Greetings From the President:

Social Media for FAFLRT

In my Fall 2010 “Greetings” article, I mentioned that moving forward on social media tools for use by the FAFLRT community was a high priority for my presidency. Social media tools like blogs, Twitter, and Facebook have become integral communications channels for individuals, associations, and businesses looking to converse, connect, and promote their activities. In 2008 FAFLRT launched a variety of social media tools, including a blog, Facebook Fan Page, and a Twitter account in an attempt to provide information of interest to the federal librarian community, outside of the traditional email list serve, website, and newsletter.

At the ALA Midwinter meeting in San Diego, the FAFLRT membership reinforced the importance of moving forward on the social media initiatives we began in 2008. In particular, the membership endorsed continued use of Facebook, the President’s blog and the Google Groups list. Unfortunately, since the fall of 2010 our social media initiatives have languished and have not been actively used to engage with FAFLRT membership and the federal librarian community. This is due to the fact that there is no individual or group within FAFLRT responsible for ensuring that our social media tools are actively promoted, refreshed with new content, and, ultimately, of interest and engaging to our community.

In an effort to reinvigorate our social media presence FAFLRT will establish a new Social Media Committee. This will be a great opportunity for masters’ students and new professionals to get involved in FAFLRT as the work of these volunteer positions could be done completely virtually. We envision 3-5 individuals on the Social Media Committee and responsibilities would include maintaining and updating our current social media sites on Twitter at http://twitter.com/faflrt, on Facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/pages/FAFLRT-The-Federal-and-Armed-Forces-Libraries-Round-Table/85430152045, and the FAFLRT President Blog at: http://www.faflrt.ala.org/president/. Most likely we would also want to rename the blog to reflect that posts are coming from the membership and not just the president.

The Social Media Committee would take the lead in identifying content of interest to the FAFLRT and federal librarian communities, posting content on a regular basis, and promoting our presence on social media platforms. The Committee would also keep FAFLRT members informed of new social media tools that we can partake of. We would love to hear from members interested in forming a Social Media Committee and welcome your ideas in how to go forward communicating with our membership and community.

If you are interested in joining the Social Media Committee, please contact me (kdeb@loc.gov) or Federal Director, Kim Lyall (kim.lyall@gmail.com)

Karl Debus-Lopez, President and Kim Lyall, Federal Director

Luke AFB Library’s Hero Tree

The Luke AFB Library did a variation of the Hero Tree program started by Purdue University. http://www.cfs.purdue.edu/mfri/public/oht/default.aspx. Their tree is a permanent one; the ten names inscribed are those from Luke AFB who earned the Purple Heart or other distinguished medal in the war in Iraq or Afghanistan. The other leaves are inscribed with the names of all the different squadrons on base.
FAFLRT Award Nominations
Due: April 18, 2011

FAFLRT is fortunate to have talented and knowledgeable professionals who make substantial contributions to librarianship and the Federal information community. Your dedication is also helping to ensure the future of Federal librarianship. FAFLRT provides a number of opportunities to recognize profession excellence and also support and encourage the next generation of librarians through several special awards:

The FAFLRT Distinguished Service Award recognizes a FAFLRT member for outstanding and sustained contributions to FAFLRT.

The FAFLRT Achievement Award recognizes an individual for achievement in the promotion of library and information service and the information profession in the Federal community. FAFLRT membership is not required but only FAFLRT members can make nominations.

The Federal Librarians Adelaide Del Frate Conference Sponsorship Award is given to a library school student who has an interest in working in a Federal Library. The selected student receives an award of $1,000 to support attendance at the next ALA Annual Meeting. Students who are currently enrolled in any ALA-accredited library school, who do not already have an ALA accredited degree, and who have expressed an interest in some aspect of Federal librarianship are eligible. Students nominate themselves for this award and must provide a letter of reference.

For more information about FAFLRT awards and/or to complete an online nominations form, visit: http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/FAFLRT/initiatives/awards/index.cfm

FAFLRT Awards Committee:
Shirley Loo, 202-707-6785 or sloo@crs.loc.gov
Maria Pisa, 301-504-5834 or maria.pisa@ars.usda.gov

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Ms. Jessica Hernandez, Librarian at the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) Biosciences Library received the 2011 3M/NMRT Professional Development Grant to attend the ALA Annual Conference.

