

NEW BOMB TURKS

I spoke to Jim from the New Bomb Turks over the phone before their gig in Philly.... The Turks are Jim on guitar, Bill on Drums, Eric doing the vocal thing, and Matt on bass...

FOE What kind of set up do you use for your guitar? You have one of the rawest sounds around...

JIM Two Fender Twins that I run simultaneously, and a Gibson SG and an (unintelligible, sorry) tube driver. My tube drivers are broken, and they don't make them any more... so I have to find some electronics guy to fix them.

FOE What is up with that temporary paralysis flyer you put in your new live 12"?

JIM Temporary paralysis?

FOE You haven't seen it?

JIM No...

FOE The live 12" on Anyway Records... There's an insert in there on "how to produce temporary paralysis".

JIM Wait hold on... (as he rummages through.. looking for the record). Let me see here...

FOE You haven't even looked at it yet!

JIM No, well I haven't looked at the insert. That's just Eric. I just play guitar. I don't care what the damn thing looks like. I guess it's just supposed to be funny.

FOE Oh yeah, I think it's great!

JIM Oh I thought maybe you were upset about it..

FOE Did you all go to college?

JIM Yes.

FOE Did you all get degrees?

JIM Yes.

FOE Why?

JIM Uhh. Cause at the time that's what I wanted to do. I got a degree in English. I want to teach. I'm not gonna be in the New

Bomb Turks for the rest of my life. I never really even thought about being in a band until I met Eric in college. That's when I started playing guitar. We're very lucky the way things turned out. With Crypt putting out our records, and being fairly successful.

FOE Do you wish you would have dropped out of college and started your rock and roll career a little earlier?

JIM No not really. We're still waiting for Bill to finish grad school. He's getting his teaching degree. He'll take a quarter off every now and then to do a tour... It's pretty much a full time thing. I do temp work every once in awhile. It makes you appreciate being in a band. I also help out at a record store here. Other than that, the band is my job. Though I wouldn't call it a job.

FOE Are most of your singles out of print?

JIM I think the only ones still in print are the first Sympathy one, and the first Bag of hammers one. We are going to release a cd with all of the singles on it. Most of the songs will be remixed. We did that like two weeks ago. There will be some extra stuff on it too. Some live stuff, some early four track material. I think it will be available on a double album, on Crypt in October. Then we'll do a new album in Spring of 1996.

FOE I suppose you'll be doing a lot of touring in between.

JIM Yeah, we're doing two weeks when we'll be down to Philly, two weeks down South. We're going to Japan in July, playing with Teengenerate. We toured with them in Europe, and we got along great with those guys. In August we'll probably tour around the US again.

FOE Here's a Devil Dogs related question... You know how everyone knows where they were and what they were doing when they heard Kennedy got shot.... What were you doing when you heard the Devil Dogs broke up?



How to produce a temporary paralysis:

I. 1) Before going to bed wrap a round stone, eraser or short piece of rubber tubing in gauze tissue and fasten firmly to exert pressure on spot x (x is the spot where your "funnybone" is located) with tight bandage and allow to remain over night. Take bandage off in the morning.



Fig. 1

Right arm. marks nerve at location of "funnybone".

2) Repeat for several days in succession until there is a numb feeling in your forearm and hand. The numbness and lack of strength which remains for only a few minutes after the first treatments, will last for an increasing length of time in the course of further treatment.



Fig. 2
Left arm. rear view.

3) When a sufficient degree of paralysis has resulted report to doctor. Describe exactly what you feel; tell him that the condition which started suddenly is becoming worse and worse in the course of time.



Fig. 3
Right leg. rear view. Nerve coloured red.

4) Continue bandaging your arm from time to time to keep up paralysis, but under no circumstances let the doctor find any traces of the bandage. If there are bandage marks on your arm better not report until they are gone which is usually the case after 24 hours at the latest.

FOE DON'T RECOMMEND THIS OR ENDORSE THIS... IT'S HERE FOR SHEAR AMAZEMENT...

DISCOGRAPHY

This New Bomb Turks discography is in approximate order.. there are probably some omissions, hell I added three to the list that the publicity company gave me... happy hunting, or just wait for the compilation...

- split 7" with Gaunt (Datapanik) "Tail Crush/Outta My Mind" (reissued on "Shave the Baby" cd
- 3 songs on "Bumped by Karaoke" cd comp. (Datapanik)
- 4 song 7" "Crying Into the Beer of A Drunk Man" (Datapanik) reissued by (Dogmeat)
- lp "Destroy Oh Boy" (Crypt)
- 7" "I'm Weak" (Get Hip)
- 7" "Trying to Get By" (Sympathy)
- 7" "So Young, So Fair, So Debonair" (Empty)
- 7" "Cowtown Vol. 2" comp. "Pist" (Anyway)
- 7" "Sharpen Up Time" (Bag Of Hammers)
- 7" "Youngblood" (Damaged Goods)
- 10" comp "Happy Birthday Baby Jesus" (Sympathy)
- 7" "I Wanna Sleep (Billy Childish sessions)" (Demolition Derby)
- 10" "Drunk on Cock" (Engine)
- 7" split with Sinister Six (Bag Of Hammers)
- 7" split with Devil Dogs (Helter Skelter)
- cd "Cheapo Crypt Sampler" 2 songs from first lp (Crypt)
- pic disc 7" "Sinking Feeling" (Sympathy)
- lp "Information Highway Revisited" (Crypt)
- 12" "Live 1993 on VPRO Radio" (Anyway)

