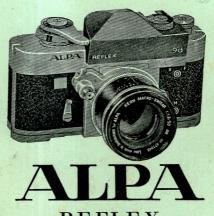
# INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

of the



REFLEX

Mod. 9d and 9f

Only perfect knowledge of all functions of the ALPA will give you the best results and avoid unnecessary troubles.

It is therefore in your own interest to study these instructions carefully, starting with the brief instruction guide attached to the inside back cover.

Manufactured in Switzerland by PIGNONS S.A., Ballaigues

### **Operating** Instructions

### for the ALPA Reflex Model 9d and 9f

The scope of this manual is intentionally restricted to provide information on the operation of the ALPA Reflex cameras; it does not contain general information on photographic problems, for which reference should be made to the many excellent photo-

graphic handbooks available.

The ALPA Reflex is the result of years of research and development, undertaken in an endeavour to provide for all the increasingly exacting requirements of expert photographers. Improvements and modifications are constantly being introduced as has always been the ALPA practice; such modifications may even be introduced in the course of production, without their being indicated by a new mark number. Nevertheless you will find in this manual all the data necessary for obtaining the best possible performance from your ALPA Reflex camera.

#### A. DESCRIPTION

The ALPA Reflex 9d and 9f is equipped with a pentaprism permitting eye-level, through-the-lens viewing of the laterally-correct image on the ground-glass screen.

All the accessories are identical to those of the earlier models 4-8 and 4b-8b, with the exception of the everready case which is the same as that introduced for the model 6c.

The body of the ALPA Reflex 9d and 9f consists of a light-alloy die casting,

ensuring great strength and robustness. It is virtually impossible to deform the camera body, although it may be broken if it receives a heavy blow or

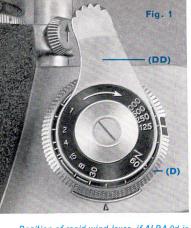
The body is covered with a special type of leather-finish plastic material, which is unaffected by perspiration, heat, cold and other climatic influences. All the operating knobs and levers are designed for convenient operation

even when wearing gloves.

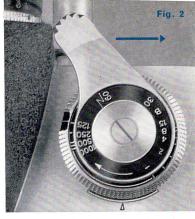
Both models are equipped with the guick-return mirror which swings out of the image path just for the duration of the exposure and then returns to the viewing position immediately, even when pressure on the release button is maintained. The very slight vibration which is felt when taking a picture actually occurs when the second shutter blind reaches its stop and releases the mirror, i.e. after the exposure has been made; it can therefore have no effect upon the sharpness of the image.

difference between models 9d and 9f lies in the exposure-measuring mechanism which is not fitted on model 9f. In addition the catch (C), fig. 5, is absent on model 9f.

Every possible precaution has been taken to avoid the possibility of damaging the camera by incorrect operation. However, it is most strongly recommended that the brief instructions at least should be studied before attempting to use the camera. In particular, it is most important that the mirror should never be touched with the fingers.







Position when ALPA 9d is not wound.

#### B. EXTERNAL CONTROLS (EXCLUDING EXPOSURE MEASUREMENT)

Focal-plane shutter: The winding knob (D) is operated by means of the rapid-wind lever (DD) (see fig. 1); it tensions the shutter, advances the film by one frame and operates the frame counter.

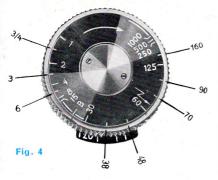
The range of shutter speeds available extends from 1/1000 to 1 second to-



gether with the brief time exposure setting B. The shutter is tensioned with a single swing of the lever (DD), which turns in a clockwise direction through only 160°. As a result of this short travel (and also of the fact that the lever has to perform three separate functions), a certain resistance has to overcome when operating the rapid-wind lever. The lever should be swung until it reaches a positive stop, but excessive force must never be employed. If the shutter is not completely wound, the interlocking mechanism will prevent it from being released.

### **SETTING THE SHUTTER SPEED** (Fig. 3)

Depress the outer milled ring of the shutter-wind knob (D) and turn it until the index stroke on the edge of the ring engages opposite the desired speed setting. The shutter speed can be adjusted at any time, regardless of whether the shutter is tensioned or run off. The position of the knob (D) and the arrow will always indicate whether or not the shutter is tensioned (fig. 1 & 2).



The shutter speeds marked correspond to the international standard settings and cover the following speeds: 1, 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/15, 1/30, 1/60, 1/125, 1/250, 1/500 and 1/1000 sec.

The unnumbered strokes between the indicated speed settings provide a number of intermediate speeds (fig. 4). The position of these strokes gives an approximate indication of the shutter speeds obtainable at these settings. Other intermediate speeds can also be selected except within the zones indicated by a line running around the circumference of the setting knob: for example, it is impossible to select intermediate values between 1/1000 and 1/500 sec and between 1/500 1/250 sec since these speed settings are only one click-stop apart. Speeds faster than 1/1000 sec cannot be set, neither is it possible to select intermediate speeds between 1/15, B and 1/30 sec (note line around edge of knob).

The B setting is used for making exposures of any desired length, the shutter remaining open for as long as pressure is maintained upon the release knob. For taking long time exposures it is advisable to use a cable release with a locking device (see page 25). The flash symbol & alongside the 1/60 sec speed setting indicates the fastest shutter speed which can be used with electronic flash units. If faster speeds are employed with X-synchronization, then only part of the image field will be exposed since at the higher shutter speeds the slit in the focal plane shutter only exposes a portion of the image field at a time.

In all, 60 different shutter speed set-

tings can be selected.

It is obvious that the selection of the correct shutter speed depends upon the nature of the subject. The factors to bear in mind are the movement of the subject, the direction of this movement and the distance between the subject and the camera: the focal length of the camera lens can also be decisive. The steadiness with which the camera can be held should also be born in mind in border-line cases.

Speaking generally, it is always advisable to give the shortest exposure possible in order to obtain the best image definition; for this reason the 1/125 sec setting is marked in red on the shutter speed scale and also on the knob (B) of the exposuremeter potentiometer to indicate the most desirable initial setting. Since the winding knob (D) rotates as the shutter runs off, it is important to ensure that it is not obstructed or retarded since otherwise the image will not be uniformly exposed.

SHUTTER RELEASE KNOB: (E) and (EE) in fig. 5; this is located on the front of the camera body. releasing the shutter it is advisable to press in the opposite direction with the thumb against the camera back so as to hold the camera as steady as possible at the moment of release. There is a conical thread in the face of the release knob (E), into which a cable release can be screwed (see also fig. 41 on page 24).

