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NHS-72



NHS-CON8/SCOTTSDALE/FEB.22-24, 2002!!!
NIKON JOURNAL



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NHS-73 DEADLINE!!

The deadline for the next issue of our *NIKON JOURNAL*, NHS-73, is **SEPTEMBER 1, 2001**. Please, you must get all letters and contributions to me by that date! Thank you! RJR.

EDITORIAL

I have a lot to cover this issue so here goes! I will be moving after 22 years and it should be completed by the time you receive this. The Society PO Box address remains the same as will my email address. However, my fax number will change but I cannot post it till next issue! I hope we stay in touch during this period. Use my email! It's best!!

The two main items this issue are the Convention and the Voightlander lenses! First, the Convention.

NHS-Con8 is formally set for February 22-24, 2002 at the Chaparral Suites Resort Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona. We have the meeting room reserved, our room rate locked in, Friday night festivities set up and ready to go and lunch and dinner on Saturday will be available in house so you do not have to leave the hotel that day if you do not want to! We are lining up our speakers for Saturday and plans are set for our own private swap & sell session following the meeting right in the same room. So bring some really good stuff!!! Even if just to display and discuss, it doesn't have to be for sale. The more interesting items you bring the better, and those with items to sell or display will have free table space that we all will share. It will be a pleasant way to end the meeting.

There is a registration form inserted into this issue!! Please, make sure you use this and do it as soon as it is possible so we can make our plans! It is important that you let us know as soon as possible you are coming. If by chance you need to cancel later, the fee is refundable up to a point. **Please, see the enclosed form for details and send it in as soon as possible!**

Secondly, we are getting closer to the arrival of the new Voightlander lenses for our Nikon RF cameras! As I write this prices have been finalized and target shipping dates are known. (I just learned today via email & fax that Cosina will pack a focusing handle with each lens!) I need to be able to inform Cosina of how many lenses my members will want as soon as possible so the initial shipment can be processed as soon as the lenses are available. **The bottom half of the insert sheet for the Convention registration is an order form for the Voightlanders!! Please read this carefully and send the form and your payment to me as soon as possible so we can set up the first order. These will be the first such lenses to be shipped, so you are getting in right at the beginning!** All details are on the order form but let me repeat this part: **If for any reason your order cannot be shipped I will refund your purchase price! There is no risk for you!** So, please, get your orders in as soon as possible and don't miss this opportunity to own the first new optics for our favorite RF system in almost 40 years!! Let's do some shooting!!

Finally, I want to thank Tom Abrahamsson for being the catalyst for the Voightlander project. It was his initiative that got the ball rolling on this. He was the one who proposed to Mr. Kobayashi the NHS being allowed to import them. **Thank you, Tom, and all who know you wish you a speedy recovery and a return to good health!!**

I hope to see many of you in February in Arizona!!

THE VOIGHTLANDERS

ARE COMING!!!

by **ROBERT J. ROTOLONI**

During the first week of May I received a package from Cosina in Japan that I had been waiting for with great anticipation. **As promised, Cosina president Hirofumi Kobayashi sent me an entire set of the new Voightlander lenses in Nikon RF mount plus the appropriate finders for evaluation!!** Although they appear identical to those illustrated in NHS-71 (which were official photos provided by Cosina), they may still be pre-production prototypes and the final products may vary slightly from what you see here. At this time I am not completely sure of this but the 21mm is not supposed to be available until after July and some changes may be made in the cosmetics of the final production items. Regardless, these lenses are probably very close to what the final versions will look like, so this article will give you a very accurate picture of what you can expect when you finally acquire yours. I wanted very much to have these samples in hand so I could do this article and provide you with an in-depth & well illustrated coverage. I wanted to be able to compare these new lenses to the vintage Nikkors they emulate, so besides the obvious shots from various angles illustrating each lens, I have also shown them beside the optics that inspired them! I hope you come away from this article with an accurate idea of what Cosina has to offer & share with me my enthusiasm for the first new optics to be made available for the Nikon RF system in over 35 years!

The set of Voightlanders that I received came to me with no boxes or literature of any kind, suggesting that they are pre-production lenses and that packaging has not yet been finalized. Each lens is serial numbered yet it is a peculiar set of numbers that may not correspond to what is used on the final market versions. The reason I say this is that all three begin with the same digits so there is no differentiation between lens type that a unique serial numbering system would allow. It is possible that the number sequence seen on these samples is for prototypes only, thus the same series is found on all three. We will not know this for sure until actual production lenses can be obtained. The serial numbers found on this set of lenses are:

21mm/f4 SC-Skopar #9120011

25mm/f4 SC-Skopar #9120006

35mm/2.5 SC-Skopar #9120024

It is probable that the "912" constant denotes a pre-production run since the numbers are engraved on the chrome mounting ring, which appears to be identical on all three lenses, and need not be assembled in any particular order. Thus the above numbers are not a guide as to which lens is earlier or later. The 21mm and 25mm finders are not numbered at all!

To describe any of the 3 lenses is to describe them all! This is because Cosina has wisely chosen to design this set with many features in common and they share most of the same accessories as well. From a user point of view this makes a great deal of sense. All 3 optics use the same front and rear caps, have the same filter size (43mm), and almost the same shades (which for the most part never need be removed at all!. More later.). They weigh nearly the same at approx. 140 grams (4.6 oz), and have identical focusing and aperture rings. Thus once you learn to operate one you have learned all three! This system similarity is something Nikon never achieved during the rangefinder era! They did get much better at it after the arrival of the Nikon F, but throughout the RF era they never really standardized on 1 or 2 filters sizes, never shared shades, and had at least a half dozen different barrel configurations that sometimes caused confusion during use. Even front and rear caps came in multiple variations to say nothing of focusing rings that were different and at least 4 different methods of setting apertures. So this new series with its well thought out continuity of design is a welcome feature!

Naturally you will obtain most of your information from the illustrations (a photo is worth 1000 words!) and you will also see how different these lenses are from the corresponding Nikkors (and how different the Nikkors are from each other!). I asked Kobayashi-san for these early samples so I could illustrate them alongside the Nikkors for this is the very best way to compare them. So let the photos speak for themselves.

What about availability and price? As I write this (May 15th) I can tell you the probable selling prices **NOT** including shipping and insurance:

21mm/f4 lens and Finder!.....\$500.00

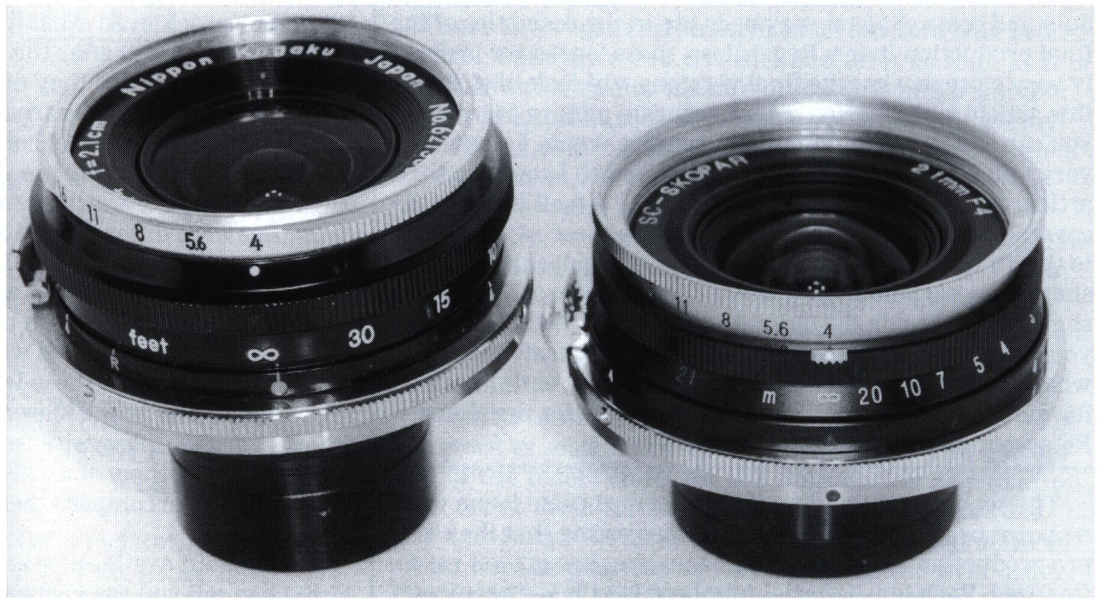
25mm/f4 lens and Finder!.....\$475.00

35mm/f2.5 lens (no finder).....\$385.00

Believe me, based on current prices for the Nikkors these are a bargain! The shades for the Nikkors are worth more than these lenses! And I doubt if anyone who owns one wants to go out shooting with his 21mm Nikkor! Not when they are worth multiple thousands on the collector market! In reality, what we have here are high quality and reasonably priced alternatives to the Nikkors & these come with finders (21 & 25) and shades and caps and multi-coating and new glasses, etc., etc.!! You really can't lose. If you want to go out and shoot with your SP or S3 or even your vintage M, now you can do it with brand new modern optics that include two of the most exotic focal lengths ever made for rangefinder cameras even to this day! They are well made, smooth focusing finely detailed optics worth your sincere consideration. **And I say, it's about time!!**

