

from "NARODNIKS" 16mm BW 1978  
screened twice in April 1969  
on San Francisco's pioneering public television station  
KQED-TV  
not seen since



## *Palo Alto Peace & Liberation Commune'*

Cantrills Filmnotes June 1972

[DDH] : source is David Harris' 1982 memoir,  
*Dreams Die Hard : Three Men's Journey Through the Sixties*  
online @ [archive.org](http://archive.org)

Planning meeting for the Commune's 'RESISTANCE CARAVAN'  
down Highway 101 to L.A. in an old DelRio truck

At each day's stopover

food for the locals from the macrobiotic chuckwagon

music from the Commune's band 'The Fool' --

Blaize the lead singer,

"Tasting...tasting... hello, I'm Johnny Cash..."

and at night, with the generator chugging in the background  
screening Felix Green's hour-long doco  
"INSIDE NORTH VIETNAM"

evening Morgan Hill



Monique and Ed on the macrobiotic chuckwagon

In Topanga Canyon, I ask Ed about meditation

*"It's like taking a mental shit"*

Dennis calls the Buddhists in the Commune

*"space cadets"*

By 1970 the Commune has disintegrated,  
with the leftwingers and the Buddhists  
unable to get along

[DDH]

Delano

Steve Rees (who took over from Swiss soundman Urs, fearful of arrest),  
Dennis, and one of the many local protesters



The Caravan is run off the road leaving Delano.

*"It's just like the South"*  
says Dennis.

A civil rights activist, Dennis was firebombed in McComb in 1963. [DDH]

At Delano, they spot the Stanford U. film cases and call the Dean  
Department of Communication.

I'm in trouble, too.



Steve Rees Grant Park, August 1968 during the Democratic Party Convention  
Dennis at lower right

This picture Steve took at the Democratic Convention in Chicago.

Below are frames from film - you need to shine a light through them + use a magnifying glass — at this stage, stills are just too expensive...

MARTHA AND  
ROOM RIGHT

Morgan Hill — can  
you see the truck? Matthew?

Emblem on Tramp's drum

TRAMP

KENT — July 14th speech — L.A.

STEWART — not watching the road

← THE BAND →

DENNIS — Commune

ED + KENT — Commune

MONIQUE + ED

DENNIS + "BIRCHER" LADY  
DELANO

GEOFFREY

BAND PLAYING IN GRAPEFIELDS —  
DELANO

BRUCE —

Ed, Kent and the truck  
Palo Alto Peace and Liberation Commune



Dennis at the Commune



'The Fool'    Blaize, lead guitar



Tramp and Rodney



Dennis joins in on rhythm guitar:  
the core band members agree, reluctantly.

"Dennis had heavy hands"    [DDH]



'NARODNIKS' opening titles, scripted by Dennis

THE NARODNIKS WERE A PARTY OF  
SOCIALIST-ANARCHISTS IN  
TSARIST RUSSIA

BELIEVING  
THAT THE WAY TO REVOLUTION  
LAY IN A PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT

THEY WENT OUT INTO THE  
VILLAGES TO EDUCATE THE  
PEASANTS

In March 1881, the Narodniks assassinate Alexander, the last Czar of Russia.

In March 1980, In New York, Dennis shoots his longtime mentor, Allard Lowenstein.