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News From USO Shows Press Release

USO Shows

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NEWS FROM USO SHOWS

USO Shows Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

24 April 1970

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31 COLLEGES CHOSEN TO MAKE USO OVERSEAS TOURS

It was announced today at USO National Headquarters in New York the names of the 31 colleges and universities chosen to make USO tours to entertain the troops overseas during the 1970-71 semester. Sponsored by USO, the Department of Defense, the American Educational Theater Association (AETA), and the National Music Council (NMC), students from Drama and Music Departments will present Broadway musicals, variety shows, and instrumental and choral groups to the American military stationed at bases around the world.

To make the selections, meetings were held at USO - attended by Jerome B. Coray, Director of USO Shows; Colonel Joseph Smith, Chief, Armed Forces Entertainment Branch of the Department of Defense; the AETA Overseas Touring Committee, headed by Dr. Harold I. Hansen of Brigham Young University; and the NMC Overseas Touring Committee, chaired by Dr. Archie N. Jones of the University of Missouri at Kansas City. Heads of Drama and Music Departments of colleges and universities across America make up the two committees.

From the hundreds of applications submitted, the following groups were selected to tour under the USO College Show Program:

USO-AETA SHOWS

University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, Miss.

David Lipscomb College
Nashville, Tenn.

Centenary College
Shreveport, Louisiana

Furman University
Greenville, So. Carolina

Washington State University
Pullman, Washington

West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia

Eastern Montana College
Billings, Montana

Rio Hondo College
Whittier, Calif.

Gorham State College
Gorham, Maine

Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan

Kennedy-King College
Chicago, Illinois

University of Portland
Portland, Oregon

(Continued next page)

USO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE • NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION • THE SALVATION ARMY • TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

USO-PMC COLLEGE SHOWS CHOSEN:

Oklahoma City University
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Texas Woman's University
Denton, Texas

Utah State University
Logan, Utah

Jackson State College
Jackson, Mississippi

Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma

University of Tenn. at Chattanooga
Chattanooga, Tenn.

College of St. Scholastica
Duluth, Minn.

University of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyoming

Quachita Baptist University
Arkadelphia, Ark.

Pepperdine College
Los Angeles, Calif.

Brier Cliff College
Sioux City, Iowa

Southern Oregon College
Ashland, Oregon 97520

St. Norbert College
West de Pere, Wisc.

Midland Lutheran College
Fremont, Nebraska

Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas

University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Michigan

University of Detroit
Detroit, Michigan

Millsaps College
Jackson, Mississippi

This year marks the 13th anniversary of the USO College Show Program. Since 1958 over 250 college groups have entertained the servicemen and women at remote bases in Newfoundland, Labrador, Greenland, Baffin Island, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Guam, Taiwan, the Philippines, Germany, Northern Italy, Spain, the Azores, Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Bahama Islands and the West Indies.

In addition to providing entertainment for our servicemen, the tours offer real opportunity for the theater groups to be unofficial ambassadors for the United States in the foreign countries visited. Equally important are the educational benefits for the members of the company; a number of universities have successfully integrated the tour with the academic studies and thus provided the students with background on the life and culture of the countries visited to enrich their foreign travel experience.

Another important aspect of the tour is the time the students spend socializing with the servicemen, who are of the same age group with the same interests; best described by a USO club directors' report "... These men are so far from home and so often lonely that to have Americans of their own age, with whom they can talk and be understood is a tremendous thing to them. That the students travel from home to distant lands to entertain THEM, tells them that somebody cares, somebody hasn't forgotten."