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OA/ID Number: 13750
Folder ID Number: 13750-009

Folder Title:
50th Anniversary of the U.S.O. 4/5/91 [OA 6897] [1]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	21	3	3

1 April 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: JENNIFER GROSSMAN

SUBJECT: USO/BOB HOPE MATERIAL

Both, are you doing this? Do you need help? -JAG

USO BACKGROUND

(excerpts from fact sheets)

1) "USO is a voluntary, civilian nonprofit organization devoted exclusively to serving the needs of military personnel and their families worldwide. USO is not part of the U.S. government and receives no direct federal funding. It relies on voluntary, private contributions from the American public through individual and corporate donations, United Way and Combined Federal Campaigns."

2) USO was founded in 1941 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Interesting POTUS tie-in: "..the late Prescott Bush, the father of today's Honorary Chairman, President George Bush, played a very significant role in the founding of USO. Prescott Bush was one of four business leaders recruited by President Franklin Roosevelt to organize the USO in 1941. Mr. Bush was honored posthumously with the 1990 USO Christmas Award for personally leading a fundraising effort which netted $32 million for the USO war chest in 1942."

3) "USO is the channel through which the American public can support the unique needs of our modern, transient, peacetime military...As long as military personnel continue to be uprooted and transferred, and their families located far from familiar support services, assistance to transients will continue to be a primary focus of USO's programming."

4) "The goals of USO are well expressed in the words of one of our country's first citizen soldiers, General George Washington, who said: 'When we assumed the soldier, we did not lay aside the citizen.'"

5) "During World War II, American soldiers numbered 12 million; today they number 2.2 million. Fifty-four percent are

between 18 and 25 years old, married, and have children. Including family members, the total population associated with the services is over 5 million."

6) "Since USO celebrated '50 years of service to service people' on February 4, 1991, the organization continues to vigorously fulfill its mission to America's military men and women. Responding to the most recent enormous challenge of Operation Desert Shield/Storm, USO established centers in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia."

7) "In 1941, after the USO was incorporated, Camp Shows Inc. was formed as a separate corporation affiliated with and supported by the USO. From 1941-47 alone, USO/Camp Shows presented almost a half-million performances to an audience that totaled more than two hundred million people...USO shows demonstrate to military personnel that their country is behind them and supports them, reinforcing the message that America cares about its courageous men and women in uniform."

QUOTES

1) POTUS might introduce his remarks at the Bob Hope luncheon by recalling the latter's remark:

"If I have to lay an egg for my country, I'll do it."
--Bob Hope

2) FDR, founder of USO, remarked upon an American quality we have been privileged to see once again in action:

"..the ability of the American people to face a tough situation and to take orderly and united action in their own behalf and in behalf of the things in which they believe."
--FDR, Radio address on the 9th anniversary of the administration's agricultural program, March 9, 1942.

3) MORE FDR:

"Wherever men and women of good will gather together to serve their community, there is America."
--Radio address on Mobilization for Human Needs, Oct. 13, 1940.

4) STILL MORE FDR:

"Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel in order to be tough."
--ibid.

850 attendees

Reagan Ford Cheney Powell Hope

not there for meal

arrive at end, and then speak.

Fundraising for this event & USO in general.

Bob Hope might by presented w/

lifetime ach. award

50 yrs of service

POTUS - hon. ch.

- call Jay

put that in the speech.



The President of the United States
George Bush
USO Honorary Chairman

Bob Hope
USO Ambassador of Good Will

Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr., USN (Ret.)
Former Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Co-Chairman, USO 50th Anniversary

Heinz C. Prechter
Chairman, ASC Inc.
Co-Chairman, USO 50th Anniversary

Alex G. Spanos
Chairman, A.G. Spanos Construction, Inc.
Salute Chairman

General Bernard W. Rogers, USA. (Ret.)
Chairman, USO World Board of Governors

Honorable Chapman B. Cox
President, World USO

Memorandum for Craig Wray

FROM: Bob Odell
Kathy Phillips

RE: Bob Hope Award

DATE: April 1, 1991
9:30 pm

In honor of Bob Hope's 50 years of personal contribution to the USO and the military men and women it serves, the World USO would like to award their "Lifetime Achievement Award" to him at the luncheon on April 5.

It is my understanding that this award or another is to be presented again to Mr. Hope during the TV show by General Colin Powell.

Bob Hope is attending the luncheon in part because his close friend, Alex Spanos, is chairing the event. Further, I have been told that Mr. Hope has personally requested that his award be presented by the President. President Bush serves, as every President since Franklin Roosevelt, as the Honorary Chairman of the USO.

In reviewing the agenda as presented, you will note that Mr. Hope is introduced and speaks for 5 minutes before the President arrives. My goal was that the audience will be prepared for the President's arrival and that all speeches and business will be concluded. If the President agrees to give Mr. Hope his award, I would discourage Mr. Hope from anything other than "thank you, Mr. President."

The award has been contributed by Steuben and is

MEMORANDUM FOR CRAIG WRAY
April 1, 1991
(Cont.)

I hope you can let me know the situation as I need to get with Mr. Hope's person on what we expect of him at the luncheon.

Many thanks.

50th Anniversary of the USO

Universal Studios
Los Angeles, CA

USO contact: Kevin McCarthy
783-8121

LA: Bob O'Dell
213-207-9700
or Abigail Perelmen
Robin Cherry

Jean Stafford 213-207-9700

Thank-you notes: Kevin McCarthy
601 Indiana Ave. NW
W, DC 20004

—Jennifer Glynn

1941 · FIFTY YEARS SERVICE TO SERVICE PEOPLE · 1991

WORLD HEADQUARTERS • 601 Indiana Avenue, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 783-8121 FAX: (202) 638-4716

USO CASE STATEMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

USO is a voluntary, civilian nonprofit organization devoted exclusively to serving the human needs of military personnel and their families worldwide.

USO is not part of the U.S. government and receives no direct federal funding. It relies on voluntary, private contributions from the American public through individual and corporate donations, United Way and Combined Federal Campaign.

Since its founding by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941, USO has fostered the creation of a viable understanding and interaction between the military and civilian communities in the United States and overseas and has responded to the special needs of service personnel. And as those needs have changed over the past five decades, the USO has adapted, developed, and improved.

USO today is far more than just another service organization; it's a vital element in our nation's mobilization for peace. USO is the channel through which the American public can support the unique needs of our modern, transient, peacetime military. The morale and spirit of our servicemembers are prime factors in maintaining combat readiness--America's first line of defense.

Over 2 million Americans wear an armed services uniform. Their spouses and children add another 3 million, bringing the total military population to over 5 million. Most military personnel are between the ages of 18 and 25 years, and over 54% are married with children. More than a million are in the lowest paid enlisted ranks. For today's military personnel and their families, TRANSIENCY is a way of life. At any given time, over 820,000 men and women - plus many of their families - are stationed outside the United States on a peacekeeping mission for our national defense.

Although military families mirror the trends of our ever-changing society (more working mothers, an increased number of single parents, aggregate families with two sets of divorced parents), the higher rate of transiency sets them apart from their civilian counterparts.

Military service is a job to which no other can be compared. Armed forces personnel are often uprooted and transferred several times during their careers, creating special problems and needs for the young servicemember, spouse and children living in isolated areas far from loved ones and familiar support services. Spouses leave careers, children adjust to new schools in new, often unfriendly surroundings. The mission of service life precludes any permanent basing. And military personnel have made a commitment to be ready to fight and even die for that mission.

President George Bush
Honorary Chairman

Bob Hope
Ambassador of Good Will

Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr., USN (Ret.)
Co-Chairman, USO 50th Anniversary Celebration

Heinz C. Prechter
Co-Chairman, USO 50th Anniversary Celebration

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President, BSN Associates, Inc.

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Disabled American Veterans

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Special Assistant to the Chairman
Electronic Data Systems

Johnny Yune
Beverly Hills, California

As of 1/10/91

Because of the unusual demands of service life (growing tensions in the world that require long deployments and "remote" tours to locations away from family members), military personnel and their families face numerous challenges not always present in the typical American family.

Culture shock, language and ethnic barriers in foreign countries, loneliness and boredom, lack of adequate on-base housing, financial difficulties and lack of adequate child care are just a few of the stressful problems exacerbated by the unique elements of military life.

USO services are aimed at today's transient military groups: military travelers on their way to new assignments, fleet sailors and marines in foreign ports (and their visiting families), groups on training exercises, servicemembers and families arriving at new duty stations, and those on leave. USO plays an important role in providing the military family with services and programs which are immediate, targeted to specific groups and needs, and often focus upon preventive measures that can enhance military life.

At more than 160 locations worldwide including recently opened centers in the Middle East, the core of USO today is a human service program offered through Airport Centers, Fleet Centers, Family and Community Centers, Orientation and Intercultural Programs and Celebrity Entertainment.

As long as military personnel continue to be uprooted and transferred, and their families located far from familiar support services, assistance to transients will continue to be a primary focus of USO's programming.

Through the assistance offered by USO, our military personnel are able to concentrate more fully on the job at hand: defending our freedom.

The USO needs American citizens and corporations to support its efforts. Through such support, USO can expand its commitment to serve the morale and well-being of the men and women who are defending our national interests around the globe.

Snow/Grossman
April 1, 1991
Salute to the USO
1 p.m.
Draft Two

Presidential Remarks: Salute to the USO
Los Angeles, CA
April 6, 1991
6 p.m. (approx.)

Thanks, James. Barbara and I are thrilled to join this tribute to the USO. The only time I've ever been surrounded by **so many** stars was when I visited Saudi Arabia last year, and visited the men and women who later served in Operation Desert Storm.//

Many people think the USO just puts on road shows, but those of us who have served know that it does much, much more. In World War II, the USO also established more than 3,000 homes away from home for GI's serving in Europe and the Pacific. Later, it sought out housing and help for Korean veterans. By Vietnam, its importance was so well understood that the Vietcong actually tried to blow up Bob Hope! // And in Operation Desert storm, the USO gave our troops "Oasis" packages, crammed with goodies from home.

The USO exemplifies Americans' natural commitment to goodness, decency, service. When American men and women risk their lives in the service of principle, the USO is there. When

lonely troops yearn for the sights and sounds and humor of home, the USO is there. When loved ones want to send their thoughts and wishes and prayers, the USO is there. The USO provides precious necessities for our troops: love, hope, happiness, home. It lets those of us back home say what we so desperately need to say: We care. We have not forgotten you. We will not abandon you.

Franklin Roosevelt, founder of the USO, once noted that "Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel in order to be tough." The U.S.O. proves that maxim. As long as the freedom demands sacrifice, the U.S.O. will extend the hand of human kindness to Americans charged with the tough duty of defending liberty.

So tonight, on behalf of a grateful nation, and on behalf of the millions and millions of people the U.S.O has helped over the past half-century, we say thanks.

God bless you, God bless the USO, and God bless the United States of America.

Jennifer in CA
Univ. Hilton 818-506-2500

FACT-CHECK COPY

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
April 2, 1991 3 p.m.
USOBOB Draft One

818 752-0200

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: USO FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON
Los Angeles, CA
Friday, April 5, 1991

Acknowledgements

It's great to be here with all of you -- and great to be in Los Angeles. But, you know, this isn't the only place in America where you can find ideas for movies. Think of it: General Tom Kelly -- cleverly dealing with Wolf Blitzer's questions -- now starring in "Dances with Wolf." Or Buddy Roemer -- all these years a Republican trapped in a Democrat's body -- finally featured in "Awakenings." And maybe when t.v. covers the Mrs. America Pageant, they can bill it as "The Battle of all Mothers."

Jen's memo

You know, when I try to tell a joke I think of Mr. USO here, Bob Hope -- and what he said before fearlessly launching a monologue: "If I have to lay an egg for my country -- I'll do it."

Well, Bob, in your love for this country's sons and daughters serving far from home, you've done everything <u>except</u> lay an egg. On stage, that is. On the golf course is another matter.

I'm proud to be able to take part in this country's anniversary tribute to the USO -- an inspiring part of our lives for 50 years. 50 years of volunteers giving our servicemen and women the precious gift of hometown caring. [50 years of fleet centers, airport centers,] family centers, community centers. 50 years of orientation and cultural programs -- and of conversation and dancing. 50 years of donuts and milkshakes -- literally a taste of home. 50 years of celebrity entertainment. That adds up to 50 years of tremendous volunteer dedication. ?

The USO has always been special to me. First, because for years it was a big part of my father's life -- and I'm glad right now to have the chance to thank you personally for honoring him with your 1990 Christmas Award.

But the USO also has special meaning for me because I got to know it first-hand during WWII when I was a lonely pilot grateful for its touches of home -- home that sometimes seemed so far away. And now, I receive letters from our troops in the Gulf. Letters that talk from the heart about how much it means to see USO visitors (and ~~American~~ ice cream) in that distant desertland.

→ Haagen Dazs is American?

But -- like most Americans -- my real image of the USO is of Bob Hope wearing baggy camouflage and swinging a golf club on stages half a world away. In front of young faces lit up with laughter -- over even the corniest jokes. Sorry, Bob.

It made you want to cry, seeing those kids able to enjoy a break from their daily struggles and fears. How many soldiers' lives he brightened. How many burdens he lifted. And along the way, millions came to see him as the symbol of America. Well, Bob, I guess that makes you a new kind of Bald Eagle.

[ANCEDOTE TO COME] For all these years, Bob's travelled on behalf of all Americans. We couldn't go abroad to comfort our sons and daughters so we sent Bob. He's a big chunk of our hearts and our heartlands. Our gift to those who spoke with their presence and their lives for principle -- for liberty -- for us.

For whenever freedom has demanded sacrifice, our young men and women have answered its call. And wherever they have gone the

USO and Bob Hope have followed, extending the hand of America.

Bob -- your own name says it all. Your dedication brings us all **hope**. It gives me the greatest pleasure to honor a true Point of Light in the American constellation of caring. You entertainment, inspire, and move us all.

For 43 years of dedication to the ideals of the USO -- and the USA -- we're present to you this Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations, Bob. May God bless you as you have blessed us.

# # # # #

50 yrs.
See USO mag re: Bob Hope



WELCOME HOME AMERICA

A USO Salute
to America's Sons and Daughters
April 5th, 1991 Universal Amphitheatre

George Schlatter Productions 8321 Beverly Blv'd LA 90048 213-655-1400 Fax 213-852-1640

WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE
UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATRE
FRIDAY MARCH 22, 1991
12:30

Executive Producer
George Schlatter
Writer
Buz Kohan
Talent Executive
Maggie Barrett

Producer
Bob Wynn
Musical Director
Glen Roven
Executive in Charge
of Production
Gary Necessary

Director
Jeff Margolis
Production Designer
Bob Keene
Talent Coordinator
Juliea Clark

For the USO
Executive Producers **Kevin McCarthy & Ray Volpe** Producer **Edd Griles**

USO 50
1941 • Fifty Years Service to Service People • 1991

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION • WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE
"WELCOME HOME AMERICA" • UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATRE • MARCH 22, 1991

President

Routes:

- Helicopter Pad to Tent (Luncheon and Staff Photo Op)
- Tent to Amphitheatre (Cast Photo on Stage)
- Stage to Presidential Suite
- Presidential Suite to Amphitheatre Seat

Presidential Box

- Location / Size / Access / Soldiers
- Needs (Monitors..Mikes) "Other Guests" (Brenda Schwarzkopf) /

Presidents Role

- Speech
- Schwarzkopf...Satellite Hook up
- Finale

Secret Service Sweep

- How much Time.
- Everybody off stage?
- Fundraisers Tent?
- Movie Theatre?

President at Fundraisers Tent

- Staff Photo Op

Seating

- Dignitaries
- Gen. Powell / Sec. Cheney / Gen. Neal / Pres. Reagan / Pres. Ford
- Secret Service....Others

Military

- Wheelchair access for vets
- POW's plus Guests
- Other soldiers from other wars...
- WWII ..Korea...Vietnam Reps..(Navaho, Tuskeegee, Green Berets)..VA Hospital
- Talent Escorts...Military

Press

- Micro waves for press..... SECRET SERVICE SWEEP?
- "Roaming" Photographers inside ....SECRET SERVICE SWEEP
- White House press corps

Show

- Internal Communications..Production to Secret Service?
- Cast Photo...Pre set lights & riser...SECRET SERVICE SWEEP
- White House / ABC / GSP photographers only
- Cast photo Credentials...with Numbers...(plus guest backstage)

Audience

- Metal Detectors...location...how many

Miscellaneous

- Role for Reagans..Fords??
- Production Trailers for...ABC...GSP...USO...WHSS??
- Credentials..who handles?...Type? / Photo • Wrist...change for day of show
- Limos and Bus #'s

Attendees for White House Advance
"WELCOME HOME AMERICA"
UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATRE
MARCH 22, 1991

George Schaltter Productions

George Schaltter	Executive Producer
Bob Wynn	Producer
Edd Griles	Coordinating Producer
Gary Necessary	Executive in Charge of Production
Bob Keene	Production Designer
Maggie Barrett	Talent Executive
Suzzanne Stangel	Production Manager
Marrianne Sauvage	Publicist
John Field	Technical Director

Robert Odell and Associates (Fundraising Luncheon)
Robert Odell
Abigail Perlman
Robin Cherry

ABC
To Be Determined

The Brokaw Company (USO Publicist / Media)
Joel Brokaw
Sandi Brokaw
Diane Hadley
Nancy Block

USO
Rich Davis

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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Patricia Conrad, Trip Coordinator *
Lucy Muckerman, Executive Assistant to the Special Assistant to the President for Presidential Press Advance *

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Captain Rex Jordan, AFI Advance
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Office of Cabinet Affairs
Doug Adair, Associate Director

--our sons and daughters of Desert Storm gave a country back its freedom; and a nation back its pride.
--TS: new proposal; woman soldier; new freedoms; casualty
--always special place in my heart -- at request of FDR, Prescott served as USO's Ntional Campaign Chairman -- helped raise more than $32 m. for USO in 1942; one of four business leaders recruited by FDR to organize it in 1941; personally led fundraising effort; 1990 USO Christmas Award
--"heartstick, homesick and weary"
--so young, so grateful
--bringing touches of home -- and of the home spirit -- what's truly American -- more than doughnuts or milkshakes or even phone calls home
--maybe nothing that speaks more -- and better -- of the American character -- caring -- sharing (remember the USO shows, buddies with arms around each other crying during "Silent Night" -- the hospitals where
--reminder and comfort ; religious counsel and dancing ; most of all -- a taste of home
--we can all be USO volunteers -- have been during Persian Gulf -- it's always a piece of home -- a grateful home -- a remembering home -- a loving home -- the best of Americans
--Lee Greenwood
--(for another time: civil war -- 17-year-olds -- same as in the desert)
--there for the simplest, best, most loving reason there is -- because there's a human need
--always there with a smile -- like family
--hundreds of volunteers
--even though is huge international undertaking now -- still comes down to the same thing -- a smile, and a cup of coffee from home -- but all it really comes down to is someone saying "we care. We remember. We love. We're in it together. We're Americans."
--Soldier John Little -- "It's important to these guys to know somebody ... stands with them under the American flag. It let us know that our country is behind us all the way."
--to Tommy Hearns: "It just meant so much to me, words can't describe how much you have helped me (-- may the Lord truly bless you... because) the Lord has blessed me through you." Sgt. Thigpen

--James Michener, BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI, "Where did we get such men?"
--support from hoemfront: letters, homebaked brownies, Girl Scout cookies, letters, etc. --- support and love from strangers -- Bangor, Maine

--6,000 people; Universal Ampitheeater; taping for broadcast; real patriotic -- honoring the troops; Cheney, Powell; 50 years of USO (show -- do bits from all); GB at the end, t.y.; one page (2 minutes); just conclude the show; George Schlatter Productions (Bob Wynn, producer; buzz cohen, writer; (213) 655-1400

--great troops; America; Points of Light
--fit into character of show -- not a speech -- will be surroudned by troops

--you don't have to wear a star to be a hero
--vets of every conflict --
--liberated country from old ghosts and doubts

--illuminated our better selves. We liked what we saw. We want to see more.

--USO -- through the darkest times, was always a reminder -- a call to our nation's soul -- a reminder of the values we were founded upon -- the value of family, above all -- that's the spirit that's so richly in the air during this great celebration --

optimism; self-confidence, decnecy, feel good about self; emotionalism
mail -- very touching --
--unleash goodness you have to do deeds
--What is the Am. character -- it's family. Neighbor helping neighbor. Friendliness, kindness, generosity, patriotic. It's the Pledge of Allegaicne at Rotary lunches -- it's saying we're good and decent --

don't care about crime
care about people

FLOTUS?

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

USO

LAX - POTUS arr.
huge yellow ribbons wrapped around the office buildings

6,000
military + families
Hollywood types
CEOs

other POTUS

~~[redacted]~~

voices that care group?

history & welcome home

producer → George Schlatter Prod.
(213) 655-1400

Bob Wynne, producer
Buzz Cohen writer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

POTUS seated w/ troops

possible satellite hookup w/ Schwarzkopf
Mrs. Schwarzkopf might be seated w/ POTUS

after God Bless Am. or Am. the Beautiful,
he will speak (2 min. tops)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

"Why is America ~~lucky~~ enough to have such men?"

Quote in spch. now is right!

City/State: Los Angeles CA

Event: USO

Date: 3/22

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Jennifer Dreesen	Universal Amp	777 4459
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WILLIAM D. DE CINCES	" " "	777 3161
PAT RYAN	PARTY PLANNER WEST	213-305-1000
PAUL RAISIN	" " "	"
JOAN BULLARD	Universal Studios Hollywood	818 777 3848
GAIL-McCRACKEN-MARTIN	UNIV. AMP	818 777-5454

Record Sheet

City/State: Los Angeles CA

Event: USO

Date: 3/02

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Robin Cherry	Odell, Roper / USO	213 207-9700
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Brad Fuqua	WH Communications	(202) 395-4040
Mac McKeown	White House Communications (TO)	(202) 395-5206
Mark Baenziger	White House Communications Agency (OPS)	202-395-4040
BOB WYNN	G.S.P.	213 655 1400
George Schlatter	Executive Producer	(213) 655-140
Maggie Barrett	Executive in Charge of Talent	(213) 655-1400
Julie Clarke	Talent Coordinator	(213) 655-1400
EDD GRILES	Coordinating Producer	(213) 655-1400
Marianne Savage	Publicist	(213) 655-1400

1941 · FIFTY YEARS SERVICE TO SERVICE PEOPLE · 1991

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USO's MISSION

The USO is a congressionally chartered, nongovernmental, nonprofit organization. For over 50 years, its mission has been to enhance the quality of life for military personnel -- single or married -- and their families by helping them adjust to the special rigors of a transient military life style and by fostering a viable partnership between the military and civilian communities.

The goals of USO are well expressed in the words of one of our country's first citizen soldiers, General George Washington, who said: "When we assumed the soldier, we did not lay aside the citizen." In other words, military personnel have the same social needs and commitments to loved ones as other private citizens. USO's mission is to address those needs.

To achieve its mission, USO:

* Articulates the needs and desires of the military and civilian communities to each other;

* Develops and delivers support services for integration of military personnel and their families into civilian communities;

* Initiates and implements programs that promote interaction between the military and civilian communities;

* Promotes the "quality of life" of military personnel and delivers pertinent services to support them.

To ensure continuing financial and volunteer support, part of USO's mission is to make the public aware of the services it provides to military personnel worldwide. This is becoming increasingly difficult since fewer people have had military experience, and those who have not are less aware of the rigors of military life. During World War II, American soldiers numbered 12 million; today they number 2.2 million. Fifty-four percent are between 18 and 25 years old, married, and have children. Including family members, the total population associated with the services is over 5 million. USO must continue to inform the public that USO is not funded by tax dollars, but depends on the generosity of the American public.

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Ambassador of Good Will

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Co-Chairman, USO 50th Anniversary Celebration

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Beverly Hills, California

As of 1/10/91

A PROUD HISTORY

Responding to a call for action from President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941, six nonprofit agencies pooled their resources to form a new organization -- the USO (United Service Organizations). The six civilian agencies were the Salvation Army, Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), National Catholic Community Services, National Traveler's Aid Association and the National Jewish Welfare Board.

Throughout World War II, USO was the channel for community participation in the war effort. In over 3,000 communities, USO centers were established to become the G.I.'s "Home Away From Home." Between 1940 and 1944, U.S. troops grew from 50,000 to 12 million and their need for a variety of services grew accordingly.

With the United States' entry into the Korean War, USO was on hand here and abroad. The ending of the Korean conflict in 1953 had relatively little effect on decreasing the need for USO services -- more than a million servicemembers remained stationed abroad.

In the absence of overt conflict, the early 1960s were a difficult time for military personnel. The G.I. had become a forgotten figure and contributions to USO declined. A National Ad Hoc USO Survey Committee in 1963 reaffirmed the need for USO, "not merely during wartime, but perhaps even more during peacetime."

USO played an especially important role for the troops in Vietnam. But in the early 1970s, with the ending of conscription, the question of USO's mission resurfaced. In 1974, a report of United Way of America's Committee on National Agency Support (CONAS) questioned the need for continued financial support for USO. United Way of America and the Department of Defense conducted a major review of USO programs and services.

After making on-site visits to USO operations and military bases around the world, the findings of the committee members concluded, "If there were no USO, another organization would have to be created...Isolation of the military from civilian influences is not, we believe, in the interest of this nation."

The results of the study launched USO into a new era of peacetime service to the all-volunteer force. USO international headquarters was relocated from New York to Washington, D.C., and the USO was firmly established as an international agency serving the nation's armed forces around the globe.

As the 1980s unfolded, the composition of the U.S. Armed Forces changed dramatically -- no longer primarily single and male; but male and female -- young -- and married. Over 54% of today's military servicemembers are between 18 and 25, and are married with children. They must handle frequent moves and long separations -- often in isolated areas--with or without their families on hand--where they face the problems of culture shock, loneliness, and lack of adequate on-base housing.

USO continues its close association with military leadership. This cooperation was reemphasized in 1987 with the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding between USO and the Department of Defense. The agreement names USO as a principal channel representing civilian concern for the U.S. Armed Forces worldwide, under the auspices of the President of the United States and the Secretary of Defense. It authorizes USO to play an active role in coordinating local civilian community resources and fostering general civilian interest in the welfare of U.S. Armed Forces personnel and their families.

Since USO celebrated "50 years of service to service people" on February 4, 1991, the organization continues to vigorously fulfill its mission to America's military men and women. Responding to the most recent enormous challenge of Operation Desert Shield/Storm, USO established centers in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia. Also, two "USOasis Mobiles"--mobile vans equipped as full-service USO centers--were built to travel to the front lines in order to bring a touch of home to those stationed in more remote locations.

USO's PROGRAMS TODAY

The image of USO in wartime is familiar. Founded when tens of thousands of young men were drafted on the eve of America's entry into World War II, today's USO has broadened its scope to reflect the needs of today's service personnel and their families in peacetime. An updated picture would include the following vignettes:

***

A young wife travels halfway around the world to meet her husband's ship. She arrives in a foreign port only to find that the ship has been directed to another location. The USO Fleet Center staff and volunteers help reunite husband and wife.

***

A military family arrives in the Washington, D.C. area after a few years overseas. Shortly after they move into a trailer with their young daughter, it's destroyed by fire. The USO of Metropolitan Washington's Family Service Program provides an apartment for the family for two months--rent free.

A TOUCH OF HOME FOR THOSE IN TRANSIT

Through a broad range of programs at over 170 locations--stretching from the DMZ in Korea to Iceland to the Middle East--USO meets the needs of our citizen soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines.

USO programs serve the unique needs of today's transient military groups: military travelers, fleet sailors and marines in foreign ports (and their visiting families), groups on training exercises, military families arriving at new duty stations, and those on leave. Described here are some of the contemporary USO programs that support the military.

AIRPORT CENTERS

USO Airport Centers at more than 39 locations worldwide provide a personal touch and help with such travel hassles as cancelled connections, foreign language translation, extremely long lay-overs and missing luggage. Several USOs are open 24 hours a day and offer important services when other airport facilities are closed.

FLEET CENTERS

At more than 45 locations in the Mediterranean, Pacific, Atlantic, Caribbean, and Middle East, USO Fleet Operations assist U.S. Navy and Marine personnel and their families in foreign ports or new domestic assignments. USO fleet staff and volunteers provide a range of services, including information on hotels, affordable shopping areas, assistance with language and currency exchange.