Ms. Karen Cooper joined the staff of the National Defense University Library on 14 February as a research librarian working on the MERLN program.

National Defense University Librarians Ms. Julie Arrighetti, Ms. Lily McGovern, and Ms. Karen Cooper presented a poster at Catholic University’s “Bridging the Spectrum” Symposium on 25 February. The title of their presentation was “Securing the Future of National Strategy Documents” and it chronicles the work they did creating an archive of U.S. National Security documents. The archive, which is available on the NDU Library’s MERLN (Military Education Research Library Network) website (http://merln.ndu.edu) is a comprehensive collection of official U.S. Government strategy documents, including National Security Strategies dating from the Reagan Administration to the present day, Military and Defense Strategies, Quadrennial Defense Review reports, and strategies focusing on terrorism, homeland security, cyber security, and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs). All these strategy documents are brought together in one location, enhanced by a full-text search feature to facilitate in-depth research.

Congratulations to Mr. James King, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Library’s Information Architect in Bethesda, MD, who has been named as one of SLA’s 2011 Fellows. Mr. King is investigating new services and processes to help provide even better service to the over 5,000 clinicians/researchers and 15,000 support personnel at NIH. This has recently focused on creating Virtual Research Environments based upon the Drupal platform. The NIH Library’s first Drupal-based site, the Pandemic Influenza Digital Archive, a site being built around a collection of historical texts about the Pandemic Influenza of 1918, is being built from the ground up as a virtual collaboration space for historical influenza virologists.

Previously, Mr. King spent over 18 years at the Naval Research Laboratory’s (NRL) Ruth H. Hooker Research Library, using his IT background to transform the NRL Research Library from a print-based library to a cutting-edge digital library, and was instrumental in broad-reaching consortium negotiations with all major scientific information providers. He has a Master in Library & Information Science from Catholic University of America (2002) and a Bachelors of Computer Graphics from Salem International University (1989).

Mr. King has served on several industry library advisory boards, has received the SLA Innovations in Technology Award, and was the 2010 President of the DC/SLA Chapter and is the Convener of the SLA Information Futurist Caucus.

Congratulations to Ms Karen Huffman, also named a 2011 SLA Fellow. Ms. Huffman has been involved not only with SLA but also several local and distance library school programs. She has worked 25 years for National Geographic Society in various roles. She is currently a member of the Software as a Service (SaaS) team in the Information Systems & Technology division, supporting the enterprise and its business needs through hosted, cloud-based solutions such as Google Apps for Business. Her recent external involvement includes chairing the Knowledge Management Division in 2010 for the Special Libraries Association (wiki.sla.org/display/slakm/http://wiki.sla.org/display/slakm/), participating as an advisory board member for University of Buffalo’s library program, and consulting on the technology courses and competencies offered by Catholic University’s library program. Ms. Huffman’s specialties include facilitating communication and engagement strategies through knowledge management techniques and collaborative models, streamlining and managing workflows to improve business processes, and training and development.

For additional details on educational background, contributions to our profession, and personal interest, visit her website: www.cybersailors.com/vitae.html

Ms. Deborahal Balsamo, the National Program Manager for the U.S. EPA’s Library Network, was the guest speaker for The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science (SILS) winter commencement on December 19, 2010. A SILS alumna (MSLS ’97), Ms. Balsamo was presented with the School’s prestigious Distinguished Alumna Award at that event, joining an elite group of accomplished information professionals. She has worked at EPA libraries in a variety of roles since 1998, and has served as the National Program Manager since 2007.

Ms. Aimee Babcock-Ellis is a new federal librarian with the Drug Enforcement Administration, part of the Department of Justice. She began in November 2010 and graduated from the University of Maryland College of Information Studies in August 2010.

The Navy General Library Program announces two new Librarians. Mr. John Shewfelt, a past participant of the Navy Fleet & Family Readiness Internship Program joined the staff at NAS Corpus Christi. Ms. Diane Fullkerson has joined the staff at NSF Dahlgren, VA.

