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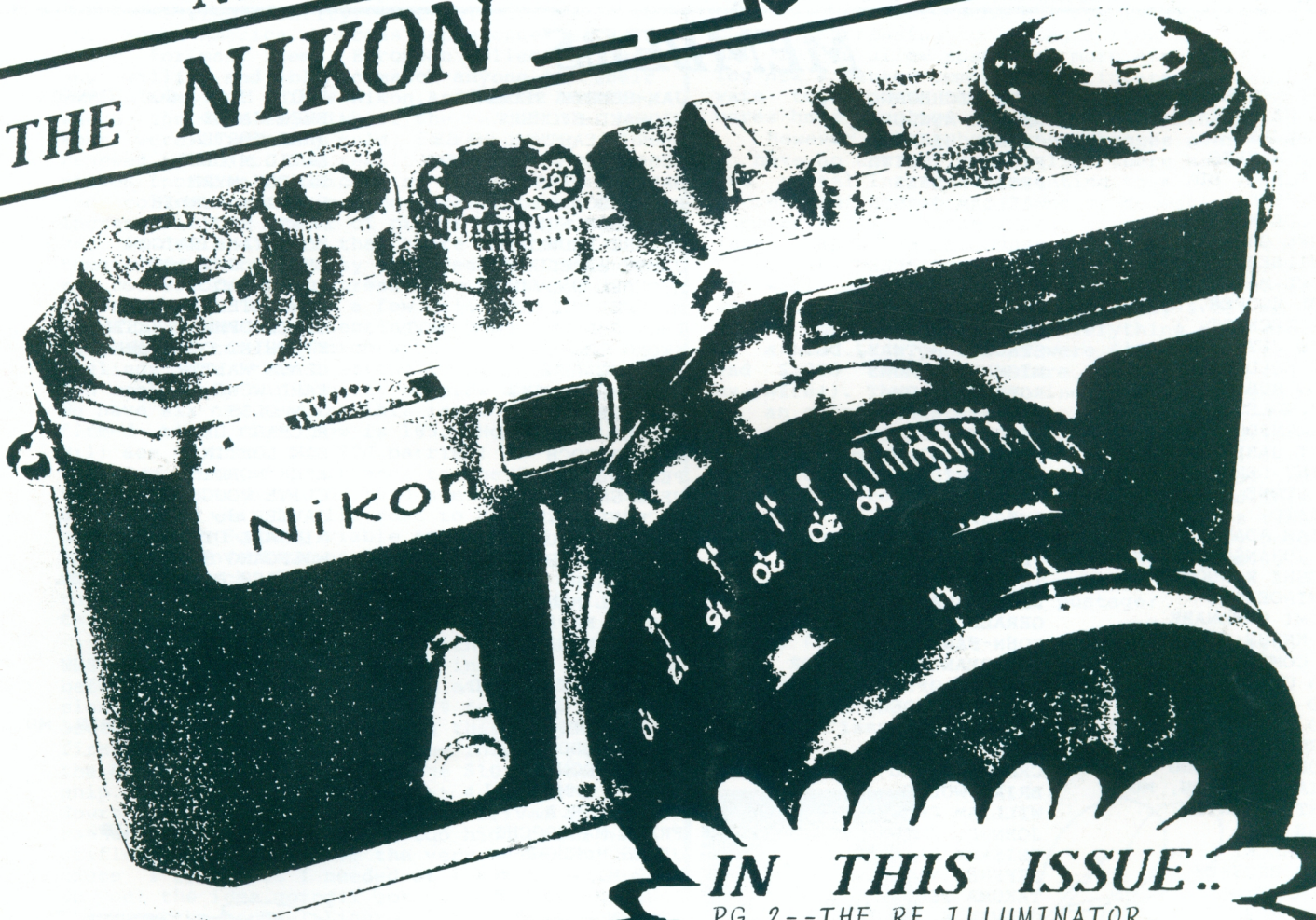
DECEMBER 31, 1989



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NHS-CONZ SET FOR MARCH 31ST!!!

THE NIKON  JOURNAL



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ROBERT ROTOLONI
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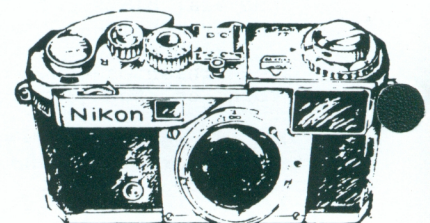
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EDITORIAL

As we close out 1989 with the 26th issue of The Nikon Journal, a great deal is happening in the world of Nikon collecting in general, & our Nikon Historical Society in particular. In a longer than usual Editorial I would like to address some current trends, express some personal opinions, and discuss two items of major importance to the Society and its members.

As is quite obvious to anyone even remotely interested in Nikon rangefinder equipment, prices are up! Demand greatly exceeds supply in the case of rarer items, and even the more common pieces have increased appreciably over the preceding 12-18 months. This escalating price structure is not restricted to just one market or country, but is found within the three basic areas of the world where photographic collecting is a viable entity. That is; Europe, Japan and North America. Whereas Japan once set the price for many items, European collectors are now willing and able to match anyone in their enthusiasm for things Nikon. And North America, where the vast majority of the rangefinder Nikons were originally sold, is responding with renewed interest. The result is not only an expected increase in prices, as the ranks of Nikon collectors swells almost daily, but also an increase in the number of pieces coming to market as dealers learn that there are ready customers for whatever they can unearth. Some newer collectors have expressed to me dismay over prices, and I am sure a few will drop out, but overall Nikon RF collecting is undoubtedly the hottest sector in photographica right now. My feelings are that a strong interest in Nikons can only help our Society to grow and prosper. We have six new members this issue and our confirmed total right now is 185! Hopefully 1990 will see us break the 200 barrier!

Two items of importance to the Society and to you the members for 1990 are...the matter of dues and what it will cost to keep the Journal and the Society viable into the 90s; & the upcoming Convention now officially slated for Saturday March 31, 1990. Before getting into the Convention I might as well address the distasteful subject of money and dues.

You will recall that in the Editorial in NHS-25 the subject of a dues increase was put before the membership to stimulate some discussion. Please refer to page 19 for some of the letters I received concerning this subject. But first a little history. In the initial year of the Society I decided to charge \$10 for membership. This included the first 4 issues of the Journal. The figure of \$10 was arrived at in a rather haphazard way. To go too high could have stifled the Society from the very beginning because I felt that I needed at least 50 members to get the idea going. I got printing estimates based on the hopeful figure of 50 & then looked into the costs of packaging and mailing. It couldn't be done for \$10, but it was close and I decided to gamble and see if I could make it work. It did...by NHS-4 I had 60 members! However, that first year was a trial run & everyone knew that there would be an increase after the first year. With the experience of doing 4 issues it was obvious that the figure of \$20 a

year was more realistic, & an increase to that figure was announced in NHS-4. That was June of 1984 and they have remained at that level ever since! A lot has happened over the last 5 plus years. Beginning a few years ago I began to offer a special 3 year rate of \$50 which helped both of us. It allowed you to save \$10 and it lightened my bookkeeping, but it also locked both of us into a 3 yr contract with benefits for all concerned. Naturally things change and some we have control over and others we don't. Things that I have done by choice include.... maintaining the glossy paper stock which produces better quality photo-reproduction; using metal plates for all photos; shipping by first class domestic & airmail overseas; using heavy manila envelopes for protection in the mails; insuring that all member's ads remain free of charge; increasing to 24 pages from the original 20 to allow space for more articles; buying new & better computers, printers and software to improve the Journal. Hopefully these moves have resulted in a better magazine.

However, there have been changes over which I have no control. Since 1983 there have been two postal increases amounting to a 50% total increase (56 cents to 85 cents domestic!) with a corresponding increase for foreign. The envelopes bought in bulk cost about 11 cents each plus I have had two increases from the printer as well (10% and then 8%). So five years later we have the same, or better, quality & 25% more pages (more weight!), and everything has come to a head. Last year dues were \$1600 below cost and \$1200 the year before (please don't tell my wife!). Therefore, an increase is necessary in an effort to break even. After a great deal of thought & much time going over your letters I have come up with what I hope you will feel is a fair and equitable increase. Those of you who have recently paid dues are protected. This increase will only show up when it comes time for renewal (so those of you who recently paid for 3 years did very well!). So here goes.....

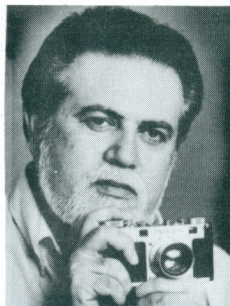
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Cont. on pg. 18..



Robert Rotoloni
ROBERT ROTOLONI
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

Photo: Tony Hurst

THE NIKON "RF" ILLUMINATOR...

BY ROBERT ROTOLONI

An accessory that is totally unique to the Nikon rangefinder system was marketed in early 1958, and intended to be used with only one model, the Nikon SP. Known as the "Rangefinder Field Illuminator", it was designed to provide artificial illumination for the SP's projected and parallax corrected framelines. It sold for the huge price of \$18.75, including a leather case! The "RF Illuminator", as it is known today amongst collectors, was still listed in Nikon price lists as late as 1965. This could be due to slow sales for what must be considered one of the more esoteric and special purpose of Nikon accessories. Although a very interesting idea, with an actual useful purpose, it may have gone nearly unnoticed by contemporary users, since the framelines of the SP were quite usable except for rare occasions. However, for chronic users of the 50mm/f1.1 Nikkor shooting under the worst "unavailable light" conditions it could prove to be very useful. Whatever the case, despite its low price it appears to have been a slow mover and many could have remained in inventory long after its market was gone.

The RF Illuminator consisted almost entirely of a black plastic cylindrical housing designed to slip into the SP accessory shoe from the front. This is the same method that Nikon devised for the SP/S3 exposure meter, and was necessary in the case of the RF Illuminator because its design required that it overhang the frosted light collection window of the SP. Both a metal foot for mounting in the SP shoe and its own metal accessory shoe were mounted at the rear with an extension of the plastic housing sandwiched between them. This allowed for solid attachment to the camera & maintained an accessory shoe, which meant that a second item, such as a flash unit or finder, could be mounted as well. As a matter of fact, just forward of the secondary shoe can be found that ubiquitous cordless flash stud found on all Nikon RFs starting with the S2. By building this extension of the stud into the RF Illuminator, Nikon made it possible for the user to mount a cordless flash unit. A nice touch!

