

Madison Square Garden, Saturday evening, November 16, 1963. Two days later, she died of a heart attack in her apartment.

Thus came to the end the illustrious career of Gladys Goodding, theatre organist, turned stadium musician. She was the first to play for a major league baseball team. But she will forever be remembered as the one with a most colorful personality, and a real penchant for playing appropo music at the proper moment.

Editor's Note: We thank Mrs. F. Miles Magnuson of Ashland, Kentucky, and Robert E. Beck of Davenport, Iowa, for supplying us with pictures and information about their mother. Without the material, this feature would not have been possible. □

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HURVITZ GOES A.W.O.L.

(AT WURLITZER ON LEAVE)

Never let it be said that organist Lou Hurvitz didn't make it from St. Paul to "Broadway" the hard way: music lessons from mama at eight, music throughout high school and the University of Minnesota band (Lou majored in percussion instruments), studied with Ashley Miller, and currently a percussionist with the U.S. Military Academy Band at West Point. Hurvitz is far too young to have been influenced by flick organists the first time around. A SENETOS (South Eastern New England Theatre Organ Society) buddy, John Caruthers, speculates that the turning point in Lou's musical career was exposure to the late, great Eddie Dunstedter. Whatever, he now holds membership cards in the N.Y. and Conn Valley chapters.

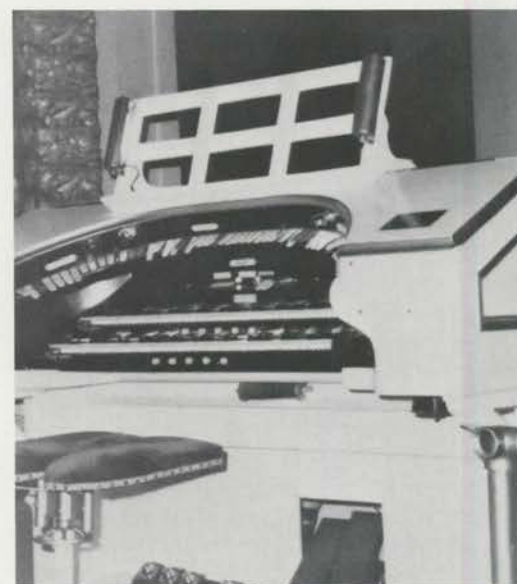
So how, you ask, does a talent like this — with an exclusive and binding contract with Uncle Sam — make it to Broadway? Are we talking about the same "give-my-regards-to" Broadway celebrated by George M? Sort of, if you recall that Cohen was born in Providence, R.I., where the most glamorous street in the 1890's was in fact called "Broadway" — the same Broadway where Lou Hurvitz concertized last October. To avoid conflicts of interest with our Armed Forces, SENETOS and the Columbus Theatre management arranged an invitation only "Appreciation" Concert so that buffs from all over Yankee-land could hear both Lou and the Mighty-Nice-Little 2/6 Wurlitzer.

Yup, it's a small Wurlitzer. All six ranks plus toy counter fit into one chamber. Not many artists could make it sound like a Publix in spite of the gorgeous restoration job by the SENETOS crew. Lou sure gave it the old Army try!

A talented young organist, a beautifully behaved Wurlitzer and the scrumptuous Columbus Theatre — the future looks bright for all three, especially if West Pointer Hurvitz ever gets the urge to turn in his "sword" for a posthorn and Howard seat. Good show! □



SP 7 Louis Hurvitz, member of the U.S. Military Academy Band at West Point.



Console of the 2/6 Wurlitzer.

Pipework of the Columbus Theatre Style D Wurlitzer showing the six ranks of pipes.

