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HAS PRODUCED & ARRANGED FOR:
Main Ingredient
James Gang
Bob King
Paul Anka
Joe Simon
and many more

Bert was born in Brooklyn, New York and began his musical career as a classical musician. In fact, his twin brother, Dr. Dennis de Coteaux is today the conductor of the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra. In high school, Bert was turned on to Jazz by two classmates, Gus Interante and Bob Schwaid. After graduating Julliard, where he majored in composition, Bert moved heavily into Jazz piano and began working New York City with some of the best known Jazz players around.

Then came the Army, and as an interesting side note, when Bert was stationed in Japan, he set up a Jazz school. One of his students was Toshiko Akiyoshi, who was recently seen on the Grammy Awards.

Once out of the Army, Bert began conducting and arranging for such artists as Adam Wade and Eartha Kitt. He also began doing a considerable amount of music for advertising. He worked on such accounts as Kool cigarettes, Schaffer Beer and Certs to name a few and won two Clios for producing/arranging music for T.V. and radio commercials.

In about 1961, Bert first moved into the Pop music area with the help of Clyde Otis, a long time friend. Approximately eight years later, Bert met Bill Szymczyk at Regent Sound. They got on well together and when Bill took a position at ABC A&R their first joint project was The James Gang.

In the years that followed, Bert was responsible for six Gold Records with such acts as the Main Ingredient (who he discovered while doing a Viceroy commercial), The James Gang and Joe Simon. He won a Grammy in 1970 for B.B. King's Classic "The Thrill Is Gone" and contributed to the success of such other artists as the Manhattans, the Temptations, Paul Anka, Ben E. King and Les McCann to name only a few. Bert has recently finished a new Marlena Shaw album, which he feels very strongly about and will soon be working on Mother's Finest for Epic (see our A&R Newsletter).

Now a Staff Producer for CBS, its not surprising that a man with Bert's versatile musical background and ability seems to show up so often in the Producer's section of "New On The Charts."