

RANCID



SOUP

ISSUE ONE

Welcome to the downfall
of your stomachs!



MENU



Fruit Juice
Rancid Soup

o

Decomposed (UK)
Exempt (Holland)
Malediction (UK)
Brutal Mutilation
French Scene Report
Sinister (Holland)
Morbid Symphony (UK)
Acrostichon (Holland)

o

The Reign (UK)
Vandals (Malta)
Gorefest (Holland)
Spaghetti (Italian scene report)
Sinoath (Italy)



Desecrate (Holland)
Gamorrah (UK)

○

Spina Bifida (Holland)
Cardiophlegia (Italy)
I am a beach boy (Summer Supplement)
Castle (Holland)
Bolt-Thrower (UK)
Stuffat tal-Fenek u Ġbejniet tal-Bżar (Maltese Scene Report)
Disharmonic Orchestra (Austria)
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From beneath the Solar Plexus (News)
Forsaken (Malta)
GSO Distribution Mad Man Jesper Markvardsen (Denmark)
(Or any part of his body you prefer)
BYOB (Holland)
The Gathering (Holland)
Ass Ache (Italy)
Anathema (UK)

○

Cheese & Biscuits (Release reviews)
Upset Stomach (Fuck you list)

*If in your opinion you think that some type of food has
been left out, please do not hesitate to call the Manager.*

Thank You

Having lately sold tons of their "A Funeral Obsession" (The Record Label) EP and having sold loads of demos before, DECOMPOSED have lately toured the UK in the Underground Titans tour along with THE REIGN, INCARCERATED, NIGHT-LORD and a couple of others. This was a tour around the UK of English unsigned bands; but what's happening to the record companies? Why are DECOMPOSED still without a deal?!

DECOMPOSED. A name known among the underground as the banner of a band whose mood is a plaza of grunts. How long have you been together and after how much time did you record the much sought after "Ego Sumlex Mand"?

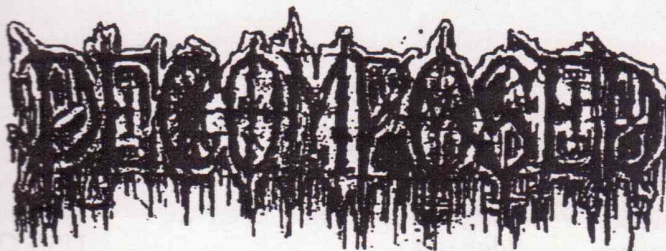
Hey well we have been together since October 1990 so now at February 1992 it's been a year and four months! We recorded "Ego..." in August 91 which is I don't know how long after the formation!

You are now about to rerecord your debut 7" EP through WILD RAG in the USA and have also recruited the services of a new guitarist, Pete. What influences did he have on the band or will he be contributing to future work?

He He - Well Pete has just fitted the sound because before we had an old, shit rhythm guitarist. He couldn't keep up with us or stay in time and was shit! However, Pete is capable and can help out. He also helped us with stages of writing for the next 12" the 7" on Wild Rag is stopped, it's not coming out. He even has some solos in and is already writing stuff for our new songs.

You gigged with many other bands in England. Do you feel ready for a tour and have any labels approached you as yet?

Well I don't know, I think we could do a tour in England, for sure. It depends on who the tour is with! He He. Well yes, we were approached by ROADRACER RECORDS and they liked our new stuff but they couldn't offer a deal at the last minute because they have already got enough bands but it was really close.



You recently changed your name to OCCULT. What made you decide on this after creating such a buzz with the name DECOMPOSED, if it were you after all?

No we didn't! That's the French version of DECOMPOSED now OCCULT.

Anything else?

No! He He - well OK! Cheers for the interview, Malcolm and good luck with the zine. Hello to all Death metal fans in Malta - you guys rule! Bye!

M. Callus

Contact address:

Tim Spear,
93, Richmond Rd.,
Kingston,
Surrey,
KT2 5EP,
UK.



Certainly another one of those pen pals to whom I've been writing for some time now is John Cook. Besides playing with the metal act THE REIGN he also takes care of their underground promotion (i.e. letters, interviews, demo distribution, etc.). THE REIGN have had some line-up problems lately but are now reformed stronger than ever. The line-up, which has lately played the Underground Titans tour are; Mick Storrie - Guitar, Brynn Reed - Drums, Glenn Howes - Guitar, John Cook - Bass & Vocals.

How long have THE REIGN been together?

MICK: Since January 1991, after the split of our old band VOX POPULI. We wanted to do something which was fresh, new and exciting. We wanted to combine the heaviness of the likes of SEPULTURA and DEATH, the doom of TROUBLE and BLACK SABBATH, plus technical elements from the likes of ANNIHILATOR and PANTERA into one noisy heavy band, y'know?? VOX POPULI did the doom stuff well, but weren't heavy enough, and certainly not technical enough. Mind you, I'm not complaining, VOX POPULI played an important role in the growth as musicians of all of us y'know.

What music do the musicians in the band listen to?

JOHN: Oh, all sorts. Both Mick and I are real big fans of the bands which Mick has already mentioned, plus we're into stuff like SLAYER, METALLICA, CATHEDRAL, COUNT RAVEN, CANDLEMASS, BELIEVER and loads of real, good death, doom and thrash metal. We're also into stuff such as GALACTIC COWBOYS and ALICE IN CHAINS. And Mick listens to quite a lot of non-metal stuff like PRINCE. I tend to be real boring 'cause I love my metal haha!!

How is the scene around your area or in England?

JOHN: Not bad at all, we have some great bands here in the North East such as HELL-BASTARD, HELLKRUSHER, MORTAL REMAINS, and the like, all of who are worth checking out, they're all really good bands y'know?? I think the North East has a good scene overall, although I guess people are a bit reluctant to come and see new bands play live y'know?? Which I guess is a bit of a problem



Founder members John & Mick

THE REIGN

really considering that all massive bands start out that way and if no one had gone to see them play they would have packed it in!! Thank heavens for determination haha!!

Your demo is quite appealing, mixing moments of doom with both glorious classic cuts and also some thrash thrown in for good sake. How do you explain the ever increasing lack of mainstream metal in today's metal? Many bands seem to want to be original and not just have fun and money anymore.

MICK: Well, I dunno. I suppose there is a lack of what you call mainstream metal at the moment, but I can remember not so long ago people said metal was dead but look at WOLFSBANE, doing very well for themselves and the likes of MAIDEN who do constantly well, so someone must like them!! To be honest, I think that there is a place in the world for all types of metal. People are very fickle, they love

you one minute and hate you the next and I think as a musician you have to remember that. Styles change all the time and it can be confusing to hear everyone liking something different to what you're doing. All you need is belief in yourself, that is the only attitude you can have as a musician. Also what a lot of people who listen to music don't seem to realise is that the bands they idolise probably don't listen to only one type of music, otherwise they'd lose their creativity!! So I don't really think that the lack in mainstream metal is worrying. It'll come back, you'll see mate!!

