

Sleeping Dogs were interviewed at their house in San Francisco on the 30th of September, 1983. The interview was conducted by Roderick and Grenold, who would like to state that it was their first time conducting an interview, and in the light of this Sleeping Dogs were very helpful and understanding.

Key: D.D.-Dirty Dog, drums and vocals; B.B.-Bad Boy, bass and vocals; J.C.-Jagged Canine, keyboards and vocals; E.R.-Roderick and Grenold.

E.R.-Is Helen Harmon (played guitar on their e.p. "Beware") still in the band? I had heard something about that...

B.B.-Helen had commitments in Texas where she came from, and so she still considers herself in the band but we haven't seen her since september when she did the record but if she wants to come back and play with us all she has to do is come to San Francisco. So she's a long-distance band member.

J.C.-We have several of those,....

B.B.-Yeah, in different places.

E.R.-Like at the On Broadway (San Francisco club) you had a guy bashing a snare....

J.C.-Yeah, Liam. He's in Germany now. He's played with us about a dozen times. In a way everybody's part of the band!

B.B.-In a way, Pete and Penny (of Crass) are too because they played on the record.

E.R.-Could you tell us where you all come from and how Arsenal came together and how that turned into the Sleeping Dogs and the line-up from then to the present, etc?

J.C.-Well, I don't think that's very important. The only thing we could say is that one of us is from San Francisco, one of us is from England, and one of us from New York, and we met in New York. And there seems to be kind of a fluctuation in our line-up, like for instance I wasn't on the record because I didn't go to England. So it isn't really that important I don't think, because Arsenal was one band and Sleeping Dogs is another and they happen to be the same people but it's the ideas that are what's important, the idea of anarchy and working together and being a collective; so if someone plays sax for a couple of gigs then they're in the band.

E.R.-So there was no change then from the two bands? Just the name changed?

B.B.-Well, there's been a shift in that we're all singing more. Before, Charlie (J.C.) was doing most of the singing and songwriting; and there's a difference in the texture of the way we sound. Things change and we're not the same since we changed.

E.R.-What was the purpose of the magazine (Sleeping Dogs mag - see review) and Final Morning Extra?

J.C.-Well, it started out with a group of people who were all quote-poets-unquote and we all worked at the same bookstore and we decided that one month instead of reading we'd do the magazine and it turns out that some of the people are in the band and some aren't. It's all part of the same process, really. It's just another facet of it. I guess the first Sleeping Dogs magazine came about because Arsenal really broke up because I went back to New York and Dave started working on this magazine and then I came back and I ended up doing three pages in the magazine and Bad Boy ended up doing a few pages for the magazine, so it's all kind of like a collective. Like everyone wearing different hats.(pause) Right?

D.D.-Yeah. I'm compiling material for the second one which I have to put together when we get back from the northwest.

J.C.-Yeah; and then I'm going to collect different things from the diff-



erent cities we play and then send it back and print it up. We have access to a xerox machine now so we just pay for the paper which is really great, because you can do.... like another Final Morning Extra. There were 175 copies that were done and it only cost \$6.60 for the paper and then day we could do eight hours of printing, do typing and stuff like that so it's another part of the process.

E.R.-You were talking about Anarchy before. Do you have any individual thoughts about how change comes about?

B.B.-Well, each of us have our own opinions.

E.R.-Yeah, so....

B.B.-It comes about really slowly, far too slow. I wish it could happen faster but.... it just seems that things don't move along. I mean I know that they DO but it's just ever so slowly.

E.R.-How do you start it moving?

B.B.-Well, basically that's why we're in the band and that's why we're doing the magazine and that's why we're doing most of what we're doing; to influence individuals and to try to suggest that they figure out how to change things in THEIR lives and ask good questions, and ask the same questions of ourselves. We aren't the "good guys", we're as imperfect as anyone else. It's just a continuing struggle.... on and on.

D.D.-Yeah; you figure out how to change your own life for the better and how to rid yourself of things that are obscuring your vision. You try and examine what you can do with yourself and then out of the struggle to do that maybe other people can get ideas of their own.

E.R.-Is that Autonomy or is that Anarchy or does it even need to be defined or....?

