

A PUBLICATION OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



SEPT. 30, 1999

**NHS-65**

16TH. ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!!!  
HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY, NIKON F!

# NIKON JOURNAL



**ROBERT ROTOLONI**  
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

**THIS ISSUE**  
Page 1 ~ JOHN ANGLE REMEMBERED  
Page 2 ~ NIKON PROTOTYPES PART II  
Page 4 ~ THE "F" HITS THE BIG 40!!





# THE NIKON JOURNAL

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## NEXT ISSUE

The deadline for the next issue of our *NIKON JOURNAL*, *NHS-66*, is **NOVEMBER 15, 1999**. The slightly early deadline is needed because of the rush of the holiday season, so please try to have all contributions to me by the above date! **Thank you.**

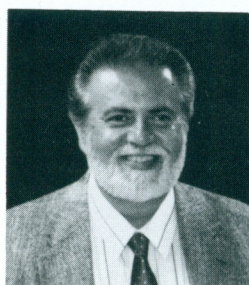
## EDITORIAL

This issue should have been a happy occasion as it marks our **16th Anniversary!** However, for me on a personal level, the celebration is a bit toned down as it changed from just an Anniversary issue, to a Memorial issue. One of the original members of the NHS (actually the second to join), **John Angle, passed away in July at the too young an age of 46.** Many of you who have been members since the early years remember John from the first two conventions and his frequent contributions to the Journal. He was a driving force in the early years, and though his interests had changed a bit in recent times, he remained a member and supporter of the Society and continued to dabble in cameras. This is our 16th Anniversary issue, and I guess as you add more years and issues to the body of work the Journal represents, you suddenly realize that some real years have gone by, and that the inevitable loss of friends due to the march of time must occur. I truly hope it is a very long time before I have to dedicate another issue to someone we have lost.

I have, as promised, concluded the article on the Nikon prototypes that were put on display in Tokyo in March. I did not have enough room in NHS-64, so a couple of pages were needed in this issue to cap things off. You will see, on pages 2 & 3, a few more prototypes (SLRs), some NASA cameras and a very early Nikon F. All photos are again made possible by member Tad Sato for which we are all grateful!

The year 1999 marks yet another Anniversary. It is this year that we celebrate the 40th birthday of the camera that really put Nikon on the map. We all hold our rangefinders close to our hearts, and we all consider the SP the top of the line, and we all appreciate the fact that the RF line was what opened the doors to the world and began the process of making "Nikon" a household word...but...we all have to admit it was the Nikon F that turned a spark into a flame! It was the Nikon F that won the pros over in droves and convinced a large part of the press and media that the rangefinders had their place, but the SLR was the real future of 35mm. It was the Nikon F that made a great many photographers forget about the German industry and finally admit that the Japanese had a better "mousetrap". The result was the fall of the RF and the rise of the SLR, coupled with the decline of the German industry and the rise of the Japanese. No matter your personal opinion, one must acknowledge that in today's world of photography, the Japanese industry is the supreme entity, and that Nikon is the leading Japanese maker. Looking back at the sixties and seventies, it is amazing just how strong a hold the Nikon F had on the world of professional photography, both reportage and illustrative. It is an era of dominance no one maker will ever enjoy again. You will find 11 pages, plus the rear cover, of this issue dedicated to the Nikon F, a camera I feel to be one of the 2 or 3 most significant cameras ever made. I hope you enjoy it.

**Don't forget to get ready for NHS-Con7 in Holland in March.** See page 15 for more details plus plans call for an insert page in this issue with hotel info. **See you there!**



**ROBERT ROTOLONI**  
**EDITOR/PUBLISHER**



## THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO....

# JOHN ANGLE 1952-1999

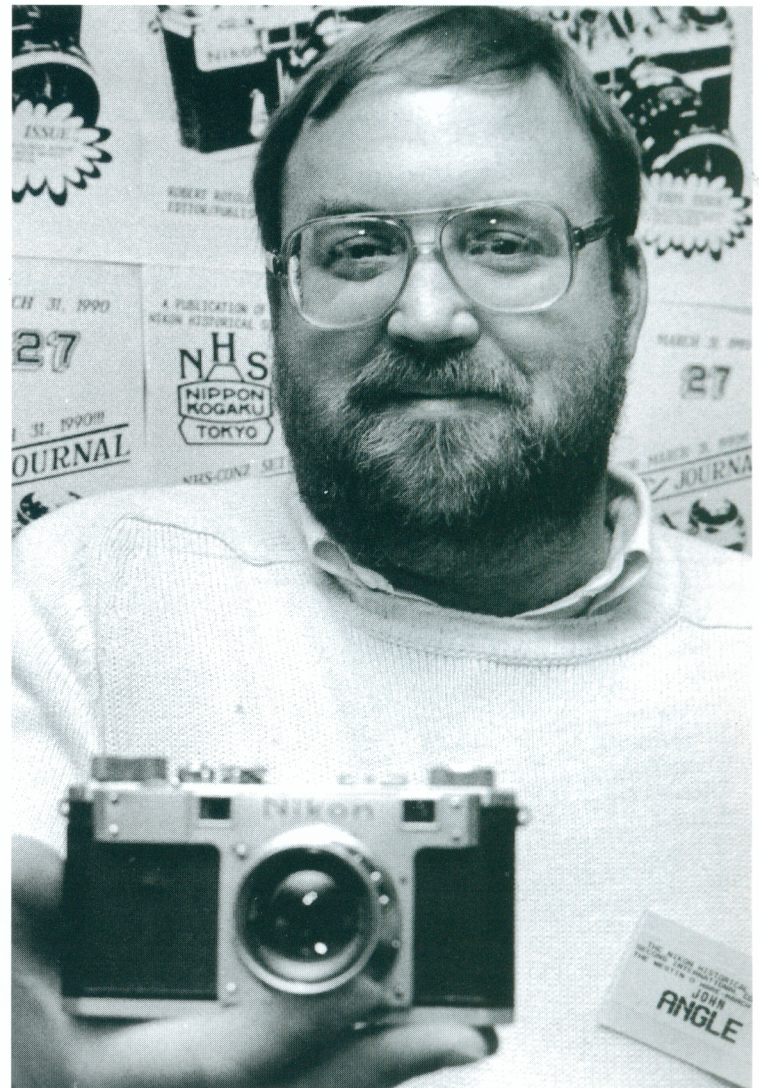
I have personally known a fair number of NHS members for many years, in some cases going back to the early 70's. I have had help from some of them in publishing my two books in 1981 and 1983, and they were also present at the founding of the **Nikon Historical Society** in 1983. Here we are celebrating the 16th anniversary of the Society, but it must be done without the presence of one of those who has been with me from nearly the beginning. If you go back to the very first issue of **The Journal**, you will see that the second name listed on the membership roster was that of John Angle. John had helped me with my second book and had been the very first to encourage me to start up the NHS at a time when I wasn't sure it would ever get off the ground. He once told me "If I didn't do it, who else would? So what was I waiting for?" With his help and encouragement I took the plunge and the Society came into existence.

Many of you have seen his name and photos in **The Journal** over the years, albeit not as much in recent times, and know that John was with me on my first two trips to Tokyo where we were the first westerners to see some of the Nikon prototypes at the Ohi factory; had a guided tour of the Pentax Museum; and a private showing at the JCII Museum. He was with me when I met, for the first time, many of our Japanese members who have helped the Society over the years. He was a large part of the first two Conventions and has always been a major collector who had an uncanny amount of luck when searching for Nikons. Those of you who knew him personally remember him as a large and gentle guy with a booming voice and a great sense of humor. John always made a large impression on those he met and always made friends very quickly. He was a major driving force in the early years of the Society and Nikon collecting in general.

In July, John unexpectedly passed away at the age of 46. On one level it is a loss for his friends and family and my heartfelt grief goes out to his wife Marcia and daughter Amanda. On another level the friends he made all over the world as a result of his collecting will also miss him as they would any good friend. Needless to say he will not be forgotten by the many people he met.

On yet another level is my personal loss. John was not just a fellow collector; he was not just a fellow traveler who shared many good times with me; he was not just a partner at the last 30 Chicago camera shows where we always had a great time. John was more than that; **he was my friend!** I cannot tell you all the stories and anecdotes about our times together, all the great memories of times past. It would fill all the pages of this issue and more. We met as perfect strangers drawn together by a common interest. Our personal pasts could not be more different, but all was transcended by a friendship that grew from just a common interest to true liking of one another. I was honored to be a pall bearer at his funeral where I was able to see him for the last time. But I will remember him because he made this hobby of mine, this "camera thing", much more fun. He made it a human experience, and a much better thing because of his presence.

**I will miss you John, I truly will miss you!**



*At NHS-CON2 in 1990, John brought along his Nikon One outfit for everyone to enjoy. As always he was his pleasant jovial self. John was liked by all who met him, possibly because of his approach to his collecting. He was never high pressured and usually seemed amused by it all. I wish I could be a bit more like that.*



# 2

# PROTOTYPES ON PARADE!

ALL PHOTOS BY TAD SATO

In the last issue we had a major article on some Nikon rangefinder prototypes made possible by member Tad Sato. I was able to include all those from the rangefinder era but ran out of room for some later prototypes from the reflex period. The majority of cameras on display were early items with only a few reflex examples shown. I am sure there are many more reflex prototypes that have yet to surface. Namely the Nikon F experimentals, of which there must be a significant number since this was a new direction for them and a great deal of experimenting must have been required. But to date none have been shown. Here are a few prototypes, two NASA cameras, and an interesting Nikon F.

Again, all photos were shot by member Tad Sato and made available to the **Journal** for all of us to enjoy. As before, I wish to thank him for making these pages possible!



