

TOTAL THRASH

NO. 13

WAYER

FOR SALE ATLANTICA

MX

EXPRESS

M.D.C.

Dan Quayle
NOW & THEN

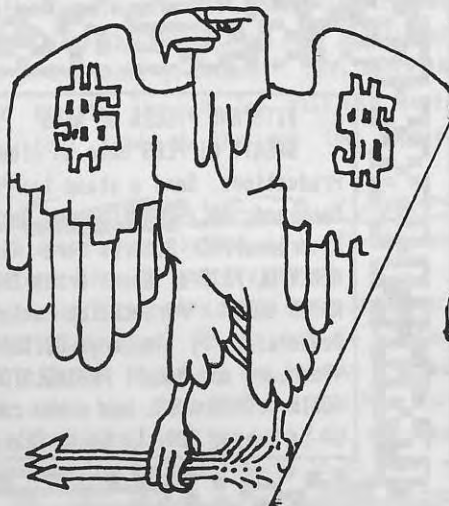
1988

1969

ALL GOOD AMERICANS MUST KILL FOR THEIR COUNTRY!



QUAYLE FOR VICE PRESIDENT



HEY DAD, THINK YOU CAN GET ME OUT OF THE WAR?!



J. MINARDI

With their demo of last year, CARCASS proved themselves to be one of the most intense bands around. After hearing and experiencing the "CARCASS album", I think that they are spearheading a truly disgusting movement in music through lyrics which use medical terms to describe stomach-turning facets of death and also vocals which are truly the first I've heard to ever use a TRUE "vomit sound effect", which gives the impression of splashing vomit.. Sound appealing? Well, the music is ultra-fast & heavy with similarities to other English greats like NAPALM DEATH but with more emphasis on "death metal" sounds. Now read this interview to learn more about this pustulating, mucopurulent bunch.

TT: Are there any ideas you're trying to get across through your music? It seems CARCASS is mainly trying to be "sickgore" death metal.

Bill: I think it would be safe to say that there aren't any truly "important" ideas that we're trying to put across, as we only write about things that are putrid, grotesque and morbid. Let's face it, there isn't much room for political/social comment when the lyrics are entirely based around decomposition, pustulation, and anything else that tends to turn the stomach. However, the whole point of us writing about such topics, apart from the obvious fact that we're deeply interested in them, is to show up all these metal bands with pseudo-gore lyrics like "I'm gonna make you bleed" and "You will die by my blade" etc who take themselves too seriously. Admittedly, the fact that we are all vegetarian/vegan creeps into our songs from time to time (e.g. Regurgitation of Giblets)- after all, your average gore film freak would be physically ill if he/she saw what goes on in a slaughter house.

Jeff: I don't know about the use of the term "sickgore", as I think how you view the band depends on how liberal minded you are. As for death metal, well, that depends on how you define the term. If that means stupid attitudes, ridiculous garb and trying (and failing) to look as evil as possible then I'd doubt that we'd give our allegiance to this monicker.

TT: What's the ultimate goal for CARCASS?

Ken: To produce the ultimate in musical obliteration with more intense explicitly putrid lyrics- basically, to make your vitriolic juices burn through your stomach wall and your sphincter pulsate.

Bill: I think what Ken's trying to say is that we want to achieve the goals I mentioned in the previous question, and to be appreciated and accepted for what we are!

TT: What are your thoughts on abortion; whether it should be kept legal; do you think it's "murder" or a "woman's choice"?

Jeff: I think it is totally irrelevant for males to discuss abortion as it is really a female issue in that only those women who find themselves in the position of wanting a abortion can understand why it is necessary. That isn't to

say that I think abortion is a wonderful thing, it's just that I support a woman's right to decide what she can and can't do with her body. I don't think anyone would pretend that those who have abortion actually enjoy the experience.

Bill: It would be virtually impossible for a fetus to be termed "alive" until it reaches the age of 24 weeks, as most of its vital organs are not properly developed at that stage. Therefore an abortion performed at this stage in the existence of the fetus could hardly be called "murder". Nevertheless, it's up to men and women to be more responsible in their sexual behavior to avoid getting into such a situation.

TT: Do you think TV preachers, politicians, rabbis, priests, whatever, should be held to a stricter moral code than "regular" guys & gals?

Jeff: Of course, anyone who is placed in a position whereby they are allowed to moralize and treat those who do not adhere to their morality as "inferior" must be held up to the same moral codes that they themselves endorse. Then again, it would be nice to think that "regular guys and gals" have a high "moral code" anyway, without the blinkered and bigotted influence of these self-appointed gurus, but that's being totally unrealistic.

TT: Do you consider yourselves "successful"?