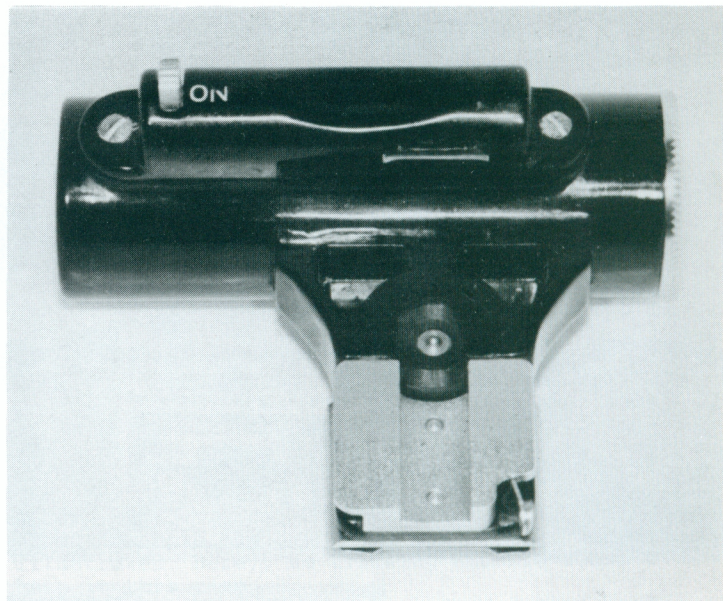
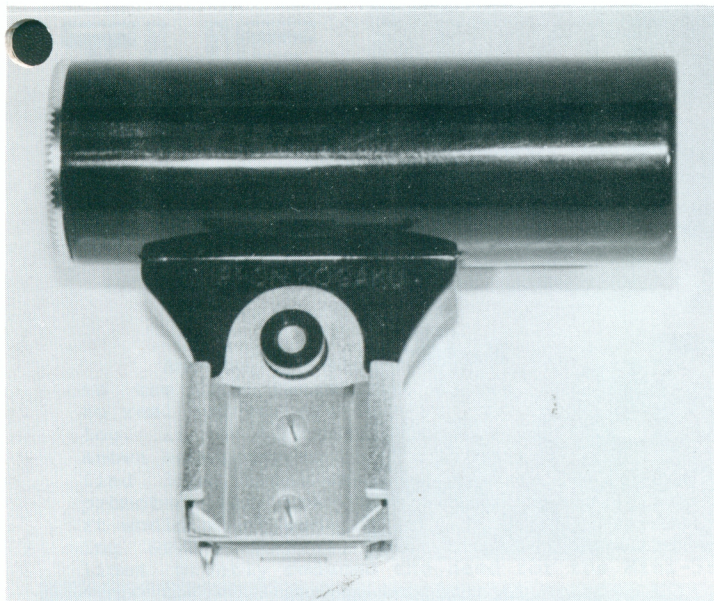
The black plastic cylindrical housing was orientated parallel to the leading edge of the SP. At the right end, looking at the front of the camera, is a bright metal screw-on cap. Removing this cap reveals the interior of the cylinder, which is precisely the size of an "AA" Penlight battery. It powers a very tiny grain-of-wheat bulb mounted to the underside of the

housing. The light from this bulb exits through a tiny portal & shines directly into the frosted window of the SP to illuminate the projected framelines. To the left of the portal is an on-off switch which is stepless and is used to adjust the brightness of the light. It actually takes longer to describe the workings of this accessory than it does to use it. And it really works! Flip the switch on and suddenly those framelines light up like neon signs!

When mounted it adds very little weight or bulk to the SP, and its low profile doesn't interfere with the operation of the camera. If it wasn't needed because of ample available light, it could be left on the camera since it didn't prevent ambient light from reaching the frosted window.

All in all the RF Illuminator is an interesting and ingenious little accessory that is unique to the Nikon system. Years later Nikon would design a similar accessory for use with the Photomic FTn meter prism for the Nikon F & the later F2 Photomic. Called a "DL" Illuminator, it mounted to the eyepiece and positioned its small bulb above the light gathering window. However, newer battery technology allowed for the use of a small button battery instead of the more bulky "AA" Penlight from the 50s'. Today the RF Illuminator is much sought after and is quite valuable. Currently a mint working specimen with its proper case can often demand up to 15 times what it originally listed for!





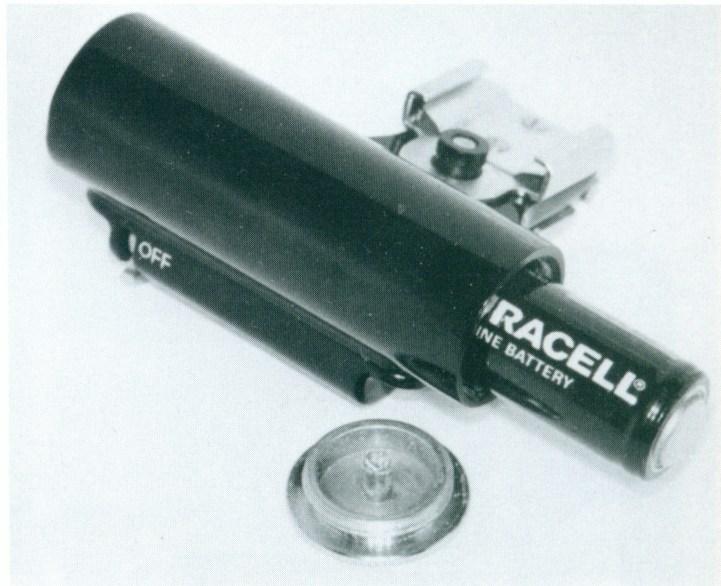
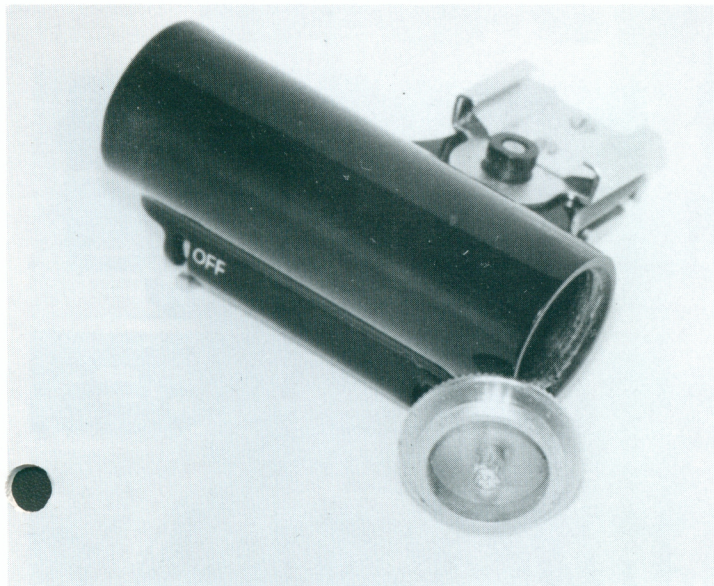
The two photos above illustrate in detail the RF Illuminator. The left photo is a top view in which the secondary accessory shoe, allowing an additional item, such as a finder or flash unit, to also be mounted, can be seen. Also note that the cordless flash stud has been retained in this ingenious design. The underside is visible in the right photo. Note the minute contact for the cordless flash stud is barely visible. What also can be seen from this angle is the small housing that contains the ON/OFF switch (the small brite metal lever towards the left next to the "ON" engraving), & the portal for the "grain-of-wheat" bulb (towards the center in line with the contact for the cordless flash stud).

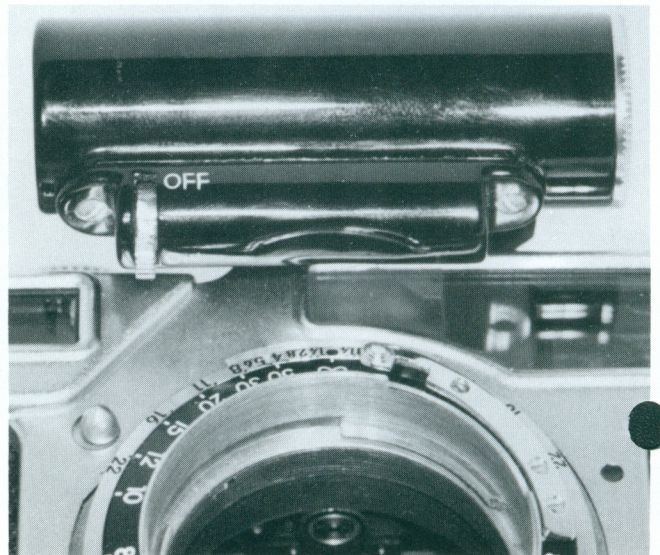
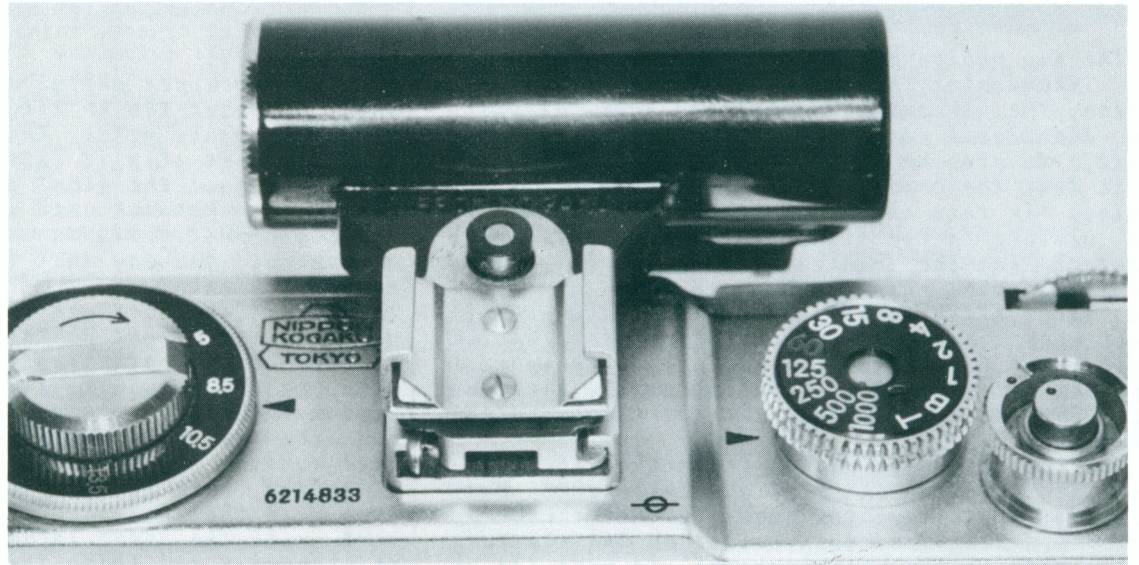
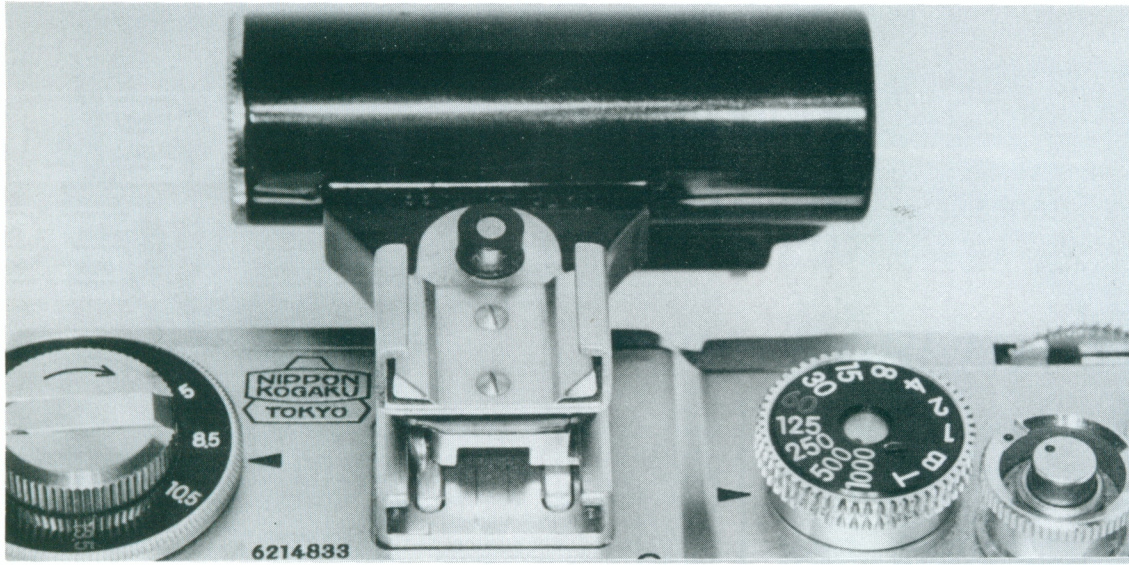
In the two lower photos the method for loading the required "AA" Penlight battery is pictured. The left photo shows the metal end-cap removed. One would then insert an "AA" battery (as shown in the right photo), to make the RF Illuminator functional.

