

THE DEATH DEALERS OF TOMORROW

MEGADEATH

Sure, there's no life 'till leather, but is there life after METALLICA? METALLICA's former raging lead guitarist Dave Mustaine has wasted little time in getting back on his feet following his expulsion from the band. His new band, MEGADEATH, have the potential to be the new band of 1983! They recently completed a very rough demo tape of several new compositions, and after recently hearing it, I can safely say this band easily matches METALLICA in terms of mayhem, and could very well surpass them!



The MEGADEATH lineup consists of Dave Mustaine on lead guitar, Dijon Ellefson on bass, Gregg Handevit on rhythm guitar, and Richard Girod on drums. They've shuffled around vocalists over the last month, but several prospective singers are currently being considered, so the position will definitely be filled very soon. Ellefson and Girod are an unbelievably fast and talented rhythm section who buoy the band's killer twin guitar attack brilliantly. If you thought METALLICA were brain damaging, wait until you hear this lot!!!

Of course, without first rate material, this band, no matter how talented and bludgeoning, wouldn't mean a thing. Thankfully Mustaine & Co. have written some masterpieces of uncompromising aural impalers. "No Time" will be the band's live set opener, and its anti-nuclear lyrics and ultra-fast pace combine to make it an instant classic. "Self Destruct" deals with the true story of a girl who lived in Minnesota in 1906 who's father believed was a witch. Her distraught parent, determined to save his daughter's soul from the devil, buried her alive in the family's cemetery plot. The song is based upon the macabre epitaph written on her gravestone.

Heavy stuff to say the least! Some other songs in the MEGADEATH arsenal include "Hair Pin Trigger", "Speak No Evil" (Fast!), "Eye For Eye", and "Heaven Knows". MEGADEATH will also perform a medley of METALLICA songs during their live sets.

You're probably asking yourself, "Why the name MEGADEATH?" Admittedly, the name is "juvenile" sounding, but there is a reason for it. Mustaine happened to read a pamphlet written by U.S. Senator Alan Cranston on the subject of nuclear war and "megadeath" kept coming up in it as a term for complete destruction. Hence the name MEGADEATH... absolute destruction of the senses!

Dave Mustaine was always the center-point of METALLICA's onstage personality (and off stage as well), and it's unfortunate he and the band have parted company. However, with MEGADEATH he's back on track and you can bet he's gonna be storming back more raging than ever! While talking with him recently, the subject of his old band inevitably came up and when asked what he thought of METALLICA's album "Kill 'Em All", his answer was terse and straightforward, "It's really weak compared to what the band should and could be doing; the new "Jump In The Fire" is pitiful. I must say it surprised me to hear a Dave Mustaine clone too; I'm proud and flattered Kirk is performing a lot of my lead chops. I was expecting some killer original axester to be replacing me, not a clone!" He also made it clear that MEGADEATH are definitely together, contrary to the rumors going around that it's all a put on he's staging, "A lot of people don't believe I'm ever gonna get my shit together and get this band going. All I can say to them is instead of looking behind to see if I'm coming, turn around so you can eat my dust!" "I learned a big lesson with METALLICA, but MEGADEATH are my main concern now. I'd just assume meet METALLICA onstage with my new band and blow the shit out of them. It'll take everything they fuckin' have just to keep up with us!"

An "official" demo tape will be completed soon, and MEGADEATH will be making their live debut in late-Sep-

tember-early-October, with San Francisco definitely being on the band's itinerary (In fact, their live debut will more than likely take place in S.F.). MEGADEATH are without a doubt the band to watch for in '83, and they're just what the doctor ordered, FAST, LOUD, and HEAVY!

Brian Lew

ATOMKRAFT

"At Total Metal, we're the best, and we're not the goddam dirtiest. We'll chew you up, mess you about, let Total Metal spit you out." One look at their promo pic, and you know these guys from Newcastle, England really mean it!



Thrashing, smashing, grinding, Atomic Metal ala VENOM, this is the kind of Metal that makes dead people's ears bleed! ATOMKRAFT recorded their demo at the legendary Impulse Studios, and the two tracks, "Total Metal" and "Death Valley", are complete glorifications of... well, "total metal"! Without labeling them clones, I can safely say this lot (though not Satanic) should please even the most hardcore VENOM fans.

ATOMKRAFT are: Tony Dolan (bass/throat cancer growls), who obviously takes voice lessons from Chronos, Steve White (mad axe man), and Paul Spillet (percussion and destruction). Mind you, this band is not recommended for everyone, especially those with heart conditions, but for all you hardcore maniacs, ATOMKRAFT are for you! Don't play their demo loud, play it to death!