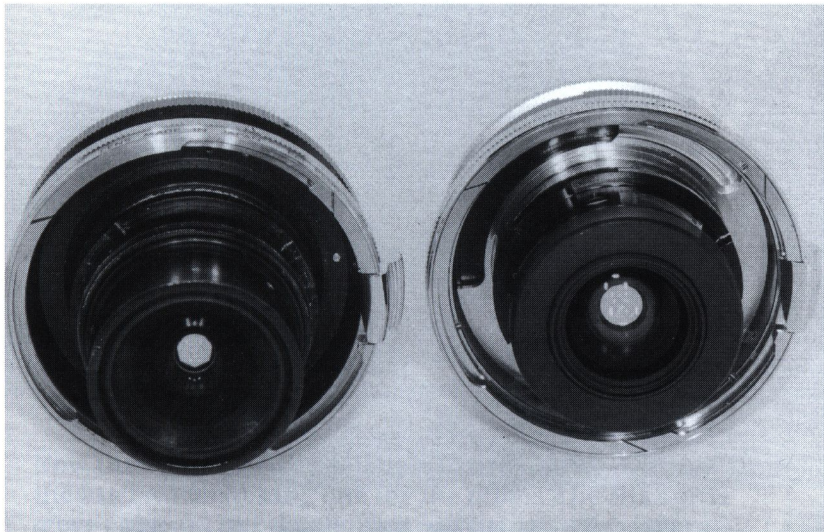


21MM F4.0



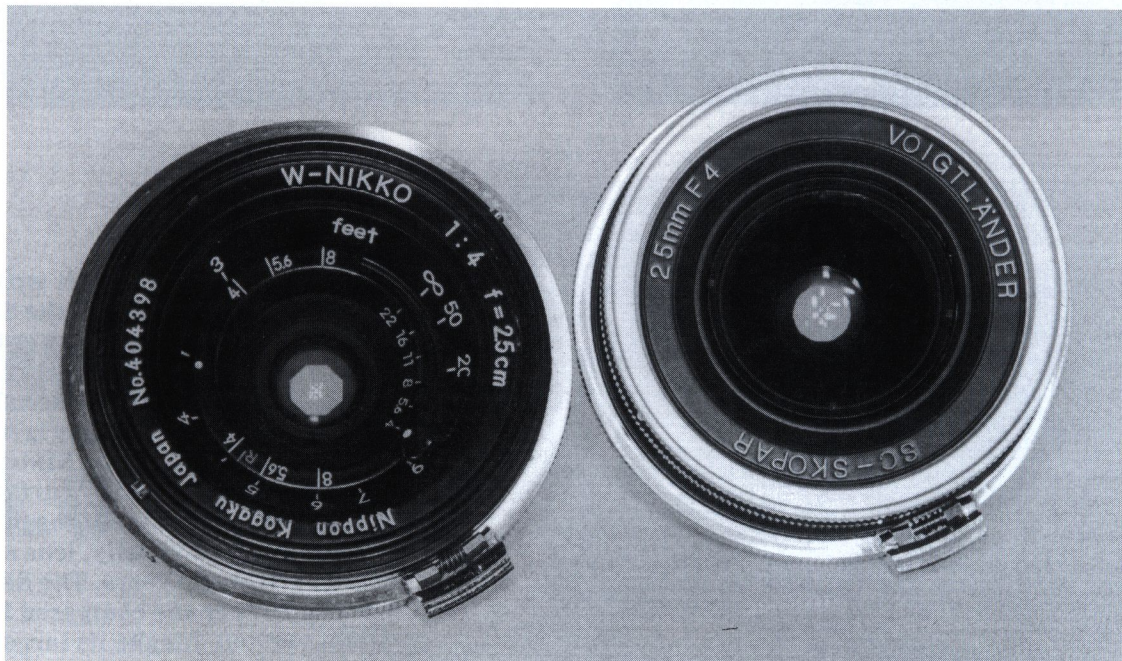
Although there is a striking resemblance, upon closer examination it is obvious that these two optics are not identical and that this new lens is not a me-too product. The top photo is what you get when you order the 21mm/f4.0 SC-Skopar: caps, finder and shade are all supplied for the price. But look at the Nikkor and Skopar side by side. Cosmetically very similar, an idea I like, but 2 very different lenses! Note the much larger dimensions of the Nikkor, the more deeply protruding rear barrel and the flatter front and rear elements compared to the Skopar. Both have 8 elements, but the Nikkor is a nearly symmetrical design unlike the Skopar. But look at those barrels....they even retained the flare inducing chrome front aperture ring! Maybe today's coating technology can handle it! Still a strange choice, but a handsome lens!!





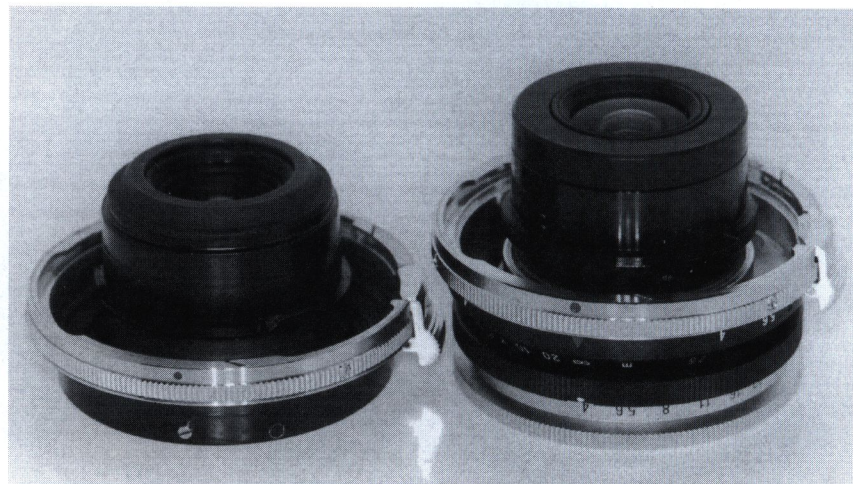
It's hard to tell them apart with just a quick glance! The fit and feel of the Skopar is first class and it definitely handles like the Nikkor it so closely mimics. Mounting, focusing and aperture selection are identical! Note that the rear interior of the Skopar is not blackened as on the Nikkor. Maybe Nikon was just overly cautious and these shiny surfaces will not matter. We need to see if the production lenses are different. Obviously, lens shade design has changed over the years. The Skopar sports a diminutive shade compared to the ultra-rare Nikon version. Maybe its large size was the reason so few seem to have ever been made!!?

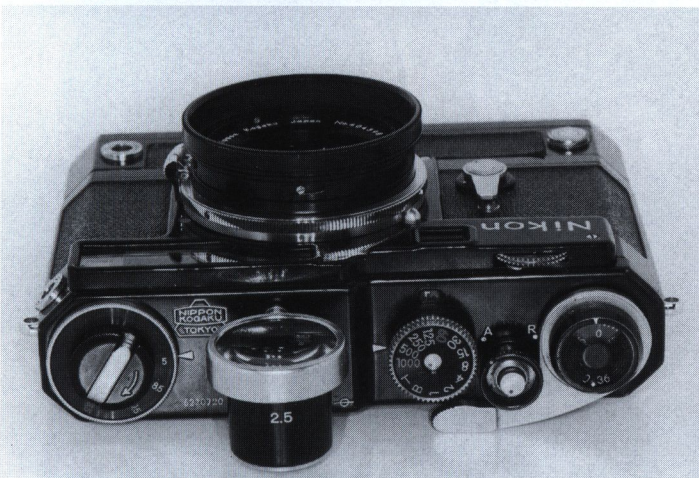




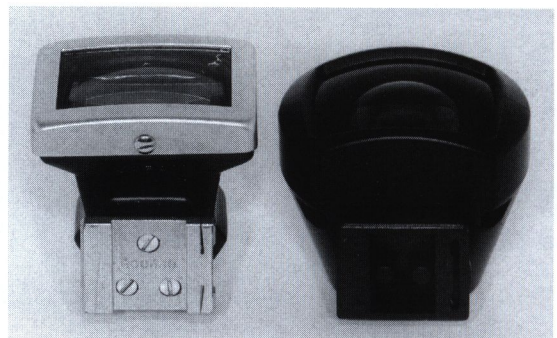
25MM F4.0

Of the 3 lenses, the 25s' differ the most! Here we have a real departure, but then the Nikkor was very different from its contemporaries! It had a unique recessed aperture setting system, no focusing ring at all, no filter threads and a unique bayonet shade/filter retainer setup! It was different than any other wide they made! However, the 25mm Skopar is nearly identical in size and configuration to the 21mm! They look, feel and operate exactly the same so the user need not re-learn anything when switching from one to the other. The Nikkor has 4 highly curved symmetrical elements. The Skopar has 7 in a very different configuration. Again, this is not a copy-cat design but I do prefer the nice black face of the Nikkor. Still the Skopar is much easier to work with!



