

AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN



WITH BOB KINGSLEY

ABC Watermark

3575 Cahuenga Blvd. West, #555
Los Angeles, CA 90068
(213) 980-9490

TO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN SUBSCRIBERS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 1983

HERE IT IS . . .

This program marks the Tenth Anniversary of **American Country Countdown** and to celebrate we will be pre-empting this weeks regular countdown to present: **"THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS"** . . . Over 40 catagories of superlatives . . . the biggest, the smallest, the oldest, the youngest, the first and so on . . . each represented by a song and the story behind it. The past six weeks Bob Kingsley has been promoting the special inside the countdown, we sent you promo copy and press release, and on Side 1B at the end of the disc (Program Number C834-1) you will find four promos voiced by Bob.

AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN



Watermark
ABC RADIO ENTERPRISES
 10700 Ventura Boulevard
 North Hollywood, California 91604
 Phone: (213) 980-9490

FOR WEEK ENDING: 10/1/83
 CYCLE NO. 834 PROGRAM 1 OF 13
 SIDES: 1A & 1B
 PAGE NO. 1

WITH BOB KINGSLEY

SCHEDULED START TIME	ACTUAL TIME	ELEMENT	RUNNING TIME
00:00		THEME AND OPENING OF PART I THEME: "MY KIND OF COUNTRY" (MARKWATER MUSIC/BMI) GUESS THINGS HAPPEN THAT WAY (B) Johnny Cash IF I SAID YOU HAD A BEAUTIFUL BODY (WOULD YOU HOLD IT AGAINST ME) (A) Bellamy Bros. KING OF THE ROAD (B) Roger Miller	09:57
09:52		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
09:57		LOCAL INSERT: C-1	2:00
11:57		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN ARKANSAS TRAVELER - Eck Robertson EXCERPT THE LITTLE OLD CABIN IN THE LANE - Fiddlin' John Carson EXCERPT THE PRISONER'S SONG - Vernon Dalhart EXCERPT PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA () Al Dexter	07:58
19:50		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
19:55		LOCAL INSERT: C-2	2:00
21:55		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN COWBOY MONTAGE EL PASO (B) Marty Robbins	08:50
30:40		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
30:45		LOCAL INSERT: C-3	2:10
32:55		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN FRAULEIN () Bobby Helms SWEET DREAMS (B) Patsy Cline	06:36
39:26		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
39:31		LOCAL INSERT: C-4	2:00
41:31		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN HELLO DARLIN' (B) Conway Twitty I WISH I WAS EIGHTEEN AGAIN () George Burns EXCERPT HELLO LOVE (B) Hank Snow	07:38
49:04		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
49:09		LOCAL INSERT: C-5	2:00
51:09		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN YOUNG LOVE (B) Sonny James ALWAYS LATE (B) Lefty Frizzell ***** ** 4 promos ** ** @ end ** *****	06:22
57:31		THEME UP AND UNDER WITH TALK UNIT ENDING AT: 57:41 THEME TO: 57:50	
57:50		LOCAL INSERT: C-6	2:00
59:50		STATION I.D.:	:10

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 CYCLE NO. 834 PROGRAM 1 OF 13
 SIDES: 2A & 2B
 PAGE NO. 2

WITH BOB KINGSLEY

SCHEDULED START TIME	ACTUAL TIME	ELEMENT	RUNNING TIME
00:00		THEME AND OPENING OF PART II LOOKING FOR LOVE (A) Johnny Lee BABY LET'S PLAY HOUSE (B) Elvis Presley	07:14
07:09		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
07:14		LOCAL INSERT: C-1	2:00
09:14		LOGO AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS (B) Johnny Horton SMOKE, SMOKE, SMOKE THAT CIGARETTE () Tex Williams GREAT BALLS OF FIRE (B) Jerry Lee Lewis	09:37
18:46		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
18:51		LOCAL INSERT: C-2	2:00
20:51		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN DADDY SANG BASS (B) Johnny Cash CHIME BELLS () Elton Britt EXCERPT CHIME BELLS (A) Elton Britt	06:48
27:34		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
27:39		LOCAL INSERT: C-3	2:10
29:49		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN HANK WILLIAMS MONTAGE KAW LIGA () Hank Williams	08:04
37:48		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF COUNTRY	
37:53		LOCAL INSERT: C-4	2:00
39:53		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN TENNESSEE RIVER (B) Alabama HIGH NOON () Tex Ritter WALKERS' WOODS () Ed Bruce EXCERPT YOU'RE THE BEST BREAK THIS OLD HEART EVER HAD (A/B) Ed Bruce	11:12
51:00		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
51:05		LOCAL INSERT: C-5	2:00
53:05		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN NO ACES () Patti Page EXCERPT WHAT ARE WE DOIN' IN LOVE (A) Dottie West (with Kenny Rogers)	04:29
57:34		THEME UP AND UNDER WITH TALK UNIT ENDING AT: 57:42 THEME TO: 57:50	
57:50		LOCAL INSERT: C-6	2:00
59:50		STATION I.D.	:10

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FOR WEEK ENDING: 10/1/83
 CYCLE NO. 834 PROGRAM 1 OF 13
 SIDES: 3A & 3B
 PAGE NO. 3

SCHEDULED START TIME	ACTUAL TIME	ELEMENT	RUNNING TIME
00:00		THEME AND OPENING OF PART III PONCHO & LEFTY (A) Willie Nelson & Merle Haggard STAND BY YOUR MAN (B) Tammy Wynette	07:51
07:46		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
07:51		LOCAL INSERT: C-1	2:00
09:51		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN ONE STEP AT A TIME () Brenda Lee EXCERPT WHAT'S YOUR MAMA'S NAME (B) Tanya Tucker PASS ME BY () Johnny Rodriguez YOU ALWAYS COME BACK TO HURTING ME (B) Johnny Rodriguez	08:00
17:46		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
17:51		LOCAL INSERT: C-2	2:00
19:51		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN HE STOPPED LOVING HER TODAY () George Jones I'M THINKING TONIGHT OF MY BLUE EYES () Carter Family EXCERPT GREAT SPECKLED BIRD () Roy Acuff EXCERPT WILD SIDE OF LIFE () Hank Thompson EXCERPT IT WASN'T GOD WHO MADE HONKY TONK ANGELS () Kitty Wells EXCERPT	08:37
28:23		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
28:28		LOCAL INSERT: C-3	2:10
30:38		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN A BOY NAMED SUE (B) Johnny Cash EDDY ARNOLD MONTAGE	09:22
39:55		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
40:00		LOCAL INSERT: C-4	2:00
42:00		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE - Jimmy Davis EXCERPT YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE - Gene Autry EXCERPT YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE - Bing Crosby EXCERPT YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE - Ray Charles EXCERPT DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE () Statler Bros. EXCERPT	06:50
48:45		LOGO: MY KIND OF COUNTRY, MY KIND OF MUSIC	
48:50		LOCAL INSERT: C-5	2:00
50:50		LOGO: AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN DON'T BE CRUEL (B) Elvis Presley I'M MOVIN' ON (B) Hank Snow	06:17
57:07		THEME UP AND UNDER WITH TALK UNIT ENDING AT: 57:57 THEME TO: 58:50	
58:50		LOCAL INSERT: C-6	2:00
59:50		STATION I.D.:	:10

2645

THEME & OPENING

LP

GUESS THINGS HAPPEN THAT WAY
Johnny Cash (B)

:06/1:38/fade (LP)

How many
#1st date
LP

79 sec

POP
342
604
607

IF I SAID YOU HAD A BEAUTIFUL BODY
(WOULD YOU HOLD IT AGAINST ME)
Bellamy Bros. (A)

:07/2:57/fade (LP)

LP

KING OF THE ROAD
Roger Miller (B)

:08/2:16/fade (LP)

C-1 _____

Tape

ARKANSAS TRAVELER
Eck Robertson

EXCERPT
:30 sec. and fade

Tape

THE LITTLE OLD LOG CABIN IN THE LANE
Fiddlin' John Carson

EXCERPT
:22/ :39 sec. fade

Tape

THE PRISONER'S SONG
Vernon Dalhart

EXCERPT
:25/ :48sec. fade

LP

PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA ()
Al Dexter

POP
1720

:10/2:48/cold (LP)

C-2 _____

Tape

COWBOY MONTAGE

:07/3:18

LP

EL PASO
Marty Robbins (B)

POP
2214
2413
2437
2443

:10/4:19/cold (LP)

C-3 _____

UP

FRAULEIN
Bobby Helms ()

:16/2:49/cold (LP)

UP

SWEET DREAMS
Patsy Cline (B)

:05/2:32/cold (LP)

C-4

UP

HELLO DARLIN'
Conway Twitty (B)

POP?
3405

:00/2:20/cold (LP)

Tape

I WISH I WAS EIGHTEEN AGAIN
George Burns ()

EXCERPT
:34

45

HELLO LOVE
Hank Snow (B)

:15/2:40/fade (LP)
45

C-5

UP

YOUNG LOVE
Sonny James (B)

POP
4253

:11/2:21/fade (LP)

UP

ALWAYS LATE
Lefty Frizzell (B)

:00/1:57/fade (LP)

THEME & CLOSING

END OF VOICE

THEME PLAYOUT IN CLEAR FOR 1:20

LOCK BAND!

Promo 1	:23
Promo 2	:27
Promo 3	:19
Promo 4	:25

2339

THEME & OPENING

UP

POP MOVIE HIT

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Johnny Lee (A)

:18/3:19/fade (LP)

UP

MOST REPEATED PHRASE

POP 528?