Have you been approached by any labels?

We have had a bit of record company interest but nothing definite. It'd be great to tie up a record deal, 'cause that would take a weight off our minds. We believe in ourselves, so naturally we do hope to get a record deal soon, at least in the next ten years anyway!!!! So it would be great if some companies considered us. We may issue an E.P on an indie label - a couple of labels have asked us to do an E.P for them - but nothing has come of it as yet.

What projects do you have for the future?

JOHN: We're gonna write some more new stuff, I'll tell ya the new stuff we've already done is killer man, and then we're gonna tour and gig like hell. We just can't wait to get out and play, to me that's what it's all about, the excitement of a good live show is the greatest feeling in the world, and whilst I've been to see loads of local bands lately it's made me even more anxious to get out there and show my stuff. But we must be patient, our time will come y'know??

What is your message to underground bands and headbangers over here in Malta?

JOHN: Keep it up guys, there's some great

bands in Malta such as FORSAKEN and VANDALS, so the scene is becoming to look real strong. You have great zines and people, everything that is needed for a great scene. As long as you guys keep an open mind and let the new bands grow then you guys have got it made!!

Anything else?

MICK: Well, Malcolm my friend, thanks very much for the interview, we really appreciate it - CHEERS!! If any of you guys want to write to us, please do, it would be great to hear from ya. So until next time ... take care and STAY HEAVY!!!!!!

CONTACT ADDRESS:-

THE REIGN
C/O JOHN COOK
117 ALICE STREET,
SOUTH SHIELDS,
TYNE AND WEAR, NE33 5PG,
ENGLAND

M.Callus

DESULTORY
DEBUT-ALBUM
"INTO ETERNITY"
OUT OF METAL BLADE RECORDS
IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Rosickkacial

DEBUT ALBUM
ENTITLED
silence
OUT IN
SEPTEMBER 1992

BRILLIANT BUBONIC
SWEDISH THRASH
RECORDED IN STUDIO
SUNLIGHT

BLACK MARK **Rosickkacial** **BLACK MARK**
PRODUCTION PRODUCTION PRODUCTION

If you foreign readers had to visit Malta today, you would easily recognise that mentioning VANDALS is like mentioning a legend, an icon, a road to an uprise of many other bands lately. Their gigs are much awaited by all the local metal fans - old and new and nowadays even news of what goes on in their dirty rehearsal room in Tarxien is much sought after, as the band, besides being involved in various projects, have also been changing the line-up. Anyway, I don't want to bore you so just read on, Ray Savage (guitar) will guide you!

First of all tell us about your history to date.

We started off back in 1983 with Ray Speedy on drums, Marc Krusher doing bass and vocals and myself, Ray Savage, on guitars. At the time we played power metal but gradually we developed into a speed metal combo. In 1989, Marc left the band to try and start a musical career in the UK. Marc was replaced by Steve "Rusty" Curmi (presently with EXTREMITY) on vocals and Albert Bell (presently with FORSAKEN) on bass. Additional guitars were taken over by Marc's younger brother Al. This formation started to play thrash metal stuff and lived up to 1991 until Albert Bell and Al Krusher left the band for various reasons. They were respectively replaced by James Spiteri and Jason Zammit. Now, in 1992, the present formation which also includes Josef Deguara on vocals (instead of Rusty) are experimenting with death metal. We hope that for the future the dead shall rise and smell the incense!

Since the rehearsal/live promo you released in 1991, the band has been involved in a rock opera in Malta called "Bed Rock" as well as a couple of gigs in which a load of cover versions of bands such as OBITUARY, SLAYER and SODOM were offered. How do you comment on the various ways that your audience has reacted to these different events?

We took part in "Bed Rock" for two main reasons; To collect funds for further gigs and to experiment, or rather, give the Maltese audience something new - a live, heavy metal, rock opera. The audience reacted positively, but, although in fewer numbers, I prefer the crowd at our normal gigs. The reason that we played only cover versions on the other dates mentioned was because we hadn't made a live appearance for about a

ing into the audience and rapping some old woman?

From the number of old madams we saw, neither one of them was worth a double tot of sperm! However, I believe we fucked the corridors of their minds with our music!

Do you like gore films?

Yes, in fact some of my favourites are "Suspira".



year and a half (due to the rock opera) and once it was over and done with we had to prove that VANDALS were still around. So in November we gave those gigs. Thanks to all the people who came along on that day. Thanks for your support!

Mentioning the rock opera again, (I hope I'm not boring you, Ray - ED) you had a lot of older people not usually into your noisy stuff coming to see you. Did any perverted lusts come to mind whilst performing, such as slam div-

"Necromantic", "Gore Gore Girls" and "Mother's Day".

So, what are VANDALS planning now that a new vocalist, Josef has joined the band. Any new songs and future gigs?

In August we're taking part, alongside 21 other bands, in the Maltasajf Festival and there we'll present our new songs together with some old ones. In January we're planning a two and a half hour presentation to commemorate our ten years around. This will be divided into three

parts as the band will be playing songs from the original line-up, others from the thrash era and also some of the more recent songs. Later on in 1993 maybe we'll do a concept concert with other underground musicians concerning black metal. But this is not sure!

Certainly the first thrash band in Malta, how do you view your position as an influence on the sudden uprise of thrash and death metal bands here in Malta?

For us death metal is as much a new experience as it is to these new bands. However, I hope that our ten years of experience will help us from drowning into the mainstream.

Back to your demo, how was the response to it from the few places it was distributed?

To tell you the truth I didn't expect as much. It went well among zines in Germany, Italy, England, New Zealand, Portugal & the USA. John Cook of the REIGN and even Korzus of Brazil liked our demo. However, in Germany other zines criticised it fiercely while for the Japanese it was far from brutal.

It may be noted that the Maltese equivalent for the most cliched word nowadays - a word which still sounds great - DEATH, is MEWT. According to you this stands for "Macerated Embryonic Wasted Tissue". Quite a cool hobby to give titles to such words - would you comment on this?

Well that was just a title we were going to give a song of ours one day and nothing else. However I'm most inter-

ested in reading and writing and my fave subject is genetic engineering which is the mixture of hormones and cells from the human body in order to create the perfect human being.

How would you like to close this interview?

While I thank you for this interview I hope it won't be the first and last. Meanwhile I invite your readers to bitter their tongues with the taste of rancid soup. For all other zines and so on who would like to write please contact us.

