E4940  ELVIS MEETS NIXON  (USA, 8/10/1997)  [TV]

Credits: director, Allan Arkush; writer, Alan Rosen.
Cast: Rick Peters, Bob Gunton, Alyson Court.
Summary: A television ‘mockumentary’ about Elvis’s real-life trip to the White House to become a federal marshall under the DEA. Opens in December, 1970 in Memphis where Elvis (Peters) has become bored. He leaves Graceland without an escort intending to go to Washington and add the badge of a Federal agent to the collection of honorary sheriff’s badges he has accumulated. His journey is circuitous, however, taking him on a picaresque tour through the nation’s capital where he holds up a doughnut shop, then to San Francisco, where he interacts with hippies and Vietnam War protestors and discovers that his records are now in the ‘oldies’ section. Ultimately, he makes his way back to DC, gets his Federal badge, and a bizarre photo opportunity with President Nixon (Gunton). As culturally out of touch as Elvis, Nixon believes the meeting will “let the kids know that it’s groovy to like me!”

Cox, Ted. “Elvis meets Nixon ... and other high, low and strange moments in the King's life come to TV land via Showtime, VH1 and Channel 11 specials” Chicago daily herald (Aug 8, 1997), Time out, p. 23.
James, Caryn. “Purple in the Oval Office: You can’t make this up” New York times (Aug 9, 1997), sec. 1, p. 11.
Linan, Steven. “Highlights: ... Elvis meets Nixon on Showtime” Los Angeles times (Aug 10, 1997), Calendar, p. 2.
Pennington, Gail. “Elvis meets Nixon’ We are not making this up” *St. Louis post-dispatch* (Aug 10, 1997), Everyday magazine, p. 3C.