D.D.-Well, that's only useful if someone says "Are you a republican or a democrat?" and there's a sort of difference....

E.R.-But would that label confuse some people?

D.D.-No, I don't really like labels. The trouble is that if you talk about Anarchy it's so.... there's so many preconceptions after it being used for five years or whatever and since '77 it gets to drawing A's in circles in a really BIG way (laughter). I don't know, but the ideas it's based on are still the same and with the word Autonomy might also describe very well as in people having responsibility for their own lives instead of what's imposed on them by governments or institutions like school or work or....

J.C.- or a band!

D.D.-or a band, even. The idea of personal responsibility and Autonomy, that's still sound. I guess you have to find different, specific ways to talk about that instead of just "Oh, I'm into Anarchy!" and then leave people to figure out what you mean by that....

J.C.-Like your whole life is a process of definition, trying to find out what you are and especially with Anarchy. Like if you're saying "No Government", which alot of people can get rid of, and "No Religion", which alot of people can get rid of, but then you want to get rid of the family too, because you don't want a set-up even like an extended family, that's got to go too - that each person should be a law unto their own selves. But you have to be flexible too. Like we don't really have meetings and decide "Oh, well we're going to sing this song" and all that. We each write our own songs and then we're each responsible for our own words and we try not to question each others words. Sometimes we have arguments about it but we just try to say "Well, we're all individuals and if I want to say something, that's fine and if they want to say something, that's fine too!" We all have really different concerns and we would never take the stand that say for instance Crass does where when they're interviewed they're all under the name "Crass". We don't really see ourselves as a collective entity in that sense. We're all individuals and the fact that Helen can still be in the band and not not have played with us for 9 months or something like that.... or that they (B.B. and D.D.) can go to England

and make a record and come back and my view is to support it as if I went, because I think that I'm on that record. I mean I'm not physically on but.... um....'dot dot dot'.

E.R.-What's the concept behind the name?

D.D.- That's sort of explained in the magazine (Sleeping Dogs), there's a statement in there. My idea when I thought of it was the expression "Let Sleeping Dogs Lie", and what it actually means is that if there's a dog you don't wake it up 'cos it might bite you, it's like the idea that we're not really awake. Personally I feel like I'm half awake, if you will. I don't consider myself to have all the answers and I'm not in a position to tell you what's right or wrong. I'm trying to wake myself up as well as explain what I do to other people so that maybe other people can get something from it. I think most people are still sleeping and our name is based on that sort of diversion and subjugation and oppression whereby people aren't in a position to express themselves. So people are either put to sleep or are sleeping so to me the only thing is trying to wake up and make myself aware.

E.R.-So aware is like questioning or....?

D.D.-Yeah, , it's just trying to figure out what is really going on. Like you can't tell what's really going on from watching television or reading the straight newspapers. I mean you can sometimes obliquely get an idea by reading between the lines, but you have to find alternative sources and that can be different kinds of media or just meeting people, like meeting someone who's actually in the army or in some form of government position where they know something that's an official secret that the public doesn't know and they tell you "Well, I was down there and this is what actually happened...." so it's like trying to find out what's really going on and it can be anything from small things like we were talking about what's really going on in the "scene" when it comes to people putting on gigs - who's making what? Who's oppressing who? And it's anywhere from that all the way up to "What is the government doing?" To us, to people in other nations; and what covert activities are they up to? So it's really just trying to wake up, trying to find out....

J.C.-Question everything - yourselves, people in your band, your friends, other bands, all the way up; and not really let anyone off the hook, including yourself - especially yourself.

B.B.-It's a kind of vigilance that you keep doing until you die, or you'll spiritually die. You know it, you can see in peoples faces and they're just.... dead. You can see children, BABIES, two or three years old, and you look at their faces and their faces are so blocked and so.... They don't see anything. It's really scary.

E.R.-But that changes, doesn't it?

B.B.-NO!

E.R.-Never?

B.B.-No! It can but look at people! Go out in the street and look at people! Listen to what they're saying. Listen to what they endorse, what values they promote.

