

BAD COMPILATION TAPES

FOE talks with Chris of BCT

FOE 1st off could you give us a history of BCT.

BCT Me & Dave met writing about HC in an old zine, Noise For Heroes. We both liked comps-Charred Remains, No Core, Chainsaw, San Jose comps etc. Around mid 82 we went all over the punk comps & ROIR and took the ideas of each that most appealed. Early 83 we put little ads in MRR Flipside and Rockerilla in Italy cuz of some guy visiting the US from there. Roberto Schavio of Poison Dist. sent us 18 Italian bands and Antonio of CCM came to CA in 83 and we made the LWC tapes recorded in Dec. in Pisa. Big business leaves punk music alone so all these bands form & you can find lots you never hear of otherwise than comps. We use every thrash HC tune that sounds good to pack 60 & 90 min. tapes. Eventually this should all pay for itself. We want to get music to anyone wants to hear it. With \$700 we got a double deck, 200 tapes, stamps etc. then put ads in MRR, which hasn't paid for itself but brings in the most responses, plus ads in about 20 US and 20 European zines some for free and some for tape trades. The 1st tapes were sold in Oct. 83. Me and Dave recently split after getting on each others nerves after 2 yrs. Me and Christopher do it now.

FOE How are the sales of the tapes going, any go platinum yet?

BCT We sold about 800 thru the mail 300 to stores and 1 distributor. Plus we send 2 copies of the tape they're on to the 127(or so) bands on our current 18 tapes. Raw Power sold about 175 at \$2 each. Just now trying to sell direct to stores cuz this keeps the middleman costs down and the tapes then sell for about \$5 not \$6.50. We sell them to stores for \$3.25-3.50. Seems about 6 other punk tapes told us they sold about 200 tops. Most BCT tapes have sold about 50 each. 1, 2, 6, 8 around 100. this is frustrating. I think mail order is limiting plus vinyl sells from 100-5000 in punk. So we will

release with someone a 2lp of greatest hits of BCT 1-23 next year. We saw that with xerox, tape and world mail you got direct communication, exchange & printing & pressing at everyones access. Speaking of communication, with zines and this is all volunteer stuff everyone does, the spirit of telling financial status, info and facts are ways to use business methods mixed with great cooperation and little or no profit which lets us all use and side step the straight system.

FOE Why did you choose you name, doesn't the "Bad" sort of give people the wrong outlook of what you're doing?

BCT Bad name but what the fuck. We toyed with crazy assholes & my wife wanted stoned delusions (we talked about doing for about a year). Dave had the first full concept of tape releases and he liked the Sat Night live bad theatre (or something). So we try to make the tapes real quality, by losing little in the transfer and very little space between songs, full page or more on each band (not every band has sent paper but fuck, there's no deadlines or commitments or contracts, just fair punk enterprise and the vast majority of people in punk are real genuine and cool) So with reviews and customer exposure to the tapes we hope people can see that the releases are good qual.

FOE What are some of your future proj.

BCT Fiends of UK 60 min. live and demo out early next year. 12 & 18 are 2 90's a US and a world comp. Minutemen 2 live shows tape plus we're talking to a person in each of these countries and a comp. could come out of each; UK, Finland, Australia, Yugoslavia, Poland. And we're working on F.P.E. an Italian band, Funeral Oration a great Holland band, kinda Italy and more, whatever comes up.

FOE Are the people who work at BCT into Hardcore?

BCT Whatever the term is, the main drug is fast, hard and great music & sometimes lyrics. We like other stuff too. Dave was Jerry Lees Lewis and the song LOUIE LOUIE and some hard heavy metal & me is Teenage Jesus and the Jerks Mars, DNA Lounge Lizards, Johnathan Richman, Steel Pulse, Pere Ubu, etc...

But the main shit is always Meatmen, Angry samoans, Minor Threat, Urinals Meat Puppets and tons more & more to be discovered all the time. I think we're lucky to have so much great modern music to enjoy & mass media etc.. ignores it. Real grass roots underground, street rock from and for those who like it. No restrictions cheap access, self production equal no strings on any of us besides trying to make some sort of living.

FOE What are your favorite tapes?

BCT Bad Brains on ROIR, Last White Xmas#1, No Core of N. Carolina, Charred Remains, Music On Fire, Raw Power, Wrecks of Reno, Declino of Italy, I'm Buck Naked, Really Fast Swedish, IV Reich of Spain, Funeral Oration and lots of the live and demo recordings that are traded.

FOE What type of equipment do you use, and could you give any hints to the just starting tape organization?

BCT We got a Technics M222 for \$240 mail order from NY. Now a lot of 2bl. decks are out, good ones for about \$140. These are mainly things we got from other releases but of course the main thing is to do whatever you want Communication (share facts, zines do this great) cooperation which most all punks seem to do on their own, which is great. Zines list addresses and maybe reviews of other zines and comps ask for bands & fill orders and every one can correspond if they want so we're all working together while being independent. We keep all correspondence and put it in different categories and then in envelopes so you don't need to shuffle thru 500 papers to find something. We put all orders in one big book to not lose track. We filed our assumed name with the city and state to avoid tax hassle in future cuz we expected to be around for more than a year and the taxes are real small cuz its practically a no profit situation (so far just losses like most punk bussiness) We use TDK-D for about a buck each. If you use cheap made tapes they can break in a while. 3 of us got 10 ROIR BASF tapes and 4 broke

We opened a checking account to be able to take checks and money orders Plus they cash foreign currency free and only charge \$2 for bounced checks but of 350 cheks and money orders so

far, none bounced! Still I hate banks (and insurance companies) but it seems to work best. 4th class mail (with supposedly no letter inside) is 63¢ for up to 5 tapes. It takes 1-2 weeks. Christian and Armin of Denmark and Germany are making and selling all BCT tapes from masters we sent them. They give us 75¢ (or punk trade) for each sold and overseas punks order for less Plus guys in Spain, Italy, and Finland UK and Australia will. We release the tapes of others like Kaaos of Finland and Tropical Viruses of Braziland give them \$1.20 each sold. (but now 50¢ due to the \$5000 loss of the Raw Power tour which is on credit card bills and a pain) We put the songs from the tape sent onto the master and tape off of that. Maxell tapes are good too. We never release anything without the band permission. We use the pages they sent or make one from stuff they send us and xerox that. We made a catalog listing the tapes, bands, # of cuts, where from and all reviews we've seen. Some people soap their stamps and some use illegal credit cards but I avoid them cuz I figure there's no free lunch.

FOE Anything you'd like to add.

BCT The tour was great. Raw Power was awesome live and great people and the 24 US cities had cooperative people and decent to great scenes. Unfortunately the tour got out of hand financially but we finished it. And Riistetyt (Holy Dolls) were some of the punks (few Punk we ever met who were not decent people (but the drummer was) Sadly they stole over \$600 in phone calls from at least 5 punks that put them up free in trust

Aside from that we had a blast and met a ton of great people. Also MRR does a great job of keeping world punk in contact if we want and nothing can stop punk unless, who knows and who cares. Thanks, later. ps PA was a great state and LCD of Philly too and Christian is helping put the spring Raw Power tour together.....

F.U.'S "Do We Really Want To Hurt U This is a much catchier release than "My America" but doesn't sacrifice its power. A good-great record.

HATES "Panacea"

Cool comics and lyrics included. Melodic, poppy sound with the vocals out in front. I liked their earlier stuff better.