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12

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EDITOR/PUBLISHER

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MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS:

ANY CONTRIBUTIONS BY MEMBERS OF MANUSCRIPTS AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHS CONCERNING THE NIKON RANGEFINDER SERIES ARE APPRECIATED, AND EVERY ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO MAKE USE OF ALL SUBMITTALS AS SPACE ALLOWS. PLEASE TYPE ALL MANUSCRIPTS AND MAKE ALL B/W PHOTOS AT LEAST

"3 BY 5" AND GLOSSY. A SEAMLESS BACKGROUND IS PREFERRED AND TRY TO MAKE PHOTOS HIGH CONTRAST. YOU WILL BE GIVEN A BY-LINE UNLESS ANONYMITY IS REQUESTED AND ENCLOSE AN "SASE" IF RETURN OF THE MATERIAL IS DESIRED.....

THANK YOU.

EDITORIAL

WITH THIS 12TH ISSUE OF THE "NIKON JOURNAL" WE NOW HAVE 104 MEMBERS..... I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING FIVE TO OUR SOCIETY.....

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OUR NEXT ISSUE, NHS-13, WILL MARK OUR THIRD ANNIVERSARY. IT IS HARD FOR ME TO BELIEVE THAT THREE YEARS HAVE ALREADY GONE BY, BUT THEY HAVE. FOR MANY OF YOU OUR ANNIVERSARY ISSUES ALSO MEAN THAT IT IS DUES TIME AGAIN. I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT THE DUES WILL REMAIN AT \$20.00. AS I HAVE SAID MANY TIMES, THE MORE MEMBERS WE CAN ENROLL THE EASIER IT IS TO HOLD COSTS DOWN. THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A SUCCESSFUL ONE WITH OUR NUMBERS INCREASING DRAMATICALLY. I HOPE THE TREND CONTINUES AND THAT EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU FEELS THAT THE "JOURNAL" IS WORTH YOUR TIME AND MONEY. I HAVE ENCLOSED A RENEWAL FORM FOR THOSE TO WHOM IT PERTAINS. PLEASE GET YOUR CHECK TO ME BY SEPTEMBER 1, 1986 IN TIME FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. THOSE OF YOU WITH LATER RENEWAL DATES WILL RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE AS THE TIME ROLLS AROUND. FOR THE FIRST TIME I AM OFFERING AN "OPTION" PLAN. THOSE OF YOU WHO FEEL CONFIDENT IN THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF OUR SOCIETY CAN JOIN FOR A 3 YEAR PERIOD FOR THE SUM OF \$50. THIS NOT ONLY SAVES YOU \$10. OVER THE REGULAR RATE, BUT ALSO PROTECTS YOU FROM ANY INCREASES FOR 3 LONG YEARS. THIS MAY APPEAL TO SOME OF YOU SO I AM OFFERING IT TO YOU. BUT PLEASE GET IT TO ME BY SEPTEMBER FIRST.

IN THIS ISSUE WE HAVE THE THIRD INSTALLMENT OF OUR SERIES ON THE SCREW MOUNT NIKKORS BY DR. HOOPER. I HAVE HAD A GREAT

DEAL OF POSITIVE FEEDBACK ON THESE ARTICLES. IT SEEMS THAT THERE IS MORE INTEREST IN THESE "OTHER" NIKKORS THAN I WAS AWARE OF, AND I AM GLAD TO SEE IT. I HAVE RECEIVED A FASCINATING BATCH OF PHOTOS OF SOME EVEN MORE UNUSUAL NIKKOR LENSES FROM ONE OF OUR JAPANESE MEMBERS THAT I PLAN TO USE AT A LATER DATE. THESE WILL TIE IN WITH A PREVIOUS ARTICLE, AND BELIEVE ME, THIS GROUP CONTAINS SOME REALLY RARE ITEMS. BUT MORE ON THIS AT A LATER TIME. THE HOOPER SERIES FINISHES THE NORMALS THIS ISSUE AND CONTINUES INTO THE TELEPHOTOS THE NEXT TIME AROUND.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE IS AN ARTICLE FROM OUR CANADIAN CONTINGENT, MIKE SYMONS, ON A VERY INTERESTING COMPARTMENT CASE. IN ADDITION IS ANOTHER ITEM BY MR. JOSEPH HIGHAM, WHO IS RAPIDLY BECOMING THE "SHERLOCK HOLMES" OF OUR SOCIETY. I SAY THIS BECAUSE OF HIS KEEN EYE FOR DETAIL AND HIS TENDENCY TO "ANALYZE" THINGS DOWN TO THE SMALLEST DETAIL. THE LAST TIME IT WAS THE NUMBER "3", WHILE IN THIS ISSUE JOE HAS DISSECTED MY ARTICLE ON THE "NIKON-16" TO THE POINT THAT OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THIS ALMOST NON-EXISTANT CAMERA IS INCREASED TWO-FOLD. I AM SURE YOU WILL FIND IT FASCINATING.

AGAIN THE SOCIETY BENEFITS FROM THE WORK OF MR. TSUYOSHI KONNO, WHO HAS TO QUALIFY AS OUR "OFFICIAL" FAR EAST CORRESPONDENT. TSUYOSHI HAS AGAIN SENT US A DETAILED LIST OF SERIAL NUMBERS AND PRICES FOR ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN FOR SALE IN JAPAN IN THE LAST YEAR. I CANT THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE MARKETPLACE, AND TSUYOSHI DOES A GREAT JOB OF IT, TOO. I AM SURE ALL OF US APPRECIATE HOW VALUABLE SUCH INFORMATION CAN BE. I HAVE ENCLOSED A COPY OF HIS REPORT IS EACH OF YOUR JOURNALS. REMEMBER THAT THIS METHOD OF OBTAINING INFORMATION PROVED EXTREMELY IMPORTANT WHEN IT CAME TIME TO WRITE MY BOOKS. NO ONE PERSON CAN BE EVERYWHERE, AND LISTS SUCH AS THESE ARE PRICELESS BITS OF INFORMATION.

YOU SHOULD SEE YET ANOTHER CHANGE IN THE JOURNAL NEXT TIME. I HAVE DECIDED TO GO "IBM", SO A NEW WORD PROCESSOR IS IN THE WORKS FOR NHS-13.

ROBERT ROTOLONI
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

THE EARLIEST NIKON COMPARTMENT CASE..??

BY MIKE SYMONS.

Enclosed are 4 photos of a strange compartment case I recently picked up. Being a relatively new Nikon collector, I am not that familiar with some of the early products distributed by Nikon, especially the very early 50's when they first began exporting into the U.S.A. Perhaps some of the members could offer me some assistance in identifying what looks to be an early Nikon compartment case.

DESCRIPTION.

----- Outside Features:

- very thick, dark brown leather,
- modeled after the 30's/40's Leitz "Benzer" cases,
- metal snap catch on front,
- side straps, shoulder length, with large buckle,
- dimensions: length- 11.5", width-7.5", height-4.5"
- lid catch has the name YAMA KAMI (with a picture of a small animal, possibly a deer or dog. This fitting is silver metal.

