



# COME ON RALPH, GIVE US A SMILE

Ralph Ferguson, who's usually more cheerful than shown here, dines with his wife on roast prime rib au jus at the Clover Room, Carson street at Woodruff Avenue. Open for luncheon, dinner and banquets, Clover Room has special dinners nightly: Monday, prime rib; Tuesday, sirloin tips; Wednesday, top sirloin; Thursday, beef brochette; Friday, stuffed crab; Saturday, barbecue beef ribs; Sunday, roast pork.

— Staff Photo

## In person

(Continued From Page A-28)

before releasing Hamilton, Joe Frank and Reynolds' first record. It stayed No. 1 for two weeks. For 16 weeks it was in the Top 20 and for 12 weeks after that it was in the Top 40. The trio's subsequent releases, *Annabella* and their album, were also phenomenal sellers. Did the three become overnight millionaires because of their success? No. But they made a lot of money, far more than they'd ever had before. Two years later, their bubble burst. That was when Tommy left the group. It meant starting all over again with a different sound. Danny and Joe Frank searched for many months until they found a top-notch replacement for Tommy. Alan passed all their tests because of unusual keyboard talent and the fact that he had experience as a recording artist. He had recorded for Columbia with Billy Burnett and John Manning. Danny and Joe Frank's intuition turned out to be solid; Alan's abilities helped them land their new Playboy Records contract. At the Golden Sails Inn, the tall trio toasts 6 feet for more) offers a variety including their upcoming Playboy Records songs, their ABC Dunhill successes, other tunes they've recorded, including *Daisy Mae* and *One Good Woman*; such Stevie Wonder chart-toppers as *Too High*, *Visions, Living for the City* and *You Are the Sunshine*; *Reggae Woman*, *I Shot the Sheriff*, *Tight Rope*; hits popularized by the Eagles, such as *Desperado* and *Take It Easy*; Santana's *Evil Ways* and the following oldies but goodies: *Johnny Be Good*, a Jerry Lewis medley, *Great Balls of Fire*, *Whole Lot of Shakin'* and a medley of ballads from the 1950s. WHERE TO FIND THEM: Mark this down as a special event for Christmas Day. An outstanding array of oldie but goodie talent will be presented from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Don Juan's club and entertainment center, 11529 E. Carson St., just west of the 605 Freeway. Included will be THE PENGUINS, THE CHANTELLS, JOE HOUSTON, CALIFORNIA GOLD, THE CRESTS,

JEWEL AKENS, BIG JOE TURNER and others. You can save \$1 by buying your ticket in advance. Here's surprising news! The THREE OF US are returning to action and will be featured New Year's Eve at the Golden Sails Inn where they were so popular for so many months this year and last year. The youthful trio — one of the most exciting and inspiring ever to appear in the Long Beach area — includes RANDY KEMNER, STEVE MCANDREW AND GEORGINA ROMERO. The trio broke up last summer when Steve and Georgina, his wife, moved to Nebraska. They've been happy there, but they miss their friends and family in this area and will be glad to return. They plan to appear regularly, probably starting in January, in a Long Beach area club or restaurant. The Golden Sails will have two bands going full tilt New Year's Eve. HAMILTON, JOE FRANK AND REYNOLDS will be featured in the Adagio lounge, while the THREE OF US play for dancing and entertainment in one of the inn's spacious banquet rooms. Let me repeat my comment of a few weeks ago. For tremendous swing band music — including Dixieland, blues, all kinds of jazz and the best rock — don't overlook JOHNNY DAY'S HUMMERS at Basin Street, the smart, red-accented, carpeted elubon the east side of the Dutch Village shopping center, South Street at Woodruff Avenue. The Hummers are a sextette of fabulous pros who've worked with top name bands. Included are Johnny on tuba and standup bass, drummer HOWIE GIBEAULT, SAILEY WILSON on trombone, mandolin and fiddle; RON COLE on piano; SANDY STEWART on sax and lead vocals; and GINO CIRIANO on sensational trumpet. Gino and Sandy were with SPIKE JONES, zany band for three years. Howie worked with numerous greats. The band performs at Basin Street Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights with pianist BILL MARCH featured Sunday nights. The band will be in full action at Basin Street New Year's Eve. Owner George Pennant will take limited reservations for the New Year's party, but it will be mostly "first come, first served." There will be no admission charge. Drink prices will go up a modest 15-cents — a very good deal.

