



Harina de Huesos humanos

CONTINUED....

independence of Euzkadi, they fight for a flag and that's nationalism, and H.H.H. is a totally anti-nationalist band. Nationalism is the cause of racism, war and hate. At first, people supported the E.T.A. because for them it was a fight against Franco's dictatorship, but now, 10 years later, the police situation has changed and the people are tired of so much blood. Also, several innocent children have been killed in terrorist fighting.

IS THERE ANYTHING MORE YOU'D LIKE TO SAY?

First of all, thanx to you for this interview and thanx to everyone who distributes our 20-song demo in England. Please, we need more distributors, if someone wants to help us sell several copies in their area - contact us, or if you want to buy the tape from us then send £1 & SAE. We are looking for a record label to put out an EP so please write if interested. That's all, a big thankyou to "Raising Hell", Nick Royles, Tez & INSTIGATORS, Johnny, Derek ("On The Rampage"), Rat & The VARUKERS, and BROKEN BONES. That's all folks!

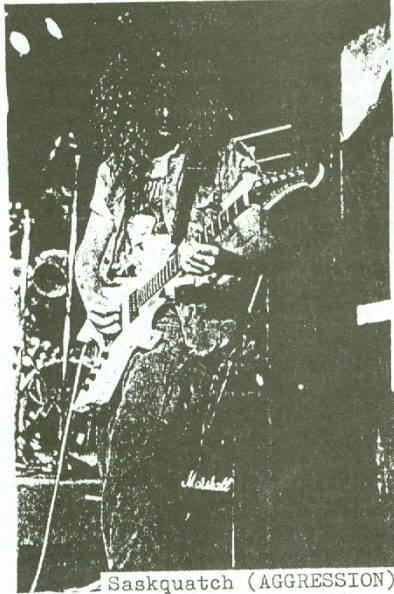
Metal That Isn't Pretty..



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Saskquatch (AGGRESSION)



photo by Big Lavalee

Dug (AGGRESSION)

Not to be confused with the Californian band of (almost) the same name, Canadian Death Metal merchants AGGRESSION will have their debut LP "Forgotten Skeleton" released during December (in other words, it should be out by the time most of you read this). The album will be available on the newly-formed American label Facemelt Records (I love that name!!) which is run by long-time correspondent Scott Givens, who tells me that AGGRESSION are "so fast now you wouldn't believe it" - great news indeed for those of us who crave ultra-fast Metallic Thrash.

AGGRESSION have 2 demos that are being circulated around the underground scene - the first one contains 4 impressive, yet fairly typical Thrash Metal songs while the 2nd demo is merely 3 cuts off the first one, merely remixed.



The first thing that struck me about DAMAGE INC. was the name - they first appeared on the scene via some ads for their demo, which came out just after METALLICA's "Master Of Puppets" LP (featuring the song "Damage Inc."). So, as you can imagine, I was somewhat suspicious about this band's credibility....the phrase "bandwagon jumpers" did spring to mind, I must admit. But on the other hand, you can't judge a band by its name and I can be a rashly cynical idiot sometimes (more often than not, some may say!) so...

Anyway, Nick Royles (a friend of the band) kindly sent me a copy of the DAMAGE INC. demo - and, as I expected, it comes across sounding like a Punk band who've suddenly taken on a Metal influence. In fact, this happens to be the case as I'm told that D.I. were once known as Criminal Justice (who appeared on a British TV show on Punk quite some time ago). The main thing that I dislike about this tape is the guitar work; the riffs are very mundane while the solos are pretty atrocious. However, this criticism is almost completely irrelevant as they now have a new guitarist! Songs like "Firestorm" & "The New Realities" do nothing for me at all but I can see some people liking them...it all depends on your taste, right?

Another thing worth noting is that DAMAGE INC. have now dropped all but one of their demo tracks and I'm informed that their new stuff is better & more complex, so maybe you'd like to drop them a line...? DAMAGE INC., c/o 103 Woodhead Road, Holmbridge, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, England.

onto Metal territory. There's nothing wrong with this at all, except that many groups appear to be using the same formula - i.e. blatantly ripping off Slayer/Celtic Frost riffs & hoping that no-one will notice. While TED HEATH have not avoided this trap, they've certainly been putting a reasonable amount of effort into their music. Their demo isn't exactly the best quality ever but it's OK and gets rather intense in places actually. This lot sounded like they were heavily into ANTISECT when I last heard 'em, but now their biggest influence has to be SLAYER, whose riffs can be found in butchered forms in virtually every other TED HEATH song. A fine example of this is the opening song, "Witching Hour", which features a very familiar SLAYER riff in the middle...or (lyrically) we have "Hell Bent On Death" which gives us a good idea what "Kill Again" would be like if re-written without the aid of a dictionary! One last thing...TED HEATH is a very original name, but it's also very unsuitable! Sorry, I have no address at the moment - try & investigate T.H. though.



A few weeks ago I received a copy of the rough mix of REPULSION's "Slaughter Of The Innocent" LP (thanks Mitch and it's so mindblowingly excellent I thought I'd tell you about it, OK? REPULSION, as all Death connoisseurs should know, are based in Michigan and were formerly known as GENOCIDE. This LP captures them at their very best, raging through 18 tracks of blistering V.O.D.M. (Violence Orientated Death Metal) that are faster than almost anything you'll ever hear. "Stench Of Burning Death", "Decomposed", "Maggots In Your Coffin"....ch, it's ALL too much!

ANTHRAX

ANTHRAX & OVERKILL - Live at Felde, Holland 21/5/86

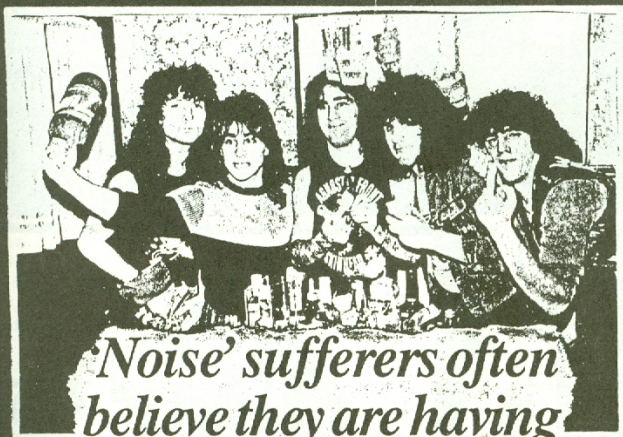
The only decent shit we've had the privilege of witnessing lately (speaking in terms of years) has been SLAYER and most recently EXODUS. Anyway, it was definitely time for some major enjoyment again, which finally came in the form of New York's leading Metal bands: OVERKILL and ANTHRAX.

Following a crap appearance by local boy's choir VULTURE (well really, the music wasn't all that terrible, I just tend to find amusement in slagging off bands with gay singers), OVERKILL kicked off the real proceedings with "Raise The Dead" before ripping through all their classics - "Rotten To The Core", "Feel The Fire", "Blood...", "Kill...", "Sonic Reducer" etc., not forgetting "Overkill" which was done as a final encore (I think).

After a surprisingly short break (hardly enough time to polish off 10 beers) it was up to ANTHRAX to deliver the goods. Opening with "A.I.R.", they killed thru such masterpieces as "Lone Justice", "Madhouse", "Aftershock" etc. as well as doing some of their older tunes like "Deathrider". Also, they did their version of "God Save The Queen" in one of the encores. ANTHRAX were totally god, as were OVERKILL, and we should have more of this dropping onto these shores in future.

Both bands created pretty wild thrashing scenes too (well, by Dutch standards at least) - lots of slamming, diving, moshing, pogoing (whatever!)! All of this in spite of the fact that the club had appointed some local bikers (fat peasants wearing "Honda"??? patches) as tonight's bouncers & there was this stupid barrier to keep everybody off the stage. Anybody that came flying over the heads of the front-row bangers was kindly helped (beaten) back over the barrier in a perfectly rude manner - it should have been us hitting them!!!

The organisation sucked, but the bands were shredding!!!!!!! (ALCO PATER)



'Noise' sufferers often believe they are having nervous breakdowns

Here is an interview with Scott Ian of ANTHRAX which was done by Alco Pater when he met the band on their European tour back in May. I won't bore you with the unnecessary details of ANTHRAX's history as I'm sure all of you are well-acquainted with them by now. At the time of typing, they've been recording their next LP at Compass Point Studios in Nassau (where Iron Maiden do all their stuff) with the help of producer Tom Allom (who's renowned for his work with Judas Priest), and the new material is said to be considerably heavier than that on "Spreading The Disease". For various reasons, I didn't see any of the ANTHRAX/METALLICA UK gigs, although I'm told that ANTHRAX understandably stole the show. ON WITH THE INTERVIEW.....

JOEY BELLADONNA
(photo by Mitch Dickinson)



PM: How's the tour been so far?

Scott: Great. We've been here since the first show on May 7th in Germany, and tonight was like our 13th or 14th show here in Europe. It's been great. The shows in Holland have been really good - good shows, really good crowds.

PM: Is there any particular difference between U.S. crowds and European crowds?

Scott: I think the United States have a little bit more stage-diving, moshing & slam-dancing, whereas over here you have more like "crowd participation" where the crowd sing along and pogo, and stuff like that.

PM: Tonight there were security guards pushing the fans back, I thought that sucked.....

Scott: Well, some clubs just don't allow stage-diving, y'know it's just a club policy.

PM: I don't think they've had a Metal gig in this place before.

Scott: Yeah, I think this is the first one - that's what we were told. It went pretty well considering, I think.

PM: How do you see the future with S.O.D.?

Scott: There is no future, S.O.D. broke up back in December.

PM: No second album?

Scott: No.

PM: Why did you break up?

Scott: It was never really together, y'know what I mean?

PM: But there were plans of releasing a 2nd LP?

Scott: Well it was all bullshit. People would start rumours purposely.. (Editor's note: There WERE plans for a 2nd S.O.D. LP, check an old issue of METAL MANIA - no. 17 I think - for confirmation by Scott himself! Rumour has it that they split because they were all sick of S.O.D., and Dan & Billy weren't getting on too well.)...The whole point of S.O.D. was to piss people off, because there's a word we have called "skism" which means to make people mad...

PM: Did you expect such a success?

Scott: Of course we did. I mean, why would we do something if we thought it was shit?

PM: Back onto ANTHRAX, I heard about some trouble you had on the Black Sabbath/W.A.S.P. tour...

Scott: What do you mean by trouble?

PM: Well, wasn't it difficult to play for Black Sabbath fans?

Scott: Not at all. That was the trouble. They were ANTHRAX fans after we played. We went over better than they (Sabbath) wanted us to, I think.

PM: It's pretty obvious that you're all into Hardcore - how did you get into it?

Scott: I've just always listened to it since the beginning, since the Sex Pistols. It's not like it's a "new thing".

PM: What are your favourite bands?

Scott: AC/DC, Black Sabbath, Suicidal Tendencies.... I dunno, I listen to anything. I really don't listen to any certain thing.

ANTHRAX



PM: Er, are there any questions that you've always wanted to answer??? (laughter)

Scott: (pause) European crowds are very good.

PM: Until now I thought Holland sucked. Tonight was the first real slamming crowd.

Scott: You shoulda been there last night. The stage was like 2 levels...big place - we played in a sport centre, lotta kids - five times bigger than this place, huge stage. And there was the stage that we were on which was like 7 feet high, and then there was another stage that was about 4 feet high...but there was nothing on that stage so it was almost like a diving platform, and the kids would just climb up on this thing and dive. They were diving the whole show - I mean, it was so crazy last night.

Without wanting to sound conceited, a lot of this stage-diving and slam-dancing...we were one of the first bands to get involved with that because we really got involved with the Hardcore scene in New York. It's been going on at ANTHRAX shows for 2 years now, and it just follows us. We were really the first Metal band in New York to have it.

All of a sudden everybody knows this word "mosh" out of nowhere. "Mosh" came from New York, it's from CBGB's. Vinnie Stigma from AGNOSTIC FRONT made that word up years ago.

PM: I haven't got any more questions!

Scott: How did you get that SUICIDAL shirt?

PM: I made it myself.

Scott: A lot of people make their own stuff out here. You see kids here with bootleg ANTHRAX patches, everything. In the States it's not like that, because they can get the real ones, I think. I've seen 100 different ANTHRAX jackets here, all different things. It's great, it's really cool.

PM: So how come your t-shirts are so expensive?

Scott: That's nothing to do with us, that's the company that sells them. That's their price. It's real steep. Would YOU pay 20 bucks for a shirt? It's ridiculous.

PM: How did you get OVERKILL as the support band?

Scott: Well, we're all related - Rat's my brother, Bobby's his brother (laughter)...no, OVERKILL's also from New York, and we're like the two happening bands out in New York. The whole thing came together pretty much because the tour started in Germany, and it was us and OVERKILL together, as a package. So we figured "well, we're going to Holland & Belgium so why not keep the package together" cos it works out great because we all know each other and we get along great.

PM: I seem to recall a certain S.O.D. interview where you slagged off SLAYER...

Scott: That's not me, that was Billy's opinion. I have nothing against SLAYER at all, that was just Billy. Billy doesn't like SLAYER so Billy said it.

PM: Where do you get the inspiration for your lyrics?

Scott: The lyrics pretty much come from everyday things...y'know, just about growing up and about things you read in the newspapers. "A.I.R." is about growing up, "The Enemy" is about the nazis in Germany, "After-shock" is about nuclear war, "Medusa" is about Greek mythology, "Madhouse" is about a mental institution. We try to write about real things - we don't like to write about satan and sex/drugs/rock'n'roll and all that crap. With our lyrics we try and tell the kids that they should try to be themselves and just live their lives the way they want to. There are some bands, and all they write about is drinking, and they have this "image"....that's not what life's about.

PM: What's your opinion on the current Death Metal "fad"?

Scott: There's only one good band - CELTIC FROST.

PM: I don't like them myself.

Scott: They're great. They're the only band that's good 'cause they're heavy and they're original.

PM: But it's been done before, I think.

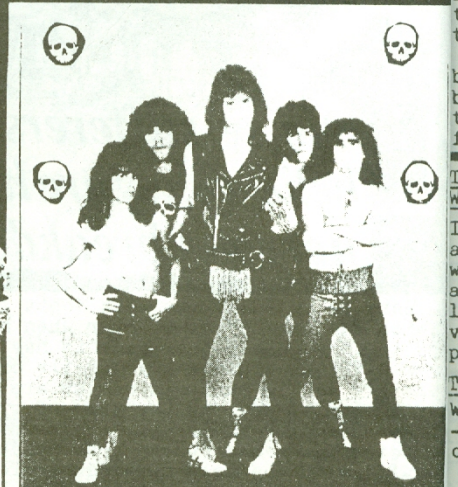
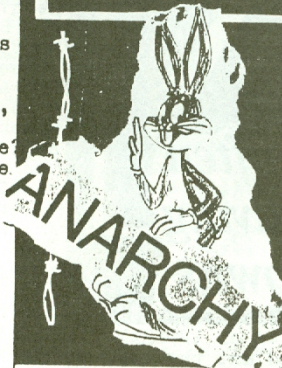
Scott: But they're good though. There's no-one heavy out there like old Black Sabbath. There's no-one playing what they're playing right now. That's the only band that I have any respect for because they actually write good songs and there's good things in their music.... whereas most of this other shit is just these 16-17 year old kids who pick up a guitar and play as fast as they can. Bands like POSSESSED and stuff like that - it's just real garbage.

PM: Have you seen CELTIC FROST over in the U.S.?

Scott: No, they haven't even played yet. Their first show was supposed to be last Saturday and they had to cancel their first ten shows because they couldn't get their visas to get into the States. So we'll probably get to see 'em some time this summer 'cause they had to postpone the tour.

PM: Have you had any contact with them?

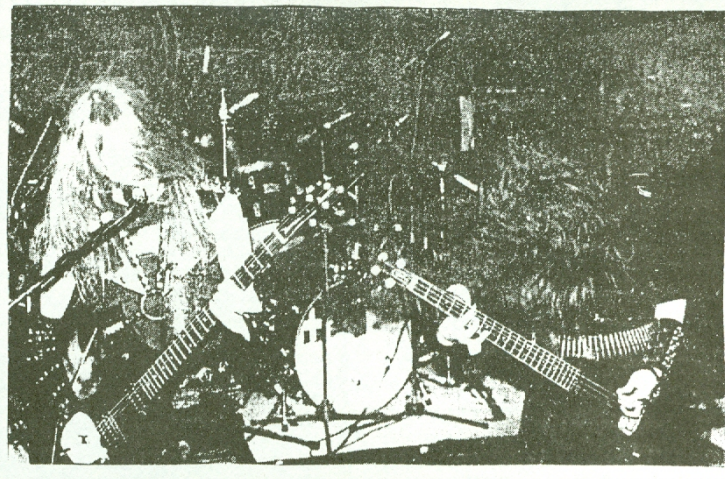
Scott: Yeah, we know them. When we played in Zurich 2 weeks ago they came to the show and we had a good time. We're pretty good friends with those guys.



a very old pic of ANTHRAX with their first vocalist, Neil Turbin

HEAVY METALERS
THRASH FOR PEACE





The Living and the Dead

CELTIC FROST / VOIVOD / BLACK WYTCH -
 "Sneakers", Branford, Connecticut 28th June '86

First up was BLACK WYTCH who are area locals. Despite the fact that they were only given about half-hour to play, they really impressed me. They are a 3-piece with a drummer/vocalist and they really produced some fine Thrash/Speed Metal. Definitely a band to watch for.

Next came VOIVOD, the gods of all Metal who in my opinion stole the show. Snake took to the stage wearing a gas mask and shooting off some kind of a smoke gun, the band then tore into "Korgull The Exterminator" and proceeded to lay waste to the crowd with cuts from both "War & Pain" and "RRROOOAAARRR". The whole band was constantly moving all over the stage in total thrashing rage. All of the members were in top form despite that it was the end of a long tour. VOIVOD IS GOD!!!!

After some delay CELTIC FROST hit the stage and sent the thrashers flying with "Into The Crypts Of Rays". They played a good bit from "To Megatherion" and even threw in a few songs from "Morbid Tales", but the band's set was far short-lived as they played just under an hour which I found very disappointing. I have also been told that the band played only three songs in Chicago and then left with little explanation. If CELTIC FROST are attempting to get themselves a name in this country they had best start putting out a little more effort live and not leave their fans with the feeling that they should have gotten more.

(review by SCOTT GIVENS)

THE ULTIMATE WITCHCRAFT



"I know what I'd do with noisy neighbours."

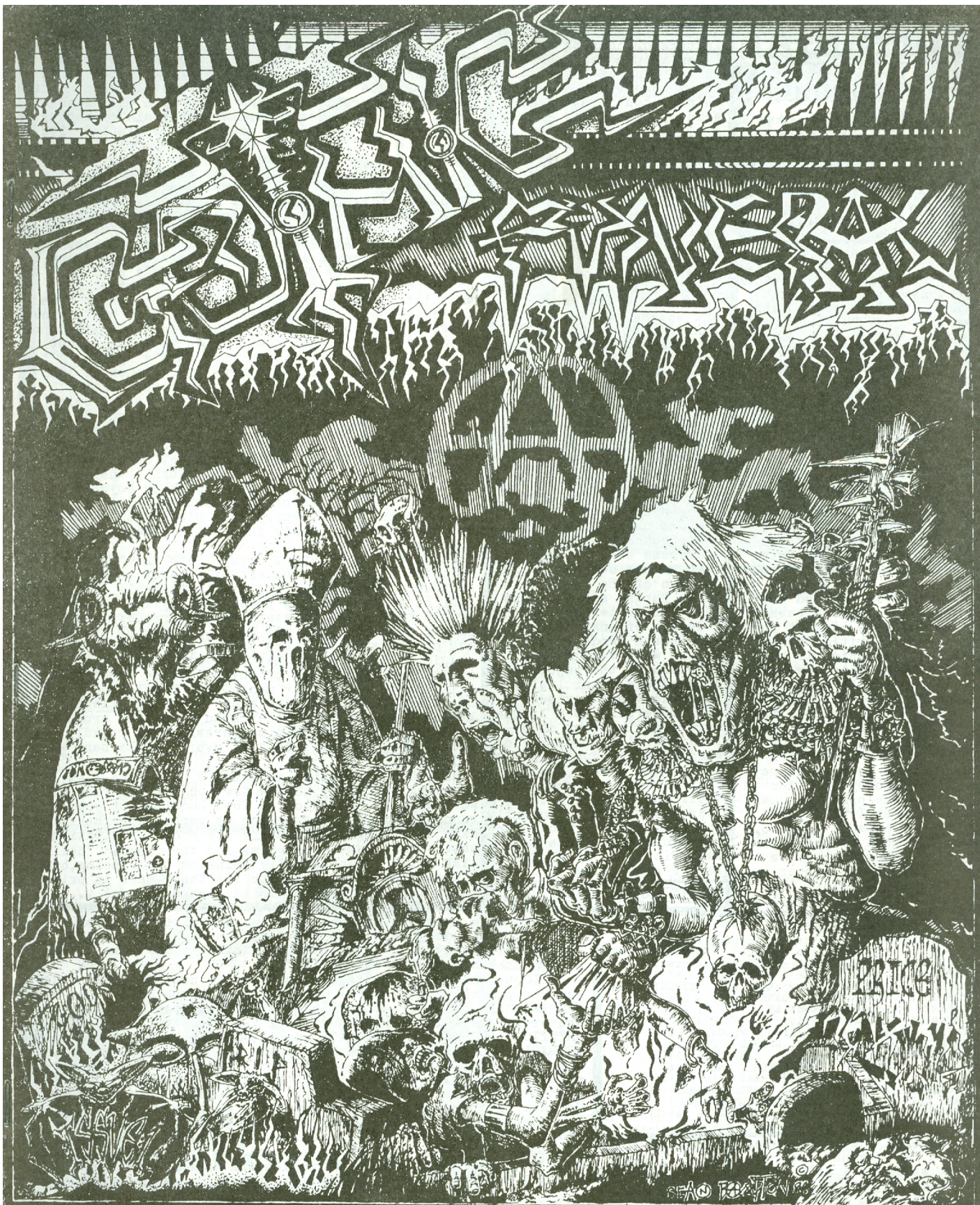


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PHOENIX MILITIA (ISSUE 7)

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER are a band that should be familiar to most of you due to their "Life In Grave" demo, various live & rehearsal tapes and of course their debut LP, "Convicted" which is out on Death Records (only available here on import). In fact, they even received national radio exposure recently when Tommy Vance (Radio 1) played a track from the LP on the "Friday Rock Show". I was amazed!!! Here's an interview with lead vocalist Bill Crooks, but first I think a few credits are in order.

Interview by Eric Guereque
Special thanks to Efren DeLeon
Made possible by Terri Miller

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER are:-

Bill Crooks - vocals (16 yrs old)
Les Evans - guitar (19 yrs old)
Rob Nicholson - bass (16 yrs old)
Scott Peterson - drums (16 yrs old)

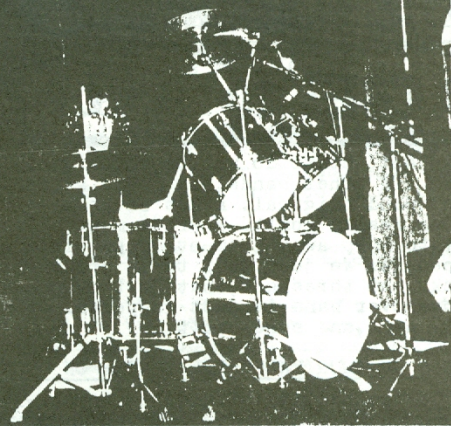
A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE WONDERING WHAT REALLY HAPPENED AT THE MASONIC LODGE IN CULVER CITY...