## ニコン F3 試作 (2) (1977年)

ピンホール・ミラーによるボディ測光が採用された試作品のひとつ。機構はほぼ量産品のものであるが、ジュージアーロ・デザイン以前のモデル。

*Top Photo... This camera was present at the Tokyo Convention in 1996 and was quite interesting. It is an F3 prototype yet it very much resembles the Nikon FE and FM series. Look at the prism housing and body shape. Definitely FE/FM style. This is from 1977. It featured TTL metering through pinholes in the mirror, similar to the production camera. The external appearance is before Nikon adopted the styling of the famous Italian designer, Giugiaro. Which one do you like more?*

*Left Photo... This is the Nikon MDX from 1980. This was their first prototype with a built-in motor drive capable of 3.5 frames per second. Automatic exposure system used both aperture and shutter priority, so called "dual automatic" exposure. The body resembles that seen in the "2000" series.*



## ニコン MDX (1980年)

ニコン初のモーター内蔵 SLR 試作品。裏ぶた部に電池を配列してカメラの小型化を図っている。AE は絞り・シャッターのいわゆる両優先方式。3.5コマ/秒。





*Top left...Nikon F3 "NASA" camera very similar to the one showcased here in the Journal previously. It has the MD-4 36 exposure type motor, but was also made in the 250 shot type. Top right...Nikon F "NASA" camera. This one is unique in that it has a waist level finder, not the Photomic usually seen*



*on the NASA Nikon Fs. Mounted is a "NASA" 105mm/f2.8 Micro-Nikkor. Note the wind lever hub & rewind knob! Bottom...Though not a prototype, Nikon chose to include this Nikon F in their display. Why? Probably to illustrate the beginnings of their reflex line. Look closely, and you will see that this is Nikon F #6400064. Hell of a number!*





**4****THE****F****--SPOT!!****THE 'F' HITS****THE BIG "40"!****by ROBERT ROTOLONI WITH RICHARD de STOUTZ,  
ULI KOCH & MIKE SYMONS**

Let's say that it's early 1959 and you, as an avid amateur photographer, keep abreast of the current developments in the field by reading all the available periodicals (which number quite a few more than exist today), and regularly visiting your local camera store (which mail order megaliths had yet to kill off) where your friend behind the counter keeps you up to date about what is coming down the pipeline in the near future. You own what you feel is one of the better, if not the best, cameras on the market befitting your advanced abilities and keen interest in all aspects of what you feel is the finest hobby in the world. If you shoot with a rangefinder you probably own one of the "big four" makes, be it a Canon, Contax, Leica or Nikon (note they are in alphabetical order so no preference can be derived from this listing?!). If an SLR user you might own an Exakta or maybe an Alpa, or one of the lesser East German makes like the Praktina with its neat motor drive. You might even have one of those early Japanese models like the Miranda or Pentax. And why not? Don't the Japanese make up 50% of those from the "big four"? You know that the near monopoly of the German industry is in jeopardy because of those upstart Japanese with their less expensive but more useful cameras that seem to get better every year, adding more of the features you really need and upping their quality as well. You know that the silly debates over "rangefinder vs reflex" were just that, silly. You know that the rangefinder has its advantages and its shortcomings as well. And, like many others, it looks to you like RF design has just about reached its zenith. And you know that the SLR holds a world of possibilities such as: extreme wideangles (maybe someday down to 20mm!) and telephotos (as long as 1000mm that you can really shoot moving subjects!); how about zooms (just think of it!); then there are the effortless

close-ups that can be done as well as shooting the moon. Yeah, you know the SLR is the future...but...someone has to get rid of those silly manual and preset lenses....and that mirror that refuses to go back down after the shot...and those focusing screens you need a flashlight to see...and those clunky externally coupled diaphragms and slow teles and wideangles that only go down to 35mm or else they hit the damned mirror. What you need is something that acts like the blink of your eye! That's it! Like blinking your eye! And the diaphragm stops down too & reopens just as fast. The entire operation done in only milliseconds. And the bright screen that you can really focus on, even with lenses as slow as f5.6! Add finders for waist & eyelevel viewing; a motor for sports; fast wides and fast teles; a coupled meter; automatic diaphragms across the board; rapid wind and rewind; easy loading and a really accurate viewfinder for framing. And yes, make it all work flawlessly and make it with real quality so the pros can abuse the hell out of it and it keeps on ticking. Make something like that and you'd buy it right now!!

And that's why your here in your favorite store in the early months of 1959. Your friend has told you that someone has finally gotten their act together and is coming out with an SLR that is just as good as any RF from the "big four", just as fast to use, with superb lenses and complete automation of the mirror and diaphragm. He has just received his first shipment and he remembers that you said you really wanted one and for him to hold one for you. So here you are to get your first look at the first really "modern" SLR, the one that will set the pace for the rest of the industry. The one you know, as soon as you pick it up, will be the one all others will be judged by for years to come. This is the day you pick up your new Nikon F! What a day!





*Because so much has been written about the Nikon F and its system, I felt that just listing all the variations and going over the accessories made for it would be rather boring. How much could I add to what has been done before? We have covered the F (and will cover it again I am sure) so eventually all the many variations will be someday shown in these pages, but this issue is a celebration of a birthday, a commemoration of an event. Why not just show you what the system looked like at its very beginning? Give you a feel for what our friend on page 4 felt*

*when he walked into his favorite store to get his first look at the new Nikon F! What it was like to see and hold a completely new camera, never seen before. An item that was not just a derivative of something else, but a new direction, a harbinger of where the industry was going and what the future held. I am sure our friend could not have imagined just how much the "F" would change things or how successful it would be. He could not possibly have known the degree that this camera would dominate 35mm photography for decades to come.*







*Our friend did not have the advantage of hindsight, which we do have. And they say that hindsight is 20/20. But we are a little cynical 40 years later, aren't we? We know all about the Nikon F and we know it was updated in the seventies to the F2 which corrected a few shortcomings, like the method of attaching the motor. We know that the F3 added some automation to the mix and that the F4 and F5 went off on their own paths, which may or may not be the way to go. We know about all of*

*the marvelous groundbreaking lenses that were made for the F and how the number of lenses eventually exceeded 50 in production at one time! Because we know all of this we can be a little cynical about the whole thing. But our friend did not know any of this. He saw a camera with a small selection of lenses, a waist level finder, a bulb flash(!), an external meter, and some shades and filters. How could he possibly envision what was to come?*







However, there was one thing our friend could tell right away. He could see and feel the quality of the body and the lenses. He could fire it and realize that it did all happen in the blink of an eye! It was fast and it was smooth and it had heft and felt good in his hands. The controls were where they belonged and worked together to make the act of taking a picture effortless. He probably fired it many times that day, trying different speeds and watching those diaphragm blades close down and reopen so quickly. He probably mounted and

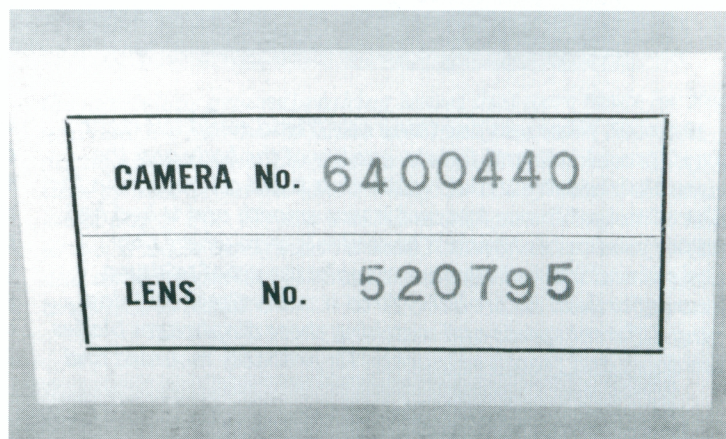
unmounted the lens a few dozen times and marveled at how easily the bayonet worked. How the lenses snapped in with a solid click and how they focused smoothly. And for sure he marveled at the view through the finder. It was bright and precise and when you fired the shutter, well, it all happened so quickly you barely noticed. Today we take all of this for granted, but remember, it had to start somewhere and someone had to design it. For the modern SLR, it began with the Nikon F! (All photos on pages 5, 6 & 7 by Richard de Stoutz)



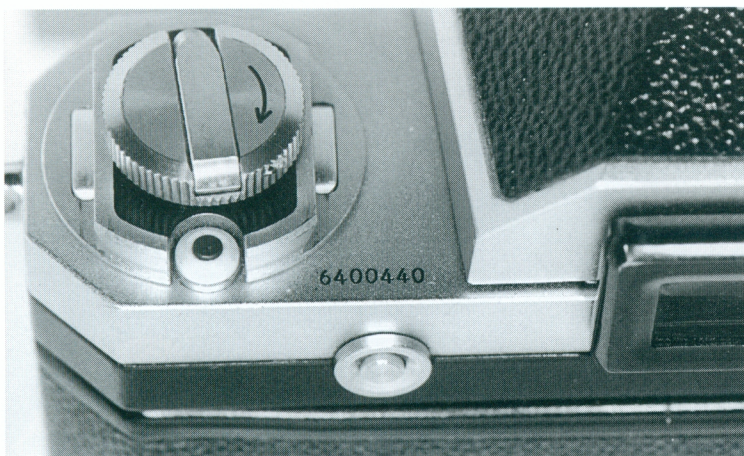




*If our friend was lucky enough to get one of the earliest F's to become available, this is what he would have brought home with him that day. On these two pages is a relatively early Nikon F that still retains not only its original box and instruction book, but the outer shipping box! If our friend was as enthralled by the Nikon F as I think, he would have probably taken his new baby home with him still encased in its double box. And he may have put them away for decades so that we, 40 years later, could see just what it looked like back then. Pictured here is camera #6400440 with its matching first run 50mm/f2.0 Nikkor #520795. This would be the 439th body and the 694th lens.*



