Crusader/Charger Records

Crusader Label Styles:

Label 64 – February through April 1964 Label 64a – April 1964 through December 1964



John Fisher Heads New H'wood Label

HOLLYWOOD — John Fisher, formerly of the Park Ave. label, has become head of recently-formed Crusader Records at 6411 Hollywood Blvd. First date from the diskery, currently setting up distribs and further talent acquisitions, is "The Giggler" and "Green Tomatoes" by Pat and The Wildcats. Due later this month is Terry Stoffard's "Suspicion." Other Crusader execs are Bill Hughes, national rep, and Tom Stansbury, head of the label's publishing interests.

C-100 Pat and the Wildcats "The Giggler"/ "Green Tomatoes" Matrix: C-1001/2 Pat and Candido "Lolly" Vegas were the core members of this band. As the Avantis, they had performed on the Chancellor label and backed the Beach Boys. The Vegas Brothers went on to become founders of the band Redbone. CB February 1, 1964



Promotional copy, Monarch pressing Monarch pressing Columbia-Bridgeport pressing Columbia-Terre Haute pressing

"SUSPICION" (2:27) [Elvis Presley BMI—Pomus, Shuman]
"JUDY" (2:13) [Ironmarch BMI—Stafford, Seago]
TERRY STAFFORD (Crusader 101)

Look for Terry Stafford's name to be riding the national charts in the weeks to come. Chanter's bow on the L.A.-based Crusader label is a striking steady beat thumper, tabbed "Suspicion," that's already kicking up territorial attention. Infectious choral and musical showcase on a deck to get with. The pretty cha cha beat coupler's devoted to "Judy."





AFM Engineering pressing

Later copy from AFM



Columbia-Hollywood pressing

AFM Engineering pressing

C-101 Terry Stafford "Suspicion"/ "Judy" Matrix: C-1003/4 Monarch job number $\Delta 51516$, indicating a date in February. CB February 15, 1964



C-102 Wayne and Dwain "Ski Surfin' Man"/ "Sand Castles and You" Matrix: C-1005/6 Wayne & Dwain Mincy recorded as "the Mincy Twins" for Philips before this (1963) and on Groove Records after this single.



C-103 Bo Pete "Baa Baa Blacksheep" (Part One)/ "Baa Baa Black Sheep" (Part Two)

Matrix: C-1007/8

Bo-Pete is Harry Nilsson, and this was his first record. C-103 was reissued in June 1965 on the Lola label. CB April 4, 1964

"BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP, Part One" (1:55)
[Robin Hood BMI—Nilsson]
"BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP, Part Two" (1:58)
[Robin Hood BMI—Nilsson]
BO PETE (Crusader 103)

Crusader, which is currently hot with Terry Stafford's Smash "Suspicion," could well have another chart item with "Baa Baa Black Sheep," which showcases the talents of newcomer Bo Pete. The tune is a kookie, medium-paced, shufflin' reworking of a gospel oldie with an off-beat childrens' chorus backing. Eye it. The flip's the same melody as the top side sans the vocal portion.



C-104 Johnny Fortune "Gee But I Miss You"/ "If You Love Me" Matrix: C-1009/10 This record appears to be the same as Johnny Fortune's February 1961 recording, released as Emmy

1002. Label 64a begins with this release. April 1964.









C-105 Terry Stafford "I'll Touch a Star"/ "Playing With Fire"

Matrix: C-1011/2 CB May 16, 1964

Logically, the pressings ought to be AFM Engineering, Monarch, and Columbia Pitman. The Monarch number is $\Delta 52472$

I'LL TOUCH A STAR (2:20)
[Blen, Holly Hill, Lesjohn ASCAP—Wise, Wiseman, Fuller]
PLAYING WITH FIRE (2:10)
[Blen, Trafalgar, Lesjohn ASCAP—Wise, Wiseman]
TERRY STAFFORD (Crusader 105)

Stafford, who skyrocketed into the national spotlite aboard his Crusader bow, "Suspicion," can make it two biggies in-a-row with this new one. It's an extremely pretty, up beat cha cha ballad, labeled "I'll Touch A Star," that sports an infectious organ-highlighted instrumental and choral backdrop. Companion piece is a sizzling, change-of-pace hard beat rocker.