Critical services are provided especially when ship visits are cancelled, and families coming from the U.S. are scrambling to get to the next scheduled port of call. USO fleet support is vital especially in places without American bases such as Haifa, Israel and Cannes, France, where USO acts as an "official" liaison between host communities and visiting ships.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY CENTERS

No matter where American service personnel are stationed, their concerns are similar to any American family. They must make adjustments to critical life changes, such as new marriages, parenthood, family separation and relocation.

Family and Community Center programs help military families--often newly married with a young child--adjust to new surroundings with information on babysitting co-ops, employment opportunities, parenting, nutrition, budgeting and children's recreational programs.

ORIENTATION AND INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS

Many USO affiliates offer orientation programs geared to educating new arrivals about resources within the civilian community, and to help ease the feelings of cultural shock.

Intercultural Understanding is a hallmark of USO's community orientation programming overseas, fostering positive interaction between local host citizens and their American military personnel guests.

Community involvement programs enable servicemembers and families to interact with local residents in programs which benefit the local community while broadening the horizons of the military personnel involved.

USOs worldwide provide access to important community resources through information and referral services.

ANOTHER DIMENSION...Celebrity Entertainment

In 1941, after the USO was incorporated, Camp Shows Inc. was formed as a separate corporation affiliated with and supported by the USO. From 1941-47 alone, USO/Camp Shows presented almost a half-million performances to an audience that totaled more than two hundred million people. Camp Shows is considered the largest single undertaking in the history of entertainment.

Today, USO shows featuring popular entertainers--Lee Greenwood, Billy Joel, Marie Osmond, Earth, Wind & Fire, The Pointer Sisiters, and Randy Travis among them--are effective morale boosters. Even in peacetime, USO shows have a serious purpose. Emotional fatigue and the stress of living overseas can affect the mental preparedness of troops. Celebrity entertainers provide a much-needed break in the midst of duty tours overseas. More importantly, USO shows demonstrate to military personnel that their country is behind them and supports them, reinforcing the message that America cares about its courageous men and women in uniform.

The USO has been able to make its celebrity entertainment tours financially self-sufficient through an innovative marketing program involving corporate sponsorships between USO and Procter & Gamble, Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Pan Am, and Northwest Airlines. Sponsoring corporations receive signage on stage posters, logo visibility on Armed Forces Radio and Television (AFRTS) broadcasts, and inclusion in all USO press releases and media events.

THE ORGANIZATION

Today, the USO is made up of more than 170 locations around the world. It has a paid staff of 750 and utilizes the services of some 20,000 volunteers, including those who serve on the World Board of Governors, the USO's governing body. Since its founding under the direction of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, each succeeding U.S. president has maintained an active presence in USO as Honorary Chairman.

In fact, the late Prescott Bush, the father of today's Honorary Chairman, President George Bush, played a very significant role in the founding of USO. Prescott Bush was one of four business leaders recruited by President Franklin Roosevelt to organize the USO in 1941. Mr. Bush was honored posthumously with the 1990 USO Christmas Award for personally leading a fundraising effort which netted $32 million for the USO war chest in 1942.

The organizational structure is comprised of two components -- USO World Headquarters and USO affiliates worldwide. All USO affiliates and their governing councils are chartered through USO World Headquarters, which acts as the enabling body for all programs, setting overall policy and strategies, providing training and technical assistance.

USO delivers programs and services to the U.S. Armed Forces community on the local level through the Chartered USO Council. USO Headquarters entrusts each Council to adapt its structure, program services and activities to the needs of the local military community, in conformity with international USO World Headquarters policies and any prevailing Status of Forces Agreement.

Like most nonprofit agencies, USO depends on dedicated volunteers who give their time, talents, and services. A recently instituted USO five-year strategic plan strengthens the organization's volunteer leadership overseas. Volunteer leaders are being prepared to take more of an active role and assume more fiscal responsibility for USO operations.

(March,1991)

How long do they want this to be

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 28, 1991 6 p.m.
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN USO Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
Universal Amphitheater Los An

~~You know~~, James Michener ends his war novel THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI by asking: "Where did we get such men?" Well, I look out at these thousands of faces -- veterans from WWII to the Persian Gulf -- and all I can do is echo his admiration and pride: "Where did we get such men and women?" The answer -- from the heart of America. You are the heart of America.

That's what the USO has known all these years. ~~That the men and women serving for us so far away are the brothers and sisters of our hearts~~. From Pearl Harbor to the skies over Kuwait, the USO has known what homesick, weary warriors have needed. Something very simple. A touch of home.

The most important thing the USO has done for 50 years is to say to our troops, on behalf of America: hey, we miss you. We're thinking about you. We care about you. You can't be home with us, so we're sending a little bit of home to you. Maybe it's a phone call to your folks. Or a friendly stranger just to talk to. Or Bob Hope in a Vietnamese hospital. But what we're really giving you is a smile and a thought from your grateful country.

The USO sums up what's best about this nation. For the USO is made up of **volunteers** -- there for the simplest, most loving reason of all -- because they see a human need and want to help.

The USO is **family** -- the most important word in the American

Somewhere
Use expression Points of Light
or "1000 " "

vocabulary -- our country's family caring about and caring for each member. And the USO is **America** -- showing the world the optimism, decency, and good-hearted generosity that fills this land from coast to coast.

When our troops went to the Gulf, the USO went with them. It inspired those left behind to join in its spirit -- the proud, yellow-ribbon spirit of thinking about every single son, daughter, brother, sister, father, mother over there. ~~Our heroes of Desert Storm gave a country back its freedom.~~ Together, ~~Americans have given a nation back its pride.~~

Even though today's USO is immense, my father would recognize it as the same organization President Roosevelt asked him to help start in 1941. ~~Because~~ For 50 years, the USO has proven you don't have to wear a star to be a hero. Its volunteers have lifted the spirits and ennobled the hearts of generations of lonely kids abroad, and their lonely families here at home.

I thought I'd leave you with some words a homesick soldier in the Saudi desert wrote to boxer Tommy Hearns after he made a celebrity USO tour a few months ago. Sergeant Thigpen of the 437 Supply Deployed wrote: "It just meant so much to me (that you came), words can't describe how much you have helped me ... may the Lord truly bless you because the Lord has blessed me through you."

Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

Not sure how it connects (if so) I'd leave it

I know we headed the recovery back here

?? Is there a better anecdote? Maybe related to combat

This is OK but maybe a better one

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 MAR 28 PM 6:30

March 28, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW TS

FROM: BETH HINCHLIFFE

SUBJECT: USO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

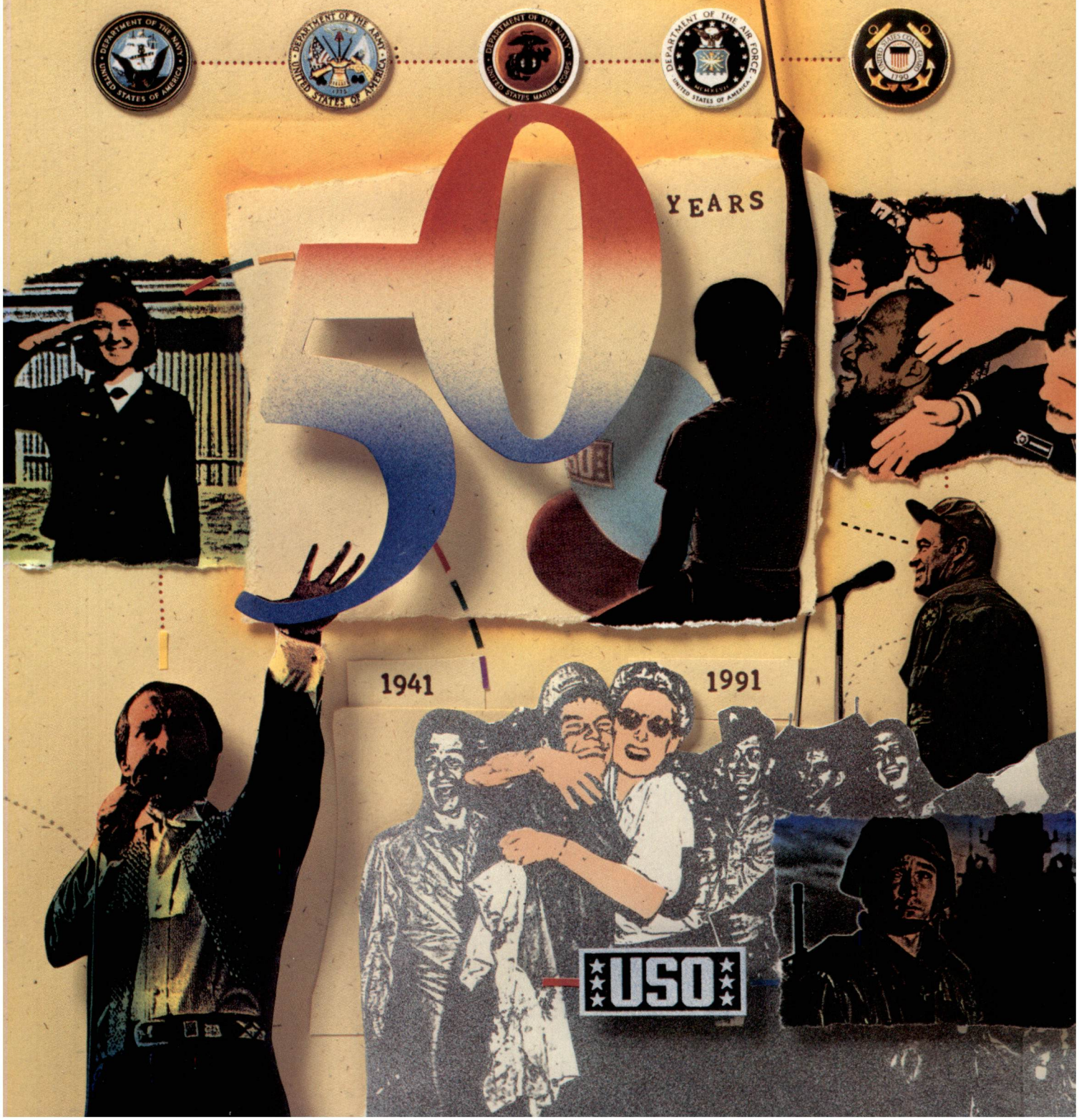
On Friday, April 5, you will address 6,000 attendees in the Universal Amphitheater in a tribute to the USO, celebrating their 50th anniversary. Your remarks are 4 minutes in length, and will be on teleprompter.

ALWAYS HOME

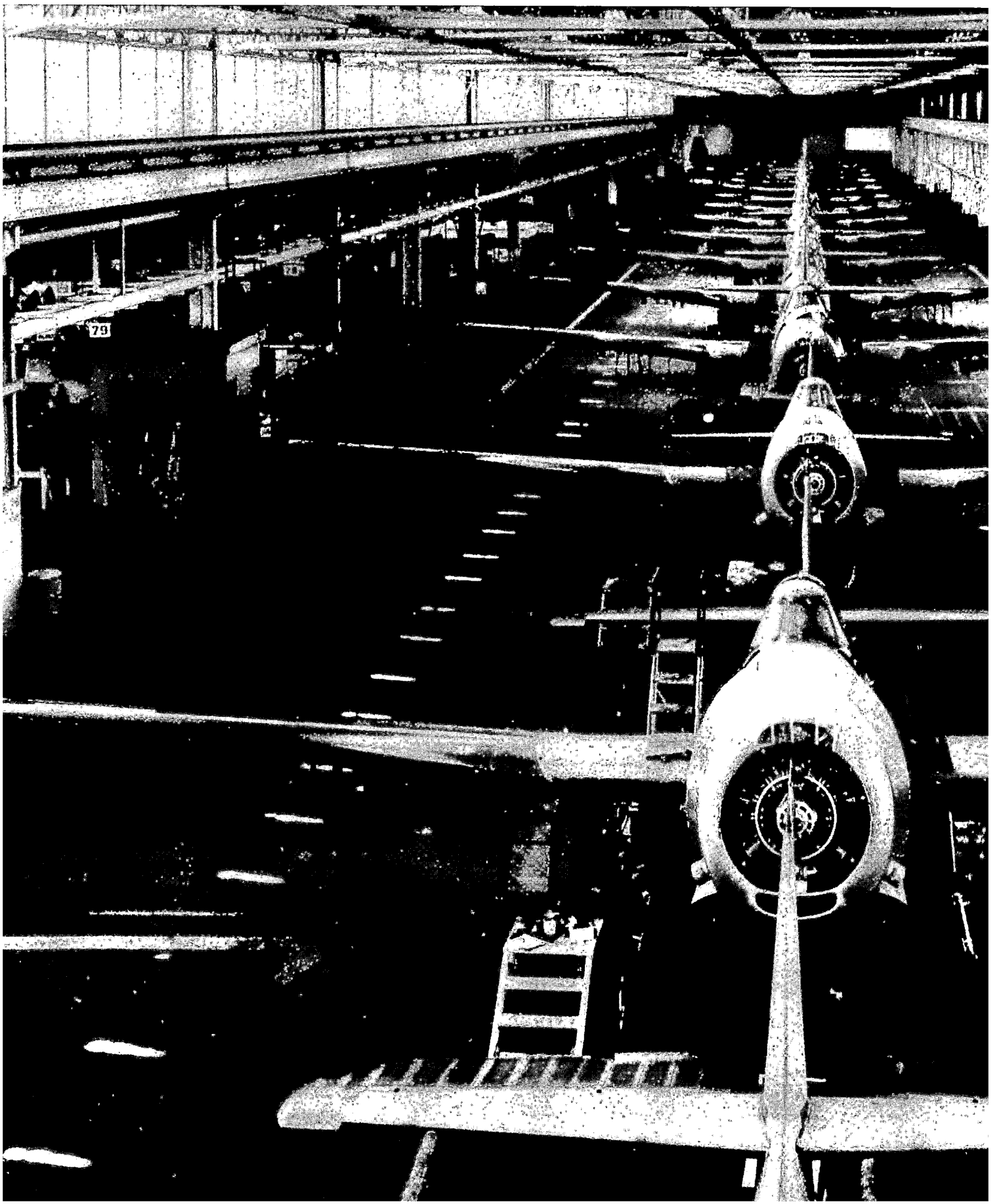
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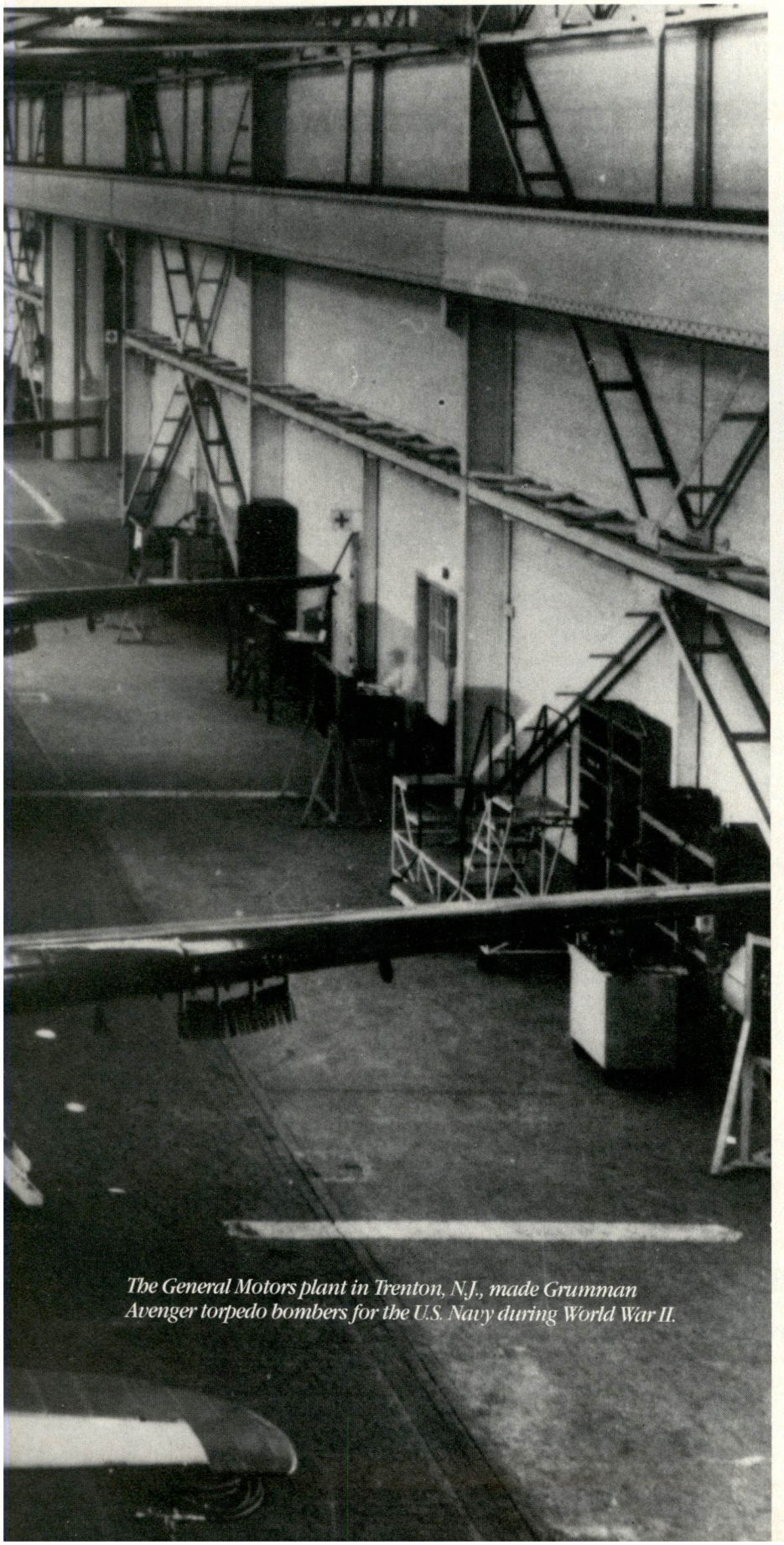
THE MAGAZINE OF TODAY'S USO



Fifty years ago, GM helped build som



ıing vital to America's armed forces.



The General Motors plant in Trenton, N.J., made Grumman Avenger torpedo bombers for the U.S. Navy during World War II.

The USO.

General Motors is proud to have been instrumental in the founding of the USO in 1941. We provided cars and trucks to transport some of the greatest names in entertainment on their first morale-building tours of U.S. military installations.



GM made other contributions to America's defense effort half a century ago – planes, tanks, engines – but few survive outside museums or mothballs. None has proved so durable as the USO.

It is a tribute to the strength and vitality of the USO that today, fifty years after its founding, it continues to accomplish its mission – bringing a touch of home to servicemen and women in every corner of the world.

The USO has earned the thanks of generations of American service personnel. And a proud salute from General Motors.

GM

MARK OF EXCELLENCE

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The hottest, fastest and sleekest American-made performance machines on the road today.

The cover illustration by R. M. Schneider commemorates the USO's 50 years of service to the five branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

USO 50
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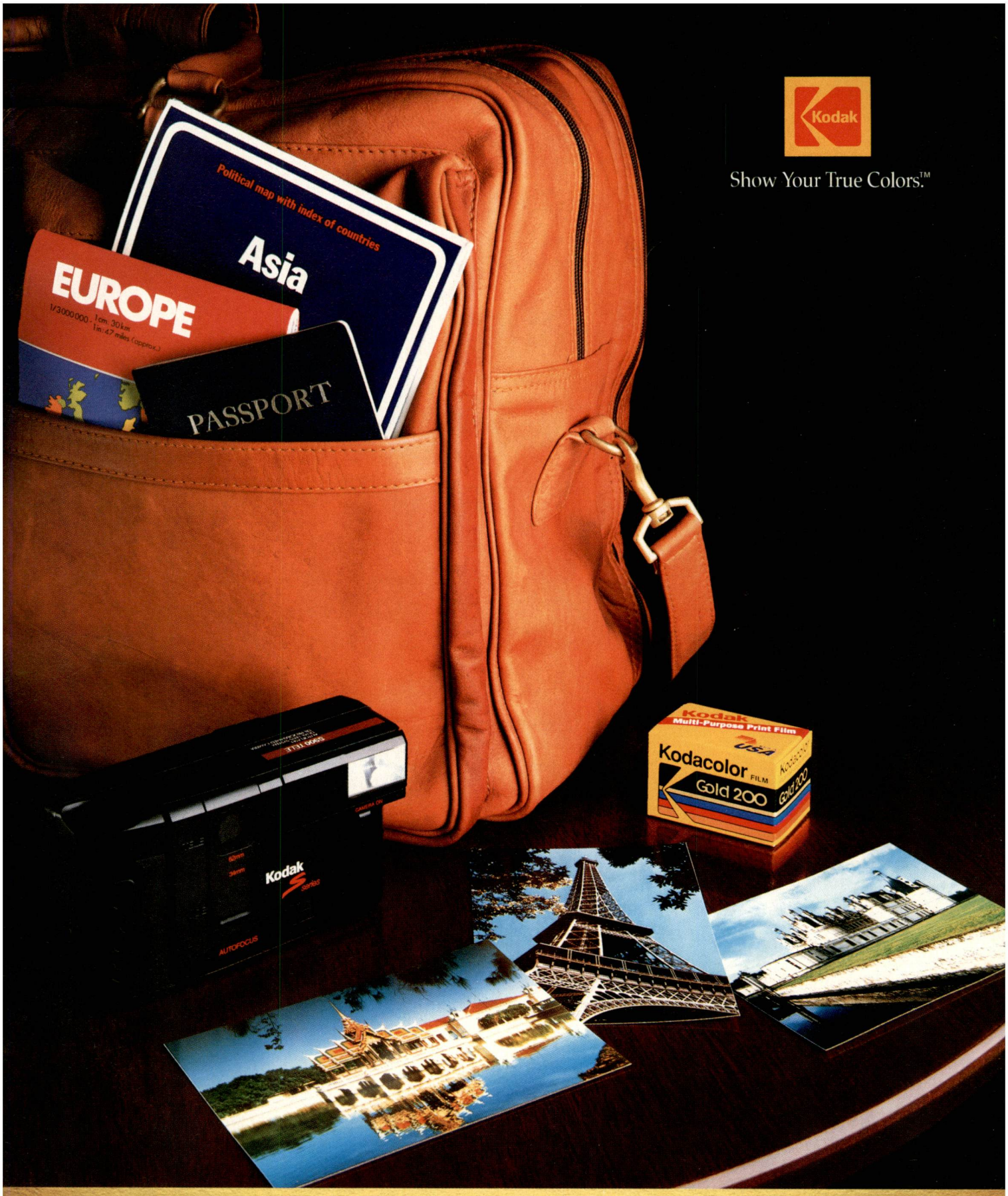
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As proud supporters of USO Worldwide from its beginning, we wish to join in celebrating 50 years of service to our armed forces.



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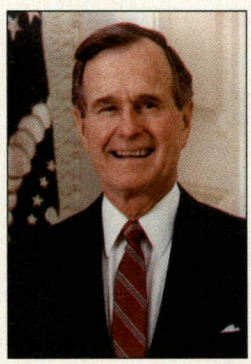
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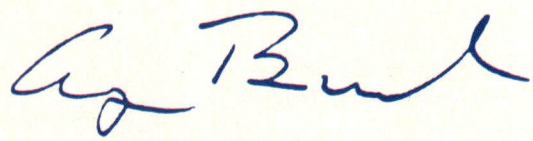


I am pleased to serve as the Honorary Chairman of the USO as this prestigious organization celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Beginning in 1989 with the premiere anniversary celebration in Detroit and continuing through 1990 and 1991, friends of the USO will gather across the world to commemorate and celebrate this outstanding agency's 50 years of service to those brave Americans who stand guard for freedom around the globe.

The USO has always had a very special place in my heart. At the request of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, my father, Prescott Bush, served as USO's National Campaign Chairman and helped raise more than $32 million for USO in 1942. As a young Navy officer during World War II, I witnessed firsthand its wonderful work. I'll never forget the positive impact USO volunteers had on our military personnel during those dark and perilous times. And in the last few months, the USO has prepared a massive effort to show our troops in the Persian Gulf that we care.

The USO continues to be "Always Home" for America's servicemen and women and their families. The USO is a great blessing to those who endure hardship and danger to defend peace and liberty around the globe. I am confident that with the continued backing of America's public and private sectors, World USO will maintain its proud record of service into the next century. Barbara joins me in thanking all of you for your continuing support.



President George Bush



It's got to be a terrific show to run for 50 years.

USO

You've probably been in the audience, so you know how good it is. A USO celebrity show coming out to you wherever you are, bringing a special piece of home right to you.

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USO: Looking To The FUTURE



One of my favorite philosophers, Yogi Berra, once declared that forecasting is very difficult, especially if what you're dealing with is the future. That's a sage bit of advice, so I'm always reluctant to give my view of the future. About all one can say with any credibility is that there are certain realities we know will endure. One of these enduring realities is the uncertainty, danger and instability in the world.

When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, a large part of the world recognized this danger once again with an unparalleled cohesiveness and unanimity. Now Hussein has been thoroughly checkmated. But without military forces, such a checkmate would have been impossible. Military forces fill the inescapable need generated by the enduring reality of uncertainty, danger and instability.

Today we understand the enduring need for military forces. Tomorrow, as our memory fades, it is questionable whether we will continue to support adequate armed forces. Of all the aspects of the future, this is what concerns me most.

I believe America has enduring interests and wherever these interests lie, there is the continuing need for military forces. These forces must be ready, highly mobile, well-trained and well-supported. They must consist of the very finest volunteers we can recruit. They must be forward-deployed and in our own country. They must carry rifles, drive tanks, fly airplanes, sail ships, and be capable of an incredible array of skills. They must be well-motivated and in love with America. And we must take care of them and look after their needs.They ask so little from us. They ask for our appreciation, they ask for the means to do their jobs and they ask for support for themselves and their families.

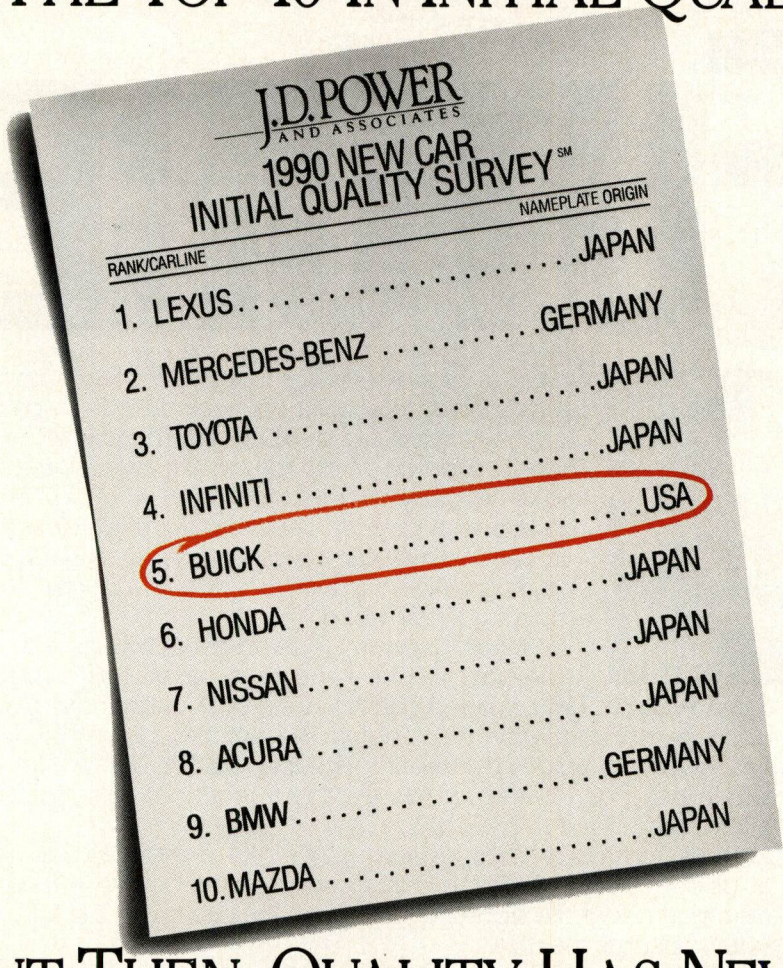
For 50 years, the USO has been providing that extra dimension of support...always warm, always friendly, always entertaining, always helpful, always conveying the thanks of a grateful America.

