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The Nikon  JOURNAL



THIS ISSUE..

- PG.2--"NHS-CON4" IN HOLLAND!!
- PG.8--F-SPOT...THE NIKON TESTER
- PG.12--SEEING DOUBLE...AGAIN!!
- PG.14--NIKON WWII OPTICAL ORDNANCE.

ROBERT ROTOLONI
EDITOR/PUBLISHER



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EDITORIAL

This issue of the Journal is a week or two late for a very good reason....I wanted to get as much information on NHS-Con4 into these pages as possible! I had the majority of the pages laid out before I went to Holland to save some time, and lucky I did. Getting the Convention coverage together took more time than I thought due to the fact that "recovering" from the trip and getting back to my 80 hour work week was rough. I also needed to wait to receive photos from various members as well as simply getting all the information together. Coverage begins on page 2.

The most important part of any undertaking such as our Convention, is what goes on behind the scenes. Those of you who were not able to attend will only see the results pictured in these pages, which is just the culmination of hundreds of hours of preparation and planning and countless phone calls and faxes. Many things had to fall into place to make such a meeting a success and my input was much less than our 3 previous Conventions because of the location. I could not have held NHS-Con4 in Europe without the help of many of our members who did behind the scenes work. At the risk of missing a name or two (please forgive me) I need to express the Society's appreciation to those who made one of the give away items, filled bags, moved tables, or carried, pushed, pulled or stapled to get everything together on time and working: Ernst & Alice Thiel (who spent hours type setting the old Nikon S catalog); Danny Tuyelaars (who used his talents to produce our logo etched in marble presented to the speakers); Roger Swan (who donated the equipment pouches with our logo); all our speakers who made the effort to entertain and educate us (Bill Kraus, Michael Pritchard, Peter Lownds, Mike Symons, Tony Hurst, Peter Braczkowski and John Baird (who presented his talk via video tape); and Jan Van Dijk, who entertained us all with his disassembly of a Nikon F right before our eyes! And others who pitched in to keep things organized and moving (Jaap Kortten, Jimmy Purimahuwa and Job Bakker). Without the input of all those listed NHS-Con4 would not have been what it was. However, as is always the case in such an undertaking, most of the planning, organizing and day to day work starting nearly a year before the event, was done by one person: Peter Lownds! Because of my lack of time and distance from Holland, I could not do anywhere near what was required to make it work. Having done the first two Conventions by myself (NHS-Con3 was mostly organized by Bill Adams with John Baird and Mike Symons) I know the amount of time and work involved and how things can go wrong. The man who did 95% of the work to make NHS-Con4 happen was Peter! He did everything.....reserving the hotel and meeting rooms, setting up the hospitality room, lining up all the speakers, obtaining the video and sound equipment needed for the various presentations (there were 3 slide shows!), getting everything to the hotel, procuring most of the hand outs and gifts distributed to those who attended (our new lapel pin, tiles, pens, note pads, decals, patches, NHS puzzle, printed program and list of attendees, Nikon S catalog reprint, Nikon keychains, and a special canvas carry bag to put it all in! You can imagine the time and effort that went into getting all of this together and have it work! I think that the Society owes a debt of gratitude to Peter for a BIG job well done!!! I know I do!!!!

Starting on the next page are as many photos of the Convention that I could squeeze in. The meeting was a huge success with over 65 members attending!! It is ironic that the first three Conventions here in the U.S. averaged only 35 members (two-thirds of the entire Society lives in North America!) and the biggest meeting so far was our first one outside of the U.S.! It appears our European contingent is very active and supportive. Attending were members from....

United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, South Africa and Brazil! Truly and international collection! Roger Swan from South Africa had competition this time for the "farthest traveled", as Jose Cosentino and his wife came all the way from Brazil! I cannot list everyone who attended, for fear of leaving someone out, but it was great to finally meet members I had spoken to or exchanged letters over many years. It was nice to put a face with a name, some of which go back to the very beginning of Nikon collecting. I enjoyed Europe, I enjoyed Holland, I enjoyed the Convention, but most of all, I enjoyed meeting everyone that was there! I hope they all feel the same way.

Other items in this issue include Part IV of Richard Lane's series on Nikon-made WWII optical ordnance. This time around he features a truly astounding piece of glass that was designed to dive with a submarine! Amazing!

Jose Wu Chang has an article on yet another pair of like-numbered Nikkor lenses. This time it is a set of 50mm/f1.4s that is really unusual in that they may have the very same serial number, yet they are very different lenses indeed! This pair can only be called a "mystery".

Ulrich Koch, who I met in Utrecht, has a piece on the Nikon testers made during the reflex era. These were used to demonstrate Nikon screens and eyepiece diopters with various Nikkor lenses. I wasn't aware of the variety of these made until I received this article.

There is an expanded "NHS Products" section this issue which also features a few of the items that were produced for NHS-Con4. More items should be listed in NHS-44 but see the Convention coverage for a Tony Hurst photo of the new NHS lapel pin designed by Peter Lownds.

You will also find in this issue a small auction report for your information, as well as an insert from Auction Team Cologne. I met Uwe Breker in Holland and his auctions are quite large and famous. Proceeds from the insertion of his newsletter will help offset some of the postage for this issue. Michael Pritchard from Christies spoke at the Convention and told us how Nikon equipment is on the rise! He and Christies feel that Nikons will continue to climb in popularity as they have already noticed a marked increase in prices as well as selection. Both houses produce fine catalogs and it would be to your advantage to get on their subscription lists!

Those of you who have marveled over Tony Hurst's rear cover photos should have been at NHS-Con4. Tony put on a slide show of 96 images that were truly amazing works of art! Plans call for making copy sets available to those who wish them. Prices have not been firmed up as yet but the figure of around \$200 has been discussed. More info next issue, but if you are interested let me know! At \$2 a slide they are worth it!

2

THE BIGGEST YET!!

N.H.S. CONVENTION
5 TH MARCH 1994 UTRECHT
HOLLAND

'NHS' GOES INTERNATIONAL!

**'NHS-CON4'
IN HOLLAND**



OFFICIAL POSTER FOR NHS-CON4 BY TONY HURST & PETER LOWNDS

REMBRANDT WITH HIS TRUSTY NIKON SP!!



JUST ONE ON MANY CART-LOADS OF SUPPLIES & HANDOUTS PROVIDED BY CONVENTION CHAIRMAN PETER LOWNDS.



L-R..LES SEELIGSON (US), RICHARD de STOUTZ (SWISS) & JACK HVINDEN-HAUG (NORWAY).



L-R..DIETMAR MACHOLD (GERMANY) & CHRISTOPH TRESTLER (ENGLAND via AUSTRIA)



ABOVE L-R..TONY HURST (IRELAND) & ROD STINES (US).
RIGHT L-R..TWO OF THE "ORIGINAL" MEMBERS OF THE NHS
BILL KRAUS (US) & JEAN-PIERRE HERMSDORF (SWISS).





The Friday night hospitality room allowed everyone the opportunity to get to know each other. Many were meeting each other for the first time while others were renewing old friendships. It was a chance for everyone to relax and talk. Because of the distances traveled most members arrived at the hotel on Friday afternoon, so attendance on Friday evening was quite large.

CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT...HANS BRAAKHUIS (HOLLAND):
L-R..DANILO CAPUANI (ITALY), PETER LOWNDS (HOLLAND) &
ROGER SWAN (SOUTH AFRICA): L-R..ALAN BRODY (US), JOHN
MILLHAM (ENGLAND) & ROGER SWAN (SOUTH AFRICA):
L-R..ERNESTO LUCIDI (ITALY) & DANILO CAPUANI (ITALY):
L-R..ERNST THIEL (HOLLAND), TONY HURST (IRELAND) AND
CLEMENS CORDING (GERMANY).



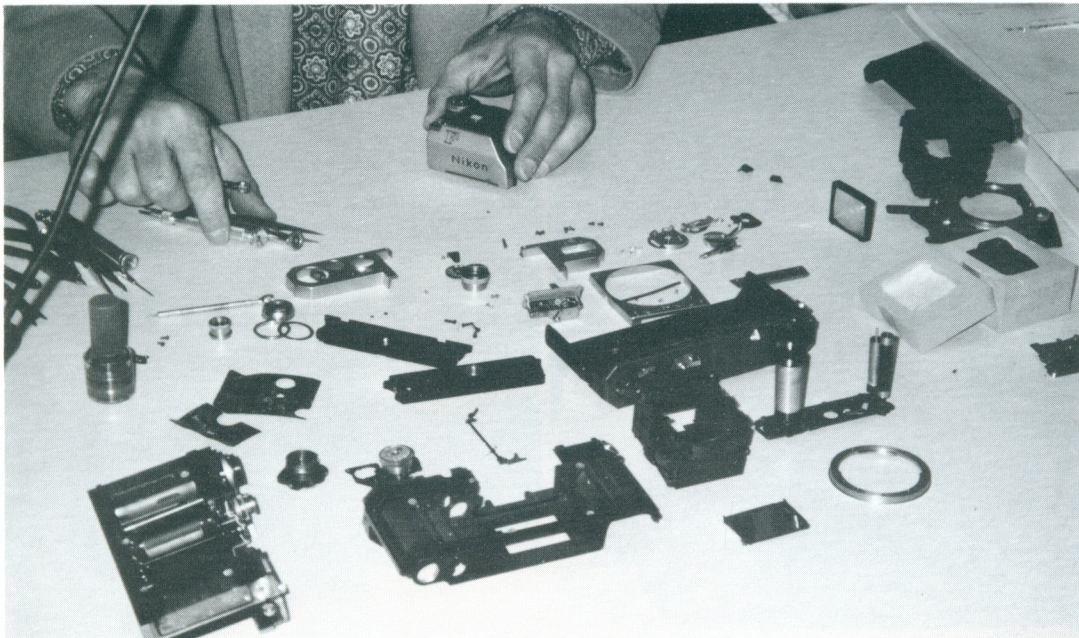


CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE...JOSE LUIS COSENTINO (BRAZIL) RECEIVES ONE OF THE DOOR PRIZES (A CHUNK OF OPTICAL GLASS) FROM PETER LOWNDS: MICHAEL PRITCHARD (ENGLAND) GAVE A TALK ON CHRISTIES' AUCTIONS: L-R..GRAY LEVETT (ENGLAND) AND DIETMAR MACHOLD (GERMANY): ULRICH KOCH (GERMANY): PETER LOWNDS INTRODUCES PETER BRACZKO (GERMANY), WHOSE GERMAN NIKKOR CLUB GAVE AN OUTSTANDING SLIDE PRESENTATION.