JIM Well, I know I talked to Andy and he told me, so I was probably sitting at home. I guess I was one of the first people outside of New York to know. It was an ongoing thing, cuz I talk to him pretty frequently on the phone. He was going back and forth for awhile. I had seen it coming. Andy wanted to start something else. Weird situation. I wish they would get back

together. I've been very fortunate being in this band. Touring with great bands like the Devil Dogs. Playing with Supersuckers and Teengenerate. Touring with the Dogs is one of my fondest memories.

FOE You are throwing a lot of thanks and good will around to other bands, but I know a lot of bands think that the New Bomb Turks are one of the best bands around. Why do you think so many bands and people like your music so much?

JIM I don't really know. I think it's because it is simple, easy to understand, and yet the lyrics are fairly involved. But at the same time you can just get off on the energy and have a good time. Loud, fast rock and roll. We're all such great music fans, so if we think a song is good...

FOE What's up with this Entombed (one of the best "death metal" bands around) thing I've been hearing about?

JIM Oh yeah, we're doing a split single with them. They had played here in Columbus not too long ago, and they had, well you know Paul at Nasty Little Man, he used to do press for Entombed, so they hooked them up with our first record, and their drummer, really liked us. Well, when they came to Columbus we got to talking about how a lot of death metal fans don't know anything about like rock n roll, and we decided to do a split single. They're doing a Roky Erikson cover and we're doing the Anti Nowhere League's "I Hate People".

FOE What do you think about the mixing of the styles? Do you think it will open doors? It's a great thing for me, cuz, the New Bomb Turks and Entombed are two of my favorites...

JIM Even if they just listen the other side once, it's an introduction. It's not really that far apart. For what Entombed do, they are one of the best.

FOE The new album title, "Information Highway Revisited", do you know why it was called that?

JIM It's a play on the Bob Dylan record. We were really close to the deadline, and nothing really... it was funny at the time. I

don't usually put any significance in titles, it's just something to call the record.

FOE The production on the new album is a little bit cleaner than previous recordings...

JIM We used 16 tracks compared to the first album which was 8 track, while the singles were generally recorded on anything from 2 to 8 tracks. The drums are a lot bigger sounding and the whole thing is crisper, though still raw. That's what I like about it. People talk about 24 tracks, you just end up spending more time in the studio. 16 tracks is more than enough.

FOE The reason why I like your band so much is a combination of the sound and the fact that you have so many songs, and none of them are crap!

JIM We're very conscious of making sure that each song doesn't sound the same. There's only so much you can do when you're working with the same four chords over and over. But that's kinda why it takes us so long between records. I'm really pleased with how "Information..." turned out. The first album was like two years worth of work, and we had been playing them so long before going in to record them. We had basically released an album's worth of material inbetween the two albums, on 7" and 10".

FOE How did you hook up with Billy Childish (who recorded their "I Wanna Sleep" 7")?

JIM Through Tim Warren who runs Crypt. He put out a bunch of Billy Childish stuff. Thee Mighty Caesars and a couple of Headcoats albums. We were in England on our first tour, and we had a day off and we looked him up. We sat around the kitchen, he's a real interesting guy, so we asked him if he would record us. He said sure. So we did it.

FOE The single is very Billy Childish.

JIM It's weird, cuz a lot of the kids that buy our records are into hardcore and are only into it if it's hard and fast. We get people coming up to us after gigs "Man that 7" really BLOWS!" And we're like why? Why does it blow? And

they are always like, "Well, I don't know, there's no guitar on it, and it's slow and dumb, and I just hate it." Maybe in a couple of years they'll appreciate it.

FOE I've got two kind of odd questions to end up with... Any "bomb" backlash, with your name since the Oklahoma bombings?

JIM I haven't really even thought about that.. Not at all. Some backlash, not backlash, but a lot of people in Germany didn't know what it meant. They have this thing where they are really down on the Turkish people. And they are the foreigners they want to kick out of the country. So we had a lot of blank stares. But nothing since the Oklahoma bombings.

FOE No government agencies tapping your phone.

JIM I guess we'll find out. I mean, I belong to a militia, but you know, that's just between you and me...

FOE And we hope no one else heard that....

JIM To you guys on the other line, don't worry about it, it's just a joke...

FOE The other oddball question is actually a two part question. How many people do you know that have been through drug or alcohol rehabs, or quit either of the two?

JIM Um... (long pause as he counts)... like six...

FOE And part two of the question, how many people do you know who should go through rehabs?

JIM (Laughter, I mad him laugh, alright!) About 35! Well I don't know, probably mostly alcohol. I don't really know anyone who does the drug thing. You meet your share on tour.

FOE The booze is the big problem.

JIM Yeah it is... it is... but you know, it's also the big joy at the same time. How can something that is so good, be so bad....

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