(NEXT PAGE)...

The two upper photos demonstrate the method used to mount the RF Illuminator. As with the Nikon Exposure Meter, this accessory required that the user slip it into the camera's accessory shoe from the front as opposed to the regular rear approach used when mounting a finder or flash unit. This was necessary in this case because of the way that the Illuminator overhangs the front edge of the SP. This is shown in detail in the lower right photo. To function properly, the light portal must align with the frosted light gathering window of the SP, and also be low enough to shine directly into this window. Therefore, the overhang is mandatory & requires that the Illuminator be mounted from the front.

In the lower left photo can be seen the leather case that was supplied as standard equipment with the "RF" Illuminator for the total price of \$18.75! Today this outfit in mint condition can bring as much as 15 times that!





THE NIKON 35MM "MINI-FINDER"...

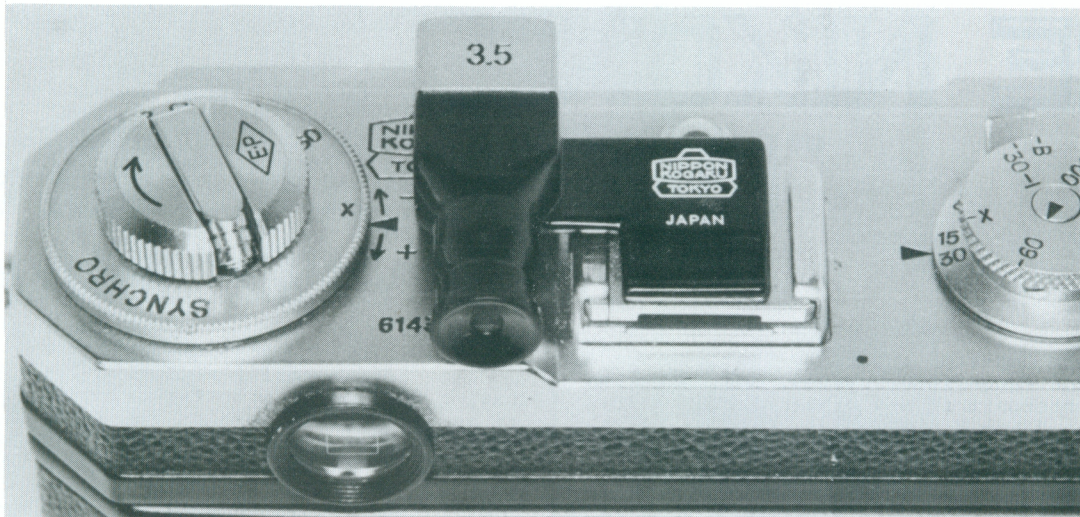
BY ROBERT ROTOLONI

Another top-side accessory that is unique to the Nikon rangefinder system, and one with no real counterpart in any other makers' catalog, is the "35mm Mini-Finder". Once a little known accessory in the Nikon system, this mini-fied 35mm finder was specifically designed and promoted for use with the Nikon S2. Although it would mount and properly fit on the succeeding SP/S3 cameras, their built-in 35mm framelines greatly reduced the need for the Mini-35 even though it is an improvement on the tiny, and distorted, view afforded by the combination 28/35 optical finder on the SP (at least in my opinion). Being listed as specific to the S2 undoubtedly curtailed its sales after the demise of that model in early 1958, yet it remained in the catalog until at least October 1964. This was assuredly left-over stock, since the Mini-35 was first listed in late 1956, which is less than two years before the S2 was replaced by the S3. This rather short lifespan probably accounts for the relative scarcity of the Mini-35 finder in today's market. Even though it remained in the catalog for at least 6 years beyond the end of the camera it was intended for the number left in inventory could have been quite small, maybe as few as 100 pieces. But at this time no one knows. Suffice it to say that the Mini-35 finder was made for a short period

of time; for a specific model (with succeeding models incorporating their own 35mm fields); & having to compete with the standard 35mm finder as well. The result is a low production special purpose item so much in demand that they currently bring 20 times their original \$11.75 list price! As to the number produced...we may never know. To date only a single serial numbered example has been reported to me (which is illustrated here), so tracking numbers doesn't help in this case.

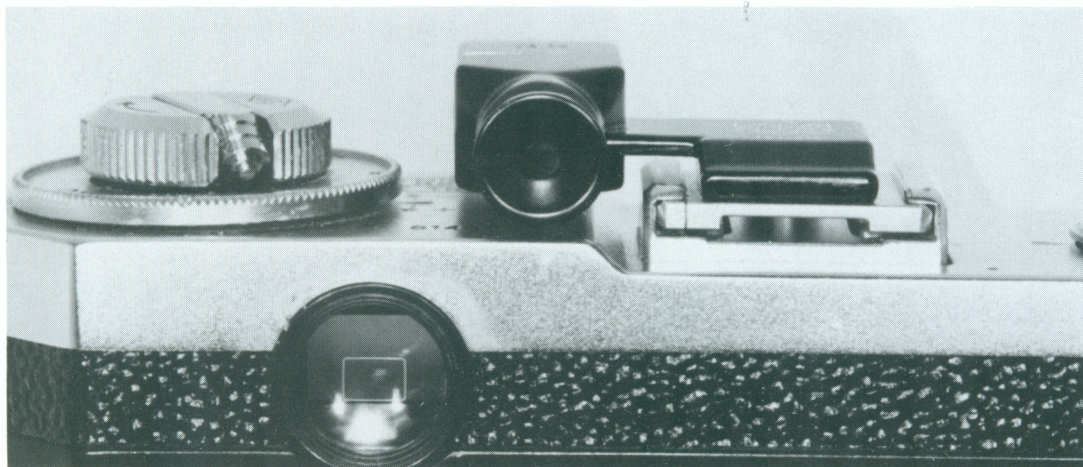
It departed from the standard design used for accessory finders in that the optical tube was placed to the side rather than immediately above the mounting shoe. This lowered its profile significantly. The near lifesize image of the standard 35mm finder was sacrificed in favor of the extremely compact design of the optical housing. Primarily of black aluminum construction, the housing is rectangular with a chrome front rim. It lacks provision for parallax correction, but this is less important here because the optical center of this finder is closer to that of the camera viewfinder. This decreases the chance of parallax error, but will not completely eliminate it. It weighs in at only 10.4gms and is hardly noticeable when mounted on an S2.

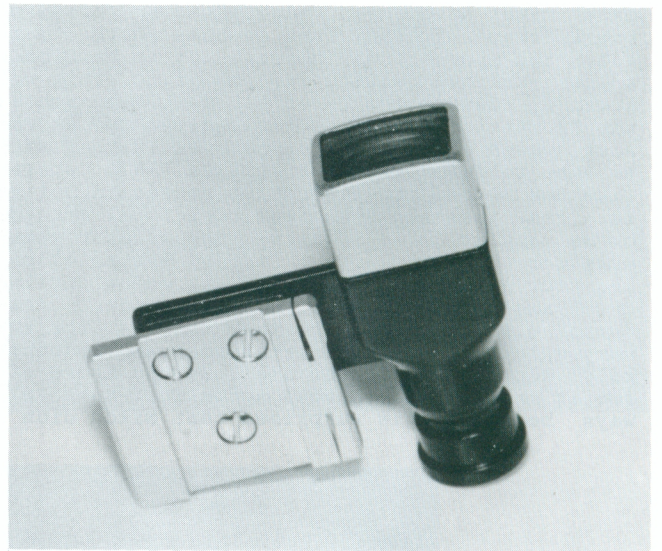
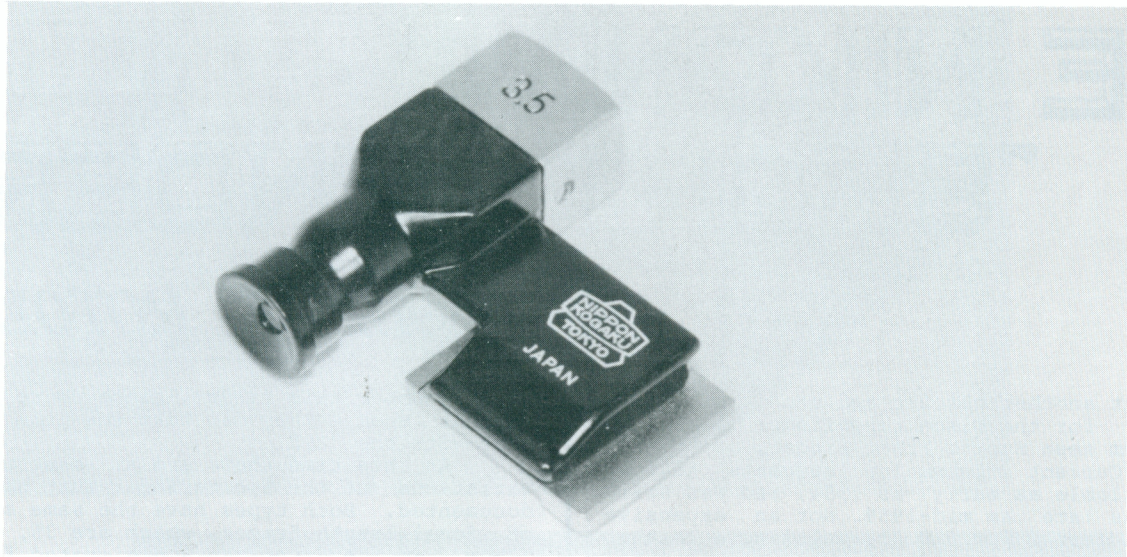




On this and the previous page are photos that show how compact the 35mm Mini-Finder really is when mounted on the Nikon S2. The upper photo amply illustrates how the optical unit is positioned to the left of the mounting shoe by a black finished bracket. However, for reasons we may never know, Nippon Kogaku didn't design this finder with a secondary accessory shoe as they did with the RF Illuminator! And why not? There is more than enough room & it would have allowed the user to mount a flash unit at the same time! A strange omission!

