

Rolling Stone

Camera crew to document tour by Police

By Kurt Loder

"They won't know what hit them," says Miles Copland, the Police's manager, of the band's upcoming show in Bombay. That performance is just part of a three-month, 10-country tour that includes stops in many countries with limited exposure to rock 'n' roll — and some, like India, where there have never been any rock shows at all.

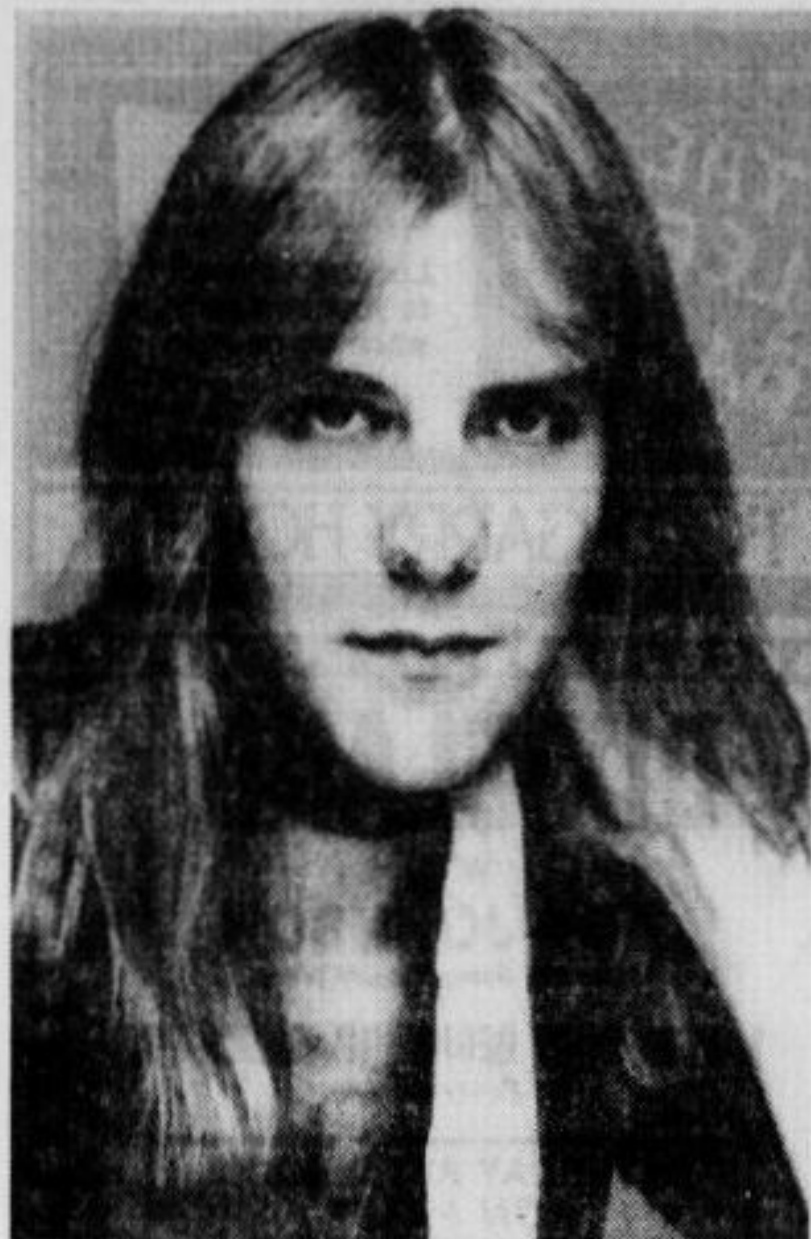
The tour began in mid-February in Japan; from there it moves to Australia and then on to such cities as Pompeii, Bangkok, Manila, Cairo and Athens. A film crew is accompanying the band to shoot a feature motion picture.

"We can afford the luxury," says Copland. "So we might as well strike out where no band has struck before. Who knows? Maybe we'll use the insights from our travels to take over from Carter and save the world."

