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

The only decent shit we've had the privilege of witnessing lately (speaking in terms of years) has been BLAIREX 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 Vizos the music wasn't all that terrible, I just tend to find amusement in slanging off bands with gay singers). OVERKILL kicked off the real proceedings with "Raise The Dead" before ripping through all their classics - "Botted 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 76 beers) it was up to ANTHRAX to deliver the goods. Opening with "A.I.R" they killed thru such masterpieces as "Lone Justice", "Madhouse", "After Shock" etc., as well as doing some of their older tunes like "Beatcrusher". 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 threatening 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"?? patchen) 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 organization sucked, but the bands were shredding!!!!!!

(Algo Pater)

MI: How's the tour been so far?
Scot: 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.
MI: Is there any particular difference between U.S. crowds and European ones?
Scot: 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. MI: Tonight there were security guards pushing the fans back, I thought that sucked......
Scot: Well, some clubs just don't allow stage-diving. I'm not just a club policy.
MI: I don't think they've had a Metal gig in this place before.
Scot: Yeah, I think this is the first one - that's what we were told. It went pretty well considering, I think.
MI: How do you see the future with S.O.D.? Scot: There is no future, S.O.D. broke up back in December.
MI: No second album?
Scot: No.
MI: Why did you break up?
Scot: It was never really together, you know what I mean?
MI: But there were plans of releasing a 2nd LP?
Scot: 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? I think - for confirmation by Scott himself)
MI: How do you see the future with S.O.D.?
MI: Did you expect such a success?
Scot: Of course we did. I mean, why would we do something if we thought it was shit?
MI: Back onto ANTHRAX, I heard about some trouble you had on the Black Sabbath/W.A.S.P. tour......
Scot: What do you mean by trouble?
MI: Well, wasn't it difficult to play for Black Sabbath fans?
Scot: 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.
MI: It's pretty obvious that you're all into Hardcore - how did you get into it?
Scot: I've just always listened to it since the beginning, since the Sex Pistols. It's not like it's a "new thing".
MI: What are your favourite bands?
Scot: AC/DC, Black Sabbath, Suicidal Tendencies, I dunno, I listen to anything. I really don't listen to any certain thing.

Noise' sufferers often believe they are having nervous breakdowns

Here is an interview with Scott Ian of ANTHRAX which was done by Algo 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 Allen (who's reknowned 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 talk any sense about ANTHRAX's METALLICA UK gig, although I'm told that ANTHRAX understandably stole the show. ON WITH THE INTERVIEW...
EM: I seem to recall a certain S.O.B. 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.
EM: 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 man 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 to 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.
EM: What's your opinion on the current Death Metal "fad"?
SCOTT: There's only one good band - CELTIC FROST.
EM: 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.
EM: 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.
EM: 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.
EM: 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.

EM: Er, are there any questions that you've always wanted to answer?? (laughter)
SCOTT: (pause) European crowds are very good.
EM: 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, letta 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 CHUG's, Vinny Bolzema from AGNOSTIC FRONT made that word up years ago.
EM: I haven't got any more questions!
SCOTT: How did you get that SUICIDAL shirt?
EM: 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.
EM: 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.
EM: 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.

a very old pic of ANTHRAX with their first vocalist, Neil Turbin
CELTIC FROST / VOIVOD / BLACK WITCH -
"Sneakers", Branford, Connecticut 26th June '86

First up was BLACK WITCH who were quite local. 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 "ROOOOOAAAARR!!!". 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 Magtherion" and even threw in a few songs from "Horrid 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)
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 LF, "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 Eron DeLeon
Made possible by Terri Miller

CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER discography:
Bill Crooks - vocals (19 yrs old)
Lee Evans - guitar (19 yrs old)
Rob Nicholson - bass (19 yrs old)
Scott Peterson - drums (19 yrs old)

A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE WONDERING WHAT REALLY HAPPENED AT THE BARNES LODGE IN OAKLEY 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 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 GETTING UP DIGG?
Well, the company that we are on, Death Records, they said that they would 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 should 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 Lee and Scott. We had another guitarist back then named Adam. I went over to see a MINER 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 Bob 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.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 YENNY, you know, the typical stuff. But when 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 SEPARATES YOU FROM OTHER HARDCORE BANDS?
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... "Necesity 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 5 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 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 much 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 Torment". 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 got 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 LONG, "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 jerk. We got rid of him. I hope this one can do some...
CYPHER CLEANSHEV

NO, I'VE NEVER GONE TO A DISCOTHEQUE, BECAUSE I HATE THE DANCING. I'M NOT ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO THINK IT'S FUN. I PREFER TO LISTEN TO MUSIC AT HOME, WHERE I CAN CONTROL THE VOLUME AND THE TYPE OF MUSIC. I LOVE ROCK AND ROLL AND PUNK ROCK, BUT I DON'T LIKE DISCO. IT'S TOO MUCH OF A COMMERCIALLY DRIVEN GENRE, AND IT'S NOT REALLY ABOUT THE MUSIC ITSELF. IT'S ALL ABOUT THE DANCING AND THE LIGHTS, WHICH ISN'T MY THING. I'M MORE INTO THE MUSIC, NOT THE LIGHTS AND DANCING.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR A NEW ALBUM? I'M THINKING ABOUT DOING A COVER VERSION OF A CLASSIC PUNK ROCK SONG. WHAT ABOUT THAT?
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. Yes, without further ado, we shall plunge ahead with the DESEXULT interview. These are the very same chorus (formerly known as Sambain) whose demo got such a bad review from me in the last issue of PHOENIX MICRO, 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 eyelashes 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 ourselves Sambain, right. There was several bands using this name, a German, a Swedish, the famous American Sambain 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. So we started searching and found the meaning Death Extol, which should mean something like Triumph Of Death. The word death is probably the most worn out name in this business, as 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 in 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 to release it for the public. The promotional campaign is also our biggest ever, we have sent more than 400 free demos out.