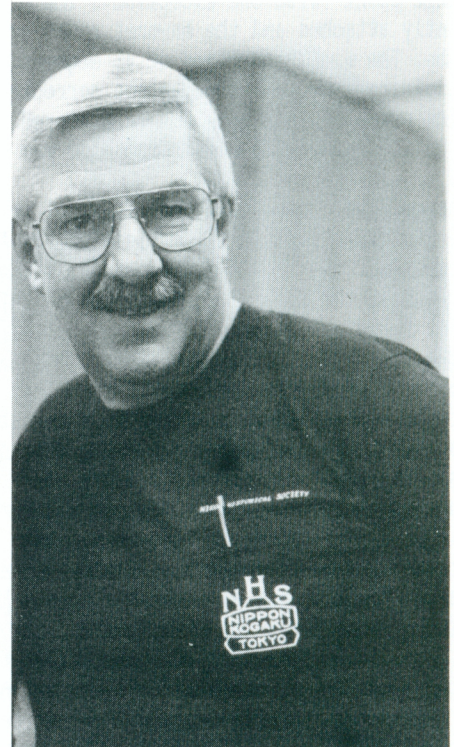


CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE...PETER LOWNDS PRESENTING MIKE SYMONS (CANADA) WITH NHS-CON4 "REMBRANDT" POSTER & MARBLE "NHS" LOGO (ALL SPEAKERS WERE PRESENTED WITH THESE TWO ITEMS. THE "NHS" MARBLE PLAQUE WAS PRODUCED BY BELGIAN MEMBER DANNY TUYELAARS); DIETMAR MACHOLD (GERMANY): THE SITE OF THE SUNDAY CAMERA SHOW IN HOUTEN, HOLLAND: JAN VAN DIJK IN THE MIST OF DISASSEMBLING A NIKON F BEFORE THE MEMBERS. HE LATER REASSEMBLED THE CAMERA AS WELL.





ABOVE L-R.. "THE THREE NIKONTEERS", BILL KRAUS, YOUR EDITOR & YUKI KAWAI (ENGLAND). WE THREE GO BACK 21 YEARS BUT ONLY YUKI LOOKS THE SAME!: LEFT...OFFICIAL "NHS" LAPEL PIN DESIGNED FOR NHS-CON4 BY PETER LOWNDS & PHOTOGRAPHED BY TONY HURST: BOTTOM LEFT...REMBRANDT AND HIS PROTEGE? BELOW...WHY IS THIS MAN SMILING? WHEN YOU SEE MIKE SYMONS WHY NOT ASK HIM!



THE F--SPOT!!

by **ULRICH KOCH**

Everyone of you knows the Nikon-Tester, but do you know that at least 5 different versions exist? And if you have two that you think are the same they may not be?

Now I will discuss the "Eyepiece Correction Focusing Screen Viewer", known as the Nikon Tester. It is used to demonstrate the various screens and eyepiece correction lenses available from Nikon, mostly for professionals. Some dealers have used testers for customer demonstrations.

The Nikon Tester was made in different models based on the F, F2 and F3 (and perhaps F4), depending on when it was manufactured.

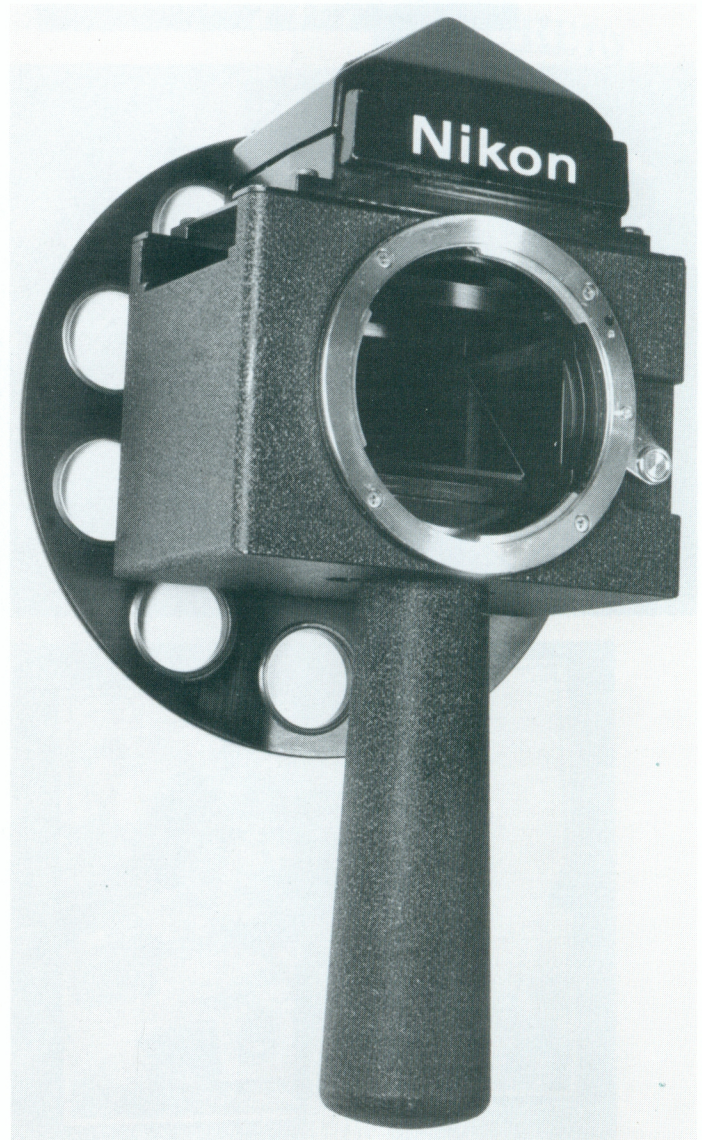
The tester looks like just the central section of the Nikon camera body corresponding to the lens/mirror/prism housing, and it has the standard black prism. Instead of a screen there are slots on each side of the housing through which a rail with fixed screens can be inserted. A tripod socket is present for attaching a hand grip.

The body is made from one piece of metal and finished in crinkle paint (with one exception). The prism is permanently attached and the bayonet mount is identical to a K3 tube. The mirror is fixed at 45 degrees. On the back is a revolving disc for the eyepiece correction lenses. It has click stops so each lens can be centered in the eyepiece. On the F and F2 versions the disc was supplied as an option.

The screens are mounted into the rail which is marked for the various types (A, B,..) visible from the top. Only the screens for the F3 are marked on their underside and can be seen at the upper left when looking through the eyepiece. Rails were made for 8 or 9 screens (F/F2) and for 5 screens (F3). The screens are mounted with 2 screws (rail for 9 screens), 3 screws (rail for 8 screens) & 4 screws (rail for 4 screens). A spring inside the tester body and some notches on the underside of the rails center the screens in the finder.

The testers were not made in large numbers (they have no serial #s), but the quantity is unknown. I think that the F tester is much more common than the F2 and F3 versions, as more appear available on the market. According to my information, only the F tester was sold to the public. The price was \$300 with 14 screens but no eyepiece correction lenses (see price list 30 Sept. 1967). In the dealer price list, dated 1 May 1974, the price was \$400 (dealer cost \$195) with 17 screens but no eyepiece lenses (what version?).

NIKON TESTERS



Now for the various types....

Nikon F Tester (version 1)

The main feature of this version is the missing disc for the eyepiece lenses. An old type prism with the square eyepiece is mounted and all is done in glossy black just like the cameras. I don't know if the hand grip was standard, nor when it was first available. On each of the 2 rails is space for 8 screens, although only 14 were available.

Screens: A,B,C,D,E,F,G1-G4 and H1-H4

Nikon F Tester (version 2)

This type has a revolving disc for 9 lenses and a prism with the new round eyepiece. It has a hand grip and is now finished in crinkle paint. It was sold in the gold Nikon box as were the rails.

Screens: A,B,C,D,E,J,G1-G4 and H1-H4

Lenses: -1.5,-2,-3,-4,-5,+1,+2 and +3

Nikon F Tester (version 3)

Identical to version 2 but the disc holds 10 lenses even though only 9 were available. Boxes were the same type.

Screens: A,B,C,D,E,J,G1-G4 and H1-H4

Lenses: -1.5,-2,-3,-4,-5,+0.5,+1,+2,+3

Nikon F2 Tester

Nearly the same as version 3 above, but with the DE-1 prism. The connection for the pilot lamp is present and the bulb is working! The prism is a bit higher than the F type. The Nikon nameplate is not fixed by screws, but glued on. Inside the body is the larger mirror of the F2.