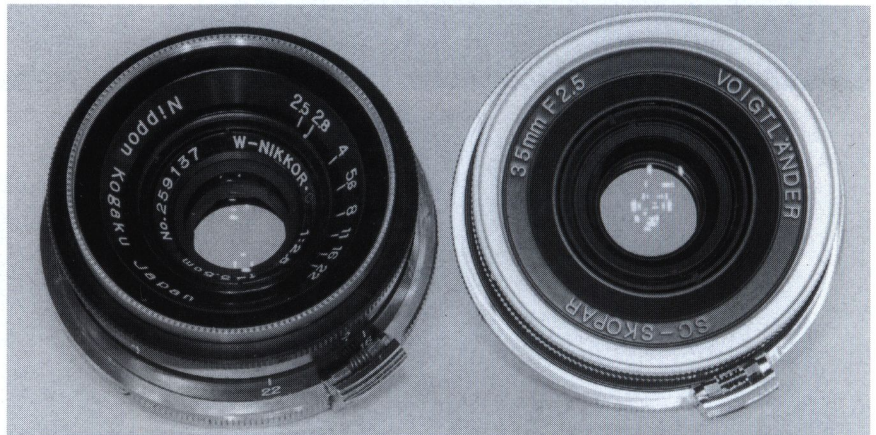


Now these two you can tell apart immediately unlike the 21s! No mistaking one for the other! The Nikkor is more compact but the Skopar easier to use & not large by any means. In this case the philosophy of shade design is very similar, although the Skopar screws in & it takes the same 43mm filters as the other two lenses! The Voightlander finders are, in a word, superior! The Nikons are heavier and more robust, but the Voightlanders are more contrasty, less distorted and much **BRIGHTER!** They almost seem brighter than reality! It can't be, but they are bright!! And they have frame-lines, something the Nikons do not have!



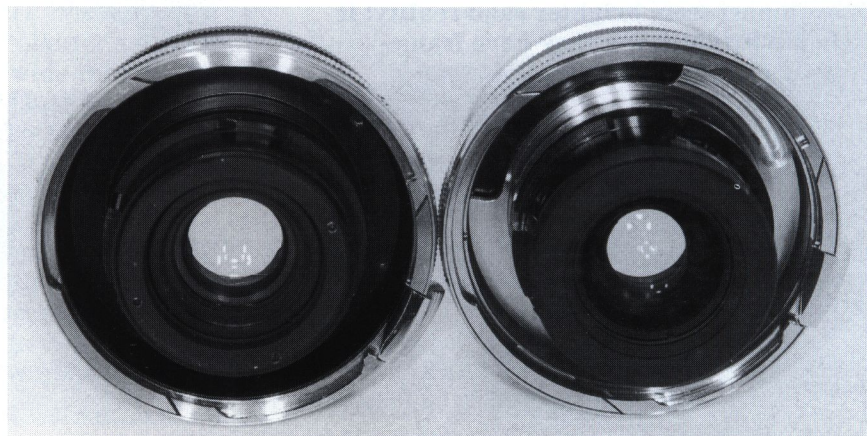


The most pedestrian of the three is the 35mm/f2.5 SC-Skopar. No where near as exotic as the 21 or 25 and not very fast either. Ho hum, you might say. Well, maybe so, but it is possible this lens will outsell the other two! Why? Because it is so practical! A 35mm on an RF is so easy to use and has always been considered nearly as useful as a normal. Cosina has chosen a middle of the road design in both speed and cost. A nice lens.



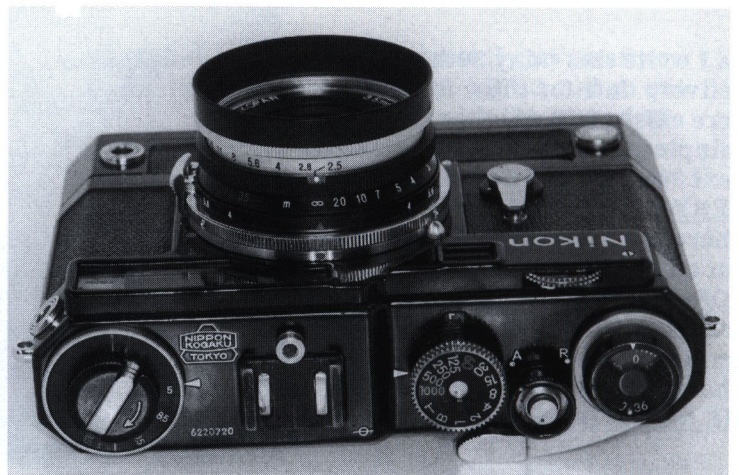
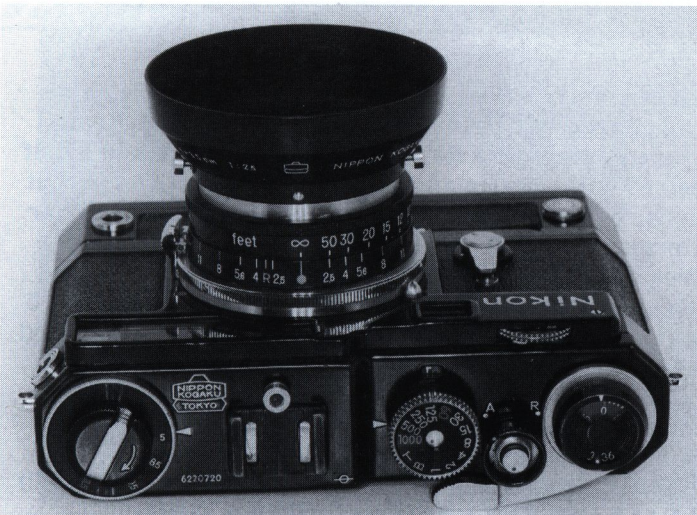
The 35/2.5 Nikkor was always the best selling 35 made for their system. It combined quality, ample speed, and a fair price into a highly usable package. And Cosina has done the same. This lens is almost exactly the same weight and size as the 21 and 25 and takes the same 43mm filters. Of the three, it most closely matches the Nikon. Optically they are similar but the Skopar has 7 elements instead of 6. The Skopar protrudes much further into the body but its chrome aperture ring is much easier to grasp.

35MM F2.5



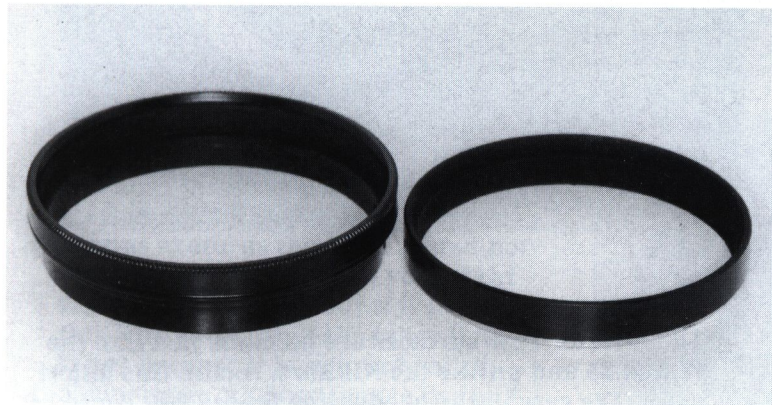


The interior rear surfaces are polished just like the 21 and 25 and unlike the Nikkors. Again, this might not be the case in the production lenses, but could be. When mounted they look very similar with the Cosina a little shinier. Again, shade design took different routes but the Nikkor is not too bulky. However, the Cosina uses the exact same shade as the 25mm and is very compact. No finder is supplied with this lens but most Nikon Rfs don't need one as their built-in finders are adequate. Cosina may hopefully make their f1.7 version in Nikon mount down the road, beating out the 1.8 Nikkor as the fastest wide made for the system. For now it is a very usable lens indeed. Put this baby on your SP/S3 and you probably won't take it off very often! So here we have the first new optics made for the Nikon RF system in over 40 years!! Well made, computer designed, & multi-coated. You can preserve your valuable Nikkors and still be able to take some really great shots. Have fun!!

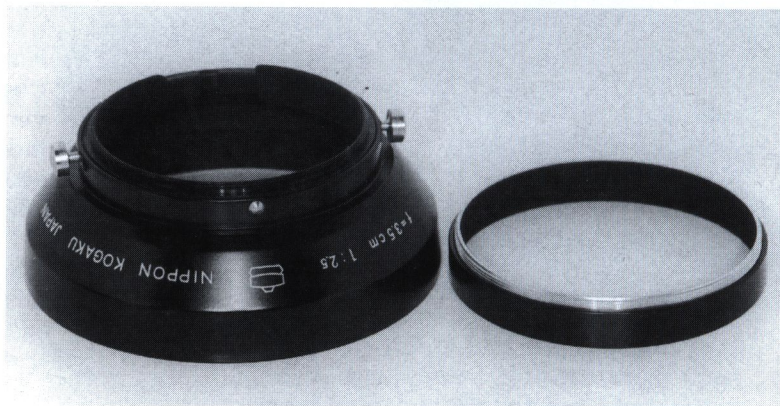


LAST MINUTE NEWS ITEM!!!!

