LLOYD BENTSEN TEXAS

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COMMITTEES: FINANCE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS JOINT ECONOMIC SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 21, 1984

Dr. Hector P. Garcia 1315 Bright Street Corpus Christi, Texas 78405

Dear Hector:

Enclosed is a copy of the response I have received from officials of the Department of the Army concerning Mr. Johnny Canales.

If you will advise my office, the address of which is listed below, when he has submitted the application and written the USO, I will be most happy to contact the appropriate officials again on your behalf. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Again, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to look into this matter.

Sincerely,

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Enclosure

PLEASE REPLY TO:

912 Federal Building Austin, Texas 78701



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON, DC 20310 February 8, 1984

OFFICE, CHIEF OF LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

> Honorable Lloyd Bentsen United States Senator 912 Federal Building Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Senator Bentsen:

This replies to your letter to Mr. Russell A. Rourke in behalf of Dr. Hector P. Garcia concerning his recommendation for Mr. Johnny Canales to tour to entertain the Armed Forces overseas.

The Department of Defense provides a continuing program of live entertainment for Armed Forces personnel overseas through the Armed Forces Professional Entertainment Office (AFPEO). The program is targeted at the interest of young enlisted personnel, primarily at isolated and remote sites. In response to requests from the overseas commands, AFPEO books and schedules packaged shows for tour. Entertainment groups desiring to tour are carefully screened, auditioned and interviewed to insure their on and off-stage performance will be of the highest quality. The enclosed information letter and brochure describe the program in detail and includes a tour application sheet.

Shows and artists who are considered celebrities are referred to The United Services Organization (USO) who in conjunction with the Department of Defense sponsor several celebrity tours annually. If Mr. Canales is in this category, he should contact Mr. Kevin McCarthy, Director of Celebrity Entertainment, USO World Headquarters, 601 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004.

I trust this information will be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

Walter L. Pasqualini Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army Congressional Coordinator DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL ALEXANDRIA, VA 22331



REPLY TO

Armed Forces Professional Entertainment Office

Thank you for your interest in performing for our military personnel overseas.

The Department of Defense (DOD) provides a continuing program of live entertainment for Armed Forces personnel overseas through the Armed Forces Professional Entertainment Office (AFPEO). The program is targeted at the interest of young enlisted personnel, primarily at isolated and remote sites. In response to requests from the overseas commands, AFPEO books and schedules packaged shows for tour. Entertainment groups desiring to tour are carefully screened, auditioned, and interviewed to insure that their on and offstage performance will be of the highest quality.

While no salary is paid to these gratuitous entertainers, each performer is given a daily living allowance which currently amounts to \$350.00 per week (based on \$50.00 per day). Housing and focd costs average from \$15 - \$20 per day and must be paid by each performer. Normally on-base housing (officer type quarters) and meals are arranged at each performance location. All transportation is provided by the Department of Defense.

Tours run from 2 1/2 to 7 weeks in length and cover the following commands: Pacific - 7 1/2 weeks; Alaska - 4 weeks; Europe - 6-7 weeks; Mediterranean - 7 weeks; Caribbean - 4 weeks; and Greenland 2 1/2 weeks. Booking arrangements are finalized at least 3 months in advance of scheduled tours. If desired, a group may request from 1 to 14 days off, usually at the end of their tour, for personal travel and sightseeing before returning to the states. No living allowance or military support is provided during this "delayen-route", which is available only on the Pacific, European, and Mediterranean circuits.

The scheduling of appearances is handled by DOD coordinators in each overseas command. Up to two shows a day are scheduled, each in a different location with one day off each week. Each group is met and thoroughly briefed upon arrival overseas, and is given a detailed itinerary outlining the location, date, and time of each performance. In many cases an escort is assigned to assist the group.

Units traveling under this program are primarily "show groups" as opposed to dance bands or strictly lounge acts. The emphasis is on "show" rather than a "studio sound". The most successful groups contain at least one attractive and talented female, and present a fast-paced, visually appealing variety show, emphasizing the latest popular songs, be they country, rhythm and blues, gospel, pop, rock, or latin. Some audience participation and change-of-pace numbers **are** expected. Verbal intros, ad-libs, comedy skits, and novelty or nostalgia numbers should be well-planned, wholesome, and adhere to the standards of good taste. All performers must be 18 years of age and United States citizens.

Because of the cost and availability of transportation to remote sites, and the generally small performance areas, groups scheduled to tour cannot exceed eight performers. <u>Groups of six or fewer are preferred</u>. No roadies, non-performing spouses, sound or light technicians can be included. Touring groups are required to present a 75-minute show, and carry their own equipment, not to exceed 20 pieces, 1400 lbs. An additional 66 pounds per person is authorized for personal luggage. I trust this information will be of assistance to you. Also enclosed is a brochure on **the** program which provides additional information and includes tour application sheets. Thank you for your interest in the morale of our Armed Forces overseas.

Sincerely,

R. F. Malone

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army Chief, Armed Forces Professional Entertainment Office

Enclosure