J.C.-It's very safe to be asleep, like there was an article in the paper about Getty, you know the richest man in the world and it sounds like he's got a really good life but they said "where's his money coming from?". And I'm sure his money is involved in armaments and missiles and all this shit and I'm sure he doesn't really know about it. He would say, "Oh well that's my business advisers. I just wanna sing opera and close my eyes and get lost in the music." But he really should be aware of what's going on. He sounds like a nice person, really; I mean he doesn't sound like a pig. He doesn't sound like David Rockefeller. Like David Rockefeller you'd just want to shoot him, put him right up against the wall and shoot him.

E.R.-But that was just in the paper....

J.C.-Yeah, but still you have to question everything and become aware of what's happening. The whole idea we were talking about earlier about

minors (over 18 clubs) and being aware that there's a problem.... You know the the fact that we said we said we would play in any situation, even in situations that excluded minors because we feel that we want to reach everybody. But to just say, "Oh, well WE didn't know they excluded minors...." THAT would be really wrong, I think, to just blissfully go along and say "Well, we'll play these clubs and they're all good...." because there are differences. There are clubs that, when we first came out here, we decided not to play; not just because they excluded minors but because the bouncers were extremely brutal and their policies hurt people.

E.R.-Could you describe some of your best and worst reactions while playing?

B.B.-Well, they usually happen at the same show! (laughter) I think any reaction is good because it means that somethings been touched and hopefully it's an authentic reaction whether it's people who hate us or people who love us and hopefully it's original in a person whatever they're feeling and they're not just responding like the person next to them like "Oh, if HE'S feeling it I must feel it....". But basically it's just to get people to start thinking. It doesn't matter really whether they like us or hate us but if they're provoked into some sort of consideration of their lives or their values in some sort of way then we've succeeded.

J.C.- The only really bad reaction would be if people left. Like when we played this benefit for Berkeley Chemists for Peace there was this guy and he's yelling at me as I was singing and I couldn't really tell what he was yelling so I gave him the microphone and then he just sort of backed away and kept yelling from the background. And then after the set was over I went up to him and I said "What didn't you like about it?" and first of all he was really amazed that I would talk to him. I guess he just didn't think that punks talked to people like him because he had a beard and he was all.... I mean he looked like a chemist. He looked like some sort of graduate instructor or whatever. But he said that he didn't like the beat, how it kept going "DUM DUM DUM", he didn't like it. And it turned out that what he liked was jazz so I started talking to him about some of the stuff that happened in the sixties with jazz with John Coltraine and Archie Shep and Albert Iyler and there was all these guys who were really involved in Black Power and there was alot of hate going on and alot of despair and that this kind of music was really ugly and it was a reaction to that and I was drawing a parallel to the kind of bands we are, say Trail, Treason, Atrocity, and that sort of thing, and there's this not so much despair, but there's this whole thing about nuclear power, about the draft, and that alot of the music might sound ugly or loud because that's the way WE feel about it. And we talked for about twenty minutes and he said "Why are you talking to me" and I said "'cos you're still here." Because if he'd left then there wouldn't have been any sort of basis to have communication but the fact that he stayed through the whole set.... See when I see a band I don't like 'em, I LEAVE. If I'm bored I leave, I don't want to see them if I really hate them. But if there's some band that's so.... they get to me and I don't necessarily like what they're doing but I don't want to remove myself and I still want to watch them then I think that that band is reaching me. So it's just the kind of indifference that we don't particularly want.

E.R.-Why only one gig in England?

B.B.-Um, basically we didn't really have a band together at the time because Helen (Harmon) left, as I said, right after her part was finished on the recording and we hadn't rehearsed or anything after the recording sessions so it was like half a band.

D.D.-Yeah, there was just the two of us really and we were involved in working on the sleeve and we did quite a bit of research for that.

B.B.-I don't know, I mean we could've played if we'd had more of a band together....

D.D.-And the thing about about that gig (Zig Zag Club "squat rock" gig

held on the 18th of December 1982) was that there were all these different kinds of bands playing. There were like full-scale bands down to just one guy singing and a drummer, just two people (D&V) So it was sort of like going out and playing bass and drums and we also had Pete (Crass) playing bass with us. It was just a performance that fit that particular occasion but it wasn't a band that you could tour with.