BABY LET'S PLAY HOUSE
Elvis Presley (B)

:00/2:15/cold (LP)

C-1

UP

OLDEST MELODY TO GO #1

BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS
Johnny Horton (B)

:09/2:18/fade (LP)

UP

#1 COUNTRY & POP SIMULTANEOUS

SMOKE, SMOKE, SMOKE THAT CIGARETTE
Tex Williams ()

:03/2:51/cold (LP)

UP

POP?
1439

GREAT BALLS OF FIRE
Jerry Lee Lewis (B)

:01/1:49/cold (LP)

C-2

UP

DADDY SANG BASS
Johnny Cash (B)

:05/2:20/cold (LP)

Tape

CHIME BELLS
Elton Britt ()

EXCERPT
:28 sec. ()

UP

CHIME BELLS
Elton Britt (A)

:06/2:35/cold (LP)

C-3

Tape

KAW LIGA
Hank Williams ()

:06/2:25/fade (TAPE)

C-4 _____

UP

TENNESSEE RIVER
Alabama (B)

POP 3226

:10
:21
:25/2:54/fade (LP)

UP

HIGH NOON
Tex Ritter ()

*POP 3700
3704*

:08/2:40/fade (LP)

Tape

WALKERS' WOODS
Ed Bruce ()

EXCERPT
:20 sec.

UP

YOU'RE THE BEST BREAK THIS OLD HEART EVER HAD
Ed Bruce (A/B)

POP 4208

:10/3:24/cold (LP)

C-5 _____

Tape

NO ACES
Patti Page ()

EXCERPT
:27 sec.

UP

WHAT ARE WE DOIN' IN LOVE
Dottie West (with Kenny Rogers) (A)

*POP 4504
4513*

:14/2:53/cold (LP)

THEME & CLOSING

END OF VOICE

THEME PLAYOUT IN CLEAR FOR 1:20

~~2547~~
2934

THEME & OPENING

UP

PONCHO & LEFTY
Willie Nelson & Merle Haggard (A)

POP
208

:23/4:44/cold (LP)

UP

STAND BY YOUR MAN
Tammy Wynette (B)

MUSIC EDIT POP
723

:09/2:33/cold (LP)

C-1 _____

Tape

ONE STEP AT A TIME
Brenda Lee ()

EXCERPT
:25 sec.

UP

WHAT'S YOUR MAMA'S NAME
Tanya Tucker (B)

H18
POPS
1017
1021

:00/3:00/cold (LP)

Tape

PASS ME BY
Johnny Rodriguez ()

EXCERPT
:10/ :45 sec.
(or :18 sec.)

UP

V. edit

YOU ALWAYS COME BACK TO HURTING ME
Johnny Rodriguez (B)

:09/2:13/cold (LP)

V. edit

C-2 _____

UP

HE STOPPED LOVING HER TODAY
George Jones ()

POP
1940
2054

:00/3:14/cold (LP)

Tape

I'M THINKING TONIGHT OF MY BLUE EYES
Carter Family ()

EXCERPT
:17 sec.

Tape

GREAT SPECKLED BIRD
Roy Acuff ()

EXCERPT
:45 sec.

Tape

WILD SIDE OF LIFE
Hank Thompson ()

EXCERPT
:31 sec.

Tape

IT WASN'T GOD WHO MADE HONKY TONK ANGELS
Kitty Wells ()

EXCERPT
:29 sec.

C-3 _____

UP

A BOY NAMED SUE
Johnny Cash (B)

:07/3:40/fade (LP)

Tape

EDDY ARNOLD MONTAGE

:00/3:53 total

C-4 _____

Tape

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
Jimmie Davis

EXCERPT
:56 sec.

Tape

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
Gene Autry

EXCERPT
:24 sec.

Tape

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
Bing Crosby

EXCERPT
:27/1:01 fade

Tape

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
Ray Charles ()

EXCERPT
:39 sec.

Tape

DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
Statler Bros. ()

EXCERPT
(final) :32 sec.

C-5 _____

UP

DON'T BE CRUEL
Elvis Presley (B)

:04/1:58/cold (LP)

UP

I'M MOVIN' ON
Hank Snow (B)

:09/2:30/fade (LP)

MUSIC EDIT POP 4555

THEME & CLOSING

END OF VOICE

THEME PLAYOUT IN CLEAR FOR 1:20

A.C.C. SPECIAL BOOK OF RECORDS DEMO

SPEECH-1 THIS IS BOB KINGSLEY AND COMING UP THIS OCTOBER DURING THE CELEBRATION OF COUNTRY MUSIC WEEK...^{MONTH} WE'RE PRESENTING A VERY SPECIAL EDITION OF AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN...BUT, TO GET AN IDEA OF WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT...GET OUT A PENCIL AND PAPER AND GET READY TO WRITE....GO AHEAD, I'LL WAIT...^{PLEASE} ALRIGHT NOW SEE HOW MANY OF THE FOLLOWING ^{COUNTRY MUSIC ACHIEVEMENTS} YOU ALREADY KNOW: (THIS SHOULD GO REAL FAST SO THEY KNOW WE'RE NOT REALLY EXPECTING THEM TO GET A PENCIL)

(Montage of record) (MUSIC seperater...the last part of the song leading into the OUTRO/INTRO into the Miller Sample perhaps)

SPEECH-2 (THAT'S RIGHT) IT'S THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS...A SPECIAL FOUR HOUR PRESENTATION OF THE OLDEST, THE YOUNGEST, THE LONGEST ~~OR~~ SHORTEST, THE BIGGEST ~~OR~~ SMALLEST, THE LEAST ~~AND~~ THE MOST AND DOZENS MORE FASCINATING CATEGORIES OF COUNTRY MUSIC ACHIEVEMENT EACH PAID OFF WITH GREAT MUSIC.

(INTO MILLER SAMPLE)

Speech-3
~~IT'S~~ THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS PRESENTING OVER 50 FASCINATING CATEGORIES OF ACHIEVEMENT IN COUNTRY MUSIC...WHICH WILL ACHIEVE A NEW LEVEL OF FASCINATION AND FUN FOR YOUR LISTENERS. AS WE GO COVER TO COVER, ^{WE'LL OPEN THE BOOK AND GO} PAGE BY PAGE AND SONG BY SONG ^{AND} THEY'LL FIND OUT WHAT THEY KNOW...AND ^{PROBABLY} MUCH MORE OF WHAT THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEIR FAVORITE MUSIC AND THE STARS WHO MAKE IT. TO ORDER YOUR EDITION OF THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS EXCLUSIVELY FOR YOUR MARKET DURING COUNTRY MUSIC ^{MONTH} WEEK IN OCTOBER CALL JAMIE KORSEN AT ABC/RADIO NETWORKS TODAY AT 212 887-5646.
FINAL MONTAGE OF RECORDS TRAILS OUT.

1-13 2 3 FX, SFJ 6-15
1-13

A.C.C. SPECIAL BOOK OF RECORDS DEMO

SPEECH-1 THIS IS BOB KINGSLEY AND COMING UP THIS OCTOBER DURING THE CELEBRATION OF COUNTRY MUSIC MONTH...WE'LL BE PRESENTING A VERY SPECIAL EDITION OF AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN...BUT, TO GET AN IDEA OF WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT...GET OUT A PENCIL AND PAPER AND GET READY TO WRITE....GO AHEAD, I'LL WAIT....SPX ALRIGHT NOW SEE HOW MANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACHIEVEMENTS IN COUNTRY MUSIC YOU ALREADY KNOW: (THIS SHOULD GO REAL FAST SO THEY KNOW WE'RE NOT REALLY EXPECTING THEM TO GET A PENCIL) (Montage of record) (MUSIC seperater...the last part of the song leading into the OUTRO/INTRO into the Miller Sample perhaps)

SPEECH-2 (THAT'S RIGHT) IT'S THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS...A SPECIAL FOUR HOUR PRESENTATION OF THE OLDEST, THE YOUNGEST, THE LONGEST, THE SHORTEST, THE BIGGEST, THE SMALLEST, THE LEAST AND THE MOST AND DOZENS MORE CATEGORIES OF COUNTRY MUSIC (RECORDS) ACHIEVEMENT EACH PAID OFF WITH GREAT MUSIC.

(INTO MILLER SAMPLE)

SPEECH-3 THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS WILL PRESENT OVER 50 FASCINATING CATEGORIES OF ACHIEVEMENT IN COUNTRY MUSIC...WHICH WILL ACHIEVE A NEW LEVEL OF FASCINATION AND FUN FOR YOUR LISTENERS. SPX WE'LL OPEN THE BOOK AND GO PAGE BY PAGE, SONG BY SONG AND THEY'LL FIND OUT WHAT THEY KNOW...AND PROBABLY MUCH MORE OF WHAT THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEIR FAVORITE MUSIC AND THE RECORD-SETTING STARS WHO MAKE IT. SPX TO ORDER YOUR EDITION OF THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS EXCLUSIVELY FOR YOUR MARKET DURING COUNTRY MUSIC MONTH IN OCTOBER CALL JAMIE KORSEN AT ABC/RADIO NETWORKS TODAY AT 212 887-5646.

FINAL MONTAGE OF RECORDS TRAILS OUT.