CLP-1001 M Terry Stafford *Suspicion!* First advertised April 18th; reviewed CB May 16, 1964



SUSPICION!—Terry Stafford—Crusader 1001M The current singles charts reflect the efforts of a host of performers who are scoring with first decks. One of the most successful of these is terry Stafford who soared to the number threstot with his "Suspicion!" single from which this initial LP was tagged. The chanter has a Presel quality that has caught on and this set should come in for a healthy share of sales. Bright bands are "Playing With Fire," "For You My Love," and "Kiss Me Quick."









CLP-1001 S Terry Stafford *Suspicion!* First advertised April 18th; reviewed CB May 16, 1964

This was Crusader's first and only LP, but the subsidiary label, Charger, would later release an album.



Charger CR-100 Bob Moline "Beatle Stomp"/ "There is So Much" Matrix: CR-1001/2 Judy Marchese co-wrote the A-side; Pat and Lolly Vegas arranged the songs. The producer is shown as "Bill Spector." June 1964. Note: The US copyright records indicate that 49 novelty songs were copyrighted in the first half of 1964 beginning with the word "Beatle," including this one.



(B+) MY GIRL (2:08) [Ironmarch BMI-Bennett, Dean] Soliddriving hot-rod-type twister. Label's handled by Crusader.

Charger CRG-101 Chug and Doug "Ringo Comes to Town"/ "My Girl" Matrix: CR-1003/4
Both songs were written by Bob Bennett, but "My Girl" was co-written by Jerry Dean. Were these two DJs, singing as "Chug and Doug"?
CB June 20, 1964



JANE AND PHIL
Crusader 106
DON'T YOU WEEP
(Ironmarch, BMI) (2:03)—Sweet,
Phillips
Flip is "Together," (Ironmarch,
BMI) (2:05)—Moline
An effective new duo boys on the
label that also has Terry Stafford.
These lads could expand the firm's
take.

CRU-106 Jan and Phil "Don't You Weep"/ "Together" Matrix: C-1013/4 Jan Phillips and Phil Sweet comprised this duo. Reviews June 20, 1964

JAN AND PHIL (Crusader 106)

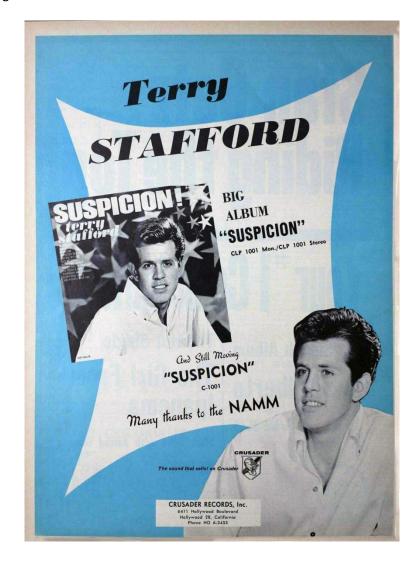
DON'T YOU WEEP (2:03) [Ironmarch BMI—Sweet, Phillips] Label can have another pair of artists to add to its roster in the persons of Jan & Phil. Twosome's tantalizing vocal blending on this steady beat rock-a-rhythmic is a real-attention-getter.

(B+) TOGETHER (2:05) [Ironmarch BMI—Moline] Pretty soft beat cha cha.



Charger CRG-102 The Del Shays "(Love You) Forever"/ "Fake It" Matrix: CR-1005/6 Some promotional labels show the A-side title as "I'll Love You Forever."

