BODY COUNT

Words & Music ©1971 by VERN PARTLOW

*1. Seventeen-Seventy, Boston Town...

"British, go home!" The cry went around—
But the muskets crackled and five went down!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Why should a people born with a dream
Trade for a nightmare? What does it mean?
We've turned around since the Boston Green!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Indians slept in the Western Tide...
Snug in the dawn in their buffalo hide—
But the guns boomed out and the drums all died!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Mexicans, too, when their time had come,
Died by a gun in the setting sun—
And their land was lost when the west was won!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Nineteen men with old John Brown,
Died when they tried to put slavery down—
The lamp went out but the light hung around!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Hungry miners tore off the yoke...
Tried to organize working folk—
But their families fell when the cannon spoke!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

White, black, yellow—the color of skins
Makes no difference when Body Count begins—
Kent, Jackson, My Lai—nobody wins!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Jelly that burns to kill and maim...
Life flows out in a fiery rain—
Count up the corpses, add up the pain!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Killing ideas is a one-way track...
Can't kill everyone, that's a fact—
And if ONE is left he WILL talk back!
HUP, two, three, four, BODY COUNT!

Body Count is a hopeless quest...
Give our dream a fresh new breath—
Give us LIFE—we won't take DEATH!
EVERYBODY SAY: NO BODY COUNT!

EVERYBODY SAY: NO BODY COUNT!

(Shout it. Everybody: NO BODY COUNT!

(* Note: In succeeding verses, adapt musical rhythm to natural rhythms of words in all their variety. In last verse there is a "tag" ending which is notated in last three lines above.)
"When I left my home, boys, my father for me cried--
Begged me not to go, boys; for me he would have died!
My father's heart is breaking, breaking for me, that's all--
And with God's help I'll see him when the work's all done this fall! (repeat)

"After the spying's over, and all the plans purloined,
The stooges all are paid off, and left in the lurch behind,
I'll say goodbye to sabotage, and murder and theft and all,
I just got to see my father when the work's all done this fall!" (repeat)

That very night this poor young spy bought a bomb from a guy at Yale;
'Twas really Edgar Hoover, and the spy wound up in jail...
So let your tears fall free, boys; your buddy dropped the ball--
Now the boy won't see his father when the work's all done this fall! (repeat)

But then, the cold war thawed a bit, and his captors made a deal--
Said they, "Go see your father dear; come back for your appeal!"
And flowers came from all the spies, from old James Bond and all--
For the boy's gonna see his father when the work's all done this fall! (repeat)

But ere his plane took off, boys, before his plane was gone,
Somebody's trigger finger slipped--the Atom War was on!
The world was one big mushroom, an apocalyptic brawl--
Now the spy won't see his father cause the world's all done this fall--
No, the boy won't see his father cause the world's all gone this fall!"
ONLY TIME WILL TELL

Words & Music: BOBBY DONAGHEY © 1971 Bobby Donaghey

[Music notation]

Three men went searchin' To find Peace and Good Will; I haven't seen them so I guess they're searchin' still Only time, Only time will tell.

2. Two men went searchin' To find the perfect dawn Guess they never found it Cause they've been gone awful long. Only time, etc.

3. One soldier went a runnin' To put an end to war War must a put an end to him/Cause I ain't seen him no more. Only time, etc.

Folksinger Woody Guthrie
May Have His Day—July 14

WASHINGTON (AP) — Woody Guthrie, the Dust Bowl troubadour whose songs of hobo jungles and the underdog lived to become Anthems of the Woodstock Generation, may have a day named in his honor.

"Like Yellowstone and Yosemite, many of his songs are part of our country's heritage," Sen. Fred Harris (D-Okl.), said in proposing that July 14 be proclaimed Woody Guthrie Day.

Although his fame became such that he could have become wealthy, he never stayed long enough in the show-business temples of the big cities to make big-time money.

(Ed. Note: Some civic leaders of Okemah, Okla., Woody's birthplace, are strongly opposed to the Guthrie Day idea on the grounds that Woody was too radical. The Mayor says he is neutral and the town is divided 50-50. Opposition is led by the head of the Chamber of Commerce who says why not have a day for the "God Bless America" author instead.)

Q. Judy Collins is one of my favorite folk singers. Is she still having a romance with actor Stacy Keach?

A. Stacy and Judy were terribly crazy when he was filming "Doc" in Spain, but the love affair blows hot and cold. Stacy, now making "Fat City" in California, dumped Judy not long back after a big blow-up and moved out of her apartment. Stacy wanted to raise a family and Judy didn't. Unraveling their relationship took some doing since they'd bought real estate together. Judy has always wanted Stacy to buy brownstones and country houses and act the big movie star. His friends think she is a bad influence on him and they're depressed because, for the moment, Judy has strummed her guitar and managed tentative reconciliation.