E.R.-You were talking about the sleeve, how did you do the research for it and where did you get the information?

D.D.-Well, what we did was we went to various bookshops that had alternative stuff, underground stuff....

B.B.-Collectives and alternative bookstores and we went to Amnesty International and had long talks with the lady who was in charge of Latin American information. And we went to the American Embassy and I posed as a reporter and I said that I'd been away from the states and had been asked to write an article for one of the local papers and I asked what kind of information they could supply me with because I didn't want to get anything wrong. (laughter) The guy was just peeing in his pants he was so happy that someone was on HIS SIDE! And so he supplied me with all kinds of stuff but basically we were able to use it against him because it was so.... transparent. It was really thin. It was very funny, I mean it would be funny if it weren't such a serious subject, but it was pretty amazing the information.... and then we got all kinds of stuff from the English papers, like the Times is pretty good and the guardian is pretty good....

E.R.-My mom brings home the Times alot to do the crossword puzzles and I've noticed it to be kind of biased....

B.B.-It's very right-wing but you can still.... I mean it prides itself so much on giving a fair picture of the news that you can even then get a fair idea of what's going on.

E.R.-They use more adjectives than CNN (Cable News Network).

B.B.-Oh yeah it's very pompous.

E.R.-Is there any kind of difference between lyrics and music in terms of importance to you?

D.D.-No, it's the same.

B.B.-It's the same. That's the only way it could work for what we're doing because we're not like Blue Oyster Cult or something. We're really not technicians.

J.C.-Blue Oyster Cult? (lotta guffaws)

B.B.-They've got lasers and do all this sort of....

J.C.-Have they ever been referred to as technicians?

B.B.-..... posing with their guitars and....

D.D.-But we do that! (sarcastically) (intense yuks)

B.B.&J.C.-But we don't have any guitars!

D.D.-Oh, that's true. Well the only difference is that the words are invariably written first, most times and then we, for want of a better word, improvise the music to it but it all happens (a bus roars by and the rest of the sentence is lost forever.)

J.C.-Supposedly the music would be just as much of an alternative as the words. It's not enough to write say really great lyrics and have just sort of ordinary music. The music has to get under peoples skin in the same way as the words might.

E.R.-Are the lyrics written collectively?

J.C.-No, we write them all separately.

D.D.-We just write our own songs.

B.B.-We won't sing anyone elses....

J.C.-We might make suggestions and sometimes they're followed and sometimes they're not. It's academic. It doesn't really matter too much.

E.R.-Are you vegetarians?

B.B.-Welllll, ummmmm....

J.C.-I'm not! And I'm proud of it! Just kidding....

B.B.-No, we're not really vegetarians. We tend towards it but we're not exactly....

E.R.--You don't feel it's as important or.....?

D.D.--Well, we don't have any songs about killing and eating dead things, no. I mean it has some relevance for our own lives but it's not something that (garbled). Concern with what we eat does have a place in our own lives.

J.C.--A big place.

D.D.--I mean we are conscious about that personally.

B.B.--We're very conscious.....

D.D.--We don't eat alot of canned foods or supermarket stuff. So there IS stuff that we consider but we've never really been resolved about that. It's not as a whole something that we're into. We don't really promote it for other people.....