The Del Shays were a vocal group that started as the Teen Rockers at South Gate Junior High in the LA area. After graduating from high school, the band became the Del Shays. They recorded this single and then "A Long Long Time" for the Celestial label.







Matrix: C-1015/6

ORGANIZATION (Ironmarch, BMI) HONDA HAWK (Ironmarch, BMI)

BOB SUMMERS-Crusader 107.

Bob has an interesting instrumental that has a catchy theme which all the instruments get for one or two gorounds. The beat is perky and ingratiating. Could turn into a big disk.

C-107 Bob Summers "Honda Hawk"/ "Organization" RW July 25, 1964



CRU-108 Bobby Ray and the Gents "Makes You Feel Like Living"/ "These Things I Remember" Matrix: C-1017/8

The A-side of this single seems to be the same recording as Emmy 2020, "Make You Feel Like Livin," reviewed in the May 30, 1964, issue of *Cash Box*. The Emmy B-side is called "My Brother" and is an instrumental.

John Fisher, who had founded Crusader/Charger and who had previous experience at Park Ave Records, left Crusader at the end of July – leaving Harry Maselow in charge of the company. Maselow's plans included focusing on the Charger label, which was becoming known as a soul outlet. Crusader was also distributing a single on the Blue Masque label from Hollywood – although that record was not a hot seller.



Maselow Prez At Crusader

HOLLYWOOD — John Fisher has resigned his post as President of Crusader Records, with General Manager Harry Maselow now taking over the top spot. Les Worden remains Secretary-Treasurer in the corporate structure.

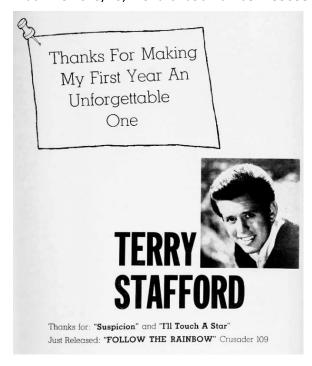
Stafford Scoring

The label is currently scoring with the Terry Stafford single, "Follow The Rainbow," and will concentrate strong promotion, too, on subsidiary Charger Records. Pick of the current roster also includes "Battle of Viet Nam," by Jimmy Jack on the Blue Masque label, which is being distributed nationally by Crusader. Disk was purchased from producer Fred Darian.

Fisher and Bob Summers formed B.B.J. Records ("Big Bad John") within weeks, but by the end of October, Fisher had gone on to form Current Records, apparently taking Bob Moline and Johnny Fortune with him after their contracts expired.



CRU-109 Terry Stafford "Follow the Rainbow"/ "Are You a Fool Like Me?" Matrix: C-1019/20; Monarch Job Number Δ 53638.



FOLLOW THE RAINBOW (2:15) [Ironmarch BMI—Harris]

ARE YOU A FOOL LIKE ME? [Ironmarch BMI—Paternoster]

TERRY STAFFORD (Crusader 109)

The Top 100 will have to make further room for Stafford, whose last two efforts, "Suspicion" and "I'll Touch A Star," were recent chart stories. Portion of note here is "Follow The Rainbow," a catchy affectionate which receives a brisk, Latinish touch from the artist and his backing. More soulful survey on the coupler.



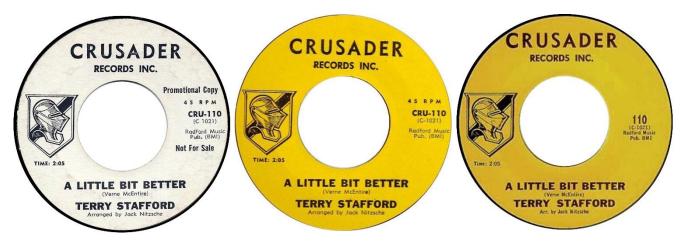
C-111 or CRU-111 Barbara Mason "Trouble Child"/ "Dedicated to You"

Matrix: H-4535/6

The review shows the catalog number as 114, as the promo label does also. The matrix number appears to indicate that this is a purchased master. Later reissued on the Charger label (see below). The backing group on the A-side is shown as the Tiffanys; the B-side group is the Larks. Monarch job number Δ 53911.



