

Band on the Run

First appearance in trade magazines: December 8, 1973

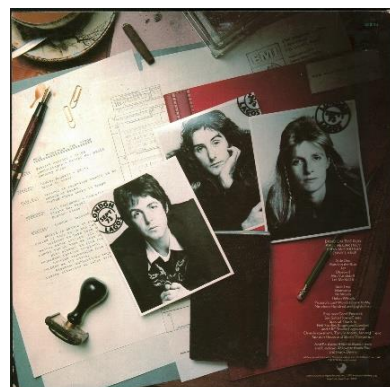
Label ca1

Apple

SO-3415

Custom label with Apple manufacturing statement at the top.

Factories: Los Angeles, Jacksonville, Winchester, unknown contract



The unknown contract pressing came out in 1975-76 – probably on the west coast. Those copies have a wide pressing ring that one does not find on Capitol pressings.

Cover:

The cover to the British release (Apple PAS-10007) is quite different from the US design. According to historian Matt Hurwitz, the sleeve designer – Aubrey Powell – deliberately sent out slightly different designs to different EMI affiliates. The often-recognized difference between the two consists of the order of the photographs. The British release (right) shows Paul, then Linda, then Denny. The American release has Denny's photo between Paul's and Linda's and underneath both. There are several other differences in the cover design, however.



The fountain pen is arranged at a different angle on the British release, and the American release has blotches of what is probably supposed to be ink next to the pen. The pencil in the lower right is positioned differently on the two releases; also, the writing on the pencil has been removed from the American album, and the pencil's color is greener. In addition to being in a different order, the three photos are arranged differently as well. Notice that Paul's photo is positioned at more of an angle on the British release.

Inserts:

The album came with a 20" x 27" poster (P1) featuring polaroid snapshots. Every known copy of the album had a circular sticker on the front cover indicating the artist. A few copies also had a black and green sticker with an arrow on it mentioning the inclusion of the two singles, "Jet" and "Helen Wheels."



The album also came with an inner sleeve showing the lyrics on one side and a photo from their excursion to Nigeria on the other.

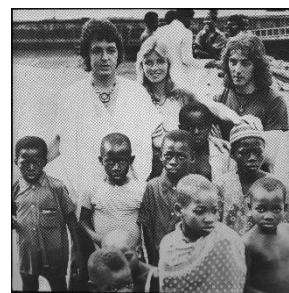


BAND ON THE RUN—Paul McCartney—Apple SO-3415

Paul and the band are flying high and fancy with this well put-together LP with a provocative cover picturing, among others, Christopher Lee and James Coburn as fugitives. But the music is the message here and each cut sparkles, from the fine single, "Helen Wheels," a fiery boogie rocker, to the beautiful love ballad "No Words." "Jet" is another classic rocker with great stinging guitar leads balanced against skillful piano accents, while "Picasso's Last Words (Drink To Me)" is a tender character sketch set to a slow foxtrot beat. As always, the band's harmonies and musicianship are more than professional, they're brilliant.



ALBUMS PAUL MCCARTNEY & WINGS, "BAND ON THE RUN." This is the album everyone has always hoped McCartney would make, filled with shimmering melodies, sensational vocals and incredibly tasty instrumentals. Great cut follows great cut as Paul goes from the hard rock of the "Helen Wheels" single to sweet soft stuff in an album triumph. Apple SO-3415 (5.98).



Spotlight

PAUL MCCARTNEY & WINGS—Band on the Run, Apple 503415 (Capitol). "Jet" is a song with strong overtones of the Beatles—more so than on any previous McCartney effort with his band. The vocal overdubs, the thumping drums and the solid guitar strumming, sparked with voice popping in and then disappearing, reminds one of the sophisticated kinds of tunes the Beatles created in the studio. This LP, cut in London and Lagos, is artistically an impressive work. McCartney and Linda team on the simple, innocuous tune, "Bluebird" and their harmonic construction turns the tune into an infectious listening experience. There's an interesting sax solo but the musician isn't credited. "Mrs. Vanderbilt" is another head bobbing fun tune. Concern and care are the hallmarks of this outstanding package.

