

Bob "Hollywood Canteen" Hope

ANNOUNCER WENDELL NILES: For the safety of your smile, use Pepsodent twice a day, see your dentist twice a year.

MUSIC: Brass fanfare

WENDELL NILES: From the Hollywood Canteen, "The Pepsodent Show" starring Bob Hope and his guest star, Bette Davis!

MUSIC: Fanfare, segue to "Thanks for the Memory" -- [cheers and applause]

BOB HOPE: [sings]
Ah, thank you so much ...

MUSIC: out.

BOB HOPE: [launches into his fast-talking monologue]
How do you do, ladies and gentlemen? This is Bob "Hollywood Canteen" Hope ...
telling you soldiers to use Pepsodent whether your mouth has a lot or a few.
And even though your tooth brush may be G.I., your teeth will never be P.U.
... Well, here we are back in Hollywood and you should have seen the reception
I got at the railroad station. What a crowd. One guy insisted on putting me on his shoulders and carrying me for blocks and blocks. I finally said, "Gee, you certainly are a fan without equal." And he said, "No, I'm a cab driver without tires." ... And as - and as soon as Skinnay Ennis arrived in Hollywood, he went right over to the Red Cross blood bank to make a donation but a terrible thing happened. On his way over, a mosquito bit him and drained him dry. ...
Everything has changed in Hollywood, though. It's all dimmed out down here along the coast and you can't have any lights shining toward the sky. In fact, in the drug stores, you have to play the pinball machines upside down. ... And they have a midget underneath to tell you what your score is. ... And they've certainly got an efficient way of movin' the troops from one place to another down here. In San Francisco, they use trains. In Seattle, they use flying fortresses. Down here, they just send out a girl in slacks. But ... But I'm

really glad to be back in Hollywood and here we are, doing the first broadcast from the Hollywood Canteen. Boy, this is really a marvelous place. Any enlisted man can come in here, be entertained by the top Hollywood talent and get free food served by Hollywood beauties. One soldier had a big turkey dinner here, then he danced with Dorothy Lamour, and spent the rest of the evening sitting on Hedy Lamarr's lap. He's been AWL for four days now. They can't ... they can't send him back to camp till he stops steaming! ... [cheers and applause] And it's so crowded that if a soldier wants to play the radio, he has to squeeze past Lana Turner, Hedy Lamarr and Betty Grable just to put it on. In five minutes, I heard a hundred and forty-eight different programs. ... But can you imagine all those beautiful hostesses and only servicemen are allowed? I know one guy who got dressed up in a uniform so that he could get into the canteen. But they knew he was a fake because the uniform fitted him. ... So they threw me out. And the ... And the soldiers, sailors and Marines all get along very well together here. I saw a soldier dancing with a blonde and a sailor cut in on him, then a Marine cut in on the sailor and it was all done in a orderly military manner. In fact, the bodies were dragged off the floor in a column of three. ... One of the soldiers here danced with a fat girl the other night and when he wanted her to stop dancin', he didn't smile at her and say, "Shall we stop dancing, miss?" -- he just stood at attention and shouted, "Company, halt!" ... And everybody wanted to dance with Marlene Dietrich. A soldier who was a head taller tried to cut in on a sailor and I won't say the sailor cut him down to his size but that was the first guy I ever saw who parts his hair at the shoulder blades. ... [cheers and applause from the sailors, groans from the soldiers] And I want to tell you, there's certainly a lot of strong soldiers hangin' around the canteen here. I walked in with a blonde on one arm and a brunette on the other. Two minutes later: no blonde, no brunette, no arms. ... And Dorothy Lamour came down here to work last night but she almost had a disaster. She was standing in the kitchen in a

sarong when a nearsighted soldier reached for a dish towel. ... [cheers and applause] And now, Wen Niles! Step in, Wen.

WENDELL NILES: Say, Bob, doesn't it feel great to be back here in Hollywood?

BOB HOPE: Oh, it certainly does, Wen.

WENDELL NILES: Hey, I'll bet you got a great welcome when you went down to Paramount.