Screens: A,B,C,D,E,J,K,L,M,P,R,G1-G4 and H1-H4

Lenses: 0,-2,-3,-4,-5,+0.5,+1,+2,+3

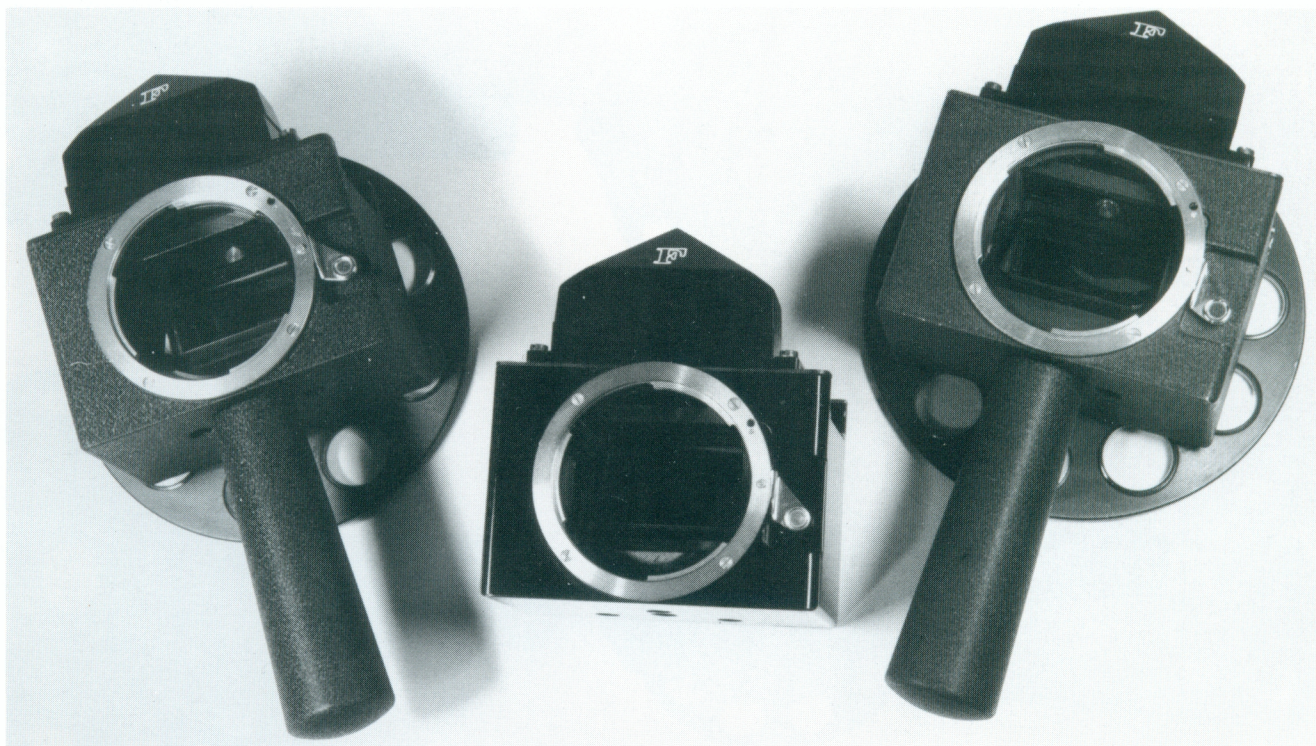
Nikon F3 Tester

Nearly completely new is the F3 tester. The principle is the same as the F/F2. The bayonet is the same, but the paint is different, like that of the F2 Titan or F3P. The release levers of the DE-2 prism are present, but do not function as the prism is fixed in place. The windows for the LCDs are present too, but not functional. You can see the aperture information through the finder and the eyepiece shutter is working. The pressure springs for the screens are present, but not functional. The mirror is the same as the F3 with the perforations for the...missing... sensor!

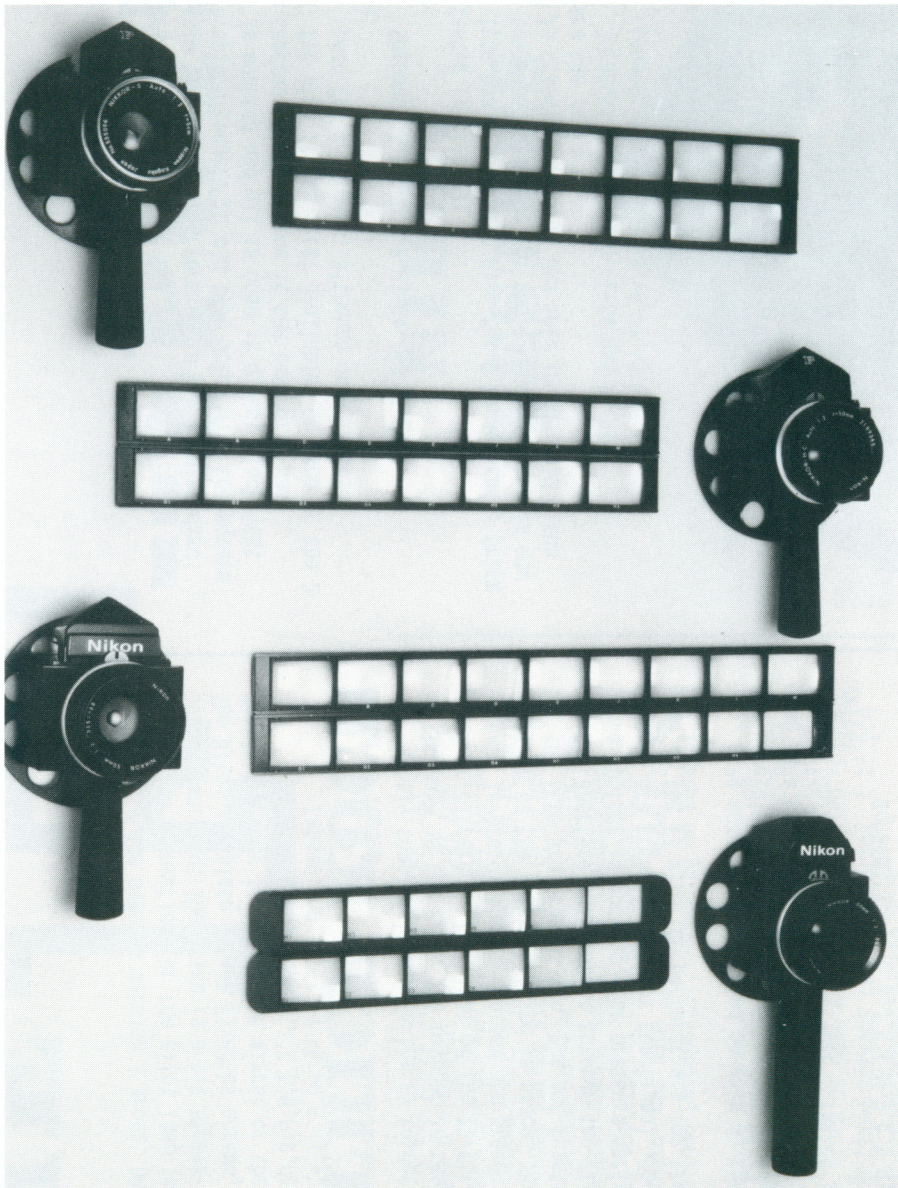
Five screens are mounted on each of the four rails. The revolving disc is the same as the F2 tester. All items came in a special suitcase which is labeled.. "Eyepiece Correction/Focusing Screen Viewer". Inside it is a green velvet.