1 2 3
4 5 6 15

1 2 15

ACC-83H-1

"BOOK OF RECORDS SPECIAL"

AIR OCT 15TH 83

I

II

III

34:26 TOTAL MUSIC

13:04-TALK

36:31-MUSIC

10:59-TALK

34:02-MUSIC

13:28-TALK

A-19:13

A-17:55

A-18:56

B-15:13+60

B-18:36+

B-15:06+

HOUR ONE---PAGE ONE

OPEN: HELLO AGAIN, AND WELCOME TO THE "AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS." I'M BOB KINGSLEY. THIS WEEK, WE'RE DOING THE MOST UNUSUAL SPECIAL SHOW WE'VE EVER DONE. TO BEGIN WITH, IT'S NOT A COUNTDOWN. IT ^{IMPOSSIBLE} DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO RANK THE HIGHEST, THE BIGGEST, THE FIRST AND SO ON FROM DIFFERENT CHART CATEGORIES. AND THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE EVER TAKEN THE TOP ARTIST OR RECORD FROM THE VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF CHART ACHIEVEMENT... AND BROUGHT THEM ALL TOGETHER IN ONE SUPER-SPECIAL SHOW! ^{These are} THE RECORDS THAT HAVE SET THE RECORDS! THEY'RE ALL HERE IN THE "AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS"!

INTRO: LET'S OPEN IT NOW TO THE PAGE THAT LISTS THE SHORTEST-PLAYING SINGLE EVER TO HIT #1. CLOCKING IN AT ONE MINUTE & 43 SECONDS...HERE'S JOHNNY CASH'S #1 HIT FROM 1958, "GUESS THINGS HAPPEN THAT WAY":

OUTRO: FROM 1958, THAT'S JOHNNY CASH AND "GUESS THINGS HAPPEN THAT WAY." AT ONE MINUTE AND 43 SECONDS, IT'S THE SHORTEST #1 SINGLE OF ALLTIME.

INTRO:THE NEXT SONG LISTED IN OUR BOOK OF RECORDS REPRESENTS TWO DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF CHART ACHIEVEMENT. THE DUO WITH THE MOST #1 HITS IN CHART HISTORY IS HOWARD & DAVE, THE BELLAMY BROTHERS. SO FAR THEY'VE HAD SEVEN #1 SONGS, THE BIGGEST OF WHICH ALSO HOLDS THE RECORD FOR THE LONGEST TITLE OF ANY SONG TO EVER APPEAR ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART. FROM 1979, HERE IT IS..."IF I SAID YOU HAD A BEAUTIFUL BODY, WOULD YOU HOLD IT AGAINST ME":

OUTRO: WITH THE MOST #1 HITS OF ANY DUO IN CHART HISTORY, THOSE ARE THE BELLAMY BROTHERS WITH THE FIRST OF THEIR SEVEN #1 HITS ^{to date} ~~SO FAR~~, "IF I SAID YOU HAD A BEAUTIFUL BODY, WOULD YOU HOLD IT AGAINST ME." THAT SONG ALSO HOLDS THE RECORD FOR THE LONGEST TITLE IN THE HISTORY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART.

INTRO: HOW SUCCESSFUL A RECORD IS ON THE CHARTS DEPENDS ON THE PUBLIC'S RESPONSE TO IT. BUT WHEN A SONG WINS GRAMMY AWARDS, IT'S BECAUSE OTHER PROFESSIONALS IN THE MUSIC BUSINESS SAY IT'S GREAT...^{other} ~~OTHER~~ SONGWRITERS, AND PRODUCERS, AND RECORDING ARTISTS. SO WHEN YOU FIND A SONG THAT GETS ACKNOWLEDGED BY BOTH THE PUBLIC AND THE PROS, THEN YOU'VE REALLY GOT A WINNER. IN THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS...THE SONG AND RECORDING THAT WON THE MOST GRAMMIES...TOOK FIVE OF THEM BACK IN 1965: "BEST CONTEMPORARY SINGLE", "BEST CONTEMPORARY MALE VOCAL PERFORMANCE", "BEST COUNTRY & WESTERN SINGLE", "BEST COUNTRY & WESTERN SONG", AND "BEST COUNTRY & WESTERN MALE VOCAL PERFORMANCE." HERE IT IS...THE MOST HONORED COUNTRY HIT IN GRAMMY HISTORY BY THE MOST HONORED COUNTRY SINGER....ROGER MILLER AND "KING OF THE ROAD":

OUTRO: FROM 1965, THAT'S ROGER MILLER WITH "KING OF THE ROAD"...A FIVE TIME GRAMMY WINNER...THE MOST IN THE HISTORY OF THE GRAMMIES!

WE'RE SPINNING ALONG ON OUR SPECIAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS, AND THERE'S MUCH MORE TO COME...INCLUDING THE FIRST COUNTRY RECORD, THE FIRST COUNTRY HIT, COUNTRY'S FIRST MILLION-SELLING SINGLE, AND THE FIRST COUNTRY HIT TO GO #1 ON THE POP CHARTS!

C-1

I'M BOB KINGSLEY...AND ON WE GO WITH OUR SPECIAL PROGRAM, THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS.

INTRO: PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT DATE IN THE HISTORY OF COUNTRY MUSIC IS JUNE 30TH 1922. ON THAT DAY, TWO MUSICIANS MARCHED INTO THE OFFICES OF VICTOR RECORDS IN NEW YORK CITY. ^{debut for Victor records.} ONE WAS DRESSED LIKE AN HONEST-TO-GOODNESS TEXAS COWBOY...THE OTHER WORE A 50 YEAR OLD CONFEDERATE CIVIL WAR UNIFORM. THE COWBOY WAS 34 YEAR OLD ECK ROBERTSON AND THE CIVIL WAR VETERAN WAS 76 YEAR OLD HENRY GILLIAND, AND ~~THEY DEMANDED TO MAKE A RECORD, AND THAT THEY DID.~~ ^{make a record,} THEY RECORDED SIX TRIED-AND-TRUE FIDDLE TUNES THAT ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE THE FIRST COMMERCIAL COUNTRY RECORDINGS EVER MADE. FROM THOSE HISTORIC SESSIONS, HERE'S A BIT OF "ARKANSAS TRAVELER":

OUTRO/INTRO: THAT'S PART OF THE 1922 RECORDING OF "ARKANSAS TRAVELER" BY ECK ROBERTSON AND HENRY GILLIAND THAT MARKED THE DEBUT OF COUNTRY MUSIC ON COMMERCIAL PHONOGRAPH RECORDS. OF COURSE, AT THAT TIME THERE WAS STILL NO MARKET TO SPEAK OF FOR COUNTRY MUSIC...SO VICTOR ^{Records} WAITED MORE THAN A YEAR TO RELEASE ANY OF THOSE SONGS. BY THEN, ANOTHER LABEL, OKEH (OKAY) RECORDS, HAD SUCCESSFULLY MADE THE FIRST DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO MARKET A RECORD TOWARD A TRADITIONAL COUNTRY MUSIC AUDIENCE. THE ARTIST WAS FIDDLIN' JOHN CARSON, THE SONG WAS "LITTLE OLD LOG CABIN IN THE LANE"...AND IN 1923, IT BECAME THE FIRST COUNTRY HIT:

OUTRO/INTRO: FROM 1923, THAT'S SOME OF COUNTRY MUSIC'S VERY FIRST "HIT" RECORD... "LITTLE OLD LOG CABIN IN THE LANE" BY FIDDLIN' JOHN CARSON. WELL, THE COUNTRY MUSIC RECORDING INDUSTRY WAS OFF AND RUNNING NOW...AND IN 1924, A TEXAS-BORN OPERA SINGER NAMED MARION SLAUGHTER DECIDED TO TRY ~~HIS~~ HIS LUCK AS A COUNTRY SINGER. IN SEARCHING FOR AN APPROPRIATE NAME, HE CHOSE THE NAMES OF TWO TEXAS TOWNS, VERNON AND DALHART. AND VERNON DALHART IS THE NAME THAT APPEARED ON THE LABEL OF COUNTRY MUSIC'S FIRST MILLION-SELLING HIT, "THE PRISONER'S SONG":

OUTRO: THERE'S JUST A BIT OF COUNTRY MUSIC'S FIRST MILLION-SELLER FROM 1924, "THE PRISONER'S SONG" BY VERNON DALHART. NOW THOSE THREE SONGS WE'VE JUST HEARD SOUND VERY PRIMATIVE TODAY, BUT TRUST ME WHEN I TELL YOU THEY WERE HOT STUFF SIXTY YEARS AGO! IN THE SHORT SPACE OF JUST TWO YEARS, COUNTRY MUSIC HAD ITS FIRST RECORDING SESSION, ITS FIRST HIT, AND ITS FIRST MILLION-SELLER. AND IN THE PROCESS, ECK ROBERTSON & HENRY GILLIAND, FIDDLIN' JOHN CARSON, AND VERNON DALHART BECAME THE GODFATHERS OF THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY THAT COUNTRY MUSIC IS TODAY.

Jim Bob Kingsley and

YOU'RE LISTENING TO AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN'S SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK OF RECORDS. ~~I'M BOB KINGSLEY.~~

This was the song

INTRO: THE FIRST COUNTRY RECORD EVER TO HIT #1 ON BILLBOARD'S POP MUSIC CHART.