Yokota AFB Library in Japan announces a new reference librarian, Mr. Ian F. Finnesey. He is a recent graduate of the University of Arizona and began in January 2011.

Ms. Karen N. Keene is the new Supervisory Librarian at Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque, NM, effective October 19th.

Ms. Kathleen Hanselmann, Library Director at RAF Lakenheath Base Library announces that their library has been named the United States Air Force Europe (USAFE) Library Program of the Year for 2010. They also won this award.
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in 2009 and are working on winning the award again in 2011.

Ms. Carolyn J. Ray, STINFO Officer at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH retired in February 2011. Her new contact information will be cjray49@att.net.

The Army Library Program would like to recognize Mr. Tim Edwards, Ms. Gloria Miller, and Mr. Paul Fritz of US Army Materiel Command (AMC) Library Program for establishing a single contract for AMC-wide access to industry specifications and standards. The DoD Standardization Program Office named the AMC team one of the 2010 winners. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Systems Engineering, will present the award to Mr. Edwards in the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon on 16 March 2011.

Ms. Alice Roberta Roy, 64, passed away January 23, 2011. Ms. Roy was a retired Air Force Command Librarian for the Strategic and Tactical Air Command.

The Army Library Program announces with sadness the news of Ms. Yolanda Miller’s passing on December 27, 2010 in Huntsville, AL. She was a dedicated Army librarian who served in a number of different Army libraries for over 20 years. Ms. Miller earned an MSLIS from Simmons College in 1984 and entered federal service as a librarian at the Combined Arms Research Library in 1986. For the next 20+ years, she worked in many Army libraries as she followed her husband, on his Army assignments. These travels led her to work in the Academy of Health Sciences Library, Fort Sam Houston Post Library, Fort Monroe Post Library, TRADOC Command Library Office, Schofield Barracks’ SGT Yano Library, and finally in the Pentagon Library, from which she retired in 2008. In the course of her career, Ms. Miller provided reference service, selected integrated library systems, served as hospital ward librarian, moved library collections, and promoted each library and served her patrons with a smile, creativity, and great enthusiasm. She touched many lives in the course of her career and leaves many friends and colleagues who recognize and appreciate her significant contributions to Army libraries and the Army community.

Cynthia Shipley

First Rising Star:
Aimee Babcock-Ellis, Librarian at DEA

Aimee has always wanted to be a librarian. She graduated from the University of Maryland at College Park for her Masters of Library Science in 2010. While there, she worked as a Graduate Assistant at Nonprint Media Services Library as well as various part-time positions ranging from a law firm’s library to a hospital library. Aimee is a 2007 American Library Association (ALA) Spectrum Scholar and a 2010 Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Career Enhancement Fellow. Her passion is health literacy for people from underrepresented populations. Aimee started her first professional position as a librarian at the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)’s library in November 2010. She does a little bit of everything in the small library, including reorganizing the library’s intranet site, some ILL, and spends a majority of her time on research assistance and reference. Her colleagues regard her as a real ‘mover and a shaker,’ and in the short time she has been at DEA, Aimee has begun reaching out to and organizing other new federal librarians. In fact, she has been instrumental in spearheading the NewFeds Facebook Group and Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) initiative, and has a significant leadership role in this new group. This is in addition to her committee work and leadership involvement in ALA and the Special Library Association (SLA), among several other organizations. Some things Aimee enjoys is attending conferences, meeting future librarians as well as other information professionals, and telling people how cool library and information science is.
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Minutes

FAFLRT BOARD MEETING
Monday, December 20, 1:00-2:30

Note taker: Vicky Crone

Participants:
Debus Lopez, Karl Crone, Vicky Stiner, Erica Rosa, Lucille Simmons, Angelique Loo, Shirley Sherman, Helen Perros, Fran Sessa, Jane

1. Volunteer to take minutes  – Vicky

2. Nov 22 minutes: change Jane Sessa to Jane Killian, then accept.

3. Treasurer's Report  – Jane Killian
   Will be slightly in the red if present projections are accurate. Costs from Careers in Federal Libraries at Midwinter were not included so canceling this did not save any money.
   Need to invoice the companies who are running ads in the newsletter — who does this? (Jane Killian, or Richard Huffine?) This would be worth about $5600 that does not appear to be reflected on the budget.