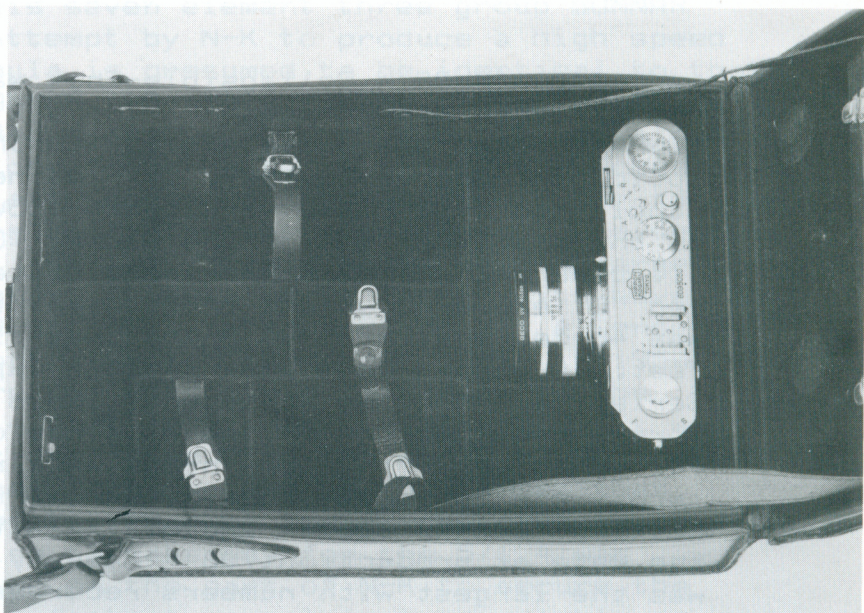
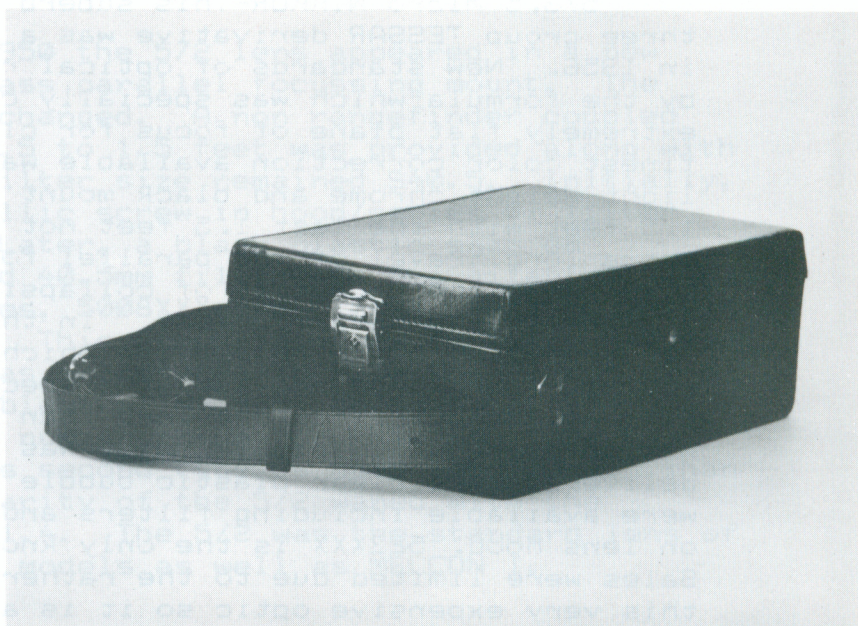
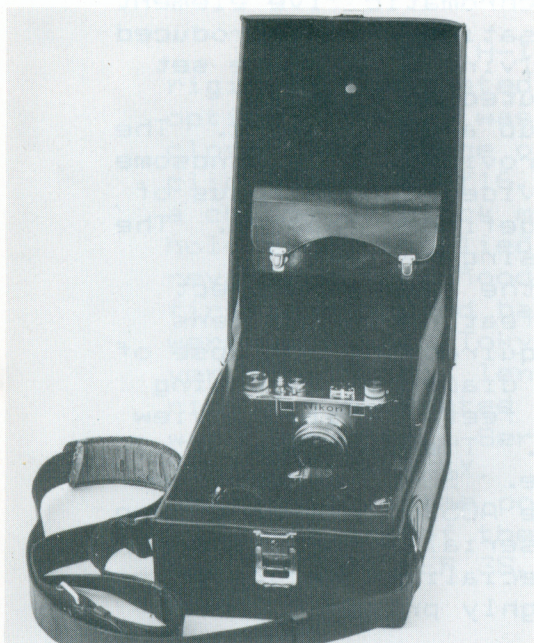
Inside Features:

- dark maroon velvet (?) over wooden partitions,
- brown leather filter pouch (holds 6), snap lid,
- large pouch for misc. acces., snap lid,
(the later two features are in the inside lid)
- 2 inside leather straps hold the lid in the open position,
- 2 velvet "buffers pads" hold the camera firmly in place with the lid closed. These two round pads sit exactly over the wind knob and the rewind knob.
- fitted partition for Nikon M or S with either 50mm F2.0 or F1.4 lens with shade,
- fitted partitions for 35, 85 and 135 lenses, variframe finder, one individual finder (?),
- for holding each individual lens/accessory in place, there are leather/elastic straps with metal snap releases,
- on front inside panel there is an accessory shoe, possibly for a close-focus attachment, meter or flash,
- the "L" shape section is a bit of a mystery, but could have been developed as a result of the space layout. It could hold a flash unit, a hand held meter or maybe the early Reflex Housing unit.

Comments.

I would guess the vintage to be early 50's ('51/'54), and appears very similar to the one pictured in the Popular Photography Add of November, 1952. A picture of this add appears on the back cover of the NHS Journal, issue #7. (Would any of our members have an original copy of this)

The case is beautifully made with thick leather and tough stitching. The metal fittings are superior quality as is the workmanship throughout.... I believe that it is a Nikon product except for one very puzzling fact.... nowhere on the case are there any identification marks!!!! Hard to believe that a large company such as Nikon would not want to identify one of their products. I strongly believe that the Nikon Company, like E. Leitz, contracted these compartment cases out to a private company to be built to their specifications. In the 1930's Leitz Wetzlar commissioned a fellow by the name of Benzer to build the compartment cases for them. These, as many of you know, were beautifully crafted, probably by hand, and were not cheap! Could this case be part of a similar story? I'm hoping that some of the members might be able to throw some light on this situation.....



FROM THESE 3 PHOTOS ONE CAN SEE THAT NOT ONLY IS THIS A VERY SUBSTANTIAL CASE BUT THAT THIS PARTICULAR EXAMPLE IS IN RATHER FINE CONDITION. I HAVE SEEN THE CASE IN THE LITERATURE AND I BELIEVE IT OFTEN DOES NOT HAVE ANY NIKON MARKINGS. IT MAY BE AS EARLY AS 1950, BUT THE EARLIEST LITERATURE I HAVE SEEN IS FROM 1951. THE FILTER CASE INSIDE THE LID IS IDENTICAL TO THOSE SEEN ON LATER BAGS THAT DO HAVE THE "NIKON" EMBOSSED ON THEIR LIDS. MIKE H. SYMONS.

THE "OTHER NIKKORS"...

BY DR. RANDOL HOOPER, MD.

Part 3:

NORMAL OPTICS

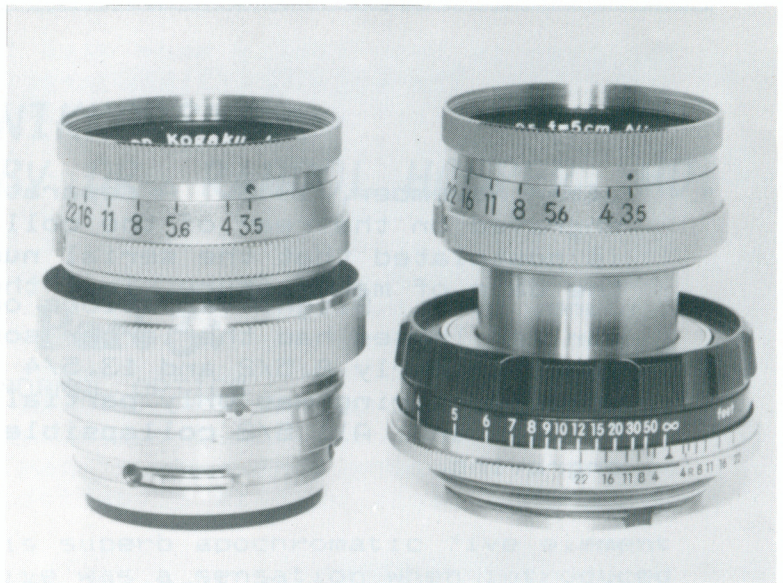
5/3.5 Micro NIKKOR-This superb apochromatic five element three group TESSAR derivative was a sensation when introduced in 1956. New standards of optical resolving power were set by the formula which was specially computed to have an extremely flat plane of focus for closeup and copy work. The finest color correction available was provided. The handsome light weight chrome and black mount provided a near focus of 1.5 feet with the last 1.5 feet not rangefinder coupled. The extra long travel of the parallel focussing helical eliminated the necessity of collapsing the lens at subject distances less than 1.5 feet. In this feature the SM lens was superior to the RF version which required the collapse of the mount and thus the use of a special diaphragm adjusting ring at subject distances less than 1.5 feet. Angle of view was 46 degrees; minimum f stop was f22. The lens was delivered in a clear plastic bubble case. S34.5 accessories were available including filters and the ACS18 reversing snap on lens hood. 523XXX is the only known serial number batch. Sales were limited due to the rather specialized nature of this very expensive optic so it is a highly prized collector's item today.