Lenses with automatic pre-set diaphragms are fitted with their own integral release knob (EE) which fits in front of the knob in the camera body and transfers the release pressure directly to it.

Caution: If the release knob (E) is accidentally depressed whilst shutter is being tensioned, then the mirror will not rise the next time an exposure is made and so one frame

will be lost.

The release catch (C) only operates on the release knob (E) itself; it will have no effect when a cable release is employed. This however is not the case when a cable release is screwed into the release knob (EE) on one of the lenses.

The ALPA Reflex model 9f does not have a shutter-release catch (C).

#### DELAYED-ACTION RELEASE

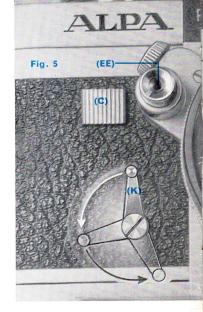
(Fig. 5):

The ALPA models 9d and 9f are fitted with a built-in delayed-action selftimer. The delay tensioning lever (K) can be set to any desired position according to the period of delay required. If the lever is swung right up to its stop, then about 20 seconds will elapse before the shutter opens; if it is moved through only 90° then the delay will be about 6 seconds. First tension the camera shutter, then set the delay and finally depress the release knob (E) fully; this will set the delayed-action mechanism in motion, giving you plenty of time to take up your position "in the picture".

Important: When using the delayedaction release in conjunction with a lens with a fully-automatic preset diaphragm, it is essential to disengage the automatic diaphragm (see pages 11-14) or otherwise the picture will be taken at the full

aperture setting.

If a delayed-action exposure is taken with the shutter set to B, then the exposure time will be about 2-3 seconds. The extremely gentle and vibration-free release obtained by using the selftimer can be extremely useful when it is necessary to use fairly slow shutter speeds without a steady support for the camera. If for any reason a picture cannot be taken after the delay mechanism has been tensioned, provision is made on the ALPA 9d for de-tensioning the mechanism:



lock the release button with the catch (C) and then press the release button (E) until the delay tensioning lever (K) has returned to its original position.

### FLASH SYNCHRONIZATION (Fig. 6)

The ALPA 9d and 9f have two flash contacts which accept the standard coaxial synchro plug Ø 3 mm. The upper contact, marked X and F, permits the use of electronic flash units at shutter speeds up to 1/60 sec. If faster speeds are used, only part of the image will be exposed. At slow speeds—up to 1/15 sec—it is also possible to use this contact for flash-bulbs having a very short delay to peak (Class F bulbs, 5 millisecond delay); these bulbs are not specifically





designed for use with focal plane shutters, but are more economical. The lower contact marked M is intended for use with Class FP bulbs specially made for focal plane shutters; these have a long peak-brilliance period to ensure uniform illumination of the entire image field. They can be synchronized with all shutter speeds up to 1/1000 sec.

A table describing the use of the various types of flashbulbs will be found on the inside cover of this

booklet.

#### CHANGING LENSES

Depress the knob (L fig. 7) and turn the lens counter-clockwise until it can be removed without difficulty. To reinsert a lens, align the red dot on the lens mount (R) with the red dot (R) on the front plate of the camera; then press gently on the lens and turn it in a clockwise direction until you hear an audible click, indicating that the lens is correctly locked in position. The locking catch necessarily has to have a small degree of play to prevent it from becoming jammed.

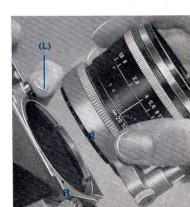
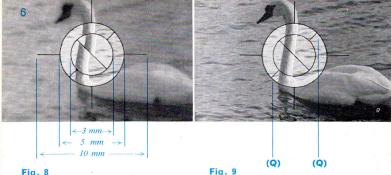


Fig. 7



sharp

no anxiety.

Fig. 8 not sharp

### FOCUSING (SETTING THE TAKING DISTANCE)

This is done by rotating the setting ring for the helical-thread mount of the lens.

There are three methods of checking the focus:

### a) By reflex focusing on the ground-glass screen:

The image on the ground-glass screen is upright and because of the built-in pentaprism appears laterally correct The eve-(i.e., the right way round). piece is designed to allow the whole image field ( $23 \times 35$  mm in size, i.e. 1 mm smaller in each direction than the film image) to be viewed at a high magnification ( $\times$  4.5). The image area of the screen corresponds to the maximum mask aperture for slide projection, thus ensuring that whatever can be seen on the screen will be included in the projected image. Even when using lenses with a standard focal length of 50 mm the screen image appears almost life size, an important advantage for the close scrutiny of the subject: in other words the image appears just as large as does the subject when you view it with your unaided eye. The screen image is particularly brilliant and can still be viewed easily after stopping down to small apertures for assessing the depth of field.

When the exit pupil of the camera lens is at a considerable distance from the screen (e.g. when using the Switar for extreme close-up work, or when using very long focus lenses at small apertures) then an area of shading will be observed at the upper edge of the screen because the cone of light rays will be too wide for the reflex mirror to reflect it in entirety. This phenomenon will not however have any effect upon the quality of the actual film image and need cause

Owners of earlier ALPA cameras may notice that the ground glass screen of the model 9d has a greater scattering effect than formerly; this has been introduced intentionally in order to permit more exact exposure measurement under all circumstances.

The eyepiece of the model 9d is provided with an enlarged soft-rubber cup to exclude straylight from falling upon the eyepiece lens. It can be rotated for taking horizontal and vertical pictures. Users suffering from vision defects can fit additional corrective glasses into a special ALPA mount for fitting inside the eyepiece cup (see page 25).

b) Focusing with the split-image rangefinder

(figs. 8 & 9)

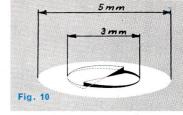
The ALPA camera bodies models 9d and 9f are normally fitted with a ground-

glass screen which has a split-image rangefinder in the centre. This is formed by two crossed prisms which appear as a pair of semi-circles; they are surrounded by a ring of completely transparent glass (diameter 5 mm.) Select a specific detail in the subject to be photographed and then adjust the helical focusing mount of the lens until the two semi-circular images are in perfect alignment, with no displacement at the dividing line. At this point the image will be perfectly focused (fig. 9).

The clear glass ring makes it possible to inspect the aerial image, which may lie either in front of or behind the plane of the ground-glass screen and will still appear visually sharp. It can however be used for the rapid location of important details on which the image can be focused. The clear glass ring can also be used for focusing when taking photomicrographs, the image being in perfect focus when the aerial image and one of the two lines (Q) shown in figure 9 appear equally sharp. This is the only method of ensuring that the image is located exactly in the focal plane.

