thing here the review is conduct by two person like a conversation, so try this one. (Firdaus/ No 33/ Lrg 31/ Tmn Ria/ Bt.7/ Jln Gambang/ 25150 Kuantan/ Pahang)

REVOLTED #3

An angry anarcho zine with some politcal views and comment to be share, and some of it are thoughtful for me to read because the way it has been represented are cool. Interviews are from Malaysia's Aghast, USA's Dirthead and Indonesia's Antiphaty plus some band info and profile. There is also a scene report from Uruguay and Indonesia plus a huge records and zines review. (Izzy/ #10 Jln Belinjau/ Tmn Kota Jaya/ 81900 Kota Tinggi/ Johor)

SADIS #1

This is reportedly as my favorite zine in my list, why? Because all seems perfect here with the simple though well arranged layout and the contents is one of the constructive effort in Malaysia. Only three interview here there, is from Plea For Peace, Callus Collective and George (a HC band from Switzerland). The articles mostly concern on DIY punk/HC ethics and most of it are well written, the conclusion to be made that this one is inspiring. There is also a scene report from Latvia and Bandar Tenggara, highly recommended. (Mohd Abira/ 8 Blok G/ Tmn Bakti/ 68000 Ampang/ Selangor)

SAMPAH-SAMPAH SEDUNIA #1

In English it means the garbage of the world, no interview just a tribute articles to his favorite artist. This one is the artistic side of punk and it also different too. (Zax/ 7 Jln Budiman/ Tmn Mulia/ Cheras/ 56000 Kuala Lumpur)

SOLIDARITAS #4

An awesome issue, similar to Sadis this one is my favorite rags in my list, I'm try to be bias by reviewing some of my favorite zine but it's a fact that the zine that I mentioned good is really good and deserve credits. Most of the articles are awareness type like Tian An Men massacre in 1989, very long and its included the lesson that can be taken from it, some multi-corporation abuse issue and its about Malaysian corporate giant, Human Rights concern and about media freedom. Interviews are from AK47 zine (Greece), Disaster Funhouse (Malaysia Old School HC band) and Kontrabawl (coolest distro in Malaysia), no need to ponder any words anymore cause this one is great. (Najib Anuar/ No 2/ Laluan Desa Indah 5/ Tmn Seri Desa/ 31750 Tronoh/ Perak)

SOUND MACHINE #1

A newsletter dedicated to power violence, just a flyers pasting over here but from a different sources make it so informative and some review section. (PO Box 42/ 95201 Pabianice 3/ Poland)

SOUND OF SILENCE #0

An experimental issue from a guy of Kedah HC scene stills an easy reading material and most of the ingredients are about HC. Bands interrogated are Grimlock (USA), End In Sight (Malaysia), Outlast (Sweden) and Nickel Metal Hybrid (Belgium). (Alan/ 20-D Jln Tanjung/ Tmn Bunga Raya/ 08000 Sg Petani/ Kedah)

SPECIFIC HEAT #4

I never miss to review this one in every of my issue, for who still don't know Specific Heat is a mix between Music (mostly punk rock), Riot girl things and personal zine, three elements wrapped up in one nice zine. It's evolved in every one issue and this time it goes deeply to the editor's heart, is it astonishing. I think this time is like a tribute issue to the emo music because most of the interview comes from the emo side like Sergie of Samiam, Slamdek Recs, One King Down (this is HC), Crank Recs. and Jadetree Recs. also an updated of Singapore skate scenes. If you want to explore more on female instinct and heart go deeply with this one. (Nurasyikin Hamzah/ Blk 471/ Pasir Ris Drive 6/ #01-476/ 510471 Singapore)

START FROM SCRATCH #3

Punk/HC and skate zine from not so well known scene in Hong Kong!, its come with bilingual languages which is English and Chinnese, this one is great not like mine with a nice graphic layout and its also pro printed zine. Most of the ingredients are about Post HC (emo) and a brief contents of skate things not only in Hong Kong but also from all over the world. Start From Scratch also a Distro which distribute some of the local stuff and other stuff from G-7 Welcome Committee, Crank Recs, Jadetree Recs. Polyvinyl, etc. A gateway to Hong Kong punk/HC scene. (Riz Faroooi/ B3 15 Floor/ Hankow Ct/ Ashley Road/ Kowloon/ Hong Kong)

STEP FORWARD #1

A HC zine from Philippines with some cool stuff like Striving For Togetherness Distro (USA), New Found Heritages (Philippines), Purification (Italy), etc. Buy this one.(Michael Nuestro/ 19 Sunday St/ Addas Vill. 1/ St. Nicholas Bacoor/ Cavite 4102/ Philippines)

TWEENTYLAND SE #1

Also a HC things but this one is from Europe, although its only 4 piece of A4 paper pages but it really complete and you can get an overview of the scene there through the updated list of bands/ zines and label section. So guys if you want to dig the HC scene in the Belgium, Netherlands and Germany try this one, it's really informative and great too and I bet you won't regret anything from it, believe me on this and the editor also involved in several projects there.(Jan Coert/ Kosterskamp 33/ 7583 VM Den Ham/ The Netherlands)

GANYANG #4

GIVE THEM SOME HOPE



While we were busy becoming more entranced in the
" to be a socialist or to be a capitalist",
Humanitarian idealism
(promoting social justice, creating egalitarianism, helping those with nothing - no food, no shelter, no self-esteem) was fading away.



Finally its completed, I think this is the longest time I took to complete one issue. So guys here it is, Ganyang #4 finally ready to read, so before you guys giving any comments or ponder some words on it let I give my own post mortem of this fanzine. So overall I'm quite satisfy with the result but for sure there is some mistake that I can't run from it, for example spelling errors and some bad grammar due to my stupidities to my ex-colonialist language, so I don't give a damn bout' it either. There is some fast and slow reply of the stuff in it, but the speedy reply award goes to NOPDOGS, even though these guy live in Hong Kong but they can make it in 6 days. for FULL TROTTLES, I think the guy who answered the interview are no longer in the band, but the interview is worth to read because it got some cool stuff in it and thanks to Hatta Nirman for let me putting the DAVE GRENIER OF RETROGRESSION's interview because it's really informative. For the columnist section maybe you guys found out that some of the writing quite simple and weak, one factor leads to it is they're amateur and some of them, this is their first time being a columnist but all of them still great and a very big thanks for everybody. There is two section that might look not so punk for some of you, first is Special Report: Pop The Unknown Underground and Huanghuo, for your information these people who involved in it share the common vision with us, so why don't we give some space to them, so from now don't judge the book by its cover, try to go deeply in it, of course you will find something and honestly this is my own discovery. Scene report, three of them this time, Philippines HC report by Howell A. Casacop (I think this report had been featured in some zines here, but I've promised Howell to put in my zine and the little different to others I got some Pinoy HC bands photo, exclusively sent by Howell), Puerto Rico scene report by Taina (proud of not being part of USA) and South Africa Punk Scene by Andrew White (I bet most of us are only hearing about their grindcore bands, so try their punky styles). My own column is crap, don't ever read it okay. The new section of Ganyang might be the letter column, I think why not I put some interesting letter in this issue, so I can share it with you guys, one of the letter that you must to read is my explanation to Weng about that aurat issue that spread around a nation like a bullet train and also featured in his own Hickey on Your Brain newsletter, and there is two letter both from Bangkok and Beijing that you should check it out. So I want personally thanks to everybody who involved in this #4 issue (Asan, Aidil, Amin, Budin, Mamat & Wan), Riz for distributing my zine in Hong Kong, Luk Haas, Klaus Becker and Michael Lam for assisting me in my 'Asia Punks' project, my housemate who permit me to use their PC, all the friend in Malaysia and all around the globe, see you in #5 (I'll bring an exclusive punk/HC report from all over Asia).

THE ONE AND ONLY
"Ibrahim and his own mind"

THE CONTRIBUTORS ARE:
Aidil, Asan, Syikin, Rina, Effizul, Abira, Mukhriz, Howell, Andrew White, Taina Rosa, Lam Yuet, Mike Yoo, Alwan and Hatta Nirman.

SOME INSPIRATIONS:
The Taman Seri Muda "All Power to The people" squat, ("?"), Ipoh Bodysurf (Where are you David!), my hometown called Parit and it's underground crew, Silverstate punk/HC community, all bands, zines editor, label, distro and some nice people in Malaysia and around the world, you all are great punks!

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(Right now, I am living in Shah Alam, so I suggest you guys to e-mail me first for anyhting, but I'll collect the letter twice a month)

scene report. (Mangelslankt/ PO Box 580402/ Minneapolis/ MN 55458-0402/ USA)

MIRROR OF MIND #0
What can you do with one piece of A5 size paper? The answer is try to make a newsletter. This one piece of paper really informative and there is also a current update on Malaysian scene, good work. (Aizudin Ali/ Rumah Rakit/ Lrg Gajah Mati/ 15000 Kota Bharu/ Kelantan)

NEVER SAY DIE #1
This is also how you can recycle a piece of paper by putting punk/HC info in it. Honestly, I've never seen such a 4 page newsletter packed with everything in it. There are two interesting interviews with Abdul Khalid of Straits Recs. And Italy's Strongly Approach Recs. and one page of current update of Singapore punk/HC scene. It's so much in here for this little project, cool. (Ato/ Blk 110/ Bedok North Road/ #02-2288/ 460110 Singapore)

NO FRIGHTEN #1
In their second issue, nothing promising here. Some of the stuff features here are quite simple in nature, the conclusion that can be made is that this is an easy reading. Interviews are from band like Toxin 99%, The Bollocks, etc.....(Azman/ 571 Jalan Padi Mahsuri/ Kg Bendang Kerajaan/ 33300 Gerik/ Perak)

NO LIFE 'TIL HEMORRHAGE #5/ SCUM ATTACK #1
I'm really adore the NLTH issue, everything seems perfect here with a well chosen contents. I admit that this is a breakthrough in our scene. The article is quite professional in writing it's complete with introduction, explanation, examples and conclusion. This is what I'm waiting this so long time and it also got a piece of story written by Penny Rimbaud. Only one interview from Greg Svitil of Station Fanzine (also the members of now defunct powerful emo punk band from Singapore called Still). Scum Attack side is still simple but I really interested in Chumbawamba's interview. This is a masterpiece, highly recommended and I want to see more from them. (Hatta Nirman/ H4-1 QTRS UPM/ LDG 1/ 43400 Serdang/ Selangor or Farid/ 5 Jln Temerloh Jaya/ Tmn Temerloh Jaya/ 28000 Temerloh/ Pahang)

NOSEY PARKER #2
A mixed between punk and metal zine but this one got a huge personal contents mostly about the editor's experience and some of it are well written and touching. Interviews are from Indonesia's No Man's Land and one metal freaks band called Dark Hollocust. (Rizal/ 10 Tingkat Seri Rapat 6/ Taman Maju Rapat/ 31350 Ipoh/ Perak)

OLD INSTRUMENTS #3
They use English this time after two issue in Malay so maybe the ca attract more people to read from all over the globe. This one got a tribute anarchist article to Mumia Abu Jamal as well some emo,personal and political issue. But some thing strange here is the band and editor interviewed seems don't want to give cooperation like Slovakia's Nostalgia Dreams and UK's Synthesis Zine. (P.Zul/ 664 Kg Durian Daun/ 28000 Temerloh/ Pahang)

POINTLESS EXISTENCE #1
No stupid writing over here all serious things where mostly deals on political issue, damn good effort no interviews and other music related thing just awareness message, cool. (Amir/ 15 Regat Rokam 1/ Pekan Razaki/ 31350 Ipoh/ Perak)

POSITIVE COLORIES #6 & #7
Two issue of Power Violence things over here all away from France. But honestly I don't understand a word over here because all written in French but I bet that this is cool, comes with nice arrangement and well structured layout make this a perfect one. There is also a tribute pages to Jap-core bands, this two issue contains interview with Jean Seberg, Seakers of The Truth, Bruit, & Minutes of Chiasse and Cabal. (Regis Niossat/ 8 Bis R de Beaupuy/ 87100 Limoges/ France)

RADONG #2
Fairly typical punk/HC zine with some interviews, some flyers to fit the empty spaces and some short articles. The second come back doesn't promise anything here, need some more idea and hardworking effort. Interviews are from Japan's Damage Digital (before Irman get back from Japan), Brazil's Difekto and our own Farid of Scum Attack zine. (Azwan Hazrulniza/ No 42 Jln Saga 2/ Tmn Saga/ 28400 Mentakab/ Pahang)

REBELLION #1
It's not really a zine but merely a catalogue zine, in this tiny pieces of zine there is some cool stuff to offer for us and the editor said that this one will evolve to a full scale zine very soon. There is an updated info on Bandung scene. (Jl. Rumah Sakit/ #70 Ujung Berung/ Bandung 40612/ Indonesia)

RESPIRE #2
I think by the time I review this one, the #4 issue is already out, a Philippines HC zine with some related info on HC and most of the articles are deals with current HC issue around the world. The most important part here, there is a lot of HC bands photo inserted in every corner of the zine, cool what. Band interviewed only from their own Barrier, Resurrected, Bulldozed and Barricade. (Howell A. Casacop/ B-3/ L-35 Ambrocia Village/ Sta. Rosa/ Laguna 4026/ Philippines)

REUNITE #2
This one is matured with his own idea and principle although it's a new zine, the way the editor conduct the interview seems to give impact to the readers with well arranged question. Here there is only a zine interview which is from yours truly, Najib of Solidaritas, Pa' Din Of Sandwich Skate Zine etc, the weird

ZINES REVIEW

BULLETIN KOPET #2

Newsletter from Purwokerto, Indonesia. It's not as ticker as you think but it has some explaination about Oi!, anarchy and HC. One band profile called Bubble X and a highlight on Purwokerto Underground Compilation. There is also a lot photo taken from punk related books and some not so artistic drawings. (Nata/ Jl. Roguyembangan/ #44B/ Bdr Kembar Purwokerto 53121/ Indonesia)

DISPROSIUM #0

I think by reading this one I still feel that the editor still hard to try to make the best, but it seems lack of elaboration and conclusion, but it's not bad for the first attempt maybe the future issue will be better. Simple and light interviews with Roots Zine, Me, Self Agenda Fanzine and Benefit in Progress (HC band from his place). Its really thick but there's a lot of empty and wasting spaces and still need more improvement. (Aren/ 65 Tmn Muhibbah/ Sg Mati/ 84400 Muar/ Johor)

EKSYEN NEWSLETTER #3

When it comes to the nice layout I'll prefer this one, it's neat and well arranged. Most of the content is dedicated to the peace punk agenda and there is a lot of thing to discover over here. Full length interview with Forca Macabra (Finland's crust punk band), explanation by Nizam of Insurrection about his anarchism views that been questioning by a lot of people, some nice column, poems and one page of Sin Dios Biography. (Azmie/ Warung P. Ramlee/ Kg Tandong/ Buloh Kasap/ 85010 Segamat/ Johor)

FORUM #5

The last of its kind, I don't know why the editor what to stop this such good and informative HC zines. I've been reading this one since it's third issue and it got something to offer, believe me on this. The voice in this zine means something when I read it and in their last issue they got a serious discussion about religion. Well-structured interview with Hate to State (Belarus), Homegrown Recs. (S'pore), Black Market Fetus (USA), Contrasto (Italy), Spazz (UK) and Nula (Croatia). A series of scene report among them from Holland, Slovakia, Italy, Brazil, Canada etc, there is also a huge review section and a couple of rants, recommended. (Eddie/ Lot 2341-D off Jln 1/ Green Wood Park/ 68100 Gombak/ Selangor)

HAMPEH #1

Well, this one really goes to basic. When everyone bursting their ass try to decorate their zine with a very sophisticated computer graphic, this one still using the good old days' typewriter. It's a usual punk zine with some usual issue and with some typical contents, is it nice to hear some usual things beside some challenging things, it depends I think. Interviews are from local barrels like from Outlaw, The Dirty Dogs, Chaos Theory 99 and Sector TMPS Zine. Featured a scene report from Masjid Tanah and Banting, if you like typical things support this one. (Napi/ 17 Felda Palong 7/ 73470 Gemas/ Negri Sembilan)

HASRAT #1

Pretty straight forward thing out here, some info on a new bands, fanzines and some bands' tour update around Malaysia. And not forgotten an update on Kota Tinggi HC scene. So that will conclude this 4 pages newsletter. (Syukur/ #1029/ B-2 (F) Tunggal/ 81900 Kota Tinggi/ Johor)

IN THE NAME OF LOVE #1

Mostly personal anecdotes and rants like the editor trying to throw out all his anger in 4 piece and a couple of his own opinion about punk/HC. Not bad at all and also it got a valentine massacre gigs review. (Razly/ 18A Tmn Woon/ Jln Seremban/ 73000 Tampin/ Negri Sembilan)

KOPEE 'O' CRASS #3

From its name I thought that this guy is Crass wannabe and I'm correct because in here there is an articles titled "No Hierarchy", mostly stereotype from the Crass' manifesto of rejecting the system, but the interview is not by Crass but from a Kota Tinggi Anarcho peace punk band called Depress, some poems and review. Crass fan out there contacts him. (Al Razee/ No 10/ Jln Besar/ Lrg Kurnia/ 86000 Kluang/ Johor)

LIFE IS GREAT #1

A combination between a personal writings (mostly about girls and love) and an interview with a brutal Virginia based grind punk band's Enemy Soil. Huh is it match, I don't know what's in the head of him. Some good artistic drawings and guys there is a free CD who submit the best article for its next issue, so hurry up. (Mizi/ No 411/ Lrg 15/ Tmn Berkat/ 34700 Taiping/ Perak)

MAKE YOUR OWN #3

Titled "Punk Zine For Animal Awareness", sure it is. This is a combination between creating awareness and enjoying the music. A lot of animal awareness based articles like first aid for pets, endangered birds in Philippines, ALF and a collective opinion about animal awareness from punks all over the world. Interview with Chris of BCT, Philippines' Santilmo and Hong Kong's Blackbird and worth your money. (Gani & Adie/ 146 A. Dela Cruz St/ Tayabas 4327/ Quezon/ Philippines)

MANGELSLANKT #1

Political punk zine from Minneapolis, USA. This one seems dedicated to the Japcore bands because it got a section where some info about records, biography and photos of some rare Japanese bands. Others are interview by C.F.D.I (Japan), Tuomiopaivan Lapset (Finland) and Disclose (Japan). Also a Hong Kong's movie review, article about health and Poland



AHMAD KAMAL BAMADHAJ
1970 - 1991

This issue is dedicated to the brave and courageous Ahmad kamal Bamadhaj who died in the hand of the Indonesian Army in Dili, East Timore. He is among the thousand of people who feel that we should concern about other people struggle and suffering, and he has devoted his life to that principle. The spirit of solidarity in his heart will be always be a mentor to us in fighting injustice and cruelty but it sad that only after nine years the stories of him been published to the public, he is the true free spirit. The words in the front page are taken from his diary a few months before he got shot dead in Dili.

LOVE, PEACE and SOLIDARITY



LETTER COLUMN

LETTER 1: (Anna Sophie Loewenberg/ 2-1-11 Jianguomenwai Diplomatic Compound/ Beijing 100600/ PR of China)

This letter goes to all the punk rock, HC, ska, rude squatting, and moshing, DIY Recs. And letter writers out there. We got you're your letters, which made it to the two-rooms, old-Beijing style courtyard house where Gao's, the parent of Goa Yang live. Over the past two years we have received about 50 letters from all over the world. Thanks you for keeping the scene here going. If we didn't write back until now, it is because we are poor and most punks out here don't speak English. But something cool has happened....

Lu Bo, the former owner of the Scream Club, the home of the Beijing punk scene in the past year is now working for Jingwen Recs. In Beijing. Hence, he put together a recording of four influential Beijing punk bands : 69, Anarchy Jerks, Reflector and Brain Failure, which called "Wuliao Contingent". Finally we have something to offer to you. If you like a copy of 4 bands with 41 songs compilation please send a check of US$15 (Tape) or US$20 (CD), which will include postage or e-mail me if you want more info and anything that you want at: anna.sophie@beijingscene.com if you want to wire your money directly. Unfortunately Jingwen Records is not yet equipped to distribute outside of China and they had asked me to distribute it personally. If you are interested in more than a few copies and you want to distribute it at your own country, please write to me or contact me at: Phone (8610) 6348-4075/ Fax: (8610) 6326-2808.

Thanks for your support.

"Okay guys what are you waiting if you're interested in exploring Beijing punk rock scene, buy it now, I've listening to it, it totally raw and energetic believe me on this

LETTER 2: (sanitarium_@hotmail.com)

How its going Ibrahim,

My name is Amrish, I'm 17 and I live in Hong Kong. I picked up issue 3 of your zine "Ganyang" from Riz at Start From Scratch and his words of praise became very evident as I read your zine. The interview with Weng is amazing, his views are so down to earth and not presented in some sort of everything that still in the mind of us like a thingbullshit cliche punk rock whining way that many people implement a lot nowadays. The social awareness from the anti-racism anti rape messages strengthen the power of your zine and gave a healthy balance between punk rock and social awareness issues which is something big zines like MRR rarely incorporate, or at least I think so! What touched me the most though was your article on things that make sense. I'm quite interested in what prompted you to use that style because it is very fucking effective in giving a general unity to the article and the ideas that you present. I really could relate to quite a few and it helped explain something that was going on in my life. Thank you for writing that. It was fucking great. I picked up your 3rd issue and the whole layout and concept appealed to me a lot so if you have issues 1 or 2, I'd be interested in buying them for you. How long have you been involved in the local punk/hardcore scene? This year prompted a fresh beginning for two bands that I started at the end of summer. One is called Leisure Garden and we play an instrumental style of heavy emo with a couple of hardcore elements here and there. Another is a poppy fast 3 piece called Absence and even though the genre pop punk sounds overused I'm really aiming to develop our own sound. A hard task, but I think it's going well. Take Care, Please keep in touch!

Yours, Amrish

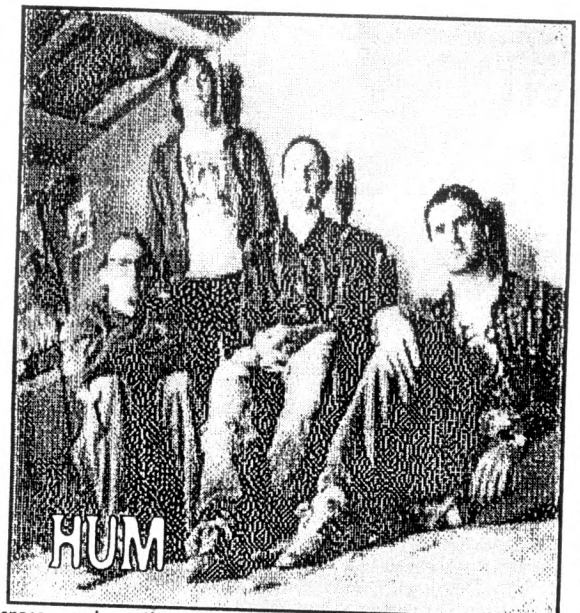
"Thanks Amrish for the compliment, actually in ganyang we try to implement the concept of music is just not for a music it is related to another things else such as politics, social and others, for sure music can be a tools to spread the message and hopefully by Ganyang we can create an awareness towards certain issues. It nice to hear a scene in Hong Kong had developed and we

look forward to hear about some cool bands and great zines from there.

LETTER 3: (Seo/ 14B Jln 18-2/ 46000 Petaling Jaya/ Selangor)
Dear Ibrahim,
This is Seo in a dissonant state after about of fever that resulted myself missing 3 gigs in KL/ PJ for a month. My mind is so fresh after reading your third issue
which kind to be more improve if growing concern is tender and some political shit that you guys are capable. Too little to read for the serious dudes. Although there is columnist column but most is an old issue interment wuz lacking in your formats A5, I still sense a musical base spirit in your zine. I feel it kind out of touch in the issues concerning the scene now as that inclusion of big report is a very doubting things especially to those Punk/HC aware kids (Check my facts!). Acid Rain review is questioning especially there is a chaos related anarchy and with those "Nazi" insecurity. Check their Surat Layang. There are big differences between mohawk/ spiky people and Nazi studs kids...musically is nothing. As for the Ipoh scene, I think you link too much on friendship that this guys in Ipoh does not or lack DIY in their ways..is more of a mainstream looking with an independent band sticking their ass and guiding shoulders with R.O.T.T.W candidates like Kindred, Tabaraqka, Koffin Kanser and Mr. SCR. The tickets is RM15 not RM10! Sad...yours is Punk/HC zine not shit zine like mine and the effects is a slap to those who is sensitive on it..where is your lines!. Maybe I'm wrong but do aware. The foreign people will kind enjoys it I guess, also it nice knowing your own expression stuff, tills next time.