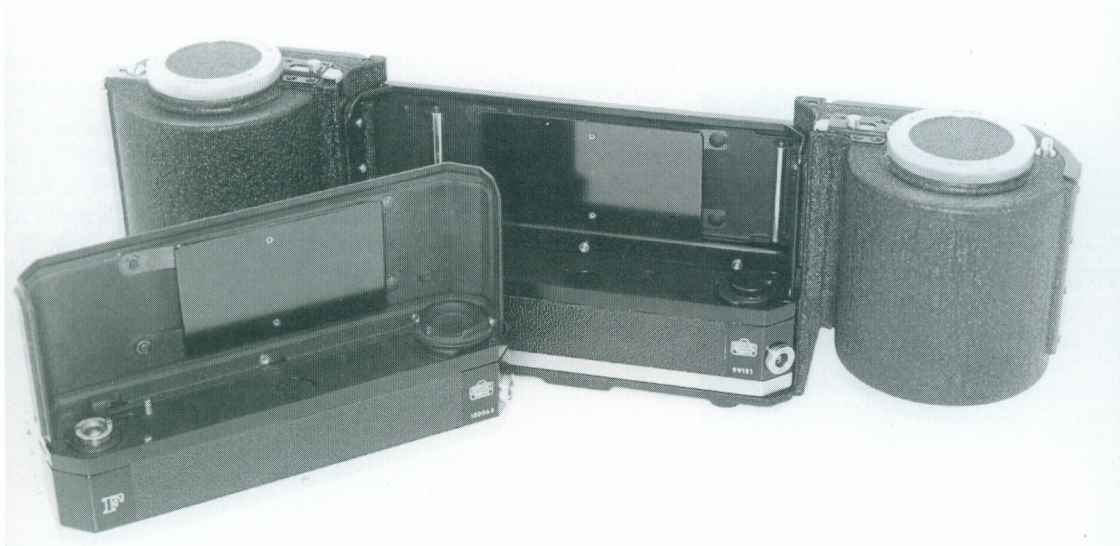
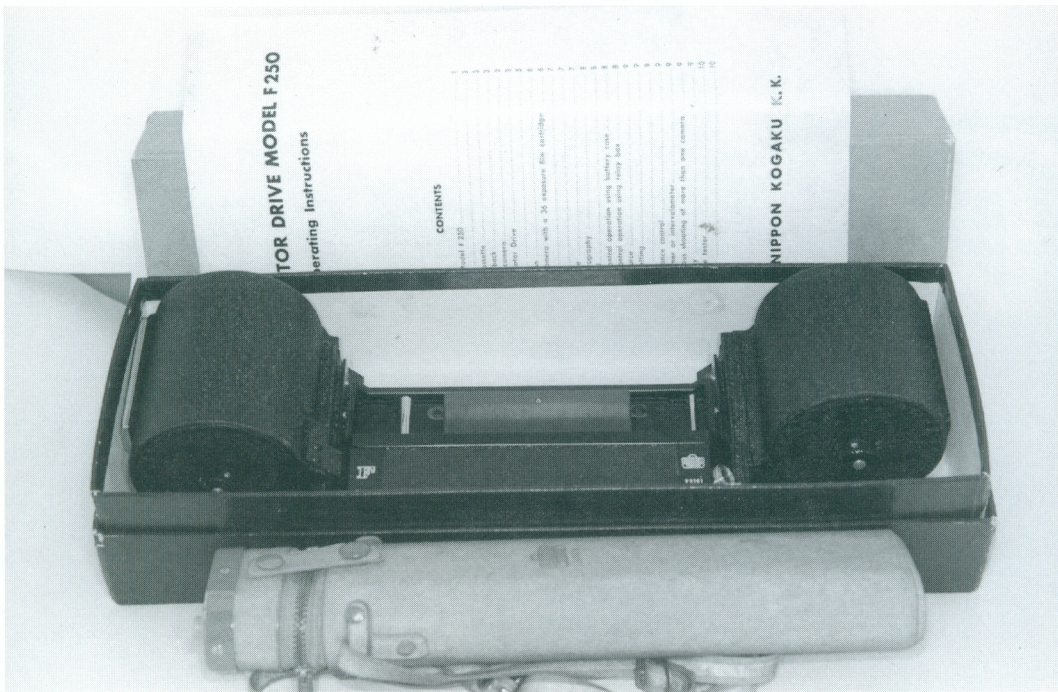




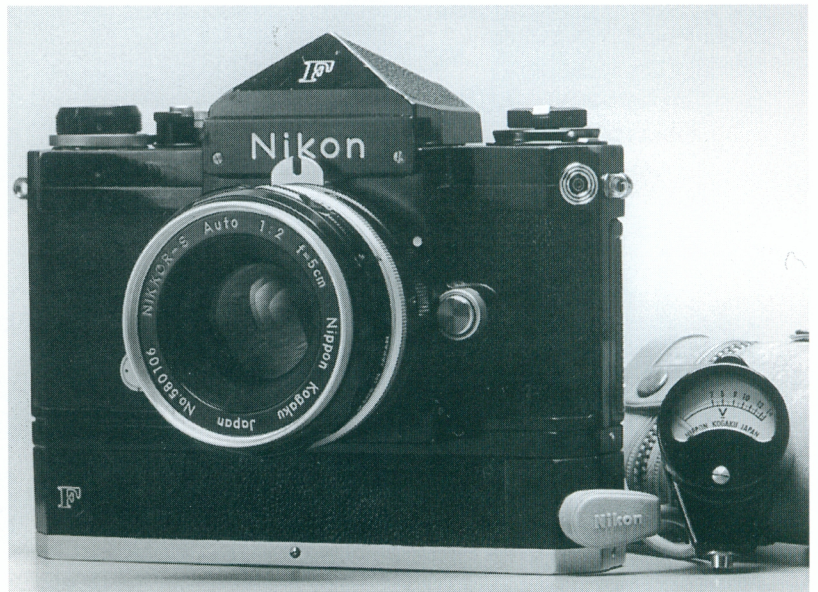
*Note that both the box and manual say "Full Automatic" Reflex. This was quickly changed to "Fully Automatic" which is more grammatically correct, making the earlier style much sought after today. Also note the velvet-like box interior. This is a nice gray color, but was later changed to white foam. A really nice looking camera for 1959, wouldn't you say? (Photos on these 2 pages by Robert Rotoloni)*







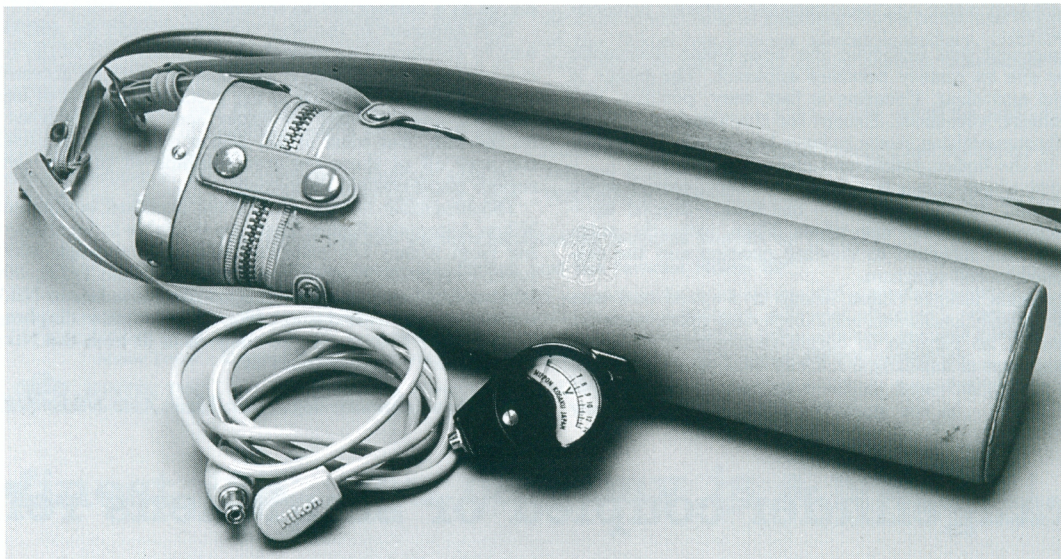
*Although not available right at the beginning, the motor drive was one of the key selling points for the new Nikon F. The public already knew what Nikon was capable of, as the SP motor had been out for over a year. So naturally, many buyers were anticipating the motor and biting the bit waiting for it. Supplies finally started to arrive a few months after the release of the camera, but the majority were snapped up by pros who had placed orders for them in advance. Besides, Erhrenreich was very anxious to get his new camera and motor into the hands of pros and much of the very early items went to them. Thus, most early pieces are not in good shape today. On this page are the F250 & F36 motors of relatively early vintage, within the first 18 months of production. Top is a boxed F250 with proper gray batter pack & manual, #95151. Also an early F36 #120063. (Photos by RJR) Now to the right is.....*







*I was fortunate to obtain photos of one of the first motors made for the F, #97307 (possibly the 306th). It is shown here with its proper gray battery pack and cord, as well as the voltmeter. Not only is this a very early F36, it is in almost Mint condition, a very unusual situation as most of these first motors were reserved for pros and much abused. Compare it with yours and the one on page 10. Note that the serial number & NK logo are on the bottom, just like the SP motor! Only the "F" is on the front! No where else is their name engraved! The rear is completely devoid of identification. Shortly after this the serial number & logo were moved to the front and "Nikon" engraved on the rear between the framing speed and firing rate selectors. The base became devoid of markings, thus if the base were damaged and needed replaced the number would not be lost.*





NOW THERE ARE TWO GREAT '35's... BOTH NIKON!



the new, incomparable...