Just 2 days before going to press I received a sample of the quick focusing ring that will be packed with each lens. Mr. Kobayashi has decided to do this at no extra charge! I did not receive it in time for a photo but I have reproduced a fax that Cosina sent me with the details of this neat little accessory. A nice touch and very usable. RJR



Just to give you an idea of how the shades compare. The 21mm and 35mm Nikon shades dwarf the Cosinas. Only the 25mm shades are similar. In actuality, the 25 & 35 Cosinas are the same!! The 21 is slightly more shallow. All are very light weight and need never be removed! They are meant to remain on the lenses at all time and even the front caps fit over the shades. Nikon never did this, and their shades are much more cumbersome to use. This could be why they are so hard to find today. They just were not bought by many users.



THE VOIGHTLANDER SKOPAR-SC LENSES!

As I write this (May 30th), I do not have a definite delivery date for these lenses. Since the set pictured here exists, it is obvious that they are very close to shipping. Hopefully they will begin arriving in the next 30-60 days. The lenses are going to be made in a **VERY LIMITED EDITION** to test the market demand. Therefore, those of you who feel you cannot do without one or more of these great new lenses **MUST CONTACT ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!** I am taking orders right now and must contact the factory to arrange the initial shipment, but I cannot do this until I have a feeling for quantities to order! **SO CONTACT ME NOW!!! DO NOT PUT IT OFF**

Prices are as follows. I have listed the probable shipping charges via Priority Mail in the U.S. and airmail insured parcel post for the rest of the world. Fed EX, if desired will require an additional charge. I can accept checks drawn on an American bank, wire transfers or international postal money orders. For wires I will give you the needed bank information. Make all checks & money orders payable to **RJR PUBLISHING!!** Contact me at rotoloni@msn.com or our NHS P.O. Box!

21mm & finder.....\$500 + \$10 (US) or \$30 Overseas
 25mm & finder.....\$475 + \$10 (US) or \$30 Overseas
 35mm lens.....\$385 + \$10 (US) or \$30 Overseas
(IF FOR ANY REASON YOUR ORDER CANNOT BE SHIPPED I WILL REFUND YOUR MONEY IN TOTAL!!)
PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ORDER FORM!!!!



All 3 photos on this page were taken from the same spot to illustrate the difference in coverage of the lenses. Note the significant difference between the 21 and the 25! I also chose this subject for its many straight lines going off in all directions.

Note the almost total lack of curved lines at the edges! These photos are full frame, no cropping. A little bit of lean is normal for wides & is more the fault of the person behind the camera than the optical design. Note the lack of distortion in both the vertical & horizontal lines in the decking and the house siding. And the view through the finders is just as good!



To be honest, I can't wait to grab an S2/SP/S3 and go out shooting with the 21 and 25 especially! I have never shot with my Nikkors since they are much too valuable. What these lenses go for is a real bargain. Quality & coverage that can't be beat for the price.

10 THE PARALLEL 85

RARE VARIANT SELDOM SEEN

by **ROBERT J. ROTOLONI**

During my first trip to Japan in 1987, I was shown many very interesting items by my Japanese hosts. We spent many an hour together in restaurants and coffee shops examining various little gems that kept appearing like magic from an assortment of camera bags and satchels! It was fun, believe me! One never knew what was going to pop out of one of those bags! Of the many exotic and superb pieces I was shown and given the opportunity to examine, was an unusual MIOJ 85mm/f2.0 Nikkor in Leica screw mount. It was an early lens, from the second (903) series, and was the first of its kind that I had ever seen in the flesh so to speak. Previously I had only seen a photo of one in a Japanese magazine, the caption of which I could not read. Anyway, that evening in a local coffee shop one was put on the table in front of me to fondle and enjoy.

What, you may ask, could be so special about a screw mount 85 other than the fact it was MIOJ and early? Well, it was the barrel that was of interest, or should I say, the shape of the barrel. A quick glance might not tell you anything but if you took just a moment more to scrutinize it you would notice that the barrel had a slightly different shape from that seen on the common 85. So what, you may ask? Slight variations in barrel shape and knurling is not that uncommon in the early Nikon lenses, which is one of the reasons the MIOJ period can be so interesting. So many little variations to be discovered! But this time it was a bit different. The alteration of the barrel shape was not due to different knurling or machining. This time it was due to a significant variation in construction and design! The 85 on the table was the first I had seen that possessed a "parallel" focusing mount, and not the standard rotating mount! So?? A good question. What's the difference? So it is parallel and not rotating? So what? Who cares? Well, the answer is, any collector worth his salt would care! Why, in 1949, would Nikon produce an oddball 85mm lens in parallel mount when they did not do it for anything else from the period and would not use it again until the external 50mm/f1.1 in 1959? And why did the 21mm of 1959 still have a rotating mount? If one of the earliest Nikkors had it, why did one of the very last to be designed a decade later, not have it? It didn't make sense to me then and it still doesn't today.

Here it is 14 years later and I have seen only two other examples, for a grand total of "3" entries in my database!! Not what you would call your garden variety 85!

What is a parallel mount? What is a rotating mount? What is the purpose of the parallel mount? Why were they made at all?

Almost every rangefinder Nikkor lens was made with a rotating mount, the standard configuration for 35mm optics from the earliest days, up to and into the 60s'. It was not until the reflex era did Nikon routinely design their lenses

with a parallel mount. The rotating mount was simply that, rotating. As you focused, the front of the lens, and thus the front element, would rotate. Nothing wrong with it except shades needed to be round and 2 sets of apertures needed to be engraved so the user could read it. Square or rectangular shades would not work well. In addition, a rotating mount was easier and cheaper to make.

A parallel mount has a different helix design that, I believe, is called a double helix. As you focused the lens the front would rack in and out to focus but without rotating! The front element could remain aligned throughout the focusing range, simply moving in and out. The advantage of this method would be that square or rectangular shades were possible (although really not needed except for wide angles), only 1 aperture scale was needed and, oh yes, a polarizer filter would remain fixed at its optimum setting. But who used polarizers on rangefinders? With rotating mount lenses, you could not adjust your filter for its best effect because it would change as you focused. Leitz made a gadget that allowed you to view through the filter after you focused, adjust the polarizer for best effect, and then flip it down over the lens and shoot! Yeah, well I bet that worked real well! It wasn't until the arrival of the SLR that polarizers got popular because you could see the effect the entire time up until you tripped the shutter. So now explain to me why Nippon Kogaku would produce a few obscure early 85s with the more expensive parallel mount when they didn't even make a polarizer?? What feature or accessory were they designed to utilize? What could possibly have been their reason to exist? **I do not know! Do you?? (RJR)**



What looks like a normal run-of-the-mill 85mm/f2 Nikkor on an early Nicca body. But is it? See the next page for an interesting comparison.



Two similar, but not identical, 85mm Nikkors from the Occupation. Note the slightly different shape to the barrels. The focusing ring on the left lens (#90363) is very different and note how much lower on the barrel it descends. Both lenses are at infinity but the lens on the right (#801243) has much longer hash marks for the depth of field scale. In the 2nd photo they are raked out all the way. Overall length is the same, but..... the focusing ring on #90363 has not moved up the barrel like that on #801243! However, note the space between the focusing and aperture rings. The barrel has lengthened in this area and not on #801243! Also, note the front rings...#90363 has not changed and you can still read the serial number while #801243 has rotated and the apertures are hidden on the other side of the barrel. Two very different barrel designs! In the bottom photo is BM lens #90327, very close to #90363. However, it too is not a parallel design!



by TATSUHIKO ARAKAWA

THE NAME IS NIKON

TRANSLATED FOR THE "NHS" BY
KYOKO SAEGUSA

In his introduction, Arakawa-san discusses a television show that appeared in Japan on August 15, 1998 to commemorate the end of WWII. I have a tape of this program that was generously given to me by the production director of the special, Mr. Higashino. It deals with the rebirth of Japan after the sudden end to the war and Nippon Kogaku was chosen to illustrate how the business community went about this massive task. This stimulated Arakawa-san to begin work on his 4th book dealing with the Japanese camera industry and Nippon Kogaku, for whom he worked, in particular. In this issue I have begun a series of excerpts from this new book, which is not yet published, so we are the first to present this information to the public. This installment begins pre-publication of chapters 2 and 3 of this new book, and will conclude in the next issue of the Journal. This is genuine inside historical information on how Nippon Kogaku changed course following the war and how certain decisions led to them entering the camera business that they dominate today! It all had to start somewhere, and writings such as this give us, a half century later, a much better idea of how it all came about! RJR

Mr. Higashino, the production director of the NHK special entitled, "The Record of 50 Days of Restart: How Japanese People Dealt With Defeat in the War", called me on May 15, 1998, for the first time. The program was to be broadcast on End-of-War Day, August 15th, 1998. The theme of the program was to "document in detail what people in government, business, schools, and in various localities did during those 50 days, beginning with the defeat & up until the start of the comprehensive occupation administration in early October by the GHQ." Nippon Kogaku was chosen to represent the business sector.

