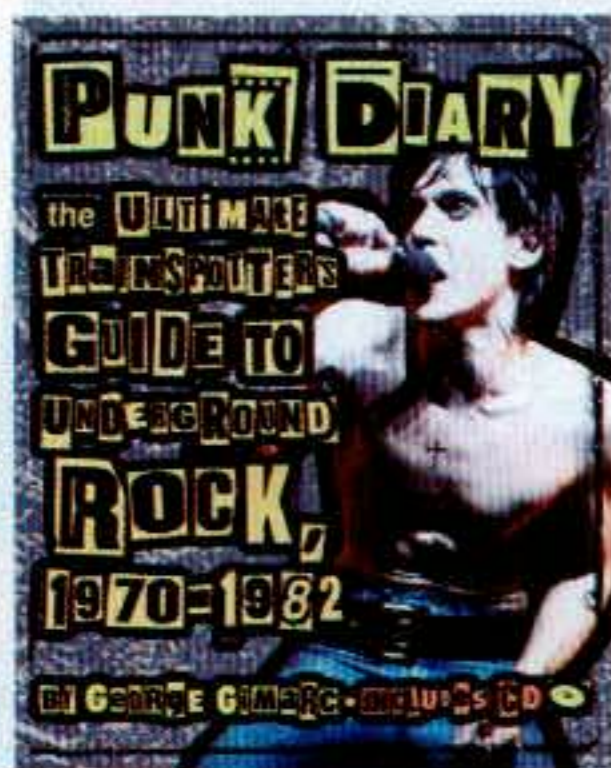


## BATHROOM READING



### PUNK DIARY

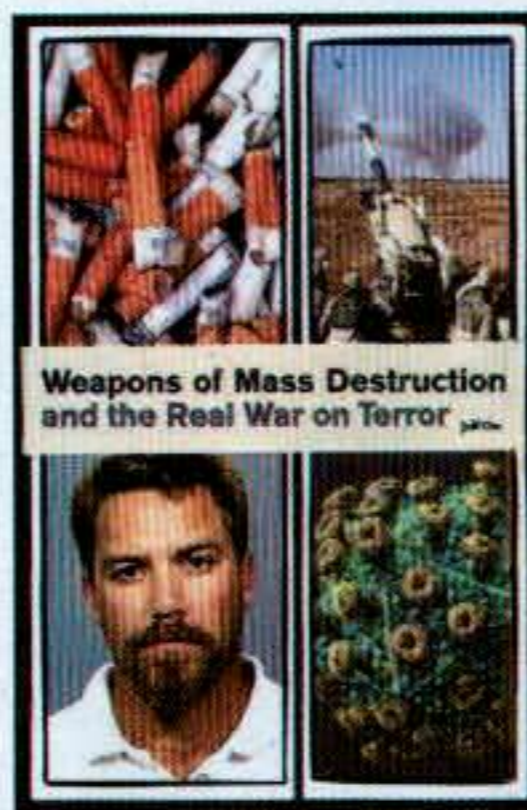
*The Ultimate Trainspotter's Guide To Underground Rock: 1970-1982*  
by George Gimarc  
(Backbeat Books) 744 pages.

The perfect book to have to prepare for that day when you audition for *Punk Jeopardy*. Somehow George Gimarc has managed to cull enough clippings and notes to cobble together this day-by-every-other-day chronicle of events in the twelve year period

from the release of *The Stooges Funhouse* to punk rock's glittery grave of the new wave era.

In this encyclopedia-thick tome, we learn the sad minutiae that is the history of the *New York Dolls*, that Sid Vicious was named for a hamster, and that the first noted use of the term "punk" was for a *Suicide* gig in 1972.

Though it riddled with misspellings and redundancies, this may well stand its ground as the second best punk book ever, right after *Please Kill Me*.



### WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

*and the Real War on Terror*  
by Jeff Ott  
(Sub City) 205 pages.

Whether you can't stand *Fifteen's* Jeff Ott or he doesn't bother you all that much, it can't be argued that the man is passionate and thorough and dogged in his convictions.

In *Weapons of Mass Destruction...* he applies his research to the nuts and bolts of the agendas behind the current administration's war policies, and about 100 other things that seemed to cross his mind when he was researching the subject matter. From AIDS statistics to same-sex marriage to...oh right, the invasion of Iraq, he takes a knowledgeable stand on each, dishing out figures and notions until he decides to take it in another direction.