Bill: I suppose that we are successful to an extent, because we're beginning to achieve alot of what we've aimed for. We aren't "successful" financially, but that's OK- we didn't form this band to make money. We'll be content as long as there are people who appreciate what we're trying to do. To us, success is recording something that you're truly pleased with, or playing well at a gig.

TT: Do you think political English hardcore bands accept death metal? It seems alot of English bands have and cite them as influences. Do any punks there ever criticize CARCASS for it's song titles/sounds?

Ken: British HC has nothing to do with death metal because it's not "cool" or "positive" enough! There's hardly any integration as many hardcores say there's a "bullshit metal attitude" (which tends to categorize anyone with long hair) and don't consider metallers "worthy" of their precious scene.

Bill: Alot of people are getting anti-crossover, much less anti-death metal. Many HC's claim to be aware and "open minded", yet tend to look down on metallers without even giving them a chance. We can't think of any U.K.H.C. bands

that cite death metal as an influence, unless you count NAPALM DEATH and UNSEEN TERROR of course. We only know 1 or 2 people who've directly criticized us for our death metalish titles/lyrics, but doubtless there are others who slag us off for it behind our backs. This does annoy us but there's no way we'll cater to their narrow mindedness. I for one would hate a "scene" filled with nothing but political bands. If people can't appreciate the humor in our lyrics then the joke is most certainly on them.

TT: I've heard that CARCASS is getting very popular in England. What do you think is the reason for this?

Ken: Perhaps some people are intrigued by us, as we're one of the only U.K. bands playing this style and maybe they like the gore element. Perhaps some are bored of listening to nothing but U.S.H.C. all the time!

Bill: Besides, we're not that popular in Britain- at least, not yet.

TT: Why the name CARCASS? Have you ever had any physical or visual contact with a carcass that inspired you to name the band such??!!?

Jeff: The only carcass that I have come into contact with is that which sat on my plate for 14 years.

Ken: I've seen people who seem to be stone dead but no actual corpses as of yet. The name is crap, we know, but it suits the lyrics and music.

Bill: Yes, at one stage we did consider a name change to something a little more graphic, but soon decided it would be too unsettling for us. We're used to "CARCASS" and I still like the word a lot.

TT: How old are you guys & how long have you played your respective instruments?

Bill: Ken and myself are 18, Jeff is 19. I've been playing guitar "seriously" for 4 years, although I did begin at the age of 11 or something. Jeff & Ken began playing properly just over a year ago- well, actually about 2 years ago now that I think about.

TT: Can you talk about your first LP? Titles/cover and whatever else you'd like to mention?

Bill: Yes, we CAN talk about our LP- there is some freedom of speech left in Britain, you know! Haha. Seriously, the LP is titled "Reek of Putrefaction" and features 22 tracks of commercial hard rock. It's ideal for parties but also serves as soothing listening for any of your elderly relatives. Whoops, I'm getting silly again. Er, it's on Earache Records (PO Box 144, Nottingham, NG3 4GE, U.K.) and should be out by the time you read this (ed- it is out now). It shouldn't be too hard to get on import in the US (and Europe), so watch out for it if you're into this sort of thing. Titles? There isn't room for many but I'll tickle your fancy with the likes of "Vomited Anal Tract", "Manifestation of Verrucose Urethra", "Foeticide" and "Splattered Cavities".

TT: Any unusual things you've seen lately and would like to discuss?

Bill: Let me think here. I always forget any unusual incidents when I get asked something like this. A while ago, Ken was on a train late at night when some drunken idiot

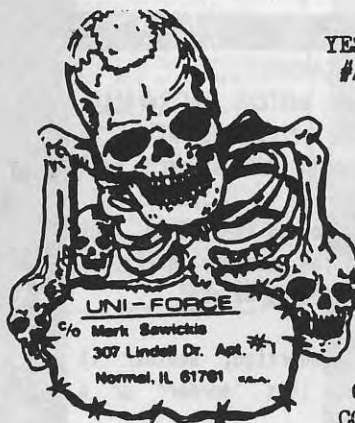
tried to molest him and offered him 10 pounds to "go somewhere" with him! Jeff has had some people mistake him for a woman, and recently an old lady thought he was a tramp and gave him 1 pound plus info on places to sleep rough! Like Jeff, I get a lot of abuse because of my hair, as well as prats trying to sell cannabis to me. There's often one or two totally senile old people to be seen in Heswall, including one woman whose back is so bent she can only see her feet! There are plenty of psychos in Liverpool, in fact 2 weeks ago I saw the police trying to deal with a woman who was totally wrecked after a drug overdose..

