

So the big question is, where are the Weapons of Mass Destruction? Where did the information come from supposedly that Saddam had stockpiles of nuclear and chemical weapons? I suppose the US intelligence services are private run firms, maybe owned by large multinationals? By oil companies or construction firms perhaps? ! So where are these weapons? If Saddam had them, surely he would have used them? Especially when he was desperate ie. his country was overrun by the coalition forces.. Lets face it, he doesn't have them. He may have bluffed and pretended to have them, but lets face it, all countries who have nuclear weapons tell us they aren't going to use them right? He had no weapons of mass destruction, it seems he didn't have much of a defence for his country at all, considering the 'ease' with which the coalition swept into Baghdad. And anyway, who is the US (who decided to go to war despite no resolution from the UN, which makes them the aggressors, not Iraq) to decide which countries have weapons of mass destruction? Oh, of course its regimes they don't like or that they have no presence in or control over that they feel 'threatened' by... Israel has nuclear weapons, why aren't the US bothered about that? Surely being as they are already at war, they are more of a threat to the region than Saddam? What about the nuclear weapons that India and Pakistan have and not long ago threatened to use? And if regime change is the argument for war, why aren't the Americans 'liberating' many other peoples around the world? There are countless dodgy regimes all over the world that are constantly at war with their neighbours, or in most cases, repressing their own minorities or their general populations.... Some of these in even poorer countries than Iraq.... And if the US (and western governments in general) don't want dodgy regimes and dictators to spring up everywhere, maybe they should stop arming them in the first place....lets face it most dodgy regimes have been armed to the hilt by the US and western governments, plus Russia. I suppose that's alright when our arms companies are making lots of money, and while they are on another continent and not posing a direct threat to 'us' ! Saddam was once an ally of the US when it suited them, during the time of the Iraq/Iran war, presumably because the US deemed the Iran regime more of a threat at the time! And Britain helped Saddam with his chemical weapon programme during the time of Margaret Thatcher's government! And surely by arming governments with conventional weapons gives them more chance to spend their time developing nuclear or chemical weapons? Can Western governments (France and Germany are as bad despite their history of war on their own soil!) not make money or make their economies prosperous without selling arms?? It seems not. Even if Saddam had weapons of mass destruction, how did the coalition disarm him? By using, er, weapons of mass destruction !! Only 'ours' were bigger and better than his! So what is a cluster bomb

if its not a weapon of mass destruction? The US has more weapons of mass destruction than anyone! Supposedly the bombers were trying to avoid dropping bombs on civilian areas, but in a city such as Baghdad that must be pretty difficult, and we all know how the Americans are slap-dash and prone to plenty of 'mistakes' don't we?

And a lot of the bombs dropped on Afghanistan and Iraq contained Depleted Uranium! Definitely a weapon of mass destruction. Oh, so it was a nuclear war then? Except that only one side turned out to have any nuclear weapons. What would have happened if Iraq had a nuclear weapon and had retaliated? I suppose the US then would have dropped a big one? After all, the US was the first country to drop a nuclear bomb in 1945 on Nagasaki. A disgusting act that killed and poisoned a population and that was unnecessary as Japan was already on the brink of surrender... seemed like the US just needed somewhere to test their new toy.....

So as well as being sanctioned for 10 years by various UN resolutions, Iraq has now been bombed to oblivion, and its population poisoned by the depleted uranium dropped on it. Even coalition troops are now already starting to get sick because of these bombs that were dropped. So the US doesn't care about its own troops either? Well at least that's something the US government has in common with Saddam, they each poison their own people! Meanwhile the Iraqis high population of children will grow up with all sorts of cancers and deformities. Maybe the US are hoping that the future populations will be too sick to arm themselves or defend themselves or to fight any American presence over their oil... (notice how the oilfields are being defended more vigorously than Baghdad's hospitals...) but despite that the war and actions of western governments are bound to have polarised the region even more and is likely to give rise to future terrorists and suicide bombers. War never solves anything. It never does.

Although this article was mainly about the war, it does tie in with globalisation too, because it seems obvious to me that this war was about western, and in particular US business interests... so the West will continue to get richer and the East & South will continue to get poorer. More and more countries are being stripped of their resources and being raped by western multinationals.... And are given simply peanuts if they are lucky ie. If they behave themselves and don't resist! So what will happen when the resources run out in all of the poor countries? They will come for Europe next. Their business interests will have to be protected ("we will not give up the American way of life") and don't think that the US wouldn't bomb the UK to oblivion if it suited its interests !? The way the world is going who knows in a few decades? Remember, one economy's prosperity is ALWAYS at the expense of someone else's.....

Steve 25/6/03

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BACK ISSUES:

#20 (January 2000) – sold out
 #19 – the split with Dripping Gash, some copies left. Ints with Blind Destruction, Power of Idea, 4 Past Midnight, articles and more. 56 pages. 40p + SAE
 #17 – Police Bastard, White Frogs, Grito de Odio, scene reports etc. Reduced price 30P + SAE
 #16 – Dirthead, Hibernation, Don't Belong Records etc. Reduced price 30P + SAE
 Note all the available back issues are now several years old, hence the reduced prices. There are still some even older issues but I don't really see the point of listing them. Just write or email me if you want info on those.

THANX as always to all the contributors to this issue.... Once again I am reliant on the folks who sent scene reports and interviews in, if they hadn't, this issue would never have come out cause I been way too busy to do the whole zine all on my own, so thanx thanx thanx to you all...

I am after contributions for the next issue too.. I can't survive without them ! But I am also hoping to do a lot more of my own stuff next time too... see the editorial. I am after good quality interviews, scene reports, articles, rants, political info etc etc.

I am also after people to distro the zine, I will trade with your own zines too. Its been a while since I put an issue out, so the zine scene has changed I expect, zine distros have started, finished etc, so if you're reading this and can sell a few copies, get in touch !

New address for Skullcrusher (US crust punk):
 Dan, 152 gostlin, Hammond, IN 46327, USA.
 Dan used to do Raw Punk Bastards zine but that's now stopped. Dan is now writing for Skiteater zine. Write him! (email: rawpunkbastards@yahoo.com)

LECSA-PUNK started in 1993, the first garage demo was in March 1994, but the quality was not good enough. The first cassette was in 1997 called "Zurzavar"/Chaos/ and the second in 1999 "Te vagy az ellenseg"/You Are The enemy/. After this album we were on a small tour in Germany, Austria, Czech republic. The next album called "Remalom"/Nightmare/ was recorded in 2000. 2002- 7" split Apatia-No / will be end of the year, or next year / 2002- te vagy az ellenseg split cass. Retaque / only in Ecuador /
LECSA-PUNK members: Rocky – bass & vocals, Arpi – guitars, Borzsak – drums. Our style is old school, raw punk, fast and hard. The texts are about the politics, life, oppression and the world etc... Write to:
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NOTICE: IF INTERESTED IN GET ALL LIST OF THE VINYL AND OTHERS WE CARRY FOR DISTRO AND TRADE AND ARE NOT AT THE MOMENT IN OUR WEB PAGE..FEEL FREE TO ASK ME AND I'LL BE MORE THAN GLAD TO E MAIL TO YOU THIS INFO...

COMIN TO LONDON? - The 56a Infoshop is south London's little radical bookshop and archive. We have tons of stuff, books, zines, T-shirts, patches, badges, music... info for squatting, plus a food coop up front and a DIY bicycle repair workshop in the back. We want your zines to sell and archive!! Also need art for new Archive of Radical Graphics. We're open Thursdays 2-8pm and Fridays 3-7pm, 56a Crampton Street (Elephant & Castle area), London SE17 JAE U.K. www.safetycat.org/56a

EDITORIAL 22/6/03:

A UP everybody !!!! How are you all? Ripping Thrash zine is back from the dead !!! Bet most of you thought I'd packed in the zine, its been so long since the last un.... Two and a half years in fact! I can't believe it, the time has flown by and it doesn't seem that long at all... Looking back at the editorial from the last one that was my first issue in a year as well, so in 3 and a half years I've managed to put out 2 issues !! Pretty pathetic right?

I seem to be busier than ever these days... I said last time that I was going to get the zine back on track and that in 2001 it was going to be semi-regular again... well I fucked up there didn't I !!! Seriously though I want to give it another go with the zine and see if its worth all the time and effort to carry on.. so maybe the rest of 2003/2004 is the time for me to get my zine back on track, but you've heard it all before right?! Since last time I been busy with the label, quite a lot of releases came out, I have put out stuff more regularly than I originally planned I think, for example this year, early 2003 I planned to put out a few releases early on in the year then get the zine out, but we're into June and I am still only just finishing everything off... and I put out 5 label releases so far this year... Since last time I also started a CD copying service for small run CDR projects (up to 500 copies normally) for my own releases and also for many other bands, labels and distros.... Contact me if you want me to help with your own CD projects.... That's been keeping me busy too..... I finally came to the conclusion now that I cannot keep doing the label and the zine at the same time, certainly not at the same pace that I have been doing label stuff and at the pace I want to do the zine at, so I think what I shall do is to have periods of activity for the label, then at certain times stop the label for 6 months or more and in those times concentrate on the zine ie. put out 2 issues within 6-12 months.... well after this issue, I am planning on doing no more label releases until the start of 2004, so between now and then I will concentrate on the zine again, put out a new issue later in 2003, I've been asked by a couple of people about a split issue, so that might be on the cards, we'll see later. After the next zine then I'll do the label for 6 months, then stop and do the zine again, and so on... I think it's the only way I'll be able to keep the zine and the label going, and I want to do both even if the regularity is a bit hit and miss...

OK, enough waffle on that. Does anyone actually care about this?

Apologies about a lot of the content being out of date.. I hope it doesn't show through too much, that's what happens when it takes you over 2 years to get a zine finished !! I expect most of you are used to it as Ripping Thrash has always over the years been irregular and often out of date by the time it comes out! As I've said before, I'm not Fracture or Reason To Believe, and I am not aiming to do a regular 'current' zine..... that's not what we're about. So anyway, I hope you like the zine. Feedback is always welcome, good or bad!

Er, what else? Well I did have a bit of feedback about the things I wrote in the last issue about being disillusioned..... it was nice to get peoples comments and to see that some people actually read the editorial rather than just skipping to the band interviews or reviews section etc. But I think a few people thought that I was disillusioned with punk and with the scene.. which I wasn't really... I didn't want it to come across that way, in fact what I was talking about was my life in general and relations with people outside of punk eg. Local friends, people at work etc etc..... I wasn't disillusioned by the punk scene at all, in fact the scene and my activities probably have kept me sane and kept me positive a lot of times.... Those people who took my words to mean I was disillusioned with punk probably now think that I have packed in the zine

because of that, because they haven't seen a new issue from me since then, but in fact the reverse is true, the zine hasn't come out for so long because I have been busy in the scene with my various activities and taking on new projects etc... OK, sometimes I am cynical and things in the scene annoy me (see Future of Punk? Article later in the zine)... but overall I am pretty positive and keeping active! I'm still listening to the same bands as in 1986 (almost) and still doing the zine, but I was disillusioned with some people outside of punk and with life in general.. but that's part and parcel of life I guess... and being from a small town with no scene as such, then I am not part of a scene and therefore kind of isolated from friends within punk etc etc... my daily life isn't kinda 100% punk lifestyle ie. I don't wake up in the morning living in a squat surrounded by loads of like-minded people (then again I am not a sheep and I have my own opinions and way of doing things so I would be uncomfortable in that sort of surrounding anyway, but that's a digression..) and then spend all day running the distro, fighting the system etc - it would be nice if I could spend all my time on my punk activities, but for now I have to go to work, meet 'normal' people and live in a community that has no punk scene whatsoever.. know what I mean? So I think my ramblings were mis-construed a little and I wanted to set the record straight. I am still here with this ere crap zine and although its not perfect and I don't get to put as much effort and time into it as I would like, I am still offering something and I am happy in regard to that...and providing I can find the time, the zine is going to continue for some while yet. Look out for a Ripping Thrash resurgence in the next year !!!!!

It will be interesting to see how this new issue goes... in a way I feel I am re-entering the zine scene after not doing a zine for so long, and the last issue sold out quite quickly, so it's quite some time since I did any distro for Ripping Thrash etc.. A while back I answered some questions that appeared as an article in Reason To Believe about whether the free zines were killing off the smaller zines, and I said something along the lines of there should be enough room and scope in the scene for both formats and that small zines, despite needing to make a charge, could still thrive and people would still be interested in them... but thinking about it again now I am not so sure, I'm sure the zine scene has changed since I last did my scene and that may be good in a way.. being quiet for so long I will certainly notice any changes won't I? There certainly doesn't seem to be many new small zines cropping up compared to the past, its mainly the long running ones that are still going... Well we shall see how it goes and I will try to observe how things have changed. I still feel that all types of zines can co-exist if folk are supportive enough of the scene, on the other hand people are naturally lazy and it may be that new people coming into the scene only check out Fracture and RTB cause they're free and the small zines are not. Anyway, I am printing 500 up of these and I shall report next time how it went! Oh, and you don't see many zines sellers about at gigs these days... I always used to do that in past years, probably before I started my label really... I am going to try and start doing that again and see how people react. OK - feedback much appreciated. See ya soon. Steve 25/6/03

RÖVSVETT

Hey! This interview came about in a rather strange way - Krogh from Attack zine/tapes in Sweden contacted me about using the Rovsvett interview from 1988 on his webpage zine, so I agreed and in turn asked for a new up to date interview, as these Swedish lot have been going ever since those days... probably unnoticed to a lot of folk... still going strong with their unique style of raging Swedish hardcore punk.. so thanks loads to Krogh for this interview!

1. Congratulations! It's 20 years now since Rösvett came about and you're obviously still kicking ass! So, what do you wish for your birthday?

Jerker: That the new CD sells gold, more shows and willingly more tattoos.

Löken: I don't know really, maybe a gig release for our next record, our 4th CD/LP that will be out around the Birthday party on Six Weeks Records in USA with beer, food and coffee that's enough I think for us...

2. If there's any background info or similar you think we need to know before going ahead, here's your chance.

Jerker: We are working with the new album. It will probably be out in May. The LP will come later.

Löken: Not really, nothing to add that I can think about, so I pass that one...

3. As it says on the website, "Now that we've passed the year 2000 Rösvett have become more active, but also angrier, more brutal and more merciless than ever..." Well, we're at 2003 now, any signs of slowing down or do you have even more to give?

Jerker: No, we have much more to give. I'm trying to keep up the tempo when we play live, but I can feel that I'm not fifteen anymore!

Löken: Yeah, our new record will be much better than the last one, more aggressive, heavier, brutal in all way, the songs are better planned, I know it's gonna be our best record, we also gonna do a new long sleeve t-shirt and maybe a new 7" and continue to play hardcore...

4. In the Ripping Thrash interview from '88 Löken said that he'd never thought about why you were singing in Swedish and not English. Looking back on your "career", do you think you could have ever made the

lyrics even come close to the special writing style you have if you'd done them in English?

Jerker: I have tried to write some stuff in English, two of the songs will be on the next album but I doubt that it will keep the same level as the Swedish songs.



Löken: I think that wouldn't be Rösvett if we should have been singing in English, but I don't have anything against it, we do have some songs in English today, but Jerker prefer Swedish and for that reason we kept the name and still singing in Swedish. For some bands they reach a bigger crowd, but for some bands it could sound a little weird or strange to sing in school English that some Swedish acts do, so that's what I think...

5. Looking at your name (ass sweat) it's easy to understand if anyone don't take you as a serious band at the first look. But looking at other band names "back then", many of them are in the same vein, and none (well, some but...) of them being not-serious. What I'm trying to say is, do you think people are more afraid today that a "silly" band name might scare the potential listeners away?

Jerker: A band that wants a real carrier is probably to "chicken" to take a silly name but if you play for fun like we do... I don't think people care about the name of the band. It's good with a different name because people don't forget it. We got voted #1 for the ugliest band name on a TV show. That's a big qualification.

Löken: We have had many questions about our name of the band through the years, but it hasn't been negative for us, just a reaction also from the punk's, we wanted to have a name that people should remember and react what do you your name was? Anyway, we took the name when punk was punk in mid 80's, of course we knew that people wouldn't take us seriously, but it's up to them, we are not a political band or fun band, we are just a punk/HC band who likes to do good noisy music with fun and serious lyrics like other bands, nothing strange with that...

6. Linked to both two above questions. Just reading the titles of your songs (at least

the earlier ones) gives the same sense as just looking at your band name -not a serious band. But when reading them one finds out that there's so much more. Was this writing style a choice or is it just the way you write? Who wrote/writes the lyrics?

Jerker: Frank and I used to write most of the songs but now its just me. We didn't choose any special style, it was more for the "message" to come out. Then we wanna bring it out there in a funny way.

Löken: Jerker do the lyrics, Frank (our old drummer used to write the old ones). I do all music.



7. OK, since your veterans in this "scene", what's different now from then? More relaxed before? Are you up to date on what's happening in the scene now a days?

Jerker: The crowds that come to see our shows are getting older just like us and they are calmer and the younger ones have the energy, just like the "good old days". I try to keep updated but I'm not so good at it. I think people complain a lot by the stage, I think if

you don't like the band then you should go in on their webpage or write it somewhere "that's not how it used to be"!!!



Löken: No, not really, maybe there is not so many fanzines anymore, most of them can you find on the internet today, that's sad, but I understand that it's much easier to do it on internet then do a zine it's more work to do a zine. For music scene that seems that there are not so many HC acts around am I right? Maybe it's not so big as it where around mid 80's and in the mid 90's, but the biggest problem is that there are no real gig places in Sweden, "Eldlandet" in Jönköping have to close down around new year after 7-8 years that Janne & Steve from Elderberry records have really worked hard for that place over the years, but there are some good bands like: Coma, To what end, Fett, Intensity, but its sad that the Linköping scene seems to be down, that used to be big through the mid 80's to mid 90's, but they really need a new "Maskinskylden" (I used to live in Linköping from -89 to -94 and I did play in Identity

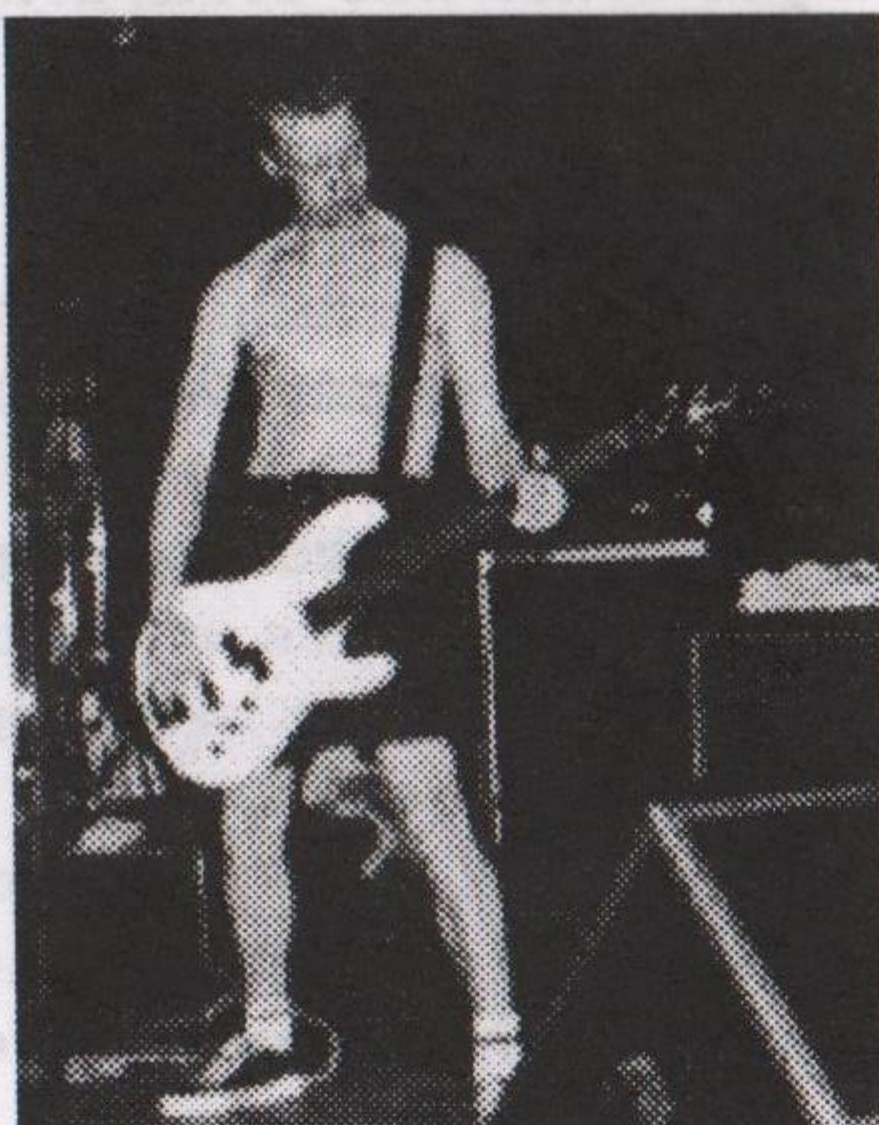
with Sveden (Raped Teenagers/Flakes) & Jögga (F.I.L./Prehistoric Assholes)...

8. The release of the "Rövsvett i Nacken" 7" (2000) seemed to be somewhat of a resurrection of Rövsvett, followed by the "Kick Ass" CD/LP on Six Weeks (2001). Is this accurate and is it first now that you're getting some attention worldwide again since the 80's? In all honesty both the "Burn the Gay Nuns" and "All Makt Åt Mig" CD's went passed at least me (and more it seems when talking to people) fairly unnoticed, is this in any way connected to you now releasing stuff on other labels than Birdnest, which you've done for the 7 years prior to that 7"?

