

# United States Servicemen's Fund

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(RECD JUN 71)

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We are writing you as we prepare to take the United States Servicemen's Fund Show for GI's to three military bases on the West coast. This month we will travel to Ft. Lewis, Washington, Ft. Ord, California, and the U. S. S. Constellation, just back from Vietnam, in the San Diego Naval Yard. We have just gotten word that 1300 sailors, over one half the crew, have signed a petition demanding the show be brought on board the ship. After our tremendous experience at Ft. Bragg (see enclosed), and the obvious demand for the show, we felt we must continue to provide the only alternative to the Pentagon's pro-war USO shows that service men and women are offered.

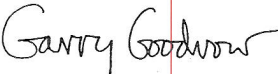
These shows will add an important dimension to spring anti-war activity centered around May 15, Armed Forces Day, at over 30 military bases across the country. Last May 16, 23 bases were forced to cancel their shows of military might when faced with demonstrations organized by active duty service men and women. This year promises to be more successful.

We have become involved because we are deeply concerned about today's young men and women in the military who suffer more from this conflict than from any other American war. USSF has a broad program for these men and women, of which entertainment is only one aspect. Three years ago, it initiated the GI Coffee Houses near military bases, and now has 20 in operation, in this country, Europe and Asia. The Coffee House provides entertainment at no cost, and food for almost nothing. It is a place to relax free of Army influence. GI's can talk openly about the Army, see films and read other GI's publications. Counseling and legal help are theirs for the asking. Perhaps most important, men and women in the services can meet and talk with people whose outlook is not war-oriented; they learn that the peace movement is working for them - not against them as many have implied. Besides supporting the Coffee Houses, and their wide variety of services, USSF also gives financial assistance to more than half of the 70 GI newspapers throughout the world.

On an extremely slender budget, it spreads its resources literally around the world. The GI's need USSF - and USSF needs you. We urge you to join us in giving - a lot if you can, a little if you must. Please send your check today.

Sincerely yours,

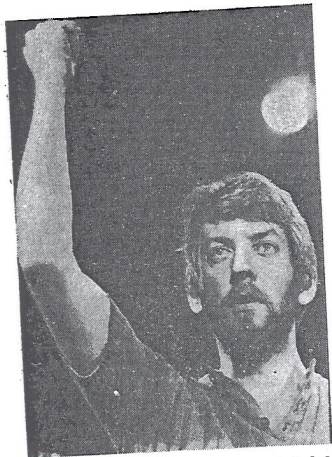
  
Jane Fonda

  
Garry Goodrow

  
Dick Gregory

# GI Movement: A Show to Call Its Own

## The Troops Get an Alternative to Bob Hope



Donald Sutherland's performance included the reading of an anti-draft speech.

By Michael Kernan

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.— In the end, it was the GIs who pulled it all together, who gave dignity and unity and burning purpose to the passionate but scatter-brained counter-USO show put on here over the weekend by Jane Fonda.

This is a GI town. The street are full of young men wearing motorcycle jackets, bell bottoms, beads, funky hats and outrageous shirts, but betrayed by their short haircuts.

Saturday afternoon they hung around the Haymarket Square GI coffee house waiting to buy \$2.50 tickets for the anti-war show that already has had so much publicity by getting barred from Ft. Bragg. Around the corner and all the way down Bragg Blvd. were some of the reasons why the coffee

house was established: the topless go-go bars, the pawn shops, the sleazy jewelry stores whose proprietors stand outside on the sidewalk and try to collar the wide-eyed and slow-footed, the skinflicks (at the King Theater, "101 Acts of Love"), and the heroin pushers, whose gift to Ft. Bragg and to the nice middle-class straight All-American boys is a nightmare addiction plague that accompanies it.

The thing that came through again and again during the hectic weekend was that these are not only elite soldiers of proud paratrooper units but that they are small-town kids, some of them barely able to raise a moustache, brought up in the languorous innocence which only Americans believe they can afford to preserve well past the teens.

But the shock of sudden contact with the Army, the war and the world has hit many of them hard.

Here's what some said:  
• When I enlisted I was really Strack (gung-ho). I pressed my field jacket, did spit-shines, everything. I thought this was going to be my life. That was seven months ago. I feel I'm about 100 years old now."