Charger CRG-104 Larry Strong "Make It or Break It"/ "Hey Little Heart" Matrix: CR-1009/10 The B-side was co-written by Strong and Jill Mulligan and was copyrighted in September. The A-side copyright was certified in October. Based on the matrix numbers, copies of CRG-103 may exist with the numbers CR-1007/8.



110/CRU-110 Terry Stafford "A Little Bit Better"/ "Hoping" Matrix: C-1021/2 CB November 7, 1964

A LITTLE BIT BETTER (2:05) [Radford BMI-McEntire] HOPING (2:00) [Electron BMI-Vegas, Kee] TERRY STAFFORD (Crusader 110)

Stafford can get back in his winning "Suspicion" ways with his latest for Crusader. On it, Terry's faced with a bit of competition from a guy who's getting "A Little Bit Better" than him. It's an infectious steady beat stomp'er that Terry serves up in effective echo-chambered multi-tracked. Potent Jack Nitzsche ork-choral arrangement. Underlid's a change-of-pace beat-ballad lover's lament.





DOBIE GRAY (Charger 105)

THE "IN" CROWD (2:35)
[American, BMI—Page] Dobie
Gray has a swinging and hip rhythm
ballad with widespread appeal. Tune
has both op and reb possibilities. Ork
setting is powerful. Brisk sales and
airplay on the horizon.

(B+) BE A MAN (2:00) [Breezy Willow, ASCAP—Van Winkle, Darian] Nice 'n easy ballad lilter with a bit of good advice. Pleasant listening that deserves deejay attention.



MADIC CRIFT DICT. SCHWAPT DADS. ST. CAMAR. SPIL. SPIL. SHE CAMAR. SPIL. SH

| BEK SHIT. | C & C 800000 1831 | FERRY SHIT. | 123 K M 256 ST | 15 9F881 MY | 1601 SHIT MT | 1604 SHIT MT | 16



Charger CRG-105 Dobie Gray "The 'In' Crowd"/ "Be a Man" Matrix: CR-1011/2

The correct matrix numbers appear to be 1011 and 1012, and pressings from Columbia give those numbers. However, the other two pressings give the A-side matrix number as CR-1012 and the B-side number as CR-1012 45-X-132. The additional number is the matrix number of JAF 2504, where (in June 1963) "Be a Man" appeared as the B-side of Dobie's version of the Jimmy Durante song, "Inka Dinka Doo." One original pressing states that the production occurred "under the direction of Harry Maselow." A few (later) copies omit the production credit entirely. Apparently due to a shortage of red labels, these copies appear on the yellow label that normally appeared as the backdrop to Crusader singles. CB November 21, 1964. The Monarch job number was Δ 54817.

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

THE LARCHMONT SINGERS
(Crusader 112)

(B+) A CHRISTMAS WISH
[Larchmont, BMI — Vaughan,
Landsberg, Dennis] A very pleasing
close-harmony Yule tune delightfully
delivered by the group.

(B+) WELCOME LITTLE
STRANGER [Larchmont,
BMI — Vaughan, Dennis] Another
tuneful gem from the smooth-sounding group.

C-112 The Larchmont Singers "A Christmas Wish"/ "Welcome Little Stranger" Label 65 begins with this record?



Charger CRG-106

Bobby McDonnell "Puppy Love" / "Warm Warm Kisses" Matrix: CH-1013/4



C-113 Falcon "Southern Love"/ "Sadly" Matrix: CR-2015/6
The artist's full name is Max Falcon. This is a US release of the Quality Records (Canada) single.
Announced for upcoming release in BB and CB February 27, 1965.