Bill: I don't know...it started out alright, I guess. They had no idea it was going to be a Punk show, they thought that it was going to be a dance, because that is what we told them. They had a couple of security guards there, and after a while, the place started getting thrashed, people were writing on the walls, and throwing bottles, and all that. So, they called a bunch of cops. So, by the time we were going to play they said that we couldn't, but we played anyway. We only got to play a couple of songs because

ROB NICHOLSON



SCOTT PETERSON



**BLISTERING
HARDCORE!**

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the cops were on their way and were going to arrest anyone and kick everyone out.

NOW THAT YOUR ALBUM IS OUT, DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WILL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF SETTING UP GIGS?

Well, the company that we are on, Death Records, they said that they should be setting up some shows. We have one coming up in September with maybe FINAL CONFLICT and ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT.

YOU GUYS WEREN'T SATISFIED WITH YOUR DEMO, SO HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR ALBUM BEING PRODUCED & PUT TOGETHER?

Our demo was on an 8-track, and the album is on a 24-track, and the producer didn't really know what he was doing on the demo. So, we could have gotten a lot better sound on the demo. On the album we did what we all wanted on it, so we got the sound that we all like. When you are first starting out, you rely on other people to do it, and they fucked us up with the sound.

WHEN DID CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER GET TOGETHER?

December 19th, 1984 was when I first met Les and Scott. We had another guitarist back then named Adam. I went over to see a HIRAX gig with them and they asked me to sing and I just joined the band, and it went on from there.

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER STARTED OUT AS A 3-PIECE BAND, WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE TO A 4-PIECE BAND?

It was mainly me. When I was singing, I always wanted to move around and jump all over the place, and I always had to stay pretty close to the microphone because of my bass. Then we met Rob who is our bass-player now, and we took him away from another band. That's how it happened. I didn't like singing and playing the bass. It was too much work.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR EARLIEST INFLUENCES AND WHAT BANDS DO YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO NOW?

I like the first album from the old D.R.I., and MINOR THREAT. Those are my influences.

WHAT ABOUT AS A BAND, MUSICALLY?

When we first began, it would have to be SLAYER and VENOM, you know, the typical stuff. But then we started to get progressive. I don't really like Speed Metal any more. I like a lot of English bands now, bands like the SEX PISTOLS, and SUBHUMANS and stuff like that. I like the EXPLOITED a lot.

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER HAVE A UNIQUE SOUND OF THEIR OWN. YOU DO HAVE A GOOD REACTION FROM ALL KINDS OF THRASHERS, PUNKS AND SUICIDALS. WHAT SEPERATES YOU FROM OTHER HARDCORE BANDS?



CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER

RAGE to KILL



The thing we set out to do was to be original in our music. A lot of bands rip off other bands and sound a lot like other bands. We tried to sound original. A lot of people say that we rip off D.R.I., but we really don't. I write most of the lyrics, and when I write, I try to keep away from other people's stuff. I don't rip off other people. We just want to be original. As far as the sound between punks and thrashers, that just happened. We didn't set out to be a cross-over band, it just happened. We have some songs that sound really punk, and some don't.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE TRACKS ON "CONVICTED"?

"Lowlife", "Convicted" and "Nuclear Future". Those are my favourites.

DOES CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER GET ALONG WITH THE BANDS THEY PLAY WITH?

Most of the time we do. A lot of the bands that we play with have heard of us. They usually say that we are a good band, and then turn around and say shit. It doesn't bother me, because I don't care. But mainly we get along with most bands.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE BANDS TO PLAY GIGS WITH?

The biggest show that we had was at the Sun Valley Sportsman's Lodge last September, with D.R.I.. We really like the guys in D.R.I..

EARLIER YOU WERE CLASSED AS A "SUICIDAL" BAND. HOW DID YOU GET OUT OF THAT?

Well, they said that we were a Suicidal band because I know all of the Venice dudes, and I wore the hat, and I did hang out with them, so everyone just thought that we were a Suicidal band. I mean, we definitely aren't a BEOWULF, or a NO MERCY or anything.

DOES CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER DEAL WITH SATANISM IN ANY WAY?

Well, I am not really into satan. On the demo, Les wrote a few satanic lyrics... "Necessity Supreme", and that kind of garbage, but I think that it is really getting over-used. I think that a lot of bands that say satan is their master are shit! I would rather stick to having our own sound.

IN THE FUTURE, DOES CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER PLAN ON RELEASING ANY SINGLES?

We are probably going to record an EP next. Maybe an album, but I think that we are going to record a "Set Your Own Pace" EP. Since the album, we have got 6 new songs already that we have been working on. Our drummer, Scott, wrote one, and Rob wrote a couple that are good.

WHO WRITES MOST OF THE MUSIC & LYRICS?

Les writes most of the music. Out of the 14 songs on the album, 12 of the songs are his music, 2 of the songs are my music, 10 of the songs are my lyrics, and 4 of the songs are his lyrics. I write most of the lyrics, and he writes most of the music. But lately, it has changed. Rob has written lyrics and music, I have written music. Everyone is just getting into it.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT METAL BANDS GETTING ON A BILL WITH PUNK BANDS?

If they can get on the bill, that is fine. I have been to a gig where it has been all punks, and then a Metal band will come on like ABATTOIR or ANTHRAX, who I don't think is Punk, but I think that they think they are. I think they suck.

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER HAS PLAYED A FEW GIGS UP IN SAN FRANCISCO. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE IN THE AUDIENCES?

Down here, people say that the scene is so great up there, and I don't think it is. It's not as good as people told me it would be. It's not as fun to play up there as it is to play up here.

DO FIGHTS IN THE AUDIENCE AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO PLAY?

That has only happened once, at the D.R.I. show I mentioned earlier. It was pretty crowded. Usually when the place is crowded, there is going to be a fight. I don't like to see a lot of fighting. It is kind of distracting. It was a really big fight, the whole place rushed over there and started hitting this guy, it was kind of like we weren't playing, we weren't even there.

THERE ARE 14 TRACKS ON "CONVICTED". DID CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER ORIGINALLY PLAN TO MAKE 14 TRACKS?

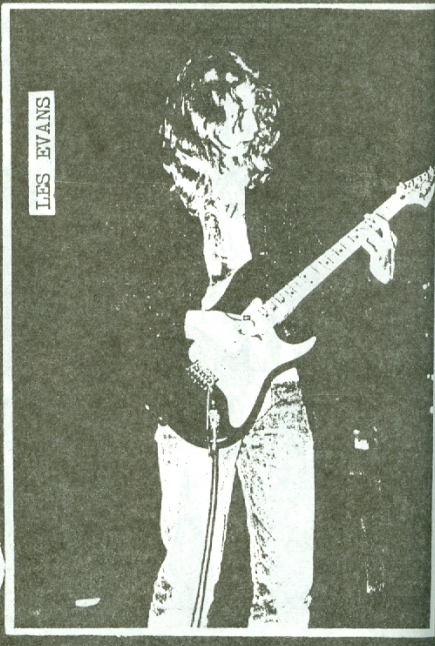
We put 12 on the album in the beginning, and it wasn't long enough. So, we put "Nuclear Future", and we did another version of "Reich Of Torture". Those were the only songs we had at the time. If we had the ones that we have now, I would have liked to put a few of those on "Convicted".

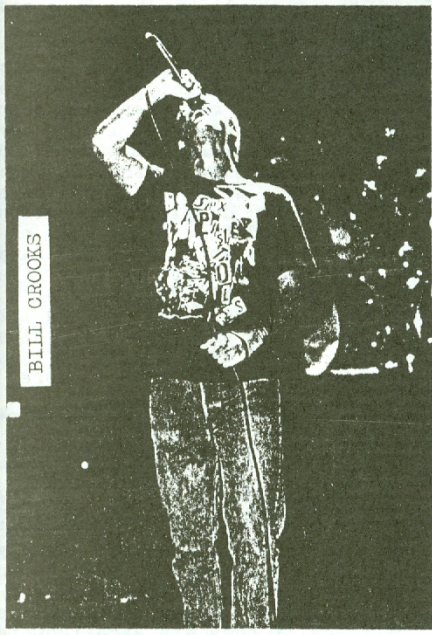
THE TITLE TRACK, "CONVICTED", WHAT IS THAT SONG ABOUT?

A lot of people think that "Convicted" is about not fitting in, as far as punks not fitting into society, and not being normal. Well, it's not. It's about a guy who gets out of prison and, you know, society is pretty down on ex-cons. They don't give them a fair chance. That's what it is about. I know a few people that get out of jail, and they can't get any kind of job. As soon as they find out that he is an ex-con, it's just shit. It's pretty much about a friend of mine that went through that, and blew his head off. He killed himself.

YOU HAVE A LOGO, "SET YOUR OWN PACE". ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO EXTEND THAT?

Yeah. We have a song that I wrote. Our next EP or album is going to be entitled "Set Your Own Pace". We have an artist working on a "Set Your Own Pace" cover right now. Our other artist is a dick. We got rid of him. I hope this one can do some-





BILL CROOKS

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER

thing good.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BANDS THAT START OUT AS UNDERGROUND BANDS, AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, THEY CHARGE OUTRAGEOUS PRICES AND SELL OUT SHOWS BEING REALLY COMMERCIAL?

That is starting to be a real problem. The so-called Underground is not so underground any more. Punk wasn't big, and Speed Metal wasn't even big. It was Underground music. You couldn't find their albums in a Music Plus or anything. You had to go to a small record store and find stuff like that. Now, you can go to a Music Plus or a warehouse, in the alternative rock section. It just seems to be getting more and more commercial. It has its good points and its drawbacks. Punk and Speed Metal set out not to conform, and to stay away from all of this commercial bullshit.

WHAT BANDS DO YOU THINK STARTED OUT AS HARDCORE, AND ENDED UP SOMEWHAT COMMERCIAL?

G.B.H., AGNOSTIC FRONT. Bands that are getting on Combat are just changing. G.B.H. turned into Heavy Metal, just to get the money. I am definitely not into this music for the money. I mean, we could turn Heavy Metal and make a lot of money at a Poison gig. I'm not into that.

HOW DO YOU REACT TO THE GLAM BANDS HERE IN LOS ANGELES?

I hate it. I hate Glam bands. They are nothing but fags. That Glam shit will soon die. The two big Glam bands are Poison and Jet Boy, they look like women (don't insult women! -Bill). They will die.

SPEAKING OF JET BOY, THEY CLAIM TO BE A CROSSOVER FROM A PUNK BAND & A ROCK BAND. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS?

The only way that they can call themselves Punk is because the singer has spiked hair and a couple of them have mohawks. As far as their music, it sucks. Like G.B.H., they look like punks, and they play Metal. I have heard Jet Boy, and their music is definitely not Punk, it sounds weird.

SINCE CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER HAS BEEN TOGETHER, HAVE THERE BEEN ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT BREAKING UP OR CHANGING MEMBERS?(sounds painful!)

No, we haven't had any thoughts like that. (Obviously they think it sounds painful too - Bill). All of us want this. A couple of times I have thought that I wanted to quit, because it seemed like a lot of work, and all of our gigs were getting fucked up. We have had some shithead promoters that don't know what the hell they are doing as far as putting a show together. No-one else has wanted to quit. Now that the album is out, we seem to be doing pretty well, so I want to stick with it.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY COPIES HAVE BEEN SOLD SINCE YOU RELEASED "CONVICTED"?

The first press was 5000, and the album went into the stores in the United States, and all of the stores are out. The distributor is out of them, so have they have to press another 5000. The stores have sold out of them, which is a good sign.

YOU HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH KATON (EX-HIRAX). WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM RECENTLY QUITTING HIRAX?

I don't know what HIRAX is going to do now. I think that Katon WAS HIRAX. Everyone knows him. As soon as you hear HIRAX, you think of Katon. Katon moved up to San Francisco and is trying to form another band. When I talked to him, he said that he is really sick of the other band members because all they do is drink. I guess he just got tired of it. He wants to do what he wants. I think it was a good move for him.

WHERE WAS CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER'S FIRST SHOW?

Our first show was at Radio City in Anaheim, way back in July 1985. That was our first gig. It wasn't a big turn-out, but that was our first gig. Then we played a little studio party after that which sucked. After that, we played Sun Valley Sportsman's Lodge. That was a rad show. Then, back in December, we played Ruthies in San Francisco with ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT, and that place was pretty crowded for A.A.. They have a really good following up there. Then, we went back to San Francisco again. We haven't had a lot of gigs.

THE LAST GIG YOU PLAYED WAS IN MAY, BUT THE LAST FULL SHOW YOU PLAYED WAS ACTUALLY IN SEPTEMBER...

Yes. That was the last real big show that we got to play. It's just that clubs around here are starting to want too much money to rent the place out. A lot of places are closing down.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE & SING ABOUT?

Well, a good percentage of the songs that I write are about anti-government. I'm not an anarchist, because I don't think that anarchy is a solution. It's chaos really. I wish that there was a different alternative between either government or anarchy. I wish that there was something in the middle. I don't like the government. That is pretty much what I write about... just anti-government, and anti-politics. A couple of songs deal with suicide like "Sudden Death". I wrote that in a point of view. Say I was a suicidal person, I wrote that in the point of view of a suicidal person.



CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER, 2310 Pier Avenue, Santa Monica, California 90405, U.S.A.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY TO THE "FANS" OF CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER TO EXPLAIN THE LACK OF SHOWS?

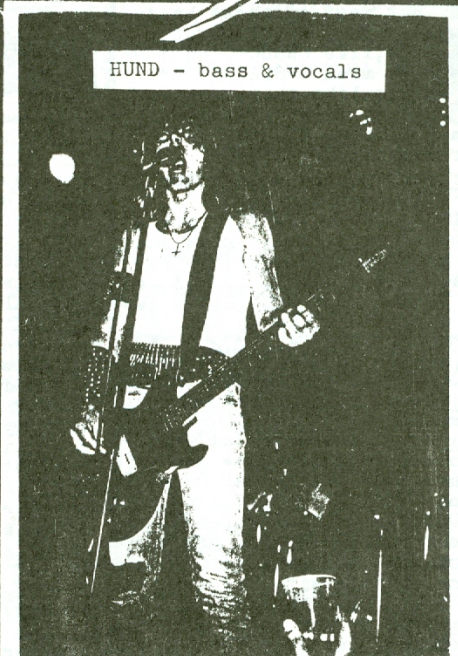
I would like to tell them NOT to give up on us. It's not like we aren't doing shows because we don't want to. It seems like we always have to cancel out. I mean, we print flyers, and it falls through. And people go crazy, and say things like "These guys never play gigs". So, I would like to say: "DON'T GIVE UP ON US". We have been trying real hard. We have been fucked over by promoters. We are trying to get shows here in Los Angeles. We are hoping to get one this month before school starts up again. But it looks like the one that we have set up will be in September with FINAL CONFLICT.

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

Keep raging! Thankyou for your support, and don't give up on us. We will have gigs soon. For anyone who reads this, who is outside of California, we will try to get to your town some day.



HENK - guitar



HUND - bass & vocals

Neo-Nazi cultists.....brutal,perverted torture.....gratuitous incest and cannibalism as a way of life. None of these things relate to DESEXULT in any way whatsoever but does that prevent me from using them as an effective introduction to this here interview? NO IT DOES NOT. Besides,I'm having a bath tonight (no witty comments please) before watching "Spitting Image" so if you expect me to sit here all night thinking of ways to stun you all with my literary genius (or lack of it) then you've got another thing coming. So,without further ado,we shall plunge ahead with the DESEXULT interview. These are the very same chaps (formerly known as Samhain) whose demo got such a bad review from me in the last issue of PHOENIX MILITIA:however,Henk (the guitarist) kindly sent me their 2nd demo which is a VAST improvement on the 1st and is highly recommended to anyone who enjoys scraping their own eyesockets with a sharp implement to the sounds of manic Death Metal.

DESEXULT IS A PRETTY UNUSUAL NAME FOR A BAND. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Henk: As you know we used to call ourself Samhain,right. There was several bands using this name,a German,a Swedish,the famous America-n Samhain and us and probably some others. Therefore we decided that our new name should be a name which was an invented name,so no-one had used it before,ever. We started searching and found the meaning Death Exult,which should mean something like Triumph Of Death. The word death is probably the most worn out name in this business,so we thought we would write it in another way,but with the same pronunciation. We came up with Des. Then we figured we should put the two words together,because we wanted a one-word band. Therefore we became

DesExult. We decided to write a capital "E",otherwise people would pronounce the name like De sex ult, see.

ARE YOU PLEASED WITH YOUR NEW DEMO? WHAT SORT OF RESPONSE HAVE YOU HAD FROM PEOPLE WHO'VE HEARD IT?

Henk: No,we're not pleased with this demo. Especially the production is bad,but I think our tracks are much better,because they've got their own style. Anyway,this demo was only meant for the record companies,so we decided to record it studio-live. It took about 7 hours, including the set-up and tuning of the drums. Of those 7 hours we used 1 for mixing,which certainly wasn't enough either! The demo was recorded on the 19th of January,but wasn't released before the beginning of July. As I said it was only meant

for record companies,but as we changed our name we decided we had to do something. Therefore we decided to release it for the public. The promotional campaign is also our biggest ever. We have sent more than 100 free demoes out.

About the response. Well, most of them who've heard it think it's much better than our first. After this release Monte Conner has gone so far as to call us the best unsigned European band. Nas-y Ronnie thinks it's so good that he'll write a letter to Noise and tell them to sign us,KREATOR is also laying "pressure" on them. There's only one guy so far who thinks it isn't as good as our first.

IT SEEMS THAT YOUR LYRICS DEAL WITH TOPICS SUCH AS THE OCCULT & SATANISM. DON'T YOU FEEL THAT THIS IS UNORIGINAL AND HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED WRITING SONGS ON OTHER,LESS WIDELY-USED SUBJECTS?

Henk: I do not agree with you when you call satanic/occult lyrics unoriginal!!! No,seriously. Our lyrics suck! But it was "only" the first of our lyrics which was satanic lyrics. You see we never took lyrics seriously in the beginning. Then we started to be more critical,so now we've got lyrics about visions, strange dreams but we've also got a lyric about the most unoriginal subject,a nuclear war. I would rather see a band writing satanic songs than writing lyrics about a nuclear war. Though I must admit a band like CARNIVORE does it with some humour. Anyway,our lyrics are far from good,but it was only the first of the ones which dealt with the satanic/occult. By the way,I think we have one good lyric,it's about the West's twisted views on the East.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER DANISH BANDS THAT YOU WOULD RECOMMEND?

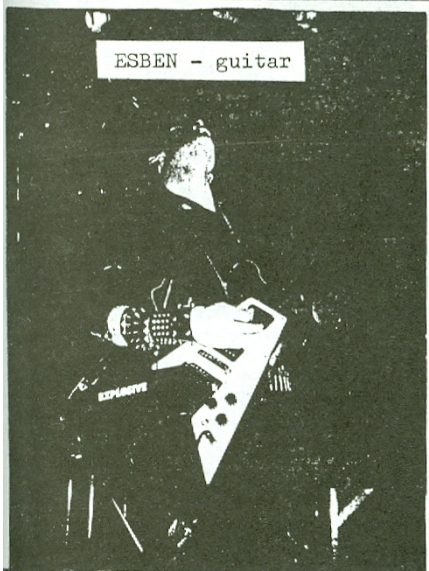
Henk: Yes,there certainly are. There's a new band coming out of Copenhagen called BATTALION. They're not too original,but they're a very good Thrash Metal band in the ARTILLERY (not a typical Thrash band) and SLAYER vein. Then there's a band from city called Odense. This band is a 5-piece and they play a very heavy and doomy style. A mix of Trouble, Black Sabbath and Merciful Fate. They're very good and they've got a professional sound,though their singer isn't too good. They're called PROPHETS OF DOOM.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE CROSSOVER BETWEEN DEATH METAL & HARDCORE PUNK? DO YOU AGREE THAT IT IS HEALTHY FOR BOTH FORMS OF MUSIC?

Henk: No comment!!!

continued on the next page

ESBEN - guitar



HOW DID THE GIG IN MARCH WITH KREATOR GO? WHAT DO YOU THINK OF KREATOR?

Henk: The gig on the 7th of March with KREATOR went very very well for both us and KREATOR. There was about 300 people thrashing like hell, including the bands on the stage. It was our most important, but not the best gig we've played so far. The first I hear with KREATOR was when I bought their Tormentor demo. It was one of the first demos I bought and ever since KREATOR has been one of my favourite bands.

HAVE YOU FOUND A LABEL TO RELEASE YOUR DEBUT LP? WHEN DO YOU EXPECT IT TO BE RELEASED?

Henk: Yeah, we've several interested labels, but we're not interested in those labels. It's labels like King Klassic, N.R.R., Axe Killer etc. and this means we have to pay the studio costs ourselves, which we can't afford. We hope to get a deal with Noise Records, or another good label, with a good distribution and promotion and tour support.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

Henk: First of all I would like to thank all those who bought our first and second demo, and I wish some more of you would buy these demos, so we can get in the studio again and record our third demo as soon as possible, which hopefully can give us a good contract.

Then I want to thank you Bill for doing this interview. I do hope you like our new demo!?!?

DesExult are:- Hund.....bass & vocals
Henk Leviathan.....guitar
Esben Slot Sorensen.....guitar
Tue.....drums

Thanks go to Henk for answering my questions and providing the demo, photos & information. The DESEXULT demo is excellent so for goodness' sake BUY IT!! NOW THAT'S AN ORDER!!! The address is; DesExult, c/o Henk Leviathan, Sejrs Alle 49, 8240 Risskov, Denmark. The demo costs 5 dollars or the same value in your own currency (the 1st demo is still available at the same price) and colour live photos can be bought at the price of 3 for 2 dollars (or the same value in your own currency - roughly £1.50 I think).

DEMOS

ASSASSIN's debut demo, "Holy Terror", was reviewed in our last issue, and since then the band has released a 2nd tape

entitled "The Saga Of Nemesis". This new demo is studio-recorded and therefore superior to the first, and thankfully ASSASSIN again had the good taste to send a copy to us here at "Phoenix Militia". Despite the fact that these guys are from West Germany (home of many rather unoriginal bands), they come across as being professional-sounding, tight & un-cliched, in fact no comparisons immediately spring to mind so that says a lot for 'em. "Holy Terror" and the ace instrumental "Speed Of Light" have been re-recorded from the first demo, while new material is present in the form of "Forbidden Reality" and "Nemesis". Although the vocals are still somewhat weak in places, this savage opus of Thrash Metal won't fail to rip your face off.

£2/4 dollars is the price of their new demo, while the first is available for £1/2 dollars...so let's see you all opening your piggy banks - you know it makes sense!! ASSASSIN, c/o Robert Gonnelle, Erwin-von-Witzleben-Str., 4000 Dusseldorf 30, West Germany.



h.h.h.

Harina de Huesos Humanos

These Spanish Punk-thrashers are a lot better than I expected, even though some of the songs on this demo tend to be a bit messy. Revealing blatant old Discharge & Riistetyt influences, H.H.H. blast through 20 tracks on their "No Identity" demo. The sound quality isn't exactly top-quality (it seems to be a rehearsal tape) but the tape is highly listenable if you're into this type of thing. Whatever your tastes are, you won't fail to notice the energy and aggression behind this. Send \$1 & IRC to H.H.H., c/o Marc & Koki, C/Canat, 45 Banyoles (Gerona) Spain.