I certainly thought that the history of the survival of Nikon would be an interesting story to tell. The company had been founded solely to produce optical weaponry & had produced military products exclusively up to the day of the defeat, but then the company made an about face and began producing commercial items for civilians, a task for which it had had absolutely no previous experience. Yes, this would be an interesting story to tell.

But, there was a problem with this scheme if the purpose was to present the history of how the company decided to tackle camera production. This was due to the fact that the first phase of NKK's transition to camera production took more like 100 days, not the 50 days envisaged for the NHK special program. Consider the time-line for a moment: End of the War was August 15th; by early October the company had decided to produce camera lenses only, not the camera itself. That policy changed in late October, and the camera design section was created in mid-November. The name "Nikon" wasn't adopted until quite a bit later, at the end of July the following year (1946)!

I was forced to spend 50 days in the hospital in the fall of 1996. I had nothing to do in between various tests and short doctor's visits, so I read over my three books (*The Bright Dark Box*, *The Nikon Story*, *The Founding*) very carefully & realized that I had left out a lot of things in all three books. I intentionally left out some facts due to various circumstances, and I also tried not to include events that I was not directly involved in.

Since I wrote those books, I have been able to dig up new information & truth thanks to newly obtained documents.

I began to feel that I shouldn't let things be the way they were. My concern became stronger as my hospital stay came closer to the end, and I began feeling the urge to write a new book to complement the existing three.

I had great hesitation at the same time. I was approaching 80, & I had difficulty reading documents due to my poor eyesight. However, in the period of convalescence after I came home when I was not doing anything, it felt as if a fire had been set in my sense of obligation, and I couldn't just let the fire go out.

The organization of the book came to me in the summer of 1997. On August 2nd I climbed Chausu Peak on Mt. Nasu, & people at the top complimented me on my youthfulness, which encouraged me to go ahead with the project.

In September, I began sorting documents that were necessary to write the book, thinking it would probably take 3 years or so to finish. As I looked at random at well over 100 files of documents, various memories from that era began to surface in my mind, & I had a hard time picking out the topics. Those are the topics in which I was involved in one way or another, for which I had documents, & which had left a great impression on my mind.

1. The trail of NKK
2. Those who left, those who stayed.
3. The beginning of camera production.
4. "The origin of the name Nikon".
5. Between imitation and originality.
6. Anticipated confusion
7. The bright & dark sides of the Samurai style of doing business.
8. The mystery of great popularity vs. poor business performance.
9. Where was the management?
10. The deception by the apparatus production div.

I am not necessarily writing the chapters in this order. Sometimes I have things that are half-written from earlier on the same topic; sometimes I have already prepared the necessary documents for a particular topic. My tendency is to write a few chapters simultaneously depending on how I feel. By the time NHK contacted me to interview me for their End-of-War Day special, I had filed the necessary documents through chapter 5, & had drafted through chapter 6. I told Mr. Higashino that I had wished the program dealt with the first 100 days, & offered him the documents I had collected for chapter 3, and agreed to give him copies.

The special program was broadcast under the name of "Heartbeat for Restart: What August 15th Means to Me," &

dealt with the first 50 days of restart. At that time I was the section leader for the personnel section of the civilian worker division and an officer in the civilian worker sub-committee of the postwar measures committee. All I was able to discuss for the program was the mass layoff of the employees that took place during the period. I was a bit regretful, but I was happy to see that portions of an opinion paper that I had written were actually shown on screen. I had put this opinion paper together in haste upon request from Noboru Hamashima in early October 1945, at which time the company had decided not to produce cameras. In it I took the strong position that the company must make cameras its main stay if we were to rebuild the company, & explained why. They showed this paper in the NHK program perhaps because not only was it written at the very end of the 50 day period but because it also anticipated the next 50 days in which Nikon's first steps into camera production were made.

I was very impressed with this massive endeavor to commemorate the end of the war, but after I watched it I couldn't help feeling that it should have dealt with the first 100 days, not just 50. As a consequence, I have decided to publish the 2nd & 3rd chapters of my 4th book early under the name "Recollections of the 100 days of Restart," rather than waiting until it is completed, because I had to do something to give closure to this sense of unfinished business that was lingering in me. (**Tatsuhiko Arakawa**)

Recollections of the 100 Days of Restart:

The Beginning of the History of Nikon

From "The Name is Nikon"

by Tatsuhiko Arakawa

Those Who Leave, Those Who Stay

My first job was to substitute for someone else. The job assignment form that I received said I was to be working in the Day-to-Day Living Section of the Civilian Workforce Division, although I had applied to work in the factory. I was a little suspicious of the function of the "Day-to-Day Living Section", but had no time to find out what it was really about. I was ushered into a room bearing the sign, "Day-to-Day Living Section", where five men turned around to face me with an expression indicating that they had been waiting a long time to see me. I bowed and greeted them. At that moment, a strange feeling struck me. The section leader greeted me with a smiley face, but the other 4 had an air that was totally incongruent with that office.

They asked me my experience and what not, and we chatted a while. Then the section leader stood up as if he had just remembered something and said to me, "Sorry to be so sudden, but could you go to Yokohama tomorrow?" I was caught off guard, but said yes. The section leader told me to ask for further details from the other four and left.

I then found out why the four people didn't look like ordinary office workers. One of them was the proprietor of a flower shop in front of Omori Station, another, the manager of a famous confection store, another, a young heir to a clothing store in Kanda, and the last was also a business man. Because of their professions, their stories were interesting and refreshing. However, I was stunned to find out that the place I had agreed to go to in Yokohama was the police station. The four explained in detail what it was all about. The company had been summoned by the Kagamachi police station to come to an audit concerning a sus-

picion held by the authorities that the company had violated the regulations governing the distribution of fabrics, etc. The division chief had told the section leader long before to report to the police station, but they had procrastinated until today. The section leader certainly didn't welcome the role of company representative in an official audit by authorities, so he picked me, a new person in the office, to take the heat. I then remembered that someone had told me that the section leader was really a softy and laughed. Such a tough assignment didn't agree with the section leader who was a graduate of a top university and a gentle person at heart.

At that time, weapons manufacturers were expanding and building new factories, and priority was being given to supply them with civilian conscripts, such as factory workers and women volunteers. Although those workers came to work without any personal belongings, the government didn't give the same kind of priority to supplying them with essential daily items such as work clothes, bedding & mosquito nets. The manufacturer itself somehow had to secure the bulk of such items in spite of the strict rationing guidelines covering their distribution. The supplies were not unavailable: it's just that they sat in someone's warehouse. It was illegal to purchase such needed supplies outside the proper channels, but since the workers had no work clothes, the people in charge of weaponry companies tried hard to secure them through "brokers". This was the job of the "Day-to-Day Living Section."

A middle-aged prosecutor was waiting at the police station. I have no recollection of what they asked me in the questioning room, but I remember the prosecutor saying that he always had a hard time with weaponry makers. He complained and complained that they wouldn't respond to the summons, and if they did, they'd send a proxy, such as myself; it was easy to force the investigation on brokers, but not on the weaponry makers, etc., etc.

The particular incident involved Nippon Kogaku purchasing fabrics through an unauthorized route, making work clothes for women out of the fabrics, and having their workers wear them. I remember I had to go with 2 workers from the section to Ono City in Fukui where it was made.

Despite such incidents with the authorities, we received quite a few phone calls and visits from brokers who would offer various items. They would not only offer items directly related to our production but also an array of consumables such as sake, soy sauce, sugar, confections and fruit. One broker said that they were in charge of digging up Japan's last reserves. It was probably true that Japan still had considerable reserves.

Section workers who had experience with business before they came to the company were very smooth in their dealings with brokers. I received reports & consulted only when there were problems with contracts and so on. It was very interesting to see the back side of the economic control system. Every now and then, we were prosecuted, & I always acted on behalf of the section leader and reported to the police. I traveled to Ibaraki concerning bedding, and all the way to Nara about mosquito nets. The nets at that time were made of twisted paper string; linen & cotton nets had long ago become unavailable. Concerned that the authorities might confiscate even paper nets which our civilian workers badly needed, I couldn't suppress my anger and said, "do come visit our optical factories. We will welcome you with a banquet featuring mosquito condiments,"

which bought the authority's displeasure. Incidentally, I heard that almost all the manufacturers in Nara were in prison.

I was in the Day-to-Day Living Section for just over a year, but my strange and funny experience is still vividly remembered today.

This Is The End

I was transferred to the Personnel Section in October, 1944. The new office handled the hiring and wages of the employees, and the new assignment brought me unexpected good fortune. I originally applied to the company in the hope that I would learn more about cost calculation in machine industry. I was surprised and happy that I was given the opportunity to learn fully the employment & compensation systems which were at the foundation of labor cost, the core factor in cost calculation. Again I was in this office for only a little over a year, but I continued my study in the area for a long time, which eventually brought me the position of the Cost Section Leader, and which also led to the publication of my later work, *The Japanese Foundation for Labor Cost Calculation*, and numerous papers.

