

LIBER Security Conference

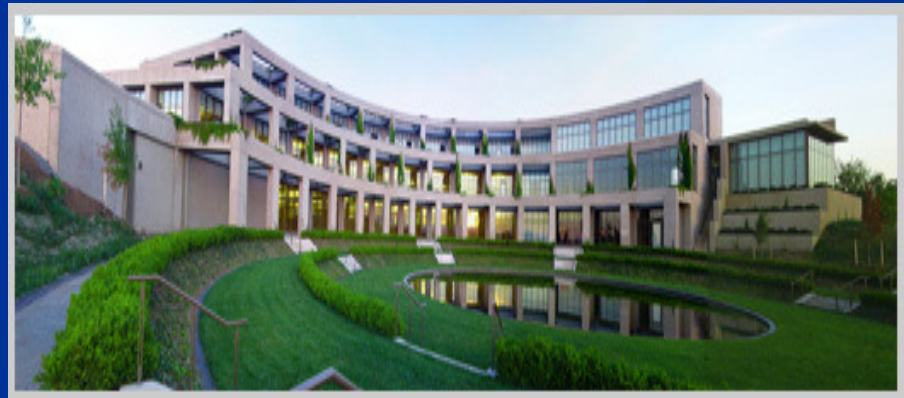
Inspector General
The Library of Congress, USA

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- National Library
- Copyright Office, Congressional Research Service, Law Library, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
- 138 million items: 32m books & serials, 61m manuscripts, 13m prints & photos, 5m maps, 3m sound recordings & 1m moving images

Library of Congress Facilities

- USA facilities in Washington, Virginia & Maryland
- Overseas operations in Egypt, India, Indonesia, Brazil, Kenya & Pakistan



Role of the Inspector General

- An independent office within the Library
- Conducts Investigations and Audits
- Jurisdiction includes Library property including thefts & mutilations
- Investigative tools include issuing subpoenas to Internet providers and auction houses, executing search warrants & making arrests
- Reports to the Librarian and Congress

Brief History of Collections Security

- The accessibility/security tradeoff
- Initial threat – Fires of 1814 and 1851
- Realization of theft – 2% of collections missing in 1861, major theft in 1896
- Threat of War – WW II temporary relocation
- Guard force gets police powers, TV monitors & additional automation of fire and theft systems

Brief History (continuation)

- Manuscript theft – In 1987 by noted scholar, highly publicized; entrance and exit inspections & staff identification badges introduced
- More thefts, mutilations – Books, manuscripts & maps in early 1990s; closed stacks to the public, formation of Collections Security Oversight Committee
- Long-term & comprehensive reassessment – Reader registration, Director of Security, comprehensive security plan, detection devices

Current Collections Security Program

- Strategic Collections Security Plan – Defines hierarchy of five risk levels (platinum to copper); identifies five cycles (in-process, in-use, in-storage, in-transit & on exhibit); establishes priority order of baseline protection
- Preservation Security Framework – Aligns with UNESCO model; addresses environment, emergency preparedness and response, storage, handling, needs assessments, physical treatment, and reformatting; also includes scenarios for sheltering in place and relocation, and personnel security operations (background investigations)

Security Program (continuation)

- Facilities Security – 1990s and subsequent national security incidents prompted metal detection screening, x-ray screening, bollards, vehicle searches & pop-up barriers at garage entrances; full screening of staff after 9/11 attacks
- Inventory Management Plan – Begun in 2002 and ongoing, about 20% completed
- Security Awareness Program – Launched year-long campaign in 2007

Security Program (continuation)

- Integrated Library System – Very significant aspect of security program for item tracking and inventory management, compliments baseline inventory project; supplements risk assessments, Security Office site assistance visits, and other bibliographical, inventory, preservation & physical security controls
- Are we done? – Notwithstanding all this progress, there are still needed improvements

IG Collections Security Activities

- Advisor - Collections Security Oversight Committee
- Audits – Initiated a series of reviews to assess risk and randomly sample collections to test security improvements and establish baselines
- Other Reviews – Additional work has assessed other aspects of inventory, bibliographic, and physical collections security controls

IG Collections Security Activities

(continuation)

- 2008 Audit Initiatives – Validate “Top Treasures,” evaluate physical security & baseline the existence and condition of rare books
- Future Audits – Continue baseline reviews; security of digital-born collections (audit & certification reviews)

IG Collections Security Activities

(continuation)

- Investigations – Leads from dealers: case involving Library employee, made arrest & recovered 30 rare books, Library helped establish provenance
- Investigations – Thefts of *London Daily Times* plates, searched residence & recovered dozens of additional items, judge ordered restitution

Conclusion

- Today's Capability – Sophisticated and comprehensive collections management and external physical controls
- Today's Challenge – Evolving and expanding stewardship responsibilities
- Moving Forward Collectively – Building on our experience