J.C.--Well we might, I mean there's nothing wrong in it. I know with my own self personally I like the taste of meat. I don't eat it alot like I might eat it three or four times a week - I don't eat it three or four times a day the way most americans do - but I think that your primary responsibility is to yourself and you have to be in shape and be healthy and I think it's very difficult to be a vegetarian in america and be healthy and it certainly would be almost impossible to be a vegetarian and go on the road and be healthy. (BOTH assertions are ABSOLUTELY UNTRUE. I was going to try to save all commentary until the end of this interview, but sorry folks I can't keep my mouth shut. I KNOW from PERSONAL EXPERIENCE that it is indeed very possible to live in amerika and travel (in a almost vagabondish manner, I may add) and be a vegetarian and be completely healthy. There are PLENTY of sources of protein other than the murdered flesh of dead animals - it's completely un-necessary to kill in order to survive.... ESPECIALLY in america! It's just a matter of TAKING RESPONSIBILTY for ALL of your actions and preparing things yourself - the MORALITY of vegetarianism is covered later on in this issue. As far as health goes I KNOW that I'm much healthier than those I know who eat animal flesh, since becoming a vegetarian (Well over a year ago) I've only been ill once, that was with the flu. We now return to the interview - Steve.) As long as you don't go into it blindly.... like we don't eat big slabs of meat. Most of the time I'll have it like the way the Chinese use it or like in a burrito or something - chopped up as a garnish as opposed to steak or roast or whatever. But I really think that you have to be healthy certainly if there's going to be any kind of revolution or social change you have to be healthy. Like somebody wrote this really great poem a couple of years ago in New York, this was around '77 or '78, but the jist of it was "When the revolution comes, how fast can you run in your spiked heels?" and it had to do with punk fashion and sort of extreme dressing which really wasn't as servicable as say fatigues or sneakers and running shoes.

E.R.--But isn't there something more to vegetarianism than just not eating (garbled) animals?

(Sudden hush as J.C. gets up to flip the tape over.)

J.C.--For instance like what do you mean?

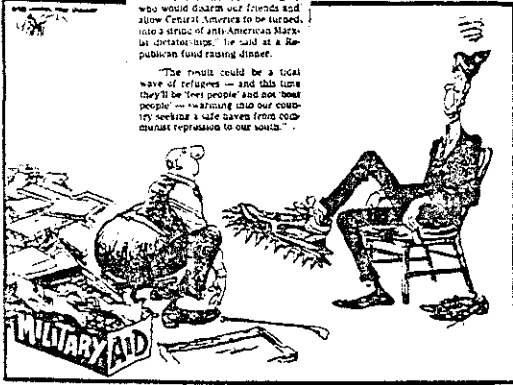
E.R.--For instance alot of vegetarians, and I'm not a vegetarian, would say that it's also respect for human life because the grain is grown to feed the animals instead of people.....

J.C.--Well alot of it is like a real personal thing. For instance, there's this one particular band who are all vegetarians and they all smoke alot, you know? (Not the same-- no one has ever called smoking healthy, but some people feel they benefit from nicotine, so they've made a choice that the effects of nicotine are desirable to them, the only ones they are subjecting to smoke are themselves and those who CHOOSE to be with them. Besides, alot of oldsters smoke more than a pack a day.- Steve) If you were doing an interview with them the whole room would be filled with smoke. So you can say O.K. like they're vegetarians because of respect for people and animals and all that stuff but how about the smoking? (Nothing needs to be murdered for a cig - Steve.) (No I don't smoke.) Like at one point one of us would

President Reagan waited last night that if Congress refuses to approve more military aid for missions in Central America, the "Social Club" Nicaraguan exiles could take over the region, prompting a "total war" of refugees to the United States.

We must not listen to those who would disarm our friends and allow Central America to be turned into a strip of anti-American Marxist dictatorship. He said at a Republican fund raising dinner.

The result could be a total wave of refugees - and this time they'll be the people and not their people - warning into our country seeking a safe haven from communist repression to our south.



"THERE, SURE, THEY SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THE HOT PEOPLE!"

That President Reagan would still "the a lot bigger deal" not hearing what is going on in a house I am not sure he is. He finds an "apparent power distance" in the White House, saying that Reagan has set in cabinet meetings, dividing votes had to a red agenda, he would start being Hollywood stories or talk about nuclear in Spain.

Reagan speaks the White House side as "I am not sure he knows about the level of his own house, they would be before. There are only 10 to 15 people who know the entire and much they have and he is talking to one who believes it."

Reagan is a simple thinking revolution in "Max Nelson" and first he is up after story that show Nelson and Ronald Reagan talking and avoiding reality. The picture two people who are sitting separately in the house of a middle American, middle class, mid-20th century version of the Good Life according to the American Dream, and who played that life, and those roles, so convincingly that many people believed in them, and voted for them, to more than make the Reagan's dreams come true.

The national security of all Americans is at stake in a vital moment. The White House has a new position to be filled in a few days. We cannot afford to have a man who is not a member of the party of the people in the White House.

