses and seminars. As a basic reference source for Latin Americanists, its value lies in the tables dealing with postwar urban topics, which naturally must go beyond the national aggregate time series constituting the other works reviewed. In contrast, this work focuses on provincial and municipal levels of information. A series of three-dimensional computer-produced maps, population cartograms, and population distributions all restate statistics in ways designed to illuminate relationships involving human populations and space. Surely the author will fulfill scholarly needs by preparing a supplement for the 1980s.

### *Bibliographies*

Whether living under authoritarian or democratic rule, Latin Americans continue to have their writings published by national or foreign commercial presses, government agencies, private-sector groups, or by clandestine means. For North American libraries, control of these publications is facilitated by two national bibliographic databases, the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN), which by the spring of 1987 contained more than twenty-two million book and serial records. For members of RLIN, access is available by subject, author, title, and series. Preparation of highly specialized bibliographies by drawing upon some of the world's greatest Latin American collections is now a technical reality. The only restrictions involve the number of works previously catalogued in non-machine-readable format that are not being converted as well as an institution's willingness to conduct a search and provide a printout. But because these databases (and others such as BorderLine of UCLA) are unlikely to become universally available, it is still necessary to prepare printed bibliographies to control the literature of a given

field.<sup>8</sup> For topics combining current and retrospective imprints or formats of materials rarely collected (such as posters, fliers, pamphlets, and tape recordings), specialized bibliographies remain important. Although compilers should rely increasingly upon computerized databases, caution must be exercised to avoid the delusion that everything worthwhile will be held by academic libraries contributing cataloguing copy to these national systems. The truth is that research libraries are unable to obtain everything they should. Quantities of publications with less research value are selected because they appear in standard commercial channels. Individual bibliographies of lasting utility will therefore be those prepared by subject experts intimately acquainted with the intellectual expression and publishing practices of a particular field. Only in these circumstances can critical judgment be accurately exercised in deciding whether to include or exclude citations.

The advent of computerized databases notwithstanding, traditional forms of bibliographies remain. Under review are examples of a bibliography of bibliographies, a national bibliography, and retrospective subject bibliographies. The field's two best ongoing current bibliographies, *The Handbook of Latin American Studies (HLAS)* and the *Hispanic American Periodical Index (HAPI)*, are not included in this essay because all Latin Americanists should be thoroughly familiar with their coverage and benefits for research.<sup>9</sup> While these invaluable bibliographies will continue providing a high percentage of the citations for most topics, more advanced or specialized research projects require perusing more detailed and comprehensive bibliographies.

In *The English-Speaking Caribbean: A Bibliography of Bibliographies*, compilers Alma Jordan and Barbara Comissiong have brought a dispersed and elusive literature under masterful control. By their count, 1,406 bibliographies on the Caribbean exist, and they are arranged here by discipline in the social sciences, humanities, and sciences. Included are national, regional, topical, retrospective, and current bibliographies. Brief annotations from examining the work accompany each citation. A particularly well-developed subject index complements the main index and may be used to identify which areas have received the most attention by writers. This bibliography is surely a fundamental contribution to scholarship, and its authors should be encouraged to prepare decennial supplements starting with 1981.

The *Jamaican National Bibliography, 1964–1974* consists of some thirty-three hundred items, including dissertations, books, and articles arranged in broad subject categories. The author and title index eases partly the lack of a specific subject index. Given the growth of interdisciplinary research interests, however, the compilers would be well advised to adjust their traditional practices and prepare better access points. As it is now, one cannot approach this work hoping to discover,

for example, all the publications about research on Jamaican women. One of the volume's strengths, in contrast, is its inclusion of government documents and a listing of newspapers and periodicals. One is left with the realization that the inadequate budgetary support received by national libraries and the often-lax enforcement of copyright deposit laws make some North American research libraries more likely to have collections equal or superior to national libraries, especially when considering publications not commercially available.