45cm

WAS INSPIRED BY A REAL-LIFE INCIDENT IN A LONGVIEW, TEXAS, HONKY TONK. WRITER/PERFORMER AL DEXTER SAW A GIRL NAMED JO ANN COME RUNNING IN...TRYING TO ESCAPE THE WRATH OF HER BOYFRIEND'S WIFE...WHO WAS AFTER HER WITH A GUN! THAT WAS THE INSPIRATION FOR THE SONG THAT BECAME THE BIGGEST-SELLING RECORD OF 1943. WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF ITS RELEASE, THE RECORD SOLD A MILLION COPIES, AND SHEET MUSIC SALES WENT OVER 200-THOUSAND. THE DUKE OF WINDSOR WAS CAUGHT HUMMING IT, LIFE MAGAZINE CALLED IT "A NATIONAL EARACHE", AND FRANK SINATRA SANG IT FOR 14 WEEKS STRAIGHT ON "YOUR HIT PARADE." HERE IT IS...AL DEXTER AND "PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA":

OUTRO: FROM 1943, THERE'S AL DEXTER AND "PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA"...THE FIRST COUNTRY RECORD EVER TO HIT #1 ON THE POP CHARTS.

COMING UP NEXT FROM THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS...THE BIGGEST COWBOY SONG IN CHART HISTORY!

C-2

I'M BOB KINGSLEY...AND THIS IS AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN'S SPECIAL OF SPECIALS, THE BOOK OF RECORDS.

INTRO: YOU KNOW, THE MAJORITY OF THE GREAT AMERICAN COWBOY SONGS WERE WRITTEN BEFORE BILLBOARD BEGAN ITS WEEKLY COUNTRY CHART IN 1945. SO...BEFORE WE HEAR THE BIGGEST COWBOY SONG IN CHART HISTORY...LET'S GIVE A TIP OF THE HAT TO SOME OF THE CLASSIC WESTERN TUNES THAT FIRST PUT THE "WESTERN" IN COUNTRY AND WESTERN MUSIC DURING THE YEARS BEFORE THERE WERE ANY RECORD CHARTS. HERE NOW IS A MONTAGE OF TWELVE OF THE BEST:

OUTRO/INTRO: THAT'S OUR MONTAGE OF A DOZEN OF THE MOST ENDURING COWBOY SONGS OF ALL TIME. EACH OF THEM DATES BACK BEFORE BILLBOARD BEGAN ITS WEEKLY COUNTRY CHART IN 1945. NOW...~~IT'S TIME FOR THE BIGGEST COWBOY HIT~~ ^{Here's the first} SINCE 1945. ^{This is} ~~HERE'S~~ MARTY ROBBINS WITH HIS 1959 CLASSIC, "EL PASO";

OUTRO: FROM 1959, THE BIGGEST COWBOY HIT IN THE HISTORY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART IS MARTY ROBBINS' "EL PASO"...A SONG WE'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER, BY A MAN WE'LL NEVER FORGET.

COMING UP NEXT FROM THE BOOK OF RECORDS, THE HIT WITH THE LONGEST CHART RUN OF ALLTIME...AND THE BIGGEST POSTHUMOUS HIT BY A FEMALE!

C-3

I'M BOB KINGSLEY. IN OUR SPECIAL PRESENTATION THIS WEEK, WE'RE BROWSING THRU THE PAGES OF THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS.

INTRO: NOW ON THIS NEXT IMAGINARY PAGE, WE HAVE AN ENTRY FOR THE LONGEST CONTINUOUS CHART RUN IN HISTORY! THE RECORD ENTERED BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART IN MARCH 1957...STAYED FOR THREE WEEKS AT #1, AND REMAINED ON THE CHART FOR A TOTAL OF 52 WEEKS....AN ALLTIME RECORD! HERE'S BOBBY HELMS WITH "FRAULEIN":

OUTRO: FROM 1957, THAT'S BOBBY HELMS WITH "FRAULEIN"...~~AND WITH 52 CONSECUTIVE WEEKS ON THE CHART,~~ IT'S THE SONG WITH THE LONGEST CHART RUN IN HISTORY.

INTRO: THE MUSIC BUSINESS CAN BE ONE HAZARDOUS PROFESSION...AND THE HONOR ROLE OF PERFORMERS WHO HAVE PASSED ON BEFORE THEIR TIME IS LONGER THAN IT SHOULD BE. BUT SOME OF THEM CONTINUE TO LIVE THROUGH THEIR MUSIC...AND SO IT IS WITH THE FEMALE SINGER WITH THE BIGGEST POSTHUMOUS HIT. FROM 1963, HERE'S "SWEET DREAMS" BY PATSY CLINE:

OUTRO: FROM 1963, THAT'S PATSY CLINE WITH "SWEET DREAMS"...THE BIGGEST POSTHUMOUS COUNTRY HIT EVER BY A WOMAN.

THIS WEEK ON AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN, WE'RE GOING THROUGH THE BOOK OF RECORDS...PAGE BY PAGE, AND SONG BY SONG.

COMING UP NEXT ARE:

THE MALE SOLOIST WITH THE MOST #1 HITS...

THE OLDEST MALE SOLOIST TO HIT THE TOP FORTY...

AND THE OLDEST MALE SINGER TO HIT #1!

C-4

I'M BOB KINGSLEY...AND THIS IS AN AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN SPECIAL...OUR BOOK OF RECORDS.

INTRO: WE'RE AT THE CATAGORY OF MOST #1'S BY A MALE SOLO SINGER...AND IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHO THAT MIGHT BE, HE'S THE SUPERSTAR SON OF MISSISSIPPI RIVERBOAT CAPTAIN. THIS GIANT HAS HAD 30 #1 HITS ~~SO FAR~~ ^{TO DATE}, AND THIS WAS THE BIGGEST. HERE'S CONWAY TWITTY:

OUTRO: FROM 1970, THAT'S CONWAY TWITTY WITH "HELLO DARLIN'"...THE BIGGEST OF HIS 30 #1 SONGS SO FAR...MAKING CONWAY THE MALE SOLOIST WITH THE MOST #1'S IN CHART HISTORY.

INTRO: NOW WHO DO YOU SUPPOSE IS THE OLDEST MALE SINGER EVER TO APPEAR IN THE TOP FORTY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART? WELL, HE WAS BORN ON JANUARY 20TH 1896...AND IN 1980, TWO WEEKS BEFORE HIS 84TH BIRTHDAY, HE DEBUTED ON THE CHART WITH THIS SONG:

OUTRO/INTRO:OF COURSE, THAT'S THE ONE AND ONLY GEORGE BURNS AND IN 1980... AT THE AGE OF 84, HE HAD A TOP 15 COUNTRY HIT WITH "I WISH I WAS EIGHTEEN AGAIN"...MAKING HIM THE OLDEST MALE SOLOIST EVER TO HAVE A TOP FORTY HIT ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART. NOW HERE'S THE OLDEST MALE SINGER EVER TO HIT #1. HE WAS BORN ON MAY 9TH 1914...AND JUST TWO WEEKS BEFORE HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY HE HIT #1 WITH THIS SONG. FROM 1974, HERE'S HANK SNOW WITH "HELLO LOVE":

OUTRO:~~THAT'S 59 YEAR OLD HANK SNOW SINGING "HELLO LOVE"...A #1 HIT FROM 1974~~ *Hank Snow was 59 years old in 1974 when he signed a hit* THAT MADE HANK THE OLDEST MALE SOLO SINGER EVER TO HIT #1.

THIS WEEK, AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN IS PRESENTING THE BOOK OF RECORDS...AND NEXT UP, ~~ARE~~ THE SINGER WITH THE MOST CONSECUTIVE #1 SONGS...AND THE ONLY ACT EVER TO HAVE FOUR SONGS IN THE TOP TEN ALL AT ONCE!

1-5

INTRO: I'M BOB KINGSLEY, AND WE'RE PLAYING OUR WAY TODAY THROUGH THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS...WHICH IS NOT AN ACTUAL BOOK. THE BOOK OF RECORDS IS WHAT WE CALL THE A.C.C. RESEARCH FILES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS. AND WE'RE UP TO ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF SOME OF THE STARTLING STATISTICS ~~THEY REVEAL~~ *we've found*: THERE'S A SINGER WHO HAS RUN OFF AN UNBELIEVABLE STRING OF 16 #1 SONGS IN A ROW ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART, AND NOBODY ELSE HAS COME EVEN CLOSE TO THAT ON ANY CHARTS... POP, SOUL OR COUNTRY. THAT SUPERSTREAK STARTED IN 1967...AND FINALLY ENDED IN 1972 WHEN WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN HIS 17TH CONSECUTIVE #1...STOPPED AT #2. TOO BAD...BUT THEN, WHO'S GOING TO THREATEN A RECORD OF 16 STRAIGHT #1'S? ANOTHER INTERESTING THING ABOUT THIS MAN IS THAT HIS VERY FIRST BIG HIT--BACK IN 1957-- HIT #1 ON BOTH THE COUNTRY AND THE POP CHARTS...AND IT REMAINS THE SONG HE'S MOST FAMOUS FOR. HERE IT IS..."YOUNG LOVE"...BY THE ONLY ARTIST EVER TO HAVE 16 #1'S IN A ROW ON ANY AMERICAN RECORD CHART...SONNY JAMES:

OUTRO:FROM 1957, THAT'S "YOUNG LOVE" BY SONNY JAMES, THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE RECORD FOR CONSECUTIVE #1 SONGS WITH 16 IN A ROW!

INTRO:YOU KNOW, SOME OF THE RECORDS IN THIS BOOK OF RECORDS WE'RE HEARING TODAY ARE SO EXTRAORDINARY THAT THERE'S PROBABLY NO WAY ANYONE WILL EVER TOP ~~THEM~~. CONSIDER THE RECORD THE LATE LEFTY FRIZZELL HOLDS AS THE ONLY ACT TO EVER OCCUPY FOUR OF THE TOP TEN POSITIONS ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART ALL AT ONCE! ON THE CHART FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20TH 1951, THE TENTH RANKED SONG WAS LEFTY'S "TRAVELIN' BLUES"...AT #6 WAS LEFTY'S "I WANT TO BE WITH YOU ALWAYS"...