TT: Are your lyrics seriously SICK or just comical? I get the impression that you're parodying "sick" death metal bands by the sound of titles like "Genital Grinder", "Necrocannibal Bloodfeast" etc...

Bill: I wouldn't really call our lyrics comical, although they are definitely humorous. It's like a vicious circle in a way- the more humorous we get, the sicker we get, the more humorous we seem. I guess "tongue-in-cheek" is the suitable term to use because we are interested in the stuff we write about, but we don't want to take ourselves too seriously. Hopefully the new CARCASS lyrics will be even more D.T.T. than those on the LP. We'll do our best anyway.



You learned alot by reading this interview didn't you?! If you're inspired to contact these gore-meisters, you can write to: Bill, Thornwood, Tower Rd North, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside L60 6RS, U.K.



YES IT'S FINALLY OUT! UNIFORM ZINE #4. BETTER THAN EVER! FULL OF INTERVIEWS WITH: WEHRMACHT, NAPALM DEATH, BATHORY, SOCIAL DECAY, HELLION, IMMORAL DISCIPLINE, NATA DAVID T. CHASTAIN, REVENANT, AFTE MATH, REGURGITATION, MACABRE, DESECRATION(AZ), NECROPHAGIA, AGNOSTIC FRONT, SINDROME, D.B.C., + STUFF ON! RIGHTEOUS PIGS, GIORNESTO, AUTOPSY, INSECTICIDE, DEAD CONSPIRACY, WRECKAGE, BLACK PROPHECIES, CASBAH, SANTA CLAUS, CHEMICAL WASTE, M.I.S., GENERAL CONCERN, MUTILATOR, EXILE + MORE! PHOTOS, OVER 50 DEMO/VINYL REVIEWS, LOCAL SHOW REVIEWS, ZINE REVIEWS, AND ADDRESSES. ALL FOR \$3.00(\$4.00 Overseas). Checks + M.O.'s payable Mark Sawickis.

(309) 452-9270

CRAW MATTER

5
HANTIER
INTERDIT
PUBLIC



PORN ORCHARD

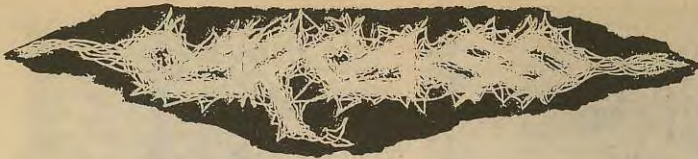


PRONG



SLAYER





Interview by Marcus Greiner

Some of you may know Bill Steer from the band Napalm Death. Deciding that one band and a fanzine (*Phonix Militia*) were not enough, he formed another band. Since Bill tells you more about the band in the interview, I will keep this intro short and end with an attempt at describing the sound of the band. First, it has to be stated that these guys are above average musicians. I know that most of you are laughing now. But, that just shows that you are extremely *prejudice*, judging the band simply by the name because I am sure most of you laughing haven't even heard this band. OK, back to the description; they combine the sounds of Repulsion, Master and some of the newer grind-core bands with the more metal sound of old Death. Need I say more? Everybody interested read this interview and then go out and get the album.

GRAY MATTER: Can you tell me something about the history of the band?

BILL: Various attempts at Carcass lineups existed from September '85 onward, although none of them lasted long. Carcass, as it is today, began in early '87. We had a vocalist at that stage, but thankfully he left before we were due to record our first LP.

GM: Are you satisfied with the album? How is the response to it?

BILL: No, we're not satisfied with the album at all. Some of the songs are still decent, but the drum sound is terrible, and the actual quality of the pressing leaves a lot to be desired, too. On the other hand, the LP has a very heavy sound which is essential for us. As for the response to it—well, the sales have been great for a record that's been banned by certain large shops and distributors. OK, it could've sold much better if we'd had the support of those people who refused to handle the LP (due to the cover), but there's no way we'll alter our record sleeves just to cater to someone's pathetic narrow-mindedness.

GM: You play in two bands and have a zine. Is there time for anything else?

BILL: Playing in two bands is extremely time-consuming, so much so that I haven't been able to put out a zine in over a year. If I'm not recording, rehearsing or playing live, I'm busy at home trying to keep up with all the mail I receive...so, being unemployed suits me fine at the moment! I have no time for a job.

GM: Are you still planning on releasing an EP on Earache?

BILL: Yeah, Earache may be releasing our John Peel session (which we recorded in December '88) as a 12". I hope that works out, although I hear that the BBC (who broadcast the J.P. show) are pretty slow in handing over the master tapes—even when a record company's bought them. That's a shame if it's true because we don't want another record to be released six months after it was recorded (as happened with the LP)...