3. Committee Reports

   Internet/Web Enhancement  – Alba Scott
   One major change to the FAFLRT web site this year was the addition of an “Events” page to include announcements for upcoming meetings and also as an archive of previous meetings. (http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/faflrt/events/index.cfm). The new Events page includes all the content in the “Previous FAFLRT Workshops” page. I would like to suggest that this page be deleted, and all the information about FAFLRT events be only posted in the “Events” page. http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/faflr/initiatives/workshops/index.cfm
   (The Board agreed that one Events page, divided into “past” and “future” sections, would be sufficient.)
   The Federal Librarian newsletter will now be published in one single html
   page, as approved by the FAFLRT Board. This change will simplify the publishing process for the html version of the newsletter and also improve the required accessibility standards required by ALA.
   ALA is migrating its content management system from Collage to Drupal around September 2011. In preparation for this migration, there were several items in the FAFLRT web site that needed to be “fixed” and brought to web standards. All the work has been done and the FAFLRT should be completely up to the standards required by ALA.
   Karl would like to have slides from past events added to the Events pages.

   Awards  – Shirley Loo
   Setting up deadline for date for submission of nominations (April 2011?)
   Achievement award can be for anyone, distinguished service award must go to current FAFLRT member. Deadline for newsletter is February 15, so this will be too late to include.

   Nominating  – Helen Sherman
   Have nominations for four of five positions:
   Jane Killian – Treasurer
   Erica Steiner – Armed Forces Director
   Kim Lyall – Federal Director
   Kathleen Hanselman Lakenheath – 1-yr secretary
   No nominees for VP/Pres-Elect/Past Pres have accepted. Will review membership list for other potential candidates.

   Jane Sessa – Federal Librarian Newsletter
   No problems with getting content or advertising, although sometimes it can be last-minute.

   Membership  – Erica Stiner
   Need to get a current list of actual MEMBERS (not just theFAFLRT listserv) from Ros. Listserv list appears to contain people who are not dues-paying members. Are there any benefits you can only get through being a dues-paying member? Is the Google group an official part of the FAFLRT? Jan 2010 list contains 610 individual members.

   By Laws and Constitution  – Vicky
   Fran, Richard, and Vicky are reviewing the Bylaws but have not discussed them as a group yet. Neither Vicky nor Fran have noted anything “major” yet that might need to be voted upon.

   NMRT Liaison  – Kim – no report

   Roundtable Content Management Task Force  – Mike

   Booth Coordinator  – Eileen – no report; no booth at Midwinter; do have at Annual.

   Archivist  – Lucille – no report

   ALA Education Assembly  – Helen
   – Jan 7, 4 – 5:15 discussion at Midwinter, open to anyone.

   ALA Roundtable Coordinating Committee  – Karl – meeting Friday AM. Pulling together a manual for roundtables.

   ALA Legislative Committee  – Vicky
   – no report
   Still don’t have a Program Committee Chair; Karl is acting

4. ALA Midwinter  – FAFLRT
   Membership Committee Meeting
   Sunday, January 9th 10:30-noon; Marriott; Marriott Hall 5
   Agenda:
   I. Introductions
   II. Presentation from Bob Patrick on the Veterans History Project
   III. Presentation on Spectrum Presidential Initiative
   IV. Discussion on FAFLRT Communications and Outreach

Continues on page 9
FAFLRT BOARD MEETING  
Monday, February 7th, 2011  
1:00-2:30 Eastern Time (202) 707-1855.  
Note taker: Vicky Crone  

Members in Attendance:  
Debus Lopez, Karl Crone, Vicky Killian, Jane Lyall, Kim Rosa, Lucille Simmons, Angelique Stiner, Erica  

Review of December 20th minutes – approved with minor spelling correction on Item 4 of draft.  

Treasurer’s Report – Jane  

Status of Funds – a little over $12,000 in the account  

Receiving payments from vendors for the newsletter – three vendors’ invoices have outstanding questions:  
POC for Serial Solutions?  
Unsure what Gale and Emerald committed to.  