Contact address

Ray Schembri,
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Saint Monica St.,
Tarxien.
MALTA.



SPAGHETTI

Hi We would like to say hello to all "Racid Soup" readers. We are Walter & P.G, editors of the "My Sardinia" zine. Let's talk about the Italian death metal scene. The Italian scene is a bit obscure and not helped very much but to tell you the truth we have a good musical movement. The most popular bands in Italy are: BULLDOZER, NECRODEATH and SCHIZO.

BULLDOZER split up one and a half years ago for unknown reasons, no one knows if they are still into underground.

NECRODEATH released two albums plus an LP project before they split up. They have now reformed as SADIST but only the drummer, Peso, was present in the first original line-up. They released a 7" named "Black Screams" with the latest Italian label "Obscure Plasma Records". It's available for 6\$ from:-

OBSCURE PLASMA RECORDS
C/O Valerio Solinas
Via Fonzaso 2
Milano

SCHIZO have done four demos plus an LP (which was bloody delicious!). After two years of silence they are back with a new demo "Wounds in the Clay" which is still available for 6\$

Alberto Penzin
PO Box 9
95030 Mascalucia (CA)

DEATHRAGE are a great band from Italy who have released two albums through Discomagic. I know Alex but I don't know what they are doing nowadays. For info write to him (he's 100% honest).

Alex Vicini
Fermo Posta
33051 Cimsello Balsamo (MI)

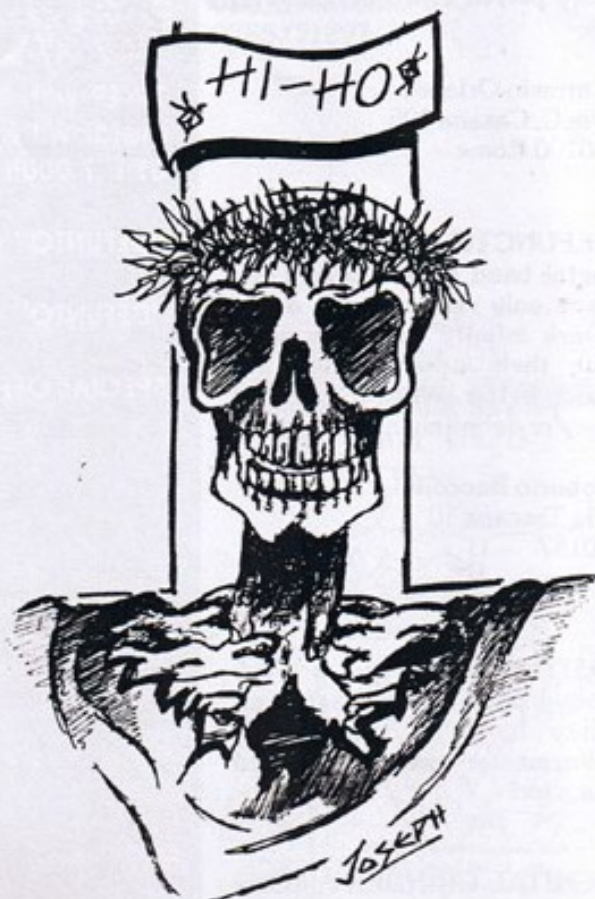
SINOATH are a brutal death metal outfit from Sicily. Their music is a concentration of Black-/Death metal with an original touch. They are the Italian answer to NOCTURNUS! So, don't think about it just send 6\$ to:-

Dario Casabona
Via Gravina 29/B
95030 Tremestieri Etneo (CT)

ICONOCLAST who used to be called UPCOMING GRAVE have produced a demo "Chasm of Mortality" which is still available. They have also done a promo tape '92 which is great!!! It's available with a blank tape plus 2 IRC's.

Andrea Zanetti
Via Donati 87/2
91100 Modena

TRIFIXION have done an excellent debut, hell



packed demo called "In The Light Of Horror". Everyone is anticipating that their second demo should rule. I'm not sure of the demo's price but you can write to:-

Paolo Qaudri
Via Campagna 89
29100 Piacenza

ELECTROCUTION have made a couple of demos but they don't sell them anymore so just wait for their debut album which will be out soon on Contempo records, write for information to:-

Michele Montaguti
Via Belvedere 82
Zola Predosa (BV)

CATACOMB are another great band from Rome. They've done two demos and the latest which is called "Unreal" is very good. They supported **CARCASS** when they played in Rome. Send 6\$ to:-

Carmelo Orlando
Via C. Casana 195
00100 Rome

DEFUNCTIS, a brutal Death metal band from Rome. They have only released one demo "Dark Infinity" which is good but their newer songs are much better. Write to them as they're definitely not a rip-off.

Roberto Buccolini
Via Toscana 10
00187
Roma

EUTHANASIA are a very young band formed last year. They have a demo called "Wormeater" which surprised me a lot!

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EXCIDIVM

c/o Danny Cinicola
Via XXIV Maggio 6
86039 Termoli (CB)
ITALY



...and great with an effi-
 cient touch, they did a live
 performance named "Live in
 Hell" which had so scribble
 to

...
 ... (MN)

... Have existed
 since '81 and have made four
 albums. "7" has recently been
 released by Obscure Plasma
 Records. They now have
 a manager who is a good
 business man.

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... GRATION are
 one of the best bands in Italy.
 Their latest demo is brilliant
 and a worthy predecessor. Both
 demos are still available for
 a limited price of \$5 (Europe)
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... NUTILATION, a

brutal Sardinian band. They
 have done only one official re-
 hearsal demo but their first
 demo is coming out soon.
 Send 4\$ to:-

Tonio Falchi
 Via Salaris 53
 08015 Macomer (NU)

ABORTI DEGENERATI are
 quite a new band who have re-
 leased fuck all so far but a live
 demo will be out thru our dis-
 tribution "My Sardinia Distro"
 so just wait and see!

DARK SEASON (formerly
 FOETAL MORBUS) recently
 released a promo for radio,
 zines etc. Under the FOETAL
 MORBUS name they made a
 split demo with BROKEN
 FEAR (FRANCE). They are
 going to release a split demo
 with CRIPPLE BASTARDS
 quite soon (Sept/Oct). They
 sound a bit like AGATHO-
 CLES and old NAPALM
 DEATH so write to:-

Michele Masson
 Via Buranello 10/22
 16199 Genova

ASS ACHE. I don't like to talk
 about my own band (it's snob-
 bish!) so if you want informa-
 tion etc just write to me (a fast
 reply guaranteed to everyone)

Walter Garay
 Via Bardolini #5
 08015 Macomer (NU)
 0785/71297

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I AM A BEACHBOY

This section is a collection of some summer experiences which some friends/musicians have had. So for all those who insist that a zine is not only about the musical life of the musicians here come a series of unpublished memoirs....