Jerker: We have NEVER had a contract with Birdnest and have none with Six Weeks. They just released our records. It was hard to get Birdnest to release our latest record. That's why we changed. I don't think it matters, sell wise but the Swedish buyers will have a harder time to find them.

Löken: I don't know, but of course it helped us to put out the records on Six Weeks Records, maybe we have been working on our own when we have been on Birdnest, now we reach more when we put out the stuff of course in USA, it's a real good label, so we like to keep putting out our stuff on Six Weeks, of course the 7" have formed today's Rövsvett with the sound, but

I don't think that "All Makt Åt Mig" where the 1st hint that we liked to shape the sound that we like to do, Rövsvett are still the same, we haven't change much, we still play HC after 20 years...



9. You've been described as the Poison Idea of Sweden and you kinda strengthened that opinion when you released the "Burn The Gay Nuns" CD which is a tribute to former said band. But there's more to Rövsvett than this isn't there? Has this description at any point overshadowed your own style of playing?

Jerker: I have never seen us as "Sweden's poison idea". We have always tried to do our own stuff.

Löken: P.I. where one reason that we formed as a band in mid 80's, and we did worked to much on "Burn the gay nuns", it supposed to be a MCD first, but Birdnest wanted a whole CD, it took 1 1/2 years to do it and we didn't do any new songs, but sometimes it good, but the memories are that it took to much time for us to do the

tribute to Poison Idea and we did forget Rövsvett.

10. Which of the records you've done are you the most satisfied with? And you're not allowed to say "Kick Ass, 'cause that's the latest and this is the sound we've always been looking for", haha.

Jerker: Then I will say that the coming one, because it has the sound that we always looked for... Just kidding... My favorite is "All Makt Åt Mig"

Löken: "Lepra Cliff" our 3rd 7", because I liked the period or I should have said "Sällan studsar en termos" the split-LP with Plague, but the production where not so good, but I do like the songs. "Fatal Farts" is a good documentation through 83-89 with some cool stuff, but our new CD/LP will be our best record ever...



11. Do you in all honesty think that the last few years 80's thrash revival has anything to do with you being picked up by Six Weeks? Of course I believe he likes what you're doing and it's not like I think you don't deserve it but...

Jerker: Yeah sure the trash is back, but I have no idea, that's why Six Weeks wanted to release the CD. Löken has all the contact with the label, so he can probably answer you better on that one but I really hope they like us for our music and not for what's popular. Löken: No, I don't think so, Jeff have been an old fan to us, so he did ask me through mail to do a record and we where happy to find Six Weeks a real big HC label with good distribution Mordam Records, so we can't complain...



12. Not that it matters at all what people are listening to, but it seems as older punks here in Sweden don't listen to the stuff they're playing as much as other places. Are you still thrashing away in your homes to hardcore or is that time passed?

Jerker: When I'm alone I play hardcore in my stereo, my personal favorite for the time being is PRO-PAIN.

Löken: I general don't listen to HC so much these days like you say, but when i do i still like fast and hard HC, but in the north it seems that you can't like hard

music when you are older, Sweden are very much age mentality, you must listen to radio music, but who cares, when Lemmy & Motorhead still play, why can't we...

13. What does your families think about Rövsvett? Do they like it? Is there maybe a junior that's going wild when "Allah Allah" is playing on the turntable? If your kid came home and said he had started a "Rövsvett", would you be all excited, or would you be more like "here we go again...?"

Jerker: I'm married with two daughters, one is just like her old man, into punk-rock... maybe "nicer" than Rövsvett, the other one is proving to be a "real" musician, she plays the fiddle. They DON'T like Rövsvett but they come along when we have a gig. If one of them came home and told me that they wanted to start a band I would support them 110%.

Löken: My wife or my family has never liked what I have done, my mother hates our name, but I do what I feel to do!

14. In ten years from now, what will be pop up in your heads when thinking about Rövsvett? Are you still going?

Jerker: I will remember all fun stuff we had. The great gigs and all the wonderful crowds we had. I wish that everybody could feel once in their lifetime how it is to be

on stage and experience the good stuff I have felt. I think Rövsvett is still around in one way or another.

Löken: They really kick ass, I don't know about Rövsvett future, but I think I will be involved in the scene, maybe still be playing music, who knows, thanx to you Krogh for this interview and say hello to Steve from me, bye Löken...

15. Final question(s). Answer this and add whatever you want. Is that really a tattoo on the "Rövsvett i Nacken" 7"? If so, who has it and is that person proud?

Jerker: Yes the tattoo is real and I'm the one who has it. Its made by Magic Man Tattoo in Mjölby and I'm very proud of it. The tattoo artist has gotten a lot of comments on it, like "what kind of idiot is doing a tattoo like that". Same tattoo studio also did our backdrop, that's the one you can see on the cover of KICK ASS.

Interview brought to you by:



CROATIA SCENE REPORT..

Hi readers of Ripping Trash and welcome to Croatian hc/punk scene report! My name is Branimir (some friends call me Gajo), I am 24, sXe and im involved with scene for some years now so I'll try to present you Croatian hc/punk scene the best I can. First I'm gonna say something about Croatia itself. Croatia is small country placed in so called Eastern Europe and it has borders with Serbia, Bosnia & Hercegovina, Monte Negro, Italy, Slovenia, Austria and Hungary. Yes there was war here but it's over for almost 10 years ago and its funny that some people still thinks its dangerous to come here (it's definitely safest than New York, ha, ha!). But the country is fucked not just because of war but also because of politicians who are greedy bastards that don't give a fuck about people or country's development. Unemployment is big and also nationalism is too fuckin big! But still i think that it's better living here than in some other countries. We still must serve 6 months of military service (which is hopefully slowly dying out) but we have alternative of civil service.

Ok, enough of wining, let's talk about bands, zines, clubs and stuff! First i wanna say that scene here is not divided in scenes like sXe, Anarcho, emo... Here it is all one hc/punk scene and that is what makes it unique. I will start with Zagreb (which is capital of Cro) cause scene here is most productive. This is cause lots of people from other towns come here to study or work so we have people from all over Croatia in Zagreb. In Zagreb there are two clubs for hc/punk gigs and happenings (and they are next to each other). First is Attack which is totally DIY club run by people from scene. If you want to play in Attack you can contact these people : Petar (lastingvalues@lycos.com), Mario (brandnewplace@hotmail.com) or Oliver (osertic@zamir.net). The other club is called Mochwara and is more oriented on all subculture styles (hc/punk, dub, metal, rock, hip-hop...) and its a bit more fancy than Attack but it's a great club. If you want to play in Mochwara you can contact Six at six@mochvara.hr.

Let's talk about some bands in Zagreb! My favourite band is Senata Fox (1 split tape out) and they play fast



Senata Fox



Wishya



Fight Back

hardcore with screaming vocals (ala Los Crudos) with pissed off lyrics about scene, world, etc... they are great to listen live and are also cool people. Contact them at libbertea@net.hr. Ak 47 is one of most active bands on scene (1 split ep and 2 tapes) and they play anarcho crust hc with some metal parts. Their singer Fistra is one of most active people on scene, he runs distro/label DHP & AK 47. Contact : klasnirat@inet.hr. Amok is evil new school metal (nothing released yet) and they are awesome live! Also nice people and Slobich their bass player runs zine/label/distro Mesmerized. Contact : slobich@mesmerized.ws.

Analena is probably most known band outside Croatia (2 cds, 2 eps and 1 tape) and they play intense noise hc with emo parts. Contact : fire@analena.f2s.com. Drotweiler is pretty new band (nothing released yet) with members from Senata Fox, Analena... They play some kind of crust hc with emo parts. contact same as Senata Fox. Mikrofonija is melodic hc/punk band (3 tapes out) but sorry I don't have their e mail. Igut is new band that has some Theysuck and ex Amok members. they play modern new school metal with emo and noise parts (nothing released yet but they've just recorded a demo). Contact : allroy@inet.hr.

Then there are bands where i play. I play drums in Lasting Values (1 tape, soon a new one) and we play old school hardcore mostly youth crew stuff. Actually two members are from town Samobor but never mind. Contact me or lastingvalues@lycos.com.

CROATIA SCENE REPORT..

I sing in Theysuck! (nothing released but lots of rehearsal tapes/over 400 songs!!!) and we play early 80s hc/punk but we have no guitar (only vocals, bass and drums).

You can contact me or allroy@inet.hr. I also play drums in Equal (1 tape) which don't have all members from Zagreb but never mind. We play youth crew hc ala YOT with sarcastic lyrics about scene but at the moment we are looking for new singer so we are not too active. Contact me or lanakurtizana@net.hr. there were more bands in the past but lots of them broke up...

Ok, lets talk about some bands from suburbs of Zagreb. In Samobor there are few bands. Deafness By noise (1 cd, 1 ep & soon new stuff) is playing for 10 years and they play NYC hardcore. Sorry no e mail. Intoxicate is crust hc/metal band (1 split tape) and Grob play similar style but have nothing released yet. Also no e mails for these two bands... From Velika gorica there is great band Chang Foss (few demo cds) that play slow new breed metal (but no MTV attitudes) and they are great live. Sorry no email. Now lets talk about other towns where something is happening. In Labin lots of gigs are happening lately. There is great place to play Lamparna (its sort of a squat but not real one). if you wanna play there contact this really great guy Max (max_labean@inet.hr).

In Labin two bands are most active - Protest Mozga is engaged hc/punk band (2 tapes, soon new) that are very nice people. Contact Max. Wishya is melodic hc/punk band (soon tape) that have same people in band as Protest mozga so also contact Max. There is also in summer happening hc/punk festival so if you are near in end of july come and visit us. Rijeka is close town to Labin. Im not sure is there place for gigs but if you wanna play there try to contact Pendiæ at zpendic@yahoo.com. Panaceja is great band that play fast thrash hc with power violence parts (nothing released but they just recorded demo). Contact: goranfuzul@yahoo.com. Pandemija is more crusty hc with grind parts (nothing rel yet) and you can contact them at zpendic@yahoo.com. Averzija also has some Labin guys in band and they are playing crust grind hc (nothing rel but just recorded demo) . Contact : neumijko@antisocial.com. Mord is pretty new band that have members from all these bands and they play grind/fast hc (nothing rel yet). Contact: bst_opm@net.hr. Pasi is melodic hc/punk band (1 cd & 2 tapes) but i don't have their e mail.



Debeli Precjednik



Beer System

One most active towns is definitely Po_ega. There you can play in bar called Harlekin and you can contact Filip for gigs at dmetthed@hotmail.com. Apatridi is the oldest band (from 89) and they play anarcho raw hc/punk (1 lp, 1 split tape and lots of demos). apatridi@hotmail.com. senseless are also playing for along time and they are crusty hc with power violence parts (1 split ep and few split tapes). dena_senseless@hotmail.com. Dislike is great crust/dis hc band (1 split tapes) and you can also contact them at Senseless e mail.

Lo_Primjer is melodic hc/punk with some heavy metal parts (1 tape). los_primjer@hotmail.com. Fightback is playing crust hc/punk (1 split tape). kktz666@hotmail.com. Starvation is playing crust hc but more metal sounding (1 split tape). dmetthed@hotmail.com. Nepravda is thrash hc/crust (nothing rel yet) band. osertic@zamir.net. Kutina also has graet place for playing, DIY club Baraka and if you wanna play there contact Lana at lanakurtizana@net.hr.

Kutina used to be next to Zagreb the most productive place but now there's not one single band there. Kutina had great bands like Razlog Za (old school hc, 1 ep, 1 split lp, 3 tapes & 2 live tapes), KOO (melodic old school hc, 2 tapes), La Kurtizana (all girl new school hc, 1 split tape)... If you wanna know more about those bands contact me or Lana. Other tows are not so active but something is going on so ill quickly mention some bands/places for playing...

CROATIA SCENE REPORT..

Outre (Èakovec) is great band that play fast hc with screaming vocals (nothing rel yet). sexisbeautiful@inet.hr. Farewell Reason (Èakovec) is playing emo hc (1 demo cd). igor@thefarewellreason.com.

If you wanna play in Èakovec contact Filo at franjo.filo@ck.tel.hr. Fakofbolan (Pula) is playing hymnic punk rock with oi and ska parts (1 split lp, 1 lp & 2 cds). mphacklab@paranoiici.org. If you wanna play in Pula you can contact Monte paradiso club at monte-paradiso@pu.tel.hr. There are also happening big hc/punk fest every year (which is too big for me last few years but its ok) wich is happening in beginning of august. Nula (_ibenik) is one of oldest bands that play anarcho hc/punk (2 split lps, 1 split 10 & 3 tapes). brankaimeniga@yahoo.com. Meniga (drumer of Nula) can also help you with gigs in Cro.

Debeli precjednik (Osijek) is melodic hc/punk band (1 cds, 1 ep & 2 tapes). fat@net.hr. Learning English (Osijek) is also playing melodic hc/punk (1 demo cd). bojan.cutuk@os.hinet.hr. There are some projects in Osijek like Cheerleaders (melodic punk rock, 1 demo cd) and Upsidedown (melodic hc/punk, 1 demo cd) and you can contact both bands at lausinniksa@icgmail.com. If you wanna play in Osijek try tru Debeli Precjednik contact. Apfuken (Vara_din) is hc/punk band with some melodic parts (2 demo cds). pile6@net.hr. Also if you wanna play in Vara_din contact pinta at this e mail. Reborn (_ibenik) is new school emo metal band (nothing rel yet). lukamasic@email.com. Crasso De Odio (Zadar) are crust hc/punk band (1 demo cd). crassofile@email.hinet.hr. Titos Bojs (Rovinj) are playing 70s punk rock (1 demo cd and 1 cd). titosboys@net.hr. And that's it for bands! there are more of them but i either i don't know much about them or i dont consider them hc/punk or DIY so i didn't mention them.

Ok, let's talk about zines. There are not many zines like it was in 95-99 period, it seems that people somehow lost the interest in doing and reading zines. I don't know why is that but there are some people who are still trying and doing great zines. My favourite zine is LA Bean (7 issues, since 7th number on english, so check it out!)- great scene zine with lots of interesting stuff. max_labean@inet.hr. Then, there is Mesmerized (3 issues so far)- it would be everyones favourite zine if it would be in english. Unfortunately, its in croatian but it is a really good zine. mesmerized@mesmerized.ws. Fecal forces (10 issues out) one of the oldest zines; in English. In it you can read about magick and some anarcho stuff. kktz666@hotmail.com

Another zine thats in english is You & me (4 issues out). Its not into scene or music but about sex and anarchy- sexisbeautiful@inet.hr. The rest of the zines are in Croatian, so I'm just gonna mention them: iks fajles (3 issues)- bst.opm@net.hr; disleksija (7 issues)- nikolam2000@yahoo.com; korak naprijed (2 issues)- zspajic@globalnet.hr; potomci (16 issues)- sorry, I don't know her mail; ponos provincije (8 issues)- igor.roginsek@sk.hinet.hr; ovo je nekad bilo drvo (2 issues); roargh (5 issues)- sorry, no address. I also do zines: first is called No, all! (3 issues, 4th- soon) which I do with my girlfriend Masa. The second one is called International oldschool conspiracy (one issue so far, the second one will be in english). You can contact me at sillygirl_xxx@yahoo.com. That is all about the zines in Croatia. Its a pity that there are few in english, but check them out!

LABELS/DISTRIBUTIONS: In the last few years we have some pretty good labels. They are all DIY, but the releases have good quality. DHP/AK 47- they have over 30 releases so far (you can contact them at klasnirat@inet.hr). HUMANITA NOVA- also lots of stuff released. One of the oldest distros here (brankaimeniga@yahoo.com). MESMERISED- 3 tapes so far- (mesmerized@mesmerized.ws). HCM (9 releases)- lanakurtizana@net.hr; LIBBERTEA (3 releases)- libberteaa@net.hr; BRAND NEW PLACE- 2 tapes (brandnewplace@hotmail.com); LA BEAN- 6 tapes max_labean@inet.hr

As for some political activities... I'm not that much into political stuff, but I go to some demonstrations and events, and sometimes help my girlfriend Masa who is active in Green Action. There are lots of activities here, like Food not bombs, demos against war in Iraq, initiative Better world is possible, etc... If you want to know more about that you can contact Marko at markos@zamir.net.

Ok, that's it, I hope I didn't bore you with such huge scene report, but you cant read a scene report from Croatia so often, right? Of course, if you want to know more, you can contact me or anyone on this list. And if you would like to read something like this about some neighbour countries (Slovenia, Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina), I will be happy to help. Thanx to Steve once again, and hello to all positive people that are doing something for the scene. Stay hcpunk! XBranimirXgajoX

Branimir Gajcevic; Kauzlaricev prilaz 15, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia
gajoimasa@yahoo.com

AN APOLOGY TO THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ

I confess I don't know much about you. In the weeks leading up to the war it was easy to find detailed stories in our media about the daily machinations of our president as he bought, bribed and bullied other countries into a "coalition of the willing," but there was almost nothing about you, the people of Iraq.

I imagine you have beautiful children with dark, wide eyes. I imagine you are afraid that you and your families will be killed when the bombs start falling, that your way of life will be lost forever when our troops come storming in. You must have felt abandoned by the world when the UN observers, weapons inspectors and western journalists scurried out of Iraq in the last days, leaving you alone to face the rain of fire. I can't imagine the terror you must feel. Just as we know almost nothing about you, I'm sure you have few accurate perceptions of us Americans. Our mutual ignorance makes it easy for our governments to stir the pot of hatred so they can advance their own nefarious policies. This is a shame because I have a feeling we could find much common ground. As you know, recently our country too came under attack, so we have a small taste of the fear and hatred that violent aggression can generate. You have every reason in the world to hate us. In 1991 our military dropped 88,000 tons of bombs on you, incinerating your sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, relatives and friends. Over 113,000 civilians died according to the Red Crescent Society of Jordan. Sixty percent of your casualties were children. Your country was once prosperous, a thriving center of learning, literature and art. Now, after years of sanctions, with your cities in ruins and your economy in tatters, the winds of stagnation and despair blow down dusty streets, past the shuttered shops of your towns and villages. Mere survival has become a struggle.

We the people in the U.S. knew about the sanctions, but not enough of us tried to stop them. As citizens of a country with unparalleled international political influence and a monstrous military machine that sprawls around the globe, we have extraordinary responsibilities to restrain the natural tendencies of such a system to dominate and control everything everywhere. Unfortunately, we are for the most part self-absorbed individuals, more concerned about the latest electronic gadgets or Hollywood gossip than the suffering our government inflicts on other peoples of the world. We are a powerful nation, but a flawed one. Greed and militarism is a dangerous combination. Perhaps we're not greedier than other people—we just tend to grab more because so much more is within our reach. Because our national resources alone can't support our elevated standard of living, we need to continuously expand our domination around the world to secure access to natural resources, markets and cheap labor. That's why we have had to develop such a fearsome military. To most of us Americans war has become a minor inconvenience. It is a game we watch on TV as high-tech weapons destroy inanimate targets. Real war is sanitized for us, so we never have to see the disembowelled bodies, smell the charred flesh or hear

the moans of agony. Our leaders take full advantage of our indifference. They claim we must depose your president for your own good and for the good of the civilized world. I don't like Saddam any more than our president does. I didn't like him even when our government went out of its way to befriend him and provide weapons to him for his bloody war against Iran.

Nevertheless, if regime change and disarmament truly were goals of our government, there were many ways to achieve these ends without resorting to the mass slaughter of innocents, ways that might have been more permanent and less destabilizing to the region. Unfortunately, our leaders are men of limited imaginations with "Christian" values that stress machismo and domination rather than consensus and cooperation. From the start, the military option was the only one they ever seriously considered. Some of us Americans fear this war will bring horrendous carnage to your country. We, like our president, pray that the human toll will be much less this time, that our bombs will be smarter and stay away from your schools, hospitals and homes. Still, we know our aggression will kill and maim thousands of you, and in the regional chaos that follows many more may die and suffer the brutality of civil war and political violence. Unlike many of my fellow citizens, I do not value Iraqi lives less than the lives of American troops. But our soldiers are human too. I hope you understand that most of them are just kids. Many come from poor neighborhoods with ramshackle schools and limited educational opportunities. The military promises them an opportunity to make a better life for themselves and their families through military job training and education programs. Despite their macho bluster, they are frightened like you, and most of them would rather just go home to their families and not have to kill anyone.

In Los Angeles, on the Saturday before the war, thousands of us marched in a driving rain to show our solidarity with you. We were wet and cold and miserable, but we knew it was not as bad as having a 500-pound bomb dropped on your house. Afterwards, we climbed into our warm SUV's and drove back to our safe, comfortable homes. Merely attending a demonstration does not absolve us of responsibility for this high-tech slaughter. Not enough of us did enough to stop this war. This war is being prosecuted with our money, by our elected officials, in our name. We all have your blood on our hands. I can't speak for my government or the millions of my compatriots that feel murdering thousands of innocents is morally permissible. I can only speak for myself and a minority of like-minded Americans when I say I am sorry for what we are doing to you. Now, as the bombs fall, we can only watch with helpless shame the sickening spectacle of destruction. We pledge to you we will try harder in the future, to agitate and protest and work to make this our country's last imperialist war.

This is a condensed version of "An Apology to the People of Iraq" To see the entire piece, go to: <http://www.fragmentsweb.org/fourtx/apology.html>

Interview with HEWHOCORRUPTS from the US, questions by Dariusz, thanx!!! I have also just found out they will tour Europe in 2004.....