** Dear Seo,*
Thanks for the nice comments, I'm glad that somebody will approach Ganyang with more serious and intelligent comments like yours. As for that Acid Rain's review I didn't notice that they're apart of Northern Riot clan who supports Nazi, so it kind of my fault because I don't do too much homework before I do the #3 issue. Maybe some will notice that the #3 issue is more into musical and personal sense rather than the political issues, but I still believe that personal issue is apart of my own politics maybe the idea to write about political idea is not coming during the preparation of #3 issue. For the Ipoh things, I think you're wrong there is a group of people who still believe in DIY spirit, for your information the first there is some zines and bands who still doing their own tang in DIY ways, don't judge use by looking at Tabaraqka, for me Tabaraqka is no longer apart of Silver state HC scene. For that over price gigs, the situation in Ipoh is a little bit difference from KL, here the hall's owner want a big amount of payment and deposit because some of the kids had vandalizing the some of the public property at the hall, so Punk/HC shows had a bad record in Ipoh, so you cannot blame us directly, there is a reason why the price is so high.

LETTER 3: (Chris Luppi/ 4H P-1/ 22-765/ Baansuanthon/ Srinakarin Rd./ Bankaew/ Bang Phli/ Samutprakarn 10540/ Thailand)
Hey, this is Chris from Wreckage Asia in Bangkok, Thailand. In the last year or so, many people with zines through out the Asia have asked me for a scene report from Thailand. I've told you all that day is no underground scene here. I was wrong. HC is alive and well in Thailand, or a least in Bangkok. My fault for saying that there was no scene. Because I'm from New York and I don't speak Thai's, it took me long to connect with the kids here and get any information about the local. The scene is pretty small in comparison to many of the surrounding countries. It is still in its beginning stages, but there is a scene. Kids here in Bangkok have not yet heard a lot of underground small label stuff. The biggest bands here are, Limpbizkit, Slipknot, Soulfly, Korn, Machine Head etc. (all the roadrunners stuff). And then there are a lot of kids who listen to a Victory bands like Earth Crisis, Snapcase, Hate Breed, All Out War etc. also a lot of the bigger metal bands such as Sepultura, Phantera and some others. As I said, kids have not yet had the chance to hear anything but the bigger label stuff, music stores that carry HC charge more for a CD than most kids can afford, a lot more and they don't carry much. Kids here are just starting to find out that there are thousand of other bands worldwide that don't get MTV play and never will, that there are hundreds and hundreds of label in US and right here in Asia who have bands that are just as good, if not better, than anything they've heard before. But I think that this will change and the HC scene here in Thailand will continue to grow. On the year eve, I went to my first HC shows here in Bangkok, it was held outside a club called "Oszy Pub". There were 10 bands Doghead, Pollution, Teething, MotherFucker, Fullahead, Poison for Mind, CY Corp, Anonymous, cough and Phahn. The show started at 8.00 and finished around 4.30 in the morning, the first 8 bands play cover song the big names band like Slipknot, RATM, Korn and stuff like that. Some of this cover bands were good at what they did and hopefully some of them will go on to write their own song and express their own idea in the future rather than only covering US bands. The last two bands do their own songs. Cough is a six-piece band, singer, drummer, two guitars, one bass and a kid who scratches the shit out of vinyl in the background. Really good progressive style, HC with the rap edge. These guys met in the High School, they have only been playing together a short time and right now have a limited amount of songs, but if they stick and keep working they're going one kick ass HC band. Phahn is a 4 piece band that has been together for about 10 years, they are sort of cross between HC and extreme Death



space, so here they are, in no particular order, 1. MYRACLE BRAH --Life on Planet Eartsnop (a must!), 2. JASON FALKNER – all his releases!, 3. THE GRAYS – Ro Sham Bo, 4. WONDERMINTS – all, 5. BABY LEMONADE – Exploring Music, 6. MERRYMAKERS – Bubble gun & No Step 'Til Famous, 7. OWSLEY – s/t, 8. SPLITSVILLE – Pet Soul, 9. ENUFF ZNUFF – Paraphernalia & 1985, 10. COTTON MATHER – Kontiki (one of the best of the decade), 11. MARK BACINO – Pop Job, 12. BRAD JONES – Gilt Flake, 13. STARBELLY – Lemon Fresh, 14. CHERRY TWISTER – At Home With..., 15. JELLYFISH – Bellybutton & Spilt Milk, 16. KYLE VINCENT – all, 17. VELVET CRUSH – all, 18. WEIRD SUMMER – Incarnata Mysterica (the most beautiful tenor voices), 19. MARVELOUS 3 – Both their albums (great Glam power pop), 20. THE ROOKS – all (beatlesesque and perfect), 21. IDLE JETS – Atomic Fireball (released in August 99, but already a classic in my book, picturing a perfect pop tunes. A magnificent piece of pop sophistication. Get this one at all cost before it goes out of print), 22. WONDERLUST – all (superb soulful pop/ rock, imagine Beatles meet Stones meet Deep Purple).

There plenty more bands that I wish to share with you all, but I don't think that the space permits it. So do get in touch with me, I want each and everyone of you to also experience the wonderful world of Pop music. I think it's about time that everyone does.

ADDRESS

1. (NOT A LAME RECORDING COMPANY, PO Box 2266, Fort Collins, CO 80522, USA. e- mail: popmusic@notlame.com and website: www.notlame.com), 2.(PARASOL RECS., 905 South Lynn Street, Urbana, IL 61801, USA. e-mail: parasol@parasol.com and website: www.parasol.com), 3.(BIG DEAL RECS., PO Box #2072, Peter Stuyvesant Station NY, NY 10009-9998, USA. E-mail: bigdealnyc@aol.com and website: www.bigdealnyc.com), 4. (COPPER RECS., 9850 Pagewood, Suite 201, Houston, TX 77042, USA), 5. (BREAK-UP RECS., PO Box 15372, Columbus, OH 43215-0372, USA), 6. SNAP RECS., PO Box 2303, 28080 Madrid, and Spain. E-mail: snap@render.es), 7. (SHOESHINE RECS., PO Box 15193, Glasgow G2 6LB, Scotland. E-mail: shoeshine@globalnet.co.uk), 8. (HELLFIRE CLUB RECS., PO Box 81, 84100 Orange, France. E-mail: hellfireclub@wanadoo.fr), 9. (MUNSTER RECS., PO Box 18107, 28080 Madrid, Spain. Website: www.munster_records.com), 10. (POP THE BALLOON RECS., B.P 7042, 63943 Lyon Cedex 07, France), 11. (AMPLIFIER, 5 Calista Terrace, Westford, MA 01886, USA. E-mail: amplifierj@aol.com), 12. (SPINNING TOP RECS., PO Box 455, Toodyay 6566, Australia. E-mail: spintop@avon.net.au).

Like what I've said before, I've left loads of addresses back in London. What's listed above are most of what I did bring along to Malaysia. I think I've quite listed quite a lot of the more important ones and finally, here are my 2 addresses, use the London address for now until June 2000, I'll be there till then, after that I'll be in Malaysia. AIDIL, 37 Lienster Square, London W2 4NQ, England and AIDIL, 2939, Kg Rapat Jaya Tambahan, 31350 Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia. E-mail: mohd.rusli@kcl.ac.uk

Notes from the editor: Aidil had a tape of his previous demo called "In Love" and an unreleased material which been recorded in Malaysia during his semester break, good, clear, well-arranged and nice pop tunes, get it from him, a must for whom who like the differences and melodic stuff, it's kind Stone Roses meets Suede, cool!

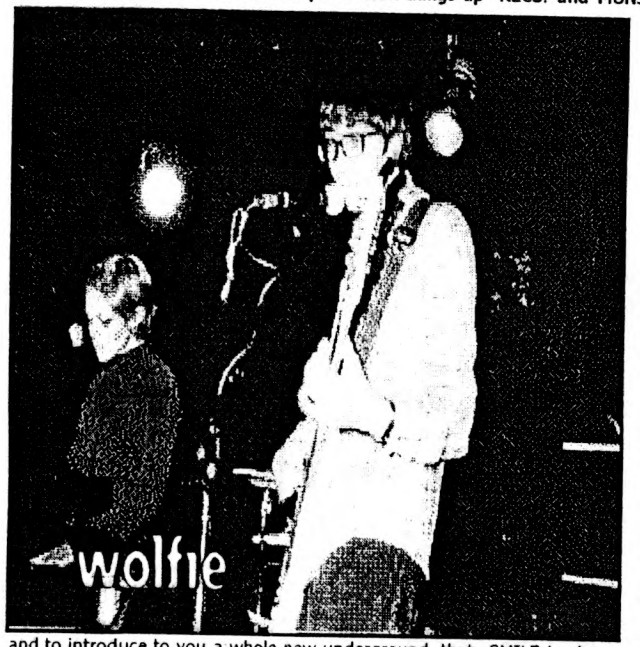


SPECIAL REPORT: POP THE UNKNOWN UNDERGROUND....

Maybe some of you might not heard about Pop Underground, it's kind of a new things to all, but it's exist, this article was written by Aidil who now live in the UK and he is quite active in the London Pub circuit with his Pop band, explore.

Hello there, I'm Aidil and I'm going to talk about my favorite kind of Music – POP, I'll introduce myself first. You've already known my name, I'm in a band called "couple", which some of you may heard of. Yes we're the POP band and yes we have a demo. It was recorded in 1995 and released in 1996, so now I'll go straight to the subject.

POP a dirty word to some people, for sure not me though. I love it dearly. Every time someone asks me what my favorite music is, I'll always say POP, and every time I start talking about POP, I'll always get a blank stare. So now here an attempt to clean things up



and to introduce to you a whole new underground, that is the Pop movement, and sadly it is wholly ignored by the punk underground's.

There's no virtually nothing about it in MRR (the holy Bible of the Punk/HC to many of you) and any other punk zines for that matter. So, here's a little introduction of the wonderful world of Pop. I left a quite a lot of contact back in London, so what you see isn't everything. Feel free to e-mail me if you want to know more about Pop, or the Pop Underground. The scene isn't big, but it is there and there are quite a few enthusiastic around the world, including yours truly. To this day, I still haven't met any other blessed soul who's turned into the Pop Underground who's from Malaysia, accept for one or two people that I've managed to turn into Pop fans.

Anyway after reading this, you'll give Pop a try, you'll love it, no joke. Just open your mind, and you'll discover the wonders of what quite a few people have already discovered, that is Pop. Here the discovery.

POP LABELS

The most important (and also the best, in my humble opinion) pop label is surely NOT A LAME RECORDINGS, they distribute thousand of great CD and vinyl, and their releases is absolutely gems, all of them. I'm not kidding you, I know cause I have almost everything they released. Then comes PARASOL RECS., whom also a huge distribution services in addition to the great records they put out. BIG DEAL has some fine releases as well. COPPER RECS. is quite a new label, to date I think they have 5 releases, 4 of them I heard and are absolutely great. BREAK UP RECS. only release 7" singles/ EP's, but they're all fine. All label above in America. In Spain there are a hip labels like SNAP RECS. and MUNSTER RECS. Sweden has SOAP RECS. and VIBRAFON. France has POP THE BALLOON and HELLFIRE CLUB. Scotland has SHOESHINE RECS. and in Australia there are 2 great labels called RUBBER RECS. and SPINNING TOP RECS. Japan has a quite few cool label as well, like SMILE RECS. and 1+2 RECS.

POP FANZINES

These are a rare breed indeed. The most legendary zine is YELLOW PILLS, done by one Jordan Oakes. But lately he's been very slow in getting an issue out. POPSIDED is another great zine but sadly they are no more. They only got to issue #9. BOAC (which stands for Back Of a Car) is a zine devoted to Big Star. YEAH! YEAH! YEAH! Covers a lot of Pop as well. BUCKETFULL OF BRAINS is a legendary UK zine that cover absolutely melodic, that means there is a good amount of Pop in it. And finally there's the great AMPLIFIER, this one's really consistent in getting an issue out and this is also one that I read the most. Oh yes, COMES WITH A SMILE is also a great read and it's done by a friend of mine in the UK. He's also having a hard time to get his #2 issue out since it's going to have a free CD with it. So imagine the nightmare, sorry I can't list that many fanzine addresses, I left a quite a few address in London, write or e-mail me if you want to know more.

POP BANDS / ACTS

Now these we have a lot, so forget it if you want to complete list. I'll just talk about the chosen few that I love the most, I'll also only limit it to 90's pop acts. If you want to know about the forefathers from the 60's, 70's and 80's, drop me a line. I'd be happy to tell you all about that. You know what, come to think of it, even if it's limited to 90's pop acts, it's still be a too long to list. I think I'll just list you some of my favorite 90's bands and releases. That shouldn't take too much

Metal, the guitarist goes from crunching, gut wrenching, rhythms and 2 sick metal leads. These guys can play and so can the rest of the band and Fah, the singer belts out the lyrics in a deep, guttural voice of rage. Plahn have a tape coming out (contact address below). All in all the show was really good and it was great to see a few hundred kids jumping out and down, stage diving and going insane with no fights and no violence. The show was organized by Fah and he has more shows coming out in the future (one in just about month). He would really like bands (Punk/ HC/ Crust/ Death Metal) from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Philippines to come to Bangkok and be part of these show, if you're in the band and you're interested you should e-mail him at: phlan_ex_metal@hotmail.com or you can e-mail me at: wreckageasia@hotmail.com and I will put you in touch with him. There are other bands in Bangkok who do their own material, one that I know is Ebola but I have not yet have a chance to see them play, they have a show coming up and I'll be there to check them out. That's all from Thailand HC scene. Peace.

** Hey people this is the newest report form Thailand so to get more contact them, Chris also run a distro called Wreckageasia which distribute stuff from New York based HC label, Wreckage and Final Exit.*

LETTER 4: (downshifting@hotmail.com)

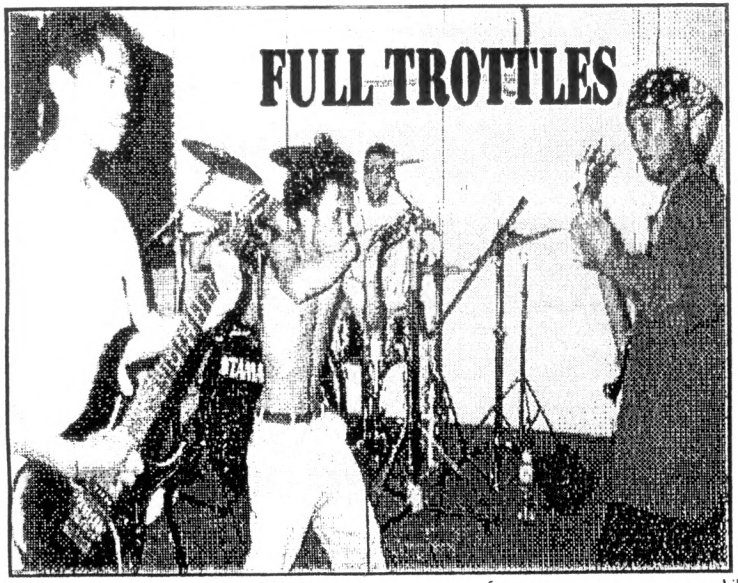
Thanks for sending me your zine, I've through it and found it excellent in nature but I would like to express my regret over the article 'fashion' by Mukhriz of Semenyih. I don't know if you share the same frame of mind with him but that is altogether a different story, he mentioned in his article, "...but we still have our own culture and religion stands, most of us Muslims it is haram (forbidden) for you to mendedah (expose) your aurat (some part of the body that forbidden to expose to non-muhrim)", you should know what aurat is, I personally think that the writer is speaking out of context with the whole scenario, music and religion doesn't mix. Religion is a sacred while music is secular in nature. Why not stop at aurat when speaking of religion and our culture! How about the music that we listen to! Shouldn't he also say that string instruments are haram too. This is a fanzine and I think we should view things with a more open mind and wide scope in this context. Please so not assume this as an attack on your zine or anybody on particular, it just how I personally see regarding this matter. I see Ganyang as a promising zine by including things like this pretty much spoil everything's. That's why I feel obliged to write, this type of things happen a lot in our scene nowadays which matter regarding religious doctrines and dogmas versus human rights and humanitarian issues such as homophobia and vegetarianism which are in conflict with the doctrine laid down by religion especially Islam. I'm not against Islam or anything but I have my own interpretation of religion or anything from a wider perspective. I believe the choice of religion belief is personal. Same with the choice of sexual preference and to eat meat or not, whatever person do, such as regarding his/ her aurat in public is his/ her own responsibility. That is his/ her matter between him/ her and god and we as their peers and fellow humans shouldn't become lesser gods and pass judgements and sentences upon them as through as we are free from sins, holier-than-thou... what if the person is forgiven by god and we are the ones who are not! Maybe we should mind ourselves first, maybe I shouldn't have bother to write, just minding my own self, please don't take what I wrote the wrong way. Weng

Hah its really touch me, believe me on this. First of all I would like to seek forgiveness to anyone especially Weng for that article, actually you can point a finger on me because I have let the article to be included in my zine. From my point of view, maybe the writer only want to give his opinion from the morale aspects not more than that, because I strongly believe that the belief of Islam still lies upon the Muslim punks in Malaysia very deeply, actually he is a first timer columnist and the way he produced his article is quite shallow in mind. I believe that the differences that we have in Malaysia have a greatly gap among other punks in the world where the religion, culture and custom still play an important part in our life. I will be more careful next time and I will draw my own line upon the sensitivity of others. I feel that this type of comment is very helpful to improve Ganyang in the future, kudos to Weng and I also believe that the human right issues are one of the important agenda in DIY punk/HC movement. Sorry folk for the mistake and I'll personally forward this letter to the columnist and maybe Weng will get the personal feedback from him, hopefully.

My Letter:

This letter goes to the Prop and Jimbo of Broken Noise Recs./ Broken distribution. Not so long time ago I've ordered the Mamushi CD, Aghast/Parkinson Split Mcd and one zine. I've sent them a money amounted RM 27 in postal order but I still don't get the stuff until now, I've also sent 3 reminder letter (2 by post and 3 by e-mail) and still don't get any answer. So I don't know what is the status of my order, I don't want to condemn anyone here but I still believe that our scene in sincerity and trustworthy and for those who read this zine who know these two guys please tell them about it and I need some explanation over it..... I'm not accusing them as a rip-off but if there is no answer from them maybe, I will state that word someday. Hope to hear any words from them soon and be honest.

Sincerely – Ibrahim @ anti rip-off



Full Throttles is a new breed of Malaysian Punk/HC scene and they are fantastic. Its kind an honor for me to put their interview in this zine, basically they play a cross between grind and crust with a serious political message, maybe you guy can figure out their type of noise, very loud and grinding music, this interview was answered by F.T's drummer – Effizul, lets check it out.

Ganyang: When did Full Throttles form as a band and what the inspiration to do so.

Effizul: F.T was started in the eand of 1997, when Yan, Apeng, Azmeer and me met in Kulim when we further our study there. Sadly the band was dormant in Kulim because we're busy with our study and exam. In 1998, we met again in Kuala Lumpur. Here we get to know more friends who are active in the scene, since then with their support and encouragement, we make a decision to get back and the current line –up are: Yan-Vocal, Apeng-Bass, Azmeer-Guitar and me on Drum. F.T was formed because we wanted to create a media of expression for ourselves to voice our opinion, and we wanted to contribute something for the scene itself. Since the scene is generated by the involvement of the people who loves it, we think that we should do the same for the scene. Everybody can play their part for the scene and F.T is our way in contributing something for the scene.

Ganyang: Tell me a little bit about your band's releases.

Effizul: Until now, we have released our demo tape entitled "The End of Neo-feudalism Generation". It contain 8 live song recorded at The Jam Studio, PJ and we pressed around 350++ copies of our demo, and it cost us around 400++ to press it. There is a few copies left and you can get it through the address at the end of the interview. We also have done a split with Grindfest, Sabah's grindcore band.

Ganyang: Generally you guys play punk but specifically how to define F.T's music.

Effizul: Its hard to define our music, each of us have our own influences and we try to mix our influences. In our music, you can hear so many styles in our song. Basically we play fast, noise and a little bit of grind and punk. But I think the listeners should define our music themselves because we don" want to make them confuse about our sound and music style. It's better for the listeners to make their own definition after listening to the music.

Ganyang: How can you see the lyrics can give impact to the listeners.

Effizul: Lyrics is a tool and a for of expressing your feeling and opinion. When sincerity and emotion being put in the lyrics that we sing, it will make the song more powerful and meaningful. Such song can influence the listeners because they can relate their own feelings and their life. For examples, have you heard a song by Minor Threat entitled "Straight Edge" its started as a song, but look what has it created for a scene, a new movement a philosophy. So that is how big is the impact of the lyrics towards the listeners. We also must realize the lyrics are not only a form of expressing your feelings but also a medium of communication and information, so use it as smart as you can.

Ganyang: Many bands preach and sing about the smash the system, smash the government, smash the police but sometimes some of us are afraid to go for direct action and some of us are not agree with the latest people aspiration movement which known as reformist group, it's kind of a useless and meaningless because we only brave to preach it on the stage but not in the real world.

Effizul: I agreed with your opinion, some of us are only brave to preach on the stage but not in the real world. What the worst is some of them didn't give a damn about local politics and social situation. They sing about police, government, system just to look 'punk'. They didn't take any initiative to practice the message that they sing in the real life. Maybe they will say that Internal Security Act (I.S.A) and University and University College Act (AUKU) had prevent them from doing what they have sing, but for me it just a lame excuse. We can do a lot of things, and its up to us to find a best and suitable ways to do it. If you cannot involve in direct action or radical activist, then try to do something that can create impact to the system itself (educating others, involve in campaign, etc) but please don't just sit on your lazy ass and do nothing. I would like to quote a word from Robert of Commitment Records, "I think you should always try to get the maximum out of your life by being active, supporting other people where you can, by just doing something, instead of watching TV or playing computer games all day long, and complain about everything around you. If you don't like something, stop complaining and try to change it".

Ganyang: So what is important, lyrics or the message.

Effizul: Hmmm.. music or massage, I think both make a good combination, don't just give our attention to one of it only you should give both a good attention. We must to realize that the fact people love good music, so don't just write good lyrics but the same time you don't give a damn about your music sound like. When people say that your music sound like 'shit', don't blame them, and *his house and play with it and record for fun. Alexis is damn good in recording now and he produced for his other bands the green partner's debut album.*

Ganyang: People keep saying that punk is an attitude, towards our own self management, there is a contradiction from our normal life of each others, how do you guys look at these matter.

Mike Yoo: Those matters don't really bother me they can think of what they want and I respect them unless it is totally lame. But I agree that there is a contradiction in our normal life of each other.

Ganyang: Let's talk about your Cd 'no more carelessness' one thing that noticeable that you guys playing melodic pop-punk, some said that most of pop-punk band is not punk anymore because they are part of the system (entering top 10 chart and been aired in a commercial radio), what your comment on this.

Mike Yoo: I think that is total bullshit. I mean who the hell judges what punk is and isn't anyway? It is so lame that people say melodic punk isn't punk rock any more. I can understand that it might sound very similar to the mainstream music but that does not mean shit cuz the band themselves are trying to achieve something by making those music and have an attitude towards the world or an issue. Can you get any punk rock than that? Look at pop bands like Screeching Weasel, Chixdiggit and Digger etc. They all have their unique style of music and I think that is so damn punk rock.



