

UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.,
New York, N.Y., September 18, 1967.

Hon. KENNETH L. GRAY,
U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR MR. CONGRESSMAN: I am glad to note that Mr. James G. Dunton, President of the National Capitol USO in Washington, has been in touch with you about the inclusion of an adequate space in the new National Visitors Center for a USO Club and Lounge.

As you may know, USO has been operating a Lounge and Club in Union Station since its inception prior to World War II in 1941. Over the years millions of transient men and their families have found a welcome rendezvous and service especially designed for them, a "home away from home", provided by the American people to let them know that their fellow countrymen appreciate their service and sacrifice.

I have also written Secretary Udall to tell him with what importance we at USO National Headquarters regard the opening of a USO Center in the new National Visitors Center to serve the growing needs of the hundreds of thousands of men and women in uniform passing through the Nation's Capitol City en route to new posts and stations, or just sight-seeing. We hope to make this a national showcase also, of the worldwide program being carried out by the USO in behalf of those in uniform, at home and overseas, from Vietnam to Turkey and Greece and other parts of the world where our Armed Forces are on duty. I do hope you and your committee will give an attentive ear to the plans and suggestions Mr. Dunton will present.

Be assured that we at National Headquarters stand ready to lend every appropriate assistance possible.

Sincerely,

EMMETT O'DONNELL, Jr.,
General, U.S. Air Force (Retired), President.