The overall usefulness of national bibliographies for scholarly purposes has become highly questionable.<sup>10</sup> Perhaps they can fulfill an important function in a country like Jamaica, with its solidly established tradition of research collections and relatively small publishing output. But for larger countries, particularly those without a commitment or statutory requirement to collect materials outside standard trade networks, the national bibliographies produced by these libraries will be little more than citations of government and commercial presses. They will continue serving a purpose, but the wider appeal and comprehensiveness of coverage implied by a national bibliography cannot be associated with them.

Joyce Waddell Bailey's and her coeditors' first two tomes of *The Handbook of Latin American Art* establish a promising beginning for an important bibliographic source. Organized geographically with subdivisions by subject, it covers publications from the late nineteenth century to July 1983 with citations of books, articles, anthologies, exhibition catalogues, and reports (published and unpublished). Its eleven thousand items represent selections from such sources as the *HLAS*, the Library of Congress shelflist, and the Museum of Modern Art Library's published catalogue. Why the subsequent holdings of that museum's outstanding Latin American archive were not evaluated for inclusion is not stated. The absence of *HAPI* in checking for relevant citations is also regrettable, especially given Bailey's expansive concept of art. Bailey lists not only works on folk and popular art, architecture, preservation and conservation, and cinema but those on urbanization. This last field includes technical and public policy works that have little, if any, bearing on aesthetic considerations. Certainly this category as well as cinema, which are covered elsewhere, could have excluded materials that are not art-related. Students of these fields are much more likely to consult bibliographies pertaining directly to their area than to seek a stray citation from a tangential discipline.

The space taken by urbanization and cinema could have been more appropriately used for improving coverage of art itself. It is unfortunate that Puerto Rican graphic arts are ignored. The ample documentation existing on such masters as Lorenzo Homar and their influence on the development of art on the island and elsewhere raises the hope

that future volumes will rectify this omission. Excluding Puerto Rico from a Latin American bibliography is to deny the continuing predominance and vitality of Hispanic culture in this U.S. possession. These limitations notwithstanding, the *Handbook* is a useful source for identifying what is written on a subject or an artist or by a particular individual. The NEH supported its preparation.

Another bibliographic benchmark is Alberto Villalón Galdames's *Bibliografía jurídica*.<sup>11</sup> Documenting the legal nuances of Hispanic society through official publications or commentary thereon often presents difficulties to nonlegal scholars. Because of the increasing interest in such areas as gender studies, children, civil rights, urbanization, environmental conditions, and ethnicity, the legal literature must be consulted. In this splendid volume, Villalón Galdames provides the kind of vision linking legal considerations to society that yields more than forty-two hundred citations covering law, public policy areas, governmental organizations, and related topics. Various indices classified by subject, place, nationality, and author enhance the overall usefulness of his work. Its citation of different formats of materials and its coverage from 1810 to 1965 guarantee that this bibliography will long remain the fundamental source for historical and topical research.

The breadth and comprehensiveness of these bibliographies make them the sources most likely to yield results to beginning as well as advanced students. The fact that most of these works relied upon accepted standards for their preparation establishes their reliability for coverage of the existing literature. It is also worth noting that collections in Latin America provided many of the citations in the *Bibliografía jurídica*, *The English-Speaking Caribbean*, and *The Jamaican National Bibliography*. Although fiscal resources and acquisitive powers of U.S. libraries may always exceed those of Latin American libraries, recognition must be given to the dedicated personnel of Latin American libraries and their ingenuity in developing research collections under circumstances that would challenge the patience of most North Americans.

