# BROTHEL CREEPERS OVER AMERICA




## OR SUEDES OVER THE STATES

Part 2..

A ROCK AND ROLL RESCUE OPERATION

The Clash are in Chicago where the streets can be intimidating if you're a goddam, wimp, English white boy like me. Battered, old pimpmobiles limp around like wounded animals and the most popular taxi style resembles a mobile, size two hundred and seventeen Dr. Martens boot with a girder slapped around it for a fender and a MADE IN HONGKONG style colour scheme complete with painted on windows and driver. After the false start of Monterey.




things clicked into gear in Minneapolis where it rains a fair amount and the Undertones and David Johannson supported the Clash at the Civic Centre and it became evident that a lot of Americans do still care about rock and roll rather than Rock Music. The excitement HAS finally touched the U.S. and though it's bad news for English isolationists and Public Images the Clash are not going to get lost over here. American rockers need the example of the Clash every bit as much as England, and when you think of the horrendous alternatives doing the rounds and the impracticability of the rock and roll population of the States being imported, common sense says that they have to get out here periodically to stamp their authority on the cowboys.




Where I hide behind a double-locked door from the violence and intimidation which is room service coming to tidy up and empty the ashtrays. A ride through darkened, beat-up streets, over heavyduty industrial bridges roughly banged together from enormous lengths of junk metal and tossed haphazardly over rivers of raw sewage and worse, delivered the Clash to their first Chicago show at the Aragon ballrooms. The Aragon is the result of mating the Ponderosa ranch with the Albert Hall, setting it down in Blackpool in Scots week and calling in the Mongol hordes. And the Mongol hordes love the Clash! The Undertones and Bo Diddley stoked up the rampant insanity and by the time the Clash had finished their set the audience had melted down into a heap of steaming insides and twitching nerve ends slithering around the floor of the theatre. Songs like The Right Profile, GUNS In Brixton, Revolution Rock are being infiltrated into the older material and making for a great new Clash set. This band is still rock and roll central and the standards they're setting on every level are still so high. Any of the popular English criticisms of them have to be measured against their admirable achievements. GOT TO MOVE NOW - NEXT WEEK AMERICAN T.V. AND THE MEANING OF LIFE.




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