Even if we have well-trained and well-motivated armed forces, I will still be unable to predict the future. But I, along with every other American, can feel confident that no matter what, America will be safe. We will be able to move into the 21st century with confidence.



General Colin L. Powell

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Meeting A New CHALLENGE



DAVID HATCHCOX

During 1990, the USO has confronted its biggest challenge in the last 20 years: providing cheer and a helping hand to U.S. service members taking part in Operation Desert Shield, the largest deployment of our armed forces since Vietnam.

I am tremendously proud of the staff and volunteers at our 160 USO affiliates around the world. Many centers extended themselves 200 percent, offering around-the-clock services, refreshments and reassurances. I am also grateful for the incredible support given to the USO by countless individuals, organizations and corporations. This has been overwhelming affirmation of the special role that USO has played for 50 years.

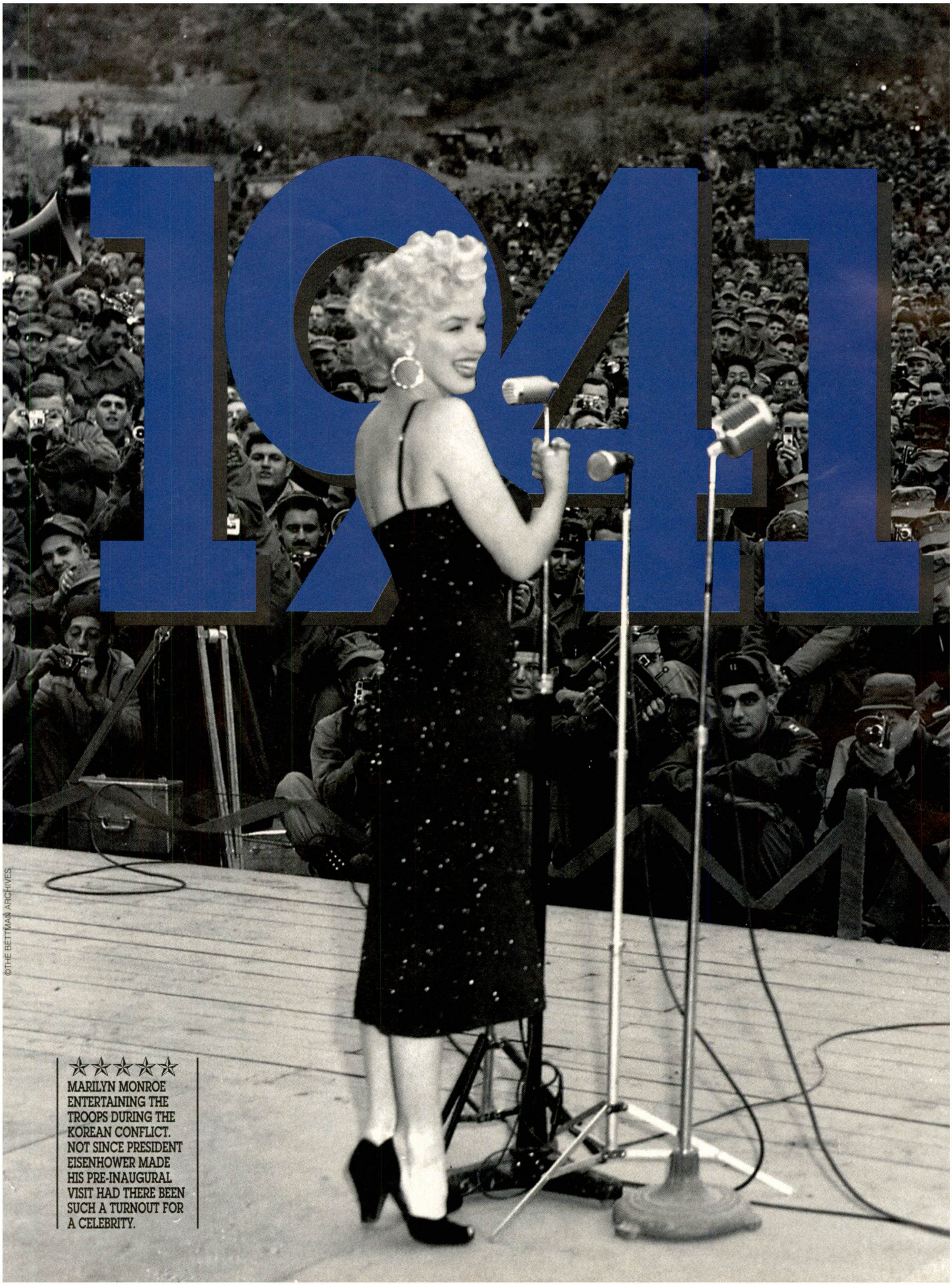
As soon as troops were deployed, USO started to develop programs to support Desert Shield. The first celebrity tour was conducted in October with actor Steve Martin and actress Victoria Tennant; they were followed by boxer Thomas "Hitman" Hearns, comedian Jay Leno and others. In November, we delivered huge quantities of donated goods. One hundred thousand "Oasis Packages" containing familiar items from the states were distributed, thanks to a major contribution from the Philip Morris Companies and a consortium of suppliers which they organized. Our joint project with Montgomery Ward, called "Better Than A Letter," has placed over 400 televisions, VCRs, camcorders, plus 250,000 videocassette tapes, among all the deployed units. Service members can send video messages home for the holidays and also receive messages from their families.

Before Thanksgiving, we opened USO centers in Dubai and Bahrain. At this writing we are working on (1) a program to deliver holiday dinners to the front; (2) a means of improving troop access to telephone lines; and (3) a fleet of mobile units to deliver services to the front lines.

The USO's Gulf Crisis Fund was started by generous seed contributions of $500,000 each from American International Group, ARCO, AT&T, The Coca-Cola Company and Anheuser-Busch; it is being maintained by donations from other companies and private citizens.

USO was founded in 1941 on the eve of a crisis. Although America had not yet entered World War II, an entity was needed to channel the outpouring of civilian support to our forces wherever they were called. USO filled that niche, and continues to carry out the same mission 50 years later. You will find the USO wherever the troops are. Happy New Year to all of you, and best wishes for a safe and healthy 1991.

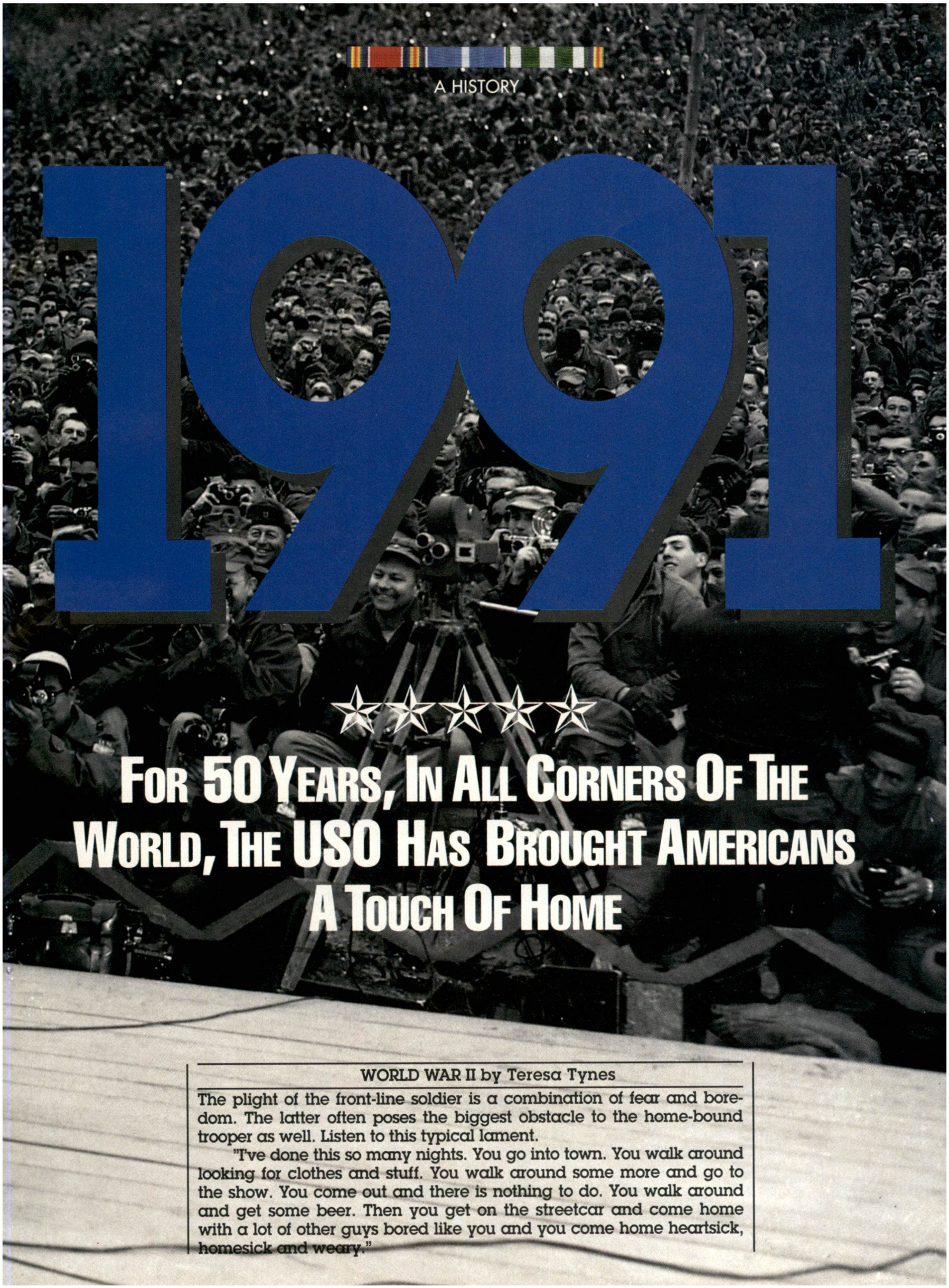
Chapman Cox
President



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★★★★★

MARILYN MONROE ENTERTAINING THE TROOPS DURING THE KOREAN CONFLICT. NOT SINCE PRESIDENT EISENHOWER MADE HIS PRE-INAUGURAL VISIT HAD THERE BEEN SUCH A TURNOUT FOR A CELEBRITY.



WORLD WAR II by Teresa Tynes

The plight of the front-line soldier is a combination of fear and boredom. The latter often poses the biggest obstacle to the home-bound trooper as well. Listen to this typical lament.

"I've done this so many nights. You go into town. You walk around looking for clothes and stuff. You walk around some more and go to the show. You come out and there is nothing to do. You walk around and get some beer. Then you get on the streetcar and come home with a lot of other guys bored like you and you come home heartsick, homesick and weary."

SHOW BIZ

For the USO, the motto of WW II was "the show must go on." All told, 428,521 shows were staged for American soldiers and defense industry workers. Audiences totalled more than 212 million for the war years, with some soldiers lucky enough to see as many as a dozen shows.

The advent of World War II meant America had to come up with a cure for the soldier's malaise, both on the battle front and the home front. And, through the USO, America had the answer.

In the Michigan winter of 1942, Judy Garland, wearing a short-sleeved dress, sang to a thousand young and shivering recruits in an unheated training center. In New York, hundreds of soldiers formed lines to pick up free Broadway tickets reserved especially for them. Later, in Normandy, 154 performers landed on the beachhead to stage the first post-invasion entertainment. In Italy, in North Africa, seemingly everywhere, the USO brought the needed relief, the temporary distraction, the professional counsel to the millions of Americans in uniform.

At the end of World War II, these millions of Americans brought home memories of the USO, the organization that brought memories of home to the troops in the midst of war. The citizens of the United States, through the USO, donated countless volunteer hours, supplies and money to bolster the morale of those away from home. Social workers, businessmen, society women and entertainers maintained that their army was largely a civilian one, an outfit of regular men and women, whose lives as mechanics, bakers, accountants, actors and farmers were put on hold or, for some, tragically ended.

The years of World War II can be seen as a watershed in American life. The world of the pre-war Depression era bore little resemblance to the post-war world of American affluence. The events of the war years constituted such a change that historian Geoffrey Perrett characterizes the era as "the closest thing to a real social revolution the United States has known in this century."

Americans loved their towns and villages, their general stores and their neighborhood restaurants, and most of them welcomed visitors. However, the government's decision to station a new training camp with several thousand soldiers at the outskirts of town frequently met with resentment. Many residents feared the presence of the perennial camp followers and their friends in the vice trade.

Defense plants, while bringing sorely needed economic activity, could bring in thousands of new workers who might wear out their welcome. The major cause for concern was the basic lack of housing. One didn't need to be a sociologist to understand the effects of overcrowding on a community.

Existing social agencies found themselves overwhelmed with prob-

HELPING HANDS

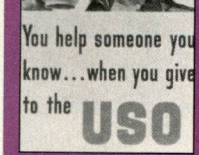
Throughout its 50 years, the USO has depended upon the volunteer. In 1952, for example, the USO benefited from the tireless service of 113,394 volunteers, who manned many of the 294 USO operations around the world.



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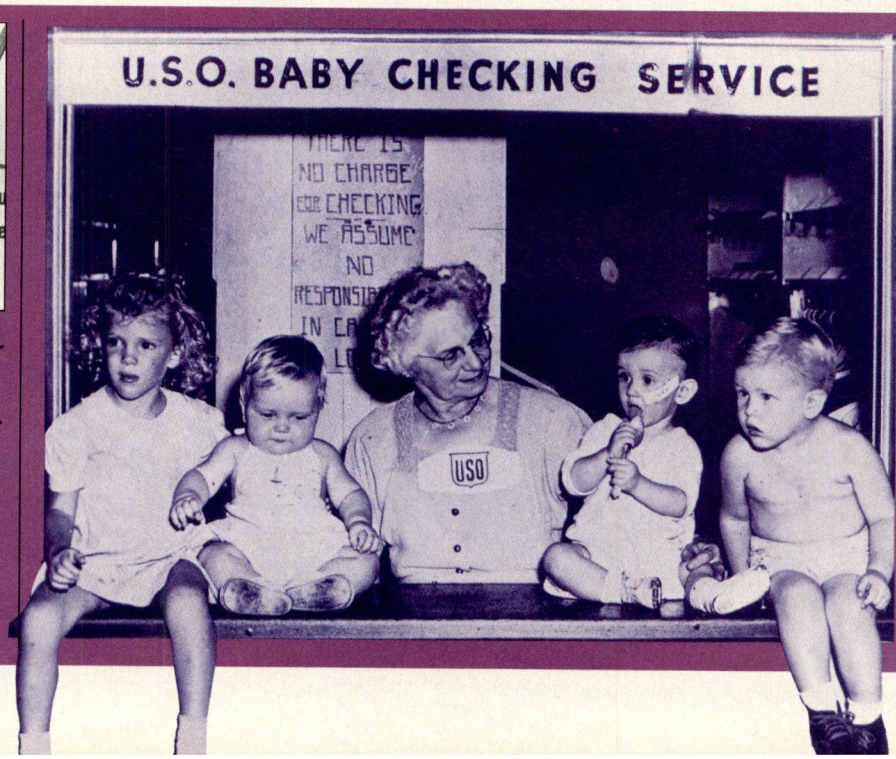
RIGHT: A LUCKY LEATHERNECK AND PATTY THOMAS, A DANCER WITH BOB HOPE'S TROUPE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC IN 1944.





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THE USO MEANT TENDER LOVING CARE TO SOME VERY YOUNG AMERICANS IN THE 1940S.

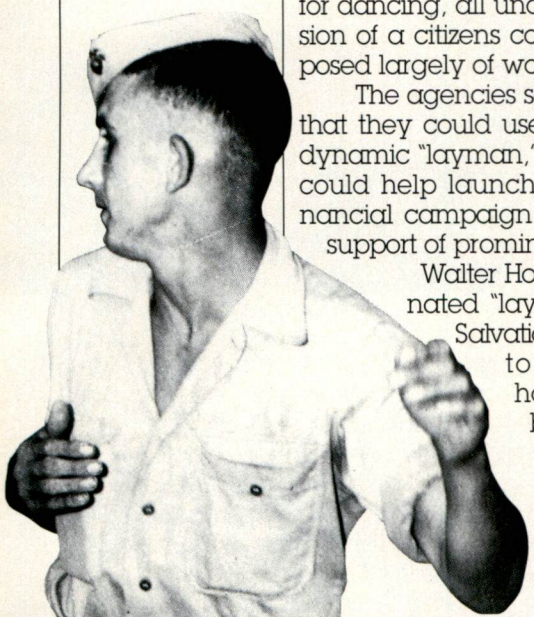


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HUMOR IN UNIFORM

"They tell an anecdote about a soldier on guard duty for the first time at night. He heard a strange noise, fired at it, then called out, 'Who went there?'"

(THE READER'S DIGEST, AUGUST 1943)



lems. When the War Department's Morale Division asked the YMCA, the YWCA, the Salvation Army and other agencies to help meet the needs of soldiers off base, the welfare agencies began to think in terms of a coordinated effort to serve both the overburdened defense communities and the recruits away from home. The Adjutant General's office issued a report on Sept. 25, 1940, urging leaders in these communities to provide an off-base club for soldiers "which is equipped with tables, chairs, writing materials, and stands where they can purchase coffee, soft drinks, cakes, sandwiches, etc., and, if it can be arranged, a place for dancing, all under the supervision of a citizens committee, composed largely of women."

The agencies soon concluded that they could use the help of a dynamic "layman," someone who could help launch a vigorous financial campaign and enlist the support of prominent citizens.

Walter Hoving, the designated "layman" from the Salvation Army, came to Frank Weil's house on October 23, 1940. He would leave as chairman of the new organization. The son of Norwegian immigrants, Hoving moved in the circles of charity and big business. At the meeting at Weil's house, Hoving took command, setting strategy and guiding the organization through its share of bureaucratic hassles.

With the USO incorporated by February of 1941, its leaders surveyed the needs of the soldiers and the communities and then opened a well-publicized fund drive headed by Thomas Dewey.

Showman Billy Rose was enlisted to help unveil the group's plans. On the night of May 20, 1941, Rose transformed the vast space of Madison Square Garden into a soldier's paradise. Spectators at the fund raiser first saw on the floor of the Garden a giant blueprint for the new USO clubs, and then they saw 200 soldiers dance onto the blueprint, carrying chairs, sofas and ping pong tables to bring the club alive. The USO stated its new objective in prose: "to promote such activities, facilities, and leadership as well as recreate in the community near the camp the best of normal life and influence that prevails in the communities from which the men have come."

As the USO took center stage in providing these services, other ambitious cadres of independent citizens and community groups organized to boost the soldiers' morale. Notable among them was

UNDER COVER

"We played to as few as a handful of soldiers to as many as 110,000," recalls Maebelle Smith, a Vaudeville veteran who produced USO shows for 40 years. "Once we played a submarine base. The stage faced the water, and as we were getting ready backstage, I asked our liaison with the base where the audience was going to sit. He just smiled and said, "You'll see. Well, as soon as the curtain opened, we saw what he meant. The harbor was full of submarines, their decks loaded with sailors. They had surfaced in order to let their crews see the show."





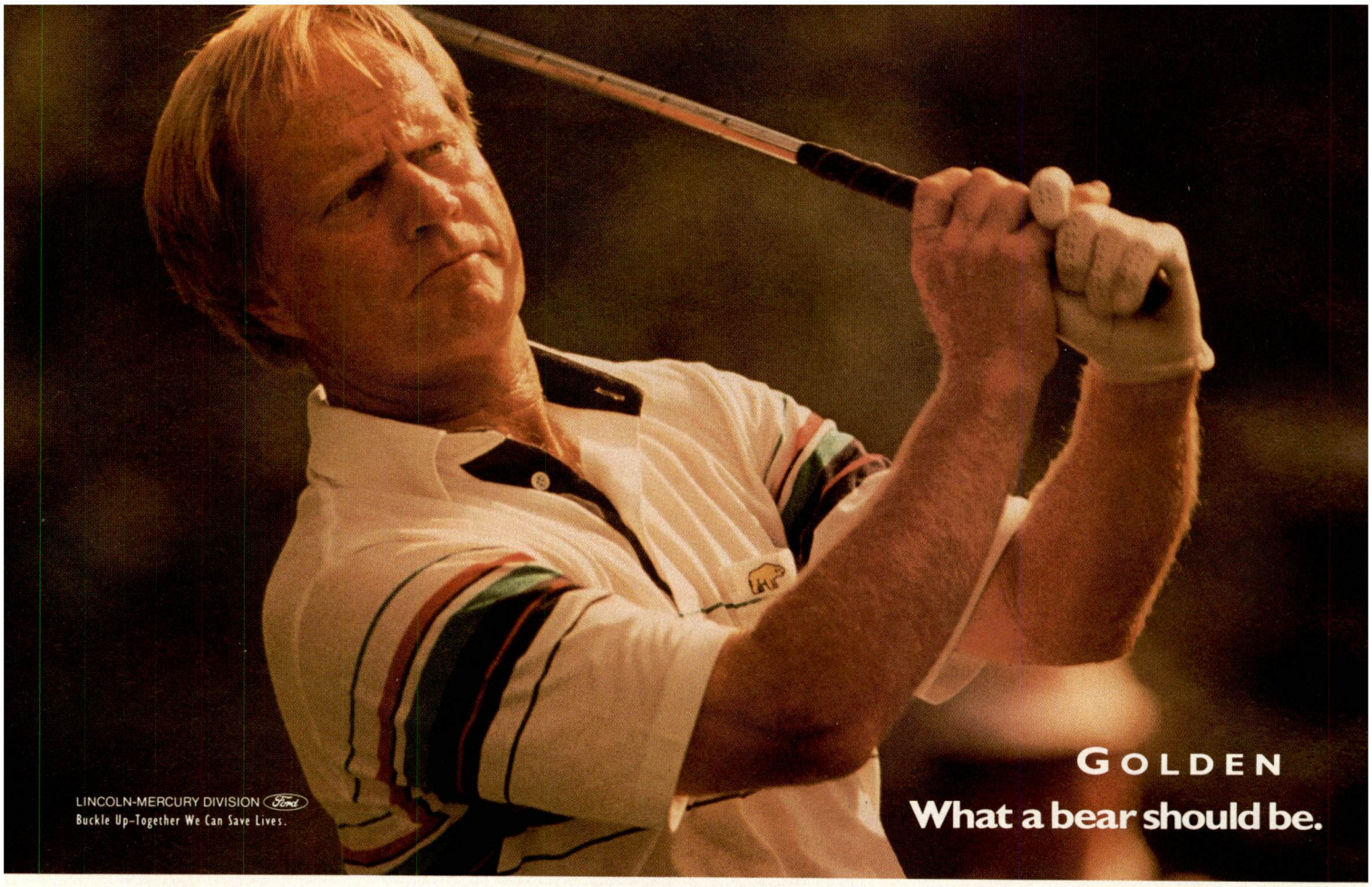
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LEFT: GIs FLOCKED AROUND AN IMPROVISED PLATFORM TO SEE THE FIRST USO CAMP SHOW IN FRANCE IN 1944.

★★★★★

ABOVE: DONUTS AND COFFEE BRING SMILES FROM SAILORS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

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Friends of New York Soldiers and Sailors. Under the leadership of the indefatigable Thomas J. Watson, CEO of IBM (at this time a fledgling maker of adding machines), the club sent packages to the New York National Guard unit called up for active duty in the fall of 1940. The effort proved so popular that the group started distributing packages and books and records to recruits in all of the states. Watson's group liked the idea of live stage shows for the troops, so in May of 1941, the New York group, by then rechristened the Citizens Committee, staged several outdoor variety shows for the troops, its entertainers singing and dancing on the backs of seven flatbed trucks on loan from GM.

The Citizens Committee, the USO, and the armed forces loved this show-biz morale boost, so much so that the Citizens Committee gave way to a new organization to be affiliated with the USO, called USO Camp Shows, Inc. A veteran showman and talent agent extraordinaire by the name of Abe Lastfogel recruited the "soldiers in greasepaint." After conducting talent hunts and auditions in two dozen cities, the cigar-chomping point man for the William Morris Agency shipped out 11 units of troupers to tour Army camps, including a small company which went to Iceland and Newfoundland for a 40-day tour.

The nation's press seemed particularly taken with the Camp Shows units, because nothing provided greater drama than the sight of a Broadway glamour girl in khaki. Old vaudevillians, who thought that their careers had passed with the Depression, dusted off their gags, tuned the accordions, and caught new rabbits to pull out of hats. The vaudeville units could play anywhere they could find a stage. The war created some unusual backdrops for these barnstormers—bombed buildings, the backs of jeeps or the deck of an aircraft carrier.

The GIs of World War II saw them all—Hope and Crosby, Marlene, Groucho, Chico and Harpo, Laurel and Hardy, Jack Benny and many, many more.

Certainly more important events took center stage in World War II. In the great scheme of things, the memories of war and its dreadful toll should supplant those of a few showgirls in khaki, or a doughnut and a cup of coffee. However, the sight of a USO uniform served to remind that there were worthy things to fight for: the family back home, the children's future and a free, richly diverse America. The USO unselfishly fulfilled its mission to provide, wherever possible, "the best of normal life."

KOREA

by Danny Devine

The 1950s brought peace and prosperity to the United States. The Second World War had been won, and most of the troops had returned and were now buying homes and starting families.

When "Goodnight, Irene" by Gordon Jenkins & the Weavers was the number one song on the Billboard charts in 1950, a WW II standby was fast becoming a relic. The USO had turned into a mere shell of its glorious past, a fond memory of club dances and hot coffee.

Yet its executive committee foresaw a time when the services

of the USO might be needed again, and decided to "retain its corporate identity, available for service if called upon in the event of national emergency."

It came all too soon: June 25, 1950, when, as the newly installed Communist Chinese government invaded Tibet, the North Koreans invaded South Korea.

President Truman quickly sent in American troops as part of the United Nations Force that landed at the South Korean port of Pusan, under the command of Douglas MacArthur. After the Chinese entered the conflict, the war became a stalemate. The ensuing "national emergency" was the catalyst for the rebirth of the USO.

Despite backing and encouragement from high offices, the USO suffered two recurring problems during the 1950s—dwindling finances, and the challenge of developing a flexible response to the changing needs of the new soldiers.

After the WW II period, the USO received no federal funds, and lost the generous financial support of the American public.

The USO tried hard to adjust to its new role—assisting families in finding suitable housing and helping young soldiers. And it continued to do what it did best—entertain.

Film star Jennifer Jones was the first performer to visit Korea and the Far East after the reactivation of USO Camp Shows in May of 1951. Others that year included Errol Flynn, Jack Benny and Danny Kaye. One of the Camp Shows' major projects for that year was the presentation of a Christmas Show overseas, where such celebrities as Walter Pidgeon, Ray Milland and Keenan Wynn were headliners. (Bob Hope had given his first Christmas show in 1948.)

And in an effort to reach and meet the special needs of those soldiers on the front lines, the USO re-established its mobile and maneuver unit—bringing the show to the field.

Many of Hollywood's biggest stars endured horrendous performing conditions. Shows in Korea often were performed in freezing weather on impromptu stages while heated ambulances served as dressing rooms for the stars. Countless shows continued through disruptions like artillery barrages. There was a Camp Shows presentation somewhere in Korea every single day of 1952.

