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Report on Literature Search,  
Documentation and Related Information  
on Mauritania

Submitted to:

Rural Assessment-Manpower Study/Mauritania  
U.S. Agency for International Development

By:

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## INTRODUCTION

Since the available data base of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (GIRM) is very limited and since no adequate organized documentation center exists in Mauritania, it is extremely difficult to obtain information for the entire planning process.

A team of experts is planning to complete over a period of two years a major assessment of the Rural Sector and related manpower and employment factors which is the Mauritania "RAMS" (Rural Assessment-Manpower Study) Project.

This project will consist of carrying out a program of studies and related Policy Papers in Mauritania to be executed by a United States contractor working in collaboration with the Ministry of Planning and Mines and other relevant Ministries of the GIRM.

Prior to the arrival of the group of experts, under a contract with AID (AID/Afr-C-1428), the writer of this report undertook a literature and documentation search for the RAMS Project in order to provide background information for the project and to identify materials and studies available in the fields of (or related to) social organization, history, manpower, employment, natural resources, population, health, nutrition and all aspects of rural development and agriculture.

The time under which this was to be accomplished was only six months-- a very short period in which to locate materials in the United States, Europe and West Africa, to reproduce the necessary materials and to set up a documentation center in Mauritania.

This report, submitted to fulfill the contractual requirements, is a summary of activities and includes a brief description of all institutions

visited. It is hoped, that the identification of organizations, research centers and persons having information on or about Mauritania will be useful not only to the RAMS team and the GIRM but to all doing research and working with development projects in Mauritania.

This report is divided into four parts. The first three deal with my activities in the United States, in Europe, and in West Africa, primarily Mauritania. The last section is a brief description of the RAMS Documentation Center, which was the result and objective of the search that had taken place.

In addition, there are five annexes which list organizations and research centers not mentioned in the report, which could be potential sources of information and documents for researchers addressing themselves to the problems of Mauritanian development. The fifth annex lists the names of officials in the GIRM as of November 1978.

## I. THE U.S. PHASE OF THE PROJECT

The first phase of the contract was based in Washington, D.C. and included visits to research centers in other parts of the United States. This phase began on May 2, 1978 and ended on July 28, 1978, during which period I was able to devote 40 days to the RAMS Project.

The period in Washington included the following:

1. Briefing by AID personnel and others from the Mauritanian Embassy, the French Embassy, etc.
2. Investigation of equipment needs and the purchasing and shipping of equipment to Mauritania.
3. Working with numerous data bases in order to identify documents.
4. Identification of research centers, libraries, persons in the U.S. and abroad having materials and/or information on Mauritania.
5. Literature search in the Washington, D.C. area, as well as work with research centers and persons outside the Washington area.
6. Trips to New York, Los Angeles and Riverside, California, Chicago and East Lansing, Michigan.
7. Arranging for the reproduction of materials (photocopies or microfiches).
8. Accessing the documents received from the U.S. and Canada and preparing them for shipment to Mauritania.

1. The following persons were contacted in May and June 1978:

### AID Staff

Doris Mason, AFR/DR/HR

Allen Reed, AFR/CAWA

James Bingen, Sahel Development Program

Barney Chessen, former Mauritania desk officer

Allen Hoben, PPC/PDPR/CP

Albert Printz, Special Assistant, AA/PPC

Sam Rea (now in Paris)

Dean Schreiner, DS/AGR/ES

Norman Ulsaker, AFR/DR/AB

John A. Grayzel (now in Mauritania)

Robert Klein, DIR, OAR/MAURITANIA

Charles Edwards, OAR/MAURITANIA

Others

Charles Easton, Mauritania Political Officer, Department of State --  
gave a briefing on the present political  
situation.

Assane Diop, Directeur du Plan, GIRM--at a very brief  
meeting, stressed the need for information on any subject.

Morris Solomon, USDA--informed me of his findings on Mauritania  
through the USDA data base. During a visit to Mauritania,  
he tried unsuccessfully to find out what materials from this  
data base were available in Mauritania. We further discussed  
the computerized system used by his division, its application  
to the RAMS Project and his willingness to assist once the  
system has been set up by his division. Catherine Lewin  
promised to send information regarding the system when available.

André Carrière, French Embassy--gave valuable information on the  
French position and provided contacts in France and some  
materials.

Bocar Mamadou Wane, Counselor, Embassy of Mauritania--said he would provide me with a list of materials available at the Embassy, but the list was never received.

Jenifer Ward, Chief of Research, House Subcommittee on Africa, U.S. Congress--suggested sources, particularly in Dakar.

Constance Hilliard, African-American Scholars Council--an Arabist who has done historical research on the Senegal river area dealing with migration.

Paul Clifford, International Voluntary Service (IVS)--discussed the problems IVS has had in Mauritania and gave me their reports.

Elizabeth Stewart, University of Illinois, Urbana (who came to Washington)--. She is the co-author of Islam and Social Order in Mauritania and spent some time in Mauritania in the late 1960s. She was most helpful with contacts in Paris, information on French bookshops that might have Mauritanian materials and indicated that the University of Illinois has a Mauritania collection (which I was not able to visit).

2. A microfiche reader was purchased and arrangements were made to ship it to Nouakchott where it arrived in slightly damaged condition. A small tape recorder to tape interviews, and special file boxes to protect the documents from sand, dust and other damage were purchased and shipped to Mauritania.

An investigation of the best information systems, and discussions with personnel at the UN, Brookings Institution, AID and others who have had experience with documentation projects in the Sahel, resulted in the decision not to set up a computerized information retrieval system at

this time. After studying various semi-automatic systems, a decision was made to use the SCAN-MATCH card, as this involves the least amount of clerical work (trained secretarial staff, particularly those with library and/or documentation training, are not available in Mauritania). This system could be easily computerized as it is based on the Uniterm system, which is related to systems used by FAO, ILO, OECD, etc. The necessary cards were purchased and shipped.

3. The following data bases were searched for appropriate materials for the RAMS/Mauritania Project:

1. AGRICOLA (National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland)
2. BIOSIS PREVIEWS (Bio-Sciences Information Service of Biological Abstracts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
3. CAB ABSTRACTS (The Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaus, Farnham Royal, Slough, England)
4. ENVIRONINE (Environment Information Center, New York)
5. EPB (Environmental Studies Institute, Santa Barbara, California)
6. ERIC (National Institute of Education, Washington, D.C.)
7. NTIS (National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, Virginia)
8. OCEANIC ABSTRACTS (Environmental Sciences Information Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, D.C.)
9. PAIS INTERNATIONAL (Public Affairs Information Service International, New York)
10. SCISEARCH (Institute for Scientific Information, Philadelphia)
11. SOCIAL SCISEARCH (Institute for Scientific Information, Philadelphia)
12. SOCIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS (San Diego, California)

13. AQUATIC SCIENCE AND FISHERIES ABSTRACTS (FAO, Rome and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO)
14. COMPENDEX (Engineering Index, New York)

With the exception of AGRICOLA (see below, USDA-p.8), most of these data bases resulted in only a few useful items. BIOSIS, AQUATIC SCIENCE ABSTRACTS and OCEANIC ABSTRACTS resulted in numerous citations which, after careful scrutiny, were not considered very useful for the RAMS Project.

#### 4. Visits to research centers and libraries.

##### A. Washington, D.C.:

##### African Bibliographic Center, 1346 Connecticut Avenue

The African Bibliographic Center is a non-profit organization begun in 1963 with the principal objective of meeting informational needs on African affairs in the United States and abroad on a multimedia basis. The Center has developed from a bibliographical service into a multifaceted information organization, providing high quality research and analytic surveys on a contractual basis to such institutions as the World Bank, AID, and the Ford Foundation. Additional capabilities are in the fields of Africana library development, publishing, film-making, mass communications, and conference and symposium development. The director is Daniel G. Matthews.

##### International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

At the World Bank I had interviews with Ms. Ono of the Mauritanian desk, and Jean E. Gorse who has dealt with agricultural problems in Mauritania. Mr. Gorse was also a staff member of the Bureau pour le Développement de la Production Agricole (BDPA) in Paris and spent several years in Mauritania. He gave me some BDPA documents. Ms. Ono reviewed the

program of the bank, which includes the following projects: livestock, drought, education, irrigation, road infrastructure, port infrastructure, planning and assistance to SONADER. (For complete information, see document D-139 of the RAMS Documentation Center: UNDP - Country Program for Mauritania.)

#### Library of IBRD

This was an excellent source of information on economics, agriculture and to some extent rural development. Unfortunately, the bank does not easily lend its materials to outsiders, and some documents are confidential. Nevertheless, through my work at the International Food Policy Research Institute, I was able to obtain about 40 items from IBRD which were reproduced.