BOB HOPE: Oh, what a welcome. You've seen that big red carpet that they roll out for the stars?

WENDELL NILES: Yeah? Did they roll it out for you?

BOB HOPE: Certainly. Then the producer turned to me and said, "I'm glad you're back, Hope. Now, go get the vacuum." ... Say, Wen, I thought you were comin' down to visit me at the studio?

WENDELL NILES: Well, I did come, Bob. But I couldn't find your dressing room. Which one is it?

BOB HOPE: Well, you know where the Number One dressing room is?

WENDELL NILES: Yeah.

BOB HOPE: Well, you know where the Number Two dressing room is?

WENDELL NILES: Yes.

BOB HOPE: Well, right between 'em, Paramount hung a doily over a gopher hole and it's mine. ... Tell me, did you see Dorothy Lamour down there?

WENDELL NILES: Oh, yeah, Dorothy Lamour. Dorothy Lamour. [Bob and Wen sigh, then, after a pause, a disgruntled Wen exclaims:] Now, I gotta talk about Pepsodent! ...

BOB HOPE: Oh, come, come, Wen, you're getting paid for it. Don't pout. Go.

WENDELL NILES: That's right. I get paid to tell people about Pepsodent but you - you folks who use it, you're the ones who really collect. Pepsodent gives you the big plus of Irium, that speedy super-cleanser that loosens and flushes away filmy coating you can feel with your tongue. You see, you can have

a
bright smile and never know it. 'May be hidden under a dull coating
that
stains and makes your teeth look dingy. But once that film is whisked
away,
there's your natural smile, your bright smile, ready to shine.

BOB HOPE: I'll remember that. I'll keep my mouth shut during blackout.
...

WENDELL NILES: [chuckles] Eh, why stop there, Bob? ...

BOB HOPE: Go, you Irium slave. Go. ...

WENDELL NILES: But - but, seriously, give Pepsodent a chance to show
you how
bright your smile can be. Give that cool, refreshing flavor of
Pepsodent a
chance to wake up your taste and let you know your teeth are clean,
bright.
And you'll know that they are, just by the feel of them. So, 'tell you
what to
do. You know that empty metal tube you've been saving? Take it to your
store
tonight. Doesn't matter what kind of an old tube you take to the store.
The
important thing is to bring back a tube of Pepsodent tooth paste!

MUSIC: "At Last" - pop song with lyric by Mack Gordon and music by
Harry
Warren, a 1942 hit for Glenn Miller.

BOB HOPE: And here's Frances Langford, ladies and gentlemen! Here she
is!
[cheers and applause]

VOCALIST FRANCES LANGFORD: [sings]
At last my love has come along
My lonely days are over
And life is like a song

At last the skies above are blue
My heart was wrapped in clover
The night I looked at you

I found a dream that I can speak to
A dream that I can call my own
I found a thrill to press my cheek to
A thrill I've never known

You smiled and then the spell was cast
And here we are in heaven
And you are mine at last

[brief musical interlude, then a final half chorus:]

I found a dream that I can speak to

A dream that I can call my own
I found a thrill to press my cheek to
A thrill I've never known

You smiled and then the spell was cast
And here we are in heaven
For you are mine at last

[Song ends, cheers and applause]

BOB HOPE: Fine, Frances! That was Frances Langford singing "At Last."
And now,
ladies and gentlemen, I am proud to present one of the foremost
actresses of
our time and the president of the Hollywood Canteen, Miss Bette Davis!
[cheers
and applause]

BETTE DAVIS: Thank you. Thank you, Bob. That was a most flattering
introduction. Are you sure I deserve it?

BOB HOPE: Well, you certainly do, Bette. You're all the things I said
about
you and more. Really, it's a pleasure to meet someone in my own class.
...
Whoo! [clears throat] I, uh, but seriously, Bette, it's a thrill for
me, and
those associated with me on the Pepsodent program, to be here at the
Hollywood
Canteen tonight and to give what assistance we can to the wonderful
work
that's being done here.