Screens: A,B,C,D,E,J,K,L,M,P,R,T,G1-G4 and H1-H4

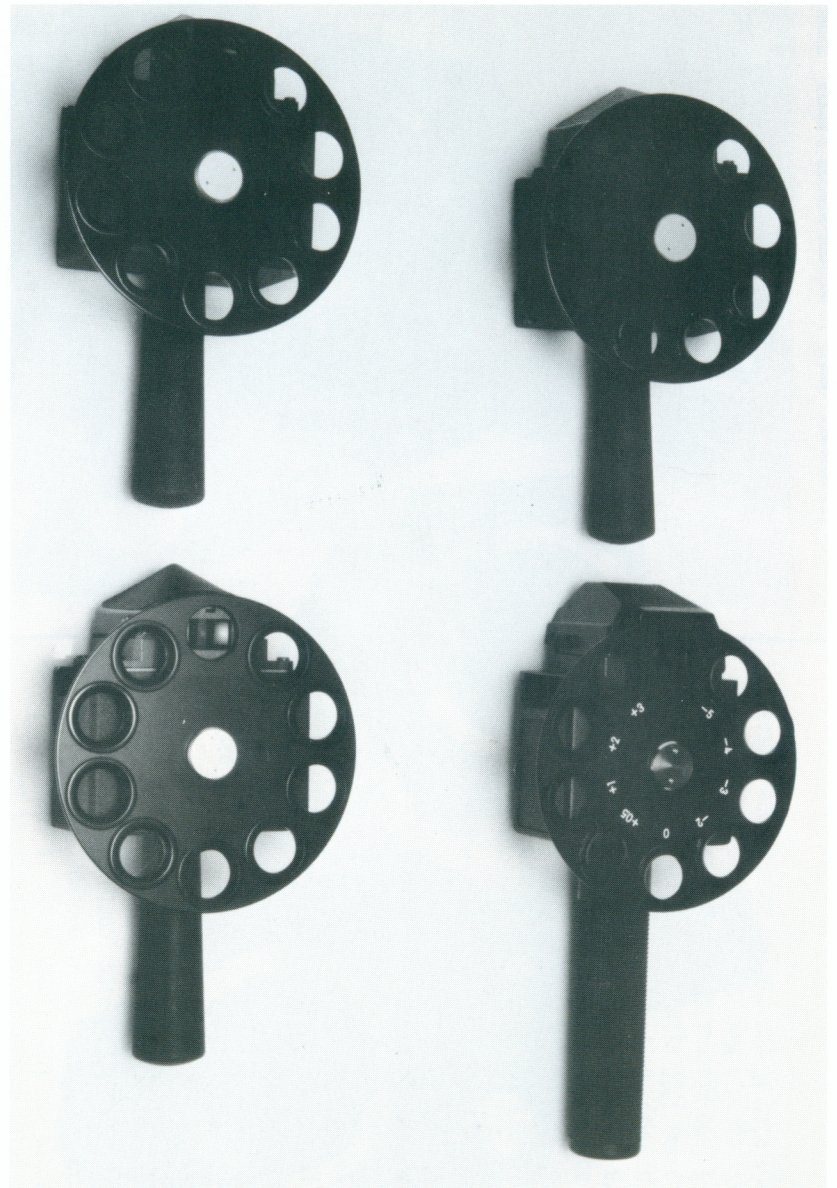
Lenses: 0,-2,-3,-4,-5,+0.5,+1,+2,+3



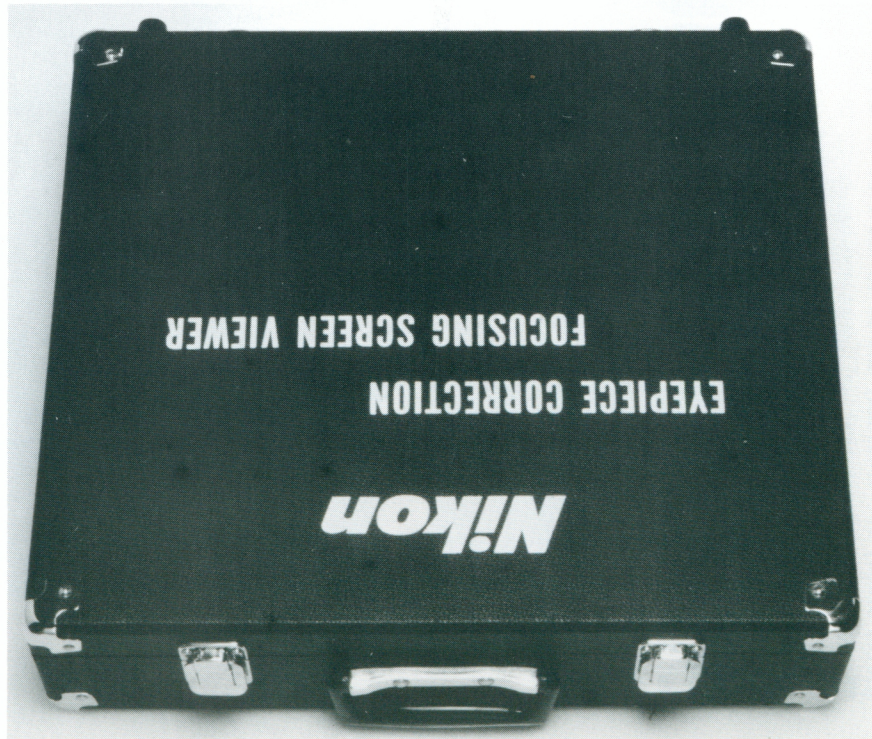
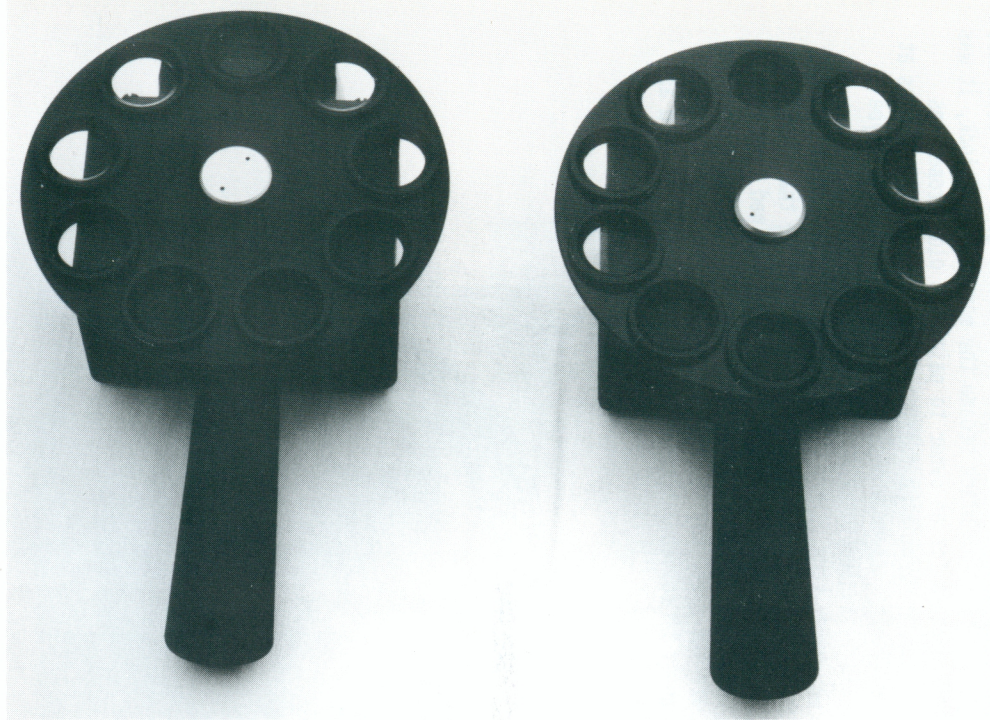
ABOVE...NIKON F TESTERS-VERSION II (LEFT), VERSION III (RIGHT) AND THE FIRST VERSION IN THE MIDDLE. U. KOCH



THE NIKON TESTERS WITH 50MM LENSES AND SCREENS. UPPER LEFT IS THE F VERSION III WITH RAILS FOR 8 SCREENS; UPPER RIGHT IS VERSION II WITH RAILS FOR 8 SCREENS; LOWER LEFT IS THE F2 TESTER WITH RAILS FOR 9 SCREENS; LOWER RIGHT WE HAVE THE F3 TESTER WITH RAILS FOR 6 SCREENS (5 SHOWN HERE). U. KOCH



A BACKSIDE VIEW OF THE NIKON TESTERS. UPPER LEFT IS THE F VERSION III & UPPER RIGHT IS F VERSION II; LOWER LEFT IS THE F2 TESTER WHILE THE F3 VERSION IS ON THE LOWER RIGHT. U. KOCH



UPPER LEFT...F TESTERS VERSION II (LEFT) WITH ROOM FOR 9 EYEPiece CORRECTION LENSES & VERSION III (RIGHT) DESIGNED TO HOLD 10 LENSES. BOTH WITH HANDGRIPS. ABOVE & LEFT...SPECIAL FITTED DEMONSTRATION SUITCASE FOR THE F3 TESTER DESIGNED TO HOLD THE TESTER, HANDGRIP AND 4 SCREEN RAILS!
U. KOCH

SEEING DOUBLE! SEEING DOUBLE! AGAIN!?

by Jose Wu Chang

You may recall the article in NHS-35 about the two 135mm/f4.0 Nikkor lenses with the same serial number. Up to now those two lenses represented the only "verified" case of duplicate serial numbers within the Nikon rangefinder system known to me.That is until now!

A few years ago member Jose Wu Chang purchased an "all-black" 50mm/f1.4 Nikkor which appeared to have a proper serial number, placing it within the "358" batch of lenses that is comprised of a small number of all-black lenses and all of the known examples of the "aluminum" variant! However, once he received the lens it became obvious that what he really had was a standard chrome lens that someone somewhere had painted black, including the filter ring. On close examination the filter ring on this lens is chrome plated brass, not aluminum, and so is the rest of the lens. The paint job is not that well done and has begun to flake off the filter ring. But.....it has the correct serial number for an all-black or aluminum Nikkor...#358148!

More recently Jose was able to purchase a genuine "aluminum" f1.4 Nikkor with a proper "358" serial number. When he ordered the lens he was aware of the serial number but had to wait till it arrived to see what he really had. Upon receiving the second lens it proved to be the genuine article and in flawless condition, and the serial number was as advertised.....#358148....the same as that on his "homemade" all-black Nikkor f1.4!!!

So now we have another pair of Nikkors with identical serial numbers, but this pair is quite unusual. The first 3-400 lenses in the "358" batch comprised Nikon's attempt at reducing the weight of the f1.4 by the liberal use of aluminum in place of the more common chrome plated brass. It must have been a short lived experiment, since less than 400 seem to have been made. One problem might have been a too soft, or delicate, filter ring. Whatever the reason, the light weight aluminum lenses became a small batch of very collectible items, as many failed experiments do. But our pair consists of one genuine article and one not so genuine! How can this be explained?

A painted lens is not that unusual as I have seen this done before. As black became the more "modern" look, it was not unknown for an owner to paint his old chrome lens black. He might even paint the filter ring while he was at it with no ulterior motive in mind. Then again, maybe someone wanted to make an all-black from the start....we may never know. Since "fake" black cameras are out there, why not the lenses as well? The only thing that cannot be explained away is the number. I have examined both lenses carefully, and neither number has been tampered with. They are the same. Why this set exists is a mystery that may never be solved. At this point your guess is as good as anyone's!!