Ganyang: Some of the band members are Asian, punk seems more towards western culture. Most of Asian tradition and custom itself are opposing what we can found in punk itself, how do you guys facing this problem and manage to control it.

Mike Yoo: I think it has nothing to do with race. It is true that Western people have been in the scene for longer because they started it and now that the Asians have found out, they don't care about the tradition and cultural which are opposing them from being punk. They have respect about their cultural and all but that is same to all the countries it isn't just in Asia.

Ganyang: Is anyone of you are into radical punk thinking such as anarchism, straight edge or political punk, what can you see the rationale behind all this radical movement in punk scene.

Mike Yoo: I don't think we are into any of them but I am really into the political punk with those damn good political lyrics. (E.g. Randy, Propagandhi)

Ganyang: How's life in Hong Kong nowadays and how Hong Kong people especially teenagers accepting punk as a part of alternative and counter culture.

Mike Yoo: The scenes basically ok. Obviously because Hong Kong is so small you can't expect a huge crowd and all but it is still good. If there is show then it is usually the western or international kids coming to the show but nowadays number of local Chinese people coming to the shows are increasing. They don't think as an alternative culture because it is way too underground. Damn, we love those crazy local Chinese Crowds. They go insane and they make us go crazy.

Ganyang: (this is quite a sensitive question, if you don't want to answer it you are freely to ignore it) After the hand over of HK to People Republic of China, how the real political situation in HK because I've read one articles about "BLACKBIRD" the HK anarcho-punk bands who promotes human right culture through music had went underground because of their subversive idea in their performance and lyrics, do you guys know about this.

Mike Yoo: You know what? I have never heard of a band called Blackbird, is there band like that in Hong Kong? (editor's note: for the readers information Blackbird does exist and they involve in the group called Artivist, the Blackbird are not active in the Punk/HC scene that Mike Yoo been describe in this interview, if you want to find more about this band watch out the special report on Hong Kong Punk/HC scene in the next issue)

Ganyang: Being punk somehow leads to state of depression and loneliness, sometimes involves emotion especially the things relates to our surrounding, from your own opinion how exactly the best cure to confront this hard time.

Mike Yoo: We are very confused about this question.

Ganyang: How big can you say punk rock scene in HK, any other band, label or place where we can found punk in HK that you can recommend.

Mike Yoo: OK, the scene is small but it kicks ass and we occasionally have some crazy bands from Sweden, Japan coming into tour the small city Hong Kong. It is really good; it is so small so we get even closer with the crowd as well. There are kick ass labels such as Plug Music and Start from Scratch. They kick ass and they do so much for the scene. The bands are The green Partner, Tokyo Sex wale, That Guy's Belly and King Lai Chi. They are all very good local international bands.

Ganyang: Have anyone ever written or contact someone in Malaysia, if you got a chance do you want to play a gig in Malaysia.

Mike Yoo: If we ever have chance, I will be damn glad to play there in Malaysia. I have never been there and I want to go badly. I heard it is beautiful there.

Ganyang: If you guys were given a power to change the world, what would it be.

Mike Yoo: Hmmm...We need to plan it so may be in the next interview!

Ganyang: What's your all time favorite bands.

Mike Yoo: My favorite is Randy and Doug's is Lagwagon, Alexis is Weakerthens and Joon Bae's is some Jazz Ska and Emo bands.

Ganyang: You guys future plan (e.g.: getting married or what so ever)

Mike Yoo: We are still very young and we are just done with high school (well two of us have) and so I guess our future plan for now is to go to Universities and trying to survive from this fucked up world. However our plan for now is to get this Hong Kong tour done soon and record for our second album. Than next is summer tour in Korea. We are so looking forward to Korea this summer.

Ganyang: Last words to all your friends in Malaysia and Singapore. How to contact you through mail.

Mike Yoo: Well all I know is that both of countries, Malaysia and Singapore are beautiful and I should be visiting those countries soon. Please order lot of CDs and other merchandise from Start from Scratch, Hong Kong Mail Order Company and support the Hong Kong Punk rock scene. You can order or find information about us through nopdogs@hotmail.com. Thanks and keep it real! Late! Contact us at: (Mike Yoo/ 30C Tower 2/ Robinson Height/ 8 Robinson Road/ Hong Kong)

NOPDOGS

NO OUR PARENTS DONT OWN GROCERY STORES

Ganyang: Tell me a little bit about Nopdogs, history, band members and releases.

Mike Yoo: NOPDOGS, We are four piece melodic skate punk rock band from the small City Hong Kong. We are very international. I, Mike Yoo, am from Korea and I play rhythm guitar and sings backing vocals, Drummer, Joon Bae Park is also from Korea. Our Bass player Alexis Fugeries is half French and half Argentinean and sings main vocals. Our lead guitar player is Doug Aitken and he is half-American and half-Chinese. We actually started with four Koreans (our name explains it all, no our parents don't own grocery stores) but then it was impossible for us to get things done. So we actually broke up and restarted NOPDOGS with our close friends. Later on, we became very serious about the band. After a year of being in NOPDOGS, we somehow hooked up with Hong Kong's independent punk rock label Plug Music and got a full-length album out. It is called "No more carelessness". We also have one of our songs from CD called "Mr. Hermit" recorded live on the Hong Kong youth club The Warehouse's Be original CD. At the moment we are recording our second album and we definitely have changed style. We have gotten more technical and I guess a bit of powerful Emo influenced. We also recorded one of Hong Kong's local bands CD compilation and it has our new song "Lacking you"



Ganyang: How did you guys get into punk and what is the best part being a punk.

Mike Yoo: Well, it was funny because myself was a ghetto want to be and busting some HIPHOP in my headphones. This was like 6 years ago but then I started to see lots of local bands such as Star Whores and Pregnant men and I stepped ahead in my music and started to buy all these albums such as Pennywise, NOFX, and bad religion. I guess I was just another kid who started to get into punk. The music itself really got me excited every time I listen to them and see them. After years time I got into melodic, Emo, hardcore and all other sorts. Nowadays I really enjoy listening to bands like Randy from Sweden, The Green Partner (a DAMN GOOD Hong Kong band) and Life time from New Jersey, Propagandhi, Mineral, Promise Ring and the get up kids. However Joon, Alexis and Doug were all into metal and lot of punk bands. They, especially Alexis, were so into Metal. Alexis had long hair and had lot of bands and played pop punk and metal. Alexis and Doug are now into Lagwagon, Randy, J-church and the Weakerthens. Joon Bae is now a bit out of melodic punk, he is really into Ska, Jazz and lot of Emos like Mineral, Vitreous Humor (regrets) and Star Market. We call ourselves a punk band but we don't call ourselves punk rockers. I mean, yeah, we like the punk rock and all but I think it is a bit stupid that you need a word to describe who you are. I personally hate judging a person by what he/she listens to or how he/she is dressed rather then finding out how cool that person is as in personality and all.

Ganyang: Basically how to describe Nopdogs musically.

Mike Yoo: To describe NOPDOGS musically, we are more of melodic skate punk rock with a bit of Emo influenced. I think it is very hard to find Emo these in our music but we have a new instrumental song, which is also slow, and we just shouts a sentence. And our secret song in the No More Carelessness is very much of Emo with weird beat. I guess we want to try out different style of music. We are pretty mush tired of playing melodic punk rock.

Ganyang: What about the lyrics is it relates to your personal life and experiences.

Mike Yoo: Ha Ha Ha.....the Lyrics. Well some of them have deep meanings of our life deciding how we should live our life and the lessons we learnt. Do you know what I mean? I mean, sometimes you are just so confused with your life you really don't know what to do and you just want to write that feeling down on a piece of paper and express it in your own way. That's why a lot of people say yo, your lyrics is so fucked up I don't understand. We even have a song called Whorecadet, which is about a life of a prostitute, but deep meaning to it is in all way we are all prostitutes and we spent our days without realizing it. But the funny thing is some, very few, of them just have some fucked up shit, which don't mean shit. Ha ha ha ha ha but that is only like one or two.

Ganyang: Besides having a band, what do you guys doing in the spare time.

Mike Yoo: Our spare time? Well we find a bar where no one goes to get cheap drinks and get trashed. We also meet up with other bands members like The green Partner, and King Lai Chi and hang out. (Joon Bae is a stoner so half of the time we hang out he doesn't know what is going on) However when we hang out it isn't just like getting fucked up and fuck shit up. I mean sometimes that happens but we go to a beach or a quite place and drink and have a conversation about serious issue. (I really don't know why but it happens so often) Alexis just bought a MD eight track Mixer and dude that kicks ass. SO we just go over to

don't accuse them for not listening to the lyrics. How can people can listen or pay attention to the words of a song if people have to listen to a 'bad music'. The idea the music about the lyrics more important than a music should be corrected, both are important.

Ganyang: Do you think that English usage in the lyrics is a must in every band lyrics because some of so-called Punks here in Malaysia are not well understand English, maybe they will misinterpret the meaning and the message of each songs and will lead to wrong misinterpretation and understanding and also will make them confuse, how do you guys think about the usage of Malay lyrics in our song.

Effizul: English languages is not a must for a bands to use it as a media of expression, it just a tool that can widen their listeners. Its up to the band to use any language that they find suitable and the best way to convey their message. Thefact that some of our so-called punk in malaysia are not good in English is not a strong and good reason to make local bands sing in Malay. In this case, those so called punk should try to understand the lyric by asking others who one good in English or try asking the bands itself for the explanation, or the best solution is to learn English. Don't be a lazy ass! These punks should realize that English is an international languages. Learning English will benefit them a lot! If these punks realize that they're poor in English, don't use your strength to make your own interpretation about the song, but use it to learn English.



About the usage of Malay in our songs, I think it is an interesting and effective ways in spreading the message to the local listeners. This is because the listeners can understand the message real well. This is because the listeners can understand the message really well, but its better to make a translation in English. By this way, we can wider the listeners, take Los Crudos for an example, they sung in Spanish but they always provided a translation in English, so people who didn't' know Spanish are capable to understand what they sing about.

Ganyang: It is notice that your band play some sort of loud, harsh vocal, sped and noise type of punk, what do you think about some DIY Punk/HC bands who play some sort of mellow, melodic and slow stuff but still carry with their soul the DIY ethics, these group are gain less acceptance among us especially here in Malaysia.

Effizul: For me those bands should also be given the same attention as same as usual punk/HC bands. Even though their music are slower and mellower or their lyrics are not too punk/HC enough, that are not a reason we should ignore them. We must accept them as any other bands in the scene because they share something identical with us and that is DIY spirits. In the USA, DIY bands that play slower and mellower music receive an equal support and attention just like a usual punk/HC bands, so I hope that such bands in Malaysia will be treated just like those bands in the states. To tell the truth, I really love to see more DIY bands that play slower and mellower music in the local scene, I can't feed my ears with hard, loud and fast music all the time, I also need some cool and calm stuff, its better supporting Emo, Pop, Indie bands that practice DIY ethics rather that a bands in the mainstream music industry.

Ganyang: Do you think that loud, speed and noise punk is just a trend here lately, because they want to look anarcho or too political, would it receive a same faith as those skinhead community who seems disappeared these day.

Effizul: The phenomenon that we called 'trend' will happen in every style of music in the scene. We cannot deny the fact, but we can take advantage from the situation. Use it as a platform to inform and educate the new faces that get into the scene just for the music, about what is punk/HC is all about. Tell them that punk/HC is not only about music or fashion statement, but its more than that. Even though not all take it seriously, at least we have corrected their perspective about punk/HC. Maybe some will get involve in the scene after they realize the truth about the scene. And when time passed by, only the 'true' will remain and those people ho are involve just for fashion and music will find another things to get involve or to follow.

Ganyang: What can you see punk past and present.

Effizul: There is a difference about punk in past and present. In the past, punk is just about a new music style, a fashion statement, no-future mentality, but as the time passed by, it become more political, intellectual and a media of communication, expression and in formation and it become a way of life and a way of thinking for some people. The only thing that never change about punk from past to the present is the spirit of rebelling and spirit of challenging.

Ganyang: Is punk even relevant in 90's, is it a life style or social statement.

Effizul: The relevant of punk in the 90's is up to the people who involve with the movement and the idea of punk itself. The way that punk being represented in the 90's should be suitable with the time. People can't accept punk if it just carry only the style of music, the fashion statement or the no-future mentality like in the 70's. Punk should be represented a s a movement that can make a

positive changes in all aspect of life. Whether punk a life style or social statement is up to the individual to decide for him/her self. Some have made punk as their life style and some take punk as a social statement. Everybody has a right to decide whether punk is a life style or a social statement. As long as they are happy with their choice, I am happy for them.

Ganyang: Some idea of punk which been bought from the west are not practicable here in east, some of us following blindly without knowing deeply about it, from your opinion how to implement punk according to our way and book, should we make our own approach.

Effizul: We should make the idea of punk suitable according to our surrounding and our own approach. We can't take all the idea from the west and implement it blindly in our surrounding. We have our own differences with the west, and we must to make some changes or maybe created new idea of punk, here in Malaysia. If we take all the ideas from the west without considering whether it suitable or not with us here, it will create a lots of problem, difficulty and misunderstanding not only for the people outside the punk movement but also between the kids itself. Be smart use your brain and think. "Blind acceptance is a sign of stupid fools who stand in a line"- Johnny Rotten.

Ganyang: Do you think that punk is inherently political.

Effizul: Yes, punk is inherently political, but in the beginning it just about self-politics, but now as we seen all over the world, punk has become a movement that involve in the real politics. Lots of punk had involved themselves in a political party and other political movements just to make some positive changes in the political situation and change in the society itself. Respect to all punks who dedicated their time, commitment and dedication in politics.

Ganyang: What has been the most important contribution of punk towards building a political consciousness and are we done enough of it in Malaysia.

Effizul: Punk has created a new and different perspective for us to look at the political situation that happen around us, thus making us realize that politics is not what we seen in the media. It created a consciousness for the people who involve with punk about the truth and lies about politic we see around us. Are we doing enough of it in Malaysia, well in my opinion we
must pay our attention more in educating and informing people who involved in the scene about politics and the system. Telling people about the wrong in politic and the system is useless if people are still in the 'dark' about the real and true system of politic itself.

Ganyang: How do you feel about so-called Nazi Punks in Malaysia, from my opinion they're childish, shallow, immature, illiterates and crazy. They are the worst part of punk in Malaysia, what's your opinion about it and is any other worst part of punk in here.

Effizul: They are bunch of stupid punks who have nothing to show accept their own stupidity and their negative idea about judging people with the color of their skin and only one race, one superior than others. They are the worst part of punk in the world indeed. Stop Nazi idea and movement from destroying our scene, as punk rock Columbus Luk Haas always maintains: "The only good Nazi is Nasi Goreng".

Ganyang: What do you think punk/HC group who involve in welfare and social activities, are they any advantages and disadvantages of it.

Effizul: The involvement of some punk/HC group welfare and social activities is a good example that we can show to all the people out there that punk/HC is about making a positive changes in society and our involvement in such movement and activities, is the solid prove about our objective in making a positive changes in society. I didn't see any advantages in the involvement of punk/HC group in such activities, what should we do is we must act more active in such activities and let make some positive changes around us. I hope that we can make our own welfare movement, just like 'Food Not Bomb' in the USA and Europe gives free meals to the homeless, it would be cool right.

Ganyang: If you had to sum of the core belief of aim of your band, how would you.

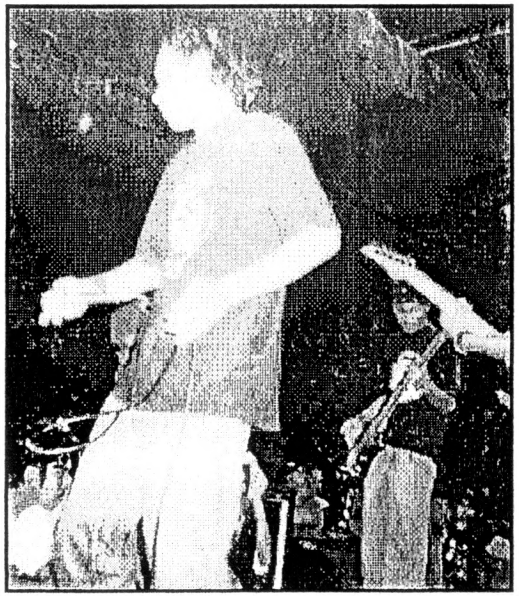
Effizul: I think these three words will sum up the core belief of our band, communication, education and unity.

Ganyang: Tell me what songs and bands you would like to cover during your show and why.

Effizul: It would be a song called 'surrender' from fingerprint (the French emo-HC bands). This song is so powerful (musically and lyrically) and the idea and message one parallel with ours. So that make the song and our favorite to be cover in our show.

Ganyang: What are Full Throttles' future plans, tours, album or what so ever.

Effizul: We are in work to release a 3 way split CD project, other



bands that involve with us are ROT from Brazil and Infectious Break From South Africa. We are just waiting for the completion of a CD sleeve artwork and collecting enough money before pressing the CD. We will also involve in some compilation, but let us skip it out because we are not confirming yet. If there is any development in our project, we will make sure that all of you will know about it, promise.

Ganyang: Something to end the interview.

Effizul: Thanks Ibrahim for the interview and for waiting for a long time to receive my reply, we're busy with our study. Anyway, good luck to you and your zine. I would like to take this opportunity to thanks to everybody, who has supporting F.T from the start until now, we will never forget your support and friendship. If you're interested to know more about F.T please contact: Muhd Aizal/ 4832 Spg. 3/ Kubang Ulu/ 14400 Bukit Mertajam/ Penang/ Malaysia.

PUPPEN 'Mk.II' Tape

When I stopped contacting Indonesian punks due to the turmoil there somewhere last year, this tape had landed inside my post box from my friends who live there. Bandung where the band comes from, is a scared Punk/HC stronghold in Indonesia and it has been produced some great and talented band such as Puppen, plays a mix between HC and metal parts meet Boston HC style make this a perfect release. This is quite easily compared to Biohazard meets DYS with a direct message on politics, system and social issue, they even got a lyrics in Indonesian. 9 songs with an artistic cover. (Pupcore/ PO Box 7728-SP/ Bandung 40122/ Indonesia)

VELVET CRUSH 'Free Expression' CD

I've always had a special place in my heart for these guys. Who wouldn't consider the amount of great pop songs that they delivered to the world? But things started to go a bit wrong when they released their previous album. Many critics slammed them for something that will always happen to a musician i.e. they progressed. I must admit that there are a few songs in that album that are a bit weak. But still, a weak Velvet Crush album is still better than many other albums. Whatever it was their problems then, this new album (their fourth) settles it all. It's a lovely album. If you have any love for 60's inspired guitar pop, get this. This album is also co-produced by Matthew Sweet, if that means anything to you. (A) (info@bobsledrecords.com)

YONGANG 7"

One of its kind in this review, I mean not the music but the record in the 7" vinyl format. You will expect this is another Two Tones releases when the pre-listening session begin but it's not, they are from Italy and plays a traditional Ska tunes in vein of Madness and The Special. The dual vocal makes this record have its unique approach and identity, all the 5 tracks represented well with some additional backups ranging from trumpets, saxophone and percussion. (H) (Spaghetti Recs/ Via Tufane 92-6/ 10414 Torino/ Italy)

ZIGOD Tape

So what do you expect from the band who devoted so much to industrial, a lot of programming cyber tech sound with those bass line in it, as well as drum machine arrangement, so that is Zigod in nature. New sound to me and they seems like a promising band to me if they burst their ass to improve their sounds, cool project. (173/ Jln Tmn Long Jaafar/ Fasa 3/ Tmn Long Jaafar/ Kg Boyan/ 34000 Taiping/ Perak/ Malaysia)

V/A ASIAN PUNK/HC COMPILATION CD

As the title stated, this is a quite complete documentation of several bands from around Asia, it's a great effort by Izumi of ASF who try to reunite and compile all the songs in one CD. 23 bands from all over Asia, variety sounds from melodic punk to crust, grind to HC everything seems complete here. The bands come from Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Macao, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. Contact addresses of each band and labels involved are provided. (All System Fails/ c/o: Izumi Kubo/ 35 Sannaicho/ Sennyuji/ Higashimaku/ Kyoto 605-0977/ Japan)

V/A 'AUSTRALIAN FUCKWITT' CD

This ain't really a compilation but a three way split between 3 Sydney's band in one red covered CD. Rapture and Stanley Knife play melodic street punk sound but The Blurters is quite different, they play some sort of 77's inspired sound with some good raw parts, 16 track to offer! (H) (Snapshot Recs/ PO Box 175/ George Hall/ NSW 2198/ Australia)

V/A 'FORGOTTEN VICTIMS' CD

Also a three way splits but this time they offer some heavy and extreme sounds. Existench from Canada play some hyper speed punk with some Scandinavian style with harsh vocal, Parkinson from Malaysia more into technical sounds with some crust punk feels and Irritate from Finland play grind mix with growling and thrashing guitar with, so that it, what do you think of my review and can I be a crust record reviewer after this? (Broken Noise Recs/ 12 Jln Lembah 24/ Tmn Desa Jaya/ 81100 J. Bahru/ Johor/ Malaysia)

V/A FRESH & CRISPS.COM Tape

A really fresh stuff from my beloved hometown, nothing promising here because the sound is quite unclear but after a long meditation with the tape you might get something over it. 7 bands with various approach from Indie-pop, HC, Punk and even grunge (!) and one more thing the cover is also blur. (Faizal/ 1175 Bilik 3/ JKR Quarters/ Lrg Lahat/ 30200 Ipoh/ Perak/ Malaysia)

V/A 'NO RACISM, NO AUTHORITY!'

A benefit project for two collective, Dare to Care from Philippines and Callus Collective from Malaysia. 3 band from there and 3 from here, all play melodic, aggressive, catchy punk with a political lyrics accept one band play some sort of crust punk. Beautiful red cover with state of the art graphic, the lyrics and the address of each band is provided. (Dare to Care/ c/o: Boi/ PO Box 064/ Pacita Complex 1/ San Pedro/ Laguna 4023/ Philippines or Rasyidin Arshard/ 14 Tmn Koperasi Polis/ 68100 KL/ Malaysia)

V/A Oi! 'R' US Tape

First of all it's a 90 minutes tape with 20 bands in it, even though the title state Oi! as a main frame but there is also a melodic, raw and catchy punk styles, so this is not only for Oi! and the bands come from various country like Germany, UK, Ireland, France and USA. They are the new telents and breed of punk scene there, check our Apocalypse Baby's song. (Trev/ 57 Biardene/ Burnopfield/ New Castle Upon Tyne/ NE 16 6LJ/ UK)

Dave: It is definitely true that in some parts of the country bands or people are considered "preachy" or "PC" for expressing political thoughts. Both of these insults are meaningless, of course. People only refer to other people as "preachy" when they disagree with them. I rarely hear punk rockers call someone preachy for saying "Punk rules!" I occasionally get called "preachy" or "arrogant" but it is not because I am expressing an opinion, it is because I am expressing an opinion that everyone doesn't already agree on. There are tons of "political" bands out there that will tell people what they want to hear, and those bands are never called preachy. When you say authority sucks and racism sucks you are never considered preachy. It's only when you point out that hierarchy within the scene is a form of authority, that an all-white scene needs to examine itself... then you are considered "preachy." There are some great bands out there like *Trial*, *Propoghandi*, *Brother Inferior*, *A//Political*, *Submission Hold*, *Kid Dynamite*, *Former Members of Alfonsin* and others that I can't think of off the top of my head who have good lyrics and do various things to act as agents of social change. I think good lyrics can introduce people to new concepts or inspire those already in the movement to keep fighting. I also think that musicians themselves have such power in the scene that they could use it to address crowds at shows and educate them about something aside from "unity" or who they want to give shout outs too. Musicians are constantly interviewed in zines and on radio shows, much more than regular activists. Musicians can take advantage of that to give people information. Musicians can bring literature to shows and hand it out. Musicians have the potential to do all of this, it's only when they actually *do* that the music means anything. Punk is actually not very well suited to getting ideas out there in the music, so as punks we have our work cut out for us. The words are often difficult to understand without a lyric sheet, with certain types of punk they are difficult to sing along to so do not act in a way, which unifies people and makes them participants instead of spectators. Even when you are reading the lyrics, often the trend in punk, well, at least in emo and hardcore, is to have these obscure poetic lyrics that few people will get without having read an interview or knowing an arcane reference. On top of that it's all set to music that many people find unpleasant. I guess this is all a reflection of the punk idea that we are a minority who must fight against the majority, why we complain about the "mainstream" and want to confine our scene to a small clique. You can't claim to speak for or care about the people, you can't claim to be fighting for human liberation when you look down on 90% of the populace as stupid or boring. I admit I have been guilty of this in the past. Other forms of music are more open, easier to understand the words and the meaning of those words. Fairly straightforward music that people can sing along to, especially older folk songs that were sung to tunes people already knew. A more participatory music. I'm not saying punk can not be used for anything, I'm saying there are some limitations to it, especially as a mass organizing tool. But I think within the punk community we should use the power that music has to spread radical ideas, and I think at the same time we should work to eliminate the stranglehold that music and musicians have on our thought process. And always, we must never confuse listening to a song or wearing a t-shirt with actual organization and activism.