## NIKON AUTOMATIC REFLEX

**...with instant-return automatic mirror, instant-reopen automatic diaphragm, and instant-action preview control**

Nikon quality has a special significance wherever 35mm cameras are used or discussed. The most knowledgeable, the most critical users of 35mm equipment have come to respect the Nikon name beyond all others. The new Nikon Automatic Reflex shares in this heritage of excellence — standing head-and-shoulders above any other single-lens reflex — in demonstrable features, performance and quality.

From the moment you first hold the new Nikon Automatic Reflex to your eye its quality becomes apparent. The image is full-size, bright and clear. Focusing is fast, easy, positive. You frame your subject, you shoot. Except for the almost inaudible 'click' of the shutter nothing seems to have happened. The image is still visible in the finder, bright and clear as before.

In the instant of exposure, the lens diaphragm closed down to the pre-selected 'taking' aperture — the mirror flipped up — the shutter flashed across the film plane. Then, instantly, automatically, the mirror returned to viewing position and the diaphragm reopened to full aperture.

The result of this unique Nikon design is a speed and ease of handling not usually associated with single-lens reflex cameras. This will come as no surprise to 35mm enthusiasts, to whom Nikon speed and ease of handling is a firmly established tradition.

The Nikon quality inherent in this new camera makes itself felt in many ways... in the exclusive depth-of-field Preview

Control that stops the lens down to 'taking' aperture at a touch of your finger, and lets the diaphragm spring open again when your finger is removed. It is reflected in the fresnel-type interchangeable focusing screen that gives you an unmatched brightness of field, and in the built-in split-image rangefinder that serves as a further aid to focusing.

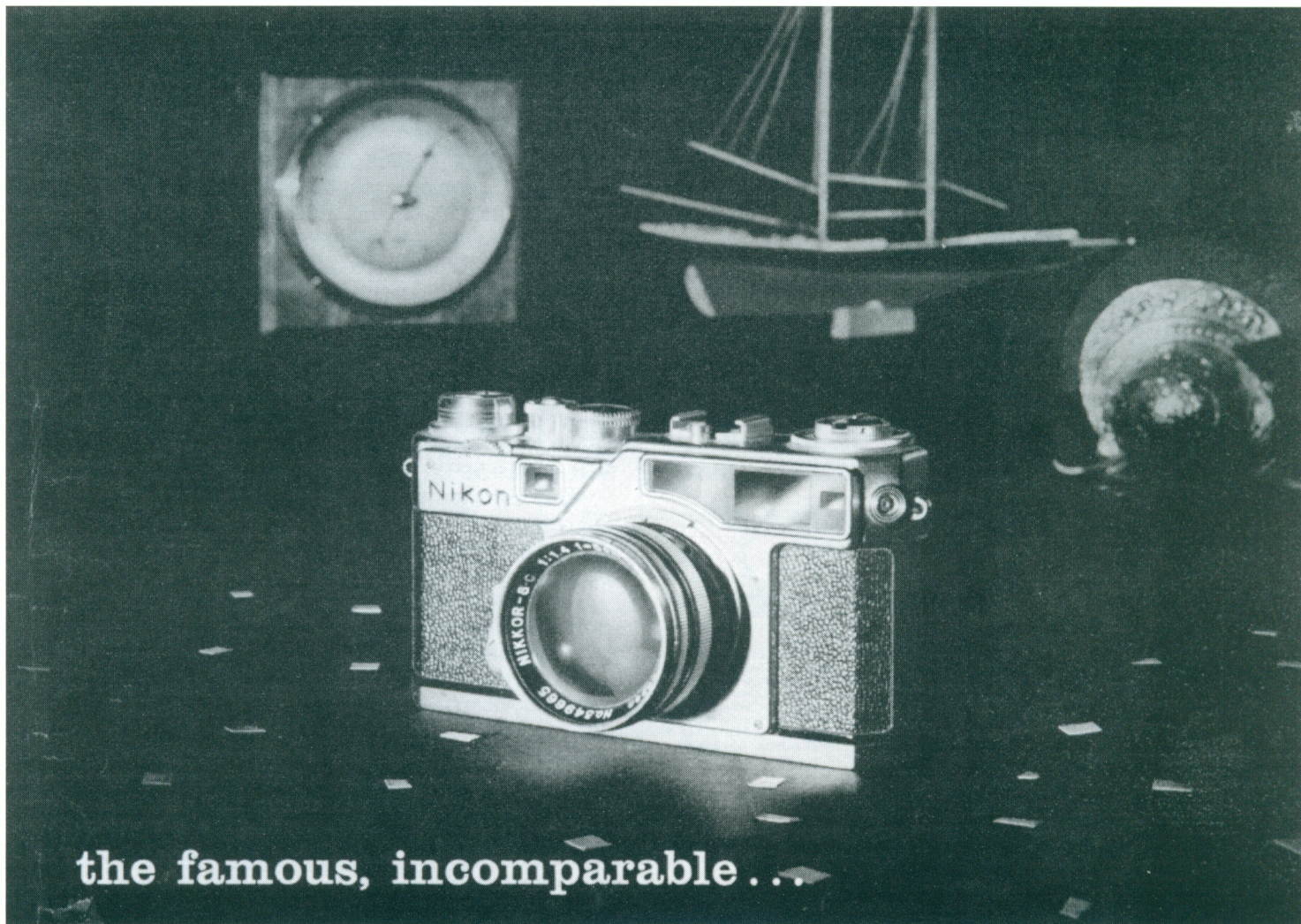
It is apparent in the way the mirror locks up and out of the way to accommodate very deep-set lenses, and in the removable eye-level roof-prism which interchanges with an accessory waist-level finder. It is reflected in the precise alignment of lens, mirror and roof-prism — what the finder 'sees' is *exactly* what registers on the film. But most of all, Nikon quality makes itself felt in the way all of these features combine to provide you with a superb photographic instrument.

*Incomparable Nikkor Lenses* are standard equipment for the Nikon Automatic Reflex. They are available in focal lengths ranging from 21mm f/4 extreme wide-angle through 1000m f/6.3 super-telephoto. Four of these lenses, 35mm f/2.8, 50mm f/2, 105mm f/2.5 and 135mm f/3.5 are designated Auto-Nikkors, and are equipped with instant-reopen automatic diaphragms. All lenses above 180mm can be adapted to fit both the Nikon Automatic Reflex and the Nikon SP.

*New Nikon Automatic Reflex with 50mm Auto-Nikkor f/2, \$329.50*

**rangefinder-coupled or single-lens reflex...**





the famous, incomparable...

## NIKON SP

...the world's only rangefinder-coupled 35mm camera  
with a built-in Universal Viewfinder System

The Nikon SP is undoubtedly the most advanced rangefinder-coupled 35mm camera of our time. Its built-in Universal Viewfinder System alone distinguishes it as the only rangefinder-coupled '35' to realize the full potential of lens interchangeability — enabling you to choose and use the 'right' lens for the picture, faster and with greater confidence.

The Universal Viewfinder System of the Nikon SP provides the correct viewing fields for six focal length lenses — 28, 35, 50, 85, 105 and 135mm — the six focal lengths used most often in 35mm photography. There's no need for accessory finders — no time wasted slipping them on and off. There is nothing to interfere with the speed and ease of handling that is an integral part of the quality that Nikon users enjoy.

The ingenious grouping of the SP controls is another case in point. With thumb on the film transport, middle finger on the

focusing wheel and forefinger on the body release, it is possible to advance the film, focus the lens and trip the shutter with three fingers of one hand — in as little time as it takes to say: 'advance — focus — shoot'.

There is virtually no picture situation which the Nikon SP cannot meet. Stories of impossible pictures made possible by the SP's speed and ease of handling are so numerous that the quality of the Nikon has become almost legendary. Nikkor lenses for the Nikon SP range from 21mm extreme wide-angle to 1000mm super-telephoto.

*Nikon SP with 50mm Nikkor f/2, \$329.50 with f/1.4, \$375.*

Nikon S-3, identical to the Nikon SP, but equipped with built-in Trifocal Finder for 35, 50 and 105mm lenses.

*With 50mm Nikkor f/2, \$269.50, with 50mm Nikkor f/1.4, \$315.00*

... and these are the performance-tested features shared by the new

**Nikon Automatic Reflex and the famous Nikon SP**

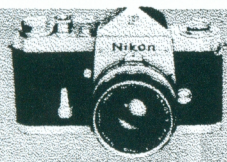
- single-stroke film transport • high-speed rewind crank • non-rotating speed selector dial • shutter speeds: 1 sec. to 1/1000th • automatic 'O' reset exposure counter • color-coded flash synch control • calibrated self-timer • removable back
- fixed take-up spool... plus a wide assortment of wide-angle and telephoto Nikkor lenses — battery operated Electric Motor Drive — Coupled Exposure Meters — and an impressive array of other special purpose accessories.



NIKON INC., 111 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y. In Canada: Anglophoto Ltd., Montreal

... the finest '35' you can buy is a NIKON!





## NIKON REFLEX CAMERA Price List

### REFLEX CAMERAS

**NIKON AUTOMATIC REFLEX CAMERA** — 35 mm; 36 exposure, 1 x 1 1/4"; complete with interchangeable pentaprism eyepiece finder. Features instant return automatic mirror and instant reopen automatic diaphragm; built-in depth of field preview control; built-in ground glass rangefinder — interchangeable with standard ground glass. Provision for locking mirror up; accepts diaphragm and shutter coupled exposure meter; electric motor drive. Accepts accessory waist level finder; 13 shutter speeds, click-stop, from 1 to 1/1000 plus T & B, on single non-rotating dial; full synch plus electronic flash at 1/60; auto zero reset exposure counter; calibrated, delayed action self timer; removable back; fixed take up spool; single stroke rapid film advance; high speed film rewind; tripod socket built into camera body.