Both of the semi-circular prisms will appear uniformly bright under normal conditions, e.g. when the diaphragm of the taking lens is fully open. Under certain circumstances (small lens aperture, long distance between exit pupil of lens and screen) it may happen that only one of the semi-circles appears bright. It is however still possible to use the split-image rangefinder by aligning the image between the prism and the clear-glass ring. The displacement here will only be half as great as between the two prisms, but will still be perfectly adequate for precise focusing.

Warning: The high magnification of the ground-glass screen image in the ALPA Reflex makes focusing remarkably convenient but nevertheless gives rise to a danger of taking photographs at too small an image scale. To avoid this, one should always bear in mind that the screen provides three indications of scale which offer an immediate reference standard: the diameter of



the rangefinder prisms is 3 mm, the diameter of the clear ring is 5 mm and the overall length of the cross-hairs is 10 mm (fig. 8). By using these references it is possible to avoid photographing a distant ship (for example) so that it appears barely 1 mm long on the film, and they provide a useful warning that a longer-focus lens should be inserted.

#### c) Focusing by scale

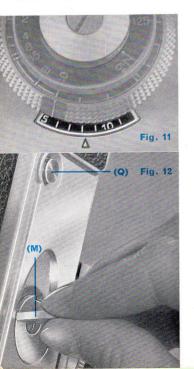
All the ALPA interchangeable lenses are provided with engraved distance scales which can be used to pre-set the lens to a specific focus distance whilst using the ground-glass screen solely for fine-focus adjustments. When taking flash pictures for example, it may occur that the existing light is so dim that screen focusing is virtually impossible: the lens may then be focused by scale and stopped down to a smaller aperture to provide sufficient depth of field to allow for error. In sports photography too it is often necessary to focus by scale on account of lack of time.

#### C. LOADING THE ALPA REFLEX

In the base of the ALPA is a hinged key (M), fig. 12. This should be lifted and turned to the right in a clockwise direction as far as it will go. The baseplate and back of the camera (which form a single cast unit) can then be lifted off by pulling on the key; The back should always be lifted off upwards and never slid off sideways, in order to avoid damaging the film pressure plate.

#### LOADING

Fig. 13a shows the best method of holding the film cassette in order to secure the beginning of the leader tongue in the slit (marked by an arrow) in the empty take-up spool. The edge of the film must be right up against the flange of the spool. Then pull out just sufficient film to allow the cassette to be placed in its chamber, and rotate the take-up spool with the finger as shown in fig. 13b until at least one full turn of film is wound on to it. Ensure that the teeth of the sprocket roller are engaging the per-forations correctly, although it is not necessary to wind on sufficient film whilst the camera is still open for the



sprockets to engage the perforations on both sides. The film is advanced by turning the shutter-tensioning lever (DD).

When the film is correctly in position, the camera back should be replaced from above (holding it by the key) and locked securely by turning the key to the left. Once the key has been folded back into its recess, the camera body will remain securely sealed.

Now tension the shutter and make sure that the central screw in the rewind knob (N) rotates as the film is advanced. The film must be wound on and the shutter release 2-3 times in succession in order to run off the fogged leader before the first exposure can be taken. The frame counter (fig. 11) should then indicate 0. Whenever possible the camera should be loaded by subdued light in order to prevent excessive fogging at the beginning of the film; if no other shade is available, turn your back to the light.

the light.
Caution: If a partially exposed film is removed from the camera after rewinding, it is important to make a note of the number of exposed frames (as indicated by the frame counter) before opening the camera back; this is because the counter automatically springs back when the camera back is removed. After advancing the usual three blank frames for loading the camera, the frame counter will once again indicate 0.

#### UNLOADING THE CAMERA

When the frame counter indicates that the last frame has been reached (according to whether a 20- or 36-exposure cassette is being used), then the rapid-wind lever should be operated with caution. According to the length of the leader fogged in loading the camera, you may obtain one or two frames more or less than the specified number of exposures. If a strong resistance is felt when winding the shutter, then do not employ force or you may tear the perforations or, more serious still, tear the end of the film away from the cassette core and so make it impossible to rewind it.

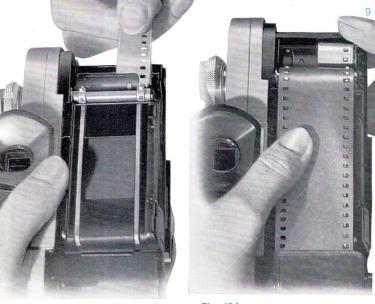


Fig. 13 a

Fig. 13

13 a: Push film end beneath spring clip

13 b: Turn take-up spool by hand

13 c: Replace camera back

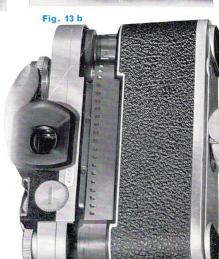
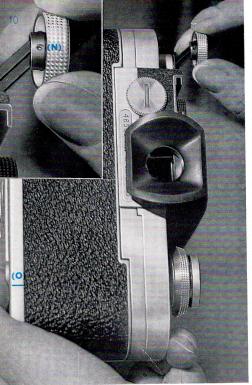


Fig. 13 c



The fully-exposed film must then be rewound into the cassette. Depress the rewind release knob (O), fig. 12, in order to disengage the sprocket interlocking for the whole duration of the rewinding operation; it is not necessary to hold the release knob depressed throughout rewinding. Pull out the rewind knob fig. 14, and turn it like a crank in the direction indicated by the (fig. 14). When rewinding the film a distinct resistance will be felt at first: when all the film is rewound, it will distinctly be heard breaking free from the take-up spool and then the camera may be opened and the exposed film removed in its original When a new cassette. film is inserted the rewind knob (O) release spring out automatically. It is important to avoid depressing the rewind release knob (O) accidentally whilst the camera is loaded, since this will result in two exposures being superimposed on the same frame. If this knob should be depressed accidentally. then a further blank frame should be wound keeping the lens covered.

Fig. 14

Fig. 15



ALPA lens caps: The front cap snaps into the front of the lens (or on top of a filter) with a slight pressure. A gentle pull combined with a slight turn removes it again. Only a few special lenses come with a cap supplied by the lens manufacturer. The rear cap fits the bayonet mount of all ALPA lenses and locks in position on turning it through 60°. Fig. 15 shows the 90 mm Alfitar lens with both front and rear caps.

#### D. THE INTERCHANGEABLE LENSES FOR THE ALPA REFLEX

ALPA offers you the only complete set of 10 lenses with automatic diaphragms from 24 mm up to 180 mm. Other lenses range up to 5000 mm focal length!