5/2 NIKKOR H Collapsible-This was the most popular of the early SM NIKKOR lenses. The six element, three group SONNAR design was quite similar to the renowned ZEISS 50/2 optic. Introduced in 1947, it remained in production until supplanted by a rigid version in 1950. It was much in demand as the standard lens of the NICCA, TOWER and PEERLESS Type III cameras. All elements were coated as evidenced by the red "C" engraved on the front retaining ring. Angle of view was 46 degrees; minimum f stop was f16. Near focus was 3.5 feet. A chrome 42mm push on lens cap and hood was provided. Series VI or 40.5mm threaded filters could be used; the former required the 40.5mm combination lens hood/series filter holder. The lens hoods were not marked and are almost impossible to locate today. Serial number batches were 609XXX, 708XXX, 806XXX and 811XXX with the numbers indicating the date of production (708 = August, 1947). The 811 series was the largest with numbers recorded as high as 8112306. Here the numbering system was altered as production continued

after November, 1948. A separate number, eg. 906394, was engraved on the rear of the collapsible parallel mount. It is postulated that the serial number of the mount indicated the date of manufacture, ie., the 394th lens assembled in June, 1949. Slight variations occur between batches: The earlier lenses had the larger somewhat plain engraving style found on early 8.5/2 and 13.5/4 lenses. The f stop adjustment ring was only partially knurled until late in the 811XXX run. All 5/2 collapsible lenses carried the "Tokyo" engraving.

5/2 NIKKOR H-In 1950 the 5/2 lens appeared in a new rigid chrome plated brass parallel focussing mount. The optical formula was unchanged. A non rangefinder coupled close focus range of 3.5 to 1.5 feet was provided along with click stops to f16. Filter size remained S40.5. Initially, a chrome or black metallic screw in hood/series VI filter holder was supplied. Later, a black plastic snap on reversing lens hood and 40.5mm filters were available. The first and second batches, 5008XXX and 617XXX, respectively, were engraved "Tokyo". This was dropped by 622XXX. A second version of this lens was introduced in 1956 when the f stop ring was converted to black alloy and the front of the mount was blackened. Serial number range for this new type was 714XXX to 768XXX. This second type is much less common than the first as the popularity of the 5/2 waned with the increase use of the 5/1.4. The 5/2 was the standard lens of the NICCA/TOWER 3S, 3F models as well as MELCON I.

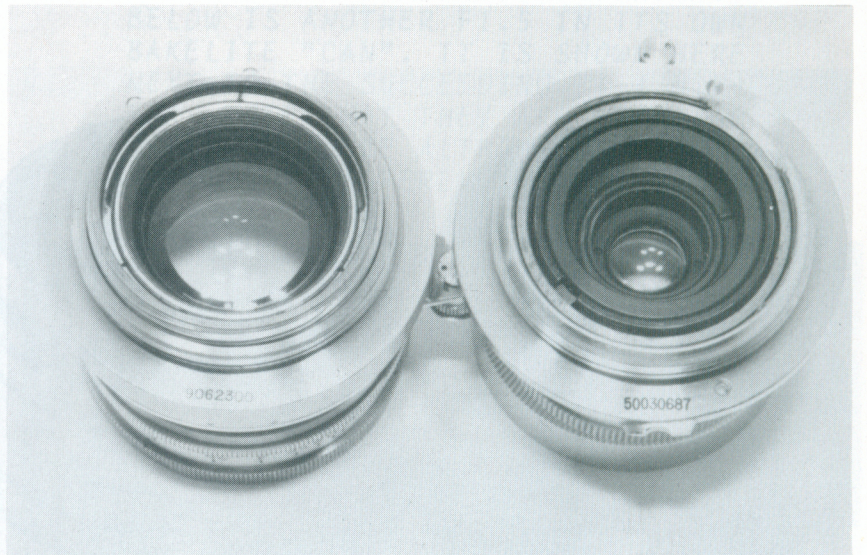
5/1.5 NIKKOR S-This seven element three group SONNAR design was the first attempt by N-K to produce a high speed normal lens. The formula is presumed to be identical to that of the ZEISS 50/1.5 SONNAR. A rigid chrome plated parallel focussing mount provided stops to f11. The optic had a non rangefinder coupled close focus range to 1.5 feet. Accessory size was P42/S40.5 so all hoods and caps available for the 5/2 could be used. Angle of view was 46 degrees. One serial number batch is known: 907XXX. Early units have a larger, less refined block engraving style while later units have the usual style associated with the later 5/2 and 5/1.4 lenses. This lens was very short lived; introduced early in 1950, it was discontinued before the year was out because of the appearance of the 5/1.4. All are engraved "Tokyo". It was the premium normal optic offered with the early NICCA and TOWER III cameras. The 5/1.5 was one of the lenses that gained an excellent reputation with combat photographers in Korea. Its early demise to make way for the 5/1.4 was probably due to a desire on the part of N-K to secure the prestige of the world's fastest normal lens as quickly as possible.



ON THIS PAGE IS A SERIES OF COMPARISON PHOTOS OF THE 50MM MICRO-NIKKOR IN BOTH BAYONET AND SCREW MOUNT. IT IS VERY OBVIOUS FROM THESE SHOTS THAT THE FRONT ENDS OF THESE TWO LENSES ARE IDENTICAL.....AND THEY ARE. THE COLLAPSIBLE SECTION, WHICH ALSO CONTAINS THE ENTIRE OPTICAL SYSTEM, IS IN REALITY THE SAME. WHAT NIKON SIMPLY DID WAS TO TAKE THIS OPTICAL MODULE AND MOUNT IT IN WHICHEVER TYPE OF BARREL THEY WISHED TO PRODUCE AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT. THIS IS A SIGN OF VERY INTELLIGENT DESIGNING AND ADVANCE THINKING ON THEIR PART. HOWEVER, THE RESULT TURNED OUT TO BE TWO LENSES THAT WERE STILL DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT IN THEIR FINAL APPEARANCE, AND FUNCTION. THE MICRO-NIKKOR LENS IS, IN MY OPINION, THE ONLY NIKKOR THAT IS MORE IMPRESSIVE IN SCREW MOUNT THAN IN BAYONET. THE SCREW MOUNT TYPE IS HEAVIER DUE TO THE FOCUSING HELIX PRESENT IN ITS RATHER MASSIVE BASE SECTION. IN ADDITION IT HAD PARALLEL FOCUSING, WHICH THE BAYONET TYPE LACKED. THE BLACK FOCUSING RING SET OFF THE CHROME HEAD AND ADDED TO THE LENSES GOOD LOOKS. PICTURED HERE ARE LENSES NO. 523654 (BM) AND NO. 524292 (SM). ALSO SHOWN IS THE RARE DIAPHRAGM COLLAR. R. ROTOLONI