Halla Nirman: What the greatest thing of editing a fanzine?
Dave: The people you meet. When I went to Georgia to protest the School of the Americas last month I stayed with a woman I knew only because of *Retrogression*. Not only was it good to have somewhere to stay, but it was good to meet this great person who really excited me to talk with. I would not know Greg Bennick if I didn't edit a zine, I would not know Carissa van den Berk, and I would not know Theo Wilsell. I would not know all of these amazing people that I know, I would not have had these incredible conversations I have had. Two of my best romantic relationships were with people I met because they wrote into me about *Retrogression*. It's a little frustrating because I used to get a decent amount of correspondence because of the zine, and I used to meet a lot of people. Never quite as much as my female friends who did personal zines, many of them would get a letter or two a day, but I would meet some interesting people. In the age of the internet, where people post to message boards as a part of their daily routine, I think writing into zines has become much less common. This not only means that *Retrogression* often becomes one person's voice (mine), and means that I and my readers are not kept abreast of some of the stuff out there, but it also means that I have not made nearly as many great connections with people in the past two years or so as I did in the half a dozen years prior. Some of my friends tell me this is because *Retrogression* is too dry, too political, not personal enough. Some people tell me the reason they think few people write in and few people send in their zines is because they are intimidated. If that is the case it makes me very sad. But I don't really know what the reason is. All I know is I dig it when I make new connections with new people.

Halla Nirman: Do you know anything about Malaysia? What do you think about this particular country?
Dave: No, I don't, and I wish I did. I know basic stuff about it's geography, I know it was one of the "Asian Tigers" and it has a child labour problem. I would love it if you could tell me and my readers a lot more about Malaysia and the issues you face there within the scene and within the broader context of your life. If you or any other Malaysian punks or radicals want to get in touch with me, they can write to

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Note: Retrogression also available in an internet version some sort like an e-zine, so if you guys out there who are interested to read his radical and magnificent writing you can subscribe it freely by e-mailing him at the above e-mail. It's for an intelligent and the people that want to think believe me on this.



For most of us when we speak about Chinese independent band maybe we will think about some of those Singaporean indie bands like The Padres, Oddfellows and Opposition Party but have you listening the Chinese spoken indie bands here from Malaysia. Huanghuo, have you heard about them but maybe for some Chinese kids out there they might be familiar with the name. Actually Huanghuo is one of the independent record label similar to other independent labels in Malaysia that believe on DIY ways in producing and documenting their art in their own way. This label has been set to expose an independent music especially to the Chinese kids who still dreaming with the top chart song and other famous canto-pop figures. These guy want to change the perception of the Chinese listeners where most of them are more into likely being a stereotype to the western bands without concern of exploring their own roots.

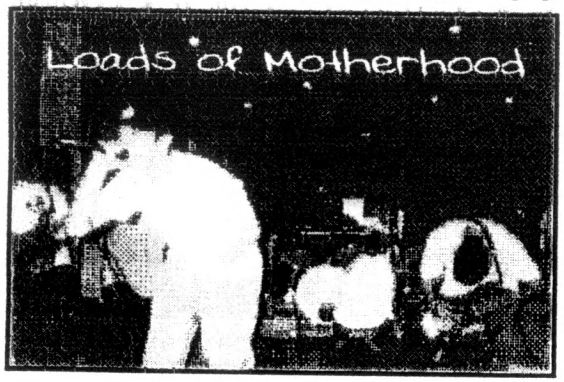
I've got a chance to meet some of the frontrunner of the label when I met Luk Haas when he is in KL a few weeks ago. First of all Luk had told me that there is a Chinese band gigs somewhere in Pandan Indah but at the first I'm not even planing to go there, because I thought maybe it just another canto-rock band shows. For sure, it a mistake, these guys represents a true Chinese spoken independent music scene. The journey begun when Luk, Joe Kidd and me met some of them at the Central Market and we directly went to Pandan Indah by van. They told me that they would be a guest performer in one of the rock competition organized by Heaven Studio in MPAJ Hall. When we arrived there the show had been started with three group playing glam rock, R&B and one Korn wannabe band. They show take a break at 7 o'clock and we went to the mamak stall near the hall. During the chat, some explanation had been given by these guys about the Huanghuo. Basically Huanghuo had been set to change the mind set of the Chinese youth over the rock music in Malaysia because some of them are still worshiping those western band without exploring their own art and idea in producing their music. They want to create a Chinese spoken indie rock scene where the kids are proud to use their own language instead singing in English. Maybe they got similarity with one band from Hong Kong called Blackbird who proudly sung in their mother tongue to express their political believe. This Chinese spoken band stream had begun in Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. In punk we can see some PRC bands like: 69, Anarchy Jerk, Brain Failure and Reflector same with Taiwanese punk bands like LTK Commune, Groupie and Double X all of them are singing in Chinese. However, the most important thing lyrically they are quite political and aware to some social issues. They also want to push up some hidden local Chinese spoken bands and dedicated to help them in expressing their art so it will change the mind set of the Malaysian Chinese scene over their own language and roots.

We went back to the hall and the next band will be them. First band is a three piece band play a mix between Hip Hop and post punk but the sound system is too lousy so we cannot hear specifically their music but these guy got a dedication in voicing their music by the feels and the way they performed that night. They suppose to perform six songs but the organizer had stopped them after three songs to give chance to the second band. Second band play some sort of experimental rock with their own direction, I impressed with them because they are not trying to copy others but proudly play their own sounds and songs. Their stage performance is great it's almost perfect for them. I can feel the DIY spirit in these two bands and trust that they are capable in doing their own tang.

After the show, we headed to their office near that gigs spot. Their office is at one of the house situated at Tmn Mawar and the internal decoration is a magnificent. Later on there is a conversation between us especially Joe who explain to them about Punk/HC scene in Malaysia and finally we found out there is a similarity between our Punk/HC scene with what they are trying to do. The most important thing all the records of them are self-financed and they also organized gigs for this band that are very rare to the Malay community in the Malaysian Punk/HC. From my observation, I found out that these groups of people are well established and they got their own newsletter, which is written in Chinese. I also got a chance to read a Ladybug tour diary which is handed by one of the girl there and she also got the first Taiwanese version of Ladybug's CD. So there is no reason why we must to avoid them because they share a common vision with us and maybe they will be some barriers due to the language but how about the punk/HC bands from Latin America and Europe that you guys been listening, do you understand their language. Of course, they said that we can get the translation of each song and perhaps you should find a Chinese girlfriend and she can translate it to you and honestly, I said that their records are great, so far they got five releases, a compilation of Chinese spoken indie bands called 'The Declaration of Huanghuo' and the others by Chong Yuen, You Dao She, NO and The Fly. They should not be a segregation of them because they are apart of our very own local DIY punk/HC scene. See the different and explore it. For more info contact: (Lam Yuet/ No 44/ Jln Bunga Melati/ Tmn Mawar/ 56100 Cheras/ Kuala Lumpur. Phone: (6013-4760142. Fax: (6013-4958957. E-mail: huanghuo@hotmail.com)

PHILIPPINES HARDCORE SCENE REPORT

Hi! I am Howell C. of Homicide & "RESPIRE" zine from the Philippines and I would like to inform you guys out there that there



something going' on here. But let me first tell you something about our motherland, for those who don't know something. The Philippines is located in Southeast Asia and it has 7,100 islands. The country is divided into 3 groups of islands, which are Luzon, Visaya and Mindanao. Neighboring countries are Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Kampuchea, Indonesia and Brunei. Yeah, we have a hardcore a scene here! It's fairly small but its growing steadily and we're all happy about that. So, let's start now! Laguna a few hour drive from Manila (capital of the Philippines) and I may say that this is where the heart of the hardcore scene here in the Philippines could be found right now. Lots of people keeps on labeling Laguna as New York of the Philippines, it's a compliment! But there are other crews to check out in the mainland area like TAME THE TIKBALANG. Do this band need more introduction? I guess not! They are well known here. Playing in the vein of Bad brains but a little bit heavier, they have 2 songs in Numeric sampler 502 compilation. They really give energy in their live shows! BADBURN also from the Manila area, they play hardcore with lots of hip - hop influence. Downset? In a way, but they still proved that they have their own style. GOO these guys play melodic punk/hardcore tunes in the vein of Descendents also from the Manila area. They have 2 songs in the Numeric sampler compilation (NUMERIC SAMPLER 507). RESURRECTED cross - over dudes from Sampaloc, Manila. Playing in the vein of D.R.I., and Agnostic front, really fuckin' fast! They have a 2 songs demo out. CHAINBLOCK from Paco, Singalong area in Metro Manila. Influenced by NY hardcore band Breakdown, they have lots of youthful energy when they are playing their set. Check them out! OUTCRY from the Pasig City HC scene. Playing in the vein of V.O.D. with two vocalist, they have a demo out released by Crossblood rec. it contains 4 songs of intense brutal hardcore in your face, the recording is kindda raw but it still rock! CHERRY BOMB coming out in the Makati, Manila area. This crew is composed of 3 sister and 1 bro. They play in the vein of Sick of it all. A really heavy sister crew. Let's go down, EMPTY from Taguig, Metro Manila is one of the crowd favorites. When they play their set there are lots of participation from the crowd, they really makes the crowd go wild. Playing in the vein of Strife (no wonder?) and I think they don't have anything out yet, let's wait for this one. Another band from Taguig is MINDSET 11. Playing oldskool Minor threat style hardcore. They will really touch your hearts out; they still don't have anything out. LOADS OF MOTHERHOOD from Pardeaque, Metro Manila. Playing Sick of it all meets D.R.I. style hardcore, really tight and fast. Their live shows kick ass, it will put you in the slam pit in no time. They have 2 songs in Numeric Sampler 507 compilation. Let's move to Cavite (a neighboring province of Laguna). MELTDOWN from Cavite, this is the only band I know personally from this area. They play in the vein of Refused to Earth Crisis, they really keep the hardcore flame burning in the Cavite area. Write to them for more info about the scene and other bands from the area. Now, let's move to the place where the heart of the hardcore scene could be found - LAGUNA - the New York counterpart according to some people. SAN PEDRO, LAGUNA - Let's start with NEWFOUND HERITAGE from the Pacita area S.P.L. This crew plays Latino style hardcore and they have a six songs demo out its called "USE THE FORCE". A really good demo! I'm not seeing them lately, I guess they're busy with their personal things. A.D.A. (Aggressive Dog Attack) playing punk/hardcore tunes and they are working with Dare to care - a civic group that aims to help the ones who is in need. They also have a demo out, write to them for more info! CRACKPOTS a really great band, playing new schools hardcore in the vein of snapcase to Earth crisis. I think they are planning to record a demo. Watch for it! COUNTER ATTACK old school dudes! Playing fast old skool hardcore with some metal elements and a brutal vocalist, and try to check out their demo. It have 4 killer songs, write to the guys! Demo of the year! SOCIAL OUTRAGE I haven't see this crew for a long time and sometimes I think they're not around anymore. This crew plays old school style hardcore with some rap parts. I miss this band! Write to them for more info. BARRIER from the ashes of Biofeedback, this crew has arise and this time with a different style in terms of music. It's a really big switch for Reypeace and Cid, goodbye for the Biofeedback NY style old days. This time they are into emo - style hardcore, they have good songs that I can really relate with and I think of all us can too. At this time, they have nothing out but news is they are working for their demo. Let's go deeper! BINAN, LAGUNA - CHILDREN OF THE DAMNED from the Binan area, playing in the vein of Unbroken and Tenfold.

and have kids? I've read some not-so-whelming responses from your readers- what conclusion can you make out of it? Is being SE the only thing that matter?

Dave: I think in some ways it was a really big deal. I mean, for years I identified myself in part by whether or not I did drugs or drank. I don't think I am ready to settle down and have kids, I am not sure if there is even a connection between the two. In fact, most people *stop* doing drugs when they want to settle down and have kids. I also think some people may not quite understand that even though I am no longer straightedge, I am not some raving party animal. It's like I stopped drinking after that point in my life where most people go out and drink at every opportunity, have a hard time having fun sober, and generally act like big idiots. Aside from maybe once a month going to a bar with my roommate or a close friend and having a beer, I only drink on birthdays and weddings, and even then I don't drink much. I have yet to be drunk, I have no desire to be drunk, I have no desire to avoid being drunk. I still find parties to be boring as shit, I still find people who talk about drinking all the time to be boring as shit. So not much has changed.

Hello Nirman: We always heard the word 'PUNK IS MORE THAN MUSIC'. So, how true is this from reality? What about 'MAKING PUNK A THREAT AGAIN'? Can this be achieved too in a short period of time?

Dave: Punk is what we make it. I think punk can have a lot of value for someone young just getting into it, but I think after a time that value decreases as you hear the same messages over and over again. I think there is a danger of simply stating that punk is political and expecting it to be such. I think there is a danger of associating patches and clothes and slogans with action. *Profane Existence* didn't make punk a threat by making t-shirts that said "making punk a threat again." Whatever threat they posed to the system was through the anarchist news content of their magazine. I think it is great that John Strange, a punk rocker, was the guy who helped stop the bombing of Iraq in February of 1998. I think it is great that there were punks out in the streets of Seattle protesting the WTO. I think it is great that some of the members of *Brother Inferior* are in the IWW, I think it is great that Greg Bennick works with the Western Shoshone Defence Project. Those people are doing good things, but simply listening to *Trial* or *Brother Inferior* is meaningless in itself (even though those are both good bands that I love to listen to). Punk is only as threatening as what *YOU*, the individual punk, is doing this week to threaten the system.

Hello Nirman: What the toughest challenge you face to keep La Revo alive and kicking as it is today?

Dave: Time and money. Well, now that I am doing it mainly over the web, time. I have to work a 40-hour week to pay off all the debts I ran up doing a print magazine for years. Plus I do a lot of work helping to establish the IWW in Providence and hopefully organising a few shops soon. And I work with Food Not Bombs and we need to do a lot of work trying to find new sources of food, write up some literature, find a back-up kitchen, et cetera. On top of all this I have found I need to have a life and hang out with friends or else I get really depressed. So there is very little time left over for *Retrogression*. I have not been writing as much this year as last year, and the writing I am doing is not the type of stuff I *want* to be doing. I wish I could quit my job and write full time, then I could put out a decent zine every week, I could have travelled to Seattle to give daily firsthand accounts, I could go to Chiapas and write in depth about what is going on there, I could do a good article exposing the evil nature of such supposedly benevolent corporations as Whole Foods. But that would require money. Money to live off has and pays bills since I would not be working a regular job. Money to run a web server properly. Money to get me to Seattle or Chiapas or wherever it was I needed to go to do a good article.

Hello Nirman: What is PUNK to you?

Dave: Well, to start with punk is a form of music that we are all familiar with, but I'll leave it up to the music theorists to define strictly. Punk is also a community of people who listen to that music, and a set of ideas of
that community (not just of the musicians, but of the whole community). In theory everyone is equal in this community, and the ideas are radical, but that isn't always the case in reality.

Hello Nirman: What is your opinion on labels like VICTORY REC., REVELATION, EPITAPH and the like? They're big and have been accused so many times as selling the scene out. So is it really bad for a punk label to make soo much money? How about punk and business?

Dave: It's not necessarily bad for punks to make enough money to be able to continue their art. I think there is too much of a premium placed on punk consumers being able to get as many punk consumer goods as possible as cheaply as possible. Again this goes back to the demographics of punk in a lot of ways. Middle class white suburban kids who don't worry about rent or health insurance tend to not think that other people, like writers and artists and musicians need to worry about those things. I have no problem with the guys in *Fugazi* living off of their band, I think that's great. I have a problem with bosses and the traditional corporate structure, which is how some of the larger hardcore and punk labels are run. I think it is wrong for a boss to get rich off someone else's work, be it an artists work or the unpaid interns that slave away for them. Record labels are weird in that it is difficult for them to be collectively owned because the relationship between labels and bands is one of independent contractors, not the traditional employee/employer relationship. But ideally all work would be collectively done and workers would have an equal share in the wealth they create, as well as having an equal share in the process of deciding how things are run. I'm not sure if any labels, even the more radical ones, have figured out how to do this effectively. I know I started and I never came up with good answers.

Hello Nirman: I always heard that in America, bands were slugged off for being preachy and PC. Is this by any chances true? Do you think that there's potential for music to be treated as an agent of change?

then you have to go with what you can afford can no longer afford to publish a print zine, because I can't afford to keep taking several hundred dollars out of my pocket every month to do so, and I refuse to pander to the business class of punk in order to get their money (I can't tell you how many labels have told me my zine is not music-oriented enough, or tried to use extortion to get me to promote their bands). The biggest problem with electronic publishing is that people can easily just look at what they want and ignore the rest. So I get a lot of hits to record reviews and shows reviews but not as many to articles. It's sad to think that I would put a lot of effort into writing an article on the WTO protests, for example, but have it ignored because most kids just want to hear about the new "Catharsis" CD. With print media that risk is a lot lower because a kid may read the reviews and interviews first, but if that zine sits around his or her house long enough, eventually someone will pick it up and read one of the articles. With electronic media they read the reviews and then delete the message or click away to their favourite bulletin board. So in an ideal world, if I didn't have to worry about resources, I would have a free print publication. But things being what they are, I will probably be sticking with the Internet as my medium for a few years.

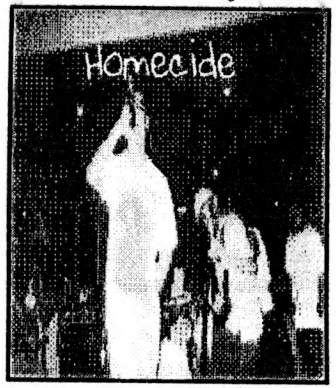
Halla Nilman: From the zine, I've also known that you're involved with the IWW. This is a rarity as I see it. So how come a Straight Edge got interested in something like the IWW? Hordes of SE kids could only care about ALF and the likes- not that it's all a bad thing, but wouldn't it be selfish to ignore more about the condition of fellow human than the animals?

Dave: Ok, a few things. Firstly I am no longer straightedge. I was for 25 years but this summer I decided it was time to break the edge for various reasons. None of this is really important, but I just don't want some asshole out there saying "Dave Grenier's not straightedge but said he was in that interview." Not that it is really any of anyone's business. Secondly, it's hard to say how I got interested in the IWW. There wasn't like one specific point where I went from being disinterested in it to being a member of one of the smallest but toughest labour unions in history. I didn't know much about unions growing up, I come from a really anti-union family. But I do remember seeing a few movies about union battles in the 1920s and such, and really identifying with them. A good movie if you want to check this out is called "Matewan" about the coal wars in West Virginia. I also remember reading "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair in high school and really loving it, again feeling that I could identify with the story. I had a few basic idea or philosophies I developed when I was a teenager. One was that everyone should have the basic necessities of life, however they were provided. No one should go without food or clothing or shelter or the like. Another was that people should have the freedom to do whatever they want with their own body providing they don't interfere with someone else. A third was that men and women, black and white, gay and straight should all be equal. Little did I know then that these were some of the basic tenets of anarchist thought. Somehow my pro-union sentiments found their way around my anti-union upbringing by believing that unions "used to" be good and necessary, but now were corrupt. I've actually heard that from a few people, it seems to be a pretty standard conservative line, actually. It's sort of like people who will praise Martin Luther King for fighting for civil rights, but condemn people nowadays as fighting for "special rights." Anyway, I started hearing about the IWW here and there as part of history when I was in college, and they always appealed to me. The radical, fighting union that brought us things like The Weekend. And I think I thought more favourably about them than I did about the Teamsters or the AFL-CIO because of my upbringing. Also because there is really very little you can say about corruption and the IWW, unlike the AFL-CIO. This was all during the time of the economic recession in the early/mid nineties. My dad got downsized a couple times, my own job prospects looked pretty fucking grim. When you see people like Bill Gates getting richer and richer as your family gets poorer, it isn't too hard to figure out whichside you're on, and a fighting union seems like just the right thing. I think the two single events that were most important in my joining the union were the UPS Strike of 1997, and a conference I went to on civil disobedience in January of this year. In the U.S. labour has been split from student movement, the various "identity" based movements, and the environmental movement. Most young people like me only thought of labour being relevant in the first half of this century and had never known any large strikes or seen the importance of the labour movement. To many of us this was our first experience with seeing labour unions fight against the bosses and win some important rights. This inspired a hell of a lot of us, and it really galvanised the interest I already had in labour. Then when I went to this conference I saw an IWW literature table, and my first reaction was the same that most people have, "You guys are still around?" Like most people, I thought the IWW had disbanded in the 1940s. I bought a bunch of Wobbly (IWW) literature and a month later I joined the Union.

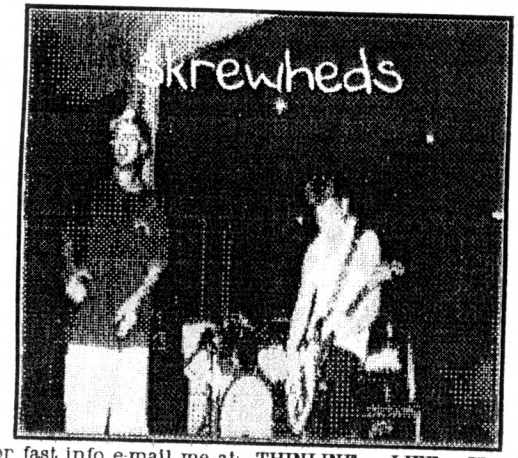
I wish I knew why so many punk and straightedge kids don't care about anything but veganism, and more recently, Mumia. Greg Bennick from "Trial" and I have had long conversations about how we could interest people in wider activism. Personally much of the animal rights movement has this crypto-facist and creepy religious feel to it for me to ever really be comfortable. While American kids opposing indigenous rights, arguments about what is and isn't "natural," that sort of thing. I think in part veganism is so big because it is essentially about what you consume, which fits neatly into how we are already taught to exist and live - through consumption. I also think that the demographic of punk and hardcore as a very young music scene means that punks don't think about things like wages and rent as much as they would if they were all in their forties. They don't generally think about what kind of education their kids will get or if they can go to a doctor when they get sick, as you tend to when you get older. So they don't think about bread and butter labor issues, which leaves them free to think about more abstract things like animal rights.

