THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY TO MRS. FORD

Bob Hope will entertain at the White House Wednesday, July 7, at the State Dinner honoring Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Hope, who was born in England, began his career in vaudeville with a dancing act, but soon after began his solo comedy routine. He debuted on Broadway in 1927 and began his radio career on Rudy Vallee's Thursday Night Show in 1934.

Hope appeared in his first feature film in 1938 and has since starred in more than 50 movies. Last fall, he celebrated his 25th year as a television performer.

Hope has received more than one thousand awards for his professional and humanitarian achievements. Among them are the Congressional Gold Medal, the Medal of Freedom and the Medal of Merit. He has been awarded 34 honorary degrees.

The comedian's current plans include another "road" picture with Bing Crosby in England, the completion of his eighth book and personal appearances around the United States.

Hope entertained Britain's Royal Family at command performances in 1947, 1954, 1962 and 1967. In 1969, he began the "Around the World Christmas Tour" with a preview of the show at the White House. He also entertained at the White House dinner for the Vietnam prisoners of war in 1973.

He and his wife, Dolores, have been married since 1934. They have four adopted children and four grandchildren. They make their home in North Hollywood, California.

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