OH, WHAT A FOOL YOU'VE BEEN (Atlantic, BMI) TOGETHER (Ironmarch, BMI) JILL AND PHIL—Crusader 114.

A different sound teens might like is packed onto this rock slice. The gal has a high, raspy voice that demands attention. JILL & PHIL (Crusader 114)

OH, WHAT A FOOL YOU'VE BEEN (2:08) [Atlantic, BMI—West, Cooper] Diskery could collect big chart coin with this interesting rock-a-waltz idea. Vocal duo has lots of teen-angled color. Should be eyed.

(B) TOGETHER (2:05) [Ironmarch, BMI—Moline] Sentimental teen blend.

C-114 Jill and Phil "Oh, What a Fool You've Been"/ "Together" RW & CB February 27, 1965 Monarch job number Δ 56014.

Matrix: CRU-2013/4



C-115 The Bobbies "Lonely and Blue"/ "Want Your Lovin" Matrix: CR-2015/6



Charger CRG-107 Dobie Gray "See You at the Go-Go"/ "Walk With Love" Matrix: CH-1015/6 CB March 27, 1965

Copies of the single with the catalog number in wide print also list the matrix numbers for the "In Crowd" single on the label.

Monarch job number Δ 56456.

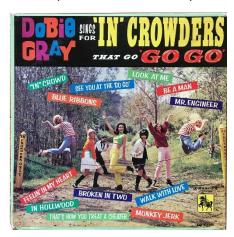


SEE YOU AT THE GO-GO (2:40) [American, BMI—Page]
WALK WITH LOVE (2:30) [Pebble-Ironmarch, BMI—Georgentones, Gray]
DOBIE GRAY (Charger 107)

Dobie Gray should quickly prove his staying power (he had "The 'In' Crowd" last time out) with "See You At The Go-Go," his second Charger effort. The tune's a rhythmic, chorus-backed multi-beat tribute to nation's discotheques dance stops. "Walk With Love" is a plantive, low-key heartfelt ballad which delineates the pain in a love relationship.



CRU-116 Jane Canada "Just Before the Night"/ "Just Imagination" Matrix: CR-2017/8 Jane Bowman began recording in 1961, releasing three singles under that name on the Acclaim and Sapien labels. Jane married Jim Canada, and in late 1964 she released "Am I Dreaming" on the Magic Lamp label. Bob Summers had arranged the selections for her, and John Fisher (former president of Crusader) produced the record. That led her to Fisher's former label, for which this was her first single. It came out in April 1965. Later in the year, she was part of the duo, "Bob and Bobby," for Tower Records.







Charger CHR-M-2002 Dobie Gray Sings for "In" Crowders That Go "Go-Go" (mono) The label gives the title as The "In" Crowd Goes "Go-Go." CB May 15, 1965







Charger CHR-S-2002 Dobie Gray *Sings for "In" Crowders That Go "Go-Go"* (stereo) The label gives the title as *The "In" Crowd Goes "Go-Go."* CB May 15, 1965



CRU-117 King Charles and the Counts "Salt 'N' Pepper"/ "It's True It's You"

Matrix: CR-2021/2

"Salt 'N' Pepper" was co-written by Johnny Colonna, Gene Cross, and Ben De Tosti. It was picked up quickly by Turnarounds and the Stingers, who had their version of it out by the second week in June. The song refers to a dance. The Monarch job number is Δ 57197, and *Billboard* reviewed the single in its May 22nd issue.