Halla Nilman: Talking about SE, you were also writing about losing it. Losing it or not- do you see it as a big deal, kinda like a big decision in your life i.e selling down

A really heavy crew from the area, I think they are preparing for their demo. Let's wait for this one! 8 oz another band from the area, playing brutal terror Hardcore in the vein of Catharsis and Die my will. I've been hearing that they are planning to record their songs this year. BULLDOZED playing in the vein of Integrity to Hatebreed. The countries murder crew! They have released their demo "demonyogangmurdercore" under Crossblood rec. and it has 4 tracks to make you scream out loud! SKREWHEDS another Binan pride and are definitely one of the more popular bands rising out of Binan, Laguna. They have 2 songs in Alpha Numeric Sampler (Numericsampler 507). Playing snapcase style musically with rapping vocalist, they're one of my favorite bands in the area. BLOODLINE a rap-core outfit with 2 vocalist, I can best describe their sound as a heavier version of the Beastie boys. They've recorded one of their songs and I think they are still working for their demo. STA. ROSA, LAGUNA - This is my hometown! Starting with GROUND ZERO playing Path of Resistance style hardcore also with 3 vocalist. A really good metallic hardcore band! They are still working with their demo and I think it will be out any time from now. PROGRESSION brutal death-core band coming out in the Sta. Rosa area, playing in the vein of Divided by hate and Dead 13. Brutal as hell! They are still working for more materials for their debut demo. Next it's us, HOMECIDE playing newsreel hardcore with street smart attitude. We're still working for our demo (patience please!). Let's go deeper! SAN PABLO, CITY LAGUNA - THINLINE playing post-hardcore stuffs in the vein of helmet to snapcase. They haven't anything out yet. Next is BALANCE playing DMS style hardcore and these guys really put out a good show. I haven't seen this band lately. LIFE IS SHORT this band is really influenced by NY hardcore band, playing in the vein of My own victim to Madball. This is all that I have right now about the bands here, I know there are other more bands in the other part of the country that doesn't reached me. Well, I just hope that I will be able to include them in my future scene report. As for ZINES, let's start with KEEPDAFAITH done by Reypeace of Barrier. The 1st issue has interviews with Rage generation (Singapore), Minority fanzine (Czech Republic), 25 ta life (USA), Coche Bomba (France), Bulldozed (Phil.), Half Life (Japan), and lots more. This one will really make you glad you live in a world where hardcore exist! I guess issue #2 of this zine is in the works right now, so feel free to send in your neat stuffs to Keepdafaith. CROSSBLOOD distro catalog will be in a zine format and it will have interviews with 4in the chamber (USA), withoneintent (USA), Six and violence (USA), OUTCRY (Philippines) and more hardcore dope. Write to Dennis for more info about this matter. Next is GET IN TOUCH, from a typical hardcore newsletter to a full packed hardcore zine. Done by Butch and Dangie from Sta. Cruz, Manila. A really good zine from this dudes! Issue #1, #2 is in newsletter format, #3 of Get in touch is in a full - size zine format while #4 goes back in a newsletter format and #5 is back in a zine format (half-size) for good I think? Coming out in the Pasig City hardcore scene here comes EXTROVERT, done by Randy from Outcry. The 1st isssue have interviews with Comin' correct, Crackpots, some info about Homicide, articles, reviews, ads, and Marikina sk8 scene with interviews with some local skater in the area. Contributions is needed in the next issue, just send it to the man. SHITWIPER is now on its 5th issue, covering punk, ska, hardcore, etc. this zine have a good layout and a good read. BETLOOGS from the Pacita area, done by Boi of A.D.A. covering punk/hardcore stuffs, I haven't yet read any issue of this zine but I'm really sure that this one is a good read. HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR LIFE? Released only one issue cause the man behind this pocket size hardcore zine decided to join forces with Jeff of PROPAGANDA punk/hardcore zine from the Makati area. Also, Jeff released only one issue of PROPAGANDA and agreed to work with Bert. By the way, the 1st issue of HYSYL? Have lots of show reviews, articles, hardcore hotlines, band update and more. PROPAGANDA #1 Have interview with cherry bomb, dominus cross, ads, articles, lyrics sheet and more. Now let's check out the joint effort of Jeff and Bert. CONSPIRAZINE - a hardcore/punk zine and the 1st issue have interviews with counterattack, bulldozed, loads of motherhood and Homicide, lots of articles, lyrics sheet, photos, address and more. Try to check out it for yourself. This zine have a good read and lay out too! STEP FORWARD a hardcore/sXe zine from Cavite, done by xMicx the front man of Meltdown and they've just released their 1st issue with interviews with SFT records, Ground zero records, New found heritage, xPurificationx, hardcore news, articles and h.c. photos. A great effort from the guys at the lower West Side hardcore scene. I'm really sure that he needs contribution for the next issue of his zine, so if you have any stuff to send always feel free to send it over. Also coming out in the lower west side hardcore scene is xPOSITIVEx, this hardcore sXe/skate newsletter is representing the Cavite hardcore scene with interviews with Meltdown, NIV, a short scene report about the local scene, article and update about Ignite. I think it's for free? Just write them up! SOUTHSIDE UPDATE newsletter is now on it's 4th issue, I'm



working with this newsletter with the little help of Gilbert from Conspirazine. This newsletter focused in the hardcore scene here in the south. With tons of bands address, zines address and local hardcore news in the area. Representing the south side hardcore scene! Another great newsletter is BOUND BY CONVICTION from south central hardcore scene. This newsletter represent the local hardcore scene in Taguig, Pasig City and other near by towns with bands update, news and lots of other stuff to really make you glad. Another great zine coming out in the City of 7 lakes is THOUGHT MARKET. Done by Agee from Thinline, a really great computer generated hardcore zine and they've already released 3 issues. I think the 4th issue is already out at this moment you are reading this finally, it's my zine "RESPIRE" A semi-annual hardcore zine and I'm on my 2nd issue and the 3rd issue will be out this Feb. '99. With interviews with 8 oz, floorpunch, NJ bloodline, One last sin, thinline, Bridge9records, articles, scene report, h.c. photos and more. Write to me for more info. Well, I think that should wrap it up! Once again, I would to remind you that there are other great zines that doesn't reached me and I'm hoping to include them in my future scene report feel free to write to addresses below if you find something that interest you and we're very glad to hear from you or for fast info e-mail me at: (casacop@ign.pworld.net.ph).



BANDS AND ZINES ADDRESSES

TAME THE TIKBALANG, BAD BURNS, GOO c/o John Carpio/ #2 A.De guzman St., /Marikina City / PHILIPPINES

OUTCRY, EXTROVERT ZINE c/o Randy Rayos/55 Tawiran St., /Santolan Pasig City 1610/ PHILIPPINES

RESURRECTED c/o Alvin Esperanza/1248 m. Dela Fuente St., / Sampaloc, Manila 1008/ PHILIPPINES

BULLDOZED, CROSSBLOOD DISTRO/ ZINE, CHAINBLOCK c/o Dennis Matibag/Blk.3 Lot20/Hope st./Dreamland Subdivision 4th estate/ Sucat Paranaque/ PHILIPPINES

CHERRY BOMB c/o Luv Gaerlan P.O. BOX 3189/ Makati Central Post Office 1271/ Makati City/ PHILIPPINES

LOADS OF MOTHERHOOD c/o Francis Alcantara/ #17 Acacia St., / Ph 7 B Gatchalian Subdivision/Las Pias M.M./ PHILIPPINES

EMPTY c/o Dixie/316 Quezon St., / Bagong Bayan Taguig M.M./ PHILIPPINES

MINDSET 11, BOUND BY CONVICTION ZINE c/o Allen Rubis/468 A. Mabini St., /Pateros M.M./ PHILIPPINES

MELTDOWN, STEP FORWARD ZINE c/o Michael Nuestro/19 Sunday St., / Addas 1 San Nicholas Bacoor/Cavite 4102/ PHILIPPINES

NEW FOUND HERITAGE c/o Adi Juano/ #2 Balagtas St., Pacita Complex 1/ San Pedro, Laguna 4023/ PHILIPPINES

A.D.A., BETLOOGS ZINE c/o Boi Plodos/ P.O. BOX 064 /Pacita Complex, San Pedro, Laguna 4023/ PHILIPPINES

COUNTER ATTACK c/o Angel Licop/ Blk.5 Lot 13/ Console XII/ San Pedro, Laguna 4023/ PHILIPPINES

SOCIAL OUTRAGE c/o Philip Umayam/ Ph. 4 Blk. 14 Lot 3 Pacita Complex 1/ San Pedro, LAGUNA 4023/ PHILIPPINES

CHILDREN OF THE DAMNED c/o Gilbert Pusag/ 2306 Begonia St., / Elvinda Village/San Pedro, Laguna 4023/ PHILIPPINES

8 OZ c/o Paul Nery/ Progressive Village/ Brgy Tagapo/ Sta. Rosa, Laguna 4026/ PHILIPPINES

SKREWHEDS c/o Alvin Sta. Cruz/ Blk. 43 Lot 2/ Dapitan St., / South City Homes/ Bian, Laguna 4024/ PHILIPPINES

GROUND ZERO c/o Dencio Veloso/ Blk. 43 Lot 18/ Soldiers Hill's Village/ Muntinlupa City 1702/PHILIPPINES

PROGRESSION c/o Khim Mariquit/ Blk. 63 Lot 16/ San Lorenzo South, Sta. Rosa, Laguna 4026/ PHILIPPINES

HOMECIDE c/o Dexter Bascon/ 97 F. Gomez St., Kanluran/ Sta. Rosa, Laguna 4026/ PHILIPPINES

THINLINE, LIFE IS SHORT, THOUGHT MARKET c/o Agee Lian/ Brgy Sto Nio/ San Pablo City 4000/ PHILIPPINES

BALANCE c/o Ebong Lian/ Brgy Sto. Nio/ San Pablo City 4000/PHILIPPINES

BARRIER, KEEPDAFAITH ZINE c/o Reypeace Bravo/ 123 Sibulo Subdivision/ San Pedro, Laguna 4023/PHILIPPINES

BLOODLINE c/o Ian Ridad/ Blk. 30 Lot 5 Golden City Subdivision/ Canlalay, Bian, Laguna 4024/ PHILIPPINES

GET IN TOUCH c/o Butch Dangle/ 1260 D. Quiricada St., / Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003/ PHILIPPINES

RESPIRE/SOUTHSIDE UPDATE: c/o Howell A. Casacop/B-3 L-35 Ambrocia Village/ Sta. Rosa, Laguna 4026/PHILIPPINES

XPOSITIVEX c/o Raymond Yusingco/ #22 Escoda St., Phs. V/ Bahayang Pag-asa Subd. /Molino, Bacoor Cavite 4102/PHILIPPINES

SHITWIPER c/o Allan Mendoza/ P.O. box 37 ACPO/ Cubao, Q.C. 1135/PHILIPPINES

CONSPIRA - ZINE c/o Jeff Gaerlan/P.O. box 3189 Makati Central Post Office 1271/ Makati City/ PHILIPPINES or Gilbert Pusag/ 2306 Begonia St., Elvinda Village/San Pedro, Laguna 4023/ PHILIPPINES

Dave: Well, I sort of explained that above, but to reiterate, the two main reasons were to help get out more information about hardcore and eliminate some of the cliquishness of it, and to use hardcore as a vehicle for political activism.

Halla Nirman: You've been quite critical about the punk/hardcore community- e.g. Questioning the whole band worshipping, the consumerist behaviour etc- so do you think all of this hard work of yours worth it?

Dave: That's hard to say. It's difficult to tell how much of an effect I have had. I know I've gotten a few people to think about things more deeply than they had before and to try to make punk be something worthwhile instead of us stating that it already it. I know that there are some people out there that already felt the way I do, but just felt reassured to know that they were not the only ones. But I also know there are a lot of people out there who are "apolitical" or even right wing who feel that punk should just be like Mtv, and then there are a lot of political punks who want to ignore my criticism because they benefit from the way the punk scene is currently set up. These people tend to call me named like "negative" and "cynical" as if these were bad trails. Punk revolves around the buying and selling of things, and the way it does this is by convincing people that the more punk things they own, the punker they are, and the punker they are, the better a person they are in the eyes of this community, the more they fit in. Because most zines of any size are funded by the business class of punk, they can not challenge these basic assumptions or they lose ad revenue, and eventually go out of business. So the zines that have staying power are the ones that are music based and may pick at small things in the scene, but don't question the things that are fundamentally wrong with it. Therefore these issues are mostly left out of the day-to-day dialog of punk as it wrestles with issues such as Straighledge vs. non-straighledge, big pants vs bondage pants, et cetera. Because fundamental issues of hierarchy, consumption, and identity are ignored so often, when one DOES bring them up, you end up sounding like you are from Neptune, just like you sound like you are from Neptune when you ask why we have to work 40 hours a week or pay rent to a landlord. All of about with mainstream media are present with punk media. Mainstream media ignores questions like "why does my boss take a much higher share of the wealth we all created than I and my fellow workers get?" while concentrating on issues like flag burning or pro-choice vs. pro-life. Any paper that has asked the real fundamental questions has quickly gone out of business or been reduced to obscurity by the lack of advertising funds. But I have sort of realised over the past few months, as I have found many things to do with my time that don't involve punk rock, how tiny and almost insignificant the scene is to the rest of the world, and how my time is much better spent asking people what right their landlord has to demand money to allow them to continue living in their home than it is spent asking punk kids why they need to plaster their body with band names to feel like a complete human being?

Halla Nirman: What about the limitation of fanzines in term of reaching out? It's safe to assume that this is not such a big problem for bands as people are more eager to be entertained than to be educated/informed- so have you ever been discouraged by this fact?

Dave: Geez, have you ever read "Retrogression"? For years I have been writing about how discouraging it is to go to a show with a zine I put hundreds of hours into only to have kids more interesting in patches and CDs. Listening to music is a very passive activity, it is easy to listen to music and not think and not be challenged. It is easy. Even if a band has really radical lyrics, if you do not agree with those lyrics it is easy to ignore them and concentrate only on the beat and the rhythm. Look, for example, at how many assholes listen to bands like "Rage Against The Machine" but completely ignore their politics? Or even in our own scene, how many metalheads (including me) listen to "Slayer" and try to ignore the fact that they sing songs praising the Nazi doctor Joseph Mengele. So yeah, it's discouraging as hell. It's discouraging to know that a guy I know who is a idiotic racist asshole gets interviewed all the time for being in a band, while my union rep who has great stories to tell about fighting his boss will likely never get a chance to express his views to a bunch of punks because he is not a musician. It's also discouraging to do a zine and to know that there are so many people out there who would want to hear what you have to say but it is nearly impossible to reach them if they are not punk rockers. If I do a zine and sell it through zine distros like Tree of Knowledge and at shows, the only way someone can see it is if they are already a part of this little subculture. But there might be some dorky comic book reading nonpunk kid who would love "Retrogression" if he saw it, and there might be some 50 year old waitress who would really be inspired by some of the stuff I write about unions, if only she saw any of it. Someone recently called my zine "elitist" for being on the web, because I am restricting access only to those who have computers. But a print zine sold at punk shows is equally elitist because you are restricting access only to people who have been exposed to a certain type of music (and were not turned off by the almost all white, almost all male, extremely hierarchical nature of that scene).

Halla Nirman: RETROGRESSION is available both in print and on-line. Are there any pro's and con's about this? Which version would you prefer most?

Dave: Well, I just answered part of this. Both of them have pros and cons related to access. I'm sure few men outside the punk scene would have read my article on same-sex rape in issue #13 if I had never put it online, but I know many people have read the article because they searched on the web for articles on male rape. So in that way web access is a little better. Of course, web access is still restricted to those with a computer or other web-accessing device (i.e. WebTV). While the prices of computers are dropping like crazy access is still nowhere near universal. Electronic publishing allows me to concentrate only on the writing and not have to deal with advertising, selling, distributing, marketing, production or anything else. It is also a hell of a lot cheaper, and when you can't command an ad-base the way a music based zine like "MRR" can,

*DAVE OF RETROGRESSION

Well here we got an interview with Dave Grenier, the man behind the magnificent and outrageous Retrogression. This interview by Hatta Nirman an editor of No Life 'Til Haermoges and I found its interesting to be included in this issue and it also will be featured in NLTH upcoming issue.

Hatta Nirman: before we go any further, please introduce yourself first.

Dave: I'm Dave Grenier, I run Retrogression, which used to be a print zine and is now mainly a web zine. I'm also a labour, peace, and human rights activist. I like movies, dining, and long walks on the beach. My high score in bowling is a 162.

Hatta Nirman: Tell me a little bit about Retrogression. Prior to this were you involved in other fanzines?

Dave: No, I was not. In fact, when I started *Retrogression* I had never seen nor heard of a "zine" and thought I had come up with a whole new concept. Boy was I a schmuck! Ok, the deal is this. I started listening to punk rock in 1987 or 1988 when I was fourteen and working in a local diner. A guy I washed dishes with was friends with this band called *Neutral Nation* and used to sing their songs at work. It was the first punk stuff I heard and I thought the lyrics were cool so when their record came out he gave me a copy. A few months later I was over another kids house and he was listening to a Jello Biafra spoken word LP. I had only heard *Dead Kennedy's* once at this point and didn't like them because they were just noisy crap. I was really into *Rush* and *Pink Floyd* at this point in my life. But as soon as I heard Jello speak I was riveted. I was always into politics and this was the most radical stuff I had ever been exposed to. So I started getting into punk with *Neutral Nation*, *Dead Kennedy's* and *Bad Religion*. But I rarely ever found out about shows and found it really difficult to keep up with what was going on. Fast forward a few years to 1992, I'm much more into punk and straighedge hardcore (I had always been drug free but didn't hear about "straighedge" until I had been into punk for three years) and my best friend Brian is in a band called *Dallonic*. We were finding out a bit more about shows and stuff because of Brian's band, but I still felt there was so much about hardcore that was just passed person to person and therefore very cliquish. My idea was to start a free newsletter to leave at record stores which would announce upcoming events, talk about which bands had broken up, which new bands had formed and that sort of thing. I also was hoping if there was a little space left over to work some political stuff into it. Like I said, I had never seen a zine before, and I thought this was a new idea. When I told my friend Brian about it, he said, "Oh, so you want to start a zine." I was sorta crushed because I thought I had invented this whole new thing, but he and I talked about it and decided to do one. From that first discussion until the time it came out was about four days, and we pretty much worked 20 hours a day on it. boy did it suck. That was one of the most fun weeks of my life, and even though that issue was so horrible, the energy that went into it and the fun we had doing it was something I would try and fail to recapture for the next several years.

Hatta Nirman: Why do you start writing/editing fanzines? What influence you on that decission?

THE STATEMENT

To Be Made

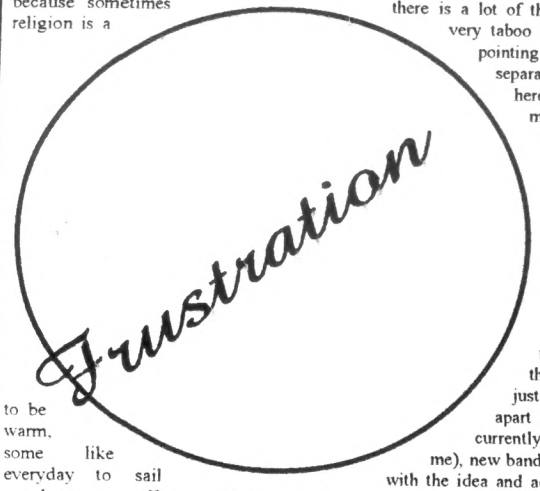
SOME INTRODUCTIONLAH!

Too extreme, too political, too personal! Not lah (do you know that 'lah' has been accepted as a phrase in the Oxford's Dictionary), so what do you think of Ganyang after uninteresting and bored three issue. For me Ganyang still what it use to be, a dirty words for some called fanzine and it is a punk/HC zine. So guys and gals we meet again in the #4 issue of Ganyang, some said that Ganyang had evolved from it's bad #1 issue to a quite matured of #3 issue, is that true, hope so but from my point of view Ganyang is still the same for me, try to spread some idea, information and maybe will create revolution! But overall through some observation I've found that Ganyang had given a little impact for some, it's really impressed me because after some hard work through all the three issue, finally I found out it means something to some people out there even though from my opinion it still below the standards of other good and great zine out there. But I'm still feel the satisfaction and happy that Ganyang is one part of my life which I think that cannot be separated anymore, it's like my twin brother (though I don't have one) because I'm keep thinking of it every time and every day, is that sucks! Right now I'm going to write about my personal view on the situation and maybe some tension that happened lately around us not only in the punk/HC scene but also in our surrounding, maybe only some of you just have the opportunity to read my writing, if you all remember I've wrote about "Punk Rock Evolution" in my #1 issue, of course that article is so simple also weak and I want to try again (can I), I am not as good as those in the columnist column but I can still give my best, so lets go on with it.

OUR SCENE

Lately, everything seems so slow in our DIY punk/HC (though in the corporate punk/HC, the massive promoting had been done like the biggest so-called underground concerts etc.), it's like we back to the basic old days, when everything is keep underground from the media approach. I've also scene that some of the coolest people in the scene try to kick their ass by a hardworking work to create a true DIY environment. Two issues that kept my intention, first is the reviving of AGE (Alternative Garage Entertainment) which run by some cool people from the Bukit Ceylon's Dungeons. It kind of excitement to see some old guys in our scene try to reclaim back the control of our scene rather than giving it fully to those major labels but at the first time maybe some people keep asking why Joe still using major record distributor called Form Recs. to distribute AGE stuffs. I've asking Joe personally, first he said that Malaysia Punk/HC scene lack of distribution networking around the nation, and it's like taking advantages of Form Recs. (read scumbag international and communion for more update), yes it's true, I am not try to pointing anything here because I'm also not do it this thing. One more weakness in our scene that we don't have a strong distribution networking in Malaysia, maybe we can see the rationale behind the AGE involvement with Form Recs. Eventhough we have some good distro over here but it's only restricted to mail-order and gig sells, if we look at USA and Europe the DIY networking is so huge, some the records are sold in the independent record store (maybe we have it Malaysia for examples Slash Music and Kedai Sopan which distribute Bollocks 2nd EP), what will happen to some kids who live in the obscure area like in Sarawak and Sabah but you must to pay for the convenience that offered by those record store, that is why AGE is encourage people to deal directs with them. Some distro are only eager to put only foreign stuff in their list, so how the local one want to survive! In addition, some of the labels and distro are only towards one specific genres and music, there is no diversity in the list. If we can take examples in USA at the record store records like 7" vinyl is sold about US$3 which equal to RM10++ in Malaysia, but if they using mail-order (in USA only) they must to pay US$3.50 or maybe US$4 each including the postage fees, if you think over I think that the distributors had reduced the price and the cost of the listeners, if Malaysia had a strong networking like Ebullition, No Idea, Lumberjack, Sound Pollution, Vacuum etc maybe we can give some alternative for the kids out here. Second is to avoid the record for being pirated, look at the Bollocks 2nd EP, what happen are we going to sue the entire record store who sold the pirated Bollocks' EP. The answer is we have to control our stuff, by what we must to register the pattern and copyright of each record. That means we have to register our record label as a business entity, although we against all those corporate things but we must because we have been exploited by them, take our stand and proud of our pride, DIY doesn't mean that we must be stupid, register our label as an enterprise where we don't have to prepare an annual report only some simple set of accounts. Look at the Reprisal song being abuse by EMI (M) Sdn Bhd, if they brave enough to exploit us, we must to brave enough to defense it using all the resources we have. Maybe some will not agree with me because it's not look 'punk' for them, eventhough if I am not mistaken Crass or Conflict had using a mainstream teenage rags to spread their idea back in 80's at UK, we must to learn from mistake, it's time to take back our pride and dignity. Lately also I see the awareness among the kids in the scene towards social issue like poverty, environment, politics (I will elaborate more on this below), youth problems etc. the latest might be about the Hulu Selangor dam issue, kudos to all the people who involved in it. The involvement in the NGO had given us a new era and dimension to be respect as apart of a awareness campaign group, this is prove that we are only preaching and shouting it on the stage and zine only, we also can do it outside punk/HC parameters, you folks deserve my full support, no obligation bout' it anymore. Punk itself still a weak movement in Malaysia and it still an unorganized movement so we need other channels to express it like some people who involved in Artist Pro Activist, to gain attention among public to certain issue we must to do it this way because if we say that we are punk movement, surely public will give bad impression towards us because of those media stupid coverage towards punk a few years ago. The other issue is about religious issue, in my e-mail folder there is a lot of this religion things in it and this my honest opinion. Religion in your a

personal choice of everybody, if you try to force somebody to something that they don't willing into it, you're fascist. The magic word for this issue is "tolerence" if we still make this an issue in the way it is like now maybe we will become static because sometimes there is a lot of thing to think beside this sensitive issue. In Malaysia religion is a very taboo and sensitive issue, because most of the articles are pointing into Islam not others, punk/HC and religion are two separate things in the context of Malaysian society, the society here still not ready for this kind of issue and maybe we will make a wrong statement about what we want to speak out to our scenester because I believe that most of us are know our in religion in the foundation not deeply like those ulama' or priest, so separate this two thing before it become more complicated and will leads to some bad things. One more thing, there is a something like outbreak here in punk/HC scene, people keep blaming each other towards certain issue, please brother and sister stop this madness, you will contribute the segregation and finally destruction of the scene, I don't want to talk more on this because maybe I am also would blame somebody else here, just think maturely and all the things here are common sense, just need some serious thinking ahead. Finally I'm proud to be apart of this sub-culture movement, it's really intense and warm, currently our scene had developed beyond our expectation (for some like me), new bands, new zines, new labels, new distro, new people arise everyday to sail with the idea and action in the scene and I still hoping that there will a people to put an effort to publish our very own version of Malaysian "Maximum Rock 'n' Roll", kudos to everybody.....



