

The Band

Standin' On The Never Never

Proving themselves on record came by way of a tough learning experience in the studio since the band was totally inexperienced in that regard. A state financed program to support upcoming musicians granted the money to buy studio time, a total amount of 15,000 DKK (approximately EUR 2,000). Mega Records paid for the rest of the expenses involved with making the record.

Recording and mixing took place April 15 through April 19, 1985, in Studio 39 in Copenhagen. Just five days was not a lot of time, so producer Frank Marstokk had to keep focused and keep the guys on track. The production was kept simple and the band played live in the studio while Marstokk coached them towards as good a result as possible.

Meanwhile, Torleif had spotted the perfect location for the photo shoot for the cover of the band's first release: a gravel pit near Roskilde that could serve as a Wild West setting. The picture, taken by Robin Skjoldborg, features the band posing in full cowboy outfits, armed, and on the lookout.

Standin' On the Never Never was released May 28, 1985, and the 12" EP included three songs. The record received very mixed reviews, ranging from one enthusiastic critic calling it "the best Danish record I have heard this year" to one very unimpressed critic who stated: "People whose judgement I have no reason to doubt support this band ... I have listened to them while drinking Jack Daniel's. It did not work. Maybe I should have had some more and chewed beef jerky to go with it."

However, the group was undaunted. Inspired by the record-dream come true, they kept playing live jobs and rehearsing every night, which soon improved their skills. Mega Records had also been pleased with the result of Standin' On the Never Never, and before too long studio time was booked for the fall of 1985. It was time to make an LP.