I became the chief clerk in the Supervision Section in June, 1945. The next month I accompanied the personnel manager to a meeting held at the company resort where we met with Hideo Araki, executive managing director of the company. The attendees were the director of the Civilian Workforce Division and just a few managers from the same division. Araki had been director of the Civilian Workforce Division, so the group felt as if we had been very close.

I met with the same group for the second time 3 days after a new bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. I had been looking forward to hearing the latest news on the war, politics and social goings on, but something unexpected & shocking came from Araki. He had been sitting in the guest-of-honor section of the room with a gentle face, but his face stiffened for a moment as he told us that another bomb had been dropped on Nagasaki that morning. Both Yoshio Hatano, the then president, and Araki, had come to work at Nippon Kogaku from positions at the Nagasaki Shipyard. Araki had probably learned the latest news through the Mitsubishi grapevine of which the shipyard was a part.

After a pause, Araki said, "This is the end," as if he was talking to himself. When we heard this remark made in a low voice, almost a whisper, an indescribable silence came over us for a few seconds. I have completely forgotten what we discussed after this tense moment had passed, probably because I got caught up in the possible implications of Araki's remark.

His words, "This is the end," could have meant that the war was over, or that it was over for the company. In any case, by that time a lot of people must have been thinking that the war was in its last stage, although they never mentioned it. I was not that insightful, and was still convinced that the war would go on for a while. In retrospect, however, I realized that I had been hearing and seeing that the war was nearing its end.

In the Personnel Section you got to hear lots of inside information. One time a story was told that in the Ohi factory there was a shelf full of completed "F" Telephotos (2-meter telephoto cameras) because the Army wouldn't pick them up. It made me uneasy thinking that perhaps they didn't have the strength to go out and take reconnais-

sance photos, or that the war was getting so urgent that they didn't have the need for such photos any more. However that may be, the uneasiness dissipated as time went by. The next "confidential" story really made me think. The decision had been made to manufacture periscopes that were even shorter than the shortest model at that time, #97, 2.70 meters, and rumor had it that they were for human torpedoes. I thought that the Navy might be desperate enough to manufacture suicide weaponry & that the war was approaching the last phase; the phrase "the decisive battle on home ground" flashed in my mind. Even then I hadn't dreamed that the end would come this soon. *(There is an entry on this short periscope in The History of Forty Years (p.481).*

In May, 1945, we were asked to manufacture immediately a periscope with the span of about 1 meter, which we guessed would be fitted to a torpedo. This was a single magnification device & had the company nickname of S5 Metalware. The plan was to design the product in the Navy Optical Experiment Division, to manufacture the glass portion at Toyokawa Navy Arsenal, and the metal portion at our company. We were to manufacture 130 of them immediately. We had difficulty obtaining raw materials, so the government was to supply us with our needs, which we were to pick up on August 15th, on which day the war ended! August 15th was, thus, a fateful day for this periscope also.

Absolutely No Way

Nippon Kogaku was able to restart its reconstruction relatively smoothly in the middle of the post-war confusion. I think the reason was that the company was able to articulate its course early in a new "prime basic policy." The basic policy was adopted at an emergency meeting upon strong insistence from Koshiro Shiba, who had served for 20 long years as the chairman of the board, from which he resigned in April of the previous year. All the officers and directors were called to attend the meeting, which began on the day after the surrender and lasted for 2 days. I remember Mr. Noritomi, director of the Volunteer Workers Division, saying, "That's Mr. Shiba!" upon returning from the meeting.

Shiba proposed the following (*Forty Years, p.241*)

- 1.) Our company developed solely by military production. Given the current situation, it would be impossible to continue the business at the present scale.
- 2.) Some say we should stop the production for a while and watch how things turn out; others say we should watch how the transition goes and perhaps resume our business as usual if we can; some others say a massive lay-off is not possible because of probable social repercussions, which may cause social unrest. I will not allow any more thinking along these lines.
- 3.) We should look to the future & plan for the reconstruction of the company. We should be prepared to face dissolution if necessary, and take decisive measures to lay off workers and downsize the business immediately.

Just as Shiba pointed out in *Forty Years*, I heard that quite a few attendees had had the attitude of "watching calmly" and a tendency to wishful thinking. Perhaps that was the dominant atmosphere of the meeting. Shiba just couldn't allow such opportunistic views and passive attitudes. I saw a true businessman in Shiba.

Shiba's proposal to rebuild the company by massive lay-offs and decisive downsizing were written out in the six-item "prime basic policy".

- 1.) Stop production immediately. Concentrate on gathering and storing raw materials and half-finished products.
- 2.) Lay off all advisors and commissioned workers who had been sent by the military, and let all mobilized student workers and civilian volunteers go home.
- 3.) Select core managerial personnel by August 19th (the minimum number needed in anticipation of the restoration of the company in the future). On August 20th, start sending home the rest of the employees. Those who have been laid off must report back to the company on August 31st. Exceptions are those who have to commute from their far away homes.
- 4.) Conscripts (approx. 5,000 soldiers) who will be returning due to the dissolution of the military will be laid off unless they are part of the core managerial personnel.
- 5.) Sell all factories except for the Ohi facility and Ohi glass factory, to generate funds for future restoration.
- 6.) Inside the Ohi factory, sell off any machinery that is considered inessential. To replace such machinery, choose high quality items from factories that are to be sold off. Collect such machinery along with raw materials and other resources to fully equip the Ohi factory.

Items 2-4 have to do with laying people off. In the meantime, the core managerial personnel were being selected. It happened to be in the Personnel Department, so I was inevitably thrown into the process of these massive lay-offs.

Words of Farewell

The lay-off described in Item 2 was executed quickly. Naturally, people related to the military were laid off instantaneously. They had already made themselves scarce.

There were 3 waves of lay-offs. Those who were targeted in the first wave, which was announced on August 18th and executed on August 23rd, were mobilized student workers, civilian women volunteer corps, and newly mobilized workers, people on long term leave, delinquent workers, & those who had applied for retirement, totaling some 6,400. Newly mobilized workers (drafted factory workers) had been practically forced to work. Many of the mobilized student workers and civilian women volunteers also thought they had been forced to work in factories. I watched those go home or back to school and got the impression that it was more appropriate to say that they were liberated from shackles rather than being laid off.

On August 25th, 10 days after the end of the war, the Post-War Measures Committee was formed. It consisted of 8 members and 4 secretaries. The company needed a group such as this; the company organization remained the same as pre-war, and it needed to collect relevant information, disseminate it, and make decisions quickly in times when the future was opaque. The head of the committee was Hideo Araki, Managing Director.

On the same day I received a copy of "General Notice #1" from the president concerning the founding of the Post-War Measures Committee, and a copy of its by-laws. In a blank space on the first page was a hand written memo saying, "This notice constitutes a letter of appointment." I didn't understand, so I turned to the next page. There was a message stating that a subcommittee called the "Workers Division" may be formed; there was also an insert with a list of 5 committee members & 3 secretaries. A hand written bracket was added to my name which was one of

the 3 secretaries. That's what the letter of appointment was about. Under normal circumstances I would have received an official appointment. They didn't even have the time and resources for such formality.

The notice said that the workers division was formed based on Section #5 of the committee by-laws, which said "this committee is authorized to form special sub-committees for the purpose of investigating particular issues." The division qualified as such a subcommittee.

The 5 committee members were Fumio Noritomi, Chief Examiner, Noboru Hamashima, Tooru Shimizu, Rensaku Hayashi, and Ryosaku Kohase; the 3 secretaries were Tatsuhiko Arakawa, Masao Tanaka, and Hiroshi Tani. They were all managerial personnel who were in charge of labor management, either at the headquarters or at manufacturing plants. I had met Hamashima at Totsuka Plant several times during the war. We began talking to each other at the Workforce Division Committee meetings. Later he asked my opinion about manufacturing and marketing cameras, told me stories from when he worked in the Civilian Goods Division and so on. He was never my immediate boss, but working together in the Workforce Division brought us closer.

The Production Committee was formed on August 29th. The 6 committee members were Minoru Seki, Chief Examiner, Yomonosuke Murata, Masao Nagoaka, Tsurayuki Yagi, Tatsuji Furumaru and Masatomo Godai. All of them were at the same time members of the Post-War Measures Committee. Compared to the Workforce Division Committee, which had the Workforce Division director as the chief, and which consisted of only directors and section chiefs, the Production Committee consisted of big names.

The primary duty of the Production Division was to select civilian goods (general products) to be produced from then on. Their choice would determine the company's fate.

In the meantime, a second wave of lay-offs awaited those employees (excepting supervisory personnel) who had been told to wait at home until August 31st. The content of the lay off that was announced to the employees who came back to the company was as follows: All female workers were to be laid off immediately; and all male workers were to wait at home for another month. Akira Kurosawa's second film called, "The Most Beautifully," showed women workers who exhibited refined skills in lens and prism production that only women could offer. Such women workers, and women who worked so patiently in pairs to handle the enormous amount of calculations needed to support designers, and all other women who had worked so hard in all sorts of positions, were let go. This was a shock event that I can never forget.