1) Let's start with some info on HWC.

-Hewhocorrupts started 2000, in the fall. Some of the guys from Kungfu Rick wanted to do a band that had less people and was really goofy and different so we decided to start Hewhocorrupts. The band is a joke band that acts like a business and deals with business type concepts in songs and on stage. The drummer, bass player, and singer of Hewhocorrupts are from Kungfu Rick. The guitar player is from another Chicago hardcore band called Authority Abuse. We have released three split seven inches with such bands as Godstomper, Tusk, and Wilbur Cobb, and are currently recording for a CDEP and a split seven inch with a Chicago band called Don't Worry About It.

We also plan on recording for a split seven inch with Fork Knife Spoon and for a full length (probably out by now - Stev!!)

2) Why the name He Who Corrupts?

The name Hewhocorrupts was taken from my record label called, Hewhocorrupts Inc., that existed before Hewhocorrupts. The guys in the band really liked that name so we decided to use it for the band. That way it would be really confusing for people to know whether someone was referring to the band or label in the future, and we thought that would be funny. The name also fits with our business theme for the band so all together it works really well with us.

HEWHOCORRUPTS forge again records inc



Ross Boneyard CPCU, AIC, ARM
Director Of Insurance And Risk Services,
Board of Directors
3 Years with the Company
\$250K Annual Salary plus bonuses
Company Car - 2002 Ferrari 360 Modena
Private Jet privileges - Yes
Share of Stock - 20%
401K with full pension.

3) What are some of the lyrics about, what do they deal with?

The lyrics are very strange. They usually deal with a twisted view of capitalist culture through the eyes of someone who is maintaining it. I decided when the band was started that I would not attack politics the conventional way of just being straight forward about it but from the eye

of the oppressor. That way, one could see the problems from another view and have a different outlook on them.

4) Much happening in your area? How's the local DIY scene and are there some political active people like Tony Victory (wicked joke)?

The scene around Chicago is very good. I've been part of it for a long time and it just seems to get better and better. More bands, more friendship, and more understanding with one another. There are a lot of new bands that have popped up who are real cool like Step Forward Look West, Beneath The Wheel, Definite Choice, etc. I haven't heard the name Tony Victory in a while. I have nothing against him, but I really didn't care for the music that he was associate with.



5) It doesn't seem to be important these days for people in the scene to be vegetarian. What's this shit about personal choice? What's your opinion on this? Surely being involved in a politically active punk scene that's supposed to be against all the evils of our society means being at least vegetarian? What do you think?

Well, I think one can learn a lot through hardcore music and the punk scene and if they don't take vegetarianism away from it that's ok. Maybe they will take something else. I would rather not have people come into the punk scene and immediately put on the punk blindfold and take all of punk's ideals up. I think one should be conscience of what they are willing to take on and if they are not into a certain idea they should not adhere to it. I myself am vegetarian because I believe in the concept. However, I can see how many might not believe in it and that is fine. I think nothing less of them because different people have different views,

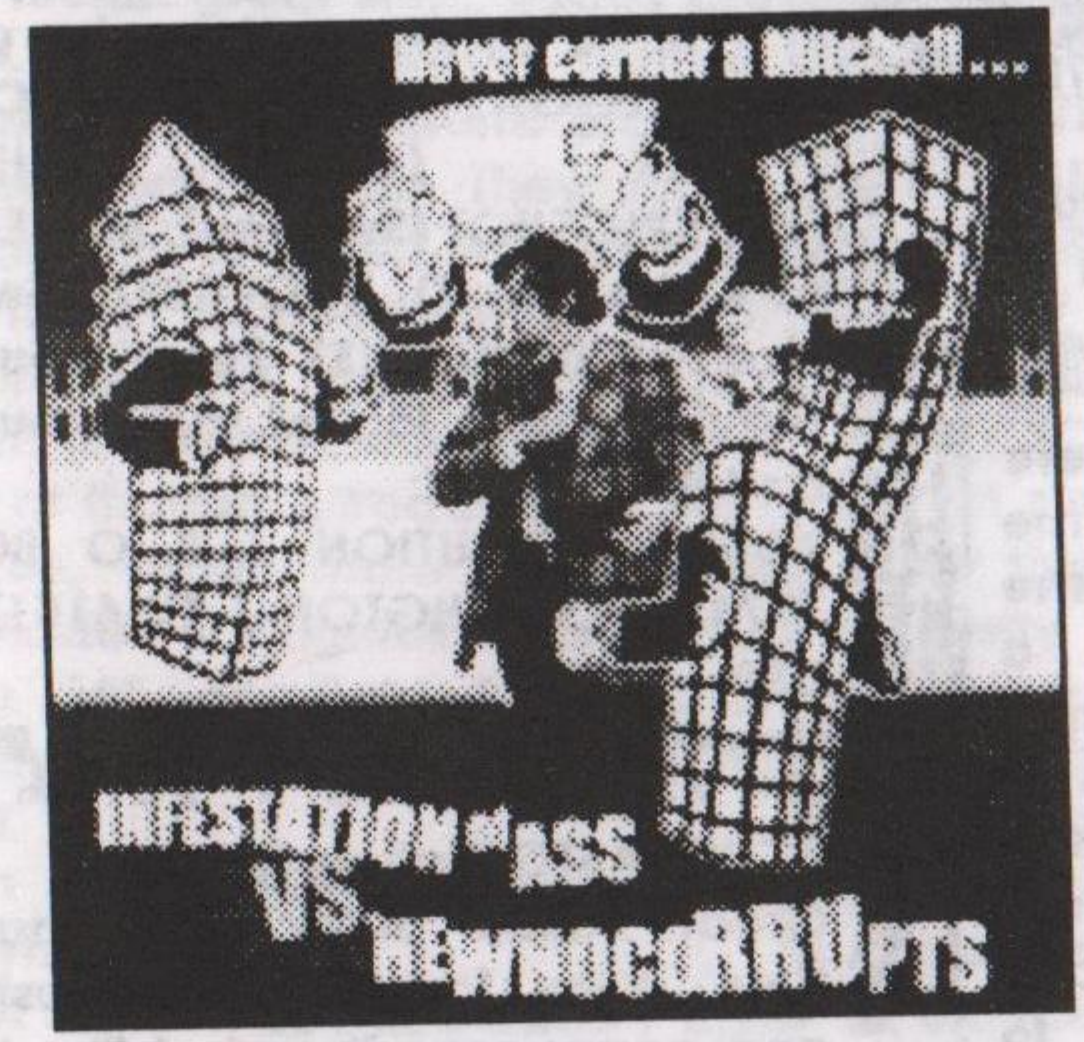
and if they didn't this world would be a much less interesting place than it is.

6) Who's the best and worst band you've ever seen live?

The best band that I have ever seen perform is In/Humanity. I was very young at the time but I can remember the feeling I had when I watch them play and they really put it all together for me when they played. I saw these guys screaming and going wild and I saw that they were doing this because they were truly into what they were doing and were not bothered by the fact that they were playing to a bunch of kids that were 10 years younger than them or that they probably weren't going to get much money that night, or that they drove hours and hours to come play in a basement. I really can't say who was the worst band that I ever saw because I don't really think about it in those terms.

7) What do HWC guys do outside of the band (jobs, hobbies, etc)?

I go to college and work each day. On the weekends I play with my bands and work on label stuff. Our bass player works and goes to school too. Now that I think about it, we all work and go to school. We are pretty boring aren't we? Sorry. Oh, here is a fun fact. I enjoy playing tennis sometimes!



8) Mr. Bush is having a go at Afghanistan - what's your opinion on his latest work and what do the majority of americans think?

I don't agree with the strikes on Afghanistan. I think anytime you are going to attack someone others will get hurt in the process and they are being hurt right now. I do think the Taliban should be dismantled but that is not because of what happened on Sept 11th. They have had many human rights violations in the past. I think

the majority of American's still agree with the President that we should be in Afghanistan which is sad. I don't agree with what Bin Laden did, but I also won't ignore what the US has done to warrant such an attack. Granted no one deserves to die like those on Sept. 11th, but maybe if the USA would have been more considerate to others things like that might have been avoided. Again, I'm not saying Bin Laden is right, I think he should be punished, but not through death because I do not believe that that solves anything.



9) What news bands have you been listening to a lot recently?

Lately I have been listening to Haymarket Riot, The Brockmeyers, and Calvary a lot. All are Chicago bands that are punk rock bands. Haymarket Riot sorta sounds like Fugazi. The Brockmeyers have an old school punk sound to them similar to The Ramones or The Dead Boys and Calvary sorta sound like Wire from back in the day. All bands that I recommend people to check out.

10) Well, I guess that's about all I've got to bother you with so is there anything else you wanna add to it or anything you want to say to anybody?

I just wanted to thank you Dariusz for the interview. You have been a very good friend to me and I wish you the best of luck in the future. If anyone would like to contact Hewhocorrupts please either write or send us an email.

Thanks. Ryan.
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USA
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http://www.hewhocorrupts.com

REVIEWS

(all reviews by Steve unless Stated)

scratch that... picture in y

*** APOLOGY III

Sorry to anyone who sent stuff in for review and its not been reviewed here. I couldn't review everything I've been sent in the 2 and a half years since my last zine, as it would take up and entire zine on its own, and I don't want the review pages to fill up too big a proportion of the zine as reviews can get kinda boring if there's too many and there's better things to fill the zine up with... so how I've done it is that the reviews here are of the stuff I liked best, and the most recent reviews/newest releases.... So hopefully it aint too dated (Ripping Thrash has a long reputation for out of date content however!)... there were lots of other reviews written and plenty of reviews going back over the 2 years, so the ones already written (along with these ones) appear on my website www.rippingthrash.com so check there if your review doesn't appear here. If your review doesn't appear on the website either, then I either thought your release wasn't worth reviewing, or I just fucked up in the chaotic state of Ripping Thrash in the last 2 years. Now everything is up to date I plan to keep on track with the zine and keep everything more timely.....

were never part of any scene (they were) and then...

**NOTE: in these reviews, CDs might mean pressed CDs, or CD-R's. I ain't gonna distinguish between the 2 formats even though some CD elitist snobs do! If something gets a good review here, then in my view you should check it out and it ain't gonna be any less good just because it's a CDR. So there!

to a boil as I strike our next sul

LOS CRUDOS Discografia CD

Wow! What a discography this is! 11 74 tracks in 71 minutes!! I thought it might be too much to listen to in one go, but I enjoyed it all. Albums, comp tracks, live tracks you got the lot. Raging US latino HC to the max. Members are now in Limp Wrist I believe but I have yet to hear said band. This is full on raging hispanic punk and it don't come much better than this!

BEAT GENERATION / APDO 18107 MADRID / 2080 MADRID / SPAIN/

SIN DIOS Ingobernables CD

Sin Dios are just amazing. Best band I've seen in 2002.... From Spain, they are playing mainly fast hc punk, but unlike a lot of other bands, although its raging as hell, they manage to craft some great tunes without losing any anger (this band is very political and you get full texts, lyrics etc, in spanish though, with both the CD and LP versions). This is their latest album, but their previous 3 albums are also fuckin shit hot. If you see anything on distros by this band, pick the fucker up! Reminds me of angry european bands from the 80s/90s before everything went crust!!! New CD Odio al Imperio is now out too and its their best yet!! DONT BELONG RECORDS / APDO. 8035 / 33200 XIXON / SPAIN.

INTESTINAL DISEASE Counting The Damage LP

This is great stuff from Belgium here. They had previous split LP with Rot, but they weren't as extreme grindcore sounding as Rot, this ain't no tame shit here though, it really hit me straightaway as it rages big time from the first track.... not a typical band either, I thought they had a big Seein Red sound in a lot of places, which ain't that common.. sure they do some faster and more grind influenced stuff too..... varied enough to keep ya interested but never veering from the noise attack. This record is a fucker! They sound like they mean it in the music and in the lyrics!!

UXICON RECCORDS / BURT BEYENS / VEST 36 / 3271 ZICHEM / BELGIUM BUSHOS DISCOS / CX POSTAL 12 / CENTRO ST. ANDRE / SP-09001-970 / BRAZIL.

I CAN'T GO THROUGH IT AGAIN.

DEATHSIDE The Will Never Die CD

Deathside were the bees-knees of Japanese hardcore punk.... A bootleg I assume. Here you got all the singles and compilation tracks they ever did, Top stuff, 33 tracks in all.... Absolute classic. Typical Jap hardcore, blazing all the way, some metal influences here and there.

PROLE RECORDS / KASKENKATU 6 B 19 / 20700 TURKU / FINLAND. played really good very fast

NK6 Keep On Keeping On CD

Wow! This is the stuff. It's only a 12 minute MCD, but this is shit hot! Typical old style Japanese hardcore punk is the order of the day here. Crazy stuff with multitudes of energy. This one has been produced by one of the Gauze members, so you know what to expect! Where do all these Japanese bands come from ???!

DERANGED RECORDS / P O BOX 543 / STN. P TORONTO / ON M5S 2T1 / CANADA.

V/A Tomorrow Will Be Worse comp CD

Wow! Sound Pollution put out some truly great stuff! They specialise in fast, noisy stuff from all over, hc/crust noise stuff but without the metal overtones that so many adopt these days! Great from start to finish this. SCALPLOCK have 3 tracks that piss all over the LP I have by them. You also get REAL REGGAE (Japan), 9 SHOCKS TERROR (US), RUIDO (US), KRIGSHOT (Sweden), MUKEKA DI RATO (Brazil), UNCURBED (Swe) and MK ULTRA (US). Phew! Sound Pollution have lots of stuff around and its all great!

SOUND POLLUTION / P O BOX 17742 / COVINGTON / KY 41017 / USA.

CONTRASTO Statico Senso LP

Great Italian political HC punk here. Very fast played (mostly) and angry sounding, but like the old Italian bands still trying to sound tuneful too... and those furious Italian vocals that are renowned from past Italian bands.... If you like Sin Dios then you can't go wrong with this.... It's quality this. A nice thick booklet too with lyrics, texts and explanations in both Italian and english.

AGIPUNK / c/o MILANI GIAMPIERO / CP 63 / 27100 PAVIA / ITALY.

PAINTBOX Singing Shouting Crying CD

I fuckin' love this! Classic Japcore here from the HG Fact label who release tons of stuff. Crazy but relatively tuneful, and slightly metal. If you think TETSUARREY meets DEATHSIDE then you'll have an idea what this sounds like. I have some of these on my distro list. They have 2 other CDs available too, I am going to try and get them too!

HG FACT / 401 HONGO-M / 2-36 2 YAYOI-CHO / NAKANO / TOKYO / ZIP 164-0013 / JAPAN.

THE EXECUTE 13 Grave Society CD

The Execute were a fuckin' ace band from Japan from the 80s, but this is the most I've ever heard by em.. they had a track on the P.E.A.C.E. double LP all those years ago. They were in the first wave of HC punk bands from Japan, before it all went fast and crazy!! This ain't tame stuff though, far from it, although its not fast, its still raging and intense as fuck! On this CD seems to be more or less everything they ever put out and some stuff off comps too. It's a Japanese classic - and as it says on the cover - "play at full volume as break ears!"!!! SPOCK RECORDS, no address. (bootleg ??)

KAAOS Ismit CD

The title of this CD translates as Isms... well this is a masterpiece in raging political hardcore punkism (!)... fuckin great stuff, Kaaos are back. You sometimes wonder about bands who reform etc, but no fears with this lot. They sound exactly like they did in the 80s, a little more 'polished' maybe, but not in a bad way. The is THE album of the moment. Hard to get hold of though, already sold out I believe, surely more copies will be made? It originally came out as a 10" on Fight Records in Finland, then pressed on CD in Brazil.

FIGHT RECORDS, address elsewhere

USINA DE SANQUE RECORDS / c/o FABIO DE VALLE / CAIXA POSTAL 155 / CEP 09910-970 / DIADEMA - SP / BRAZIL.

TERROTEN RECORDS / c/o RENAN FAVERO / BOX 8080 / CEP 90201-970 / PORTO ALEGRE - RS / BRAZIL.

V/A Music For The Underprivileged CD

A comp of mainly street punk

bands here brought to you by various labels from the UK, like Dislocate Records, Kirk To Scotty Records, Rock Em Dead, and Punk Shit Records. 5 bands, Blisterhead are from Europe somewhere I think, but not sure where - Scandinavian ?? they're pretty awful though. Homebrew from Yorkshire - best of the bunch. Bomb scare from Australia are pretty good, and good lyrics, and they have a song called McDonalds Is Shit! Then you have Dogshit Sandwich, sorry but pretty awful stuff here, and finally Tower Blocks, streetpunk skinhead stuff from Germany. Get this if you're into your streetpunk, great value for money and DIY as fuck!

KIRK TO SCOTTY / 25 PLANTHILL ROAD / HIGHER BLACKLEY / MANCHESTER / M9 6WH.

EASTFIELD Keep It Spikey CD

How many years have Brummies Eastfield been at it now ? It must be a fair few, I remember seeing them live years ago and to be honest not reckoning that much to 'em, but now with two albums out, and albeit a much changed lineup, and they seem to gig like buggery this year, I've grown to like em a lot. Their latest album (Fanaticos Para Trenes) is great, and this one I was sent for review is their first album re-mastered and re-released. Bouncy uptempo simple punk here. They really should ditch the train spotter stuff though...don't they know that the train systems totally fucked beyond hope?

RUPTURED AMBITIONS / OLD FORGE COTTAGE / RUSHFORD / LAMERTON / TAVISTOCK / DEVON / PL19 8RY.

SCISSORFIST ..Think Demo EP

Not sure on the available formats for this one, but mines on CDR... pretty good it is too. Young upcoming band from the Manchester area, won't be everyone's cup of tea, but it's a nice change to all the streetpunk that seems resurgence in today's uk scene.. anyway, this is fast hc punk, reminds me a little of eggraid, but not as tight and not quite as raw. Hope to see more from these lot. 7 tracks here in 10 minutes or so.

25 PLANTHILL ROAD / HIGHER BLACKLEY / MANCHESTER / M9 6WH.

GOTHAM C.T. LP

I like this. Ska from France, proper

ska ala Bad Manners etc.... I'd never heard them before but I do play this one from time to time and its an enjoyable listen. Mostly instrumental songs, only 1 track has lyrics. Oh, and they have an obsession with Batman it seems.... SKALAM'ALIKOUM 25 / RUE ST GABRIEL / 59000 LILLE / FRANCE. <http://mistadeeka.free.fr/gotham-ct.htm>

KANSANDEMOKRATIA Vainottu 7"EP

This was a nice surprise from Fight Records. Not your usual crusty Finnish core, this is more like 80's Finnish stuff, fast and spastic but remaining quite tuneful, with some jazzy bits here and there. This is the kind of stuff I used to like years ago, think Raped Teenagers etc. Sung in Finnish which adds spice to the mixture. Love this!

FIGHT RECORDS / HIKIVUORENKATU 17 D 36 / 33710 TAMPERE / FINLAND.

PIZDA MATERNA / BRIGADE OD split LP

Well it's been a long time since I've pulled out a record & gone WOW! This was due to the LP being a multi coloured picture disc, not what you'd expect from Slovenian crust bands but very impressive none the less as is the Brigade OD side's black & white industrial picture but you don't judge books by covers or records by sleeves etc, so what's this sound like - well there's an undeniable quality all the way through - P.M. have a high quality studio recording that grabs you, female/male vocals screamed and sung (one part has a SEARS feel to it) but with a slightly metal chord feel to it. Angry aggressive aware crust punk - Lea's vocals are both as powerful on the sung and screamed parts. I can imagine a great live performance from these people.

B.O.D. although a live recording at the MKNZ, like all MKNZ live recordings this is totally top bollocks a clear fast assault in a European crust style - fantastic drumming, great vocals an heavy guitars, makes you wish you were there. Hard to put a comparison to these but has the power and energy of Forca Macabra, try and get hold of this. Also to add to the intrigue of this, one side plays at 33, the other 45 rpm. Mad as fuck! (D-Fekt)

ATOMIC FART / Matjaz Lican / Vojkova nab. 31a / 6000 Koper / SLOVENIA

ARTIMUS PYLE Civil Dead 12"

More heavy hardcore type stuff from Prank Records, US, fast

screaming hardcore, done pretty well, but it's not something I'll be listening to over and over, it doesn't really stand out from a lot of similar bands for me. 8 tracks on a 45rpm 12". The lyrics to Injustice At North County were written by one of San Francisco's 14000 homeless. Other lyrics are about money and apathy from what I can make out.

PRANK RECORDS / P O BOX 410892 / SAN FRANCISCO / CA 94141-0892 / USA.

UNKIND Plant The Seed 10" LP

This is a great record from Finland. I liked their EP, and this follows on from that. Raging HC/punk in a crusty vein, but good in that it veers away from the usual Scandi dis or crust styles and forges it's own. As well as the ragers, they also slow it down from time to time. The first two tracks are classical! If I have a criticism, it's that the screaming vocals get a bit much towards the end of the record.... All vocals in English except for the first song. You also get a lyrics booklet and a smart poster, the packaging is impressive, as always from Fight Records. Lyrics cover domestic violence, the pigs, environment and animal rights. They have a new CD recently out which is great too! Check em out!

FIGHT RECORDS address elsewhere.