Ah, DOOMWATCH - now there's a name! A couple of years ago a Metal band playing under such a monicker would come across as fairly typical and unoriginal....but now, well let's just

say that any Power Metal outfit without a name referring to death, violence or satanism is quite a rarity! The same sort of theory can be applied to DOOMWATCH's music & attitude. Shunning terms like Death, Thrash & Speed Metal, the band play original, powerful Metal that does not rely on speed to carry each song. Hard, biting riffs and pounding rhythms are the name of the game, which backs up the band's statement that they have "never been very trendy". This well-recorded basement tape is impressive to say the least, but DOOMWATCH could easily devastate all in sight with the aid of a good studio. Send 4 dollars to: DOOMWATCH, P.O.Box 14055, Pittsburgh, PA 15239, U.S.A. Although they'll never equal the likes of DEATH, INSANITY or REPULSION, DOOMWATCH are a band with enormous potential.

DesExult

What can I say? This band have improved immensely since their first demo which was released under the name SAMHAIN. Their overall sound has remained essentially the same, but what they have done is to take all the best elements of Swiss wimps Celtic Frost and add their own brand of doomy Thrash. The result is a 5-song "live in the studio" demo that shows how much they deserve their good underground reputation.

(all reviews on this page written by Bill)



DISCHARGE

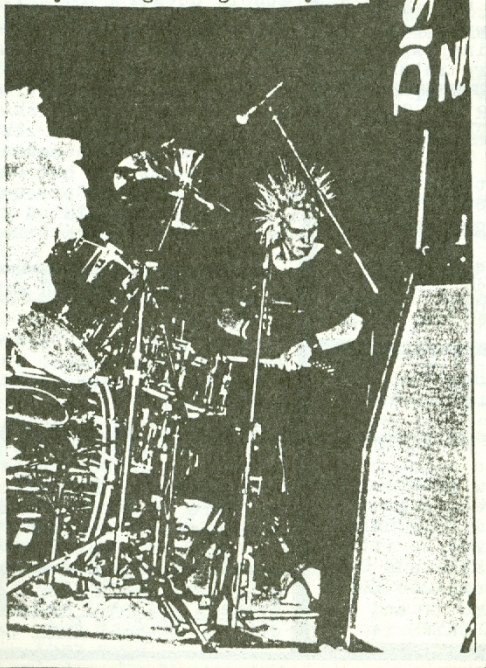
WARNING

THEY STAND ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN
 THEY STAND ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN
 THEY STAND ON THE OUTSIDE AND FEED YOU SHIT
 THEY STAND ON THE OUTSIDE AND FEED YOU SHIT

CHORUS/THEY KEEP YOU IN THE DARK
 POISON POISON POISON YOUR MIND

THERE IS NO TRUTH IN WHAT THEY SAY
 THERE IS NO TRUTH IN WHAT THEY SAY
 PROPAGANDA AND LIES
 PROPAGANDA AND LIES

Garry during the golden years



"What's this? A DISCHARGE interview?? But they fuckin' wimped out...they don't sound or look like punks any more - they're only in it for the money."

Such a reaction can be expected from the majority of people who see this feature (I use the word "see" because many may be so narrow-minded that they won't even bother reading this), and let me tell you right now that I do not subscribe to that point of view. Surely the idiots that showered DISCHARGE with abuse on their recent tour can recall that DISCHARGE stopped playing 3-chord Thrash back in 1983....remember "The More I See"? Remember "The Price Of Silence"? Or the more recent "Ignorance"? None of those releases bore any resemblance to the classic old DISCHARGE "Hear Nothing" style, so why pretend that they've suddenly forsaken Punk for Metal??? And as for the claim that they've wimped out, well surely if they continued to write & play "Hear Nothing"-type material then that'd be dishonest and merely cashing in on the fact that most DISCHARGE listeners want to hear the old style? Personally, I don't like the "Grave New World" LP at all (especially Calvin's vocals - eugh!) and I can't say I'm taken with their new look either, but that's just my opinion, I don't condemn the band simply because they looked & sounded different a few years ago. So open your eyes and ears, it's all too easy to join the crowd and abruptly slag of a band in the public eye like DISCHARGE.

Here we give the band a chance to reply to some of the criticisms that have been levelled at them, as good old Gothkiller asks Nick a variety of questions that should be more than enough to provide you with DISCHARGE's attitudes towards their "wimpout", Calvin's departure, and more...

WHY WAS IT THAT CAL LEFT? AND DO YOU THINK HE WILL BE HARD TO REPLACE AS A VOCALIST & FOCAL POINT?

Firstly, Cal didn't just leave DISCHARGE, and he wasn't kicked out. The split was a mutual decision on all parts and we are still friends.

The decision became apparent when we (the band) wanted to play old songs as well as new in our set; Calvin didn't and refused point blank, which pissed us off because we had people hating us for it. We had people shouting, "Why don't you play old songs?" - and we had no reply to give, because we wanted to do them as much as anyone else. Fuck, do you think we enjoyed all the shit we got every night?!

The band became divided, because we (the band - Garry, Steve, Nick) still believed in the old songs, but Calvin didn't, which he freely admits, and you have to admire him for his honesty to us and the people who came to the shows. It would be the easiest thing in the world for us to turn out and play all those old songs knowing we'd go down good, but Calvin's heart wasn't behind it; he would have been conning people, doing it for the fame, etc. and that says it all. Calvin told us that he really wasn't motivated in the Rock/Punk/Metal direction any more and that's fine, but we still are and so we will carry on.

Yes, Calvin will be hard to replace, whoever we have will have his name to live up to, but we aim to have the right person, so he will assert his own personality and in time he will be accepted as the new DISCHARGE singer, just as the band will be accepted as the new DISCHARGE.

A LOT OF PEOPLE NOW CONSIDER DISCHARGE DEAD AND TRULY DEAD, WITH CAL'S DEPARTURE BEING THE FINAL NAIL IN THE COFFIN. HOW ARE YOU GOING TO CONVINCING THEM THAT DISCHARGE ARE STILL A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH?

I'm sure that a lot of people consider DISCHARGE dead, and we nearly have been a few times on the last UK tour, but as any band will tell you, it takes more than one person to make that band, or create success. The only name people seem to know is Calvin's, because he was the frontman, but from the start there was always a lot more to the band than just him; members such as Bones, Rainy, Pooch, who wrote the songs that everyone likes, members like Garry, Tez, Bamby who put the beats down. All of these people created the Thrash which Calvin topped off with his lyrics, but they seldom get the attention or interest that the singer gets. All this goes to prove that there is far more to DISCHARGE than just Calvin and this will show in our future work.

People will just have to come to our gigs and they will get a show including the old DISCHARGE material which they expect. They may also be surprised to hear what a lower vocal will do to the "Grave New World" songs. So they should be interesting shows all round.

AS DISCHARGE ARE NOW PLANNING BENEFIT GIGS, I.E. - A.L.F., C.N.D. & SO ON, WHAT WAS THE MOTIVATION BEHIND THIS DECISION, AS DISCHARGE WERE BEFOREHAND WELL-KNOWN FOR THEIR ALOOFNESS AND HIGH GIG FEES? DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO BE PLAYING THE "CARING" BAND?

We have decided that we now want to do benefit gigs because the band is now run by all of us, whereas before we were only told where to play and never really consult-

ed beforehand. We hope to vary the choice of benefits in the future, i.e. Animal Rights, Rape Crisis. The motivation behind this is a personal interest on my behalf as far as Animal Rights are concerned. I leaflet in Birmingham and Solihull, and do the demo's when I can. With regard to CND benefits, although we are wary of the political, i.e. left-wing policies, we believe in the basic preservation of life. We just want to do anti-war gigs, but we don't want to be involved in any politics.

HOW DID THE U.S. TOUR GO? THERE HAVE BEEN RUMOURS OF POOR TURNOUTS, BAD RECEPTIONS ETC... ALSO DID YOU FIND THE SHORT U.K. TOUR DISHEARTENING??

The reaction we have received has been pretty much the same all over. In the US the audiences were not as harsh as the English, but the reaction was unanimous; they enjoyed, or could stand, the new music, but not the change in vocal style - they all wanted to hear the old stuff.

Unfortunately, Calvin wouldn't do any old stuff or lower his vocals so we were doing a short set with him and then going back on and doing instrumentals of some old stuff: - "State Violence", "The More I See", "Warning" etc. which went down great, and that's when we stopped getting hassled. It was plain to see that we were divided on this issue, and I'm afraid to say the people turned their abuse to the new vocals.

Yes, the English tour was disheartening - we would have to be masochists to enjoy being hated, wouldn't we?

WHAT ABOUT LYRIC-WISE, WILL THE BAND'S ATTITUDE REMAIN THE SAME, AND ARE THE LYRICS TO THE OLDER SONGS BEING CHANGED NOW THAT CAL'S DEPARTED (AS IT WAS ALWAYS PUT ACROSS THAT THEY WERE HIS DEPARTMENT)?

The lyrics were always Cal's department but future songs/lyrics will be written by us all. We want to write in the same vein as before because that's what we believe in. The lyrics will not be changed to any of the old songs, we wouldn't do that; they are as we like them.

LIFE IS LIKE A PUBIC HAIR ON A TOILET SEAT SOONER OR LATER YOU GET PISSED OFF

AGAIN LYRICALLY WHAT PROMPTED THE CHANGE FROM THE DOOM, GLOOM AND DESPERATION DAYS OF "HEAR NOTHING" TO THE LYRICALLY SUPERIOR PERSONAL TOUCH OF "GRAVE NEW WORLD"??

As with the music, the lyrics have progressed, still having good meaning but on a more personal level than before. As anyone knows, the more practice you get in something, the better you get; the same with the music. We have been called Heavy Metal because we are trying to put more into our music, but apart from the message, we want to produce good music that is a challenge and good to play.

WHAT DIRECTION WILL THE NEW DISCHARGE BE HEADING IN MUSICALLY, AND FROM WHOM DO YOU TAKE YOUR INFLUENCES??

We are not intentionally going in any direction with our new material. It will just be what we are doing. Needless to say, it will be in the Rock/Punk/Metal vein because that's what we like playing. I don't think there will ever be a DISCHARGE Jazz/Funk record, although it's an idea!

We, as a band, like a wide range of music from Gen. X and all the old bands through Black Sabbath to Van Halen.



CAN I STOP THIS DISCHARGE?

I WON'T SUBSCRIBE.

KEPT IN LINE WITH RIFLE BUTTS AND TRUNCHED BEATEN UP BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

I WON'T SUBSCRIBE TO THE SYSTEM THE HANDS THAT TIGHTEN AROUND MY THROAT.

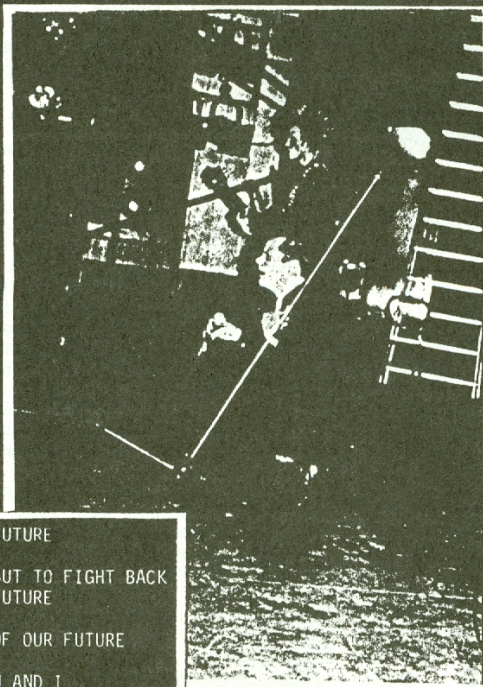
AS SOME OF THE OLDER SONGS ARE BEING "JAZZED UP" FOR INCLUSION IN THE SET, ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO RE-RECORD ANY OF THEM???

At this stage we have no plans to record any old songs, although it is an idea. Mainly we will use them live, swapping and changing them around, mixed in with the recent material.

DOES THE BAND KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EX-DISCHARGE MEMBERS? WHAT ARE THE LIKES OF RAINY AND CAL UP TO

Yes, we do keep in touch with ex-members as we are all still friends. Steve goes to most BROKI BONES shows. We all go and see Rainy who lives with Alison (his lady) and about 30 Persian cats which he breeds. He still plays, although not in the Punk vein any more and is just taking some time off band work for a while, having a rest. The last time I saw Calvi he was doing fine and said he might be getting a band together in the New Year. This, however, will be in a more tame, melodic form than DISCHARGE, similar to the Glenn Hughes solo material.

PROTEST AND SURVIVE.
THE SAVAGE UTILIZATION OF THE HUMAN RACE IS SET ON COURSE
CHORUS/PROTEST AND SURVIVE/PROTEST AND SURVIVE
IT IS UP TO US TO CHANGE THAT COURSE
PROTEST AND SURVIVE PROTEST AND SURVIVE.



IN DEFENCE OF OUR FUTURE
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT BACK
IN DEFENCE OF OUR FUTURE
CHORUS/IN DEFENCE OF OUR FUTURE
IT IS UP TO YOU YOU AND I
TO MAKE A STAND TO MAKE A STAND

Cal & Bones

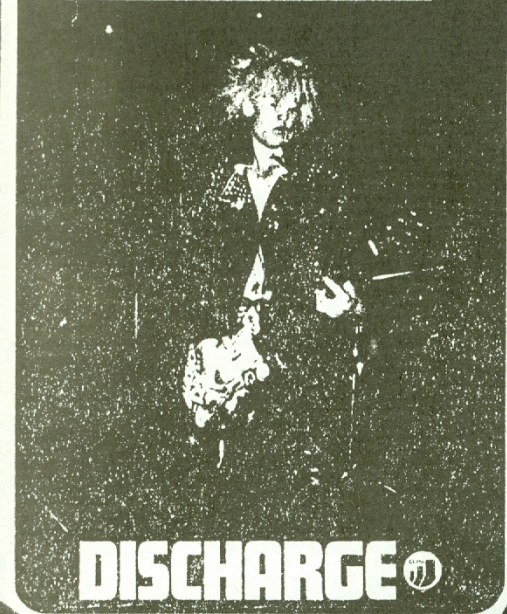


CRIES OF HELP.

A HELL ON EARTH.

HEAR NOTHING SEE NOTHING SAY NOTHING.
LIED TO THREATENED CHEATED AND DECEIVED
CHORUS/HEAR NOTHING SEE NOTHING SAY NOTHING
LED UP GARDEN PATHS AND INTO BLIND ALLEYS.

Fish during his SKEPTIX days



DISCHARGE

BLINDED DISFIGURED AND MENTALLY SCARRED.

IMAGE-WISE, THE BAND HAS CHANGED DRAMATICALLY FROM THE LEATHER/SOAP/STUDD LOOK TO A MORE GLAMOUROUS IMAGE. DON'T YOU FEEL THAT THE AVERAGE "DECONTROL" ODD-BOD WILL FIND YOU HARD TO IDENTIFY WITH?

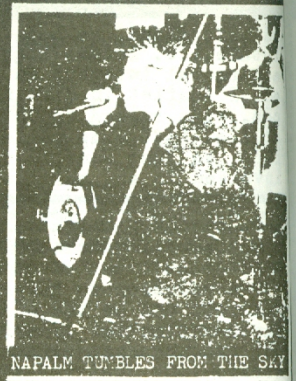
I don't really think that the band's image has changed that much, not beyond recognition, perhaps slightly more refined. I think you'll find that the image of a lot of people who originally bought "Decontrol" have gone the same way - time doesn't stand still, everyone changes no matter who they are or what they say.

CUT DOWN BY MACHINE GUN FIRE

WHAT ARE DISCHARGE'S IMMEDIATE PLANS CONCERNING GIGS & RECORD RELEASES?

Our immediate plans are to keep auditioning until we find the right person and then rehearse like mad, redo the vocals on "Grave New World" to a lower voice, rehearse all the old songs and get out and do some Christmas gigs. In February we start a European tour, then we will be in the studio recording a 12" and a new album

SKIN LOOKING LIKE BLOODY HARDENED MEAT.



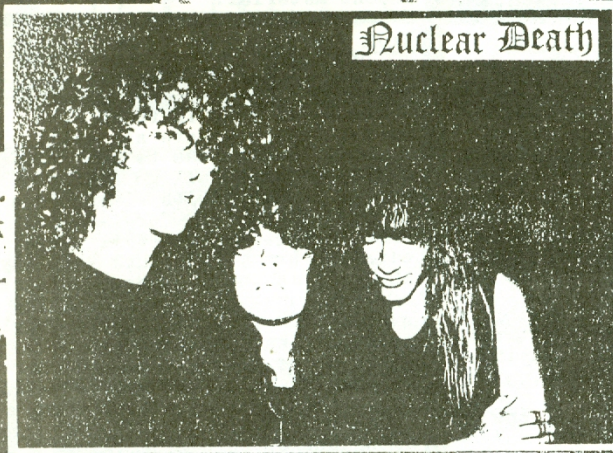
NAPALM TUMBLES FROM THE SKY



HOT LEAD RIPS THROUGH FLESH.

Oh no! Not MORE OF THEM GODDAMN DEMO REVIEWS?!

YUK!



Nuclear Death

Holy wombat excretion, this one's a bit of a scorcher - NUCLEAR DEATH will give you radiation sickness after just one listen! Led by the inimitable Lori Bravo on bass & vocals (a lady with one of the most aggressive voices I've heard in ages), N.D. let loose in the studio with 5 savage cuts of punk-edged Thrash Metal. The riffs and song structures seem pretty original for a band of this genre, and while the music occasionally gets a little untight, the intense craziness of the playing (& singing) more than makes up for it. If you want all-out speed, then check out "Lockjaw"...or if it's deadly riffing that you crave then sink your eager fangs into "The Seventh Nun" or "Nuclear Death". Copies of this superb demo are priced at 6 dollars (in Europe) each (or 5 dollars in the U.S.A.) from: NUCLEAR DEATH, c/o Joel Whitfield, 2136 E. El Paraiso, Tempe, Az. 85282, U.S.A.

If you die...

THRASH

Scruff & the boys unleash 11 crucial songs on this "Ripper Crust" studio demo. HELLBASTARD sounds like the name of a joke band, but let me assure you that this lot take their music (and lyrics, which are relevant and by no means satanic) seriously but not TOO seriously. The sound-quality of this tape is certainly above average, and the production, while not the most grandiose thing ever, is clear and powerful. Almost everyone I know who's heard this (and that includes me!) has been very impressed, so I'd advise anyone who hasn't heard these Geordie stormtroopers to dig deep into their trouser pockets (not THAT deep you perverts!!) and fish out \$1 for almost 40 minutes of thrashing "Crusty Metal". And don't forget the SAE/IRG! Whether it's slow, SACRILEGE-type crunchers like "Deceiver", or fast thrashers like "Massacre", or even the hilarious "And Now...", you'll be HELLBASTARDIZED instantly!!! "Ripper Crust" indeed!!!! Contact: Phil, 219 Commercial Rd, Byker, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE6 2ED, England.



Death from above.

Facing blizzards and sub-zero temperatures.

AVALANCHE DANGER. This band make me fuckin' puke! They had the audacity to send me their demo (a truly disgusting lump of Hard Rock bullshit packed with childish sex/drinking cliches), some info (including lyrics that any 2-year-old dyslexic hamster could write blindfolded) and...possibly worst of all...two photos. I was even toying with the idea of printing one of the pics just so that you can see for yourselves what a bunch of spasticated posers they are, but then I remembered the effect they had on me when I first saw them - the uncontrollable urge to hunk up stacks of blood-drenched vomit, then commit a murder so gross that I wouldn't dare describe it here. "I need love feeling" means the singer wimpily...uhh, the only feeling this lot need is that of several tons of barbed wire being rammed up their anal cavities!!!! YEAAA!!!!

The name of the band - AGONY. The name of the demo - "Execution Of Mankind". The name of the world's biggest dickhead - Prince, but let's not dwell on that 'cause scum like him make me sick. Anyway, AGONY started life as a Hardcore Punk band back in August 1984 influenced by Discharge, Crucifix & Chaos UK. They were a 4-piece in those days and were known as AGONI (not AGONY). One year later, having done a couple of demos, they had a few line-up changes and decided to go in a more Metal direction, along the lines of Anthrax, Metallica & Exciter. The result of these changes was a demo entitled "The Future Is Ours" which was good but nothing to write home about. Then, in June '86, they came over to the UK with ANTI-CINEX for a 6-date tour that went well overall. I saw them at Birmingham and was really impressed by their tightness and power.

All of which leads us (in a rather clumsy way) to the latest demo, "E.O.M.", which was done in a 24-track studio. All 4 songs here are professional, heavy, tight and excellently-recorded, giving the listener 20 minutes of polished Speed Metal that is (ahem) executed in a similar style to that of EXODUS. It's hardly surprising that a vinyl release is imminent, with there being a good chance of it coming out here in the UK on local label Skysaw Records.

AGONY, c/o Pete Lundstrom, Mardestigen 12, 17171 Solna, Sweden.
... "IN AGONY THEY CRY AND SCREAM"



AGONY

EDITORIAL

BILL STEER

c/o thornwood
tower rd. nth.
heswall
wirral
merseyside
L60 6RS ENGLAND.

Greetings,fellow Thrash addicts! I hope that you'll enjoy reading this issue of "Phoenix Militia" - last time I told you that this would be out "at least before the end of 1986",but no doubt it'll be 1987 by the time any of you get to see this. There are a few reasons for this delay,but I won't bother mentioning them 'cause I'm sure you've seen all the excuses before (probably in the last issue of P.M.!).

So,seeing as I'm not going to fill this editorial bit with excuses,I might as well explain the price increase to those of you who like to slag anything off at the slightest opportunity(you know who you are!). Well,firstly(and most obviously),there's been a page increase. Put it this way - most British zines are A5 size,which is half the size of this mag,and they're usually no more than 20 pages long,so this is bound to cost more than the average U.K. mag. Also,we're using a different printer this time which means that we have to pay lot more money in order to improve the printing quality. However,I think it's worth it because P.M. no.6 was let down by the poor quality. Now that we've got that little matter out of the way,I think I'll slip in a quick(?)playlist.

of time at college, writing letters, or copying tapes, I can't spend as much time on the zine as I'd like. If it wasn't for all my helpful contributors (especially Gothkiller - what a silly name!), "Phoenix Militia" would take even longer to put out, so a big THANKS goes to them, namely Gothkiller... Armin Nolzen & "Battlefield" magazine... Richard... Alco Pater... Scott Givens... Emmanuel C.G.... Terri Miller... Sean (cover artwork). And seeing as I'm rapidly running out of things to say, it's time for something silly:-

TOTAL O.T.T. DEATH "SORE THROAT" AWARD

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. DEVASTATION | 6. MUTILATOR |
| 2. Evil Chuck (DEATH) | 7. Max Possessed (SEPULTURA) |
| 3. Kam Lee (MASSACRE) | 8. VULCANO |
| 4. DARK LEGION | 9. Joe Zuniga (INSANITY) |
| 5. Mr Kipling | 10. BLACK DETHE |

The only other remotely important things I have to tell you about are next issue's contents. Well, for a start, there will be more underground bands (w/info, addresses etc) in the hope that we can cover a larger portion of the Death Metal /H.C. Thrash scene, 'cause there are literally dozens & dozens of unsigned, unknown Thrash bands knocking around with very little exposure to the majority of Hardcore/Metal listeners. Also, the vinyl reviews will hopefully be a little more organised, but doubtless there'll be plenty of slaggings (as usual!) if any more wimp-"metal" bands are stupid enough to send us their audio-crap.... will they ever learn?? Generally, you can expect gradual improvements from issue to issue, in terms of contents/layout/regularity etc.

MIDDLE dances to BON JOVI!!