#### The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI),

1776 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

IFPRI (where I was working) yielded a few items dealing with food production and consumption, as well as forestry, in Mauritania and the Sahel.

#### USDA National Agricultural Library

Mr. Robert L. Birch gave assistance in the search for documents on Mauritania. Although the data base listed about 200 items, only about one-third of these were useful to the project. Several days of searching in Beltsville, where the materials are supposed to be available, resulted in the reproduction of about 40 documents.

#### Library of Congress (LC)

The following files and divisions of the Library of Congress were searched:

- a) LCCC -- The LC Computerized Catalogue
- b) BIBL -- The Bibliographic Citation file
- c) The Library of Congress Card Catalogue
- d) The Africa Section

LC is relatively rich in materials relating to general history, but has less material on sociology and anthropology. Publications cannot be taken from the Library and all duplication had to be done at LC. Moreover, because of the new copyright law, many materials could not be reproduced.

Another major problem in doing research at LC was that usually about half of the items requested were not on the shelves and therefore, even though identified, were not available for reproduction during the two months that I was in Washington.

#### The AID Reference Center and Technical Assistance Bureau

The Reference Center had a few AID reports relating to Mauritania, as well as various other materials. Ellen Boissevain assisted with the computer terminal.

#### B. New York:

Estelle Aubin of the UN-AID Development Office was helpful in making appointments at different UN offices.

#### United Nations Sahelian Office (UNSO)

I met with Leonard Maynard, Deputy Director of the UNSO, and Norman Lauzon, Project Coordinator. They explained the work and structure of the UNSO and its relationship to CILLS. Their program includes a transportation study dealing with feeder roads and equipment; equipment and the maintenance of rural wells; construction of a storage infrastructure; and one project providing seeds for Mauritania.

#### United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

The Mauritania Desk Officer, Mr. To Van Tong, briefed me on the five year country program, 1977-81, for which 9.7 million dollars have been allocated. About 43% of this is related to rural development. He discussed the Kaedi project and gave me the names of people involved in

Kaedi. Later I obtained more information and the documentation from FAO in Rome.

Other UNDP programs relate to the strengthening of agrometeorological and hydrological structure, fisheries development and water resources utilization. (See D-139: Country Programme for Mauritania; UNDP Assistance Requested by the Government of Mauritania for the Period 1977-81.)

#### United Nations Statistical Office

Leo Goldstone, Senior Adviser, briefed me on their program in Mauritania and referred me to various people in Geneva. We also discussed Mauritania's computer capacity. He did not think the available computer would be available for the RAMS documentation project. I visited the Statistical Office Library, which had hardly anything on Mauritania. Indeed, almost all libraries and research centers in the U.S. receive very little from Mauritania.

I had a brief telephone conversation with Ahmed Ould Sid'Hamid, Counselor of GIRM to the UN.

#### New York Public Library

A rich source for historical and sociological materials is in the New York Public Library. However, the rules and regulations and its large holdings do not make it a very fruitful place for research within the limited time that I had in New York. I was unable to get copies of extremely valuable materials, such as P. Marty's writings, because of the strict enforcement of the copyright policies.

#### American Geographical Society

This is an excellent source for maps and publications dealing with geography, geology, sociology and anthropology. The materials, however, are not very recent.

African Imprints Library Service, Bedford, New York

This organization provides services in acquisition of a large number of African publications. Since their contact in Mauritania had left some time ago, they had very few documents that were useful.

TAMS Engineers and Architects, 345 Park Avenue, New York

I went to see Robert Koester, who had assisted the documentation center of the Interafrican Committee for Hydraulic Studies/Comité Inter-africaine d'Etudes Hydrauliques (ICHS/CIEH), of which Mauritania is one of 12 members. Mr. Koester had ordered materials for ICHS and helped to develop it in Ouagadougou. He gave me valuable suggestions regarding sources in the U.S., Europe and Africa and discussed some of the problems that the ICHS center had with equipment, particularly getting its microfiche reader serviced.

This center covers material in the disciplines of agricultural land use, range management, forestry, demography, hydrology, hydrogeology, meteorology, etc.

C. California:

University of California, Riverside, Moisture Utilization in Semi-Arid Tropics (MUSAT)

I met with the project director, Dr. Glenn H. Cannell, and worked closely for one and a half days with Doris Illes, the Project Librarian, who was extremely cooperative and made my search very productive by having her entire staff at my disposal.

This may be one of the best centers in the United States for information relating to agriculture in Mauritania. The center is extremely well organized. There is a computerized bibliographic information base using TRIM (Technique for Report Index Management) which includes over 10,000

citations. Emphasis is placed on semi-arid tropics with focus on the Sahel region in Africa. For the Sahel region topics such as geography, climatology, hydrology and village studies are included.

The geographical index developed in this program has been published by G. K. Hall & Co., 70 Lincoln Street, Boston, Massachusetts. The title of the publication is A Bibliography of Moisture Utilization and Agricultural Development in Semi-Arid Tropics: Summer Rainfall Agriculture.

MUSAT has cooperative programs with ORSTOM and IRAT in Europe. A computerized directory of individuals and organizations engaged in research and field work in dryland farming in the semi-arid tropics is being developed, which could be very useful to the work of the RAMS/Mauritania team.

#### Other Sources in California:

The Ed Mungar Library in Pasadena and Patricia Eaton of the African Library at The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) were contacted but seemed to have little on Mauritania.

#### D. Additional Sources Consulted:

Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies (Africana),  
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60201

Hans E. Panofsky is the Curator and Mette Shayne, the Francophonic Specialist. Africana is especially strong in the humanities and social sciences. Included within the scope of the collection are publications in a broad range of time periods and languages. There are about 80,000 catalogued volumes and a large uncatalogued collection consisting primarily of government publications. Although materials from sub-Saharan Africa are more heavily emphasized, I was able to get valuable materials relating to Mauritania. Indeed, only my limited time forced me to be very selective, and I suggest that anybody who needs more information on the historical

and cultural aspects of Mauritania should spend some time at this library.

Cooperative Africana Microform Project (CAMP)

CAMP is a cooperative organization which owns and administers a collection of microforms located at the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago. Publications relating to Africa and of special scholarly interest, such as rare and out-of-print materials, have been microfilmed. Only about half a dozen materials relate to Mauritania, including the hard-to-get work of Paul Marty. Unfortunately, though I ordered the microfilm, it never arrived, despite numerous inquiries.

Sahel Documentation Center (SDC), International Library,  
Michigan State University (MSU), East Lansing, Michigan 48824

The Sahel Documentation Center now serves as a resource base for MSU's program of work in the Sahel. The SDC has embarked upon an ambitious and vigorous program of acquisitions of books, official papers, reports and other published and unpublished documentary sources on the Sahel area from around the world, with emphasis on socio-economic changes, including agricultural planning and development, agricultural marketing, rural conditions, small-scale industries, fisheries and livestock, human resources development, food storage, transfer of technology, price policy and other activities identified as topics of major consequence and essential to planning for long-term development in the Sahel region. The Sahel Documentation Center publishes the Sahel Bibliographic Bulletin, which is very useful. In addition to some 50,000 volumes and 2,000 microforms on Africa held in the Research, Science, and Microform libraries, there are about 16,000 pamphlets and other ephemeral materials.

Dr. Eugene deBenko, Director of the International Library, and Joseph J. Lauer, the Editor of the Sahel Bibliographic Bulletin, were extremely helpful in guiding me to useful documents relating to Mauritania,

which I was able to reproduce at MSU. Carl K. Eicher, Agricultural Economics Project Director, was not available, but I had a chance to talk with him by telephone at a later time.

The following centers and persons were not visited but contacted by telephone and/or correspondence:

International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Box 8500, Ottawa, Canada

Although they have a good collection on the Sahel, they have little on Mauritania. Frances Delany and Marilyn Schaeffer were contacted and sent me their data base on ILO and FAO documents on Mauritania.

Institute for Developmental Anthropology, P.O. Box 45, West View Station, Binghamton, New York 13905

Dr. Michael Horowitz and his assistants reproduced their holdings on Mauritania for me, as well as some other interesting items which would be of value to the RAMS Project. I was unable, however, to receive copies or reproductions of many documents that I wanted, because Dr. Horowitz was leaving the United States and the Institute was closing for the summer.

African Studies Libraries, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts

Gretchen Walsh, the librarian who was formerly with the Sahel Documentation Center at Michigan State University, sent me copies of their catalogue cards dealing with Mauritania. Most items primarily in the social sciences, however, I had been able to obtain elsewhere.

Harvard University

I was not able to visit the Harvard University Library but believe that it is a good source for books on Mauritania, though it is doubtful that much more is there than is available at the Library of Congress,

New York Public Librsry and Northwestern University. I had a meeting with Max Goldensohn, an anthropologist from Harvard Univeřsity who had spent several years in Mauritania as director of the International Voluntary Service. He gave me much useful information and some documents.