DISFIGURED CORPSE Mega Ultra Intergalactic Core 2000 LP

Grindcore here from the Czech Republic.... Mostly fast stuff in the ROT / AGATHOCLES / NARCOSIS style..but not all the way through, quite a bit of slower crust style.... Sounds alright too... lyrics seem a bit strange but that may be the translations.. there is a anti-nazi song that is quite clear though!! An OK LP, but I prefer their countrymen Cerebral Turbulency in this genre.

HYENYZM RECORDS / PETER HALGAS / LESKOVEC 340 / P DVORCE U BRUNTALU / 793 68 CZECH REPUBLIC.

V/A Rajoitettu Ydinsota - Tribute to Rattus CD

New from Fight Records, great packaging again for this CD, a tribute to Rattus, one of the first Finnish HC punk bands back in the 80s, with 16 bands playing Rattus covers - bands like DOOM, AOB, ACAO DIRETA, UNKIND, KAAOS, CONTRASTO, OLHO

SECO, WARCOLLAPSE, etc. Some great tracks, one or two duffers as you'd expect on a comp. If I had one criticism, it's that for a compilation, it's rather short at 30 minutes...

FIGHT RECORDS, add elsewhere
DIASPORA Gaikkodibehtet muvrat vuolas LP

This is one of those releases that just surprises you from nowhere - fucking great stuff from Finland, not your usual Finnish classic punk sound, but crusty punk stuff with male/vocals, in the vein of fellow Finns Positive/Negative and Unkind. I guess you'd say English sounding really, although it reminds me of Detestation as well. I Thoughtful caring lyrics that are detailed, not just short sharp slogans, in fact there's a song about sloganeering and having an alternative, thinking ahead beyond the 'revolution'. I can't really fault this LP at all, anyone into punk / crust should get this!

Released collectively by several labels, in the UK:
BBP / BOX 81 / 82 COLSTON ST / BRISTOL / BS1 5BB.

V/A Stockholm's Mangel CD

Classic bands from the Swedish scene of 1983 - 1986 here, some of the bands who started the mangel or skandicrust style. Here we kick off with the hyperspeed MOB 47, then the more Discharge styled AGONI, then back to the hyperspeed thrash attack of CRUDITY, then similar from PROTES BENGIT (ie fast and brutal as fuck but NO METAL!), finishing off with DISCARD (Dis-style) and ROJERS. Worth it for MOB 47 and PROTES BENGIT alone, legendary bands, but DISCARD are the only duffers on this comp (ie they're predictable and boring!)
DISTORTION RECORDS / P O BOX 6294 / 400 60 GOTHENBURG / SWEDEN.

V/A Barricades And Broken Dreams - An International Tribute To Conflict CD

A follow up to the Subhumans covers CD a couple of years ago which seemed to be a success, the same concept here with this tribute to anarcho punk faves Conflict. Although I preferred Subhumans back in the 80s, I think out of the 2 tributes I prefer this one... most the bands manage to make it angry sounding in true Conflict style. You get sleeve notes by Ian Blackfish

who compiled the CD and also by most of the bands, which include: FREEBASE, AUS ROTTEN, KISMET HC, IN THE SHIT, ROTUNDA, WAT TYLER, EGG RAID, DOGSHIT SANDWICH, DRILLER KILLER etc etc. It's an ALF supporters group benefit too...

BLACKFISH RECORDS / P O BOX 15 / LEDBURY / HR8 1YG.

AGE OF CHAOS Stop The Torture CD

1st full length release by this lot, lyrics are more serious this time round, musically err, Bus Station Loonies, UK Subs sorta especially on Stop The Debt, wouldn't mind seeing this lot live. (ANT)
AGE OF CHAOS / 49 SUSSEX VILLAGE / MANOR WAY / BOGNOR REGIS / W SUSSEX / PO22 6LF.

CHAOTIC END In Front Of Paranoia CD

The only album of this now defunct Greek band has been re-released on CD format. Members of this band were previously in Negative Stance, and are now in Hibernation.... Moody and heavy crust punk with the trademark greek vocals, in fact this band was typical of the Greek punk/crust scene.. heavily influenced by UK bands such as Antisect and Amebix. If you never heard this band before, then you ought to try this out!
ALEX SISMANIDIS / P O BOX 24107 / 110 10 PATISIA / ATHENS / GREECE.

DENAK 7"EP

This longtime Spanish band have lots of releases out.. old style grindcore in the vein of old Napalm Death.. there's even a Napalm Death cover song, and also a Ripcord cover among the 12 tracks on here. Sung in Spanish with no translations.

BIM RECORDS / F. PALM / MADANGSG. 4B / 41702 / GOTHENBURG / SWEDEN.

THE RESTARTS / LEFT FOR DEAD split 7"EP

UK anarcho punk is still alive! 2 UK bands, Restarts are pretty known already in the scene, Left For Dead play similar stuff ie. Raging punk, a pretty raw sound on this EP but these bands do play with a hint of a tune. 2 songs from each band. Restarts lyrics are about bigotry and about the perpetuation of slavery by having kids! Yeah I Erm, Left For Dead have a song about having to fight

violence with violence, and a song that's pretty negative about things (but probably accurate.).
LEFT FOR DEAD / P O BOX 8 / ETCHINGHAM / TN19 7WZ.

MY NAME IS SATAN Refuse To Kneel CD

Heavy stuff here from Ireland.... If you think His Hero Is Gone then you're on the right lines. Lyrically covers various topics but as you might expect religion comes up a few times lyrically and in the artwork... there's a lot of this kind of hardcore about these days, it's done well but I can't say it excites me too much... maybe I'm just old fashioned? Fans of the genre would be wise to check this out though.

CONTROL RECORDS / P O BOX 6591 / DUN LAOGHAIRE / DUBLIN / IRELAND.

ENSLAVED RECORDS / P O BOX 169 / BRADFORD / W YORKS / BD1 2UJ.



SCROTUM GRINDER The Greatest Sonic Abomination Ever CD

Similar sort of stuff to the above really, Scrotum Grinder though are less metally and more direct with short sharp bursts of rage. Good stuff, still a bit too 'modern' for me though. From the USA.
PRANK / P O BOX 410892 / SAN FRANCISCO / CA 94141-0892 / USA.

EARTH CITIZENS Complications LP

I think Pablo sent me this for review as he was fed up of seeing so many CD's in my review section these days!!! Certainly CD's seem to dominate these days.. but here I am showing that I will review vinyl, and am pleased to there's still plenty of vinyl out there (I distro loads of it!!) but it seems when it comes to sending stuff for review, folks only send cd's.... anyway, if you remember, Pablo from Switzerland played on the great Avaricious 10"LP, and also used to do the No Sanctuary zine which is now a radio show done by Chris from Ruptured Ambitions. Pablo played in Earth Citizens in the early 90s

and he's just released this LP which is a collection of compilation tracks and the like.... simplistic 80s style punk here done in an intense way with punk as fuck lyrics. Even though the band is no longer going, there's still great effort gone into this LP, there's a booklet enclosed. Sound quality is a bit rough in places.. Pablo has also released their other LP, called "To A Nation Of Party Lovers", which in my view is the better of the 2. Check 'em out!
STRONGLY OPPOSED RECORDS / FLURWEG 29 / 2504 BIEL / SWITZERLAND.

ORANGE WORLD Fun Noise And Message 7"EP

More vinyl from Pablo. Are there no new bands in Switzerland? This is another vinyl where he's released his old bands!! Orange World were pre-Earth Citizens, similar sort of stuff, a bit more rough sounding and thrasher/more chaotic.

ADDRESS as above

CEREBRAL TURBULENCY Impenetrable CD

Crazy old style grindcore here from the, Czech republic! Grindcore ain't my favourite style, sometimes it sounds like a sack of shit if it's not done well, but when its done as well as this I love it! I reviewed their last album which was ok but this one pisses all over it!! Think old Napalm Death or Carcass. But no sign of lyrics about corpses and body parts thankfully. Political lyrics mostly in english (albeit their english isn't the best!). 26 tracks in 36 minutes.

Yep!
MICHAL CICHY / HVIEZDOSLAVOVA 2 / 716 00 OSTRAVA-RADVANICE / CZECH REPUBLIC.

IRRITATE Everyday Evil CD

An odd sounding CD here from Finland, slowish crustcore for the main part, with the emphasis on a deep bass sound and growling grindcore style vocals..... not sure if I'd like to listen to this too often, kind of a bit one-dimensional after a while, but it's not bad. Complete scandinavian crust freaks would probably be well into this! There were no lyrics with my copy...

HOSTILE REGRESSION RECORDS / P O BOX 37 / 55801 IMATRA / FINLAND.

V/A Garanterat Mob 47 tape

Nice tape! The first side is a load

of bands covering Mob 47 tracks, bands like Hellshit, Warmachine, Crossing Chaos, Kurbits IR etc. Sound quality varies a bit, but raging stuff all the same! Side B consists a Mob 47 last ever rehearsal from september 1986!
ALP TAPES / c/o KROGH / EDGRENSE 27 / 671 50 ARVIKA / SWEDEN.



HATE MAIL KILLERS The Cardboard Effect tape

ACE stuff here! One of the best demos I've heard in ages! Riproaring and very fast crust punk with female screamed vocals but thankfully with no hint of metal influence. Just fast as fuck angry hardcore punk like it used to be (and still is if you look in the right places, ok?)

LON & MEG / 6676 N. BENDEL / FRESNO / CA 93722 / USA.

SPIKE PILEDRIVER 4 Track Fastcore tape

Ha! fastcore ain't the word I from the same area as Fastard folks, but this makes Fastard sound tame!!!! Short songs in the old Napalm Death & Carcass vein with rough production to help the effect. And not a typewriter or computer in evidence on the cover. Cover and lyrics all handwritten. Short to the point lyrics that hit the right targets! Oh, and they're a 2-piece band!
JAKE / 94 GORDON PLACE / BRIDGE OF DON / ABERDEEN / AB23 8RB

DYSMORFIC / ULCERRHOEA split 7"EP

Noise assault here!! Grindcore to the max from Dysmorfic who are from Italy, and Ulcerroea who are from Germany. Fast and unrelenting, good sounding grind here. Dysmorfic remind me a bit of Disharmonic Orchestra, and old

Austrian band... Ulcerhoera are a band we featured on a recent comp CD War On Terror, available from the Ripping Thrash address.
DYSMORFIC / TOM CONTE / VIA NERUDA 48/c / 46047 BANCOLE (MN) / ITALY.

V/A SchNusic CD

A comp CD here from the home of SchNews crew (direct action newsletter). Only 2 punk bands on here, USA's BROKEN, and also 2000 DS, apart from that it's festie/rave/dub stuff which don't interest me in the slightest, but it's all diy stuff and with sound political sentiments.. and you get some info on SchNews with the CD as well.....

S.C.R.A.P. RECORDS / P O BOX 2600 / BRIGHTON / EAST SUSSEX / BN2 2DX. www.dirtysquatters.com

V/A Proud To Be Gay tape

Fuckin great crust punk comp tape here from the UPS camp, with most bands shouting about gay issues. Originally this was meant to be a benefit for a guy who refuged from Romania because he is homosexual. The tape got delayed due to various reasons, so I dunno what happened to the guy. Anyway it's still a great tape featuring the likes of BOYCOT, SLAGANFALL, DROP DEAD, SCUM BRIGADE, JESUS CROST, CRESS, AOB and more. This is the sort of anarcho punk crust that inspires and is an increasing rarity these days....
UPS / WANMOLEN 5 / 3833 ED / LEUSDEN / NETHERLANDS.

V/A What Would Mummy Say? CD

A compilation CD of mainly pop punk bands from the UK, plus a couple of ska bands, and some punkier bands too. Some names you might know are EASTFIELD, DOGSHIT SANDWICH, THE ANTISOCIALWORKERS, ANNALISE, VANILLA POD etc.
Released the DIY way and goes to show that in my view the UK pop-punk bands are as good if not better than a lot of the over-rated US big names, they have the spirit and the songs even if not the over-production, that's my view anyway...

FROZENORTH RECORDS / 64 RIVERBANK FLATS / LALEHAM ROAD / STAINES / MIDDLESEX / TW18 2QF.

V/A Rejected Volume III CD

A good sampler here of old and newer material from various UK

and Irish bands that Rejected has put out over the years. 30 tracks altogether from the likes of Leatherface, Runnin Riot, Striknien DC, Zero Tolerance, Oi Polloi, Pink Turds in Space, The Dickies, UK Subs, Cowboy Killers, and more. Not sure that all these bands have been on Rejected though? oh well.. Great sampler of UK/Irish punk anyway.

REJECTED RECORDS / P O BOX 6591 / DUN LAOGHAIRE / CO DUBLIN / IRELAND.

THE RONG UNS Social Control 7"EP

At last the Rong Uns get their EP out, it seems ages since I first heard these tracks... these lot are from Leicester, and they actually have two members from old Leicester grind-punk band SARCASM, hard to believe though when you hear the Rong Uns as its early 80s UK punk for show on here. 2 tracks that grow on you, I like 'em, definitely catchy early 80s influenced punk.

WEIRD RECORDS / 61 LONDON ROAD / BALDERTON / NEWARK / NOTTS / NG24 3AG.



V/A Tampere vs Portland 7"EP

Well the heavyweight hc punk scenes go head to head here, Tampere Finland and Portland USA, hell Who wins? Who cares! 4 vicious hc punk bands from each country here, check out this fucker! Finland are represented by Kaaos, Riistetyt, Pause and Absurd Attitude, Portland's side features Atrocious Madness, Warmachine, Funeral, and Bloodspit Nights. You will probably not be surprised to learn that for me Finland win this hands down !!

FIGHT RECORDS / HIKIVUORENKATU 17 D 36 / 33710 TAMPERE / FINLAND

FASTARD / DREAD 101 split 7"EP

You've probably heard of Scotland's FASTARD, with their growls and grinds etc, they make

old Napalm Death sound tame! Short sharp blasts here. Dread 101 give us some short sharp blasts of grind/crust and they're from Czech Republic. This EP is dedicated to an evicted squat in Czech called LADRONKA.
PUGGY / PINWOOD COTTAGE / TORRIES / OYNE / INVERURIE / AB51 5HZ / SCOTLAND.

THE RED EYES On Prescription CD

I think its been said in other zines that this band/album is rather bland, and I'd pretty much go along with that. I suppose they're good at what they do ie. Mainstream kinda rock/punk ala late 70s.. but to me it just has no spark.

ALAN BISHOP / 2/2 83 DUMBARTON ROAD / CLYDEBANK / GLASGOW / G81 1UE / SCOTLAND.

DR GREEN Purvas CD

Wow! This is a fucking great album! I play this one a lot. They are a ska punk band from Lithuania. I put out a split tape with them and fellow Lithuanian hc punk band INVAZIJA. This new album sees them progressing a little, the first few tracks on this album are their trademark bouncy ska punk, but later on they slow it down a fair bit with some slower ska and some dub reggae and some weird bits, at first I weren't so keen, but they pull it off, after a few plays, I appreciate the varied style of the album. They sing in their own language, which just adds to it, as it gives them quite a uniqueness. A stunning album!
DOMAS / P O BOX 790 / VILNIUS 2050 / LITHUANIA.

GRIDE Happy Birthday Gride! 7"EP

More raging stuff from Czech, fuck there seems to be a lot of crust and grind bands there. You may remember Gride from the split LP with Mrtva Budoucnost from a few years ago.... Gride fall into the grind category mostly, but in places are just in fast as fuck territory... this EP is a compilation of previous recordings from their 5 year existence. Includes covers by Napalm Death, Health Hazard and Rupture.

INSANE SOCIETY RECORDS / P O BOX 6 / 501 01 HRADEC KRALOVE / CZECH REPUBLIC.

TAPASYA / URINE SPECIMEN split 7"EP

More grindcore blasts here. Tis

noisy, production aint the best here though... Urine Specimen is a one-man grind band from Finland, Tapasya are from Brazil and are the better of the two, they just need a bit better sound... could be a good band.
BUCHO DISCOS / CP 12 - CENTRO / STO ANDRE / SP / 09015-970 / BRAZIL

GREEN BERET / MOCOVY KHAMENI split 7"EP

Mocovy Khameni is yet another grind band from Czech, 4 pummelling blasts here, a pretty muddy sound spoils this one though. On the flipside, Green Beret are from the US, and they preset 6 tracks of grind with keyboards, and they pull it off, sounds a bit unusual but I enjoyed their tracks.
HYENYZM RECS, address elsewhere.

BONES BRIGADE 7"EP

This was a nice surprise.. this is usually whats termed old school by those that know.... They're from the US and here we have 7 blasts of short sharp fast as fuck clean sounding hardcore.. probably like Out Cold or something... pretty good as what they do too, they play really fast but tight as fuck!
BELIEF CRISIS RECORDS / P O BOX 35374 / BRIGHTON / MASSACHUSETTS 02135 / USA
INOKENTIJS MARPLS Biff matos 7"EP

This is a really really good EP from a Latvian band who apparently have been playing since 1985, and you can tell that on here they sound like they know exactly what they're doing. 6 tracks here of political punk, starts off in a tuneful old punk sort of style, but a couple of tracks are more hardcore-ish and remind me a lot of the sound that near neighbours Invazija (from Lithuania) used to have on the 7" we did with them.
EZIS SPER SOLI RECORDS / c/o EINARS POLUSKINS / ILUKSTES 107-102 / RIGA, LV-1082 / LATVIA.

SCALLY Que Fue De Los Dos 7"EP

The 2nd EP from this Swiss band, comes in a nice thick package with a decent cover and one of the things that struck me was how thick the actual vinyl was on this !! Plenty of graphics with this release and the lyrics, but no English translations. Bizarrely for a Swiss band they sing in Spanish! The music is raging but tuneful, hardcore punk, kinda in the Econovhrist vein... must be

different recordings cause the last two tracks sounded a bit rosey, but the rest of it was ace!
OLIVER GARCIA / DORFPLATZ 1 / CH 8750 RIEDERN / SWITZERLAND.
SCATHA / THE DAGDA split 7"EP
A 3 label collaboration here, with nice Celtic theme on the cover artwork as always with Scatha releases, one track by each band here, Scatha (pronounced sca-huh) from Scotland, and The Dagda who are from Northern Ireland.



Both bands are quite similar, doing the gruff crust punk sort of thing. I've never been that keen on Scatha, but I liked their track on here, and I liked the Dagda's song too. A pity there's only 1 song each. 3 labels, but mine came from
PANOPTIC VISION / P O BOX 3590 / UDDINGSTON / G71 6YG / SCOTLAND.

SENZA YUMA Every Day's Your Last Day 7"EP

Sorry, but I wasn't into this at all... Sesa Yuma are mainly Birmingham punks and as far as I am aware they been going years, and they have Stu-Pid, ex- English Dogs and Police Bastard on vocals, but I much prefer his previous bands to this. Bog - standard British punk here.
RUPTURED AMBITIONS / OLD FORGE COTTAGE / LAMERTON / TAVISTOCK / DEVON / PL19 8RY.

INSTIGATORS Dine Upon The Dead CD

I was really glad to get this one for review !! It's the first release by Blackfish in a series called Gone But Not Forgotten... in this case a CD with the first 3 vinyl releases from this 80s band from Dewsbury West Yorkshire who went on to inspire many a band. You get the first EP then their 2 albums. Classic hard hitting, yet tuneful punk, I had always liked these on the compilations I heard, but for whatever reason never got around to checking out their

albums, but this is great stuff, especially the EP and first album with Semi on vocals, not so keen on the later tracks when Semi left though. You get a booklet with notes on the bands history including current quotes from the band looking back over those years. Good stuff!
BLACKFISH RECORDS / P O BOX 15 / LEDBURY / HR8 1YG / ENGLAND.
ALIENATION MENTAL Ball Spouter CD

More grind from the Czech Republic, on Cerebral Turbulency's label, and I think they may share at least one member too... Technical fast as fuck grindcore here, from a technical view this is amazing, crazy shit !!! But in places the drumming is too fast, the drummer is either the fastest drummer ever or else its been speeded up a bit in the studio...
KHAARANUS PRODUCTIONS / HVIEZDOSLAVOVA 2 / RADVANICE / 716 00 OSTRAVA / CZECH REPUBLIC.

DC-NINE / PARADE OF ENEMIES split MCD

DC-Nine from Stoke kick off this split with 4 tracks of tuneful hardcore, what you would call old school mid80s New York style... Its OK, but they are eclipsed on this split by Parade of Enemies from Southampton, who were also really good when I saw em live, but I've heard they're now split up? 6 tracks of raging hardcore, including a Reagan Youth cover. Decent split CD this
SIX MINUTE SET / 12 TIMOTHY CLOSE / STOKE ON TRENT / STAFFS / ST3 5RB.

BREZHNEV www.bullshit/control is CD

Latest album by this Amsterdam lot that have toured here 3 times I think it is now, they're here so often I lose track ha ha!! I've heard some say this isn't as good as their last album, but it sounds pretty good to me. Mind you, the best way to experience Brezhnev is live. I think they're planning another trip to the UK later this year (2003). One strange thing though:- the title track is about too many computers in our lives and to get out sass and get out of the web, yet despite this they have a website and email address....? Kinda bizarre.
D-FENS RECORDS / PMB 275 / 8 AMLAJACK BLVD / NEWNAN / GA 30265 / USA.

9. Verlae / IO. Simpsons

EGG RAID interview - done by D-Fekt - cheers mate! - I should point out that this interview is way out of date and EGG RAID actually split up a year and a bit ago... and a lot of thought went into whether I should print it or not, but d-fekt went to the trouble of thinking questions and Alex took the time to answer, there's some good points made and some good quotes, and Alex (along with Dan) now plays in Fuck Hate Propaganda.... So in the end I decided to include it... Read on.....

