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DEC. 31, 2001  
**NHS-74**

IT'S HERE!! - NHS CON8 - FEB. 22-24TH!!  
**NIKON**  **JOURNAL**



**THIS ISSUE**  
PAGE 1 - MORE PARALLEL NIKKORS  
PAGE 4 - THE NAME IS NIKON...PART 3  
PAGE 8 - CLOSE UP ATTACHMENTS

**ROBERT ROTOLONI**  
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# THE NIKON JOURNAL

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## NHS-75 DEADLINE!!

The deadline for the next issue of our *NIKON JOURNAL*, NHS-75, is MARCH 1, 2002! Our convention issue! Please, you must get all letters, photos and contributions to me by that date! Thank you! RJR.

## EDITORIAL

This is not only the last issue of 2001, but also the last before our 8th International Convention to be held in the warm and sunny city of Scottsdale Arizona on Feb. 23rd. If you have not yet made up your mind to attend now is the time to do it! See page 14 for all the latest information!

Since writing the article on the parallel focusing early 85mm/f2.0 Nikkor in NHS-72, I have discovered that I have owned yet another such oddity: a 135mm/f4.0 Nikkor in the parallel mount! The MIOJ 135 SM with the weird looking barrel has been in my collection for years. Only recently did I realize why the barrel was different! What is it that they say: "You can't see the forest for the trees!" For years I have sought out this lens just because of the different barrel not realizing why it was different till now! I guess we all still have much to learn. See page 1 for my "final & last" article on early parallel focusing Nikkors! That is, unless there's another type I'm not aware of!

On page 4 we have our third installment of Kyoko Saegusa's translation of the writings of Tatsuhiko Arakawa on the early years at Nippon Kogaku just after the war. This is really historic material and it is the first time it has ever been published in English anywhere! In part 3 Mr. Arakawa continues to discuss the sequence of events that led to Nippon Kogaku's decision to enter the business of making cameras! Kyoko will be working on further translations for our next issue.

The subject of the article on page 8 is the Nikon Close Up Attachments. I have done this before, but many years ago, so I thought I would update things. The Close-up attachments have always been one of those interesting and unusual accessory items. Though limited in use, they seem to have been made during nearly the entire run of the RF Nikons, and a lot of effort was put into their design. Today they are not often seen and are starting to command some significant prices.

Please see page 12-13 for a reproduction of a two page ad that I have to admit I had not seen until Ken Reisher sent it in! It may be the very first print ad for the Nikon F to be published in America!

Our e-mail list continues to grow and an updated version is found on page 17. I encourage all members who want their addresses listed to contact me and I will make every effort to add them to the list. A great way to stay in touch with fellow members.

Also in this issue...more auction news, the end of the Nikonos, and the "Gift King" is identified on page 16!

At this time I want to make one last invitation to any and all to attend our convention in Arizona in February. A great chance to meet fellow members and have a good time talking Nikons and soaking up some sun in what is the bleakest month of the year for most of us. So if there is a chance you can come, just let us know!

## TO ALL MY MEMBERS I WANT TO WISH A VERY HAPPY & HEALTHY 2002!

**AND NOW ENTER THE PARALLEL 135/F4.0 NIKKOR!!**

# ***ANOTHER PARALLEL NIKKOR!!!!***

**by ROBERT J. ROTOLONI**

About 20 years ago, veteran Nikon collector Bill Kraus, sent me a photo of an unusual 135mm/f4.0 Nikkor he had recently acquired. I can't locate that original shot, but I can still see it in my mind's eye, because the lens was very different from any other f4 that I had seen up to that point. In the first photo are 2 such lenses flanking a standard issue version. Note the very different appearance of the lower part of the barrel. On the left is lens #904109 and on the right #90457, with #904132 in the middle. All are from the second series of f4s' made during the late Nikon I and early Nikon M era. I was quite pleased to add them to my collection over the years since I try to have at least 1 example of each major version, but it took me many years to obtain these 2 lenses. I found 90457 about 10 years ago and put it away for safe keeping. Just a few months ago I found 904109 & was happy to have another.