About the response, well, most of them have heard it and think it's much better than our first. After this release, Monte Connor has gone so far as to call us the best unsigned European band. Naas-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 & SATANIC. DON'T YOU THINK THAT THIS IS UNORIGINAL AND HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED WRITING SONGS ON OTHER, LESS FREQUENTLY 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 our 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 let's only think of the band which dealt with the satanic/occult. By the way, I like 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 good and a very good Thrash Metal band in the ARTILLERY (not a typical Thrash band) vein.

Then there's a band from the city called Odenas. This band is a 5-piece and they play a very heavy and doom style. A mix of Trouble, Black Sabbath and Mercyful Fate. They're not too original, but they've got a professional sound, though their singer isn't too good. They're called PHYSIOLOGY.

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

Henk: No comment!!

continued on the next page
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 well for both of 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 time with KREATOR 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're several interesting labels, but we're not interested in those labels. It's labels like King Klassic, N.H.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
Zaben Slag Sorcerous..................guitar
Tues..............................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, Salve Alle 49, 8240 Risskov, Denmark.

The demo costs 2.50 dollars or the same value in your own currency (the price is not 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).

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 an improvement and superior to the first, and thankfully ASSASSIN again had the good taste to put the studio-recorded and therefore superior to the first, and thankfully ASSASSIN again had the good taste to put the first tape together. The new tape is in present in the form of "Forbidden Reality" and "Nemesis". Altho the vocals are still somewhat weak in places, the new demo of Thrash Metal won't fail to rip you face off.

£2/6/6 dollars is the price of their new demo, while the first is available for £1/2/6 dollars... so let's see you all opening your piggy banks - you know, makes sense!! ASSASSIN, c/o Robert Gonnella, Erwin-von-Hobein-Str., 4000 Dusseldorf 20, West Germany.

Ah, DOOMWATCH... now there's a name! A couple of years ago a Metal band playing under such a moniker would come across as fairly typical and unoriginal... but now, well, let's just say that any Power Metal outfit with a name referring to death, violence or satanism is quite a novelty! The same sort of theory that does not rely on the 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 "ever been very trendy". This well-recorded demo seems impressive in all sense, and DOOMWATCH could easily devastate all with the aid of a good studio. Send 4 dollars to: DOOMWATCH, P.O. Box 1465, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, U.S.A.

Although they'll never equal the likes of DEATH, INSANITY or REPULSION, DOOMWATCH are a band with enormous potential.

Those Swedish 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 Discharge & Rastyle influences on the "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 36/4 to: SYLHE, c/o Marco & Roni, C/Cana, 45 Sanaces (Gerona), Spain.

DesExult What can I say? This band have improved immensely since their first demo which was released under the name SAMEH. Their overall sound has remained essentially the same, but what they have done is to take all the best elements of Swiss bands and add their own brand of doom 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)
"What's this? A DISCHARGE interview? But they fuckin' wormed 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 surely my, or anyone's, narrow-mindedness that they were actually reading this), and let me tell you right now that I do not subscribe to that point of view. Surely the idiots that showed up DISCHARGE with abuse on their recent tour can recall that DISCHARGE stopped playing 3 years before this, 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 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, they'd be dishonest and merely cashing in on the fact that most DISCHARGE listeners want to hear the old style? Personality wise, I don't like the "Grave New World" IF (especially Calvin's vocals - ugh!) and I can't say I'm taking 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 heaved 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 & GUITAR PLAYER?

Firstly, Cal didn't just leave DISCHARGE, 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 new songs and as we set up, 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 same 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 done all the coming, doing it for the fame, etc., and that says it all. Calvin told us that he felt un-motivated in the Punk/Metal direction any more and that's fine, but we still are and so we will carry on.

Now, Calvin will be hard to replace, whoever we have will have his name to live up to, but we all 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 WELL AND TRULY DEAD, WITH CAL'S DEPARTURE BEING THE FINAL NAIL IN THE COFFIN. HOW ARE YOU GOING TO CONVINCE THEM THAT DISCHARGE ARE STILL A FORCE TO BE RECONSIDERED?

I'm sure that a lot of people consider DISCHARGE dead, and we nearly have 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 James, Ryan, Rob, who wrote the songs that everyone likes, members like Garry, Ted, Bambu who put the beats together. All of these people created the Thrash which Calvin Tapped onto 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.I.M., C.N.D. & SO ON, WHAT WAS THE MOTIVATION BEHIND THIS DECISION AS DISCHARGE WERE BEFOREHAND WELL-KNOWN FOR THEIR ALCOHOLIC AND HIGH GIG FESTIVAL HOW DO 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 consi-
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利it was 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 N.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 U.S. the audiences were not as harsh as the English, but the reaction was unanimous, they enjoyed it, or could stand the new music, but not the change in vocal style – they all wanted to hear the old stuff.

Unfortunately, Calv wouldn’t do any old stuff or lower his vocals so we were doing a sort of 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 asociated to enjoy being hated, wouldn’t we?

**What about lyric-wise, will the band’s attitude remain the same and not change?**

Will the lyrics of the older songs being changed now that Calv’s departed (as I was alarmed that the others have changed their 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 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 “Mean Nothing” to the lyrically superior personal touch of “Graze 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 lyrics. 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 which 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/Punk 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't stop this discharge?**

I won't subscribe.

**Kept in line with riff box, and threshers hunted up behind closed doors.**

I won't subscribe to any system where bands that tighten around no joy.

**As some of the older songs are being jacked up in inclusion in the set list, have 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 latest of Gary and Cal up to?**

Yes, we do keep in touch with ex-members as we are all still friends. Steve goes to most BROKEN BONE shows. We all go and see any 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 Calv 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.
Oh no! Not More of Them Goddamn Demo Reviews?! YUK!

