

Part of a group of more than 50 celebrities sing "Voices That Care," a tribute to U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf, at Warner Brothers Studios in Burbank, Calif. They include (front row, from left) Richard Gere, James Woods, Paul Williams, Michelle Pfeiffer, Jane Seymour, Fred Savage and (second row) Kevin Costner, Stephen Stills, Peter Cetera, Meryl Streep, Dudley Moore, Julie Brown, Gary Busey, Linda Thompson Jenner and (third row) Orel Hersheiser, Henry Winkler, Nell Carter, Chevy Chase, Brooke Shields, Tiffany and David Cassidy.

(AP photo)

'Voices That Care'

Stars sing for Gulf troops

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — American troops fighting in the Persian Gulf war will be the first to hear the results of a star-studded chorus that recorded an anthem to boost morale in the trenches.

Kevin Costner, Michelle Pfeiffer and Whoopi Goldberg joined more than 50 singers, sports figures and other actors— Sunday to lend their voices for the recording of "Voices That Care."

Cassettes of the tune are to be distributed by the USO to the troops overseas later this month. It will then be aired on the radio and a video of the gathering will be broadcast.

Michael Bolton, Billy Crystal and Sally Field stood shoulder to shoulder in Studio 15 on the Warner Bros. lot as the chorus of the song was recorded. The celebrities swayed in unison or clapped as they belted out the verse.

"Stand tall, stand proud! Voices that

care are crying out loud. And when you close your eyes tonight, feel in your heart how our love burns bright," they sang.

Solos by pop heavyweights Luther Vandross, Al Jarreau, the Pointer Sisters, Peter Cetera and Bolton will be recorded in the next few days, said David Foster, the song's composer and producer.

Production should be completed within two weeks, he added.

Some participants stressed what they called the apolitical theme of the event.

"I am not supportive of President Bush's policies," Goldberg said. "But we're already there. It's too late to debate whether it's right."

"It's not a political statement," Bolton said. "It's a song of compassion."

Boxer Mike Tyson and hockey great

Wayne Gretzky also participated.

"I think that the whole world is affected and as I said earlier, I have a firsthand concern. My cousin is over there," said Gretzky, a Canadian who has a cousin in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Profits from the song and video will go to the USO and the American Red Cross gulf crisis funds.

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 Rep. Dan Burton, R-Ind., said the United States should use nuclear weapons to blast Iraqi troops from Kuwait and save American lives.

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