#### a) Standard 50 mm lenses

You can choose between Kern Switar f/1.8 APOCHROMAT and Kern Macro-Switar f/1.8 APOCHROMAT, both equipped with automatic diaphragms.

### Fig. 16 and 17: Switar 50 mm f/1.8 APOCHROMAT

The helical mount with 6 mm extension (ring SS) allows close focusing down to 17" from the front of the lens mount. The distance scale is calibrated from infinity to 3 feet. Closer distances are calibrated in fractions engraved in red, indicating the reproduction ratio (image/subject). The last figure 1/9 indicates that the image will be 1/9 of the actual size, so that a 9 × enlargement will reproduce it in life size. At this distance the ground glass image appears about 4.5 × larger than the subject, because of the 3 built-in magnifying lenses.

Fig. 16

The diaphragm is set with the front ring (F). All apertures have click stops (in fig. 16 and 17 the diaphragm is set at f/4). The lower ring (AA) has a red triangle as index mark. If turned all the way to the left (fig. 16), it engages the automatic mechanism. i.e. the diaphragm remains open for viewing and closes to the preset stop only upon pressing the release knob (EE) for taking the exposure. If turned to its extreme right, so that the red triangle coincides with the black index (fig. 17), the automatic mechanism is disconnected and the diaphragm remains closed at the set stop. If the red triangle is somewhere between the extreme left and right positions, it will remain partly open for viewing and close to the preset stop, when the release knob (EE) is depressed.

### Fig. 18: Macro-Switar 50 mm f/1.8 APOCHROMAT

The Macro-Switar f/1.8 has a helical mount with an 18 mm extension (ring SS) for distance setting, which permits close-ups down to a reproduction ratio (image/subject) of 1/3 of the actual size, which corresponds to a distance of 7 inches from the front of the lens mount. The white figures indicate the distances in feet and inches, measured from the back of the camera. The red figures indi-

Fig. 17





Fig. 18





cate the image/subject ratio. The last figure 1/3 indicates that the image will be 1/3 of the actual size. At this distance the groundglass image appears about 1.3 × larger than the subject, because of the 3 magnifying lenses. The green figures give the exposure factors (see page 15).

The diaphragm is set with the front ring (F). All apertures have click stops (in fig. 18 the diaphragm is set

at f/4).

The knurled knob (PP) is for engaging and disengaging the automatic mechanism. Arrow in horizontal position (parallel to optical axis) = automatic diaphragm. Arrow in vertical position = automatic diaphragm disconnected.

Fig. 18 shows the Visifocus automatic depth-of-field indicator (V), giving the sharp-focus zone in colored orange dots according to the chosen f/stop.

## b) Automatic wide angle and telephoto lenses

The lenses are listed according to their manufacturers:

#### ANGÉNIEUX:

Retrofocus 24 mm f/3.5 with automatic diaphragm Retrofocus 28 mm f/3.5 with automatic diaphragm Alfitar 90 mm f/2.5 with automatic diaphragm Alitar 180 mm f/4.5 with automatic diaphragm with automatic diaphragm

Fig. 19 and 20:

#### ANGÉNIEUX LENSES

The distance is set with the helical mount (SS), while the diaphragm is set with the dial (F) on top of the lens mount. All apertures have click-stops. The automatic diaphragm can be disengaged by the lever (PP) underneath the lens.

#### SCHNEIDER:

Curtagon 35 mm f/2.8 with automatic diaphragm Tele-Xenar 135 mm f/3.5 with automatic diaphragm, both equipped with automatic depth-of-field indicator.

#### Fig. 21: Curtagon 35 mm f/2.8

The distance is set with the focusing ring (SS), the aperture with the diaphragm ring (F). The automatic





automatic

(V)

Tele-Xenar 1:3,5/135

diaphragm can be disengaged with the small ring (TT) around the release knob, which can be turned by depressing the switch (T). In position (1), white line to white dot, the automatic diaphragm is engaged; in position (2), white line to red dot, it is disengaged. Fig. 21 also shows the automatic depth-of-field indicator (V), a white zone within the red zone.

#### Fig. 22: Tele-Xenar 135 mm f/3.5

The distance is set with the focusing ring (SS), the aperture with the diaphragm ring (F). The automatic

diaphragm can be disconnected by turning the release knob (EE). If three dots are in line, the diaphragm operates automatically, with two dots in line it is disengaged. The automatic depth-of-field indicator (V) also shows a white zone within the red zone.

non-automatic

setting of diaphragm

#### KINOPTIK:

100 mm f/2 Apochromat with automatic diaphragm 150 mm f/2.8 Apochromat with automatic diaphragm.

Fig. 23: 100 mm f/2 and 150 mm f/2.8

#### **APOCHROMATS**

The distance is set with the focusing ring (SS), the aperture with the diaphragm ring (F). The automatic diaphragm can be disconnected by

Fig. 23



turning the disc (PP). If opposite the two dots, it means that it is engaged, opposite the single dot it is disengaged.

# c) Lenses without Automatic Diaphragm

All other lenses have the normal helical mount for distance setting and a second ring to set the f/stop, so that no further instructions are necessary. (See also lens chart, page 31.)

#### DEPTH-OF-FIELD INDICATORS

The Macro-Switar, Curtagon and Tele-Xenar are equipped with automatic depth-of-field indicators, as shown above. Most other ALPA lenses have the usual depth-of-field scale engraved on their mounts, and it is easy to determine the depth-of-field by reading the distance range between the two identical f/numbers. Best possible sharpness will always be achieved in the plane on which the lens is focused. Sharpness decreases in front and behind this plane, yet within the depth-of-field zone it is still acceptable.

#### **EXPOSURE FACTORS**

Once the correct shutter speed or aperture setting has been determined with the ALPA 9d, then there is no need to bother further about the exposure factor since these are automatically allowed for in taking the reading. When taking flash pictures, however, for which the correct aperture must be determined by calculation, then it is essential to allow for these factors. The relative lens aperture values (which are obtained by dividing the lens extension by the diameters of the lens opening) can only be strictly applied when the lens is focused on subjects at a great distance and the lens extension is effectively equal to the focal length. When the lens is focused on objects nearer to the camera, the extension increases whilst the opening remains unaltered: as a result the relative aperture becomes smaller. When the image scale (reproduction ratio) reaches 1/10 natural size, it becomes necessary to make allowances for this effect. At this image scale the exposure factor is x 1.2. This factor increases rapidly and at a reproduction ratio of 1:1 ("same-size" reproduction) it reaches a theoretical value of x 4.