GM: How do you go about writing your lyrics?

BILL: At the moment, Jeff writes most of our lyrics, tho' generally we all share the responsibility. The ideas come from anything grotesque or morbid that we learn about (diseases, injuries and so on), or sometimes we just expand upon sick concepts that form in our heads. Needless to say, we often refer to medical books to ensure that our lyrics are as graphic as possible—if there's one thing I hate, it's inarticulate lyric-writing!

GM: The whole metal-HC bonding seems to have died down lately, I feel, due to the fact that that people into HC labelled metal as being satanic, drug-crazed musicians only in it for the money. Would you agree with me on that?

BILL: I partially agree with you there. It's unfortunate, but there's certainly a lot of narrow-mindedness and bigotry within the hardcore scene. In some ways, it seems that the old rivalry between punk and metal has emerged again—except that this time a lot of hardcore distance themselves from metallers because of their supposed "attitude problem." Obviously, there are a lot of metalheads who are ignorant and apathetic, but that's no reason to discriminate against *anyone* who likes metal or has long hair. Besides, everyone deserves a chance—and, none of us can pretend that we were born vegetarian, anti-fascist and generally "right-on" can we? I feel that both "scenes" have a lot to learn. Open-mindedness is the key.

GM: Do you feel that Tom Warrior had the right to release a glam album under the name of C.F.?

BILL: Yes, he had every right. It's his name and his band, after all. Personally, I don't like the new C.F. LP judging by what I've heard from it, but I can't see why people get so worked up about the thing. C.F. is only a band—I mean, if they change their style, it's hardly the end of the world. I can't really understand what's going inside Warrior's head, but I respect the fact that he's been honest

enough to play the sort of music he likes, even if it makes him a lot of enemies.

GM: If you were in the shoes of M. Thatcher, what would you do to help your country?

BILL: A difficult question to answer! For a start, I have no wish whatsoever to be prime minister of Britain, or anywhere else for that matter. Secondly, I've never claimed to know the solution to Britain's problems. However, I feel that the conservative government has some very twisted morals and values. For example, they're more concerned with keeping our economy "thriving" than the welfare of the British public. I know it's an over-used cliché, but the rich really do seem to be getting richer while the poor get poorer. I'm also disgusted by the amount of power that the police have—let's face it, most of them aren't what you'd call geniuses (genii?), so it's not unusual to come across policemen with prejudiced attitudes against minorities. Many of the police are only too eager to resort to violence, and it's fair to say that they tend to be full of contempt for those of us who don't wear uniforms or don't think like "normal" people. Then, there's censorship (which I utterly detest)—jeez, I could go on and on...

GM: Do you feel that one should be as involved in politics as possible?

BILL: It depends what you mean by "should." There are people with no political interest at all wherever you go—it's no use just telling them to "get aware"; they'll only sit up and take notice of what's going on around them if it happens to capture their interest. Most people appear to regard politics as a rather boring subject that should be ignored, and I felt the same way up until a few years ago. Now, I find it hard to understand how anyone can't take an interest in what's happening to our planet. I won't pretend that I'm living and breathing politics 24 hours a day, but I do my best to stay aware of it all. In a way, my eating habits are political (i.e. I avoid eating anything that involves animal exploitation), and there are certain companies whose behaviour I don't approve of—therefore, I don't buy their products. I also like to think that Carcass has done its bit (however small) to bug the pro-censorship types by putting out an album with a so-called "offensive" cover and "obscene" lyrics. I guess most of us are too busy getting on with our everyday lives and trying to enjoy ourselves to get too heavily into politics, but we have to remember that enjoying ourselves and living everyday life as we want becomes harder as the government starts making even more of our decisions for us.

GM: If you had a chance to tour the States, what band would you take along?

BILL: God, there are so many bands to choose from! I'd love to tour with Macabre...or Nihilist from Sweden...or Morbid Angel...or Immolation...or perhaps Master, Repulsion, or Insanity would be kind enough to reform!

GM: OK, thanks for the interview. Any last comments?

BILL: Thanks for some interesting questions. Sorry if my answers tend to get rather long-winded! I'd just like to add that if anyone reading this enjoyed our *Reek of Putrefaction* LP, they should check out our more recent recordings (i.e. the *Symphonies of Sickness* demo and radio session) as they're far more representative of our style. Our new material is infinitely more brutal and complex than anything on the album.

So, there you have it, the new U.K. thrash gods. Anybody writing to them please include an IRC (avail. at your friendly neighborhood post office).

CARCASS / c/o Bill / Thornwood, Tower Rd. North / Heswall / Wirral / Merseyside / L60 6RS ENGLAND.