The remaining bibliographies represent works with more limited time frames and in some instances, topical interests. Subject bibliographies that are not ongoing projects can be enormously useful if they adhere to high standards and provide access to literature not already organized and easily available to students. Because these bibliographies attempt to serve the interests of different levels of users, annotations of citations carry great importance for immediate use and for insuring a work's long-term research value. Because scholarly interest continues with additional publications, one must rely upon *HLAS* and *HAPI* for subsequent bibliography. With the increasing utilization of machine-readable databases for preparing bibliographies, supplements and other configurations combining subjects, format of materials, and

periodization will become more individualized as scholars and students ask librarians to conduct computerized searches. The conversion of retrospective citations into machine-readable format by the major national bibliographic utilities, combined with such principal ongoing bibliographies as the Modern Language Association of America's *MLA International Bibliography of Books and Articles on the Modern Languages and Literatures* and the Public Affairs Information Service's *Bulletin*, will change search strategies appreciably.

*Latin America, 1979–1983: A Social Science Bibliography* cites mainly English-language books and articles published between the summer of 1978 and September 1983. Even so short a period and the language restriction produce some thirty-seven hundred unannotated citations, organized by geographic area and country. Because no indication is given as to the sources used or the method or qualitative criteria for selection, use of this volume may well remain at the grossest of levels. Given these limitations, one is better advised to consult the individual volumes of the *HLAS*, with its highly detailed subject index and authoritative annotations.

In content and reliability, *Latin American Politics: A Historical Bibliography* is a work of enduring value. Covering the period from 1914 to 1981–82, it cites over three thousand articles written between 1973 and 1982, each with a critical annotation and most with an indication of sources, bibliography, and the number of notes in the article. Based on the ABC-Clio Information Service History Database, this work draws on more than two thousand periodicals issued worldwide. An excellent index by generic and specific terms enables quick identification of relevant citations. Because of its wide chronological coverage and exhaustive review of the serial literature, *Latin American Politics* merits consultation early in the bibliographic search stage. The preparation of this work was made feasible by the compiler's machine-readable database and a clear understanding of what constitutes a dependable reference source. For individuals and institutions lacking electronic access to these citations, the published work is a welcome addition and should be updated periodically with supplementary volumes.

Another benchmark is the Library of Congress Hispanic Division's *Human Rights in Latin America, 1964–1980: A Selected, Annotated Bibliography*. Containing more than eighteen hundred numbered items published by independent research centers, solidarity groups, exiles, professional organizations, and such internationally recognized agencies as the UN Human Rights Commission, the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty International, and the International Commission of Jurists, this bibliography is another form of testimony on man's inhumanity to man. By approaching the topic broadly, the compilers identified literature from law, theology, political theory, phi-

losophy, history, literature, and economics of a scholarly or polemical nature. Particularly valuable are citations for accounts of human rights violations and individual institutional responses. Even with the return of many governments to civilian hands, atrocities of the past and the present continue to be recorded. The appendix listing human rights organizations (principally in the United States and the United Kingdom) with their addresses and brief annotations will facilitate the identification of future publications. This bibliography will be useful at different stages of research and for comparative area work. Everyone concerned with studying the field is indebted to the Ford Foundation, the Latin American Studies Association, the Organization of American States, and the Library of Congress for enabling this work to be prepared.

In countries or fields experiencing rapid change, identifying and collecting potentially valuable sources are challenges that few research libraries consistently meet. Many publications are issued through non-commercial channels or even clandestinely, and important publishing activity occurs among exiles and solidarity groups outside the country involved.<sup>12</sup> Because of the potential importance of such materials, they merit acquisition and prompt entry into national computerized databases. An example of this kind of literature is found in David Krusé's and Richard Swedberg's *El Salvador: Bibliography and Research Guide*. Emphasizing coverage of works by those opposing U.S. and Salvadoran government policy, the compilers provide a sampling of books, articles, pamphlets, and government documents. The introductory paragraph to each topical section is not an adequate substitute for individual annotations. If annotating was judged impractical, then the short essays should have included the kinds of information listed in the *HLAS*, which identifies key literature, authors, and research trends. Given the emphasis on nonstandard sources, some guidance as to their significance or that of the issuing agency would have been helpful. Nevertheless, this bibliography does meet an immediate need and merits inclusion in the literature search phase.

