



Black Sabbath

This interview was conducted
at Leeds Queens Hall after
the gig on Saturday 24th January



T.H.S. stands for Town Hall Steps
R.D. means Ronnie Dio.

T.H.S. What are the differences between
touring with Sabbath and Rainbow?

R.D. "I find that Sabbath have a much stronger
cult following than Rainbow—I prefer this
sort of audience. They are much more
critical and yet are also much more
appreciative. Sabbath are a closer group
on tour than Rainbow and they are always
assured of a large audience; I mean,
Rainbow have played gigs to empty halls."

T.H.S. Why did you leave Rainbow?

R.D. "Because of Ritchie, I hate him. We were
getting on each other's nerves and it was
leading to brawls backstage. He would always
go on about how it was HIS group and
everyone should do as he says. With Sabbath,
I'm part of a group, but with Rainbow, I
was part of a backing group to Ritchie
Blackmore. Now I have much more freedom
and have a say in the running of the group.
I've not seen Ritchie since I left, but I
still keep in touch with Cozy."

T.H.S. Did you get any other offers before
joining Sabbath?

R.D. "Yes. I had an offer to form a group with
Jeff Beck, I got an offer to join "Sweet"—
which I turned down immediately, and I had
discussions with Michael Schenker but I
never heard from him again."