All ALPA interchangeable lenses having mounts which permit extreme close-up focusing (without special accessories) bear the appropriate exposure factors engraved in green. For example, when using the Makro-Switar at its closest focusing distance —1/3rd actual size—the exposure factor is × 1.8.

#### INFRA-RED PICTURES

None of the lenses (not even the Apochromats) are corrected for wavelengths within the infra-red region of the spectrum. In order to take pictures on infra-red film it is necessary to fit a filter over the lens which almost completely cuts the visible portion of the spectrum (e.g. ALPA filter No. 64. dark red). It is also necessary to correct the distance (focus) setting by increasing the lens extension since the effective focal length is longer for infra-red rays. In place of the normal distance-setting index, the subject distance should be set to the red marking which according to the lens in question will be found between the infinity and the 10 metre (34 foot) settings. After focusing visually (without a filter) the indicated subject distance should be set to this red mark to provide the necessary compensation when taking pictures on infra-red film (with filter). Since the various types of infra-red films available on the market do not all have their maximum sensitivity at the same wavelength, this focusing compensation factor can only be an approximation; it is therefore highly advisable to undertake a few carefully-documented test exposures with the selected brand of film and filter at various extension-correction settings in order to determine which will yield the best results. Despite these precautions, infra-red photographs should always be taken at the smallest possible aperture settings in order to ensure the best definition.

The exposure determination by the ALPA 9d method is not possible with the darkest red filter in position. Therefore the metering should be done without filter and the time indicated multiplied by the factor indicated by film manufacturer for his brand.

#### RELATION BETWEEN DISTANCE AND IMAGE/SUBJECT REPRODUCTION RATIO

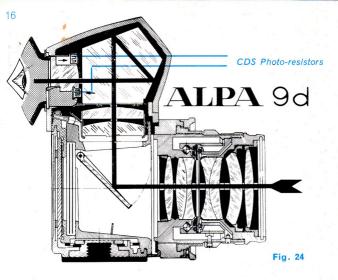
Formula: Divide the distance by the focal length, deduct 1 and you get the denominator of the fraction for the image/subject reproduction ratio.

Problem: Distance: 1000 mm (3 feet). Focal length: 50 mm. Reproduction ratio?

Solution: 1000/50 = 20, minus 1 = 19, the ratio is 1/19, i.e. the picture will be 1/19 of the actual life size of the subject.

In reverse, you can also determine with the same formula what distance has to be used to obtain a given reproduction ratio. Add 1 to the denominator of the fraction for the ratio and multiply by the focal length of the lens.

Problem: Reproduction ratio: 1/9. focal length: 50 mm. Distance? Solution: 9 plus  $1 = 10 \times 50 = 500$  mm (20 inches).



#### E. MEASURING THE EXPOSURE WITH THE ALPA REFLEX MODEL 9 d

#### BASIC PRINCIPLES

Fig. 25 illustrates the electronic circuitry of the exposure-measuring mechanism. Current supplied by a mercury cell (or a rechargeable nickelcadmium accumulator) is fed through the two cadmium sulphide photoresistors (connected in parallel) which modulate the current according to the intensity of the light passing through the lens. The variations in the current flow thus induced by changes in the illumination brilliance are recorded by a precision galvanometer, the pointer deflection of which is visible on the around-glass focusing screen.

ground-glass focusing screen. By turning the potentiometer knob (B) it is possible to centre the pointer so that it passes through the centre of the fixed circular marker. The resultant exposure measurement may then be read off from scale (B).

Fig. 26 shows a close-up view of the pentaprism and clearly illustrates the two photo-resistors alongside the dismantled eyepiece. The third photoresistor (top centre) faces towards the eyepiece and is intended for measuring the amount of straylight which enters the eyepiece from the rear and would otherwise falsify the light reading being made through the camera lens.

#### METHODS OF TAKING LIGHT READINGS

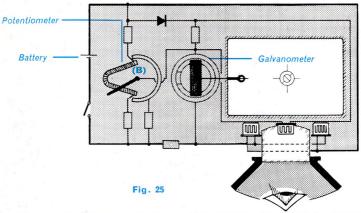
First of all, the film speed must be set correctly on disc (B) by turning the central knob (A).

You can then proceed in either of two

ways:

1) By finding the correct aperture for a given shutter speed.

2) By finding the correct shutter speed for a given aperture setting.





Method 1 represents the more usual procedure, since it is the behaviour of the subject (i.e. moving or stationary) which generally determines the slowest possible shutter speed. Let us select 1/125 sec as an example: the exposure-measuring disc (B) and the shutterspeed setting knob (D) should both be set to 1/125, which is marked in red on both scales (see fig. 2) of the brief instructions sheet.

Then tension the shutter by means of the rapid-wind lever (DD) and lock the release button with catch (C). Now point the camera towards the subject (with the lens at full aperture) and frame and focus your picture on the ground-glass screen. Depress the release button (E or EE) fully and turn the aperture-setting ring (F) until the pointer (G) immediately above the ground-glass screen is accurately centred within the circular marker. This completes the exposure-measuring operation. To take the picture, all you have to do is to slide back the catch (C) and depress the release button (E or EE).

If you find that you have reached the end of the aperture-setting range (either the maximum or minimum aperture) without being able to centre the exposure meter pointer, this indicates that the pre-selected shutter speed is either too fast or too slow.

Case 2: This procedure should be adopted whenever a certain definite depth-of-field range is required, making it necessary to take the picture at a specific aperture setting.

Set the aperture to the desired setting, tension the shutter and lock the release button with catch (C).

Then compose the picture and focus it in the reflex viewfinder, with the lens at full aperture. By pressing the release button (E or EE) the diaphragm will be stopped-down automatically to the pre-selected setting and the exposure should be measured at this aperture, by turning the potentiometer knob (B) until the pointer (G) is centred within the circular marker.

Now you can read off the required shutter speed from scale (B) and transfer the indicated value to the shutter-speed setting knob (D).

Finally release the catch (C) and take the picture by pressing the release button (E or EE).

Whatever method is adopted, it is always important to keep your eye as close as possible to the viewfinder eveniece whilst taking exposure readings: for this reason the ALPA 9d has a large evepiece cup made out of soft rubber, which can be rotated for taking vertical pictures. Since it is impossible to prevent some straylight from entering the eyepiece (particularly when the user is wearing spectacles) a third photo-resistor is provided to measure this spurious illumination and correct the reading (fig. 24).