Nuclear Death

If you die...

The band name... Execution Of Mankind. 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 Crucifix, Enfield, Crucifix & Chaos UK. They were a 4-piece in those days and were known as AGONY (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 Ankh and Motley & 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 85, they came over to the UK with Anti-Comix for a 6-date tour that went well over all. 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 (alas) no more similar 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, Nardigen 12, 72171 Solna, Sweden...

...with AGONY they cry and scream..
WE OFTEN THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS A LETTER PAGE WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA, SO I CAN SPEND AS MUCH TIME ON THE ZINE AS I LIKE. IT WASN'T FOR IMPALED NAZI'S BLOG, AND NERD CLOSED THE PROJECT BECAUSE IT WOULD BE "AT LEAST AS MUCH TIME BEFORE THE END OF 1986", BUT TO BE SURE, I BETCHA IT'LL BE 1987 BY THE TIME ANY OF YOU SEE THIS. THERE ARE A FEW REASONS FOR THIS DELAY, AND IF YOU DON'T MENTION THEM, THEN I'M SURE YOU'VE SEEN ALL THE EXCUSES BEFORE (PROBABLY IN THE LAST ISSUE OR TWO)

THE OTHER ROBUSTLY IMPORTANT THINGS I HAVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT ARE OUR ISSUE'S CONTENTS. WELL, FOR A START, THERE WILL BE MORE THAN ENOUGH ROBOTIC BANDS (AND ADDRESSES ETC) IN THE NEXT ISSUE THAT WE CAN COVER A LARGE PORTION OF THE DEATH METAL SCENE, CAUSE THERE ARE LITERALLY DOZENS OF UNSEEN THRASH BANDS KNACKING AROUND WITH VARYING EXPOSURE TO THE MAJORITY OF HARDcore/METAL LISTENERS. I HOPE IT WILL BE HELPFUL TO SOMEONE, BUT DOUBTLESS THERE WILL BE LOTS OF BANDS THAT WERE MORE SLOWLY METAL BANDS ENOUGH TO SEND UP THEIR AUDIO CRAP... WILL THEY EVER LEARN? GENERALLY, YOU CAN EXPECT QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS FROM ISSUE TO ISSUE, IN TERMS OF CONTENTS/LAYOUT...

THANKS ONCE AGAIN TO ALL THE KIND HELPERS LISTED EARLIER. SPECIAL GRATEFULNESS GOES OUT TO F.R.G., A GODDAMNED GOON FOR HIS HELP WITH THE LAYOUT OF THIS ISSUE. AS ALWAYS, THE liverpool BAND OF THE YEAR IS THE LIVERPOOL BAND OF THE YEAR. WITH THE PROPER ELEMENTS...

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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 KUSO. In short, this band totally kill even if they are over-rated by certain people (most notably Pushhead of RAW). Anyways, SILENCER 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, FRAGILE and VIOCID OF WAR, me and Olley (drums) from RAW NOISE, Pete (guitar) from FANGBACK, 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 CHANGED SINCE THEN?

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 seat-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 veggie wing.

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

Our main influences are ANTI-CIMEX, RATTUS, DISCHARGE & DISORDER. I mainly listen to the above plus KAOS, CAPITAL PUNISHMENT (pre-metal), MARRIAGE, LAMM etc. Phil, Pete and Jerry listen to the same thing but like a bit of Metal as well, esp. SLAYER, CRYPTIC SLAUGHTER, SATHMORY. Olley has a wide music taste and will listen to anything from ABBA to AVENIUM 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.

CONCERNING THE DIRECTNESS OF "MURDER", DOES IT MEAN THE WHOLE BAND ARE VEGETARIAN/VEGAN AND DO YOU PREACH YOUR PLAGUE TO THOSE WHO STILL DIET IN A CIVILIZED PUPPETING?

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 CUT MURDER AND HATE-COURTING...?

I think there's a reason that they did 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 R.E.M., such as the split-LP with Blondie, is there any news on this at all? We've been asked to get some serious rehearsals for a new set. We haven't rehearsed since February and I think we've done more gigs than practices, due to us having heavy drinking habits.

WHAT'S THE Toll ON IWEPIC? DO YOU GET ON WITH FELLOW IWEPIC BANDS LIKE THE SHUTTLES & COOLEY RESTAURANT, AND ARE THERE ANY OTHER BANDS WORTH MENTIONING?

I think Ipswich is a really good place. There are loads of Punky people and everyone gets on, ANNIHILATION are the only other worth-mentioning band and after years of 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 in that way inclined then OK. But imagine when the baby grows up and wants to know where he/she came from. Can't really tell him/her you started off as a growth on your asshole, can you?

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

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

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 Richt, P.O. Box 27, 4630 Bochum 1, West Germany. Oh, be sure NOT to enclose the cassette tape box because 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 untidy 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 some more time arranging & practicing their songs and also to get a studio demo done as quickly as possible or else they might be ignored and/or forgotten. Like I said, most of the songs are potentially very good, but I don't think 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: DARNEDNESS, UNWANTED YOUTH, NUCLEAR TERROR, B.C.F., & POISONED PUNCHERS!!!, 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 Canada's finest, VOIVOD, and as they ripped into the classic "Korgu!...The Exterminator," it was obvious that this was going to be one of the gits of all time. They're great on vinyl but on stage 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 you could tell that each track was just like having you head pounded into oblivion by a sleighhammer! 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 Torrua and Larry Spencer managed to reproduce all the studio twiddles while headbanging themselves to death. Jeff Becerra and Mike Sus kept the rhythm going without missing a beat. They ran through a whole load of classic tracks from their two LPs, all of them being the opener "The Executioner" (mind-blowing) 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 as the band were gone in a flurry of diving and thrashing which left my body numb, the worse for wear but it was worth every last bruise, definitely the best gig of the year.

