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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

11 WEST 53rd STREET
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CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SWEDISH CONSUL-GENERAL TO SEE SWEDISH
CHILDREN'S WORK AT MUSEUM

The Honorable Lennart Nylander, Swedish Consul-General, and a group of Swedish officials will make a special tour of the current exhibition WORK BY SWEDISH CHILDREN at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Saturday, March 24 at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. Ebba Bäckman, art teacher from Stockholm who sent the exhibition to this country, will discuss the children's work.

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PRESS PREVIEW: TUESDAY,
MARCH 13; 2-5 P.M.

510208 - 17 FOR RELEASE MARCH 14, providing the statement is made
that the exhibition opens to the public on March 19.

PAINTINGS BY SWEDISH CHILDREN SHOW FANTASY AND REALISM

Fifty-eight paintings, mostly watercolors, in an exhibition of WORK BY SWEDISH CHILDREN will open to the public at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Monday, March 19, and will remain on view in the Young People's Gallery on the second floor through May 20,

The pictures, characterized by an interest in detail and done on a smaller scale than is customary in U.S. schools, were brought here to acquaint American educators and parents with work from another country. They are by children between the ages of 7 and 16 on three topics: Animals - domestic, wild or fantastic; Travel - land, sea or air; An Adventure - dangerous or pleasant, experienced or imagined.

Some of the adventure pictures might be called Dreams of Glory or The Thrill That Comes Once in a Lifetime. In one, a little boy precariously but successfully walks along the top of a picket fence as two admiring friends watch; in another, a tightrope walker is all alone in an empty, de Chirico-like street on a rope stretched between the top floors of two tall, yellow-brown buildings.

In some pictures, adventure and travel, experience and imagination have become completely intermingled. While some of the ships portrayed are ordinary craft - a boat with brown sails and a black fishing net, or a sturdy red, white and blue steamer, others are fantastic in line and color and are shown fighting terrible storms or disembarking passengers who are climbing ladders to the sky. In one, a deep sea diver is exploring a sunken ship and fighting off a sneering octopus.

Several adventures depict covered wagons, cowboys and Indians, those popular European subjects. Street accidents are a recurring theme. Other topics are ball games (one with the audience shown as rows of little pink pumpkin faces suspended in space), apple picking and stealing, a graveyard with smiling ghosts, buried treasure and prehistoric animals.

This exhibition was arranged under the direction of Victor D'Amico, Director of the Department of Education. It will open in advance for members of the Committee on Art Education, who are assembling from all over the country for their 9th Annual Conference at the Museum, on March 15, and to the public on March 19.