

"PRACTICAL" CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR SERVICEMEN IN VIETNAM

What does a serviceman in Vietnam really want for Christmas?

A recent survey by the USO disclosed that items high on their "want" list include shaving equipment, foot spray, shampoo in plastic bottles, penlights, insect repellent, small jigsaw puzzles, first aid kits, key chains and keycases, ballpoint pens, writing materials, medicated cleansing cream, small face towels, miniature sewing kits, large work handkerchiefs, hard candy in tins, and paperback books. Small three inch recording tapes, medical scrub brushes, foam insoles for combat boots, heavy work socks, one inch paint brushes, and small crossword puzzle books are also popular.

Last year, in addition to those gifts received directly by individual servicemen from relatives and friends, hundreds of gifts were received by USO Clubs in Vietnam and distributed to servicemen visitors, to hospitals, and by airlift to remote units. Monetary contributions to USO from generous Americans everywhere made possible Christmas Day programs in Vietnam USO clubs which featured entertainment and free home cooked dinners with all the traditional trimmings. With the increase in troop strength in recent months, USO staff members are already busily making plans for Christmas 1967 in the hope that this year's observance will be bigger and better than ever to help ease the loneliness of servicemen everywhere in Vietnam, many of whom are away from home for the first time.

United States postal authorities will no longer accept packages addressed to "A Serviceman in Vietnam." However, where donors desire that USO distribute gifts to "Any Serviceman in Vietnam," the USO advises that gift packages addressed to USO Club Directors at specific APO addresses, and bearing an outside label identifying the contents, are acceptable and will

USO CLUB ROTA CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The USO Club at Rota, Spain, marked its first anniversary on July 13 with an Open House attended by Rota's Mayor Antonio Mana; Rear Admiral Manuel Gonzalez, Commander of the Rota Naval Base; and representatives from all the commands on the Naval Station.

Captain James S. Elkins, Jr., CNA Spain/CO NavSta, who is also president of the Rota USO Council, presented Club Director Pat Pangallo with a Charter from USO's National Headquarters in New York.

In presenting the Charter, Captain Elkins said, "It's really a satisfying and pleasing experience to be here to celebrate the first anniversary of the USO in Rota. Many of you who haven't been here long don't know of the struggles that have gone into the achievement of having this fine USO. It took many years of planning, working and hoping. To see this building and what has been made of it is really great."

Admiral Gonzalez also spoke briefly and related that he was pleased that the club was in Rota because it indicated that the U. S. Navy would be there for many years to come.

Mr. Pangallo was interviewed by AFRS and said that during the first year at the USO, renovations had been made throughout the club's facilities.

Since first opening its doors in July of last year, the club has catered not only to single enlisted men on liberty, but also to activities on the base. Many organizations such as wives' clubs hold their meetings regularly at the USO, and the club has become extremely popular with such groups.

be distributed by USO staff during the holidays. Donors pay postage from their hometowns to the APO in San Francisco, and surface mail parcels should be mailed by October 1st to insure delivery in Vietnam by Christmas.

Miss America and Court Leave for Vietnam

Academy Award Winning actress Joan Crawford, a Vice President of USO of New York City, poses between Miss America, Jane Anne Leyroe (left), and chaperone Luciell Preuiti, as other American beauties stand behind them at Kennedy International Airport. Miss Crawford saw the girls off on their USO Shows-Pepsi-Cola sponsored tour to entertain servicemen in Vietnam. Standing are, (l. to r.), Sharon Mae Singstock of Wisconsin; Barbara Ann Harris, South Carolina; Carole Ann Gelish, Connecticut; Ellen Warren, Maine; and Angeline Grooms of Alabama.

