

time the coverage has been this extensive.

WPBT is devoting almost two hours each night to the trial, and it intends to continue until a verdict is reached—a date, a WPBT spokesman said, no one is even “attempting to guess.”

Although the commercial stations in Miami have not given the Zamora trial as full a coverage as has WPBT, they have been running two minutes or more of the proceedings on their 6 and 11 p.m. news shows. Dow Smith, news director of Post-Newsweek's WPLG-TV, called the trial “an important news story.” He said, however, that during most of last week's rounds of jury selection and preliminaries “nothing particularly unusual” was brought out in their reports. The issue of television violence is not expected to become a major part of the trial until early this week.

Actor Telly Savalas, star of CBS's *Kojak*, has been subpoenaed by Mr. Rubin, who contends that it was an episode of that series that his client was imitating when he is said to have committed the murder. Mr. Savalas has reportedly agreed to offer a deposition in the case, but the presiding judge, H. Paul Baker, is expected to require Mr. Savalas to be in court Oct. 5.

The three major television networks and some foreign news agencies have done stories on the trial. Judge Baker, in a pretrial news briefing, said Florida's one-year experiment with broadcast coverage would be meeting a severe test in the Zamora trial, which, he said, would determine “if we can have an acceptable marriage between free press and fair trial. It's going to make it or break it.”

According to Mr. Smith the stations have been careful “to avoid anything that's too sensational.” He said broadcasters have a “real responsibility not to misrepresent the case” to the public.

## White House's new design for public broadcasting

**Carter's proposed legislation would reduce CPB activities in programing, boost creation of truly national service, insulate system from government influence**

Ten years after enactment of the Public Broadcasting Act, President Carter sees the public broadcasting system that has developed as in need of an overhaul. And to accomplish it, he will send Congress this week—in the form of legislation and a presidential message—a plan designed to remove some of the snarls the White House sees as having developed, to refocus and clarify functions and to strengthen the system's independence in general and as a journalistic medium.

What's more, the President has in mind nothing less than the creation of a truly, national service, something public broadcasting at present is not.

A principal and immediate goal is to end or at least reduce the friction between the Corporation for Public Broadcasting on the one hand and the Public Broadcasting Service, National Public Radio and other program-producing elements of the system on the other, and to enforce a degree of cooperation among them. Essentially, the White House is determined to remove CPB from the detailed role it has been playing in its programing matters for the past several years. Although CPB was

conceived by Congress generally as a conduit for federal money to the system and as a long-range planner, it has been reviewing program pilots and scripts and making decisions on individual programs. Not only is the effort said to be wasteful—the 37-member CPB program staff duplicates the work of PBS—but also to have diverted CPB's attention from its planning function.

Accordingly, it is understood the legislation will restrict CPB's programing decisions to the categories of programs—public affairs, science, the arts, and the like—it will fund. The grants would be made to PBS, NPR, stations, and regional and other production centers, including the Children's Television Workshop. Those entities, the White House feels, have the expertise needed to make the individual programing decisions.

Actually, the system envisaged in the legislation resembles the one that was functioning in the late 1960's.

Another element of the plan dealing with programing provides for heftier funding for national programing. CPB will be required to increase the percentage of funds it spends on programing from 17% to 25%. And the President in his message will ask the stations to match the dollar amount in the money they make available for national programing through their station cooperative.

Under the five-year CPB authorization now in effect, Congress this year appropriated \$152 million of the \$160 million authorized for fiscal year 1980. The act provides for appropriations two years in advance.

The President's plan calls for another five-year authorization, which would provide \$180 million for fiscal year 1981 and \$200 million for each of the next four

### In Brief

**D. Thomas Miller**, president of CBS Television Stations division since 1970, named to new post of VP, planning, CBS/Broadcast Group, to help “insure the continuance” of broadcasting's “phenomenal growth” in recent years. **Thomas F. Leahy**, VP and general manager of CBS's wcbstv New York since 1973, succeeds him as president of stations division, which encompasses CBS's five O&O TV's and CBS Television Stations National Sales.



Leahy



Miller

**Almost on-again** National Association of Broadcasters planned TV town meeting in Dallas Nov. 15 (see page 47) has been called **off-again** because network program vice presidents who would serve on panel have to attend affiliate meetings. Public meeting scheduled for San Diego Nov. 9 has been changed to Nov. 10.

Trustees of William T. Evjue Trust, principal owner of Capital Times Co., Madison, Wis., have voted to **sell WIBA-AM-FM there to Des Moines (Iowa) Register and Tribune Co.** for \$2.15 million. Sale is subject to FCC approval and favorable court ruling on disposition of CTC's assets under terms of will of late Mr. Evjue. Buyer is broadly held publisher of Des Moines papers and owner of WOAO-TV Moline, Ill.,

which it recently bought, through subsidiary, for \$10 million (BROADCASTING, Aug. 1). David Kruidenier is president, and Michael G. Gartner is executive vice president. WIBA is on 1310 khz with 5 kw full time. WIBA-FM is on 101.5 mhz with 50 kw and antenna 450 feet above average terrain.

Organization of **association of UHF broadcasters** moved step closer Thursday after ad hoc meeting of 30 owners-managers in Charlotte, N.C., at call of Cy Bahakel (Bahakel Broadcasting) and Jim Matthews (WGTU Traverse City, Mich.). Steering committee to consider such association will meet in Washington Nov. 14: Messrs. Bahakel and Matthews; Howard L. Green, WENY-TV Elmira, N.Y.; James F. Glover, Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission; William M. Boyd, WKPT-TV Kingsport, Tenn.; John R. Hughes, WEZF-TV Burlington, Vt., and Cyril Vetter, WRBT Baton Rouge, La.

White House will send to Senate this week long-expected nominations to board of Corporation for Public Broadcasting: **Gillian Sorensen**, wife of former Kennedy aide Ted Sorensen, and **Sharon Rockefeller**, wife of Governor John Rockefeller of West Virginia. Third nomination may also come this week—that of **Irby Turner**, former chairman of Mississippi public television commission, who was picked by White House when proposed nomination of former FCC Chairman **Newton N. Minow** fell through because of his refusal to make financial disclosure required by Senate.

**WOAY-AM-FM-TV Oak Hill-Beckley, W.Va.**, burned to ground early in morning of Sept. 30. Temporary facilities will take two weeks to a month to complete.