

WAVERLY

(To audience:)

So - Christmas Eve, 1944. I don't see any flying reindeer in this little corner of hell tonight. Gentlemen, I do have some news for you. The army has ordered me stateside as of zero-one-hundred hours to get this German buckshot taken out of my leg. And if you don't give the new CO as much as you have Henry Waverly, I may come back and fight for the enemy. It has been my great privilege to lead you men.

(Indicating various members of the audience:)

Johnson. Sanchez. Rubenstein. Perelli. The 151st Division is doing America proud. Maybe in a year we'll be celebrating the holidays around a fire with our families and friends. Ten year from now - 1954 - who knows where we'll be. Let's pray it's a better world. Soldiers - Merry Christmas.

Music 3: Sullivan Opening

(WAVERLY salutes us, and exits as uptempo, bright music comes up and the scene changes to...)

Scene 2

The Ed Sullivan Show - 1954

TV ANNOUNCER

Welcome back to the Ed Sullivan Show! Brought to you by the 1954 Lincoln Mercury and Oxydol Detergent - the washday cleanser for that all-American purity.

(RITA and RHODA dance on, two leggy chorus girls dressed as Oxydol Detergent boxes.)

Use Oxydol!

RITA & RHODA

For purity!

(RITA and RHODA exit.)

TV ANNOUNCER

And now: America's favorite song-and-dance team - recording artists and Broadway stars, Bob Wallace and Phil Davis!

(The Sullivan show curtain parts to reveal a giant box wrapped like a Christmas present, which opens to reveal BOB and PHIL.)

Music 4: Happy Holiday / Let Yourself Go