(EMMANUEL)
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 music reviews, info, and addresses. In the meantime, what I'm doing here is to present to you a fairly brief round-up of some of the better Thrash bands both abroad and here in the UK.

**WERMACH** (c/o B. Lehrfeld, 3359 N.E. Davis, Portland, Oregon 97222, U.S.A.) are easily one of America's best/fastest bands, with various demo/recorded tapes being circulated throughout the tape-trading underground. For possibly their most impressive tape so far, check out the 31/1/86 mixing-desk show which is a truly lethal狂乱 combo of low-down speed & technical brilliance. They've just been recording an LP for New Renaissance Records which should be out within a month or two.

**MACABRE** (Jeff Seffner, Florida) contains two ex-members of the one and only DEATH, and with a true lunatic like Ken Lee on drums & vocals how can you go wrong? This lot have 2 excellent demos out on this incredible vocals...near at all costs:

**INSANITY** (468 Cheapside, E1, London, England) have a studio-demo out any time now, and if their rehearsal tapes are anything go by then 't'll main. Like WERMACH, they match speed with some excellent riffing, loopy, doomish chord progressions and insane throaty vocal growls to boot.

**GURFINCH** (50 South Green, West Ham, London, England) are probably the most familiar with the group due to their elaborate In Fire debut album, which is good but pales in comparison to their latest demo tapes like Pyrokinetics which are purely there to be noticed. Other bands in the UK are:

**DARKNESS** (Chuck Plendar, Atlantic, Monterspring, Pa. 17753, U.S.A.) are a new 4-piece and have just finished recording their first LP, and have been working on even newer songs such as "Legion of Death". Despite the brilliance of their live shows DEATH is still a real laugh at this point.

**LIGHTSPEED CHARGE** (c/o Troy Diller, Stone Gate Drive, Highland Park, Illinois 60035, U.S.A.) - quite simply the world's most evil band ever and still extremely brain-washing!

**DEVASTATION** (c/o Troy Diller, Stone Gate Drive, Highland Park, Illinois 60035, U.S.A.) - simply the world's most evil band ever and still extremely brain-washing!

**BANDS** along with DEATH and MASSACRE. The vocalist is the best I've heard in a long while and the music is heavy, powerful and doomy. The vocals are down right nasty, the riffs are really catchy, there's a lot going on and it all just works together perfectly.

**UNSEEN TERROR** (c/o Mitch.14 Delphine Drive, Highland Park, Illinois 60035, U.S.A.) - they're already signed to Nuclear Blast and they'll be out 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 great tapes that I've heard include:

**AGONY** (c/o Steve flip) have a new demo entitled "Ritual of The Emperor". It's not as good as their old tapes, but it's still good stuff. They're now with a new label so it's going to be interesting to see how they do.

**MASSESSACRE** (c/o Mitch.14 Delphine Drive, Highland Park, Illinois 60035, U.S.A.) - this label has come out as their 2nd demo instead. My tape has 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? I'm not sure.

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

**MUSIC FOR NATIONS** has recently recorded a new demo entitled "Ritual Of The Emperor". It's not as good as their old tapes, but it's still good stuff. They're now with a new label so it's going to be interesting to see how they do.

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

**NAPALM DEATH** have a new tape, which seems to be a page interview with them is pretty pointless, but the LP, will be released soon. I'm not sure that many people know hardly anything about NAPALM DEATH, and what's that all about? But I did an interview with Peter (VOX) yesterday, so look out for that in PHOENIX MILITIA no.6.
HELLBASTARD! Sounds like yet another satanic try to blag 'em off using the old "built-in attitude"-type bitchings. I could do a bit of a history here - but I won't - so I'll cut to the chase on this in 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 this demo to give you an idea of their sound. They've become a 5-piece during the last couple of months and they're increaingly tighter, so check out their killer new material for confirmation!

The line-up is:

- Scruff (guitar/vocals)
- Blobb (bass)
- Grant (lead vocals)
- Gerry (drums)
- Phil (drums) ... and you can write to the band at any of these addresses:
  - Phil: 219 Commercial Rd, Byker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 2EG, England.
  - OR Scotty: 455 Stoneleigh Avenue, Longbenton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE12, England.
  - OR Gerry: 175 Fad Road, Yarmouth, Norfolk, England.
  - OR Phil: 40 Harrowby Street, Manchester, England.

OK, LET'S START WITH A QUESTION THAT EVERYONE, I SUGGEST, WANTS TO KNOW THE ANSWER TO - WHEN I WAS SAFETY VINYL HELLBASTARD AND WE ALL THOUGHT THE LABEL WILL BE DAD OK?

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

SCRUFF: This question seems funny to me, as we never expected to continue HELLBASTARD to record even a 7". As time has gone on R.N. has become more serious and more interesting for all of us. Anyway...I write to a guy in that's the days I've known to put up the money for the pressing of either an EP or 12". Hopefully it'll be on C.O.R.

PHIL: How are your new members settling in - tell me they altered your sound

SCRUFF: Our 2 new members are doing really good. The only trouble is we aren't as crusty as we ourselves were, 'cause once the singer (Grant) is a clean, and not as disjointed as we used to be. Our other new member (2nd guitarist) is James, a young man. We're basically on the same level and he's a good kid.

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 subjectes, e.g., war, nazis, heroin etc. which probably already a few people, but with good lyrics it's a movement that doesn't have any other thing - 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, the band will be great.

SCRUFF: This is a difficult one, I'd like to widen people's minds about different things, especially mettlers, e.g., if someone tells me about HELLBASTARD he/she might say "hee, HELLBASTARD eh? I've got to hear them!"