I also talked to André Danière, who had done some studies relating to training and employment in Mauritania and who was a member of the Harvard Mandate in Planning, Evaluation and Assistance in 1977.

Center for Research and Economic Development (CRED), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dr. Elliot Berg, the director, and Carol Wilson, librarian, were able to send me some bibliographies and a few reports produced by CRED.

Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

Mr. W. H. M. Morris has had experience in Mauritania and seems to have a collection of documents, though I was unable to see them.

University of Minnesota

I telephoned Mr. Malcolm Purvis, who said that his reports would be available in Mauritania.

For a list of other U.S. institutions and organizations that may have further information on Mauritania, since they have African programs, see Annex I.

## II. EUROPE

The second phase of the project, which lasted about 40 days, took place in Europe. Countries visited in order to continue the search for literature and to obtain information from persons and organizations having knowledge on Mauritania included the Netherlands, France, Switzerland and Italy.

### A. The Netherlands:

Royal Tropical Institute (Koninklijk Instituut voor de Tropen),  
Postgiro 24548, Amsterdam

The Institute publishes the Sahel documentatie four times a year, which has about 100 titles dealing with documents relating to the Sahel. There are a few items in each issue on Mauritania, and I obtained the first four volumes of this publication. Sahel documentatie includes publications that are produced in large quantities but limited editions. The publication includes abstracts of items listed.

Mr. Thorpe was very helpful during my search. In addition to the small Sahel section, I spent a day in the Division of Agriculture, where I found many valuable materials relating to agriculture and rural development in Mauritania. A few reports were in Dutch, such as the one dealing with the Dutch participation in the animal production project in 1976.

I would strongly recommend that the RAMS Project subscribe to Sahel documentatie.

Afrika-Studiecentrum, Leyden, Stationsplein 10, Leyden

This center was founded in 1947, and its aims are the promotion of the scientific study of Africa, especially in the humanities and social and political development. The Center contains about 12,000 books and 600 journals, but very little dealing with Mauritania.

B. France:

Unfortunately, I was in France during the month of August, when many persons that I wanted to see were on vacation and some centers that I had planned to visit were closed. Therefore, it was extremely difficult to do the research necessary in the limited time.

Howard Helman (CILLS Livestock stock Sector Team co-rapporteur), American Embassy, Paris, was out of town when I arrived. He returned only towards the end of my stay in Paris, by which time I had made all my appointments so Mr. Helman could not be of any help to me.

Club du Sahel, 2 rue André Pascal, Paris 75016

Mr. Art Fell briefed me on the origins and long-term strategies of the Club du Sahel. I also met Mme. Anne de Lattre, who represents the French Fond d'Assistance et de Cooperation (FAC), and was able to get many of the Club's documents.

Aid commitments for Mauritania, including bilateral official development assistance (ODA) and multilateral concessional assistance, are as follows:

(in \$ million)				
<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Total Sahel</u>
135.2	84.6	106.7	325.5	12.6 %

UNESCO, Place Fontenoy, Paris 75700

I talked to the following persons at UNESCO:

Louis Zieglé, Consultant for Sahelian States

H. Misginna, Chief Africa Division, Cooperation for Development

E. Stretta, who was familiar with the documentation center in Saint-Louis

Mr. Trouillot, Mauritania Project Officer

Mr. Vasarhelli, Chief of Section for Information Program, Archives and Libraries

In June 1978 a sector review was made by the IBRD and UNESCO, but only the draft of this report was available at the time of my visit. Mr. Auerhan was the chief of the report, which dealt primarily with agricultural training and rural radio.

Other UNESCO projects are related to the (1) Institut Pedagogique National (MAU-75006)--this document has been transmitted to GIRM for approval; (2) Institut Universitaire Politechnique; (3) Institut des Sciences de l'Education et l'Ecole Normale d'Instituteurs--to train primary school teachers; and this was still in the negotiating stage and no source of funding had been found. UNESCO also had some funds for training fellowships.

I obtained numerous documents which deal in more detail with the programs of UNESCO and CILLS.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD),  
Centre de Developpement, 94 Rue Chardon-Lagache, Paris 75016

In charge of the documentation program is Mme. Françoise Beudot, author with Stephen Joyce of an important bibliography on the Sahel: Elements of a Bibliography of the Sahel Drought. I made arrangements to get the bibliography regularly, and meanwhile, RAMS has received the updated bibliography Nos. 1 and 2.

I obtained many items on Mauritania for the price of photocopy from this Center. This Library serves as a documentation resource for OECD and has a fine and balanced collection, which is well organized for easy retrieval.

Bureau pour le Développement de la Production Agricole (BDPA),  
202 Rue de la Croix-Nivert, Paris 15

The documentation center of BDPA is directed by Mme. d'Hebrail, who was extremely helpful. Documents, books and periodical articles are

available that relate to rural development, agriculture, fishing, economics in general, production, livestock, rice culture, training, etc. I was able to see most of their documents on Mauritania, however it was impossible to get copies of many. Since BDPA has not worked in Mauritania since 1970, except for a mission in 1975 on the Southeast, documents on Mauritania are not recent. The documentation center has about 30,000 titles, 400 periodicals and a large collection of maps. The emphasis is on French Africa.

BDPA publishes an accessions list, of which I obtained a few copies. I suggest that RAMS subscribe to this publication, Nouvelles Acquisitions. The Centre de Documentation publishes about 10 numbers a year.

Bureau d'Etudes de Géologie Appliquée (BURGEAP),

70 Rue Mademoiselle, Paris 15e

This is a technical/engineering consulting firm working mostly as a sub-contractor for the Ministère de la Coopération and ORSTOM in the general area of water resources, mining and geology. I obtained some of their publications on Mauritania from ORSTOM and the Ministère de la Coopération. A complete catalogue of BURGEAP's documents on Mauritania is available at the RAMS Documentation Center (D-209).

Centre des Hautes Etudes sur l'Afrique et l'Asie Moderne (CHEAM),

13 Rue du Four, Paris 6e

This was formerly the Centre des Hautes Etudes d'Administration Musulmane and has about 10,000 documents and 300 periodicals dealing with history, sociology, politics, linguistics, agriculture and administration. The documents on Mauritania are numerous and relate primarily to the French period. Most materials, often interesting memos by French administrators, were written between 1900 and 1960.

Centre d'Etudes Africaines (CARDAN), 54 Boulevard Raspail, Paris 6e

The Center is part of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales.

I saw Mme. Françoise Terreou and Mme. Mirkovic, the librarian.

Although CARDAN has only about 5,000 publications and 400 periodicals, there is a bibliography of about 100,000 items. This bibliography is also available at the University of Dakar. Unfortunately, the bibliography does not indicate where the materials are located and often the information is incomplete. A long search resulted in a few interesting items on Mauritania, including some theses.

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS),

15 Quai Anatole France, Paris 7e

The Centre publishes a monthly, the Bulletin Signalétique, which covers a wide range of sciences, fifty sections in all. The Bulletin Signalétique is published from tapes produced on the PASCAL system. These cover research on Africa, particularly Francophone Africa. However, they are difficult to search for geographic terms. Most of the materials that would be available can also be found at the OMVS in Saint-Louis.

Ministère de la Coopération/Fond d'Assistance et de Coopération (FAC),

20 Rue Monsieur, Paris 75700

The documentation office and library is under the direction of Mlle. F. Aujame, who was on leave during my visit. However, Mlle. Rageau, her assistant, introduced me to the office and let me have several documents. I obtained their catalogue, which contains many publications and reports on the Sahel area for purchase or exchange. The publications deal with agriculture, sociology, economics, hydrology, livestock, development, development assistance, etc.

The many important and recent reports of SEDEIS, SECT and other organizations could not be reproduced, as the photocopy machine was broken.

Institut de Recherches Agronomiques Tropicales (IRAT),

45 bis Avenue de la Belle-Gabrielle, 94 Nogent-sur-Marne

Since 1973 they have published a yearly bibliography of IRAT publications with abstracts in English. This appears as a supplement to Agronomie Tropicale and offers a very rich source of agricultural material on the Sahel, including Mauritania. While many of the citations are journal articles, a majority of which appeared in Agronomie Tropicale, many are research reports which are not published for distribution. Copies of material cited are available from IRAT in Paris, and I was able to get some publications on Mauritanian agriculture.

Institut Géographique National (IGN),

136 bis rue de Grenelle, Paris 75700

Topographical maps series for Mauritania on the scale 1:200,000 and 1:50,000 can be purchased from the IGN's Map Room in the Central Library.