I've often thought that perhaps a letters page would be a good idea, so that people could air their views and stuff like that, but I doubt that there would be much response.... however, if anyone wants to contribute to P.M. then please get in touch - if you think there's something wrong with this zine don't just sit & moan - write & complain, or better still, do your own mag if you aren't satisfied with the state of U.K. zines. One or two people have commented that P.M. could do with 1 or 2 non-musical articles concerning politics or whatever. Well, I'm not too sure about that - sometimes I think it'd be OK, but on the other hand I'm hardly the most suitable person to write about such subjects. Besides, there are plenty of other zines that deal with political matters more than adequately, so it's best to leave it to them I reckon. BUT there is one thing I would like to say to all the metalheads reading this who've only got into Hardcore recently, and that is: LISTEN & think about what Punk bands have to say - don't just ignore/dismiss their beliefs as "leftie crap", not that you should do the exact opposite and blindly take their words as gospel... but why not pay some attention to a band's lyrics

instead of just letting them go in thru 1 ear and out of the other?? There's nothing "cissy" about being vegetarian/vegan - what right do we have to kill & exploit animals when it is quite easy to survive without eating animal produce? Of course, in the end, it's all up to the individual - whether he/she can be bothered to give up meat, or boycott products that are involved in South Africa or vivisection, or whatever... but please at least try to understand why bands choose to "preach" about these things.

Wow, a bit of politics creeps into the "Phoenix Militia" editorial! Wonders will never cease! No, seriously though, politics are inseparable from Punk just as guitar leads & "escapist" lyrics are inseparable from Metal, so seeing as our readers are pretty much 50% Punk 50% Metal, I'm trying to make our contents roughly the same - therefore it'd be stupid to try & cover Hardcore bands whilst avoiding their ideals, many of which I agree with! Having said that, I think that many Death Metal bands (e.g. DEATH, REPULSION, MASSACRE etc.) write excellent lyrics - who cares if they aren't full of profound socially-aware statements? Thrash would rapidly become very boring indeed if every single band was political.

Hey, this is getting good isn't it - here I am, sounding off about things that bug me.... after all, what else is an editorial for? Luckily for you, I'm running out of space now so my verbal diarrhea will have to undergo a temporary state of constipation until next issue. It's time for the dreaded "hello" list which I was actually thinking of dropping, but I know that people like to see their name in print (even in a rag as naff as this) so here goes.....

BILL'S CURRENT DEATHLIST (in no particular order)

- DEVASTATION - "A Creation of Ripping Death" demo
- SEPULTURA - LP/demo/live 19,4.86 SACRIFICE - all
- DEATH - all REPULSION - LP/live/rehearsals
- WEHRMACHT - live 31,1.86 & demo version of "E"
- CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER - "Convicted" LP HERESY - all
- MASSACRE - demos/live DARK LEGION - demo
- SLAYER - "Reign in Blood" LP S.R.M. - both 12"s
- INSANITY - rehearsals/live LARM - all
- NAPALM DEATH - 2nd demo/live VULCANO - LP
- CRUMBSUCKERS - LP/live HATRED - 2nd demo
- PAPSMEAR - demo/rehearsal MISPLITS - all
- A.O.D. - LPs/live MUTILATOR - demo/live
- MASTER - demos STRAIGHT AHEAD - live/demo
- F.O.D.N. TORMENTOR - demo HELLBASTARD - all
- HALF OFF - demo BRUTAL ASSAULT - demo
- VIOLENCE - live/rehearsal ANTHRAX - 1st LP
- UNSEEN TERROR - rehearsal & 1000s more.....

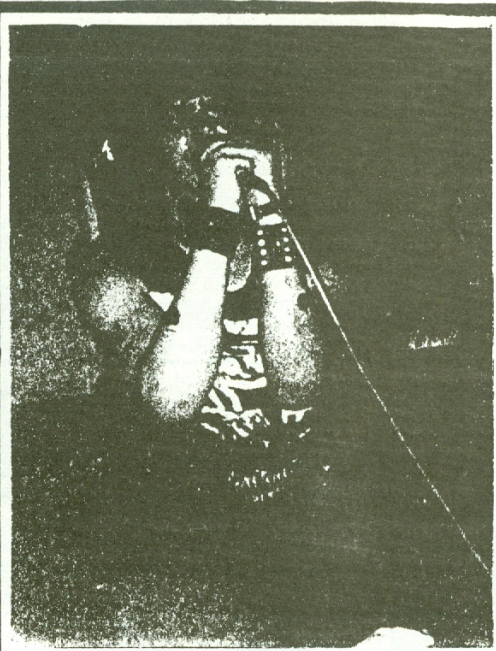
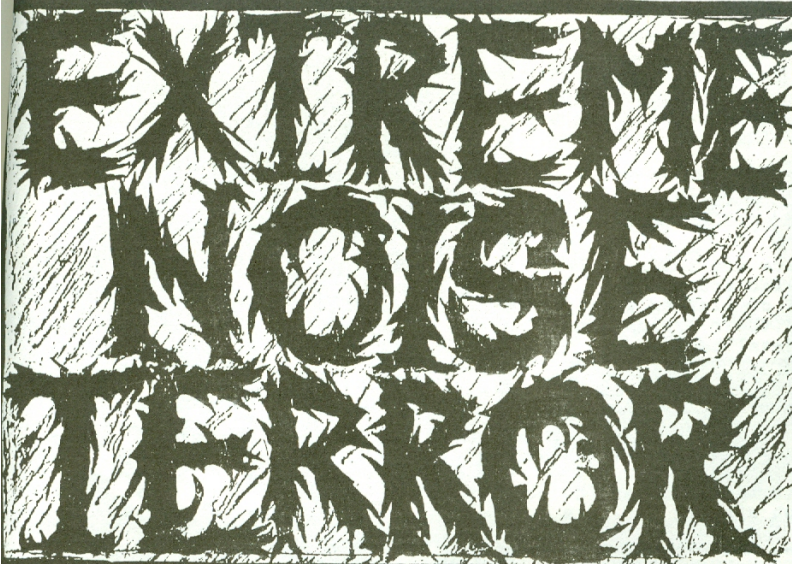
As with the last issue, this is somewhat late - but at least I only took 6 months to get this out, whereas last time it was over a year! Some of the reviews are a pretty outdated, but thankfully none of them are 12 months old like a couple of the gig reviews were in issue 6! So, all in all, we're definitely getting more efficient.... who knows, maybe the next issue of P.M. will be ready by April??! The problem is, it's pretty much a one-man job here - and because I spend a lot

THANKS once again to all the kind helpers listed earlier. Special gratitude goes out to P&K, oops, I mean Gothkiller for contributions, advice & assistance in finding a new printer (well he did that all by himself really).

HELLO to the following face-melters:- (in no particular order) whoever prints this, Paul Fox, Mike Davidson, Mitch, Scruff the HELLO - BASTARD, Mick NAPALM, Paul May, Shane, Scott Robinson, Jack, Paul Nesterok, Pete AGONY, Gene Khoury, Nick Royles, Kent, Bill Crooks & CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER, Dave of MACE, Justin, Gary (Co. Durham), Henk L. & DESEXULT, DOOMWATCH, ASSASSIN, Mark Sokoll, Markus Reith, Paul X., Huw Dig, Metalion.... and everyone else who I've met/written to, especially anyone who sold copies of the last issue. Also, censored greetings to Jeff, Ken, Griff, Middle, Rob, Sanjiv, Kelly, the Gardner brothers, Neil & all other local characters who've had the misfortune to know me (and that wasn't in any particular order either, well not really....) (huh, the lengths I'll go to in order to avoid offending people!). Neil says he'll sell this in Penny Lane for me so a large "THANKYOU" gets flung in his direction, and an enormous "pay up, you tight bastard" goes out to Jeff the slag-off merchant 'cause he's read all of this already!

"PHOENIX MILITIA" issue no.8 will hopefully contain: loads more vinyl/gig/tape/zine reviews, and interviews with AGONY, DEVASTATION, INSANITY, SEPULTURA, UNSEEN TERROR, WEHRMACHT & numerous others. Sorry, but there are no back issues available. Anyone who wants to write with their comments on P.M. is more than welcome to do so, but please enclose a stamp/IRC if you'd like a reply - thanks.

Any profit from this issue (I should be so lucky) will automatically go towards the printing costs of P.M.*8 (honest!), which is tentatively titled the "Death To Bon Jovi" edition (no offence to Middle), so that we can finish it by the summer with any luck. Oh, "PROBLEM CHILD" no.6 has just come out (I got a free copy cos I won their competition, yay!!) and it's brilliant. 60 A5 printed pages featuring Chaos UK, Extreme Noise, Axegrinder & zillions more. 40p & SAE from P.C., 51 Yeading Lane, Hayes, Middlesex, UB4 0EN, England.



Undoubtedly one of the most popular "new" Hardcore bands in Britain is EXTREME NOISE TERROR. They play fast Thrash that is similar in style to Scandinavian bands such as ANTI-CIMEX or RATTUS, but with incredibly gruff & growly vocals that have more in common with Japanese bands like GISM and KURO. In short, this band totally kill even if they are over-rated by certain people (most notably Pushead of MRR).

Anyway, Gothkiller was on hand to ask Dean (one of E.N.T.'s 2 vocalists) some questions that will hopefully give you more of an idea of what EXTREME NOISE TERROR are about.

O.K., SO WHEN DID THE BAND FORM AND GIVE US A BIT OF A BIOGRAPHY.

We formed July '85 out of the thrashes of RAW NOISE, FREESTATE and VICTIMS OF WAR, me and Olley (drums) from RAW NOISE, Pete (guitar) from FREESTATE, Phil from V.O.W. and Jerry (bass) was lingering around between bands.

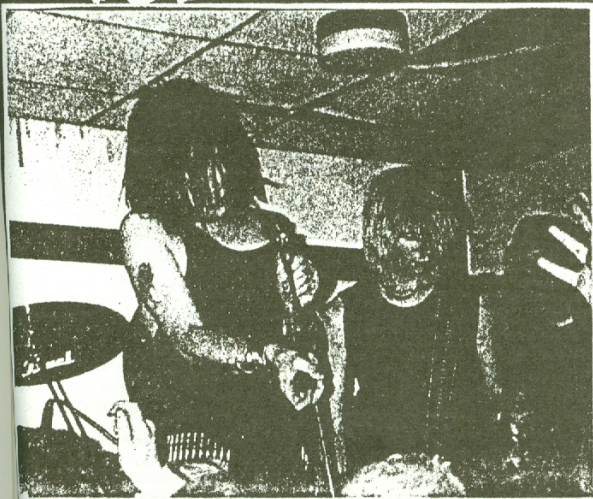
WHAT WERE THE ORIGINAL CONCEPTS FOR FORMING E.N.T. AND HAVE THESE GOALS BEEN REACHED?

I suppose the original concepts for forming were the lack of bands playing tight, fast Thrash which didn't have the Metal sound to them. Whatever happened to the good old Discharge/ Disorder style? I suppose our main goal is to change as many people's meat-eating habits as possible, and have a good laugh doing it. I personally don't believe that other issues we preach about will really change, I don't see how we can stop nuclear power, nuclear war, apartheid etc. I think we are starting to reach our goal, we've definitely turned a few people veggie.

WHO WOULD YOU CITE AS INFLUENCES? ALSO WHAT BANDS DO YOU FIND PLEASURE IN MOSHING TO?

Our main influences are ANTI-CIMEX, RATTUS, DISCHARGE & DISORDER. I mainly listen to the above plus KAAOS, CAPITOL PUNISHMENT (pre-Metal), NEGAZIONE, LARM etc. Phil, Pete and Jerry listen to the same thing but like a bit of Metal as well, esp. SLAYER, CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER, BATHORY. Olley has a wide music taste and will listen to anything from ABBA to AVSKUM as long as it's not Metal.

That is the true gospel, the gospel of the kingdom of God that Jesus himself preached, and that God has called us to have a part in proclaiming.



YOU (DEAN) SEEM TO HAVE A DEFINITE ANTI-METAL STANCE. IS THIS A POSTURE ADOPTED BY THE WHOLE BAND, AND DON'T YOU CONSIDER IT NEGATIVE TO CONTINUALLY CRITICISE METAL??

Phil, Pete & Jerry like Metal but think of it as a bit of a joke lyric-wise and disagree with once-Punk bands turning Metal. I can't see how it's negative to criticise Metal when there is nothing more negative than Metal. It stands for everything Punk is against:—high door prices, high record prices, mindless lyrics, mindless followers, monotonous, repetitive music. Even the bands with supposed—ly meaningful lyrics to me make no sense, a quick mention of 3rd World starvation then it's back to singing in riddles with a few satanic-sounding words chucked in. Punk once and still does mean a helluva lot to me and I hate to see the "ex-Punks" idolizing the money-grabbing bastards we once laughed at.

IS "ONLY IN IT FOR THE MUSIC" ABOUT ANY ONE IN PARTICULAR? BELIEVE ME, IT'S REALLY TOPICAL AROUND HERE AS MANY SO-CALLED "ALTERNATIVES" ARE "ONLY IN IT FOR THE MUSIC"...HOW WOULD YOU BEST COMBAT THE CANCER OF APATHY???

No it's not about anyone in particular, it's just that I believe that a lot of the people in the Punk scene don't really care about anything they preach about. They're more interested in the music than the lyrics. There isn't really any way of combatting apathy. You can tell someone to get off their asses and do something but whether they do is down to them. I suppose we're a bit more active than some but I'm not exactly Mr Direct Action 1986. Every time we've hit the press they've only turned the thing around and made it out as just vandalism or said they wouldn't have done it if they were sober.

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CONCERNING THE DIRECTNESS OF "MURDER", DOES IT MEAN THE WHOLE BAND ARE VEGETARIAN/VEGAN? AND DO YOU PREACH YOUR STANDARDS TO THOSE WHO STILL INDULGE IN ARCHAIC FLESH-EATING?

Yes, the whole band are vegetarian and we do a helluva lot of preaching.

WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS ON THE RECENTLY-RELEASED LABOUR PARTY MANIFESTO, ESPECIALLY THEIR PROMISE TO OUTLAW FOX-HUNTING AND HARE-COURSING...??

I think there's reasonable chance they'd do something about it but I still wouldn't do anything as silly as to vote for them.

MORE Extreme Noise ON THE NEXT PAGE....

ANY NEWS ON VINYL RELEASES BY E.N.T., such as the split-LP with Chaos UK, AND HOW ARE YOU BEARING UP FOR THE RATTUS TOUR??

The split-12" should be out any time now (in fact it's out at this very moment - Bill). As for the RATTUS tour we have got to get into some serious rehearsing for a new set. We haven't rehearsed since February and I think we've done more gigs than practices, due to us all having heavy drinking habits.

WHAT'S IT LIKE IN IPSWICH? DO YOU GET ON WITH FELLOW IPSWICH BANDS LIKE THE STUPIDS & COOLEST RETARDS, AND ARE THERE ANY OTHER BANDS WORTH MENTIONING??

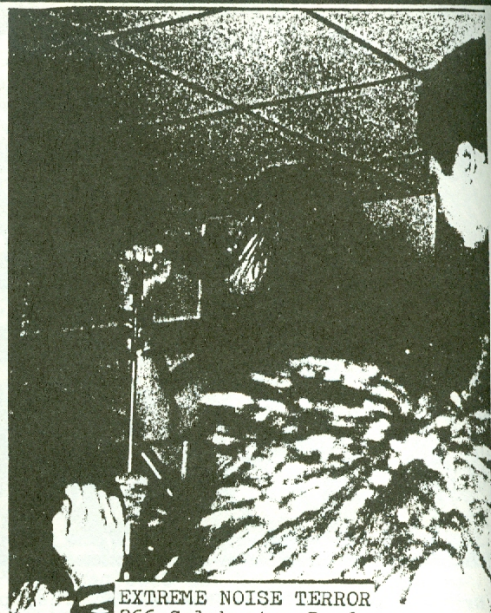
I think Ipswich is a really good place. There are loads of Punky people and everyone really gets on. ANIHILATED are the only other worth-mentioning band who after years of playing straight-forward Punk decided to turn Metal. Some of their lyrics are decent and they're a lot better than most Metal bands.

HERE'S AN ORIGINAL QUESTION FOR YOU:- WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MALE PREGNANCY??? NOW THAT THERE IS TALK OF IT BECOMING REALITY, ANY OPINIONS?

Well I personally wouldn't like having a baby growing out of my arse. But I suppose if someone is that way inclined then OK. But imagine when the baby grows up and wants to know where he/she came from. You can't really tell him/her you started off as a growth on your asshole, can ya!?

ANYTHING ELSE TO ADD, SAY, THANKS LIST, PARTING COMMENTS???

If anyone anywhere has got any spare valium then send it immediately. If not, if anyone wants to swap/sell any foreign (not American crap) records then let me know, I've got a lot to swap. Thanks to all the true Punks who've helped keep Thrash alive.



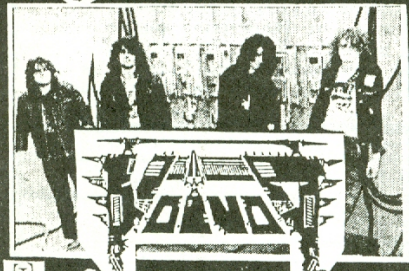
EXTREME NOISE TERROR
266 Colchester Road
Ipswich, Suffolk
England.



EVIL PROPHECY are a Thrash Metal band based in Bochum, Germany. As well as being the latest in a long line of bands who've fallen prey to yet another boring "PHOENIX MILITIA" intro, they have a rehearsal tape that is available to all who are interested. Just send a blank tape & £1 (note) to Markus Rieth, c/o Rasche, Heckerstr. 84, 4630 Bochum 1, West Germany. Oh, be sure NOT to enclose the cassette box 'cause it'll only get broken! Markus will also send you the cover for the tape, 2 different flyers and maybe (just maybe) a sticker.... isn't that kind??

Judging by the tape that Markus sent me, EVIL PROPHECY show a lot of potential with their Hardcore-influenced Noise Metal. Sometimes it gets too untight for my liking (but then again it's only a rehearsal) and I find some of the song structures difficult to get into, so my advice to the band would be to spend more time arranging & practicing their songs and also to get a studio demo done as quickly as possible or else they risk being ignored and/or forgotten. Like I said, most of the songs are potentially very good indeed, mainly due to the lack of a "let's play as fast as we can and totally rip off SLAYER" attitude.... don't get me wrong they are fast but they also have some slow songs which reveal a modicum of originality.

Finally, Markus recommends a number of impressive Metal/H.C. bands from his area of Germany:- DARKNESS, UNWANTED YOUTH, NUCLEAR TERROR, B.C.F. (BESTIAL CUNTFUCKERS!!!), EVIL FORCE, SLASHER plus some more well-known ones like ASSASSIN and DEATHROW.



POSSESSED / VOIVOD / ENGLISH DOGS - 14th November '86, Electric Ballroom, Camden, London.

First on the bill were the ENGLISH DOGS, a band who have undergone a massive change in direction since their "Mad Punx" days. Not being too familiar with their early material, I can't say if the change has been for better or worse, but I like the "Forward Into Battle" LP and the DOGS played a good set of material taken mostly from this and their new M.F.N. product, with "Final Conquest" and "Let The Killing Begin" impressing the most. These guys are excellent musicians and they deserved the good response they got. I reckon they'll go far.

Next up were Canada's finest, VOIVOD, and as they ripped into the classic "Korgull The Exterminator" it was obvious that this was gonna be one of the gigs of all time. They're great on vinyl but onstage VOIVOD fuckin' kill!! Piggy and Blacky hardly stopped headbanging, and frontman Snake couldn't keep still either. They did a totally intense set of classics that sent the 'bangers and moshers into a state of near-delirium, bodies were flying everywhere. The crystal-clear PA allowed the band to reproduce perfectly their unique album sound, so heavy that each track was like having you head pounded into oblivion by a sledgehammer! Sadly all good things must come to an end and VOIVOD finally finished their set with "To The Death", leaving all the thrashers battered, bruised and covered in sweat but I loved every minute of it!

Could POSSESSED follow the VOIVOD attack? Are Kerrang a bunch of wankers? You betcha. From start to finish their set was total and utter mayhem. Mike Torrao and Larry LaLonde managed to reproduce all the studio twiddles while headbanging themselves to death, Jeff Becerra out-Cronosed Cronos and Mike Sus kept the rhythm going without missing a beat. They ran through a whole load of classic tracks from their two LPs, best of all being the opener "The Exorcist" (minus intro) and "Burning In Hell" which brought the thrashing to its peak. Words can't describe how heavy and fast these guys are, you've got to see them live for yourself, they'll rip your head off. "Death Metal" came flying outta the PA and the band were gone in a flurry of diving and thrashing which left my body rather the worse for wear but it was worth every last bruise, definitely the best gig of the year. (EMMANUEL)

SING A SONG OF VIOLENCE



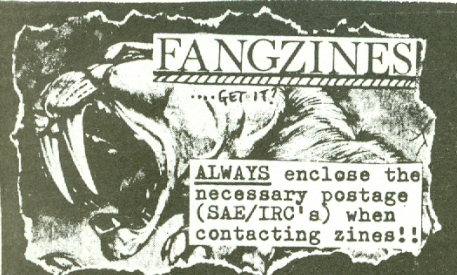
People I know who went to this gig tell me that there were certain dickheads who found it amusing to throw lighted cigarettes and fire-crackers at the thrashers down the front. I also hear that (as usual) some morons were just hitting people instead of thrashing. That is PATHETIC... would YOU like to be punched repeatedly or lose your eyesight while trying to enjoy your favourite bands???

MEGAWIMP

- my mom likes it too!

FLESH RIPPING
SONIC TORMENT!!!

MEGAWIMP
SORRERFELD STR.7
CH-9000 BERJSAU
-SWITZERLAND-



FANGZINES!

...GET IT?
ALWAYS enclose the necessary postage (SAE/IRC's) when contacting zines!!

Underground DEATH Round-Up

Where shall I begin?? There are so many new Death/Thrash bands around these days that it's literally impossible to cover the whole scene properly...but nevertheless I'm gonna try! Next issue you can expect a greater variety of underground bands, with more reviews, info & addresses. In the mean time, what I'm doing here is to attempt to do a fairly brief round-up of some of the better Thrash bands both abroad and here in the UK.

WEHRMACHT (c/o B.Lehfeldt, 3339 N.E. Davis, Portland, Oregon 97232, U.S.A.) are easily one of America's best/fastest bands, with various demo/rehearsal tapes being circulated throughout the tape-trading underground. For possibly their most intense tape so far, check out the 31/1/86 mixing-desk show which is a truly lethal combination of power, speed & technicality. They've just been recording an LP for New Renaissance Records which should be out within a month or two.

MASSACRE (PO Box 644, Seffner, Florida 33584, U.S.A.) contains two ex-members of the one and only DEATH, and with a true lunatic like Kam Lee on drums & vocals how can you go wrong? This lot have 2 excellent demos out, featuring incredible vocals...hear at all costs!

INSANITY (468 Chesapeake Avenue, Foster City, CA 94404, U.S.A.) have a studio-demo due out any time now, and if their rehearsal tapes are anything to go by then it'll main. Like WEHRMACHT, they match speed with time changes and technical riffs. Let's hope that they manage to retain their original sound and paint-stripping vocals in the studio.

Leaving the U.S.A. for a while, Brazil's **MUTILATOR** (Rua Sapucaí No.47 Floresta, Belo Horizonte - Minas Gerais, CEP 30 150, Brazil) are definitely a band to watch out for. Their only problem is a slight lack of tightness at times, but otherwise the deadly riffing, doomy chord progressions & insanely throaty vocal growls will blow you away.

SACRIFICE (89 Parsell Sq., Sacrborough, Ontario M1B 2A5, Canada) are probably very familiar with most of you due to their "Torment In Fire" debut album, which is good but pales in comparison to their latest demo New tracks like "Pyrokinesis" & "Forever Enslaved" are pure, uh, heaven!

DEATH (Chuck Schuldiner, 609 Citrus Street, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701, U.S.A.) are now a 4-piece and should've finished recording their 1st long-awaited LP by now, "Scream Bloody Gore". Their last demo, "Mutilation", was certainly no let-down and they've been working on even newer songs such as "Regurgitated Guts" and "Torn To Pieces". Despite the brilliance of their rivals, DEATH still rule and I'm expecting their album to be the ultimate Death Metal release so far.

CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGE (107 La France Avenue, Bloomfield, NJ 07003, U.S.A.) are very much in the S.O.D. mould - manic drumming and some really catchy riffs, plus a couple of joke tracks - hardly the most original band ever but still extremely brain-washing!

DEVASTATION (c/o Troy Dixler, 811 Stone Gate Drive, Highland Park, Illinois 60035, U.S.A.) - quite simply the world's most evil-sounding band, along with DEATH and MASSACRE. The vocalist is the best I've heard in terms of vicious growliness, and the music is heavy, powerful & doomy.

UNSEEN TERROR (c/o Mitch, 14 Delphside Court, Broseley, Shropshire, TF12 5SR, England) are Britain's best Death Metal band, boasting influences like REPULSION, MASTER, INSANITY and SLAYER. They've already been signed by Dig (Earache Records) and they'll be recording a studio-demo soon. I can't comment on the vocals as all their tapes so far have been instrumental, but the riffing & tempo changes are truly awesome!!!

Some other corpse-grinding Thrash bands to investigate: - **VIOLENCE**, **BLACK DETHE**, **PAPSMEAR**, **SAVAGE DEATH**, **BLOODCUM** (featuring Tom Araya's brother, John), **LEGION OF DEATH**, **SLAUGHTER**, **NATAS**, **ULYSSES SIREN** and the ultra-brilliant **DARK LEGION!!!**

METAL MANIA*18 (\$1.50 to 4340 20th St, San Francisco CA. 94114, U.S.A.) Metallica, D.R.I., Detente, King Diamond, Legacy, Dead Jackans, Znowhite, Mentors & all the usual many M.H. stuff - reviews, news, info and hundreds of ace photos. When writing be sure to ask about back issues 'cause this zine kills!!

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH*1 (10p to Ste, 12 Thompson Street, Darwen, Lancs., England.) Atavistic, Ring Political Asylum, Civilised Society?, Dambert Nobacon & various articles, reviews etc. Great coloured print/paper, and certainly value for money!

THE BOOK OF ARMAGEDDON*1 (Mark Sokoll, 42-16 195 St. Flushing, N.Y. 11358, U.S.A.) Bathory, Death, Celtic Frost, Dark Angel, Gargyle, Disattack & much more - I can't remember exactly what because someone's borrowing my copy at the moment. Anyway, it's a full of raging Death Metal stuff and I like it a lot, even though the printing & layout leave something to be desired.

RIPPING THRASH*1 (15p to Steve, 29 Priory Road, Anfield, Liverpool, L4 2RT, England) Electro-Hippies, Impact, C.K.N., Yugoslavia scene report, reviews, poems, articles etc. Pretty good for a debut issue, and definitely deserves your support. (A5 size)

BATTLEFIELD*6 (2,50 DM to Armin Nolsen, Emscherstr.8 4630 Bochum 1, West Germany) Wehrmacht, Death, Larm Sacrifice, Negazione, Onslaught, Attitude Adjustment, Messiah, Voor, Detente, Excel, Raw Power & lots more. Great printing quality with killer photos and a multitude of reviews & addresses...such a shame that it's written in German! I'd still advise you to buy it though....

AT DAWN THEY READ*3 (Tom Hallbäck, Döbeliusväg 13, SE-253 67 Helsingborg, Sweden) DesExult, Motorhead, King Diamond, Mefisto, Exciter, Candelmas, Bathory, U.S.M. & Annihilator. A neat, well-printed zine that has reduced typing (unlike many foreign Metal mags, M.M. excepted)...well worth investigating! (A5 size)

HAPPY SMILING FACES*5 (20p to Griff, 50 Dearnford Avenue, Bromborough Wirral, Merseyside, L62 6DT, U.K.) An interview with Open Door reviews, and numerous weird and/or silly articles on Dreams & stuff like that. Not a bizarre little zine, I reckon the lad who writes this must be a total junkie! (Ha, answer that Griff ya big Candelmas fan!) Thrashers won't find anything of interest music-wise, but if you're into mind-expansion (mean) then check this out.

METAL THRASHING MAD*5 (2 dollars to Scott Givens, 75 Bennoch Rd, Orono, Maine 04473, U.S.A.) Dark Angel, Agnostic Front, Excutioner, Whiplash, Sepulchrum, Death, Death Crumbaker & more including reviews & addresses etc. A good mag with loads of vinyl reviews, but the layout could be a little better.

SLAYER*3/4 (€2 to Metalion, Stm. Kolstadsveit 29, 7700 Sarpsborg, Norway) Bathory, Slayer, Metallica, Agent Steel, Maniaca, Neusa, King Diamond, Hallows Eve, Helloware, Onslaught, Possessed, Nasty Savage and heaps more...written only partially in English, but is really good quality and pretty thick page-wise too. New issue out soon!

PURTA Y MENSAJE*2 (Miguel Angel Cortes O., Apdo. 17-308, 14470 Mexico DF, Mexico) Wretched, Crude S.S., Motorhead, G.O.C. & Death Ancl. The printing quality isn't too hot, and it's entirely in Spanish, but full marks go to Miguel for having the dedication to put this out. Issue 1 is (I think) still available, feat. Hellwitch, Desecration, Rapt & more.

METAL WARRIORS*2 (4,- DM to Rüdiger Schmitz, Christoph-Probst-Str.11, 40404 Neuss 1, West Germany) Posters of Kreator (3) & Sannah (now DesExult), plus Celtic Frost, Savage Grace, Hallows Eve, Bitch, Bulldozer, Possessed, Asteroth, Avenger, Motorhead & more, with plenty of vinyl/demo reviews. Great photo-quality, but sadly it's all in German. The posters are good though!

CRONICES (c/o Stefan Schipper, De Grutto 11, 7671 XA Vriesenveen, Hollen) is a new Thrash Metal mag that wants demos/vinyl/info etc for reviews in English.

PHOBIA*1 (54 Arbrook Lane, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9EE, England) Concrete Sox, Warfare, Seducer, Metallica, Conflict & more...haven't seen it yet but the price is 50p & SAE (cash only) and contributors are wanted. The "Death Metal Appreciation Society" (72 Summit Estate, Portland Ave., Stamford Hill, London, N16 6EX, England)...not a zine but a newsletter that can be obtained by sending postage. It's a good idea, but the people who write it seem to have very little knowledge of the underground Death scene, and they have no interest in Hardcore whatsoever which is hypocritical to say the least for so-called fans of "the most intense form of music". Hmm....

UNRELENTING TERROR*1 (Mitch, 14 Delphside Court, Broseley, Shropshire, TF12 5SR, England) should be out soon (I hope I got the name right!) featuring some of the world's best Death'n'Thrash bands - Repulsion, Insanity, Larm, Legion Of Death & all sorts of other audio-violence. Can't wait to see it!!!

SUNSET BOULEVARD*5 (€2 to Ardag Basmadjian, 90 Blvd Raspail, 75006 Paris, France) DesExult, Artillery, Anthrax, Savage Grace, Amored Saint, SMF etc & reviews. 52 pages (A6) with great print-quality (or so I'm told). Issue 6 (Sacred Blade, Ded Engine etc) is out soon.

EXTREME NOISE*1 (€1.50 to Alex Vicini, c/o Mondori, V.Le Bezzi 79, 20146 Milano, Italy) S.O.D., C.O.C., Holy Terror, Bulldozer, Heresy, Stage Dive, Whiplash & more. Contributors & traders are welcome!

Sorry, but that's all there are of the zine reviews this issue. I'll try to be more thorough next time. Get in touch if you want to swap mags!



SACRIFICE

"I heard it thru the graveyard"

Rumour has it that REPULSION are splitting up. Needless to say, I hope that this is completely untrue, especially since their LP is supposed to be out soon on Combat (U.S.A.)



Kalv (HERESY)

HERESY are currently playing with Mitch (UNSEEN TERROR) on guitar, and they're keen for him to join permanently even though it seems unlikely that he will. HERESY's split-LP with CONCRETE SOX should be out in a month or 2 now that they've re-recorded the vocals.

MASTER have split up. I wrote to them a while ago and got no reply, and there's been no sign of their LP, so what's happened to them is anyone's guess. SHIT!!

Justin has left NAPALM DEATH and now is the drummer for HEAD OF DAVID. His replacement in N.D. is the ex-guitarist of ANNIHILATOR.

MASSACRE's record company has folded due to financial problems, so their EP has come out as their 2nd demo instead.

RAPT have split, which means that our 1-page interview w/them is pretty pointless, but we've kept it in as we realise that many people know hardly anything about RAPT. Isn't that nice of us??

AGONY have recently recorded a new demo entitled "Night Of The Emperor". It now appears that they will be signed by Music For Nations, and if all goes well they'll be recording their debut LP in March. I did an interview with Pete (vox) yesterday, so look out for that in PHOENIX MILITIA no.8.

HELLBASTARD! Sounds like yet another satanic Metal band, right? WRONG!! HELLBASTARD are a U.K. Hardcore Metal band with what might be termed as "socially relevant" lyrics, so now you have no excuse to slag 'em off using the old "bullshit attitude"-type bitchings. I could do a bit of a history here - but I won't - so I'll just tell you that this is an interview done by mail with Scruff & Phil for a foreign zine, and when I realised that it'd be printed in a different language, I thought that I might as well include it in P.M. too.

I'm sure that most of you have already heard HELLBASTARD by now, and if by some misfortune you haven't then you can read my review of their 1st demo to give you an idea of their sound. They've become a 5-piece during the last couple of months and they're improving all the time...check out their killer new material for confirmation!!

The line-up is:-

Scruff (guitar, vocals)

Blobb (guitar)

Grant (lead vocals)

Scotty (bass)

Phil (drums)....and you can write to the band at any of these addresses:-

Phil, 219 Commercial Rd, Byker, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE6 2ED, England.

OR Scotty, 453 Stoneleigh Avenue, Longbenton, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, 12 England.

OR Scruff, 96 Abbot Court, Chandlees Estate, Gateshead NE8 3LA, Tyne & Wear, England.

OK, LET'S START WITH A QUESTION THAT EVERYONE (slight exaggeration) WANTS TO KNOW THE ANSWER TO:- WHEN CAN WE EXPECT A VINYL RELEASE BY HELLBASTARD, AND WHAT LABEL WILL IT BE OUT ON??

PHIL: Everyone wants to know eh? Fuck knows why. Yeah, we do hope to release an LP or 12" providing we can get enough money together. It would be great to get some vinyl out with decent production. Keep a lookout.

SCRUFF: This question seems funny to answer for me as I never expected HELLBASTARD to record even a demo tape but as time has gone on H.B. has become more serious and more interesting for all of us. Anyway, I write to a guy in the U.S. and he says he's going to put up the money for the pressing of either an LP or 12". Hopefully it will be on C.O.R. - Children Of The Revolution - young Tim Timebomb's label which he set up for mainly Punk/H.C./Metal-type bands.

HOW ARE YOUR 2 NEW MEMBERS SETTLING IN? HAVE THEY ALTERED YOUR SOUND MUCH??

SCRUFF: Our 2 new members are doing really good. The only trouble is we aren't as crusty as we originally were 'cause the singer (Grant) is a clean boy, and not as filthy as us terminal dirtcore bastards. Erm, no, he's a good vocalist, better than me by loads any way. He's really good kid and we'd rather have Grant & his clean clothes than some dirty cunt who's got a stinking attitude. Our other new member (2nd guitarist) is Sean, namely "Blobb" - at least that's the name I've known him by all these years. Our guitar playing is basically on the same level and he's a good kid

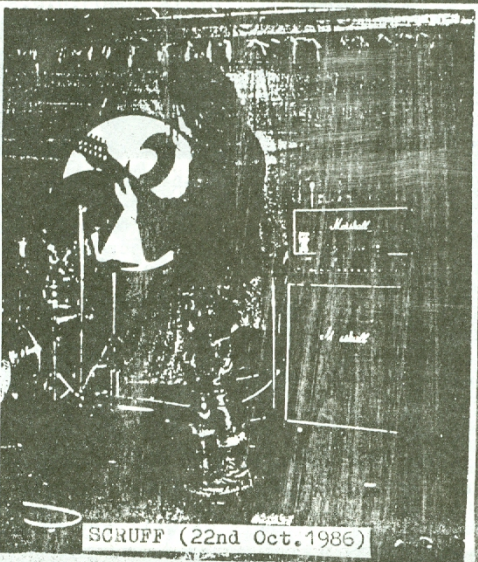


PHIL (14th June 1986)

too so we all get on OK. Erm, no, our sound hasn't changed but two good things about it are that Grant's vocals are very gruff & gravelly, and we are now heavier sound-wise. PHIL: They seem to be getting along fine. Two guitarists means we can have solos etc live whilst still keeping the basic riff going, which makes it more interesting. A separate singer means that Scruff can jump about more! We had intended on remaining a 3-piece but this arrangement seems fine and we should be even heavier now, plus Blobb can write some tunes as well, giving more variation.

IF THERE'S JUST ONE THING THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO ACHIEVE WITH HELLBASTARD, WHAT WOULD IT BE??

PHIL: We're in the band because we love a particular style of music, that's how we got together. We don't have any stupid lyrics about satan, monsters, killing people etc because that isn't saying anything constructive. Our lyrics cover serious subjects, e.g. wars, nazis, heroin etc which probably surprises a few people, but we align ourselves more with the Punk (?) movement than with any other - it's just that we enjoy playing crusty heavy-type stuff as it tends to be a bit more complex & interesting. If even one person thinks about what we're singing about and it changes their views, then that would be great. SCRUFF: This is a difficult one, I'd like to widen people's minds about different things, especially metallers, e.g. if some metallers hear about HELLBASTARD he/she might say "hmm, HELLBASTARD eh? I've got to hear them" and



SCRUFF (22nd Oct. 1986)

if the proposed person has been into Metal all his/her life and hears our lyrics, well it might change their attitude a bit (bear in mind I'm trying to be as unbiased as possible!). I'm not saying that all metallers are thick - well, you know what I mean anyhow. I hope HELLBASTARD continue, it's good doing a band. Personally, I don't want to achieve anything, I would do gigs for next to nothing and that's the good of it. I'm totally into music and have been since I heard my very first Punk record in 1978, and that's why WE are different to the likes of the scum who want a big, nice, safe record deal & lots of fame & money. Fuck them - we're more down to earth than that!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE OTHER BANDS ON THE BRITISH H.C./METAL "SCENE", SUCH AS HERESY, NAPALM DEATH, SACRILEGE, E.N.T. etc? HAVE THEY INFLUENCED YOU IN ANY WAY??

SCRUFF: Erm, none of the bands you mentioned have influenced us apart from maybe SACRILEGE - as I like chuggy guitar riffs, and yes, lyrically they are excellent too. HERESY, E.N.T., NAPALM DEATH etc are all very good too, yeah the crossover thing is really good. PHIL: They're all great bands - I love Total Thrash such as HERESY and NAPALM DEATH, but I would say we're more musically influenced by the likes of SACRILEGE, ANTI-SECT, AMEBIX etc - slowish powerful stuff.

WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU - MUSIC OR LYRICS??

PHIL: They're both important - if a band has good lyrics but crap music you're not going to bother listening to them. I can listen to all these satan-type bands simply because I like the music, and ignore the pathetic negative lyrics. I'd prefer bands to have good lyrics & attitudes though, but if not then that's their tough shit, we'll never turn into "pop star"-types or sing about satan/death.

SCRUFF: Lyrics mean more to me than music, but I must admit I can put up with listening to Celtic Frost/Hellhammer/Slayer/Exodus etc only because of the music, I mean if these bands didn't play that sort of music I wouldn't listen to them. On the other hand I think a good song has to have good-ish music to back it up and deliver the punch. Er, yes, lyrics are more important than music to me. No! Half & half. Yes, definitely.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THE NAME "HELLBASTARD"? AREN'T YOU WORRIED THAT PEOPLE MIGHT NOT TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY BECAUSE OF IT??

SCRUFF: Well, if people hear the name and dismiss us straight away then they're assholes, I feel I have to check something out before I like it. "HELLBASTARD" is an old SONS OF BAD BREATH song (they're very good friends of ours from Hackney in London), also it's totally uncommercial and unsafe. And, well, it is crap - but different. I think we'll change it soon as it is boring.

PHIL: Yeah, a lot of people get the impression that we're a satan band, which is totally wrong. It was chosen as a piss-take of these "death"-type bands' names & lyrics, it's too obvious to be serious, although we are a serious

band. Plus it is very uncommercial, and we're dead against all this commercial crap. We probably will change it though, as the joke's worn a bit thin now and it does give people the wrong idea.

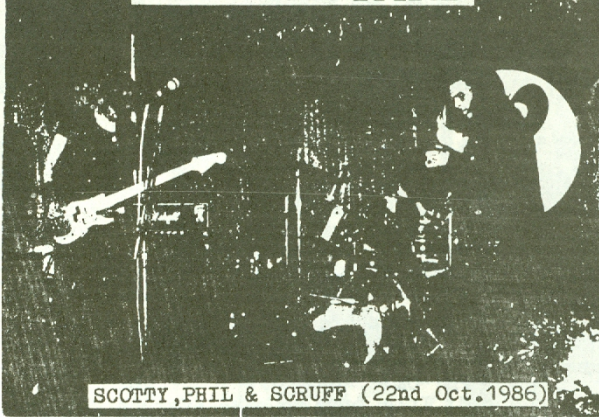
WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON DRUGS/SMOKING/ALCOHOL?? WHAT ABOUT VEGETARIANS AND VEGANS??

PHIL: Put it this way, if I was straight-edge I'd have a lot more money. I do like to go out for a good piss-up on a Saturday or something, it breaks the weekday routine and you can have a good time. Some drugs are OK, heroin and cocaine etc are just addictive shit which means profit to a lot of people and misery to a lot of others. Dope, acid, magic mushrooms are OK in moderation, but once anything turns into dependence, be it alcohol or other drugs, then that's a bad thing as it isn't fun any more. Anyone who enforces their views on you, be they straight-edge or not, is a bastard. Do your own thing as long as it doesn't interfere with others.

Yeah, I've been a veggie for years, only Grant isn't - but it's up to him. Meat is sick as far as I'm concerned.



HELLBASTARD



SCOTTY, PHIL & SCRUFF (22nd Oct. 1986)

SCRUFF: My views on drugs/smoking/alcohol are these:- if people want to take them then so be it - that's them. I smoke & drink but don't take drugs. Personally I think hard drug-pushers should have the shit kicked out of them because a lot of people can become addicted to heroin, cocaine etc after only one injection/snort or whatever, and therefore they'll want more and if they can't kick the habit then their life's fucked up totally. Why? All because some smug bastard wanted to make some stupid fucking money. BASTARDS - kill the fucking lot of them - jeezus I'm in a stinking mood just thinking about it. Oh, and a note for the straight-edge "enforcer" type - FUCK OFF, you are no better than me, and yes I am aware. OK, straight-edge is healthy, but it's also another crap American trend. I reckon straight-edge people would be better off being themselves, I mean I don't go around saying "heey maan I'm bent-edge and you've gotta smoke, drink & have sex". TRUE straight-edges may NOT be offended by this. I also am a vegetarian and have been since 1980, Phil, Scotty & Sean (Blobb) are also. Unfortunately our new vocalist is not - which is a pity, but we picked him for his attitude, voice & personality, and then found out he ate meat. Sad, but oh well.....

I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU'RE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY CELTIC FROST, BUT WHAT OTHER BANDS DO YOU ENJOY??

SCRUFF: Well, I really like Celtic Frost/Hellhammer - musically, yes, but lyrically - HAH! No way! Groups I like listening to apart from C.F./H.H. are:- Discharge, VoiVod, Kreator, VooR, Master, Whiplash, Concrete Sox, E.N.T., Napalm Death, Sacrilege, Crucifix, Exodus, S.O.D., Anti-System, Amebix, Oi Polloi, Apostles, Blower (ex-Sons Of Bad Breath), Crass, Anvil, Death, Disorder, Antisect, Sacrifice, Slaughter, Destruction, Wretched - mostly "underground" Punk & Metal Thrash bands basically. Too many to mention. I'm a "Punk" born & bred, yeah, but progression's taken place and that's why I listen to a lot of Metallic stuff.

PHIL: Millions! I've got a wide range of tastes, e.g. Disorder, Possessed, Antisect, Whiplash, Concrete Sox, Amebix, S.O.D., VoiVod, Discharge, early Sabbath, Pink Floyd, Hawkwind, Heresy, Napalm Death, Motorhead, Death, Slaughter, Master, Accused, Legion Of Parasites, The Pogues, Dickies, in fact there's hundreds of Punk & Metal bands I like.

...ANYTHING ELSE TO ADD??

PHIL: Thanx for the interview. Hello to everyone who's written to me or bought our demo or got us gigs. Hello to any crustcore bastards from Norwich, Cleveland, Nottingham, Bristol, Tyne-side, in fact anyone who deserves it.

SCRUFF: I'd like to say hello to everyone I know & write to, my brother Toot & everyone else in Hackney, Bristol, Scotland & Gateshead, everyone who's shown interest in us & bought our "Ripper Crust" demo & any Apostles records.

A NOTE ON OUR REVIEWS (also a rather obvious attempt to fill an awkward space!)

Please bear in mind that I do not necessarily agree with all of Gothkiller's comments (or his naff pen-name)...and vice versa! In each review we merely state our opinions, and occasionally we do go a little (a little??) over the top with some of our slaggings, but what we're trying to do is convey the feelings that a certain record/tape stirs up in us.

One or two of the reviews are quite old, but I've kept them in because I feel that they make a few valid points that perhaps have been overlooked in other reviews.

Finally, we welcome any bands who'd like their stuff reviewed to send us a copy. If we like what we hear, we'll say so, and if we don't - well, I think you can guess the rest!! NO POSER HARD ROCK BULLSHIT!!

ANTI-CIMEX - 12" EP (Distraught/Skysaw)

The long-awaited first UK release by ANTI-CIMEX, and it's been selling excellently. In view of the huge amount of H.C. bands metallizing their sound, there are few surprises here - the one exception being the lengthy "Fain Killer" which in my opinion sticks out like a sore thumb. The rest of this 12" is totally powerful and harks back to the golden years of DISCHARGE during their "Hear Nothing..." era. My personal fave is probably "Time To?" which, like the rest of the record, has a slightly metallic edge to it as well as more than a hint of Motorhead.

A lot of people have been complaining about the price of this record, and while I agree that it could (and should) be cheaper, it's worth remembering that this is more of a mini-LP than an EP so if you're a CIMEX fan then you'll find this a more than worthy investment. (BILL)

BLACK DIAMOND - "Faces" mini-LP (Rococeter)

I'd like to make a suggestion to the band about the title of this record - how about changing it from "Faces" to "FACES" instead? Yes, you guessed it, this is more commercial German Hard Rock in the same vein as Avalanche, Danger, Fortuner & Sweet Cheater, with all those classic clichés that you've come to know and love (? - y'know, shrill, balls-in-the-vice vocals, a total wimpshit guitar sound and song titles like "Temple Of Love" and "Break Out". BLACK DIAMOND, you are a disgrace to Metal, please split up and/or kill yourselves to be forgiven. (BILL)

DISCHARGE - "Grave New World" EP (Clay)

Bliss, sheer bliss, I'm fuckin' made up with this. To us, it's the best DISCHARGE offering since "State Violence" 'cause as you well know since then they've put out some pretty shoddy attempts at...whatever!!

However, with this LP they've surpassed themselves. If you're expecting thrashings - forget it, a band can't play Thrash forever (why not? - BILL). OK, I too would like to see some of the old musical organic style knocked out, but those days are no more - DISCHARGE have progressed.

