

TOP ALBUMS

SIMON AND GARFUNKEL

Bridge Over Troubled Water

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL

Cosmo's Factory

SANTANA

Abraxas

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Woodstock

THE BEATLES

Let It Be

President Nixon. In the year's most bizarre summit meeting, the President invited Elvis to the White House to award him a Drug Enforcement Agency badge, something that the badge-collecting Elvis had been coveting for some time. Nixon's aides mistakenly thought that Elvis might have some pull with young voters; for his part, Elvis advised Nixon that the best way to calm student unrest was to kick John Lennon out of the country.

TV News

One of Nixon's few popular moves in 1970 was signing a bill banning cigarette advertising on radio and television. Other good news for TV viewers was the introduction of three new high-quality comedy programs: the sitcoms *The Odd Couple* (starring Jack Klugman and Tony Randall) and *The Mory Tyler Moore Show*, and the variety-format *Flip Wilson Show*. The three most popular new shows among children were all about people (or animals) in rock bands: *Josie and the*

70 The Partridge Family.





Pussycats, animated forerunners of bands like The Go-Gos and The Bangles; *Lancelot Link, Secret Chimp*, a live-action spy spoof starring a cast of chimpanzees, who also played together as The Evolution Revolution; and *The Partridge Family*, a sitcom about a family that decided to form a rock band. In the grand tradition of The Monkees, The Partridge Family (based on real-life family pop group The Cowsills) actually had several chart hits, including "I Think I Love You" and "I'll Meet You Halfway." David Cassidy, who played the family's eldest son and lead singer, was featured regularly in teeny-bopper magazines like *16* and *Tiger Beat*.

Import Fighting Grows Ugly

As America experienced its worst recession in several years, Detroit became increasingly concerned with the growing popularity of import cars. AMC responded to the situation with the Gremlin, a tiny two-door hatchback with a base price starting below two thousand dollars. Available in various unpleasant earth tones, the Gremlin was one of the quintessentially ugly cars of the 1970s. Much better looking was Chevy's new, sportier-styled Camaro; an immediate hit with consumers, the car would later be seen every week on TV's *The Rockford Files*. Less popular was the company's import-fighting Vega; along with an unattractive exterior, the compact was notorious for oil leaks and rapid body rust.

Rearguard Action Damages Ford

Ford's Pinto was, without question, the most notorious car of the decade. The popular compact's fuel tank was

IN THE NEWS
March 11 – Timothy Leary sentenced to ten years in prison for possession of marijuana.

April 11 – Apollo 13 mission to the Moon launched, but crippled by explosion of liquid oxygen tank. Mission makes it to Moon, orbits it and returns to Earth safely on April 17.

April 22 – Earth Day, a celebration of the Earth's ecology, is observed for the first time across the country.

April 30 – President Nixon announces the US invasion of Cambodia, directly contradicting his repeated pledges to pull US forces out of Southeast Asia.

May 4 – An anti-war rally at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, leaves four people dead after National Guardsmen fire into crowd of 600 protesters.

May 9 – Anti-war protests erupt across the country, including a 100,000-strong demonstration in Washington DC.

June 13 – Nixon appoints a Commission on Campus Unrest to determine causes of, and possible solutions to, campus violence.

mounted in such a way that left it extremely vulnerable in rear end collisions, and the 1971-76 models were plagued by often-fatal fires and explosions. Numerous lawsuits ensued. Instead of settling with the victims, Ford's lawyers fought the litigation all the way to the Supreme Court, thus severely hurting the company's reputation.