...AT #2 WAS "MOM & DAD'S WALTZ"...AND AT #1 WAS THIS LEFTY FRIZZELL CLASSIC:

OUTRO:FROM 1951, "ALWAYS LATE" BY LEFTY FRIZZELL...THE ONLY ACT EVER TO HAVE FOUR SONGS IN THE TOP TEN ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART ALL AT ONCE.

CLOSE: YOU'RE LISTENING TO A SPECIAL SHOW ON AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN, OUR BOOK OF RECORDS. I'M BOB KINGSLEY...AND WE'LL BE OFF AND RUNNING AGAIN IN A MOMENT.

BOOK OF RECORDS

HOUR TWO---PAGE ONE

Jim Fisk King

OPEN: THIS IS AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN'S SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK OF RECORDS. ~~I'M BOB KINGSLEY~~. WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE IS SKIMMING THE CREAM OFF THE TOP OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART. WE'RE HEARING THE LEADING SONGS AND SINGERS IN PRACTICALLY ALL THE MAIN CATAGORIES OF CHART ACHIEVEMENT...ALL TOGETHER IN ONE HUGE BOQUET OF SUPER-HITS.

INTRO: ~~AND~~ THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS IS NOW OPEN TO THE CHAPTER ON MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES. HERE'S THE TOP-SELLING MOVIE HIT IN COUNTRY CHART HISTORY. FROM "URBAN COWBOY", HERE'S JOHNNY LEE'S 1980 MILLION-SELLER, "LOOKING FOR LOVE":

OUTRO: FROM THE 1980 MOTION PICTURE, "URBAN COWBOY", THERE'S JOHNNY LEE AND "LOOKING FOR LOVE"...THE BIGGEST MOVIE HIT IN COUNTRY CHART HISTORY.

INTRO: GENERALLY SPEAKING...IF SOMETHING'S WORTH SAYING ONCE, THEN IT'S PROBABLY WORTH SAYING AGAIN. BUT 47 TIMES??? WELL, THAT'S THE RECORD THIS NEXT SONG HOLDS FOR MOST REPEATED WORD OR PHRASE IN A TOP TEN COUNTRY HIT. FROM THE "ODDITIES" CHAPTER OF THE BOOK OF RECORDS, THE MOST REPEATED WORD IS "BABY", THE SONG IS "BABY LET'S PLAY HOUSE", AND THE SINGER IS ELVIS PRESLEY:

OUTRO: FROM 1955, THAT'S ELVIS PRESLEY AND "BABY LET'S PLAY HOUSE." ELVIS SINGS THE WORD "BABY" 47 TIMES...MAKING IT THE RECORD HOLDING SONG FOR MOST REPEATED WORD IN A TOP TEN COUNTRY HIT.

COMING UP NEXT IN OUR A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS ARE THE OLDEST MELODY EVER TO HIT #1, THE FIRST COUNTRY SONG TO HIT #1 SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THE COUNTRY AND POP CHARTS, AND THE #1 SONG WITH THE FEWEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS!

-1-

I'M BOB KINGSLEY...AND THIS IS OUR SPECIAL TRIP THROUGH THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS. WE'RE ABOUT TO HEAR THE OLDEST MELODY EVER TO HIT #1. THE LYRICS WERE WRITTEN IN 1957 BY JIMMIE DRIFTWOOD...AND HE USED THE MELODY OF AN OLD SQUARE DANCE TUNE FROM THE EARLY 1800'S CALLED "THE EIGHTH OF JANUARY." THE RESULT WAS THE MILLION-SELLING COUNTRY-POP SMASH THAT BECAME ONE OF THE BIGGEST RECORDS OF 1959. HERE IT IS...JOHNNY HORTON'S "BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS"...THE OLDEST MELODY EVER TO HIT #1:

OUTRO: FROM 1959, THAT'S JOHNNY HORTON WITH THE SONG WITH THE OLDEST MELODY EVER TO HIT #1..."BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS." THE LYRICS WERE WRITTEN IN 1957, BUT THE MELODY DATES BACK TO THE EARLY 1800'S.

INTRO: WE'RE PLAYING OUR WAY THROUGH THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS. SEVERAL PAGES BACK, WE HEARD AL DEXTER'S 1943 HIT "PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA", THE FIRST COUNTRY RECORD EVER TO GO #1 ON THE POP CHARTS. WELL, THE FIRST TIME A COUNTRY RECORD HIT #1 ON THE COUNTRY AND POP CHARTS SIMULTANEOUSLY WAS JUST FOUR YEARS LATER. FROM 1947, HERE'S THAT SONG...TEX WILLIAMS AND "SMOKE SMOKE, SMOKE THAT CIGARETTE":

OUTRO: FROM 1947, THERE'S TEX WILLIAMS AND "SMOKE, SMOKE, SMOKE THAT CIGARETTE", THE FIRST COUNTRY RECORD TO SIMULTANEOUSLY HIT #1 ON BOTH COUNTRY AND POP CHARTS.

INTRO:FOR THIS NEXT SONG, WE RETURN TO THE "ODDITIES" CHAPTER IN OUR BOOK OF RECORDS. OVER THE YEARS, THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS ON COUNTRY MUSIC RECORDING SESSIONS HAS GREATLY INCREASED. FOR EXAMPLE, RONNIE MILSAP'S #1 SONG FROM 1982 "INSIDE" HAD 27 INSTRUMENTS ON IT, WHICH ISN'T AT ALL UNUSUAL BY TODAY'S STANDARDS. BY COMPARISON...BACK IN 1943, AL DEXTER'S "PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA" HAD SIX INSTRUMENTS. SO IT'S UNUSUAL, INDEED, TO DISCOVER A MILLION-SELLING COUNTRY-POP SMASH FROM 1957 THAT USED ONLY TWO INSTRUMENTS. BUT...DISCOVER IT, WE DID...AND HERE IT IS. FEATURING ONLY A DRUM AND A PIANO, HERE'S JERRY LEE LEWIS AND "GREAT BALLS OF FIRE":

OUTRO: FROM 1957, THERE'S JERRY LEE LEWIS'S ~~PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA~~, "GREAT BALLS OF FIRE", ~~THE #1 HIT~~ FEATURING ONLY A DRUM AND A PIANO...THE SMALLEST INSTRUMENTAL ACCOMPANIMENT ^{on a #1 hit} IN THE HISTORY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART. NEXT UP ON THE BOOK OF RECORDS IS THE BIGGEST RELIGIOUS/INSPIRATIONAL HIT AND THE LONGEST CONTINUOUS NOTE THAT ANY SINGER HAS HELD IN COUNTRY CHART HISTORY!

-2

I'M BOB KINGSLEY AND THIS IS OUR SPECIAL SHOW THIS WEEK...AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN'S EXCLUSIVE BOOK OF RECORDS. DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS, RELIGIOUS OR INSPIRATIONAL SONGS HAVE OFTEN DONE VERY WELL ON THE COUNTRY CHART. "HELP ME" BY ELVIS PRESLEY AND "ME & JESUS" BY TOM T. HALL WERE BOTH TOP TEN HITS...AND "WINGS OF A DOVE" BY FERLIN HUSKY AND "WHY ME, LORD" BY KRIS KRISTOFFERSON BOTH WENT TO #1. BUT THE BIGGEST INSPIRATIONAL HIT OF ALLTIME CAME IN 1969 WHEN JOHNNY CASH SPENT SIX WEEKS AT #1 WITH "DADDY SANG BASS":

OUTRO: FROM 1969, THAT'S JOHNNY CASH WITH "DADDY SANG BASS"...THE BIGGEST RELIGIOUS/INSPIRATIONAL HIT IN CHART HISTOFY.

INTRO: NOW WE'RE ^{Going} ABOUT TO HEAR THE LONGEST HELD NOTE IN THE HISTORY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART. HERE IT IS:

OUTRO/INTRO: FROM HIS 1948 HIT "CHIME BELLS", THAT'S ELTON BRITT WITH THE LONGEST NOTE HELD BY ANY SINGER IN COUNTRY CHART HISTORY...AN AMAZING 25 SECONDS. NOW LET'S HEAR IT AGAIN AS PART OF THE WHOLE SONG:

OUTRO: FROM 1948, THAT'S ELTON BRITT WITH "CHIME BELLS"...THE SONG THAT CONTAINS THE LONGEST HELD NOTE BY ANY COUNTRY SINGER IN CHART HISTORY.

COMING UP NEXT ON THE BOOK OF RECORDS, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SONGWRITER IN COUNTRY MUSIC HISTORY...AND THE BIGGEST POSTHUMOUS HIT BY A MALE SINGER!

