

Gilmore-John-20050304173003

To: Julie L. Sigall
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 03/04/2005

From: John Gilmore

Comment:

I have a rare phonograph album from the 1970s and I would like to make it available on the Internet. It's of historical interest. It was created by Abbie Hoffman, called "Wake Up America". It was released by "Big Toe Records" at their album #1. It contains music, radio shows, and commentary from Abbie on current events, including his trial as part of the Chicago Seven by Judge Julius Hoffman.

I have been unable to find the copyright owner or any records of the copyright on this record. Abbie Hoffman himself is dead. There is no copyright registration by him for "Wake Up America", nor any other Wake Up America that appears to be a record album (as opposed to a song). There is a single copyright database entry for Big Toe Records, for a different album. There are about a dozen copyright registrations by Abbie Hoffman, but none of them cover this album. I do not know its release date. Abbie's collaborators were named with pseudonyms (the "Joint Chiefs of Staff").

This cultural relic formed part of my childhood. I'd like to make it available to this generation and to historical researchers. But I can't tell whether it is in the public domain or owned by someone, and if so, who.