

SURVIVAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES

INFORMATION UPDATE
MAY 1996

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SRL is currently looking into possibilities for another event in the Bay Area late this summer. The show will not take place in San Francisco. Expect yet more sneakiness regarding public notification.

Recent Activities:

SRL staged three events between Nov. 26, 1995 and Jan. 26th 1996. Two of these shows were staged in San Francisco and one in Phoenix Arizona. the following is a brief rundown on these events:

"SRL Contemplates: A Million Inconsiderate Experiments in Phoenix AZ." Jan. 26th 1996. in where else? Phoenix AZ. With the help of David Therrien and his organization "Crasharts" SRL raised pure unadulterated hell on a swath of turf adjacent to the Crasharts complex. Nine remote controlled mobile machines acted and interacted against a backdrop of billboards plastered with decidedly non-commercial messages. Some spectacular props were employed, including the "Arc" a 35 ft long boat prop equipped with the finger-ball machine premiered at the Wired event (see below) on one end, and tipped on the opposite end with the "claw" (built by Christian Ritsow). A control bunker, staffed by a deformed "mad professor" animatronic puppet, was thoroughly incinerated by the V-1. Many flame-throwers and large amounts of industrial grade fireworks stashed about the show area, guaranteed a full range of pyrophoric pleasure.

Perhaps the most amazing of all was the treatment given to SRL by the fire and police departments, in this case, the red carpet variety. Even after numerous daytime tests of devices such as the V-1, within blocks of the downtown (business) area of Phoenix, the authorities would show up and complain that they missed the test and demand that we run the machines again for them! The crowning event of this zealous cooperation was an incident that occurred at the finale of the People Hater show (see below) when the V-1 was fired continuously with numerous severe booms. The explosions convinced the sheriffs watching over inmates at the nearby jail that a breakout by explosives was occurring causing them to surround the jail in full SWAT gear. Afterwards, several police officers came by the site and laughed about the incident! Lots of fun and thrills were had. The only injury was to the Running Machine which was crushed when the 5 ton billboard prop was pulled onto it by a winch. It has since been repaired.



The SRL show was preceded by the first major machine performance (with remote controlled machines) to have occurred on earth, aside from SRL events. This show was staged at the Crasharts complex by "People Hater" a group organized by Chip Flynn. It was entitled "Porthole to Hell" and was staged in a lot filled with a functional and heavily modified roller coaster. Props galore, and even a devil would have been impressed by the detail in them. A massively fractured fairy tale ensued: As the Triangle machine bit and chewed at everything in its path, satanic elves pounded away at their dubious deeds, a Jesus robot appeared with a shotgun at the "porthole" and menaced those machines that dared to disturb, while at the center of the festivities Christians "Claw" tore at an assortment of props. At the close of festivities the V-1 literally blew the doors in the lot open, and forced a sizable portion of the audience to beat a hasty retreat to the far side of the arena.