ONE MORE SHOT OF THE MICRO ON A NICCA BODY...MIDDLE RIGHT.. GROUP PHOTO BY DR. HOOPER OF SAMPLES FROM THREE OF THE NUMBER TYPES SEEN FOR THE 5CM COLLAPSIBLE F2.0 NIKKOR. IT INCLUDES LENSES 708454, 806517 AND 811559. BELOW WE HAVE TWO PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING THE VERY UNUSUAL SHIPPING "CANS" SUPPLIED WITH SOME OF THE EARLY SCREW MOUNT LENSES, IN THIS CASE THE F2 TYPE. THESE "CANS" HAVE BEEN SEEN IN BOTH BRIGHT METAL AND A BLACK BAKELITE PLASTIC AND APPEAR IDENTICAL IN DESIGN. BOTTOM-RIGHT...THE "SM" NORMALS ARE FOUND WITH SECONDARY SERIAL NUMBERS AS SHOWN HERE. R. ROTOLONI

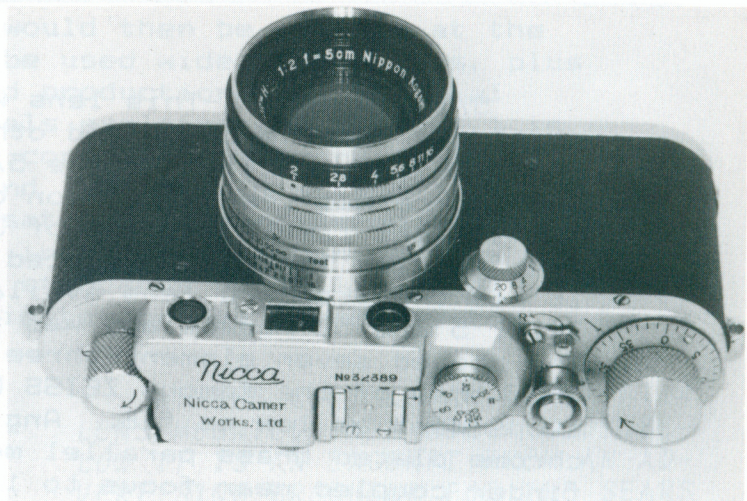
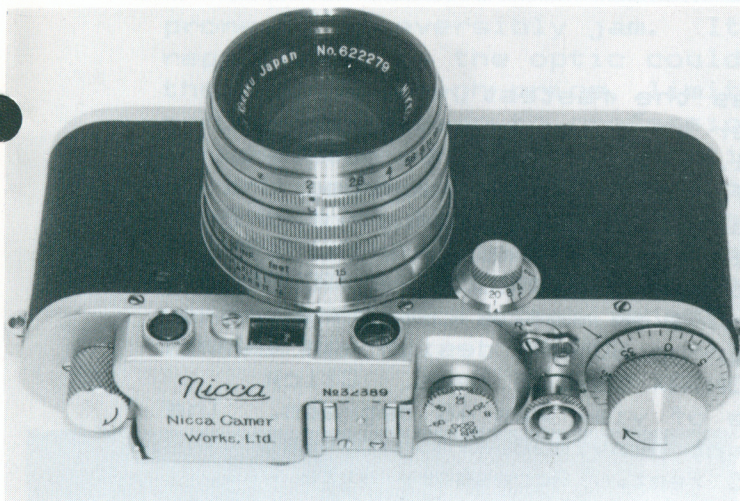




THE COLLAPSIBLE F2.0 LENSES ARE MOST OFTEN FOUND ON NICCA BODIES. THEY WERE ALSO SUPPLIED ON THE EARLY TOWER CAMERAS, WHICH WERE ACTUALLY NICCAS DISTRIBUTED IN THE U.S.A. BY SEARS, ROEBUCK, CO. MOST WERE PURCHASED BY CONSUMERS LOOKING FOR A LEICA-TYPE CAMERA BUT NOT WANTING TO PAY A LEICA-LIKE PRICE, OR THE CANON PRICE FOR THAT MATTER. LITTLE DID THEY KNOW THE BARGAIN THEY WERE GETTING. A LOW PRICE AND A NIKKOR LENS TO BOOT. R.ROTOLONI



THE TWO PHOTOS ABOVE ARE OF LENS NO. 8111852 WHICH WAS FOUND WITH THIS UNUSUAL FILTER RING ADAPTER. IT APPEARS TO BE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT YET I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANOTHER. T.KONNO...AT THE LEFT IS THE LATER RIGID VERSION OF THE F2.0 NIKKOR. ONLY THE BARREL HAS BEEN CHANGED. THE ALL CHROME LENS (622279) IS THE EARLIER AND CAME ON AN MIOJ NICCA. LATER VERSIONS HAD THE EASIER TO READ BLACKENED APERTURE RING WHICH WAS AN IMPROVEMENT. R.ROTOLONI



THE SAME TWO RIGID LENSES NOW MOUNTED ON AN EARLY MIOJ NICCA BODY NO.32389. THE ALL CHROME LENS WAS FOUND WITH THIS VERY SAME CAMERA AND LACKS ANY CLICK STOPS. (NOTE THE ENGRAVING ERROR IN THE WORD "CAMERA" ON THE BODY TOP PLATE. R.ROTOLONI.

TO THE LEFT ARE 2 PHOTOS OF THE VERY UNCOMMON 50MM F1.5 SCREW MOUNT NIKKOR, WHICH ISN'T ALL THAT EASY TO FIND IN NIKON MOUNT TO BEGIN WITH. IT HAS THE EARLY NO. 90599. ALSO NOTE THAT IT HAS THE ADDED FEATURE OF CLOSE FOCUSING DOWN TO 1.5FT. THE SCREW MOUNT F1.5 IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A LENS THAT IS MUCH RARER IN SM THAN IN NIKON BAYONET MOUNT. T.KONNO.

BELOW IS ANOTHER F1.5 IN ITS OWN BAKELITE "CAN". IT IS SHOWN HERE NEXT TO THE SUCCEEDING F1.4 NIKKOR. NOTE THAT THEY ARE SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE ALTHOUGH THEY ARE OPTICALLY DIFFERENT. DR.HOOPER.



5/1.4 NIKKOR S-This lens was the fastest normal optic available for the LEICA and other screw mount cameras until the 1956 introduction of the 5/1.1 NIKKOR N. Its outstanding performance was the foundation of the prestige accorded the NIKKOR lens family outside of Japan. The SM version of this most popular lens was produced in great quantity until 1960. It was the standard lens available on the NICCA and TOWER IIL, 5 and 5L models and was found on many a LEITZ camera. The coated seven element three group SONNAR design was taken from that of the famous ZEISS CONTAX 50/1.5 lens. Click stops went as low as f16. Angle of view was 46 degrees. The chrome plated brass parallel mount provided a non range finder coupled near focus to 1.5 feet. Accessory size was S43. A black 44.5mm push on cap and a 43mm snap on cap were available. A 43mm screw in unmarked lens hood/series VII filter holder was sold in chrome (early) and black(late). These were supplanted by a black plastic reversing 43mm snap on hood with N-K markings. A line of 43mm filters was sold in the US. The first production batch, 5005XXXX, are marked "Tokyo" and have a larger, less sophisticated engraving style. The "Tokyo" markings continued well into the second, 316XXX, run. N-K continuously improved the mount by the introduction of new light weight alloys for weight reduction as the old prejudice that "heavier is better" waned. The second major variation of this lens appeared at about 370XXX with the introduction of a black alloy f stop ring. This light weight version is less frequently seen. It is arguably the finest normal lens ever produced for the SM rangefinder camera.