BETTE DAVIS: Bob, we're certainly grateful to you for broadcasting from
here.

BOB HOPE: Say, I guess this is the first radio show to be broadcast
from the
Hollywood Canteen, eh, Bette?

BETTE DAVIS: That's right, Bob, you are. Later on, there'll be others
but we
thought we'd start in a small way. ... [applause]

BOB HOPE: Now, wait a minute, wait a minute. I'm a big name!

BETTE DAVIS: Yes, and I know what it is, but let's be friendly. ...

BOB HOPE: But, Bette, this is really a wonderful place here for the
soldiers--

BETTE DAVIS: We're so glad--

BOB HOPE: Sailors.

BETTE DAVIS: We're so glad you think so. Bob, there's a little matter I
want

to take up with you. You know, all the food and the entertainment at the Canteen is free.

BOB HOPE: Of course. I know that.

BETTE DAVIS: Hm. Then why were you standing on the street, yelling to the soldiers, "Hey, come on in, fellas, it's my treat!"? ...

BOB HOPE: Well, I left the tips for all of 'em. ... And Pepsodent caps are hard to get now. But, tell me ... Tell me, Bette, how did this Hollywood Canteen get started?

BETTE DAVIS: Well, actually, Bob, Local Number 47 of the Musicians' Union had an idea to have a canteen fashioned after the American Theater Wing Stage Door Canteen in New York. They invited all the other guilds and unions of the entertainment industry in Hollywood to join forces, they did, and we formed this organization called the Hollywood Canteen.

BOB HOPE: Aw, it's swell. And I'll bet the enlisted men have a lot of fun here, Bette.

BETTE DAVIS: They seem to, Bob. One soldier who spent the evening here last week came up to me when it was all over and said he'd had such a good time, he wished he could take this whole place back to camp with him.

BOB HOPE: Gee, that was certainly nice of him.

BETTE DAVIS: Yes. The, uh, MPs caught him half a block from here with nine pieces of silverware and Lana Turner. ... By the way, Bob, I understand you've been doing some wonderful work selling bonds.

BOB HOPE: That's right, Bette. I've been offering to kiss every movie star who bought a five hundred dollar bond.

BETTE DAVIS: That's wonderful. How many have you sold?

BOB HOPE: One. And Boris Karloff wants his money back. ... [applause] Say, tell me-- [crowd is still laughing] Is that you, Boris? Tell me-- ... How long has this canteen been open, Bette?

BETTE DAVIS: It's been open ten days and the wonderful thing about this

building, Bob, is that the members of the different guilds and unions remodeled it themselves and it didn't cost the Canteen a nickel.

BOB HOPE: Really? Well, who waxed the floors? Fibber McGee?

BETTE DAVIS: Ah, yes. How'd you - how'd you know?

BOB HOPE: I can see Molly's footprints where she stood over him with a broom.

...

BETTE DAVIS: Everyone contributes. Yesterday, Bing Crosby brought some steaks over.

BOB HOPE: Yeah, I know. I saw them lose at Bay Meadows. ... [cheers and applause] Tell me, does my old girlfriend, Hedy Lamarr, show up here much?

BETTE DAVIS: Oh, yes, Bob, but I always thought your girlfriend was Madeleine Carroll.

BOB HOPE: Oh, yes, she's one of the mob. But, uh, you know ... You know, in my last picture, I had about twenty-five love scenes with Madeleine.

BETTE DAVIS: Yes, she told me. And I know you'll be glad to hear she's feeling better now. ...

BOB HOPE: [chuckles] You must have your little joke.

BETTE DAVIS: What else can I get on this program? ...

BOB HOPE: Step out from behind the net and you'll find out. But, say ... Uh, how 'bout going out with me tonight after the broadcast's over, Bette?

BETTE DAVIS: Well, I'm afraid I'm too busy, Bob. You know, these are busy days for all girls.