I was once working with a couple of friends doing a summer job at Costa Smeralda (I advise you not to go on holiday there as life there is only for the rich). One of my friends fell in love with a native girl, so much that he even asked the authorities if he could be employed on a full time basis. A few weeks before our job had to come to an end we decided to send him a fake telegram confirming his acceptance. One can imagine how glad he felt! And one can also imagine his face when he discovered that this was false!

Massimo Vargu,
NEW DIRECTION vocalist.

Lately, in New York we had a 'bad' storm that created huge waves of up to 10 to 12 feet, sometimes even 15. I decided to go surfing. I get to the beach and to my dismay see a lot of body boarders. I paddled out anyway and surfed a while with all these assholes. These guys would drop in on me like I wasn't even there and this made me fuckin' pissed!!! So I'm sitting out there and I see a 15 footer coming and I decided it was all mine! I paddled for it and as I was getting to my feet I noticed a body boarder dropping in. So I come down the line and I'm calling him off, actually screaming at him - he wouldn't get off neither would I. I'm right on his ass now and start pumping the board to go faster. He jets out in front of the wave and cuts back into me; there's nothing else I could but run his faggot ass over (I wasn't going to bail on this wave on account of this fuck!). The nose of my board goes over his head and then the fins go through his back tearing his flesh and severing his spine, after that we both wiped out. I get back to my board and watch him start to drown, I refuse to help him so his only alternative was to scream and gasp for air. One of his friends noticed what was going on and pulled him out of the water. It turned out that he was paralysed from the neck down and the cops couldn't do anything seeing as now it was an ... 'accident'! Moral of the story - take vengeance on anyone who fucks with you.

Darryl
PYREXIA vocalist

One day I went down to visit my friend Schizo. We bought 5 beer crates and we got drunk so happily. Then we went for a drive, driving like madmen. Suddenly a tyre blew off in a round corner and consequently the car toppled over for 4 - 5 times, I don't know exactly. The next moment we were puking with pleasure! We were so tired that we didn't even bother to get up so we slept all night in this flood of puke. Disgusting but true!

Pierluigi Crispino
"My Sardenia" co - editor

Ulieland, and I will be a beach boy for ten days. Lovely! Chasing girls (not upicorns!!!), drinking beer, sleeping in the sand, wonderful, I'll enjoy it.

Hans
THE GATHERING drummer

To be perfectly honest we haven't really got that much of a prolific beach life... In fact I don't even remember the last time I saw a beach.

Karl Willetts
BOLT-THROWER vocalist

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on't even

... I went with loads of friends to swim. ... must have some photos taken so ... to the foot of a tower overlooking the ... an obscure place as seen from with- ... be noted that our group consisted of ... Suddenly, Gianluigi (ex PANCREA- ... GRESS guitarist) took out his dick and ... all the females to sit down and have a ... with the thing!!! Weird stuff mate!

Interview
INTERVIEW vocals & guitar

... (July) I went to my local cemetery ... camera and since there was a fun- ... place I filmed it. The result made me ... and the grief on the mourners' faces ... happier. I wish to film another one ...

Interview
INTERVIEW drummer

... last summer afternoon I was with my ... around with a bike. Suddenly a ... and we jumped on him. We told ... better pay up or else... In the end, ... the little kid hell and forcing him to ... money, I told him that if he ever ran ... again he could come to my house for ... as I am, I then gave him instructions ... of my house. A couple of ... the doorbell rang and when I opened I ... again accompanied by an un-green Incredible Hulk. I was lucky not to get beaten up as I ... the money back!

Interview
INTERVIEW Guitars & Vocals

... the inhabitants of Macomer (my hometown) and Bosa don't get on that well with ... So let me tell you about the stupid way I got beaten up. Some months ago, I was in the ... of my town and I met an old rival of mine. After serious quarrels we ended up fighting and I ... out of him! Back home in Bosa he told all his mates about his fight with me and ... they all agreed that Bosa was out of bounds for me. They spread the rumour and it ... my ears back in Macomer. So one fine happy day I had an errand to do in Bosa and ... about my business having forgotten all about my death warrant. Walking down the ... in Bosa I was confronted by my old 'friends' and when asked what I was doing there, I ... that I had forgotten all about the threat. They soon jolted my memory and made me ... You can just imagine my face after this episode!