5/1.1 NIKKOR N-This was the N-K answer to the CANON 50/1.2 and ZUNOW 5/1.1 entries in the "speed wars" of the fifties. The nine element six group fully coated original special purpose design made full use of the exotic glasses that were coming out of N-K research. Optimum performance was obtained near the maximum aperture; a slight softness at f1.1 rapidly disappeared as f1.4 was approached. A gorgeous black and chrome parallel mount provided rangefinder coupled focus to 3.5 feet. Unique accessories available with the 5/1.1 included a 62mm snap on lens cap and a line of 62mm filters. The design of the lens dictated a huge diameter 62mm screw in lens hood(AC527). Unfortunately, this hood obstructed the range and viewfinder windows of most SM cameras. This problem was solved by fenestrating the hood and providing a special ALBADA style reflecting 5cm viewfinder in a black alloy case. For storage, the viewfinder screwed onto the back of the special rear cap sold with the lens. The viewfinder was then protected by a deep screw on second cap. The whole assembly was shipped in a fitted leather case. The 5cm reflecting finder is the probably the rarest N-K viewfinder as it was sold only with the SM 5/1.1 lens and the two have often become separated with time. A thirteen blade diaphragm that stopped down to f22 was the weakest part of the design. The mechanism was

prone to irreversibly jam. It would then be removed at the repair shop so the optic could be used wide open. This, plus the original high price, limited production and a special purpose appealing to professionals explains why the 5/1.1 is so seldom seen in good cosmetic condition and working order. Serial numbers usually are around 120XXX. This 1956 introduction that created a sensation was considered the Rubicon of the Japanese optical industry. German designs and glasses were left behind as new standards of quality and performance were established; imitation had given way to innovation.



AT THE LEFT IS AN EARLY F1.4 LENS MOUNTED ON A NICCA BODY. BELOW IT IS AN EXCERPT FROM AN ADVERTISING BROCHURE FOR THE SEARS TOWER CAMERA, WHICH WAS REALLY A NICCA IN DISGUISE. IT IS TALKING ABOUT THE "NEW" 50MM F1.4 NIKKOR NOW AVAILABLE. THIS SAME BROCHURE STILL SHOWS THE COLLAPSIBLE F2.0 LENS AND MENTIONS THE PRECEEDING F1.5, SO IT WAS PUBLISHED DURING THE CHANGE-OVER TO THE F1.4 THAT OCCURRED SOMETIME IN LATE 1950 OR EARLY 1951. BELOW IS A PHOTO OF THE UNUSUAL SCREW MOUNT F1.1 NIKKOR. LIKE THE F1.5 IT IS MUCH LESS COMMON IN SM THAN IN THE NIKON BAYONET MOUNT. NOTE THE MASSIVE CHROME RIM AND CHROME DISTANCE SCALE.

NIKKOR 50 mm f/1.4 HIGH SPEED LENS

The new NIKKOR f/1.4 coated 50 mm lens (Illust. 5) is the latest lens added to the line. It will also focus down to 18 inches. This lens has all the qualities of the NIKKOR f/2 described above and, in addition, it is faster and has 7 elements. It fills the needs of amateur or professional photographers who want speed. It can be used for fast shutter speed in artificial light, such as night club pictures, press, theater or any shot where lighting conditions are not favorable. Its aperture is equipped with click stops that may be set through feeling when photographing under adverse lighting condition. At full aperture the lens is extremely accurate and, of course, the sharpness and depth of focus increase as it is stopped down. We believe this lens has as great a speed and as fine resolving power as any lens now offered to the photographer. The lens is also excellent for general, all-around photographic purposes.





LEFT...F1.1 NIKKOR WITH CASE, FRONT CAP AND ITS VERY UNIQUE REAR CAP. WHY IS IT SO DEEP?? BELOW..BECAUSE IT ALSO SERVED AS "STORAGE" FOR THE EQUALLY UNIQUE 50MM FINDER SUPPLIED WITH THIS LENS(SHOWN HERE BESIDE AN F1.1 ZUNOW FOR COMPARISON).THIS FINDER WAS SOLD ONLY WITH THIS LENS, AND I HAVE YET TO FIND A LISTING FOR IT IN ANY NIKON PRICE SHEETS.THE REMAINING 2 PHOTOS SHOW THE RATHER EXOTIC SHADE MADE FOR ALL TYPES OF THE 5CM F1.1 NIKKORS. BECAUSE THE LEICA-TYPE BODIES ARE CONFIGURED DIFFERENTLY, THIS BIG SHADE ENCROACHES INTO THE VIEWFINDER, THUS NIKON FELT THAT THE SEPARATE FINDER WAS NECESSARY. DR.HOOOPER.



THE NIKON-16..... ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW.

BY JOSEPH HIGHAM.

A CLOSER EXAMINATION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS IN ISSUE 8 OF THE N.H.S. JOURNAL ALLOWS US TO DERIVE SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS RARE PROTOTYPE.

TOP VIEW/PAGE 11(BOTTOM)

1.THE SHUTTER/APERTURE RINGS ARE CONCENTRIC AND RADIALLY ALIGNED. THAT IS, THE APERTURE AND SPEEDS ARE ALWAYS IN STEP, AS BOTH ARE LINEAR. FOR ADJUSTMENT THE APERTURE RING HAS A KNURLED AND PROFILED CENTER KNOB AND THE SPEED RING TWO POSTS FOR GRIPPING, AS THE S, S2 AND S4 FRAME COUNTERS. THE APERTURE RING HAS A WINDOW ON THE LEFT SIDE AND IT APPEARS THAT IT HAS THE NUMBER 6 OR 9 IN THE WINDOW. THIS ARRANGEMENT CAN FIT VERY NICELY WITH AN "EV", OR EXPOSURE VALUE, SYSTEM OF LIGHT MEASUREMENT. THE SHUTTER/APERTURES ARE SET IN THE PHOTO AT 1/30 AND F4.0, WHICH WOULD CORRESPOND TO EV-9 AT ASA-100 (THE NORM) OR EV-6 AT ASA-800. HOWEVER, THE ASA DIAL ON THE BACK OF THE CAMERA ONLY GOES UP TO 400, THEREFORE, THAT NUMBER IN THE WINDOW MUST BE EV- 9. THE EV NUMBER IS SET BY TURNING THE APERTURE DIAL, AND AFTER SETTING THE CORRECT SHUTTER SPEED, LOCKING THE DIALS TOGETHER TO GIVE A CONSTANT EXPOSURE TIME OVER A VARIETY OF SETTINGS. A CLOSER EXAMINATION OF THE APERTURE DIAL REVEALS A "V" (EV?) JUST BELOW THE WINDOW. WE CAN BE REASONABLY SURE THAT THE NIKON-16 HAD AN EV SYSTEM, BUT USED AN OFF CAMERA EXPOSURE METER. THE NIKON-16 IS THE ONLY NIKON CAMERA WITH SUCH A SYSTEM.

2.THE 1/125 SPEED ON THE DIAL IS DARKER INDICATING A RED SPEED OR SYNCHRO SETTING WHICH MEANS THAT THE FOCAL PLANE SHUTTER COULD HAVE TRAVELLED VERTICALLY. ONE OF THE TWO SIDES OF THE CAMERA NOT SHOWN IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS MAY THEREFORE HAVE A P.C. OUTLET.

3.THE PROTRUSION ON THE FRONT IS PROBABLY THE RANGEFINDER WINDOW. THE SQUARE VIEWFINDER WINDOW CAN JUST BE DECIPHERED TO THE LEFT AND IN LINE WITH THE EYEPIECE. DESIGN LIMITATIONS WOULD PREVENT NIKON FROM MOUNTING THE PRISM TO THE FAR RIGHT, AS IT WOULD CROSS THE LENS/FILM AXIS. THIS ARRANGEMENT SUGGESTS A SHORTENED RANGEFINDER BASE WITH LOWER ACCURACY, BUT THE 25MM LENS WOULD HAVE SUFFICIENT DEPTH OF FIELD TO COVER MINOR FOCUSING ERROR.

BACK VIEW/PAGE 11(TOP)

THE LEFT HAND PHOTO SHOWS THE CAMERA CLOSED AND THE RIGHT HAND PHOTO OPEN, HOWEVER, IN THE RIGHT HAND SHOT THE HINGE IS NO LONGER THERE, AND THE BACK COVER HELD OPEN WITH A SMALL PIECE OF METAL RUNNING FROM INSIDE THE COVER TOWARDS THE SPEED DIAL. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE GAMI AND THE NIKON ARE NOT IN EXACTLY THE SAME POSITION, THAT THE LIGHTING IS DIFFERENT, AND THAT THE ANGLE IS MOVED Laterally LEFT, WHICH LEADS ONE TO BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE NOT ACTUALLY SEQUENCE SHOTS. AND NOW, AT THE RISK OF STARTING A CONTROVERSY, I SUBMIT THAT THE TWO PHOTOS ARE NOT OF THE SAME CAMERA.....THOUGH IT IS A MATTER OF JUDGEMENT.