Label 75m

Capitol

SO-3415

Black Capitol label with "MPL Communications" rim print.

Large artist and title name, and large side number (Jax)

Known copies from Jacksonville do not have the MPL company logo on the label; they do, however, retain the print "An Apple Record" at the bottom of the label. The hard inner sleeves of the first pressing were replaced by typical paper sleeves from this point on.



Covers:

Some copies were housed in leftover Apple covers. The first Capitol cover shows the manufacturer as "McCartney Music." There is no EMI logo or MPL logo.

The later Capitol cover (1977-8?) has both the EMI and MPL logos and shows MPL as manufacturer.



The correction sheet found with test pressings of the album indicates that Capitol had originally intended to place a song ("Helen Wheels") at the end of side one but decided on November 14th to move the song into the middle of side two instead. This is probably why there are no copies of the album known to have "early" lacquer numbers in the matrix.

Corr.#1 CODE 3 11/14/73 Side 1 Band 6:Deleted from side Side 2 Band 3:Add NEW tune

Label 75c

Capitol

SO-3415

Black Capitol label with standard Capitol Records rim print.

Factory: Jacksonville

During the run of Label 75m, it seems that Capitol accidentally used labels having their usual rim print. These copies mention Capitol Records at the top and have the rights statement at the bottom.



Label cc76

Capitol

SO-3415

Custom Capitol label with "MPL Communications" rim print.

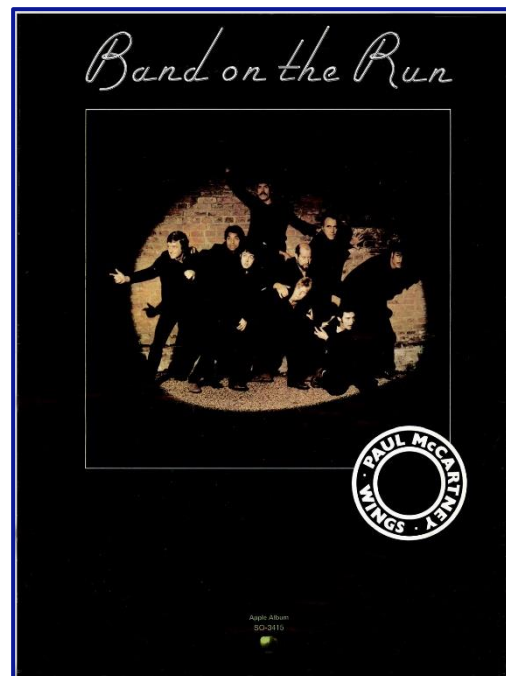
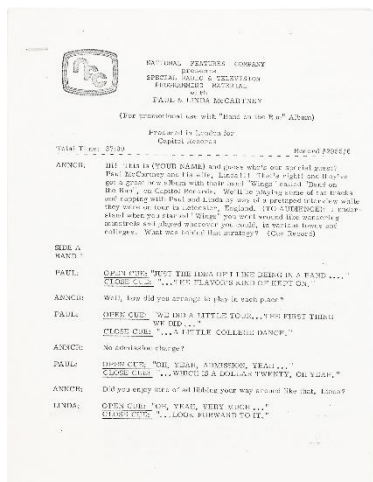
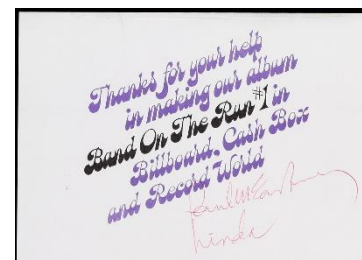
MPL logo on label (Los Angeles, Winchester)

The reference to Apple is gone, and the copyrights have been added to refer to MPL in 1975.