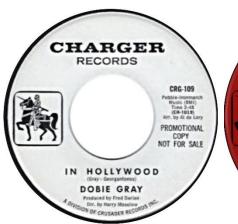


BRITISH WALKERS-Lonely Lover's Poem (Chartbuster, BMI). CHARGER 108

Charger CRG-108

The British Walkers "Lonely Lover's Poem"/"The Girl Can't Help It"

Matrix: CR-2019/20 BB May 22, 1965





IN HOLLYWOOD (2:48) [Pebble-Ironmarch, BMI—Gray, Georgantones]
MR. ENGINEER (2:29) [Pebble-Ironmarch, BMI—Gray, Georgantones]
DOBIE GRAY (Charger 109)

Doble Gray can specify come back in his "In Crowd" money-making ways with this latest hitsville contender from Charger dubbed "In Hollwood." The tune is a slow moving, chorus-backed dod which depend on the contender of the cont

Charger CRG-109BB May 22, 1965

Dobie Gray

"In Hollywood"/ "Mr. Engineer"

Matrix: CH-1019/20



CRU-118 The Chartbusters CB May 22, 1965



"Lonely Surfer Boy"/ "New Orleans"

THE CHARTBUSTERS (Crusader 118)

(B+) NEW ORLEANS (2:43)
[Rockmasters, BMI — Guida-Royster] The popular rock number with live audience effects.

(B+) LONELY SURFER BOY (2:42) [Chartbuster, BMI — Tale] Falsetto harmony on this pleasant rock-a-ballad.

Matrix: CH-1021/2



CRU-119 Kip and Ken "Trouble With a Woman"/ "It's Nice to Be Alive"

Matrix: CR-2023/4 BB July 10, 1965

Charger 110 This record seems not to exist. There are no



Charger CRG-111 – This reissue of Crusader 111 is mentioned in Cash Box's issue dated July 24, 1965.



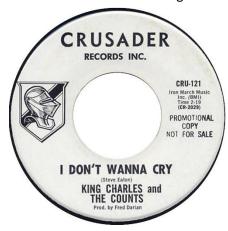
CRU-120 The Messengers "Since You've Been Gone"/ "You've Got Me Crying"

Matrix: CR-2025/6

Features Jimmy McFarland. Released August 1965.



Charger CRG-112 Adrian Lloyd "Got a Little Woman"/ "Lorna" Matrix: CR-2027/8
Adrian Lloyd had been a member of the Rumblers, who had an instrumental hit with "Boss" in 1962. The following year, he released two singles and a splash-vinyl LP with his band, the Sunsets. This single received little to no promotion and disappeared immediately – to be discovered by collectors many years later. Lloyd was the drummer, but it was his screaming vocals and the guitar work that got the B-side, "Lorna" noticed as a prize in the "garage surf" category. It was heavily counterfeited, and in 2013 Sundazed rereleased the single for Record Store Day.



CRU-121 King Charles and the Counts "I Don't Wanna Cry"/ "Up on a Hill"

Matrix: CR-2029/30

Released c. September 1965.



CRU-122 The Goodies "Such a Good Time"/ "Nothing Has Changed" Matrix: 1071/2 A group called the Goodies drew attention to themselves with the single, "Dum Dum Ditty" – released in May (1965) as Blue Cat 117. This seems to have been a different group, but the matrix numbers here might be purchased masters. Released c. September 1965.



NEVER GONNA FIND ANOTHER
(Les John-Red Sails, ASCAP)
BROKEN IN TWO (Ironmarch-Kling Street, BMI)
SUZY CLARK—Crusader 123.
Sounds like folk and sounds like rock

Sounds like folk and sounds like rock, but not exactly folk-rock. Whatever, Suzy has hit potential here.

CRU-123 Suzy Clark Matrix: CR-2031/2 RW September 25, 1965 Monarch job number Δ 58540.

"Never Gonna Find Another (Like Me)"/ "Broken in Two"



MY BABY (Ironmarch, BMi) DOBIE GRAY—Charger 113.
Will be in with the in crowd shortly. Tune is a funky hymn to guy's girl.

CHARTBUSTERS (Crusader 124) (B+) KICK WHEELER (1:58) [Chartbuster, Ironmarch BMI—Tate, Carter] Groovy up-tempo

(B) SELFISH GIRL (2:38)
 [Chartbuster, Ironmarch BMI—Dubas, Sandusky] Raunchy swinger with a strong beat.

tune.