On that day, Yoshio Hatano, president, issued a "notice" in which he said, "with heartfelt appreciation and deepest affection, I want to tell those women workers who are leaving us as of today" that he was grateful for over two years of their dedication, and acknowledged their contributions. He went on to say, "We are about to bid farewell today to you all due to the policy laid by the nation. My heart is so full and does not know words to describe the feeling. I sincerely hope that you all will return home soon, & think of the mission of building a morally sound Japan. It's a mission that has been given to you women. Be always diligent in improving yourselves, & stay healthy. I hope you bravely continue on the path that stretches over 3,000 years."

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A NEW BRACZKO BOOK!

REVIEWED FOR THE NHS by RICH PINTO

At times I forget that the DB-6 is the external “anti-cold” battery pack for the N90x or that the 6mm/f2.8 lens was offered with a 220’ perspective at a weight of 11 lbs!! The plethora of Nikon offerings is such that one would need a nearly encyclopedic mind to remember all of it. Of course most of us don’t have the requisite elephantine memory so we can all be glad that Peter Braczko does.

It is obvious by the girth of this landscape format tomb (460 pgs with over 1200 photos) that Braczko has made a life-project out of this book. Going far beyond his earlier work we all know and love, *The Nikon Pocket Book*, he and Silver Pixel Press have given us the compendium we have all been waiting for. It might be argued that no one volume book could truly capture the entire Nikon system, but this book certainly makes headway into doing just that, with chapters on rangefinders, SLRs’, fixed lens Nikons, film and video offerings, underwater gear, special models, and even a very current cataloging of Nikon’s digital offerings.

In this book, Braczko has taken a bit of a different visual approach from the average camera historian or even his earlier works. This compendium is not simply a stroll down the hallowed halls of a collector’s museum where every camera has been hermetically sealed in an airtight vault for its whole life. Rather, Braczko allows us to see some gear that is used, and in some cases even abused, showing all the battle scars commensurate with heavy use. We all know how tough our beloved Nikons really are & it is nice to see that proudly displayed in a book of this type!

Some might note that not all the images in this book are of the highest quality (though most are) some even being somewhat edgy digital reproductions, but I have found this to be part of the charm of this book. It is a down and dirty look at almost everything Nikon has made with a Weegee-like bluntness that goes straight to the facts. This then is carried on in the precise text that is clearly written and nicely layed out.

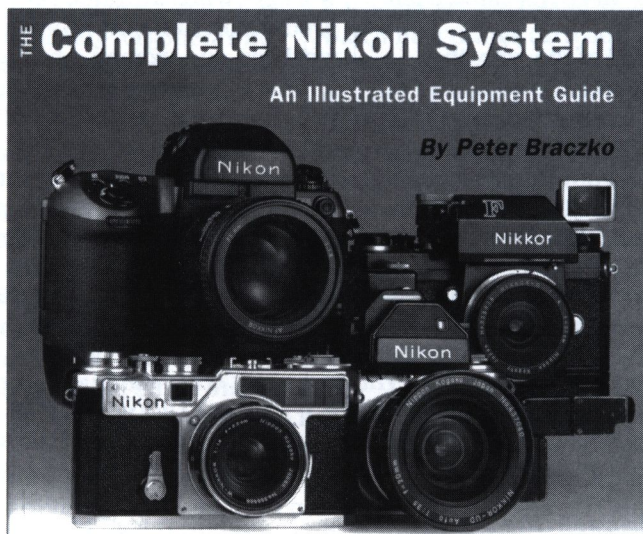
In speaking to the many customers I have already sold this book to, I occasionally heard a quip about the fact that he was missing this one particular “Navy camera”, or why didn’t he have more “prototypes”, or that he missed a third party user of a Nikon product. I personally don’t miss any one model that might not have made the final cut of this book, but I do wish perhaps a brief mention of rarity could have been made for each item. A three letter code as is common for other systems (CCC, RR+, RRR, etc) would have been a welcome addition. This is only a minor criticism to what is truly a great work and an indispensable guide to the Nikon system.

Braczko has also furthered a legacy that I hope will live past many editions of his books and beyond, the BCO system (short for Braczko Code). Some might be familiar with its first iteration in *The Nikon Pocket Book*.

The BCO code is like a “Dewey Decimal System” for specifying what item and what version you are looking at. Inherent in the code is both the main platform (RF, SLR, digital, etc.) then the subcategory and lastly the version of that item. This ambitious start will undoubtedly be revised and appended if it gains wide spread usage, but what a grand start it is to a much needed system! For this virtue alone I believe the book is well worth its quite reasonable \$39.95 cover price and I hope that BCO codes are adopted by all who are interested in the Nikon system. (We have already started to enter them into our computer database at our shop.)

I believe anyone who has an interest in the Nikon system will find this book an indispensable resource. I am sure I will be referring to its many pages for years to come and I look forward to the many discussions it will foster about our favorite Nikon topics.

(Rich Pinto, photovillage.com)



NHS-CON8 INFO!!

FEBRUARY 22-24, 2002!!

PLANS HAVE BEEN FIRMED UP FOR NHS-CON8!!!

WHEN: FEBRUARY 22-24, 2002

WHERE: Chaparral Suites Resort Hotel located in Scottsdale, Arizona, in the great Southwest!

WHAT: One entire day, Sat. Feb. 23rd, of Nikon presentations in a spanking new convention center with state-of-the-art audio/visual projection gear, followed by a swap/sell session **FOR MEMBERS ONLY W/FREE TABLES!!!!**

MORE INFO:

1) A **COMPLIMENTARY** dinner & drinks gathering on Friday evening at the home of Don and Nancy Dederá, with transportation provided.

2) A "WHITE GLOVE" Buy/Sell/Trade Fair of Nikon collectibles for our members only with free tables!!

3) Saturday evening "Western Outdoor" cookout and barbecue at the hotel.

4) Saturday all-day activities for the wives with shopping, lunch, etc., coordinated by Nancy Dederá.

HOTEL INFO: The room rate is \$159 per day single or double, which is far below the rates that prevail for such rooms during the peak tourist season in Arizona! **All rooms are suites**, with private sleeping chamber & separate outer room. The rate also applies to those who arrive some days earlier or stay longer.

This rate includes **free limousine shuttle** from & to Sky Harbor International Airport, only 20 minutes away. Also, **complimentary prepared-to-order breakfast, evening cocktail hour, use of swimming pools, spas, tennis courts & fully equipped fitness gym, and unlimited access to a business center with fax, online computers & copy equipment!** At modest additional cost, Internet connection is available in every suite at all hours! **For more info on the hotel please see their web site at www.chaparralsuites.com. Make your reservations directly with the hotel, & be sure to mention the Nikon Historical Society to qualify for the convention rate!** Their number in 1-800-528-1456 or see their web site!!!

To keep up to date keep your eyes on our NHS web site at www.nikonhs.org where webmaster Fred Krughoff has an NHS-Con8 link with pertinent info. Also keep in touch with Don Dederá and I at the following email addresses: dondedera@aol.com & rotoloni@msn.com

If you have any suggestions concerning presentations for the Saturday meeting please contact Richard deStoutz, our show chairman at destoutz@swissonline.ch or you can also email Don or I. **WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!!** Do not hesitate to make suggestions or ask questions but do it before the meeting! The more you know the better the time you will have. That is our goal: **A good time for everyone who attends!!!!**

The Saturday meeting will begin promptly at 9AM and we will try to finish around 3PM to allow time for our sell and swap session. This may last to about 5PM. We will break for lunch for an hour and we will arrange to have a section of the hotel restaurant for our members so we can eat together. The evening meal will be the Western style outdoor barbecue right at the hotel. **You will be responsible for your cost for these meals.** So make sure you arrive in town at least by Friday evening to take part in the Saturday Convention!

Those who get into town earlier can enjoy a Friday night get together at the Dederás' with food supplied by Don and his wife and drinks and music will be provided by the Society. Those of you who have the time may want to consider other activities to add to our meetings. There are world class golf courses all around Scottsdale. The Grand Canyon can be seen by a land tour that needs at least 2 days while by air, just to sight see it from aloft can be done in a day from Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport. Just keep your Friday evening & Saturday free, otherwise, enjoy the sunny & warm Arizona climate in mid Winter!

There will be a charge for attending the Convention to help cover costs for the meeting room, projection equipment, transportation and refreshments on Friday night, meeting costs such as souvenirs, and the many other little things that crop up. In order to have a feel for how many will attend so we can make our plans, **we are asking that those who plan to be there pay the reservation fee in advance.** There will be a discount for those who pay before a certain date, and refunds are available only up to a point. This is the first time we have asked the members to pay beforehand, but we need to do this because our plans are often compromised by those who say they will come then do not show up. This was the only downside to the Rotterdam meeting! At least a third did not show and we had made plans and ordered items based on a number that proved to be wrong. **So please, take the time to send in the registration form that is inserted into this issue** (if missing please contact me). The top half of this form is for the convention while the bottom half is an order form for the Voightlander lenses. Please return the part(s) that pertain to your needs.