BOB HOPE: Yeah. You know, women are doing a million things nowadays. They're riveting, welding, taking care of gas stations. Gee, who knows? Maybe someday, one of 'em'll learn how to cook. ... [Bette chuckles, crowd cheers and applauds]

BETTE DAVIS: Every day - every day, Bob, women are proving they can do anything men can do. There're even women driving taxis.

BOB HOPE: Yeah, I had a lot o' trouble with one of those women taxi drivers last night.

BETTE DAVIS: What was the matter?

BOB HOPE: She wanted me to sit in the back! ... You know, even gas stations are putting on girl attendants now.

BETTE DAVIS: Yes, I'll bet they're very efficient, too, Bob.

BOB HOPE: Say, Bette, I have an idea. Let's do a little sketch for the folks. You be the girl attendant at a gas station and I'll drive in in my car.

BETTE DAVIS: All right, Bob. Let's go.

MUSICAL BRIDGE: "In My Merry Oldsmobile"

SOUND: auto engine.

MUSIC out.

BOB HOPE: [sings]
In my merry Oldsmobile
With no tires on each wheel ...

SOUND: engine knocks.

BOB HOPE: Gee, I'm running out o' gas. Gosh, am I lucky -- there's a gas station over there.

SOUND: engine stops, car brakes.

BOB HOPE: Oh, boy, I made it. There's nobody here. [calls out] Service! Hey, a little service, please!

BETTE DAVIS: What's your hurry, beagle nose? ...

BOB HOPE: Come on, come on! Fill her up-- Hey, gee, you're a girl, huh?

BETTE DAVIS: Well, shall I check your water?

BOB HOPE: No, it's all right, even if I do drool a lot. ... Uh, by the way, kid, what do you think of this wagon I'm drivin'?

BETTE DAVIS: It's got a hopped up motor and a driver to match. ... Come on, tell me, what's the trouble?

BOB HOPE: Well, one of my brakes-- brake rods is busted, I burned out my bearings and my crankcase is in terrible shape.

BETTE DAVIS: Oh, you poor boy! How do you manage to walk? ... Say, this, uh, left rear tire's kind of worn. Want me to examine it?

BOB HOPE: Okay.

SOUND: tire pops, air rushes out.

BETTE DAVIS: Mmmm. I must remember to get my nails shortened. ...

BOB HOPE: Oh, that's all right. I can always pick up another tire. I've got a
tommy gun. ...

BETTE DAVIS: [chuckles] Just a minute, just a minute. I'll spray your windshield.

SOUND: spraying.

BOB HOPE: What makes you think I got a windshield? And get me a towel!
...
[applause]

BETTE DAVIS: Say, you didn't drive very much last night, did you?

BOB HOPE: How can you tell? Gas in the tank?

BETTE DAVIS: No, compact on the seat. ... Well, how much gas do you want me to
put in that flame thrower?

BOB HOPE: Well, give me about, uh, five gallons.

BETTE DAVIS: Okay.

SOUND: gas pump, bell rings three times.

BETTE DAVIS: I'm sorry. It'll only take three gallons.

BOB HOPE: Three gallons?! Are you sure?

BETTE DAVIS: Of course. Just look. It's so full, I can't get the radiator cap
back on. ...

BOB HOPE: Oh, brother. You're really fixin' me up fine. Say, what happened to
the guy that used to work here?

BETTE DAVIS: You mean that guy with flat feet, fallen arches, asthma, rheumatism and lumbago?

BOB HOPE: Yeah?

BETTE DAVIS: They drafted him as a commando. ... Say, uh, I just noticed -
where'd you get that shiner?

BOB HOPE: Oh, I went drivin' with a girl who works at Douglas.

BETTE DAVIS: Swing shift?

BOB HOPE: Yeah, she swung before I could shift. ... [applause, to the crowd]
Thanks, wolves! [to Bette] Say, uh ... How 'bout you going out with me tonight?

BETTE DAVIS: Okay. I don't mind going out with a swell dresser like you. You sure know how to do a zoot suit justice. That's a swell zoot suit.

