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### Mildred Persinger Bio, 1985

Mildred Emory Persinger

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Mildred Persinger has been closely associated with the non-governmental organization (NGO) community represented at the United Nations. She is UN Representative for the 83-country World YWCA and the U.S. YWCA; co-chairs the NGO Committee on Disarmament and has just completed terms as secretary of the International Conference of Non-governmental Organizations and as a board member of the NGO Committee on UNICEF.

She headed the organization and management of the first NGO forum of the Decade for Women which paralleled the 1975 World Conference of International Women's Year in Mexico City. As follow-up she initiated and served as president of a new NGO: the International Women's Tribune Centre, a communication and training network for women in 150 countries. She was also part of the planning for subsequent forums in 1980 in Copenhagen and in 1985 in Nairobi.

Other international NGO events in five world regions in which she has been active include the 1974 Population Tribune in Bucharest and international NGO conferences on disarmament, on development and on environment. As a national NGO representative she chaired the Conference of UN Representatives, a coalition of some 150 organizations associated with UNA/USA.

Two U.S. presidents have appointed her to national commissions on international affairs. She has been a national director of the YWCA, the United Nations Association, International Social Service, OEF International and The Commission to Study the Organization of Peace. These affiliations have required preparation of policy papers, testimony and articles of publication.

Her husband, Richard Burwell Persinger, is a New York lawyer. They have three children.