Covering the literature of postrevolutionary regimes is somewhat easier than attempting to do so during revolutions. While the bibliographic record of contemporary El Salvador remains incomplete, that of Nicaragua appears to have relatively few lacunae and Cuba's is really quite thorough. State control of all publishing reduces the vagrancies present in a free market economy, and the Biblioteca Nacional "José Martí," with its *Bibliografía Cubana* (from 1917 on) and the *Indice General de Publicaciones Periódicas Cubanas* (for 1970 on), provides reliable identification of what the government is willing to report as existing. But even in a centrally planned economy with total government control over publishing, the country's national library is not assured of acquir-

ing every imprint.<sup>13</sup> As the object of concern by bibliographers for many years, Cuba continues to be one of the best controlled countries of the Americas (in a bibliographic sense). In *Human Services in Post-Revolutionary Cuba: An Annotated International Bibliography*, compiler Larry Oberg provides subject access to more than two thousand works drawn from journal articles, pamphlets, chapters of books, government publications, and dissertations. Especially useful are its sections on women and the family, which update Meri Knaster's *Women in Spanish America: An Annotated Bibliography from Pre-Conquest to Contemporary Times* (1977) and other fields such as ethnic minorities, public health, and housing. Oberg exploited computerized databases to find articles in national bibliographic utilities for monograph citations. Even so, such primary sources from Cuba's Dirección de Demografía as *Matrimonios* (1972–1979), *Divorcios* (1975–1981), *Defunciones Perinatales* (for 1977 on), *Defunciones* (for 1973 on), *Resumen de Estadísticas de Población* (1974 on), and even the important popular monthly *Opina* (published 1967–1970) of the Instituto Cubano de Investigaciones y Orientación de la Demanda Interna were missed. Greater attention to these admittedly scarce primary sources would provoke more insightful questioning and analysis of Cuban social conditions. Nevertheless, the subject index and citations indicate that this bibliography will advance research in an efficient manner.

### Summary

The beneficial effects of the electronic age on scholarship are fully evident in the various works reviewed. Yet scholars' recognition of the computer's full potential continues to lag far behind technological feasibility. Research can be facilitated greatly by computer applications that organize information. Compilers of reference works and scholars alike must develop the technical and financial expertise required to work effectively in a computerized environment. The continuing appearance of reference works that could have easily benefited from electronic database searches as well as those still prepared by card shuffling indicates that one cannot assume state-of-the-art practices among specialists preparing reference works. With the exception of certain commercial press practices, the preparation of bibliographies remains inefficient. Because such publications (as well as other types of reference works) possess a market potential different from other academic publishing, the honing of entrepreneurial skills is necessary. Greater coordination of perceived needs between the scholarly community (broadly defined) and the compilers and publishers of reference works would reduce both redundancy and qualitatively marginal works. Compilers should be expected to demonstrate their scholarly mastery over a



field as much as their ability to utilize the frontiers of technology in the compilation process. Furthermore, with the increasing stress on interdisciplinary and comparative research, authors and publishers of reference works must consider the multiple uses that are likely to occur and plan accordingly. Those consulting reference works should judge them sharply as to inadequacies or omissions. Reliability ought to become the dominant characteristic of these books and those designed to continue covering a particular topic. To meet these objectives, the NEH and several other funding agencies strive to insure that Latin Americanist scholarship will be served by works of enduring value. Judging from the books reviewed, which appear to represent the range being published, the relationships within disciplines and the connections between existing works need to be scrutinized more systematically if researchers are to achieve the kind of bibliographic control and coverage that technology suggests is possible.

The question remains whether the right kind of works will be written and made available for citation under conditions of economic instability and political intimidation. The essential goals are to preserve primary sources and to acquire secondary sources representing the entire spectrum of socioeconomic, political, and cultural activities, but these goals are difficult to achieve. Particularly important are regional and local imprints, micro-level studies, and publications of groups operating outside the channels of the commercial book trade. Compilers of reference works must accept these realities and endeavor to provide coverage. Various grids of cooperating libraries exist, but Latin America's precarious position in the budgetary priorities of many institutions suggests that bibliographic reliance will continue to rest on the few academic libraries that consistently maintain research-level collections. Much nationally and regionally coordinated work must be completed if Latin Americanists are to achieve efficient access to a substantial range of published sources represented by only a few copies in the United States.<sup>14</sup> The ultimate challenge is clear: only by consulting the diversity of opinion and expression that characterizes Latin America's past and present can understanding and analysis truly advance.