BOB HOPE: Yeah! Get a load of this jacket -- it comes all the way down to my ankles.

BETTE DAVIS: What's the good of that?

BOB HOPE: I'm the only jitterbug in town who can go out dancing while he's having his pants pressed at the same time. ... Well, I gotta leave now. Say, uh, how 'bout a little kiss before I go?

BETTE DAVIS: That's not part of the service. Besides I don't kiss strange men.

BOB HOPE: Wait a minute. I'm not strange.

BETTE DAVIS: I'd hate to put it to a vote. ...

BOB HOPE: Aw - aw, come on. Just to show there's no hard feelings.

BETTE DAVIS: [reluctantly] Well, all right.

BOB HOPE: I'll give ya a real kiss. [apparently gives her a real kiss] There!
[huge cheers and applause] There. How was it?

BETTE DAVIS: They're certainly freezing a lot of things these days.

BOB HOPE: Yeah. ... [cheers and applause] Thank you, Bette! Thank you, Bette Davis! And I wish you all the luck in the world, to you and the Hollywood Canteen. Keep up the grand job you're doing. And now, Skinnay Ennis singing
"Kalamazoo"! Take it, old boy!

MUSIC: "(I've Got a Gal in) Kalamazoo" -- another 1942 Glenn Miller hit by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren.

BANDLEADER SKINNAY ENNIS: [sings, messing up some of the lyrics]
A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H I got a gal in Kalamazoo
Don't wanna boast but I know she's the toast of Kalamazoo-zoo

Years have gone by, my, my, how she grew

I liked her looks when I carried her books in Kalamazoo

I'm gonna send a wire, hoppin' on a flyer, leavin' today
Am I dreamin'? I can hear her screamin'
"Hiya, Mister Jackson!" Ev'rything's O-K-

L-A-M-A-A-Z Oh, what a gal, a real pipparoo
I'll make my bid for that freckle-faced kid I'm hurryin' to
I'm goin' to Michigan to see the sweetest gal in Kalamazoo

[band plays a half-chorus before Skinnay returns:]

Got a wire, hoppin' on a flyer, leavin' today
Am I dreamin'? I can hear her screamin'
"Hiya, Mister Jackson!" Ev'rything is O-K-

L-A-M-A-Z-O Oh, what a gal, a real pipparoo
I'll make my bid for that freckle-faced kid I'm hurryin' to
I'm goin' to Michigan to see the sweetest gal in Kalamazoo

[Song ends, cheers and applause]

WENDELL NILES: [smooth announcer's voice] And now I have a message for
all of
our listeners. How many of you know--? [lapses into his normal voice]
Oh, my
gosh.

SKINNAY ENNIS: Hey, what's the matter, Wen?

WENDELL NILES: Say, Skinnay, something's wrong. Ladies and gentlemen,
Skinnay
Ennis and his band will now play "Jingle Jang--"

SKINNAY ENNIS: Take it easy, Wen. Slow down there. Tell me what's
wrong.

WENDELL NILES: Say, Skinnay, er, what's a tube of Pepsodent?

SKINNAY ENNIS: Aw, you know, Wen. That's the thing that's built like
me! ...

WENDELL NILES: [chuckles] Yeah, I mean, but i-i-it's tooth-- tooth
paste,
isn't it? Here's a script that was handed to me and it talks about a -
a tooth
brush.

SKINNAY ENNIS: Well, shucks, Wen, didn't you ever hear about
Pepsodent's tooth
brush? Didn't you know we sell tooth brushes, too?

WENDELL NILES: Gosh, no. Gee, that Pepsodent company doesn't miss a
bet, does
it? I mean, not when it comes to making teeth brighter and better
looking.
Gosh, I didn't know about the Pepsodent tooth brush. But here it says

the
Fifty Tuft Tooth Brush is now a better tooth brush. Better because it
has
improved Fibrex, DuPont's newest and finest [?] bristle. These new
bristles are sturdier, heavier than before and that means they'll last
longer.
But strong as they are, they're still gentle, kind to tender gums, and
they
feel good to your mouth the first time you use them. And did you know
this new
Pepsodent Fifty Tuft Tooth Brush carries the Good Housekeeping Magazine
seal
of approval? Well, it does and that means you can buy it with complete
confidence. So, tonight, folks, go out and get a new Pepsodent Fifty
Tuft
Tooth Brush! Hmmp. Gee, isn't it funny I didn't know about that tooth
brush?
I thought we were only selling tooth paste and tooth powder and--

MUSIC: "Anchors Aweigh" in and out.