BROADSIDE #14

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NOTES: VERN PARTLOW is a veteran West Coast newspaperman whose song "Old Man Atom" was a Cold War victim 20 years ago. Although quite mild with lines like "A world at peace, or a world in pieces" -- it was suppressed on direct orders from Washington as it neared the top of the charts... The NEWPORT FOLK FESTIVAL has again been cancelled. The City Council voted to revoke its license after thousands of youths without tickets stormed the Festival Field chain link & wooden fences during the Jazz Festival the night of July 3rd and "Liberated" the stage. IT'S AN ILL WIND: One beneficial result of the debacle was that George Wein (producer of both the Jazz and Folk shindigs) also cancelled his plan to produce that monstrosity JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR at Newport later in July. Chief beneficiary of the cancellation of the Newport Folk affair will again be the PHILADELPHIA FOLK FESTIVAL Aug, 27-28-29, (write FESTIVAL, 7113 Emlen St.Phila,Pa 19119). To those who had planned to go to Newport to hear WENDY SMITH, REV.KERPKATRICK, MATT JONES, J.F. MURPHY, we have a suggestion. Take some of your refund and order from us ($1.95) our latest BROADSIDE LP (Vol.5). They are all on it, plus ROLAND MOUSAA, TOM PARROTT, MIKE MILLIS, WESLEY HOUSTON & others.... JIM MORRISON, lead writer and singer for THE DOORS, died at 27 in Paris the July 4th weekend. For an interpretation by A.J. WEBERMAN of one of Jim's greatest songs "Love Street", see B' side #95.... REDMING'S song "Dark Thursday", about the murder of Jimmy Rector in Peoples' Park (see B' side #13), has been released by FANTASY as a single.... From the N.Y.TIMES July 8, 1971: "The buoyant collage of music, history, satire, philosophy and politics known as a Pete Seeger concert made a smash hit of the first folk event ever held at the Metropolitan Museum." The TIMES said no further proof is needed that Seeger is "America's greatest modern minstrel." It added he sang many new numbers, including a plea for "The World's Last Whale" and "a powerful ballad approximately entitled "If a Revolution Comes To My Country."... DIALOGUE (back at the ranch): A few weeks before BROADSIDE'S phone was cut off, a team from Con Edison guarded by a city marshal came and removed the gas and lights meters from the BROADSIDE apartment (despite the fact there were two elderly ailing persons and three babies, 2 of them still on bottles, in the household). A bit of dialogue accompanying this noble action:

Gordon Friesen (to the Con-Ed leader): "I suppose you guys go to church."
Con-Ed leader: "Every Sunday."
Gordon: "I suppose you'd turn off Jesus Christ's gas and lights."
Con-Ed leader: "You damn right -- if He didn't pay His bills."

LETTERS: "Thanks for the Broadsides my collection was missing. I enjoy them immensely. I read them by the hour." B.C., Mich... "I have translated many American songs and many of them originally appeared in BROADSIDE. I have found quite a lot of good songs there and I hope you keep coming out. I haven't seen one copy of 1971. I hope you haven't stopped publishing BROADSIDE" S.T., Oslo, Norway... "A fantastic Magazine; renew my subscription." D.J., Mich.... WOODY GUTHRIE DAY? While Okla. Sen.FRED HARRIS tries to make July 14 ( Bastille Day, appropriately enough) a national WOODY GUTHRIE Day, business men in Woody's hometown, Okemah,Okla., are opposing a campaign by a group of "little old ladies" led by 73-yr-old Grandmother Mrs.Bee Dill to install a marker to Woody on a nearby hillside. "(Business men they drink my wine & plow my earth, but not a one of them knows what any of it is worth."--BOB DYLAN), A.Kellley, president Okemah Chamber of Commerce (he also opposes the National Guthrie Day): "...we should hardly hold up a Communist as a national hero." Woody may have to await the Marxist Revolution and U.S. Socialism to be truly honored.... BAD DAY IN DOGPATCH: Al Capp, creator of LIL ABNER and JOANIE PHOANIE was idolized by U.S.Fascists for statements like: "President Nixon showed angelic restraint when he called students bums." No angel Capp, however, at least not toward co-eds. Univ. of Alabama cops chased him off campus after he exposed himself to two girls. Now he's been arrested on charges of sodomy on a Univ. of Wisconsin co-ed (in Dogpatch, sodomy is called "corn-holing").