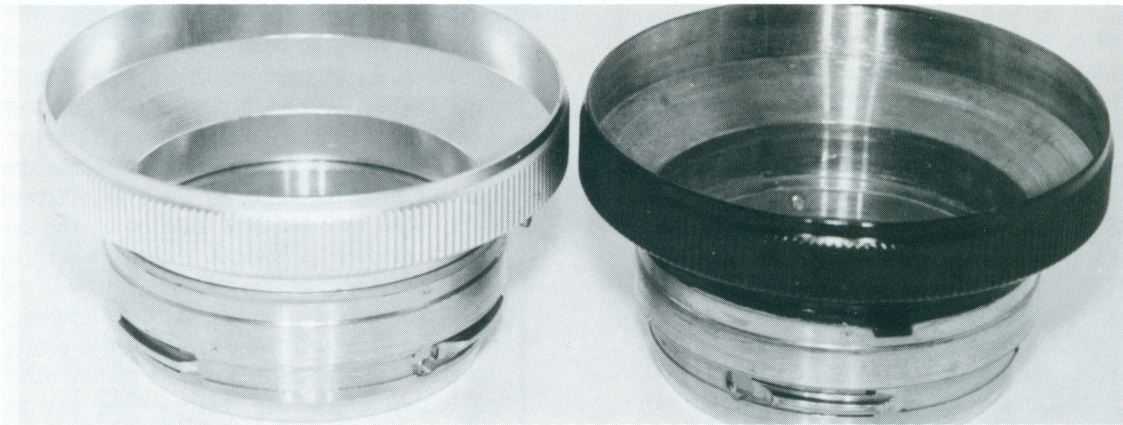
IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THESE 2 LENSES SHARE THE SAME SERIAL NUMBER. HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO OBVIOUS THAT THEY ARE NOT THE SAME VINTAGE NOR OF THE SAME CONSTRUCTION! THE 3 LOWER PHOTOS SHOW INTERNAL VARIATIONS AS FOLLOWS...

UPPER PHOTO...ALUMINUM (LEFT) & HOMEMADE BLACK (RIGHT).
NOTE BRASS INTERIOR OF BLACK LENS.

MIDDLE PHOTO..STANDARD CHROME PLATED BRASS (LEFT) & HOMEMADE BLACK (RIGHT). NOTE THE IDENTICAL BRASS INTERIORS ON THESE TWO LENSES.

BOTTOM PHOTO..CONVENTIONAL BLACK (LEFT) & HOMEMADE BLACK (RIGHT). NOTE THE VERY DIFFERENT CONSTRUCTION OF THESE 2 LENSES.

FROM THESE 3 PHOTOS IT IS OBVIOUS THAT OUR HOMEMADE BLACK LENS IS REALLY A BRASS LENSES THAT HAS BEEN REPAINTED! HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT EXPLAIN THE SERIAL NUMBER!!!!



N-K OPTICAL ORDNANCE

by Richard Lane

PART IV

At the end of World War II the surviving submarines of the Imperial Japanese Navy were idle. Two dozen submarines in sweepers cove at Sasebo and twenty six more anchored at Kure were all that remained of the force. One hundred and thirty one other submarines never returned to Japan.

What about the optical equipment used on these submarines? What company supplied the periscopes and binoculars to the elite submarine force? It should be no surprise to our group of Nikon collectors to find out that Nippon Kogaku made the Type 97 submarine binoculars that are featured in this article!

The date plate indicates a manufacture date of October 1944. Their serial number is 311 and this example was probably made toward the end of the Type 97's production run. They weigh in at 170 pounds, due in part to their quarter inch thick casing! The 120mm front objectives are recessed and protected by 13mm thick flat front glass plates which measure 135mm across! Twelve screws and waterproof seals on the front protect the internal optical elements. Further, a heavy objective shield swings down to protect the front glass. The rear of the binoculars features a rotating wheel which, when loosened, allows the waterproof hatch to swing upward to reveal the eyepieces. A rotating interocular scale can be used to adjust the distance between the eyepieces for varying eye widths. A rubber seal surrounds the open hatch at the rear. On top there is a circular cap which is secured with twelve screws and a rubber seal. Below that is a pint size container that contains silica gel.

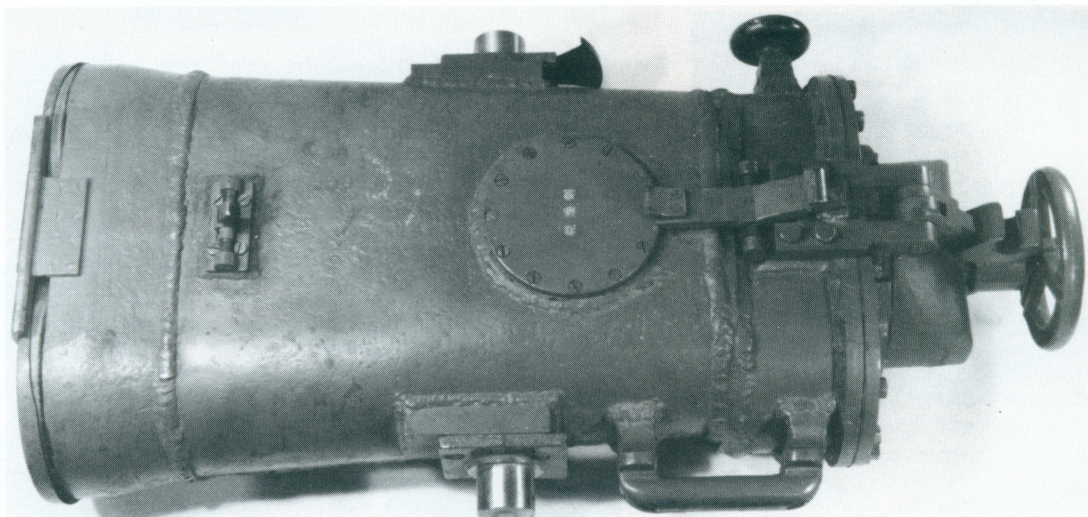
From this design it is apparent that these binoculars remained deck mounted at all times and had to withstand pressures encountered on deep diving (300ft for a typical I-boat). In addition, they had to handle depth charge attacks and the optical elements had to remain collimated and ready for use when the submarine surfaced. The alternative to the waterproof glasses would be to dismount a large conventional 20x120 binocular. This would have been cumbersome during an emergency dive. Emergency dive times for Japanese submarines were typically under 90 seconds.

Some interesting mention about these binoculars has been written in books by former members of the Imperial Japanese Navy. In the book "I Sank the Yorktown at Midway", Yahachi Tanebe describes the sighting of the

Yorktown while on board the I-168. The passage reads, "So it was that, at 0530 on June 6, the 12cm binoculars of my best trained lookout picked up the Yorktown. She was a black shape on the horizon, about 11 miles distant." In the book "The Kaiten Weapon", Yutaka Yokota describes yet another sighting while on the I-47. It reads, "Then, after dark, when I-47 had been running on the surface for about twenty minutes, a lookout sighted something. "Ships! About 12 miles away!" he called out. This was a remarkable sighting, but not too unusual for Japanese sailors. Our lookouts were selected carefully and equipped with far more powerful binoculars than those of any other navy. In the early days of the war, before radar was developed to full efficiency, this special training of lookouts had enabled our forces to achieve surprise even against radar equipped ships."

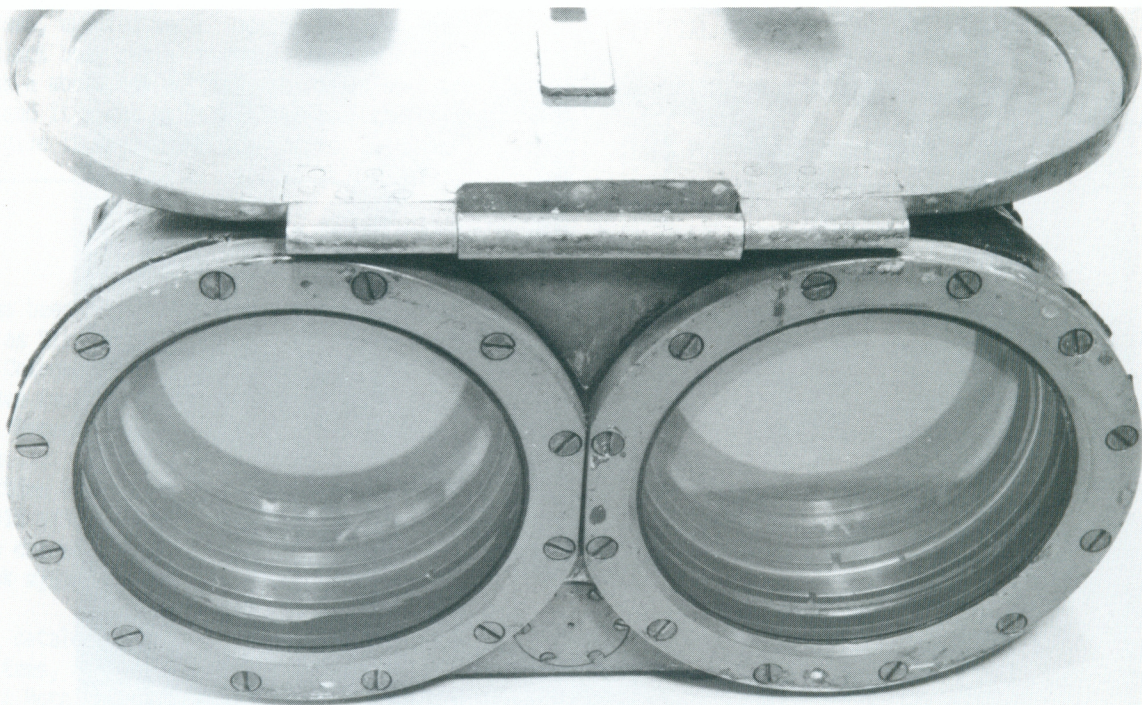
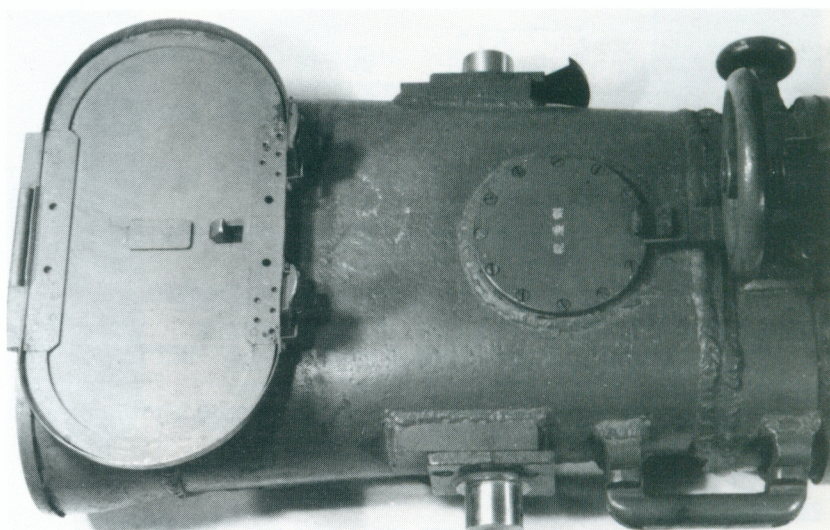
It is unfortunate that the exact history of these binoculars may never be traced. There are few clues remaining after nearly 50 years. The U.S. stenciled writing on the wooden box and the manufacture date may be all that is left. On the upper left hand side of the box are the few characters "SUB I-". The I-boat number is missing along with several chips of wood. Below that is "CONN", which probably indicated that they were removed from the conning tower of the submarine. More writing on the box indicates that they were shipped to the U.S Naval Gun Factory at Washington D.C. The other clue is the date of manufacture, October 1944. By looking at the production dates of the surviving submarines at wars end one can make an educated guess as to which submarine they were removed from. Perhaps they came from the I-400 (30Dec44), I-401 (8Jan45), I-58 (7Sep44) or the I-369 (9Oct44).

