

ment to that library in your name. Our hope is to provide every university in independent Africa with a complete run of *RAL* from 1970 to 1989.

Please join us in this effort by sending your donation to *RAL* at the address above. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Bernth Lindfors, Editor
Research in African Literatures

Dear Dr. Bay:

The Library of Congress intends to present to Congress a request for funds to establish and operate a regional acquisitions office in West Africa for the purpose of acquiring West African materials of research value and providing bibliographic controls for them. If funding is approved, the office would open in late 1990, with responsibility initially for Nigeria and four or five neighboring nations. It is anticipated that the office's responsibilities would be expanded over the next five years to include additional West African countries. We feel that this office is needed to develop the same comprehensive coverage that the Library's Nairobi field office has provided for Eastern Africa over the past two decades.

Because of the difficulty of acquiring more than a single copy of most publications in West Africa, we plan to build into the office a strong preservation program so that copies of these publications can be made available through the Library's Photoduplication Service. In this way, all the benefits of the office's acquisitions efforts can be shared with centers of African Studies throughout this country. The office would also produce an accessions list for West Africa which would be available worldwide as an acquisitions and reference tool.

In preparing our request to Congress, it would help us to receive written support for the office from the academic community. It would also be useful to have some indication of your institution's interest in purchasing microfilm or microfiche copies of those West African publications which we will be able to offer in microform.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Robert C. Sullivan
Director for Acquisitions and Overseas Operations
Julian Witherell
Chief, African and Middle Eastern Division
The Library of Congress
Washington, DC 20540