From: Peggy Barber, Director
Public Information Office

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The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of
the American Library Association is co-sponsoring a major International Symposium
on "Books and Broadcasting for Children", a special program for the International
Year of the Child. The Books and Broadcasting seminar is a joint project of ALSC,
WPBT-TV, Miami, and the U.S. International Communications Agency (ICA.) It will
be held in Boston, New York, Washington D.C., Miami, and 24 other U.S. cities
from September 14 to October 19, 1979. The program is being planned and directed
by ALSC's Executive Secretary Mary Jane Anderson, and Cecily Truett of WPBT-TV,
Miami, Florida.

The Books and Broadcasting Symposium will provide 17 children's literature
specialists and 17 children's television specialists from 30 nations with
opportunities to share ideas and experiences with one another and with their
counterparts -- children's book editors and children's television producers,
researchers and directors.

Four U.S. citizens have been invited to participate in the symposium.
The two U.S. children's literature specialists are ALSC members Elizabeth
Huntoon, Coordinator of Children's Services, Chicago (IL) Public Library,
and Martha Barnes, Children's Services Consultant, Westchester County (NY)
Library System.
One--Books and Broadcasting Symposium

The symposium will begin in Boston, where for approximately 5 days, participants will attend and participate in the Boston Public Library's fifth Children's Books International Seminar and visit WGBH-TV.

While based in New York City for approximately six days, participants will visit the ABC, CBS, and NBC Studios, the Children's Television Workshop, the New York Public Library's Donnell and Lincoln Center Libraries, the UNICEF Center for Children's Cultures, and Weston Woods Studios in Weston, Connecticut. They will participate in discussions with creators, editors and producers of children's books and TV programs to compare and contrast the creative and production processes.

While in Washington, D.C. for approximately six days, participants will learn how public TV works in the U.S., visit and share ideas with officials of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and visit the Library of Congress' Center for the Book and Children's Literature Center. They will learn about several U.S. literacy programs and will share information about those in their own countries. They will be introduced to National Public Radio activities and plans, and will discuss the subject of public policy on children's TV with U.S. Federal Communications Commission staff.

During the next 10 days, participants in groups of 3 or 4 will travel to three of twenty-four sites throughout the U.S. where local ALSC members and children's TV specialists will show them local and regional programs, activities, sights, etc.

To conclude the symposium, participants will take part in a basic workshop at WPBT-TV in Miami where they will produce tapes using techniques and content which can be applied in program production in their own countries. They will view a sampling of worldwide children's television programs and they will also have the opportunity to visit the Miami-Dade County Public Library and several school library media centers in Dade County.

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According to Marilyn Miller, President of ALSC, "It is our hope that by bringing together specialists in children's books and broadcasting, they may discover new ways to contribute to the enrichment of each other's work and thus to the improvement of the quality of media for children. Books in translation, as well as radio and TV signals, transcend national boundaries. It is especially important in this International Year of the Child that the quality and the Interrelationships of these media be explored on a global basis. This symposium is a first step in this direction."

The Round Table had amended its constitution at the Detroit Conference in 1977, so that its purpose was expanded "to encourage the research and publication of library history and promote awareness and discussion of historical issues in librarianship."

The name modification will help clarify the fact that the Round Table is not concerned solely with American library history.

This broader focus opened the Round Table's membership to all ALA members concerned with the historical significance of librarianship. Dues for the Library History Round Table are $2 per calendar year and provide members with a semi-annual newsletter and a 20 percent discount on personal subscriptions to the Journal of Library History.

For more information about the Library History Round Table, contact Joel Lee, ALA Headquarters Librarian, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611.