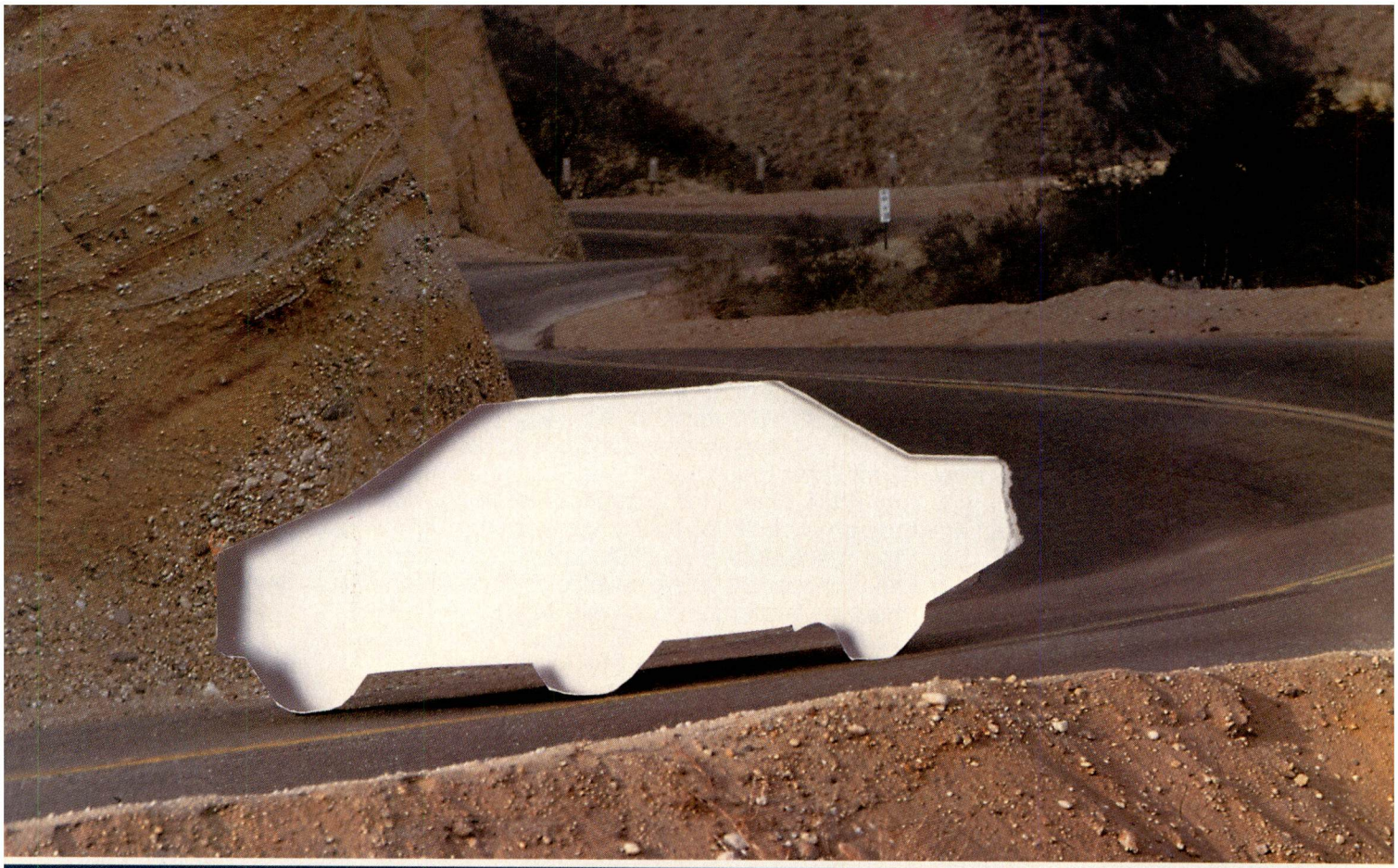
By addressing the changing needs of their new constituency, the USO was transformed from a once dormant "national emergency service" into the link between servicemen and home, and servicemen and civilians.

VIETNAM ERA

by Philip C. Clark

Bob Hope's first USO show in Saigon was a bomb. Literally. The show was scheduled for Christmas Day, 1964, at a downtown hotel called the Brinks. But when Hope and his entourage of 80 Hollywood entertainers arrived, the hotel had





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LEFT: SINGING STAR LUCY MONROE LEAVING ON A SIX-WEEK CAMP SHOWS TOUR OF KOREA AND JAPAN.



★★★★★

ABOVE: A WORLD WAR II USO MOBILE RECORDING UNIT ALLOWED SOLDIERS TO SEND MESSAGES BACK HOME.

DEPRIVED

"All you get in Iwo Jima is what comes in on two planes a week. There isn't a woman on the island...you can't even go swimming because the currents are too treacherous... they have to send (laundry) by plane to Tokyo—have it done and returned again." Broadcaster Red Barber pounded this message to the press as he became a staunch advocate of the USO, reinforcing the message that soldiers were not overseas by choice—they were ordered there.

been largely blown up by a 300-pound truck bomb, causing numerous casualties. Months later, a Vietcong document was found in which the terrorist cadres were severely reprimanded for goofing up. Among other things, it said: "The attack on the Brinks missed Bob Hope by ten minutes due to a faulty timing device." To which the irrepressible Hope shot back: "It's one hell of a strange war if they have to target comedians."

Vietnam was, indeed, a different kind of war. It was all front and no rear, and the danger was everywhere. As Hope recalls in his new book, *Don't Shoot, It's Only Me* (G.P. Putnam's & Sons), the showgirls in his traveling troupe "often had to put on their costumes in armored personnel carriers and be driven to the stage under armed escort."

But true to tradition, the show went on. And on. For nine straight years, from 1964 to December 1972, Hope & Co. never missed staging Christmas performances in the Vietnam theatre. "Those kids," said Hope, "were so grateful that you would come to them." In all, some 3,000 entertainers in 600 groups put on a total of 5,559 USO shows in Vietnam and Pacific area military hospitals. It was a remarkable outpouring of affection for our troops overseas.

Bringing touches of home to our soldiers wherever they go is what the USO is all about. And not since World War II had the organization's civilian activities been more vital, not only in the entertainment field but in caring for urgent individual needs as well. Unlike so-called "popular" wars, Vietnam was messy, far away, and increasingly controversial. The action was on TV in living—and dying—color. When popular support eroded at home, the morale of our men and women in Vietnam inevitably suffered, too.

To reach personnel in the remotest areas or on warships in the China Sea, the USO brought them holiday parties, rock groups, even Texas-style barbecues. And since most civilian communities in 'Nam were off-limits to uniformed personnel due to the danger of terrorist attacks, the USO offered the only safe and sane diversion. The familiar red, white and blue USO sign with its six stars marked a place where off-duty soldiers could grab a fast-food snack and a milkshake, play chess or the jukebox, use the tape recorder, do some reading or letter writing, or just stretch out in a lounge chair. Some clubs had photo labs, post offices, barber shops and hot show-

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

At boot camp in San Diego, all sailors must pass a basic swimming test. Jackson, the largest boot in our company, was terrified of the water, but after many weeks he finally learned to dog paddle well enough for the instructor to pass him. The boot's success, however, was accompanied by one piece of advice. "Jackson," the instructor said, "if you are ever on a sinking ship, you have one chance—jump overboard, go straight to the bottom and run as fast as you can."

(THE READER'S DIGEST, AUGUST 1981)

DAV: THERE FOR THE DISABLED VET

The guns are silent, the war is over, the victory won. The nation can rest easy. Yet for the disabled veteran, wounded in war, the struggle goes on.

Who is there for these brave men and women? The Disabled American Veterans, which for 71 years has been the official voice of America's service-connected American veterans. A non-profit organization formed in 1920 and chartered by Congress in 1932, the DAV provides a wide range of services for more than one million wartime disabled veterans. Among those services are:

- The National Service program, which assists veterans and their families in filing claims for benefits, guiding them through the often confusing maze of government programs. This service is available to all veterans, not just members of the DAV. Since 1974, the DAV has taken this service on the road, into small towns and cities, to reach eligible vets who might not otherwise be aware of the programs available to them.
- The DAV legislative program, seeking to initiate and protect reasonable veterans' programs in the government.
- The National Employment program, which protects disabled veterans from job discrimination, and assists in job placement and training.
- A scholarship program that in the 1990-91 academic year provided more than $600,000 in scholarships to 205 children of veterans.

All of these services—and more—are available free of charge to all veterans and members of their families, and are supported entirely by membership dues. (The DAV receives no government funding.)

For more information, contact the DAV national headquarters at 807 Maine Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20024.

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

GI to mess cook: "The same stuff two days in a row! For crying out loud—give us some time to build up an immunity!"

(THE READER'S DIGEST, APRIL 1972)

ers. A few were on the beach.

Beginning with the opening of the first club in Saigon in April 1963, the USO extended its activities from the DMZ to the Delta. Accommodations ranged from a cluster of quonset huts and a large abandoned garage to a rented French villa and a one-time movie theater. Although many of the centers were sandbagged and heavily guarded, some took hits from enemy shells and rockets.

Through all this and more, the USO and its indomitable staffers and volunteer workers stuck it out. Although most civilians at home came to know of the USO only through televised replays of the Bob Hope Christmas shows, the unsung heroes were the staff people who put everything they had into the Vietnam effort—around the clock, month after month.

There is, of course, no way to assess the impact of USO services on the morale and personnel problems of the Vietnam era. But a sampling of reactions from the military indicates the effort was well worth the sacrifice. General William C. Westmoreland, who commanded U.S. forces in Vietnam from 1963 to 1968, paid high tribute to the USO and its "very valiant people....Thanks to this fine organization," said the now retired Army General, "the morale of our soldiers, like that of the USO civilians, never wavered."

On his last Christmas Show in Vietnam in 1972, Hope and his Hollywood "gypsies" played to an almost empty hall at the USO's Tan Son Nhut club. By then, most of the GIs had gone home. But those who remained, said Hope, "were grateful that we had remembered them, when others were trying to forget." The show ended with everyone singing not "White Christmas" but "Silent Night." There were few dry eyes.

Chapman B. Cox, president of World USO and himself a Marine veteran of Vietnam, said, "The attitude of the people back home was a difficult thing. So was the situation in Vietnam where there was a strange mixture of boredom and anxiety. We tried always to give our troops the feel-

COMFORT

"Always Home" may sound like a bit of a cliché, but not according to Navy man Robert W. Christiansen, who wrote during Korea, "It was hard for a person who didn't know the language to find a good clean place to eat or dance, so we always looked for the USO."

★★★★★

BELOW: BRINGING A TOUCH OF HOLIDAY CHEER TO AMERICANS SERVING IN VIETNAM.





★★★★★

ABOVE:FILM HERO JOHN WAYNE WAS ALWAYS ABLE TO BOOST MORALE.

SWEET MEMORIES

"I was in Vietnam in 1963," said one fan letter to the USO. "On one extremely hot day in Saigon, I came upon a USO. They sold me the greatest tasting ice cream cone I could ever remember. I swore I would never forget how the USO gave me that taste of home."

ing there was a place they could call home."

Did the USO ever consider pulling out because of the intense criticism of the war? "Absolutely not," said Cox. "The reason we were able to surmount the problems of that unpopular war was that the USO never involved itself in political issues. Our only function was to serve people and deal with their human needs."

THE USO TODAY

By Dewey Blanton

As in the past 50 years, celebrity entertainment is still a big part of the USO. But today's USO is much more. Included among the 160 USO centers worldwide are the following:

■ Thirty-nine USO Airport Centers at international terminals and Military Air Command terminals around the world. There, USO volunteers assist service personnel in all obstacles confronting the traveler, from lost luggage to language barriers.

■ Thirty-six USO Fleet Centers, which offer similar assistance to U.S. Navy and Marine personnel from the U.S. to Italy to Japan.

■ Eighty-one USO Family and Community Centers, helping service personnel and their families adjust to life in a new environment.

■ Orientation and Intercultural Programs overseas offer informational and instructional opportunities in language, history, tourism and culture, which help Americans—many visiting abroad for the first time—enjoy and appreciate their new surroundings.

Yet the USO was created in a crisis, and it has proven it can still respond to one. Shortly after President Bush gave the order for the massive military mobilization in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, thousands of USO volunteers around the world began to mobilize to meet the needs of the soldiers and sailors of Operation Desert Shield.

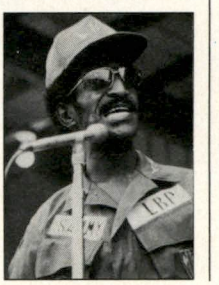
The Persian Gulf presented a unique situation for the USO. Des-

RADIO DAYS

To break the interminable silence of the Saudi Arabian desert, and ease the travails of being in a strange land, the USO arranged for the Electronics Industry Association to donate over 11,000 portable radios and 17,000 batteries.

★★★★★

BELOW: THE IRREPRESSIBLE SAMMY DAVIS JR. WAS A FAVORITE WITH SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE.



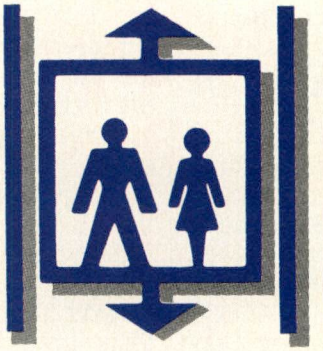
Texaco salutes the USO
for being there
to lift the spirits of
our military personnel
since 1941.







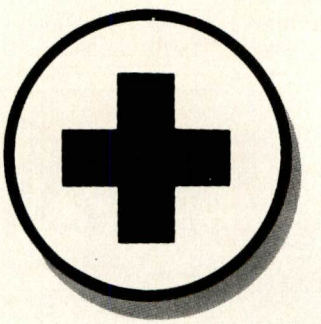












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HELP WANTED

Often the USO is dependent upon local "talent." At the height of the Vietnam War, there were only 54 civilian staffers on hand to operate the 18 USO centers and clubs, serving 500,000 troops. That skeleton staff was supplemented by 6,000 Vietnamese employees.

ert deployment was something new, and the remoteness of the crisis zone made for some novel needs for the troops. Moreover, the prevalence of families divided by the crisis—one parent going to Saudi Arabia, with the other parent left at home to tend to the children—meant the USO had to be especially creative in responding to the conflict.

But, as the preceding stories indicate, the USO has always been flexible, adapting to the needs of different generations of servicemen and women. Some of this work is common knowledge, like the series of public service announcements done by President Bush, appealing to the citizenry for help. Or, today, the USO Gulf Crisis Fund, supported by generous contributions from corporate leaders like American International Group, Anheuser-Busch, The Coca-Cola Company, ARCO and AT&T.

While the efforts of Bob Hope and hundreds of other celebrities have garnered the headlines, it has been the unflagging work of thousands of other volunteers through a half century of peace and conflict that has made the USO one of the most indispensable parts of any soldier's arsenal.

Witness the inventive ways the USO has sought to meet the needs of the troops stationed in the Middle East. Kathy Davenport, the USO's liaison with corporate America on many of these projects, calls herself the "shipping department," for her biggest problem is getting a lot of donated material to the troops. During the build-up of forces there, it seems the Pentagon had some higher priority items that needed to get to the desert first.

But by early October, two months after the build-up began, the USO had televisions, camcorders and VCRs on the way to the soldiers and sailors, as a part of the "Better than a Letter" program, sponsored by Montgomery Ward. This project allows all troops to communicate with their families via video messages.

By the end of November, at least 100,000 GIs in Saudi Arabia had received their "Oasis" packages, courtesy of Philip Morris. In each package were some little things that make life more bearable for Americans. These included cassettes, Kool-Aid, batteries and M&M candies.

It is the job of the USO's Director of Middle East Operations, David Wyckoff, to find out what it is the soldiers need. Then the USO at home sets out to find ways to fulfill those needs.

The USO also arranged for Hammond Publishers to contribute detailed maps of the Persian Gulf region to schools, particularly in states like Texas and Florida, whence a large part of the Saudi deployment originated.

Finally, the USO has opened USO centers in Bahrain and Dubai to spell the troops on leave.

And so it goes for the USO, an organization devoted to meeting the needs of Americans in uniform. It took a soldier to sum it up best. Forty years after his stint as a GI in World War II, an infantryman wrote to the USO about his memories of the war. "The USO," he stated succinctly, "was the soldier's best friend."■

Teresa Tynes is a freelance writer who lives in Austin, Tex.

Danny Devine is a freelance writer based in Crofton, Md.

Philip C. Clarke is a former Associated Press correspondent and now a freelance writer living in Greene's Crossing, N.C.

Dewey Blanton is VP, Creative Development, at ProServ. He is also the editor of *Always Home*.

PHONE HOME

Sometimes the lines at USO centers in Vietnam would start forming at 6:30 a.m. Not for a breakfast of hamburgers and milkshakes, but rather the use of the trans-Pacific telephone lines in many clubs. In 1970, the USO switchboard in Saigon handled 200,000 such calls.

DESERT DESSERT

Haagen-Dazs contributed 5,500 gallons of ice cream to the troops en route to Saudi Arabia, dispensed from the backs of refrigerated trucks during the soldiers' layover in Germany.

CURRENT TASTES

Always Home conducted a decidedly unscientific poll of military personnel at bases all over the world, seeking their input for the best in movies, television and authors. The results show that servicemen and women have amazingly varied tastes, yet they also reflect the preferences of the public at large. Herewith the results:

Movies
1. Die Hard II
2. The Hunt for Red October
3. Total Recall

Television
1. The Cosby Show
2. The Simpsons
3. Married...with Children

Authors
1. Tom Clancy
2. Robert Ludlum
3. Stephen King

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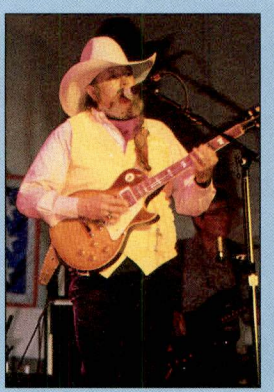
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ENTERTAINING

BY MARK SCHEERER

Touring with a USO Show can be both sobering and exhilarating. Celebrities who volunteer their time and talents find that there's never a dull moment.



© JIM BROWN 1988

★★★★★
ROCK BANDS AND COUNTRY WESTERN STARS LIKE CHARLIE DANIELS (RIGHT) ARE THE BIG DRAWING CARDS THESE DAYS.

Somewhere over the South Pacific, the PBY "flying boat" lost power in both engines. Spotting a small island, the pilot brought the plane in for a rough, but safe landing. The shaken passengers, unhurt, watched as a group of natives rowed out toward them. "The first thing they said—they didn't ask us how we were—was, `Have you got any American cigarettes?'"

Frances Langford laughs as she recalls one of the dicier moments of her World War II "tour of duty." The actress wasn't in uniform then, but to hear her recount emergency landings, bombing raids and stints at the stick of a P-38 fighter plane, one could easily forget that she was a non-combatant, as were her colleagues in Bob Hope's troupe. They were entertainers, volunteering their talents to the USO.

Langford is only one of many celebrity volunteers in the 50-year history of the USO with war stories to tell. Entertainers as diverse as country singer Lee Greenwood, Hall of Fame-bound catcher Johnny Bench and rock 'n rollers Robin Zander and Rick Neilsen of Cheap Trick have returned from USO trips abroad with heart-stopping —as well as heart-warming—memories.

Langford, who appeared in such popular patriotic Hollywood musicals as "Yankee Doodle Dandy" (1942) and "This is the Army" (1943), recalls the oddly compelling experience of finding herself under aerial bombardment in Africa and England. "We stood around and watched

★★★★★
IN THE 1940s AND '50s, THE "HURRAY FOR HOLLYWOOD" CROWD WAS THE TOP ATTRACTION. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JAYNE MEADOWS, RAY BOLGER, LEO DUROCHER, SHIRLEY MACLAINE, JIMMY STEWART, JACK BENNY, DANNY KAYE, JANE RUSSELL, BOB HOPE AND JIMMY DURANTE.

THE TROOPS!!



© PHOTO COURTESY OF USO

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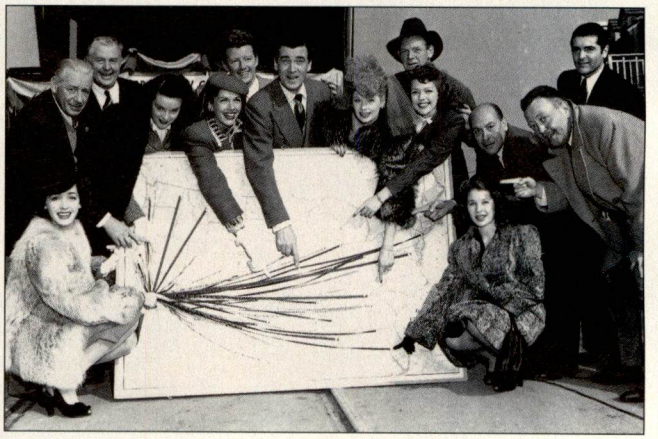
★★★★★

LEFT: BING CROSBY AT BASE IN SANTA ANA, CALIF. THEY LOVED HIS MELLOW TONES AND MELLOW HUMOR.

★★★★★

BELOW: HOLLYWOOD SCENE IN 1943— MOVIE STARS POINTING OUT THEIR USO CAMP SHOWS ITINERARY.

© UPI/BETTMANN



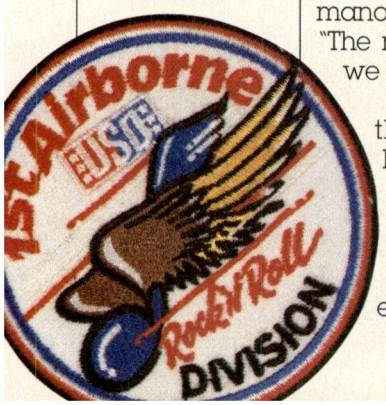
© JIM KENAH



★★★★★

ABOVE: LEE GREENWOOD IN PANAMA (1989).

BELOW: EMBLEM OF THE POPULAR ROCKERS WHO BEGAN TOURING FOR THE USO IN THE MID-1980s.



it—now that's pretty silly. I hate to say this, but it was beautiful. They'd always drop flares. But it was scary.

"We were all sort of a rugged bunch," said Langford of the Hope-led troupe, which included comedian Jerry Colonna, tenor Jack Pepper, guitarist Tony Romano and dancer Patty Thomas. "The rougher it got, the more fun we had.

"They used to let me sit at the wheel of those big old bombers in the South Pacific. I flew in a P-38. We did all kinds of things we shouldn't have done."

Langford became so enamored of flying she returned home to become a pilot and, with her husband, opened a flying school in California.

Lee Greenwood's bandmates, on the other hand, could be forgiven for never wanting to fly again, after an incident in Panama in June 1989. The Grammy-winning singer was traveling by Blackhawk helicopter between concerts for U.S. military personnel stationed in the Canal Zone.

"They had to fly very low," Greenwood recalled, noting that tension was rising in the months before the U.S. invasion. Low-flying aircraft, he points out, make tougher targets for groundfire. Other members of Greenwood's troupe were traveling in a Chinook helicopter which, Greenwood says, "almost ran into a mountain."

"They had to pull up suddenly, and everyone lost their lunch in the Chinook."

"We thought we were cashing in," recalls Dan Bradley, a member of Greenwood's manage-

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

An excited army recruit asked his company commander for an immediate furlough—his wife was going to have a baby. Permission was granted and, when the furlough papers were drawn up and the soldier was leaving, the officer asked casually when the baby was due. "About nine months after I get home, sir," replied the recruit.

(THE READER'S DIGEST, SEPTEMBER 1953)

ment staff. "There were no windows in the Chinook. We didn't know which way was up, or down."

A few months later, country superstar Charley Pride headlined a USO Christmas tour that took him to Panama mere hours before the invasion that removed General Manuel Noriega from power. "I sensed something was happening," Pride said, "but I didn't realize how close and how quick. Four days after we got out of there, it happened."

Pride, who first toured with the USO in 1971 with Hope, had been in the Army himself. "I had trained as an infantryman, so I could relate to how these fellows felt. My eyes were just that young and wide, too."

Wide-eyed would be a good way to describe members of the rock bands KANSAS and Cheap Trick, at one point during their 1985 USO tour.

After a concert for American forces at the Sigonella Naval Air Station in Italy, they were asked if they would mind visiting with a few of the men who couldn't attend the show. "We were loaded into two armored personnel carriers, which was a little unusual," remembered KANSAS drummer Phil Ehart. "We pulled up at this fenced-in compound, which turned out to be a nuclear warhead storage facility, where they keep all the damn nuclear warheads for Europe!

"The Marine guards shook our hands through the fence and they're saying, `We're real sorry we couldn't make the concert, but we're locked in here for a month at a time.'"

"It was a sobering experience," Ehart said.

Cheap Trick's Zander and Neilsen had front row seats for a Middle East crisis while aboard the aircraft carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower in the Mediterranean in 1985. An attempted military coup in Jordan was the catalyst that put the American fleet on alert. "We were 200 miles off the coast of Beirut," said the gangly guitarist Neilsen. "We got to sit up in the tower and watch the planes landing and taking off from the carrier."

Invoking the military slang for Soviet aircraft, lead singer Zander said, "There were flight operations going every hour and `bears in the air' and we got to sit in on some of the pilot's briefings. It was pretty cool."

The musicians from Cheap Trick and KANSAS were joined in the mid-1980s by Stephen Stills, members of the Doobie Brothers and other rockers in what were ground-breaking tours for the USO. Vietnam-era rock bands were not eager to volunteer their talents, and when USO Director of Marketing and Communications Kevin McCarthy got Ehart involved in mounting the first major rock tour in 1984, it was still a sensitive subject.

"We took quite a bit of flack," Ehart said. "We had to say from the start, `Look, just because some



NO PENALTY FOR PILING ON.

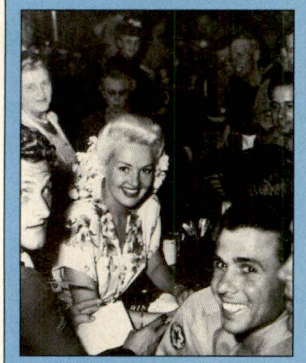
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HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN: A True Epic



Where could a serviceman chat with Betty Grable, be served coffee and sandwiches by Hedy Lamarr, or dance the jitterbug to the swinging tunes of Harry James? If you would limit such activity to his dreamy musings, you're wrong. He could do all these fantastic things in real life, at the Hollywood Canteen.

From the time it first opened its doors in October 1942, the Hollywood Canteen was one of the great success stories in the efforts to meet the entertainment needs of the World War II soldiers. An army of stars and starlets gave their time and effort—for free—to make the Hollywood Canteen an unforgettable experience for the GIs.

The troops would queue up outside for hours, with an average of 2,500 men a night coming through the doors. Fire restrictions limited capacity to only 500 at a time, so the master of ceremonies—perhaps Eddie Cantor, Bing Crosby, Fred MacMurray or Basil Rathbone—periodically asked that all those presently enjoying the Canteen's informal show collect their hats and leave, allowing their compatriots to get their one hour of Canteen fun.

The expressed purpose of the Canteen was to entertain the grunts of World War II— no officers were allowed. Some of those GI Joes were based in the area, some were about to be shipped out to the Pacific theatre, and others had just come back, sporting medals and scars earned in fighting the Japanese.

The Canteen was open from 7 p.m. to the midnight curfew, Monday through Saturday, and from 2-8 p.m. on Sunday. All the services of the Canteen were free, yet no public solicitations for funds were ever made; the $3,000 weekly operating budget was more than met via rights fees sold to Warner Brothers to produce a film about the club. Of the 6,000 workers, only nine were paid. And perhaps more than the Hollywood stars, the attraction for the GIs was the junior hostesses, who served the patrons with a smile.

The hostesses and customers were on a first-name basis; they had to be, those were the rules. The young ladies served under strict regulations, including not disclosing their last names or their telephone numbers, and not (officially) dating the men.

It was said that, except for Greta Garbo and Charlie Chaplin, almost everyone in Hollywood performed at the canteen at least once. Servicemen collected autographs from Grable, Lamarr, Ingrid Bergman and Bette Davis (one of those who initiated the Canteen concept).

Built on Cahuenga Boulevard in what used to be a stable, the Hollywood Canteen was constructed by studio laborers, all working for free, on their own time. But the real warmth and ambiance of the Canteen was created by the people inside: stars looking to do their bit for the cause, GIs desirous of unwinding, and hostesses intent on helping them do so. It was a true Hollywood epic, and it showed what tinsel town could do if it set its mind—and heart—to it. — *By Dewey Blanton*

© NYT PICTURES



rock 'n roll guys are going over to entertain some troops, we're not saying anything political.' It doesn't mean we're warmongers or anything like that."

The tours were dubbed "The First Airborne Rock 'n Roll Division." Ehart is a veteran of four such excursions, including a 30,000-mile, 22-day, 19-gig, around-the-world trip in 1986 which received very little advance publicity due to the fears of terrorist attacks.