C-3-----

MY NAME'S BOB KINGSLEY AND ON WE GO WITH THIS A.C.C. SPECIAL...THE BOOK OF RECORDS. WE'RE AT THE ENTRY FOR COUNTRY MUSIC'S MOST SUCCESSFUL SONGWRITER. HANK WILLIAMS HIT COUNTRY MUSIC LIKE A TORNADO IN 1949. HE ROSE TO THE TOP OF THE BUSINESS FASTER THAN ANYONE HAS EVER RISEN...BEFORE OR SINCE...AND IN THE PROCESS, HANK BECAME THE ROLE MODEL, PAST AND PRESENT, FOR A COUNTRY SINGER. HE ALSO BECAME THE FINEST SONGWRITER, ONE OF THE FINEST PERFORMERS, AND THE MOST INFLUENTIAL FIGURE COUNTRY MUSIC HAS EVER PRODUCED. ~~THE FACT THAT HE THEN FELL AS FAST AS HE HAD RISEN IN NO WAY DETRACTS FROM HIS AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENTS.~~ RATHER, ^{with} HIS DEATH IN 1953 AT THE AGE OF 29, ^{he became} ~~MADE~~ HIM AN INSTANT AND ENDURING LEGEND. TODAY, MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH, THE SONGS OF HANK WILLIAMS CONTINUE TO ADD NEW LUSTRE TO HIS LEGEND...AS EACH NEW MUSICAL GENERATION RE-DISCOVERS THEM. ALL TOLD, HANK LEFT A CATALOG OF 129 SONGS...AND THOSE SONGS HAVE BEEN RECORDED MORE THAN 4 THOUSAND, 500 TIMES. SOME OF THEM HAVE AS MANY AS THREE OR FOUR HUNDRED SEPERATE VERSIONS...WITH EVERY KIND OF MUSICAL TREATMENT IMAGINABLE. AND YET, NONE OF THOSE ^{other performers} ~~VERSIONS~~ HAS BROUGHT MORE EMOTION TO THOSE SONGS THAN THE LONELY VOICE OF THE MAN WHO WROTE AND FIRST RECORDED THEM. HERE NOW IS A MONTAGE OF TWELVE OF THE BEST...WRITTEN AND SUNG BY HANK WILLIAMS:

OUTRO/INTRO: FROM THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS, THAT'S A MONTAGE OF TWELVE OF THE 129 SONGS WRITTEN AND RECORDED BY HANK WILLIAMS, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SONGWRITER IN COUNTRY MUSIC HISTORY. AND NOW...HERE'S HANK WILLIAMS WITH THE BIGGEST POSTHUMOUS HIT BY A MALE SINGER:

OUTRO: FROM 1953, THAT'S HANK WILLIAMS' "KAW-LIGA", THE BIGGEST POSTHUMOUS HIT BY A MALE SINGER IN THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS.

NEXT UP, THE GROUP WITH THE MOST #1 SONGS, THE ONLY SONG BY A COUNTRY SINGER EVER TO WIN AN ACADEMY AWARD, AND THE SINGER WITH THE LONGEST SPAN BETWEEN HIS FIRST CHART RECORD AND HIS FIRST #1 HIT!

C-4-----

I'M BOB KINGSLEY AND WE'RE TAKING A SPECIAL JOURNEY THIS WEEK THROUGH THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS. ON THIS NEXT IMAGINARY PAGE, WE HAVE AN ENTRY FOR THE GROUP WITH THE MOST #1 HITS. IN 1980, THIS SONG BECAME THE FIRST OF TEN #1 HITS SO FAR...FOR ALABAMA:

OUTRO: FROM 1980, THAT'S "TENNESSEE RIVER"...THE FIRST OF TEN #1 HITS SO FAR BY ALABAMA...MAKING THEM THE GROUP WITH THE MOST #1 SONGS IN CHART HISTORY.

INTRO: OUR BOOK OF RECORDS IS ^{Now} OPEN ONCE AGAIN TO THE CHAPTER ON MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES. IN THE HISTORY OF COUNTRY MUSIC, ONLY ONE SONG BY A COUNTRY SINGER HAS EVER WON AN ACADEMY AWARD. HERE IT IS...TEX RITTER'S 1952 VERSION OF "HIGH NOON"

OUTRO: FROM 1952, THAT'S TEX RITTER WITH THE THEME FROM THE MOVIE "HIGH NOON", THE ONLY SONG BY A COUNTRY SINGER EVER TO WIN AN ACADEMY AWARD.

INTRO: OUR AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS CONTINUES NOW WITH THE ARTIST WITH THE LONGEST SPAN BETWEEN HIS FIRST CHART RECORD AND HIS FIRST #1 HIT. IN JANUARY 1967, HE DEBUTED ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART WITH THIS SONG:

OUTRO/INTRO: FROM JANUARY 1967, THAT'S A BIT OF "WALKERS' WOODS", THE FIRST CHART RECORD BY A 28 YEAR OLD SINGER FROM KEISER, ARKANSAS...AND IT WASN'T UNTIL 15 YEARS AND TWO MONTHS LATER THAT HE SCORED HIS FIRST #1 COUNTRY HIT... MAKING HIM THE ACT WITH THE LONGEST SPAN BETWEEN HIS FIRST CHART SONG AND HIS FIRST #1 HIT. ~~BY THE WAY~~, IN CASE YOU DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIS VOICE, THE SINGER IS ED BRUCE...AND THIS WAS HIS FIRST #1 SONG IN MARCH 1982, "YOU'RE THE BEST BREAK THIS OLD HEART EVER HAD":

OUTRO: IN 1982, "YOU'RE THE BEST BREAK THIS OLD HEART EVER HAD" BECAME THE FIRST #1 SONG FOR ED BRUCE, WHOSE FIRST CHART RECORD WAS FIFTEEN YEARS EARLIER. AND THAT MAKES ED THE ARTIST WITH THE LONGEST SPAN ^{in chart history} BETWEEN HIS FIRST CHART RECORD AND HIS FIRST #1 HIT.

YOU'RE LISTENING TO A SPECIAL EDITION OF AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN...THE BOOK OF RECORDS. COMING UP NEXT ARE THE OLDEST FEMALE SOLOIST TO HIT THE TOP 40... AND THE OLDEST FEMALE SOLOIST TO HIT #1!

C-5-----

I'M BOB KINGSLEY AND ORDINARILY WE COUNT DOWN THE FORTY BIGGEST COUNTRY HITS IN AMERICA HERE ON A.C.C., BUT THIS WEEK, WE'RE BROWSING THRU THE BOOK OF RECORDS. NOW WHO DO YOU SUPPOSE IS THE OLDEST FEMALE SINGER EVER TO APPEAR IN THE TOP 40 OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART? WELL, SHE WAS BORN ON NOVEMBER 8TH 1927...AND IN 1951, AT THE AGE OF 23, SHE MADE CHART HISTORY WITH HER MULTI-MILLION SELLING

VERSION OF "TENNESSEE WALTZ." WHO ELSE BUT PATTI PAGE, THE LADY WHO BECAME THE OLDEST FEMALE SINGER EVER TO APPEAR IN THE FORTY WHEN IN 1981, AT THE AGE OF 53, SHE SCORED A HIT WITH "NO ACES":

OUTRO/INTRO:FROM 1981, THERE'S A BIT OF "NO ACES" BY 53 YEAR OLD PATTI PAGE... MAKING PATTI THE OLDEST FEMALE SINGER EVER TO APPEAR IN THE COUNTRY TOP 40. NOW HERE'S THE OLDEST FEMALE SINGER EVER TO HIT #1. SHE WAS BORN ON OCTOBER 11TH 1932...AND AT THE AGE OF 48, SHE HIT #1 WITH THIS SONG. FROM 1981, HERE'S DOTTIE WEST WITH "WHAT'RE WE DOIN' IN LOVE":

OUTRO: THAT'S 48 YEAR OLD DOTTIE WEST, ALONG WITH KENNY ROGERS, SINGING "WHAT'RE WE DOIN' IN LOVE"...A #1 HIT FROM 1981 THAT MADE DOTTIE THE OLDEST FEMALE SINGER EVER TO HIT #1.

CLOSE: I'M BOB KINGSLEY...INVITING YOU TO STAY ABOARD...AS THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS WILL CONTINUE IN A MOMENT!

OPEN: AND HERE WE ARE WITH THE FINAL CHAPTERS OF AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN'S BOOK OF RECORDS. (I'M BOB KINGSLEY, AND WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE IN THIS NON-COUNTDOWN SPECIAL IS PLAYING THE RECORDS THAT HAVE SET THE RECORDS DURING COUNTRY MUSIC'S COLORFUL SIXTY YEAR HISTORY.

INTRO: SEVERAL PAGES BACK, WE HEARD THE SHORTEST-PLAYING SINGLE EVER TO HIT #1 ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART... "GUESS THINGS HAPPEN THAT WAY" BY JOHNNY CASH... AT A MINUTE, 43 SECONDS LONG. NOW LET'S GO TO THE OTHER EXTREME... AND HEAR THE LONGEST-PLAYING SONG EVER TO HIT #1. FROM 1983, THERE'S A LOT OF SONG TO LIKE IN ITS 4 MINUTES AND 44 SECONDS. HERE'S WILLIE NELSON & MERLE HAGGARD WITH "PANCHO & LEFTY":

OUTRO: FOR THE PAST 4 MINUTES AND 44 SECONDS, WE'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THE LONGEST #1 SONG IN CHART HISTORY... "PANCHO & LEFTY" BY WILLIE NELSON AND MERLE HAGGARD.

INTRO: NOW LET'S SEE WHAT FEMALE SOLO SINGER LEADS ALL OTHERS IN MOST #1 SONGS. THIS IS THE LADY WHO'S BECOME VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE #1 SPOT BECAUSE SHE'S BEEN THERE SIXTEEN TIMES. THIS WAS TAMMY WYNETTE'S BIGGEST #1 SONG OF ALL... "STAND BY YOUR MAN":

OUTRO: FROM 1968, THAT'S TAMMY WYNETTE WITH "STAND BY YOUR MAN"... THE BIGGEST SINGLE OF HER CAREER... AND ONE OF THE 16 #1 HITS THAT MAKE TAMMY WYNETTE THE FEMALE SOLOIST WITH THE MOST #1'S

WE'RE EXPLORING THE HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS OF THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS. NEXT UP... THE YOUNGEST MALE AND FEMALE ARTISTS EVER TO APPEAR IN THE COUNTRY TOP FORTY... AND THE YOUNGEST MALE AND FEMALE ARTISTS EVER TO HIT #1!