Institut de Recherches et d'Applications des Méthodes de Développement (IRAM), 49 Rue de la Glacière, Paris 13

I met Mr. Guy Laucoin, who discussed the study that was made by IRAM relating to agriculture in the Gorgol area. The documents of this project, which started in July 1977, are available at the Ministère du Plan et des Mines in Nouakchott. There also is a report of the mission on the Gorgol, which was conducted by IRAM in March 1978.

Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques (INSEE),

18 Boulevard Adolphe Pinard, Paris

I met with Mme. Serat, who is in charge of documentation on the Africa region. INSEE has statistical materials, but no current statistics for Mauritania. Only general economic and agricultural statistics, and some demographic statistics between 1959 and 1969, are available. In general,

the documentation at INSEE includes approximately 300,000 works, 3,000 periodicals, microfilms and maps.

Office de Recherche Scientifique et Technique d'Outre Mer (ORSTOM),  
24 rue Bayard, Paris 75008

ORSTOM is one of the oldest research-consultative organizations dealing with problems of the Sahel region. The Inspecteur Général de Recherche is Dr. Roger Fauck, who was not in Paris at the time of my visit. I saw Mme. Maugard, who is in charge of documentation. ORSTOM has up-to-date catalogues of its publications that may be obtained free of charge and which are available at the RAMS Documentation Center. There were few publications on Mauritania, but I did obtain some old maps on livestock. There are also local ORSTOM offices in Dakar and other Francophone Sahelian countries. While in Dakar, I was in touch with the ORSTOM center there, but no publications on Mauritania were listed. The librarian of the Dakar office is Mme. Jacqueline Bassène.

Institut International de Recherche et de Formation en Education  
et Développement (IRFED), 49 rue de la Glacière, Paris 75013

Their library contains about 9,000 publications on economic development, rural development, rural sociology, urbanism, etc. IRFED's research concentrates on finding long-term solutions to the problems of collection, storage and proper utilization of rainwater in the Sahel. There was not a single document on Mauritania.

Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches pour le Développement de  
l'Agronomie Tropicale (GERDAT), 110 rue Scheffer, Paris 75016

GERDAT is the central organization of which IRAT, mentioned earlier, is a part. There are nine member groups which conduct research and produce publications on tropical agriculture. Of these, several deal mostly with

the Sahel: Centre Technique Forestier Tropical, Institut d'Elevage et de Médecine Vétérinaire des pays Tropicaux, and Institut de Recherches pour les Huiles et les Oléagineux. The documentalist is M. Lagrier. I also visited the documentation center and the laboratories in Montpellier.

Société d'Etudes de Développement Economique et Sociale (SEDES)

67 and 84 rue de Lille, Paris 75005

SEDES deals with consultation work on socio-economic problems, especially in French-speaking African countries, including Mauritania. They did not let me see their studies; however, I obtained many of these later from the FAO and/or OMVS in Saint-Louis.

Archives d'Outre Mer, Aix-en-Provence

The director of the Archives d'Outre Mer is Mr. Jean Morel. The Archives were transferred to Aix-en-Provence about three years ago. All documents of the Archives de Dakar prior to 1920 have been microfilmed, and at the moment the microfilming of the archives from 1920-1958 is being done.

This is a rich source of materials on Senegal and Mauritania dealing with politics, administration, social affairs, economics, justice and finance (See Archives de Dakar).

Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes sur les Sociétés Méditerranéennes

(CRESM), Faculté de Droit, Université d'Aix-en-Provence

This is a documentation center on the Maghreb which includes a few documents on Mauritania not listed elsewhere. It also has many theses, some on microfiches and microfilm, as well as many materials in Arabic.

Institut Agronomique Méditerranéen de Montpellier (IAM)

Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes,  
3191 Route de Mende, Boite Postale 1239, 34011 Montpellier

The aims of the centre are to provide training and advanced instruction for managerial and senior staff responsible for the rural development of Mediterranean countries and to promote research work. It was created in 1962 by OECD. I talked to the director, Mr. Malassis.

The Documentation Center, which specializes in the development of the Mediterranean countries, has a good collection on the Sahel but hardly anything on Mauritania. However, the director mentioned that the Institut has a number of students from French-speaking Africa and that in addition to giving an M.A. degree, the Institut can do short-term training programs. This may be useful to Mauritania at a later time.

Gabriel Feral, Village Provençal, 83/380 Les Issambres

I spent a day with Mr. Feral, who has done many studies for the ILO and who has lived many years in Mauritania. A tape of our discussion is available at the RAMS Documentation Center. Mr. Feral emphasized that there are no manpower studies for Mauritania. However, he did a study for the ILO in 1977 (See ILO).

The names of other French persons who have done research on Mauritania and with whom I talked briefly by telephone are the following:

Susanne and Edmond Bernus

Pierre Boudet

Margaret du Pire

Appendix II lists other organizations in France and in Europe which I was not able to contact because of lack of time or because they were closed. They may have some information on Mauritania.

C. Switzerland:

James Hill at the U.S. Mission in Geneva was absent when I arrived in Geneva and only returned a day prior to my departure. I gave him the list of people at the ILO and elsewhere that I had been in touch with.

International Labor Office (ILO), 1211 Geneva 22

I met with the following persons from the ILO to discuss projects in Mauritania and to locate documents:

Jose C. Zarrago, Chief, Rural Forestry Training Section

Messrs. Zellstar and Richter, Manpower Division

Samir Rewin, World Employment Program

Gus Edgren, Basic Needs and Employment

Fred Dunkel and Mr. Fardé, who were involved with  
an employment study for the Sahel

Mr. Thirion, responsible for Mauritania

Very few documents resulted from my visit. ILO has not done any studies in Mauritania lately, except for the work which Gabriel Feral did last year: Esquisse sur la situation de l'emploi en Mauritanie: situation présente et perspective (D-045 in RAMS Documentation Center). The persons at ILO were very interested in the RAMS Project and hoped that RAMS would collaborate with ILO. One problem that many persons at ILO mentioned was that of land reform in Mauritania. Regarding training, ILO's approach is to bring the rural poor to self-sufficiency.

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD),  
Palais des Nations, 1211 Genève 10

UNRISD conducts research dealing with problems and policies of social development and relationships between various types of social and economic development during different phases of economic growth. Their most important projects are on food systems and society and the impact of socio-

economic change on the conditions of women. The director is Solon L. Barraclough.

Wolf Scott, director of the Statistical Unit, was not in Geneva so I talked to his assistant, Mr. C. Richard, who assured me of UNRISD's cooperation with the RAMS Project. He suggested that when RAMS staff need specific information, they should contact him directly.

Not all the data that was collected is presented in the Data Bank of Development Indicators, and therefore other useful information on Mauritania may be available. Indicators that had to be rejected included such subjects as employment, land tenure, social security, environmental conditions, income distribution, etc. I also obtained a catalogue of available publications.

Institute of Development Studies - Institut Universitaire d'Etudes du Développement (IUED), 24 rue Rothschild, Genève

The library of IUED has about 16,000 volumes dealing with problems of development, including much on Africa, but no information on Mauritania which I had not obtained elsewhere. The librarian is Jacqueline Clerc, and the director is Pierre Bungeuer.

#### D. Italy:

I first met with Mr. Irving Rosenthal, AID's Representative at FODAG for CILLS and FAO activities, and later with Eugene Moore, who is responsible for the World Food Program at the U.S. Embassy. Mr. Rosenthal was extremely helpful and introduced me to Jan Reynthens, Senior Field Program Officer, FAO, who deals with the Sahel.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),

Via delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome

Mr. Reynthens and his assistant, Mr. J. Leclerc, arranged many contacts for me and I had appointments with the following persons:

René Martínez, former Mauritania Country Program Officer

(Tape 3 at RAMS Center)

M. Seyral, an agronomist who has spent much time in Mauritania and been on many missions there in the last few years

T. Ionesco, who has done studies on grazing in Mauritania (Tape 3)

R. Lesire, a specialist in agricultural education who wrote the evaluation report of Kaedi in 1977 (Rapport de la Mission d'evaluation du Projet (D-314 in RAMS Documentation Center).

J. L. Gaudet, CILLS Fisheries Co-rapporteur

A. F. G. Naegele, grazing expert who has done many studies on Mauritania

Ms. Stevens, Division of Human Resources, Institutions and Agrarian Reform; a specialist on agricultural extension who talked about Kaedi

Maria Randriamamonjy, Women's Affairs Division

C. Schneider and Stephanie Ayasy of the Reference/Documentation and Information Section

Ms. Gowan, Human Resources Division, Documentation Center

Messrs. Dod and Pascarella, IBRD Reports Section,

FAO Publications Division

Much information and many documents resulted from these various persons and documentation centers. In addition, I searched the FAO data base to obtain microfiches and documents not available elsewhere.