# Bob Hope has finally run out of war zones

By BOB THOMAS HOLLYWOOD (AP) — This is the time of year when Bob Hope and troupe used to take off on the road to Seoul or Saigon, Guam or Guantana-mo Bay to brighten Christmas for American servicemen far from home.

The comedian will be at home this year. Well, almost. He will doubtless pay a visit to a veterans' hospital, as he did last year at Long Beach. For the millions who have heard Hope tell his jokes on bases and battlefields since 1941, he has written a remembrance, "The Last Christmas Show."

PREDICTABLY gaggled, the book provides a nostalgic view in words, and pictures of the comedian's travels through three wars and the intervals between. It began in 1941 when his radio producer suggested taking the show to the Army Air Corps base at March Field. "What for? Why don't you bring them here?" Hope asked. It was explained that 1,000 or 2,000 airmen couldn't fit into the NBC studio. Hope agreed to travel, intrigued by the prospect of a "captivity audience" with military police guarding the gates so they can't get out. Through all his travels, Hope came through unscratched, but he has had his share of "hairy, anxious moments." He lists a few:

grim days of 1945. On the bitterly cold Christmas Day in 1948 he managed to draw warm laughter with such jokes as: "This certainly has been an unusual experience flying into Berlin. It's the first time I was ever in a corridor and didn't have to worry about the house detectives." Symington again lured Hope to entertain in Alaska the following year. When the comic argued that he had promised to spend Christmas with his wife and the children, the

Air Force secretary offered to send the family. Dolores accepted for herself and the two oldest, Tony and Linda. The Christmas shows continued until 1972, when he went to Vietnam and Thailand for the ninth time. Among his entertainers was "Dolores Reado, the classy chanteuse I first heard in a New York night club when I was appearing in 'Roberta.' You know the one; she later became Mrs. Leslie Townes Hope."

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"ON OUR FIRST trip, when the weather got so thick that they ordered us into Mae West jackets and parachutes, and the only thing that got us down was one anti-aircraft searchlight that managed to pierce the storm. The time we had to crash-land in a Navy-flying boat between Brisbane and Sydney, Australia. The time in 1955 they put the wrong kind of fuel in our plane in Moron, Spain, and it wasn't discovered until the last minute. The time when the Viet Cong tried to blow us up in Saigon in 1961. And the time the Cong managed to put a few holes in our plane in 1968."

Hope tells the story about doing a show in Nice, France, toward the end of World War II and finding Maurice Chevalier in the audience. An Army major warned against introducing the French star because "he's suspected of being a collaborator." HOPE REPLIED, "I don't know anything about that. I'm not a judge and jury. I'm just an emcee and this guy is one hell of an entertainer." Hope introduced Chevalier, who sang "Louise" and got a standing ovation.

Afterward, the comedian writes, Chevalier told him, "I will never forget what you have done for me in the ball park in Nice." Hope adds: "And he kissed me — on both cheeks. Nothing freaky." Hope's Christmas routine began in 1948, when Stuart Symington, then secretary of the Air Force, called him to ask for a tour of air bases to spread holiday cheer. One of the stops was Berlin, which the Air Force was supplying during the blockade. Among those on the trip were Vice President Alben Barkley, songwriter Irving Berlin, commentator Elmer Davis and Gen. James Doolittle. THE COMEDIAN had played Berlin during the

### Look-alike Marilyn Monroe contest

A Marilyn Monroe look-alike contest will be held Dec. 28 at the Hollywood Palladium to pick an actress (between the ages of 16-18) for the lead in "Goodbye Norma Jean," a film based on the life of the late Hollywood sex symbol. "What we're looking for is Marilyn before she lost her innocence," producer-director Larry Buehman said. Winner of the contest will be screen-tested for the lead in the picture which is scheduled to begin production Jan. 13. The contest winner also will be guaranteed a role in the movie and given a \$100 savings bond.

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