1/ Instead of the usual irrelevant band history which will be brought out later lets find out more about the band members, their ideas, hopes and dreams and what makes a band like Egg Raid come to a god forsaken place like Stoke on Trent? Well the initial idea for moving was to free ourselves from our day-to-day common problem that is WORK!!! Unfortunately this is only the first step towards solving this major problem, we decided that there is no way to get out of the rat race by doing things alone but working as a group you stand a much better chance. At the end of the day we all want to pursue what is important to each of us, artistically or otherwise without having to sell 8hrs a day of our time, time that we will never get back. I would like to say that in the future the band will operate more and more like a functional collective where we can all support each other and hopefully start to fulfil our personal dreams as well as being able to make the band a lifestyle as opposed to a 'hobby'. At the end of the day being in this band has allowed us to develop personally as well as musically by having four different people with four different points of view and using the band as an open forum for every ones ideas and views. As for why we chose Stoke, well, it's cheap!!! It's also within easy reach of Leeds, Bradford, Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester, Derby, Manchester etc... so we get to go to loadsa gigs.

2/ From your current sound there seems to be a heavy European/ Italian Hardcore feel to it, so how does a band whose name comes from an early Beastie Boys record come to be playing raging music? If you listen to that Beastie Boys 7" it was pretty raging thrash for the time, I dunno why we sound like we do, we've not always been that raging just listen to the

first CD and the songs we wrote after that were soft as shit, but that was more down to having a drummer that decided that he had 'done playing fast', but those songs were good, they started to allow us to be able to pull together our musical influences a little bit better. When that drummer left we started playing fast again did some recordings that came out as the split CD with Flyboy and things just got progressively faster from then on. The sound we have now is a natural progression of us constantly pushing back our own musical boundaries, discovering and redefining what we can do all the time, if there is a European/ Italian Hardcore feel to our music it is unintentional, sure I love stuff like Raw Power, Wretched etc... and loads of other European HC past and present and I can't say that we're not influenced by that stuff but we're not influenced solely by one style of music either. I think pretty much we are a combination of everything each one of us has heard and every ones part in the song writing process is equal so the resulting product is our sound.



3/ There seems to be a new wave of people in the hardcore movement that strive for music perfection / professional quality recordings and graphics that contradicts the do it yourself ethos that built the hardcore punk community, what are your views on this? I don't really know about musical perfection that's a difficult one really, it's very subjective it's also very difficult to criticize the way another band chooses to express themselves, personally I always prefer listening to stuff on the rawer side of things where it is just pure emotion and performance. I think that most of the time the

emotional side of things gets lost when you're playing the same riff or singing the same line 50 times in a row. I think too much emphasis is placed on the recording quality nowadays, the production seems to matter as much as the songs which should never be the case and as far as bands / labels getting professional graphics companies to hone their image well I don't think I even need to answer that one!! All this does is takes the scene away from the people, everything becomes unobtainable and highbrow, this scene is supposed to involve everyone who wants to be involved, if you want to be in a band start your own band, it doesn't matter if you are crap (our first demo was terrible but we were having fun), you can do zines, distros, put gigs on, go to gigs with bands you've never heard of. Participation is the key but if you've got to have a pro recording, be a virtuoso on your instrument and have your image sorted out by someone else then you are not going to get that many people participating at grass roots levels.

4/ At the end of the day what does Hardcore punk mean to you apart from the lack of space in your home because of all the records, CDs and zines cluttering up the place? Punk / Hardcore to me was and still is about being able to express yourself in whatever way you want to. An expression of music, art and ideas with complete freedom, to be able to take on other ideas take what is relevant to yourself and form your own opinion. I think there is proof that this works by the very fact that Punk / Hardcore is such a diverse musical category, irrespective of all the stupid subdivisions that seem to be ruining things now. Aside from that I've got all the memories of all the great bands I've seen through the years, I've got friends everywhere, all my records, CD's that no-ones ever heard of, all my zines cluttering up my house, my life actually seems to have some direction and 10 years of work hasn't sucked all my dreams out of me yet, vive la resistance!!!!

5/ Still on the subject of Hardcore records / products etc are we really making an alternative to societies norm or are we just keeping record/CD pressing plants in a healthy trade. What are your views on zines like Max R'n'R and Fracture dissing CDR releases. In a

digital world is not the quality just as high as a plant that burns two thousand CDs as one quality home burner? As to creating an alternative that depends on the individual product, a lot of bands have no interest in creating or offering an alternative to societies norm, which is a shame when they are involved in the punk scene. Keeping pressing plants in trade well that's just a bi-product of releasing anything, unless we could get the entire punk community world wide to buy a pressing plant but then you'd still have to buy the raw materials from somewhere. I think people see CDR releases like tapes, I don't agree with Max R'n'R policy on CDR's, surely it's the music that counts and I'm sure a lot of bands can't afford to get 500 CD's pressed at a time, as I said before all this does is take the scene away from the people stopping the underground scene getting exposure in it's own press. I wasn't aware that Fracture had a problem with CDR's, we've sent in CDR's before and they've always 'reviewed' them. CDR's as far as I can tell are just as good quality as pressed CD's I have heard that they only last for 100 plays, I dunno whether this is true or not, time will tell.

6/ After two thousand years of convention are we just doomed to make the same mistakes that other rebellious cults have in the past and anyway aren't parts of our society worth fighting for i.e. local community spirit and racial harmony? Two thousand years of convention or Christianity? I think that as it stands at the moment nothing will happen or is likely to happen until we can offer a viable alternative to the masses. Everyone's been told for so long that they need a new TV, Car, Washing Machine that people have become apathetic and comfortable with the idea that they need to work every day for the rest of their lives to achieve these goals. How can you educate people who don't want to be educated? I think that parts of our society are worth fighting for, Local Community Spirit and Racial Harmony would be great but it all comes down to the same thing, changing the way the general public views things. Unfortunately the Government is very good at giving people just enough to keep them happy, making people feel that there is always someone worse off than

themselves, someone poorer than them, always someone to ridicule, so they divide us up get us fighting amongst ourselves and then do what ever they want and no one notices because someone told us politics is boring.



7/ Was George Orwell correct, is there a Big Brother watching us, are we controlled by the state or is it just self-induced paranoia to give the kids something to sing about and to angst their anger in a world gone mad? To a certain extent George Orwell was correct, I don't think people are being controlled to the same level as 1984 but we are being controlled. It's much more subliminal, it seems we are sold ideas and because we seem to crave acceptance we just blindly follow. It will be interesting to see what will change after the attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon, will they bring out more draconian laws, will we move even closer to a police state. The American Government has announced it's 'war' on 'terrorism' but as far as I can see this is a war on anyone who doesn't agree with them. The media seem intent on stirring up nationalist pride and people seem intent on killing the 'terrorist scum' without even understanding why anyone might want to destroy the trade centre. World gone mad, Yeah!!!! Maybe 1984's gonna happen 20 years late. Maybe a better George Orwell reference to today's society is 'Keep the aspistras flying' where one man tries to live a creative life outside the boundaries of normal society and fails. Check it out!

8/ OK, ten years down the line what do you expect to be doing, have any of the band members got a game plan or is it pretty much

a case of what happens, happens? Ten years is a long time, anything could happen, I can't see that we won't still be involved in some way but you never know do you.

9/ There seems to be a couple of band whores in Egg Raid, does this cause problems or is it a good thing and have you any more plans to explore future projects? Band whore? I play in one other band, its not like I'm standing on some dodgy street corner in Stoke flashing my guitar to seedy looking businessmen (although it has been known!). I think it is a good thing to have a different perspective, especially playing a different instrument. I think it helps you understand how things are for other members of the band. It is also great to have other creative outputs musically. It keeps your ideas fresh and your creativity turning over. We also have an understanding that Egg Raid is always prioritised so there is no problem with booking and playing gigs, as long as I remember not to piss anyone off things are just fine!

10/ Obvious question but a must for the people who haven't heard you. You do a Terveet Kadet cover (insert song title?) why, and what made you pick TK for your cover band song, every band has a cover song reason? In fact we do two Terveet Kadet songs 'Vapaa Pohjola' and 'Ei Enaa Koskaan Sotaa' / 'Moottori' from the first two 7"s. I just like the idea of a band from a small town in northern Finland in complete isolation putting out the rawest most extreme music anyone could possibly comprehend in 1980. I've read interviews where they said they just wanted to sound like Discharge but the first 3 7" go beyond just wanting to sound like anyone, I just found them totally inspiring, the music still sounds fresh today and the songs are easy to play, I think the riffs are the same but played backwards Ha Ha Ha.....!!!!!!!

The end... as I remember this was the start of an interview and more questions were going to be asked, including some from myself but then the band split up so that was that.. maybe a FHP int will be done at some point to continue the trilogy

FUTURE OF PUNK ?

About a year ago, I did an interview for a Serbian zine called OOPS.... when I'd done it I felt like I had been a bit negative about the scene and stuff in places.... In particular the question below, so I wondered what some others may have thought about those aspects of the interview... so I mailed this to a few folks, and was hoping to get a discussion going and keep the conversation between us flowing and exchange some ideas which I would then print in this here zine... alas, only Graham (Crime Scene distro) and Andras replied, and I got so busy with other things that I neglected the zine a little bit and didn't really follow this through as much as I planned.. anyhow, some opinions are expressed, so I thought I'd still print them here... anyone got any comments? Then get in touch with me at the address at the front, cheers. You can view the whole interview I answered on my webpage at www.rippingthrash.com Thanks to Graham and Andras for the input.... If anyone has opinions about any of the points raised here, let me know. I want feedback !!!!

AND ABOUT SCENE BACK THEN - CAN YOU MAYBE MAKE SOME COMPARISONS BETWEEN THOSE DAYS AND TODAY'S SCENE?

Steve: Yes, a lot of things have changed, I guess things can't stand still, people change, so by nature the scene is gonna change too, although I think a lot of the changes aren't for the better. Maybe I'm just sentimental, but I think the scene was better back then... but that's maybe just cause it was newer to me then? Main changes: the scene is a lot smaller now, especially in the UK, I think a lot of the old crew have settled down, left the scene, got into rave or whatever. It's a very small core of people left that are active, and gig attendances these days are quite low, back in the 80s it was a lot bigger, I suppose cause of bands like CRASS and CONFLICT. One positive note though is that the DIY network across the world is a lot more organised these days, back in the mid-80s there wasn't really an established diy network for distributing records etc. Another change in the scene is that it is now more split into different factions such as new school hardcore, pop-punk, emo, grind, anarcho punk etc. I remember back in the 80s that everything was part of one general hardcore punk scene. Young kids in the UK sadly are not getting into anarcho punk, crust etc, they all go for the skate punk, new school and emo shit, which probably explains a little why the scene is so small, the anarcho punk scene here is mainly full of 30+ folks such as me !!!

WHERE DO YOU SEE PUNK GOING?

Steve: I really don't know where punk is going to go. I'm positive about a lot of things, but in general I'm negative about the scene as it is getting smaller all the time, I'm talking about anarcho punk, hardcore punk scene of course rather than punk in general (ie pop punk etc), the scene is getting smaller, people lose interest as they get older and they aren't replaced by younger members, it's the same people who keep things going and so what will it be like in 10-15 years when a lot of us are approaching 50 years old ?? well I think the punk scene will still exist because there's a core of people who are 'in it for life', it's part of us. So I think something will still be happening, but I think it could achieve so much more than it is at present... I think the only way to combat this is for the scene to be more united, as there's a lot of people doing good things but in all different scenes etc, it all needs bringing together... it's too segregated at present which I think is killing the scene. Also it seems to me that the scene isn't political as it used to be. I suppose that's understandable to an extent when you consider the mid 80s scene was bigger and inspired by Crass, Conflict etc. But on the positive side a lot of people are still actively involved in political stuff, it's just usually on a more local level I think than in the past (except for the anti capitalist demos for example). It's a common perception that the punk scene and the activist scenes are more separate than in the past.

Andras: First off, your interview with the Serbian zine. I don't think that you were negative at all, really, just pretty objective and realistic. I will take issue with one point of yours though, where you say: "Young kids in the UK sadly are not getting into anarcho punk ..."

This raises a few issues. First off is the one of musical taste. I'm not into anarcho punk as musically it does absolutely nothing for me. This is not to say that I don't empathise with the ideas and opinions that some anarcho bands put forward, it's just that the medium leaves me cold. Moving on to the message, I have to admit that I think the one put forward by most anarcho bands is that of resigned negativity. Yes, I know that things are fucked up, I know the world is going to hell, but it doesn't take a punk band to tell me that. I can switch on BBC News 24 and get enough fuel for negativity and bitterness. This is one of the

reasons kids don't switch on to anarcho. They're at a stage of their life when they're full of energy and, for the most part, joy. They're not yet jaded enough to empathise with anarcho. They're also confused about a lot of things which we older punkers take for granted - sexuality, relationships, peer pressure - so find a sympathetic ear in skate punk and emo etc. This is why bands like Good Riddance, Avail, Dillinger Four and Propagandhi will probably do more to influence kids politically than some bitter anarcho band trotting out the same party line as they were doing nearly 20 years ago. I also think that anarcho bands are so stuck in their own ghetto that they don't see that it's actually a fantastic thing that kids get into Avail, Dillinger Four and Propagandhi as opposed to the mainstream alternatives of Blink 182, Sum 41 and nu-metal crap. And maybe some kids will get to the good, independent label stuff by starting off listening to Blink 182 - how many of their fans gave wondered about the drummer's Dag Nasty tattoo, for example? Finally, I think the point of ghetto is vital. I feel that the anarcho scene makes no effort at all to include "the kids", plowing on in the same tired furrow. Here in Bristol, local collectives put on the kind of bands which they like - largely anarcho. Which is fine, but then they complain that the kids and people like myself don't turn up. I supported anarcho gigs for years, hated most of the bands but did my bit for "the scene". Needless to say, the same dedication wasn't shown when other, non-anarcho punk and hardcore bands did the rounds and eventually I got sick of hearing the same tired lines with no real positive solutions beyond trotted out to the drunken converted. If we want to talk of "unity" we have to go back to those genuinely mixed line-ups of yore - put on a sXe hardcore band with an anarcho band, a skate band and an emo band and you might actually get somewhere towards that vague ideal of genuine scene unity: the underground against the mainstream.

Graham (2003): I agree with Andras on the point of @narcho exclusivity. I have been part of putting gigs on for years in Bristol now and granted I tend to only put on bands I like (why lose money on bands I don't like?) but there's a large slice of our crowd who only go to certain styles of punk and do moan about "the youth" not turning up. Well the prospect of attending a

gig full of drunken 30 somethings harping on about the 80's and looking down their noses at anyone with a taste in music which doesn't fit their microscopic worldview must be pretty daunting. This obviously isn't the case of all older punks but you know, unless we encourage people to get involved it'll turn into Kerrang punk and MTV arseholes before we know it. Share your fucking thoughts and tape them old bands, lend them zines, don't just moan about them.

Steve: Andras raises a few points here that I would question... first off, people don't know how fucked the world is, or if they do, they aren't always aware as to why and the real reasons for all of this mess, ie reading between the lines and seeing through the bullshit fed from the main news channels and through the tabloid press.... And how many young kids are tuning in to BBC News 24, only a minority I would've thought... to take a paerrticular topic, I would guess there is little coverage of say animal rights on BBC News 24... in fact animal rights issues are mainly ignored by the media, there seems to me to be more sympathy in the mainstream media for anti capitalism issues than for animal rights issues... and as the media in this country is so powerful, that has to have quite an effect...

The other point I would question is about kids being young and not being cynical or jaded enough to be into anarcho... so whats changed since 1982 then? I can speak for myself and probably a lot of other people my age that were 'youths' at that time but we were brought up on the Crass era etc, and not just for the music but those bands influenced a hell of a lot of the punks who were getting into the scene at that time...the world was fucked then and punks wanted to do something about it... how many punks got into direct action through being influenced by Conflict for example? Andras, are you saying then that the world is less fucked today and that theres less for the kids to react against ?? I'd say the opposite is true and the world is more more fucked and there are more issues to react against.. I mean there are new issues now like globalisation, but all the old issues like animal rights, war, poverty etc they haven't gone away since 1980 have they? All those issues are still there... I just think its easier for kids to get into punk because of MTV, the internet etc, but the punk they get into is watered down, musically and lyrically... (with some exceptions)... The message ain't getting across... you only have to look at how many kids went in and ate at

McDonalds after seeing Propagandhi... Whats that all about? I do however agree with Andras' points about the ghettoisation of the scene at times and that more gig lineups should reflect different punk genres.. there's a few DIY gig promoters who are trying to do this so maybe that's something that's improving....

ANDRAS (May 2003) It's a mark of how jaded I've become that I seem to care less about this now than I did a year ago! I do, but I've stopped believing that punk either has any of the answers, can do anything about it or that I would think any differently had I not got into punk/hardcore. But I digress. No, I think you're right Steve - the world is more fucked today than it was back then, but only marginally more so (compare the Gulf of Tonking incident early on in the Vietnam War to the premiss on which the latest Gulf War was fought). But there is definitely less for the kids to react against. It's often the case that the means of reaction and rebellion - art, music, literature, film - are becoming increasingly commodified (cf. Crimethink's take on the Simpsons).

On the other hand, I'd agree today with you Steve that they just don't know what's going on, through unconscious or wilful ignorance. Then again, most older people don't know where to look for creditable, trustworthy news beyond the mainstream media headlines. And most - though not all - of the younger kids that I know that are into punk/hardcore have been totally caught up in the image of it all and don't really care about either the substance beyond some sloganeering or its history, ethics etc. We have to face the fact that capitalism and the new US world order has won, for now, and all we can hope for is a rearguard action to change the nature of its victory. That's the main change since 1982, but it was on the cards even back then. Any other view betrays a critical ignorance of the extent of both governmental and corporate influence and power in the modern world and how hardwired the capitalist mindset is into everyone - even into the punk scene, which has yet to, and never will, come up with a viable alternative to the capitalist way of trading and exchanging goods. And while anarcho-punk may well have been less jaded back in the 80's, what it now presents to the outsider is a bunch of people

preaching to the converted and making no attempt - with some exceptions - to include anyone that doesn't look like all the other anarcho-punks. Well, great, just like the mainstream then. (And what's so punk about drinking corporate beer and wearing leather anyway? But that's another gripe - the truth is that few people, of any persuasion or subculture thinks about about things in detail or less than superficially (another minor capitalist victory, keeping everyone's eyes off the ball ...))

So in essence I think the future of punk is to be one of the many sub-cultures educating and inspiring a few who are disaffected with mainstream thinking and behaviour, usually before it pisses them of and disaffects them in turn with its cliquy-ness and own narrow-mindedness and the misguided notion that it is somehow the sole savoiur of anti-capitalist thought, left-wing ethics and ignored minority issues. Yeah, all the way to the bar. And the more punk allows itself to be ghettoised, the more it allows its component parts to be co-opted by corporate opportunism. But singing a few songs and doing the odd benefit will never, ever do anything about poverty, war, social injustice and animal rights other than raise the awareness of the few open-minded people still listening. (I was a little up against time when replying this time (and up against a VERY demanding two-year old!) and couldn't expand, discuss or quantify some of my statements nor yours as much as I could have and wanted to - Andras).

Graham (2003) As for people not knowing what's going on in the world with regards to politics etc. Well I personally think a lot of people do know what's what but just don't care. Sad fact I'm afraid. It takes time, effort, emotion and dedication to give a shit and that's in short supply in this cultural climate/world view that a lot of people have. It's not cynicism it's reality. The US model of capitalism has pretty much won. Punk has been co-opted by the system on a majority of levels. Most the threat has been removed from bands that are currently "trendy" in the bigger punk scene, be it the removal of virtually all politics and an obsession with punk fashion. Style over substance if you will. That said I'm not totally jaded with punk (just yet) and there's still a hell of a lot of dedicated people and bands out there to keep me inspired. There will always be a section of punk doing the right

thing, sadly I think a lot of kids will dismiss their message and just be into it for sad reasons like "it's brutal man".

Graham's answers (he answered the whole interview which was not quite my intention! But as he gave answers I may as well print them!)

WHAT IS DIY IN YOUR OPINION? This is such a subjective question that you'll never find an answer, I can see where Steve is coming from but on the other hand each person has their own take as to what is or isn't DIY. I personally disagree with Steve when he says he likes to avoid "stores" when selling his records. (Steve: I don't even buy records from stores any more!! Why would I want to trek to the nearest city to get to a record shop that's got anything half decent and then have to pay twice the price for it? All the good stuff is available from distros anyway... I've hardly been to a record shop in years...) I have no problem selling my records to the local shop in town as I ask them to keep the price down. If no-one has their records in shops how are you meant to get the all important message of punk across? Are we going to carry on preaching to an ever dwindling converted mass of 30 something punks? CRASS had their records sold in shops. It's a case of doing it on your own terms that's all. Most labels though do it through a third party such as a bigger distributor, and that's where the problems can start I guess. I guess avoiding HMV, VIRGIN etc is a good idea as they pretty much have no respect for people/bands and are just after the money. Smaller "indie" shops however are fair game with me. It's a tough nut to crack but if some-one could come up with a good distribution network for small indie shops in the UK it would be so much easier to set your own terms and conditions when selling records like keeping the price low. Hey if CRASS did it, it must be right?