THE LEFT CAMERA, WITH HINGE, HAS, UNLIKE THE GAMI ABOVE, A SLIGHT GAPPING BETWEEN THE HINGE AND THE EYEPIECE. RIGHT CAMERA, WITHOUT THE HINGE, HAS A WIDER GAPPING TO THE EYEPIECE. ONE HAS TO MAKE TWO ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PHOTOS.....TAKE THE CENTER LINE OF THE HINGE IN BOTH CASES, AND ALLOW FOR THE DIFFERENT CAMERA ANGLE, AS THE RIGHT PHOTO WAS TAKEN TO THE LEFT, AND THE EYEPIECE IS OBSCURING SOME OF THE GAP. WITH TWO HAND-BUILT PROTOTYPES IT IS LIKELY THAT THERE WOULD BE MINOR MEASUREMENT DIFFERENCES, AS THE BODIES WOULD NOT BE CUT OR PRESSED FROM PRODUCTION DIE SETS.

IF TWO CAMERAS WERE SENT TO THE USA, POSSIBLY ONE WAS FOR STRIPPING AND LAB REPORTS (RIGHT PHOTO) AND THE OTHER FOR GENERAL APPRAISALS AND USER REACTIONS (LEFT PHOTO). PERHAPS THE SECOND PROTOTYPE WAS A "DUMMY"? OTHERWISE, WHY NOT USE IT FOR THE OPEN BACK SHOT?

THE NIKON-16 LIFE-SIZE

IN ORDER TO BETTER APPRECIATE THE ACTUAL DIMENSIONS OF THE NIKON-16, THE PHOTOGRAPHS WERE MEASURED AND SCALED TO ACTUAL FULL-SIZE. THE CAMERA BODY HAS ROUNDED EDGES ON ALL FACES SO ACCURATE MEASUREMENTS ARE IMPOSSIBLE. THE CAMERA BODY MEASURES 4IN. X 1-13/16IN. X 1IN., BUT IS MORE LIKELY TO BE 100MM X 45MM X 25MM, AS THE JAPANESE CAMERA INDUSTRY IS ON THE METRIC SYSTEM.

MY FIRST IMPRESSION FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHS WAS THAT NIKON HAD UTILIZED SOME "S" CAMERA PARTS TO BUILD THIS PROTOTYPE. THE FULL SIZE DRAWINGS SHOW THIS TO BE INCORRECT. STRANGELY, THIS IS A

SMALL CAMERA HAVING LARGE HARDWARE. FOR EXAMPLE....

- A. THE SPRING WINDER LEVER IS TWICE THE SIZE OF THE SELF-TIMER LEVER ON THE SP.
- B. THE INNER APERTURE DIAL IS LARGER THAN THE SP SHUTTER SPEED DIAL.
- C. THE OUTER SHUTTER SPEED DIAL IS LARGER THAN THE FRAME SELECTOR DIAL ON THE SP.
- D. THE EYEPIECE IS LARGER THAN THAT ON THE S2.

THAT IS, ALL THE VIEWING, WINDING AND EXPOSURE ADJUSTMENT HARDWARE IS LARGE, AND THE CAMERA WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY TO HANDLE.

THE DRAWINGS HAVE BEEN ALIGNED ON THE SAME AXIS SO THAT THE DIMENSIONS CAN BE EASILY TRANSFERRED FROM ONE TO ANOTHER. THE VIEW OF THE BACK IS THEREFORE UPSIDE DOWN. THE FRONT VIEW, FOR WHICH NO PHOTOGRAPH HAS BEEN UNCOVERED, IS CONJECTURE.

THE TWO VERTICAL LINES ON EACH SIDE OF THE LENS ARE A CONTINUATION OF THE SAME LEDGES THAT RUN BACK TO THE CAMERA COVER ON BOTH THE TOP AND BOTTOM FACES. AS PART OF THE ASSEMBLY, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE LENS/SHUTTER/FOCAL PLANE MODULE WAS MOUNTED AS A UNIT AND CAN ALSO BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE FRONT OF THE CAMERA FOR EASE OF REPAIR.

THERE IS A BUTTON THAT IS PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY THE WINDER LEVER. IT FALLS ON THE AXIS OF THE TAKE-UP SPOOL, BUT ITS ACTUAL PURPOSE IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE AT THIS TIME. THE TWO HOLE SCREW ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE BOTTOM IS PROBABLY, AS SUGGESTED, AN ACCESS TO THE RANGEFINDER ADJUSTMENT PORT, AS IT DOES NOT LINE UP WITH THE CENTER OF THE SHUTTER/APERTURE DIAL ON THE TOP.

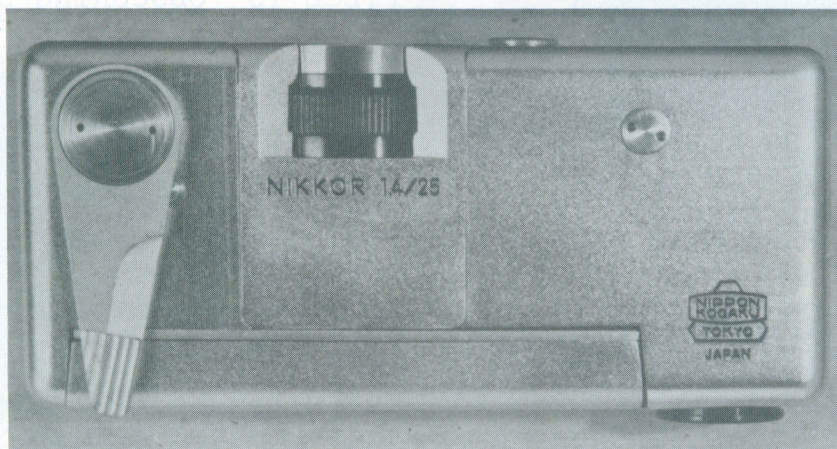
A REMOVABLE TOP OR BOTTOM WOULD HAVE EASED ASSEMBLY. THE SIDES OF THE CAMERA HAVE NOT BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED (OR THE PHOTOS LOST), AND THE BACK SHOWS NO SIGNS OF A JOIN.

THERE ARE STILL MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE EXTREMELY WELL ENGINEERED PROTOTYPES THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS, WHERE ARE THEY???

JOSEPH HIGHAM.

A FURTHER SHORT NOTE FROM JOE... I HAVE A FRIEND WITH MANY YEARS OF SERVICE AT NIKON EUROPE AND HE TOLD ME THAT THE NIKON-16 WAS EXHIBITED AT "PHOTOKINA".