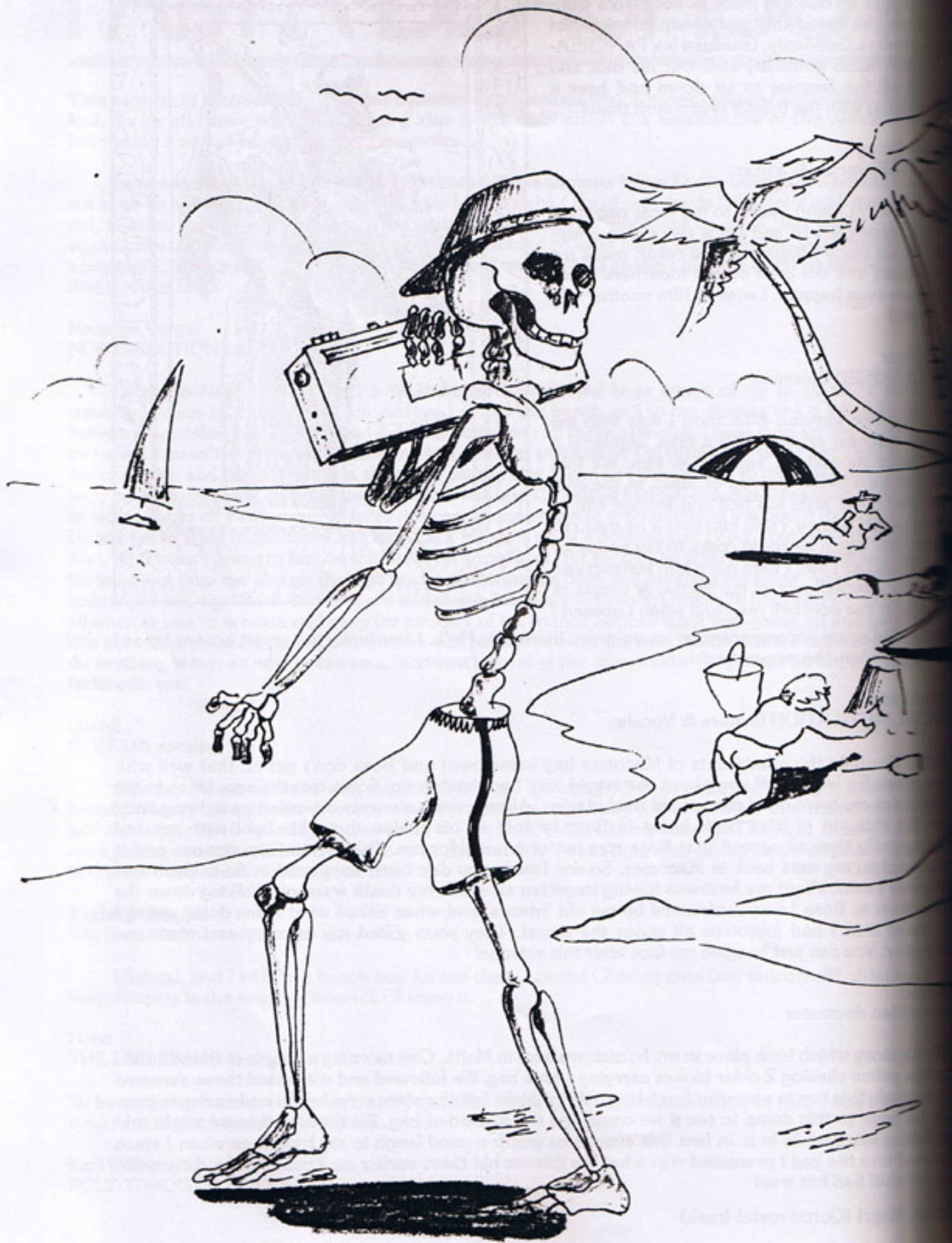
Interview
INTERVIEW drummer

... which took place in my hometown here in Malta. One morning a couple of friends and I ... chasing 2 older blokes carrying a blue bag. We followed and witnessed these assumed ... the bag in a nearby trash heap. When night fell, the stars grew bright and our eyes grew ... to this dump to see if we could find the discarded bag. We thought that we might find ... worthwhile in it. In fact this event was worth a good laugh to my friends as when I stuck ... the bag I presumed was what the thieves hid there earlier on, I pulled out a dirty great ... Sad but true!

Interview (Qormi metal freak)



I was lucky not to get beaten up as I ... the money back!



C A S T L E



So, for all those into heavy melodic stuff here is some doom metal. This interview was done with Eric from CASTLE some time ago. In the meantime they have released a second demo called "In Purple Visions" so once you finish reading this interview do not even consider to give any tips to our waiters, just go home and enclose your bucks to CASTLE to obtain this demo. My excuses go towards my staff - sorry but I prefer CASTLE)

How long have CASTLE been together?

Lucien and I decided to form a band in October '87, but it took until August/September '90 (!) before we had a line up and rehearsal room that held longer than 3 months.

Have you gigged outside of Holland?

Yes, in fact our first gig was in Belgium and our next one will also be in Belgium but for the moment the Dutch scene is big enough for us.

Any labels interested?

Yes, but nothing is serious or sure enough to mention.

Musical influences? As a musician what advice could you give to other bands concerning originality in their style?

Our influences are Doom (BLACK SABBATH, CANDLEMASS, TROUBLE, ST. VITUS, WINTER etc.), older Death Metal (CELTIC FROST, MESSIAH, NECROPHAGIA & SLAUGHTER), older heavy metal (CLOVENHOOF, BROCCAS HELM, JUDAS PRIEST) and all kinds of weird things & music besides metal (PINK FLOYD, AL DI MEOLA, DEAD CAN DANCE, DIAMANDA GALLAS, KATE BUSH). I'd say to other bands: Try to listen to all kinds of music so you'll be inspired by various kinds of music. That increases the chances of being original. Unfortunately most bands nowadays only listen to modern death metal. Also, dare to be

different, try new things, experiment a lot and hope that you'll be lucky. Last but not least: A stable line up is absolutely essential!

Any plans for major tours?

No, we're all students and simply lack the time to do such things. Perhaps if we're ever contracted we'll tour after we've recorded our first album. I'd like to play in Malta, I'd like to play anywhere as long as we do not lose any money. Playing live is fine but it shouldn't cost us money!!

CONTACT ADDRESS:-

Eric
Klaversstraat 9
5038 RB Tilburg
The Netherlands

GOREMENT

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Peter



BOLT-THROWER

One of the bands which came to mind while doing this zine was **BOLT-THROWER**. This band, formed in late '86 hail from the UK and here comes an interview before the release of their fourth LP entitled "The Fourth Crusade", scheduled for a November release through **EARACHE**. Karl Will-
etts (Vocals) comments:

BOLT-THROWER, although nowadays being tagged as Death metal offer more variety to their form of music than the label says. In the early days when Death Metal was still in its infancy compared to Thrash Metal bands such as EXODUS, TESTAMENT, DESTRUCTION, KREATOR etc, BOLT-THROWER were already fighting to get their mighty sound across. How do you view yourself now that you have released three grindcrushing walls of sound?

Throughout the bands existence we have had a variety of labels; Thrash, Death Metal, Grindcore etc ... and I'm sure that a few more will develop in time ... None of these labels we have shrugged off because to us they are not too important ... We want people to like us for our music and that's all that matters. I don't think that **BOLT-THROWER** can be placed into a certain category such as Grindcore or Death Metal ... As we kind of overlap the two!!!

In what way do you think that a headline tour differs from that of a support act?

Well we haven't done a support slot on a tour for a long time now so we are used to headlining shows ... On the last tour with **ASPEN** and **BENEDICTION** all three bands went out equally well ... So the billing of a tour is not as important as long as there is a good atmosphere and everyone gets on well ... That's the most important thing on a tour.

Irrespective of many other bands, the BOLT-THROWER sound is always crushing from release to another and what's more never repeats itself. Besides the drummer, it's a female who keeps the bass lines pounding in the rhythm section. How do you view yourself as their are few, to my knowledge, women who grind their heads?

There are not too many bands in our field of music that have female members ... That's a shame because as we have shown they are as capable ... Jo isn't in our band because she's a woman but purely because when we searched for a bass player she was the best one that we found.

A couple of skateboarders in Malta love your sound. Do you like skateboarding after all is this just a coincidence?

Personally I'm not into skateboarding at all (far too dangerous!!) but I know that a few skateboarders are into our sound which is cool!!! ... Whale our drummer used to skateboard a hell of a lot, in fact he won a few titles and all that in local competitions but as they are so busy with the band he has no more time

BOLT·THROWER

I suppose you listen to loads of extreme forms of music but are there any faves besides these which you would recommend a listen to readers?

Actually I don't really listen to Death Metal/Grindcore etc while at home ... I tend to listen more to rock stuff such as W.A.S.P, VICIOUS RU-

MOURS, QUEENSRYCHE, LOVE/HATE etc ... As well as heavy rap stuff like ICE T, NWA etc!!

