

"I'll go to jail — says Graffiti Bill

Veteran bill-board graffitist Bill Snow faces jail following his arrest while "spraying" an outdoor advertisement.

"This time I'll go to jail rather than pay the fine," he told City Express.

A founder member of the phantom graffiti movement, Billboard-Utilising Graffitiists Against Unhealthy Promotions (B.U.G.A.U.P.), Snow faces three charges of defacing tobacco company advertisements.

He spoke to *City Express* shortly after recording an interview with the ABC's Four Corners which is scheduled for Saturday.

His arrest follows a harder line by the police force against the midnight rebels.

"The poster companies are now trying to cover up our work by replacing the posters as soon as they're hit.

But its obvious they can't keep up with us.

I can cover twenty billboards tonight in a couple of hours."

The movement was formed in October 1979 to encourage members to protest against what they call unhealthy promotions.

Their main targets have been tobacco and brewery advertisements.

"A billboard without

graffiti is quite outrageous.

"The big corporations think they can do anything they want. Graffiti is vital to combat the subliminal effect of billboards," said Roberts

The activities of B.U.G.A.U.P. are costing the poster firms thousands of dollars.

"This minority think they have the right to impose their opinions on the community at large," said a spokesman for Australian Posters, one of the largest billboard firms.

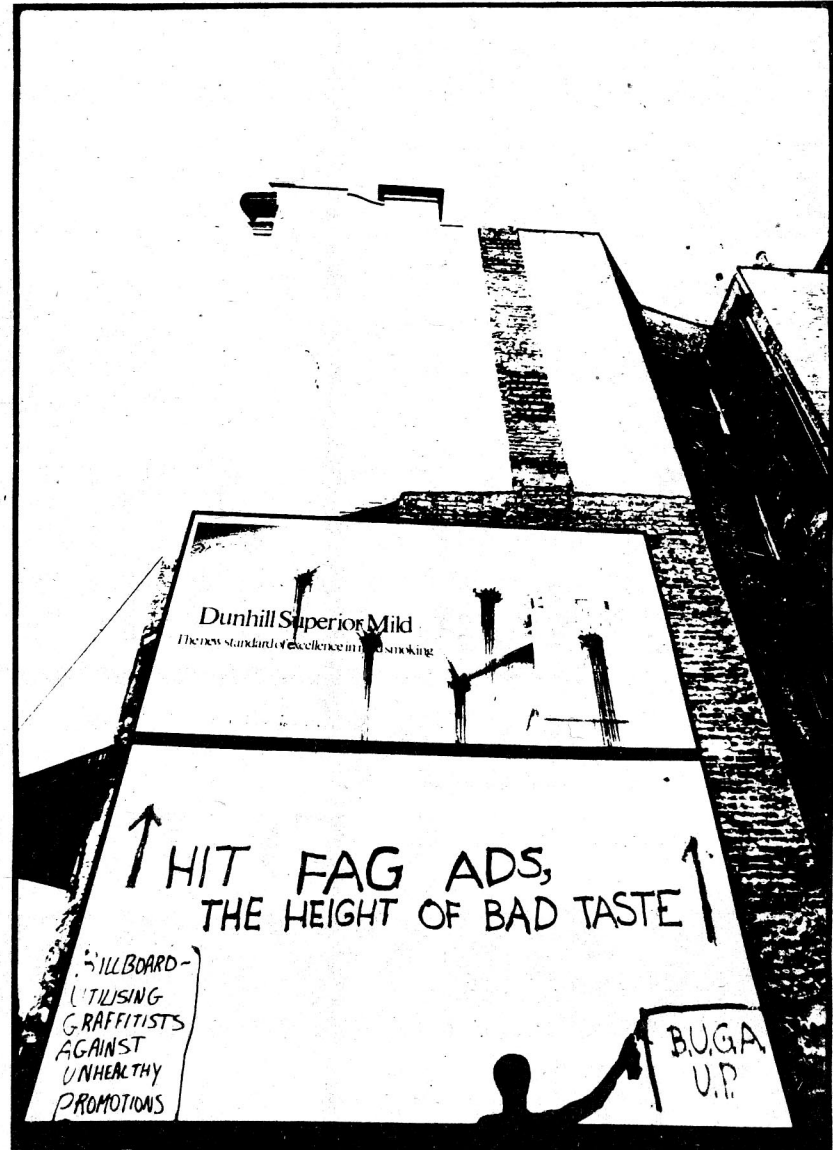
"The trouble is we can only press charges when someone is caught in the act of defacing an advertisement."

Bill Snow accuses the tobacco companies of promoting a drug that's killing 40 people in Australia every day.

"I write on their ad how many people are dying from tobacco related diseases and I get charged with malicious injury."

BUGA UP have recently issued an Autumn catalogue which contains examples of the graffitiists work and encourages others to defy the law in a similar way.

Poster firms are pressing for harsher penalties from the courts in a bid to halt the increase in graffiti.



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