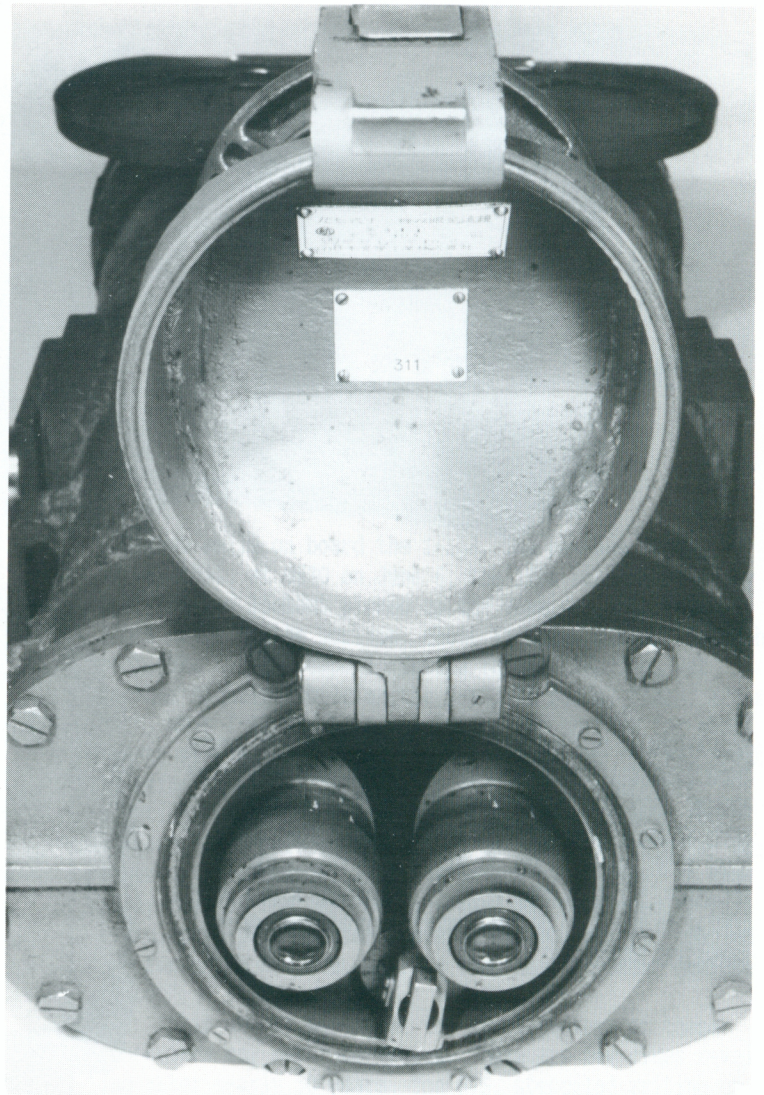
In a way the Type 97 binoculars tell their own tale of the Pacific War. Although unique to the Japanese submarine force, the 120mm binoculars did not prove to be a distinct advantage toward the end of the war. In the book, "I-Boat Captain", Zenji Orita describes his plea for radar to the 6th fleet headquarters in January 1944. Part of the passage reads, "Third, our chief weapon for detecting the enemy at present is 120mm binoculars. Top priority must be given to equipping submarines with radar and electronic counter-measure devices." As it turned out, not even the best designed binoculars from Nippon Kogaku could outperform radar!



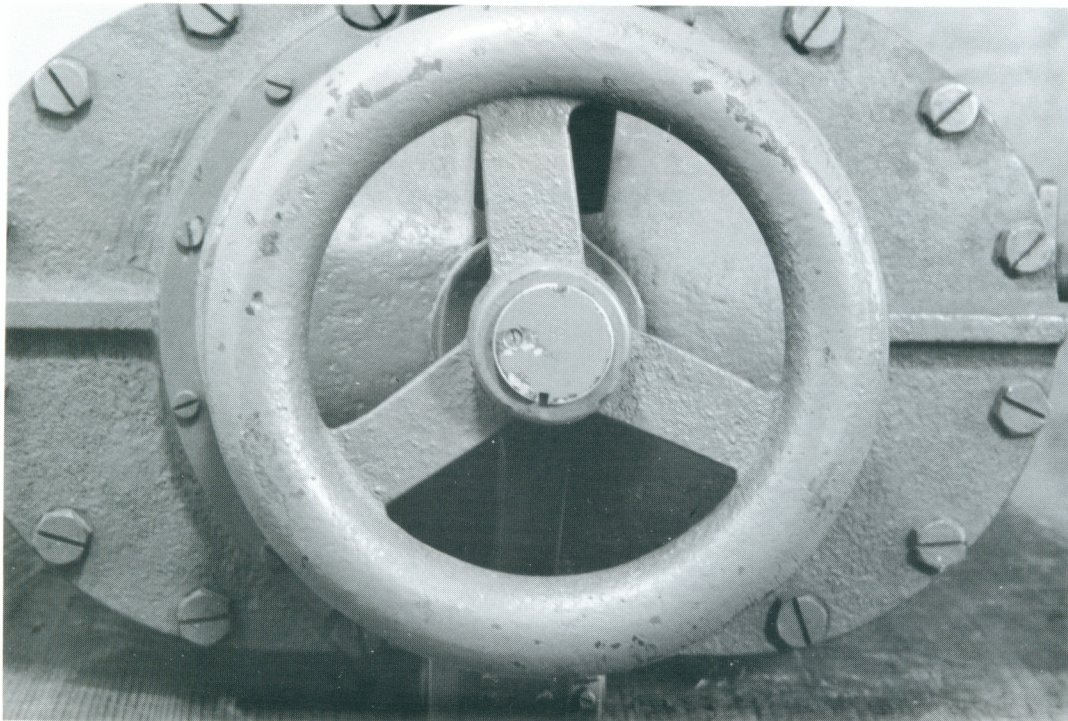
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS MONSTER! WEIGHING IN AT OVER 170 POUNDS THESE 120MM GLASSES ARE ENCASED IN A HEAVY STEEL PROTECTIVE HOUSING. THEY HAVE BEEN MADE WATER TIGHT BY THE USE OF HEAVY WELDS, 13MM THICK COVER GLASSES, HEAVY STEEL COVER DOORS FRONT AND REAR, AND THE USE OF WATERTIGHT SEALS AND 'O' RINGS. THE REAR COVER PLATE IS LOOSENED WITH A WHEEL SIMILAR TO THAT USED ON THE WATERTIGHT DOORS FOUND ON THE SUBMARINES THEMSELVES!

R. LANE





A CLOSER VIEW OF THE REAR WATERTIGHT HATCH WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY A LOCKING WHEEL. THE EYEPIECES CAN BE ADJUSTED FOR EYE SEPARATION. ON THE INSIDE SURFACE OF THIS HATCH IS THE IDENTIFICATION PLATE. IT SHOWS A PRODUCTION DATE OF OCTOBER 1944 WITH THE SERIAL NUMBER 311. ALSO PRESENT IS THE NIKKO LOGO USED BY NIPPON KOGAKU BOTH BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE WAR. R. LANE



“NHS”

PRODUCTS

Our "NHS PRODUCTS" section is back this issue after a prolonged absence. Some items previously listed have sold out. However, as is usually the case following one of our Conventions, we have new items to add. The main item is our new "NHS" lapel pin pictured here. A bright gold tone with black lettering, it is quite striking. Two new Society reprints are now available. One is the manual for the very rare High Speed Nikon F. The other, a more modern looking rendition of the famous "GENERAL LIST OF THE NIKON (S) RANGEFINDER SYSTEM", which has been passed around for years as xerox copies of xerox copies! New member Ernst Thiel spent weeks typesetting the entire 52 page manual, and it is a beautiful job. Please check the following list for other items currently available.