So what exactly have we got here? 7 tracks of ultimate power-riffing, some neat bass runs and slick guitar breaks, solid intense drumming - all meeting for a megahammer-to-the-bollocks sound, and Cal's vocals...OK, I was also a bit AAAAAUEGHH!! But they do grow on you, and I doubt that the awesome vocal he created would suit this new direction. Lyrically too there's been a change, from nuclear death & devastation to a more subtle personal touch, hinting at police oppression with "We Dare Speak" and then there's the downright condemnation of heroin in "The Downward Spiral". Anyway, my mind's made up, I love it and no doubt the people of closed minds will hate it whilst muttering about "Decontrol". Well, I'll leave you die-hards with Gary's words.... "A lotta bands are now doing what we were 3 years ago, so in 3 years they'll probably be playing like we do now"..... We'll just have to see. (GOTHKILLER)

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER - "Convicted" LP (Death/Roadrunner)

Well, as I half-expected, this got praised to the hilt by Kerrap as part of their bid to achieve credibility in the Thrash scene. Nevertheless, this thing is totally fuckin' mental - it's relentless speed from start to finish. I'm pleased that some of the older tracks (which Kerrap wouldn't recognise because they think they've "discovered" a "brand new" H.C. band) have been included, providing an amusing contrast between the more recent, socially-aware lyrics of songs like "Nuclear Future" or the title track, and the funny satan/death lyrics of "War To The Knife", "Rest In Pain" etc.

OK, I realise it can be a bit embarrassing to like an LP that's been raved over by Kerrap, but take my word for it - they don't REALLY like CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER, it's all a big fad to them. So if you don't own a copy of "Convicted", you have no excuse now - BUY!!!! (BILL)

NEUROOT - "Right Is Might" EP

Now this is pretty damned good, slightly out of date maybe, but still worthy of a review. Easy comparisons are AMEBIX and ANTISECT, wow this sooo good, it's been a while since a 7" has excited me so. Amazing production for a H.C. record, if you know what I mean. For once, a band who haven't opted for the "thrash till strings break" approach, more a powerful, chunky, rhythmic approach. I'm afraid B.G.K. have had their Dutch crown stolen and been kicked in the balls to boot, I love it and want more. Get it from all the best distributors.....NOW!!! (GOTHKILLER)

VULCANO - LP (advance tape)

While SEPULCHRA seem to be the most popular Death Metal band from Brazil (and rightly so), there are several others who slaughter your ears with heathen aggression and therefore should not be ignored unless you want to go through life listening to Hard Rock wimpshit. VULCANO are a member of this elite bunch of sickos - they have no qualms about playing the sort of bastardized Death Metal that gives you a good idea of what BATHORY would sound like if Quorthon didn't spend so much time stealing riffs from the first 2 Venom albums.

What makes this so great? Well, it's hard to point out any one factor - you've really got to hear this for yourself - but I must admit that the vocals instantly grabbed my attention. This "singer" has a throat like a gravel path! Mr Kipling eat your heart out!!! Be sure to hear these "Voices From Hell" 'cause you'll be "Ready To Explode" at the sound of this "Death Metal Holocaust"!!!! (BILL)

POTENTIAL THREAT - "Demand An Alternative" LP (MorTahate)

Heh heh, ha ha, what the fuck's this supposed to be? More wasted plastic, come back Shaun all is forgiven...P.THREAT should demand an alternative to Fos - ha ha ha ha ha. (GOTHKILLER)

An interview with H.H.H. by Rich!!

HARINA DE HUESOS HUMANOS (Flour Of Human Bones), or H.H.H. for short, are a Spanish Hardcore band who totally rip - having no bass is their only problem at the moment. Anyway here's an interview with them, so check them out. Thank to the band for answering. Write to them at: - C/Canat 45, Banyoles (Gerona), Spain.

TELL US ABOUT THE PROBLEMS THAT SPANISH PUNKS GET FROM THE GOVERNMENT...

National service is maybe the big problem; it's the motive of temporary inactivity for a lot of bands, or even for their split. Really in Spain, 10 years after Franco's dictatorship, the society's still very militarized. If you want to make your alternative service (that means you are a "conscientious objector") the army & a military tribunal decide whether you can do it or not. The army don't have these abusive rights in most of the European countries, but in Spain the army can decide for you. To squat is illegal, of course, and the government is very severe with squatters. In Madrid and Barcelona some squats have been organised but they were aborted after a few days by the police. But in small towns the situation is better (principally in Euzkadi), with places for gigs & bands to practice. Unemployment is another big problem (not only for punks). It grows every day and unfortunately benefit for the unemployed is very small. It's difficult to survive! About the police: in the big towns they stop you to check if you have your papers and they like to bind you... but in our small town we don't have national police - fortunately - and here we can feel free, without controls and papers.

HOW'S THE SPANISH HARDCORE SCENE PROGRESSING? ANY GOOD BANDS?

The Spanish scene is better from day to day. Every time exist more bands and zines; in the last year a lot of new bands have formed, and the old bands keep fighting. Also, in the last 2 years Spanish punks have seen several H.C. bands from all over the world (well, from U.S.A. only M.D.C.). Spanish bands have been featured in international compilations (R.I.P. on "Welcome To 1984" and KANGRENA & SHIT S.A. on "Peace"), and that's positive, but our main problem is the lack of a real alternative record label. It's fucking difficult to put out a record in Spain, for this reason bands must put out tapes. For us, the better bands are ANTI-DOGMA-TIKS, ODIOSOCIAL, G.R.B., SUBTERRANEAN KIDS, KANGRENA, R.I.P., EIZEN, BSKORBUTO, and also T.D.K. & P.B.N.S.K. but only musically. The best scene is in Euzkadi where most of the bands & zines are, the scene is OK and the free people are really active and interested by the other scenes.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BULLFIGHTING? ARE ANY OF YOU VEGETARIANS OR INTO ANIMAL RIGHTS?

We think bullfighting is horrible. What's the point of it? A defenceless animal is tortured until its death only to satisfy the thirst for blood of the people who enjoy

Harina de Huesos humanos



this cruel spectacle and who are accomplices of this murder. Now is the time to act and stop this atrocity, intolerable in a so-called civilised world! We aren't vegetarians but vegetables take an important part in our foods (also in our work, 'cause Marc and Koki cultivate them)... we also eat meat, but we are interested in the animal & human rights and we are against all forms of vivisection and animal abuse.

IS THE "PUNK FEELING" A THREAT IN SPAIN? DO MANY PEOPLE TAKE NOTICE OF IT? CAN PUNK CHANGE ANYTHING SIGNIFICANT?

Some years ago, when Punk meant spitting at bands, breaking bottles, and violence, people thought that punk was an aggressive movement, but fortunately these acts are surpassed by most punks now. Punk is now a positive movement against animal abuse, nuclear war and militarism. Punk has changed, and so have people's attitudes to punks. When the squatter's collective in Barcelona were in their last occupation, the neighbourhood supported their action and gave the squatters tools to improve their house. And when the police arrested the squatters they were insulted by the neighbours. Maybe Punk won't change anything, but the attitude of these people shows that something has changed... but a lot of people keep ignoring the Punk movement and the TV Music shows don't have Punk bands on, despite the fact that these bands are ideologically more mature than other movements, but maybe that's the reason... is Punk a threat to our government?

DOES YOUR LACK OF DECENT MUSICAL EQUIPMENT REALLY HOLD YOU BACK, OR DOES IT PERHAPS GIVE H.H.H. A MORE ORIGINAL SOUND?



Our principal problem is the line-up 'cause we haven't got a bass-player. Of course our sound is original because we only play with drums & guitar, well Marc only plays with 2 strings 'cause he doesn't know any chords, but if we find a bassist the H.H.H. sound will be better. But we sincerely think our demo is really good, H.H.H. is neither better nor worse than the other Spanish bands, and when we recorded it our drummer had only played real drums once before ('cause we don't have a drum kit and we practice with boxes), and he did it really well! Now, in spite of our musical limitations, we are trying to progress and we hope to record our 2nd demo next Autumn, as it's impossible for us to make an EP here in Spain.

WHAT ARE YOUR SONGS ABOUT? IS IT BETTER TO AVOID THE MORE STEREOTYPED LYRICS (WAR, VIVISECTION etc) NOW, & PROTEST ABOUT OTHER THINGS?

War and vivisection always have been and always will be two really interesting subjects, a lot of bands (us included) have songs about these topics, but other problems also exist and maybe it's time to speak about them (but that doesn't mean that war & vivisection should be forgotten). We have 30-35 songs, two against war & two against vivisection, the others are about the defence of nature, the unjust situation in the 3rd world (where capitalism sucks the blood of the people), plastic punks, apartheid & nationalism. But in our latest songs we've tried to make original lyrics and talk about new topics like life in the big towns, stress, insecurity in the streets... and also in other songs we remember the genocide of Jews in World War 2, or we condemn the attitudes of some punks who have created rules (Punk against capitalism/school/intellectuals... only empty words) and we don't accept it. This song is called "Rules" and is the last we've written.

DOES SPAIN HAVE MANY "PLASTIC" PUNKS (WHO JUST RELY ON THEIR LEATHER, SPIKES & STUDD AND DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING)... OR ARE THERE MORE "AWARE" PUNKS?

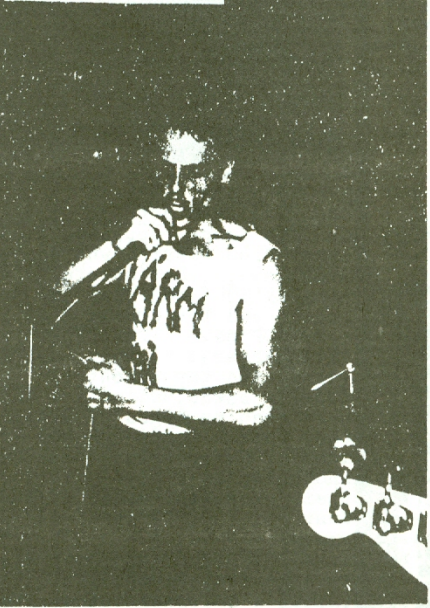
We think there are active punks and plastic punks in all scenes, as well as Spain, but fortunately the active ones are more noticeable 'cause they put out zines, make squats, start bands, organize gigs, distribute records & tapes... or they write letters to find out about other scenes or other people. These punks make Punk a positive movement. The plastic punks are in the minority and unfortunately sometimes they are known by their behaviour at gigs - fighting or breaking bottles. They are people without brains.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE E.T.A. & THE SEMI-CIVIL WAR THAT'S BEEN GOING ON IN NORTH SPAIN?

We hate violence, we don't accept the use of lethal weapons. We think that no-one has the right to end the lives of other humans. That means we don't accept the police oppression but we also hate terrorist actions. Another reason for our disagreement with the E.T.A. is their political meaning, they are fighting for the

LARM

MENNO (Pic: Andy)



Well, I said that there were would be more Hardcore in this issue of P.M. and I've kept my promise, haven't I? After all, LARM are about as Hardcore as you can get. They've been playing ultra-speed Thrash (without any noticeable Metal tinges) since the days when DISCHARGE were still thought to be fast - a long time ago, in other words. Up till now they have just 2 vinyl releases available:- the "Campaign For Musical Destruction" split-LP with STANK, and the 16-song 7" EP entitled "No-One Can Be That Dumb" (which lacks the production of the 1st record but still tears your face off). Further descriptions should be unnecessary when I tell you that LARM is a German word which means "noise", and this band (who are Dutch not German by the way) have influenced numerous H.C. Thrash bands such as the late S.O.D. & NAPALM DEATH to name just two.

The questions in this interview were asked by Berad (of "Battlefield" zine) and Jos (the bassist of LARM) answered them. I'd also like to thank Armin (co-editor of "Battlefield") for passing the interview onto me. Cheers!!

THERE ARE SO MANY H.C./PUNK BANDS AROUND, WHAT WERE YOUR REASONS FOR STARTING ANOTHER ONE?

I don't think it's good when you don't start a band for that reason, the message of Punk was, and still is, "do it yourself". We started a band because we wanted to play the music we liked ourselves. It was also a way of getting views across. It also seemed fun for us to play (and it turned out to be that way).

TELL US SOME MORE ABOUT LARM (history etc.)...

Well, the band LARM itself started 3 years ago - we had a girl also then who supported Menno on vocals. The line-up today is:-

- Olav - drums
- Paul - guitar
- Menno - vocals
- Jos - bass

Before LARM started, Paul, Olav and Jos had been playing together in other bands for 2 1/2 years. Menno used to sing in a band from his

town. Most of the band live in the centre of Holland. In the old line-up we did 9 tracks on the "Holland Hardcore" cassette, with the current line-up we made the split-LP together with STANK, one side each. We have 28 tracks on our side, which is called "Campaign For Musical Destruction". The LP is sold out now. In February '86 we released a 16-track 7" EP which is almost sold out, maybe it'll be reprint-ed. We now have some tracks on a compilation 7" from America with 3 American bands. We hope to do a 12" or 7" again this summer/autumn.

WHAT ARE YOUR INFLUENCES & FAVOURITE BANDS?

Well, I think that every band has got its musical influences - so have we, but it doesn't mean that we want to play the same, we try to stay original but that's very hard nowadays. In the early period of LARM, our influences were mainly Finnish H.C. (Riistetyt, Kaaos, Terveet Kadet) but they couldn't keep the tension. We started to listen more to U.S. Thrash & H.C. bands, the most important influences are: D.R.I., STARK RAVING MAD, SIEGE, DEEP WOUND, M.D.C., MINOR THREAT etc. These bands have influenced us on lyrics also.

WHAT ARE YOUR ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE BAND?

Menno is a student, he's studying law. Paul is unemployed. Olav is unemployed. Jos works as a teacher. Paul, Olav and Jos work for the local Punk squat/gig venue and also make a zine. All of us have intense correspondence with people all over the world, which is great but sometimes hard to keep up with.

YOUR STYLE CAN BE DESCRIBED AS "VERY EXTREME". WHY DO YOU PLAY SO FAST?

We play fast because we like it. It has energy in it that we show at gigs. We believe that it's good to see an enthusiastic band enjoying their music and trying to give the crowd a good time. We don't play fast because it seems to be "hip" nowadays.

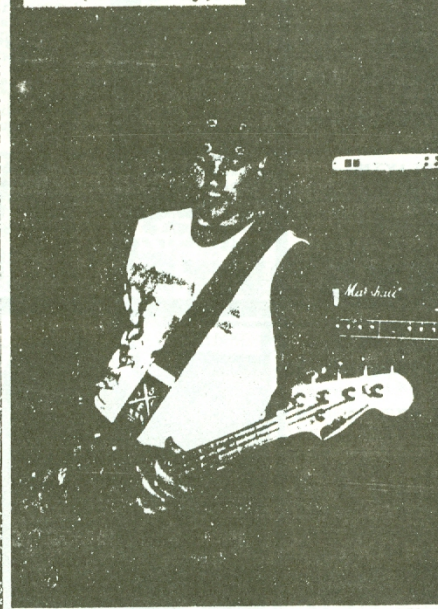
YOUR LYRICS DIFFER FROM A LOT OF OTHER PUNK BANDS AS YOU DON'T DEAL THAT MUCH WITH POLITICS. COULD YOU EXPLAIN THE TOPICS YOU WRITE ABOUT?

The lyrics are about subjects that concern us and on which we want to show our views. We also criticise people within the scene ("Non-Conformity"), they try to be so different but once you've known them for some time they're just the same as the average man or woman in the street. We don't try to bring a message across, it's more a positive attitude that we want to put across to people.

DO YOU THINK THAT MUSICAL ABILITY IS NECESSARY TO FORM A GOOD GROUP?

Definitely not! U.K. Subs, O.H.L. and many others seem to be good musicians, but do they have good music? We don't play chords but we have quite some success - I think there is no better proof!

JOS (Pic: Andy)



MOST GERMAN METALLERS (APART FROM THOSE IN THE H.C./METAL SCENE) ARE PREJUDICED AGAINST PUNKS AND ESPECIALLY SKINS. WHAT ARE RELATIONS LIKE BETWEEN PUNKS, SKINS ETC. IN HOLLAND ...ARE ALL SKINHEADS NECESSARILY NAZIS???

In Germany, I think there is a large gap between Punks with

LARM

OLAV (Pic: Andy)



mohawks & studs, and the "American Punks. I can't speak for the whole of Holland but in our scene these 2 types get along very well. The scenes in Holland have little groups of active people who organise gigs, play in bands etc. There isn't much of a skin movement in Holland, lots of them turned over to "normals" or "psychobilly". In Rotterdam there are quite a few skins, they seem to be pretty stupid. We don't have problems with skins. I wouldn't say that "skin" means "nazi", but I think that if you want to be a skin you are taking a risk of being counted as a nazi skin, but I think that this is a stupid form of prejudice.

ANY TOUR PLANS (e.g. GERMANY)???

Well, not really, maybe Sweden and Denmark this Autumn. We'd love to play some little (positive) scenes in Germany (Bielefeld).

CAN YOU SEE OURSELVES PLAYING GIGS WITH METAL/CROSSOVER BANDS?

Yes, why not, as long as these people aren't so dumb & satanic. We're playing with a local Speed Metal band very soon. We can get along well with the metallers over here, but it's not this way everywhere. They headbang at the Punk shows, we slam & stage-dive to the Metal bands (good fun).

WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE FOLLOWING:-

- 1) **ALCOHOL & DRUGS:-** As long as you can handle alcohol it's OK to me, but I really hate drunk people. What happens if a nazi gang attacks people at a gig & a lot of them are drunk? I condemn all drugs, cos it's dangerous for your health and I think you're ill if you need that stuff to feel good!
- 2) **SEX:-** Sex is OK with me when it's an act of love. Men and women aren't sex objects.
- 3) **ROCKSTARS:-** Do you need to ask? They're bullshit, what makes a band any better than the crowd?

4) **MONEY:-** It's not the goal we have with the band. Money is something real "evil" (yeah 666) cos it causes trouble everywhere. It also isn't divided well, it's not good that in the same street people are begging for money while others are eating themselves FAT in McDonalds.

5) **POLITICIANS:-** Politicians don't understand their job, they should be a reflection of their voters but they rarely are. They also have got too much power.

...ANY FINAL COMMENTS??

Final words: well, to Punk bands turning Metal, it's good to use it as a form of musical progression, but let the lyrics stay aware! And Punks need to check out other groups of people more! For live tapes & demos (exchange) and stickers, contact:-

Joshua Larm,
Hessenweg 183,
3791 De Archterveld,
Holland.

This is also the address for info & comments etc. The 7" costs 5 DM & an IRC.



Yes it's another band with DEATH in their name! Formerly called CRYPTIC DEATH, DEATHCHAMBER hail from Stoke-On-Trent (home of Ted Chippington, the world's best comedian!) and have already released one demo prior to this one, although they did a few tapes under their previous name. I never got to hear any C.D. stuff (although I'm reliably told that they were crap) but I can say that DEATHCHAMBER's first rehearsal/demo was pretty abysmal - bad sound-quality, weak playing and messy songs. Thankfully, their new studio demo is a vast improvement. Anyone who wonders what RAFT would sound like under the influence of SODOM should find this very interesting.

As with a lot of the newer Death Metal bands around these days, I find DEATHCHAMBER's attempts at "evil" song-titles & lyrics quite amusing - whether they intend to be this way or not I don't know...but let's face it, any band who can start their demo with a song called "Chamber Of Death" and finish it with a track entitled "Deathchamber can't be 100% serious!! "Infernal Butcherism" raised a smile too.

While I'm not too keen on some of Rob's drumming techniques (i.e. hitting anything in sight!) or the vocals (the bass & guitar sound isn't too hot either, come to think about it), I'd still recommend DEATHCHAMBER's "music" to those of you who like to indulge in a bit of manic noise from time to time...so why not scribble to them for more info? DEATHCHAMBER, c/o Rob, Lanes End, First Avenue, Brookhouse Bucknell, Stoke-On-Trent, Staffs S12 5BN, England. (Phew, what an address! Worse than mine!)

POISON

Incubus Demon...er, yes, quite



POISON are a German Death Metal band who have nothing at all to do with those repulsive glam shit-bags from America who share the same name...but hopefully you've already realised that due to the photos and the crummy logo I drew

POISON have a few tapes (demos/live/rehearsals) that have been circulated throughout the tape-trading scene, but as yet there have been no signs of vinyl so they remain quite unknown at the moment. Nevertheless, they deserve inclusion in P.M. - mainly for their excellent sense of humour. Just take a look at these "stage-names":-

Angel Of Death (barbaric axe termination), Virgin Slaughter (satan's infernal voice), Incubus Demon (apocalyptic thunder), and Witchhammer (genocide at satanic speed).....now do you see what I mean about their sense of humour? At least I assume they're being funny deliberately.....if not then I recommend a psychiatrist!

This interview was done with all of the band by German fanzine "Deathfuck" (I love that name!!) and was passed onto me by the very kind Armin Nolzen. Let's go!

PM: Could you tell us some more about yourselves?

POISON: Blaaaaarrggghhhhhh! (and various other vomiting noises)

PM: Being serious, what are your chances of getting a record deal?

POISON: I think the guy from Messiah's label showed great interest in us, and it looks like he will produce something with us as soon as he has the money. (Again the tape is obliterated by manic screams/growls/laughter.)

POISON Angel Of Death & Incubus Demon



PM: What about other activities for POISON?

POISON: Well, we're still looking for some gigs, and we got the opportunity to play in Poland, but I don't know...I think there will be another festival in Pforzheim this year, and I hope we'll play there.

PM: Which German bands would you most like to play gigs with?

POISON: Oh, well, I think...they're not quite from

MACE come from Everett, Washington and have just joined the ranks of hundreds of poor innocent bands who have had boring introductions in PHOENIX MILITIA. To all those concerned, I apologise and I hope you can find it somewhere in your hearts to forgive me. Anyway (my favourite word), they (MACE that is) play Thrash Metal with a Hardcore Punk edge and, unlike fellow locals METAL CHURCH, they aren't overweight and going bald.

I sent MACE's guitarist Dave Hillis some interview questions and he replied promptly with his answers, a couple of photos and more info on the band. So a big THANKS go to Dave for being so co-operative - cheers pal!

BEFORE THE "PROCESS OF ELIMINATION" LP CAME OUT, YOU HAD RELEASED 2 DEMOS THAT WERE PRETTY MUCH "STRAIGHT-AHEAD" HEAVY METAL. WHAT INFLUENCED YOU TO GO IN MORE OF A THRASH DIRECTION?

Dave: Me and Kirk were really into bands like the CIRCLE JERKS, CODE OF HONOR, BLACK FLAG, FEAR, and we became friends with the band THE ACCUSED. They, at the same time, were getting into METALLICA & other Metal, so they turned us onto a lot of Hardcore. By this time, we were already thinking about getting rid of Vence LaRose (our first drummer) because of his drug problem and he wasn't really into Punk at all!

LOOKING BACK ON THE ALBUM, ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE WAY IT TURNED OUT?

Yes and no! Yes, the music is a good representation of where we were at that time, it could've been better but due to no money for the studio time & equipment that's the way it is! No, because the insert & back cover were not what we wanted and we got clipped off!! We paid for everything! Except the pressing of the LP and we haven't seen a dime back yet! There was not one ad. placed by C.O.M.A. or Enigma! And we had false promises and lies constantly!

WHEN IS YOUR NEXT VINYL RELEASE PLANNED? HOW WILL IT DIFFER FROM YOUR DEBUT?

I hope the next LP will be out by Christmas on BLACK DRAGON RECORDS in Europe! And maybe COMBAT in the U.S.A.. It's faster and much tighter. It's more what this line-up is all about! Better production, more power! I think it should do really well. And hopefully we will have an EP to follow it up.

WHILE AGO YOU DID A GIG WITH RAW POWER, THE SEA MONKEYS, AND THE EXCELLENT DAYGLO BOORTIONS - HOW DID THAT GO?