• "Yeah, we're Vietnam returnees, 173d Airborne Brigade. Yeah, we're privates. Only reason a lot of them put up with this s... is they don't know their rights. I'd say 80 per cent of the returnees feel this way. Man, we are mad. You know 45 per cent of our outfit is in the stockade right now?"

• "I got a buddy who had both his legs blown off a year and a half ago. In Cambodia. You get it? A year and a half ago."

• A boy with filthy quarter-inch wisps representing a future mustache took out a photo of a Vietnamese woman with her sides gored and half her head blown off and her shirt spread and trousers yanked down to expose her genitals. "I took this picture. I've seen a lot worse than this. They told me the woman was just running around a field. You think I should show this to Jane? I think she should see it, she's a woman, she should know about this."

• "Vietnam is a very good radicalizer. I was super-straight until I came into the service. Spent four years in the Marine Corps. I enlisted. The kid shakes his head. "Man, if I had it to do over, I would have gone to Canada."

• "The GI Movement has really sprung up this year. It's no one-base this year. (There are 100-odd coffeehouses and 75 underground GI newspapers. The Haymarket is the third Fayetteville coffeehouse: the first two burned down.)

• Coffeehouse graffiti: "I am a captain, and I think it here, us in Se to F shter tagd pan you the not the are



Jane Fonda: "What we're here, us in Se to F shter tagd pan you the not the are

am a captain, and I think it here, us in Se to F shter tagd pan you the not the are

• A GI who works at the coffeehouse says: we won't let any known pushers even in the door. Anytime we see someone we don't know go into the can, someone follows him in to make sure he doesn't plant some dope or smack or anything. We plead with the guys not to carry any kind of dope in

### Antiwar Performers to Sue For U.S. Support of Show

A troupe of antiwar performers who were refused permission by the army to stage their show at Fort Bragg, N. C., said yesterday that it would file suit against the Pentagon in Washington this week.

The performers, including Jane Fonda and Peter Boyle, said at a news conference that the suit would seek to force the armed services to allow the show to be put on at any United States military base and to support the show financially.

The show was barred from Fort Bragg by the Army on grounds that it would be detrimental to the morale of men stationed there. It was put on in a Fayetteville coffee house last weekend.

## The Charlotte Observer

March 15, 1971

# Dick & Jane Show (Gregory & Fonda) Gets An Ovation

By SUSAN JETTON and DIANE LINDQUIST Observer Staff Writers

FAYETTEVILLE — Ft. Bragg GIs got the first look over the weekend at what is billed as the anti-war movement's answer to Bob Hope and his USO shows.

A three-hour music and comedy show at the Haymarket Square Coffeehouse in Fayetteville spoofed the war in Indochina, President Nixon and the American military system.

Among the stars of the three performances given Saturday and Sunday, were comic and one-time presidential candidate Dick Gregory, actress Jane Fonda and clowns Donald Sutherland (of M.A.S.H. fame) and Peter "Joe" Boyle.

The Fayetteville production was both premiere and trial run for

officials for performances the base.

And only after a federal court injunction was it allowed to be presented in the public Cumberland County Auditorium in Fayetteville.

But sponsors had to reject the auditorium, which would have seated 2,400 persons, since it could not obtain the public liability insurance required by the auditorium management.

The show finally was staged Saturday night and twice Sunday in the coffeehouse, a downtown meeting place for some soldiers-particularly those in sympathy with the anti-war movement.

And before the coffeehouse could open Saturday night, it had to be searched carefully by Fayetteville police officers for threatened bombs.

All persons who entered the coffeehouse for the first performance were searched for bombs, and at least one phone call during that search threatened that a bomb would go off "in five minutes." (No one evacuated the coffeehouse and no bombs exploded.) Before scheduled time for

## 500 G.I.'S AT DEBUT OF ANTIWAR SHOW

Entertainers Call It a Reply to Bob Hope Excursions

By JAMES T. WOOTEN Special to The New York Times

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., March 14—With a gusto once reserved for cadence counts, the battalion of young soldiers raise their voices in a lusty refrain:

"Join the G.I. Movement, boys, join the G.I. Movement," they chant in a crowded coffeehouse, lifting clenched fists and two-finger peace symbols, exuberantly shouting new words to an old labor-movement song that has become the anthem of their discontent.

They represent a small but seemingly growing minority in the armed forces, and last night they came from nearby Fort Bragg to witness the debut of a three-hour, antiwar, anti-military stage show written and produced with them in mind.