OFFICIAL NHS-CON4 LAPEL PIN.....	\$5.00 US
	\$6.00 OVERSEAS
NIKON S GENERAL LIST REPRINT.....	\$17.00 US
	\$20.00 OVERSEAS
NIKON F HIGH SPEED MANUAL REPRINT.....	\$10.00 US
	\$13.00 OVERSEAS
NIKON F MOD. III EXP. METER REPRINT.....	\$10.00 US
	\$13.00 OVERSEAS
NIKON MOTOR DRIVE MANUAL REPRINT.....	\$17.00 US
	\$20.00 OVERSEAS
"THIS IS WAR"...D.D. DUNCAN...NEW!.....	\$25.00 US
	\$40.00 OVERSEAS
"THE HISTORY OF NIKON" POSTER.....	\$20.00 US
	\$25.00 OVERSEAS
NIKON RANGEFINDER..ROTOLONI...(SIGNED).....	\$30.00 US
	\$40.00 OVERSEAS
OFFICIAL NHS-CON2 LAPEL PIN.....	\$5.00 US
	\$6.00 OVERSEAS
OFFICIAL NHS-CON2 TIE CLASP/CUFFLINK SET....	\$15.00 US
	\$18.00 OVERSEAS
GENUINE NIKON COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE.....	\$135.00 US
	160.00 OVERSEAS

(LOOK FOR MORE CONVENTION ITEMS IN NHS-44!)

LETTERS..

From Wolfgang Kuster...

The article on the Orion lens coupler was great. I had read about this adapter before in the "Rangefinder", and after that had made the suggestion to Herwig Zorkendorfer in Munich, the German adapter specialist, to produce a "replica". Now I've renewed this suggestion and sent him a copy of your article.

One further point..this adapter should not only enable the usage of the rangefinder Nikkors on a Leica screw mount body. Simply by the simultaneous use of a Leica screw mount to Leica M mount adapter it should be possible to mount rangefinder Nikkors on a Leica M body....even the M6 with TTL metering! A very exciting idea to me!

From David Simon...

I would like to make a suggestion for future Journal articles. To begin with, I think your book is great. Honestly I do not know what I would do without it. But over the years new information has surfaced which is not covered in your book. My idea is to take one lens each issue, cover it similar to the coverage in your book, and include the latest known production information, such as numbering sequences and serial numbers. However, I know that it takes a great deal of time to produce a book.

From Ira Bourstein...

Returning to a suggestion I made some time ago. I still hope you will issue an update to your book. Not a whole new edition necessarily, but perhaps just an addendum showing only the "new" information learned since the book was published. This way, by consulting the book, plus the list, readers could have the latest info. You could include newly discovered items, updated serial number lists, a compilation of all black body serial numbers, etc. It would be less work than a whole new edition, it could sell less expensively, and it might stir more sales of the original book. Please give it some thought.

AUCTION NEWS

There has been a great deal of activity on the auction scene as far as Nikon is concerned. Nearly every Christie & Auction Team Cologne catalog have some rare or unusual RF or reflex Nikon featured, as evidenced by past articles in this Journal. Recent items of interest to our members are the following....

- Christies Auction of January 13, 1994 included.....
- Nikon I #609415 w/3.5 #7051879.....13,200 #s or \$20,000!
- Nikon SP body chrome.....880 #s or \$1,300
- Nikon SP black w/S36 motor drive.....4,400 #s or \$6,600!

Their current catalog for the March 17th auction includes, among other items, a 2000mm Reflex-Nikkor and a 1000mm/f6.3 Reflex-Nikkor! More information in NHS-44.

Auction Team Koln (Cologne) has also had success with Nikon items (see their Newsletter inserted in this issue for the May 28th show!). Recent results include a Nikon S3 with reflex housing and all 4 short mount Nikkors (180, 250, 350 & 500mm!) as a package for \$15,450.00!!

I met both Michael Pritchard (Christies) & Uwe Breker (Koln) while in Holland. Both gentlemen are working very hard to produce a series of photographic auctions that showcase some of the finest equipment ever made. Both houses produce superb catalogs that are collectable themselves. Get on their mailing lists and try an auction someday. It can be done by mail or Fax. I only wish that we had similar auctions in North America! Maybe someday!?

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GRAYS OF WESTMINSTER is a charming period shop situated in a quiet Georgian street in central London just a few minutes walk from Victoria Railway Station and within easy reach of the world-famous Tate Gallery and the historic River Thames.

Specialising exclusively in Nikon (the choice of 85% of the world's professional photographers) we endeavour to stock almost all catalogued Nikon items, for instance all types of F4, all models of F3, the F90 series plus F-801S, F-601, FM2n in black and chrome, and also the Nikonos RS & V underwater systems. Naturally we stock every one of the range of twenty-five Autofocus lenses and a selection of the manual Nikkor lenses. The Grays of Westminster Catalogue issued twice yearly and the Grays of Westminster Gazette issued every six weeks have become an institution in the Nikon world.

The famous Nippon Kogaku Room where early Nikon items are on display is situated in a separate area of Grays of Westminster. It was opened on the 25th July 1992 as part of our celebrations of the 75th Anniversary of Nikon. The name Nikon comes from the first four letters of the original company name: Nippon Kogaku to which the letter 'N' was added. The stock is, of course, ever-changing, but typically includes Nikon Rangefinder, the Nikon F family and all the F2 models, lenses and accessories. Grays of Westminster have become renowned for the quality of their equipment, and have set a standard to which other dealers aspire. People who demand and value top quality will not be disappointed. Furthermore both written and telephone queries will always be dealt with in a prompt, friendly and helpful manner.

Grays are usually the first place that collectors contact for early and rare Nikon cameras, lenses and accessories. We are regularly consulted by writers, researchers, television and film production companies for advice and supply of Nikon equipment for both period and modern films. All this can be viewed in delightfully comfortable old-fashioned surroundings where we welcome part exchanges of other quality equipment.

Fast and reliable MAIL ORDER on any Nikon item is available to all UK and worldwide destinations. We send goods right across the globe as a matter of routine, so you can confidently rely on us to meet your requirements for despatch to any part of the world. Our hours of business are 9.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and from 9.30am to 2pm Saturdays local time. Out of these hours an answerphone service is available, or if you prefer you may deal with us by fax at any time.

*"... the kind of service of which legends are made
... Grays of Westminster."*

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PHOTODeal

The fascinating, colourful quarterly German magazine for collectable and classic cameras, second hand cameras and photo highlights. A magazine like this has been missing for a long time in the collector's and enthusiast's scene. **PHOTODeal** starts where all other photo magazines are finished. It introduces milestones of the photo history and camera technique, publishes all dates of camera fairs in Germany and Europe as well, is filled with many pages of classified ads for a lot of "photo deals", reports about photographic auctions and their highlights, introduces collectors and collections and informs about new products for the engaged amateur. Themes of the four issues published by now include articles about Contax, Nikon, Rollei, Leica, Minox, Robot, Agfa, spy cameras, Pentax, Praktica, Zeiss and others. Whereas the first issue is completely sold out issues 2/93, 3/93 and 4/93 are still available at a price of 5 Dollars each plus 5 Dollars postage to be paid by international reply coupons or by cash. The one year subscription costs 55 Dollars a year including air mail postage (unfortunately an extraordinary high level in Germany) also to be paid by reply coupons or cash and also including up to five lines of free classified ads. Display ads are also of very affordable level: e.g. 1/4 page is just 190 Dollars, 1/8 page just 95 Dollars. **PHOTODeal** has a volume of 44 pages (52 pages from this year's March issue on) with many beautiful colour photographs, a circulation of 5000 copies and more than 700 subscribers with daily increasing tendency. For more info please contact:

Rudolf Hillebrand DGPh

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Having grown out of our own collecting activities, our company has specialized in Nikon equipment from 1946 up to the late seventies, and we are now the first address for collectors all over Europe. Our wide range of cameras, lenses, accessories and literature includes all the "standard" items like S, SP, F, Photomics and all the regular lenses. On top of that we always have a selection of special or very rare items (currently there is, amongst others, a rangefinder 21mm and a Nikon F Highspeed Model. We are constantly looking to buy equipment in collectible quality. Recently we arranged the sale of the collection of the late William Fraker.

Another important part of our service is to advise our clients in finding items and structuring their collections (being collectors ourselves, we enjoy exchanging knowledge and experience).

Please call us for further details or just a first chat. You can reach us during the day (sometimes our answer phone is on), but also during evenings and weekends. Our telephone also works as a fax machine. We welcome visitors by appointment.

FIELDGRASS & GALE

WANTED FOR CASH OR TRADE

Nikon rangefinder bodies, lenses, motors, mirror boxes, stereo attachment, anything Nikon!

Nikon reflex... classic to contemporary... vintage 1959 to 1993.

Leica screw mount, M and R in clean, original condition.

Rare Leica, e.g. Compur, 72, GG reporter, III d, III f black, III g black, Monte en Sarre, MP, black paint M, military green & gray M, Hologon, 50/1.2 Noctilux, Thambar, Summarex, screw-mt. Summilux/Summicron.

Commemorative Leica, e.g. M4 50 yr, M4P Everest, M6G, M6 Platinum, M6 Colombo, R3 LHSA

Leica copies... Canon, Hansa, Seiki, Leotax, Tanack, Tower, Honor, Nicca, Ducati, Look, Peerless, etc.