The staff of FAO was extremely interested in the RAMS Project and expressed its willingness to cooperate with the project. If specific information is needed, RAMS personnel should contact Mr. J. Leclerc, who will then obtain the information from particular specialists.

FAO is a rich source of information on rural development, though the materials are located in many different offices and documentation centers, which made the search difficult and time-consuming.

Istituto Italo-Africano, Via Ulisse Aldrovandi 16, Rome

I visited the Istituto with the librarian, Sra. Carla Ghezzi Cerreto, and the Director for Documentation, Nicolino Mohamed. The library, which contains some 55,000 volumes and periodicals, is the only African center in Italy. The Documentation Center has up-to-date information on African current affairs, but very little information of value on Mauritania.

### III. WEST AFRICA

The final phase of the project took place in West Africa. During this time, I spent about six weeks in Nouakchott, and the remaining time visiting Dakar, Saint-Louis, Bamako and Ouagadougou.

#### A. Senegal

##### Dakar:

From October 5 to 8, I attended the CILLS Institut du Sahel conference on documentation. In addition to learning more about the plans for the Institut du Sahel and the problems common to all the member states, the conference gave me an opportunity to make valuable contacts. One of the major problems faced by all Sahel countries, including of course Mauritania,

is the lack of trained personnel. There was much discussion regarding the training of persons in the documentation field.

In addition to the various documentalists and directors of research centers, I also had a chance to discuss the RAMS documentation project with representatives of international organizations, such as Jacques Dubreuil, FAO, Dakar; Germain Adjanooun and Palo Coppini of UNDP, Dakar; Yves Courrier, UNESCO, Paris; Robert Leblond and Marcel Mercier of CRDI; André Robinet, Ministère de la Coopération, Paris; Marianne Weiss, Institut for Afrika Kunde, Hamburg, who represented Germany's assistance programs; and Norman Rifkin of USAID, Washington.

After the conference I spent five days in Dakar and Saint-Louis to search for documents and worked with the following centers:

Archives Nationales, Immeuble Administratif, Dakar

Since Mlle. Veaux, the librarian, was on vacation, Papa Momar Diop, whom I had met at the documentation conference, was my contact. The Archives have a great deal on Mauritania. However, emphasis seems to be on history, politics, general articles relating to development and economics, geology, mineral elevage, industries, etc. There are perhaps 1,500 items on Mauritania, though most of them are not current. I was able to get copies of a few documents, but the reproduction of materials was very slow and expensive. Although the RAMS collection already included many of the items at the Archives, further search may be useful. The Archives have many of the works of Paul Marty, and it would probably be possible to microfilm these important writings.

It must be pointed out, however, that the Archives d'Outre Mer in Aix-en-Provence are in the process of microfilming the Archives Nationales (See Aix-en-Provence).

Centre National de Documentation Scientifique et Technique (CNDST),

12 rue Calmette, Dakar

This center was created in 1975 with financial aid from UNDP and technical support from UNESCO. The director is Omar Diop, who also attended the documentation conference.

CNDST has undertaken the creation and management of a national data base which attempts to assemble all the data concerning Senegal. The Index courant de documentation économique, scientifique et technique endeavors to cover current national production in the areas of economic, scientific and technical information. It includes items which deal with Mauritania only if part of a Senegal or regional study.

University of Dakar

I visited the University library but found nothing of interest to the RAMS Project. However, I had extended discussions with Amadou Alassane Bousso, Director of Ecole des Bibliothécaires, Archivistes et Documentalistes de Dakar (EBAD), regarding the training of Mauritians. Dr. Bousso is willing to give any possible assistance related to the training of documentalists and librarians, and assured me that fellowships are available. The problem is finding Mauritians who could qualify for admission.

Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN), B.P. 206, CCP Dakar 5200

IFAN is on the campus of the University of Dakar since it is now an Institute of the University. I had a meeting with the librarian, Mr. Ahmadou Fassama.

There are about 500 items on Mauritania in the collection, most of which I had collected previously. However, a number of IFAN articles dealing with Mauritania were added to the RAMS collection.

The publication program of IFAN is very extensive and includes memoirs, catalogues and documents, Bulletin de l'IFAN and Notes Africaines.

Many of its older publications relating to Mauritania are also available at the Bibliothèque National in Nouakchott, and the more current ones are at the French Centre Culturel Saint-Exupéry in Nouakchott (See Mauritania Section).

Environmental Training Program (ENDA), P.O. Box 3370, Dakar

ENDA works closely with other research institutes, educational bodies and official services and assists African researchers in their work. It also organizes its own action research groups, principally in connection with rural and urban ecosystems, eco-development, intra-urban environments and socio-spatial disputes. ENDA, in association with the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), publishes African Environment, which is an environmental studies and regional planning bulletin. The director is Jacques Bugnicourt, an ecologist who was absent during my visit. I talked to his assistant, Jean Marie Fayemi, who was able to supply me with several interesting articles dealing with Mauritania.

Institut Africain de Développement et de Planification (IDEP),

B.P. 3186, Dakar

IDEP is a research and training institute directed by Dr. Samir Amin and has a well-organized library and documentation center headed by Sam Kofi Odoteye. I obtained their publication list, but a search in the library yielded nothing new.

I made brief visits to Centre ORSTOM de Dakar, Route des Pères Maristes, Dakar-Hann (See ORSTOM-Paris), where I talked to Jacqueline Bassène, and the UN Information Center, B.P. 154, Dakar, which has a number of documents by UNDP personnel. CODESRIA (African Commission for Economic and Social Research) in Dakar is planning a data bank for research in progress, which would be very useful.

Saint-Louis:Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal (OMVS),

B.P. 383, Rue Duret, Saint-Louis

Unfortunately, Djiby Sall, the director of the Documentation Center whom I had met at the documentation conference, was not in Saint-Louis during my visit, but his assistant, Mr. Assane Touré, and other staff members gave me a complete tour of the Documentation Center and its facilities. I examined the preparation and coding of bibliographic entries, as well as the facilities for production/reproduction of microfiches. I obtained issues of the Index, and my research resulted in about 60 microfiches dealing with subjects of interest to RAMS. Unfortunately, since there was no ammonia available at the OMVS, it was impossible to have the microfiches duplicated, and at the time of writing this report they have not yet arrived in Nouakchott.

Our discussion also related to future collaboration between OMVS and the RAMS Center and the possibility of microfiching important RAMS Center documents in the future. The OMVS has also undertaken the training of other documentalists, and sending Mauritians for training to the OMVS should be considered.

The OMVS has about 7,500 microfiches. Each analyst produces an average of six documents a day in this "deep-indexing" program.

Société d'Aménagement et d'Exploitation des Terres du Delta du Fleuve Sénégal (SAED), B.P. 74, Saint-Louis

Mlle. Marie Mbengue is in charge of the documentation collection. She is a graduate of EBAD and also received some training at the OMVS. The documents that she has in her well-organized center deal only with the left bank of the Senegal river and do not include Mauritania. However, many of the documents could be of great interest to the RAMS study.

B. Mali

Institut du Sahel, B.P. 1530, Bamako

I met with Dr. Ousmane Silla, the deputy director, who is also in charge of foreign relations for the Institut du Sahel. He showed me a large room with empty shelves which will be the documentation center. Then I saw Alione Badara Camara, the Coordinator of the Network (Coordi-nateur Reseau) of the Institut du Sahel.

Since the Institut began its operation only in January, the documen-tation center consisted of only a few hundred documents, which had not yet been classified. No documentalist or other staff member had as yet been assigned to the documentation center. The plans, however, call for a documentalist. Dr. Silla hoped to have all the documents produced by MIT relating to its work in the Sahel transferred to Bamako, which would form a good base of Sahel documents.

The work of the Documentation Network will be closely related to the documentation center, which is under the Department of Communications. Mr. Camara discussed the program, particularly the emphasis on training documentalists. Funds are also available for short training programs through EBAD, which could be of interest to Mauritania. Mr. Camara will be visiting Mauritania in December, at which time this can be explored further. Scholarships for the training of middle- and upper-level persons concerned with documentation will be coordinated through the Institut du Sahel. In its second phase, the institute is planning to assist in the formation of national documentation centers.

I assured Mr. Camara that the RAMS Documentation Center will be glad to cooperate with the Sahel Institute.

Institut d'Economie Rurale, B.P. 258, Bamako

The director is Dr. Ngolo Traore, and the documentalist is Aliou Badara Doumbia.

The Institut has over 500 microfiches on livestock from the International Livestock Center (Centre International pour l'Elevage en Afrique), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A list of the acquisitions on microfilm, although not up-to-date, is available. I also obtained the Index Expérimental - Opération Sauvegarde, which includes only 78 documents. However, when and if it will be completed, this could be a very useful research tool.

The Institut's collection consists of over 5,000 items. Although there is a catalogue, there is no geographic index and it is difficult to locate materials.