"It has bummed me," said Ehart, "not being able to make this into something that other bands would volunteer for. I was hoping it would start a major ball rolling, but it just never happened.

"The guys really like rock 'n roll the best. I mean they appreciate the cheerleaders and the movie stars and the sports figures, but man, when there is a rock 'n roll band that they have grown up on, it means a lot to actually see them."

Zander agrees. "Young guys, 18, 19, 20 years old, they just love rock action. Those guys are the best audiences in the world to play for."

Johnny Bench will back him up on that. "Just the other day, I was with someone who said, `We saw you in Da Nang. We really appreciated your coming over.'"

As a 23-year-old National League Most Valuable Player, Bench joined Hope on stage for comedy routines during the 1970 USO Christmas tour, which included visits to three U.S. bases in Vietnam. Although he heard some gunfire and had some nervous moments flying in and out of Vietnam, Bench said he was most concerned about how he would be received by troops fighting in Southeast Asia while he was being well paid to play baseball.

"I'll tell you, though, they would come and say, `Thanks for coming, man!' I really felt good about it."

Langford felt so good about her USO duty in World War II that she followed it up with stints during Korea and Vietnam. And despite entertaining three generations of soldiers in three very different conflicts, she found a

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HUMOR IN UNIFORM

Filling out an application for dependents' aid, a young soldier answered "no" to the question as to whether he had any dependents. "You're married, aren't you?" an officer asked. "Yessir," the soldier replied, "but she ain't dependable."

(THE READER'S DIGEST, MARCH 1944)



★★★★★

LEFT: SINCE 1987, COUNTRY STAR RANDY TRAVIS HAS TRAVELLED ON A USO THANKSGIVING TOUR EVERY YEAR.



© JIM KENAH

★★★★★

ABOVE: JAY LENO ENTERTAINING TROOPS SERVING IN OPERATION DESERT SHIELD, NOVEMBER 1990.

common thread that kept her coming back.

"The soldiers were all the same," she said. "The same audience, the same laughter and everything.

"I sang a song that was written for me for the first picture I did, called, `I'm in the Mood for Love.' Every time I would start to sing, in every theatre of war, some man invariably would get up and shout, 'Sister, you've come to the right place!'" ■

Mark Scheerer is entertainment correspondent for *Cable News Network* and *ABC Radio*.



BY MARY PATRICIA LEE

HEART WITHOUT A HOME

Editor's Note: *This is the winning entry in a fiction contest which was open to all active duty members of the armed forces.*

She had never gone home for Christmas. It was too far away, cost too much. There were too many watches to cover, too many reasons not to go.

It had been like that in all her duty stations. Antigua in the West Indies. Argentia, Newfoundland. Ford Island, Hawaii. And now here in Keflavik, Iceland, the holidays were coming around again. And the side of her that only she knew about was happy to be right here on duty.

She had determined years ago that the worst of the holidays was over by Christmas morning. If you could just make it through Christmas Eve by working when everyone else in the world was sitting at home with family, eating traditional meals and exchanging gifts, you had it made. Sleep most of the next day and the world was back to normal when you woke up. In October, she had requested several extra watches for herself, including the Christmas Eve midwatch. But for some reason this pending holiday season, her first in Iceland, had been tougher to deal with than usual. Perhaps it had something to do with the weather. Twice already her section had been stranded by blizzards and the eerie rise and fall of the whistling wind steeped her in aloneness.

Or maybe it was that beautiful aurora borealis streaming across the dark winter sky. The ribbons of glittering fairy dust snaking across the night had filled her with such sudden, profound delight that she had looked frantically around for someone to share it with. This country was so darn "Christmasy"!

But then the approved watchbill had arrived—her request had not been granted. She was stunned. And then angry. She had asked the senior watch officer to reconsider, but he had assured her that the watches were covered and that she should plan to enjoy the rare holiday off at home. Home? In her barracks room? Day, eve and mid? Off? Alone? Oh, God.

And now it was Christmas Eve. Sleeping late had used up most of the morning. While Christmas Eve was one of the shortest days of the year, that also meant it was one of the longest nights. It stretched endlessly before her.

She looked up to the dark and empty sky from the window of her second story room. She felt brittle, as though she might crack. Instead, she began to cry. For herself, for the loss of her home. She cried because she was crying for the loss of a home so poor, so pathetic, so full of pain and shame that she had left it and never returned. She cried because no one had ever cared whether she did or not. The loneliness was her own doing—a deliberately cultivated state of solitude. And now she was frightened by it. By everything that she had done to bring herself to this state of personal chaos. Oh, God, where are you? Where am I?



And then came the timid knock at her door. It was so soft that she almost didn't hear it. She opened the door and looked down into the wide eyes of a little redheaded boy who solemnly handed over a bag of cookies, along with a quickly-lisped "Merry Christmas." She smiled at him when she took the cookies and his return smile was devastating in its sweetness. His eyes were shining. He couldn't be more than five years old.

In his squeaky, child's voice he carefully explained how he and other Tiger Cubs were busy giving every "alone person" on the base a bag of cookies this Christmas Eve. As though it mattered, he added in a whisper that he was also the "lead shepherd" in the Christmas play this same night. His innocent assumption that she cared about what he said, the red-cheeked exertion it had cost him to deliver a bag of cookies to her, and his impulse to share his nervousness about his stage debut, enthralled her completely.

She thanked him and then watched the small, bundled-up figure from her doorway as he shoved his heavy box of gifts from room to room. His "Merry Christmas" sounded more and more like gasps as he moved down the passageway.

Just as she was ready to shut

USO and the men and women of Operation Desert Shield send their heartfelt thanks to these corporations for their patriotism and generosity.

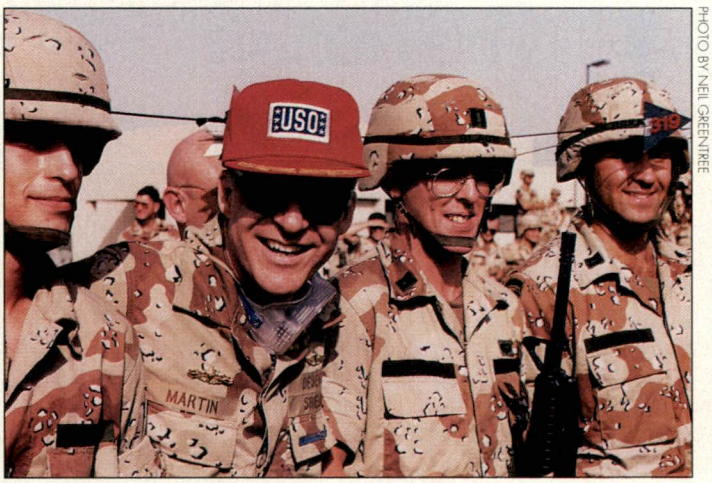


PHOTO BY NEIL GREENTREE

For fifty years, USO has been bringing a touch of home to America's sons and daughters serving in the United States Armed Forces around the world.

The personal visit of Steve Martin, the first of several USO celebrity tours to the Persian Gulf region, was made possible by $500,000 contributions from American International Group, Anheuser-Busch Companies, The Coca-Cola Company, ARCO and AT&T.

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her door, she heard a gruff voice shout, "I don't want any, kid!" and then the slam of a door. She ran down the hall to the boy who was kneeling beside his heavy box, head bowed.

"Hey, sweetie, what's going on?"

It was a clumsy attempt to comfort but it was the best she could do. Until he looked up at her and broke her heart. His eyes were still shining, but now with the tears that wet his cheeks. Perspiration stood out on his forehead and his impossibly small nose was running. He sputtered something about how he only wanted to give the "alone man" some cookies. She knelt beside him, and enclosed him carefully in what she remembered as a hug. His arms went tight around her neck and his sobs came full throttle between her throat and shoulder. After a while she slowly stood up with him. Simultaneously patting his parka-padded back, murmuring words of comfort, and painstakingly shoving the heavy box of cookies with her foot, she managed to make it back to her room.

Leaving her door open in case an anxious mother might appear to claim this tearful burden, she unzipped the heavy coat and unwrapped the scarf from him. She wiped the sweaty little face clean with a washcloth and held the tissue while he blew his nose. When she teased him about blowing holes right through the tissue, he laughed.

She let him ramble through his detailed explanation of what had happened with the angry man. In listening to him, she became aware of how brave this little boy was. Every time he had knocked on a door this dark, gloomy day, he had taken a risk. Of being rejected. Hurt.

She asked him for his name. It was Aaron and he was quick to tell her that his name was in the Bible and meant "strong, like a mountain."

"And you are, Aaron, you are," she said with sincerity that was touched with awe.

She asked if it would be all right with him if she helped deliver the cookies. His quick acceptance gave her cause to smile. Even one so indomitable took help where needed.

WHILE CHRISTMAS EVE WAS ONE OF THE SHORTEST DAYS OF THE YEAR, THAT ALSO MEANT IT WAS ONE OF THE LONGEST NIGHTS. IT STRETCHED ENDLESSLY BEFORE HER.

Before she had a chance to think about how that might apply to her own life, they had delivered the rest of the cookies. They did it as a team. She carried the box and he handed out cookies or quietly dropped them at the doors of sleeping watchstanders. They whispered and giggled as they went and he practiced his lead shepherd lines on her until she knew them as well as he did.

When they returned to her room and she was swaddling him back into his winter clothes, she felt real regret at having to part company with this little paragon of courage and persistence. She held his hand on the way to the main entrance of her barracks where they waited for his mother.

The snow had stopped falling. A sliver of a moon hung low in the east and the dusky shadow of a burgeoning aurora borealis promised to spangle the overhead skies.

She turned to the tired little boy and asked him to say his lead shepherd lines once more. The darkness hid the smile that his whispered rehearsal inspired. She reminded him that they were no longer in quiet zones and that he could now say his message loudly and joyfully. And because she knew the words so well and because it was that kind of night, she dropped his hand, stepped several paces back from him, and delivered the shepherd's words the way she felt they would have been said 2,000 years before. Headlights were suddenly on them and his reaction made it obvious that it was his mother's car. Waving good-bye and shouting his "Merry Christmas" one last time, Aaron ran to the car, clambering into the front seat.

Later she walked through that peaceful night to attend the children's Mass. She watched her protege proceed down the aisle to his place outside the manger scene. He wore simple brown robes and carried a large cane that served as his shepherd's crook. When the time was right, he turned to face the full church, and looked directly at her. Clearly and strongly, eyes now shining with this final triumph of a heroic day, Aaron spoke the timeless message:

"Let us now go over to Bethlehem. And see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

With that, Aaron herded his sheep and led his fellow shepherds to view the newly-born Christ Child lying in the humble crib.

Aaron's words and actions spoke directly to her heart that night. In the moment when the child had given his lines to her, the knowledge had come that she must, like him, draw upon her own courage and persistence and begin to knock on doors once again. By following the little boy down empty passages and witnessing him suffer through rejection and pain, she had learned how she must live. She knew there would be more pain and more tears. There were always plenty of both for risk takers and children.

But now she knew the way home as made clear to her by the little boy who knocked on her door that Christmas Eve, and stumbled into her heart. ■

Mary Patricia Lee is a Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy, at the Naval Air Station in Keflavik, Iceland.

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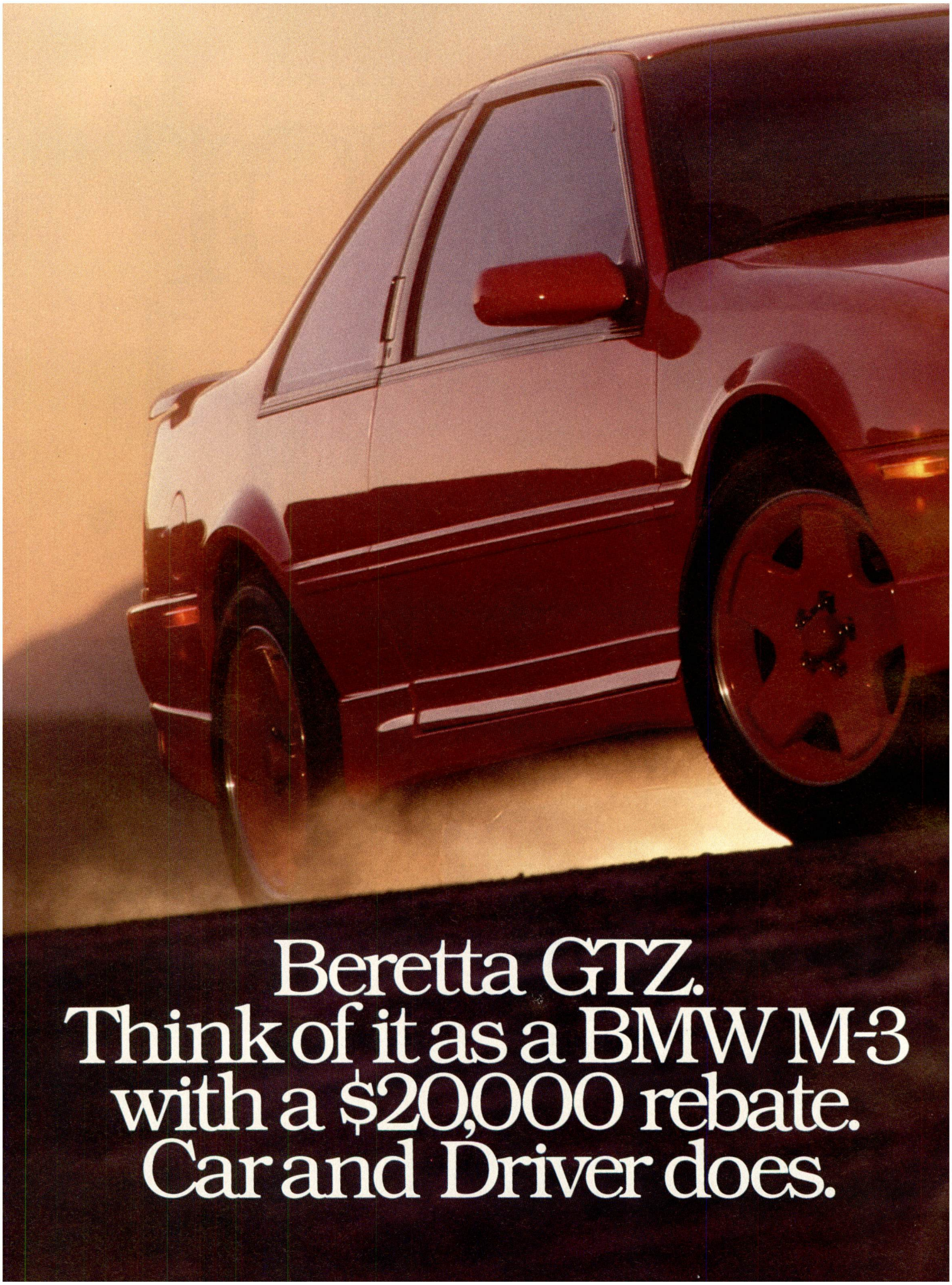
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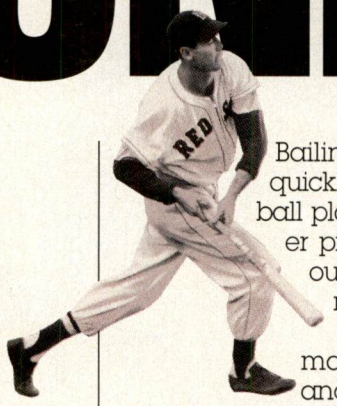
After pushing the Chevy Beretta GTZ to its limit, what quickly came to mind for *Car and Driver* was another car that costs well over twice the sticker price. The limited production BMW M-3. Only a split second and a few RPMs separated its performance from the infamous European. As it turned out, about the only thing Beretta GTZ couldn't come close to was the BMW's $35,000 price.

When it comes to getting top performance but not paying top dollar, more people are winning with The Heartbeat of America.

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BY ROBERT SULLIVAN

The Other UNIFORM

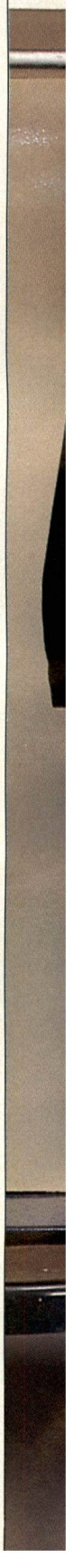


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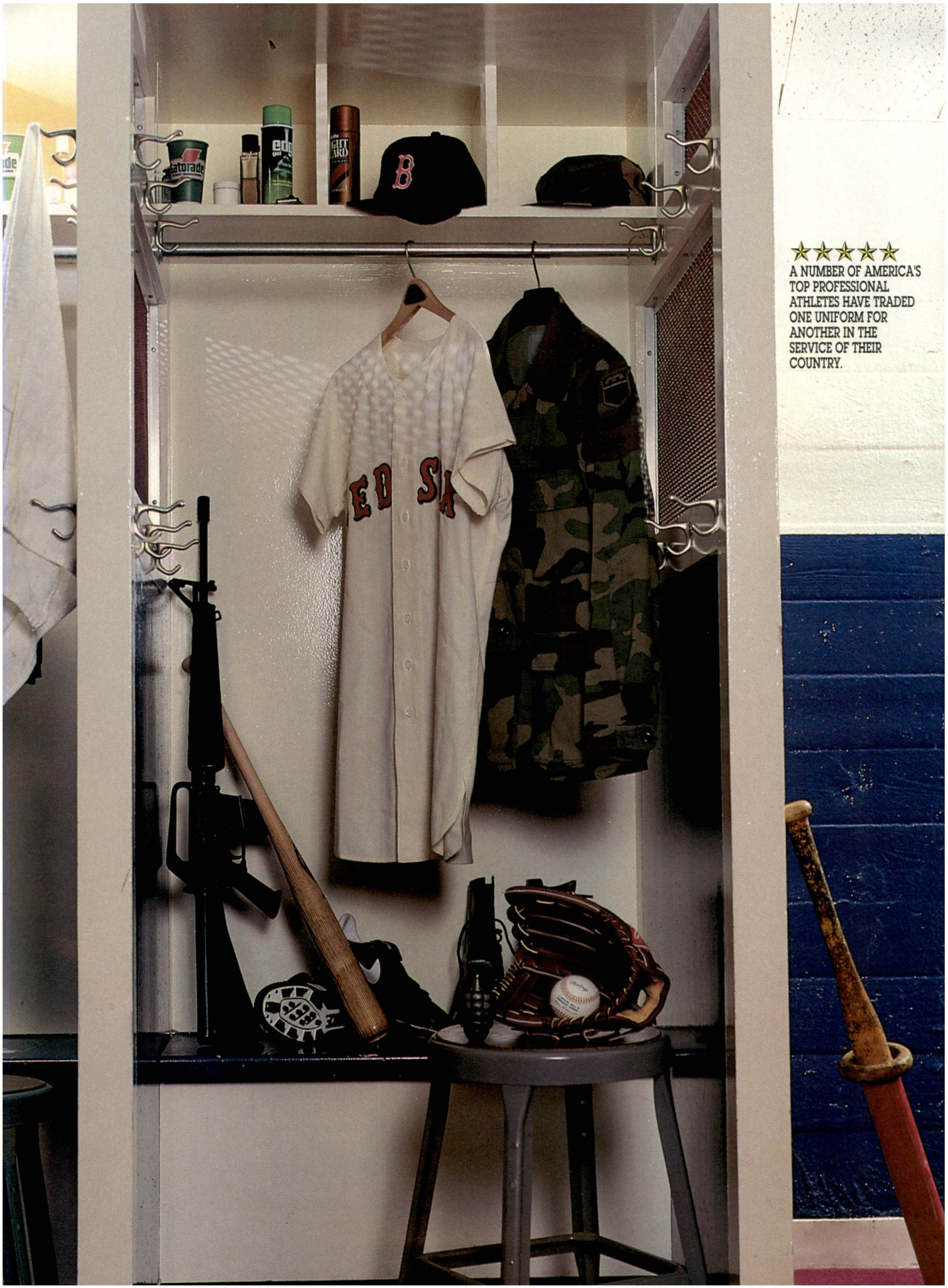
Bailing out—the act of ducking away from a pitch too quickly, often out of the batter's box—is taboo for a baseball player. Bailing out too soon is also bad form for a fighter pilot. In either arena, Ted Williams (left) never bailed out. Not in his celebrated baseball career and certainly not in Korea in 1952.

"But now I was the target for I don't know how many thousands of Japanese in that encampment, and sure as hell I got hit with small arms fire," he would write later. "When I pulled up out of my run, all the red lights were on in the plane and the damn thing started to shake... Any minute I expected I'd have to bail out, and I always dreaded the prospect. It was the only real fear I had flying a plane, that if I had to bail out I wouldn't make it. Among other things, the cockpit is small. For a big guy, cramped in like I was, I thought I'd surely leave my kneecaps right in there ...All of a sudden I was over the field. Not the same field we'd taken off from, but one nearer the target. It was a madhouse. Everybody was coming in at once, about 60 planes in from the mission, all low on fuel. But all I had eyes for was that tiny little field. I started to make my break on a fairly tight turn, when *fffuumum*, a big explosion in the plane. One of the wheeldoors had blown off. Now there was fire and smoke underneath the plane...For more than a mile I skidded, ripping and tearing up the runway, sparks flying. I could see the fire truck, and I pressed the brakes so hard I almost broke my ankle, and all the time I'm screaming, *'When is this dirty S.O.B. going to stop?'*....The canopy wouldn't open at first, then I hit the emergency ejector, and the fire was all around me, everything on fire except the cockpit. Boy, I just dove out and kind of somersaulted, and I took my helmet and slammed it on the ground, I was so mad."

While countless men have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, many others have made far lesser sacrifices: bunts and flies, home runs, first downs and free throws. We allude to those elite athletes who, in doing their duty, have traded one uniform for another, switch-

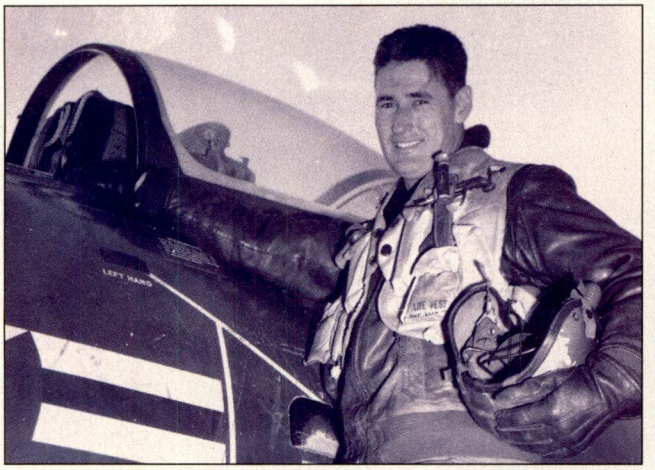


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★★★★★

A NUMBER OF AMERICA'S TOP PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES HAVE TRADED ONE UNIFORM FOR ANOTHER IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY.



UPI/BETTMANN NEWSPHOTOS

★★★★★
ABOVE AND RIGHT: TED WILLIAMS, BOSTON RED SOX SUPERSTAR, HAD HIS BASEBALL CAREER INTERRUPTED TWICE BY MARINE SERVICE.

ing from sneakers to heavy boots. David Robinson, who single-handedly lugged the San Antonio Spurs to NBA respectability last season, was content to delay his pro basketball career for two years while he completed his Navy service. Roger Staubach, yet another Navy officer, sat out four years before trepidatiously reporting to the Dallas Cowboys as a 27-year-old rookie.

And then there's Ted Williams, the quintessential example of a bigtime athlete who starred for a time in more violent arenas. As any Boston Red Sox fan can tell you—and will—Williams certainly would have tallied 10,000 hits, 2,000 of which would have been homers, if his baseball career hadn't been interrupted not once but *twice* by Marine service.

We'll return to the Teddy Wargames saga in a moment, for it's surely the most compelling among the playing-man/ fighting-man stories. But first let's glance at these other cases, and see how the jock's place in the military has differed from age to age, and how various people have reacted in various ways to being called up by the parent team.

These days, with peace breaking out everywhere but Kuwait, and with the selective service an anachronism, it is only athletes from the academies who are likely to forego a big-money, big-league season for the grand opportunity of slogging around in fatigues and eating mess hall chow. And even the academy grads serve their enlistment only because they must, in repayment for their education.

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

A sailor stationed on a far-flung U.S. outpost was noted for his loyalty to his fiancée. Then one day he received a callous letter telling him that she was going to marry a 4-F, and would he please return her picture. He was so upset by this treachery that his buddies rallied to avenge their pal. A collection of photographs, snapshots and pin-up girls was made from every fellow on the base. They were packed in a huge crate and shipped to the fickle wench. Upon opening the crate, she found a note reading, "Please pick out your picture and return the rest to me. This is a little embarrassing, but I don't remember which one is yours."

(THE READER'S DIGEST, FEBRUARY 1944)

A short, sweet history of such an athlete is that of David Robinson. The dutiful son of a 20-year Navy man, Robinson decided during his junior year *not* to transfer from Annapolis, a move that would have steered him clear of the five-year hitch.

"Napoleon McCallum is going in," he said in the spring of '86, referring to the star running back for the Middies' football team. "And so am I. It was a close decision. We are talking about a lot of money."

All's well that ends well, for we are *still* talking about a lot of money. Robinson benefited from the Navy's "progressive" attitude and was able to debut in the pros after only two years of full-time military service. It was decided that Robinson, too tall at 7'1" for sea duty anyway, would best serve his country as a half-hitch ensign and then a lifetime role model. Robinson signed with the San Antonio Spurs for $26 million over eight years, which compared favorably with his $1,260.90 monthly Navy wage, even when you heap on the $112.65 subsistence stipend.

Robinson, last season's unanimous choice as NBA rookie of the year, is deserving of his $3-million plus a year, if such a mammoth sum can be fairly earned by playing a game. And make no mistake: He earned his Navy pay, too. He was a resident officer in charge of construction in "a one-road town" named St. Mary's, Ga. "I definitely got special treatment in the Navy, but not the way you are thinking. They would go out of their way to make things more difficult for me just so that people would know I wasn't special, that everyone was equal. It really wasn't fair, but 'fair' wasn't a word they used much."



UPI/BETTMANN NEWSPHOTOS

The slim but strong Robinson carried the Spurs to the greatest single-season turnaround in league history. For the year he averaged 24.3 points, 12 rebounds and 3.9 blocks per game. He was everything NBA fans and the Navy wanted him to be: poised, energetic, intense, hard-working. Even before the tipoff, he impressed. When asked what she liked best about watching Robinson, the wife of a Spurs executive said, "The way he stood at attention for the national anthem."

Yet another charismatic athlete who has brought reflected glory to Navy is football's Roger Staubach. Back when he left Annapolis in 1964, his country was at war. Considerations were very different than they are today. "Back then, there was no thought that I wouldn't serve five years," says Staubach, taking a few minutes from a busy day as chief of a Dallas real estate firm. "Junior year at the academy, I'd had a very good season and had won the Heisman. I probably could've tried to transfer right then, and then go to the pros after my senior year. But, really, I didn't consider it. I had always looked at the Navy as the foundation for my future in life. Not to be corny, but I felt if I tried to get out of that commitment, I'd try to get out of things the rest of my life."

Not only didn't Staubach get out of it, he got into it, deep. After six months of training in Georgia, the ensign was shipped to Vietnam. "My service there was busy, but behind the lines," he says unassumingly. "I ran a support group over there. We'd have a mortar attack on our base, maybe, but nothing too much. I lost some classmates in the rice paddies, but I cannot tell you honestly that mine was a dangerous job."

Although football was forced well to the back of Staubach's mind during the mid-'60s, the once and future QB kept hope alive. "At 22, five years seems a lifetime. But I had played well in the College All Star game, and after that it became a mental challenge. I had a lot of perseverance. I'd do beach running at Chu Lai, and throw the ball on the Da-Nang soccer field with Fred Marlin. I kept saying to myself, 'Jimminy—when I get out I'll be 27. You can still play at 27!'"

By the way, Roger's nickname isn't "Jimminy." He really



© CARL SKALAK/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

DAVID ROBINSON WAS EVERYTHING NBA FANS AND THE NAVY WANTED HIM TO BE: POISED, ENERGETIC, INTENSE, HARD-WORKING.





