Where Have All Our Heroes Gone

Bill Anderson

Where have all our heroes gone what's come over our great land America is still my home sweet home but where have all our heroes gone I saw a group of boys the other day standing in the corner of a playground Looking and laughin' at a magazine

And I overheard one of the boys said man is he ever cool And he pointed to the man who's picture was on the magazine cover And everybody kinda said under their breath yeah he's cool alright And I got sick to my stomach

Because I'd seen the cover and the man that they were talking about Had instigated a riot in one of our major cities last summer

And the magazine was writing about how the police were unkind to him

The judges were not fair with him

And how he talked back and slung his long hair about and cussed And did his things and they made him into a regular hero And inside this magazine was the story of a baseball player Who got involted with the gamblers

Of the football player who said that football was not the end Just a mean to an end meanin' the girls and the good times And a story of a folk singer who proudly claims To be both a member of a party ailen to our government and a nontax payin' c itizen

These young boys read with open eyes and open minds

And I thought to myself my God

Are these the people that these young boys look up to

Are these their idols are these the heroes of the now generation

(America is still my home sweet home but where have all our heroes gone) I had heroes when I was a kid we all did and our heroes did their thing too Like General Douglas McArthur who returned like he said he would Like Gene Autry and Roy Rogers who chased the bad guys right off the screen

Like Lindberg who flew the ocean and Jesse Owens who showed Hitler And John Wayne and Gerry Cooper after all didn't they really win the war And General Ike bless your soul cause he made us feel safe We've killed some of our recent heroes the Kennedys and Kings

And even as great as their space feats are
How many of the astronauts can you name huh how many
My heroes were people like Joe DiMaggio who proved that nice guys can finish
first

And Stan Musian who never had an unkind word for anybody

And Winston Churchill who's two fingers raised together meant victory Not just a let-your-enemy-have-it-all kind of artificial peace This country needs a lotta things today friends
But it doesn't need any one thing anymore than it needs some real heroes

Men who know what it means to be looked up to by a griny faced kid Men who want to sign autograph books and not deal under the table Men who are willing to play the game with the people who made them heroes Men who don't mind putting on a white hat and saying thank you and please