Library

Online Catalog: http://www.dcdata.com/ghi/ghi.htm
Library hours: Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm and by appointment
Contact: Library@ghi-dc.org
Head Librarian: Katharina Kloock

Ask a Librarian Service: Since 2005, the internet site of the GHI has a link, Ask a librarian (http://www.ghi-dc.org/library/request.cfm). This link allows one to fill out a form with specific questions in English or German. These are forwarded directly to our librarians, who make every effort to respond within 48 hours. For more complex questions, GHI interns conduct research or find an appropriate external institution to forward requests to.

Description:
The library holds about 40,000 books, microfiches and microfilms, and subscribes to more than 250 periodicals. The collection concentrates on German history and German-American relations, with emphasis on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The library is open to the public and provides open stack access but does not lend. Readers may conduct searches of the library’s holdings through the online catalog. The Reading Room has sixteen stations equipped with electric outlets for laptop computers; a photocopier, a microfiche and a microfilm scanner are also available.

Special collections include German Americana (about 500 titles), histories of German towns and cities (about 200 titles), finding aids to archives in Germany (about 400 titles), and complete works and editions of important German writers, philosophers, scholars, and intellectuals. New titles to these collections are added every year.

The library provides open shelf access to the Verhandlungen des Reichstags, 1867–1942 and the Parliamentary Papers of the German Bundestag, 1949–1998. Research on any topic discussed in the Reichstag and the Bundestag is possible with these volumes.

The library holds an entire run of the Der Spiegel (1947 to the present).

Important microfiche collections:
- Deutsches Biographisches Archiv I, II und III
Die “Judenfrage” / The “Jewish question”: Schriften zur Begründung des modernen Antisemitismus 1780 bis 1918

Regimekritik in Deutschland und den besetzten Gebieten: Meldungen und Berichte aus dem Geheimen Staatspolizeiamt, dem SD-Hauptamt der SS und dem Reichssicherheitshauptamt; 1933–1945

Widerstand als Hochverrat 1933–1945: die Verfahren gegen deutsche Reichsangehörige vor dem Reichsgericht, dem Volksgericht und dem Reichskriegsgericht

Tarnschriften 1933–1945

Partei und Staat in der DDR / Socialist power in the GDR: Akten aus der Stiftung Archiv der Parteien und Massenorganisationen der DDR im Bundesarchiv / Records from the Foundation Archive of Parties and Mass Organisations in the Federal Archives

The Reading Room houses a broad collection of reference works, including encyclopedias, address books, maps, as well as biographical and other dictionaries.