

# IN THE NEWS

## New videos on Namibia and apartheid

The United Nations Information Centre has announced a new feature production on video entitled *Namibia: Independence (The First Phase)*.

This 27-minute film shows the arrival and deployment of the UN Transitional Group (UNTAG) to ensure Namibia's independence through UN-supervised free and fair elections. It is a perspective through the eyes of the personnel involved — military, police and civilians.

The Information Centre has also recently acquired *Asimbonanga*, a 6-minute video of an animated montage of still photographs choreographed to the song 'Asimbonanga', sung by Joan Baez. It is a powerful and moving illustration of the cause and struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

Other new videos include one on the debt crisis in Africa — a look at Zambia and its disagreements with the international banking community; and *African Recovery*, a film about how the people of Sahelian Africa are recovering from the catastrophic drought of the mid-80s.

To borrow any of the UN Information Centre's videos or films, or for further information, please contact the Film Librarian, Toni Smith, telephone (02) 283 1133 x26.

## Pegasus — the Australian alternative

### The system

Pegasus is an Australian alternative database host provider. Operational since September 1989, the network already has more than 200 Australian corporate and individual subscribers and is growing rapidly.

Pegasus is also the Australian mode of EarthNet, a global computer-based progressive communications system. Through EarthNet, international networks such as PeaceNet and EcoNet (USA), GreenNet (Europe), The Web (Canada), IBASE (Brazil) and many other emerging networks can be accessed instantly.

### The service

A huge range of users and groups can be contacted through EarthNet. For instance, scores of environment, human rights, peace, public-interest and new-age groups can be contacted online.

There are also hundreds of 'conferences'. These are sophisticated bulletin boards where users can write new topics or respond to previous items. They are invaluable forums for disseminating information and facilitating global, national and local communications.

Gateways to Vitel, OTC Intelnet and Keylink are available as well.

### Access

Access is via modem through the Pegasus computer system in Byron Bay. An annual subscription is \$30. The basic monthly fee is \$12, which includes the first hour of off-peak use each month. Additional connect time is charged at 13 cents per minute off-peak, and 27 cents per minute peak time, inclusive of all telephone and data-transmission charges.

Further information and subscriptions can be obtained from Pegasus Networks, PO Box 424, Byron Bay, NSW 2481; telephone (066) 85 6789.

## Dial-in to OPAC

'Dial-in' access to the Brisbane College of Advanced Education (BCAE) Resource Centre's Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) is now available.

Using a personal computer equipped with a modem, the Catalogue can be accessed for the cost of a phone call. (STD charges apply outside Brisbane.)

The number to dial into the database is (07) 357 5885. Access is available any time, except between 5 pm Friday and 1 pm Saturday.

A brochure and further information can be obtained from Geoff Collins, Systems Librarian; telephone (07) 352 8381.

## Barr Smith installs DYNIX

Following an extensive series of tests of a number of hardware platforms — using upwards of 300 terminals on a database of 517 000 records without stop words — the Barr Smith Library chose an Encore Multima 520 computer (UNIX) to replace its successful but ageing inhouse systems BIBLION and CIRCON.

The DYNIX configuration for the Barr Smith Library is one of the largest in the world. It will become operational in various stages over the next few months, with priority being placed on cataloguing, OPAC and circulation. Acquisitions and the newly released serials modules will be brought up within the first 6 months of 1990.

For the technically minded, the configuration installed comprises two dual processors, 48 MD of memory, 3.15 G bytes of disc capacity, and annex terminal servers to support 128 terminals. An addition of up to sixteen processors is possible within the same cabinet.

The system will be linked to the University's Ethernet network, permitting campus-wide and external access; communication with the Australian Bibliographic Network will employ a Datacraft TCP/18 to SNA gateway processor.

The DYNIX system is able to run on UNIX hardware through the U Max V operating system and the Universe applications environment software (to cater for PICK).

Patrick Condon

Acting University Librarian  
Barr Smith Library, University of  
Adelaide



8 Birthday girl Jo-anne Fuller hurries Champagne Charlie along with the celebratory drinks as Tom McKeon and Thelma Hutchins drool at the sight of cake and champagne.

## African Club needs support

The K. Executive Club in Uganda is a non-profit-making organisation. Its objectives are to establish reading libraries in the country containing technical and non-technical information for all ages; and provide volunteer services, and materials and utensils, to the poor.

It seeks both used and new books on all subjects, periodicals, novels, newspapers, reference books, directories, magazines, cassettes, video tapes, bedding, shoes and clothing, and any other materials you think may be of value. The Club also has an international penpal exchange service.

Any help you can give, large or small, will be gratefully received. Materials, or correspondence about penfriends, should be sent to: M.J. Collins, K. Executive Club, PO Box 3092, Kampala, Uganda, East Africa.

## The KOALA Guide to CDATA 86

At last help is at hand for the average librarian, student, lecturer or teacher who needs access to CDATA 86 but

finds its complexities unfathomable. The solution? The KOALA Guide to CDATA 86!

The CDATA 86 package — an Australian CD-ROM product — contains the 1981 and 1986 population and housing census data. It gives the number of people in each part of Australia, their demographic and ethnic profiles, what they do, and how they live. It covers everything from the age of the population to housing, incomes and occupations. These data are accessible through the system's own Supermap retrieval software, and may be displayed as tables or coloured maps.

But there is just one problem — CDATA 86 is difficult to use! There are statisticians and researchers who spend hours every working day (and night) absorbed in CDATA 86 and, for them, its complexities are a delight.

The KOALA Guide to CDATA 86 is now supplied free with any copy of CDATA 86 purchased through Knowledge Online and Library Automation, but may be ordered separately. It consists of a printed manual and more than 300 files on diskettes to copy into new CDATA 86 user spaces.

Having the KOALA Guide to CDATA 86 on your computer's hard

disk is the equivalent of having hundreds of hours work by a CDATA 86 expert at your fingertips. Everything the beginner needs to know about CDATA 86 is included, and it is possible to extract meaningful information, both as tables and maps, within minutes of first switching on.

The Guide includes prepared:

- **Expressions** — from the simplest persons per square kilometre to multi-column analyses of the workforce;
- **Regions and base maps** for all of Australia — the States, the capitals, major cities and provincial towns, suburbs, shires and local areas — all perfectly drawn and clearly labelled;
- **Instant super maps** that can be displayed moments after switching on, covering total population, groups, percentages, population density;
- **Naming conventions** for expressions, regions, basemaps and tables that will prevent confusion in such a large user space;

For further information, contact Knowledge Online and Library Automation (KOALA), 37 Velvet Street, Blacksoil, Queensland 4306; telephone (07) 201 8420.



## A small indication of the areas of our expertise.

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Upgrades to the Libs 100 system in the Melbourne University will make it Australia's most powerful academic library computer.

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CLSI (Australia) Pty. Ltd.  
The Victorian Technology Centre,  
275-283 Normanby Rd., Port Melbourne,  
Vic 3207 Australia.  
Tel. (03) 647 9780 Fax. 647 9799