WHAT WOULD YOU CHOOSE THE NAME "HELBASTARD" OR "HELBASTARD" BEAR" BECAUSE PEOPLE MIGHT NOT TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY BECAUSE OF IT?

SCRUFF: Well, if people hear the name and dismiss us straight away then they're missing out. I feel I have to check something out before I like it. HELLBASTARD is an old boy's name, a mean name, a mean band, a mean lyric. It's a crap name. It's not true. We change it as soon as it is boring.

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

SCOTTY, PULP & SCHULZ (22nd Oct. 1986)

I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU'RE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY CELTIC FROST, BUT WHAT ELSE REALLY MATTERS?

SCURF: Well, I really like Celtic Frost/Bellhammer — musically, yes, but lyrically — HAB! No way! Groups I like listens, I think, 

PHIL: I'm not sure. I mean, I've got a lot of stuff, but I think that's the only thing I really like. I like playing with other people, and I think that's what makes it all worthwhile.

WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON DRUGS/SMOKING/ALCOHOL?

PHIL: I put it this way, if you're high on drugs, I'd have a lot more money. I do like to go out for a good time. But if you're out on a Wednesday night, it breaks the weekend routine and you can have a good time. Some drugs, like cocaine, can be addictive. Other drugs, like cigarettes and alcohol, can be addictive. I like to think that I don't have a problem with drugs.

WHAT ABOUT VEGETARIANS AND VEGANISM?

PHIL: I put it this way, if you're high on drugs, I'd have a lot more money. I do like to go out for a good time. But if you're out on a Wednesday night, it breaks the weekend routine and you can have a good time. Some drugs, like cocaine, can be addictive. Other drugs, like cigarettes and alcohol, can be addictive. I like to think that I don't have a problem with drugs.

ANTI-CRIP - 12" EP (Mercury/Mercury)

The long-awaited first UK release by ANTI-CRIP and it's been waiting in the wings of the UK music scene for some time now. The band's talent is evident in their strong, powerful sound. This is the first part of their debut album and it's a great start to their career. The band's sound is a mix of heavy metal and punk, and they really put on a show. This EP is a must-have for any fan of heavy metal and punk. (BILL)

SCOTTISH TRASH BANDS - "Convicted" 7" Single

I'd like to make a suggestion to the band about the title of this record - how about changing "Scottish Trash Band" to "Scottish Faces"? I've read your songs and they're very good, but I think the title is a little bit off-putting. I think it would be better if you called yourselves "Scottish Faces" instead. Your music is great, and I think it would be a good move to change the title to something more appropriate. (BILL)

NEVERMIND - "Right in the Rear"

I think you should change the title of your record to something more original. "Right in the Rear" just doesn't do justice to the music you're creating. I think you should come up with a new title that really captures the essence of your music. (BILL)

GEOFFREY MILLS - "Clueless World EP" (Other)

This is a good EP, but I think it needs a little more work. The songs are good, but they're not quite there yet. I think you need to work on your production and really make the music stand out. (BILL)

BILLY JAMES - "Back in the Saddle"

This is a great album, but I think it needs a little more work. The songs are good, but they're not quite there yet. I think you need to work on your production and really make the music stand out. (BILL)

I hope this helps. Let me know how it goes. (BILL)
Our principal problem is the lineup 'cause we haven't got a bass player. Of course our sound is original because we're playing with drums & guitar,well Marc only plays with 2 strings 'cause he doesn't know any chords, but if we add a bassist the sound will be better. But we sincerely think our demo is really good, H.H. is nothing better or 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 give our best and we hope to record our 2nd demo next Autumn, as it's impossible for us to make an LP here in Spain.

WHAT ARE YOUR SONGS ABOUT? IS IT POSSIBLE THAT YOU WRITE THE MORE STEREOTYPED LYRICS (LAW, WAR, ETC) AND PROTEST ABOUT OTHER THINGS? War and vivisection always have been and always will be two really interesting subjects,a lot of people (we included) have written 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 culture, the defence of nature, the current situation in the 3rd world (where capitalism sucks the blood of the people), plastic surgery, apartheid & nationalism. But in the songs we've tried to make original lyrics and talk about new topics like life in the cities, insecurity in the streets....and also in other songs we remember the suffering of Jews in World War 2, or we condemn the atrocities of some punks who have created rules 'cause they don't agree with capitalismschool/intellectuals....only empty words and we don't accept it. So, the song is called "Rules" and is the last.

DOES SPAIN HAVE MANY "PLASTIC" PUNKS (WHO JUST RLY ON THEIR LOOKS) OR ARE THERE MORE "WARE" 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 glasses, start bands, organize gigs, distribute recordings, or they write letters to find out about other scenes or other people. These punks make a positive movement. The plastic punks are in the minority and unfortunately sometimes they are known by their behaviour at gigs - fighting, breaking bottles. They are people without brains.

How do you feel about the E.T.A. & the B.S.M.-CIVIL WAR THAT'S BEEN GOING ON IN NORTHERN SPAIN? We hate violence, we don't accept the use of lethal weapons and 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 hate terrorist actions. Another reason for our disagreement with the E.T.A. is their political meaning, they are fighting for the...
Well, I said that there were more hardcore bands in this issue than usual. Now you know why. Hec, each issue is usually about as hardcore as you can get. They've been playing ultra-speed Throttle (without any noticeable metal sique) since the days when 4000 Packs 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 description 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 Ben of "Battlefield" magazine and Jos (the bassist of LARM) answered them. I'd also like to thank Armin (co-editor of "Battlefield") for passing the interview onto us, Cheers!