The two lower photos are a "birdseye" view of the 35mm Mini-Finder. Note how it barely protrudes above the height of the rewind knob and doesn't interfere with its' operation. What is also obvious is that the optical center of the Mini-Finder is almost in line with the viewfinder of the S2. This eliminates much of the parallax introduced by the fact that Nippon Kogaku (and nearly every other maker of rangefinders), for some unfathomable reason, designed their cameras with the shoe offset from the optical center of the viewfinder. (R. Rotoloni)

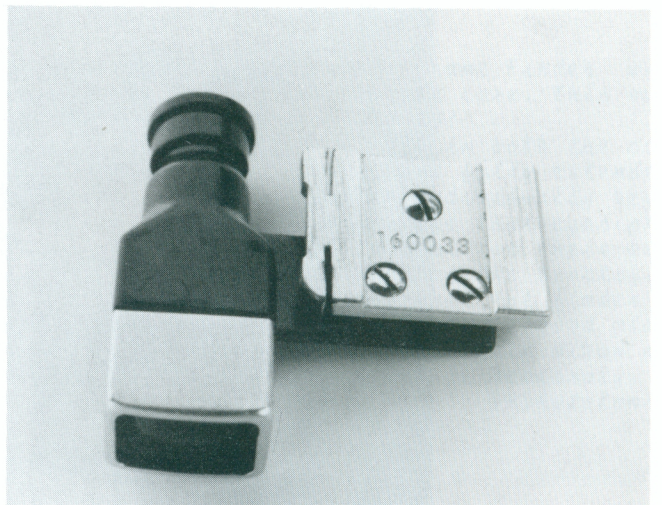




These photos show in detail the design of the 35mm Mini-Finder. It is a very compact & light weight finder unique to the Nikon system. What I find interesting is that a second model was never produced, since there is obvious room for improvement of what was initially an inspired design. Two simple alterations to this basic concept would have improved it immensely. First would be the addition of a secondary accessory shoe mounted to the black platform on which is found the N-K logo. A flash stud extension similar to the RF Illuminator would have made it a much more usable item. Second, the bracket connecting the shoe and optical housing could have been made longer, putting the finder even closer to the camera's viewfinder. There is at least 8-10mm of space remaining between the optical housing and the synchro dial. These two changes would have improved what was already a breakthrough design!

(R. Rotoloni)

At the right is the only serial numbered example of the Mini-Finder reported to me. It is #160033 and is the property of member Tad Sato of Tokyo.





THE NIKON "SPORTSFINDER"...

BY ROBERT ROTOLONI

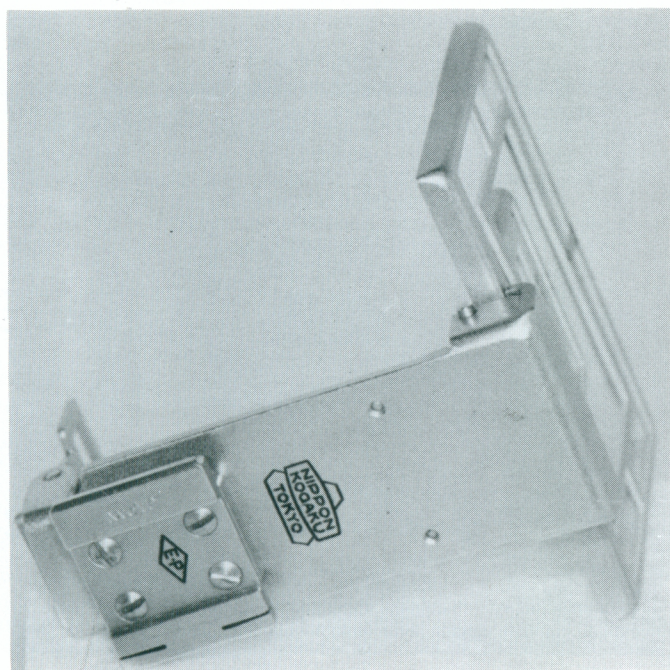
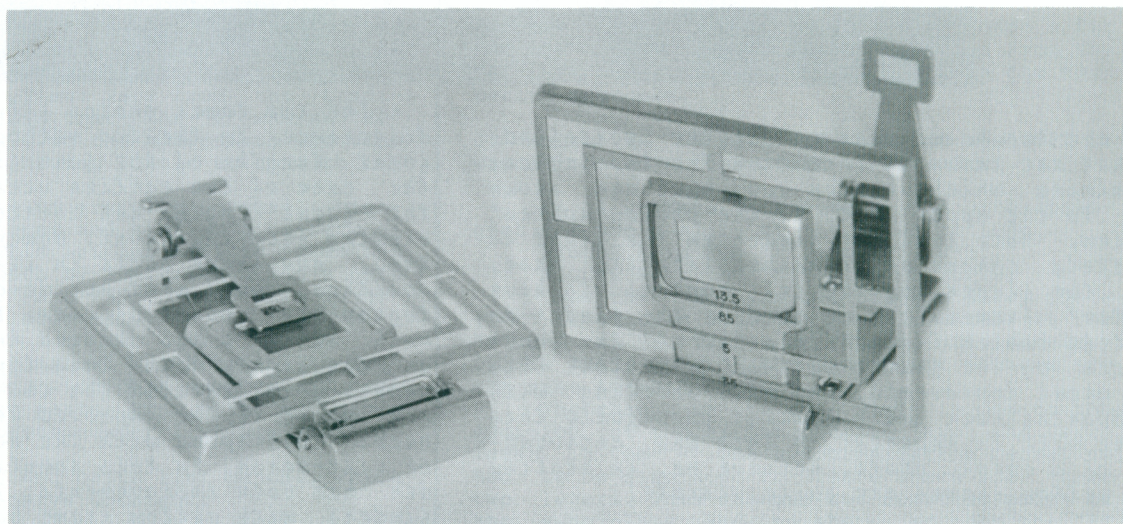
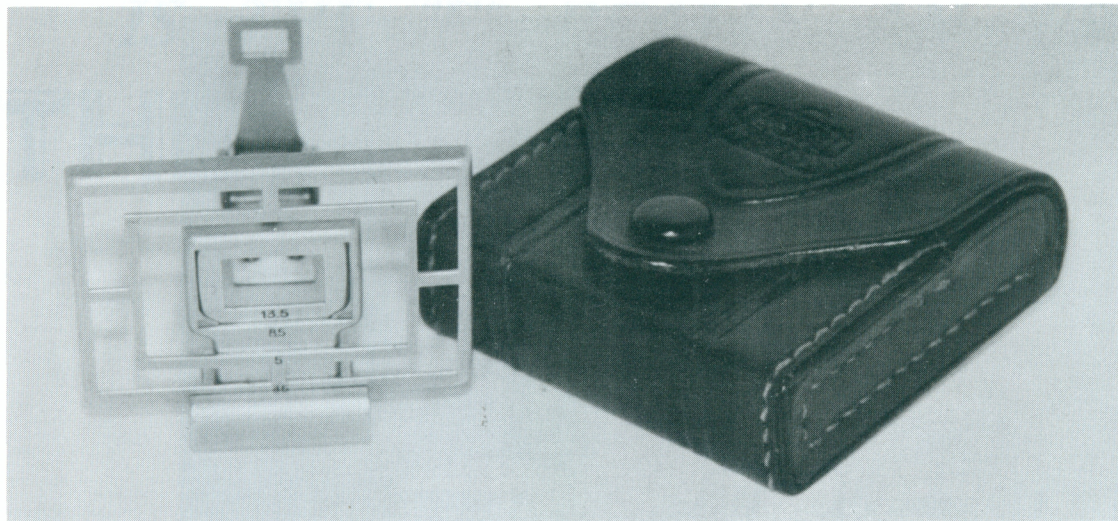
Yet another obscure and unusual top-side accessory for the Nikon rangefinder system is the seldom seen Sports Frame Finder, or Sportsfinder. Current information suggests that it was available as early as 1954, and was still listed as late as mid-1959. Not an expensive item, it listed for \$10.85, including a leather case (with a dealer net of \$7.05!!..can you believe it, \$7.05!). As far as can be determined Nikon never serial numbered the Sportsfinder, so it is very difficult to ascertain just how many might have been made. However, based on how infrequently they tend to come on the market, the Sportsfinder appears not to have been a best-seller, despite its low price. This was probably due to the fact that an item such as the Sportsfinder is a rather limited use accessory whose utility decreased even further after the release of the SP in late 1957. Cameras like the SP and its successors possessed built-in framelines for a minimum of 2 focal lengths or as many as 6. In addition, these later cameras were designed with a finder system allowing for a certain amount of the scene outside the frameline to be visible. These modern features eliminated many of the reasons for the very existence of the Sportsfinder and undoubtedly depressed whatever small demand there was for it in the first place. Actually I have always been a little surprised that Nikon didn't

serial number this finder, since there is sufficient room & they did take the time to mark some with the "EP".

At this time there are at least two known variations of the Sportsfinder that have been documented. Both types have the same selection of focal length frames, which are 35, 50, 85 & 135mm. Neither type has a designated frame for the 105mm Nikkor, but this is probably due to a lack of sufficient space & not an oversight. What is believed to have been the earlier version had the focal length markings engraved in such a way that they could be read right-side up when viewing the finder from the front. This version is also finished completely in chrome. The second type has the focal lengths in the same location, but now they have been reversed and appear up-side down. However, they're now orientated for the point of view of the photographer. Secondly, the backside of the frames themselves (that which the photographer must use to frame his subject) are now painted in a bright yellow, which increases their visibility immensely. Besides these two features, both types appear identical.

We may never know just how many were made but the numbers cannot be high. They are seldom seen on the market today, & a Nikon Sportsfinder in fine shape with the leather case will often command nearly 20x its original price!!

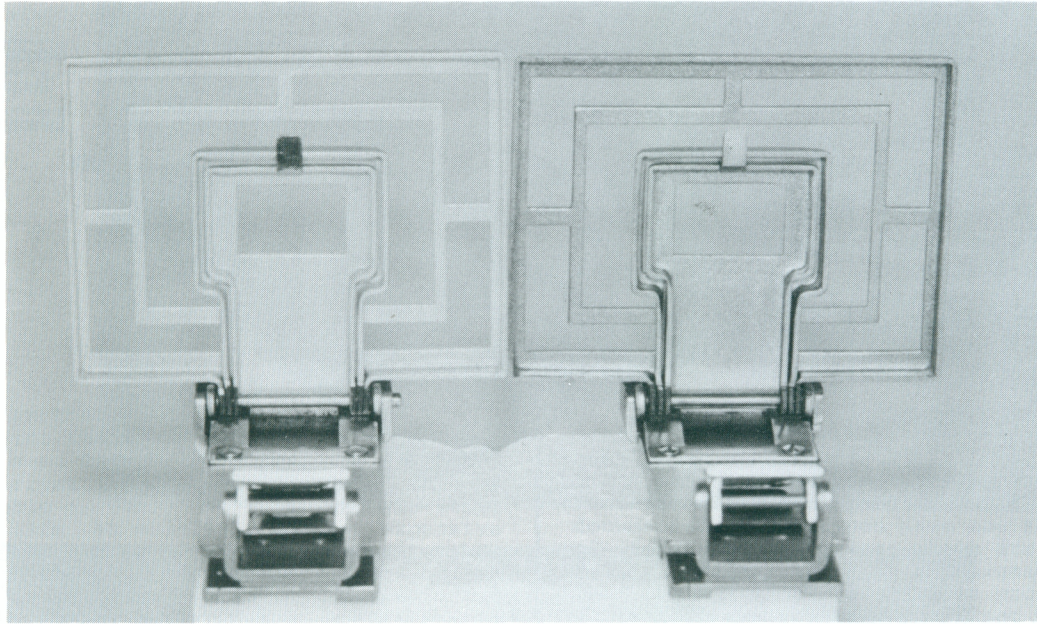




Top photo: The Nikon Sports Frame Finder with its' standard equipment leather case. This outfit sold new in 1954 for \$10.85!