What evil joke would you like to share with our readers?

To me one of the biggest evil jokes is religion.

Contact address

PO Box 2061,
Solihull,
West Midlands B92 7SZ
UK

M. Callus

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MALTESE SCENE REPORT

Hello all! It's Marcel & Malcolm from RANCID SOUP here writing from the...
dron's bottom of Malta. Today we will show you how to cook the rancid...
which is a traditional Maltese liquid food and a feverishly nourishing...
here comes the recipe. First you must empty the virus infected bile from...
duct, then pour it into a pot and allow to heat for five to ten minutes. Are...
following?!?!? Slice some groins with a knife... aaarrggghhh!!! My thumb!
thumb! I've lacerated the poor thing! Oh never mind this tasty shower of blood...
let us introduce you to the bands which form the Maltese metal scene.

Well as a necessary ingredient of this Maltese scene report one must for sure give reference to VANDALS. Formed in January '83 this band have been ulcering our island with their noise way before death metal entered via our customs department. After 8 years of severe work they rehearsed a live/rehearsal demo called "Rise of evil" which went fairly well with the underground correspondents they got in touch with. For those interested to know more about the band an interview may be sought elsewhere.

Time passed and new bands started to form on the island. To mention a few that made a name one can mention COVEN (RIP), EXTREMITY, KREMATION (RIP) and MANSLAUGHTER (RIP). The time machine takes us to 1991-the year when loads of bands really

into the thrash/death metal vein started to happen.

In the beginning of 1991 Duncan Scibberras (drums) and Cliff Cini formed DARK CENTURY but it was in last March '92 that they reached a stable line up with Antoine Farrugia and John Vyper on guitars and Jason Agius on vocal duties. Until the present day, NEOS OSIS have never played live. Anyone

anybody wishing to get in touch with the band can write Duncan "St.Paul", Bridge Mosta MST 09. E-mail fish rules!

Another band EUTHANASIA formed at about the same time. This band does doom metal but unfortunately neither EUTHANASIA have even a live appearance maybe due to the fact that they



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... to the mighty
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... **FORSAKEN!**
... in Sept. '90
... **ALLEY**, only
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FORSAKEN



REALIDA

disbanded - another of the upcoming death metal bands on the island. Formed back in the summer heat of last year, this trio - Steve on bass, Bruce on drums and Alex on guitars and vocals, play a raw type of death metal and would like people to write to them for info about the rehearsal demo they had recorded before disbanding. Alex is now in a new band which features Ray Savage of VANDALS. They go by the name of UNSANCTIFIED and are working on a re-h/demo. They may be contacted through Alex Cumbo, "Peter", Fisherman Building, Block 2, Xatt is-sajjieda, Marsaxlokk ZTN 10.

From the Southern shores of Marsaxlokk to the old central city of Rabat, please welcome REALIDA. Formed in 1991 this band play thrash metal highly influenced by the San Francisco Bay area sound. The band consists of Maurizio on drums, Silvio on guitars and Steve on bass and vocals. They are presently searching for a second guitarist to secure a crunchier rhythm. The band may be contacted by writing to Silvio Muscat at Block BGA No. 6, Mtarfa, Rabat RBT 10.

Still there? Now it's time to introduce our bowls full of lager to

SEGREGATION. Formed in Sept '91, this fourpiece gave their live debut in April to a crowd of fierce gore loving Maltesers...we mean Maltese deathsters not the crispy chocolate balls! Originally formed as a not so technical thrash/death band SEGREGATION have progressed into a fierce but intelligent death metal band whilst still retaining the raw sound of the past and sharp original edge. You can either love them or hate them! However at the time being they would prefer your love as the bassist and drummer have left. So for all you beer drinkers out there write to Bruce Genovese, 69, Nerik Sant Str, Zebbug ZBG 06

As you are stuffing your mouth with all sorts of rancid ingredients. Marcel am sitting in the dark corner of my room recalling some old memories of mine as time ago was the vocalist of HEADED (formed originally in summer '91 as PSYCHOTIC IMPULSE). So to talk about these wine folks of mine the band nowadays consists of original members Dan Bugeja (guitars) and Chris Brincat (drums) together with Bernard (vocals), Jason (eat lead!) and Cassar (fat bass), all previous members of SLAUGHTER. Their debut live gig on August 22nd (Maltese Rock Festival) they are



SEGREGATION

tic feel to their sound. Contact them through David at "Maple House", Eucharistic Congress Rd., Mosta MST 09.

Certainly one of the most acclaimed bands in Malta are BIBLICAL INFAMY. This band made music in the death/black metal vein and were to date the fiercest on the island, however, due to various circumstances they had to disband. Contact Neville Gafa' (ex-rhythm guitarist) at Block A, Flat 3, Triq it-Tursin il-Bir, Santa Lucia PLA 10 for info on the new band he is now in. On the other hand contact gracious six stringer Nikki Gravino at "The logs", Hemel st., Swieqi.

Highly recommendable for listening to are OBLIQUE VISIONS formed earlier last year (so to speak). The line up is Conrad "Smurf" Attard (drums), James Schembri formerly with BIBLICAL INFAMY (vocals), Dennis Attard (keyboards), Jeff Bugeja & Stefan "wolf" Borg (guitars) and Brian Sammut (bass). For info check Brian at "Francis House", Triq il-Parilja, Santa Venera HMR 16.

A couple of other bands which are still in their minor stages but are worth mentioning are METEMPSYCHOSIS, BANDOQ, IN MEMORIUM, and SCEPTOCRYPT (our own band). For info about anyone of them write to us.

So to end this gory picture of Malta, these are some cookery notes to close with:

A) Do not forget to write MALTA at the end of each band's address if you mean writing to them. Please write!

B) If possible enclose an IRC to make their life easier.

M. Scalpello
M. Callus



BEHEADED



Before you dismiss this band because of their ugly appearance I think you'd listen to them or at least read about their proud feelings concerning this unique image.

Many bands who play death nowadays pose in photos to show that they're fuckin' brutal. You guys, however, are ugly by nature (you can't deny that!) and look horrible easily. Can you comment on this uniqueness?

Well you say so yourself, it's unique. AWAKENING always try to be as unique (original) as possible. We try to sound different, to be different and even look different! We think that our look is very unique



and you share our taste great!

Jokes apart I suppose you will be recording a single for the Peaceville compilation which your mates THE GATHERING will be featured. If so, did Peaceville or any other label approach you as yet for signing a contract? Good luck!!!