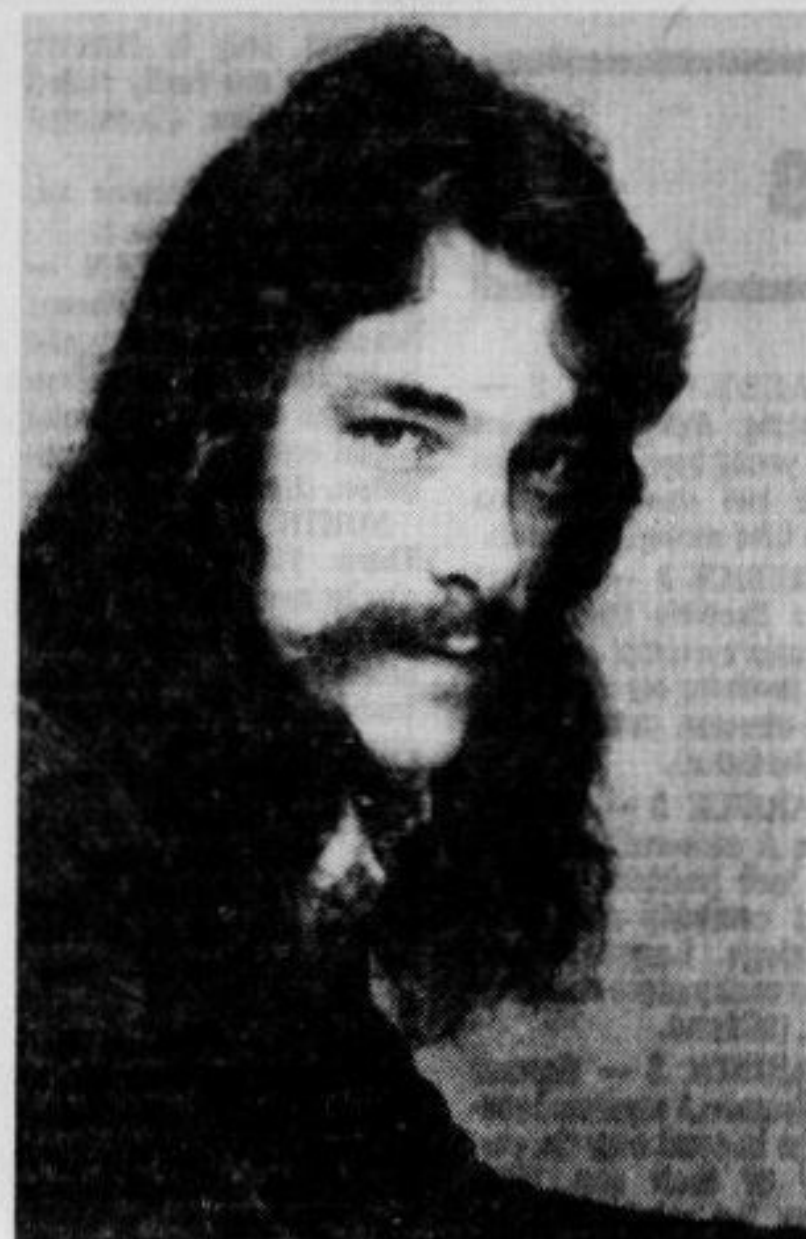
In India and Egypt, the Police will play halls that seat around 1,200, but in most other countries they'll play arenas and stadiums. Theirs will be the first-ever large outdoor show in Athens.

"The band members will get to climb the pyramids, bathe in the Ganges and do all the things they read about as kids," says Copland. "At least one of them will probably come back Buddhist."

The movie, he says, will document culture shock from both sides — and will also include some concert footage. "We've got lots of scenes planned, and a camera crew with wild ideas. We're just going to act out our international



Alex Lifeson



Neil Peart



Geddy Lee

Rush albums turn to gold as their popularity grows



Rock Talk

Lisa Robinson



Alex Lifeson



Neil Peart



Geddy Lee

Rush albums turn to gold as their popularity grows



Rock Talk

Lisa Robinson

Rush is Neil Peart, Alex Lifeson and Geddy Lee, and they're Canada's favorite band. They're all Canadian — which might explain their popularity in this country. But Rush is also pretty big in England and the U.S. where three of their albums (2112, All The World's A Stage and A Farewell To Kings) have already been certified gold. Their latest release, Permanent Waves, is doing even better.

Calling from St. Louis, halfway through Rush's six-month tour, drummer Neil Peart addressed himself to their remarkable success.

"All our albums have been, for the most part, more successful than the one before," he said. "It seems as though we've built a following — the people who were with us in the beginning are still with us so it hasn't been a transient audience. I think we've kept most of the hardcore fans and added to them with each album."

He also credits this album as being, if not a step in a new direction, then a further development in their progress.

"I think of it as being maybe a refined version of the last couple of albums," said Peart. "We tend to go in cycles of three or four albums where we spend a lot of time experimenting unsuccessfully and trying out different ideas. I think with this album, as with 2112 previously, it's just a coming together of a lot of different things around a single focus. I think it possibly has more continuity than the couple of albums prior to it."

Some critics have claimed Permanent Waves to be a less serious album than the group's earlier works, but Peart disagrees as far as the content is concerned. He does acknowledge that this was an easier album for them to make and suggests that perhaps the lack of strain communicated itself "through the gooves."

"We had more time to prepare because we took some time last summer to think about it and to write, where usually we're working under pressure — which is productive, you can't knock working under pressure. It certainly works for us, but it takes a heavy toll. This time we were just out on a farm, no pressure involved, and it came out much easier. By the time we got to the studio, we were really well-prepared so that it made it easier for us to record as well."

Most successful groups — especially the ones who tour as much as Rush does — accept the loss of privacy that goes along with fame. However, this band has managed not only to stay sane on the road, but also maintain their anonymity.

"We've been touring so long now that we've gotten into a rhythm that really suits us," Neil says. "We travel by bus so we

have a bit more privacy than the average band who travels by air and we keep pretty much to ourselves which helps a lot. We also have a really close relationship with the guys in our crew, so that gives us a circle of people — sort of like a family."

As for what must be considered a low profile in the press, Peart said, "we're more interested in the work than in the press. I like doing interviews because I like to talk about what I'm doing, but we don't go out of our way to every radio station in town and we don't try and get print everywhere we can. Success is important to the band, but the main priority is to do exactly what we want to do."

"There's no room for compromise in the context of our music. It has to be a genuine expression of exactly what we're into."

Field Enterprises, Inc.