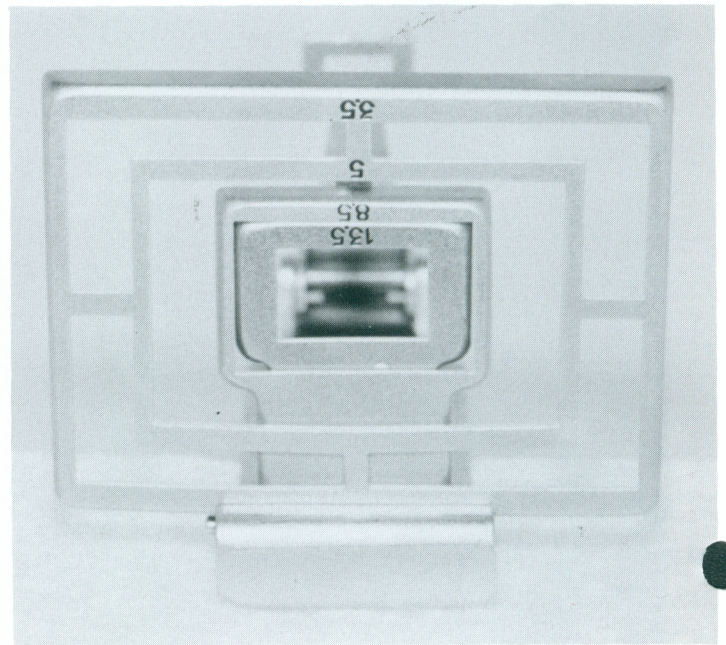
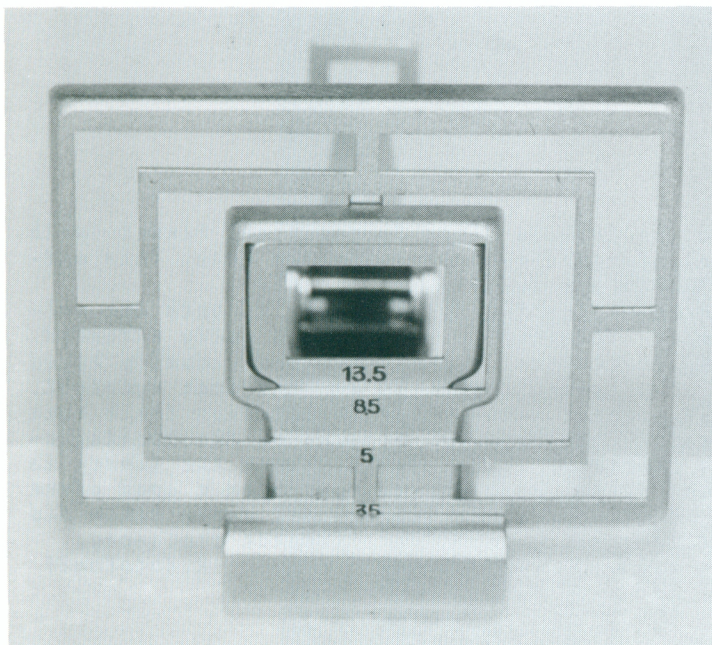
Center photo: The Sportsfinder in both the collapsed (storage) position, and fully extended. The three front frames were individually keyed in and spring loaded, as was the rear eyesight. Left photo: Nikon chose to position their ever present logo on the underside of the Sportsfinder where it is not visible when the finder is mounted. This would also have been a good place to engrave a serial number, but again Nikon did not choose to number this topside accessory.

(R. Rotoloni)



There are two basic versions of the Sportsfinder that are known at this time. The two factors determining which version you have are shown here. In the upper photo is the photographers' eye-view. Note that the finder on the right is completely chrome and finished like its' base, while the finder on the left appears to have "lighter" frames. This is because the finder on the left (which is later) has had all the inner surfaces of the frames painted in yellow. This is a great improvement and made shooting with the Sportsfinder much easier. (Hopefully this feature will be in apparent in this B&W reproduction of a color photo. Believe me, in reality those yellow frames are quite visible!)

The two lower photos illustrate the obvious difference in the two methods used to mark the focal lengths of the four frames. Note that in the case of the earlier version (on the left), the focal lengths are correctly orientated for viewing from the front. However, with this method, any frame still in its stored, or folded, position, would read upside-down from the photographers' point of view. This doesn't make much sense, & was changed in the later version on the right. With this type the numbers are properly orientated for the photographer. It is not known if the improved yellow painted frame backs correspond with the new numbering style, or vice-versa. In this sampling, the newer finder has both improvements. It is possible that finders with yellow frame backs may still have the old style numbering. (R. Rotoloni)



IS THE "F" REALLY AN "SP"???

THE F-SPOT!!

by **JOSEPH HIGHAM**

The invitation to submit articles on the "F" reflex camera leads me into the question "how much of the "SP" mechanism was transplanted into the "F"?" Views vary from the traditionalists who claim that the "F" was an "SP" with a mirror box...to the modernists who view it as a new-born, having little to do with its ancestors.

In this series of articles we shall highlight the differences and similarities between the two models. This initial article takes the statistical approach by analyzing Nikon's part numbers for the "F" and "SP". This data is derived from several sources...

A) The "SP" repair manual which has illustrations of the camera with part numbers, & a text referring to these parts. From this, and other sources, an "SP" parts number list was created.

B) The "F" repair and parts list manual, which is a more comprehensive document.

PART NUMBERS

Nikon allocated part numbers to each component. A word of caution....part numbers are NOT the number of parts, e.g., four identical screws would be allocated one part number. The Nikon parts list did not always carry an illustration of each of the parts. For instance, the selftimer is numbered from #801 through #876 inclusive, or 76 part numbers. Only three part numbers are illustrated...the selftimer lever, its retaining screw, and the selftimer itself (74 parts) which is only available as an assembly. My personal experience leads me to believe that this assembly was a "purchased" item, and would explain the absence of illustrations for the actual timer parts. The "SP" and "F" used the very same selftimer.

For the purpose of this analysis, I will count part numbers & not assemblies, which are groups of part numbers.

"SP" PART NUMBERS

The "SP" part numbers commenced at #1 (body casting) and rose, with some gaps, to #876. In addition, there were 29 different optical glass components, G1 to G29.

"F" PART NUMBERS

1) When a part was interchangeable between the "SP" & "F" model it carried the same part number for both models.

2) Where an "SP" part was unique and didn't fit the "F", the part number was omitted from the "F" part number list, creating a gap in the numbering sequence.

3) Where an "F" part did not fit the "SP" it was allocated a four digit number: 2xxx.

To illustrate this system, and with apologies for the quality of the illustrations...

FIGURE A is the "F"...model 20FB1.

FIGURE B is the "SP"...model 26F2B.

Now take the sync calibration delay plate ("FX" & colored dots) in Fig. A, which is the "F", and it is #2306. In Fig. B (SP), however, it is #263! Many of the other part numbers are the same in both figures.

The change in the sync plate is due to the addition of the mirror cocking lever and catch lever in the "F". The synchronization mechanism had to be displaced to create space for these two levers. This changed the mounting point of the sync plate, and its shape, so that the "F" and "SP" plates are different. This can be seen by examining the "F" part number list, Fig. C, which encompasses the above number range. Number 263 is missing, as well as 262 and 264, as they are all unique "SP" parts. Figure D shows the page for part number 2306 from the "F". If we now match up the "SP" and "F" lists we can determine how many part numbers were common to each model, or unique to one or the other.

Unique to the "SP"-26F2B.....304

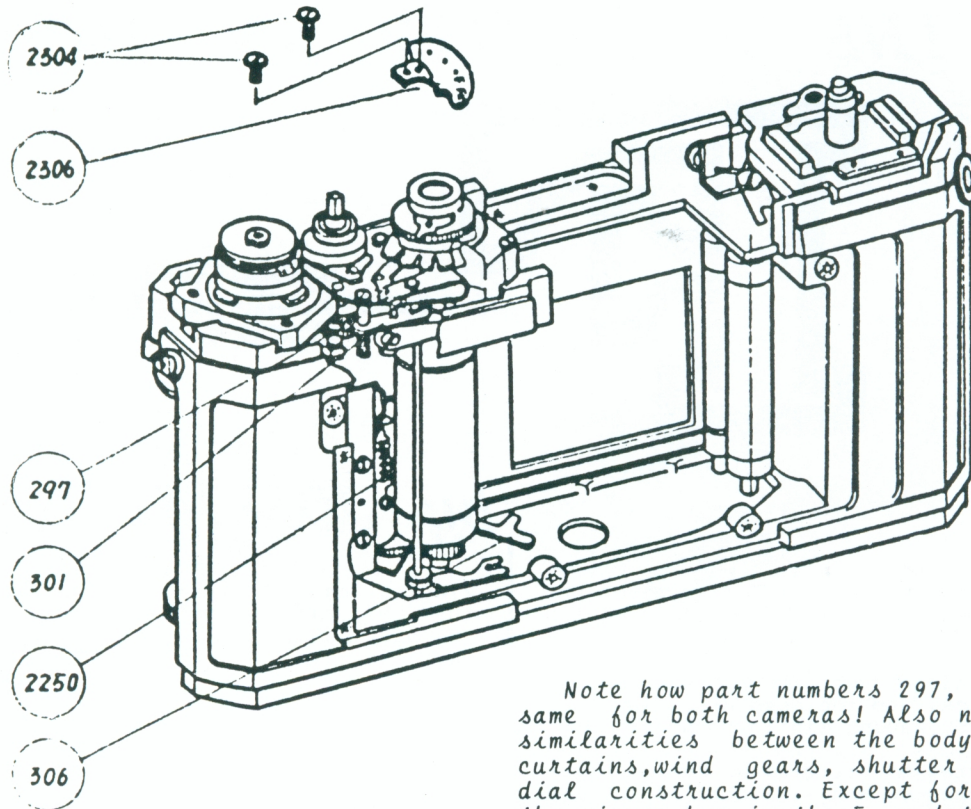
Unique to the "F"-20FB1.....332
(w/eyelevel finder-20FD2)

Common to both models.....369

So that, in total, the "F" had 701 parts numbers and the "SP" had 673.