Donation to Spectrum Initiative - $500 to be transferred; has not shown up on the current report  

FY12 Budget – Submitted by deadline Feb 1, 2011. Corrected amount for newsletter ($5300 for advertising income, $3000 expense for printing newsletter)  

2011-12 slate (completed) – Karl  
Erica Stiner continues as Armed Forces Director  
Kim Lyall continues as Federal Director  
Jane Killian continues as Treasurer  
Kathleen Hanselmann has been nominated for Secretary  
Anne Harrison has been nominated for VP/President-Elect  

ASCLA Virtual Convergence Webinar – Karl  
This program is similar content and platform to our Careers in Federal Libraries seminar. Karl will pursue the reimbursement FAFLRT is still due.  

Status of Careers in Federal Libraries Preconference – Karl  
41 people have already pre-registered.  
Room and equipment requests have been submitted. Still need to solicit donations toward the preconference.  

Not sure whether Nancy or Richard or someone else should approach LAC Group (Library Associates) for donations.  

Status of Programs  

Grooming Federal Librarians – Helen (need Board rep.) – Vicky will assist. Rooms are set up but will need to bring and set up our own AV equipment.  

Military Librarianship Today – Erica/Lucille – have sent out email to all of the initial respondents, expect slate of people by the end of the week.  

Grey Literature – Richard – Karl will contact Richard to get update on this. Not sure which day this program will be held.  

Grey Literature – Richard – Karl will contact Richard to get update on this. Not sure which day this program will be held.  

Will leave the bylaws unchanged regarding VP/President Elect serving as Program Chair.  

Student Membership decision for 2011-12  
Propose maintaining free membership to students, but no longer mail print newsletters since this cost is not offset.  

Karl will get a current membership list from Roz to verify its accuracy and identify how many are students.  

Is there a way to identify students so that they are excluded from print mailings? If they can’t be excluded easily, then waiving dues will not be continued.  

There is no way to determine if students become paying members upon graduation, unless the membership list is manually reviewed.  

Propose limiting free student membership to two years  

The Federal Librarian is freely accessible via the Internet without ALA membership/login, but some of our constituency cannot readily access it.  

Communications – Kim is willing to look for student volunteers to handle these and will produce an announcement this week for the Board to review.  

Facebook  
LinkedIn  
Google and general listserv  
Blog – need Blog editor  

ALA Connect – Vicky will investigate establishing a FAFLRT presence on Connect as a central place to post FAFLRT documents and news.  

Collaborations with DC/SLA – Shirley Loo suggested increasing cooperative programs with FAFLRT. There isn’t much overlap between FAFLRT (MD/DC) and DC/SLA memberships. Speed Management and Knowledge Management programs may be good programs to explore; Karl will contact Lois Ireland, President of DC/SLA to discuss further.  

ALA Midwinter Discussion – ALA is debating whether to continue Midwinter as an actual conference, or to convert it to a virtual conference. Given budget cuts and travel being frozen for Federal libraries in particular, it seems to make sense to pursue a more virtual platform. This way, even if budgets improve enough to allow more physical attendance, the virtual option will still be available.
Minutes

FAFLRT Membership Meeting 2011
ALA Midwinter Meeting
San Diego, CA
Sunday, January 9, 2011
10:30-12:00 a.m.
Marriott Hall # 5

1. Call to order: Karl Debus-Lopez, FAFLRT President, called the meeting to order at 10:30.

15 people signed in. A picture was taken of some of the participants.
Karl and Lucille Rosa are the only two board members present. Quorum is not met. Minutes from past meetings cannot be approved.

2. Round the table introductions were made.

3. Reporting

A. ALA representative – Miguel Figueroa spoke on the Spectrum Scholarship Program. Miguel is the director of the American Library Association Office for Diversity. He asks FAFLRT to support the Spectrum Scholarship with funds. We explained that we had voted to support last year. ALA has not received funds. Karl will look into this and make sure it is paid.

B. Bob Patrick, director of the Library of Congress’ Veterans History Project spoke about the project. Information can be located at www.loc.gov/vets. They collect stories of veterans and give tips for conducting and preserving interviews. They also take original materials, letters, photographs, diaries. Please pass the word among your patrons to help gather these stories.

