

NOTICE: USO National Headquarters received word from Bernie Carvalho, Executive Director of the USO Club in Fairbanks, Alaska, that though the basement which houses a dormitory and snack bar was completely inundated the first floor, which is about six feet above the ground level, escaped the flood waters. The Commanding Officer of "Murphy Dome" a nearby military installation is sending several soldiers each day to Fairbanks to help the USO staff put the club back in operation. Damage to the facility and equipment is not as extensive as we originally thought. The home of the Director was flooded and both Bernie and his wife suffered considerable personal loss.

As we go to press we have heard from Bernie that the USO is back in operation with a temporary canteen and dormitory on the first floor. He hopes to have the full club in operation before the first freeze comes in September.



Danny Kaye addresses press at conference held following his return from a two-week tour pioneering initiation of Pacific Hospital Circuit.

Vincent J. Romeo, Vice Chairman of the USO National Council has announced that the 1968 National Council Annual Meeting will be held on March 28th and 29th at the Marriott Motor Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

Danny Kaye Opens New USO Shows Pacific Hospital Circuit

At the request of the Department of Defense, United Service Organizations, Inc. (USO), has established a Pacific Hospital Circuit to bring entertainment and celebrity visitors to servicemen wounded in Vietnam who have been evacuated from the front lines to convalescent hospitals in Guam, Okinawa, the Philippines, Taiwan, Japan and Hawaii.

Colonel Jerome Coray, Director of USO Shows, announced that the new USO Shows circuit was officially initiated September 1, 1967, and will include a total of eight shows per month—four handshake tours and four variety shows.

Because of his vast experience in touring military camps and bases for USO Shows for many years and under all conditions, internationally famed comedian Danny Kaye was asked to pioneer the new venture with a two-week handshake tour of Japan, Guam, Okinawa, and the Philippine Islands. Returning in late August, Kaye reported at a press conference held at USO National Headquarters, New York, that he found the tour more "incredibly rewarding" than any similar experience in his career. Kaye returned to the West Coast where he will assist the USO in recruiting star talent in a "call-to-arms" to support the new program.

Talent for the shows will be drawn from three major sources: USO-Hollywood Overseas Committee; The National Cartoonists Society; and the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. The USO-HOC will furnish top motion picture and television stars for two variety groups and two handshake tours per month. The National Cartoonists Society has agreed to provide at least six cartoonists groups per year for the hospital program, and no fewer than six Barber Shop Quartets per year will be provided "to stimulate barber shop singing among the hospitalized wounded and organize quartets among the patients."

Also in the planning stages for the hospital shows are visitations by prominent figures from the sports world.

The National USO Shows office in New York will coordinate the entire program. Part of the touring celebrities will be recruited in New York City and the remainder will be provided by the USO-Hollywood Overseas Committee on the West Coast.

This new Pacific Hospital Circuit is an expansion of the existing USO Shows program. The other groups are the special Vietnam celebrity program recruited by the USO-Hollywood Overseas Committee; the paid professional shows playing bases—large and small—around the world; and the college show tours with volunteer students presenting Broadway shows, choral and instrumental groups.