

## INFORMATION RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TOMY ROBOTS SERVE AS VALUABLE TEACHING AIDS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

CHICAGO, June 2, 1985 -- The world of robotics is no longer science fiction fantasy. From the earliest stages of modern technology, scientists and engineers and artists have been exploring the many applications of robotics -- creating mechanical arms for the Space Shuttle, developing functioning robots for industrial use, and even animating sculpture and various other art forms.

In 1984 Tomy Corporation brought this technology to the consumer market with three robots -- OMNIBOT, VERBOT and DINGBOT -- the first affordable robots for home entertainment. Shortly after their arrival in the marketplace, they became media celebrities in their own right, and were soon adopted by teachers and law enforcement agencies around the country as teaching tools.

Though introduced into the marketplace as toys, it soon became apparent that Tomy's robots were also the first affordable robots for institutional and government use.

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°In <u>Santa Monica, Calif.</u>, the Police Department's School Resource Officer has programmed Omnibot to assist in educating youngsters on earthquake preparedness.

"The Ocean County Sheriff's Department in New Jersey has devised a safety program for elementary school students utilizing Omnibot (nicknamed "Sherbot Holmes") to instruct children in the basics of crime prevention and safety.

"A sixth-grade teacher in <u>Birmingham</u>, <u>Ala</u>., uses Omnibot as a teacher's aide. A recent assignment for the robot was to give students a spelling lesson comprised of people and places they have studied in history.

°A teacher in <u>Pembroke Pines</u>, <u>Fla.</u>, uses Dingbot in a pilot program on robotics for elementary students in grades 2 - 5.

°Omnibot has been selected for the Essential Technologies
Awareness Program that is currently being piloted at the Ocean
View School District in <u>Huntington Beach</u>, <u>Calif</u>. This program
teaches entry level robotics, and will be implemented nationally
in the fall of 1985.

These are just a few examples of the many ways in which Tomy's "first generation" robot toys have been adapted to aide in early education. What began as toys -- have evolved into valuable teaching tools.

With the advanced technological features offered by the new Omnibot 2000, and the introduction of Tomy's other new robots, the company hopes to participate in similar innovations in education in the months ahead.