

NEWS RELEASE

LOCAL BARBERSHOP QUARTET TO ENTERTAIN SERVICEMEN IN FAR EAST

THE SHARPLIFTERS, FOUR FELLOWS FROM THE DETROIT AREA HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY THE U.S.O. TO ENTERTAIN OUR WOUNDED SERVICEMEN IN THE FAR EAST. THE 18 DAY TOUR INCLUDES VISITS TO MILITARY HOSPITALS IN JAPAN, OKINAWA, THE PHILIPPINES, GAUM AND HAWAII. THE GROUP WILL LEAVE AUGUST 15 AND RETURN SEPTEMBER 3.

RECOGNIZED AS ENTERTAINERS, THE SHARPLIFTERS WERE ORGANIZED AS A BARBERSHOP QUARTET IN FEBRUARY OF 1967. RISING RAPIDLY AS A SINGING GROUP, THIS FOURSOME PLACED AT THE TOP IN MICHIGAN COMPETITION THREE TIMES DURING THE ENSUING YEAR WINNING THE STATE TITLE AND TWICE RATING HIGH IN INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS. THE SHARPLIFTERS ARE CURRENTLY RATED 11TH AMONG MORE THAN 1,300 REGISTERED QUARTETS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA. THEY HAVE ENTERTAINED FROM COAST TO COAST AND HAVE APPEARED ON TELEVISION BOTH NATIONALLY (JOEY BISHOP SHOW AND ABC NEWS SPECIAL) AND LOCALLY (BOB HYNES MORNING SHOW-CH. 7 AND DWAYNE RILEY'S FEATURE STORY-CH. 4).

THE QUARTET IS AFFILIATED WITH THE DETROIT CHAPTER OF S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. INC. (THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF BARBERSHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INCORPORATED). THE GROUP INCLUDES TENOR WILLIAM WICKSTROM FROM WARREN, AN EMPLOYMENT EXECUTIVE WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; LEAD JOSEPH COBURN OF LIVONIA, A SALES REPRESENTATIVE WITH THE COLTON COMPANY; BARITONE JOHN SEEMANN FROM DEARBORN HEIGHTS, A SALESMAN FOR THE ROTARY MANIFOLD FORMS COMPANY; AND BASS LOWELL THOMAS, A CHEMIST WITH THE MARATHON OIL COMPANY, WHO LIVES ON GROSSE ILE.