In 1974, Capitol sent some copies of the album to industry professionals who had been instrumental in getting the record played. These copies contained a thank-you card that was signed by Paul and Linda.

The album quickly earned a gold record, due in part to heavy promotion. Capitol contracted with the publicity firm, the National Features Corporation – which was just getting involved in music. They released a few copies of an interview with Paul and Linda on their own label (NFC A-2955/6).



Label cc80

Columbia

JC-36482

Custom Columbia label with MPL rim print.

In 1979, Paul moved from Capitol to Columbia in North America. The arrangement between the labels and MPL Communications allowed Columbia to reissue records that were part of his back catalog – as soon as they were at least five years old. In May/June 1980, Columbia reissued the following albums into their mainline catalog: *McCartney* (JC-36478); *Ram* (JC-36479); *Wild Life* (JC-36480); *Red Rose Speedway* (JC-36481); and *Band on the Run* (JC-36482).

Label m80

Columbia

HC-46482

Red/orange/white label with “HALF-SPEED MASTERED” at the top.

This half-speed master was part of the Mastersound series of albums that Columbia initiated in May 1980. Paul’s *Band on the Run* album became part of that series one year later, in May 1981.



The most complete
audiophile line
in the world
sounds like this: **MASTERSOUND.**

The Mastersound Series—new new kind of audiophile recording—your choice on the equipment you already own. MasterSound is a new kind of audiophile recording, using the latest in recording technology to produce a sound that is as clear and as detailed as the original. It's the sound of the future, and it's here now.

Mastersound Digital Recordings.
A new kind of audiophile recording, using the latest in recording technology to produce a sound that is as clear and as detailed as the original. It's the sound of the future, and it's here now.

Half-Speed Mastered Analog Recordings.
The best of the best, using the latest in recording technology to produce a sound that is as clear and as detailed as the original. It's the sound of the future, and it's here now.

Recorded Chromium Dioxide Cassettes.
The best of the best, using the latest in recording technology to produce a sound that is as clear and as detailed as the original. It's the sound of the future, and it's here now.

On CBS Masterworks, Columbia and Epic Records and Tapes.

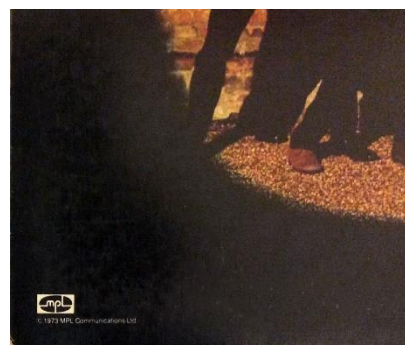
MPL Cover

Columbia

JC-36482

Custom Columbia label with MPL rim print.

In February 1984, while Columbia was still using Label cc80 (the custom label), they released Paul’s catalog onto Compact Disc. At that time, they designed the CD cover so that it featured an MPL logo in the lower left corner (see below left). At about the same time, Columbia (accidentally) released a batch of LPs with the MPL logo in the lower left (below right).



Label 70

Columbia JC-36482

Red/orange Columbia label with MPL rim print.

At some point in 1984, Columbia took *Band on the Run* off of the custom label. Copies made during part of 1984 have the standard Columbia label and large side numbers. Albums made in 1985 all seem to have the **custom labels** again. Some copies from 1985 have a "PC" sticker with a new bar code pasted over the bar code on the back cover. These later copies came out after Columbia decided to reduce the price of most of Paul's back catalog to \$5.98.



Label 70

Columbia PC-36482

Red/orange Columbia label with MPL rim print.



In 1985, Columbia converted *Band on the Run* to the midline series of budget albums. The album sold reasonably well in 1985-86 with the new price. Copies with the new "PC-" cover have the new UPC printed directly on the back cover.

Two label variations exist with the PC- label. The one below is more consistent with the typeface that Columbia used in 1985-86.