What happens in Central America is not just a matter of the U.S. shipping money through the Central Bank and American businessmen have interests in the region that would be jeopardized if the man who is in charge of U.S. foreign policy is not a member of the party of the people.

be completely vegetarian, and one would eat just chicken and then the other one would eat all kinds of meat so it just becomes a personal thing. I mean I think at this point Atrocity's best song is "Animal Fate" which is about the killing of animals to feed people and I don't necessarily believe in the words of the song but I respect their belief.... and it's a good song. So I think it becomes sort of a personal thing. And that's the whole thing about anarchy - that there are vegetarian anarchists and pacifist anarchists and there are anarchists that believe in direct action - it shouldn't be restricted.

B.B.-It shouldn't be mindless either. What I do should be considered. I should consider myself, I should consider my environment, I should consider the people around me. I shouldn't do anything without considering, without thinking about the questions....

J.C.-You know some tibetans are buddhist and according to buddhism you're not supposed to kill animals and eat them but what the tibetans will say is that if you're living in the mountains and you have a really hard life and it's really cold then you need something to create heat in your body so you eat meat. Even a rasta was talking about how it's all very good to be a vegetarian

if you live in Jamaica where it's warm but if you're living in England in London or in Birmingham or something like that and it's really cold and you have to get something in your body to keep you warm.... (Then what about all the perfectly healthy (and warm) vegetarians in England? - your friendly vegetarian (healthy and too warm) ~~typist~~ typist Steve.)

B.B.-I think there are personal advantages and disadvantages to vegetarianism. One of the advantages I found was this one state of mind. The way that you feel in your head is different when you're eating meat or not eating meat. It's hard to describe but the quality of perception to things is different and to me that was an advantage. But the disadvantage is that if if you're not going to eat meat then fine but you have to be that much more careful. I mean you could eat sort of very badly if you like and if you have just the occasional hamburger then you can sort of get by, but if you're relying on vegetable and plant sources and grains or whatever you have to really work at it, I mean you pretty much have to cook for yourself two or three times a day, in your own home preferably, just because society isn't oriented towards vegetarianism. So it's socially inconvenient. If you're in a position where you can spend alot of time in your own home and really be thoughtful and consider what you're doing then you can be healthy. But alot of people aren't in that position, and there's not alot of things that you can eat in restaurants that will sustain you if you're vegetarian. The most you can get, it seems, is to have cheese and dairy products which is not that good for you anyway and it really clogs up your system, too.

J.C.-I guess the thing is you have to find out what's good for yourself and what your body can take, what your body needs to survive and feel good. Like right now if I eat something that's really bad I know right away. Like for instance if somebody gives me a peice of candy and I eat it then I feel sick because I don't really use a lot of sugar. But I think THAT'S the most important thing - just to find some sort of balance and that's what it's all about anyway is balance, ecology. It's not so much

that eating chicken is bad, but it's the way these chickens are raised; that they're all kind of cramped together, that there's no real life. They don't really have a life, they're just food and I think that's what's really wrong. If you could go back to a state like maybe a hundred, hundred and fifty years ago where people would raise their own food and they'd be really aware of what was going on and they didn't have additives in the food. There's nothing wrong with sausage it's just that now there's all this nitrate in it so if you could get sausage without any nitrates in it like in the old days....

B.B.--A hundred-fifty years ago. (laughs)

J.C.--I just think you should be aware of what you're doing and it isn't so much that there's a right or wrong, it's just that there's people being aware and not aware.

D.D.--Even if you want to stay meatless there's alot you can do to improve your diet. You can eat alot of grains and buy decent vegetables and don't buy any canned foods and don't buy anything that has additives in it.

E.R.--Do you think that has an effect on people and on society?

D.D.--I think it would but again it's like the question of the percentage of grain that's lost and goes to animal feed. It's sort of hypothetical, I mean if the american diet changed overnight from the preponderance of meat to one of grains then there would be all this additional food except that the grains would still be probably sold to the russians or something. I mean it's fine that the russians should eat too, but it's a political question as well. It's not that you can just say "O.k., we won't feed the cows. We'll take all this grain and we'll distribute it evenly around the world so that people in Africa or wherever can get a decent meal and not be starving." But that's not a philosophical question as it's a practical political one. You'd need a whole system to administer that and that kind of thing doesn't exist. (I believe that it is both a philosophical question and a practical one. I feel it is obvious though that if enough people wanted it done, it would indeed be accomplished. - guess who?)