It is important that these forms get in as soon as you are sure you can attend! Please, do not put it off for we want this to be a well organized meeting (as we have had in the past) & we need your cooperation. **Please send the form and your payment to the society address and make all checks and money orders payable to RJR Publishing.**

Don and Nancy Dederá are going to put a lot of work into this, just like other convention chairmen have done in the past. Others, like program chairman Richard DeStoutz, other helpers and your editor, will also be putting a lot of work into this meeting. **Please help to make it a success by joining us in one of the premier winter vacation spots in the Western Hemisphere!! See you there!! RJR**

'NHS' e-mail LIST!!

The following is an **updated listing** of e-mail addresses for members of the Society who asked to be included in this directory. If you want to be included just let me know!!

ROBERT ROTOLONI.....rotoloni@msn.com

(As a service to the members I will run an updated list each & every issue of the Journal, so keep me informed. Please check this list each issue as new addresses are added and others may change! Any addresses **added or changed** since the last issue are in **bold italics!!** This listing revised as of 6/30/2001)

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WHY NOT GET ON OUR LIST!

NHS INDEX HERE!!

Many of you will remember that British member Alan Blake put together a Journal index a while back. Peter Lownds and I printed it up for the membership. However, it ended at NHS-46, so it has been some time ago. Now that we have the electronic age and the internet, Alan has come up with a better idea. He has continued his project all this time and now will make it available on our very own web site. Webmaster Fred Krughoff tells me it should be up by the time you read this. **We will now have an up to date index available on our website and it will be revised with each issue! CHECK IT OUT!!!** I want to thank Alan for continuing this work for the benefit of the Society. I appreciate it very much since I have not had the time to tackle this chore. Thank You, Alan!!

KOCH BOOK NEAR!

Uli Koch's new Nikon F book is near to publication and he has sent me 25 assorted pages for review. **This is going to be one hell of a book!** Here is an excerpt from the information he sent me. "My book will consist of three volumes, CAMERAS, LENSES, & ACCESSORIES. Plans call for it to be printed in late September. Shipping to the US will take about 3 weeks and the distribution will take another 2. For more up to date information please refer to my home page at <http://www.nikon-f.de>. By the middle of June I will

put 19 pages of the book on my home page, including pictures of the covers and the slipcase."

I wanted to run a photo or two in this issue but ran out of room. I do plan a more extensive review in the next issue but let me tell you what I saw in the 25 pages that Uli sent me via e-mail. This book is going to be the most detailed, complete and best photographed ever done in English on the Nikon F system. It will cover everything you can think of and in great detail. Lenses are covered individually with detailed photos of variations in construction & engravings. From what I can see, every lens made for the Nikon F is given its due. Accessories include a large section on the motors (can you believe 4 different voltmeters are shown!), battery packs, cables, and grips. Other sections are on flash units, copy stands, close-up gear, exposure meters and screens. Everything you can imagine is in this volume. As for the camera itself; the venerable F is covered in detail you might not think possible! Structural differences are illustrated in great detail and cover such things as the self timer, advance lever, and all the many changes that the F body went through during its long life. Serial numbers are used to differentiate between types and everything is done with concise and easy to understand tables. Sections are found on military versions, dummies, the Nikkor F, special engravings, cutaways and prototypes! And all of this info is complimented by superb photography! Everything is well photographed but not only are they well lighted and shot, but they are innovative and interesting! **More next issue!!**

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SINGLE ITEMS OR COMPLETE COLLECTIONS

PLEASE CONSIDER US WHETHER YOU ARE SELLING YOUR CAMERA COLLECTION OR GRADUALLY BUILDING ONE.

JUST LOOK AT SOME OF THE RARE JEWELS WE HAVE SOLD RECENTLY:

Black point M2/M3/M4, grey enamel M2, olive green M1 and M3 bodies, M3 Betriebsk #1004 with 'Summikron' (Lager vol.1 p.181), 2 very early production M3 bodies (numbers under 700150), 3 chrome MP (inc. no.366, p70 'Leica in Colour' van Hasbroeck), black MP no.123 (as illustrated p.81 'Leica Collectors Guide', Dennis Laney), M2M and M4M (both with motors), black M4 with 'Midland Canada' top plate, M4-P half frame, M3 prototypes, dummies, Betriebsk and cutaways. 50 year anniversary CL, M4 and M5. Chrome MP2 with motor!

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 IIIf and IIIg (Swedish army), pre-production Iq and IIg 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 Letana Anastigmat lenses). Nikon rangefinder equipment including Nikon 1, black Nikon 53, S3 Olympic, black SP with motor and black S3M with motor. 35/3.5 Stereo Nikkor. Nikon F# 6400xxx.



Contact: PETER WALNES (LHSA AND NHS MEMBER SINCE 1982)

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CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE... Very complete 2 volume set of Nikon Nikkor-mat Handbook (loose leaf) by Joseph Cooper, 1974, black cover books. They are in good shape & have been kept up to date thru early F2 & Nikkormat cameras, \$100; Nikon 50/f1.4 AIS w/box, ex+ \$150; Nikon 75-150/f3.5 AIS, ex+, \$150; Nikon 50-135 AIS w/hood/box, m-, \$350; Nikon 180/f2.8 ED AIS w/box, m-, \$550; Nikon N2000 body, excellent user, \$100; Nikon 70-210/f4-5.6 AF, e+, \$200; Nikon SB-17 flash boxed mint, \$200; Nikon SB-15, ex, \$95; Nikon Sb-24, boxed, mint, \$225; Nikon System Handbook 4th & 5th editions by Peterson, \$15 ea. Add postage to all items. Steve Fischer, e-mail steveandcatefisher@home.com

SELLING/TRADE LIST... Many Nikon RF & reflex items for sale or trade as well as quality products from makers such as **Bronica, Canon, Minolta, Pentax, Rollei, Zeiss, Kodak, Mamiya** & others. Just added a large list of Nikon accessory items such as shades, filters, finders, etc. Also consignment items are always welcome. You can be added to my mailing list by simply letting me know! If you have a list make sure to send me a copy! I am open to trades. **Robert Rotoloni, P.O. Box 3213, Munster, IN 46321. My fax is 708-895-5368 or e-mail me at...rotoloni@msn.com**

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WEB SITES TO SEE!

This list will appear in each issue and will contain sites that the members may find useful. If you discover a site you feel the members would be interested in please let me know and I'll run it in future issues. RJR

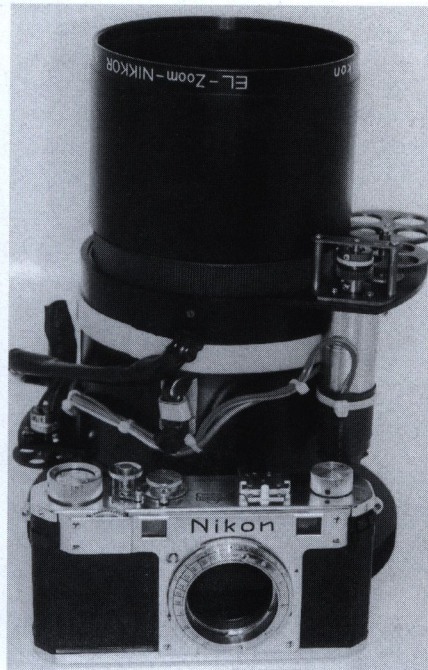
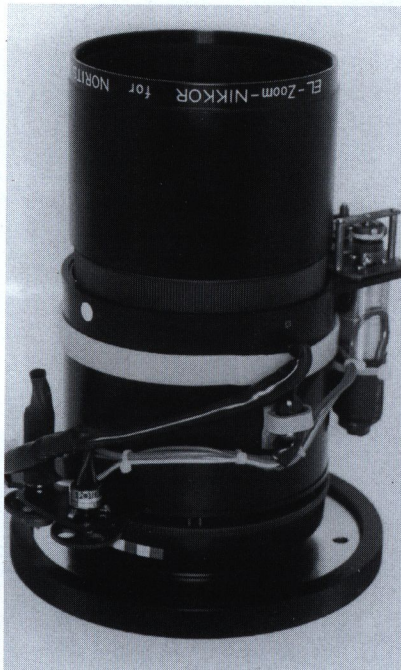
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www.mir.com.my/rb/photography/photography.htm
A Malaysian site.
www.fieldgrassandgale.com..They update their selling list weekly and have many Nikon items.
www.pacificrimcamera.com....Items for sale but also see their "photographic pages" for information on Nikon Rfs.

odds 'n ends

A 99-230MM/F8 EL-ZOOM-NIKKOR! WHAT?

How's this for a wild piece of glass! Nikon never fails to amaze me with the tremendous range of optical gear they have produced! Something weird and wonderful always seems right around the corner.

This "monster", and I mean it is big and heavy, came to me off of eBay recently. It is a massive 99-230mm/f8 EL-ZOOM-NIKKOR! It is labeled "for Noritsu" & came out of one of their one-hour machines. So we have this awesome zooming enlarging lens that must have cost a fortune when new! Now, where do I store it?? (RJR)





Created For The 'NHS' by TONY HURST