© JERRY WACHTER/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

★★★★★

IN 1989-90, DAVID ROBINSON CARRIED THE SAN ANTONIO SPURS TO THE GREATEST SINGLE-SEASON TURNAROUND IN NBA HISTORY.

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

A group of us were sitting in the ready room of our hangar at Patuxent River, Md., when a chief walked in with more hash marks adorning his sleeve than we had ever seen. One sailor remarked, "Gee, chief, you've sure been in the Navy a long time. What were you in civilian life?" The chief, without hesitation, answered, "a baby."

(THE READER'S DIGEST, JULY 1968)

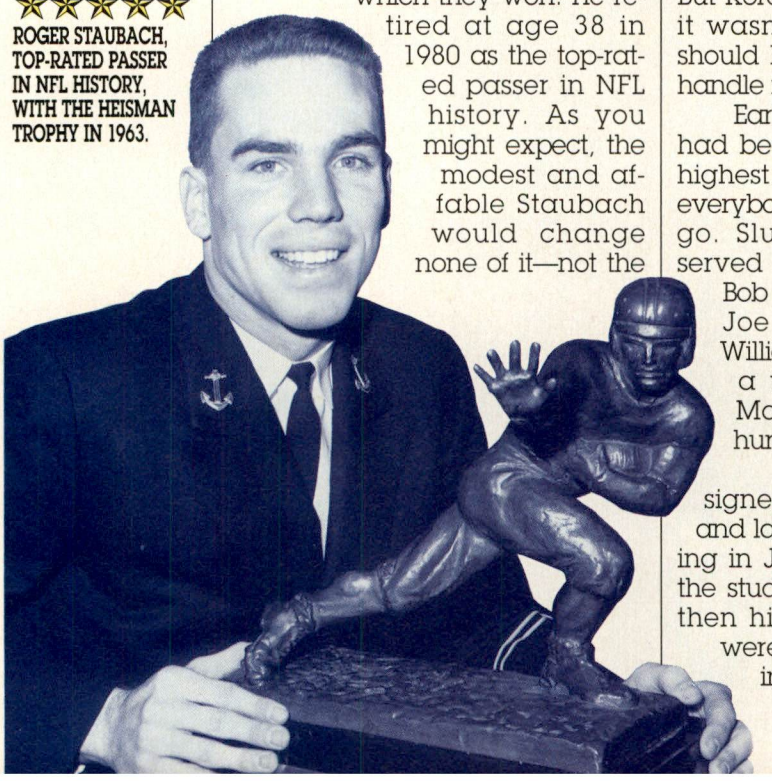
does talk that way.

When Staubach returned to the U.S., it was to a far different life than the one he had left. He had been phenomenally famous at Annapolis—cover-of-*Time* magazine famous. The economically stressed Navy had had to curtail the practice of sending Roger-the-Dodger glossies to coeds nationwide; thousands of mailings at $3 per picture were just too much for the defense budget to bear.

But now, in 1968, Staubach returned to signal calling as QB for the Pensacola (Fla.) Air Station Goshawks, a ragtag team that played a pickup schedule against small colleges in the Southeast. "I don't want to make too much of it, but that was pretty serious-minded, it really was," Staubach recalls defensively. "We'd all played college football, and some of the teams we played against weren't too bad. I really learned to scramble then. Since I was the Heisman Trophy winner, they'd all take shots at me."

"A good transitional experience," says Staubach. "When I took three weeks of leave for the Cowboys' training camp the next year, I was ready."

More than ready. Following Don Meredith and Craig Morton in that great parade of Cowboy quarterbacks, Staubach steered Dallas to four Super Bowls, two of which they won. He retired at age 38 in 1980 as the top-rated passer in NFL history. As you might expect, the modest and affable Staubach would change none of it—not the academy, not DaNang, not Pensacola and certainly not Dallas.



★★★★★
ROGER STAUBACH, TOP-RATED PASSER IN NFL HISTORY, WITH THE HEISMAN TROPHY IN 1963.

UPI/BETTMANN NEWSPHOTOS



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STAUBACH RAN ON THE BEACH IN VIETNAM IN PREPARATION FOR HIS RETURN TO THE GRIDIRON.

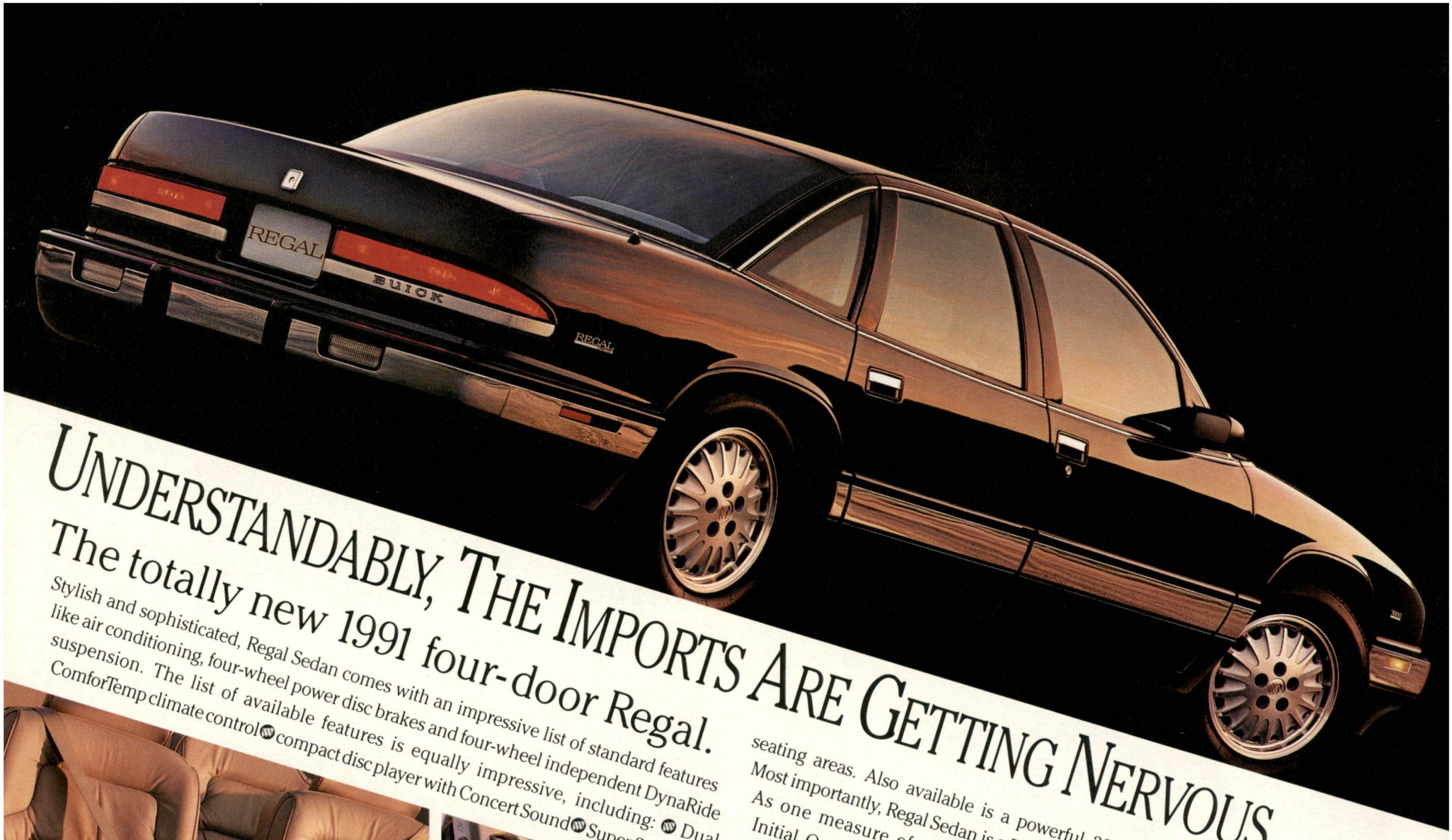
"Truly, I'm even glad to have served in Vietnam," he says. "Things have turned out so well, how can you ask that anything be different?

"Well...Perhaps I'd like to change the outcome of a couple of those Super Bowls against Pittsburgh."

Ted Williams wishes that some things had been different, specifically that Korean War thing. Never has he been so candid about this as in his 1969 autobiography, *My Turn at Bat*. "In my heart, I was bitter about it," Williams writes about being called up in the '50s. "I think if it's an emergency, everybody goes. But Korea wasn't a declared war, it wasn't an all-out war. They should have let the professionals handle it."

Earlier, of course, World War II had been an emergency of the highest order, and darned near everybody, Williams included, did go. Slugger Hank Greenberg served for two years. Fastballer Bob Feller for three. The great Joe DiMaggio for three. Williams eventually performed a three-year hitch in the Marines, but he was in no hurry to get it started.

Williams eventually signed up for naval aviation, and later received combat training in Jacksonville where he set the student gunnery record, and then his Pacific Theater orders were issued. He was stationed in San Francisco waiting to

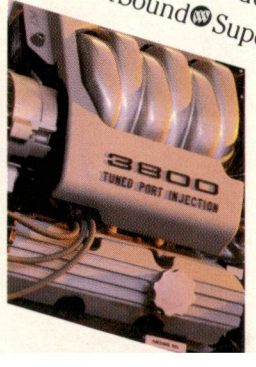


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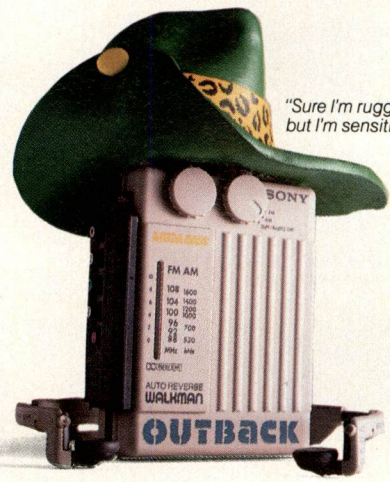
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"Just call me the Decathalon Man."



"Despite my youthful appearance, I'm actually quite sophisticated."



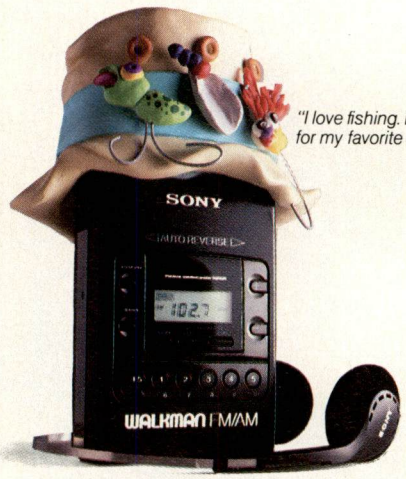
"Sure I'm rugged, but I'm sensitive, too."



"I'll only accept one thing. The best."



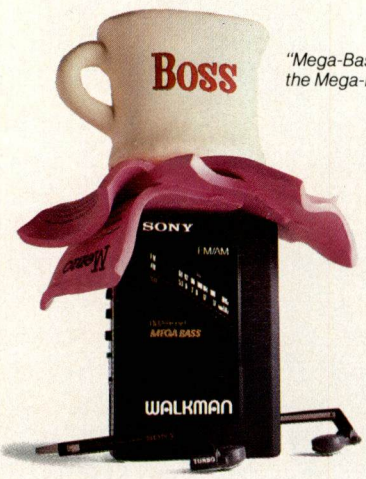
"I run to the beat of a different Walkman."



"I love fishing. But not for my favorite station."



"My parents gave me a lot of self-esteem. But I deserve it."



"Mega-Bass for the Mega-Boss."



"I may be small, but I'm powerful."

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ship out when the bombs were dropped on Japan. He got as far as Honolulu, and there was discharged.

Williams never batted less than .317 and never hit fewer than 25 homers between 1946 and 1951; he won the league's Triple Crown (homers, RBI and batting average) in 1947. He hit 43 homers and knocked in 159 runs two years later, winning another MVP award.

But by 1952, he was 33, and his .318 average in '51 was the second-lowest of his major league career. When the Korean summons came, it seemed like the end of the road for Teddy Ballgame. Indeed, that's how the Fenway Faithful reacted on Ted Williams Day in April of '52. They gave Williams a Cadillac and an autograph book with 400,000 signatures, then they held hands in the stands and sang *Auld Lang Syne*. Williams, who had had a contentious relationship with these fans, saluted them, saying, "This is the greatest day of my life." In his last between-War at-bat, with the score tied 3-3, he hit a homer, thus beating Detroit 5-3.

The death-defying flight related earlier was one of 39 missions flown by Williams; he was hit on two other occasions. "Everybody tries to make a hero out of me over the Korean thing," writes Williams, the once-reluctant flyboy. "I was no hero. There were maybe 75 pilots in our two squadrons and 99 percent of them did a better job than I did. But I liked flying. It was the second best thing that ever happened to me. If I hadn't had baseball to come back to, I might have gone on being a Marine pilot."

But he did have baseball to come back to, and so when he was grounded with an inner-ear infection, an ailment that led to pneumonia and that still affects his hearing, the Marines graciously mustered him out. Baseball commissioner Ford Frick called him immediately and invited him to Cincinnati to throw out the first ball of the 1953 All Star Game. Although Williams was inclined to fish away the rest of that year, in the season's waning days the Red Sox coaxed him back into the line-up and he went on a 37-game tear, hitting .407 with 13 homers—one every seven times at bat. The Splinter was back, as splendid as ever. And despite annual declarations that he was through, Williams kept coming back for six more seasons, hitting as high as .388 and as many as 38 homers in a season, becoming the oldest player ever to win a batting crown. His career ultimately stretched all the way from 1939 to 1960, and if you bother to extrapolate—as those diehards from Boston are wont to do—then it becomes clear that Williams might well have become the all-time homer king, had he not given the better part of five seasons to his country. And that quintessential milestone would sit atop a marvelous career batting average of .344.

Williams modestly told the press in 1952, "If Uncle Sam wants me, I'm ready. I'm no different from the next fellow." Wrong. He *was*.

Someone else, someone higher up, knew he was different too—and this last anecdote provides a felicitous postscript to this ramble about sports stars and the Stars and Stripes.

When Williams was called up for Korea, he was the highest paid ballplayer in the land, making $100,000 a year. A U.S. Budget Bureau executive got the Pentagon on the phone and asked, "Do you dumb clucks realize how much his captain's pay is going to cost us?"

A colonel answered matter-of-factly, "$608.25 per month."

The budgeteer shot back: "Yes, $7,300 a year, plus about $50,000 in lost income tax! You could get a dozen Marine captains for the same price as one!"

If San Antonio fans were worried, that's proof enough that David Robinson is not likely to be mustered in again—at least not while we've got an expanding deficit. ■

Robert Sullivan is a staff writer for *Sports Illustrated*.

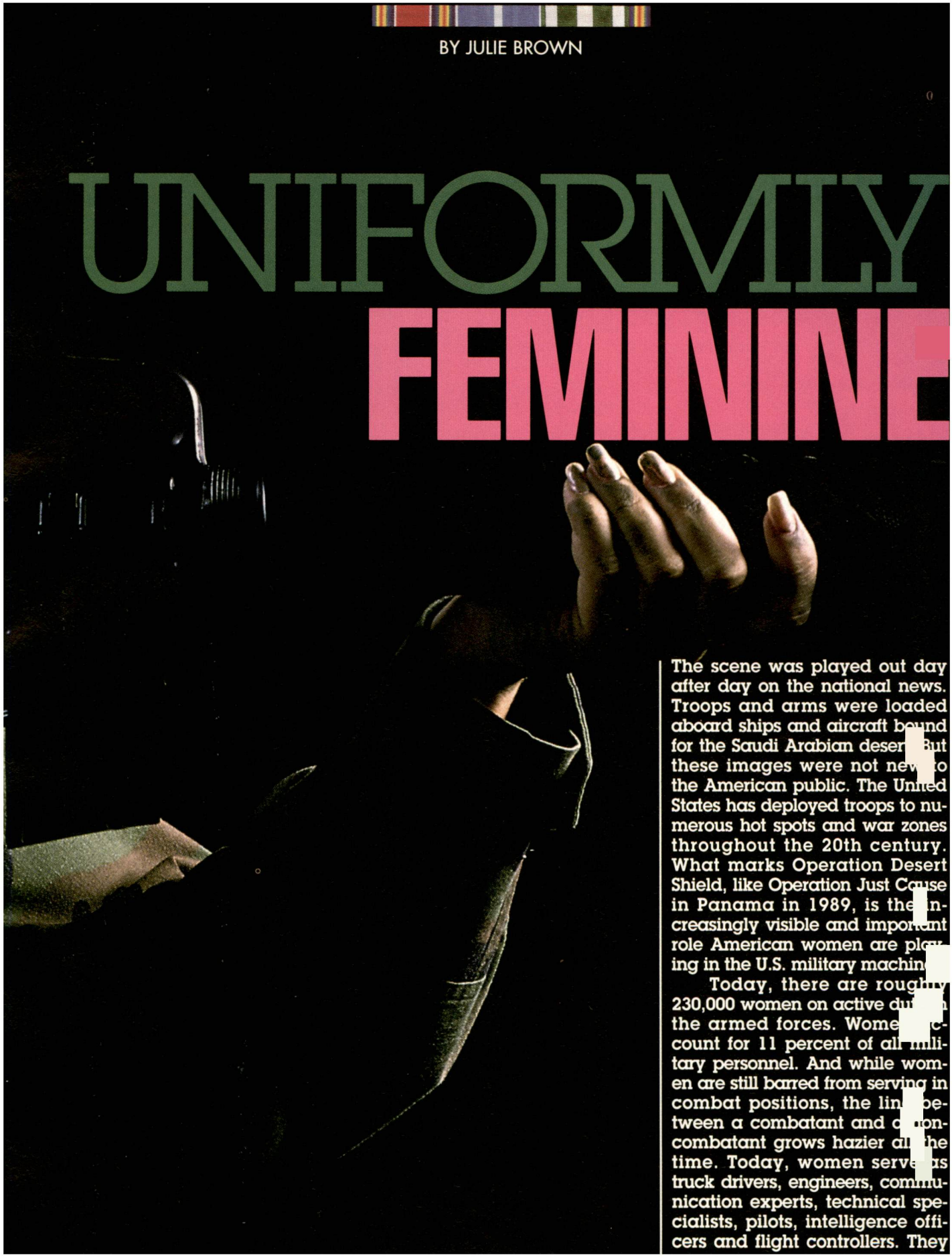
"I HAD ALWAYS LOOKED AT THE NAVY AS THE FOUNDATION FOR MY FUTURE IN LIFE. NOT TO BE CORNY, BUT I FELT IF I TRIED TO GET OUT OF THAT COMMITMENT, I'D TRY TO GET OUT OF THINGS THE REST OF MY LIFE."
— ROGER STAUBACH




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BY JULIE BROWN

UNIFORMLY FEMININE



The scene was played out day after day on the national news. Troops and arms were loaded aboard ships and aircraft bound for the Saudi Arabian desert. But these images were not new to the American public. The United States has deployed troops to numerous hot spots and war zones throughout the 20th century. What marks Operation Desert Shield, like Operation Just Cause in Panama in 1989, is the increasingly visible and important role American women are playing in the U.S. military machine.

Today, there are roughly 230,000 women on active duty in the armed forces. Women account for 11 percent of all military personnel. And while women are still barred from serving in combat positions, the line between a combatant and a noncombatant grows hazier all the time. Today, women serve as truck drivers, engineers, communication experts, technical specialists, pilots, intelligence officers and flight controllers. They



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MOTHERHOOD

Pregnancy was another problem for American servicewomen. Until the early '70s, women were routinely discharged if they became pregnant. It would take several challenges to change that policy.

ships, they fly troops, dignitaries and supplies across the world. They fly reconnaissance missions and they hold the keys to Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles. There is little doubt that women will be among the casualties in any shooting war.

"Today, women are more exposed in the back than if they were on the front lines, because if you are the enemy, you are trying to hit communication stations, repair facilities and supply lines. Guess who's running these operations? Women," said Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.), senior Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee. "No one is even arguing that women are not exposed."

While many women see the combat restrictions as hypocrisy and are working to bring down the final barriers, there is no question that American women have made significant strides in their quest for equality in the armed forces. Their struggle, however, has been long, difficult and often painful.

Contrary to popular belief, women's participation in the military is not a recent phenomenon. Women have served in every U.S. war effort since the Revolutionary War. Although their roles were generally limited to traditional "female jobs" such as nurses, cooks and seamstresses, they played an important role in both the Revolutionary and the Civil Wars. Some of the more adventurous women masqueraded as men so they could participate in direct combat and it was not uncommon for women to be used as spies.

In 1901, Congress established the Nurses Corps as an auxiliary of the Army. The Navy followed suit seven years later. Although these women served an important role in the military, they did not receive equal pay or rank or other benefits given to active-duty men and veterans. They would wait 47 years before they were recognized as a permanent part of the Army and Navy.

Although women could serve only as nurses in World War I, their contributions would not go unnoticed. By Armistice Day, 35,000 women had served in the Army and Navy Nursing Corps; 10,000 of them overseas in Europe and other U.S. territories. Some were wounded and 38 are buried in U.S. cemeteries abroad.

While many "civilian" women would perform other duties for the military, such as communication and administrative services, the War Department remained steadfastly against enlisting women to perform administrative jobs or other duties. It wasn't until 1942, when Congress established the WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps), that women would be called on to perform other duties, although, once again, they remained a separate entity and did not receive normal Army benefits. When it became apparent that women were not going to enlist in large numbers into the WAAC, Congress passed a bill that established the WAC (Women's Army Corps), giving women full military status. The Navy began its own women's corps called the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) and the Coast Guard established the SPARS (Semper Paratus—Always Ready).

Once the services were opened up, women headed to Officer Candidate Training and basic training camps. They were under tremendous pressure to succeed. Women had to possess higher levels of education than men to be accepted and had to prove them-

SOME OF THE MORE ADVENTUROUS WOMEN MASQUERADED AS MEN SO THEY COULD PARTICIPATE IN DIRECT COMBAT AND IT WAS NOT UNCOMMON FOR WOMEN TO BE USED AS SPIES.

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

As a single mother in the Army, I've had to transfer my son, Gary, to several different schools. At one elementary school, where he was the only military dependent, the other six-year-olds had learned a familiar Army insult and often used it on one another, to devastating effect. But when they tried taunting Gary with it, the effort fell flat. 'Your mama wears combat boots," they teased. "Why, sure," Gary replied thoughtfully. "Doesn't everybody's?"

(THE READER'S DIGEST, MARCH 1988)

selves over and over again to skeptical male officers, the general public and the press. Despite the pressure, women came through World War II with flying colors. Women were dispatched to the North African, Mediterranean, European and South Pacific theatres. Their duties were generally restricted to stereotypical female jobs such as stenographers, typists, telephone operators, drivers, cooks, nurses and linguists. But they performed their duties exceptionally well. Many were decorated with medals.

World War II nurses performed heroically. They endured relentless bombings, personal hardships, and much death and destruction. Seventy-seven nurses spent 37 months in POW camps and hundreds more lost their lives.

On June 12, 1948, President Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Act of 1948, thus ensuring a permanent place for women in the military.

The Act was not without flaw. By today's standards, it was very sexist legislation. There was a two percent ceiling put on the number of women who could serve, stiffer entry requirements, limited promotion opportunities and, for the most part, prohibitions against women serving in combat positions. Women were not allowed to attend the service academies until 1976, the same year the Air Force began training women pilots. The Navy restricted women to hospital ships until 1978.

Women were first allowed into the military due to manpower shortages, not because there was any overwhelming desire to integrate women into the military. The general public and the Congress had a hard time accepting women soldiers. Many were looked on as freaks. It wasn't until the end of World War II that they were accepted, and then most women were expected to return to civilian life following the close of hostilities.

The Vietnam era presented another setback for the majority of military women. Few women other than nurses were allowed into the country itself. Enlisted women and officers were generally kept out of the theatre while the Defense Department sent women civilians to provide clerical assistance. This policy created resentment among service women.

The nurses, however, were deployed—and they performed brilliantly. More lives were saved in Vietnam than in any other war. Yet Vietnam was as traumatic for women as for the men who served. The entire country was a war zone and the anti-Vietnam protests at home hit raw nerves. Many nurses returning from Vietnam were shocked at the reception they received com-

HUMOR IN UNIFORM

"There are so many women in the army now that when a soldier sees a uniform coming down the street he has to wait till it gets within 20 feet before he knows whether to salute or whistle."—Bob Hope

(THE READER'S DIGEST, SEPTEMBER 1943)



★★★★★
TODAY, FEMALE AIR FORCE PILOTS FLY TROOPS, SUPPLIES AND DIGNITARIES ALL OVER THE WORLD.

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CON

"I would prefer dogs or ducks or monkeys to having women in uniform on my ship."—U.S. Navy Admiral during World War II.

ing home. Like the men, women were the victims of verbal and physical attacks by anti-war demonstrators. Those who had spent years saving lives and serving their country were deeply hurt and confused. Few nurses escaped Vietnam without physical or emotional wounds.

While Operation Just Cause put women back in the news, Operation Desert Shield has put women under the microscope. Not since the first mobilization of women has the country looked so closely at women in the military. The attention bothers many who say they would prefer to be left alone to do their jobs. Others welcome the scrutiny, hoping that Congress will get the message that they are capable of performing in combat positions, thereby eliminating the final barriers.

Yet this does not seem likely anytime soon. Following the Panama invasion, Rep. Schroeder introduced a bill that would establish a test program that would open up combat positions to women. Schroeder readily acknowledges that she doesn't have the votes to pass the bill. She echoes the opinion of many service women that it is not the public that rejects the idea of women in combat; it is the predominantly male Congress that has a problem with it.

While many women are content with current policy, they too believe that the combat restrictions limit a woman's chance of promotion to the very highest ranks. Historically, promotion to the very senior ranks is directly linked to leading units into combat. Often women can train men for jobs that they themselves are barred from performing.

"It's time for U.S. servicewomen to fish or cut bait," says retired Air Force Maj. General Jeanne Holm. "The performance of women in this Middle East deployment will have a profound effect on whether the combat restrictions are removed." However, she believes that the remaining barriers will come down within the next 10 years. "The current restrictions imposed by the 1948 law are so archaic that they serve no useful purpose," said Holm.

While she will be the first to tell you that she supports dropping the combat restrictions, Holm believes that no man or woman should be promoted to a position for which he or she is unqualified. But with the right training, she says, few jobs are beyond the capabilities of women. Her greatest reservations are with positions "that focus on brute physical strength, like the infantry."

Air Force Captain Libby Weber agrees. Although there are things that irritate her, she believes the U.S. "is moving slowly, but positively, toward a genderless military."

A nation of women will be watching. ■

Julie Brown is a freelance writer based in Washington, D.C.



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★★★★★
A PROUD GRADUATE OF THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY.



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PRO

"When qualified women are properly trained, they can serve effectively in any job...on any combat ship." — Jeanne Holm, Maj. Gen. (Ret.), U.S. Air Force.