*CA1500 Nikon Automatic Reflex Body only, satin chrome finish	220.00
*CA1501 Nikon Automatic Reflex, satin chrome finish w/50mm f2.0 Auto	329.50
*CA1505 Nikon Automatic Reflex Body only, satin black finish	239.50
*CA1506 Nikon Automatic Reflex, satin black finish, w/50mm f2.0 Auto	349.00

**Camera Cases**

CC471 Leather Eveready Case for Automatic Reflex — Brown	16.50
CC472 Leather Eveready Case for Automatic Reflex — Black	21.00
CC475 Soft Leather Pouch Case — Black	12.50

### REFLEX LENSES

**NIKKOR LENSES** — NIKKOR lenses for the Nikon Automatic Reflex represent a full line of high speed, high resolution lenses in lightweight mounts. The 28, 35, 50, 105 and 135mm lenses are fully automatic, with internally coupled instant reopen diaphragms. All have click stops. All glass-to-air surfaces are anti-reflection coated. Front lens caps are included. Lenses from 105mm up are furnished with lenshoods. The 180mm, 250mm, 500mm lenses are supplied in short mounts to fit the Reflex Housing for all Nikon rangefinder-coupled cameras. The addition of adapter tube LNP300 permits direct, accurate mounting of the 180mm, 250mm and 500mm lenses on Nikon Automatic Reflex cameras. Adapter tube LNP301 is used only for the 500mm lens.

LN231 21mm f4.0 Nikkor, Reflex mount	199.50
VF321 Viewfinder for 21mm lens, Reflex mount	24.50
CC435 Lens case for 21mm f4.0 lens and finder	4.50
LN237 28mm f2.5 Auto Nikkor, in plastic case	1
LN245 50mm f2.0 Auto-Nikkor	109.50
LN240 35mm f2.8 Auto-Nikkor, in plastic case	169.50
LN285 105mm f2.5 Auto-Nikkor, in plastic case	195.00
LN271 135mm f3.5 Auto-Nikkor, in plastic case	179.50

\*less case † to be announced •with excise tax when applicable

### REFLEX ACCESSORIES — Continued

**BC-5 FLASH** — This compact BC unit fits the accessory shoe on the Nikon Reflex by means of Coupler FLP 364. It makes electrical contact without requiring any wires. The tilting head reflector permits bounce flash and is a collapsing, fan-fold type. An exposure guide is built on to the back of the unit body. The BC-5 uses standard 22 1/2 volt battery; built-in test bulb for checking camera circuit continuity and battery-capacitor charge; bulb ejector button. Supplied complete with leather carrying case.

FL354 BC-5 Flash attachment	18.75
FLP355 Capacitor, power unit (replacement)	2.95
FLP364 Coupler for flash gun; required for mounting BC-5 on Auto Reflex	3.75

**CONNECTING CORDS** — for Nikon Automatic Reflex

FLC373 8" Cord for camera w/BC-3	2.50
FLC374 8" Cord for camera w/Heiland type plug	2.50
FLC377 24" Cord for camera w/BC-3	2.75
FLC378 24" Cord for camera w/Heiland type plug	2.75
FLC381 Coiled cord (4 1/2") for camera w/BC-3	4.50
FLC382 Coiled cord (4 1/2") for camera w/Heiland type plug	4.50

**NIKON FILM CASSETTES** (Magazine)

AC2075 Cassette for all Nikon Cameras	3.95
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**NIKON REFLEX LENS HOODS, FILTERS, LENS & BODY CAPS**

#### Quick Check Chart for Nikkor Lens Attachments

	SNAP-ON HOOD	SNAP-ON LENS CAP	SCREW-IN FILTER
21mm f4.0 Reflex mount	see ACR507	52mm	52mm
35mm f2.8 Auto Reflex mount	see ACR510	52mm	52mm
50mm f2.0 Auto Reflex mount	52mm	52mm	52mm
105mm f2.5 Auto Reflex mount	A52mm	52mm	52mm
135mm f3.5 Auto Reflex mount	A52mm	52mm	52mm

**Nikon Lens Hoods** — may be "stored" in reverse position on the lens.

ACR507 Lens Hood, screw in for 21mm f4.0 Nikkor, in Reflex mount	4.75
ACR510 Lens Hood, screw in for 35mm f2.8 Auto Nikkor	4.75
ACR515 Lens Hood, snap on, for 50mm f2.0 Auto Nikkor	4.75
ACR516 Lens Hood, snap on, for 105mm, 135mm Auto Nikkor	4.75

**Filters** — Screw In — with front threaded rims. Precisely ground polished optical flats; hard-coated on both sides. Fits 21mm, f4.0, 28mm, f3.5, 35mm, f2.8, 50mm, f2.0, 105mm, f2.5, 135mm, f3.5 Auto Nikkor lenses. Supplied in case. Medium Yellow, Green 1, Red Orange, UV Haze, 85C, Skylite, 82A.

AC2229 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm, medium yellow	8.25
AC2230 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm, green 1	8.25
AC2231 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm, red orange	8.25
AC2232 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm, UV haze	8.25
AC2233 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm 85 C	8.25
AC2234 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm Skylite	8.25
AC2235 Filter, Screw-in, 52mm, 82 A	8.25

Effective July 1, 1959

## NIKON Price List

Reflex Cameras & Accessories • Nikkor Lenses

NIKON Inc. • 111 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK 3 • Oregon 4-7970

### REFLEX LENSES — Continued

LN170 180mm f2.5 Nikkor, short mount	399.50
LN180 250mm f4.0 Nikkor, short mount	224.50
LN185 350mm f4.5 Nikkor, in short mount, semi-automatic diaphragm	398.00
LN190 500mm f5.0 Nikkor, short mount	550.00
LN195 1000mm f6.3 Nikkor	†
LNP2350 Adapter Tube, rotating, to adapt 180mm, 250mm, 500mm short mount Nikkor lenses to Automatic Reflex	29.95
LNP2351 Adapter tube, non rotating, to adapt 500mm only, short mount Nikkor lens to Automatic Reflex	17.95

### REFLEX ACCESSORIES

**NIKON REFLEX COUPLED EXPOSURE METER** — couples to shutter speed dial and diaphragm (of automatic lenses). Meter coupling between shutter speed dial and lens diaphragm interlocks. Moving either the lens diaphragm or shutter speed dial to set the meter automatically sets the correct exposure. Meter has automatic, internal high-low light control shut.

MR50 Nikon Reflex coupled exposure meter	34.50
MR65 4X Light Amplifier Grid Attachment, with case	6.95

**NIKON REFLEX ELECTRIC MOTOR DRIVE** — takes single frames, bursts of 2 or more exposures or continuously through a 36 exposure load. Exposure firing rate may be varied up to 4 per second. Motor is housed in an accessory back which is interchangeable with the standard camera back. 12-volt battery pack uses 8 "C" batteries. Motor drive is furnished complete with battery pack and connecting cord.

*EM10 Nikon Electric Motor Drive for Nikon Auto Reflex Cameras	219.50
EMP17 Battery Pack, 12-volt, replacement for EM10	22.00
EMP26 Connecting Cord, 3', three-conductor for motor drive	4.50
*CAMERA must be returned to us for factory fitting at a charge of	20.00

**WAIST LEVEL FINDER** — for Nikon Automatic Reflex. Can be interchanged with eyepiece prism finder.

VF2301 Waist Level Finder, with case	21.00
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### FLASH EQUIPMENT

**BC-3 FLASH** — This BC unit uses standard 22 1/2 volt battery; two built in test bulbs to check camera circuit continuity and battery-capacitor charge; connecting cord; extension outlet; bulb ejector; folding camera bracket; snap-off battery case for off the camera flash. Complete with carrying case.

FL352 BC-3 Flash attachment	34.50
FL353 Capacitor, power unit (replacement)	2.95

† to be announced

### REFLEX ACCESSORIES — Continued

**Nikon Polarizing Filters** — used to obtain polarized light correction.

ACR2250 Polarizing Filter, screw in, rotating mount, 52mm for 21mm f4.0; 28mm f3.5, 35mm f2.8, 50mm f2.0, 105mm f2.5, 135mm f3.5	17.95
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### Lens & Body Caps

ACR587 Camera Body Cap for Automatic Reflex	1.50
ACR607 Rear Lens Cap, 28 f3.5, 35 f2.8, 50 f2.0, 105 f2.5, 135 f3.5 350 f4.5	1.50
ACR608 Rear Lens Cap, 21mm f4.0, Reflex mount	1.80

### NIKON REFLEX GADGET BAGS

CC491 Fitted Foam Rubber Compartment Case Model A — Holds camera with normal lens, 3 accessory lenses, exposure meter, miscellaneous accessories. Case is made of leather. Includes strap	48.00
CC492 Fitted Compartment Case Model B — Holds camera with normal lens, 1 accessory lens, exposure meter, electric motor drive, battery case and miscellaneous accessories. Case is made of leather. Includes strap	79.50

### MACRO & MICRO COPY EQUIPMENT — for Automatic Reflex

BF2600 Bellows Focusing Attachment Model 2, for Auto Reflex	55.00
BF2630 Macro Adapter, for Bellows Attachment Model 2, for 50mm f2.0 lens	4.20
BF2631 Adapter tube for Bellows Attachment Model 2, for use with short mount 135mm f4.0	8.50
BF2632 Reopy Attachment 1:1, for Bellows Attachment Model 2 for 35mm slides and roll film	14.00
RC2750 Reopcopy Outfit PFC, for Automatic Reflex. Consists of copy head, bracket, 5.8mm extension tube, 2 piece chrome upright and fitted carrying case which serves as the working platform	142.50
RC2751 Reopcopy Outfit PFB, for Automatic Reflex. Same as RC2750 except supplied with baseboard which serves as working platform	120.00
ET2701 Extension Tube Kit, for Automatic Reflex; 5 tubes, complete with leather case	18.95
MF810 Microscope Adapter Outfit, for Automatic Reflex. Consists of microscope adapter tube, focusing screen with condenser and fresnel lens, 3 contrast filters, all in a leather case	42.50
TSP752 Telescope Adapter Outfit, for Automatic Reflex. Consists of adapter tube, focusing screen with condenser and fresnel lens, 6 filters, all in a leather case	52.00