#### DIRECT-READING EXPOSURE MEASURING RANGE OF ALPA 9d

Direct-reading shutter Film speed speed indications DIN fastest speed slowest speed ASA 4 6 (9) 1/125 second 1/250 12 4 (12) 20 (14)1/500 3 25 1/500 2 (15)1 1/2 1/500 (16)40 50 (18)1/1000 3/4 64 (19)1/2 100 200 (24)1/4 1/8 1/1000 400 1/15 (30)1/1000 800 1/1000 1/30 1600 (36) 1/60 1/1000 (39)1/1000 6400

Never forget that an accurate exposure reading depends on the observation of the following rules:

Correct film speed setting, taking the reading at the same aperture setting as the exposure and ensuring that the shutter speed is the same on both scales (B) and (D).

If the exposure required lies outside these ranges, the correct settings can easily be calculated, bearing in mind that the ASA film speed values are directly proportional and likewise the sequence of shutter speeds and aperture values (with the exception of the maximum aperture setting on certain

lenses). Example: Assume that you wish to take a picture on a 3200 ASA film at a shutter speed of 1/30 sec. According to the table, it is impossible to take a direct reading at 1/30 sec, although one can be made at the 1/60 sec setting. If a reading taken at 1/60 sec indicates an aperture of, say f/2.8, then an aperture of f/4 should be used

for 1/30 sec.

To take another instance, you may wish to take a picture in a dimly-lit room on a 25 ASA film. The reading (let us assume) indicates 1 second at f/2. To obtain sufficient depth of field, you may however wish to use an aperture of f/8. By simple calculation you can work out the required exposure time, which is 16 seconds. If you are accustomed to working with film speeds expressed in DIN degrees, then remember that each 3° DIN are equivalent to a doubling in film speed. A film rated at 17° DIN therefore requires an exposure half as long as one rated at 14° DIN.

#### COMPARISON OF ASA AND DIN FILM SPEEDS

Since the basic methods of measurement used for assessing film speeds in these two systems are fundamentally different, it is not possible to provide exactly equivalent pairs of figures. On most exposure meters, however, sufficiently accurate equivalent values provided; these are given in are brackets in our table.



#### F. HOW TO HOLD THE ALPA REFLEX CORRECTLY

This section is concerned only with two typical situations arising in determining the correct exposure with the ALPA Reflex 9d: Fig.28 illustrates the method of holding the camera when the shutter speed has been pre-selected and the appropriate aperture setting must be determined. It is advisable to get into the habit of operating the diaphragmring from below so as to avoid obscuring part of the lens with the hand.

Fig. 27 shows the method of holding the camera when the aperture setting has been pre-selected and the knob (B) of the potentiometer must be rotated so as to be able to read off the appropriate shutter-speed settling.





Fig. 29

#### G. ALPA ACCESSORIES

a) ALPA filters, (Fig. 30) precision-ground from the finest dyed-in-themass optical glass, are of high quality, manufactured to the same standards as the lenses and coated on both surfaces. Their optical standard provides the best possible assurance of maintaining the definition and image quality provided by the finest camera lenses. The trademark "ALPA" is marked on the glass itself to provide a hall-mark of quality.

The mounts of the ALPA filters can with very few exceptions be fitted into the front mount of the lenses simply by pushing them into place. They are removed by pulling gently and rotating the filter at the same time. For colours which are not obtainable as dyed-in-the-mass glass filters, lacquered gelatine discs in ALPA mounts can be supplied. These

gelatine filters are not mounted be-(cementing tween glass filters between glass flats will only give sufficiently high optical quality when the glasses are extremely thick in relation to their diameter: a thickness of over 15 mm is not uncommon. The price of such top-quality cemented filters is in the same order as that of the ALPA polarizing filter). On the other hand, unmounted gelatine filters are so thin that even when severely distorted they cannot affect the definition of even the fastest long-focus lenses.

If required empty ALPA filter mounts can also be supplied.

When using filters together with supplementary close-up lenses, the supplementary lens should always be fitted immediately in front of the camera lens, with the filter on top of it.

b) Supplementary close-up lenses. (Fig. 32). These are available (in +1 diopter strength only Ø B in 0,5 d.) in mount A for the Switar, Xenar 75 mm and the Makro-Kilar 90 mm and in mount B for the Macro-Switar, Curtagon 35 mm and Alfitar 90 mm lenses. Whenever a supplementary close-up lens is used the diaphragm must be stopped down a little more than usual. When using both a supplementary close-up lens and a filter at the same time, the close-up lens should be mounted first, then the filter.

c) ALPA lens hoods: (Fig. 33.) Snapped on the outside of the lens mounts they are independent of the





filters and can be removed again by a pressure on the loop of the flat spring. Most of the lens hoods can be reversed and slipped over the lens when not in use, so that they fit into the ALPA ever ready or lens cases. Among the wide angle lenses only the Curtagon requires a lens hood. A lens hood for the 24 and 28 mm lenses would be enormous, yet practically useless. Accordingly, the inside of their lens-mounts, behind the large front element, has been constructed in such a way that it functions as a built-in lens hood.



# Alpa lens caps: see page 10.





Fig. 34

ALPA-Reflex Mod. 9d mounted on a Wild research microscope.



d) Microscopic adapter: A simple clamping ring adapts the ALPA for attachment to any microscope for Photomicrography. (See separate leaflet.)

To attach Alpa tenses on a microscope, the inversbag is needed. (see page 30)

Fig. 35
Microfix clamping-ring

Fig. 35



e) ALPA Tuban extension Tubes: Fig. 36 shows the complete set, consisting of the following components: The 2 intermediate rings Tuban A (outside bayonet, inside thread) and Tuban B (inside thread and outside bayonet) and the actual Tuban extension tubes 4 (48 mm), 3 (24 mm), 2 (12 mm) and 1 (6 mm), Tuban A and B together have a total extension of 6 mm. The normal use is shown in fig. 37, with Tuban A and B between camera body and lens, while the actual extension tubes fit between the rings A and B according to the required extension. Fig. 38 indicates how the tubes are used without Tuban A and B rings, if a lens with detachable extension mount is used, as the ALPA Xenar 75 mm f/3.5 and Tele Xenar 360 mm.

f) Bellows attachment: Two different types of bellows near-focusing attachment are available for the ALPA; one model has dual adjustment controls whilst the other has only a single control (fig. 40). The maximum extension is the same with both types. The dual adjustment model makes it particularly easy to set up the camera so as to obtain the desired image scale, since it permits the entire camera to be rocked backwards and forwards. A special leaflet is available giving further details.

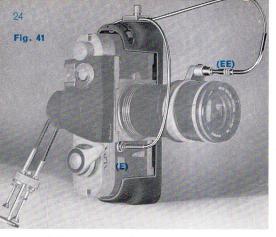
The bellows attachments can also be combined with the extension tubes to permit focusing at particularly short

distances.