J.C.--Yeah, like the whole thing with electricity where they want you to save electricity and conserve energy. And so you conserve energy and then you get this notice from the electric company that says because people conserved energy they're not making a profit so they have to raise the rates, you know? So you're screwed, anyway you look at it.

E.R.--But also the sugar thing where it seems that sugar really effects them. They had these studies where children were almost climbing up the walls....

B.B.--My 91 year-old grandmother was in the hospital about four months ago and she was in the hospital only because she hadn't been watching her diet. She's basically very healthy and she was supposed to be on a no-salt, no-sugar diet and no fats and stuff like that; and she was banging the walls, she was so crazy she was all jacked up, she couldn't sit still, she'd made herself mad. So she got out of the hospital and I was monitoring her diet and within a month the change was amazing. She cooled down, she was rational, she got her humor back and it was just putting her on whole foods - real vegetables, real grains, no sugar, very little honey and just keeping things really simple and pure with just fish and stuff and real gentle food. It really made a difference, so it does make a difference.

E.R.--You think it's perpetuated, that the companies just keep on making this stuff?

B.B.--Oh sure. They've got to develop new products to sell, I mean if they don't have a new cereal or a new kind of candy or a new kind of chewing gum they probably wouldn't sell it. (?????huh?????)

D.D.--The thing is it's not just that companies encourage it, it's people buying it. I mean if nobody bought it they'd go out of business tomorrow. And things happen like Nestle milk products not being allowed to be sold in america so then they go and sell them to third world countries.

B.B.--Did you know about that? Specifically?

(Roderick & Grenold wag their heads.)

B.B.--Nestle had this artificial milk formula that they've made for babies and they've given it away free to mothers with newborn babies in south and central america. Well, the catch is they give it away free until the babies are hooked on it and the mother has stopped giving milk and the mother doesn't have money to go out and buy this fancy product because she's poor. So the babies are STARVING

E.R.--And that's like with sugar where the kids just buy more and more....

B.B.--But it's alot more serious when you're dealing with a whole generation of children that are either malnourished or DEAD because of this companies greed

E.R.--What do you think of the local punk "scene", if you want to call it that and how do you think it could implement change?

B.B.--Well I think for example that "scenes" are pathetic at best because just by the definition of a "scene" it forces a group of people into a ghetto and to a degree it is-

olates them and they stop thinking. There are all kinds of ghettos in this city, like castro street (the center of the S.F. gay community) is a ghetto, to a degree Haight Street is a ghetto, the punk scene is a ghetto and I think it's unfortunate because there are more important issues right now than just a "punk scene" and I think to a degree that people have forgotten why punk started and what was good about it in the beginning and why people were drawn to it and they've just gotten involved in fashion and leather and whatever.

E.R.--So do you think it's still worth pursuing?

B.B.--Well, I don't understand. I mean, what would I pursue? I mean people are real and I'll talk to anyone. "Scenes" are UNREAL. They're artificial. I'm not interested in scenes, I'm interested in people.

J.C.--Every couple of years or so there'll be a group of bands that'll start playing around and they'll be really good and then just on the basis of time some of them will change members and then it'll start all over again. And it's really exciting like right now there are four or five bands that I would really like to play with and that we have played with and it's good. But then again two or two and a half years ago when we first came out here it was the same situation and



The purpose of the Kissinger Commission is, ostensibly, to give advice on long-term American policy in Central America and help coalesce public support for these goals. But despite its somewhat vague mandate, it has a clear-cut political purpose justifying the deeper extended commitment in Central America, both militarily and economically, that the Reagan Administration has clearly decided is necessary for the protection of U.S. interests.

In response to a reporter who recalled that Kissinger, when he was secretary of state, was accused of having sought to destabilize the leftist government of Chile under the late President Salvador Allende, Reagan said, "There were some stereotypes about Mr. Kissinger. They were not necessarily valid."