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT BUSINESS IN HARDCORE? IF PEOPLE MAKE MONEY OF HARDCORE PUNK? AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ALL THOSE REUNIONS OF OLD BANDS? The idea of people making money off punk is happening, there are a number of people GOODLIFE, DISCHORD, REVELATION etc spring to mind as well as a few smaller more DIY people who's names I guess I should not mention as I doubt they're paying tax!! I have no problem with people making a living off of their bands/label/zine etc as long as they do it in a considerate manner. It'd be great if we could all

get out of working for "the man" and work for ourselves. Imagine that, I'd love to be able to write for a load of zones and get paid for it and then go off on tour for a few months with my band knowing that I'd make enough to cover my rent and bills. Life would be fucking great. I'm not talking about a lot of money just enough to get by on. As it stands most people have to suffer in shit jobs and do punk as a hobby. Punk is unfortunately so small that the chances of making a living is pretty much impossible from punk. As for old reunion bands, well as a rule I think it's a stupid idea. You are NEVER going to be as good as people remember. Punk was about getting rid of the dinosaur rock bands that toured the same set over and over again in the 70's. why is it now acceptable? You can go to the 'holidays in the sun' festival in the UK and watch bands all weekend playing 20 year old songs, which tend to have lost their relevance, and these bands get paid fucking loads of money for pretending to be something they are not. There are a few exceptions to the rule such as SUBHUMANS but they are few and far between. Do you want punk to stay the same and become safe and conservative or do you want it to continually evolve and be a threat in the here and now? Or are you happy to pretend that is 1982 and that the Falklands war is still on? Some people need to re-examine why they're involved with punk if that's the case. Punk will be left behind if it stays in the past. Maybe it already has been left behind?

DON'T YOU THINK THERE'S A LOT OF HYPOCRISY GOING ON WITHIN THE SCENE?

Good question, there is definitely hypocrisy in "the scene" as it tends to reflect "normal" society. People are people and sadly they can be self centred and complete bastards. That's a fact of life. Punk is pretty hypocritical in the fact that it (or a very large part) refuses to look at itself in a critical manner, how we do things, on a musical level, and personal/political. The answers were not cast in stone by bands like CRASS, DEAD KENNEDYS et al. WHERE DO YOU SEE PUNK GOING?

I have no idea. I know Steve is saying that it's getting smaller and smaller but personally I don't think that's true, maybe just in the UK things are pretty dead at the moment but I reckon it's cyclical and globally I think that it's bigger than ever. I bet that bands such as CRASS, BLACK FLAG etc sell as many if not more records today than they ever did. There is now

scenes in countries like MALAYSIA, PERU, ROMANIA, RUSSIA even CHINA! These people are possibly our future. What's to say the next CRASS is 'nt going to come from LITHUANIA? Punk has already discovered metal many years ago and gone down that path techno/noise seems to be a likely avenue for it to go down next. There are plenty of HIP-HOP labels and artists that could come under the banner of punk if the rules on musical style were 'nt so dogmatic in punk rock. I guess in '77 you would never have dreamed of bands like YACOPSAE, HIS HERO IS GONE, ENDSTAND etc so who knows what the future holds. As long as it does 'nt lose touch with its roots and esp. it's political content then it can be a limitless movement.

Steve: I agree with Graham in that I guess the scene globally is bigger than ever, I was referring to the UK when I said things were getting smaller... one of these days I'll get out of this country for a bit and travel, visit some friends I've made through this DIY international network and see if the scene is healthier in Europe or wherever...

IS THERE ANYTHING IN HARDCORE PUNK THAT YOU WOULD REALLY WANT TO CHANGE?

How much space you got in the zine??! Ha ha. Obviously there are a lot of things that I consider crap in punk that I'd like to change and I mean a LOT, but as it stands I think we have a decent little network globally that provides opportunities that other music scenes do not. Think about what you can do in punk that would be laughed at by "normal" people and other music genres. For instance I know I can go to pretty much any city in the UK and get a place to stay for the night, because of the community spirit of people looking out for each other just because at the end of the day they share the same music taste and political beliefs. People have travelled the world like this.

AFTER ALL THOSE YEARS DO YOU FEEL YOU'VE LOST ANY IDEALS THAT YOU HAD - ARE THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU REALLY FOUGHT FOR WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER AND LOST THAT? The older you get the more cynical and jaded you are towards a lot of things, be it politics, music or whatever. When you're young the idealistic goals you set yourself seem achievable. Come mid 20's and you start to realize that life's not fair and you are not likely to get your own way.

ka

M * O * R * E reviews

ACADEMY MORTICIANS What Happened? CD

This band have been going for years now, and finally release their debut album, this was recorded in 2000, but various problems happened with labels, and now Iron Man Records have stepped in to get it released. Academy Morticians are a Birmingham band so far as I know, playing melodic punk. I found this a bit light for the most part, its too tuneful and with the sung vocals, it wasn't really my thing at all, but I must admit after a couple of plays I like it a little better.... The songs are well crafted and the lyrics are great, intelligent and spot on attitude wise, I'm just not that keen on the music. If you like the other bands on Iron Man then you'll probably be up for this.

IRON MAN / P O BOX 9121 / BIRMINGHAM / B13 8AU
4 PAST MIDNIGHT Mental Ward CDEP

Glasgow's 4 Past Midnight are back again!! How many times have they reformed now ?!!! This 4 track CDEP is possibly their best yet, kicks off with the very catchy title track, the rest of the songs are a bit faster, decent production and I like 4PM's style which is a mix of pop-punk influences and 80s uk punk influences....

PJ64912000@YAHOO.CO.UK
SIR KILLALOT Painting By Numbers CD

Fairly bog standard punk here, not bad, but I was a bit bored in the end. Sorry. Starts of ok, powerful punk I thought sounded a little Leatherface-ish in a couple of songs, but further in it veers more towards streepunk and I lost interest.

REJECTED RECORDS / P O BOX 6591 / DUN LAOGHAIRE / CO DUBLIN / IRELAND.
ULCERRHOEA / SIVILLIMURHA split 7" EP

Definitely a tale of 2 sides this one. Ulcerrhoea are becoming an awesome grindcore band, and up there with ROT or AGATHCOLES... they have stuff out on various releases, but I think this is the best I've heard em... I

was looking forward to hearing Sivillimurha, as they were interviewed in Hell and Damnation zine, so I thought they would be great, but they are rather awful! Trying to play 80s style classic Finnish core, but with a buzzsaw guitar sound they just come across as rather shitty. Maybe (their other recordings are shit hot ? But definitely worth getting for the Ulcerrhoea tracks alone.

VITUN APARAT RECORDS / P O BOX 11 10 / D-90538 ECKENTAL / GERMANY.

TOTALT JAVLA MORKER Det Otrivilliga Lidandets Maskineri CD

Debut album on Distortion after a 7" EP.. not your usual Distortion disc here, but some fucking raging hardcore punk, with screaming dual vocals for the most part. Their 7" reminded me a bit of earlier Discharge, but on here they're more wall of noise sounding. They scream in Swedish, but there are translations of the lyrics which show them to be at the right targets and more than just words about war, dead bodies etc. eg. One of the songs is about nazi parties in some European countries that are made up of middle class middle aged men in suits etc that fool the public, kinda like our own BNP then these days, trying to make out they're some moderate electable political party.... I've no idea what the name of the album means, sorry.

DISTORTION / BOX 6294 / SE40060 GOTHENBURG / SWEDEN.

LINK The Last Sacrifice CD

Crust punk here from Belgium with a drum machine and a female vocalist from Sweden. Sounds good too, yer typical crust punk sort of sound, but I must say I am not a big fan of drum machines and this would sound awesome I reckon with a real drummer. As it is its still good though. DIY as hell burned on a CDR and the band band encourage you to make copies - FUCK COPYRIGHT it says. YEAH!

GEOFFREY GEERAERT / ZORGVIETSTRAAT 35 / 8900 DIKKEBUS / BELGIUM

AUDIO KOLLAPS Ultima Ratio CD

Great crust punk here from Germany. I think this is their first full length but I think they have been around a few years with some 7" vinyl, comps etc... Fuckin storming stuff especially when they play the straightforward fast crust stuff, with metallic influences

sometimes, which usually show through when they play the slower songs. Growly vocals add to the heaviness of this along with a top notch production. You could do worse then check this one out - It rages!

EPISTROPHY / P O BOX 312 / 30003 HANNOVER / GERMANY



CAUSE FOR EFFECT Album CD

Cause For Effect are a two man (drums and bass) band from Finland, playing jazz-grind sort of stuff. I like the off the wall jazzy style, the bass playing is fuckin awesome, but it gets a tad tedious after a while cause it gets a bit samey without the 'beef' of a guitar, and also cause of the monotony of the grunted vocals.... But if you're a grindcore maniac with a bit of an open mind I guess you would like this. 42 tracks in 30 or so minutes !!!

BUCHOS DISCOS / CP 12 / CENTRO / STO ANDRE / SP / 09015-970 / BRAZIL

LOOKING FOR AN ANSWER CD

Distortion must be branching out as they normally release mainly Swedish stuff of the DIS-variety !!!! But this is a great CD that really surprised me.... The band are from Spain and you're getting fast and powerful grindcore here.... Not always my favourite style but I like this cause its well crafted and it has a great production sound too... nice and full on. As it seems with most Spanish bands you get good political lyrics that show the band are about more than just music. Good to see a song against animal experimentation which you don't always see too much of in foreign bands...

DISTORTION address elsewhere

PATARENI s/t CD

This is a bit of a hard one to review, this is a band from Croatia that's been going a long time and these songs were recorded in 1994.... Crust/grind kinda stuff here but they have forged their

own sound I feel, or maybe its cause its early 90s, so maybe they have more of a yugo/croat sound from those times coming through... just good noisy hardcore punk but certainly some grind influences and quite a lot of metal licks here which is the one thing I didn't like about it.... Maybe to sum up - grind before it speeded up and before it became the fashion ???

EPISTROPHY address elsewhere
THE DAGDA CD

Debut album from this Northern Ireland band... I wasn't too keen on this at all when I first heard it a couple of months ago, there are so many bands lately playing the His Hero Is Gone or Severed Head of State sound that I find it a bit generic, but since seeing SHOS on tour I'm getting to like it a bit more.. and this is a good album, no question, good to hear that our own bands can do this as well as the Americans (just my view)... lots of slow heaviness in parts, but plenty of fast thrashy crustcore numbers too.. growing on me.

ENSLAVED / P O BOX 169 / BRADFORD / W YORKS / BD1 2UJ
RASHIT Taksim'de Bangay Jumping 7" EP

Rashit is a punk band from Istanbul, Turkey, some of you may be familiar with them as they are featured on some of my compilations etc. They play tuneful punk, kinda basic, but with some obvious Turkish/middle eastern influence (they sing in Turkish too), just punked up a bit! Good lyrics show their political feelings, about capitalism, the hell that is Istanbul etc. There are translations of the lyrics in german, dutch and French as well as English!

KROKET RECORDS / BEEKSESTRAAT 76 / 4841 GD PRINSENBEK / NETHERLANDS.

NOT / SHEEVA YOGA split 7" EP

As this was from Czech Republic, I was expecting more all out grindcore, but this is actually a great record and a nice change to all that stuff... SHEEVA YOGA are strange.. fast as fuck but lots of strange twists and jazzy bits mixed in with the ferocious music. Strange lyrics too! NOT is more straightforward sounding, but good too... not really grind but short sharp fastcore. Their lyrics are more overtly political, capitalism gets a big fuck off from these guys and so it should! Both bands sing mostly in Czech but all

lyrics are translated in the small booklet. Great split 7".

HYENYZM RECORDS address elsewhere.

THE DIRTY 30s This is Sick 7" EP

Raw uncompromising fast hardcore punk here from the US, with no metal or grind in sight! Kinda of like the usual Boston US bands, underproduced sound in a Active Minds kind of way... lyrics go for the jugular in an Oi Polloi style, attacking vivisectionists, war, religion and cops. A good blast this!

FAT DAY Poop 7" EP

This is a fuckin strange one! Manic stop start thrash-jazz hardcore fusion that's all over the place. Wild female vocals just add to the mix. Not your average hardcore band! Good though!

100% BREAKFAST RECORDS / P O BOX 381804 / CAMBRIDGE / MA 02238 / USA.

BRUTAL MASSACRE ..Survival of the sickest.. 7" EP

Politically inclined punk here (sung in English) from Switzerland, in fact these are a two man band with no bass player. Raw but sometimes tuneful punk here, sometimes fast sometimes mid-tempo, the obvious comparison is Active Minds cause of the lineup, but they do have that same sort of style and sound.. worth a look this one.

STRONGLY OPPOSED RECORDS / FLURWEG 29 / 2504 BIEL / SWITZERLAND.

STRAHLKAHL 7" EP

More good hardcore punk from Switzerland here. These go more for the crust punk style, raw and uncompromising. Crust punk seems dead in the UK but its still a big feature of the European scene... and this is a good EP I like it. You get a little booklet with lyrics + translations (they sing in German), anti fascist and anti-system lyrics are the order of the day here.

STRONGLY OPPOSED RECORDS
RACAK tape

I don't get many tapes to review these days, and although I don't release tapes on my label anymore, I still support them as a diy format 100%, especially when they're as good as this! German's Racak put out a split 7" with Croatia's AK47 which was fuckin ace and this is no let up. Totally powerful crust punk sung in Germany. 9 tracks on this one and you should definitely hear this band!

SCHANMAUL RECORDS / PF 610617 / 10937 BERLIN / GERMANY.

FxPxO tape

Yeah, you guessed it !! - Forever Positively Obsessed is a straight edge band. They are from Macedonia, playing very fast hardcore influenced by the late to mid 80s, but with a raw production sound that makes it sound a little less Americanised.... 12 great sounding tracks I always used to like that fast US hardcore sort of stuff like Infest, Unity, False Liberty etc etc... You get some straight edge lyrics, but also plenty of comments on more important matters.. as they say in the notes their ideology is inspired from the anarchist idea... 12 short tracks clocking in at about 12 minutes. Check it out!

SCHANMAUL RECORDS

YHDEKSAS SURMANLUOTI tape

This is a fuckin awesome tape - even better than the Rack one in my view... fast as fuck chaotic finnish hardcore punk is how I'd sum it up....the sound on it is good and it simply rages. They do an Infest cover, which can't be bad. Also a cover by Sian Iho who I've never heard of. Sound as fuck lyrics too which are translated in the fold out cover. I want to hear more now!

TONI EISKONEN / STURENKATU 43-45 E 77 / FIN-00550 HELSINKI / FINLAND.

URBAN STRIP / OWN DECISION split tape

Urban Blight is metally new school hardcore type stuff from Russia. Sounds like they are influenced by that heavier stuff from UK and US.. its ok and well done, but not really my kinda thing... but the lyrics are really good, especially when you consider English aint their first language... topics include domestic violence, drugs, war and big brother (not the TV show!)... France's Own Decision are a straight edge band from Lille, they have great lyrics about the destruction of our eco-system, capitalism and animal rights, (and one about straight edge I'm afraid!), but the music is awful. Metally hardcore that's kinda disjointed and simply doesn't sound very good!

ALWAYS AT WAR RECORDS / ALEX I KUZMIN / P O BOX 162 / SMOLENSK / 214000 / RUSSIA.

VIIMEINEN KOLONNA

Often we hear/read about bands and descriptions of their music and when we actually get to hear them for ourselves get bitterly disappointed. I can guarantee that if I describe VIIMEINEN KOLONNA'S sound as early Finnish H.C. Punk then that's exactly what they sound like. Get hold of their EP 'cos this lot really are the bastard offspring of Terveet Kadet, Mellakka and Tampere SS. Here we go.....

1) Well tell us (briefly please) something about the history of the band? As most of the people reading this aren't likely to be fluent in Finnish, what does VIIMEINEN KOLONNA mean?

Kaide: Viimeinen Kolonna (the last column) started late 2000, after my ex-band Agenda split up. We wanted to play something that comes natural, traditional Finnish HC. We have done "Onnellisuus Ahdistaa" EP, two songs on "Perkeleen Punkit" comp. CD and a video from song "Turvattu" (58 sec.). Line up is: Pete-bass, Miikka-drums, Kaide-vocals and Mika-guitar.

Pete: Don't you really have to learn Finnish in school there?????

2) Sure I hear the traditional Finnish HC sound in your music. Tampere SS, Mellakka and the better Terveet Kadet stuff springs to mind. Would it be correct of me if I described you are a mixture of those three?

Kaide: That sounds fine. You sure get nice cocktail from those. When we started we talked about starting to play something like early Terveet Kadet, and we even play Mellakka cover.

Pete: At the very start VK was supposed to play like TK attitude but somehow we turned to get some more spice to our newer songs from bands like Sacrilege (UK), Death Angel (!?), Napalm Death(!!!!!?) Ataque Frontal (!?%"&"#o!) etc.... but you obviously cant recognise those things.

3) No I can't recognise those things. I do remember the Mellakka cover from your gig, was it ei valitta from their first ep? Another thing I noticed was how drunk you were (especially Mika) and you seemed to stagger drunkardly through your set! I take it you don't have any 'rules' about staying sober before gigs?

Kaide: Yes, the cover was "Ei-Oikeus valita" from their first ep. Mika was little bit too drunk and he got some serious ass whipping after the show. We don't have any rules, but we try to play our songs right.

Mika: Well... What can I say? Songs really aren't so difficult to play that we can't drink "few" beer before the gig, but sometimes things just go like that... NO (drinking) RULES!!!

Pete: Hey, but the second gig in Lieto was excellent (Except Mika puked just before playing, and that is not even a bad thing). It's strange that even we are grown up adults its veery hard to drink fitting amount of alcohol. At least I am going to take it more easy before gigs. The videos of our gigs are just so humiliating to watch. And what comes to the drinking rules, they always make us just drink harder.

Taking a step back to the Terveet Kadet influences. I can definitely see it in your record artwork (S & M imagery). I know Pete is an S & M freak as I saw that inflatable sheep (love ewe) at his flat. Are the rest of you guys into that (you talked about ass-whipping)? Where the fuck did you get the picture from for the ep front cover?

Kaide: Oh yes, we all are naughty little perverts! Some more and some less into the artform of S/M. The cover picture is stolen from the movie called Brazil.

Pete: Mmmm... sheep.... Sodomy and lust!



Lets move on....I feel that considering Helsinki is quite a small City it has a massive amount to offer musically. Please tell the readers about some of the stuff that's going on?

Kaide: Quite big scenes in Punk, Hardcore (tough guy), Metal, Tekno etc. Punk shows once in a month or more, 5 good places for punk shows, few good bars where punks and metalheads hang out. Helsinki is a capital city of Finland, so I think here's more punks than in other cities.

Pete: Yep! Here is some excellent bars by the way, in some bars you can even bring your own records (hmm... mostly its a metalbar) and pass out where you like! Almost do whatever you want and still not get kicked out! That is what I call service. There was even some gigs but they went maybe too far and its not possible anymore. This was a bit off the topic...Playing in a bands and other musical activities is a bit like in Iceland where you really don't have much to do than create some shit... Well... like always, I could be wrong.....

One thing that surprised me was 15-year-old punks with Rattus Riistetyt on their jackets.....another thing is that the same musicians seem to be playing in a lot of different bands....care to comment?

Kaide: Young punks always seem to find the same bands again. First Sex Pistols, Exploited etc. and then Discharge, Rattus, Riistetyt etc. We have so few people who can play, but so many bands. I have always wondered why our punk generation have so many bands compared to younger generations. What's wrong with the youngsters?

Pete: Rattus and stuff? Quality and originality is always remembered. Finland, the inbred country? Well, what comes to Helsinki scene and bands, its always easier to find fitting musicians in your network of friends than put ads to papers or walls. But that is also what I am bored of. Its always refreshing to see some new bands and musicians coming around....



Nothing wrong with youngsters, youngsters into Rattus is so cool. In England we have youngsters into Offspring and Clash (recently Blink 182).....Anyway can we talk about the lyrics. We already mentioned your influences (music) are you influenced by the same bands lyrically (piss, shit S/M, TK influence, or anti-war Mellakka influence). Maybe you even sing about some original stuff?

Kaide: Lyrics comes to my head from some bigger force. Lyrics are Influenced by everything that influences me. Some have a message and some don't, some are from apocalypse(bible), some are just "weird" stuff, some are S/M or

something and even some are anti-war(someway). (did you get enough some -words?)

So what's the deal with Fight Records? Are you happy with the 7"? What are your future recording plans?
Pete: Well... In fact the first EP is released together by Fight rec., Kämäset levyt (Lousy rec.) and by the band. We are satisfied with that. Firstly the material was made as demo but it ended this way. The press is just 500 pieces but there might be another press in future, maybe our excellent promo video of song "Turvattu" will get business growing...

Kaide: Yes, the 7" ended up good. Next release will be split EP with Nailbiter from UK and it will be done the same way (fight, kämäset & us). After that maybe our own EP or mini CD. We are allways looking for good labels to release our stuff or to make foreign prints from our records!!! We try to put the promovideo to our homepage too, watch out! It's for all you punkettes out there, includes male nudity.

Pete: Hmm... If you are really interested to get that video track and maybe some live shite, get in touch!

And the forthcoming split will be much better earfucker!
Extrafucking big hello to that multinational NAILBITER!!
Carlos=Freke Jonsson jr.!

Thanks for the interview, have you anything else to say?
Onnellisuus ahdistaa EP and split EP with Nailbiter available from our address, 5 € (euros) each, post paid worldwide. Thank you for the nice "live" interview.
All Hail the Absolut Nailbiter and Markasm!!!
contact us:



E-mail: info@viimeinenkolonna.cjb.net

VIIMEINEN KOLONNA
MÄKELÄNKATU 4 AB 33
00510 HELSINKI
FINLAND.