Cameraholder with twin cable release.



g) "usan" camera cradle: (Fig. 41) although the body of the ALPA Reflex is provided with a reliable tripod bush, the "usan" camera cradle will prove extremely useful when employing a tripod and in conjunction with the Macrostat unit. The cradle is equipped with three tripod bushes (making it possible to take vertical pictures without a ball-and-socket head and has in addition a device for supporting both single and twin cable release in order to prevent their weight and movement from shaking the camera at the moment of exposure.

This cradle can be employed universally for all types of tripod screw (3/8" continental thread and 1/4" ASA

thread).

h) Pistol-grip (Fig. 42) with shoulder support: This device is especially recommended for use when taking pictures with long focus lenses. It is also frequently used with standard lenses and close-up accessories (and often with flash units also) for such purposes as photographing living

insects.

When using an automatic-diaphragm lens which is not screwed directly into the camera body, a special type of twin cable release must be used so that the diaphragm can be stopped down and the shutter released merely

by fingertip pressure.

A special twin cable release designed for this purpose is available under the code designation "combipan". If the direct trigger release "presscombi" is also obtained, then the "combipan" win cable release can be employed independently of the pistol grip (in place of the normal ",,biclon" twin cable release).

i) Cable release: In order to avoid all traces of vibration when using the ALPA Reflex on a tripod, it is advisable to release the shutter by means of a cable release. The robust "Panzer" cable release should always be bent at a sharp angle in order to prevent the thrust of the plunger from being transferred to the camera itself. Two different types of cable release are available: the conventional straight pattern and an angled type. (Fig. 44.) Whenever a lens with a fully-automatic pre-set diaphragm is used with extension tubes or other devices for close-up work separating it from the camera body, it will be necessary to use a twin cable release in order to preserve the pre-set diaphragm facility. The twin cable release (Codeword: biclon) should be employed for this purpose: the plungers should be adjusted so that the lens diaphragm closes before the camera shutter is released. A special type of cable release is required when using the pistol-grip holder, to enable the diaphragm and shutter to be actuated with a single pressure (codeword: combipan).

Fig. 44



Fig. 43



k) Correction lenses for Reflex Viewing: Most wearers of glasses can focus perfectly on the ground glass or with the split-image rangefinder of the ALPA 6c. Only certain people who should wear glasses but don't, especially long-sighted people, may have difficulties in accommodating their eyes. For this purpose there is a "montur" adapter which is attached to the eyepiece of the reflex finder and



can be supplied with correction lenses of +1, +2, +3 and +4 diopters. Other correction lenses can be built into the empty mount by a local optician.

I) Ever-ready case: (Fig. 45 & 46) made of first-quality washable hide and available in dark brown ("cidark") or black ("ciblak"). Attractive, functional design (protected), will accept camera fitted with any of the following lenses: Switar, Makro-Switar, Curtagon, 40 mm Makro-Kilar or 75 mm Xenar. The drop front is attached by means of snap (oe) (Fig. 46) fasteners and can easily be detached from the body of the case.

The camera is held securely inside the case by means of a captive screw, which is provided with a tripod bush to allow the camera to be mounted on a tripod without removing it from

the case.



m) "Suswit" carrying strap: (Fig. 47) this carrying strap will prove extremely useful when using the camera without its ever-ready case. The ALPA carrying strap is made of plaited leather and is supplied with carabiner-pattern spring fasteners; its length is adjustable. The normal pattern is white and will not mark clothing by rubbing against it. A black carrying strap (Codeword: Susblak) is also available but is supplied without any



warranty against the colour rubbing off. The spring clips need not be attached directly to the camera since a pair of split rings may be fitted to the eyelets on the camera body.

n) ALPA leather cases for individual lenses: (Fig. 48.) A set of leather cases, appropriately graduated in size, is available for all ALPA interchangeable lenses. The lenses are held securely inside the cases so that they cannot rattle about even when carried threaded to a shoulder strap; cushioned padding ensures a snug fit regardless of whether or not lens caps are fitted to the lenses. All cases are equipped with zip fasteners. A list of these cases and the lenses they will accommodate will be found in the table on page 31.

o) ALPA special holdall cases: (Fig. 49.) Available in brown (codeword "lefdark") or black ("lefblack"), these are extremely practical gadget bags for accommodating the ALPA Reflex with standard lens, lenshood and also 3 or 4 additional lenses and other accessories. The cases are designed extensible to make the contents more readily accessible. A special model is obtainable designed to accommodate two ALPA camera bodies with accessories.

Handy clamps made from moulded nylon hold all accessories firmly in position without scratching their finish. All cases are provided with reliable locks to ensure the safety of their

contents. Dimensions of case when closed:  $19 \times 25 \times 22 \, \text{cm}$  deep (7 5/8  $\times$  10  $\times$  87/8 in. approx.)



Fig. 48







p) ALPA Electric Motor: (Fig. 50.) This motor is fitted to the ALPA camera and will wind and release the shutter in a fraction of a second. It can be set to take individual pictures, or to produce serial photographs at the rate of 1 exposure per second. The motor may be connected to the mains (via a transformer) or to a nickel-cadmium accumulator providing sufficient power for approx. 500 exposures, which can be recharged from the mains within 14 hours.

The device may be operated by cable (up to 100 metres/yards long) to take pictures by remote control; it is also possible to actuate it without any physical cable connection. A special

leaflet is in preparation covering the innumerable uses of this apparatus.

q) ALPA Film Magazine (Fig. 51) for 30 metres (100 ft) daylight-loading spools: The detachable back of the ALPA camera can be exchanged for a film magazine taking 30 m (100 ft) daylight-loading film spools, which provide sufficient film for about 780 exposures. A cutting knife is provided for cutting off the exposed footage (which can only be removed in a darkroom). The frame counter works both additively and subtractively. A detailed leaflet is in preparation. Available in 1965.





Fig. 52

The ALPA Macrostat (Fig. 52) This collapsible stand allows the photographer to exploit the full potential of the ALPA in copywork as well as in indoor and outdoor macrophotography. Complete information and catalogue can be obtained.

You see above an application to copywork.