There are so many H.C./Punk bands around, what are 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 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:-

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

Before LARM started, Paul, Olay and Jos had been playing together in other bands for 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 used to have 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 20 tracks on our side, which is called "Campaign For Musical Destruction". The LP is sold out now. In February '86 we released a 'live' track 7" EP which is almost sold out, maybe it'll be reprinted. 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 a personal influence - 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. (Huistuty, Kasa, 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: B.W.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. Olay is unemployed. Jos works as a teacher. Paul & Olay and Jos works 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 with much 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 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.L.D. 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!
mohawks & studs, and the "American" Punk scene. I can't speak for the whole of Holland but in our scene there are 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, but 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 TOGETHER WITH METAL/CRUCY CROSS BANDS?

Yes, why not, as long as these people aren't so d*ck & 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 slang & stage-dive to the Metal band (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) SEXI:- Sex is OK with me when it's an act of love. Men and women aren't sex objects.

3) ROCKSTAR :- Do you need to ask? They're bullsh*t, what makes a band any better than the crowd.

4) MONEY:- It's not the goal we have with the band. Money is something rare (except 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 McDonald's.

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 Burning Metal, it's good to use it as a form of musical progression, but let the lyrics stay aware! And Punkers need to check out other groups of people more.

For live tapes & demos (exchange) and stickers, contact:

Josh Law,

Hessenweg 163,

3791 De Archerveld,

Holland.

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

POISON are a German Death Metal band who have nothing at all to do with those repulsive glam shits 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 death (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 F.M. - mainly for their excellent sense of humour. Just take a look at these "stage-names":-

Angel Of Death (barbaric axe termination), Virgin Slaughter (exan's infernal voice), Incubus Demon (apocalyptic thunder), and Witchhammer (genocide at sonic 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 the very kind Mr. Angel Of Death ("Deathtruck", I love that name!) and was passed onto me by the other guy.

MI: Could you tell us some more about yourselves.

POISON: Blazedzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz (and various other vomiting noises)

MI: 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.)

MI: 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 France this year, and I hope we'll play there.

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

POISON: Oh, well, I think they're not quite from
MACE come from Everett, Washington and have just gained the ranks of hundreds of other innocent bands who have had boring introductions in PHOENIX MILITIA. So all those concerned, I apologise, and I hope you can find it somewhere in your hearts to forgive me. Anyway (my favourite word) 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 guitar to 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 a co-operative - cheers pal!

Before the "PROCESS OF ELIMINATION," IF IT CAME OUT YOU HAD TO BE 27 YEARS OLD OR STRAIGHT-AHEAD, I'd never have been interviewed.

Dave and Kirk were really into bands like the CIRCLE BEATS by GREEN HORNETS, BLACK FLAG, and we became friends with the band THE CLASH. They, at the same time, were getting into METALLICA, I.G. & other Metal, so they turned us onto a lot of Hardcore. By this time, we were already thinking about getting rid of Venice Lure (our first drummer) because of his drug problem and he wasn't really into Punk at all.

CUMMING 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, but it could've been better but we had no money for the studio time & equipment that's for sure. No, because the insert & back cover were what we wanted and we got it done! We paid for the mixing right away, except the pressing of the LP and we haven't seen a dime back yet! There was also a lot of stuff about them, A.M. or Enigma! And we got false promises and lies constantly!

HERE IS YOUR NEXT VINYL RELEASE PLANNED? HOW WILL IT COMPARE TO YOUR FIRST RELEASE?

We hope the next LP will be even better, with a bigger image recording in Europe! And don't forget in the U.S.A., the money, and the market. More of this line-up all about! Better product, more power! I think we have it all well. And hopefully we will have an EP follow it up.

HERE AGAIN YOU DID A GIG AS A GUEST OF THE SEA MONKEYS WITH THE EXCELLENT DAYGLO BLONDES - HOW DID THAT WORK?

It's funny you bring that up! I really wanted that for us! They told the promoters we wanted more money, so we took us off the bill.

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 roommates til 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 good, 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 F.O.L.C.H.) THERE IS SOMETHING WRITTEN SEPARATELY WHO ALMOST CUT YOUR HAIR AT A DRIVE-IN. TELL US ABOUT IT.

Well, there was this fucking-up marine that was bigger than shit! He was an oddball and we were out to flip shit! He had a pair of scissors and he was trying to cut my ear off! But the crew just walked over 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-Ra) not for long "Big Brother" was being a bastard because of the way I looked. Just because the army fucked up his head 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? (speculate realistically please.) Tatscher 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 Jastro scare me! Because there are more of him out there and that people can actually follow him is gonna make the Nazis look like wimps!

...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 world! And thanks to everyone who has helped us out!

MACE, 121 N Suite 221, Everett Mall Way B.S., Everett, WA. 98203, U.S.A.
Recently, Gene Khoury was kind enough to send me a tape featuring an interview that he & Don Airey conducted with METALLICA's new bassist on WSHU Radio. Aside from that, I've been talking about Jason Newstead, the former bassist of PLUTON & GOJIRA (probably spell wrong, but I think that's who it was). The difficult task of following in the footsteps of the late Cliff Burton. And now it's question time......

Q: I guess the first thing that's on my mind is congratulations for you joining METALLICA. It's a real honor.
A: Thanks a lot man.

Q: You must be on "cloud nine" right now.
A: Yeah, that's pretty much what it is. I'm the happiest kid in the world you know. If anybody says they're happier I'll fuckin' car carse them there's no way, it's like a dream come true.

Q: So, how did they contact you and what went on in the audition process?
A: Er, well I got references from people like Elektra, Metal Blade, different agencies & stuff like that. I'd been in contact with 'em a few months back and we decided to do it. So they came by and said they were interested and wanted me to come along & give a shot, so I was pretty much freakin' out about it and I really had no idea what was going on with them - I didn't wanna, like, "resign" 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 4 hours total for those 4 days, and memorized all the songs, took them off the list. Y'know, it went really good, we hung around, chatted, I was interviewed & stuff, and we played some tunes, and we went out & ate for a while, and played some more tunes, and every

thing just pretty much click. Lars & 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 we hung 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.