POLITICAL VIEWS

Politics - according to Collins Cobuild dictionary it means:-

To do particular thing, that seems to be the most sensible thing to do in the circumstances.

So what if the punk/HC bands who self acclaim themselves to be a political punk/HC bands, are they match the criteria above or it just some other seasonal cool things to do. Why politics, there is a lot of question mark over here. For me it's not a mistake to claim your band like that but the approach must be to be the exactly like what you try to preach to the scenester, you must to convince the listeners with the message that you want to shout, don't just know on how to write political lyrics but the action is zero. Back to the definition, the conclusion that we must to make appropriate things in the right time. For this past few month something is happening to our country, I witness a new era of awareness through out several issues for examples human rights, when we talk about anarcho punk band who take anarchism principles, which more towards self-control and equality. However, do you know the past history of anarchism especially here in Malaysia. Why must we only searching for what that they have in Latin America, Eastern Europe, and other part of the world, why don't we see it in the contexts of this region. For some who eager to read more maybe they will notice the similarity between anarchism with communism and socialism, maybe not in whole context but it almost have the common objective in it's fundamentals and foundation. Speaking about communism maybe we can referring to the over 10 years of bloody revolution by Parti Kominis Malaya (in Borneo they called themselves as Parti Kominis Kalimantan Utara) and through out 22 years of guerilla and subversive activity in Northern Malaysia and Northern Borneo. The motto of "People revolution" cannot attract most of the Malaysian that time, the Communist action in Malaysia also create a racial tension among races that time because most of the communist are Chinese and most of the government soldier are Malay, the incident that kills hundred of innocent life can be refereed to the Johor's Tentera Selempang Merah in 40's and other part of Malaya where communist had used the terrorism element that time by killing, torturing and blackmailing some who not agree with their revolution. It's a hard time for the people not only Malay but also Indian and Chinese because the terrorism campaign that time. Maybe some know that most of the Malay leftist party members like Shamsiah Fakeh, Rashid Maidin, Abdullah CD who actively in API and AWAS that time had joined the revolution and organized a Communist Malay Regiment and fought along PKM in the jungle of Malaysia. The action taken because they want to escape from the mass arrest by the British government because of their political views, for some who are not fortunate enough they have been detained in the political prisoners camp like Pak Sako, Karim Adabi, James Patuchuery and others. In 70's we witness the student demonstration in KL mainly in University Malaya, for your knowledge most of this student are influenced by the successful Middle East Socialist revolution like in Libya, Iraq and Egypt to overthrown the corrupted monarchy institution. So there is a prove that the anarchism element had been grown in our mind since then, so how to implement and rationale behind this anarchist things in Malaysia and how we should take a lesson from the past history. Don't just shouting that you are an anarchist but don't know what it is, I don't say that most who hold the anarchism idea are communist or socialist, just maybe it has something in common. In the world context we can see that communist is just a fairy tales in the Eastern Europe and china, the theory is good but in practical is only a fake thing. Maybe we can see the successful of communism implementation in Vietnam and Cuba but who knows that there is a corrupt thing happened there because foreign media sometimes are not allowed to enter restricted area. . Not so long a time ago I've watched a movie about Spanish Civil War directed by a French guy, I still remember one phrase of sentence that been shouting by the International Brigade members after been captured by a Fascist troops " we're not communist but we're anarchist", I'm not try to blame or condemn anarchism, I've read many books and pamphlets about it, it something astonishing that they want to create equality among human but sometimes in the present punk/HC scene, I think it just another rebellion trend just to look cool because some of us only taking all issue from the west by not looking to your own



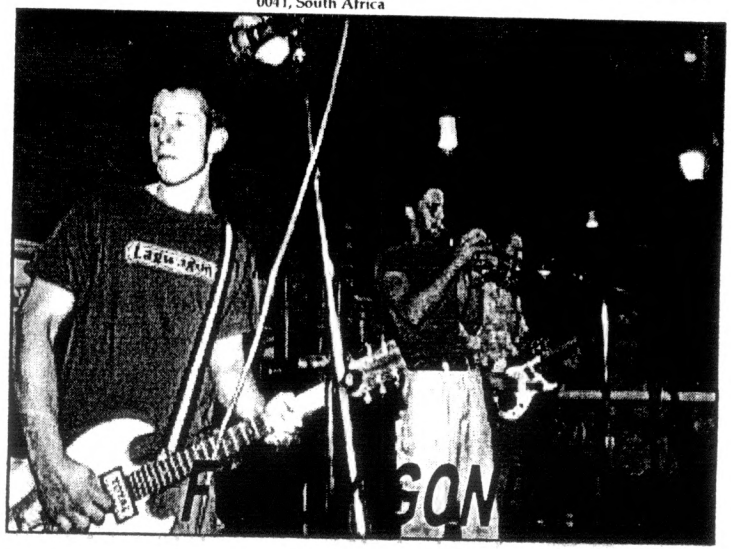
there. Croakroom have released a couple of CD's like the split CD with Leek and Pet Flyz, as well as re-releasing Leek's "Thirty Four Bee" CD. Croakroom are about to release South Africa's first ever ska, punk & hardcore CD with both local and international bands on the disc. Croakroom Records have also just successfully organized South Africa's first Punk Festival at Thrashers Skate Park which pulled in about 600 people and had SA's best punk bands and skateboarding. Probably the most successful thing to date in South African punk. Write to Croakroom Records at PO box 70047, The Willows, Pretoria, 0041, South Africa or e-mail them at croakroomrecords@hotmail.com. Way Cool Records from Cape Town have been around for the longest and have helped bands like Hog Hoggidy Hog and Fungy Gone West among others. Way Cool Records have the money to help the bands out so there is always good production and availability of their releases. Get hold of Way Cool Records at PO Box 646, Greenpoint, 8051, Cape Town, South Africa or e-mail them at dotdash@iafrica.com.

Durban has a new label run by CrossingPoint guitarist Brandon, called Racket Records who are doing a lot for the punk scene by helping out punks with web sites, e-mail addresses, and updated info on what gigs are happening around South Africa. Racket Records, along with Croakroom Records are probably the only labels that are helping out with punk CD distribution in South Africa. Contact Racket Records at racket@punk.co.za.

ZINES & OTHER:

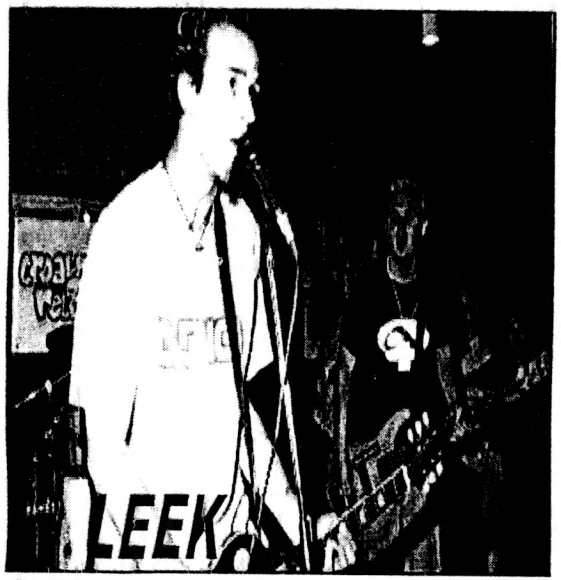
Zines are very scarce in South Africa and not too many people seem very interested in them. Zines that are out at the moment are:

PCS e-zine is an e-mail zine, which has the latest news and gig info on the South Africa's punk scene. E-mail them at pcs@punk.co.za. South African Punk is a new zine with one issue down so far. All the latest news on Croakroom Records, Way Cool Records and all of South Africa's punk bands. Write to them at PO Box 30341, Wonderboompoort, 0033, South Africa or e-mail them at sapunker@hotmail.com. Croakroom Records - The Zine is Croakroom Record's zine with interviews with both local and international bands and a lot of reviews. E-mail them at croakroomrecords@hotmail.com or write to them at PO Box 70047, The Willows, Pretoria, 0041, South Africa. Beans on Toast is a new group of people who are organizing gigs for punk bands in Johannesburg. The girls run Beans on Toast from the 85'ers and Fuzigish's trumpet player Ryan and that's a rough scene report on South African punk. Punk shows pull in at least 250-350 people and most gigs go off without a hitch. Punk merchandise is always available. All that's lacking in the South African punk scene is the touring of overseas bands. But with or without the overseas bands punk rock will always kick ass in South Africa...so if you're ever round this side of the world give any of the bands or record labels a call and I can guarantee you they will invite you round for a beer and a barbecue (we call it a "braai" in SA). See you soon. Contact me at: Andrew @ LEEK, PO Box 70047, The Willows, Pretoria, 0041, South Africa



PUNK ROCK IN SOUTH AFRICA

The only time South Africa is ever mentioned is when there is some politic violence being shown on CNN...and it's always the worst parts. What people in other countries don't hear or see about South Africa is all the good things - like the wide open spaces, our wild animals and beautiful weather. And the best of all...our punk rock scene! Yes, South Africa has a punk scene, and a very strong one at that. Here's what South Africa and specifically Pretoria and Johannesburg has to offer:



BANDS:

Leek, who have been around the longest and are still probably South Africa's best punk band are from Pretoria. They deliver a melodic and fast paced punk rock style of their own with ska and hardcore thrown in. Having just acquired a trumpet and trombone player Leek are sounding better than ever. Leek have been talked about as being the most energetic and best live performance band in South Africa and you can always catch them live at least once a month. Leek can be contacted at leekpunks@hotmail.com or write to them at c/o Croakroom Records, PO Box 70047, The Willows, Pretoria, 0041, South Africa, or go to their web site at http://www.come.to/leek.

The Vendettas, are a brand new hardcore/punk band from Johannesburg, and having only played a couple of gigs are already getting a lot of talk about them. Fronted by crazy (loco) Vinnie with his Spanish vocabulary, The Vendettas are a mixture of Voodoo Glow Skulls, Good Riddance and A.F.I. A very energetic band! E-mail them at vendettas@angelfire.com. Pet Flyz is another band from Pretoria and have been around for about two years but only really hit the scene about a year ago. This three-piece band is still developing their sound and play Guttermouth meets MxPx type style of punk rock. Pet Flyz can be contacted at petflyz@hotmail.com, write to them at PO Box 30341, Wonderboompoort, 0033, South Africa, or check out their web site at http://www.fly.to/petflyz. From the southwest coast Fungy Gone West are Cape Town's best ska/punk band around. FGW have been around for many years and entertain the Cape Town punks to the max. Although sounding sometimes too similar, FGW have a very Operation Ivy type sound with trumpet player "Chicken" blowing the skanking horn. Mail FGW at us@overdub.co.za or write to them at c/o Way Cool Records, PO Box 646, Greenpoint, 8051, Cape Town, South Africa. CrossingPoint are South Africa's best straight-edge hardcore band and they are based on the East Side - Durban. Old-school hardcore, the way it should be - CrossingPoint could easily play along side any Victory Records band and give them a good run for their money. Contact them at crossingpoint@punk.co.za. Other bands worth mentioning are All This For Nothing from Pretoria playing a Blink 182 style punk, The 85'ers from Johannesburg fronted by two ladies with an unusual Snuff-type style and Still Thinking from Durban with their own Millencolin style of punk rock. Humphrey The Tea Cup are Johannesburg's funniest "Queers meets the Ramones" pop punk band and Hog Hoggidy Hog from Cape Town play their own punk/metal/reggae/rock type stuff.

VENUES:

As usual venues are always a problem with not many places willing or wanting punk shows at their clubs. The only place in Pretoria that hosts punk shows is Thrashers Skate Park who is always happy to have punk bands playing. These shows are always all ages, which brings in a large crowd seeing as though most of the kids into punk are under 21 anyway. In Johannesburg there is Hunters - a small club which always looks packed. The Big Easy is really good but the management and bouncers are the worst. Durban has Jamies who is probably the best club to play in and afterwards the DJ's always play good punk rocking tunes.

RECORD LABELS:

South Africa has only now started getting punk labels up and going with the following: Croakroom Records are based in Pretoria and organize most of the gigs

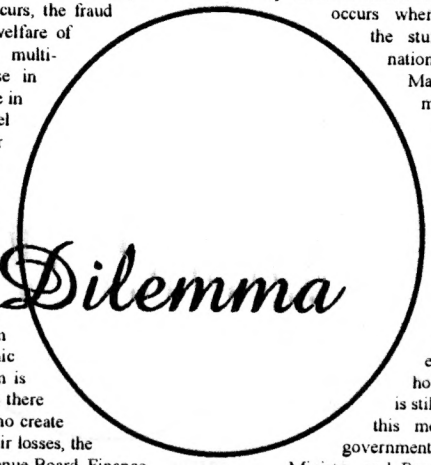
heritage like what happened in early British punk scene, punk is chaos and chaos means profit. Anarchism means that there is no hierarchy of leadership in one society but to grow anarchism sentiments a group of people must leads the big group to implement it, correct me if I'm wrong. Many people blame Stalin for abusing all the Lenin effort in building justice and equality of in Russia. I want to stress once more, the purpose I'm writing this to create concern among us punk/HC who believe in anarchism that we should look to our background first, that doesn't mean we must throw away those good value from the west (like been claim by so-called Malay ultra-nationalist), also it not a fault to create awareness of certain issue because in the era of globalization. They've started all this and they also don't want us to follow them blindly, make some alteration and do it our own way that suit with the situation and current stream in our region. Speaking about politic in this past two years, I witness the brutality of police, mass arrest, and mass protest and political awareness among not only Malaysian but also Asia through out Asia region. The most depressing thing is the ban of my favorite political rags "ALIRAN", I don't know how the government look to this weak and tiny magazine as the threat to them, I think the main reason they do it because of the "ALIRAN" (Malaysian Consciousness Association) full support to the reformist group. Why we must to reform, here there is a big question mark. Reform means that we must to pilgrim from the old system to a new one if the old system are not reliable anymore, I see in the reformation movement all races get along together to fight in justice and NGO who silence at the past now are ready to strike the corrupted government. look at ALIRAN, Just World, Tenaganita, SUARAM, JIM and others. Academicians, students, working class, Rural People, Town people all join hand together on this issue. I am not saying that supporting any particulars political party but if there is no other way to do it, we must to do it with some reliable channel and ways. Like what been preached by the Black Phanter Party "All Power To The People", the continuos action by some group in order to restore justice in Malaysia is a great effort and it cannot been done without a support from all level of people in Malaysia and one more joke is the establishing of Human Right Committee, among elected are the one who are involved in the conspiracy killing innocent people of Memali in the name of national security. We've seen how the ruling party create a fear among the Malaysian by saying that this reform groups will leads to the racial disturbance, so better ask your own self where should you be, what action should be take by you or your just prefer only to preach and shout it in the song or zine that's your own choice there is no restriction about it. I also witness the spirit of freedom raise from the heart of the people around the region like in the Indonesia (the fall of Suharto's regime - all power to the student and the independent of East Timore), Taiwan (the defeated of KMT), South Korea (the exposure of armies corruption), Iran (the reform group) but there is a struggle of the people like in Myanmar, Kashmir, Tibet, Acheh and others.

"WE'RE THE PEOPLE, PEOPLE HAVE THE POWER"

-Blackbird (Hong Kong Pro Democracy Punk Band)

"CORPORATE " PUNK

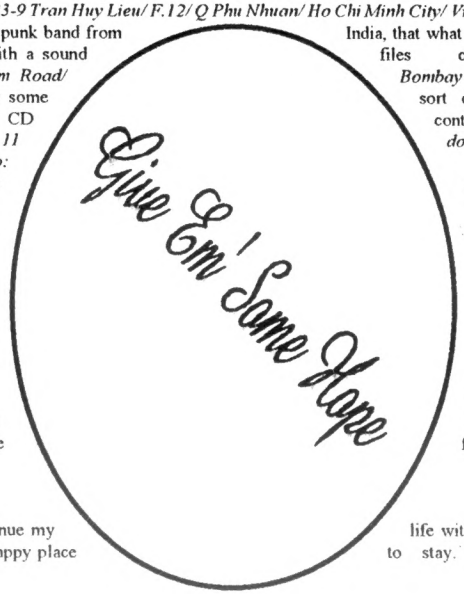
So what your impression of that words, maybe I would like referring to myself who now back in the corporate field after a seven month of unemployment period. Luckily, I've been accepted in one of the medium size corporate oriented firm. Don't worry I wont talk about my job because maybe those anti-corporate punk/HC will puke after read this. I just want to write down of some punk/HC who believe that corporation is evil but still working in this field, where is the rationale behind this. First of all we want to make a living in this cruel world and sometimes we cannot run from this system but sometimes we manage to get some valuable experience about in this field, for example how this system run and how bad it is. Most of the company here in Malaysia practice conventional corporate and economy methods which sometimes leads to fraud in the managerial level, how the fraud occurs, the fraud occurs when the company don't think anything else beside money. The welfare of the stuff been ignored, the small company been oppressed by the multi-national corporation, bribery and corruption, most of the issue arise in Malaysian labor sector like minimum wages for a hard work like in manufacturing sector, a forced long time working hour like in hotel industry, a no future working prospect due to the company merger like in banking sector and bad working condition. Although this often occurs in private sectors but the biggest fraud occurs in governmental level where all the laws is structured, regulated and finally imposed based on the importance only on one party, sometimes the decision making done based on the political interest like the issue who should be the anchor bank after the merger, the contract issue and the huge amount of outstanding loans and unrestricted credit limits in the commercial banks. So who will be effected resulting from the phenomenon that surely will create uncomfortable economic environment in our nation. One more things that attract my attention is how come the government said that the economy is recovered while there is still a lot of bankruptcy and large percentage of unemployment rate, who create this messy things and while this company struggling to restructure their losses, the government agencies like Royal Custom and Excises Department, Inland Revenue Board, Finance Ministry and Registrar of Company impose a stupid laws that sometimes will leads to the bankruptcy and the conclusion that can be made in the current economic situation "the big become bigger and the small become smaller". The workers union (e.g.: MTUC) are not too strong to combat the issue and always under influence of the government. So there is no big deals how the Trade Union leader become a senator. The new joke about economy might be K-economy or knowledge economy that encourage every level of people to start a business based on their knowledge but who will be benefited from this, the answer is the government because they will have a very wide target of tax payers, is it a funny things. When everyone contributing margin of profit in the economy environment they will a huge float of profit in the market, so it will leads to competition, sometime it's healthy but sometimes not. One more thing in the Malaysian market environment, we're not ready in this such competition, for examples



look at the rural industry "one village, one product", until now it proves that it's only raising the small margin of income for the participants and those big companies still controlling the market out there in every industry, so where is justice in economy. One more this economy issue often used as a racial issue where the satisfaction of the economic standard for every races in the country are not equal, so this is the effect of the capitalism where the stronger will be in control and the weaker will be the slave in theory for them. There is story I want to share with you all, I walking in one evening at the Masjid India, and then suddenly come a little girl begging for money so I give her some coins and when I want to go the food stall I saw this girl with his younger brother and mother sharing a bawl of noodles for three of them, it's really touching my heart. So is the Welfare Department staff are not doing their job and what the meaning of the wealthy and prospering economic if there is still a few of us who still begging to eat a bawl of noodles.

ASIA PUNK SCENE

This is the topic that I would like to talk to you because for this past few month I tried to gather a much info on Asia Punk Scene especially in the obscure region, maybe some bands I mentioned are not play in general but they still hold that DIY ways in producing and documenting their music. We begin with the Hong Kong punk scene, as you see in the review section START FROM SCRATCH is a very promising punk/HC zine there, the editor try to reunite and bring back the spirit of the local scene, he also got a band called King Ly Chee playing some sort of emo punk and he got so much info on bands, zines and people over there contact him at *(Mohamad Rizwan Farooqi/ B3 15 Floor/ Honkow Ct./ Ashley Rd./ Kowloon/ Hong Kong or E-mail: sfscratch@hotmail.com)*. there is an archive of independent rock scene in Hong Kong including Blackbird called INDIE C run by a cool person named Michael Lam contact him at: *(Excel Project Ltd/ Unit A 2-F/ Man lok Building/ 89-83 Bonhamstrand E/ Sheungwan/ Hong Kong, E-mail to: indiec@gworld.net or surf at: www.excelpro.com.hk/indie_c)*. so lets go to the neighboring country People Republic of China, the punk scene not only active in Beijing but also in Guangzhou, there is a club called UNPLUGGED BAR which hold a bands show every weekend contact: *(Jesse/ Wan Guo Square/ Jiang Nan Road/ Guangzhou/ China)*. Move to the down under Indonesia, I'm will not talking about Bandung, Jakarta or Malang scenes but two really unknown scene in Semarang and Acheh, for Semarang scene contact: *(Dee Dee/ Tanahmas Estate/ Jl. Selomas IV Timur. 268/ Semarang RI-50177/ Indonesia or E-mail to: p.escobar@mailcity.com)* and for Acheh scene contact: *(Rinal Skarotten/ Komp. Mil. lambhuk/ Jalan 9 Iskandar/ #48/ Banda Acheh 23118/ Indonesia)*. SEPIA 3 a band who involved in the "Traffic Jam" (Thailand) compilation 7" which released by Luk Hass' Tian An Men 89 Recs. has released a second CD, more info E-mail to: *(comment@indycafe.com or surf to: www.indycafe.com)*. GHOSTRIDER and THE ANTS the punk band from Myanmar which scheduled to release a record under TAM 89 Recs., but the guy are too lazy to reply a letter but maybe he will reply yours contact: *(Myo Myo/ No 44/ Pyi Road/ Yangon/ Myanmar)*. DA VANG a progressive metal band from Vietnam who claim playing a white metal genres and perhaps the time I write this they already released their CD contact: *(Nquyen Dat/ 123-9 Tran Huy Lieu/ F.12/ Q Phu Nhuan/ Ho Chi Minh City/ Vietnam or E-mail to: metal@davang.com)*. CUSP an alternative punk band from India, that what they've been claim, and they got a cool website complete with a sound files contact: *(Nilesh Zacharias/ 8 Zenith Park/ Deonar Farm Road/ Bombay 400-088/ India or E-mail to: cusp@yahoo.com)*. GUM play some sort of pop/ punk and sung in korean, already released a debut CD contact: *(Lee Young Won/ Seoul-si/ Kwan Ak Goo/ Bong-Chun 11 dong/ 1644-30 ho/ Seoul 151-061/ South Korea or E-mail to: fatyongwon@hanmail.net)*. IMBECILES BY CLASS a Brunei punk act arise in the middle of local metal scene, have a try because these kids a damn cool and friendly contact: *(Mike/ #19 Simpang 770/ Jalan Muara/ Bandar Seri Begawan/ Brunei or E-mail to: imbeciles@goplay.com)*. Want to surf to the now defunct Taiwan punk e-zine called UGLY AMERICAN which contains some valuable info on Taiwanese scene surf at: *(www.geocities.com/tokyo/island/3723)*. I promise that I will give a detail of every bands and scene that I've mentioned above in my next issue and if anyone out there who got some info on obscure punk scene feel free to contact maybe we can exchange idea and info.