Service Hydraulique

A documentation center for materials on water resources exists at the Service Hydraulique under the direction of Julian Pantu. Although the over 400 items deal primarily with Mali, a few items on Mauritania are included. This project began in January 1978 and works closely with the OMVS and the ICHS (See Ouagadougou). I asked Mr. Pantu to send RAMS a catalogue, when it is available.

C. Upper Volta

Comité Permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Secheresse au Sahel (CILLS), B.P. 7049, Ouagadougou

CILLS operates under Aly Cissé, Executive Secretary, who unfortunately was not in Ouagadougou during my visit. I saw Grey Johnson, Directeur de la Division de l'Information et de la Documentation, who showed me the small but good quality documentation center. The collection includes all

CILLS documents and other important Sahel-related reports and studies. I was able to obtain most of the studies which I had not previously found at FAO or in Paris. A list of all available documents was published in March 1978. CILLS is planning to send future documents to its correspondent in Mauritania.

Interafrican Committee for Hydraulic Studies (ICHS),

B.P. 369, Ouagadougou

The ICHS was formed in 1960 to design and execute scientific and technical studies on water problems for its twelve members. Mauritania is one of the members. I met with Dr. John Buursink, director of the TAMS project at ICHS, as well as with Emily Candelmo, the consulting librarian. Mr. Krissiampo Larba Ali, the documentalist, was on sick leave.

Though the documentation center was created in 1973, the Secretariat and Technical Bureau had already amassed a significant number of documents, which, along with ICHS studies, formed the basis of the collection.

The present collection numbers over 8,800 catalogued documents and over 1,300 analytics from about 100 different periodicals encompassing a broad scope of subject fields related to water resources and agricultural land use.

In addition to written documentation, satellite photographs and a variety of geographical, pedological, topographic, ethnographic and navigational maps complete the collection. The printed Catalogue du Centre de Documentation - Index Géographique, which was published in 1977, supplements the author index.

Of the many studies published by ICHS, some relating to Mauritania were obtained, while others, including available maps, were identified.

The documentation center is planning to have a microfiche duplicator in the near future and then will be able to sell microfiches of its materials. Up until now, some of its publications were reproduced on microfiche at CNRS in Paris.

Since there is little input from Mauritania, there is perhaps less material on that country than on others. Hopefully, the exchange program will improve, since this is an excellent collection of materials of interest to RAMS and others.

I also made a brief visit to Earth Satellite Corporation and TAMS, which are involved in remote sensing in various Sahel countries.

#### D. Mauritania

I spent about six weeks in Mauritania. During this time I tried to assess the resources available, search for documents and organize all the materials for easy retrieval by the RAMS team and others.

In addition, in the brief time I tried to train a student from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in methods and procedures of documentation. Although I devoted much of my time to this activity, which is extremely important for Mauritania, the time was too short.

The following documentation centers, ministries, etc. were visited and a brief assessment of their resources was made:

#### Bibliothèque National

Mr. Oumar Diouwara is the director of the National Library and represented Mauritania at the documentation conference in Dakar. He had been with the National Library for twelve years, but left in 1974 to become the UNESCO representative. Mr. Diouwara returned last year to take charge of the National Library, in addition to his UNESCO duties.

In 1972, with the assistance of the People's Republic of China, a large building was constructed to house both the Museum and the National Library. There are over 200,000 volumes in the Bibliotheque National, of which about 20,000 are books. They receive about 250 journals in French and 125 in other languages. There is also a large section of documents in Arabic. The library has the publications of IFAN, but it is difficult to ascertain how complete the collection is. Since the library has hardly any staff, the collection has not been organized. I think that for a number of years it will be difficult to use the Bibliotheque National. Once it is organized, however, it will represent a rich source of materials on Mauritania. Since there seem to be many duplicates, an exchange of publications with libraries and research centers around the world could further increase the holdings of the library.

Archives Nationales, B.P. 77, Nouakchott

The director is Mohamed Ould Gaouad, who was not available during my visits to the Archives. The materials in the archives are to a great extent the same as those in the archives in Saint-Louis and Dakar. Unfortunately, there is no organization, and it is likely that it would be somewhat easier to work with the archives in Dakar. However, once the archives are organized, they certainly would be a rich source of background information, particularly as it relates to the history, politics and administration of Mauritania. Presidential papers are also available. There seems to be little on current social and economic development.

French Cultural Center/Centre Culturel Saint-Exupéry,

B.P. 225, Nouakchott

Under the direction of Mme. de la Rosière, there is an excellent documentation center with about 1,200 documents on Mauritania. These are well-organized and are arranged by author and subject. A catalogue and

an up-to-date catalogue to 1978 have been issued (available at RAMS D-342). Although the emphasis is on general materials -- history, politics, anthropology, cultural -- the collection also contains materials on agriculture, economic development, etc.

Many IFAN publications are included, and this collection supplements the materials at the RAMS Documentation Center, particularly since these are up-to-date.

Société Nationale pour le Développement Rurale (SONADER),

24 and 25 rue Mamadou Konate, Nouakchott

Mr. Zakrzewski, Chef de Cellule de l'Orientation et de la Planification, is in charge of a small but good documentation center at SONADER. Although not all documents are centralized in the documentation center, many publications are available that are not at the RAMS Documentation Center. Some of the studies at SONADER are also available through OMVS, but others dealing with the fourteen projects of SONADER may be unique. Most materials are related to the rural sector, irrigation, sociology, topography, production projections, population projections, grazing, etc. There are plans to issue a catalogue of SONADER's holdings, which would be most useful to the RAMS Project.

Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA)

Mme. Turkia Daddah is the director and Mr. Yarba Fall is the documentalist at ENA. Mme. Delmaire, a professor at ENA who is in charge of the training program for students, also joined our meeting to discuss the training of N'Diouga Oumar Diop at the RAMS Documentation Center.

The library, containing about 9,000 publications, is well-organized and has published a catalogue of acquisitions. The materials relate primarily to law, administration, and economics. I obtained several ENA publications.

Ministère du Plan et des Mines

Mr. Bassirou Sarr is the Chef du Service des Etudes et de la Documentation. The documentation center has a great deal of materials relating to economic development, rural development, finance, planning, etc. As there is no classification system and no organization, at this time it is impossible to estimate the number of publications available at the Plan. However, the Ministry is in the process of organizing its collection. About 650 microfiches from the OMVS are available and can be located through the OMVS index, which is also at the Center. Though perhaps not complete, CILLS documents exist. It is hoped that this documentation center will be the centralized documentation center for the country in the future.

Other Documentation in Nouakchott:

All of the following have small documentation units, but unfortunately there is no system of organization and it is difficult to locate materials. Often, some of the documentation divisions do not know what documents are available. Nevertheless, specific documents can perhaps be located in these different agencies.

Direction Génie Rural - has documents dealing with dams, the Gorgol project, Tagant and Hodh.

Service Hydraulique - has some documents dealing with hydrology, pedology, geology and mining.

Ministère de l'Education Nationale - has very little on education.

Ministère de la Santé - has a few documents on public health.

Service Topographique - has some topographic maps.

### Donor Projects in Mauritania:

There are numerous multilateral programs of the different organizations of the United Nations in Mauritania, such as the ILO, FAO, UNDP, IBRD, UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, etc. In addition, there are regional projects and bilateral programs involving about 24 different nations. Information on different programs is contained in the RAMS Documentation Center, though it is not always up-to-date. Document D-312 gives a summary of donor input.

### THE RAMS DOCUMENTATION CENTER

The RAMS Documentation Center has approximately 500 documents, maps, microfiches, one microfilm and tapes that have been collected from various sources, as indicated in this report. The materials have been organized for easy retrieval and have been classified, catalogued and shelved.

There is an author file for all documents. In addition, there is a shelf list, i.e. a card for each document by its code number, sometimes including an abstract of the document. The documents have been placed in strong pamphlet boxes (which hopefully will protect them from the sand and dust) according to their code number.

All documents and microfiches have been analysed for subject matter, and one or several index terms have been assigned to them. The Scan-Match Information Retrieval System has been used, as it facilitates rapid searching as well as simple updating and improving of the system. Therefore, all materials in the collection can be searched by "term," i.e. subject matter. The terms used are based on systems like those used by FAO, OECD,

and the OMVS, but were simplified and adapted to meet the needs of the RAMS Project. The system, which lends itself to computerization, will probably have to be refined later.

About 70% of the documents are in French, 25% in English and 5% in other languages, primarily German. Documents in Dutch, Spanish, Arabic and Russian were not included.

Another approximately 100 documents were received too late for processing; while some materials that had been acquired had not yet arrived at the time of writing this report.