Homepage: viimeinenkolonna.cjb.net

THANX GO TO MARK FROM LEICESTER FOR SUPPLYING THIS INTERVIEW, CHEERS MATE. SORRY TO MARK AND TO THE BAND THAT IT TOOK SO LONG TO PUBLISH. (INTERVIEW WAS DONE ABOUT A YEAR AGO)...

LAST MINUTE REVIEWS

TOILET PAPER #2

This zine is done by a very young German girl (16 years old) so fair play for starting a zine. Mostly stories and personal writings in this, quite a bit from a feminist perspective although the editor says that this wasn't really the intention, it just ended up so and peoples reaction to her 1st issue was to label it a feminist zine... there's a few pages on a vegan diet reprinted from leaflets. There's a crap interview with My Fellow Astronauts. Not a great deal in this took my interest, but its better than what I put out when I was 16 !!

ALVA DITTRICH / JOH.
KOHLMANN STR. 8 / 53913 /
SWISTTAL / GERMANY.

INITONIT #15 50P + SAE

Just in, great new issue from Paul. Kicking up a stink in rural Lincolnshire it seems. Ints this time with Blisterhead and Assert, plus short and very direct rants on TV, racism, legalising cannabis, a few reviews, then finished off with Buzzkill and Oxymoron interviews. Support the UK fanzine scene and get this!
PAUL / THE FLAT / 56A UPGATE
/ LOUTH / LINGS / LN11 9JN.

AGITATE #1 (free, just send a stamp!)

At last Chris from Aversion is back ! Not enough time to do Aversion zine anymore, but hoping to put out this regular free newsletter. Only 4 A4 pages this time but he's hoping to make it more pages next time. Typical of Chris' layout style this. There's some noise and some political news here, an article on the Anarchist Federation and a smattering of zine and noise reviews.
CHRIS / FLAT 5 / 7 WESTGATE
/ SHIPLEY / BD18 3QX.

I'm an American tired of American lies

by Woody Harrelson

The fact is that Saddam Hussein was our boy. The CIA helped him to power, as they did the Shah of Iran and Noriega... and the Taliban and countless other brutal tyrants. The fact is that George Bush Sr continued to supply nerve gas and technology to Saddam even after he used it on Iran and then the Kurds in Iraq. While the Amnesty International report listing countless Saddam atrocities, including gassing and torturing Kurds, was sitting on his desk, Bush Sr pushed through a \$2bn "agricultural" loan and Thatcher gave hundreds of millions in export credit to Saddam. The elder Bush then had the audacity to quote the Amnesty reports to garner support for his oil war.

A decade later, Shrub follows the same line: "We have no quarrel with the Iraqi people." I'm sure half a million Iraqi parents are scratching their heads over that. I'm an American tired of lies. And with our government, it's mostly lies.

The man who drives me to and from work is named Woody too. A relief to me, as it minimises the chance of my forgetting his name. I call him Woodman and he calls me Wood. He has become my best friend here, even though he's upset that I have quit drinking beer. He's smart, funny, and there's nothing he hasn't seen in 33 years behind the wheel of his black cab. He drove me for a while before I felt confident he liked me; he doesn't like people easily, especially if they have a rap for busting up black cabs. Woodman and I agree about a lot of things. but one thing we can never agree about is Iraq. He thinks the only language Saddam understands is brute force. I don't believe we should be bombing cities in our quest for one man. We've killed a million Iraqis since the start of the Gulf war - mostly by blocking humanitarian aid. Let's stop now. Thankfully, most of the Brits I talk to about the war are closer to me than to Woodman. Only your prime minister doesn't seem to have noticed. I have been here three months doing a play in the West End. I am having the time of my life. I love England, the people, the parks, the theatre. The play is great and the audiences have been a dream. Probably I should just relax, be happy and talk about the weather, but this war is under my skin - it affects my sleep. I remember playing basketball with an Iraqi in the late 80s while Iran and Iraq were at war. I didn't know at the

time that the US and Britain were supplying weapons to both sides. I asked why they were always at war with each other and he said something that stayed with me: "If it were up to the people, there would be peace. It's the governments that create war." And now my government is creating its second war in less than a year. No; war requires two combatants, so I should say "its second bombing campaign". I went to the White House when Harvey Weinstein was showing Clinton the movie Welcome to Sarejevo, which I was in. I got a few moments alone with Clinton. Saddam throwing out the weapons inspectors was all over the news and I asked what he was going to do. His answer was very revealing. He said: "Everybody is telling me to bomb him. All the military are saying, 'You gotta bomb him.' But if even one innocent person died, I couldn't bear it." And I looked in his eyes and I believed him. Little did I know he was blocking humanitarian aid at the time, allowing the deaths of thousands of innocent people. I am a father, and no amount of propaganda can convince me that half a million dead children is acceptable "collateral damage". The fact is that Saddam Hussein was our boy. The CIA helped him to power, as they did the Shah of Iran and Noriega and Marcos and the Taliban and countless other brutal tyrants. The fact is that George Bush Sr continued to supply nerve gas and technology to Saddam even after he used it on Iran and then the Kurds in Iraq. While the Amnesty International report listing countless Saddam atrocities, including gassing and torturing Kurds, was sitting on his desk, Bush Sr pushed through a \$2bn "agricultural" loan and Thatcher gave hundreds of millions in export credit to Saddam. The elder Bush then had the audacity to quote the Amnesty reports to garner support for his oil war. A decade later, Shrub follows the same line: "We have no quarrel with the Iraqi people." I'm sure half a million Iraqi parents are scratching their heads over that. I'm an American tired of lies. And with our government, it's mostly lies. The history taught in our schools is scandalous. We grew up believing that Columbus actually discovered America. We still celebrate Columbus Day. Columbus was after one thing only - gold. As the natives were showering him with gifts and kindness, he wrote in his diary, "They do not bear arms ... They have no iron ... With 50 men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want." Columbus is the perfect symbol of US foreign policy to this day. This is a racist and imperialist war. The

warmongers who stole the White House (you call them "hawks"; but I would never disparage such a fine bird) have hijacked a nation's grief and turned it into a perpetual war on any non-white country they choose to describe as terrorist. To the men in Washington, the world is just a giant Monopoly board. Oddly enough, Americans generally know how the government works. The politicians do everything they can for the people - the people who put them in power. The giant industries that are polluting our planet as well as violating human rights worldwide are the ones nearest and dearest to the hearts of American politicians. But in wartime people lose their senses. There are flags and yellow ribbons and posters and every media outlet is beating the war drum and even sensible people can hear nothing else. In the US, God forbid you should suggest the war is unjust or that dropping cluster bombs from 30,000ft on a city is a cowardly act. When TV satirist Bill Maher made some dissenting remarks about the bombing of Afghanistan, Disney pulled the plug on him. In a country that lauds its freedom of speech, a word of dissent can cost you your job. I read in a paper here about a woman who held out the part of her taxes that would go to the war effort. Something like 17%. I like that idea, though in the US it would have to be more like 50%. If you consider money as a form of energy, then we see half our taxes and half the US government's energy focused on war and weapons of mass destruction. Over the past 30 years, this amounts to more than ten trillion dollars. Imagine that money going to preserving rainforest or contributing to a sustainable economy (as opposed to the dinosaur tit we are currently in the process of sucking dry). I give in to Woodman, and we stop for a few beers. He asks me what I'd do in Bush's shoes. Easy: I'd honour Kyoto. Join the world court. I'd stop subsidising earth rapers like Monsanto, Dupont and Exxon. I'd shut down the nuclear power plants. So I already have \$200bn saved from corporate welfare. I'd save another \$100bn by stopping the war on non-corporate drugs. And I'd cut the defence budget in half so they'd have to get by on a measly \$200bn a year. I've already saved half a billion bucks by saying no to polluters and warmongers. Then I'd give \$300bn back to the taxpayers. I'd take the rest and pay the people teaching our children what they deserve. I'd put \$100bn into alternative fuels and renewable energy. I'd revive the Chemurgy movement, which made the farmer the root of the economy, and make paper and fuel

from wheat straw, rice straw and hemp. Not only would I attend, I'd sponsor the next Earth Summit. And, of course, I'd give myself a fat raise. Woodman drops me at home and I ask if he likes my ideas. He offers a reluctant "yes". As he pulls away he yells out, "But I'd never vote for a man who can't handle a few pints at the end of the day!"



All zine reviews by Steve unless stated. As with the music? Reviews, sorry if I've missed any zines out that were sent for review this issue.. there were just so many zines I got either for review or for the distro that things got rather chaotic and I had to try and just review the most recent ones.... Maybe one day the reviews will be less chaotic if I perhaps manage to get the zine out more regularly??

MANGELSLAKT #3

This is pretty old now, and I haven't heard anything since, so I don't know if this zine is still going? Crusty punk zine in the Profane Existence vein that went to newsprint format in this issue... They love their international hc/punk noise do Nick and Emily, lotsa news, letters section, and lots of reviews, columns, you know the format, right? Ints with Skullcrusher, Kirous (great Finnish band!), and Onward To Mayhem. Great zine, I hope it's still active...
P O BOX 580402 / MINNEAPOLIS / MN 55458-0402 / USA.

REHASH #2

Again, and old US zine, it's a great zine though... again I don't know if its still going, I know the editor moved, we were going to trade some zines, but lost track of each other.. so who knows?

Chats with DRI, and a few interviews stolen? from MRR, with Lou Giordano, Dan, Infest, seems to be a bit of a retro theme going on here, towards 80s hardcore punk etc, oh and there's a discussion/forum type thing from 1985 with a load of people from Nottingham, one of them being Dig from Earache Records. Rather a strange zine!
ZANNE REHASH / P O BOX 201 / TROY / MI 48099-0201 / USA.

INFINITE MONKEY #3

This Bradford zine is done by the bloke who now organises the 1 in 12 club weekenders, first time I've seen his zine, can't say I'm too keen on the bands he likes (but I suppose that works both ways!), mainly the heavier side of hardcore and some weird stuff too. Interviews are with Atomsmasher, Bogdan Raczynski, Song of Zarathustra. Lots of reviews, and some pages of news on UK bands, other stuff the editor likes etc. Good to see a new UK zine, as there ain't too many new ones these days. Oh, and there's a review of the Egg Raid CDR where the editor had a preconception that they were a spikey Mohawks/glue/cider type band. Scary thought.....
P O BOX 169 / BRADFORD / BD1 2UJ.

A HC-PUNK COMMUNITY AMONG AN IMPERIALISTIC EMPIRE OF MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES #7

Bit of a mouthful eh? There's always lots of interesting stuff though in this greek zine... formerly it was a free zine, but this time as there is so much in it and some extra pages, the editor now charges for it, but its still only 1 EURO or equivalent and you get plenty for your cash. Half in greek, half in English, interviews with Obscure, Joey Keithley, Attitude Problem zine, plus lots of political articles, as you might guess from the title, plus reviews etc.
DIMITRIS / P O BOX 3700 / 10210 ATHENS / GREECE.

AFTERMATH

Great zine this from Shannon, the editor of Flashpoint zine and the Whizzbanger Distro Guide, this is a one-off zine with lots of writings and some poetry all with the theme of September 11th and the war on terror. I'm not so much into the poetry, but

the writings are really good. At \$4 it's a little steep, but its an interesting read.

SHANNON COLEBANK / P O BOX 5591 / PORTLAND / OR 97228 / USA.

PARADISE NOISE #10

Quite long standing zine here from France, all in English. HC punk and grind oriented, mainly music related with a lot of fairly short interviews, eg. Disarm, Warcollapse, Phobia, Hirax etc, two of the longer interviews are with the UKs Kismet HC and also Fastard. There's an article on religion, one on pornography that's in French, and there's also an interview with Costes, an underground artist from France that's also written in French.
DAVID CAMMAL / AVENUE DES FRERES / ROQUEPLAN / 13370 MALLEMORT / FRANCE.

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL #236 (£2.75 PPD)

First time I've read MRR in years. When I started out it was one of the main influences, but in later years it seemed to go crap - too many ads, and the musical side of it seemed to lean more towards garage punk and punk n roll, but I just seen this new issue and it's a little more like the old days. Still too many ads, but plenty to read, some good hardcore punk featured and still some politics. As with most mags of this size I suppose you have to take the rough with the smooth, there's some crap in here but some good stuff too! If any of you, like me, became disillusioned with it, it may be worth you checking it out again. Distro in the UK from:
TONY (THRASH AND DIE REC'S) / 25 PLANTHILL ROAD / HIGHER BLACKLEY / MANCHESTER / M9 6WH.

DIRECT HIT #2 (£1.50 PPD)

Good to see Mel back with another zine. Its been two years since the last issue that came with the 7". But who am I to talk? I know all about 2 year hiatuses. As usual with Mel's zines, neat layouts and plenty to read of a hardcore punk nature. Most interesting reads in this issue I found were the interviews with people running labels Deranged Records, Max from 625 Records, and Reflections Records/zine. Band wise you also get Holding On,

Last In Line and The Control. Plus tons of reviews, Mel's had a lot to catch up on.

MEL HUGHES / 26 ST MATTHEWS ESTATE / KEADY / CO. ARMAGH / BT60 3SF / NORTHERN IRELAND.

EAT SHIT #23

Chaotic cut n paste zine here from the US. In a similar vein to our friends at Raw Punk Bastards! There's a chat with Submission Hold (plus reviews of their gigs!), and McJesus (Local band I think), plus some columns and some reviews, lots of flyers/ads (a little too many I feel?), plus quite a lot of stuff on shoplifting and conscious shopping, which was cool.
BOX 4766 / SLT / CA 96157 / USA.

VIOLENCE #4 (\$1/1 euro + postage)

Huge zine here from Poland covering the international hardcore/thrash/grind scenes. Various contributors helping with some columns and tons of reviews, and more interviews than I've probably ever seen in one zine!! Too many to name, but a few of the bands featured are Ratos de Parao, Dropdead, HeWhoCorrupts, Hirax, Napalm Death etc etc. 96 A4 pages altogether!!!

SELF MADE GOD RECORDS / P O BOX 46 / 21500 BIALA PODL. / POLAND



REASON TO BELIEVE #8 (free but send stamps to cover postage)

Great stuff here from Leeds. Quarterly free newsprint mag along the lines of Fracture, Heartattack etc but better than any of those zines!

Concentrating mainly on UK and Europe punk and hardcore scenes. The usual columns, letters and review pages of course, and main features this issue are interviews with Coalition Records, Fureza X, Vitamin X, Gertrude, and a report on the FTAA, on resistance of globalisation in South America, plus tons of stuff on skateboarding which seems to be the main theme of this issue and this was the only bit that didn't really interest me. Top zine, and #9 should be due out now (June/July). Support!
REASON TO BELIEVE / c/o 145-149 CARDIGAN ROADS / LEEDS / LS6 1LJ.



BALD CACTUS #20 50p+SAE

The latest from this long running Leeds zine. Top stuff as ever. I thought the interviews were totally great this time, in depth ones with Kismet HC, Fig 4.0, Active Slaughter and Attila The Stockbroker. Plus the usual reviews and Anys rants, including a piece on old fart bands reunions. Oh and a review of last years Leeds punks picnic.
BALD CACTUS / c/o 145-149 CARDIGAN ROAD / LEEDS / W YORKS / LS6 1LJ.

HELL AND DAMNATION #11 40p + SAE

Another long running zine and possibly the best yet from Colin. Featuring the underground of the underground!! Think he goes out of his way to find bands that are even more obscure than the ones in Ripping Thrash ha ha! This time interviews with Vaning 5, Sivillmihurma, Confusione and Schifosi, and a few rants plus loads of reviews of stuff from around the globe. As always great layouts from

Colin and this zine has a fuckin ace look to it! Essential reading!
COLIN / 22 BURNS VILLAS / STAINFORTH / DONCASTER / S YORKS / DN7 5DP



SUSPECT DEVICE #39 £1

Thick wad of paper here as always with SD, plenty to read. Best interview is with Active Slaughter who are popping up in a lot of zines at the moment and that's fine cause they have plenty of intelligent things to say.. a bit strange to hear em slugging off the HITS events, then further on in this zine is a full blown review of the HITS weekend!!! Also an interview with some folks who work at MRR which is making a bit of a resurgence. Loads of reviews and columns and some more into too... worth a quid certainly!
P O BOX 295 / SOUTHAMPTON / SO17 1LW

INITONIT #14 50p + SAE

This one's a little old now, maybe a new issue due soon Paul? This one has short sharp chats with Homebrew, WORM, BBP Records & Tapes (good to see non-band interviews), 17 Stiches, Freaks Union, plus a few rants here and there (eg ageism in punk rock). The rants are the best bits in here, short and to the point, absolutely spot on but in places dead funny too!
PAUL / THE FLAT / 56A UPGATE / LOUTH / Lincs / LN11 9JN
GADGIE #16 50p + SAE
Gadgie is still going strong, and putting about 10 issues out inbetween each issue of mine! The only interview is with Shank, but as I'm sure you know, there's always lots of

Continued after Brigad interview

BRIGAD

thanx to J-P muikku from Finland (although he was living in Hungary at the time!) for this interview.....
BRIGAD is classic punknroll from Becs, South-West Hungary. I got in touch with Balazs when I was asking some gig information on Punk Maffia list <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/punkmaffia/> so this interview is quite direct consequence from that encounter even though it took quite a long for me to sent the questions. Check out their website, <http://punk.supergamez.hu/brigad/> they have now also the English pages up and running. J-P asked and Balazs answered, read on.

How the band got together in the first place and how you ended up to this name? Has the band name any specific meaning? The band came together in October of 1996, we decided to play punk rock. It was old school type then. We started rehearsing and after 4 months we already made gigs which quite sucked as you can imagine. The name was Tequila first, cus we loved tequila, but it wasn't the real name. So we decided to find out a better one. We had lots of name ideas, but as we had leftist ideologies, we wanted something sounding like that, and meaning we are one team, one crew or something like that. So we thought brigade would be just fine. First we wanted it to be red brigade, but we realized we couldn't have a name which resembled a communist terror brigade. So it became brigade or Brigád in hungarian.

What I know the live line up is three piece, but on albums you usually have 5-6 players, why this difference? How stabile this three piece line up has been? Has it caused any problems that one member is ten years older than the others, any feelings of generation gap? Actually we are a three member band. One guitar and lead vocal that's me, one bass and backing vocal that's Magdy, and one drummer that's Koko. It's been going like this only for 2 years. Before that we had a separate singer and a female vocalist. We lost our first singer, because he committed suicide. The second one had drug problems, so I took up singing, and it's been like that ever since. We used to have an other guitarist as well, but he left the band - he didn't want to play music anymore. On albums we recorded trumpets as well, but we have only a couple of ska based songs, so we don't take trumpets on our gigs. Magdy is 10 years older than I, and that doesn't do much difference. He has experience, he lived to see a few things, but the base concept is the same: he dresses, thinks and plays as we do. (Ok, we used to joke with him, calling him Ye Olde Fart, and Wayne Fass - which means Old

Dick in hungarian) Hobbija a részegségi görcsben levés. So, you do not spit on glass of pálinka...

Has Brigad fucked a gig because of the alcohol consumption? Drinking is a strange thing in the band, because we are a real weird mixture of straight edge and street punk. I'm vegetarian, don't smoke, and read Bhagavad Gita. But also drink a lot, he he. Drinking is a real problem in Finland as far as I know, and it isn't less problematic in Hungary. But that's not the point. Drinking always went side by side with rock and roll - you know: Sex'n'drugs'n'rock&roll - and I guess the energy and freedom it gives me on stage is something I can't easily throw aside. I plan on stopping to do this though, cus it ain't true I can't play without alcohol. Well at least I accomplished not to get drunk before a gig. We blew several gigs because of getting totally drunk. We swore not to drink that much before gigs after disastrous shows. Not after gigs though, he he.

As far I could figure out, you are recording for Rockworld, which for a Finn looks quite ... unpunk as RAC/WP related labels don't have any place in Finnish punk scene. I know the anti-Communist history of Hungarian punk, but communists has been dead and buried over a decade by now, so why still RAC/etc label? Ok, let's clear out something: we are a leftist (but not communist) anti-racist punk band. We hate fascists and neonazis, and fight against homophobia. Rockworld is an underground label dealing with most of the punk bands of Hungary, and skinhead bands as well. I do not give a fuck about what they do, or say as much as they do not compromise us and release our albums properly. I don't think this is ignorance, we do not give our names to any racist or related stuff. Rockworld is clearly divided to two spheres, we are in the punk sphere. They also release HétköznaPI CSAlódások, which is a communist band. Hungary is small. We don't have separate labels for RAC/WP and punk if you understand what I mean. We can be happy we have punk music industry at all.

Your singing language is Hungarian, but during the couple of last years there has been quite a number of English songs on your albums and the latest EP will have three out of four songs in English. Are you looking for wider audiences beyond the Hungarian borders? We already made more than 20 songs in English, and plan on releasing an only English version of our music. When we play abroad, mostly in Austria we sing in English. We don't have to do that in Romania, Slovakia and Yugoslavia, because there are mostly hungarians living there (these parts used to be Hungary before the Ist World War) We do write songs in English, because the mother tongue of rock'n'roll is English. And most of Europe speak English as well. So it's good. Sounds good too. But we

have to sing in hungarian as well, cus audiences in Hungary are ignorant, they don't listen to what they do not understand. About the language of the songs, have you done any songs on both languages? Yeah, we have songs in both languages. But we only record them in one language.