Q: There were any problems in breaking the news to PLUTON, or were they really happy for you?
A: Well you know, it was mixed emotions - they thought it was a great opportunity & we 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 PLUTON project for a lot these years, especially Kelly the drummer - we'd been together for some 4 years or something trying to get this together. So, it was kind of a drug that way, you 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 "Seems like 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/WEA thing so... they're definitely happening.

Q: Seeing as you did the bulk of the songwriting, both musically & lyrically - do you think that P.A. may have a problem in that area now that you've left?
A: 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 SENSEINVOLVED was gonna take my spot in PLUTON - 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 songwriter both lyrically & musically. So I think they'll be just fine, it's just gonna take some 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 METALLICA album to really try to push it.

Q: 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?
A: It 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 PLUTON's music that there was definitely some METALLICA influence. I'd always locked up to him (Cliff) so it was very easy for me to just jump into it and do the bass playing. As for the structure and the speed, PLUTON had always played really fast so...

Q: You've just toured Japan. How did that go?
A: Great man. It was the greatest. It was just such a comfort - able feel, and the people accepted us so well. We did 5 shows in Tokyo, and we did Nagoya & Osaka... and it was just incredible. Everywhere we went we got mobbed, cameras, kids everywhere, giving autographs 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.

Q: How did the kids behave at the concerts? I hear that they have really strict security over there...
A: 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, but the bands were hanging their heads and doing less than minor performances.... which is really quite different for them...

Q: I mean, the promoters told me no one had ever gotten a response like that EVER. We were the first band that a new, thrash, high energy-type Metal band... y'know, like Priest's & 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?

JL: No, not really because the guys have made it so comfortable - I'm getting really 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 when we were in New York, the 1st squid that I'd be impossible to believe there's no way that anybody could do it. We're spoiling someone with a fresh new style that's gonna progress and grow with the band.

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

JL: Yeah, it's 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, that's 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 band, that's really my main concern.

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

JL: 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 weeks after the accident, or something, so they pretty much left us alone to settle. They all went separate ways after the accident, you know, to different places, and they got together before to decide what was gonna happen with the band... but they seemed to be hearing it really well, and when people ask us about it in interviews they're very open about it and want people to hear about it from THEM, and they don't want stupid rumours spreading about what happened or how it happened or any kinds of 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 thing have you set yourself since joining METALLICA?

JL: I just wanna improve as much as possible - I'm practicing more than I ever did, now. And I wanna 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, y'know. 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 in 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?

JL: 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 stuff we've been showing each other at soundchecks, like 'hey man, I came up with this, check this out', or whatever I've been doing that with each other, and... the new album's gonna roar!! It's some heavy stuff, man - I mean, heavy - it's gonna be right up to standard, no problem.

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

JL: 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.

JL: 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 guys wanna stay home.

PM: It may be a little early to ask this but... 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?

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

PM: I guess that's something you've always wanted to play, right?

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

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

JL: I've wanted to play Germany for a long time. That's looking in a couple of months. That was always tough because of the mention that PLOTTENMETALLICA receives from West Germany, so I always wanted to do that with METALLICA. Now that METALLICA's gonna be able to go there, I know that it's gonna be recognized so that it'll be one of my goals also. But just to be able to, that's like it 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?

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

But we are pushing - I mean we wanna go to Poland & play, that was the first idea. METALLICA seem to have a very good relation with your label in Europe, Music For Nations. Will you stay with them for the 4th album?

JL: 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 Electric Thing here is okay.

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

JL: It's 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 real cool thing.
NAFALM DEATH are surely Britain's fastest band. They've been together for quite some time now, which makes them a unique force on the scene. Jimmy has been added to the line-up, so they currently consist of:-
- Jim (lead vocals)
- Jus (guitar & vocals)
- Nick (drums)

This interview was done with Nick 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. Nick's address is: 117 Lazy Hill, King's Norton, Birmingham. B38 2HY, England.

ARE SOME OF THE THINGS YOU SHOUT?

Host gigs we play we usually grab the snare mic and shout something down it. My favourite sayings are "Horrified" and "Decomposed", classics from the ultimate - REH-DED. My other sayings are "Doughnut" & "Waldorf", and anything else that pleases me, "No-No" is another favourite.

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

As soon as the LP comes out I'm sending it to the hospitals in the small town. I'm sending it to the old-age pensioners' radio show.

WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ON THE WAY KERZEN "KERZEN" HAS SUDDENLY LATCHED ONTO NAFFALM/DEATH METAL EAGLES SUCH AS SLAYER/KREATOR/VM/VOL-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 bit of a joke. I'm not a fan of their music, but I really think that they're making a better job than "Metal Forces" which has fallen apart altogether. "Cosmo" is the one that's worth listening to. It's a bit of a Let's Do It! thing...we'll wait for that day, it could be a long wait.

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

The story is that when I joined the band in January '86 I bought Justin a new battery for his distortion. When it started to show signs of wanting out, I would put it in the fire in my house till it was hot, let it cool down and then replace it. It finally corroded out on me in June. The battery was an Ever Ready Normal. Check 'em out.

(Editors' 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
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, Nort & Deano for keeping us going. Thanx to Neil for artwork, Dave, Ruben & Eric of HEAD OF DAVIS for helping produce us in the studio and gig support. Thanx to everyone that comes to our gigs. Thanx to Sanjay, Simon & the rest of ELECTRO-HIPPIES, all from Liverpool, hello to Mitch, hello Chris, Nilla Jack of Stockport, Phil EXTREME NOISE sarrgggghh, Adam, thanx to Andy Larre from 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 big and keep thrashing & grinding REPULSION, you rule. Sorry if I've forgotten anybody.

