



Marley's legendary sales

IN May, 1981, Robert Nesta Marley O.M., Reggae king of the world, died of cancer. This year, Island Records have paid tribute to a man who, even in death, continues to be their biggest star. The tribute is the compilation of Legend, the best singles of Marley.

Last month, Tuff Gong, the company that Marley himself started and which is now managed by his wife Rita, released the album for local distribution. The LP is not totally rep-

resentative of the best Marley or Wailers sounds, and as soon as one starts to enjoy the songs, they seem to end. I think a double LP would have served the intended purposes more and given us a chance to hear a longer version of the songs. But to combine on the same album fourteen of the best reggae songs that were made is a treat. Marley is Marley and the album is indeed a collector's item. Those songs featured are:

SIDE ONE

"IS THIS LOVE", from the album Kaya.
 "NO WOMAN NO CRY", the live version of the song recorded at the Lyceum in London.

"COULD YOU BE LOVED", featured on the LP Uprising.

"THREE LITTLE BIRDS", from the album Exodus.

"BUFFALO SOLDIER", from the posthumous album Confrontation.

"GET UP STAND UP", from the LP Burnin', featuring Peter Tosh and Bunny Wailer of the original Wailers.

"STIR IT UP", from the album Catch A Fire.

next eight records in the album chart."

T. Riley

SIDE TWO

"ONE LOVE", a song that recently shot back to the top of the British pop charts.

"I SHOT THE SHERIFF", again featuring the original Wailers from the Album Burnin'. The song provided Eric Clapton with an American hit.

"WAITING IN VAIN", from the LP Exodus.

"REDEMPTION SONG", from Uprising. A very rich song of exhortation done with the smooth sounds of the acoustic guitar.

"SATISFY MY SOUL".

"EXODUS", from the album of the same name. One of the few Reggae songs that scored big on both sides of the Atlantic.

"JAMMING", another hit single from the album Exodus.

Several exciting pictures recording the Marley phenomenon help to decorate the album's outer jacket, while the inner section has pictures of Marley memorabilia, from concert posters and album jackets to newspaper clippings and record labels.

Writing in the June issue of Music Week Magazine, commentator Alan Jones described Marley's Legend as representative of a major bounce-back in the British recording industry. Sales, he wrote, were staggering.

"In its first three weeks of release (in England) Legend has sold well over 1/2 million copies, establishing itself as the best seller in the 22-year history of Island Records. At present Legend is outselling its closest competitor six to one, and would still emerge triumphant if pitted against the combined strength of the

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF JAMAICA

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF JAMAICA

Sept. 9, 1984