Matrix: CR-2035/6

Charger CRG-113 "My Baby"/ "Monkey Jerk" Matrix: CR-2033/4 **Dobie Gray** This time, the promotional copies featured only the A-side. RW September 18, 1965



"Kick Wheeler"/ "Selfish Girl"

CRU-124 The Chartbusters CB, RW October 16, 1965

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

CRU-125 "Am I Dreaming"/ "Remind My Baby of Me" Jane Canada Matrix: CR-2037/8 (?) The A-side appears to be a reissue of Jane's recording from late 1964. Issued late 1965.





Charger CRG-114 Sandpapers RW December 11, 1965

"Ain't Gonna Kiss Ya"/ "My Baby Said" Matrix: CR-2039/40



CRU-126 Kip & Ken "No Room to Cry"/ "Love! Say Yea Yea Yea" Matrix: CR-2043/4

CRU-127 Dodie West "Make the World Go Away"/ "Who Does He Think He Is" An imported pressing of Pye 7N.35287.

CRU-128 Judy Hughes "Ocean of Emotion"/ "Tears Build Up Inside Me"

No copies of singles 127 and 128 are known to have been told since 2000 online.

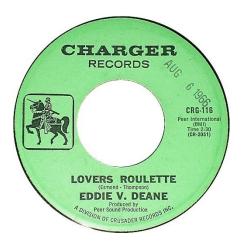


OUT ON THE FLOOR (Northern, ASCAP)
NO ROOM TO CRY (Kling Street-Iron March, BMI)
DOBIE GRAY—Charger 115.
The in crowd will be grooving to this

The in crowd will be grooving to this out of sight piece about what's happening. Song will happen.

Charger CRG-115 Dobie Gray "Out on the Floor"/ "No Room to Cry" Matrix: CR-2049/50 RW June 4, 1966

The west-coast copy (left) is made by RCA-Hollywood instead of Monarch. Original pressings have stamped matrix numbers. The east-coast copy is from RCA-Indianapolis; for no apparent reason, it also has the matrix numbers for Bobby McDonnell's "Puppy Love" single on the label.



Charger Master

Harry Maselow of Charger Records announces from his Coast office the purchase of two master recordings from Peer-Southern Productions: "Lover's Roulette," b/w "I Can't Place This Tune," by Eddie V. Deane.

Charger CRG-116 Eddie V. Deane "Lovers Roulette"/ "I Can't Place This Tune" Matrix: CR-2051/2 Light green label Released in August 1966. Monarch job number Δ 62621.



CHARTBUSTERS—ONE BIRD IN THE HAND IS
LIKE TWO IN THE BUSH (Prod. Poe & Sandusky) (Writers: Dillon-Sandusky) (Chartbuster-Locket, BMI)—Rouser that never quits, and features a wild, high-pitched vocal. Should hit with great impact. Flip: "Maybe" (Chartbuster-Claiborne, BMI).

Crusader 129

CRU-129 The Chartbusters (You've Changed)"
Matrix: 6-3-66/A and 6-3-66/2
BB August 13, 1966

"One Bird in the Hand is Like Two Birds in the Bush"/ "Maybe



PLAGUE (Crusader 130)

(B+) THE FACE OF TIME (2:27)

[D&L Publications, BMI —
Dee, Horricks] Funky, hard driving building rocker.

(B) WE WERE MEANT TO BE (2:03) [D&L, Kling-Locket, BMI—Browne, Horricks] Wild shouter.

C-130 Plague "The Face of Time"/ "We Were Meant to Be" Matrix: CR-2053/4 CB October 8, 1966

Light Blue label

The label gives the group's name as "The Contagious Sound of the Plague." They were a quintet from Ontario, Canada, who released this single just before Crusader went out of business.