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

Mick can be contacted at:- 117 Easy Hill, Kings Norton, Birmingham B39 5NY, ENGLAND. (Tel: 021-458-5534)

I've recently heard that the NAPALM DEATH/ATAVISTIC split-EP is not coming out on Manic Rats Records, although N.D. still intends to release their new demo as an EP. I hear no more about this then you'll find the relevant info elsewhere in this time.

"INSTINCT OF SURVIVAL":

Advertise the product you make/Never give away or take it/kill and lie for the good of society on supermarket shelves to see.

Instinct Of Survival/Instinct Of Survival.

Advertise the product you make/Never give away and always take/Cling-filmged flesh and genocide/accepted life while millions die.

Power - they made us do die/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 born to die/Siege Of

"CONTROL":

There's a fascist inside 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 desperation... 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 born to die/Siege Of...
Here we go again with yet another kind donation from Armin Noiles of "Battlefield" zine in Bochum, Germany. This time it's an interview with Marco, the bassist with Italian Hardcore Thrashers NEGACIO. To tell you the truth I don't really know much about NEGACIO, but they have a couple of EP's out and I'm not forgetting their split-EP with DEATHCALL, called "Murdoc Salvaggio". Apparently they have a full LP which is out right now and is supposed to be blasting Thrash with Metallica influence. For more info contact: Marco Mathieu, Via Renai 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 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, like SLAYER, METALLICA, the bands started to understand that they can do what they want by themselves, they don't need bigger gigs that just provide money...and what I'm afraid of is that a lot of people are getting into the Hardcore scene now are getting perhaps too much influence from Metal, y'know.

PM: I think it's really negative when increased heavy bands like C.O.C. and D.A.I. sign contracts with big labels. But I think, like so, is really different from Europe, I hope that something like that won't happen here 'cause that's the first points of the beginning of the end of everything.

PM: Would you agree that some H.C. Metal bands now write better lyrics, 'cause compared to 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, with all this satanic stuff and all that shit, 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 enjoy listening to a lot of Hardcore stuff like MINOR THREAT, GOVERNMENT ISSUE, and I think most of the best bands I've ever seen. But still, about Metal - I think it's possible in the future, I would like to get something together with a Metal band, I think it's possible to do something with them, I wouldn't sign for a Metal band but maybe I would like to do something with them, it's just a possibility but I really don't like the Metal ideas that are typically in people's heads.

PM: How are things in Italy these days?

M: I think that at the moment it's a very good 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 we've been to get tired 'cause there's a change, there aren't so many new people getting into the scene and so, at the moment, it's basically just the 'cause there are few gigs and the people are really tired of this depressing situation.

PM: Are there any fascist bands in Italy, aren't there?

M: Fascist bands...what fascist bands?
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 not as 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 used & relevant, and it's not as if RAPT are in every zine around. Thanks to Robert from Bradford for donating this, and to Olivier for answering the questions.

TELL US ABOUT RAPT BREATHING.

RAPT started in January '88. 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 guitar-bassist 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?

"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?

National Front is only shit. We hope they get killed by some direct action from...? We hate all bastards like those 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 PIZAZ/HUNTING/VIETNAM?

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 bombing and polluting us. Their ideologies 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. "Stupidities 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 CO is OK, as they never kill people, only destroy materials.

IN YOUR SONG "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"?

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 makeshifts in the street I see smiles on people's faces.

ARE THERE ANY PEACE CAMPS IN FRENCH NUCLEAR BASS? WHAT IS 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赫伯特, 布拉格, N.G.O., GLUTINOUS etc. The sound of G.B.H. & DISCHARGE was getting a little too old! New bands spread the scene with more energy. Thank you for my support of RAPT in the UK. We now have a 7" out on WRECKERS's Italian label Chaos Production. I said it is available from this address: Massi Gianario, Via Leodovico il Mor 722, 20142 Milano, Italy.

The RAPT contact address is:-

Bigas Olivier
116 Rue de la Harpe
72202 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 Mika and me, it will be better. We already have some new songs that crush brains!

19-4-91"
Jemmy, they're from Switzerland - MESSIAH. I very much hope that we'll do a gig with them as soon as they have a steady line-up. I know, it's really crazy, but ROB DANTANO!!!

At this point in the interview he becomes blatantly obvious that Angel Of Death is answering most of the questions on his own, while the rest of the band can be heard making lots of silly noises. Wow, I'm so impressed.

How many copies of the demo do you have 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...

What about your 1st demo, POWR EVIL?
POISON: I think it was 50-100 (more demented laughter etc.)

That's a lot of bands around called POISON. Have you ever thought of changing your name?

Oh well, I've thought of that quite a few times, you know, I like the name POISON very much, and I think all of those other bands sound like us in the least. They're all wimpish.

The American POISON (the one from Florida) and the British one (that we heard on the Warhead from Chicago) are more speed/Punk, and there's a band from L.A. called ROB DANTANO...

What made you choose the name POISON anyway?
POISON: We picked it because it's short, it's easy to remember, and most people know what it meant, and er... (Everyone begins to do an impression of, "HELLO PROS?" "Danny Macabre"... why?)... just sound really powerful you know.

What do you think of the American Misanthropy?
POISON: They're like the original Misanthropy. They have good turns. They have a lot of fans 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 there are many famous bands that have really bad layouts and they have the right feeling but they could do a little more publicity, just to get the word...

So, you have any new, unreleased songs?
POISON: Yeah, we have something which I think would be placed in what I call 'hard rock', but I think it sounds just like Jethro Tull and all that shit... so, seriously, we have a new song.

One is called "Spindrift" and the other is called "Duel of The Crusader" and we've written some new material... but that's just for our second demo.

The second demo will be out next year, then we'll be contacting ULI HILLENBRAND, STEPHAN SCHRADER.

And so ends another wacky, disorganised F.M. interview — THARK "D.P." & co.: Or should that be Bastial Grotti's From The Crypt???