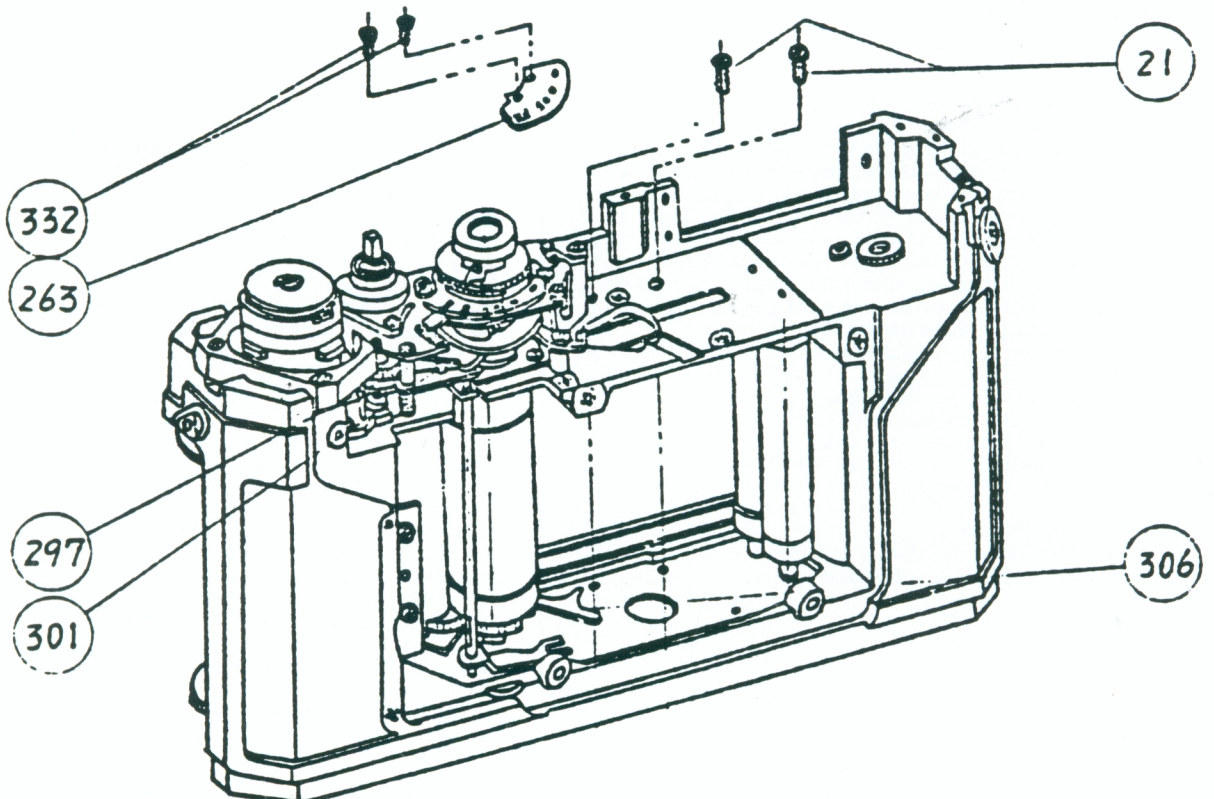
Therefore, the "F" reflex was built from 52.6% of the "SP" part numbers, and 47.4% that were new components unique to the "F". Earlier I underlined the point that the part numbers are not the number of parts. In fact, the "F" body possessed close to 1000 separate pieces, while the "SP" had slightly less.







A note for the purists. An "F" external part such as the counter cover, or selftimer lever, will fit the "SP/S3". Depending on the serial number of the "SP/S3", the "F" part could be a "historical mismatch". Internal parts are anonymous, or at least hidden from view.









Note how part numbers 297, 301 & 306 are the same for both cameras! Also note the obvious similarities between the body castings, shutter curtains, wind gears, shutter release and speed dial construction. Except for the cut-out for the mirror box in the F, and the missing rangefinder module in the SP, they are nearly identical! Part #263, the synchro plate mentioned in the text, is slightly altered for the F and given the new #2306. The two retaining screws have been changed from #332 (SP) to #2304 (F). Although the "F" had to differ because of its viewing system, it is obvious from this internal view that it borrowed heavily from the SP!

Although these two drawings appear to be the same camera, they are not! The upper illustration is the Nikon F, while the lower drawing is a Nikon SP! Quite a resemblance! Obviously this striking similarity is no accident. Nikon collectors have always known that the Nikon F evolved from the SP, and these repair manual illustrations are striking evidence of the fact.



260	Arrow mark base		1			⊙	
261	Shutter click spring		1	B		△	
265	Shutter click dial		1	B		△	
266	Slow speed cam		1	B		△	
267	Change-over cam		1	F		△	
268	High speed cam		1	B	14	△	

Both of these illustrations are from the Nikon F repair manual. Note in the upper figure ("C" in the text) that the SP synchro plate #263 is not listed as well as #s262 & 264. As mentioned in the text, they are unique to the SP and not listed in the F manual. The F version of #263, which was slightly different and renumbered as #2306, is shown in the lower figure (D).

2301	Shutter speed dial		1	F, P3	2	△	
2302	Coupling pin		1	F, P3		△	
2303	Milled ring		1	F	2	⊙△	
2304	Synchro indicator screw		2		5	⊙	
2305	Synchro cam stopper		1	F		△	
2306	Synchro indicator		1		5	⊙	

IN THE SHADOW OF FUJI...

TALES OF NIPPON KOGAKU!!

BY JOHN BAIRD

Since the last Nikon Historical Society Convention, now nearly two years ago, I have been working on the "History of the Japanese Camera" Monograph series. With a great deal of help from Peter Dechert and Robert Rotoloni, two issues are now currently available. As with any project such as this, a great deal of information comes to the surface...and interestingly enough...a lot of it deals with Nippon Kogaku. Granted, at first....some information makes little or no sense until it is combined with another piece of information from another source. But eventually, general trends become apparent which cause those, like myself, who live somewhere in the past, to make historical statements about how we feel and believe certain things happened. Since very little has been written in the West about the early years of Nippon Kogaku, anything which is learned about this subject somehow always alters our previous beliefs. After three trips to Tokyo in the past five years, I have come up with several interesting observations about Nippon Kogaku, and its cameras. One of the most fascinating stories concerns the interrelatedness between the research and production of Nikkor lenses and optical glass at Nippon Kogaku. The collectors and zealots of Nikon goodies have a tendency to believe that the dawn of the Japanese photographic industry was Nippon Kogaku and its Nikkor lenses. Well, this is very true to a certain extent...but after one gets involved in the subject, we find that Nippon Kogaku becomes spread out, in more ways than one, throughout the Japanese optical industry in a few short years after the introduction of their first Nikkor lens in the mid 1930s. In fact, after a while, it gets rather difficult to sort out the "chicken from the egg".

Before 1923, the majority of optical research in Japan was being carried out by the Imperial Navy at the Tsukiji arsenal, south of Tokyo. Although Nippon Kogaku had been in the business for several years before this date, the primary focus of the company had been the repair and manufacture of binoculars, telescopes and military related equipment. With the great Tokyo earthquake of 1923, the Navy's research lab was destroyed and Nippon Kogaku was subsequently charged with the Japanese government's optical program. This action left the company in the driver's seat, as it were, with respect to lens and glass production. What would have happened if there wasn't an earthquake in 1923? What would have happened if Nippon Kogaku hadn't made the Nikon I?



Anyway, with this consolidation of Nippon Kogaku, eventually came a team of expert lens designers and glass chemists such as Sumayama, Hoara, and Furukawa. Sumayama and Furukawa worked on the first Nikkor lens in 1934 and 1935, while Hoara established the company's glass making plant. About the time the first 50mm Nikkor lens was being marketed in 1935, Hoara left Nippon Kogaku to start his own glass making company under the control of the Hattori-Mitsui cartel which supported Tokyo Kogaku (Topcon), which was the optical supplier for the Imperial Japanese Army. One of the reasons that Hoara was swept away from Nippon Kogaku was Tokyo Kogaku's connections. As a consequence of this, Tokyo Kogaku had a source of quality optical glass potentially equal to that of Nippon Kogaku since the person who was now making the glass had also once made it for the Nikkor lenses. Eventually Hoara's glass foundry made glass used for lenses other than Tokyo Kogaku, and is currently used in optics from Canon, Asahi Pentax, Konica and Hitachi. The question is...is the lens as good as the glass?

As for lenses, after working for Nippon Kogaku for several years and on the original series of Nikkor 50mm lenses for the Hansa Canon, Furukawa was transferred, so to speak, to Seiki Kogaku in 1939. After the war, Furukawa, along with Ito and Kuroki, went about designing the first Serenar lenses, which were based, for the most part, on Nikkor patents. And within a few years Furukawa made a move to Hoara, which in turn supplied glass to Tokyo Kogaku, and other Japanese optical companies. So what gives? After a while, with all this sharing of personnel....when is a Nikkor a Nikkor and not a Topcor, Serenar or Takumar? Well....we all know that it was the Nikkors that were the first Japanese lenses to draw the attention of the post-war American journalists. And why?....Because we all know that genius is the chariot of execution!



THE
 HISTORY OF THE
 JAPANESE CAMERA
 MONOGRAPH COLLECTION

NIPPON KOGAKU
 AND
 THE NIKON CAMERA

— ROBERT —
 ROTOLONI

HCP

HISTORICAL CAMERA PUBLICATIONS

NIKON HISTORICAL MONOGRAPH!!

In NHS-25 I announced the impending publication of a series of historical monographs under the auspices of member John Baird's Historical Camera Publications. This series, entitled "The History of the Japanese Camera" is now reality with the publication of two monographs by member Peter Dechert & one by your editor. John tells me that Peter's are off the press & can be obtained by writing directly to Historical Camera Publications at P.O. Box 90, Gleed Station, Yakima, WA 98904. They are available for \$11.95 + postage.

John has allowed me to make a special purchase of my monograph for those members of the Society who wish to have one. This is a joint

venture of the NHS and Historical Camera Publications and all proceeds will go to benefit the Society. With 30 pages of text and nearly 30 new illustrations, it covers in greater detail the early history of Nippon Kogaku, starting in 1917. It traces their optical development in those early years, their involvement with Seiki Kogaku and their Canon camera, & the events leading up to the release of the Nikon Model I. New serial number information & production figures are discussed & all models are covered in greater detail than in my book. Members can obtain "signed" copies directly from me for \$10 postpaid in the US & \$12 by airmail overseas. Thank you.

CONVENTION NEWS!