Well, funny you bring that up! C.O.M.A. Records fucked that up for us! They told the promoter we wanted more money, and took us off the bill



MACE are:-

Kirk Verhey - vocals
Dave Hillis - guitar
Vern White - bass
Shane White - drums

without the band's consent! But all those bands are great! DAYGLO are gods! (I agree! - Bill)

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED ADDING A RHYTHM GUITARIST TO THE LINE-UP IN ORDER TO FILL OUT THE SOUND WHEN PLAYING LIVE?

Yes, we might even be adding one very soon, before the next tour.

TELL US ABOUT SOME OF YOUR NEW SONGS.

Well, there's "Gutripper", that's the follow-up to "Drilling For Brains". "Intent To Kill", which is all in Clockwork Orange slang (I wish Sigue Sigue Sputnik didn't exploit it so much). "Poison Gases", that's all about the Union Carbide gas leak in India. "The Evil In Good", all about religion mixing with politics and "Choose Your God", about cocaine fuck-ups. They're all fast and powerful, very intense!!

A LOT OF YOUR LYRICS ARE ANTI-WAR AND QUITE LEFT-WING, BUT WOULD YOU CLASS MACE AS A POLITICAL BAND?

What's funny is a German mag just called us Right-Wing Militants! I don't know if we're a political band but we do care about what's going on in the world! We're not satanic dumb fucks, we have a lot to say and we're gonna say it! And I don't give a fuck if some people don't like it! Even if I don't change anything at least I know that I tried!

WHAT BANDS DO YOU LISTEN TO THESE DAYS? ARE THERE ANY GOOD GUITARISTS IN THE H.C./METAL SCENE THAT IMPRESS YOU?

I listen to almost every kind of music there is! Lately I've been listening to a lot of Bauhaus, Ministry, Siouxsie and new T.S.O.L., Sex Pistols, new Queensryche is really good, I used to hate them. I love the new 7 SECONDS but I bet a lot of Hardcores will hate it! In the way of Hardcore, the CRUMBSUCKERS and CROMAGS are gods! So is the brand new ACCUSED, it's not even out yet, I just heard it and it kills! The guitarist from CRUMBSUCKERS is

great, so is Dave Mustaine. Tom from the ACCUSED is the jigga-jigga master, the guy's got the fastest right hand there is. New KREATOR, VOIVOD and WEHRMACHT are hot too!

THE ACCUSED ARE BASED QUITE NEAR YOU AREN'T THEY, HOW DO YOU GET ALONG WITH THEM?

Yeah, they live right here in the same town. Tom & Chewy are good friends of ours. I see Tom quite a bit and Chewy & Kirk (our singer) were room-mates til just a couple of weeks ago. They have influenced us a lot!

I HEARD THAT YOU RECENTLY DID A TOUR, WAS IT A SUCCESS? WHERE DID YOU PLAY?

Yeah, we played all over the West, San Fran, Las Vegas etc. ... It was pretty rough, our booking agent really sucked and our van kept breaking down! But everywhere we went people helped us out and let us stay at their houses. We had tons of fun, and drank a lot of alcohol!

ON THE LYRIC SHEET (INSIDE "P.O.E.") THERE IS SOMETHING MENTIONED ABOUT A MARINE WHO ALMOST CUT YOUR HAIR AT A DRIVE-IN. TELL US ABOUT IT

Well, there was this fucked-up marine that was bigger than shit!! He and his buddies were out to flip shit! He had a pair of scissors and he was trying to cut my hair off! But I got away from him because he was drunk and I was too fucking scared! It really pissed me off that this guy who represented the land of the free (HA-HA) not for long "Big Brother" was hassling me because of the way I looked. Just because the army fucked up his head so bad, and he had nothing better to do with his life but to join the army!

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE A PRESIDENT AS CRAZY AS REAGAN IN CHARGE OF YOUR COUNTRY? (stupid question really, cos Thatcher is just as bad.)

There are so many fucked-up things in this world with the way people are acting & thinking that Reagan is just a part of it. People like Castro scare me! Because there are more of him out there and that people can actually follow him is gonna make the Nazis look like saints!

...ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANNA SAY???

Yeah, we have a new address and to please write. We have t-shirts and buttons. Watch for our new LP! And be an individual, don't have a closed mind! There's a lot of good music out there, not only Hardcore. But of course Hardcore is our first love! And thanks to everyone who has helped us out!!

MACE, 1321 - N Suite 221, Everett Mall Way S.E., Everett, WA. 98204, U.S.A.

Recently, Gene Khoury was kind enough to send me a tape featuring an interview that he & Don Laye conducted with METALLICA's "new" bassist on WSDU Radio Armageddon. Yes, that's right, I'm talking about Jason Newstead, the former bassist of FLOTSAM & JETSOM (probably spelt wrong, but who gives a toss) who's had the difficult task of following in the footsteps of the late Cliff Burton. And now it's question time.....

PM: I guess the first thing that's in order is congratulations for you joining METALLICA.

J: Thanks a lot, man.

PM: You must be on "cloud nine" right now.

J: Yeah, that's pretty much what it is, I'm the happiest kid in the world y'know. If anybody says they're happier I'll fuckin' take 'em cuz there's no way, it's like a dream come true.

PM: So, how did they contact you and what went on in the audition process?

J: Erm, well I got references from people like Elektra, Metal Blade, different agencies & stuff like that I'd been in contact with, y'know, through doing the business for FLOTSAM. So Lars called me up one day and said that they were interested and wanted me to come along & give it a shot, so I was pretty much freaked out at that cuz I really hadn't expected it.... cuz I really didn't know what was going on with them - I didn't wanna, like, "reap" on Cliff's death & all that. I was just pretty much shocked about the whole thing, and so when I got the call I just freaked out. He gave me the songs to learn, and I got inside-info from a friend about what their set list was. I had 4 days before I had to fly out for the audition, and I just locked myself in my room, learned everything I could, slept about 6 hours total for those 4 days, and learned like 11 or 12 songs, took them off the list... y'know, it went really good, we hung around, they interviewed me & stuff, and we played some tunes, then we went out & ate for a while, and played some more tunes, and every-

thing just pretty much clicked. Lars and I were getting on really well as far as the rhythm thing goes... So, they had a couple of people in mind, and I got a call back about five days later or something, so I went back and we played for a few hours that day, and then went out drinking at night - and it was like my final test, so we drank for a while, and they ended up in the bathroom together at this little burger joint we were at, came back, and Lars asked me if I wanted the job... When he asked me I just let out a scream at the top of my lungs and people were looking all over. It was just too much, it was one big rush really.

PM: Were there any problems in breaking the news to FLOTSAM, or were they really happy for you?

J: Well, you know, it was mixed emotions - they thought it was a great opportunity & were happy cos I'd earned it or deserved it or whatever, but they were also really bummed because of our project - we'd been working hard on the FLOTSAM project for a lotta years, especially Kelly the drummer - we'd been together for some 4 1/2 years or something trying to get this together. So, it was kind of a drag that way, y'know they were mad at me in that respect, but as soon as I got the confirmation, they all patted me on the back and said "Best of luck, dude"... so now they're all behind me and they're working on a new bass-player and all that, so they'll still be happening. I mean, the record's selling good and the reviews are great, and they got confirmation that the 2nd album's gonna be on the Metal Blade/Capitol thing so... they're definitely happening.

PM: Seeing as you did the bulk of the song-writing, both musically & lyrically - do you think that F & J may have a problem in that area now that you've left?

J: I did about half the music and pretty much all the words, but the last thing that I heard this morning was that Michael Spencer from SENTINEL BEAST was gonna take my spot in FLOTSAM - so that'll be a cool thing, he's a good guy, a good player, he writes music & words also. And Michael Gilbert, the guitar player, he's progressing as a song-writer both lyrically & musically. So I think they'll be just fine, it's just gonna take a bit of time for them to get over this whole thing and, y'know, pull it together. But Metal Blade is really behind them, and I guess they're gonna be doing a picture disc of the

FLOTSAM album to really try to push it.

PM: I noticed that on the inner sleeve of the album you thanked METALLICA as an influence. Seeing as you were influenced by METALLICA, did that make it easier for you to audition?

J: I was very much influenced by METALLICA. I looked up to Cliff from day one. They were always a big influence on our music, they'd always been in my top three bands ever since the "No Life Till Leather" demo. You could tell from FLOTSAM's music that there was definitely some METALLICA influence. I'd always looked up to him (Cliff) so it was very easy for me to just kick into it and do the bass playing. As for the structure and the speed, FLOTSAM had always played really fast so...

PM: You've just toured Japan. How did that go?

J: Great, man. It was the greatest. It was just such a comfortable feel, and the people accepted us so well. We did 3 shows in Tokyo, and we did Nagoya & Osaka... and it was just incredible. Everywhere we went we got mobbed, cameras, kids everywhere giving us gifts all the time... it was just really a totally different feel as far as power, and being comfortable, I dunno how to explain it, it was just really really cool.

PM: How did the kids behave at the concerts? I hear that they have really strict security over there...

J: Yeah, they have strict security. I mean, we played at theatre-type places with theatre seating, and they were always on their feet and everything, banging their heads and fist-banging or whatever... which is really quite different for them - I mean, the promoters told us no-one had ever gotten a response like that EVER. We were the first time that a new, thrash, high energy-type Metal band... y'know, like Priest's been there, Maiden's been there, right, but nothing like the impact of METALLICA, so the promoters were just totally impressed. The kids were just crazy, they'd never experienced





anything like it, and so they were pretty much in shock.

PM: Has it been difficult for you to adjust from playing clubs to larger halls?

J: Um, not really because the guys have made it so comfortable - I'm getting real comfortable on the set; and James, Lars and I have been working together a lot - especially James, y'know, we're getting on really well... he's been helping me with stuff and it's just a really comfortable thing on stage. The majority of pressure that I'm feeling is from the kids. The coolest thing that happened overall so far was before we made noise on the 1st audition, Lars said to me "We're not looking for a Cliff Burton clone, cos that'd be impossible cos there's no way that anybody could do it. We're looking for someone with a fresh new style that's gonna progress and grow with the band."

PM: Will you be joining in the band's song-writing?

J: Yeah, yeah, definitely. We all have our little tape machines and I'm supposed to be working on riffs and anything that I can come up with. When the time comes around to start working on the album.... like the beginning of March we're gonna start doing the writing, and so we're gonna incorporate all the riffs, y'know the different ones that we have together - and the lyric thing I'm probably not gonna do unless James asks me to help him, because he's singing and he does such a killer job with the subject matter anyway. So if he asks me, I'll help him, but other than that I'm just worried about the bass, that's really my main concern.

PM: How have the guys taken the tragedy of Cliff's death?

J: They seem to be doing really well. The first couple of weeks, y'know, I

wasn't around them, I wasn't with 'em until about 3 1/2 weeks after the accident or something, so they pretty much had time to settle. They all went separate ways after the accident, you know, to 3 different places, and they got together before the funeral to decide what was gonna happen with the band... but they seem to be bearing it really well, and when people ask them about it in interviews they're very open about it cuz they want people to hear it from THEM, and they don't want stupid rumours spreading about what happened or how it happened or any kinda extra details... they want it just from them. They're pretty open about it, they don't discuss it a whole lot - they just want the truth to be known.

PM: What sort of goals have you set yourself since joining METALLICA?

J: I just wanna improve as much as possible - I'm practicing more than I ever did, now. And I wanna be recognized as Jason Newstead, not just "the kid that took Cliff's place", and I just wanna create my personality onstage with the band - y'know how everyone has their own personality and each quarter comes together as a super-powerful unit, and I just wanna create my one-fourth as strong as possible and to be recognized as a strong bass-player. I just can't even explain how I feel, it's the greatest thing in the world... I never really expected anything like this to come about. So I'm just gonna uphold everything that people are expecting of me and that the boys are expecting of me too, they've put a lot of faith into me, and I plan on doing everything I can to satisfy them and make 'em content about it.

PM: Do you think that your style of song-writing will mesh well with the rest of the band's?

J: Er, yeah, I think it'll go great. Like we talked I was always very influenced by METALLICA music, and my writing is similar to a lot of their stuff. I think it'll click just fine. To tell you the truth, some of the riffs we've been showing each other at soundchecks, like "hey man, I came up with this, check this out" or whatever, all of us have been doing that with each other, and... the new album's gonna roar!! It's some heavy stuff, man - I mean, way heavy - it's gonna be right up to standard, no problem.

PM: Do the band intend to continue recording in Denmark with Flemming Rasmussen?

J: We're gonna try to do it in the States. We wanna stay at home.

PM: Maybe a different environment will give you a different sound.

J: Er... we wanna stay around here, just for the comfort and communication. I don't think Lars minds being over there too much of course, but the rest of the boys wanna stay home.

PM: It may be a little early to ask this but - **J:** Yeah, as far as any recording, writing, anything... It's hard to say - who knows what's gonna happen? There's no way to tell.

PM: You're doing the "Aardshok" festival in Holland, aren't you?

J: Yeah, we're doing the Aardshok in February.

PM: I guess that's something you've always

wanted to play, right?

J: Yeah, that was one of my goals, yeah.

PM: Apart from Britain, are there any particular countries that you're especially keen to play?

J: I've wanted to play West Germany for a long time. That's coming in a couple of months. That was always one because of the attention that FLOTSAM receives from West Germany, so I always wanted to do that with FLOTSAM. Now that METALLICA's gonna be able to go there, I know that they're widely accepted so that'll be one of my goals also. But just to be able to, er... like Japan was one of my ultimate ones that I would never think I would've been able to achieve until I was like 30 years old or something so that was a biggie for me.

PM: Any chance of some "Iron Curtain" dates??

J: Yeah, and we're still pushing for 'em too. See, y'know, it's such a weird thing, all the laws & rules & money that's involved in that is really a big deal and a difficult thing to even make any kind of money so....

But we are pushing - I mean we wanna go to Poland & play, that was the first idea...

PM: METALLICA seem to have a very good relationship with your label in Europe, Music For Nations. Will you stay with them for the 4th album?

J: I don't know about that, I really don't know about that... That Europe thing - I'm not positive on that, but in Japan the CBS/Sony thing is really happening, and the Elektra thing here is charged.

PM: How does it feel to jump from an independent label to a major one?

J: It was pretty cool, I got to meet all the big people so it was really neat, just made me feel very much at home. It was a reaaal cool thing.



NAPALM DEATH are surely Britain's fastest band. They've been together for quite some time now, altho' they didn't begin playing true Thrash until January 1986 when Mick joined 'em. Until recently, they were a 3-piece but now Jimmy has been added to the line-up, so they currently consist of:-
Nik (lead vocals)
Jus (guitar & vocals)
Jimmy (bass)
Mick (drums)
This interview was done with Mick roughly a month or so ago (but obviously it'll be longer than that by the time you read this) and they were still a three-piece when he wrote the answers. Mick's address is: Mick, 117 Lazy Hill, King's Norton, Birmingham, B38 9NY, England.



YOU'VE JUST FINISHED RECORDING A NEW DEMO WHICH MAY BE RELEASED ON A SPLIT-LP WITH ATAVISTIC. TELL US ABOUT THAT. WHEN DO YOU EXPECT IT TO BE RELEASED?

Mick: Well, the old demo was a little out of date in terms of speed and songs that we have dropped. So me and Jus saved up to go back into a better studio and record the 12 songs, old & new, that we had. The result of the demo was very pleasing and our best effort yet, so we decided to send it off to different small labels with the hope of getting something put down on vinyl. Anyway, a couple of days later Jus had a letter from Shane at Manic Records saying that he wanted to release it as a split-LP with ATAVISTIC. Now we are waiting to hear from him to give us the go-ahead for an LP cover design etc., so I can't really say when it will be released. (N.B. For those of you who haven't heard it - the new NAPALM DEATH demo is quite simply one of the best things ever recorded, as well as being the ultimate in pure speed & noise. I love it!!-Bill)

IT SEEMS AS THOUGH NAPALM DEATH PLAY AT THE MERMAID IN BIRMINGHAM ALMOST EVERY SATURDAY - DON'T YOU EVER FEEL LIKE YOU'RE GETTING IN A RUT BY PERFORMING AT THE SAME VENUE WEEK AFTER WEEK?

Playing at the Mermaid has pissed us off a little, especially when we've played with shitty little Conflict bands, but we don't play at any of them gigs any more, as the crowd just doesn't enjoy us, which is usually all the time with them bands. But the other 80% of gigs we play there are excellent with bands like Amebix, Antisect, Electro Hippies, Extreme Noise, Chaos UK, Sacrilege etc. with good crowds & crowd response.

TALKING OF GIGS, HOW WAS THE TOUR WITH ANTI-CIMEX & AGONI? WAS IT WORTHWHILE?

The tour with Cimex & Agoni was a big let-down for them, as each member of Cimex & Agoni lost about £150 each in costs on the whole tour. Most of the venues played didn't have very good turn-outs except for the Leeds Adam & Eves gig which ripped Cimex & Agoni off in money, we didn't play this one. Also the B'ham gig was another good venue for Cimex & Agoni as they went down well, but it was the worst gig for us as you know Bill. The best gig for us was Gateshead, the crowd enjoyed us including Scruff of HELL-BASTARD. The tour ended up as a big letdown with a large loss of money.

NICKY, AT EVERY GIG YOU DO AT THE MERMAID YOU CAN BE HEARD (& SEEN) SHOUTING VARIOUS THINGS THROUGH YOUR SNARE-DRUM MICROPHONE. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE HARD-OF-HEARING, WHAT

ARE SOME OF THE THINGS YOU SHOUT?

Most gigs we play I will usually grab the snare mic and shout something down it. My favourite sayings are "Horrificed" and "Decomposed", 2 classics from the ultimate - REPULSION. My other sayings are "Doughnut" & "Walldor", and anything else that pleases me, "Mo-Mo" is another favourite.

WHY DON'T YOU SEND A COPY OF THE LP, WHEN IT COMES OUT, TO TOMMY VANCE OF RADIO 1'S "FRIDAY ROCK SHOW"???

As soon as the LP does come out I'm sending it to the hospitals for the old-age pensioners' radio show.

WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ON THE WAY KERRANG "KERRANG" HAS SUDDENLY LATCHED ONTO THRASH/DEATH METAL BANDS SUCH AS SLAYER, KREATOR & VOI-VOD? HOW WOULD YOU REACT IF ONE DAY THEY WANTED TO FEATURE YOU?

Well they had to follow the trend and think of profit again - so they started up "Mega-Metal" which I think is still a shitty magazine; no underground coverage of bands like Death, Massacre, Larm, Insanity, Repulsion etc. so I don't bother buying it. The only good thing is that they're doing a better job than "Metal Forces" which has wimped out altogether - Chrome Molly, Poison, TKO, Accept, wimp, wimp, wimp, what fuckin' next? As for if they asked us to be featured in "Mega-Metal"...well I'll wait for that day, it could be a doss.

IS IT TRUE THAT JUSTIN HASN'T CHANGED THE BATTERY IN HIS DISTORTION PEDAL SINCE JANUARY? WHAT SORT OF BATTERY IS IT?

The story to that is when I joined N.D. in January '86 I bought Jus a new battery for his distortion. When it started to show signs of wimping out, I would heat it up on the fire in my house till it was hot, let it cool down and then replace it. It finally corpsed out on me in June. The battery was an Ever Ready Normal. Check 'em out. (Editor's note: It may interest you to know that heating batteries is in fact very dangerous and can even cause them to explode!)

photo by Fish

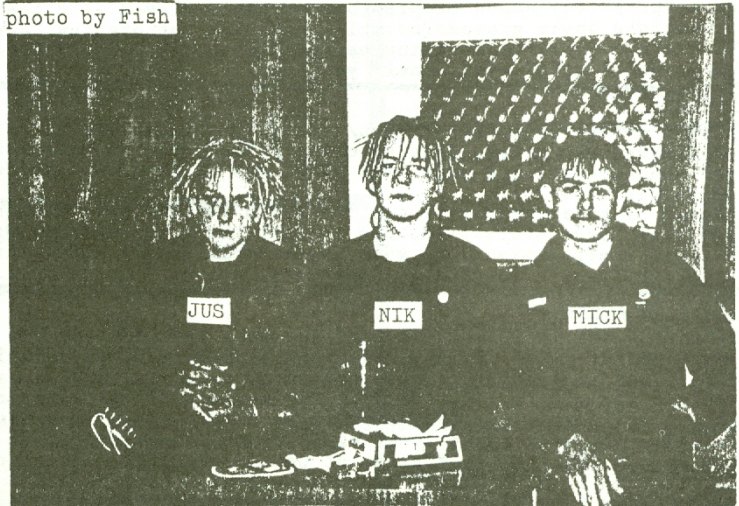


photo by Paul May



YOUR SONG "YOU SUFFER" HAS BEEN SHORTENED FROM 3 SECONDS TO 1 SECOND - CAN IT POSSIBLY GET ANY SHORTER?? AND WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT YOU DOING ANOTHER 1 SECOND JOB UNDER THE RATHER BIZARRE TITLE OF "40 FENCE"???

No I doubt it. But we will probably do another shortie in the future. "40 Peace" is a song that Mitch and Shame from UNSEEN TERROR are doing.

I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT YOU RARELY GET PAID FOR YOUR GIGS AT THE MERMAID SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU ALL LIVE QUITE NEAR THE PLACE AND SO DON'T HAVE MUCH TRANSPORT COSTS. DOESN'T THIS PISS YOU OFF?

We do get paid every now and then, usually £1 each. The other week at ENGLISH DOGS we got £1.20 each (rich bastards!!?!-Bill) Yes, we have been taken for a ride but this will have to stop. We don't ever ask for money unless we have travelled, in that case we only ask for travel costs, and we've missed out on that many a time.

ARE NIK'S HILARIOUS "STAGE RAPS" SPONTANEOUS OR DOES HE PLAN THEM BEFORE EACH GIG...OR IS IT JUST THAT HIS WITTY HUMOUR SHINES THROUGH UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL? (SOMETHING TELLS ME HE ISN'T A STRAIGHT-EDGE!)

Nik only usually shouts his mouth off when he is pissed, which is most of the time, and when he is pissed off which is most of the time. Nik is definitely no straight edge.

IT SEEMS THAT ALL OF YOU (ESPECIALLY MICK) ARE, LIKE MYSELF, VERY MUCH INTO MANY OF THE NEWER U.S. DEATH METAL BANDS. WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITES AND WHICH BAND WOULD YOU GIVE THE "TOTAL O.T.T. DEATH" VOCAL AWARD TO?

We all like Celtic Frost, Siege and Hellbastard. Jus likes more Metal than Nik (who doesn't like much Metal). Jus likes VoiVod, Hellhammer, Death, DRI, Sacrilege, Trouble, Master. As you said, I'm the one that listens to most Metal/Hardcore stuff like (pay

THANKS FOR ANSWERING MY QUESTIONS. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SAY?

Cheers for the interview, I enjoyed doing it. A big thanx to Jim for the extra-big support (keep grinding), a big thanx to Shane, Mort & Deamo for keeping us going. Thanx to Neil for artwork, Dave, Ruben & Eric of HEAD OF DAVID for helping produce us in the studio and gig support. Thanx to everyone that comes to our gigs. Thanx to Sanjiv, Simon & the rest of ELECTRO-HIPPIES, all from Liverpool, hello Mitch, hello Chris. Hello Jack of Stockport, Phil EXTREME NOISE aarrrrggghh, Adan, thanx to Andy Larsen (Germany - for doing stickers), thanx to the SODOM manager for the interest in us and special thanx to SIEGE (R.I.P.) for being the biz and keep thrashing & grinding REPULSION, you rule. Sorry if I've forgotten anybody.

Also, anybody who can get us gigs please get in touch. Anybody wanting info, flyers, live tapes, stickers, even t-shirts soon - please get in touch. Thanx Bill. Keep grinding & thrashing.