DREAM OF TOMMOROW

I only had one dream, I just want to continue my life with my own way and feeling, also would like to see a world a happy place to stay. All human are free.....

OUTRO

I regret to say to the metal fans out there, this is not another metal fanzines because it got a outro section or either I'm making joke of it just I find out it a very suitable words to end this crap column of mine. So that is the statement that I want to make for the issue and I hope some of my words will give some impact and I would like personally thanks to every one who involve in this issue without all of you, there is no GANYANG for everybody. To the lonely girls out there, need someone to talk to, brother Ibrahim is always be here and to the kids out there don't bring this thing to school, it's very dangerous. Late.....*"To The Daring belongs The Future -Emma Goldman*

to grind me down. I'm just want to be myself. Respect other peoples and responsible for your own actions, I think it's enough to make you and me happy.
E-mail: sadis_zine@mailcity.com



Bet who read this article and happen to know me will laugh at this. Me, myself thinks the idea of Rina having her own band is hilarious. I can never imagine myself performing at the gigs. I don't even tell my other half (which happen to own a band) about this particular dream. I know he'll be laughing all day.

This dream begins when I saw one of the Singapore's hottest all female band, obstacle upsurge performing at this one gig in J.B, they all look so strong, the crowds gave a full attention and that make them look so respective, I guess that 'respect' they got from the crowd makes me really, really want a band of my own and all female please.

I dreamt of nothing much, just 3 or 4 of my best friends jamming together during our spare time, playing something fast sounding like Blondie (what kind of music do you call that), singing and playing to the fullest mode, making EP's for the sakes of our friends and joy, sound good isn't it.

All I ever think is about the joy I'll be having. You know what they said, have fun while you still can. But what about other consequences. I mean like what would my parents think about this, well... will I let them know at the first place, could they accept the fact that their once 'sweet-innocent-little girl' (duh!) screaming to the punk rock tune at the gigs.

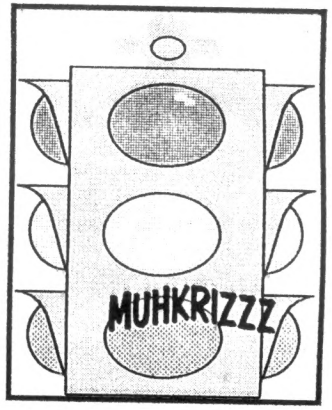
Then come to my boyfriends. Will they still treat me as the venerable girl in the group of could they accept the fact that my band is a lot better that they are (I'm just dreaming here guys. come on... don't give me that look.)

After will I still have time to spend with my normal friends who always tell me it's bad going to the gigs. Who always kept my bag and house keys when they know I'm going to meet my punk friend, well, if they still want to be my friends.

Well, I should know the exact answers if I don't own a band, but the truth is, I'm not really ready to own a band, for me to own a band is to hold a big responsibilities on your shoulders. Sometimes, you'll be having such a big problem with the band and you really need to cooperate to solve it, in other to do that, you have to give and take. Put you egos down, one positive way of life that is hardly on everyone, neither on me.

So I think, there goes my dream. I guess watching people performing is a lot more fun that people watching me performing. You people who have a dream like me (okay maybe not an all-female band... but it still a band!), make sure you think carefully before starting a band. it's not worth if starting a band only to be r.i.p. three month later, believe me!
E-mail: nzrina@hotmail.com

This is about a friend of mine, I've known him for about 4 years since I've started studying in ITM Arau, Perlis. He were in the same course, same classes and share the same boring dorm with me in my fresh years. As our friendship goes, I realized that he is



unique person. The way he walks, talks and dressed is in his own unique way. He always chooses the combination of colors that most of us wouldn't want to wear, and don't give a damn what others say to him. He's kind of a guy of his own, didn't follow the impact of his surroundings. I respect him for that.

In out second year, we have to change campus in ITM Penang, because ITM Arau didn't have enough equipment for our studies and ITM Shah Alam is too full of students. That's what they said to us. By this time my friend turns to be so damn lazy and hard to listen to advise. He always cuts classes and only study when a final exam is about a day or two. Time passes, as we continue our studies in Penang, some of our friend was kicked out and some quit while I still manage to hold on. His studies went to the edge but he seems like he doesn't care.

In our last year, we have to rent a house because the campus (the tiny school building of ITM Penang) is full. We rent different houses but in the same "ghettos" with our colleague. Then he realized he can't afford to continue his studies, he quit. He continues to stay with his housemates and continue to pay the rent. Maybe he didn't have the guts to tell his families the truth, he acted to them that he's still studying and receiving monthly allowance from his parents, besides sleeping, he didn't do anything else. Wasting time and money. He got new friends and started to take drug. One thing strange is he don't even smoke the cigarettes.

He always getting high with his new friends (I don't even know where the hell they come from) in his room in the house he stayed with my ITM mates. My friends and I always give him an advice and tell him to stop taking drugs but he doesn't care. We're afraid of the neighbor, authorities and ITM superiors knowing about this and we can get into trouble. If he got caught while getting high in that house, what will happens to his housemates.

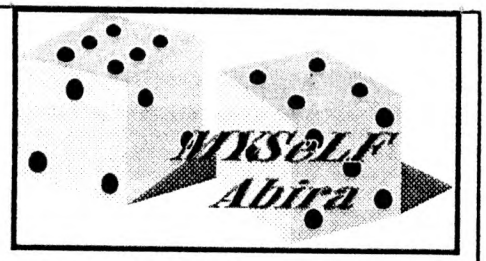
He always shorts of financial sources because most of his allowance goes to the drug dealers. Usually he eats once a day. Always he come to my house ask for food because he didn't eat all day. My friends and me can't afford to buy foods for him everyday. We're only students, still using our parent's money to live. What about him, he didn't work. All to him is getting high and all the problems shall goes like the wind. Few a days ago, he asks me for a RM100 loan to renew his road tax and assurance. I've heard that a few a weeks ago, he spends RM190 just to get his new bike new paints. Why he didn't use the money to renew his damn road tax and assurance.

Arghh, I don't understand him anymore. All the advises that I gave, he didn't listen. Can I trust him anymore, should I felt sorry for him, I just don't know. But he is still a friend, it's sad to know a friend turn to be like him, he used to be a nice person. Now a druggie... no one can change him but his self. I hope he'll change someday.

Maybe I don't do any good for him, but maybe it can make you (the readers) think that people always change, positively or negatively. Don't do drugs, weed or alcohol. Avoid it if you can. It can ruin your life and turns it upside down. Stop the madness, long live healthy life...
E-mail: more_risk@yahoo.com

Ever wonder why they're so damn big? Simple, they're selling the scene out, period. They're selling and marketing punk/hardcore just like any other household product. Sorry for sounding like a jaded person I am but that is just how I feel right now. Check out any of those big independent label ads and you probably know what I mean by saying that punk/hardcore are being sold and marketed like household product. For me that's not the worst part of a big independent (if we can really call them independent) label. Ok, I admit that they turned a lot of people into passive consumer who's willing to consumed everything until they're exhumed, but that can be forgiven if, Yeah, if they can support those who really needs all the support they can get, namely punk bands from third world countries who can't even replace a broken strings to survive for the next rehearsals. This is not a myth but merely a reality that most poor punks are having around the world. Sure there's whole DO IT YOURSELF ethic but there's also need to be a place to start with and wouldn't it be nice if those big wig at VICTORY would give those punks in Philippine some bucks to start something. But no, they rather signed another 666th grade metal core band (who started being tough and evil after listening to EARTH CRISIS and INTEGRITY) instead of a real passionate punk band that really need all the help they can get their hands at. So this is punk rock, eh? "Support those support you" or "support only those who're going to make you a lot of money?" People like them are giving business and punk rock a really bad reputation. Business should not necessarily be evil and stuff, it's those who run them who makes it look like it's today. I don't need to drop any names but there's quite a handful label out there who're more than eager to give bands outside Europe and America a fair chance to be notice and kudos to them for showing that profits are really not important even though the survival of the label really depends on every penny they're going to make out of a release. Aren't that something those people at EPITAPH can learn about? But can we really blame the labels for being lame? Well, not really. If you learn economic, actually you can still use your common sense for this, you probably know that demand and supply are related. If there's no demand, there will surely be no supply. If no one is practicing safe sex then there will be no condoms. Get it? I really need to stress that the consumer behavior among most punks is quite dangerous. It's turning people into a living zombie who would consume everything they can get their hand on (but since record collecting nerdism are more pathetic we tend to forget about this matter). And we're also the one who complained about society's consumer behavior. Isn't that ironic? It's me or does everybody feel the same that people are more eager to check out bands from establish scene instead of from obscure and far away places? I do feel that way because most of the local kids would salivate themselves over a piece of disk from a US bands (more accurately a NYC bands) than giving much thought over a tape from MEXICO. Isn't that disheartening? What makes an American band more superiors than a Mexican band? Is it because of hype? Can anyone kind enough gives me a clear answer? How about you, dear readers, would you have something from INDONESIA or from AMERICA? How do you make the choice? IS AMERICAN band rock harder than the rest? I certainly don't think so since there's tons of bands from around the world who can give those AMERICAN bands a real lesson in rocking out and thrashing people's head (namely from JAPAN and the rest of the SCANDINAVIAN continent). So how do you really make the choice? Kudos for Ganyang for being cool enough to support and inform people about far away and obscure scene. I hope they're going to do this often since I'm quite bored to know about all those usual stuff from AMERICA and the likes, and by the way, if I'm going to contact people, those people in AMERICA will be the last option since I'm quite sick with most of them. You know why? Well, maybe it's just me but most of my AMERICAN contacts are really a pain in the ass. Why don't they answer the mail, eh? Since AMERICA is a huge country with a huge population, that kind of generalization are quite close minded but hey, I can't help it because that is the impression I got every time I'm in contact with an AMERICAN. Support those who support you!

E-mail: xhnirmanx@mailcity.com



Sometimes I'm wonder how's stupid we're of being afraid to ourselves. Human is a complex creature where's can become a terrorist to fulfil his or her desires. That's why human will struggle until the end to protect his or her right and that's why human only willing to be theirself. But in some circumstances, other individual seems willing to be other person. Seems they're willing to betray their own body, own thought and own feeling just because want to pursuing a gains, be it as stupid as little attention.

Honestly is a great flavor, I admit that I'm not a good person. I'm not a good son, even not a good friend because I'm willing to betray and cheat peoples around me. I hate my attitude, but one thing I'm very sure, I can never ever cheat myself. I got no choice here and I've to be honest to my own body. I just want to be myself and I know nobody have a right to deny it. I don't want to be an actor where can turning to any character in the theater called life. I can't imagine how can I live this life with being other person.

Peoples always labeled me as a HC kids, yes! I can't deny that HC/punk means a lot to me but I'm also can't deny that HC/punk is not my way of life. I don't really care if peoples want to label me anything but honestly, I'm still have no power to declare myself as a HC/punk kids although I'm a part of this subversive movement. I've to accept that HC/punk had given such an impact to my life. I can't ignore that my thought (not fully) had been sharpen and molding by HC/punk philosophy. But my mind seems refuse to generate myself to be labeled as punk/HC kid and I'm really don't know why. I don't care if people want to call me as a hypocrite due of that reason but I can see no point if someone want to deny my right to do whatever I want to do.

I'll not going to waste my times to think about my 'label'. I really don't need one to stamp on my forehead. I don't need to be called as a true punk, die hard HC kids, pro-lifer and even anything because it's pretty useless for me. My mind is not cast by label. Human behavior is generate by their self thought, be it a kid in this counter (sub) culture or just a plain citizen in the mainstream society. The main point is whatever you're good or bad. I truly believe in 'respect' and 'responsibility' from any decision that I've taken. I respect people's life and I don't care about their life actually as long as they're not forcing me into their way. I'm not sure whether I'm selfish or not because I really don't want to care about other's life. They've their own life and I've mine, maybe that why I'm not interested with so called politically correct activity. I don't want care about others in hope they treat me the same. I hope they'll respect my life and leave it to me.

I realized that we should have a sense of responsibility in our heart. I fully responsible for every action that I'd take. I'm always thinking about peoples around me when I do something. Parents, sisters, brothers, friends, public are the characteristic that crossed in my mind my mind when I've to make a decision. It's worried if any decision is only a personal matter but I'm so worried if the decision is disturbing others behind me. I really don't want to hurt anyone with my decision. I tried my best to make my life as personal as I can and hopefully my thoughts, languages, actions or even body languages will never disturbing people right. I truly believe that I should know what did I do and responsible for it. That as long as I can do in my life.

Labeling people is just a simple thing. I'll not going to be mad if someone want to label me anything, as long as s (he) not labeling as a sexist, racist, fascist ageism or anything that trying

PUNK/HC REPORT
PUERTO RICO SCENE REPORT

By Taina Rosa



The Punk/HC scene in Puerto Rico came alive during 1987-88. At the time the gigs took place in people's house. There are many occasions in which the end of these shows was determined by the cops. By the a989 the scene had a fairly stable place to stay at. That place was Steps in Rio Piedras. Anyhow, this place's demise happened during the early 1991. The shows that were held there usually were packed with several hundreds people, from metal-head, punks and skins. Around this time a small record label from Connecticut, USA Computer Crime Recs. had released 7's by Sham Pain and Golpe Justo and also a compilation with a band that existed during that time called 'House Arrest'. A little later on a band called Fobia Estatal also released a 7' on their own record label, Fuera De Orden Recs. After Steps closed, shows have been done in whatever places available. From 1993 to 1996 the scene was pretty dead. Revelries and divisions almost completely killed our scene.

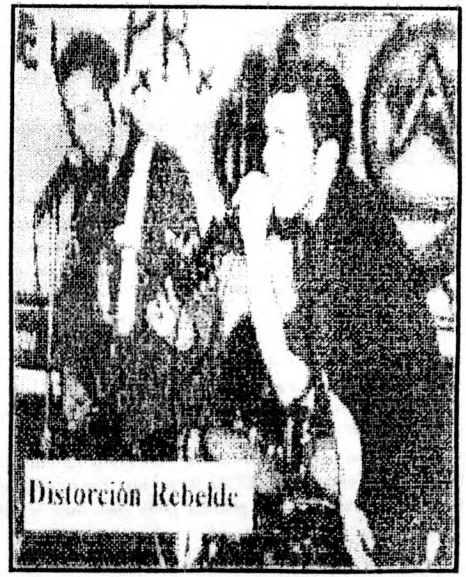
Fortunately, by 1996 things were starting to look up again. Today more bands keep forming and searching for place to play at. A couple of bands have even released new material, they are: Cojoba, Atitud Subversia, Golpe Justo, La Experiencia de Tonito Cabanilla$$, Los Espectros, Puppet breakfast, Lacteos and Discordia. The bands mentioned before have released or are about to release more recordings, so write to them if you want updated information. Most bands considered part of the underground scene play political music in punk or HC vein. There's small, but growing straight edge group represented by bands such as Tropiezo, which play 80's HC.

The Puerto Rican is not only alive in San Juan/ Metro Area. Ponce a big city in southern part of the island also had a scene for more or less the same time as Metro Area. Most bands here play HC and Oi! And some of them are Abuso de Peder, Odio Simple and Mente Oi! I should mention that Odio Simple has just released their first demo through Justo Recs. Guayama, a small town near Ponce has a small but growing scene mainly into Punk Rock Some of there are Distorcion Rebelde and Lo Abstruso. I suppose every town must have at least one punk band.

There are a couple of zine being published right now that are pretty consistent. There's ZineVerguenza, which deals mainly with anti imperialism and the island's punk/ HC scene with interviews and worldwide contacts. To get it sends US$2 (ppd.) to Cojoba's address below. There is also Baricuas Bestiales, this one is more about ska music and the international scene. The zine is free. To get it writes to (Calle Interameicana 250/ University Gardens/ Rio Piedras/ PR 00927). There's also a new zine being published in Guayama by Distorcion Rebelde's vocalist. Its called Volatil and get one send US$2 to (Tito/ Calle Genaro Cautino 128 Oeste/ Guayama/ PR 00784). A skater-punk called Samuel does what we called 'mini books', it's actually a really thick Xeroxed zines that deal with anarchist stances, animal liberation, civil rights and anti-works issue. Great for debating since you may or may not agree with everything you read, for example should Marihuana be legalized, a simple yes or no isn't the answer. Newer zine include Sangre Unida (Ave. Universidad 54/ Apt. 4B/ Cond. Vieras/ Rio Piedras/ PR 00925), Napalm Sunday (Ext. San Jose E18/ Aibonito/ PR 00705), Una Sola Escena (Bo. California/ Buzon 4172/ Maunabo/ PR 00707 or gerrybloodehotmail.com) and Futura No Pagada (HC 02 Box 4788/ Guayama/ PR 00784). These are in Spanish although some of them have articles on English.

As for political groups, there are many but they're outside of the scene. Nevertheless, many people from the scene are members of some of these radical groups or at least contribute to their causes. A very important issue in Puerto Rico has to so with the liberation of 15 Puerto Rican political prisoners (men & women) held in jails in the USA for pursuing island's independence. Puerto Rico has been colony of the USA for 100 years.

As far as know, there's always a squatter movement in Puerto Rico, but never associated to the punks. The squatters I'm talking about are the people who have nowhere to live, so they build makeshift houses on unused lands usually owned by the government or some private company. Of course, they are always end up getting





'Ni Tu, ni Dios, Ni el Mundo'. You can find them in compilations such as HC Sin Fonteras from Argentina.

Golpe Justo/ B.B/ Via 22 M1-26, Villa Fontana/ Carolina/ PR 00983). They play NYHC and recently released their CD.

La exprencia de Tonito Cabanilla$$/ Calle 1 #9 Urb. Cantizales/ Rio Piedras/ PR 00926). Plays upbeat punk, have released a tape and re-released it back in CD format.

Other address: Lapo Drido - (Juanko/ PO Box 3277 Amelia Contract Station/ Catano/ PR 00963), Puppet Breakfast - (Manolo/ Calle Jaguas 71/ Urb. Milaville/ Rio Piedras/ PR 00926), Mente Oi! - (Rolando/ Los Caobos Calle Caimito 3091/ Ponce/ PR 00731), Odio Simple - (Cuco/ Las Delicias Sec. 2/ Calle 13 BE 121/ Ponce/ PR 00731), Tropiezo - (Javier/ Calle D Este #J-5/ Ciudad Universitaria/ Trujillo Alto/ PR 00976), Los Esprectros - (Miguel/ PO Box 3933/ garden Branch/ Bayamon/ PR 00958)

If you guys want to order ZineVerguenza DIY compilation tape contain 12 bands and it's only US$3, answer guaranteed.

thrown out by the police while the couple of bulldozers run over their homes. Anyway, these people are known for defending themselves until the end.

With the problem of neo-liberalism has come further destruction of nature with projects such as Tren Urbano (Urban Train), Superacueducto (Superacqueduct) and much express way to build though out the island. The privatization of national enterprise without the consent of the Puerto Rican people (via la democracia) already has produced mass unemployment which threaten to rise steadily, another problem the Puerto Rican over a great part of the island town of Viques about a half century ago and since then have used this land to practice with missiles and projectiles that use uranium.

So here are some more address so you can get in touch with us (it's ok to write in English)

Samuel/ Calle 25 z1 #1 Ciudad Universitaria/ Trujillo Alto/ PR 00976). He distributes material, he plays solo in experimental noise project, the latest one called Guerra Eterna, he publishes a coolest 'mini books' and who know what hell do next, you can read his articles in almost every zine.

Calin/ 123 Calle Marte/ Isla Verde/ PR 00979) this guy distributes tapes vinyl and CD's from around the world at cheap price. He also a regular contributor to local zine.

Cojoba/ Sham Pain/ Anaconda Recs/ Taina/ Calle 7C 19 Metropolis/ Carolina/ PR 00987) at this address you can also find music from another local and foreign bands and also ZineVerguenza. Cojoba has just released their second tape (Vienen por Nosotros) and has appeared on a couple compilations. Sham Pain has an unreleased demo at a time, all their past recordings had been sold out. With Anaconda Recs, you can find the latest recording by Lacteos and Puppet Breakfast.

Actitud Subversia/ Felix 69/ Calle Polaris FQ-10/ Irlanda Heights/ Bayamon/ PR 00956) these guys have released two tapes of melodic and political pinks rock, their latest



how can they will be united and come out with stuff to be done together such as gigs, zines, distro and very much, much, much more. One's passion in some field can't be visualized if one is working it out by himself. So by friendship, a work of passion can be carried out successfully and it will brighten up the scene as a result.

Ironically, friendship also has been a bridge for some people the so-called culprit, to take an advantage out of the trust that other people put in him or her. So the terms 'rip-off', 'blood-sucker', etc come to our knowledge. These culprits do not know the value of a friendship, they only live to destroy the friendship and gradually destroy the music scene itself. Once distrust controls, the society will be weak, often fights each other and revenge will be sweat for them. So, the scene will be a stage of 'punching' each other like a boxing game rather than contributing something worth for the scene. The value of friendship is high as we put out trust on each other and others trust in return...trust is a thing that can never be given easily, remember that and you'll know the value of friendship.

Friendship is also a shelter that comfort one or a refuge center that provides help, advice, laughter, etc. people can't really live by their own, they need companies to live them the daily, weekly, yearly life. So, it's not surprising to see a man enjoy music with the other life form that can be called as pal. An example of what friendship will offer is a group that will protect one another. It's inevitably to see fights in gigs, as all people dancing and stomping like hell, they might bump a little bit hard on some others. So many choose to fight and who will back you up and join of fun and kicking ass. If you tempted to have a 'kaki pukul' to smack one's butt, you'll be wasting your money to hire him up. Oh my..I know it's not a good example but it carries a meaning that friendship will endure in good times and bad times. I don't really encourage fighting to burst out but it just how a friendship (a true) will work out.

It feels good to have a good friendship that work out well. In this society we live in, be it in music scene or in our daily life, staying united and smash the barriers and start up an unbeatable friendship that can develop and protect the scene we live in now. This friendship and unity stuff have longed been expressed in many zines and discussion but mine is just another reminder and another point to ponder.

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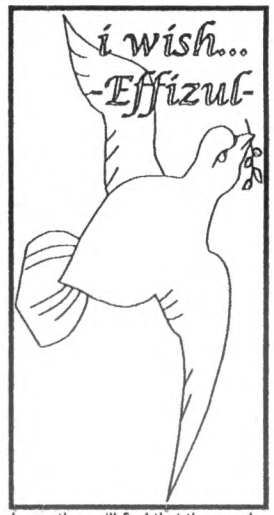

Have you ever wish that everyone you love can feel and read your feeling about how much they mean to us and how much we really love them. To tell the truth sometimes I wished that people I love would know my true feeling towards them. The reason that make me wished for such thing is because sometimes people that I love so much always have their doubt about me and they asked me how meaningful they are to me and how much I love them. Look like they are scared that someday, when they wake up from the good night sleeps, they will find that the people who love them so much will gone away and will not love them anymore, (and look like there are doubt in their feelings about my love for them after all). Well I've explained to them that how much I love them and how meaningful there are to me, but my explanation still failed to end the doubt in their heart.

The truth is, I hardly used words to express my feelings to the people I love so much. I don't think some catchy, lovely and emo words can explain and can express my true feeling toward them (I might be wrong here). To me love is something that should be share, feel and embrace by the people who are in love and not just only by saying, "I love you" or "you're meaningful to me". Why did I say the words are not enough in showing our love to somebody?

Well, I've seen the words has been (ab) used so many times and the words has last in true meaning, until people has lost their faith on these words. So, that what makes me feel that words are not a suitable way (media) to express my true feelings? For me, the best way to do it is by showing our love and our commitment in it. You can lie with words, but it's not easy to lie through your action (I've seen friends fell in love not by saying the infamous "I love you", but by showing their true feelings and commitment). Well, looks like I've found the answer to my question and problem, but still I'm failed to convince them about my true feelings toward them. Now, what and where I've done wrong. I've showed how much my love to them and I provoked it but still I can't erase their doubt, and I still can't convince them.

Thinking about this, the lyrics from the song 'the boy with the torn in his side' by The Smith comes into my mind.