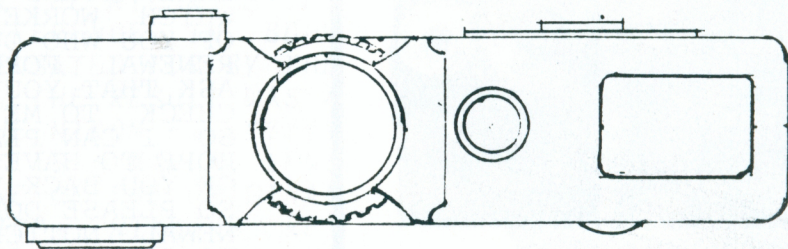
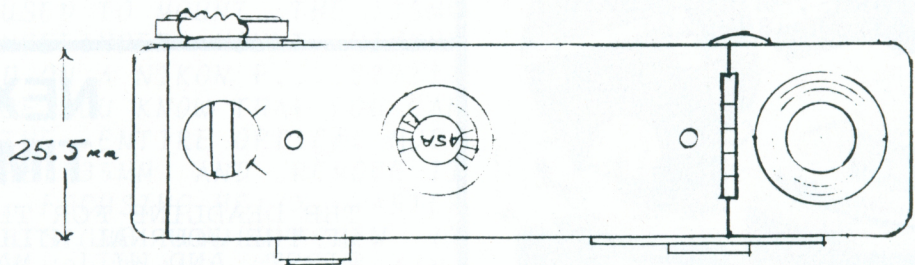
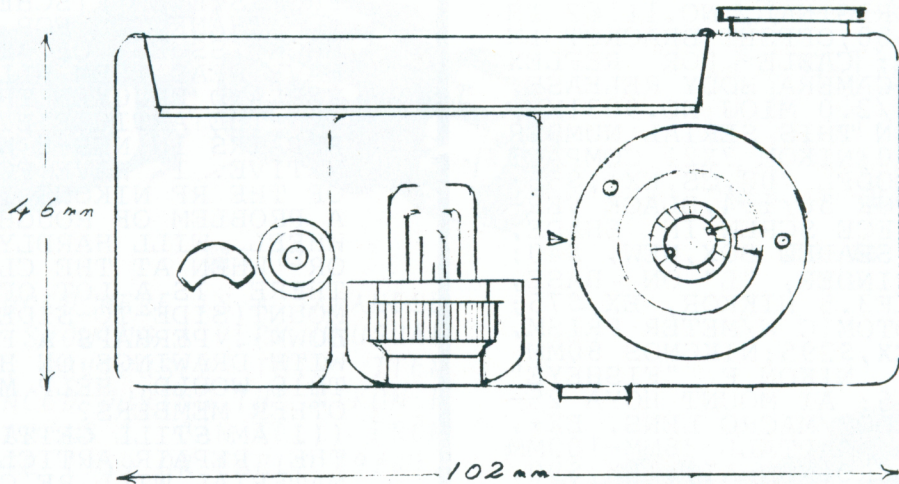
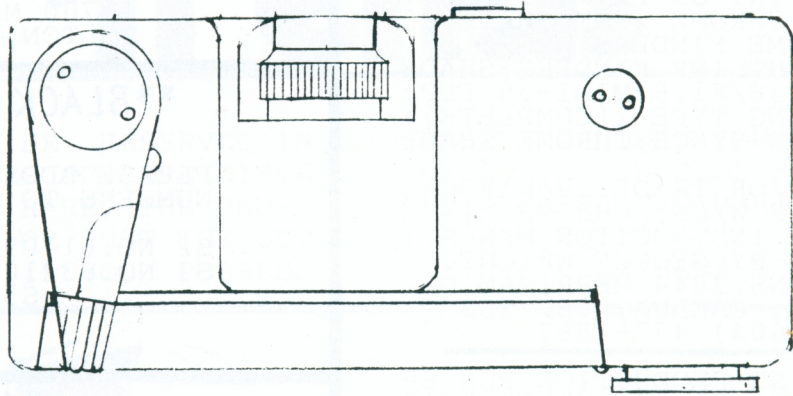
IT ARRIVED WITH THE JAPANESE CONTINGENT FROM NIKON AND LEFT WITH THEM. UNFORTUNATELY HE DOES NOT REMEMBER THE YEAR.



I HAVE DECIDED TO REPRINT ONE OF THE PHOTOS FROM THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE ON THE NIKON-16 THAT WAS IN ISSUE NO. 8 OF "THE JOURNAL" FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, MOST OF OUR NEWER MEMBERS DO NOT HAVE AN ORIGINAL COPY OF NHS-8 AND THE XEROX REPRODUCTIONS DO NOT SHOW ENOUGH DETAIL, WHICH WOULD MAKE THIS ARTICLE A BIT USELESS FOR

THEM. SECONDLY, THIS WILL SAVE YOU FROM HAVING TO KEEP NHS-8 HANDY AS YOU READ THIS ARTICLE. I FELT THAT THIS PHOTO WOULD GO A LONG WAY IN MAKING THIS NEWER ARTICLE MORE UNDERSTANDABLE FOR THE READER. I FOUND IT VERY FASCINATING WHAT JOE HAS BEEN ABLE TO DEDUCE FROM THESE ADMITTEDLY LESS THAN PERFECT PHOTOS. EDITOR.

Nikon 16



Scale 1:1

JH. 5.86.

Classified

NEW ADDRESS..PLEASE NOTE.

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WANTED..28/3.5 LATE BLACK SERIES
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105,135 BRIGHTLINE FINDERS; SHADE
AND CAP FOR 38/F1.8; MINI-35 FDR;
REFLEX HOUSING TYPE 2 (COMPLETE);
NIKON "M" NON-SYNCH; CHROME SHADE
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FOR SALE AND/OR TRADE..VARIFOCAL
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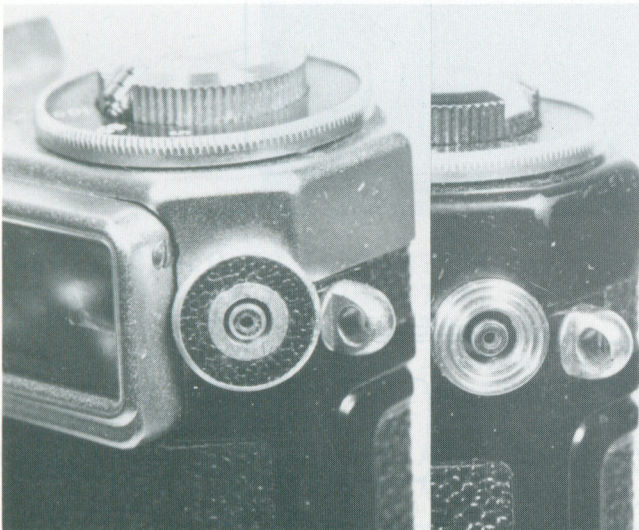
LETTERS

FOR SALE...IST PRODUCTION RUN SP
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OTHERWISE ORIGINAL, NO.11162 IN
NEAR MINT, \$450; OFFSET BRACKET IN
BOX, NEW, \$65; CABLE FOR REFLEX
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NEW, \$140; 85/2.0 MIOJ NO.9031XX,
IN SM, RARE IN THIS SERIAL NUMBER
RANGE, EX, \$200; NIKON 7X21 COMPACT
BINOCULARS, MODEL 702, CS, EX+, \$55;
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EX, \$55; 35/F3.5 NIKKOR, EX, \$75;
NIKON F2 PHOTOMIC W/METER PRISM,
1976 MODEL, EX, \$295; NIKONOS 80MM
FINDER, \$45; NIKON F "FISHEYE"
FINDER, EX, \$45; AI MOUNT HOYA 25-
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FROM STEVEN FISCHER.....
THANK YOU FOR SENDING ME THE
BACK ISSUES OF "THE JOURNAL". I
HAVE READ THEM ALL COVER TO CO-
VER AND ENJOYED THEM TO NO END.
THE ARTICLE BY GARY STONE ON
REPAIRS IN NHS-8 WAS VERY INFOR-
MATIVE. I HAVE FOUND THAT MANY
OF THE RF NIKONS IN MY AREA HAVE
A PROBLEM OF ROUGH FOCUSING, THE
WHEEL WILL HARDLY MOVE AT ALL,
OR WHEN AT THE CLOSEST DISTANCE
THERE IS A LOT OF PLAY IN THE
MOUNT (SIDE-TO-SIDE AND/OR UP AND
DOWN). PERHAPS A FUTURE ARTICLE
WITH DRAWINGS ON HOW TO CORRECT
THIS WOULD HELP MYSELF AND THE
OTHER MEMBERS?
((I AM STILL GETTING FEEDBACK ON
THE REPAIR ARTICLES. MAYBE MORE
MATERIAL WILL BE COMING????))