Others say that Kissinger's involvement in events that helped produce the downfall of the elected government of Chile and the installation of a military dictatorship there provide evidence that he sees Latin America only in terms of the East-West struggle and prefers the stability of military rule to a leftist democracy.

And right-wing Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, agreeing for once with liberals, suggests that Kissinger's international consulting business and his representation of the Rockefeller family's Chase Manhattan Bank constitute a conflict of interest that could influence his judgment as chairman of the Central America commission.

Kissinger told an interviewer for the conservative magazine Public Opinion that "if we cannot manage Central America, it will be impossible to convince threatened nations in the Persian Gulf and at other places that we know how to manage the global equilibrium."

THE WAR OF THE WORDS

COVERT
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Moving directly against his critics, however, Reagan opened his news conference by recalling a letter from a 13-year-old girl. "She asked, 'Don't you wish you could stamp your feet ... and shout at senators and the press to sit down and listen to what you are saying?'"

Reagan said he did indeed feel that way at times, contending that policies designed to achieve peace were being characterized as acts of belligerence.

When one of the president's questioners asked him if he would state categorically that Central America will never be another Vietnam, Reagan said: "I can make every assurance that we would have no such desire."

But he added, "A president should never say never."

President Reagan, defending his decision to order massive military maneuvers in strife-torn Central America, insisted last night that the United States has no plans for armed intervention in the region.

But he declared that this country must continue to "be the foremost protector of democracy" in the Western Hemisphere.

The planning for increased covert action comes as the House is nearing final action on legislation that would cut off covert U.S. support for the Nicaraguan rebels.

Instead, it would allocate \$30 million in overt assistance over the next 14 months to Central American nations.

In addition to the increase in CIA activity, the Defense Department has recommended to Reagan that he raise the number of U.S. military advisers in El Salvador to 125 next year, more than doubling the current total.

Reagan said the military exercises are limited in scope and that the United States is not seeking a larger presence in the area. His own hope, he said, is for "a end to violence and a dshed" and "a new era of peace and justice."

The expanded program of paramilitary action, the officials said, would make the activities of the CIA in Central America the most extensive covert operations mounted by the United States since the Vietnam War. Intelligence officials said that under the plans, the rebel forces in Nicaragua that are supported largely by the CIA would grow significantly beyond the current total of about 10,000 men.

When the administration began aiding the rebels in 1981, intelligence officials told Congress that the primary purpose was to create a paramilitary force that could interdict arms shipments from Nicaragua to El Salvador. Later, as rebel operations grew, intelligence officials told Congress that the insurgents would also harass the Nicaraguan government.

The U.S. ambassador to Nicaragua, Anthony Quainton, said yesterday that U.S. policy "is not to topple the Sandinista government." Speaking on the ABC News program "This Week," Quainton said, "Our policy is to try and modify its behavior in some substantial ways which are consistent with our interests and our vital security concerns throughout Central America."

most of those bands aren't around anymore; and then if you go back four or five years when we were in New York it was the same situation, that whole thing right after the New York Dolls broke up there were all these really great bands that started playing you know the second or third wave, punk, first generation or whatever you want to call it and alot of it seems to be artificial and has to do with the media hyping people, putting bands together and all sort of setting them off against one another. So I guess it's better just to deal with people as individuals and deal with bands as individuals and not really worry too much about the scene because it doesn't seem to last. It's really hard to sustain, it's really hard to keep your band together. We've been playing together for four years but at least two of us have quit the band at least two times. So it's difficult, it's really....um....dot dot dot.

E.R.-Future releases and plans?

B.B.-Well we know next month that we'll be up in the northwest. I'm not sure. We'd like to do some recording before too long but we want to play out some more in San Francisco and then we're going up to Seattle and British Columbia. I don't know, I mean there's suggestions we have in the planning stages - we'd like to play in New York (they recently have at the N.Y. @ fest.) we'd like to go back to england....

D.D.-We don't really make plans in that sense....

B.B.-Whatever seems the most logical at the moment, we'll do. Whatever seems the most positive....

..... to Redonick and Grenold. I really