"How can they see the love in your eyes and still don't believe us, and after all this time, they don't want to believe us, and if they don't believe us now, will they ver believe us".

Well, what should I do then, looks like I have other choice to prove to them with my love and commitment, how much I love them, until I erase their doubt and until they realize that I really love them. Hmmm... looks like I've forgotten about the complexity of human feelings, that remind me to a word by Metroshifter, "No one know who you really are accept you". But imagine the easiest way to convince the people I love about my true feeling to them, by wishing that they can feel what is my true feelings toward them, but that will another story, right.

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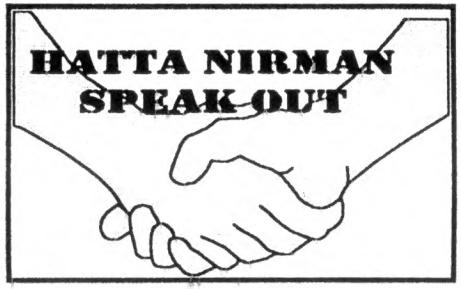

I really need to thank Ibrahim for inviting me to write for this zine. I always wanted to contribute something for other people's zine, but being asked to do so is such an honor above all. In fact I had never dreamt of writing something for Ganyang, let alone being invited. But now, here I am, writing a column (he's offering me a regular space on this zine but we'll see what happen next) for this great zine. Ok, enough ass-kissing for now, let's go straight to business, Not too long ago I heard rumors saying Strange Culture Records is at the brink of going bankrupt. Whether this can be believe or not, only time will tell. So why I'm bringing this one up? It's because they're related to what I'm going to write. I remember writing a letter to Ibrahim telling him that I'm quite upset with most big independent label which cater to punk/hardcore. You know VICTORY, REVELATION, EPITAPH etc. It wasn't because they're too big for a punk/hardcore label. And no it surely wasn't because some of their bands are popular among jocks. It's how they run their business that pissed me off.

actually nurture us to think for ourselves, stimulate our minds (not our hormones!) and not as shallow and close minded as the one we have now.

It is up to you now to decide which is it that you want. Is it worth it to have the current status quo and all the peace and harmony at the expense of our right to have a better and healthier mass culture or is it better to have a better mass culture and yet risk loosing all the peace that we have now? It is inevitable. If everyone and I mean everyone in this multi-racial actually thinks about their situation, I don't think that we can really maintain the current peace and harmony. Things we inevitability get ugly. Is it really worth it? Like that I have always said, don't just oppose everything and yet propose nothing. And as long we can't think of another way a better way to sustain the peace and harmony in our country, I don't think that we should really complain about the uselessness of our current mass culture. Bu still, he would be a lot better without it. Is till don't like it even though it has done our country quite a lot of good. I hope someday someone can think of a way to make a healthy mass culture and peace and harmony co-exist at the same time. Look at where it ends now. Does it make any sense to you?

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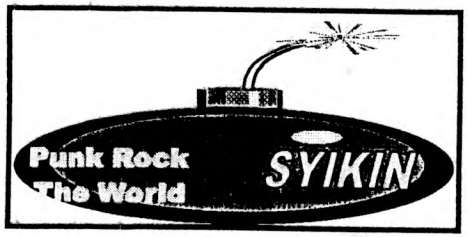

Simplicity does not necessarily mean it will lead to failure. What does Punk Rock means to me? Of course we all know the universal definition but at an individual level it could mean leading a simple, DIY, independent and not conforming to anything else that you don't agree to, way of life. Why Punk Rock? I don't know. I may have tested my first Punk Rock music barely 2 years ago but the ideology is not new to me. Punk Rock is a whole lot more that just a music to me, it has been applied to my life ever since I was much younger as I can remember. I grew up having a Punk Rock of a life I have never really been extravagated in my choice of clothes, foods or even entertainment. My parent brought me up that way. I was always the one among my circle of friends to have unbranded goods, accessories and bring packed lunch. It wasn't that easy while I was at that stage, of course envied their Puma Shoes, Nike Pack, Sony Walkman... However, I realize that those very brands tend to burn big damn holes in the pocket. I have always been left independence to manage my own budget and to save up my own pocket money for my wants and sometimes needs. Saving up or managing a budget from a merely small but sufficient allowance meant easy and simple meals courtesy of hawker center and bakeries or even packed lunches. However, it doesn't necessarily mean I am oh-so punk so much so that I am able to completely stay free from the grasp of capitalist power. I am only human, I mean it all sums to one thing - reality. To face the fact that despite this so-called Punk Rock resolution we all have lives to lead. We need to study well, to get a job, so we could at least get by each day of our lives. I mean living in a country where qualification is the only ticket to success and where the standard of living is so high. It's hard truly anarcho-punk, refusing the system, fighting the system, refusing education etc. fighting the system doesn't mean you have really to smash the government, why not wee your drive and what you have learnt in Punk Rock to turn your life around. Punk Rock leads too intelligent, being street wise as well as market wise. Remember you can be anything you want to be.

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Greeting to you out there, the editor had forced me to write something for his fourth issue, then I decided to write an info review. Before that I would like to talk something that confusing me. Some skins claim him/her self as a 'SHARP' skins but on the other hand he keeping kicking, black mailing and killing the immigrants. Hey! Man which side are you, 'SHARP' skins are not racist, you knew it. You read 'Spirit of 69', but still become a racist person, better don't claim yourself 'SHARP' anymore, its stink.

Then the people who claim themselves not a 'SHARP' neither 'Nazi', the same question come out which side you really are, you can be 'SHARP' in one time, where are your dignity and pride, who you're and be your self.

So for not confusing you too, I'll get right to the review. APOCALYPSE BABY play punk/Oi! With sing along chorus, their 7" only got two tracks, (23 Monsal Dr/ Fifth Normanton/ Derbys/ DE55 2 BG/ UK). ADULESCENT UK, 78 style punk with raggae, 5 songs demo, (49 Childers St. Hyde Park/ Doncaster/ DN4 5B2/ S. Yorks/ UK). AVO/ THE BLUTTERS split 7", both band covering an old Oi! classic, (Snapshot Recs./ PO Box 175/ George Hall/ 2198 NSW/ Australia). DIZY DIZY MARK II, street punk influence, just releasing their second demo about three month ago, (belgore@hotmail.com). V/A "KICK TO BE ALIVE", a great compilation of Japanese Oi! band, must have it but only available in 10" vinyl, (Real Deal Recs./ 1-8-7 Hoshigaoka/ Hirakata City/ Osaka 573-0013/ Japan). BLADDER BLADDER BLADDER, more to 77 punk style with a touch of CHEEKY HUMOR. 7" entitle 'No Go Girl', (Mick/ 176 N. Highland Ave./ Los Angeles/ CA 90028/ USA). POXY/ THE CONTAMINATED/ ENDLESS STRUGGLE/ CLASSIC ASSHOLES, 4 way split EP from Seattle and Utah, play Oi! and Street punk, (Illicit Distro/ 11215 NE 128th St./ #6303/ Kirkland/ WA 98034/ USA). PROTEST, an Oi! band from Czech Republic, they have released CD EP, which going to make you pogo all day long, recommended, (Vladmir/ PO Box 48/ 199 21/ Phana 9/ Czech Rep.). BUSTER ALL STAR-Skinhead Luv Affair, re-released from the great bad manner front man buster, full 18 song of two-tone ska, highly recommended, (House of Ska/ PO Box 251/ Margate/ Kent/ England). GRIFFIN/ WARRIORS, split EP between Japanese Oi! band and UK, if you like LAST RESORT make sure don't miss it, (see Real Deal Recs.). Skinhead scene had growth rapidly everywhere and its impossible to write of all the stuff released, so that's it.

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This is not an article regarding the music scene but the article that will bore you to death, in case if don't like it, that tell about friendship – the value of it, importance of it.

Even in the scene, friendship plays in a role in uniting people. You might heard the HC people always say and emphasize 'unity' and that means a group can be united in a music scene they all fall into. To reach so-called unity, there's got to be a mechanism that can translate it. It's through' friendship. Once it is united, it will surely be strong. I guess that not only the HC people emphasize unity but all other means of music in our scene, be it punk, death metal and so on. If they push aside going together or getting together (I mean the friendship stuff),

RECORDS REVIEW

All review by me (Ibrahim) accepts (H) by Asan and (A) by Aidil, so there!

AGE OF CHAOS 'Dogshit' Tape

So what I can say about this tape, its basically melodic street punk, UK's 80's punk style maybe can be compared to Capo Regime and Velvet Underpants or officially I can say it's an Oi! punk band, 7 tracks in it. (H) (Jim/ 80 Brizwekme/ Bogner Regis/ England)

ANTI TODO Tape

77 inspired melodic punk from Columbia and I say it's a nice stuff, the recording is really clear but it's still have that raw sound and it's pretty well-arranged tunes. Although it's kind of simple three cords punk rock but the way the band represent their musical skills is magnificent, I love to hear more from them and they sung in spanish. Isn't that cool. (Anti Recs/ Diego Builes/ Carrera 59/ No. 40B-42/ URB. Serramonte/ Bello Antioquic/ Columbia)

ASSCANCER CD

Do you love some weird sounds that mix together all the crazy sounds like guitar distortion, cyber techno sound and the loud and blaring effects. Here the answer for it, other that it's also got some trumpet, rap voice, jazz and acoustic but the fundamental of the sounds is still punk and HC, this is what I can describe as a digital HC sounds, hey guys it's a non-typical genres over here, so let challenge your ears for a new sounds. (World War XXV Production/ PO Box 20701/ New York/ NY 10009/ USA)

BASTARDS/ COP IS DEAD Tape

So here the hard stuff from Indonesia, as stated in the cover they say that they play crust punk and crust core, so I think it's quite near to that statement, growling guitar, thrashing vocal, grinding bass. So what do you aspect more, for some other related info the sound is basic but quite clear. (Ricky & J-Punk/ Jl. Lebalosari 4-2/ Semarang 50145/ Indonesia)

BITTER BOIS Tape

Another Oi! releases for you but this time it's ain't the UK's product, it's all away from Finland that do the same with their UK's Oi! counterparts, so here it is a melodic Oi! punk sounds with 4 tracks in it. (H) (PL117/ 02810 Espoo/ Finland)

CARBURETOR DUNG 'Allure To The Manure' Tape

A very long awaited record by this raw and yet political punk band, I confess that they did a great job on this record where the touch of the sounds and lyrics is more convincing this time, they goes a little bit faster this time. They also got a reworking song of The Special's Do Nothing. After a reviving of AGE this is their first release, This time they got a new vocalist, Lee (ex Pilgrims) and a new drummer, Ollie (ex Silent Death), highly recommended. (AGE/ 14A Bukit Ceylon/ 50200 Kuala Lumpur/ Malaysia)

COUNTER ATTACK Tape

So here the Philippines' HC stuff for you, a melodic HC tunes with some Hip Hop touch but still an intense tempo, can be described as a NYHC styles meets that 80's Washington DC's styles. 4 track in it with a clear recording and the lyrics is provided. (Angel Licop/ Blk. 5/ Lot 13/ Concole III/ San Pedro/ Laguna 4023/ Philippines)

DAMAGE DIGITAL 'Delete' Tape

Another releases from AGE but this time all the band members are from Japan accept it's guitarist which is from Malaysia. Hyper speed technical and digital grindcore sounds meet a drum machine effect, 24 songs in it which every only last average 15 seconds and nice artistic cover, sorry no lyrics. (AGE/ 14A Bukit Ceylon/ 50200 Kuala Lumpur/ Malaysia)

DARYLL ANN 'Happy Traum' CD

The minute I heard the first few notes of this album, I knew I'd love it. The fourth album from this wonderful Dutch band should be in everyone's record collection. The songs are unbelievably pure and straight from the heart, you can't help but just close your eyes and 'feel' the songs. This album is too beautiful to miss. I just can't list any reference points/bands because their sound is wholly their own. So for the sake of your own life, get this. This is genius. Absolute genius. No joke! (A) (The Excelsior Recordings/ Postbus 10175/ 1001 ED Amsterdam/ The Netherlands)

FIST SEASON 'Hate in Your Face' Tape

6 tracks of Oi! punk and boot boys sounds, some songs are energetic but some are weak from my opinion, so the recording quality is clear with some angry vocals like 4 Skins, but what the hell I'm going to judge this by my self, feel the vibes by your own. (H) (Janne/ Elinantie 4 AS. 18/ 20540 Turku/ Finland)

FRANTIC 'Need More Protest' Tape

This band needs more money to record their song because the sound quality is quite bad, but they have great tunes of melodic punk here. Medium length songs of three cords stomps with a pretty good lyrics, damn with the sound. Vocal is vaguely melodic shouting with manic backups. Other than that the songs are well arranged for a distinguish punk fans, try it. (Syamsuddzuha/ 67 Kg Paloh/ 32800 Parit/ Perak/ Malaysia)

INNOCENT CRIMINAL Tape

Play some sort of Pop Punk with an intense musical direction, 12 songs including 5 of their jamming session and plus a reworking song from a cartoon series 'Kluang Man'. Music is fun and sings a long tune. One track keeps my attention where the tunes are quite similar to propagandhi, so lets support them. (Khairul/ No 50/ Kg Air Kuning/ 34850 Taiping/ Perak/ Malaysia)

NEW FOUND HERITAGE 'Use The Force' Tape

This band got the class of their own, the best HC releases from there I've ever listen to, brilliant progressive HC in the mood of fast and straight forward guitar, 6 tracks to offer and they rocks! (Adi Juano/ #2 Balagtas St/ Pacita Complex 1/ San Pedro/ Laguna 4023/ Philippines)

POINT BREAK 'Reason To Revolt' Tape

The Bad Religion of Italy, I think the best answer of this such intelligent punk/HC bands. Their music is fast added with a rhythmic structure, blend of punk that I miss these days, there is a lot of rock guitar break over here and the lyrics are damn political. Sometimes you can heard an emo part of the vocals, quite intense and most of the lyrics are related to working class struggle and even a straight edge issues, highly recommended. (Cassella Postale 29/ 20099 Sesto San Gioanni-MI/ Italy)

RENUENCIA / @PATIA-NO Tape

When it comes to the Latin HC bands, I really adore their melodic and rhythmic sounds which is different with the typical HC bands, both band come from Venezuela and they did a great job. Renuencia plays good and melodic HC with an emotive voices and @patia-No also do the same not like the rest metal wannabe HC bands nowadays, but they sung in Spanish so it's hard for me to understand the lyrics, but this one is still in my play list. (Leovardo Morales/ A.P 402/ C.P 1201/ Los Teques/ Edo. Miranda/ Venezuela)

REPRISAL 'Words of Life' CD

Record of the year, at least for me by this emo plus dark HC bands from Malaysia, I've never seen such a well arranged HC releases nowadays which have their own direction and sound. The best part is their lyrics, which deals about depression, emotion and anger. The music is not fluffy even though they got some metal style, this boys got confidence believe me on this. (First Stance Recs/ Mohd Iskandar Zulkarnain/ PO Box 146/ Pej. Pos M'sia Tmn Seri Tebrau/ 80057 Johor Bahru/ Johor/ Malaysia)

THE SHAZAM 'Godspeed The Shazam' CD

This is a gigantic follow up to their self-titled debut. The debut, while it is undoubtedly very good, didn't really impress in terms of the arrangements of the songs. But this one has so many amazing songs, it HAS to be a top contender for the album of the year. Imagine the most perfect blending of Cheap Trick and Jellyfish (which I thought was impossible, because it is too difficult to achieve) and you'll have an idea of their sound. Don't ever pass on this. Buy it. You'll thank me later. (A) (Not Lame Recording Company/ PO Box 2266/ Fort Collins/ CO 80522/ USA)

STAR COLLECTOR 'Songs For The Whole Family' CD

I've always been in search of the perfect power pop album (to my understanding, at least). As great as records have been in the past, I have to say that I haven't quite found that perfect one. Then, out of the blue, came this album. My, this album, simply put, puts the biggest smile on my face, ever! You'll just have to listen to it to believe it. This is the one I've been waiting for. Who would've thought that one day someone was going to combine all the things that made Jellyfish, Enuff Znuff and Queen such great bands and make that combination so unbelievably perfect? Everything in here is phenomenal. The singing is always top notch. The songwriting, breathtaking! The playing, oh, don't even get me started on that. The production, well it's hard to believe that this disc is self produced and self released in the first place. In short, if you just have to buy 1 album, make it this one. It is the perfect introduction to the wonderful world of pop. No 2 ways about it. Give these guys the support they deserve. (A) (Joe Giddings, 3525 Club Dr # 1305 Lawrenceville, GA 30044, USA)

SIGNAL 3 'Convergence Zone' CD

Live in the LA but a bunch of Filipinos, is that weird, ah not..Signal 3 plays a melodic street punk in the vein of UK's Oi! sounds, this CD got 16 song in it and some tracks are in the mother languages (Tagalog). It's kind of weird to see a bunch of Filipinos guy play this kind of music because in Philippines most of the kids are into HC, so let catch this one. (Signal 3/ 4105 Aguilar Wy/ Los Angeles/ CA 90065/ USA)

SUBURBAN DAMMIT 'We Nearly Killed Each Other' CD

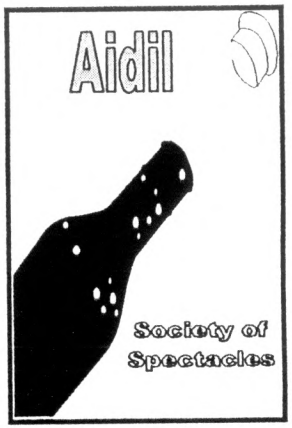
If the Vindictives cover a full Ramones album so as this band but with their own song. This CD is full with pop punk Ramone-ish style that have those rock 'n' rolling parts and long ohhhh... breaks but this guy from Singapore. They really done something exciting this time, mediocre and
nice sing a long tunes, I think they should taken part in 'If We're the Ramones' tribute albums, isn't that cool. (Justin/ Blk 553/ Bedok North/ Ave. 1/ #05-470/ 460553 Singapore)

THE PANIC 'I.H.P' Tape

Why that so many Oi! punks review this time, am I turning myself to the skinhead? First of all this band is a good listening even though you can found that typical street punks anthem, this is their first demo with their own systematic arrangement that sometimes reminds me to the glorious skinhead trend not so long ago. 6 songs and yet a great bargain. (Jari/ 572-U/ Jln Kubur Kuda/ 15050 Kota Bharu/ Kelantan/ Malaysia)

COLUMN

This is the writings of some people who would like to share their opinion with us, thanks in advance for these magnificent work guys, At the end of the column the e-mail of the writers had been provided so you can directly ask or give comment to the columnist.



Us, the underground kids have always hated the mainstream culture. Be it the art, the politics, the capitalist system or what ever we are always expressed our dislike for everything and anything mainstream. I hate too sadly it is quite a rare thing for me to find people telling me why they hate it, I'm talking about real reasons here. Not just answer like "I hate mainstream culture because it sucks!" it should be very interesting to know the different why people hate mainstream culture, this is my reason why.

I don't like mainstream culture not really of because of the mass culture itself. I just hate the way mass culture is used to maintain power, I don't have much of a problem watching mainstream TV program like Muzik-Muzik, Melodi, Video M or anything like that, over I do find some of the stuff a bit too 'yucky' for my liking. I just want to point out one thing, you should not really blame the artistes, the bloody TV shows, host (e.g.: Aznil Hj. Nawawi - yuck!) nor the producer for doing what they are doing now. Nor should you blame composers like Saari Amri, Eddie Hamid and a band like Slam, Spring, Kool and the likes. They are not doing that much of the wrong thing, I mean that how they see out. That's what they want it's to be. The feel happy presenting their art that way. Why should we blame them! The entire useless magazine like URTV, Media Hiburan, Variapop and Mangga (the almost amongst the entire useless magazine), you should not really blame the editor and journalists for presenting their magazine in such a disgustingly useless manner. They are not the one who should be blame. If there is someone you going to put the blame it on the people who had let all these people present in such a way.

Everyone knows there is practically nothing in term or content or substance in their art, especially the magazine. I think the people in the cabinet know how useless the magazine is. I mean, is there anything good in that sexy, half-naked picture of female artistes, I think it sick. And to know that these pictures are actually allowed to be printed and presented for the whole nation to see makes me think that it's even sicker! Have you ever wondered why these magazines are even allowed made in the first place, isn't it weird how everyone, the media included went down so hard on Punk culture a few years ago when it made the headlines of the local tabloid and let all these immoral exploitation of women and brainless magazines go pass them as if there is nothing wrong with them.

You see, that's what I'm to point out here, you can really blame the mass culture for being what it is. You should blame the masses for allow it to happen and bloom in the first place. As with pollution, it is not the dame that should be blamed. It is how people let the damage happen in the first place that should be blamed. You should not go out shouting, " Muzik-Muzik sucks!, Rok Melayu sucks! Magga sucks!" what you should really ask is, 'why is magga allowed to be published in the first place, why aren't people doing anything to stop all this nonsense'. Now that's what everyone should be asking and that is what everyone should strive for. Save our nation and us from being polluted by this useless mass culture. Do something about it. It is still not to late.

I have to remind you of something though. It be not that simple you see, it is quite weird to see that the government is doing nothing to stop this, it went down quite hard on "punk culture" claiming that punk culture gives us kids a bad influence, I do agree on some of their arguments. For instance, isn't spitting on someone else is a bit too rude for our culture of course, they don't really understand that thing we called the mosh pit. None of the authorities in the world understands it. So I think we can forgive them about that. It is highly normal for people to assumption and they are looking at things from the outsider's pint of view. The point is why hasn't the government done anything about this? In fact, some of their action seems to even support this. If I am not mistaken, Mangga was launched by a minister! A minister! Can you believe that?

How do we explain all this? Well, let me forward to you one theory. I think I can connect this to a theory once propose in the late 1950's and 1960's by a loosely defined coalition of artistes - critics known the "situationists". They mainly disagreed upon the nation that in order to challenge the power of the government, you have to get yourself involved in conventional political party. They reasoned that was no longer concentrated in the government dispersed through the "society of the spectacles". Therefore the workings of the ideology prove to be important than conventional political party. In short the status quo will always be upheld as long as the production of the "spectacles" is disrupted. My opinion is that Mangga, URTV, Slam, Spring etc. are part of the "spectacle" in our country. Hence the government is turning a blind eyes on the issue. There is some logic to this theory. Just think, what does all this contribute to our thinking? Nothing, right? Isn't that a good thing when you're running a country? Having citizen rarely complain, because they're and enjoying the entire "spectacle" ant having much time to really think to themselves. Now isn't that great? If the majority of your citizen is enjoying this "spectacle" immensely, how much opposition is you might get? Not those many I think. If everyone's busy reading Mangga, Watching Muzik-Muzik, listening to Rok Kapak, sound by Spoon and spring than whose going to think about the wrong things that the government has done? No one!

Don't get me wrong here, I'm not saying that everything that the government does is Wong. I'm not even thinking of telling you that! In fact, I think our government here is one of better (sometimes very useless), if not one of the best government around. There're lot of other government who are much, much worst than ours not to sound ungrateful but I think even the best government are bound to get a couple of thing wrong sometimes. And it is when that kind of thing happen I'm worned about that we're going to have citizen so dumb (or numb, maybe?), because of our mass culture that even they failed to see what is wrong and what is right.

Some people might have stopped their writing by now. Just think about it I have already talked about this "situationists" and have already concluded that the government's silence might just be because of them wanting to disrupt the production of the "spectacle". That should already be good enough and argument isn't it? I think people will always be tempted to leave an argument as it is without at least recognizing the good that the object of his criticism ha done for him or every one else. That is the easiest thing to do. As for me, despite my dislike about his "spectacle" thing, I must admit I can't deny the fact that it has done a lot of good for our country and us. I think we have the "spectacle" to thank mainly for all the peace and harmony that we all current enjoying in our country. You know you can deny that as well and having peace and harmony in such multi-racial country a one we live in now is not an easy to pull off. It is an achievement, you know? And yes, it is an achievement at the expense of our right to have a better mass culture. One that