

USO SHOWS

in association with

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION
AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF BARBER
SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA**



presents

"THE SHARPLIFTERS"

FROM MICHIGAN



USO SHOW #GA-656
PACIFIC HOSPITAL CIRCUIT
15 AUGUST 1969 17 DAYS



INFORMATION FROM USO

USO Public Relations Department

237 East 52nd Street • New York City 10022 • PLaza 1-3020

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

For further information
contact Judy Story at USO

USO SHOW #GA-656
Pacific Hospital Circuit
Manager: Lowell Thomas

"THE SHARPLIFTERS", BARBERSHOP QUARTET TO CHEER
WOUNDED IN PACIFIC HOSPITALS

Nationally renowned Barbershop Quartet from Detroit, Michigan, "THE SHARPLIFTERS", will tour military hospitals in the Pacific for 17 days starting 15 August 1969. Sponsored by USO, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. (The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing In America) and the Department of Defense, this harmonious group has volunteered for this tour to visit hospitals in Japan, Okinawa, Guam, the Philippines and Hawaii.

The members of "The Sharplifters" are: LOWELL THOMAS, bass and manager, comes from Grosse Ile, Michigan; WILLIAM WICKSTROM, tenor, of Warren, Mich.; JOSEPH COBURN, lead, from Livona, Mich.; and JOHN SEEMANN, baritone, of Dearborn Heights, Michigan.

SPEBSQSA, who sends at least six quartets a year on USO tours to overseas hospitals, is an organization dedicated to the perpetuation of the old American institution, the Barbershop Quartet, and to the promotion of harmony and good fellowship among its members and the people they entertain. These excellent quartets from all over the United States have proved to be very popular with the servicemen overseas. USO is glad to have the quartets in its family of shows.

USO MEMBER AGENCIES

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

"THE SHARPLIFTERS", organized in February of 1967, rose rapidly, placing at the top in Michigan Quartet Competitions three times during the ensuing year . They won the State Title, twice rated high in International Contests at Los Angeles and Cincinnati and currently rank 11th among more than 1,300 registered quartets throughout the United States and Canada. They also have entertained from coast to coast and have appeared on national TV on the "Joey Bishop Show" and on an ABC Network Special.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE CAST:

Tenor, BILL WICKSTROM of Warren, Michigan (a native of Muskegon, Mich.) is 44 years old, married and the father of three sons. Bill is a graduate of Northwestern University. He is employed by the U.S. Department of Labor as Veterans Employment Service Director for Michigan. Bill is a U. S. Navy combat veteran of World War II and Korea (Far East Theatre, The Philippines, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and Japan.)

Lead, JOE COBURN, of Livonia, Michigan, (a native of Detroit) is 29 years old, married and father of three (2 daughters and 1 son). Joe is a graduate of Winona State College. He is presently employed as a sales representative with The Colton Company.

Baritone, JOHN SEEMANN of Dearborn Heights, Michigan (a native of Toledo, Ohio) is 33 years old, married and the father of two daughters. John attended the University of Toledo. He is presently employed as a salesman for the Rotary Manifold Forms Company. He was a post Korean war Army veteran.

Bass, LOWELL THOMAS of Grosse Ile, Michigan (a native of Wilkes Barre, Pa.) is 38 years old, married and father of three (2 daughters and 1 son). Lowell attended Wayne State University. He is now employed as a chemist with the Marathon Oil Company and is an Air Force veteran of Korea.

This show, like others playing the USO overseas circuit, is made possible by the voluntary contributions to the USO by the American public through their Community Chests, United Funds, Combined Federal Campaigns, and other voluntary donations.