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REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR  
REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE  
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE THIRD UNITED  
CONFERENCE ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Report by Denmark

Paper presented by Denmark

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The first orthographical list of Danish place-names was published in Denmark in 1932. It had been compiled by Stednavneudvalget (the place-name committee) and the spellings were authorized by Statsministeriet (the prime minister's department).

The publication of such lists continued until the authorisation of all the more important names in Denmark was completed in 1969. It was then decided to publish a new revised edition in two parts and the first part, containing names in the counties (amter) east of Lillebælt (the Little Belt), appeared in 1978.

For information about the comprehensiveness of the lists reference should be made to Toponymic Guidelines for Cartography - Denmark, section II.

The spelling of the names is based mainly on the principles laid down for the compilation of the first list. See further Toponymic Guidelines, section I, The orthography of Danish place-names.

The second part of the revised list, which will contain names in Jutland, is in preparation. The material has been collected and the editorial work is about half-complete.

It has been decided to produce this part with the aid of EDP. There are two reasons for this:

1. Because proof-reading will be quicker and more reliable. The names are listed on a lineprinter and necessary corrections can be made at any time. A corrected text can be sent directly to offset printing.
2. Because it will entail a considerable reduction in production costs.

The material is in the process of being fed into the computer. With the help of software developed at Recku (the Regional Computercenter at the University of Copenhagen) this can be transformed into camera-ready copy. It is estimated that the list will appear in 1984.

Stednavneudvalget will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 1985. To mark this occasion a festschrift is in course of preparation. This will contain a number of scholarly articles dealing with the topic 'The use of names'. A folder describing the aims and methods of Stednavneudvalget will also be produced.

Stednavneudvalget has held at least two meetings every year. These have been concerned both with individual problems such as name-changes and points of orthography and with questions of principle. One matter of principle has been

the use of the letter å in place-names. This discussion arose from a request by the city of Ålborg for the authorised form of its name to be spelt with Aa- and it concluded with the decision that authorised name-forms must employ å.

Stednavneudvalget works in close co-operation with the Ministry for Cultural Affairs. Institut for navneforskning (the institute for name research at the University of Copenhagen) acts as secretariat for Stednavneudvalget, cf. Toponymic Guidelines, section II.

In 1975 a data bank was established at Geodætisk Institut (the Geodetic Institute), containing place-names from 1 cm-maps. The functions of the data bank may be indicated by the following headwords:

registration

storage

bringing up to date

searching

sorting

feed-out in the form of lists

digitalization

automatic type-setting.

Work is proceeding at Institut for navneforskning on a number of projects concerning EDP and Danish place-names. All Danish parish-names have been recorded with the following information: The name in its modern form with the topographical number, a dating by means of the oldest recorded form, the land valuation, an etymological interpretation of each element in Old Danish form, together with a translation. It is possible to add to this material information about the localisation of the names drawn directly from Geodætisk Institut's data bank.

A dictionary of Danish place-names in 3 volumes is in process of publication by Dr. Bent Jørgensen of Institut for navneforskning. The first two volumes have already appeared. The dictionary provides a linguistic interpretation of the names together with other relevant information.

So far 18 volumes have appeared of the series Danmarks Stednavne (Denmark's place-names), which is published by Institut for navneforskning. The second part of Randers Amts Stednavne appeared in 1980 and the second part of Stednavne i Ringkøbing Amt in 1981. The Randers volumes contain all settlement names and topographical names in the Amt, while the main stress in the Ring-

købing volumes is laid on settlement names (towns, villages, hamlets, farms and groups of houses) and the only topographical names included are those of major localities.