

CLEAR LIGHT GOES TO THE MOVIES

It's during this time that we are approached by a talent scout for Paramount Pictures about appearing in a movie starring James Coburn. It's called "The President's Analyst." It seems that he has looked at pretty much every band in Hollywood and has narrowed it down to two: Clear Light and The Grateful Dead. For some strange reason he is 'dead' set on us! The one condition is that Barry McGuire ("Eve of Destruction") must be our lead singer in the film. Like we could give a crap! Just hand over the DOUGH!!



Doug Lubahn on the set.

So for a few blissful weeks, we are picked up by limo every day, taken to the set or location, to our two private trailers, and do nothing more than smoke a lot of pot (and get paid for it). We have lavish, catered meals — prime rib, charcoal-grilled steaks, etc. — prepared by private chefs. It's perfect for our 24-hour munchies!

Every now and then they have the nerve to ask us to actually DO something! We attempt to comply ... as long as it doesn't interfere with our primary objectives.

The entire crew — including director Ted Flicker — can not be nicer. I think they get a chuckle out of us. We get to know James Coburn a bit, and despite his rather "square" image, he turns out to be a funny and hip guy. Shows what a good actor he is. The movie also features a very young Arte Johnson, who will become a "Laugh In" favorite for his frequent portrayal of the German soldier who spouts "Veer-reee in-ter-es-ting" and the dirty old man who annoys frumpy Gladys (Ruth Buzzi). In the end, the movie does rather well in the theaters. I understand it is now considered a cult classic. It has been re-released on DVD.