In addition, there exists a bibliography on cards of about 200 items not available at RAMS. These deal with subjects of peripheral interest to RAMS or are citations of materials that could not be obtained for the RAMS Documentation Center. Some of the cards indicate the location of the document. Listings of AID documents and GIRM publications have also been collected.

A list of another 100 items, which are located in the Mission (Charles Edwards' office), is also available. Finally, there is a copy of the list of the OMVS microfiches that are located at the Ministère du Plan et des Mines.

#### Summary of the Available Materials and Information Gaps

The approximately 600 documents which were acquired in the search for background information deal with most of the subjects that will be studied by the RAMS team.

Materials in the Documentation Center include the following subjects: history, general works, economics and economic development, culture, religion, society, agriculture, livestock, forestry, rural development, transportation, fisheries, demography and population, food and nutrition,

health, environment and ecology, geology, geomorphology, manpower, employment, education and training.

There are studies on most regions and areas of Mauritania, particularly the southern part of the country and the Tagant and Adrar, and the collection is quite rich in sociological and anthropological studies.

Agricultural materials relate to irrigated agriculture, dryland agriculture, date palms and crops. There are large information gaps in price policy, food storage, agricultural marketing, production and consumption and other activities essential for long-term development in Mauritania.

There are numerous studies on livestock, some on fisheries, though relatively little on fresh water fishing. Hydrology is well represented, particularly in the OMVS microfiches at the Ministry of Planning. However, more specific information about the hydraulic potential is needed.

Materials are available on the drought, nomadisation, climate and desertification, but no effort was made to search for documents on industrialisation and mining, although a few items have been included.

There is little on human resources, manpower and employment, and accurate up-to-date statistics and data on population and demography are lacking.

More information is also needed on land tenure and agricultural credit. Finance, politics and management have not been emphasized.

The Documentation Center includes only a few outdated maps, but other maps could be ordered from the Institut Geographique National in Paris.

The Center has about 20 bibliographies on Mauritania. Indeed, I believe that most available bibliographies that exist on Mauritania have

been included in the collection, which could be the basis for further literature search. Catalogues of libraries, research centers, institutes and lists of reports are other reference tools.

It must be pointed out that because of the limited time of this project, an effort was made primarily to collect documents dealing with Mauritania. However, some information dealing with problems of the Sahel or neighboring countries have been included. It would be desirable to broaden the search for documents to other countries in the region since the problems facing these countries with regard to development have common features. A list of research centers in Africa and elsewhere is available in Appendix III and Appendix IV.

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This project resulted in a Documentation Center of about 600 documents and other materials relating to Mauritania. An author catalogue and an analytical index in French were prepared for most of the materials. In addition, numerous references to studies and publications located elsewhere have been included.

The emphasis in the search was on those subjects that were assumed to be of interest to the RAMS Project as it was outlined in the project description. Unfortunately, there was no personal contact with members of the future RAMS team (except for a brief meeting prior to my departure from Mauritania). Briefings from persons having a good understanding of the scope of the RAMS Project were also extremely limited. This, in addition to the short time and the amount of travel involved, made it difficult to choose the best materials and to set up a relevant index to the documents.

There were many other problems. Certain important studies or documents could not be included owing to their confidential or restricted nature. Strict interpretations of copyright laws made the reproduction of certain works impossible. Often, particularly in Europe and Africa, the photocopying machine or the microfiche duplicator was out of order during my visit, and having to adhere to a travel schedule, this made it impossible to obtain some documents. Certain institutions were closed during the summer months, or certain persons that I had wanted to contact were absent.

Logistical and administrative problems made the work in Mauritania not as effective as it could have been. It took time to find an office, transportation was not always available for appointments at various offices, and there was no trained help.

In the six weeks in Nouakchott, I tried to train a student from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration who, unfortunately, would have to return to the school for another year, before being able to continue his training.

Since there was interest in the documents, reference services were given to AID staff, contractors and other organizations in Mauritania at the same time as the collection was still being organized. Some technical assistance was provided to the Ministry of Planning and Mines and other organizations. Slow mail service delayed arrival of materials for processing.

It would have been better if I had made a brief visit to Mauritania prior to undertaking the search elsewhere, in order to determine the resources and needs of Mauritania.

I would like to recommend that an effort be made to continue the documentation search, particularly for government documents from Mauritania, USAID reports and reports from donor agencies in Mauritania. A visit to

centers in Morocco could further provide interesting studies. The collection will only be useful if it is kept current and the RAMS team should make arrangements with various ministries and organizations in Mauritania and abroad to receive new studies and publications as they are issued.

The analytical index should be refined and expanded as the needs of the RAMS Project become more apparent. It would also be desirable to produce a catalogue of the holdings of the documentation center which could be disseminated in Mauritania and abroad.

Since documents can get lost, and since there are many valuable materials in the collection, microfiche reproductions should be made of many of the documents, which could then be distributed to other regional centers, like the OMVS, the Sahel Institute and documentation centers within Mauritania.

I believe, despite all the shortcomings, that this is a unique documentation project, having gathered in one place more materials on Mauritania's social and economic development than can be found anywhere else. To make the collection more complete will take time and the effort of trained personnel.

## ANNEX I - ANNEXE I

List of other US Organizations and Institutions dealing with Africa

Liste d'autres Organisations et Institutions Americaines traitant de l'Afrique

ACTION Library  
Washington, D.C. 20525

Yale University  
African Collection  
New Haven, Connecticut 06520

African-American Institute  
1201 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 902  
Washington, D.C. 20036

African Studies Association  
218 Shiffman Center  
Brandeis University  
Waltham, Massachusetts 02154

Clark University  
International Development and Social Change Project  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01610

Center for Policy Alternatives  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Ford Foundation  
320 East 43rd Street  
New York, N. Y. 10017

Grassland Biome  
Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

National Academy of Sciences (NAS)  
2101 Constitution Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20418

Stanford University  
Hoover Institute  
Food Research Institute  
Stanford, California 94305

University of California, Berkeley, Library  
Berkeley, California 94720

University of California, Davis, Library  
Davis, California 95616

Volunteers in Technical Assistance (VITA)  
3706 Rhode Island Avenue  
Mt. Rainier, Maryland 20822

## ANNEX II - ANNEXE II

France and Europe

France et l'Europe

1. FRANCE

Société d'Etudes de Développement Economique et Sociales (SCET)  
5-7 Rue Bellini  
Paris 75007

Société d'Etudes et de Développement Agricole (SEDAGRI)  
202 Rue de la Croix-Nivert  
Paris Cedex 75738

Société d'Aide Technique et de Coopération (SATEC)  
110 rue de l'Université  
Paris 75007

Bibliothèque Nationale  
58 Rue de Richelieu  
Paris 2e

Centre d'Etudes et de Documentation sur l'Afrique et l'Outre-Mer  
(CEDAOM)  
29-31 quai Voltaire  
Paris 7

Centre de Recherches Africaines  
17 Rue de la Sorbonne  
Paris 5

Comité Information Sahel  
c/o M. Marc Piault  
8, rue Louis Thuillier  
75005 Paris

Institut Français de Recherches Fruitières d'Outre-Mer  
Centre Documentation  
6 Rue Général Clergerie  
Paris 16

Institut International d'Administration Publique (IIAP)  
2 Avenue de l'Observatoire  
Paris 6e

Musée de l'Homme  
Palais de Chaillot  
Place du Trocadéro  
Paris 16

2. EUROPE

African Book Publishing Record  
African Books in Print  
Mansell Information/Publishing  
3, Bloomsbury Place  
London WC1A 20A, England

Agricultural University  
Tillage Laboratory  
Diedenweg 20  
Wageningen, Netherlands

Commonwealth Agriculture Bureaux (CAB)  
Farnham House  
Farnham Royal  
Slough SL2 3BN, England

Disaster Research Unit  
University of Bradford  
Bradford, Yorkshire BD7 1DP  
England

International African Institute  
210 High Holborn  
London WC1V 7BW, England

International Congress of African Studies  
Research Liaison Committee on Drought and Famine in Africa  
c/o Peter Mitchell  
Centre of West African Studies  
University of Birmingham  
P.O. Box 363  
Birmingham, B15 2TT, England

Overseas Development Administration  
Land Resources Division  
Tolworth Tower  
Surbiton  
Surrey KT6 7DY, England

School of Oriental and African Studies  
University of London  
Malet Street  
London, England

Scandinavian Institute of African Studies  
P.O. Box 2126  
Upsala, Sweden

Service Information et Documentation  
Cooperation Technique  
Department Politique Federal  
Eigerstrasse 73  
3003 Berne, Switzerland

## ANNEX III - ANNEXE III

## Research Centers in Africa

## Centres de Recherches en Afrique

Agence pour la Sécurité de la Navigation Aérienne en  
Afrique et a Madagascar (ASECNA)  
P. Malekou, Director General  
B.P. 3144  
Dakar, Sénégal

