



The history of HRAF is intertwined with the history of photocopying. In the early days, verbatim copies of ethnographic passages were created by using a typewriter and carbon copy paper. As an intermediate stage between typewriters and Xerox machines, the Photostat machine was used. Above, a HRAF staff member uses a Photostat Machine to copy a book, circa 1960.







HRAF analysts discussing which OCM subjects to index an ethnographic passage with, circa 1957. Today, our analysts still keep large posters of the subject-classification system by their desks... Although they have most of it memorized!