NEXT TIME

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
OF THE JOURNAL WILL BE SEPTEMBER
FIRST, AND WILL MARK OUR THIRD
ANNIVERSARY. FOR MANY OF YOU IT
WILL ALSO MEAN THAT DUES TIME IS
HERE AGAIN. I AM REPEATING THE
SAME METHOD I USED LAST YEAR,
WHICH WORKED RATHER WELL. THOSE
OF YOU WHO OWE DUES WILL FIND A
RENEWAL FORM IN THIS ISSUE. I
ASK THAT YOU RETURN IT AND YOUR
CHECK TO ME BY SEPTEMBER FIRST
SO I CAN PLAN NHS-13. I TRULY
HOPE TO HAVE EACH AND EVERYONE
OF YOU BACK FOR YET ANOTHER YEAR
SO PLEASE DONT JUST SET THE RE-
NEWAL NOTICE ASIDE. SEND IT IN
SO I CAN BRING OUT THE NHS THIRD
ANNIVERSARY ISSUE ON TIME.

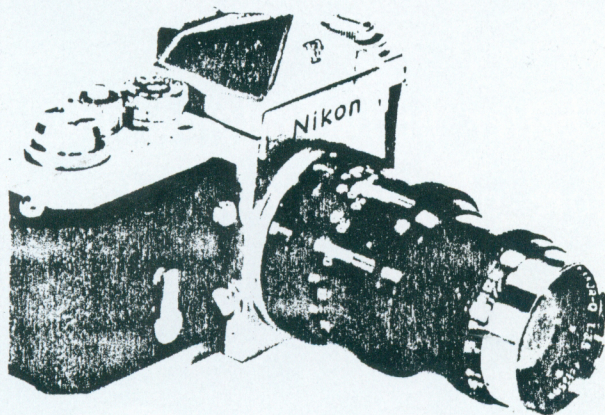


odds 'n ends

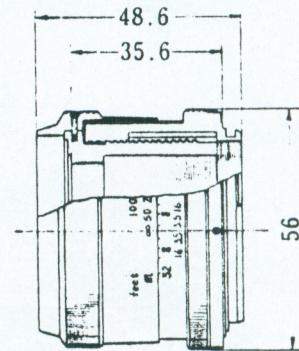
THIS PAGE WILL BE RESERVED IN ALL FUTURE ISSUES OF "THE NIKON JOURNAL" FOR THE RARE, THE UNUSUAL OR OFFBEAT, OR JUST THE OUT OF THE ORDINARY. IF YOU POSSESS

ANYTHING THAT YOU FEEL IS DIFFERENT OR UNUSUAL PLEASE SEND ME AT LEAST TWO VARIED VIEWS OF YOUR ODDITY.

THANK YOU.



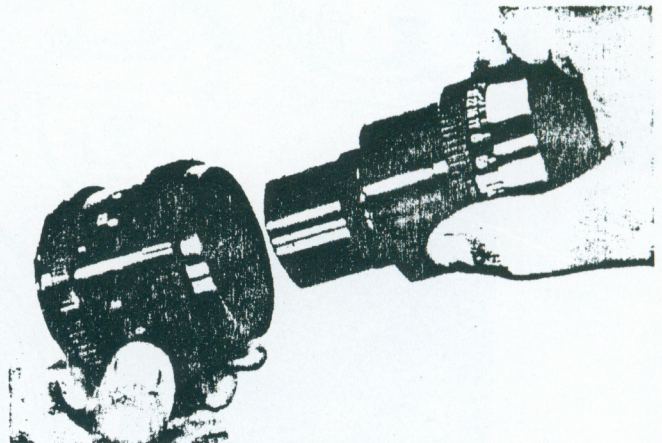
☒ 3-83

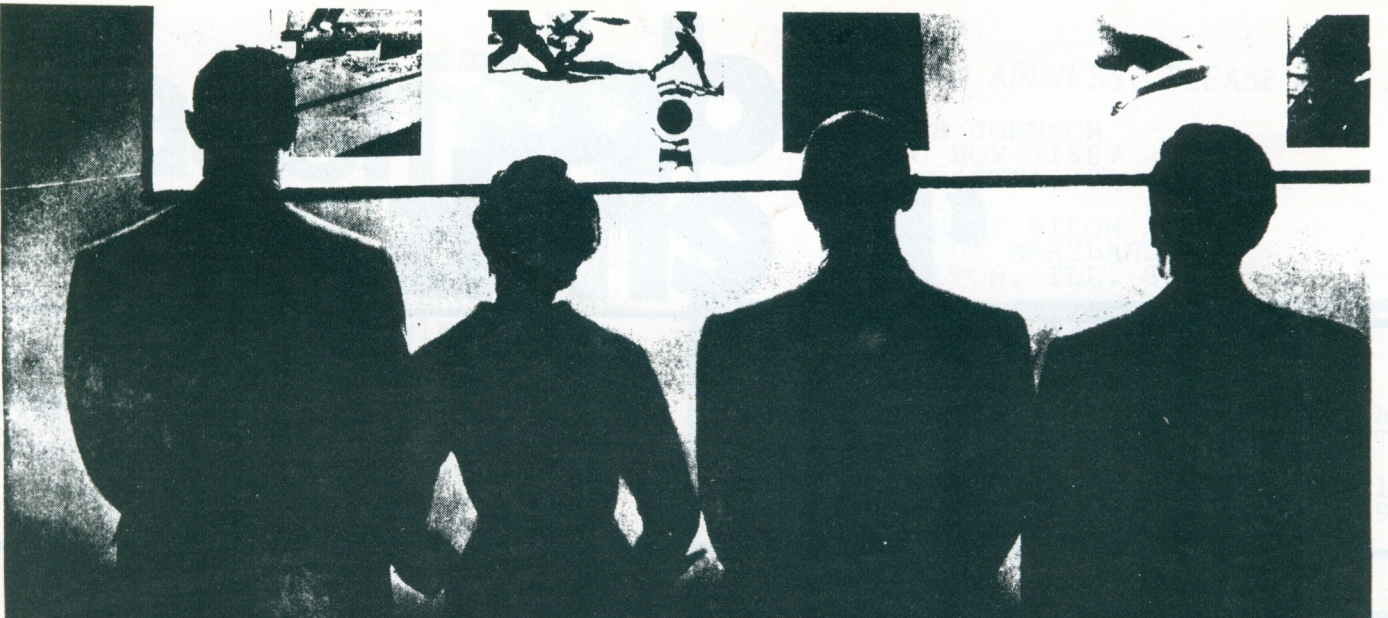


☒ 3-84

REPRODUCED HERE IS A JAPANESE BROCHEUR SHOWING A VERY UNUSUAL ACCESSORY. OBVIOUSLY THIS ITEM WAS ANNOUNCED DURING THE NIKON F ERA (AS FAR AS I CAN TELL FROM EITHER LATE 1959 OR EARLY 1960). WHAT IT IS IS AN ADAPTER THAT CAN BE USED TO MOUNT THE 135MM F3.5 RANGEFINDER MOUNT NIKKOR LENS HEAD ON A NIKON F.....???????

MOST OF YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN UNSCREW THE ENTIRE OPTICAL MODULE OF THE 135MM AND REMOVE IT FROM THE FOCUSING HELIX. AFTER DOING THIS ONE WOULD SCREW IT INTO THIS MOUNT AND, THUS AGAIN, HAVE A FOCUSING HELIX, BUT WITH A NIKON "F" BAYONET ON THE REAR AND NOT ONE FOR THE NIKON "S". OF COURSE THE DIFFERENCE IN BODY DEPTH WAS COMPENSATED FOR BY THE ADAPTER ITSELF. THE RESULT WAS A 135 F3.5 FOR THE NIKON F...????? BUT WHY????? IT IS A MANUAL LENS ONLY, RIGHT? ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FOUR "AUTOMATIC" NIKKORS RELEASED WITH THE NIKON F WAS THE 135 F3.5.....?? SO WHO NEEDS THIS THING??? NOT MANY. I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT. THANK YOU MR.T.KONNO.





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