No we are not going to sign with Peaceville. We had contacts with Peaceville and they liked our second demo very much, but they have got enough bands now. They want to support the bands that have already instead of signing new ones. I understand that. We haven't signed yet, but are still busy with our work. We are still sending demo packages to record labels. We have talked with a few but nothing is for sure yet. Anyway, did you know that THE GATHERING are going to release a CD for Foundation 2000 Records? I can't wait to hear it! THE GATHERING are great guys and their music is godly. Buy that CD as soon as it is released or be an idiot forever!

You're from Holland, can you imagine gigs in your own country with kids who are clogs at each other (there's a band called THE THROWER). Leaving your infantile views behind, what sides the various Doom/Death bands do you love to honour your country for?

I love Holland because of the doomy weather. It's perfect of the time here. It's not too warm and I hate hot weather. I love to walk in the rain. Holland is a cool country. Believe me!

What are your musical influences?

...and in what ways do
...offer your style of
...them?

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...now and then)
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...with noise es-
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... What type of sound-
... do you suggest to
... bands?

... We have al-
... a few months

in a place before being kicked out because of the noise but now we are in a professional rehearsal place where nobody can hear us, even when we play as loud as we can! I want to suggest to the Maltese bands: Put your mom's big ass in front of your rehearsal-room and nobody will ever complain again!

What type of films do you like watching with your girlfriends - splatter, love, or what?

Doesn't really matter. Because if we watch a film with the whole band + girlfriends, then we don't watch the film, but we talk, drink and laugh. And it also doesn't matter when I am alone with my girlfriend, because we then also don't watch the film, but we do something else!!!!?

Favourite type of disease?

Love

Favourite type of car?

Cars don't interest me, televisions don't interest me, motor bikes don't interest me. There are not many things from this age which interest me. I love woods, the sea, the wind etc.

Favourite type of guitar, amp, pedals, cymbals, bass, drums, microphones, PA's, etc?

AWAKENING use Yamaha and Ibanez guitars, Pearl drums, Boss pedals, Marshall amps etc, etc. We prefer this stuff.

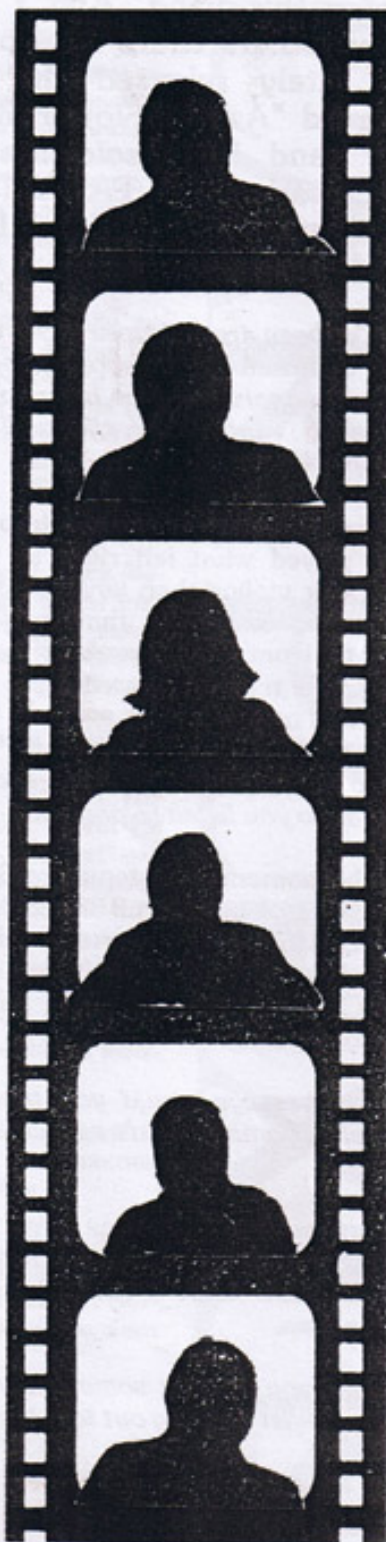
Any last psychocurses?

No. Oh yes, I remember one. I wish to receive a free copy of the 'zine with this interview included! But that will be a wish forever, won't it? (Good

joke to compliment our first question - MC)

CONTACT ADDRESS:-

Hooldweg 121,
9628CM
Siddeburon,
HOLLAND



forsaken

forsaken

In September '90 six young lads namely Leo (vocals), Kevin Azzopardi & Kevin Spiteri (guitars), Kay (keyboards), Tony (bass) and Simeon (drums) - former BLIND ALLEY. Due to various reasons in June '91, Kevin Spiteri and Tony left the band to be replaced by Albert Bell on bass. This line up gave birth to FORSAKEN, the band I love to glorify as much as they love to glorify heavy metal. After a decent live debut with MANSLAUGHTER and EXTREMITY on Friday the 13th of September '91, they released the "Requiem" demo later in December. In the meantime their keyboardist left and a second guitarist, Dave Magri (ex MANSLAUGHTER) joined the band. The band will hopefully launch their "7" through Arkham Productions of France later this year. Would our readers like an interview with them? Certainly, so here it is!

Referring to the "Requiem" demo already mentioned, did you expect the demo to sell as far as Japan and many other countries, or were you taken by surprise when you received the sackfuls of mail?

We were not that surprised that it was acclaimed in various countries as we tried to distribute our demo in many different corners of the world as possible, but we were honestly shocked by the way it was received.



underground accepted it.

At the time of release of the demo you still had a keyboardist as a full time member and it cannot be denied that he had a major role in the bands' sound. How do you think those who purchased the demo would react to your music now?

The music now is much heavier but keyboards are still in the band's mind. Maybe we will use them in future releases.

Talking of such releases have any underground labels who heard "Requiem" contacted you so far?

We've got a good contact with Joel Grevost of Arkham Productions (a new, independent, French label) and, hopefully, we'll be recording a 7" soon.

Doom apart, for those who would like to know, Albert



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swiss

Bell (Bassist with FORSAKEN) was the social studies tutor of my zine mate Marcel. How did you react to him when he said he failed the exam?

Although it's not a question that I'd like to answer I'll answer it just the same. Marcel is 110% into music and for him anything else may quite easily rot in the summer sun of Malta. So I was not at all surprised at the result. However, had the exam been music he would have passed with flying colours and many thanks go to him for recording our "Requiem" demo!

Back to your music, how is the band's sound developing with new recruit Daniel on guitars?

Shitty! (Aaarrghh - Bluurghh - Catastrophe - well everyone's beating up Simeon for saying that!!). No sorry, I didn't mean that!



(you'd better - ed)

Here in Malta there is a sudden uprise of Death metal bands but unfortunately the same does not apply to Doom metal. Now that the world seems to have opened its gates to doom as much as death, what are your comments on this issue?

One day, Doom will prevail even here in Malta. What loads of deathsters still don't understand is the message of a long, slow song and we hope this will change.