NHS-CON2 SET FOR MARCH 31, 1990

The second Convention of the Nikon Historical Society has been officially set for Saturday March 31, 1990. It will again be held at the Westin O'Hare, which is only minutes from the airport. Those of you who attended the first Convention can attest to the fact that this is a good hotel with comfortable and luxurious rooms that will be made available for a special daily rate. Also, as was the case the last time, this is the same hotel that will be the site of the large camera show sponsored by the Chicago Photographic Collectors Society. Because of this, out-of-town visitors can attend both our Convention as well as this great show without ever having to leave the hotel. Dining facilities are excellent yet those of you who would want to go into downtown Chicago are only 30 minutes away. Details about location and room reservations are at the end of this article. Members should call the Hotel to make reservations as early as possible since a block of rooms has been set aside by the hotel, and additional rooms beyond this figure are based solely on availability.

I have also listed the information those of you planning on having tables for the show on Sunday will need. If you wish to rent a table, which is the only way to gain entrance before the general public, you must do this separately through the Chicago Collector's Society, for I have nothing to do with that part. Tables do go quickly (the last show was a sell out nearly 3 weeks before the show date!), so those of you planning to set up; do not procrastinate!

Our Convention will begin at 9AM Saturday morning. However, we have the room from 8AM, & coffee will be available starting at 8AM, & we can socialize a little before starting. There will be speakers in the morning session as was done for NHS-Con1, then we will break for lunch at either noon or 1AM for an hour or so. As was done the last time, we need only to go upstairs to one of the hotel restaurants. Everyone just paired off at various tables and ordered lunch individually. This allows for maximum choice & sufficient time will be allowed before beginning the afternoon session (1 to 1 & 1/2 hrs).

During the afternoon plans call for a member "show-and-tell" session. Everyone is invited to bring along an item or items from their collection that they would like to spend a few minutes discussing with the members. So if you have something different, unusual, exotic, absolutely like new, rare, or it just turns you on, feel free to bring it along and share it with the rest of us. Following this plans call for a small private buy-sell-trade session for the

members. Free tables will be supplied and all are encouraged to bring along items to sell or trade. Here is your chance to add to your collection, upgrade, or eliminate some duplicates without the hassle of a large crowd. Some members have already told me they plan to bring a good selection of equipment for this session. We have the room until 5PM if needed. This will allow for a leisurely lunch, since the afternoon activities will be very informal with no rigid schedule.

NHS-Con1 turned out to be a relaxed and informal get together where people with common interests had the opportunity to meet and talk and get to know each other and, in some cases, attach a face to someone they may have talked or written to many times but had never met. We had three members come all the way from Europe and another from Canada, and many new friendships were made that weekend. It appears that again this time we will have a strong contingent from Europe and a greater turn-out in general. So those of you who could not make our first Convention, here is another chance!

I have decided that there will be no charge for attending NHS-Con2! I will pay for the rental of the meeting room! So how can you pass it up?! Remember, not only will you be able to attend YOUR Convention, but also one of the best camera shows in the U.S., all in one weekend!! Because I need to give the hotel some idea of our numbers, please let me know if you are coming. A simple note or letter is all I need and it will help me plan things better.

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE WESTIN HOTEL O'HARE
6100 RIVER ROAD
ROSEMONT, ILLINOIS 60018
(708)698-6000

TELEX 280325 FAX#708-698-4591
ROOM RATE OF \$75/NIGHT...1 OR 2 BEDS
RESERVATION CUT-OFF DATE MARCH 20, 1990

When making reservations you MUST specify that you will be attending the camera show sponsored by the CHICAGO PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTORS SOC. DO NOT MENTION THE NHS!! The Chicago group has contracted for the special room rate, not me!!

IF YOU WISH TO RENT A TABLE FOR SUNDAY!!!!
Table reservations must be made through the Chicago group! Table cost is \$50 and checks must be made payable to Chicago Photographic Collector Society (C.P.C.S.)! Tables are sold on a first come first served basis, so the sooner you reserve the better. For tables contact: Jim Mayer, 810 South Park, Hinsdale, IL 60521. Tel..(708) 323-4427. The NHS has nothing to do with the table reservations!

If anyone has questions please write or call me at (708) 895-5319. The best time to get me is between 10PM & 11:30PM Chicago time!

SEE YOU IN MARCH!!

NIKKON JOURNAL

NHS JOURNAL INDEX

ISSUES #1 TO #25.

Vol.1,#1-9/83.-Issue #1.

Boxed--Like New..(S,S2,SP,S3,S4)-Rotoloni.
The Nikon Variframe Finder-Rotoloni.
The Nikon Exposure Meter Model I-Rotoloni.
The Nikon S4-Rotoloni.
Odds n' Ends-Double Numbered SP-Rotoloni.

Vol.1,#2-12/83.-Issue #2.

Boxed--Like New..(28,105,135,250,350)
Inside the Nikon RF-G. Stone.
135/f3.5 Exakta Nikkor-Rotoloni.
Black Nikon S3 "Olympic"-Rotoloni.
Odds n' Ends-Misengraved Black S3-Rotoloni.

Vol.1,#3-3/84.-Issue #3.

Boxed--Like New..(35/2.5,85/2.0,105/4,135)
Nikon S36 Electric Motor Drive-Rotoloni.
N.H.S. Membership Directory.
Nikon RF Bibliography..Part I-C. Joecks.
Odds n' Ends-150.3mm Nikkor Lens-Rotoloni.

Vol.1,#4-6/84.-Issue #4.

Boxed--Like New..(S36,shades,meter,close-up
for S2,body cap)
1000/f6.3 Mirror Reflex Nikkor-Rotoloni.
The Four Digit Club.(Early lenses).
Nikon RF Bibliography..Part II-C. Joecks.
The Military Nikon!-J. Angle.
Odds n' Ends-Unusual Variframe Fdr-Harris.

Vol.2,#1-9/84.-Issue #5.

The Experimental Nikon-T. Konno.
Japanese Collections..A Sampling-Rotoloni.
Nikon RF Bibliography..Part III-C. Joecks.
Odds n' Ends-Unusual 135/f4 Nikkors.

Vol.2,#2-12/84.-Issue #6.

Boxed--Like New..(35/2.5,35/3.5,180,250).
Nikon Variframe Revisited-Rotoloni.
Early Japanese Ads-T. Konno.
Camera Cases..M to S4-G. Stone.
Nikon RF Bibliography..Part IV-C. Joecks.
Odds n' Ends-80-200/f4.5 Cutaway-J. Angle.

Vol.2,#3-3/85.-Issue #7.

Boxed--Like New..(angle bracket,flash units
panorama head,shades).
The Black Nikon S2-Rotoloni.
Nikon Ads..British Style-J. Higham.
Reader's Feedback-T. Konno.
Nikon RF Bibliography..Part V-C. Joecks.
Odds n' Ends-The "Canikkor"-A. Tamla.

Vol.2,#4-6/85.-Issue #8.

Black Nikon Body Serial Numbers-Rotoloni.
Inside the Nikon RF..Part II-G. Stone.
The Nikon "16" Prototype!!-Rotoloni.
Nikon RF Bibliography..Part VI-C. Joecks.
Odds n' Ends-F1.1 Zunow lens-Harris.

Vol.3,#1-9/85.-Issue #9.

Historical Evidence for Nikkor Lenses After
WWII-T. Konno.
The Mystery Fake Black SP Outfit-O.Reddaway
& P. H. vonHasbroeck.
Close Look at the Nikon M..Part I-Rotoloni.
Odds n' Ends-Misengraved Shade-J. Higham.

Vol.3,#2-12/85.-Issue #10.

Close Look at the Nikon M..Part II-
Rotoloni.
The "Other Nikkors..Part I"-R. Hooper.
The "Earliest Nikkors"-P. Dechert.
Odds n' Ends-Misnumbered Nikon S2.

Vol.3,#3-3/86.-Issue #11.

Boxed--Like New..(S,85/2,micro,zoom finder,
close-up)
The "Other Nikkors..Part II"-R. Hooper.
Three s' Company-The Mini-35-J. Higham.
Close Look at the Nikon M.Part III-
Rotoloni.
Odds n' Ends-50/f1.2 Fujinon-A. Tamla.

Vol.3,#4-6/86.-Issue #12.

The Earliest Compartment Case?-M. Symons.
The "Other Nikkors..Part III"-R. Hooper.
Nikon "16"..Another Point of View-J.
Higham.
Odds n' Ends-The F-S Adapter-T. Konno.

Vol.4,#1-9/86.-Issue #13.

The "Other Nikkors..Part IV"-R. Hooper.
The Nikon-40 Years Young!!-Angle/Rotoloni.
Early Nikons.An Inside Look..Part I-Higham.
Odds n' Ends-An Unusual Lens Cap-R. Hooper.

Vol.4,#2-12/86.-Issue #14.

The "Other Nikkors-Part V"-R. Hooper.
Early Nikons.An Inside Look..Part II-Higham
The "Nikoflex" TLR-T. Konno.
Odds n' Ends-500/f8 Reflex Cutaway-Rotoloni

Vol.4,#3-3/87.-Issue #15.

Early Nikons.An Inside Look.Part III-Higham
The Miranda "Mirax"-F. Krughoff.
The "Other Nikkors..Part VI"-R. Hooper.

Vol.4,#4-6/87.-Issue #16.

Early Nikons.An Inside Look.Part IV-Higham
The "Bronica Nikkors"-Rotoloni
"Japan 1987"-Rotoloni
Odds n' Ends-Slowest Nikkor?..85/f15!-Symons

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Nikon SP2 Prototype!!-Rotoloni
The Widest RF Nikkor-21mm/f4-Rotoloni
Early Nikons.An Inside Look.Part V-Higham
Odds n' Ends-Mystery Nikon Shoe Adapter

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 Odds n' Ends-The "Canikkor" Explained!-Gandy
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 Earliest Nikkors..Illustrated-Part I-Ueyama
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 Odds n' Ends-Modern "RF" Case?-Fraker

EDITORIAL...CONT.

I would hope that this is fair to all members for the difference is based solely on mailing costs, which I am sure will continue to climb. But I would also hope that we can go another 5 years before we have to worry about it again!

And now for some better news! The second Convention of the Nikon Historical Society has been confirmed for Saturday March 31, 1990. It will again be held in conjunction with the Chicago Collectors Show. Please see page 16 for details.

Some of our members have been quite active lately and I would like to mention their works for those who might not be aware of them. Tony Hurst, who is currently our only member from Ireland, has produced more examples of those fabulous photographs that have adorned our NHS Journal's back cover, including this issue. In collaboration with Dutch member Fred Jansz, who publishes a fine photographic magazine in Holland called "Camerabuers", they have produced a beautiful calendar containing exquisite B&W photos of some rare cameras. Although only two are concerned with Nikons, each photo is a masterpiece. I wasn't aware of this work until two arrived in my mail. Both Tony & Fred can be extremely proud of the results. I can also recommend "Camerabuers" as a fine magazine devoted to the general coverage of camera collecting & also current items. I can't read Dutch, but I enjoy receiving it.

Two new books have also been recently published by Society members. Paul-Henry vanHas-Broeck has written "150 Classic Cameras...From 1839 To The Present", to commemorate the 150th birthday of Photography. He has chosen 150 cameras to illustrate its evolution. It is available from book stores or directly from the author for forty pounds plus postage. From Japan comes a new book on the Canon rangefinder system by member Hayato Ueyama, with emphasis on the very early years. We all remember the beautiful series he did on the "Earliest Nikkors" for The Journal. Ueyama-san graciously showed John Angle, John Baird and myself his fabulous Canon collection on our last visit to Japan. I hope to have actual reviews of these books for the next Journal. In the meantime, congratulations Paul-Henry & Ueyama-san.