C-1-----

INTRO: I'M BOB KINGSLEY, AND THIS WEEK WE'RE TAKING A SPECIAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS. NOW LET'S TURN AN IMAGINARY PAGE TO THE YOUNGEST FEMALE ARTIST EVER TO APPEAR IN THE TOP FORTY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART. LISTEN TO THIS:

OUTRO/INTRO: THAT'S PART OF THE VERY FIRST CHART RECORD BY THE ONE AND ONLY BRENDA LEE. BRENDA SET AN ALLTIME RECORD IN 1957 FOR YOUNGEST FEMALE SOLO SINGER EVER TO HIT THE COUNTRY TOP FORTY. SHE DID THAT WHEN HER SONG "ONE STEP AT A TIME" WENT TO #15. ~~WHEN~~ ^{first} BRENDA WAS TWELVE YEARS OLD. THEN... SIXTEEN YEARS LATER, THE ALLTIME RECORD WAS ESTABLISHED FOR THE YOUNGEST FEMALE SOLO SINGER EVER TO HIT #1. THE YEAR WAS 1973, THE SONG WAS "WHAT'S YOUR MAMA'S NAME",

AND THE SINGER WAS 14-YEAR-OLD TANYA TUCKER:

OUTRO: FROM MAY 1973, THAT'S "WHAT'S YOUR MAMA'S NAME" BY TANYA TUCKER...AT 14 YEARS OF AGE, THE YOUNGEST FEMALE SOLOIST TO EVER HIT #1.

INTRO: WE'RE ^{we're by our way} ~~BROWSING~~ THRU THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS...AND WE'RE IN THE CHAPTER ON "YOUNGEST RECORDING ARTISTS." LET'S SEE NOW...IT SAYS HERE THAT THE YOUNGEST MALE SINGER EVER TO HIT THE TOP FORTY DID SO LESS THAN A MONTH BEFORE HIS 21ST BIRTHDAY. HERE'S A PIECE OF THE SONG HE SET THE RECORD WITH:

OUTRO/INTRO: IN 1972, "PASS ME BY" REACHED #9 ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART... AND MADE 20-YEAR-OLD JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ THE YOUNGEST MALE SOLO SINGER EVER TO HIT THE TOP FORTY. THEN IN JUNE OF 1973, JOHNNY SET STILL ANOTHER RECORD WHEN AT AGE 21, HE BECAME THE YOUNGEST MALE SINGER EVER TO HIT #1. THE SONG WAS "YOU ALWAYS COME BACK TO HURTING ME":

OUTRO: FROM 1973, THAT'S JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ WITH "YOU ALWAYS COME BACK TO HURTING ME"...THE #1 SONG THAT MADE 21-YEAR-OLD JOHNNY THE YOUNGEST MALE SOLOIST TO HIT #1 IN COUNTRY CHART HISTORY.

COMING UP NEXT FROM THE BOOK OF RECORDS...THE ONLY SINGER TO SCORE #1 SONGS IN EACH OF THE PAST FOUR DECADES...AND WE'LL ^{tell you about} ~~HEAR~~ FOUR COUNTRY MUSIC STANDARDS WITH THE SAME MELODY!

C-2-----

INTRO: MY NAME'S BOB KINGSLEY. ^{Turnover} ON AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN ~~THIS WEEK~~, THE NAME OF THE GAME IS "SUPERLATIVES." FROM THE BOOK OF RECORDS, WE'VE GOT THE BIGGEST, THE SMALLEST, THE LONGEST, THE SHORTEST...AND SOME CATAGORIES IN-BETWEEN. IN THE HISTORY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART, ONLY ONE SINGER HAS HAD #1 SONGS IN EACH OF THE PAST FOUR DECADES. THIS MAN HAD HIS FIRST #1 IN 1959... AND IN 1980, HE SANG HIS WAY INTO HIS FOURTH HITMAKING DECADE WITH HIS BIGGEST RECORD OF ALL. HERE'S GEORGE JONES WITH "HE STOPPED LOVING HER TODAY":

OUTRO: FROM 1980, THERE'S "HE STOPPED LOVING HER TODAY" BY GEORGE JONES, THE ONLY SINGER IN CHART HISTORY TO SCORE #1 SONGS IN FOUR CONSECUTIVE DECADES.

INTRO: IN THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS, WE TURN ONCE AGAIN TO THE CHAPTER ON "ODDITIES." YOU KNOW, FOR MANY YEARS NOW...ONCE A SONG IS RECORDED, IT'S ALSO COPYRIGHTED. BUT IN THE EARLY DAYS OF RADIO AND RECORDS, TODAY'S COMPLEX COPYRIGHT LAWS WERE STILL A THING OF THE FUTURE. NOW ANY MELODY

THAT EXISTED BEFORE THE COPYRIGHT LAW IS CALLED "TRADITIONAL" AND IS SAID TO BE IN "PUBLIC DOMAIN." WHAT THAT MEANS IS SIMPLY THAT ANYONE WHO WANTED TO USE ONE OF THOSE OLD MELODIES WAS FREE TO DO SO. AND THAT'S HOW...DURING ONE 22 YEAR PERIOD...THERE WERE FOUR COUNTRY HITS WITH THE SAME BASIC MELODY. THIS PARTICULAR MELODY IS VERY OLD AND BRITISH AND IT WAS FIRST USED IN COUNTRY MUSIC IN THIS 1929 RECORDING BY THE CARTER FAMILY, "I'M THINKING TONIGHT OF MY BLUE EYES":

OUTRO/INTRO: THERE'S PART OF A 1929 RECORDING BY COUNTRY MUSIC'S FAMED CARTER FAMILY CALLED "I'M THINKING TONIGHT OF MY BLUE EYES." THE SONG USED AN ANCIENT BRITISH MELODY THAT SHOWED UP AGAIN SEVEN YEARS LATER---THIS TIME IN AN INSPIRATIONAL SONG WHICH BECAME A MAJOR HIT, A FIRST HIT FOR A 33-YEAR-OLD SINGER NAMED ROY ACUFF. THE SONG WAS "GREAT SPECKLE BIRD":

OUTRO/INTRO: THERE'S A BIT OF ROY ACUFF'S 1936 RECORDING OF "GREAT SPECKLE BIRD." THE SONG MADE ACUFF A STAR AND IT WON HIM THE COVETED SPOT AS THE FIRST FEATURED SINGER EVER HIRED BY THE GRAND OLD OPRY. SIXTEEN YEARS LATER, THAT OLD BRITISH MELODY SURFACED ONCE AGAIN...THIS TIME IN THE BIGGEST COUNTRY HIT OF 1952...HANK THOMPSON'S "WILD SIDE OF LIFE":

OUTRO/INTRO: IN 1952, HANK THOMPSON'S "WILD SIDE OF LIFE" WAS #1 FOR 15 WEEKS.. AND THE SONG THAT FINALLY REPLACED IT AT #1 WAS KITTY WELLS' MUSICAL REBUTTAL TO "WILD SIDE OF LIFE"... "IT WASN'T GOD WHO MADE HONKY TONK ANGELS"; *Answer using the same melody.*

OUTRO: THAT'S COUNTRY MUSIC'S FIRST FEMALE SUPERSTAR, KITTY WELLS WITH PART OF HER 1952 HIT, "IT WASN'T GOD WHO MADE HONKY TONK ANGELS." OF COURSE, KITTY'S RECORD WAS AN "ANSWER SONG" TO HANK THOMPSON'S "WILD SIDE OF LIFE"...AND BOTH SONGS USED THE SAME BASIC MELODY THAT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY USED IN 1936 FOR ROY ACUFF'S "GREAT SPECKLE BIRD"...AND BEFORE THAT, IN 1929 BY THE CARTER FAMILY FOR "I'M THINKING TONIGHT OF MY BLUE EYES." FOUR HIT SONGS...FOUR SETS OF LYRICS SET TO ONE MELODY...FROM THE "ODDITIES" CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS.

NEXT UP, THE BIGGEST SPOKEN-WORD HIT...AND THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SINGER IN CHART HISTORY!

C-3-----

INTRO: AND ON WE GO WITH OUR SPECIAL PROGRAM, THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS. I'M BOB KINGSLEY AND WE'RE UP TO THE SONG THAT HOLDS THE RECORD FOR THE BIGGEST SPOKEN-WORD HIT OF ALLTIME. FROM 1969, HERE'S JOHNNY CASH WITH "A BOY NAMED SUE":

OUTRO: FROM 1969, THAT'S JOHNNY CASH AND "A BOY NAMED SUE"...WITH ITS FIVE WEEKS AT #1, THE BIGGEST SPOKEN-WORD HIT OF ALLTIME.