Contax, Contarex, Zeiss Hologon, Contaflex TLR, Alpa, Minolta CL / CLE, Kinoptik, Angenieux, Zunow, Topogon, Biotar, Biogon, Heliar, Apo-Lanthar, Hypergon, Bronica, Pentax LX, Pentax 67, Hasselblad.

This is not a complete list. Contact us if you have ANYTHING you think may be of interest to us. Thank you!

Ask for Peter Walnes or Jon Harris (both NHS members!). Available for advice from 4:30am E.S.T. Monday thru Friday!

203 Welsbach House, The Business Village, Broomhill Road, London SW18 4JQ
Telephone: 01144 81 870 7611 Fax: 01144 81 870 6551

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE...Nikon Microscope adapter marked "Nikon F", black, mint- condition, \$85. TRADE...Canon 35/f2.8 SM lens with caps, EX++, for 5.8/f1.4 Nikkor or Nikon F eyelevel prism in similar condition. WANTED...eyepiece adapter for F (converts square to round eyepiece). Peter Brunner, 77 North Main, Ashland OR 97520. Tel 503-482-8701 days. Fax 503-482-8664..

FOR SALE...Extensive list of Nikon rangefinder and "F" cameras, lenses, accessories and literature. John Williams, 1260 Huntington Dr., Suite 107, South Pasadena, CA 90130. 213-734-5006.

WANTED...Specialized adapter made by Cook & Perkins, Orion or other off brands, which allows the placement and rangefinder focusing of Nikon RF & Contax lenses on a Leica screw mount body. Also looking for clean user SP, 25mm & 19mm viewfinders. David Biren, 338 Ludlow Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45220. Office-513-751-1440. Home Tel/Fax-513-221-3541.

SELLING LIST...I periodically send out a list of Nikon RF and reflex items as well as other quality gear for sale or trade. To get on my mailing list just drop me a line telling me so. Robert Rotoloni, PO Box 3213, Munster, IN 46321. FAX-708-895-9663.

WANTED...Collector seeks RF items: bodies, lenses and accessories. Nikkors in SM. Canon bodies and lenses like 19mm, 25mm, 50/0.95, 200mm & Mirror Box. All types of Leica copies. Nikkors for F like Fisheye OP, 55mm UV, PS Micro, 400-600-800-1200 heads and mount. Per Kullenberg, Ollingvej 11, 6933 Kibaek, Denmark. Tel-011-45-971-91393.

WANTED...Nikon Stereo Viewer. Paul-Henry van Hasbroeck, 34 Bury Walk, London SW3 6QB, England. Tel-071-352-8494. Fax-071-823-9058.

FOR SALE...Nikon rangefinder equipment. Two page list available from..David Miller, 356 Kensington Ave., Westmount, Quebec, Canada H3Z 2H3. Tel..514-846-1379.

PLEASE NOTE

GRAYS of WESTMINSTER VOTED DEALER OF THE YEAR

In the December issue of Buying Cameras, Grays of Westminster, the Nikon only dealer, was voted Dealer of the Year 1993-94. In its September issue, the magazine asked readers to help with the search by nominating their favorites. The nominations included every type of dealer-small independent retailers, as well as chain stores.

On hearing that they had won this award, Mr. Gray Levett said, "Our very grateful thanks go to all the many Buying Cameras readers that supported us. As a Nikon only dealer we strive to provide the kind of service you would expect from someone offering the finest camera system in the world."

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FOR SALE...Nikon F ch #641xxxx, 3.5cm/2.8, 5.8cm/1.4 with matching shade & 10.5cm/2.5, working Photomic head with attachments, standard prism (Nippon Kogaku, square hole), ch sportsfinder. Lenses have correct caps & tubes & all equipment is in MINT- condition. \$1500 US. Trades considered. Nikon FTn #73xxx w/F36 Motor in Mint- to EX+ condition. This camera is black & one of the finest I've seen. All manuals for body, fdr & motor included. \$875.00. Ed Kreiser, Edward's Fine Cameras, 4200 Easton Dr., Suite 14, Bakersfield, CA 93309. (805)872-5335/FAX (805)325-6554. Other Nikon gear available. New & old. Trades welcome on certain pieces. Please call with your needs.

FOR SALE/TRADE...Nikkor f2 collapsible #8111767 (1949!), EX+, screw mt, \$600; Nikkor 35/2.5 ch, Mint-, \$260; Nikkor 85/2.0 ch, w/caps/hood, Contax mt, MINT, \$250; Nikkor 135/3.5 ch, Contax mt, Mint-, \$130; Nikon Novar 7x50 MIOJ binoculars (1949), EX w/original MIOJ case, \$260! WANTED...Nikon & Canon rangefinder items. Clemens Cording, Universitätsstr. 84, D-93053 Regensburg, Germany. Tel. 01149-941-102. FAX. 01149-941-104.

odds 'n ends

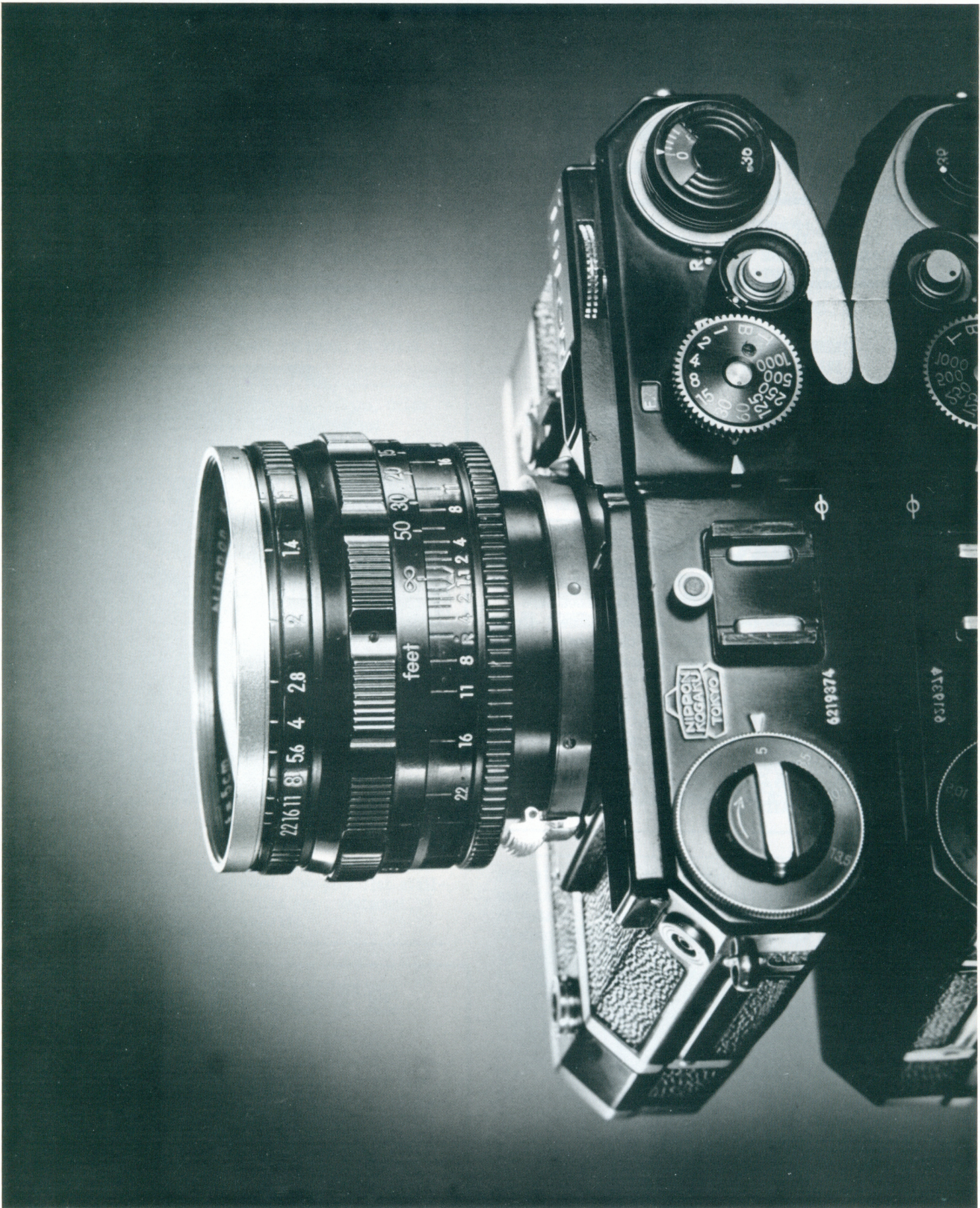
THIS "ODDS N' ENDS" PAGE WILL BE RESERVED IN ALL FUTURE ISSUES OF "THE NIKON JOURNAL" AS A SHOWCASE FOR THE RARE, THE UNUSUAL & OFFBEAT, OR JUST THE OUT OF THE ORDINARY! IF YOU FEEL

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

A 40cm Tele- NIKKOR

When I first obtained this 40cm/f5.6 Tele-Nikkor, I wasn't quite sure what I had. I knew it was wartime, based on appearance as well as the "NIKKO" logo. However, was it an aerial lens or what? I knew that aerial lenses were usually marked as such (Aero-Nikkor), since those I already owned & had seen were so engraved. But this lens merely read "Tele-Nikkor". Was it an aerial lens? Not knowing I decided to write the "expert", that is Mr. Masahiko Fuketa, familiar to all those who read these pages. Fuketa-san, as always, was kind enough to answer my letter as follows.....
..."I carefully checked our data and came to the conclusion that your lens is truly one of the objective lenses made for the aerial camera called "Double Focus Small Aerial Camera Model K", which we produced during the War.".....





Created For The 'NHS' by TONY HURST