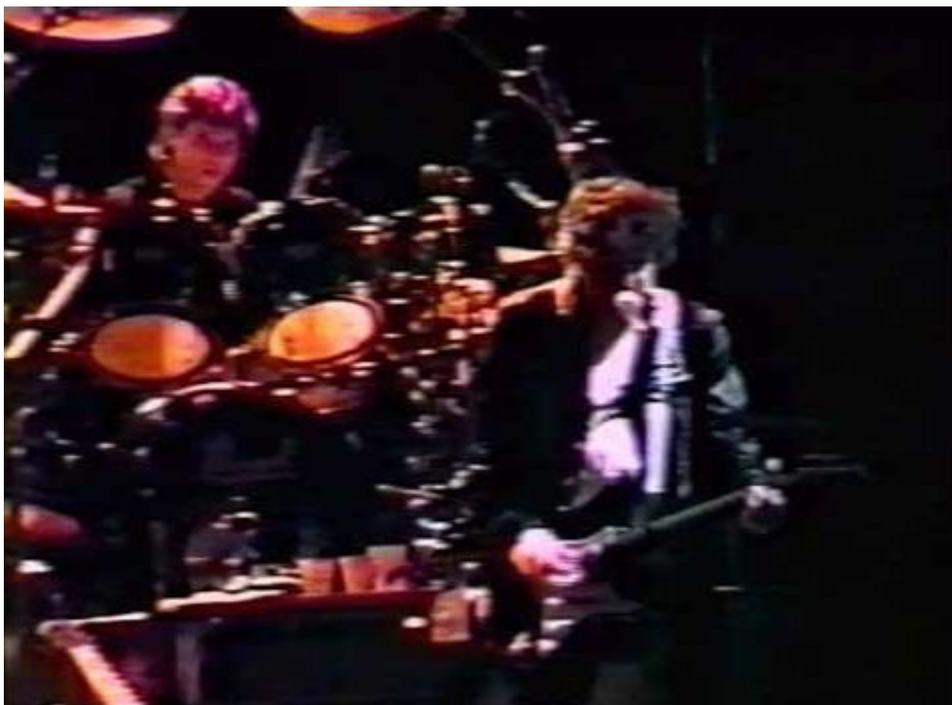


D060.su TORONTO, 5 JUNE 1990



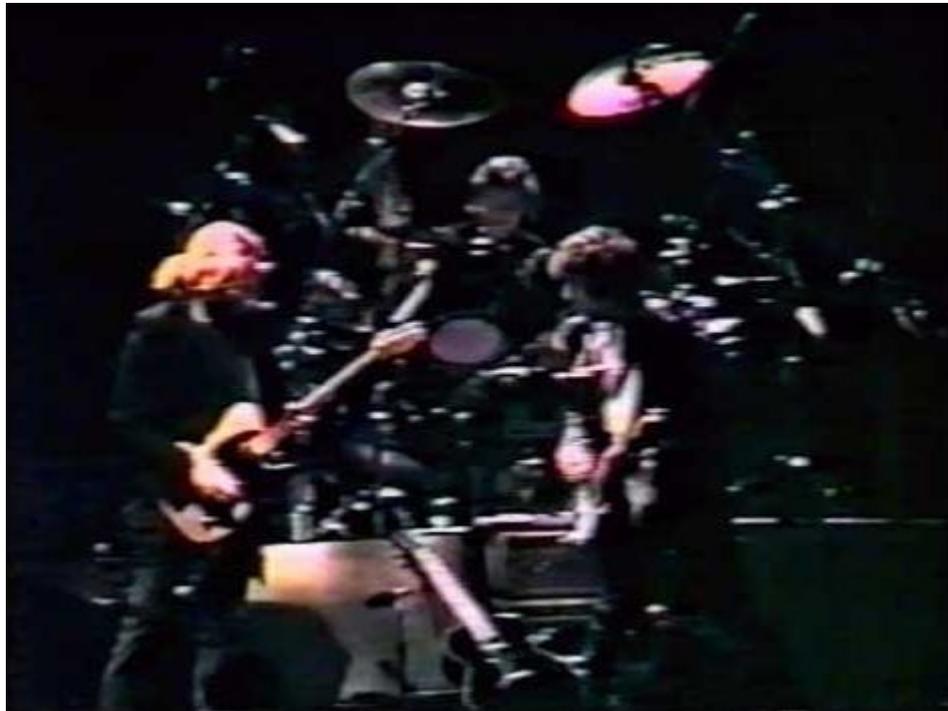
SOUND Clean but narrow - through headphones, a constrained, less than head-filling experience. (I suspect the word I'm struggling for here is *mono*?) Perceptible improvement during Allen / Times only.

IMAGE A very steady and minimally obstructed left-centre balcony film, bringing us face-on, head to knees Bob with drummer Parker behind, plus frequent visits to and from GE (busy as ever) and just occasional glimpses of torpid Tony. The screenshots below give a good idea of what you can expect, though the pictures I saw were even less coloured than that - persistently tired, dark and greyscale. In other words, despite a skilled and attentive taper's best efforts, another early '90s B-movie.



RUNNING TIME 95:30, full show

PERFORMANCE Once again D kicks off in top gear with more high-speed, man-in-a-hurry, sausage-machine rock. In this mood, it's a safe bet that not too much will excite and so it proves - Serve Somebody is the first to hold more than token interest, with the infrequently-sung Tomorrow that follows better yet. But then comes half a Des Row (i.e. just five verses of ten) knocked off in 6:20 and away we go again. Carroll is unfeeling. GE adds nice acoustic slide to John Brown (just as in future JJ will try banjo) but to no avail. With all due respect to Hendrix, how about *just once* a Watchtower played *JWH*-style - wouldn't *that* be something? Hapless Fate is clubbed into insensibility by Parker. Tonight's breezy Released is an insult to the memory of the hauntingly beautiful *Basements* original. Finally, another welcome set-list rank stranger in the shape of Barbara Allen. It's funny how D always sings the last verse *so* carefully yet still, more often than not, gets the rose and briar growing (as again here) out of the wrong hearts. Poor old William - dissed before death by Barbara then after by Bob!



THANKS GS, Jam Tart

STARS If you like early nineties D, this won't disappoint. But quick, dark, superficial, forgettable is not how stars are earned. Three and a half.