In this issue are three articles on some of the more unusual top-side accessories made for the RF Nikons, including the "RF Illuminator", "35mm Mini-Finder", & the "Sportsfinder". All are difficult to find and valuable as well as interesting examples of Nikon ingenuity. Also in this issue is an article by Joseph Higham that examines the reality of the issue of whether or not the Nikon F evolved from the SP or was a new design. I think that you will find it interesting.

The telephone company has decided that the Chicago area needs an additional area code. On November 16th the new code was installed only for the suburbs. The City of Chicago maintains the "312" number but we in the suburbs are now under the new "708" area code, which includes yours truly.

I hope each of you had a good Holiday and that the New Year is good to you.

LETTERS...LETTERS...LETTERS..

From Walter Bradley...

Spurred by the unavailability of, or outrageous prices for (depending on your point of view), older Nikon equipment, I have started thinking about collecting Nikon publications: instruction books, brochures, price lists, etc. In a letter in NHS-25 Behram Kapadia suggests that the NHS should reprint original instruction books. I disagree. The original printings are rightly sold as collector's items at whatever price the demand sets. A "true collector" wouldn't want a reprint as part of his collection. The information contained in the books, however, is another matter. Instructions for & descriptions of old equipment are certainly interesting to study. Simple photocopies should suffice for this purpose. Rather than "glossy replicas" of the originals, I would prefer to see the NHS sell photocopies, or in some cases rewritten condensations of pertinent information. Maybe there could be a regular feature in the Journal for documentation & data facts. Or how about a single sheet enclosure intended for loose leaf filing? Including a free "data sheet" with each Journal might encourage a collector to buy others from the NHS as he or she acquires additional equipment.

As to the NHS budget, I wouldn't mind paying a little more each year if necessary, but I also think that members requiring foreign mailings should expect to pay most of the additional expense of that service.

From Calvin Ho...

I was elated to hear about the enthusiastic response to our "birthday" celebration for the "F"! I'm glad it has served as a catalyst to spark what hopefully will be more articles on the reflexes by the "F" fans among the membership. I found researching & writing the article to be personally rewarding. Ever since becoming familiar with the "F" in my teens, I've always wondered what the original "F" lenses, meter & motor really looked like. This article was in part an effort to satisfy my own long standing curiosities about the early "F" era.

I absolutely agree with your assessment that the early "F"s share the same high class workmanship and heritage as the contemporary SP/S3/S4 series, and ought to be just as much admired as the RFs. Perhaps the F has been underappreciated this long because so many were made. But not all Fs are alike, & I personally feel that the first year's production has a particular "classic" quality. Maybe it is the sheen of the metal or the small details such as engraved dials. Whatever the reason, there's something special about a 1959 F that distinguishes it from later production and makes it more akin to the RFs. This is why I advocate limiting the scope to the early classic reflex items produced contemporary with RF gear.

I very much like the idea of the "F-Spot" and enjoyed the first installment. By the way, was the title you selected a pun on the phrase "F-Stop"? (Yes it was!..RJR)

Finally, let me add that I personally do not object to a \$5 increase in dues, especially if its needed to keep the Society solvent. Escalating costs for the services needed to pro-

duce a high quality publication like the Journal simply have to be accepted as a fact, and I think its only fair to make the appropriate adjustments. Actually I am surprised this hasn't happened earlier considering the jumps in postal rates and so forth. Also I think its' quite equitable to charge the proper higher rate for overseas delivery. All publications I am aware of go by this policy. Considering the relative strengths of most foreign currencies against the dollar these days, I don't think many of our foreign members would disagree that they are getting in the Journal a terrific bargain for their money.

From Bill Adams...

A suggestion regarding dues. Have two different levels based on overseas air mail rates and domestic first class rates. I'm sure our overseas friends will accept a higher rate, as everything else shipped to them reflects this, and the difference should not have to come out of your pocket. Charge dues to cover the actual costs, no more no less.

From George Landon...

With regard to membership fees, do what you must to stay solvent. I would not mind \$25 or \$30 per year, nor would I mind second class magazine rate mailing. Many companies now seal papers & magazines in plastic, & mailings from England arrive that way in perfect shape. Keep it going!

From Fred Maurer...

Thank you very much for a good and entertaining Journal. The fact that you send it by first class makes it all the better. I appreciate the fine paper too, as the pictures are so clear. Thanks again for a fine job!

From Allan Glenwright...

Thanks once more for an excellent issue of the Journal. If it helps you toward a decision about future membership dues, may I say that I would be quite prepared to pay a \$35 rate - or more. Dues should ideally be at an economic level to at least break even. You cant be expected to go on subsidizing the Society & Journal. Compared with the current asking price of even the smallest RF accessory, Society membership, including the Journal, is not only a very good value, your're virtually giving it away!

From Ulrich Koch...

I recently spoke with Mr. Claus Walter and Michael Eichert about the costs of the membership. We all think that the price for the overseas members must be higher than for the U.S. because of the first class airmail postage. We agree with the price of \$25 a year or \$65 for three years!

From Joseph Charles...

I have no problem with a \$5.00 increase in annual dues, and I would likely take advantage of a three year package rate of \$65.

CLASSIFIED

FOR TRADE...Have Nikon 35mm black bright-line finder in near mint condition w/proper case. I am not interested in selling but would like to trade even for a Nikon 85 or 105mm black finder in comparable condition or a Nikon close-up set for the S2. If interested please contact.. Bill Adams, 23255-27th. Ave. So., Des Moines, WA 98198. Tel. (206) 824-0183.

WANTED...Clean early Nikon S2; 8.5cm; 2.5cm & finder; Variframe; SP. Fred Jansz, PO Box 252, 3700 AG Zeist, Holland. Tel. 011-31340461431.

FOR SALE...A truly mint special example of the very first version of the most famous lens in Nikon RF history-the 105mm/f2.5. Complete with mint leather case, proper front/rear caps, mint & proper reversing bayonet lens hood, mint finder in case. For the collector who wants the finest, this is the perfect example..\$500 ppd. For NHS members a wonderful and extensive collection of those famous Nikon RF ads from the 1950s & 60s reproduced lifeseize as they appeared in such magazines as Popular & Modern Photography...\$7 ppd from NHS member Wes Taft, P.O. Box 2072, Gearhart, OR, 97138. (503)738-8484.

WANTED...Clean Nikon Rangefinder. I'll pay 25% more than McKeowns Price Book. Write or phone Peter Lownds, W. de Zwiijgerstraat 24, Rotterdam 3043 VD, Holland. Tel. 010-4159136.

FOR SALE...I have found a few BRAND NEW boxed shades for the 105mm/f4 Nikkor. These have never been used & are in the original plain white boxes as shipped by Ehrenreich...\$75 postpaid. Bob Rotoloni, PO Box 3213, Munster, IN 46321.

FOR SALE/TRADE...1959 Nikon F #6400603 w/original eyelevel prism & "A" screen, with Auto Nikkor-S 5.8cm/fl.4 #142382. "T" setting works as "B", otherwise mechanically sound. Outfit is in mint minus condition w/original case-\$600 OBO. Another Nikon F #6400449 mint and mechanically sound w/original eyelevel prism (mint-) trade only. Both bodies have all original parts including first style wind lever. Desire SP, S4, early S3 or early F36 motor in similar or better condition. Write Calvin Ho, Caltech 147-75, Pasadena, CA 91125. Day phone (818) 356-3797.

NEW "N.H.S." PRODUCTS!

At this time there is no remaining stock of the NHS patches, although I still have T-shirts in sizes Medium & Large. If you wish to support the Society & acquire a unique article please do so before they are gone.

I have had some feedback from members suggesting other "NHS Products". They include the following: key chains, lighters, lapel pins, cuff links, binders or slip covers for The Journal, decals and stationary. If you have additional ideas let me know & we can see what we can do.

NEW MEMBERS

Dr. I. Michael Bornstein, MD.
801 Encina Ave.
Modesto, CA 95353

Donald J. Stewart, Jr.
P.O. Box 488
Burbank, CA 91503-0488

John S. Pitchforth
3 Chester Close, Greenham,
Newbury, Berkshire RG14 7RR
England

Christopher Brent
89 Kings Ave.
Poole, Dorset BH14 9QH
England

Gregory Rubin
6352 Wilbur Ave.
Reseda, CA 91335

Richard Keyishian
57 Donald Street
East Williston, NY 11596

NEW ADDRESSES!!!

Dr. Lloyd Minaai, MD.
899 Ululani St.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Brian Wolfe
1223 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 144,
Santa Monica, CA 90403

Lee Coolidge
6030 Shenandoah Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90056

Charles Gibson
5113 Brookridge Pl.
Fairfax, VA 22030

"NEXT ISSUE"

The deadline for the next issue of "THE NIKON JOURNAL" will be March 1, 1990. In order to have NHS-27 ready in time for our Convention I must have all articles and contributions by then. If you wish to submit anything for NHS-27, please get it to me by the first. Thank you.

A WARNING!!

A WORD OF WARNING TO ALL MY MEMBERS!!!

In an effort to prevent what happened to me happening to any of you, please heed this warning! If any of you plan to have dealings with "Harvey Glick", formerly of Ohio but now living in Florida, make sure, for your own protection, that you make it "COD" only! Please do not expect him to live up to his agreements. I feel that this warning is necessary to protect my friends, and is given in that spirit!

BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL!

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING SERIAL NUMBERS TO OUR LIST OF BLACK NIKON RANGEFINDER BODIES

6202551 6202646 6208473 6212101
6320671 6320880 6322392

odds 'n ends

THIS "ODDS N' ENDS" PAGE WILL BE RESERVED IN ALL FUTURE ISSUES OF "THE NIKON JOURNAL" AS A SHOWCASE FOR THE RARE, THE UNUSUAL & OFFBEAT, OR JUST THE OUT OF THE ORDINARY! IF YOU FEEL

THAT YOU POSSESS AN ITEM THAT FULFILLS THESE CRITERIA, PLEASE SEND ME AT LEAST TWO OR MORE VARIED VIEWS OF YOUR ODDITY ALONG WITH ANY INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST. THANKS!



From Bill Fraker comes yet another unusual and offbeat item. Let me quote his letter..... "Here are three photos of an unusual rear cap for a 50mm normal lens. It is a simple aluminum slip-on cap and first came to me on a Micro-Nikkor. The owner thought that it was original but he is a collector and it could have been switched long ago. I had always dismissed it as not Nikon made until recently. What changed my mind was seeing that the inside was painted in the same flat black as the inside of an early aluminum bayonet mount canister I came into recently. I also noticed that the outside metallic grey finish on this cap was identical to that found on the grey-topped Nikon exposure meter."

Has anyone else come across such a cap? If so let Bill or I know about it. This cap could have been made by Nikon.



CREATED FOR THE "NHS" by TONY HURST