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MINUTES FROM THE THIRD MEETING OF SINOLOGICAL LIBRARIANS,
PARIS, 4th - 8th July, 1983.

The third meeting of Sinological librarians took place in Paris from July 4th to July 8th, 1983. Monique Cohen of the Bibliothèque Nationale was our host in Paris, and the meetings took place on the Bibliothèque Nationale's premises.

Participants at the conference were:

D.J.Helliwell, Bodleian Library, Oxford

Lars Fredriksen, Stockholms Sinological Library, Stockholm

J.Michael Streffer, Staatsbibliothek PK, Berlin

Chin Fookure, British Library lending division, Boston Spa

Marion Debout, Bibl.de l'École des Langues Orientales, Paris

Françoise Wang, Bibl.de l'Institut des Hautes Études chinoises, Paris

Kirsten R.Lauridsen, The Royal Library, Copenhagen

Sandra Figini, Ostasiatisches Seminar d.Univ.Zürich, Zürich

Irene Schaffer, Centre de Documentation et d'Étude du Taoïsme, Paris

S.V.R.Char, Durham Univ.Library, Durham

Monique Cohen, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris

Elisabeth Eide, The Royal Library, Oslo

Odile Tian-Pierquin, Centre de documentation et de recherches
sur la Chine contemporaine, Paris

Jacqueline Nivard, " " " " " "

Therese Ehling, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris

Howard Nelson, British Library, London

John Ma, Sinological Institute, Leiden

Program for the meeting:

In addition to a guided tour of the Oriental department of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Monique Cohen had arranged for us to visit other major centres of Chinese research in Paris.

The centres visited were:

Bibliothèque Nationale, by M. Cohen.

Bibliothèque de l'École des Langues Orientales, by Marion Debout.

Bibliothèque de l'Institut des Hautes Études chinoises, including the Société Asiatique, by Françoise Wang.

Centre de Documentation et d'Études du Taoïsme, by Kristofer Schipper.

Musée Guimet, with the library, by

Centre de Documentation et de recherches sur la Chine contemporaine, by Odile Tian-Pierquin and Jacqueline Nive

Bibliothèque du Centre de recherches linguistiques sur l'Asie orientale, by Alain Lucas

At the meetings at the Bibliothèque Nationale the following topics were discussed:

1. Discussion of Commercial Press's plans to publish a new Si ku quan shu. It was agreed that David Helliwell (Oxford) should

write to the Commercial Press expressing our hope and desire to be allowed to select freely off-prints from the whole set of the Si ku quan shu, if the CP decided to reprint the series.

Related to this topic, a discussion on libraries' policy towards pirated books and towards companies that made the pirated editions followed. On this issue no conclusion was drawn.

2. Problems related to the shift of emphasis from established institutions to modern documentation centres were discussed. It is apparently easier to establish new institutions than to funnel money into old institutions, with the result that the selection and buying of books may become more haphazard.
3. Key-word cataloguing and L.of Congress subject headings were briefly discussed.
4. Howard Nelson's revised proposal for the updating of the European Union List of Chinese Serials was discussed. The proposal was approved of, and is recommended to the Board of the EACS as it stands. It was agreed that further deliberations or revisions were unnecessary.
5. John Ma's proposal for a Central Research Library for Chinese studies in Europe was turned down. It was deemed not feasible to establish a new Sinological Library in Europe at the present time. Streffer (Berlin) indicated that certain services on a central scale were already provided from Berlin. These services might be expanded, and Streffer would look into the possibilities.
6. A Newsletter was decided established. Lauridsen (Cph.) and Helliwell (Oxf.) should submit plans for format, contents etc. to our next meeting. Helliwell expressed his willingness to act as editor of the Newsletter, and he was asked to start

editing even before decisions on format were decided upon. The librarians in this group must feel a certain obligation to answer favourably to the editor's request for material.

7. Howard Nelson (Lond.) reported on a meeting on library automation held in Canberra last year. A complete report from the meeting will appear in the first issue of the Newsletter.
8. Announcements: questions:
- a. Catalogue of old Chinese books in the Bodleian Library, Vol.1. Backhouse coll. By David Helliwell. The catalogue can be bought from Han Shan Tang, London.
- b. Journal of the Association of Chinese Scholars in Europe, can be ordered from Joint Publ. HK.
- c. John Ma's directory of European Libraries with Sinological holdings will not appear in 1983. An early estimate gives 1984. Revisions may have to be made.
- d. The next meeting of the Sinological librarians will be held in connection to the EACS meeting in Tübingen. A possible excursion to the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek included in the schedule would be appreciated.
9. John Ma expressed his willingness to act as chairman for one more year. He is not willing to continue after 1984. J.M. Streffer was elected as secretary to the organization. All further correspondence in connection with the libraria group should be addressed to him.

Best wishes to all of you from the outgoing
secretary

Elisabeth Eide