WENDELL NILES: Once again, we want you to "Meet the Navy"! Representing
the
servicemen here tonight at the Hollywood Canteen is--

WILBUR JOHNSON: Yeoman Wilbur Johnson reporting, sir. [cheers and
applause]

BOB HOPE: There you are! That's fine. How are ya, Wilbur? Say, you just
said
you were a yeoman. What does that mean, a yeoman?

WILBUR JOHNSON: Oh, it's about the same as a private in the army --
only their
pants, they can bend over. ...

BOB HOPE: Your pants do hug you, don't they, huh?

WILBUR JOHNSON: Hug me, Bob? When I bend over, the stitches in the
seams start
singing "My Devotion"! ... It sure ain't like those civilian clothes I
used to
wear back in Arkansas.

BOB HOPE: Er, yeah, you-- Arkansas? Really? Well, say, now that you're
out
here, what do you think of the girls in California?

WILBUR JOHNSON: Oh, I don't pay attention to 'em. I'm married. I got a
wife in
Little Rock.

BOB HOPE: Really? Well, this is the first time I've ever seen a sailor
with a
ship in the Pacific and an anchor in Arkansas. ... Well, uh, how long
have you
been married, Wilbur?

WILBUR JOHNSON: I got married a year ago.

BOB HOPE: I suppose it was a whirlwind courtship.

WILBUR JOHNSON: No, Bob. I went with my wife twelve years before I married her.

BOB HOPE: Twelve years? Say, what department are you in in the Navy? Reconnaissance? ...

WILBUR JOHNSON: [too quickly] Nope. Intelligence. ...

BOB HOPE: [ad libs] Just wait for my laughs before you throw your slingshot in there, old boy. ... Say-- ... Don't say "What laughs?" or I'll fall over.
[back to script] Say, Wilbur ... I hear you're a pretty good golfer.

WILBUR JOHNSON: Well, I certainly like the game, Bob. I understand you play a lot with Bing Crosby.

BOB HOPE: Not any more! Boy, would you play with a guy who waits till nobody's lookin', then picks his ball up and throws it toward the hole?

WILBUR JOHNSON: Of course not.

BOB HOPE: Neither will Crosby. ... [applause, pause as Wilbur loses his place
so Hope ad libs:] That's you! Cut in! Right there!

WILBUR JOHNSON: You know, Bob, being at the Hollywood Canteen like this, I wanted to meet a movie star.

BOB HOPE: A movie star? Well, you're lucky you ran into me.

WILBUR JOHNSON: Yeah, that's right. Know any? ...

BOB HOPE: Do I know any? Listen, just sit down here at this table and you'll be surprised who you'll meet.

VERA VAGUE: [man hungry old maid, played by Barbara Jo Allen] Yoo hoo, Mr. Hope! Oh, hello, Sailor Boy! I understand you wanted to meet some of the other people on the show and here I am!

WILBUR JOHNSON: Please to meet you, Mr. Colonna. ...

VERA VAGUE: My dear thing, I look like Mr. Colonna? I won't stand for it!

JERRY COLONNA: [mustachioed crazy man, played by Jerry Colonna] And neither will I! ...

VERA VAGUE: You don't understand. I'm Vera Vague!

WILBUR JOHNSON: Please to meet you. What outfit you with? ...

VERA VAGUE: Mr. Hope, what's the name of this handsome hunk?

BOB HOPE: Why, Miss Vague, this is Wil Johnson, Yeoman Third Class.