On the whole, this reads as one long coffee-house conversation between one highly-opinionated guy and his friend, the really really good listener. Perfect for the bathroom, you can easily pick and choose the topics to activate your captive mind for whatever short time span suits your mood and the moment.

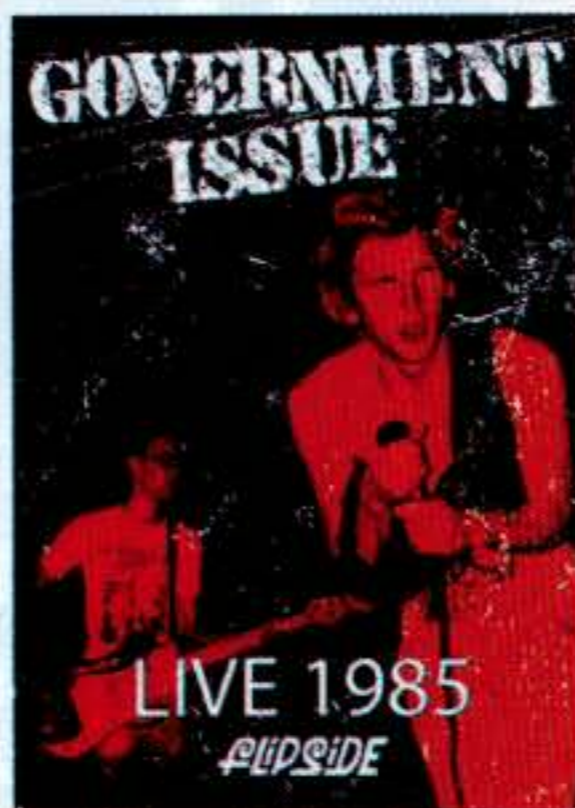
## HARDCORE DVDS



### DWARVES

*Fuck You Up And Get Live*  
(MVD)

Is there a raconteur more charming and urbane than the radiant Blag Dahlia? If there is, I don't wanna know. Right here is a pretty standard and tame live performance (for these guys.) If you've seen them in the last ten years, this is probably how you remember it, for better and for just as good. All the big hits are in evidence; *Back Seat of My Car*, *FEFU*, *Must Have Blood* and more. Lotsa good crowd swirling and extras, like videos and whatnot. HeWhoCanNotBeNamed jumping into the front row naked. An endearing anecdote of a young girl professing her "loss of innocence" whilst being serenaded to "Back Seat of My Car." The usual. Some boobies. Gary Owens.



### GOVERNMENT ISSUE

*LIVE 1985*  
(Flipside/MVD)

Back when there were only a couple of people shooting video for the hardcores (Flipside and Target), the quality was totally iffy and the sound was most often suspect at best. Surprisingly, this set of two gigs filmed on a California jaunt (sponsored by Nard-Core benefactor Mystic Records) came out uncharacteristically clear and clean. Yeah, the lighting is the usual dim and blue, but it comes out looking pretty good. This is a must for any Stabbophiles out there. While they are most definitely better on record, this gives a pretty straight approximation of what it was like to be at a *GI* show during their prime.

"Reagan, man, he sucks. I know I go by the White House every day and say 'Fuck you Ronnie.'" --John Stabb Schroeder



**BLANK THE WORLD** 16 Slammin' Performances by the Best Punk and Hardcore Bands  
*This World Has to Offer* (Blank TV/Woodhaven Entertainment)

A punk comp from around the world that gives one-fourth of the proceeds to Amnesty International. Well-presented, with snappy graphics announcing each band by their country of origin.

The world has to offer some excellent bands doing it the old school way, like Brazil's *Blind Pigs*, New Zealand's *Sommerset* and the stylistic sartorial potpourri of Germany's *Broilers*. The USA's *Street Dogs* put in a good turn with their international mega-hit "You Alone," but the all-star here is Cuba's *Porno Para Ricardo*, with the kick-in-the-pants and slightly innovative video for "El Cake." The dude is wearing an old camera around his neck like he Flavor Flav!

If this DVD world report proves only one thing, it's that *Rancid* is really popular throughout the world, and ska will never die.