As far I could figure out, Brigad is 'funpunk' but there is also social commentary on the lyrics...? Could you write something about your usual lyrical subjects? Actually that's not really true. We do have a couple of funny lyrics but none of them are nonsense. We are a serious band. We play a mixture of ordinary type punk and melodycore and our lyrics are mostly about social problems and psychological problems. We do not go into politics, because we don't want to be on either side. Politics is not for music. It is entertainment, it doesn't have to be about political matters. Most of the funny songs have a meaning as well. Like the song Please fart in my mouth! is about the twisted moralless society of nowadays. It's about the fact, that tv channels and the internet have flooded us with pictures of people eating each others crap and fucking with animals, and so on. The song Life's beautiful is about how damn bad the situation is when you gotta shit on the street, and have nowhere to go. It's about how few public toilets are in Hungary, and how often people shit in their pants. Ok, but these were the funny ones. We have serious songs like Enough which is a song against killing animals. Or 1997 is about what foolish things Hungarian government did that year.

How do you see the 1956 revolution? In 56' hungarian people fought for freedom. A beautiful thing. The USA ignored us, and let the soviets kill many people. It was worth nothing, and blood flowed. Injustice is the only way for this world. But we keep on fighting, we never give up.

There was a poll couple of days ago, where was asked how people would react if a Gypsy (or Roma politically correct way) would perform as Santa Claus for their kids. For 50% it didn't cause any problems and for the rest. Out of these rest, 3% would feel it a bit offending but they would not do anything for it. For the remaining 47% - they were ready to raise hell because of that. What this poll tells about Hungarian society? About Hungary: primitive intolerant nationalist buch of worthless idiots. A great example what Communism did to people...Hungary now consists of mediocre minds so fucking nationalist, that they would kill their own father if they realised he was a gypsy. Ok, that was a bit exaggerated, actually there are many good hearted people in Hungary, the problem is with authority. They teach people to be nationalists, to love their nation more than anything, and be proud about it. Nationalism is a poison. It makes people go

against each other. We need a slight leftist authority, but what we have now is nothing. This party called Socialist Party, does nothing to have with leftist thinking. They are just as bad as the other side. No better than that.

Hungary will become part of European Union in 2004, how you see this for yourself and Hungary in general? I guess it's been time for us to move on for some time already. Getting in the EU means better soil for punk music, because we will have better opportunities to make shows in Hungary and abroad as well, and also we'll have a new globalised world to attack with songs. :-)

When looking the gig infos, you are paired quite often with Szeged's own Smafu, i.e. <http://punk.supergamez.hu/smafu/> where this 'pairing' comes from? We've been friends for some time with Smafu, we got to know each other by the internet. They are nice persons and their music is good too. I like to do gigs with them, and I plan to do them in the future as well.

Pécs, what kind of place it is to live and when it comes to gigs for all kind of bands? Well, Pécs is a beautiful southern hungarian city. Quite large with 200 000 residents and no trams! Only buses and cars. Nice mediterranean weather in most of the year, and a good underground life. Musical tastes are oriented towards death metal, alternative rock, punk, and heavy metal. Few skinheads, that's nice!

What I have followed the gig info's there seems to be 'always' some doom/stoner/etc metal gigs there. How's the relations between different scenes, is there mixed music gigs or is it more narrow-minded down there? We have a lot of good friends from other music cultures, but we don't much mix it with them. Punks do not like rockers, and the like. Audiences would put out each other, if you get what I mean...

Ok, one serious question too: Big Brother or Való Világ? :-) (Two most prominent Hungarian reality tv shows) Big Brother is the most disgusting thing ever made up. So abusing Orwell's reputation, is above the worst offenses. Anyway I never watch TV, only Discovery channel and Animal Planet sometimes...

Anything to say to Finnish punks? To Finnish punks I say hi, and I hope we can play in Finland once, though it's far from here, I really wanna check out our 'language relative country'

BRIGAD CONTACT: check out their website at <http://punk.supergamez.hu/brigad/> or email directly to Balazs Szakonyi at kakakapitany@hotmail.com

ZINES continued.....

funny articles and stories in Gadgie zine, lots of tales of Marv's youth, dunno how he can remember it all in so much detail !!??? Some columns by some other folks such as Paul Raggity and Dogshit from Brezhnev, and plenty of humour abounds throughout.

MARV / P O BOX 93 / BOSTON / LINCS / PE21 7YB.

MOST PUNKS ARE TOTAL ARSEHOLES #1 £1

Controversial title eh? Well a new zine, but some of you may remember Mark from his rants in the last couple of issues of Ripping Thrash... he was the one going on about the working class and how the left/anarchist movement is too middle class dominated.. well this zine carries on that argument in the whole theme of this zine pretty much. A big rant on it takes centre stage, plus there's reviews, interviews with Robb Johnson, Bug Central and Terminus, plus a funny 'Guide to the British Left', in which Mark gives ratings to various left wing groups in terms of political muscle, fisticuffs rating and typical slogans. Serious but funny at the same time! Check this zine out, it's a quid but LOTS to read.

MPATA / c/o PHOENIX PRESS / P O BOX 824 / LONDON / N1 9DL.

INFECTED BY DEMENTIA #2

Latest issue of this Lithuanian zine that used to be Sperm Oil. Rough cut and paste layouts in the old style, previous issues have been punk/politics oriented, this time the editor states himself that the zine is now more grind/noise oriented... which shows in the content here. Chats with Dickless Tracey, S.M.E.S., interviews with a couple of people who do distros, some stuff on Lithuania and on a festival that took place there, plus a couple of pages of reviews.

ARMANTAS GECIAUSKAS / P O BOX 186 / VILNIUS / LT-2000 LITHUANIA.

UPS #8

Richard is a busy chap, putting out this zine on quite a regular basis and also doing UPS label and distro, UPS meaning Underground Punk Support which sums things up nicely. As

UPS is a great resource zine and is supporting the worldwide hardcore punk scene. Lots of pages and lots to read in here - chats with Betercore, Remains of the Day, Citizen Fish, and lots of reviews, but some other good things to break up the interview/review format - namely a Betercore/Olho de Gato tour report, scene reports from Slovenia and Finland, DOA retrospect (could've done without that!), an article about the making of the BSE/PCP 7", lots of news, and a bit about how Larm/Seein Red are seen as gods or idols by some in the scene but in fact they're down to earth cool people to have a chat with and are no different from me or you. Great zine!

UPS / WANMOLEN 5 / 3833 ED LEUSEN / NETHERLANDS.

COEDEYE #11 50p + SAE

Good to see something good is happening in Middlesbrough other than the great football team of course! Well it seems most people from Boro in the past end up moving away to Leeds etc, so it can't be too nice a place to live, in here there's a guide to some Boro pubs, not sure about that one! This zine is a quick and easy read, not too much to interest me in here I'm afraid as its concentrates mainly on old bands, kinda like his near neighbour HAGL... chats with TV Smith, Fist Fuck, some reviews of some terrible records, but two interesting pieces, one on an Otter sanctuary and one about idiots who take dogs into gigs.

ROB / 23 FALKLAND ST / MIDDLESBROUGH / TS1 4JH. FLAGBURNER #10

I've only seen recent issues of Flagburner, but it's a fuckin great zine! This issue you get a free finnish flag and a match to burn it with! Cool! Chats with Avaricious, Submission Hold, Bora, lots of articles by the editor, he certainly has plenty of views and knows his stuff! And I love the travel stories that are always a feature of Flagburner, Janne sure does travel about a bit and I am getting rather envious. In this issue he talks about his visit to Scotland. Most of us Brits haven't been there I bet....

JANNE NYSTROM / EURANTIE 12A9 / 00550 HELSINKI /

FINLAND.

CUWAN #2

Another great Scandinavian zine! Only the 2nd issue but terrific stuff. Cut and paste style but neatly laid out. Interviews with Denak from Spain and Gride from Czech, and Germany's Tumult, plus reviews, and an interview with 3 'mature' scenesters about how come they're still involved etc

ERIK AHLBERG / VIBORSSLINGAN 25 / 224 72 / LUND / SWEDEN.

REGARDLESS #2

Another great Swedish zine. Again a new zine, a million times better than my #2 was !!! (Bog roll is better quality than my #2!!)... this has been out a year now, so maybe a new issue is due soon? This has ints with Remains of The Day, Lost, Kontrovers and some columns by one of the editors (2 editors in this zine).. and lots of reviews, hell there's even more reviews than in here !! And an account of the guitar player of Skitsystem being a complete prick and rockstar.

PONTUS REDIG / GULSPARVSGATAN 33 / 412 67 GOTHENBURG / SWEDEN

ATTITUDE PROBLEM #32 50p+ SAE

Good to see Steve back with this zine again. He's relocated to Leeds now, and he's been pretty active since, not only getting his own zine done but has also been contributing a lot to Reason to Believe. This zine is handwritten, but no problem with being able to read it. Ints with Axiom, Harum Scarum and Strike Anywhere, and loads of Steve's rants on various topics, he's got a lot to say and it makes for a thought provoking zine.. lots of thoughts and ideas are presented in a nice way without it being rammed down your throat - yeah !!! Oh, it's a benefit for Emmaz Social Centre in London.

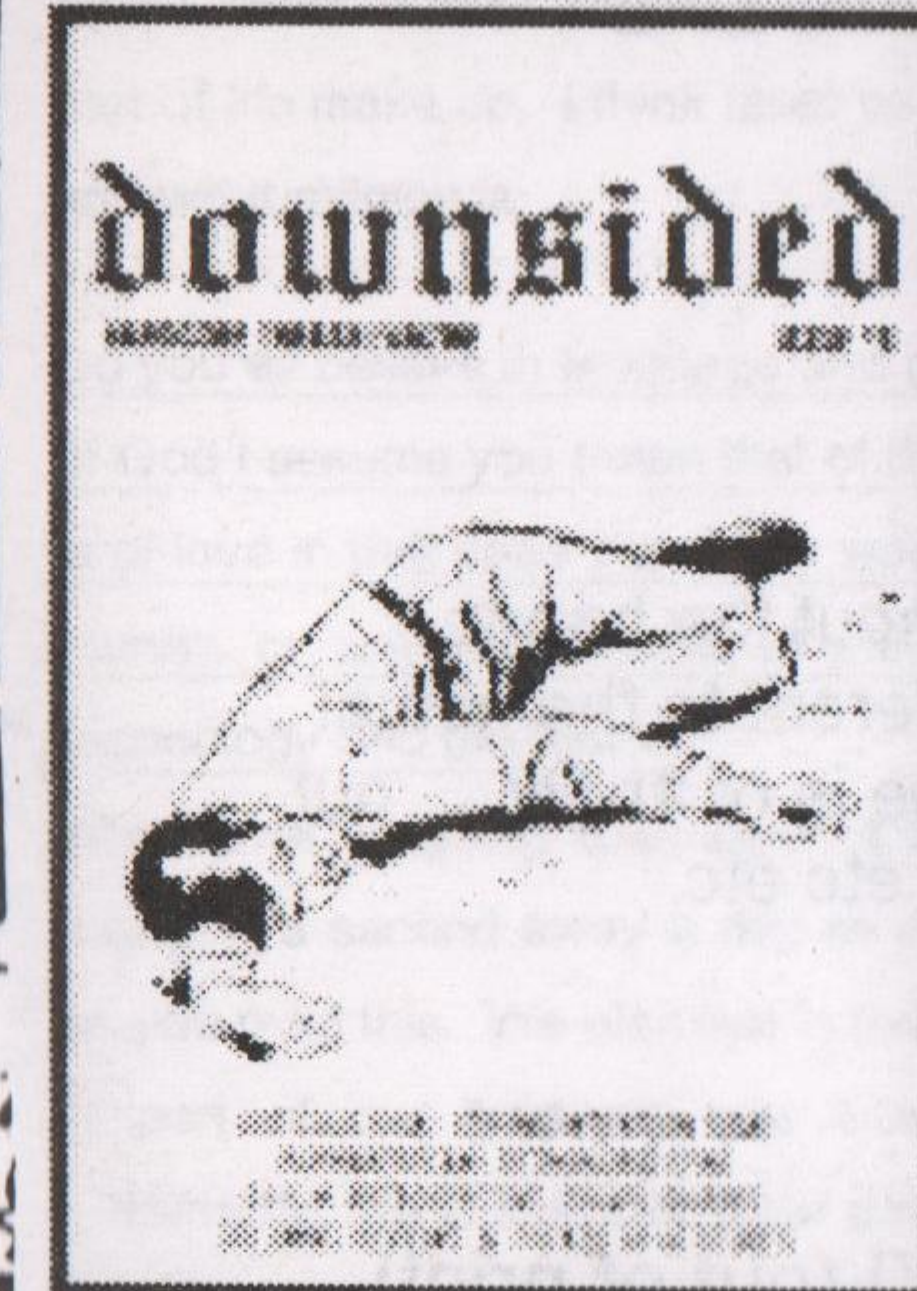
P O BOX 326 / HARDCORE HOUSE / LEEDS / WEST YORKSHIRE / LS7 3YR.

PICK IT UP! #1

This is a bit old now but I thought worthy of a review.. great to see a zine from Romania !! This guy has good English, so manages to write lots and lots and gets some good in

depth interviews with the likes of Life's A Riot (eg 33 questions!!), and some reviews which shows the editor to be mainly into hardcore punk and crust styles.. scene reports from Czech and from Suisse Romande (one of the Swiss cantons), some pictures, a couple of articles written in French, the original factsheet that was the subject of libel action, stuff on rural communities in Romania and more. Hope to see a new issue of this sometime!

RADU MEIER / O.P. 1 C.P. 125 / 1900 TIMISOARA / ROMANIA.



DOWNSIDED #6

Quite longstanding zine from Finland now on its 6th issue. Clean computer type layouts in contrast to those other Scandinavian zines I reviewed, but Toni manages to make it look good all the same. All the Scandinavian zines reviewed this issue look great and a load better than the sack of shit you're holding now! Interviews with Out Cold, Strong Intention, Haymaker and Ryhtmihairio (I didn't know that they reformed in 1998, I have an old LP by em somewhere..). There's a tour report from when the editors band and another Finnish band spent 5 days doing gigs in Russia, Toni has a couple of columns and there's some guest columns too, well written too. Oh and there's a GISM retro piece as well.

TONI EISKONEN / STURENKATU 43-45 E 77 / FIN-00550 HELSINKI / FINLAND.

DIMINUTIVE RAGE #6

Cool looking crust punk zine from the US. Quite a small zine but interesting content. No pages and pages of pointless reviews like in some crap zines ha ha !! Well there are no reviews in here at all! Interviews with Defuse from Japan and Epajarjestys from Finland, the rest of the zine is made up of Saira's thoughts and rants about life, mainly personal thoughts, feelings etc. Thought provoking stuff. See you don't have to be an emo zine to write about your personal thoughts etc !!?

SAIRA / P O BOX 80338 / MINNEAPOLIS / MN 55408 / USA

FECAL FORCES #10

Kukat is knocking these out quite often these days... Crust punk/grind zine from Croatia, this time with interviews with Misery and Hell and Damnation zine which is good to see, its always good to read interviews with Colin. There's also a retro piece on Tozibabe, and old all female hardcore punk band from Slovenia. Lots of non music stuff in this zine concerning the occult, Satanism, sex and so on... so plenty of different things to read if that's what you're into. BORIS MILAKOVIC / SV. DUHA 30 / 34000 POZEGA / CROATIA.

WHAT NOW?

So the war in Iraq is over.... So what is happening at the moment inside Iraq with the coalition forces controlling things?... We don't seem to hear anything now... the most public and televised war ever, and it seems all the reporters are back home now, covering the more important events that are now going on like the David Beckham transfer, and Prince Williams birthday. Good quote in one of the tabloids I noticed from Prince William where he said he wanted to be like his mother... what - DEAD !!!!!? If only..... Thought that was quite an amusing quote, couldn't resist! So what has the war in Iraq achieved? Pretty much the same as the bombing of Afghanistan really.... It's thought that Osama Bin Laden is still alive, and the same could be true for Saddam Hussein, its by no means certain that he is dead. Lets get this straight - I by no means support the regimes of Saddam Hussein or Osama Bin Laden.... But the US gov't attitude of 'you are either with us or against us' is just blatantly arrogant... and this attitude was prevalent in a lot of the press too... I mean, we can be opposed to the actions of both sides you know! Thankfully not all the UK press was for the war and even one of the tabloids the Daily Mirror was against the war... I'm sure that did help the cause a bit and there certainly seemed to be more caution about a war, and more protest against it in the UK and Europe than in the States.... But did the US take any notice of the European countries opposed to the war?

After all they are some of the countries blighted most by war and on the receiving end of war during the 20th Century, more so than the USA..... But the main ringleaders went on unabated, backed to the hilt by big business of course.

(continued on the back page.....!!)

KISMETHC

Alright this is another email about us being ripped off.



The original KISMET HC designed / approved/etc cover (not that rare & not yet out of print) available for about £5 or equivalent, probably cheaper!!!! ask Steve at P O BOX 152 / BURTON-ON-TRENT / STAFFS / DE14 1XX / ENGLAND or you should check out: www.rippingthrash.com

Below is the cover that **Joey (of MEDIATTACK!)** designed - without the bands agreement & **he also changed** how the lyrics were written (ie different to the actual songs) also **he changed** the albums/cd's name from 'our message is of anger.... our voices are of pain' to **his choice** of 'our message is in the anger'. etc etc. <http://mediattack.digitalbomb.com/>

FDS rare out - of - print graphic design



\$100.00 (out of print)
(includes music by Kismet Hardcore)
(donation negotiable)
designed for Mediattack! Cd's
(NO LONGER AVAILABLE FROM VEG
CLICK TO ENLARGE

CLICK HERE FOR PURCHASING INFO:

have you read it..... **\$100.00**

what is the person thinking???????????

True we are with Fuck Copyright Records but there is some serious shit happening when a so called anarchist punk takes your material, changes it totally (except the music thankfully) & makes money for himself from it & makes a mockery of the ideals of punk & rakes our bands name through the shit. We, as a band, have decided enough is enough & we will not have anything to do with the guy anymore & now here's me trying to stir up the shit & let other people know. There's more stuff I could say about this CD he released (& another) but there are other issues. If you want any more info please ask for more details, ok. peace Jan <http://kismethc.tripod.com>

KISMETHC

Mediattack!! Interview with Kismet HC...

This is an honest, unpersonal question. do any members of your group have spiritual or religious beliefs? if so what are they?

Not really most of the group doesn't really think about religion. I think it's a personal choice, and should never really be question, as nobody in the world agrees on what is a true religion or otherwise. I have personal beliefs that I hold with. I think there is a life giving force of a kind. If this is, God so be it. I think people need something to believe in, it's part of life make up. I think most people misunderstand God, and what religion is.

Do you all believe in language and god? why? The language of God I assume you mean that of the New Testament, which is of love in that case yes. Why would I wish to hate a fellow human or any other form of life? what do you think of technology and the future?

What ever is going to happen it's going to happen. The future is a second away a day away, the future is here now as you read this. We also live in the 21st century, technology is part of our lives we use it and take it for granted. Admittedly, the U.S.A and Bush are fucking it up big style as they refuse to sign emissions cut down schemes. Technology is also a good thing in the way communication is quick and easy to deal with. Let's face e-mail is great if you are planning direct action; you can let people know very quickly about what's happening.

Do you think that humans abuse god in the name of decadence and self loathing decay, confusion, and socialist irrationalities?

I think on a whole human's abuse everything and anything.

What do you think of power and violence?

I think nothing of them as I don't agree with any of the items mentioned above. If it involves animals or people being shit on, I have nothing to do with it.

Do you think that humans can learn to love instead of hate each other because of material and financial reasons?

No not really there is too much greed in the world today and everybody is out to make a buck off someone else???

Do you believe that humanity can stop all wars and create peace and a better environment? No, the main reason for wars that happen in the Middle East is due to patriotic

inbreeding. Aggression exists, and their parents are proud to let them die for the cause.

Is self-loathing productive and destructive?

Yes how can a negative emotion be a positive force?

Why did you choose more than one record label and do you feel that the production of compact discs beyond 1000 is destructive to the earth and people's ability to break free of production and Marxism? No we thought 1000 was a good number to start with when they have sold. We will consider a repressing. In what way would it be destructive to the Earth, when majors run presses of millions????

How do you feel about anarchist constructs that are labelled modernist? I'm not sure many people understand Anarchy and what it stands for. It's about people trusting each other working together in harmony without bullshit and violence. It's about working a job for the good of the people and not under some nasty assed boss who controls you. Yes we still need Dr's and the state need to continue perpetual motion; these would work in much the same way only without capitalist freaks controlling the moves.

Do you believe that drugs and alcohol are beneficial to humanity?

Folk are going to drink and do drugs so what. In the UK, drinking is a social part of life. I myself drink maybe once a month; I see no limitations with drinking. Soft drugs I aren't bothered if people do them I myself don't do them I feel no need for them. However, I don't see why I should force people into accepting my personal views. They can respect what I feel. Hard drugs no fuck 'em all see no point they are destructive to the scene to life and the planet and maybe fat twat barrens make to much money that the CIA allow to be trafficked a round the world.

Are you vegans?

3 of us are veggies and one is vegan.

Do you think that we are targets?

Targets, in what way. That we may be singled out for the way we look and act. Yes when I was younger and growing up in my town I used to spend lots of time in the Police cells for stuff I hadn't done, no wonder the law has so many enemies when the arrest people for looking different. - peace is the best defence through these eyes. Sometimes peace is not enough and force has to be used. If you are trying to save yours and others lives, force needs to be used. Sitting back and accepting things is a sure road to ruin and self-destruction. Stand up be counted and fight if it's right!!!!!!!!!!!!