VERA VAGUE: Oh, listen, brother, he's a man. As far as I'm concerned, that makes him first class! ... Oh, you know, Sailor, I think I could go for you.

WILBUR JOHNSON: You could?

VERA VAGUE: Yes, I like tall, dark men.

WILBUR JOHNSON: I'm blonde.

VERA VAGUE: Oh, then, well, who cares? Kiss me! ...

WILBUR JOHNSON: Oh, I couldn't. You're old enough to be my mother. ...

BOB HOPE: Oh ho ho ho ho! Oh ho ho ho ho! Oh ho!

VERA VAGUE: You know, Mr. Hope, I'd poke you right in the mouth if you weren't old enough to be my father! ...

BOB HOPE: Ha ha ha! Well, tell me, Miss Vague, how are you getting along with the servicemen here at the canteen?

VERA VAGUE: Oh, they're wild about me, simply wild about me. Imagine, I just stole a soldier right from under Hedy Lamarr's nose.

WILBUR JOHNSON: That's impossible!

VERA VAGUE: Oh, is that so? That Hedy Lamarr! I'm just as pretty and young and attractive as she is! I noticed right after I laid her out with a baseball bat. ...

WILBUR JOHNSON: Gee, I'd like to meet that Hedy Lamarr.

BOB HOPE: Well, you know, Wilbur, all the big movie stars wait on the tables here at the canteen. I wonder who we'll get. Boy, last night, Lana Turner waited on me. She came over to the table and kissed me. The night before that,

Carole Landis waited on me and kissed me. Well, here goes. [calls out]
Waiter!

SOUND: footsteps, loud smooch.

JERRY COLONNA: Mustache tickles, doesn't it? ... [applause]

BOB HOPE: Oh, so you're the waiter? Do we have to pay for our meal,
Colonna?

JERRY COLONNA: No, we serve all soldiers free.

VERA VAGUE: What about me?

JERRY COLONNA: Veterans of the last war served free, too. ...
[applause]

VERA VAGUE: Ohhh, you dear man. How I'd like to get into your mustache
with an
egg beater! ...

BOB HOPE: Now, look, waiter, what's wrong with this chicken soup?
There's more
water in it than chicken.

JERRY COLONNA: Ah, yes. Hen was crying. Chicks got drafted. ...

BOB HOPE: Furthermore, Colonna, I have another complaint to make. This
steak
is as tough as shoe leather.

JERRY COLONNA: Now, that's ridiculous, Hope. That steak is not as tough
as
shoe leather. It's soft and tender and-- [pause] Well, maybe it is as
tough as
shoe leather.

BOB HOPE: Colonna, how come you suddenly changed your mind and agreed
with me?

JERRY COLONNA: Well, I just looked down and I'm barefoot. ... Now, uh,
what'll
you have?

VERA VAGUE: Oh, uh, Professor, I don't know what to order. What would
you
suggest to keep my figure trim?

JERRY COLONNA: [slight pause] Meat cleaver. ... Well, I'll go back in
the
kitchen and get your order.

BOB HOPE: All right and hurry it up, Colonna! Oh, look, Wilbur, here
comes
Skinnay Ennis. Hiya, Skin!

SKINNAY ENNIS: Hello, Bob!

BOB HOPE: Skinnay, I want you to meet Wilbur Johnson, Yeoman Third Class.

Wilbur, this is Skinnay Ennis, Human Fourth Class. ...

SKINNAY AND WILBUR TOGETHER: Hiya, Muscles! ...

BOB HOPE: Boy, you should see these two guys standing side by side, folks.

They look like a couple of strands of spaghetti in search of a meatball. ...

SKINNAY ENNIS: Well, shake hands, Bob -- we found one! ... [applause]

BOB HOPE: Gee, I wonder what's keepin' Colonna with our food. [calls out] Hey, Colonna!

JERRY COLONNA: Be with you in a second, Hope. Having a tough time putting these panties on the lamb chops.

BOB HOPE: How come?

JERRY COLONNA: Won't fit over the girdles! ...