Back to social studies but in a more serious way. Do you think that politics and their consequences effect the way that doomsters view reality? What type of lyrics do FORSAKEN have?

In our opinion politically minded lyrics are too cliched and we prefer to deal with issues such as the human subconscious and its hidden intricacies.

How do you comment on the fact that your rehearsal room is owned by the local chaplain?

Although we blaspheme continually, we still adore the chaplain as we pay no rent or electricity for our room. So, Believers, donate more money to the church to keep FORSAKEN alive!

Your comments on BLACK SABBATH and their influence on your music?

Although we are all great fans of SABBATH we're not a bunch of blokes who play only their covers although we can't deny that it's a pleasure to us. Generally we listen to various metal, doom, death and thrash stuff so we try to mix our influences into one sound.

It's been cool doing this interview. Any last messages to our readers, both Maltese and foreign?

"All we are saying is give doom a chance!" (I can imagine John Lennon singing that - ed)

CONTACT ADDRESS:-

Albert Bell
"Norviv House",
Vjal il-Kottoner,
Fgura PLA 17,
MALTA

M.Callus

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Artworkers send in xerox copies/samples of your work for possible feature in the 3rd issue - due to be released early 1993.

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THE GATHERING

For those of you who give a fuck, Marcel and I play in SCEPTOCRYPT besides doing this zine. According to our bass player Marco, THE GATHERING are one of (if not the) the best bands around. Listening to loads of different bands makes it difficult to choose a fave but I think that sharing his opinion is natural. This is an interview with THE GATHERING's drummer, Hans.

THE GATHERING. Another Dutch band far from the norm. What is it that is so unique about Holland? The fact is that bands do not resemble each other in any manner?

Yes, Holland is, I think, a different country!! With a lot of different people, a lot of bands and a lot of influences and that's great! Originality is a big word here!! But I don't know what is so unique here, maybe the cheese?? (or the biscuits? - MC)



Different from many other modern metal bands who try to be fast and brutal you guys play naturally and express your emotions through motives of simple but effective music. How do you regard yourself in today's music?

As a band who plays film music we're not very technical but that's not very important. It's far more difficult to make good songs with atmosphere. That's our main goal!!

You all look like good, happy people who know the true meaning of peace and freedom. Are there any mischievous sides to THE GATHERING, at least when you were younger?

Of course we've had some problems in the past, but no big ones! We're all students and our hobby is to make music and of course sometimes we have our fights, but it's great right now, we understand each other!!

In your debut album you will be using female vocals. Will they be similar to PARADISE LOST, which you confess are one of your major influences,



or in the way of other bands such as PINK FLOYD or in a completely unique new way?

No, you could say that's used in a very unique way!! Wait until you hear it's beautiful!! Her name is Marike Groof and she plays music perfectly.

What else do you love to do besides this music project?

Going to listen to other bands, going to the movies, reading, women, eating, going on holiday, I love to paraglide. I met Eric of CASTLE sometimes, he's a weird host!! He likes Coke (ha ha!!), and I'm a student. Very boring!!

On the live side, have you gigged lately and how about your future gig in Malta?

Yes we've played some gigs with MORBID ANGEL, DEATH, FEAR OF GOD, SAMUEL, etc and it was great to play with them even DEATH. Chuck is an asshole, I've burned all my DEATH records (no?). We will do a tour with PARADISE LOST in July and maybe a bigger one after the holidays!! We'd love

to Malta!! Who

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Belgium, for this in-
hope you will buy
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years old and I still
a girlfriend!! Thats

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CHEESE & BISCUITS

Well, our menu offers the above as dessert. As a matter of fact this is the review section. We give cheese for production and biscuits for the band's efforts in music, lyrics, originality, creativity, etc. The rating goes from 5 cheese to 1 cheese and from 5 biscuits to 1.

MORTEM "Vomit of the Earth" (Demo 3 '93)

This is the most appealing demo of Alvaro and his mates. Certainly they deserve a deal but for the time being they had to record a bunch of evil tunes. In fact the three tracks on display here all portray fierce technical black metal even though the production is not that great. Most varied is the song "Demonolatory". 3 cheese and 5 biscuits to P.O. box 210035, Lima 21, PERU, South America.

CASTLE "In purple visions" (Demo 2 '92)

Weird simple music from Holland from the fairy tale dreamers. In fact Eric is still writing about unicorns in the song "Unicorns I have known". Close friends of THE GATHERING they have now even included keyboard in the band line up. However, it is Richard (guitars) who plays it! Totally different to THE GATHERING, CASTLE are more depressive and as ancient as castle walls themselves. Their music is just a labyrinth ... cheese and biscuits do not exist in dreams!

BOLT-THROWER "The IVth Crusade"

Fierce as ever with another set of epic riffing come BOLT-THROWER. Grind/death from the UK in the old fashioned manner but still as heavy as ever! This album is in fact the usual BOLT-THROWER stuff we're all accustomed to by now and in fact somewhat similar to it's predecessor "War master". Anyway 5 cheese and 3 biscuits! By the way if your interested in the bands fan club address it reads: World Eaters, P.O. Box23, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV 32 - 5NY, UK.

SPINA BIFIDA "Symphony of Indictment"

1992

Certainly another promising Dutch band. The vocals which are raw, topple over the slow paced riffs in the doom/death vein. Most notable is the track "Purest Queen" with its simple but effective structure. As a debut it's certainly worth the \$5 but I hope the band will develop better songs if they want to spread their name worldwide.

Lyric wise, the band tackles interesting topics such as voodoo rituals and the general human evil which man experiences from within. Give them 3 biscuits for this release and 3 cheese for the production. The tape has a lot of a bassy sound! Address elsewhere.

EDGE OF SANITY "Nothing but death remains" (Black Mark)

Not too much to say on this band. The production deserves 5 cheese but the music is not fashioned for me. Well if you're into old school metal, this is a must but for me that's past me. Not that the band does not deserve any cheese but I would not give them more than one from my packet of Morning Coffee. Who knows maybe someone out there will give them the remaining four.

FORSAKEN "Virtues of sanctity" (Arkham) advance tape

Hell! I love this band! Entering my ears during my last hours of doom ... it's FORSAKEN. Certainly not as evil as the "Requiem" demo but the style but the production has certainly improved, even though it isn't as brutal as I would have liked. Anyway it's highly impressive and the same. As regards the style the best structured it better especially in the instrumental melodies performed by their vocalist, guitar. It concludes with a mystic touch, free-form music all in a crystal globe of local galore! 4 cheese and 5 biscuits. To trade their demo or enquire about this release send cans of beer and loads of love to Albert Bell whose address is sought elsewhere in the zine.

