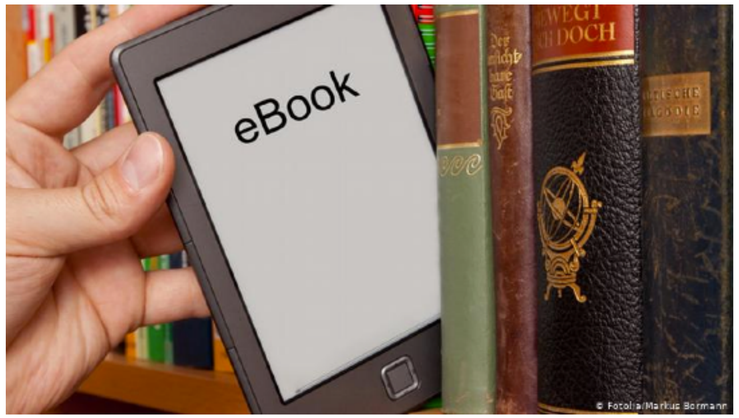
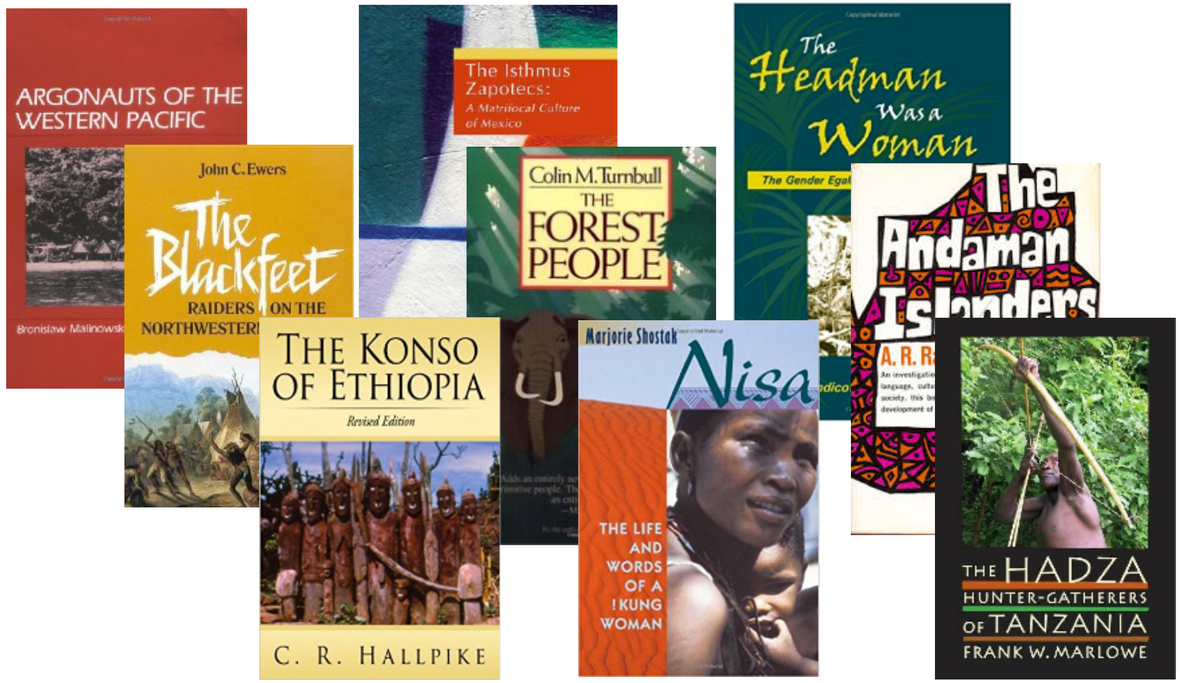
The Human Relations Area Files (HRAF), is a collection of ***primary ethnographic documents***, subject-coded at the paragraph level



eHRAF



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.