

BELFAST'S BURNING!

CLASH
MEMORIE HALL
DEC. 17th

ARMED POLICE SURROUNDED THE QUEUE OF "SUB-HUMAN PUNKROCKERS" OUTSIDE THE S.U., AND LIFTED ANYONE THEY CAUGHT SINGING. HEAVY MANNERS. BY THE TIME I GOT IN, THE LOUS

WERE HALF-WAY THROUGH THEIR SET, SO I CAN'T FIND MUCH TO SAY ABOUT THEM REALLY. ANYWAY, WE WERE THERE TO HEAR THE CLASH, WHO WERE FINALLY PLAYING BELFAST. THE PLACE WENT WILD AS THEY LAUNCHED INTO "COMPLETE CONTROL", AND FROM THEN ON THE BAND GOT HOTTER AND HOTTER. THEY PLAYED ALL THE BEST SONGS FROM THE ALBUM (WITH A REALLY GOOD VERSION OF "POLICE + THIEVES") AS WELL AS "1977", "CITY OF THE DEAD" AND "WHITE BOY IN HAMMERSMITH PALAIS". JUST BY WATCHING THE BAND I REALISED THAT HERE WAS REAL ROCK MUSIC FOR THE ORDINARY KIDS WHO DON'T HAVE PHD'S, MUSIC THAT DOESN'T FEATURE MOGS OR DIMINISHED ILL'S, BUT DOES HAVE REAL EXCITEMENT. IT WAS GREAT TO SEE PUNKS AND LONG-HAIRED BEARDIES POGGING TOGETHER TO THE CLASH. THERE WAS A VERY POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE THAT'S HARD TO DESCRIBE, BUT SOMEHOW EVERYTHING SEEMED RIGHT. ANYWAY, WHEN THE CLASH PLAYED "BELFAST'S BURNING" THE WHOLE PLACE WENT CRAZY. BY ANY STANDARDS, THE GIG WAS INCREDIBLE.

AFTERWARDS, THE BAND SEEMED REALLY PLEASED BY THE AUDIENCE, EXCEPT, OF COURSE, THE MORONS WHO INSIST ON GOBBING ("IT'S REALLY DISGUSTING AND STUPID." - MICK) THEY ALL ASSURED ME THAT THEY'D BE BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN. THE NEW ALBUM, THEY SAY, WILL BE OUT IN FEBRUARY, WITH POSSIBLY A SINGLE BEFORE THAT.

THANKS TO MILK (FOR TELLING US ALL ABOUT SAMARA) THE DOLL

BECKY
BIRCHSTONE
EDUCATION UNIT
- 2000
BTS OCEA

PART
ONE

CLASH

future concerts are assured.

McMORRIS HALL QUEEN'S

NAPALM BELFAST



HA, I KNEW THEY'D COME OVER ALL ALONG. THE ONLY QUESTION WAS - WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY DO. THE ANSWERS WERE REVEALED ON 17/12/77.

IT'S OBLIGATORY, NAY FASHIONABLE, IN THESE LIBERTINE DAYS TO RATTLE OFF THE REQUIRED TIRADE AGAINST STRUMMER & CO., THERE'S SAFETY IN NUMBERS REMEMBER? BUT LET ME TELL YOU, EVEN THOUGH AS I WRITE THIS KNOWING THAT AS WE WAITED IN BOILING IGNORANCE THE CLASH WERE PLANNING TO FLY BACK TO OLD BLIGHTY, I FEEL NO REAL MALICE. WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT? IF IT WENT CANCELLED IT'S ON LATE, THAT'S NO DISAPPOINTMENT. I MAY EVEN HAVE ENJOYED THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE QUEUE WHEN WE KNEW WE WERE REALLY GETTING IN TO SEE SYMBOLS OF DECADENCE + PENT UP ANGER THAT BECAME ONLY IMAGES IN THE N.I.E. SEARCHED ONE AT A TIME AFTER A CLIMATIC WHITE RIOT/BOOM SINGALONG + BEING CRUSHED AS THE MASS OF CLASH CITY LEANINGS SURGED TO BE STRIPPED OF THEIR REGAL ROTTEN FINERY, IT FEEL FINE.

PROBABLY A BOLD NIGHT FOR PUSERS, I SAW A FEW DESTROY/CLASH/ANARCHY T-SHIRTS (HEY, THAT A REAL SLITTERED JOB? HOW MUCH?) AND I DIDN'T CARE HELL, YOU'RE ALL PUSERS, YOU HAVE TO BE + IT'S IDENTICAL THAT THE CLASH, REPRESENTING THE STREET LEVEL, YOU/ME CHARACTERS, HAVE BECOME REAL STARS WHO AFFECT PEOPLES' EMOTION + CAUSE THEM TO PAY £2.50 FOR A GLIMPSE + LISTEN TO THEM. NOPE, I STILL DON'T CARE.

"WAS THERE TROUBLE" SORRY JUNIOR NAME AT ALL. 100 PUNKS, MAYBE LESS, KEPT WAITING TOO LONG BY THE REAL CONTROLERS (KEPT THEIR HEADS TIGHT THOUGH THEY'D ALL THE WRONG PEOPLE (WERE THERE ANY RIGHT ONES?)) + THE GUITARIST IN [CONT. OVER TYPAGE DONTEHA KNOW] offers from many cop punk bands

SAY RIGHT TO STORM THE BUILDING, ARRESTED