### MISCELLANEOUS

ACR2900 Eyepiece Correction lenses, for Automatic Reflex—Spherical correction only: -5, -4, -3, -2, -1.5; +3.0, +2.0, +1.0, +0.5; specify power	3.50
AC630 Leather Neckstrap, with locking swivels and rings	2.50
AC654 Instruction book Auto Reflex	.50
AC660 Cable release, with lock	2.40

•with excise tax when applicable

The previous 2 page spread is what I believe is the first major ad for the Nikon F to appear in an American magazine. It was in the March, 1959 issue of Camera 351. Allowing for some lead time for publication, plus the actual shooting of the ad, one could argue that this spread was possibly done as early as January 1959! Note the serial number of the lens... this is the very first 50mm/f2... makes you wonder what number is on the

body, doesn't it? The stark, contrasty lighting was used for much of the early Nikon F advertising. I feel it really brought out the beauty of lines on this classic camera. On this page is a reproduction of what I believe is the first price list published for the reflex line. It is dated July 1, 1959 and consists of a single 5x8 sheet printed on both sides. What a humble beginning for what became the ultimate 35mm SLR system!



# NHS-CON7!!!

On this page is the logo for the next NHS convention to be held in Rotterdam Holland in 2000. I thought that the circular form is rather symbolic of the Society and its membership, and how we have become a truly global group of Nikon historians and collectors.

We have a hotel, we have a large convention room at our disposal, we have an invitation to enjoy what must be one of the largest, if not the largest, and most complete Leica collections in the world (please forgive me for using the "L" word), 300+ M cameras, 10 times more than Leitz have in the factory collection. Prototypes, cutaways, 3 Leica MP2s' will be on display. I guarantee that you'll not be disappointed. A magnificent collection of historical importance, it's like looking through James Lager's books. Almost all of these items will be brought to a secret location on the Friday morning under armed guard just for our enjoyment. So even if you have never owned a Leica, you will enjoy viewing this collection.

We have the worlds largest indoor camera fair to go to on Sunday morning, with a special area set aside for the Nikon Historical Society, but most important, we need you! Don't leave it any longer. Make those travel plans. Now is the time to book that flight. Many bargains can be found by looking well in advance. Enclosed in this Journal is a hotel reservation form which you need to fax or send to the hotel directly. Please book now to save disappointment.

Space is available in the convention room for exhibition of your best photographic creations, and the theme is the word "NIKON", which should be somewhere in the picture. View this project as art work or for an advertising theme. Here are a few photos taken by a friend to give you some ideas. It can be a heap of Nikon parts with a man scratching his head, or your grandson diving into the pool wearing your Anniversary F5 around his neck! Try to keep them to 8X10 mounted in a frame of your choice. Tony Hurst will have for your enjoyment a breathtaking multi-screen slide show.

I would like more of you to try your hand at speaking. Try to put something together on a Nikon topic of your choice & it does not need to be longer than 10-15 minutes. Make a small slide show or a video of the item you want to cover. We should have a large selection of audio visual gear at our disposal. For those with a computer..write a paper with a few pictures and send it to me in advance and I will have it photo copied for you as a hand out!

Remember, this is not Robert Rotoloni's or my convention, it's everybody's! It's not a prerequisite that you have 10 black motorized SPs to attend. I would love to hear a member speak on the Nikkormats, or the tick mark lenses, the dreaded Nikkorex, cables, the Internet, whatever. Do it! And don't forget about our show n' tell. Bring your best Nikon toys for all to see. For those who want to see my museum it's a 10min walk from the hotel. Try to arrive on Thursday as we have a fun packed weekend planned. PLEASE let me know well in advance if you are coming. We need to have a head count, but you can bring the rest of yourself as well!!

Let's make this convention happen together. Peter Lownds.



PHOTOS by HARRY van DIJK  
MODEL ESTER van de WERF





# NIKON 'S' GENERAL

## LIST... PART III

This is the third installment of excerpts from a practically unknown publication that dates from 1959-60 called "The General List of the Nikon System (Nikon S Series)". It appears to have been an official internal booklet produced as a guide for either dealers of Nikon salesmen (or both) to be used as a source of "factual" information, not as advertising copy. This is strictly a manual of the entire Nikon Range-finder system and includes all the "little" things as well as the main items. Part I dealt with the Nikkors in Leica SM and Part II the more significant accessories that made the system famous. This time around I thought I would deal with some of those "little" things. You know, those small items that got lost or thrown out and are now harder to find than the lens or camera they were made for. Those "little" things you often hear collectors paying outlandish prices for!

\*\*\*\*\*

Under the category "MISCELLANY" the following items are listed:

### FILM CASSETTE (MAGAZINE)

A metal reloadable film cartridge permitting the loading of bulk 35mm film in any length up to 36 exposures. Provided with a film speed reminder on the bottom.

### CABLE RELEASE

Screws on the Nikon (all models) shutter release button. Provided with locking screw for long exposures at the "B" setting. All metal. Available in 10" or 25cm length.

### 1.5X RANGEFINDER MAGNIFIER

Used for more accurate range-finding with the Nikon Model S (discont.). Supplied with leather case.\*

### EYEPIECE CORRECTION LENS

Slipped over the rear peep sight of the Nikon, these lenses correct the viewfinder to accommodate near or far sightedness on the part of the user.

Two types are available in slip-on mount; one for the S3, the other for the SP.

Supplied in spherical correction only with the power of the viewfinder itself being taken into account: -5, -4, -3, -2, -1.5, +0.5, +1, +2, and +3 diopter. Specify camera model and power.\*\*

### ELECTRIC FIELD ILLUMINATOR

Used for illuminating the SP's bright-line frames (50mm, 85mm, 105mm, 135mm) in the finder, so they are delineated more brilliantly even under extremely poor lighting conditions.

Fits SP accessory shoe; has own shoe on top for flash, etc. A penlight battery 1.5V is used as power source. Supplied with a leather case.

### PANORAMA HEAD

Used for panoramic photography of a 360 degree field in a series of precisely spaced exposures and in exactly the same plane. Rotation is so arranged that there is a slight overlap at

the end of each exposure to assure continuity. Click stops at every picture angle for 35mm, 50mm and 105mm lenses, and colored indices for 28mm, 85mm and 135mm lenses. Used with Nikon, all models.

### BUBBLE LEVEL

Slipped into the accessory shoe of the Nikon (all model), it assures a perfect horizontal camera position...a necessity in panoramic shots and architectural photography.

### OFFSET BRACKET

Permits use of BC-4 (discont.) or BC-5 flash and an auxiliary viewfinder at the same time on the Nikon S2, S3/SP.\*\*\*

### WOODEN TRIPOD

For exclusive use with the 500mm Nikkor lens. Lower part of the two section leg can be locked at any length. Maximum length when extended is 4'5" (1.36m); minimum length when collapsed is 2'7" (0.91m). Provided with a tilting and 360 degree rotating head which can be locked at any position by a single lever handle. A shoulder strap is provided.

### CAMERA BODY CAP

Used to cover the camera body opening when no lens is mounted. used for all models of Nikon S series camera.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC ATTACHMENT FOR 2" OR 2.5" TELESCOPE

Consists of a camera adapter, fastening piece and focusing screen tube with magnifier, permitting photography of the moon and objects in long distance in conjunction with the NK telescope. The adapter is available in two types for Nikon and Contax or for Leica. Supplied complete with a yellow filter in fitted leather case.

\* This item also fits the Nikon Models One and M as well.

\*\* A series was also produced for the Nikon S2 camera.

\*\*\* Though not mentioned here, cordless flash contact was retained when using this bracket. (RJR)

### LENS HOODS (SUN SHADES)

The lens hoods are available in the following types:

Snap-on type for use with screw-in filters

Screw-in type for use with Series filters

Bayonet type for use with screw-in filters

### SNAP-ON LENS HOODS

The snap-on lens hood fastens to the front lens thread by push-button action as rapidly as a "slip-on" and as positively as a "screw-in".

The hood can also be reversed and snapped onto the lens. In this position lens hoods for all 50mm and wideangle lenses may be stored in the Nikon everready camera case.

The hood permits the simultaneous use of a screw-in filter and also accepts a snap-on front cap when the hood is attached in the reverse position.



Supplied in the following sizes.

<u>CODE SIZE</u>	<u>USED FOR</u>
AS-34.5	Nikkor 35mm f/2.5 in screw mount Nikkor 35mm f/3.5 in screw mount Micro-Nikkor 50mm f/3.5 in Nikon & SM
AS-40.5*	Nikkor 50mm f2 in Nikon & screw mount
AS-43 *	Nikkor 50mm f1.4 in Nikon & screw mount
BS-43	Nikkor 135mm f/3.5 in Nikon, Contax, Exakta and screw mounts
DS-43	Nikkor 35mm f/2.5 in Nikon mount Nikkor 35mm f/3.5 in Nikon mount
ES-43	Nikkor 35mm f/1.8 in screw mount
AS-48	Nikkor 35mm f/1.8 in Nikon mount
BS-48	Nikkor 85mm f/2 in Nikon, Contax & SM
AS-52	Nikkor 105mm f/2.5 in Nikon, Contax & SM

\* These hoods cannot be stored in the Leica everready case.