Bureau Interafricain des Sols  
B.P. 1362  
Bangui, Central African Republic

Centre de Formation et d'Agrométéorologie et Hydrométéorologie  
Appliquée dans le Sahel  
B.P. 256  
Niamey, Niger

Centre National de Recherches Agronomiques (CNRA)  
B.P. 41  
Bambey, Senegal

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research  
P.O. Box M.32  
Accra, Ghana

Documentation Center of the River Niger Commission  
B.P. 933  
Niamey, Niger

Institute of Agricultural Research  
P.O. Box 2003  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Institute for Agricultural Research (SAMARU)  
P.M.B. 1044  
Zaria, Nigeria

Institute for Development Studies  
University of Nairobi  
P.O. Box 30197  
Nairobi, Kenya

Institut Panafricain pour le Développement  
B.P. 4078  
Douala, Cameroon

Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)  
L. Sauger, Directeur Général  
B.P. 3120  
Dakar, Sénégal

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)  
P.M.B. 5320  
Ibadan, Nigeria

International Livestock Centre for Africa  
P.O. Box 5689  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

National Cereals Research Institute  
Moor Plantation  
P.M.B. 5042  
Ibadan, Nigeria

Niger Institute for Agronomy Research  
B.P. 429  
Niamey, Niger

Société Africaine d'Etudes et de Développement (SAED)  
B.P. 593  
Ouagadougou, Upper Volta

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa  
P.O. Box 3001  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

United Nations Environment Programme  
P.O. Box 30552  
Nairobi, Kenya

West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA)  
P.O. Box 1019  
Monrovia, Liberia

## ANNEX IV - ANNEXE IV

Agricultural and Rural Development Institutes in Asia,  
Australia and Latin America

Instituts traitant de l'Agriculture et Développement  
Rural en Asie, Australie et Amérique du Sud

Australia

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)  
Division of Tropical Agronomy  
Mill Road  
St. Lucia, QLD 4067, Australia

India

Central Arid Zone Research Institute  
Jodhpur, India

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)  
1-11-256 Begumpet  
Hyderabad-500016  
A.P. India

All India Coordinated Research Project for Dryland Agriculture (ICAR)  
2-2-58/60 Amberpet  
Hyderabad-500013  
India

Iran

Wheat and Barley Research Project  
Seed and Plant Improvement Institute  
Karaj, Iran

Israel

International Irrigation Information Center, Volcani Center  
P.O.B. 49  
Bet Dagan  
Israel

Volcani Center  
Agricultural Research Organization  
Bet Dagan  
Israel

Latin America

Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigacion y Ensenanza  
Tropical Crops and Soils Department  
Turrialba, Costa Rica

Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agrícolas  
Apartado 4359  
San Jose, Costa Rica

Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT)  
Apartado 67-13  
Cali, Colombia

Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maiz y Trigo (CIMMYT)  
Londres 40, Mexico 6, D.F.  
Apdo Paostal 6-641  
Mexico

Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnologia Agrícolas  
5a Avenida 12-31  
Zona 9  
Guatemala

Philippines

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)  
P.O. Box 933  
Manila  
Philippines

Turkey

Agricultural Economics and Biometrics  
Seker Enstitusu, Etimesgut  
Turkey

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry  
Grassland and Animal Husbandry Research Institute  
P.O. Box 453  
Ankara, Turkey

## ANNEX V - ANNEXE V

## Mauritania - Mauritanie

## List of Government Officials

Liste des Secrétaires Généraux et Directeurs de Services  
des Départements MinisterielsMINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

- Monsieur AHMED OULDI JIDDOU, Secrétaire Général
- S.E.M. MOHAMED ABDALLAHI OULD KHARCHI, Directeur des Affaires Politiques
- Monsieur DEYE OULD BRAHIM, Directeur des Affaires Administratives
- S.E.M. AHMED OULD MENNEYA, Directeur de la Coopération Internationale
- S.E.M. SIDNA OULD CHEIKH TALEB BOUYA, Conseiller Diplomatique
- S.E.M. SOULEYMANE OULD CHEIKH SIDIYA, Ambassadeur Itinérant

MINISTERE DE L'INTERIEUR

- Monsieur LY AMADOU MOCTAR, Directeur de l'Administration Territoriale

MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ISLAMIQUES ET DE LA JUSTICE

- Monsieur MOHAMED EL MOCTAR dit GAGUIH, Directeur auprès du Ministère des Affaires Islamiques et de la Justice
- Monsieur MOHAMED FALL, Directeur des Affaires Administratives

MINISTERE DES FINANCES ET DU COMMERCE

- Monsieur OULD MAH, Directeur du Budget et des Comptes de l'Etat
- Monsieur YEHDIH OULD HACEN, Trésorier Général
- Monsieur BA ALY, Directeur de l'Informatique

MINISTERE DE L'EQUIPEMENT

- Monsieur GAYE SIDATY, Directeur de l'Infrastructure Aéronautique et Portuaire par intérim
- Monsieur DIAGANA TIDJANE, Directeur des Bâtiments, Habitat et Urbanisme
- Monsieur MOULAYE ABDALLAH, Directeur de l'Hydraulique et de l'Energie

.../...

MINISTERE DES TRANSPORTS, DES POSTES ET TELECOMMUNICATIONS,  
DE L'ARTISANAT ET DU TOURISME

- Monsieur BENAHI OULD AHMED TALEB, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur KEBIR OULD SALAMY, Directeur des Transports
- Monsieur BA IBRAHIMA DEMBA, Directeur de l'Office des Postes et Télécommunications
- Monsieur BALLA CHERIF, Directeur du Tourisme

MINISTERE DU PLAN ET DES MINES

- Monsieur DEWAHI OULD MOHAMED SALECK, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur HASSAN DIOP, Directeur du Plan
- Monsieur CAMARA CHEIKHOUNA, Directeur des Mines
- Monsieur MAMOY SY, Directeur des Statistiques

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE, DES PECHEES ET DE LA MARINE MARCHANDE

- Monsieur AHMED OULD HMEYADA, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur BABA OULD AHMED YOURA, Directeur de l'Industrialisation
- Monsieur MAHMOUD CHERIF, Directeur des Pêches
- Monsieur KANE CHEIKH, Directeur de la Marine Marchande

MINISTERE DU DEVELOPPEMENT RURAL

- Docteur WALY N'DAO, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur BOCOUM MOHAMED, Directeur de l'Agriculture
- Monsieur TOURE ABDERRAHMANE, Directeur de la Protection de la Nature
- Docteur LIMAM, Directeur de l'Elevage

MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION NATIONALE

- Monsieur ABDEL AZIZ DIENNE, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur MOUSTAPHA OULD SID'AHMED, Directeur de la Planification et de la Coopération
- Monsieur M'BODJ SAMBA BEDDOU, Directeur de l'Enseignement Fondamental
- Monsieur MOHAMED YEHDIH OULD TOLBA, Directeur de la Formation des Cadres et de l'Enseignement Supérieur
- Monsieur CHEIKH OULD MAHAND, Directeur des Finances et du Matériel

.../...

MINISTERE DE LA CULTURE ET DE L'INFORMATION

- Monsieur N'GAIDE HAMAT, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur HAMDAN, Directeur de l'Information et des Relations Extérieures
- Monsieur MOKTAR OULD HMEYNA, Directeur de la Culture

MINISTERE DU TRAVAIL, DE LA SANTE ET DES AFFAIRES SOCIALES

- Monsieur CLEDOR SALL, Secrétaire Général
- Docteur ZEIN, Directeur de la Santé
- Docteur SIDATT, Directeur du Centre National d'Hygiène
- Madame MARIAME M'BENGUE, Directrice des Affaires Sociales
- Monsieur BABA AMADOU TANDIA, Directeur du Travail

MINISTERE DE LA JEUNESSE ET DES SPORTS

- Monsieur MOHAMED CISSE, Secrétaire Général
- Monsieur SEYE CHEIKH TIDJANE, Directeur des Sports
- Monsieur le Directeur de la Jeunesse
- Monsieur MOUSTAPHA SALECK KAMARA, Directeur du Centre de Formation des Cadres de la Jeunesse et des Sports
- Monsieur SECK SILEYE, Directeur des Affaires Administratives
- Monsieur MOHAMED EL AMRANI, Conseiller Technique Marocain

MINISTERE DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE, DU CONTROLE ET DES ENQUETES

- Monsieur MOHAMED LEMINE OULD HAMONI, Contrôleur d'Etat
- Monsieur HAMOUD OULD ABDEL WEDOUD, Contrôleur d'Etat
- Monsieur SID'AHMED OULD YESSA, Contrôleur d'Etat
- Monsieur KAMARA SEYDI BOUBOU, Directeur de la Fonction Publique

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