INTRO: THIS NEXT ARTIST HAS HIS OWN CHAPTER IN OUR BOOK OF RECORDS, AND DESERVEDLY SO! HE STILL CARRIES THE SQUARE-JAWED, BROAD SHOULDERED, SHYLY SOFT-SPOKEN AURA OF THE TENNESSEE PLOWBOY HE ONCE WAS. HE'S WORTH MILLIONS NOW, BUT HE KEEPS WORKING...MAKING PHONOGRAPH RECORDS IN NASHVILLE...AND BREAKING ATTENDENCE RECORDS IN COMPETITIVE SPOTS LIKE RENO, TAHOE AND LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. ONE OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIM AND OTHER ARTISTS IS THAT HE'S ALWAYS THOUGH OF HIMSELF AS A BUSINESS. HE HAS A CERTAIN IMAGE AND HE LIVES UP TO IT. AND OF ALL THE STARS THAT SHINE WITH VARYING DEGREES OF BRIGHTNESS OVER THE TENNESSEE HILLS THAT OVERLOOK NASHVILLE, THE STAR NAMED EDDY ARNOLD IS DISTINGUISHED FROM ALL THE OTHERS BECAUSE IT'S BURNED CONSISTENTLY BRIGHTER AND LONGER THAN ALL THE OTHERS. EDDY ARNOLD'S FIRST RECORD WAS RELEASED IN 1945 AND SINCE THEN, HE'S SOLD OVER 80 MILLION RECORDS. HE'S ALSO SPENT OVER 1600 WEEKS ON BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART...MAKING COUNTRY MUSIC HISTORY WITH 134 CHART RECORDS. HERE NOW IS A MONTAGE OF TWELVE OF THE BEST:

OUTRO: FROM THE AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN BOOK OF RECORDS, THAT'S A MONTAGE OF TWELVE OF THE 134 CHART RECORDS BY EDDY ARNOLD...MAKING EDDY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COUNTRY ACT IN CHART HISTORY!

COMING UP NEXT, WE'LL TRACE THE EVOLUTION OF THE MOST FAMOUS COUNTRY SONG OF ALL!

C-4-----

INTRO: I'M BOB KINGSLEY, AND THIS IS AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN'S SPECIAL TRIP THRU THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS! THE BEST KNOWN SONG IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IS "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU." THE SONG WAS COPYRIGHTED IN 1910 AND NOT A SINGLE DAY HAS PASSED SINCE THEN WHEN "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU" HAS NOT BEEN SUNG IN AMERICA AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. OF THE OTHER TWO BEST KNOWN ENGLISH LANGUAGE SONGS...ONE IS "WHITE CHRISTMAS", THE OTHER IS A COUNTRY SONG...THE MOST FAMOUS COUNTRY SONG IN HISTORY. COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME MEMBER AND TWO-TIME GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA JIMMIE DAVIS WROTE THE SONG IN 1939 WITH CHARLES MITCHELL, HIS STEEL-GUITAR PLAYER. LIKE "HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU"...THIS SONG WAS ALSO EASY TO SING AND EASY TO REMEMBER. IT QUICKLY BECAME POPULAR IN SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT AMERICA. BY THE MIDDLE OF WORLD WAR II, THE SONG HAD SPREAD---ALONG WITH OTHER AMERICAN ITEMS LIKE CHEWING GUM AND SWING MUSIC, AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE AMERICAN SOLDIER AND SAILOR. BY THE END OF WORLD WAR II, IT HAD BECOME ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN AMERICAN SONGS IN THE WORLD. TODAY, NEARLY FORTY YEARS LATER, IT REMAINS ONE OF THE THREE BEST KNOWN SONGS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. THE SONG IS "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE"...AND WE'RE GOING TO HEAR A BIT OF SEVERAL

VERSIONS...BEGINNING WITH THE ORIGINAL JIMMIE DAVIS VERSION FROM MARCH 1940:

OUTRO/INTRO: JIMMIE DAVIS FIRST RECORDED "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE" IN 1940, AND HE LATER USED THE SONG IN BOTH CAMPAIGNS WHEN HE SUCCESSFULLY RAN FOR THE GOVERNORSHIP OF LOUISIANA IN 1944 AND AGAIN IN 1959. MEANWHILE, IN JUNE 1941, GENE AUTRY RECORDED THE SONG. AUTRY'S PROMINENCE IN AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE AS A MOVIE COWBOY GAVE HIM AN ACCESS TO PUBLIC TASTES THAT NO OTHER COUNTRY SINGER OF THE TIME POSSESSED. AND GENE'S VERSION OF "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE" BECAME THE BIGGEST COUNTRY RECORD OF 1941:

OUTRO/INTRO: GENE AUTRY'S 1941 HIT OF "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE" LED TO ANOTHER VERSION OF THE SONG THAT SAME YEAR BY THE LAWRENCE WELK ORCHESTRA. AND BILLBOARD MAGAZINE CALLED THE SONG "THE TAP ROOM AND TAVERN CLASSIC OF THE YEAR." BUT THE BEST WAS YET TO COME. THE VOICE OF BING CROSBY HAS BEEN HEARD BY MORE PEOPLE THAN ANY OTHER VOICE IN HISTORY...AND ON JULY 8TH 1941, BING CROSBY RECORDED "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE":

OUTRO/INTRO: THAT'S SOME OF BING CROSBY'S 1941 VERSION OF "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE." THROUGHOUT THE 1940'S AND 50'S, THE SONG WAS RECORDED BY COUNTLESS COUNTRY AND POP SINGERS. IN THE 1960'S, THE SONG CONTINUED TO PROSPER WITH VERSIONS BY ACTS LIKE NAT "KING" COLE, ANDY WILLIAMS AND COUNT BASIE...BUT IT WAS THE GENIUS OF RAY CHARLES THAT TOOK "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE" TO THE TOP OF THE POP CHARTS IN 1962:

OUTRO/INTRO: RAY CHARLES...BING CROSBY...GENE AUTRY...AND JIMMIE DAVIS ARE JUST FOUR OF THE MORE THAN 350 ARTISTS WHO'VE RECORDED "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE." THE SONG WAS ALSO USED IN MOVIES AS WELL AS IN RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMERCIALS. BY THE TIME THE 1970'S ROLLED AROUND, THE TUNE HAD RECEIVED EVERY IMAGINABLE FORM OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT EXCEPT ONE. AND IN 1978, THE STATLER BROTHERS TOOK CARE OF THAT WHEN THEY WROTE AND RECORDED A SONG ABOUT "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE"

OUTRO: FROM 1978, THERE'S A BIT OF THE STATLER BROTHERS' SALUTE TO "YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE"...AND IF YOU HEAR ANYONE ASK "DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE?", YOU CAN TELL 'EM THAT IT'S THE MOST POPULAR AND MOST VALUABLE SONG IN ALL OF COUNTRY MUSIC!

STILL TO COME ON THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS, THE ONLY RECORD TO HIT #1 SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THREE CHARTS...AND THE BIGGEST COUNTRY SINGLE IN CHART HISTORY!

INTRO: I'M BOB KINGSLEY AND THIS IS AN AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN SPECIAL.... OUR BOOK OF RECORDS. YOU KNOW, IN RECENT YEARS, CROSSOVER SONGS--HITS ON MORE THAN ONE CHART--HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY COMMON. BUT BACK IN 1956, THEY WERE ANYTHING BUT COMMON. THAT'S THE YEAR WHEN ONE RECORD HIT #1 SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THREE CHARTS FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER. IT WAS DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27TH 1956, THAT IF YOU LOOKED AT BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY, POP AND SOUL CHARTS, YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND THEM ALL IDENTICAL IN THEIR #1 SONGS. THE MAN WHO DID THAT WAS ~~NO~~ OTHER THAN ELVIS PRESLEY, AND THE SONG WAS "DON'T BE CRUEL":

OUTRO: FROM 1956, THAT'S ELVIS PRESLEY WITH "DON'T BE CRUEL"...THE FIRST RECORD TO EVER HIT #1 SIMULTANEOUSLY ON ALL THREE CHARTS---COUNTRY, POP AND SOUL.

INTRO: WELL, WE'RE NOW ON THE LAST PAGE IN OUR BOOK OF RECORDS...AND WE'VE HEARD ALL THE SONGS BUT ONE. TO FIND THE BIGGEST COUNTRY SINGLE IN CHART HISTORY, WE HAD TO GO WAY BACK TO 1951. THAT'S WHEN THE BIGGEST SINGLE TO EVER HIT BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART SPENT 21 WEEKS AT #1! AND THAT'S A RECORD NOBODY HAS BEEN ABLE TO TOUCH...BEFORE OR SINCE! HERE IT IS...HANK SNOW'S "I'M MOVIN' ON":

OUTRO: FROM 1951, WRITTEN AND SUNG BY HANK SNOW..."I'M MOVIN' ON" IS THE BIGGEST HIT SINGLE IN THE HISTORY OF BILLBOARD'S COUNTRY CHART!

AND THAT CLOSES OUR A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS FOR THE TIME BEING (CLOSING THEME).

CLOSE: WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING HERE FOR THE PAST THREE HOURS IS SPOTLIGHTING THE MANY VARIED FORMS OF MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT FROM OUR RESEARCH FILES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS...THE GREAT PILE OF COUNTRY MUSIC INFORMATION THAT WE CALL THE A.C.C. BOOK OF RECORDS. THERE IS NO ACTUAL BOOK SO PLEASE DON'T WRITE US ABOUT IT, OR TRY TO BUY IT IN A BOOKSTORE. AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN WAS CREATED BY CASEY KASEM AND DON BUSTANY IN CONJUNCTION WITH ABC/WATERMARK. EXECUTIVE PRODUCER -- TOM ROUNDS, WITH JOHNNY BIGGS, BARBARA LYON, NEIL HAISLOP, RON SHAPIRO, PAUL LIEBSKIND, ELAINE STIEGLITZ, ANN STROHECKER AND PAT SHIELDS. I'M BOB KINGSLEY --JOIN ME NEXT WEEK WHEN ONCE AGAIN WE'LL COUNT DOWN THE FORTY BIGGEST COUNTRY HITS OF THE WEEK ON "AMERICAN COUNTRY COUNTDOWN."