### SCREW-IN LENS HOODS

The screw-in lens hood is supplied complete with an adapter ring that is screwed into the lens thread. When both filter and hood are used, the Series filter is placed between the adapter ring and the hood. When the filter only is used, it is placed inside the adapter ring and held by the ring insert that is available on order.

Supplied in the following sizes.

<u>CODE SIZE</u>	<u>USED FOR</u>
AN-34.5	Nikkor 35mm f/2.5 in screw mount Nikkor 35mm f/3.5 in screw mount Micro-Nikkor in Nikon and screw mounts
AN-40.5	Nikkor 50mm f/2 in Nikon & screw mounts
AN-43	Nikkor 35mm f/2.5 in Nikon mount Nikkor 35mm f/3.5 in Nikon mount Nikkor 50mm f/1.4 in Nikon and SM
BN-43	Nikkor 135mm f/3.5 in Nikon, Contax, Exakta and screw mounts
CN-43	Nikkor 28mm f/3.5 in Nikon mount
AN-48	Nikkor 85mm f/2 in Nikon, Contax and screw mounts
AN-60	Nikkor 85mm f1.5 in Nikon & Contax mt.
AN-62	Nikkor 50mm f/1.1 in Nikon & screw mt.
AN-68	Nikkor 250mm f/4 in Nikon & screw mt.
AN-82	Nikkor 180mm f/2.5 in Nikon & screw mt.
AN-108	Nikkor 500mm f/5 in Nikon & screw mt.

### BAYONET LENS HOODS

These lens hoods fit the outer rim of the lens in a bayonet fashion.

<u>CODE SIZE</u>	<u>USED FOR</u>
AB-60	Nikkor 85mm f/1.5 in screw mount
SB-51.5	Stereo-Nikkor in Nikon mount

### CHECK CHART FOR NIKON LENS HOODS

<u>NIKKOR LENS</u>	<u>MT.</u>	<u>LENS HOOD</u>		
		<u>SNAP-ON</u>	<u>SCREW-IN</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
25mm/4	Nikon	--	--	
	SM(disc.)	--	--	
28mm/3.5	Nikon	--	CN-43	
	SM(disc.)	--	--	
35mm/1.8	Nikon	AS-48	--	
	SM(disc.)	ES-43	--	
35mm/2.5	Nikon	DS-48	AN-43	
	SM(disc.)	AS-34.5	AN-34.5	
35mm/3.5	Nikon	DS-43	AN-43	
	SM(disc.)	AS-34.5	AN-34.5	
35mm/3.5	Nikon	--	--	AK-47
(earlier type)				(slip-on)
50mm/1.1	Nikon	--	AN-62	
	SM(disc.)	--	AN-62	
50mm/1.4	Nikon	AS-43	AN-43	
	SM(disc.)	AS-43	AN-43	
50mm/1.5	Nikon (disc.)	AS-40.5	AN-40.5	
	SM(disc.)	AS-40.5	AN-40.5	
50mm/2.0	Nikon	AS-40.5	AN-40.5	
	SM(disc.)	AS-40.5	AN-40.5	
50mm/3.5	Nikon(disc.)	AS-34.5	AN-34.5	
	SM(disc.)	AS-34.5	AN-34.5	
85mm/1.5	Nikon	--	AN-60*	
	Contax(disc.)	--	AN-60*	
	SM(disc.)	--	--	AB-60
85mm/2.0	Nikon	BS-48*	AN-48	
	Contax(disc.)	BS-48	AN-48*	
	SM(disc.)	BS-48	AN-48*	
105mm/2.5	Nikon	AS-52*		
	Contax(disc.)	AS-52*		
	SM(disc.)	AS-52*		
135mm/3.5	Nikon	BS-43*	BN-43	
	Contax(disc.)	BS-43*	BN-43	
	SM(disc.)	BS-43*	BN-43	
	Exakta(disc.)	BS-43	BN-43*	
135mm/4.0	Nikon(disc.)	AS-40.5	AN-40.5	
	SM(disc.)	AS-40.5	AN-40.5	
135/Bellows	Nikon	--	--	
180mm/2.5	Nikon	--	AN-82*	
	SM(disc.)	--	AN-82*	
250mm/4.0	Nikon	--	AN-68*	
	SM(disc.)	--	AN-68*	
500mm/5.0	Nikon	--	AN-108*	
	SM(disc.)	--	AN-108*	
Micro/3.5	Nikon	AS-34.5	AN-34.5	
	SM(disc.)	AS-34.5	AN-34.5	
Stereo/3.5	Nikon	--	--	SB-51.5

\* Furnished originally with lens. The AK-47 hood slips on the outer rim of the lens.



## 'NHS' e-mail LIST!!

THE FOLLOWING IS OUR FIRST INSTALLMENT OF OUR "NHS" e-mail LIST THAT I PROMISED IN NHS-64. THOSE BELOW HAVE RESPONDED AND WISH TO HAVE THEIR e-mail ADDRESS LISTED SO AS TO EXPEDITE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MEMBERS. IT IS MY EXPERIENCE THAT e-mail IS THE FASTEST WAY TO REACH SOMEONE, SO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME IF YOU WANT TO BE ON THE LIST! RJR.....rotoloni@msn.com

PETER ABRAHAMS.....telscope@europa.com  
(binocs, telescopes, microscopes)  
JOB BAKKER.....visual.art.productions@wx.nl  
DAVE BARTH.....dvbarth@aol.com  
ALAN BLAKE.....arbel@btinternet.com  
SAM CLARK.....sclark@methodist.edu  
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## PHOTODeal

the totally different camera magazine

A magazine starting were most other photography magazines are finished: **PHOTODeal** is devoted entirely to classic cameras and equipment. Published quarterly (in German language only) it introduces milestones of camera design, lists lots of dates of photo shows in Germany and internationally and has many pages filled with classified ads for lots of bargains or contacts from collector to collector on an international basis. **PHOTODeal** has a regular volume of 60 pages many of which are in full colour with beautiful pictures of classic cameras and many articles written by reknown collectors and experts in their field. The subscription is \$40 for overseas/air mail and \$32 for Europe, each subscriber has up to five lines of free classified ads per issue. A free sample issue is available at \$5 cash for air mail postage. Please write to: Rudolf Hillebrand DGPh, **PHOTODeal**, Kiefernweg 21, D-41470 Neuss, Tel.: ++49/2137-77676, Fax: ++49-2137-77635.

## LETTERS..LETTERS

From Alan Blake...

I received NHS-64 and it makes truly fascinating reading, particularly the prototypes! I can't wait for #65. It's a pity that Nikon are a bit cagey about these. It would be very interesting to know the whys and wherefores that spawned screw mount Contax-like experiments.

Although not mentioned in your Nikkorex/Singlex article, I am sure that you must be aware that the 35 & 135mm Sekor lenses were made for the Nikkorex and engraved on the front ring "NIKKOREX LENS" & "SEKOR". It certainly makes sense that production of these would be extended to the Singlex. I have an example of the 35mm complete with caps and case but sadly not the box. The front cap is push on and marked "SEKOR" in white. The rear cap is obviously a Nikon one of the period with F on the inside and with evidence of the NK logo on the outside just visible, presumably removed from the die. Perhaps Mamiya got the tooling for this from Nikon. I wonder if the Ricoh Sekor lenses had the same caps. I was also interested to see that the shutter on the Nikkorex and Singlex were both marked "Copal Square" as is my example, but I have seen Nikkorex Fs not so marked!

From Mike Symons...

How very shocked and saddened I was to get your message about the death of John Angle. I knew John quite well, although not nearly as well as you. John was a very serious Nikon collector when I first met him..in the Seattle Airport on your way to Japan in 1987. I subsequently did some great buying/trading with John over the years. He was very good natured and confronted life with a fantastic attitude and always with good humor. Age 46 is far too young to pass away, but perhaps the long battle with diabetes played a large part in his untimely death. John will be missed.

From Uli Koch...

Again a great and outstanding issue, especially the prototypes! Thank you to Tad Sato! An interesting fact is the existence of some with a Leica SM. Here is my theory.

NK wanted to build cameras and lenses for a 35mm system. What do you build first, but a prototype. You can prove many things with a prototype. Most of Nikon's early lenses were first made in Leica screw mount. They needed lenses to test their own rangefinder, but why not use Zeiss lenses since their camera was released with a Contax mount? Nikon built the rangefinder for the Hansa Canon. They developed this for Canon and wanted to have a camera soon. So they did not develop a new rangefinder but used the Leica type from the Hansa Canon. They used it to test their new lens designs and their rangefinder system so why not use the time honored Leica screw mount? So they built some cameras for testing their lenses and rangefinder, but they had no plans to build a Leica screw mount camera, it was only for testing the rangefinder.

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**Leica 0** (null series) no.126, **Leica I Anastigmat** no.221 (illustrated p.126 'Leica Collection', Shinichi Nakamura), dialset and rimset **Compurs**. **Leica II 'Luxus'** (illustrated p.34 'Leica in Colour' van Hasbroeck). **Leica 72**, (Canadian, German and prototypes). 250 '**Reporter**' both **FF** and **GG**, black **III f** and **III g** (Swedish army), pre-production **Ig** and **III g** bodies (some illustrated in Lager vol.1), **33/3.5 Stemar** set, **35/3.5 Stereo Elmar** (only 32 ever made!) and **90mm f7 Stereo lens**. **Mooly** motors, chrome, grey and black!

Very many early **prototype Leicaflex** models, some with interchangeable prism, some with unusual motors and some finished in black paint. Also **Leicaflex mk.1** and **mk.2** bodies in black paint finish. Early **Leica copies** including several **Hansas**, **Canon J**, **Canon JS**, **Canon S**, **Leotax Specials** (various models, all with correct and original Letona Anastigmat lenses). **Nikon** rangefinder equipment including **Nikon 1**, black **Nikon S3**, **S3 Olympic**, black **SP** with motor and black **S3M** with motor. **35/3.5 Stereo Nikkor**. **Nikon F# 6400xxx**.



