

RESOLUTION ON GOVERNMENTAL INTIMIDATION

*new
statement
consideration
midwinter
advised*

WHEREAS, ALA is concerned with the preservation of intellectual freedom, and

WHEREAS, The freedom to think, to communicate, and discuss alternatives are essential elements of intellectual freedom, and

WHEREAS, These freedoms have been threatened by actions of the federal government through the use of informers, electronic surveillance, grand juries, and indictments under the Conspiracy Act of 1968 as demonstrated in the case of the Harrisburg 6,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (1) That ALA Membership meeting at Dallas recognizes the danger to intellectual freedom presented by the use of spying in libraries by government agencies;
- (2) That ALA go on record against the use of the grand jury procedure to intimidate anti-Vietnam War activists and people seeking justice for minority communities;
- (3) That ALA deplore and go on record against the use of the Conspiracy Act of 1968 as a weapon against the citizens of this country who are being indicted for such overt acts as meeting, telephoning, discussing alternative methods of bringing about change, and writing letters;
- (4) That the ALA Membership at Dallas assert the confidentiality of the professional relationships of librarians to the people they serve, that these relationships be respected in the same manner as medical doctors to their patients, lawyers to their clients, priests to the people they serve;
- (5) That ALA assert that no librarian would lend himself to a role as informant, whether of voluntarily revealing circulation records or identifying patrons and their reading habits.

Adopted by ALA Council, June 25, 1971.

*Will report to Exec Bd - Act is in
will come up at midwinter. Exec Bd version
with teeth*