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BY ROBERT A. WEBB

THE HEIGHTS OF GLORY

A flamboyant white Union general championed the cause of black soldiers in the Civil War



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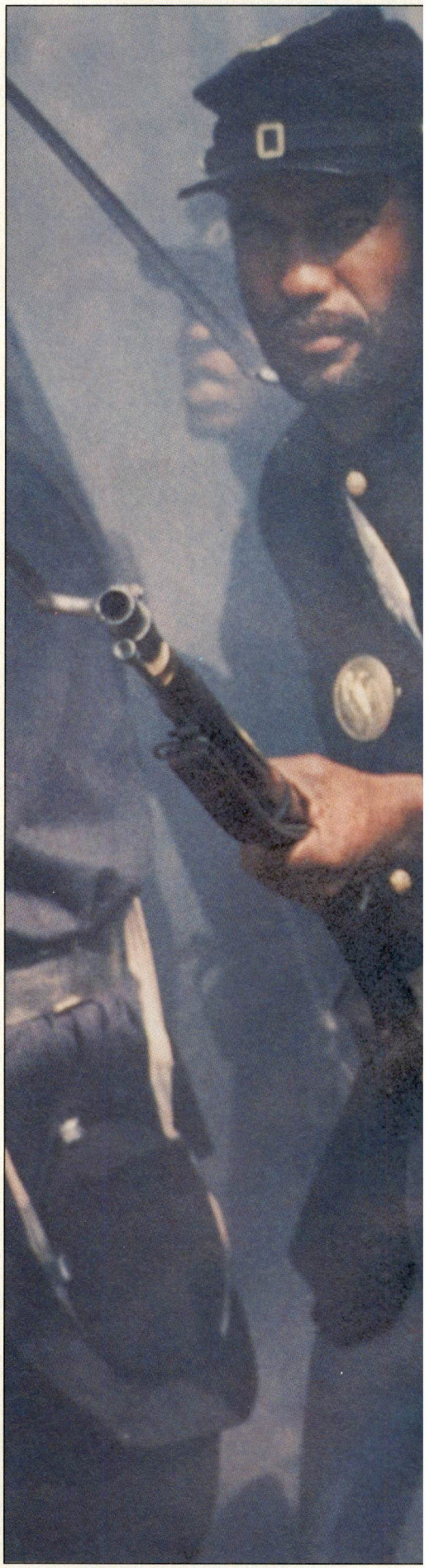
Early on a September morning in 1864, a Union general rode in grim triumph across a battlefield south of Richmond. He had to guide his mount carefully. On the now quiet field lay hundreds of his men, dead and wounded. Aside from a handful of white officers, all were black.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin Franklin Butler, hoping to capture the Confederate capital, had selected them to challenge some of Robert E. Lee's finest troops, dug in below a mile-long hill where two federal assaults were repulsed earlier that year. Butler's men had not failed him—or themselves.

At the battle of New Market Heights, Butler was to write in his memoirs, "the capacity of the negro race for soldiers had been settled then and there forever....I swore to myself an oath...that them and their race should be cared for and protected by me... so long as I lived."

The flamboyant general lost little time. No fewer than 14 of his black troops would win the new Medal of Honor commissioned by Congress—the nation's highest military decoration—for gallantry that day.

Today the battle and heroes are all but forgotten. But efforts are under way to make New Market Heights into a fitting memorial—not just to a battle, but to the 178,000 United States Colored Troops (USCT) and other blacks who fought in the Civil War. Their



★★★★★

LEFT: NEGRO UNION INFANTRY CORPORAL, HOLDING COLT 1849 POCKET REVOLVER. CIVIL WAR PHOTOGRAPHERS KEPT SUCH EQUIPMENT TO ADD A MARTIAL TOUCH TO THEIR PORTRAITS.

© TRI STAR FILRMS

© PHOTO COURTESY OF TRI-STAR FILMS



story has been largely overlooked for 125 years—a story of men who first had to fight for the right to fight before they could fight for freedom itself; of the unlikely white general who championed their cause in war and their future in a peaceful South.

The Colored Troops moment at New Market Heights had been a long time coming. At the start of the war in 1861, Northern whites were almost universally opposed to arming blacks. Like many Southerners, they were both fearful and scornful: blacks were to blame for the war; they were servile and inferior; they could not fight, and whites would not fight beside them. Even President Abraham Lincoln worried that arming blacks "would turn 50,000 loyal bayonets from the border states against us that are now for us."

Perhaps black abolitionist Frederick Douglass came closest to the real reason: "Once let a black person get upon his person the brass letters U.S.; let him get an eagle on the button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pocket and there is no power on earth that can deny he has earned the right to citizenship in the United States."

Gradually, under pressure from abolitionists and the thousands of escaped slaves and Northern free blacks who were volunteering their services, the mood began to change. By early 1862, some generals were using blacks in labor battalions and as scouts. In August, Ben Butler, as military governor of New Orleans, organized 1,400 freedmen into the Louisiana Native Guards—the first official black regiment in the U.S. Army. By now Lincoln himself, faced with heavy casualties and expiring one-year enlistments, had concluded that black troops were badly needed. The formal Emancipation Proclamation made it official: as of Jan. 1, 1863, black units would be organized to fight for freedom. Recruitment began on a massive scale.

But the glory still belonged to whites. Black soldiers were paid less, denied commission as officers, harassed, beaten and even fired on by white soldiers—and relegated at first to building fortifications and driving cattle. If captured, they were not considered legitimate prisoners of war; many were returned or sold into slavery and some were executed. But hundreds of white officers volunteered to train and lead black troops, and soon thousands were ready to prove their mettle on the battlefield.

Black troops took part in at least 39 major engagements and at least 410 minor ones. By most accounts, they represented about 12 percent of the Union army's manpower, 7 percent of its desertions and about a third of its deaths (68,178).

Due to the film "Glory," the ill-fated charge of the 54th Massachusetts on Ft. Wagner, S.C., is the best-known battle featuring black troops. But in terms of manpower, performances and results, New Market Heights would crown the list. It was to develop from a counterstroke conceived by Grant. In order to ease the threat to Washington from a Confederate force in the Shenandoah Valley, Grant

HIGH PRAISE
In an address to the Army of the James on Oct. 11, 1864, Butler saluted the men of New Market Heights. "A few more such gallant charges, and to command colored troops will be the post of honor in the American Army."

DECORATION
After New Market Heights, 200 black soldiers each received a special medal commissioned by Major General Butler from Tiffany & Co.



proposed a strong attack against the Richmond-Petersburg line—where the two armies were stalemated. On Sept. 27, Grant ordered Ben Butler and his Army of the James to attack Richmond's outer defenses and, if successful, to capture the Confederate capital itself. It was the opportunity Butler had been waiting for.

In a war noted for controversial, colorful and ambitious generals, Ben Butler may have led the pack. In 1860, as a Massachusetts politician and lawyer, he supported Jefferson Davis for the Democratic presidential nomination; within a year, he was a Union general determined to crush Davis and his Confederacy. Butler quickly established himself as a tough and effective administrator. As military governor of Fort Monroe near Norfolk, he soon demonstrated his genius for controversy when he refused to return three runaways to their master on the grounds that they were "contraband"—seized enemy property. Singlehandedly and without authorization, he had freed southern slaves; soon thousands were pouring into federal camps.

In 1862, after several badly handled field campaigns, Butler became military governor of New Orleans and quickly won lasting Southern hatred. His friends and admirers began talking of a political career—perhaps a Cabinet post first and then the presidency in 1868.

In late 1863, too influential to be removed by Lincoln, Butler returned to Fort Monroe as commander of the Army of the James. Thus one of the Union's most political and least competent field generals found himself with the chance of a lifetime: to prove his growing conviction that black troops could play a decisive role in the war, a conviction that might help him capture the Confederate capital and win the White House.

Butler's plan called for the white XVIII Corps under Gen. Edward C. Ord to cross the James River and attack the rebels at Fort Harrison, and Maj. Gen. David Birney's X Corps to cross and attack New Market Heights three

ALLIES

In August 1863, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant wrote Lincoln, "by arming the negro, we have added a powerful ally."



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PETIT LARCENY?

As military governor of New Orleans, Butler acquired the sobriquet "Spoons" when Southern silverware began disappearing.

miles to the east. Then both corps would capture crucial Fort Gilmer a mile north and thrust another six miles into Richmond.

Butler pointedly suggested that the attack be led by the 3,100 men in Brig. Gen. Charles Paine's black 3rd division.

The XVIII Corps carried Fort Harrison easily but bogged down as reinforcements arrived. At New Market Heights, the going was much harder. The Confederates had dug a line of trenches flanked by artillery and faced by a double line of felled trees, or abatis, 100 yards apart. Manning the lines were 1,800 hardened Texans and Arkansans of Lee's "Grenadier Guards."

The 13,000 federals advancing through the fog quickly lost their numerical advantage as the corps' two white divisions and a black brigade were held back in reserve. Paine's black division moved forward, but only one of its brigades was ordered to attack—1,100 inexperienced troops under inexperienced Col. Samuel Duncan. At 5:30 a.m., the 3rd Brigade's two regiments—the 4th and 6th USCT—moved out through the fog, crossed a creek and sent axemen out to hack through the entangling first abatis.

The alerted Confederates opened up with devastating effect. Duncan's men and their white officers pressed ahead, but the Confederates poured out of their trenches, killing scores in combat and murdering others who surrendered. The brigade was destroyed, but their gallant effort would win Medals of Honor for five of its soldiers.

Now Paine sent forward his 2nd Brigade under Col. Alonzo Draper. Its 5th, 36th and 38th USCT regiments moved out of a ravine and across the field where many of Duncan's men still lay, slogged through a marsh and charged into the abatis. By now the fog had lifted, and artillery shells and musket fire stopped the federals cold.

Cpl. Miles James of the 36th, his right arm mutilated and the bones shattered, loaded and fired his musket with one hand and urged his men forward.

Gradually the Confederate fire slackened. The Confederates were pulling out to protect Fort Gilmer. The black regiments seized the works, scrambled to the summit and occupied a forward signal station on a section called Cobb's Hill. New Market Heights had fallen.

Within an hour, Butler arrived on the scene. "Poor fellows," he wrote his wife the next day. "They seem to have so little to fight for in this contest, with the weight of prejudice upon them. To us, there is patriotism, fame, love of country, pride, ambition, all to spur us on....But there is one boon they love to fight for, freedom for themselves and their race forever."

The bravery of the black troops in the subsequent attack on Fort Gilmer was just as exemplary. Butler missed the action; he was off looking for Grant to tell him of his success at New Market Heights. There would be no Medals of Honor for the heroes of Fort Gilmer.

In the morning, a Confederate counterattack at Fort Harrison failed, and with it ended the combined battle known today as Chaffin's Farm. The two days had cost 1,732 black casualties and 1,559 white. Besides the 14 blacks, 23 whites would win Medals of Honor.

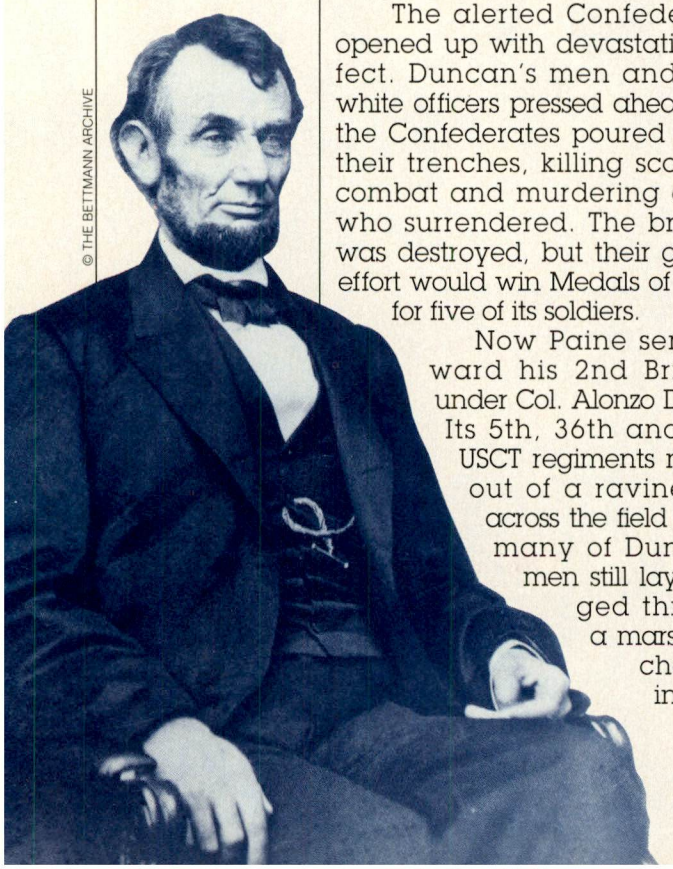
New Market Heights, if not a major victory, was the Colored Troops' finest hour. In his definitive *Richmond Redeemed*, Richard Sommers wrote that "nothing can detract from the heroism of Duncan's vanguard that reached the trench or from the valor of Draper's men who resumed the advance after suffering so severely." ■

Robert A. Webb is an editor of the Outlook section of *The Washington Post*.



★★★★★

ABOVE: GENERAL GRANT ORDERED BEN BUTLER AND HIS ARMY OF THE JAMES TO ATTACK RICHMOND.



★★★★★

BELOW: EVEN PRESIDENT LINCOLN HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT ARMING BLACKS.

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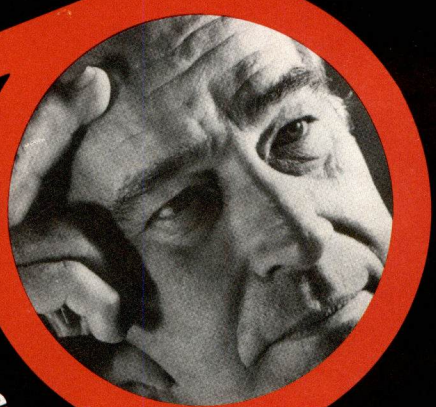
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Ford Motor Company

Buckle up – Together we can save lives.

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The Ludlum Identity



Suspense novelist Robert Ludlum's two years with the Marines at Pearl Harbor gave him a profound respect for the military.

BY WENDY SMITH

Millions of people around the world know Robert Ludlum as the bestselling author of 17 suspense novels, including The Osterman Weekend, The Holcroft Covenant, The Parsifal Mosaic *and the trilogy of* The Bourne Identity, The Bourne Supremacy *and* The Bourne Ultimatum. *They may not know that Ludlum is also a Marine Corps veteran. In 1944, while still a teenager, he forged his mother's signature on his enlistment papers and spent two years stationed at Pearl Harbor. In an interview with* Always Home, *he discusses the influence of his service on his subsequent work as a writer.*

Q: Do you think that your experiences in the Marines have had any impact on your books?

A: I think some of them did. As every Marine does, I learned quite a bit about hand-to-hand combat, and a lot of that shows up in my work in the action scenes. Also, the discipline that is inculcated in soldiers made a distinct impression on me. I've always had a great respect for the military—I don't always agree with it, frankly, being the last of the liberals, which I do not consider a dirty word. But I have enormous respect for the military and what they do, and I think that shows. Beyond that, I can't say that an awful lot has come through. I've written a number of strong military figures, but not as protagonists, probably because I don't feel that I know that much about them, having been an EM (enlisted man), I think I'm the only man who lives in Florida who was an enlisted man: everyone else there is a retired general! As a matter of fact, there's a retired general in our condo. He was a very famous general and once he wanted me to sign a couple of books for him. I said, "On one condition," and he said, "What's that, young man?" I said, "You salute me!" So now it's a big joke; whenever we meet somewhere, he salutes me!

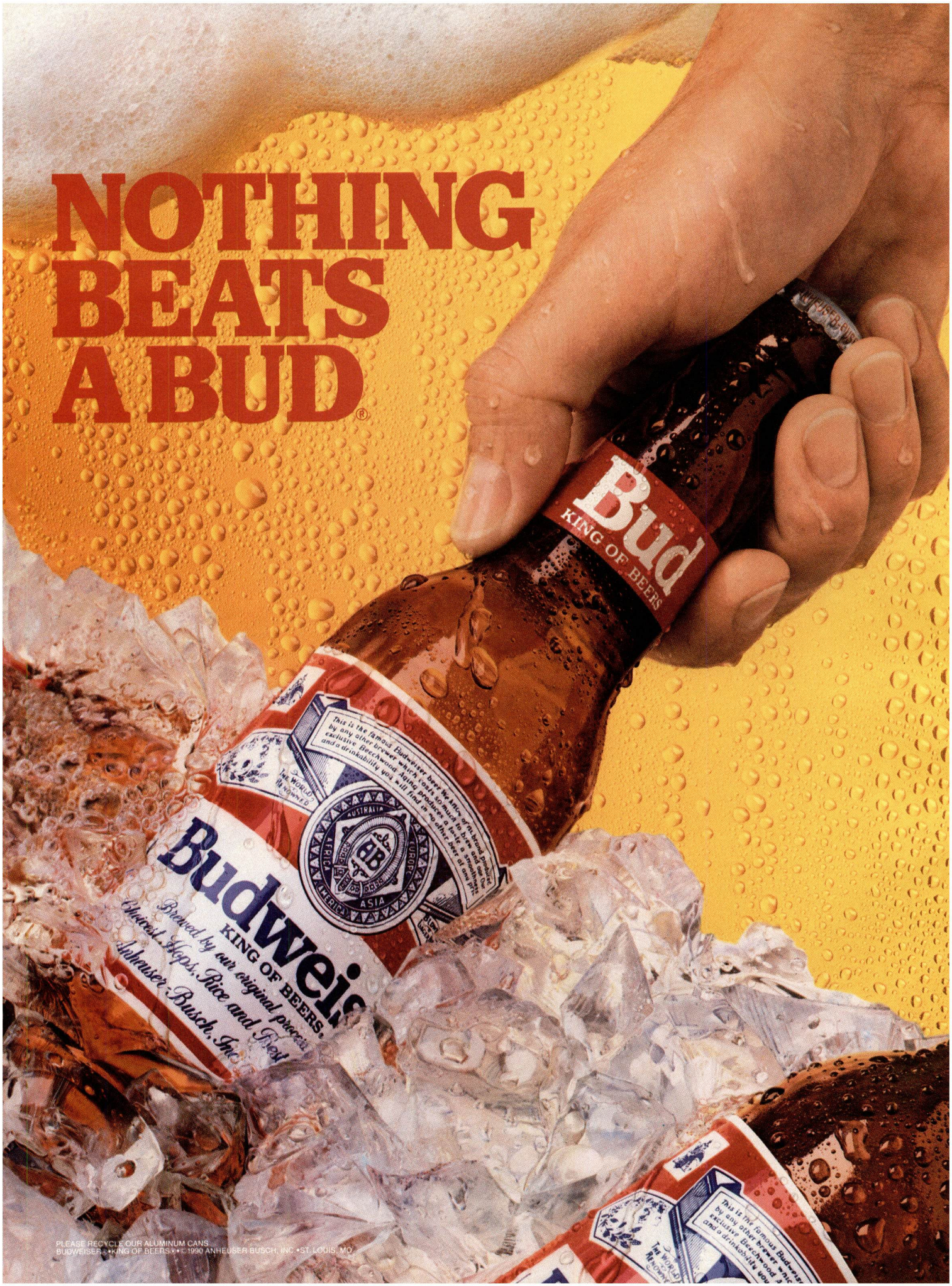
Q: Your work is very popular with service people.

A: I am delighted to hear that. I think it's probably the entertainment value, and whatever ideas that I try to propel and propound. I can't give a specific reason why the military should like my books, but I think it may be because they sense the respect that I have for the jobs they do, I think that may very well be a part of it, though I hadn't thought of it before.

Q: Do you get letters from readers in the service?

A: Oh, yes, I get letters galore from service people, and I try to answer them all. I would say of the letters I get, a good one-third of them are from the military.

Q: Do you ever hear from people who are angry with you be-


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cause you're critical of the military?

A: Sure. More than that, I get clarifications if I've used the wrong aircraft or the wrong weapon. They'll say, "We like the book, but you'd better get this straight, buddy." And I get a lot of these letters that say, "Boy, you were in the old war, weren't you, fella!" But I seldom get anything stinging—every now and then, of course; there's a small section of all the letters that are highly critical and don't like what I have to say about certain things, but if I didn't get those I wouldn't be doing my job.

Q: Many of your books take place against a World War II setting. Why is that?

A: I leave all of the high-tech stuff to the Tom Clancys of this world. I prefer human conflict rather than machine conflict; I'm not a high-tech person and I'd be out of my element if I began dealing with the high technology. Frankly, I prefer a more personal approach to conflict.

Q: All three of your roommates at Wesleyan University ended up in the intelligence service. How do they and their colleagues react to your work?

A: With great good humor and grace. One of them said to me once, "For God's sake, don't ever call me at the office!" And another one told me, "You know, X over in Department X said to me that people keep coming to him, because they know that he knows you, and saying, 'You're feeding him stuff, aren't you?'" Of course, none of that is true at all! Sometimes when I say something that has a grain of truth in it, they get a big kick out of it, because they know they're in a job that, like any other job, if you think hard enough about the particular work they do, you're bound to come up with things that they're going to try or have tried. We're all friends, because they know that basically what I'm writing is drawing room comedy.

Q: One of your novels, *The Icarus Agenda*, is set in the Middle East. How do you feel about the current crisis over there?

I TRY TO GIVE THE EVIL AS MANY GOOD ARGUMENTS AS I CAN, WHICH IS NOTHING MORE THAN WHAT GEORGE BERNARD SHAW TOLD US ALL TO DO.



A: I think it was coming. I think it's horrible, of course. Saddam Hussein is not a madman; he's ruthless, and he's a very bright man as well. But if you look at the whole Pan-Arabian situation, we've had a very unbalanced Mideast policy for many years. I think you're going to find that, although I doubt any Arab wants Hussein to take over the whole damn thing. There are millions of disenfranchised Arabs who are going to say, "Hey, wait a minute; now it's our turn." It's tragic, but nevertheless I think it was on its way, and I think I tried to point that out in *The Icarus Agenda*. There are millions of people in refugee camps living in squalor that we haven't done anything for, and yet we've done everything for Israel—as we should, because they are a democratic society, but we should also have done something for the Arab situation, and we simply walked away from it.

Q: So there are a lot of social and political forces at work under the surface of this military encounter. Will the intelligence forces come into play here as well?

A: Let's hope so, because the intelligence work there has been so bad recently.

Q: Your novels tap into this deep fascination we all seem to have with conspiracies, violent encounters in far-off lands, political maneuvers.

A: Oh yes, I'm paranoid as can be! Fortunately, I take my work seriously, but not myself.

Q: What kind of research do you do for your books?

A: I travel a great deal; I've been to about 85 percent of the places I've written about. And I do voluminous reading, especially if I'm writing about something that I've put back in time a few years. I'll go back and get the magazines and newspapers of the period from various countries to try and get a sense of the psychological ambience of the time. Then I will read whatever books I can find, to give me other points of view. I try not to set up straw dogs, I try to give the evil as many good arguments as I can, which is nothing more than what George Bernard Shaw told us all to do. I talk to a lot of people, too. I seek them out sometimes, especially in other countries, because I want to get their sense of what is happening. Also, a lot of people come up and tell me things. As a matter of fact, about 15 years ago, someone who was very big in the Secret Service in the White House got my unlisted number and called me. I said, "Come on, will you? I'm just a storyteller!"

Q: What are you planning for your next book?

A: It's a sequel to the only comedy I've ever written, *The Road to Gandolfo*. You know the old saying that all comics want to play Hamlet; I guess all Hamlets want to be a clown! I think this is my clown period.

Q: Is there anything you haven't done in your writing that you'd like to try in the future?

A: Yes. Sometime I'd like to write a historical novel. I'm a history buff; one of my favorite books is Barbara Tuchman's *A Distant Mirror*, about the 14th century. I have a great fascination for the Renaissance and medieval times, and sometime I think probably I will write a suspense novel set against that backdrop. ■

Wendy Smith is a freelance writer based in Brooklyn, N.Y.

"DON'T



BY BOB HOPE WITH MELVILLE SHAVELSON

SHOOT,

IT'S ONLY ME"

More than anything else, Bob Hope's shows spell "home" to Americans in faraway places



May 6, 1941: Our first show for the U.S. Army. We had no idea we were going to discover an audience so ready for laughter, it would make what we did for a living seem like stealing money.

I'll never forget the moment when that bus pulled through the gates at March Field and we were mobbed by a bunch of homesick kids in badly fitting fatigues, screaming greetings.

Tom Harmon, then one of the biggest football names in the country, was in uniform at the base and helped us control the enthusiasm. He told us it was our duty to avoid the draft as long as we could, because what we were doing for the United States Army was the biggest thing that had happened to the military since Gettysburg; we had gotten live girls past the sentries at the gate.

It took me a long time to realize that all the rules of comedy were going to be changed. We represented everything those new recruits didn't have: home cooking, mother, and soft roommates. Their real enemies, even after war broke out, were never just the Germans or the Japanese. The enemies were boredom, mud, officers and abstinence. Any joke that touched those nerves was a sure thing.

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This is Bob `March Field' Hope telling all aviators, while we can't advise you on how to protect your 'chutes, there's nothing like Pepsodent to protect your toots."

The laughter was so loud I looked down to see if my pants had fallen. I mean, there must have been something funnier going on than that joke. There wasn't.

"I want to tell you that I'm thrilled to be here. But I'm really here on business. I came up to look at some of the sweaters I knitted."

A howl. What was going on? I plowed ahead.

"One of the aviators here took me for a plane ride this afternoon. I wasn't frightened, but at two thousand feet one of my goose pimples bailed out."

I got goose pimples myself from the roar that followed that one. Then I started to understand. What I said coincided with what these guys were feeling, and laughter was the only way they could communicate how they felt to the rest of the country. I was their messenger boy. A ski-nosed Western Union.

The soldiers in Alaska were the loneliest guys in the world. Also the coldest. They didn't even have enemy troops close by to pump up the adrenaline and keep them warm. Only in the farthest islands of the Aleutians had the Japanese made landings. On an island called Umnak we did a show for a bunch of fliers who had just come back from a bombing mission in dense fog. We never found out whom they had been bombing. I'm not sure they knew either. They all crowded together in a Quonset hut (that's an upside-down fox hole) and laughed at jokes like "This is our first trip up North and the Army has really taken care of us. They gave us a plane that was flown by a four-star general...Pershing...

The above excerpt from Don't Shoot, It's Only Me *by Bob Hope with Melville Shavelson ©1990 (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York) is reprinted with the permission of the authors and the publisher.*

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★★★★★

ABOVE: JAYNE MANSFIELD ENTERTAINED AMERICAN TROOPS IN ALASKA WITH HOPE IN 1960.

LEFT: HOPE AND PAT THOMAS AT A NAVY RECREATION CENTER ON WAIKIKI BEACH, 1945.



© THE BETTMANN ARCHIVE†

I knew it was an old plane when I saw the pilot sitting behind me wearing goggles and a scarf."

But what those fliers were really interested in was Frances Langford. She was the first white woman ever to visit Umnak, and for all I know, the last. While she was singing, "Isn't it Romantic?" with Arctic wolves howling outside—and inside, too—I looked down at the audience, and one of the fliers had his arm around a buddy. The buddy was crying. Neither of them dared to look up, and I had to look away. It was a sight I was to get used to, the farther we got from home. It was seeing a pretty girl and hearing her voice that brought the war home, and home to the war, to men who might never make it back themselves.

In the summer of 1943, I signed up to play the European Theater of Operations for a new organization called the United Service Organizations (USO), which had the same idea.

We played all the bases and hospitals around Tunis. One afternoon we played in the middle of the desert for seven thousand men of the tank corps.

"Boy, is it hot here. This is the first time I ever laid fried eggs...But I must say we're staying at a wonderful hotel. I have a room with an adjoining Arab. It's the only way I could get a sheet...The rates are thirteen francs a day and a bounty on anything you catch in your room. I broke even...The only problem is that every time the sand shifts, I'm on a different floor."

We did one show in the desert at Ferryville, outside of Bizerte, for 7,500 soldiers, sailors, and WACS, who were spread over the desert sand on jerry cans, boxes, and anthills, whistling and cheering as we climbed up onto a little stage. The announcer said over the PA, "Ladies and gentlemen...Bob Hope!" and you could have heard the screaming all the way to the Pyramids. The guys had caught sight of Frances behind me and were yelling for me to get out of the way.

Just as I ignored them and told my opening gag—"What a time we had in London before we

came here. The fog was so thick one night, the antiaircraft shot down three submarines"—I saw a tank burst through the crowd and come toward the stage. I didn't think the joke was that bad, but I'd never met a critic with a Sherman tank before, so I got ready to jump off the platform, when suddenly it stopped right in front of me. The turret popped open and a guy crawled out wearing a tanker's crash helmet. He dragged a folding chair up after him and sat down on it and crossed his legs.

"Make me laugh," he said.

Of course, it was a setup, and I got a good chuckle out of it as soon as I crawled back on the stage.

"It's wonderful being here in Africa. Ah, Africa. That's Texas with Arabs...Of course, you can get out of Texas.

...You know, you can't date one of these Moroccan girls unless you take her mother along as a chaperone. You know what a Moroccan mother is. That's an M.P. with bloomers."

We spent the night at our hotel in Bizerte, which had been pretty well plastered in previous air raids. It was nice, though. All the rooms were fully ventilated. There was a sign in the lobby: KEEP THE DOORS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES. IT HELPS HOLD THE WALLS UP.