Mick can be contacted at:- 117 Lazy Hill, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 9NY, ENGLAND. (Tel: 021-458-6534)

I've recently heard that the NAPALM DEATH/ATAVISTIC split-LP is not coming out on Manic Ears Records, although N.D. still intend to release their new demo as an EP. If I hear any more about this then you'll find the relevant info elsewhere in this zine.

"INSTINCT OF SURVIVAL":-

Advertise the product you make/ Never give but always take/ Kill and lie for security/ Your shit on supermarket shelves to see. Instinct Of Survival/ Instinct Of Survival. Advertise the product you make/ Never give and always take/ Cling-filmed flesh and genocide/ A contented life while millions die. Instinct Of Survival/ Instinct Of Survival. The multi-national corporation makes its profits from the starving nations/ Indigenous peoples become their slaves from their births into their graves/ The multi-national corporation takes its profits from the starving nations/ Another product for you to buy - you'll keep paying until you die...

"CONTROL":-

There's a fascist inside of you/ Controlling your life and what you do/ Fascist control, Fascist control/ There's a fascist inside your head/ Controlling your life until you're dead/ Fascist control, Fascist control... A scene of human desparation... The earth is their possession... Enforcing human starvation... To protect their position... Death by their manipulation... So much human exploitation... Creating human isolation... Too much unseen destruction.

"SIEGE OF POWER":-

Siege of power in a polluted land/ Too many problems for you to understand/ Siege of power inside your mind/ Outward restrictions to keep you in line/ Siege of power in a polluted land/ Too many problems for you to understand/ You're a slave of their power but you don't know why/ You're going to suffer - you're going to die/ Siege of power inside your mind/ Outward restrictions to keep you in line/ You're a slave of power - you never question why/ You were made to suffer - you were born to die/ Siege Of Power - they made you a tool/ While others were ruling - you were being ruled...

photo by Paul May



Vinyl Bullshit!?



NEGAZIONE



INDIGESTI - "Osservati Dall'Inganno" LP (T.V.O.R.)

This is a pretty neat slab of vinyl, 12 tracks of "we wanna be the BAD BRAINS" and y'know summat, they don't make a half bad stab at it, check out "Static Silence" - WOW! Real precise, clean-cut, power Punk Rock here. Y'know, Italy ain't yet been bitten by the H.M. bug... YET. Damn me if this ain't the best Italian export since the Pope! (what's so good about the Pope???-Bill) Of course there is a strong American influence (right down to the bandanas - huh, more like bananas!), but I'm glad to inform you that INDIGESTI piss over most of their U.S. mentors, so get in touch with Stefano, Casella Postale 804, Como 5, 22100 Como, Italy. (GOTHKILLER)

SCAPEGOATS - "Kopfloer" EP (Dissonance)

Not bad for a German outfit, sounding like a sober INFERNO playing "Hear Nothing..." it's quite enjoyable on the sly. "Gestapo-Staat" is sheer "Protest And Survive", but "Wein Die Bombe Fallt" (When The Bomb Drops???) is my fave, check out that chorus! Such a pity there isn't a translation of the lyrics. Write for info c/o Olav, Julius-Brecht Str. 25, 2500 Kiel 14, West Germany. (GOTHKILLER)

BLACKJACK - "5 Pieces O'Eight" mini-LP

Swashbuckling Pirate Metal from Australia, or so these uneasy wimp-rockers would have you believe. OK, I admit it's all that stuff is an original image but that doesn't take away the fact that this band is very, very boring. For example, the first two songs, "Highway Man's Inn" & (are you ready for this??) "Hot Rocket" (HA!), are more than enough to put you off the rest of the record due to their total lack of power, heaviness & anything remotely interesting. I suppose BLACKJACK might sound a little more palatable with a good producer & a good studio, but that's only a "might" because this lot need a serious re-think as far as riffs and song structures are concerned, not to mention the instrumentation (that means crap) vocals and disgustingly tame guitar & drum sound. YUK. (BILL)

PROTES BENGTT - "In Bengt We Trust" EP (ROJ)

A 32-track 33 1/2 r.p.m. vinyl slab that gets tedious by the 21st song, however the music/noise is sheer bliss, check out some of their fuckin' choruses - WOW!! It's a lot down by piss-weak vocals though, ugh! Anyhow, forget LARM, get into PROTES BENGTT! And play "name that toon". (P.B., c/o Per, Hallsingardavagn 13 A, 791 43 Falun, Sweden). (GOTHKILLER)

CLASS WAR - "Better Dead Than Wed" EP (Mortahate)

A joke, a real silly joke and a waste of plastic. Should stick to tabloids, this lot. (GOTHKILLER)

SIREN - "No Place Like Home" (Flametrader)

Having already been acquainted with SIREN via their "Iron Coffins" demo tape that came out a year or two ago, I wasn't expecting to enjoy this much... and, to be perfectly honest with you, my initial feelings turned out to be 100% correct. This album does absolutely nothing at all for me.

SIREN are a very pretentious band who claim that this LP is "a new dimension in Metal". Well, for a start SIREN aren't what I would call Metal and although they are reasonably original they're about as inspiring as a decomposing rabbit turd. I'm sorry but I really can't find anything complimentary to say about SIREN, except perhaps that the production suits them - it's clean & professional yet at the same time flat, boring & wimpy.

In case you're wondering (but I'm sure you aren't), the album title comes from a line of the third song "Over The Rainbow" which happens to have some cringe-inducing lyrics about the old film of the same name, and it's so downright SHIT that it'd have even Judy Garland turning in her grave. (BILL)

POISON IDEA - "Kings Of Punk" LP (Pusmort)

If "Pick Your King" was the sponge and "Record Collectors" the cream then "Kings Of Punk" is almost definitely the icing (and cherry, flavoured at that). Although not as aggressive as ACQUASE, it still has much more to offer than your average release - by that I mean a good song structure and good production with a really strong guitar sound courtesy of Mr T.Dig. Also, this LP is a 100% Hardcore release, no Metallic overtones whatsoever, and it's like a breath of fresh air. My only gripe is the lack of lyric/info/glossary sheets, and check out the pics on the back, "Kings Of Punk" - how satirical!! Love it, especially "lifestyles". (GOTHKILLER)

FORTUNER - "2 Sides Of The Metal" (Metalvoice)

SWEET CHEATER - "Immortal Instant" (Flametrader)

2 rather unwelcome arrivals in the PHOENIX review pile. Let's start with FORTUNER, the more nauseating of the 2 bands. This lot certainly have bored down to a fine art - they're bland with a capital 'B', maybe even by Hard Rock standards! Plenty of "backstreet love & hard drinking"-type lyrics, dig this subtitle(?) innuendo for a classic example: - "I'm looking for/I need some more/You know what I mean". And by the way, FORTUNER don't display either side of the Metal that is mentioned in their LP title - they're about as heavy as a feather.

SWEET CHEATER - now there's a name that conjures up images of high-speed, all-out Powerthrash.... right??? Well, er, no, not really. However, the opening riffing surprised me by being more than halfway decent, but it wasn't long before my ears were assaulted by all kinds of commercial dross. Sadly, there were no lyrics included with this one, which is a shame as I was looking forward to a really good laugh. Never mind, the titles give you a good idea of the lyrical content - e.g. the opening track, "Ratt Trap"... say no more! (BILL)

BROKEN BONES - "Never Say Die" EP (Fallout)

Not a load of old horse-shit, they'd have done a lot better covering the SABBATH classic of the same name. Nobby Nohhead's singing(?) seems to have regressed to 33 r.p.m. whilst the "12" plays at 45 r.p.m.!!! Sigh... what with this, their reputation as assholes, and their poxy attempts at interviews, it hardly merits the review space... if it wasn't for Bones! (GOTHKILLER)

Here we go again with yet another kind donation from Armin Nolzen of "Battlefield" zine in Bochum, Germany. This time it's an interview with Marco, the bassist with Italian Hardcore Thrashers NEGAZIONE. To tell you the truth I don't really know much about NEGAZIONE, tho' they do have a couple of EP's out, not forgetting their split-LP with DECLINO, called "Mucchio Selvaggio". Apparently they have a full LP which is out right now and is supposed to be blitzing Thrash with Metallic tinges... For more info contact: - Marco Mathieu, Via Renier 25/4, 10141 Torino, Italy.

PM: What are some of the bands that influence you as musicians?
M: Well, I think in general we don't like being called musicians very much -
PM: OK...

M: It's just to make everything clear 'cause musicians generally have the typical Rock'n'Roll ideas... I mean, we're just people who want to express something to communicate through the music 'cause that's the only way we know. So, we listen to a lot of different kinds of music - firstly, Hardcore of course, and especially Hardcore from the U.S., and we also listen to other kinds of music like Rap, Funk and, well, I listen to a lot of Metal. About Metal - I like the music but I really hate the attitude & lyrics. It's really the opposite of what Punk, Hardcore or whatever you want to call it is about, 'cause with Punk/H.C. the bands started to understand that they can do what they want by themselves, they don't need big labels, they don't need bigger gigs that just provide money... and what I'm afraid of is that a lot of people getting into the Hardcore scene now are getting perhaps too much influenced by Metal, y'know. For example, I think it's really negative when incredibly good Hardcore bands like C.O.C. and D.R.I. sign contracts with big labels. But I think that the U.S. is really different from Europe, I hope that something like that won't happen here 'cause that would be, I think, one of the first points of the beginning of the end of everything.

PM: Wouldn't you agree that some H.C. Metal bands now write better lyrics, for example METALLICA?
M: I think it's not so difficult to write good lyrics, what's important is the way you say it and your approach with the people. I also think that METALLICA's new lyrics are better than their old ones, but I don't see METALLICA's lyrics as being important 'cause I don't think they give a shit about that, y'know? That's what I think, perhaps I'm wrong, but that's what I feel about that. I mean, of course it's a better than all this satanic stuff and all that shit, but it doesn't change so much in my life to know that METALLICA write good lyrics.

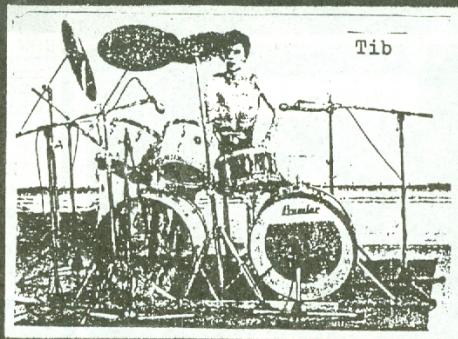
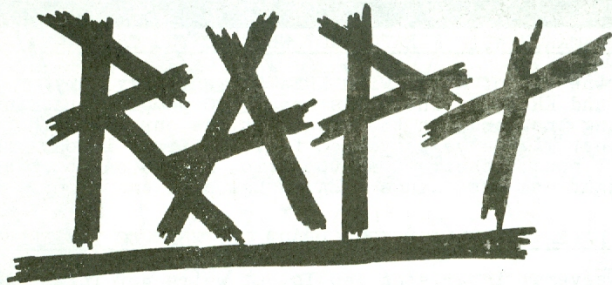
PM: Which Metal bands do you enjoy listening to?
M: I like Metal bands like SLAYER, METALLICA, MECADETH, EXODUS, CELTIC FROST from Switzerland. CELTIC FROST - we met them 'cause we played in Zurich and they came to our gig. They were really nice people. And then I listen to a lot of Hardcore stuff like MINOR THREAT, GOVERNMENT ISSUE, DIE KREUZEN, C.O.C., and B.G.K. is one of the best bands I've ever seen. But still, about Metal - I think, if it's possible in the future, I would like to get something together with those bands, y'know? I think it's possible to do something with them, I wouldn't sign for a big label or shit like that, but I think it's possible for some Metal bands to co-operate with Punk bands. We were talking with one guy in Zurich about the possibility of doing a NEGAZIONE/CELTIC FROST concert. It's just a possibility but I really would like to do it - I mean, I like Metal people, it's just that in general I don't like the Metal ideas that are typically in people's heads, y'know.



PM: How are things in Italy these days?
M: I think that at the moment it's at its worst period since the scene started in Italy. About 2 or 3 years ago we had so many places for gigs... and then the police started to evict a lot of places and people began to get tired 'cause there's a change, y'know, there aren't so many new people getting into the scene and so, at the moment, it's really hard 'cause there are few gigs and the people are really tired of this depressing situation.

PM: There are some fascist bands in Italy, aren't there?
M: Fascist bands... what fascist bands?

PM: Bands like SCHIZO.
M: SCHIZO? I don't know them. I've heard the name but I don't know... do you mean if they're bad or good? SHOTGUN SOLUTION - I know their music, the record, I think they split up a long time ago and I never knew anything about what they were doing. I've heard a lot of rumours about them, like they're bad people... but I can't say anything 'cause I don't know them.
PM: What are RAW POWER up to?
M: Yeah, we just played with them about one month ago and then they did a big show in Milano with C.C.M.... and now I think they're gonna tour the U.S.



Here's an interview with French thrashers RAPT, who have an EP out that some of you may have heard - I'm reliably told that it's "total fuckin' noise", and that's probably true if their mega-wild demos are anything to go by.

This article is admittedly a little (??) on the old side (just like everything else in this rag!) but the info is still of use I reckon, and it's not as if RAPT are in every zine around. Thanks go to Richard from Bradford for donating this, and to Olivier for answering the questions.

TELL US ABOUT RAPT BRIEFLY.

RAPT started in January '85. The original line-up was J.F.-bass, Dom-guitar, Tib-drums, Olivier-screams, then we changed the guitar-player Dom for Phil. After another change we became: J.F.-guitar, Olivier-bass & screams, Tib-drums. Now we've changed again to another guitarist because J.F. is doing another band. Mike has taken over on guitar. None of us is working except sometimes during free time. Any money we get goes towards equipment, which we have lots of problems with. We are all studying: Mike is 17, so is Tib, and Olivier is 20. Mike & Tib are into anarcho-pacifist ideas, Olivier is more into pacification and some chaotic solutions.

HOW DID FRANCE REACT TO THE "RAINBOW WARRIOR" BOMBING? IS "GREENPEACE" DIRECT ENOUGH?

"Rainbow Warrior" was a total terrorist action from the French army. Fascism is still alive in France! About Greenpeace, I think that they can't be more direct without using violence!

WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS TOWARDS THE FRENCH NATIONAL FRONT? DO MANY PUNKS SIDE WITH THEM?

National Front is only SHIT. We hope they get killed by some direct action from...? We hate all bastards like the shitheads from the NF. Their following is more stupid. The stupidity of the following isn't hard to prove, half of the skinhead movement is into the NF, that proves what complete shit it is!!! Fuck off to all NF & skins. We'll kill you before you kill us.

ARE ANY OF YOU VEGETARIANS? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT MEAT/HUNTING/VIVISECTION?

No. None of us are vegetarian. Vivisection isn't a problem that touches us enough. I think that human problems are too important to care about animals. I know what's going on but have more to do for humans.

EXPLAIN SOME OF YOUR LYRICS TO US.

"Anti-Skins" is a song against French skinhead bastards who are hitting and polluting us. Their "minds" are rotten with NF ideas. They only care about themselves and beer. Fuck off again! "Invasion" is about the occupation of lands and oppression of the population during war-time. "Stupides Terroristes" is about the stupidity of the terrorists who kill innocent people

in airplanes, airports, big stores, in the streets.. If they want something then they should let innocent children live instead of stupidly executing some orders like in the army! The Belgian CCC is OK, as they never kill people, only destroy materials.

IN YOUR SONGS "AFRIQUE DU SUD" & "APARTHEID" YOU DENOUNCE THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME. WHAT, IN YOUR OPINION, CAN BE DONE TO STOP APARTHEID?

The South African regime is one of the worst in the world. I think the only way the black people can gain power is through violence. It will never be possible to talk with Pretoria, they are only fascist pigs who need money, money, money...

DO YOU THINK THAT MORE HUMOUR SHOULD BE PUT INTO PUNK? IS PUNK ANY SORT OF "SOCIAL THREAT"?

Yes, Punk shouldn't be so serious, but we aren't punks or skins, we are just people who have something to complain about. All the extremism of our music is due to the extremism of this fucking world. We decided to play crude H.C. to show the cruelty of the world! Punk is not a social threat, for me when I see mohawks in the street I see smiles on people's faces.

ARE THERE ANY PEACE CAMPS AT FRENCH NUCLEAR BASES? WHAT'S THE ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT LIKE IN FRANCE?

No there aren't. The anti-war/nuclear movement does not exist in France. There are only people like us, who individually think and denounce war. That's all.

...ANYTHING MORE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

Yes, I would like to say that it's great that in the UK some bands are also getting into Thrash, like HERESY, SACRASM, N.B.C., STUPIDS etc. The sound of G.B.H. & DISCHARGE was getting a little too old! New bands spread the scene with more energy. Thanks to any support of RAPT in the UK. We now have a 7" out on WRETCHED's Italian label Chaos Produzioni and it is available from this address: Mussi Gianmario, Via Lodovico il Moro 179, 20142 Milano, Italy.

The RAPT contact address is:-

Dignac Olivier
110 Rue de la Marne
27200 Vernon
FRANCE.

(Don't forget the all-important IRC!)

Thrash Or Be Mashed

Let's end with a final comment by Olivier:-
"We are trying to move our music in a way that is even faster but with less distortion, so that it will be better to listen to. Some people say that it's too aggressive, so we try to be a little better! With Mike on the guitar it will be better. We already have some new songs that crush brains!"



more satanic silliness with

POISON

Germany, they're from Switzerland - MESSIAH. I very much hope that we'll do a gig with them this year, as soon as they have a steady line-up. Y'know, it's really crazy, fuckin' MESSIAAAARRGGGHHHHH!! (At this point in the interview it becomes blatantly obvious that Angel Of Death is answering almost all the questions on his own, while the rest of the band content themselves with making lots of silly noises. Wow, I'm so impressed!)

PM: How many copies of the demo have you sold so far?

POISON/A.O.D.: Er, I think there must be about 200 original copies around, and I think quite a few tape-traders have taped those tapes...

PM: What about your 1st demo, "Sons Of Evil"?

POISON: I think it was 80-100 (more demented laughter etc.)

PM: There are a lot of bands around called POISON. Have you ever thought of changing your name?

POISON: Well, I've thought of that quite a few times but, y'know, I like the name POISON very much and I think all of those other bands don't sound like us in the least. They're all wimpshit. The American POISON (-he's talking about the Thrash band from Chicago) is more speed/Punk, and there's a poser band (-from L.A.) called POISON...

PM: What made you choose the name POISON anyway?

POISON: We picked it because it's short, it's easy to remember, most people know what it means, and er... (Everyone begins to do an impression of CELTIC FROST's "Danse Macabre" - dunno why.) ...it just sounds really powerful y'know.

-ested in joining us, he could play guitar well but his hair was too short (how open-minded of you! -Bill)

PM: Why do you have such idiotic "stage names"????
POISON: We did that because our real names are even more spastic!! (This leads to the whole band doing spastic impersonations....funny!)

PM: What do you think about Satanism in Metal?

POISON: Erm, if somebody really has an interest in it and is really informed about it, then it's a very interesting subject to write songs about. It's a bit stupid to do that all the time y'know, but I think all in all it's not too bad. But most of those bands that say they write about Satanism, like ONSUCK (could he possibly mean ONSLAUGHT????) or things like that, they really have no idea of what Satanism is about. I think those lyrics are very stupid.

PM: Do YOU know what Satanism is all about??

POISON: As far as our lyrics concern Satanism, we know what we are writing about. We've read some Crowley....and we've been reading the Bible every day and hey, you suck!



PM: What do you think of Punk Metal??

POISON: You mean Metal/Punk crossover bands? I've not heard many bands that do real good Metal/Punk crossover, S.O.D. is of course fucking great but really I'm not very much into things like Corrosion Of Conformity...I think it's boring.

PM: What do you think of American fanzines?

POISON: They have lots of fanzines but I think the only advantage they really have is that they have lots of information because all the great bands live there. But I think



SEPULTURA
c/o Max Possessed
Rua Dorcas Do Indaia
267 Santa Teresa, Belo Horizonte
Minas Gerais CEP 31010-000
BRAZIL

SEPULTURAAAAARRRRGGGHHHH!!! Welcome to the incredible new (well, sort of new) phenomenon known as Brazilian Death Metal, which proves beyond doubt that there is a lot more to Brazil than coffee and those nuts you get in chocolate bars. At the forefront of this lethal Death-noise concoction is SEPULTURA, who first appeared via a demo that eventually hit vinyl as a split-EP with fellow coffee-makers Overdose. This little corpse grinder was entitled "Bestial Devastation" (so what if they can't spell?) and maims totally. It begins with the hilarious intro "The Curse", complete with bells, wind and a husky satanic voice, then you're garrotted to death by the exceedingly violent title track. Pure bliss! The second track, "Antichrist", is the fastest song on the tape, while the other 2 cuts ("Necromancer" & "Warriors Of Death") are more Kreator-ish, but just as killer!

Even more mindblowing is the SEPULTURA album which isn't out yet but I was fortunate to get hold of an advance tape of it courtesy of Gene Khoury. There are 8 tracks, all fast with manic drumming by Igor Skullcrusher (something tells me that isn't his real name) and overall sound that isn't too far adrift from the likes of Kreator & Death. None of the songs are weak in any way, but if I was to select the high-spots then I'd probably go for "Crucifixion" and the rather epic "Funeral Rites" as 2 songs on the LP where everything gels to near-perfection. You'll no doubt be pleased to hear that the guitar leads show a fine line in tremolo torture, and as for Max Possessed's vocals....well, put it this way, I played the opening track "Morbid Visions" to a fan of Bon Jovi (pardon me for swearing) and he thought it was called "Fucking Chickens"!!! C'mon, I know these guys are into "Bestial Devastation" but that would be ridiculous!!!! (Bill)

THE DISCOWIMP
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PM: Do you have any new, unreleased songs??

POISON: Yeah, we have something which I think would be placed very high in the charts, y'know, it sounds just like Motley Crue and all that shit...No, no, seriously, we have 2 unreleased tracks, one is called "Sphinx" and the other is called "Slaves Of The Crucifix". Both are very long, this interview sucks, sucks, SUCKS!! (Even good old A.O.D. seems to have flipped his lid.)

PM: Have there been any attempts to get a 2nd guitarist?

POISON: Oh, yeah we thought about that but....actually, there was a guy who was inter-

there are many fanzines that have really bad layouts and...they have the right feeling but they could do it a little more professionally.

OK, that's all. There was more to it than that but I think you've got the gist of it by now. If I get hold of any recent POISON tapes then I'll review 'em next issue, but until then you can contact: ULI HILDENBRAND, BIBERACHERSTRASSE 19, 74100 REUTLINGEN, W.GERMANY. And so ends another wacky, disorganised P.M. interview - THANK "D.F." & co.!! Or should that be "Bestial Gratitudes From The Crypt"???

BLACK WYTCH THRASH METAL

BLACK WYTCH - "Tempting The Blade" demo

Connecticut's best Thrash band? Could be, this tape really shreds! It is very well-recorded & very well-produced, and the band's material is some first class Thrash. BLACK WYTCH are a 3-piece band made up of Rob D'Antonio (guitar), John Witeman (bass) and Ron Vanacore (drums & vocals). Yes, they are definitely one of the few bands that can pull off having a drummer/vocalist, and believe me, they do it well both live and in the studio.

The best songs on the tape are "Oblivion" & "Tempting The Blade", but the rest of the tape holds its own without a doubt. This is definitely some of the best new Speed/Thrash Metal that I have heard in a long time. I urge all thrashers to check it out. For info on getting the tape, write to: BLACK WYTCH, c/o Mike Z, 145 Cherry Ann Street, Hamden, Connecticut 06154, U.S.A.

(Scott Givens)