The show stars Jane Fonda, Dick Gregory, Peter Boyle, Donald Sutherland and Barbara Dane. Its premiere performance was a biting blend of political satire and irreverent humor that clearly went over well with the 500 soldiers in the audience.

"They'll pack them in wherever they go," predicted Capt. Fred Blitzer, a dentist in Fort New Jersey, who was one of the few officers in the audience.

A Reply to Hope Trips The show has been characterized by its sponsor, the United States Servicemen's Fund, as a response to the annual excursions of Bob Hope and other countries where American soldiers are stationed.

Miss Fonda and other antiwar entertainers complain that Mr. Hope and an entourage of show business celebrities and

around the country, the thrust was distinctly counter to the Hope theme.

Instead of Les Brown's Band of Renown playing "Thanks for the Memory," there was Swamp Dogg, a bombastic, 10-piece rock band, playing "God Bless America for What."

Instead of the curvaceous Gold-diggers drawing whoops and whistles with a precisely choreographed routine, there was Miss Dane in a gray, woolen shift singing a Vietcong morale song in her folk singer's contralto.

And finally, instead of Mr. Hope, there was Mr. Gregory in a four-button suit urging the young audience to vote as 75 years "and send all them older cats to Vietnam with John Wayne leading them." The show is written by Jules Feiffer.

Police on Patrol Although admission cost \$2.50 and the band members were the only paid performers, money was evidently still a problem as the stars and the coffeehouse staff went through 10-minute rehearsals yesterday afternoon. By the time the small hall began filling late in the evening, there was talk in every corner of a need for funds to meet expenses.

"Just remember," Mr. Gregory said as a dented bucket and soft-drink cups were passed around the audience, "we're not sponsored by Chrysler," a not sponsored by Chrysler, a reference to Mr. Hope's television relationship with the giant automobile corporation.

While the soldiers laughed, Fayetteville policemen patrolled outside, apprehensive that the show, officially banned on Army posts, might provoke incidents in this militarily oriented community of 40,000.

City officials had refused to let the show be performed in the municipal auditorium and, when a Federal judge reversed their decision, they demanded a \$150,000 insurance policy against damages to the 2,500-seat hall. The sponsors of the show said the cost was prohibitive and it was scheduled for the coffeehouse.

While there were no incidents

# Jane's Antiwar Stage Show Draws Sellout Crowd in N.C.

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP)

— A show aimed at countering military-sponsored entertainment opened in a jammed coffee house near a huge Army base, with actress Jane Fonda and other entertainers spoofing the war and President Nixon.

It was standing room only at the antiwar show's first performance Saturday and there were sellouts at \$2.50 a person for both Sunday performances in the 400-seat Haymarket Square Coffeehouse, a downtown meeting place for soldiers from nearby Ft. Bragg.

Presented in four 30-minute acts, the show ended with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner by Miss Fonda, comedian Dick Gregory, folksinger Barbara Dane, and actors Donald Sutherland, Peter Boyle and Gary Godrow, who was substituting for Elliott Gubler.

are storming the White House demanding "the release of Angela Davis, freedom for all political prisoners and the end of the war."

Richard responded, "I'll call the 82nd Airborne." "You can't Richard. It is the 82nd Airborne."

The 82nd Airborne is stationed at Ft. Bragg.

Gregory drew a standing ovation when he concluded his act by saying "the world has a

## Jane Fonda to Sue Brass

ASHEVILLE, N. C. (AP)

— An appeals judge has ruled that an antiwar group that includes actress Jane Fonda can perform in a Fayetteville Coliseum Sunday.

Plaintiffs in the action were the United States Servicemen's Fund, which had

denied an order by a lower Federal Court to force the public coliseum's manager to allow the show. The fund, a Massachusetts-based organization, financially supports underground military newspapers and coffee

Declaring that America's servicemen have the right to hear both sides of any controversy and "express opposition to the war," press opposition to the war," actress Jane Fonda and other members of a troupe of antiwar performers announced yesterday that they would file suit against the Pentagon this week because they were refused permission to put on their show at Fort Bragg, N.C., last

tation on the ground that it would harm the morale of men stationed at the camp. Pointing out that the Army has given financial help to the Bob Hope show at Fort Bragg, another member of the troupe, said, "We have every right to demand the same."

The show, which was put on a coffee house near the Army base, drew a total of 1,500 performances.

## GIs Were the Stars of Jane & Co.

By MICHAEL KERNAN

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