BOB HOPE: Colonna, you'll drive me to distraction.

JERRY COLONNA: Okay. But no faster than thirty-five miles an hour. ...

BOB HOPE: Well, Colonna, can you just bring me a glass of milk?

JERRY COLONNA: Milk? Easiest thing in the world. I have a cow out here and

I'll milk her. Only it's cold out here so I'll put on my woolen mittens.

BOB HOPE: Colonna, don't milk her with those fuzzy woolen mittens.

JERRY COLONNA: Why not? She doesn't mind. Watch.

SOUND: Milk squirting into metal pail.

COW: Mooooo! [giggles uncontrollably] ...

JERRY COLONNA: Very interesting! Verrrry interesting! Care for a milkshake?

...

BOB HOPE: Say, guess we might as well forget about Colonna for a while. Oh, here comes Frances Langford. Hello, Frances.

FRANCES LANGFORD: Hello, everybody! Hello, Sailor.

WILBUR JOHNSON: Hello. Gee, you're beautiful, Miss Langford. Your eyes are

like those of Hero for whom Leander swam the Hellespont. Your smile's the smile of Cleopatra that made Marc Anthony her slave.

FRANCES LANGFORD: Well, what do you know? An intellectual wolf. ...

BOB HOPE: Well, look, now that we're all here at the table -- Skinnay, Wilbur, Vera, Frances and me -- let's have some fun.

FRANCES LANGFORD: Gee, Skinnay doesn't look as though he's having a good time, Bob.

BOB HOPE: Oh, Skinnay never has a good time at these dinners, Frances.

FRANCES LANGFORD: Why not?

BOB HOPE: Well, the pimentos in the olives keep looking at him and saying, "He's out there -- why are we in here?" ...

FRANCES LANGFORD: Oh, the music's starting.

BOB HOPE: Good. Let's dance! Who wants to dance this dance with me?

VERA VAGUE: I do!

WILBUR JOHNSON: Who wants to dance this dance with me?

VERA VAGUE: I do!

SKINNAY ENNIS: Who wants to dance this dance with me?

VERA VAGUE: I do!

BOB HOPE: And don't think she can't do it, either. ... Say, you know, I don't think Colonna will ever get--

SOUND: Telephone rings.

BOB HOPE: I'll get it. Hello?

OPERATOR: This is long distance. Denver, Colorado calling Bob Hope.

BOB HOPE: Well, this is Bob Hope speaking.

OPERATOR: I'll put your party on. Go ahead, please.

JERRY COLONNA: Hello, Hope?

BOB HOPE: Yes, Colonna?

JERRY COLONNA: Which one of you ordered that Denver sandwich? ...
[applause]

BOB HOPE: Why, Colonna, you wouldn't be so stupid as to go to Denver for a Denver sandwich.

JERRY COLONNA: Why, of course not. That would be silly.

BOB HOPE: Well, where are ya?

JERRY COLONNA: In Bermuda, getting the onions! ... [applause]

MUSIC: Fanfare, segue to "Thanks for the Memory"

BOB HOPE: [sings]
Oh, thanks for the memory
Miss Bette Davis, queen of Hollywood's canteen
Each soldier, sailing, flying man, and leatherneck Marine
To thank you so much

And thanks for the memory
You folks who never shirk to make this project work
For every dime and mite of time you've lent to make it perk
We thank you so much

BOB HOPE: [speaks as music continues under] Well, we've all had a great time tonight broadcasting here from the Hollywood Canteen and, really, it's great seeing these boys of the service enjoying a little of the fun they deserve. Next week, we'll be back at the same time, broadcasting for the boys down at Camp Elliott in San Diego. Good night, everybody, and greetings to the boys at the Harbinger [Harlingen] Aerial Gunner School down there in the lower Rio Grande Valley listening tonight over KRGV. Good night, everybody! [cheers and applause]

WENDELL NILES: This broadcast came to you from the Hollywood Canteen in Hollywood, California. This is Wendell Niles speaking. This is the National Broadcasting Company.

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