And then came the sirens, and the smudge pots started sending a fog over the city to hide it from the German planes. The ack-ack started crisscrossing the sky. A whole forest of antiaircraft searchlights blazed on. It was the first time I had ever seen so many klieg lights without feeling the slightest urge to take a bow.

We were all out in the street by that time and an M.P. shouted for me to crawl into a sewer. Did you ever see the inside of a North African sewer? It'll never be on the universal Tour. I hit the opening at the same time as Jack Pepper, and we didn't get much farther. Jack's waistline took up most of the acreage. Tony Romano had thrown himself over his guitar. If there was a direct hit, Tony wanted to go out in the key of G. "Mother" Langford was running up and down calling, "Are you fellows all right? Speak to me! Speak to me!"

It was all over fast, apparently just a reconnaissance raid, and we all went back to bed, which was a mistake. The North African mosquitoes had located some tender tourist meat and sent out an all-points bulletin. They spent the rest of the night playing kamikaze.

That afternoon, we were driving back to our hotel at Sharpington when we heard a tremendous roar and spotted a bomber formation right above us. When I got out from under the car and realized they were U.S. B-17's overhead, it occurred to me they might be coming back to General Armstrong's base and were being flown by those kids we'd played for that morning. So we raced back to the base and a young lieutenant offered to take us to the place where the flight crews were debriefed.

We climbed into a jeep and got there just as the bombers were coming in, one after the other, kicking up clouds of dust and shaking the whole countryside. They didn't seem to be shot up too badly. Of course, that was only a civilian's opinion. No one had been shooting at me.

Pretty soon trucks and jeeps full of fliers began rolling in. When they saw us they began to cry and laugh and holler. They grabbed Frances and hugged and kissed her, and she patriotically kissed back.

"You brought us luck!" they kept screaming.

"How was it?" we asked.

"A milk run!" One kid grinned. "Eighteen went out and eighteen came back!"

This made all of us feel pretty great, too, as if we were part of it, which of course we weren't.

Later, a colonel told me of one mission where twenty-one bombers from one base went out and only one came limping back.

The feeling in England was entirely different from what I experienced later in Vietnam.

The U.S. fliers we met felt they were truly protecting their families and their homes. They didn't organize any protest marches in England. They fought and they bled and they laughed at the jokes and, sometimes, they died.

Perhaps the world has grown up enough now so I won't have to play any more American Army camps in the future. Or Army hospitals. ■

LAUGHTER FOR MEN WHO NEED IT

Probably the most difficult, the most tearing thing of all is to be funny in a hospital.

Time drags. It hangs very long...Everything that can be done is done, but medicine cannot get at the lonesomeness and the weakness of men who have been strong.

Bob Hope and his company come into this quiet, inward, lonesome place, gently pull the minds outward and catch the interest, and finally bring laughter up out of the black water.

There is a job.

It hurts many of the men to laugh. It hurts their knitting bones, it strains their sutured incisions, yet their laughter is a great medicine.

In one of those nameless hospitals...Hope and company had worked until gradually they got leaden eyes to sparkling, had planted and nurtured and coaxed laughter to life.

A gunner, who had a stomach wound, was gasping softly with laughter. A railroad casualty slapped the cast on his left hand with his right hand by way of applause. And once the laughter was alive, the men laughed even before the punch line and it had to be repeated so they could laugh again.

Finally, it came time for Frances Langford to sing. The men asked for "As Time Goes By." She stood up beside the little GI piano and started to sing.

She got through eight bars and was into the bridge when a boy with a head wound began to cry. She stopped, and then went on. But her voice wouldn't work any more. She finished the song whispering. Then she walked out, so no one could see her, and broke down. The ward was quiet. No one applauded.

Then Hope walked into the aisle between the beds and he said seriously: "Fellows, the folks at home are having a terrible time about eggs. They can't get any powdered eggs at all. They've got to use the old fashioned kind you break open."

There's a man for you ... There is *really* a man. — *John Steinbeck*

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BETCHA GONNA LIKE IT BETTER, TOO.™

BY DEWEY BLANTON

"Meet Me In Saint Louis"

MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND



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OK. It's Tuesday and it's 2 a.m. You've just arrived in St. Louis after a 7-hour MAC flight from Germany. Your next flight is not until 7 p.m.—Thursday! What do you do?

Not to worry. If you are lucky enough to go through St. Louis, as many servicemen and women do (it is the major departure point for flights both to the Orient and to Europe), you have a welcome mat out for you at the St. Louis Airport Center USO, right in Lambert-International Airport.

Open 24 hours a day, the James S. McDonnell USO is the largest in the world, in terms of number of patrons. Anywhere from 500-700 soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines come through its doors every day of the week. And its group of dedicated staff and volunteers have earned the reputation for attending to the needs of every one of them with plenty of tender loving care.

The St. Louis USO has been home to a lot of troops since it opened in 1981. Whether your lay-over is three hours or three days, you are welcome to set up camp at the USO.

"We've had some people have to stay as long as eight days," said Sue Butler, Director of Volunteer Services for the McDonnell facility. "Whatever the time frame, we can handle it."

The facility boasts 5,000 square feet of space, in which are crammed 17 recliners and couches for sleeping, two lounges with color TVs, a playroom for kids, sewing and ironing supplies, a food bar, and quiet areas just to chill out after a grueling flight.

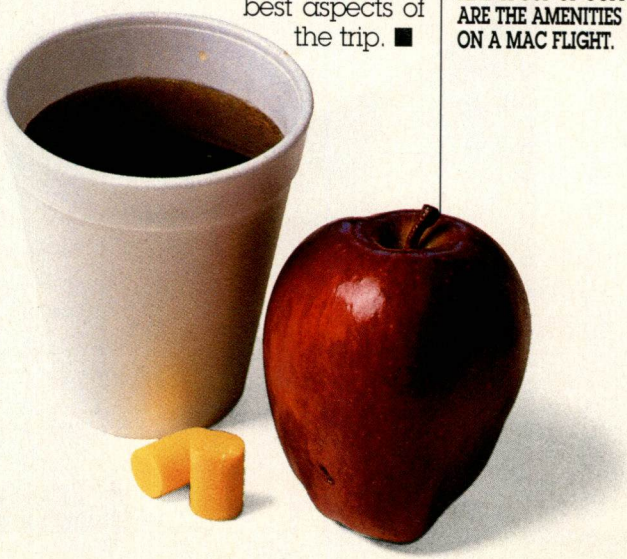
Servicing all the center's visitors are more than 500 volunteer workers from the surrounding community. Butler schedules 150 shifts per month, with anywhere from three to eight people on hand to attend the needs of the servicemen and women.

"Regardless of how much you plan and try to be prepared, there are always surprises," Butler said. "Invariably, the flight from Germany will come in at 2 a.m., instead of 2 p.m., when you have three people here, instead of eight. In fact, I think there are more surprises than non-surprises. But we handle it."

Miraculously, they also handle all their "business" solely through community contributions. The McDonnell center receives no funding from the United Way, the USO World Headquarters, or the government.

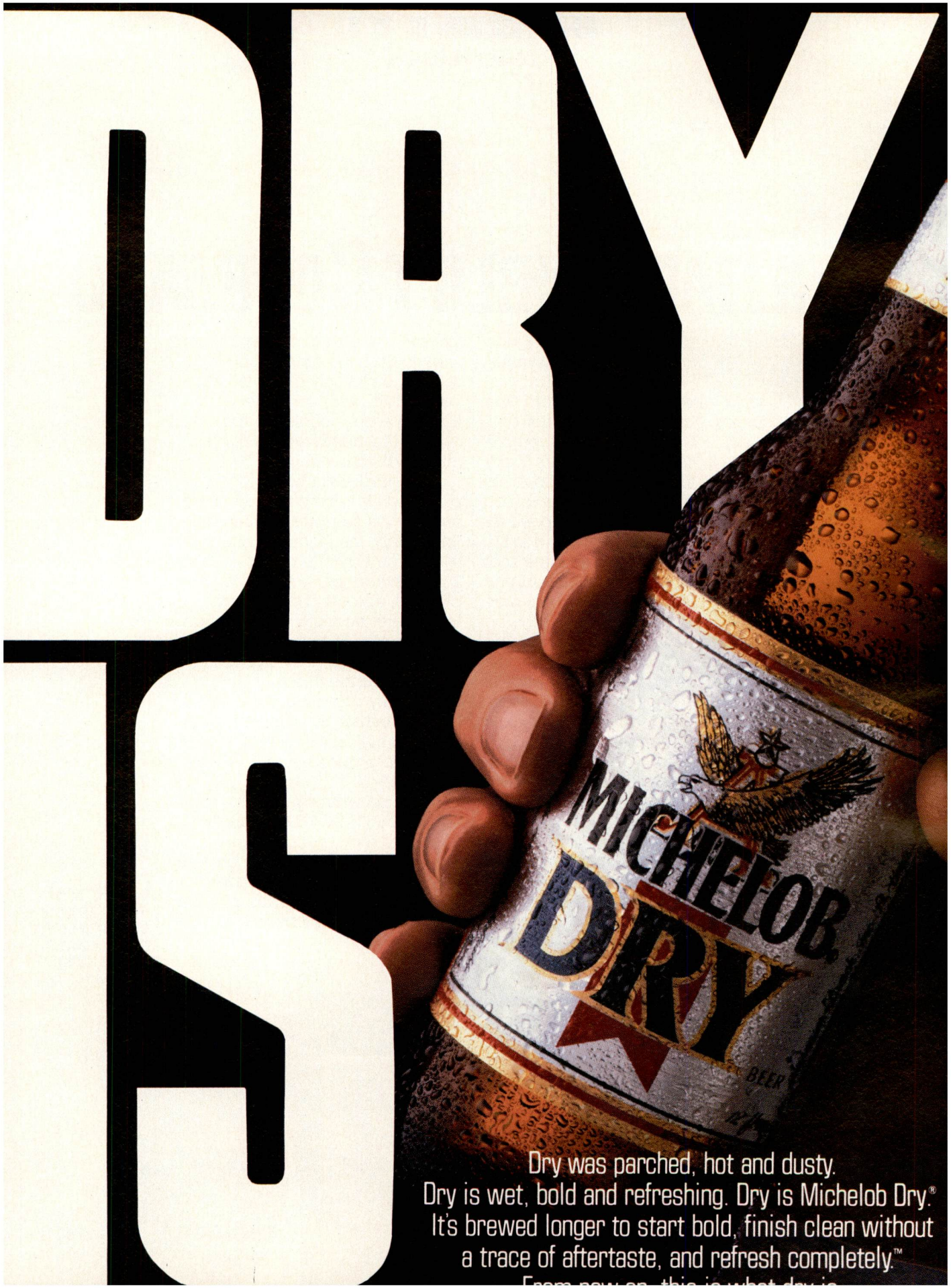
"We do what every other non-profit group does," Butler laughed. "We beg."

So if you're traveling on the MAC system, and your itinerary calls for a stop in St. Louis, rest assured that it could be one of the best aspects of the trip. ■



★★★★★
EARPLUGS, AN APPLE AND A CUP OF COFFEE ARE THE AMENITIES ON A MAC FLIGHT.

© JULES ALEXANDER


DRY
IS
MICHELOB
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BEER
Dry was parched, hot and dusty.
Dry is wet, bold and refreshing. Dry is Michelob Dry.®
It's brewed longer to start bold, finish clean without
a trace of aftertaste, and refresh completely.™

BY KEN C. POHLMANN

The Latest In Audio:
STATUS SYMBOL STEREOS

Status symbol stereos. That's right—if you can say it quickly three times in a row, you can take your pick of jobs: Joint Chiefs of Staff, Supreme Court Justice or Vice President. No, I'm just kidding.

Actually, status symbol stereo is a very important concept. That's where experts such as myself come in, with my personal recommendations of the most fabulous gear around.

First and foremost is the compact disc. These shiny beauties have revolutionized audio and brought unbelievable fidelity to the scene. The only people who still think LPs are cool are the supervisors in a state-owned vacuum tube plant in the Ukraine. CD is where it's at. First, you need a good portable player. The absolutely best one around is the Sony D-555. It has state of the art circuitry, including eight-times oversampling and dual 18-bit D/A converters, as well as features such as 22-track programming, 5-way repeat, random play, intro scan, comprehensive LCD display, optional remote control, etc. It even has a digital optical output so you can interface it to a high end home preamplifier (such as the monster Sony TA-E1000ESD). Most importantly, the D-555 brings you right into the 23rd century with DSP (digital signal processing). It uses number crunching to provide 5-band graphic equalization, dynamic range compression, surround sound processing, and bass boost—all through digital processing for absolute fidelity. This is an awesome little piece of technology.

Of course, you'll need a kick-butt system for the home. The highest profile items today are home audio/video systems. You know how good some movie theater systems sound with surround sound and all that low end? Well, you're probably listening to a THX system—a playback standard licensed to theater owners by Lucasfilm. Now, Lucasfilm has licensed a Home THX standard to consumer audio manufacturers.

Start with a combination video disc/compact disc player, such as the Philips CDV488; this baby plays back video discs, and provides a picture with 300 percent sharper color fidelity than any videotape format, including Super VHS. Next, you need a Technics SH-TX100 THX controller. It decodes Dolby Surround to drive five channels of audio, including a subwoofer channel and delayed reverberation channels to simulate the acoustics of a large theater.



★★★★★

THE JAZZIEST PORTABLE CD PLAYER AROUND IS THE SONY D-555. (APPROXIMATE SIZE SHOWN COMPARED TO A HALF-DOLLAR.)

Although both Snell and Technics offer THX-licensed speakers, any high-end models will do. Just make sure you've got a good subwoofer cabinet with at least a pair of 12-inchers. In addition, make sure you've got enough power in your amplifiers to drive things to a really loud level. The subwoofer channel in particular needs lots of power. Movies like "Die Hard" and "Top Gun" have unbelievable amounts of subsonic content throughout their running time and to reproduce it properly (that is, to get the room shaking) you need power—easily 100 watts on the sub-woofer alone. Finally, you'll also need a big screen TV, 31 inches or so. Check out models from Mitsubishi, Sony or Philips. When you've finished building your Home THX system, you'll have a dynamite set-up able to cope with anything George Lucas or the rest of Hollywood can throw at you, in addition to a first class music reproduction system.



A note: audio manufacturers bring out new products faster than Zsa Zsa can slap a policeman. By the time you read this, these products may have been superseded by something even more awesome.

Now remember; status symbol stereos, status symbol stereos, status symbol stereos. No, you don't have to say it three times. It's just that I'm getting paid by the word, and I'm saving up for a Home THX system. ■

Ken Pohlmann is an editor with *Stereo Review*.

BY NORMAN S. MAYERSOHN

Motor Pool: FREE-SPIRITED SPORTS CARS

This year's requisition of sports cars arrives with models to meet every driver's desires.

Don't let anybody tell you that there are always two sides to every issue. Regarding which is the king of American sports cars, no disagreement is possible—the Chevrolet Corvette reigns unchallenged in 1991, and the Corvette ZR-1 is the king of the Corvettes.

With a magnum-force 5.7 V8 engine, 375 horsepower on reserve, and a six-speed manual transmission, there can be little doubt that the mission of the ZR-1 is ultimate performance. It delivers handily: Zero to sixty in 4.8 seconds, to 100 mph in 11.3 seconds and a top speed in excess of 170 mph.

If there's anything to dishearten an enthusiast about this king of Corvettes, it can only be the price tag—$31,683 for the ZR-1 option package, making the total cost $64,138. Not to worry, though. The standard 'Vette, with a perfectly adequate 245 horsepower powerplant, carries a window sticker price closer to $32,000.

Chrysler Corporation's racy Dodge Stealth R/T Turbo, a new model introduced for '91, fulfills the wish list of just about any gearhead alive with a 300 horsepower, 3.0-liter V6 engine. The engine's twin turbochargers and intercoolers are just about the only items fitted as a pair—everything else comes as a set of four. Four camshafts, four valves per cylinder, four wheel drive, four wheel steering, and four wheel disc brakes sum up the vital statistics. The full-house Dodge Stealth R/T Turbo sells for about $30,000.

The folks at Ford Motor Company have a pleasant treat for sports car drivers who find the wind-in-the-hair experience more stimulating than keeping up with the latest technological achievements. The all-new Mercury Capri is a lively four cylinder, front-wheel drive roadster with endearing looks and sensible attributes such as an occasional-use rear seat and an optional hardtop for the winter months. Prices start at $12,990; the 132-horsepower turbocharged XR2 model will set you back a rather reasonable $15,920.

Twenty years ago, driving a sports car meant sacrificing comfort for free-spirit motoring, but today a pair of luxury-class two seaters, the Buick Reatta and Cadillac Allante', offer serene transport without typecasting the driver as an escapee from a retirement home.

At just over $29,300, the Reatta comes fully equipped with a 3.8-liter V6 engine, automatic transmission, electronic climate control and leather bucket seats. One of the few options available is a convertible top.

Purists might argue that Cadillac's Allante', starting at $51,000, is more luxury car than sports car. But from the first day it was introduced, this handsome two seater has been a leader in engineering innovations.

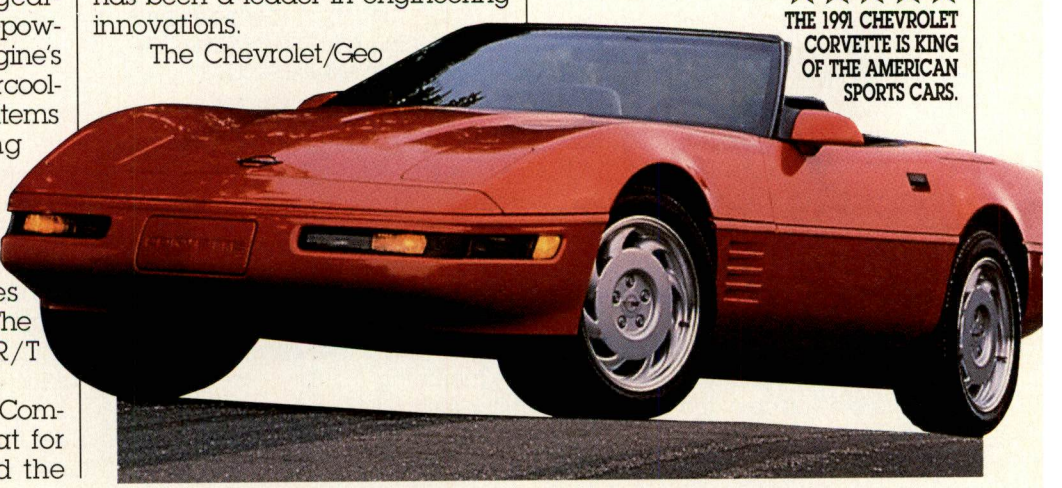
The Chevrolet/Geo Storm is a perfect example of the small sport coupe, with a catchy, contemporary look, full independent suspension, power rack and pinion steering, and the availability of sport-type bucket seats and 15-inch alloy wheels. Prices start at $10,995.

The Plymouth Laser falls into the same general category, offering a sleek profile and a high level of cornering competence at prices upwards of $11,200. Similar to the Laser in many aspects is Ford's Probe, also endowed with a fetching shape and offering the advantage of optional V6 power.

There are enticing hints of models to appear after 1991. From the R&D workshops at Chrysler Corporation the audacious Dodge Viper will emerge, propelled by a 400 horsepower V10 engine. At the other end of the scale, General Motors is showing off a stubby roadster with a fuel-sipping two stroke engine to assure us that energy consciousness and driving fun are fully compatible. ■

Norman Mayersohn is a senior editor of *Popular Science* magazine.

★★★★★
THE 1991 CHEVROLET CORVETTE IS KING OF THE AMERICAN SPORTS CARS.



THE 1991 SIERRA FROM GMC TRUCK



HORSE



POWER

SIERRA ■ Standard 4.3L Vortec V6. ■ More horsepower than any other full-size pickup. ■ More two-side galvanized sheet metal than any Ford full-size pickup. ■ Shift-on-the-fly 4X4 Insta-Trac. ■ And rear-wheel anti-lock brake system. ■ For a catalog and name of your nearest GMC Truck dealer, call 1-800-TRY-GMC1.

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GMC TRUCK

It's not just a truck anymore. It's quality on the road.

GM

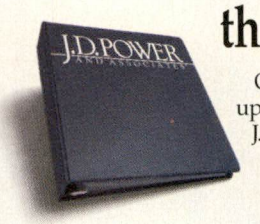
How We're Putting Qua



Quality from day one.

You asked us for cars you could count on. Our answer's in the latest J. D. Power Initial Quality Survey[SM]: Buick was ranked the most trouble-free U.S. car line for the second year in a row. Once again GM is the only domestic manufacturer to have a model ranked in the top ten–a ranking that includes the Mercedes-Benz E & S Series, the Lexus LS 400 and the Mazda Miata.[1]

1. J.D. Power and Associates 1989, 1990 Initial Quality Survey.[SM] Based on owner-reported problems during the first 90 days of ownership.



Dependability down the road.

Our quality holds up over time. In the J.D. Power Vehicle Dependability Index[SM] of 1985 models, owners of 4- to 5-year-old GM cars reported fewer prob lems than owners of any other U.S. manufacturer.[2]

2. J.D. Power and Associates 1990 Vehicle Dependability Index.[SM] Based on things gone wrong to 4- to 5-year-old 1985 model vehicles in the past 12 months.

R E L I A B I L I T Y

Transmissions and engines you can count on to get you anywhere.

Quality engines and transmissions are at the heart of GM's reliability. In the most comprehensive customer-based survey in the auto industry, GM's 2.3-liter Quad 4 was shown to be among the best 4-cylinder engines. This is based on owner-reported problems in the first 3 months of ownership. No domestic V6 engine on the market today is better than our 3800 V6.[4]

This year we're introducing the 3.4-liter Twin Dual Cam V6–the world's largest 4-cam V6–a multivalve engine with multi-port fuel injection, direct ignition, and tuned intakes. And we're building it to exceed our own high durability standards.

A GM owner-satisfaction survey for the third quarter of 1990 shows our automatic transmissions are already more problem-free than those of any other domestic manufacturer.

The electronically integrated powertrain we introduced this year is one of the most advanced in the world. It links the 3800 Tuned Por Injection engine and the new Hydra-matic 4T60E electronically controlled, automatic transmission to the same computer, for smoother operation.

4. Based on 1990 GM Comprehensive Customer Survey.



GM quality takes you farther than ever.

Today, GM cars are almost 130% more fuel efficient than they were during the mid-70's. That means you can drive the car that meets your transportation needs, whatever the size, and still enjoy great fuel economy.

For instance, our Olds Cutlass Supreme with its advanced Quad 4 engine is a mid-size six-passenger car, yet provides highway mileage *superior* to the 1980 subcompact Chevette.[5]

Pontiac Firebird excitement comes with 27 mpg EPA estimated highway mileage when equipped with the 3.1-liter V6 engine. Even a GM full-size luxury car like the Cadillac DeVille delivers EPA estimated highway mileage of 26 mpg, better than comparable V8 equipped models from Mercedes-Benz or Infiniti.

5. 1991 Cutlass Supreme 29 mpg EPA estimated highway mileage.

ity On The Road Today.



DURABILITY

Tough trucks prove their worth over time.

At GM, we understand that any truck you buy is going to have to take on just as much down the road as when you first buy it. That's why all our Chevy and GMC trucks have built-in quality and durability.

The fact is, Chevy and GMC trucks retain more of their original value than trucks sold in the U.S. by any other manufacturer in the world—foreign or domestic.[3]

3. GM corporate study of 3- to 5-year-old used vehicles resold between 1979 and 1989.



COMMITMENT

It all starts with you.



We heard what you were saying about the quality you want. Every word. That's why we have the Quality Network, where all of us throughout GM are focused on you and on your needs.

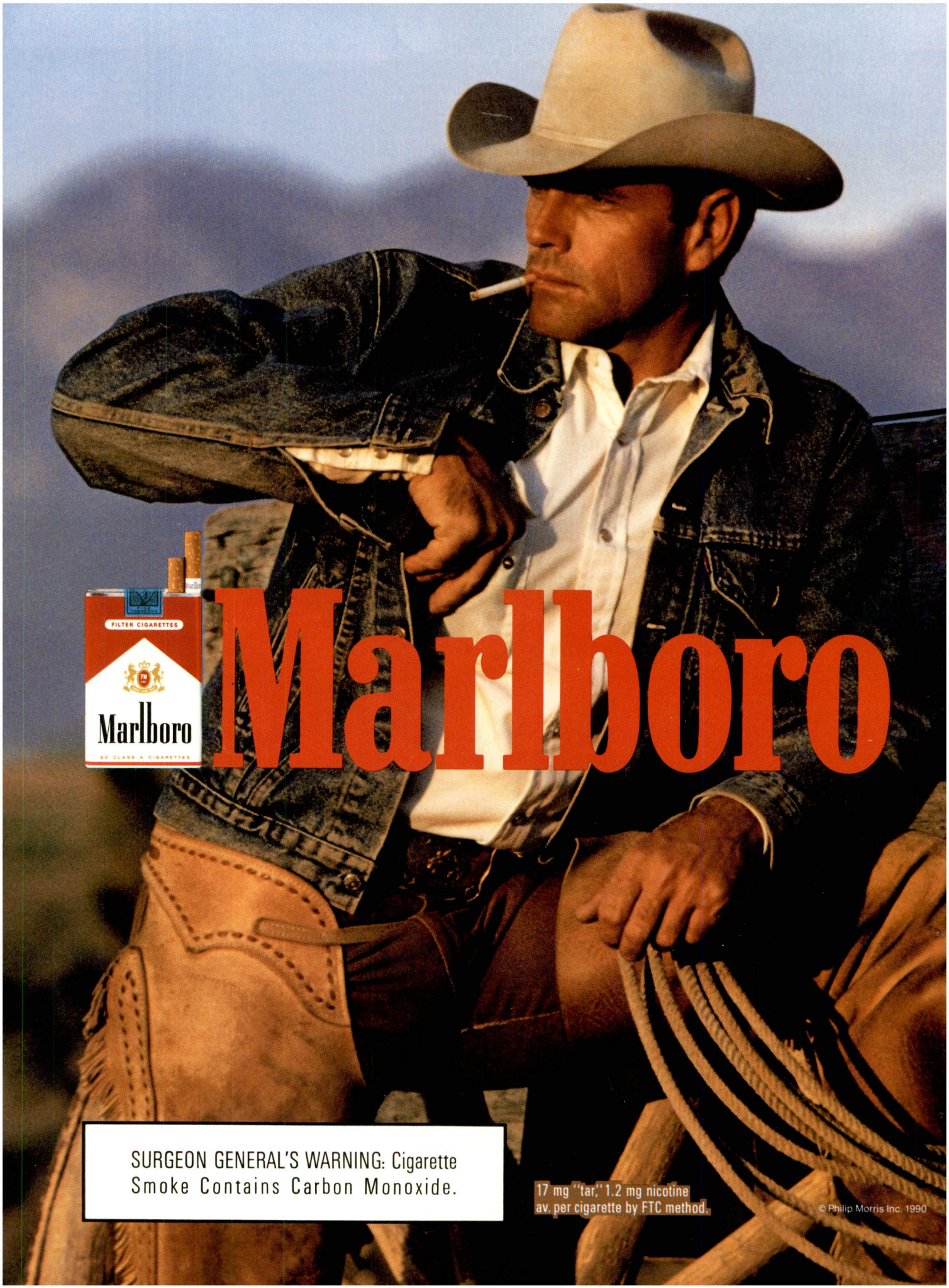
You want cars and trucks that are more durable. More dependable. More reliable. More efficient. We're dedicated to building them for you. Cars and trucks with quality right from the start and years down the road.

That's the kind of vehicles we're engineering and building today. Because we care what you think about GM quality. And we're determined to keep improving our cars and trucks for you. Until every model is the best in the world.

GM

MARK OF EXCELLENCE

Chevrolet Pontiac Oldsmobile Buick Cadillac GMC Truck


FILTER CIGARETTES
Marlboro
20 CLASS A CIGARETTES
Marlboro
SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Cigarette Smoke Contains Carbon Monoxide.
17 mg "tar," 1.2 mg nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.
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