

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



The Westward Ho on the Strip between the Stardust and Circus Circus is coming up fast on the far turn as one of the biggies. With more than a thousand rooms and large casino, the resort has been dark for a few weeks pending reopening Dec. 20 after remodeling and expansion. And pitching for the emporium with plenty of ho-ho's is RIP TAYLOR whose blurbs with cast of singers, dancers and extra will hit the tubes next month...MERCER ELLINGTON was detained in Gotham last Wednesday cancelling the Desert Inn luncheon for press & VIPs to intro upcoming "Sophisticated Ladies" bowing on the 28th. The DI, by the by, is spending \$1,000,000 on a Chinese restaurant which hotel prez BURTON COHEN sez "will probably be one of the finest in the world. We're bringing in the finest chef." He also disclosed plans and specs are in the works for a spa "which will be the only true spa in Las Vegas similar to La Costa and Golden Door. We think this opens up a whole new vista for us at the DI in which a customer will be able to come here and lose more than his (her) money."

★★★★★

In an interview last week on KLAS-TV's "On the Record," U.S. Attorney LAMOND MILLS revealed, "When I became U.S. Attorney there was a feeling in the community that organized crime figures were almost invincible. But we're going to get them. - There's no question in my mind but some of the well - known figures are going to wind up behind bars for a long, long time. We've got the squeeze on those guys"... DEBBIE REYNOLDS, a fav doll Down Under, returns from a month-long Oz-tralian tour to tee a one frame Riviera playback with SHECKY GREENE Thursday...JOAN RIVERS in Carnegie Hall? Indeed, she is set for a concert in that hallowed space Feb. 4. She wrapped her riot with DAVID BRENNER Tuesday at the Frontier after which the "Beyond Belief" showroom stays dark until it scintillates again with SIEGFRIED & ROY on the 28th...Sands has a two-waller, maybe three, with THE ASSOCIATION and LIMELIGHTERS through the 15th.

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Five nights at the opera at Caesars Palace, no less. These perfs are most exotic, the only appearance in the U.S. of the CHOR FUNG MING CANTONESE OPERA, all - feminine, smashing all Southeast Asia records -- and now Vegas! Singers, dancers, acrobats of the 45 - member company telling different stories each night like "The Story of the Purple Hairpin" and other tales of musical esoterica between Dec. 18 and the 22nd in the Circus Maximus showroom. Responsible for the coup de ching is HOP LOUI WOO, CP's senior v.p. who also wears the title of Director of Far Eastern Affairs.....Those enterprising PERLMAN bro-


thers, CLIFF and STUART, who were bought out for \$92,000,000 by Caesars' stockholders, are investing some of their loot in luxury caparisoned Boeing 727's of FirstAir. Starting next spring you can glide from New York to L.A. for \$1500 in a cabin decorated like a living room. Former Caesars World prez, BILL McELNEA, is also in the deal.

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DON RICKLES' personal manager JOE SCANDORI made some kind of medical history with special treatment in Gotham which dissolved a blood clot and allowed a quad heart bypass within 30 hours. Very cheery, over the longhorn he said RICKLES is helping new Sahara owner PAUL LOWDEN hurdle some rough times by attending and hosting special travel agent events in L.A.

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Sports Book action is gaining yardage for pro hoofball betting around town while the "Phooey on Phootball" Monday nights at the Maxim are running again with half - price drinks, door prizes and guys stripping for the all -- fem audiences...LOUIS PRIMA'S WITNESSES are current at the Queens French Quarter lounge through Jan. 2...CARLEEN & CO, brings her outstanding backup group, BRETT ROCKWOOD, bass guitar, TIM COOPER, keyboard, DAVID COLLUP, drums and ERIC JOHNSON, guitar, back to the Imperial Palace Geisha Lounge alternating with VINCENT!...Pagentry and melody fill the Meadows Playhouse with the



Chanukah Greetings



DESERT INN
and Country Club

**DOM DELUISE,
VARTAN
STAR AT MGM**

European song-sation Sylvie Vartan turns her sights on the U.S. -- making her American debut at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas last night. Joining the French superstar in the Celebrity Room spotlight for the special three-day engagement will be funnyman Dom DeLuise.


Over the past eighteen years, Sylvie Vartan's records, films, television specials and concert appearances have made her France's number one female entertainer. Her fame goes beyond Europe, with records selling millions in Japan and other far eastern countries.

Ms. Vartan and DeLuise will perform two shows nightly during this special three - day limited engagement, through December 11.

Mac Davis and Lonnie Shorr will follow, opening in the Celebrity Room December 26th.

From The
New York Deli Restaurant
2585 E. Flamingo Rd., L.V., Nev.
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