C. FAFLRT will participate in the ASCLA Virtual Convergence Webinar on Jan. 21, 2011. We will be part of three programs: “Careers in Federal Libraries,” “How to find a Federal Job,” and “Resume writing and Interviewing Techniques.” This is a first experiment for us! Fedlink is assisting with providing the venue. Thanks to everyone participating!

D. Communications and outreach

1. In the past we talked about using creative ways to get attention for FAFLRT – using facebook, twitter, blogs. What should we concentrate on in the future? “Careers in Federal Libraries” listserv has been very successful. We are not on Facebook – discussion about how this is done. Linked in seems more professional – perhaps we should get on that also? Karl will take these ideas back to the board and look into this further. He will ask if someone wants to be the new “blogger.”

E. Communications and outreach

In the past FAFLRT did more local social events. Some members wish there were more of these. Social events help to draw everyone together for networking and friendship. DCCLA already does this with many activities. Karl will contact them and see if we can join with them for some activities.

F. ALA Council representative – Diane Chen reports that Council might make a statement about the classified information leaked on Wikileaks. The forum will meet Sunday night at 8:00 if anyone wants to come and speak on the subject. She urges us to check out www.Ilovelibraries.org for advocacy tips. This is a great ALA website -- everyone should bookmark it! Diane also pointed out that the ALA executive board sent out a “white paper” Dec. 30, 2010 discussing “the continuing viability of the ALA midwinter meeting. For several reasons, the type of professional travel that many of us engaged in during the final quarter of the 20th century will not be sustainable. Shrinking budgets, rising travel costs, and time constraints all are a problem. ALA would like input on this topic. Find it at this website: http://connect.ala.org/files/4161/ebd_12_17_white_paper_on_the_ala_midwinter_12_29_1_79302.pdf

4. President Karl Debus-Lopez closed the meeting at 12:00. See you all in New Orleans this summer.

Meeting notes provided by Sally Bosken
This is a library.

Where's the library? Sure, it's in traditional buildings. But it's also in a hotel room. In the park. In homes. At the airport. Ultimately, libraries are at the center of every kind of community ... wherever people are seeking to learn, grow, and, yes, enjoy themselves.

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Oh the Grunts and the Tread heads should be friends
One of them walks the ground, the other plows it down
But that’s no reason why they can’t be friends”

Tanks again at Fort Benning:
The Donovan Research Library, Fort Benning, GA, and the US Armor Research Library, Fort Knox, KY, with a combined 150+ years of rich Armor, Calvary and Infantry history, became the Maneuver Center of Excellence Library Division on 1 October 2009 as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission’s decision to move the Armor School to Fort Benning.

The Armor School Research Library has completed its move from Ft Knox into a new facility in the Harmony Church area of Fort Benning. Bill Hansen and his staff at Fort Knox oversaw the packing up of the collection ensuring that all items were secure on the moving trucks. Armor staff at Harmony Church was at the ready when the material arrived. (Pictures of new Armor School Library, Harmony Church)

Library will open for users on 14 March 2011.
The MCoE library staff would like to thank the Armor Staff at Fort Knox for the dedicated years of helping the Armor School students, staff, faculty, researchers and the Fort Knox Community with superb service. The quality of service rendered at Ft Knox will not be diminished as the Armor School Library starts a new beginning at Ft Benning.

Please come visit one of our libraries or check out our website and virtual branch http://www.benning.army.mil/library

Staff at MCoE:
Ericka Loze-Hudson - Director MCoE Libraries, promoted from Infantry Librarian
Sherrie Floyd – Infantry Librarian, promoted from Infantry Reference Librarian
Genoa Stanford – Infantry Reference/Virtual Librarian, promoted from library Technician
Linda Nix – Library Technician, transferred from Ft McPherson Library, GA
Sharlene Carter – Armor Librarian, transferred/promoted from Ft Campbell Library, KY
Janice Haines – Armor Reference Librarian, transferred/promoted from Aviation Library, Ft Rucker, AL
Towana Barnett – Library technician, transferred from the National Infantry Museum/worked previously at library in Babenhausen, GE

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