#### NOTES

1. A fuller discussion of these criteria can be found in Peter T. Johnson, "Bibliography: Current Practices and Future Trends," *LARR* 18, no. 1 (1983):254–55.
2. Still basic is Luigi Einaudi's and Herbert Goldhamer's "An Annotated Bibliography of Latin American Military Journals," *LARR* 2, no. 2 (1967):95–122. The Latin American Microform Project (LAMP) is sponsoring a selective microfilming project for these titles.
3. Sara de Mundo Lo received the José Toribio Medina Award in 1983 from the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Material (SALALM) for an earlier volume.

4. The Cuban Archivo Nacional contains an impressive section of private-sector papers that reverted to the government when their owners were exiled. A separate card catalogue lists these materials. As of 1979 (when I visited this archive), no printed guide existed. Government agencies are scheduled to transfer their records after thirty years to the Archivo Nacional.
5. For example, see the *Research Guide to Andean History: Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1981); *Research Guide to Central America and the Caribbean* (Madison, Wis.: University of Wisconsin Press, 1985); and David P. Werlich, *Research Tools for Latin American Historians: A Select, Annotated Bibliography* (New York: Garland Publishing, 1980).
6. In addition, see Josefina Zoraida Vázquez and Pilar Gonzalbo Aizpuru, *Guía de protocolos del Archivo General de Notarías de la Ciudad de México, año 1836* (Mexico City: Centro de Estudios Históricos, Colegio de México, 1985), which contains 2,870 entries representing 10,964 individuals, of which 2,168 are women.
7. For example, the UN's *Yearbook of National Account Statistics* (for 1957 on) and *Demographic Yearbook* (for 1948 on); the Food and Agriculture Organization's *Production Yearbook* (for 1958 on); the International Monetary Fund's *Balance of Payments Yearbook* (for 1938 on), and *International Financial Statistics* (for 1948 on).
8. BorderLine is a consortium of libraries along the U.S. and Mexican border that built a comprehensive on-line information retrieval service with NEH support. As of spring 1987, the database had over sixty-two hundred items for the social sciences, humanities, and sciences. It will appear in book form.
9. Dolores M. Martin, Editor of *HLAS*, and Barbara Valk, Editor of *HAPI*, received the José Toribio Medina Award from SALALM for their contribution to Latin American studies.
10. Interviews in 1983 and 1985 with national library administrators in Chile and Brazil revealed that literature produced outside legal-deposit commercial channels by political parties, feminist groups, and human rights organizations (among others) was not collected because these libraries had no legal obligation to do so or because no space existed for such items. In contrast, see the *Bio-bibliografía Boliviana* (1963– ), which is compiled annually by Werner Guttentag and published by Los Amigos del Libro in La Paz, Bolivia. Guttentag received the José Toribio Medina Award in 1985.
11. Volume 1 of the *Bibliografía jurídica de América Latina (1810–1965)* was published in 1969 in Santiago by Editorial Jurídica de Chile; Volumes 3 and 4 are forthcoming.
12. For Nicaragua, see *Por el rescate democrático de Nicaragua* (published in San José, Costa Rica) and *DC Info* (published in Brussels); for Paraguay, *Síntesis* (published in Mexico City); and for Colombia, *M-19* (published in Mexico City).
13. Interview with María Lastayo, former head of selection and exchange at the Biblioteca Nacional "José Martí," in Havana, 27 March 1979.
14. The Latin American Microform Project (LAMP) is one of the most successful institutional cooperative networks in collection development and preservation.