



The 2006 Annual Report





A MESSAGE TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom have changed the lives of all Americans. Our assumptions of safety and security are not as firmly held as they were on September 10, 2001.

For the USO, these changes led us to find ways to ensure that the USO tradition of providing support to troops and their families would continue as we met increased demands for our programs and services. USO employees and volunteers rallied to the challenge with compassion and dedication. Since the days following the 9/11 attacks, the nation also rallied to support the USO.

Service members continue to be deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq and the Persian Gulf region. While our nation debates the war and the policies to execute it, most of us are focused on the most important component of the war – our troops. Since the beginning of military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, the American public has held fast to the notion that it is acceptable to debate the pros and cons of specific war decisions, while offering unequivocal support for the men and women who volunteered to serve our country. Four years after the start of the war in Iraq, that support continues. Opinions about the war might have changed, but Americans have not repeated what happened in the 1960s and 1970s – they have remained steadfast in supporting our troops. Since 2003, donors continue to give their support to the USO, and volunteers step forward, continuing a tradition born more than 66 years ago.

Your support enabled us to open new centers in the U.S. and abroad, initiate programs and provide respite and comfort to troops and their families who visit our centers more than five million times each year. While there is concern the public might grow so weary of this war that they forget those who serve, we are confident they learned the lesson of Vietnam. We will not abandon our troops.



Our successes over the past few years are due to the dedication of employees, volunteers, individual donors, organizations and corporations who believe in the USO's mission. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped us through the year to honor service members and ensure that their sacrifices are not forgotten. We look to your ongoing support as the USO continues the legacy.

William G. Moll, *Chairman*

Edward A. Powell, *President and Chief Executive Officer*

Bill Moll
Ed Powell