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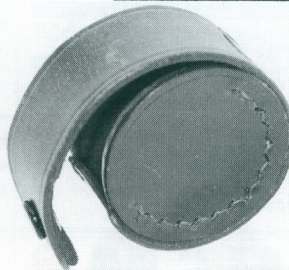
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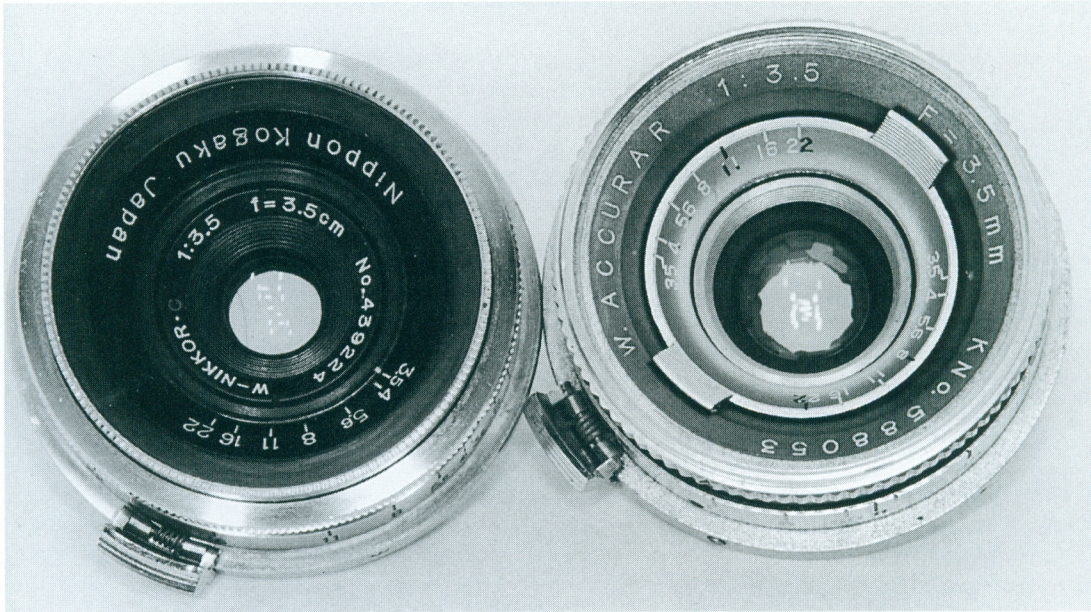
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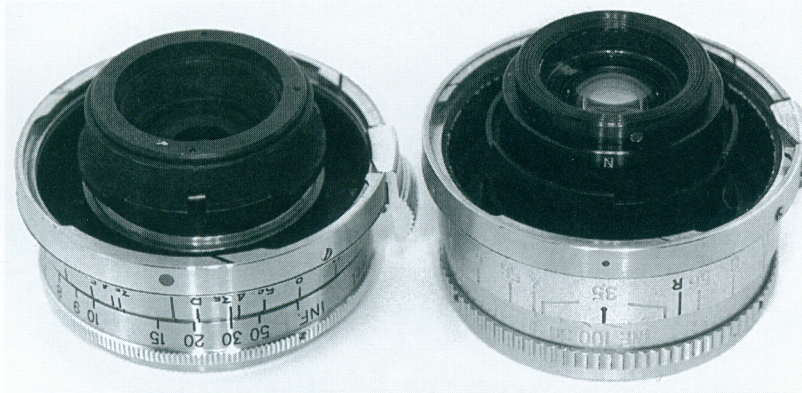
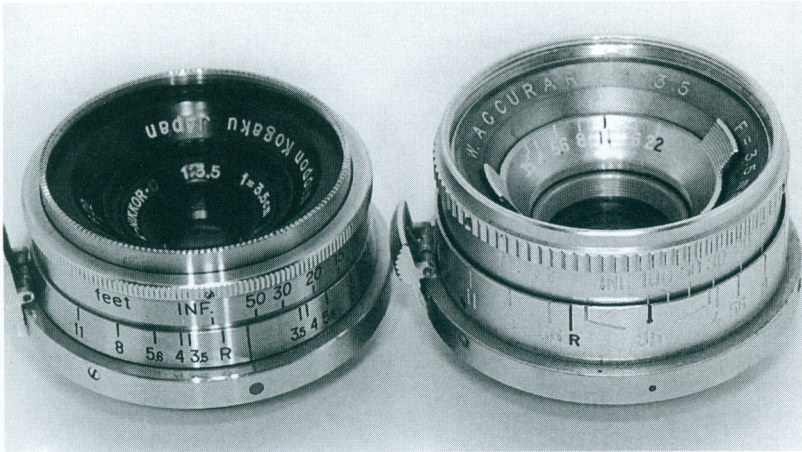




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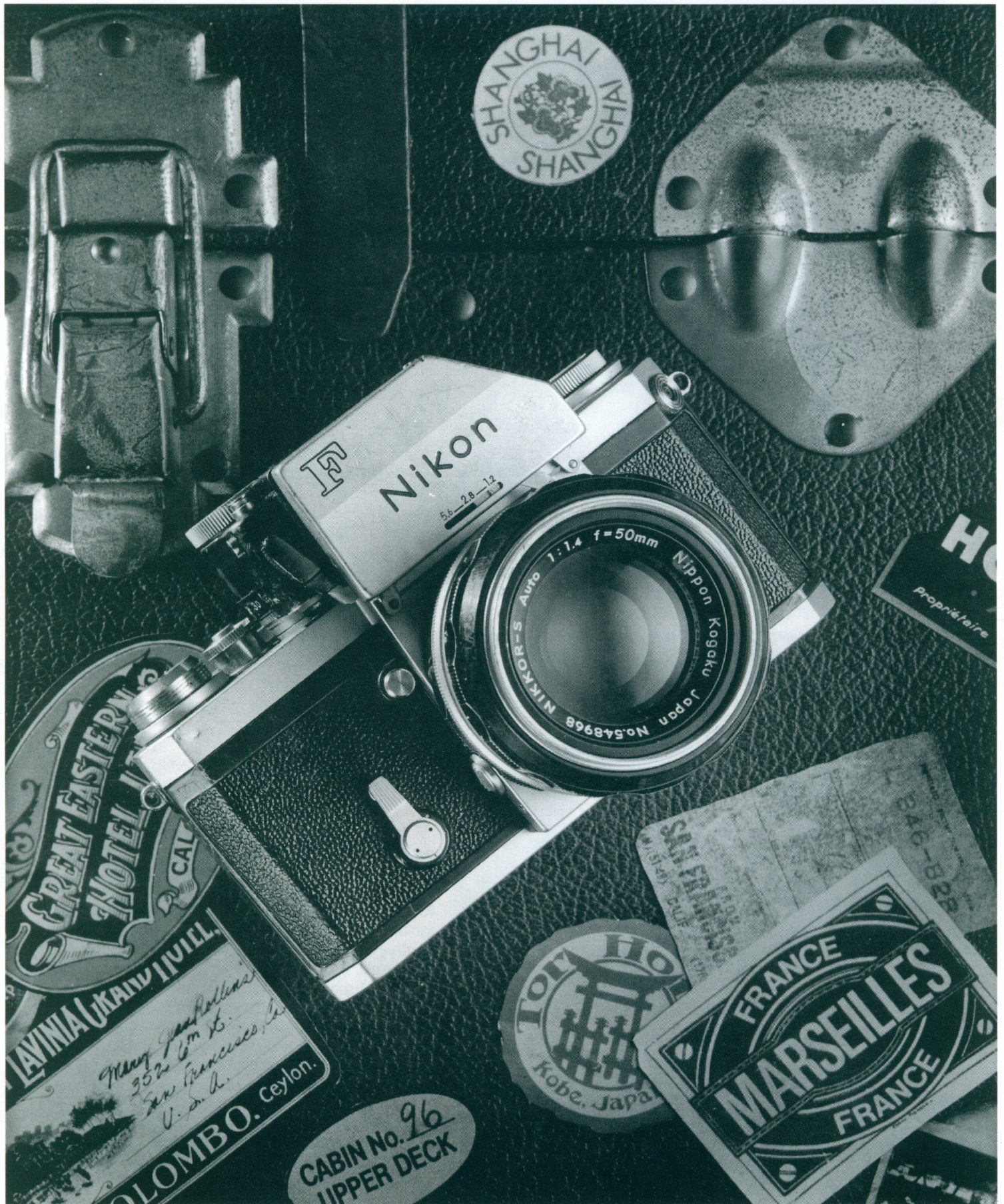


## A "GOLDTONE" IMPOSTER



Most of you know that there were a few independent lens makers during the rangefinder era. Not many, but a few, such as Soligor, Komura, Tanack, Fuji, Zunow & Accura. They didn't make too many types & seldom broke new ground, save for the high speed Zunows & Fujis. Most made wide-angles, usually a copy of Nikon's 35mm/f3.5, probably because it wasn't much of an optical challenge. Usually these lenses were competent performers, though their construction did not come up to Nikon's level. But this little Accura 35/f3.5 is different. I don't know if it will show up well in B&W, but this Accurar is completely "goldtone"! Every exterior metal surface is goldtone finished! The entire lens throat as well (can you imagine the flare!!). Ninety percent of the lettering on this lens is now white, but the presence of some remaining "red" lettering suggests it was once all red (note F11 & F22)! So we have a goldtone Accurar knock-off of the 35mm/f3.5 Nikkor. But why? Who would do it? A lot of work for such an inexpensive lens! So who could have done it? It's a mystery to me! Anyone ever see another?





**Created For The 'NHS' by TONY HURST**