Fig. 54

Inversbag rings a b c d e (Fig. 53) This universal set of rings allows fol-

Adaptation of binoculars (Fig. 54)

Use of the reversed Curtagon for macrophotography over 1:1 (Fig. 53) and of the Macro-Switar over 3:1 a + d + c Use of the reversed Switar for macrophotography over 3:1, of Xenar 75 mm over  $1:1 \ a+b+d+e \ (Fig. 56)$ 

Use of ALPA camera for microphotography with lens Ø B a + d + micro-

Use of ALPA camera for microphotography with lens Ø A (Fig. 57) a + d + b + microfix

Inversbag: ring a code inversbag

inversred inverstel d

inverstar

inversfil



Table of Interchangeable ALPA Lenses, lenshoods, filters and cases

9 <sup>3</sup>	focal length f/stop mm		lenshood	filter	case				
Retrofocus	24	3.5	none	filtrado	reblak				
Retrofocus	28	3.5	none	filtrado	reblak				
Curtagon	35	2.8	curtabe	filtrabe	reblak w/o lenshood reblak with lenshood				
Makro-Kilar	40	2.8	built-in	ecrana	reblak				
Switar	50	1.8	omxana	filtrana	reblak				
Macro-Switar	50	1.8	omxabe	filtrabe	reblak				
Xenar	75	3.5	omxana	filtrana	xetdark				
Alfitar	90	2.5	omxabe	filtrabe	redark w/o lenshood muldark with lenshood				
Makro-Kilar	90	2.8	built-in	filtrana	nodark				
Apochromat	100	2	parso	filtrado	nodark				
Tele-Xenar	135	3.5	omxabe	filtrabe	muldark				
Apochromat	150	2.8	parso	filtrado	kindark				
Alitar	180	4.5	omxabe	filtrabe	mulblak				
Tele-Xenar	360	5.5	parante	xfiltran	texdark				

Color Rendition: The Switar and Macro-Switar 50 mm f/1.8 APO-CHROMATS are known for their warm color rendition. Other lenses render colors somewhat coldly in comparison and may therefore be criticised as being not fully color corrected.

To match the color rendition of the various lenses, in particular with the standard Switar and Macro-Switar lenses, the use of the following filters is suggested:

40 colorless haze filter 610 pale pink haze filter 615 pink haze filter

Retrofocus	Curtagon	Makro-Kilar	Switar & Macro-Swa	Xenar	Alfitar	Apochromat	Tele-Xenar	Apochromat	Alitar	Tele-Xenar
24 & 28	35	40	50	75	90	100	135	150	180	360
Filter nun	nbers									
none	40	none	none	40	40	40	40	40	610	40
40	610	40	40	610	610	610	610	610	615	610
610	615	610	610	615	615	615	615	615	615	615

It is essential to limit the comparison of color rendition to identical parts of the same subject, which appear in both pictures.

#### GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

All ALPA cameras are renowned for their rugged construction, which has been proved abundantly under the most rigorous climatic conditions, in many expeditions to the arctic, the tropics and up the highest mountains in the world. One should never forget, however, that the ALPA is a precision instrument which must be handled with the appropriate care in order to maintain its high standards of performance. This applies equally to the interchangeable lenses and accessories.

In particular, pay special attention to the following points:

- The camera should be protected against sudden blows and falls, and should not be subjected to continuous vibration (i.e. it should not be carried on the floor of a car close to the propeller shaft, nor on the luggage grid of a motor-cycle), since this may result in the loosening of sealed screws.
- 2) Do not leave the shutter tensioned during prolonged periods of disuse.
- 3) Keep the camera away from dust, wind-borne sand and humid atmospheres. When not in use it can be protected by storing it in a plastic box; in tropical countries, the camera should be kept in an airtight container together with a desiccating agent which can be regenerated easily such as silica gel.
- 4) In winter, when carrying the camera from outdoors into a warm room, the metal and glass surfaces will become misted over with condensation. This should not be wiped off: wait until it disappears of its own accord as the camera warms up.
- 5) Every time the camera is re-loaded, the film track and pressure plate should be cleaned with a piece of fluff-free cloth (never use cotton wool). Occasionally the film track guides and pressure plate should be rubbed over with just a trace of paraffin (Kerosine) oil, taking care to wipe away all the surplus.
- 6) Never lubricate the mechanism yourself! The shutter can be operated

- many thousand times without needing oiling. The special lubricants employed at the ALPA factory are not compatible with other oils.
- 7) Do not attempt to dismantle the camera yourself. This operation requires not only extensive knowledge but also special tools. The maker's guarantee will be rendered void if the camera has been tampered with by any unauthorized person.
- 8) A special water-tight case is available for taking underwater photographs. The camera itself is not watertight! If the camera is dropped accidentally into the water, it should be dried out immediately and then sent as soon as possible to a service agent or direct to the factory. If the camera is dropped into salt water, it must first be rinsed several times in fresh water, preferably concluding with a rinse in distilled water, before being dried. If sea water is allowed to dry in the camera, the increasing salt concentration will erode all metal components (including chrome). The resulting corrosion will result in the effective destruction of the entire mechanism.
- 9) If the camera is lost or stolen, report the serial number of both the camera body and the lens immediately to your dealer, the ALPA agents in the country where you are, and also to the manufacturers. This provides the only possible method of detecting the camera and restoring it to its rightful owner, in the event of its ever being sent in for repair, etc.
- 10) Commercial film cassettes are more frequently faulty than one might suppose. When loading the camera, make certain that the film can move easily and that the mouth of the cassette is not too tight or dented. If the film will not pull out freely, it may be assisted by gently inserting a penknife blade between the lip of the cassette and the back of the film. Make sure that there are no loose velvet threads hanging from the cassette mouth; these may become detached and get caught in the film track.

### Synchronization for different flashbulbs

	Flashbulbs TYPE:														
Shutter	Philips			Osram	Osram Sylvania					General Electric/Westinghouse					
setting	PF 1 PF 5 PF 38 PF 60	PF100	0 PF 24 PF 25 *	XM 1 XM 5	M- 2 SF	3	Bantam 8 Press 25 Press 40 O 2	FP 26	2A *	PH/M2 PH/SM	AG-1 PH/50	PH/8 PH/5 PH/11 PH/22	PH/6 *	PH/31	
1/ <sub>15</sub> sec.	** X	X		** X		X	X			** X	Х				
1/15 - 1/1000									M						
1/30		M		2 de 10 de 1	X	М				Х	M				
1/30 - 1/1000			M				386	M						М	
1/60 - 1/1000						100							М		

#### Note:

These indications follow strictly the technical data given by the bulb manufacturers. In practice the allowed tolerances are greater.

The blue flashbulbs for color film synchronize identically to the ones for black and white film.

If the flashbulbs are used with the X-contact, do not operate the release button before winding the camera, as the flashbulbs would fire uselessly.

**PF** is the abbreviation for flashbulbs made by Philips, while **FP** means bulbs for focal plane shutters.