But then lightning struck, as it sometimes does, as I examined my new acquisition. Yes it was another f4 with the strange lower barrel, but suddenly I noticed something I had not before. As I racked out the focusing ring it hit me....it had a parallel mount!! Just like the 85mm/f2 I had written about in NHS-72!! So here we have yet another early production MIOJ era screw mount Nikkor with the more expensive to produce parallel mount instead of the more common rotating variety.

So again I ask you the same questions I did in NHS-72. Why were these lenses made and why so early and interspersed with the common rotating mounts? I have still not heard of a good answer to these questions, so the fact that another such lens exists just deepens the mystery and makes things a little more interesting.

Besides the 2 lenses in this article (90457 & 904109) I have recorded 90427, 90464, 90466, 904110 & 904215. Note how dispersed the numbers are and intermixed are lenses with rotating mounts. How I love the MIOJ era! So unpredictable, so interesting!

Our resident SM Nikkor expert, Dr. Randol Hooper, sent me a note following the article on the parallel 85mm/f2 in NHS-72. I quote..."Your article regarding the parallel focus 85 led me to examine my lenses; naturally, I did not find one among mine although I have two that are quite close. I examined the SM Nikkors and found the 50/1.4, 50/1.5 and all 50/2s' as well as the Micro 50/3.5 and the 35/1.8 lenses to have parallel mounts; all others are rotary!.."

Randol, thanks for the feedback! Anyone else have any information or thoughts on these lenses? Let me know! RJR





*Photo pg.1 & above...Here we have 3 early examples of the 135/f4.0 Nikkor; L to R, #904109, 904132 & 90457. The two flanking lenses possess the unusual parallel focusing mount while the center lens has the much more common rotating type. All 3 lenses are in Leica SM since no Nikon BM lens has yet been reported with the parallel mount! Note the very different configuration of the lower part of the barrel & the position of the focusing ring in relation to the aperture ring. Also the center lens has a knurled grip ring towards the bottom that the parallel lenses lack. Above the lenses are racked all the way out. Note that, just like the 85s' in NHS-72, the overall lengths are the same but the barrel extension has occurred in a different manner. In the parallel version, the area between the focus & aperture rings is larger while the rotating lens has changed between the focus & grip rings! Also the front elements of the parallel lenses remain in the same position.*



*Above right. The 85mm from NHS-72 with the parallel 135/f4. Besides the normals, these are the only two early Nikkors in parallel mount I am aware of at this time. Left & right...A parallel 135/f4.0 compared to a very early 135/f3.5 Nikkor in SM. The f3.5 is in the rotating mount and note that the overall lengths remain the same when racked out and the barrel has extended just like the rotating f4.0 type; between the focus and grip rings. To date no 135/f3.5 Nikkor has been reported to me in parallel mount! If you have one let us know!!*





*This page...Some family portraits of the three known versions of the 135/f4.0 Nikkor. Left to right....Nikon bayonet, rotating screw mount and parallel screw mount. The screw mount lenses are slightly longer since the Leica-type bodies are shallower than the Nikon/Contax type. Otherwise, optically they are all identical. The left photo has the 3 lenses racked out. Note that the BM and rotating SM lenses both extend in the same manner, unlike the parallel SM type. The bottom photo illustrates the very different barrel configuration and the tripod sockets. The Nikon mount lens has no tripod mount at all, never did. I believe that the stronger and wider bayonet mount better distributes the weight of these heavy lenses than the narrow screw mount, eliminating the need for the socket. The 2 SM lenses have very different tripod mounts. Neither one seems better than the other, just different. So it appears that the barrel of the parallel lenses was a very different design from the beginning. Why? Again, your guess is as good as mine! (If anyone has more #s to report please do. Every example is important!)*



by TATSUHIKO ARAKAWA

# THE NAME IS NIKON

TRANSLATED FOR THE "NHS" BY KYOKO SAEGUSA...PART 3

In this third installment, Kyoko Saegusa continues her translation of chapter 3 of Tatsuhiko Arakawa's soon to be published book concerned with the rebirth of the Japanese camera industry after the war, and the events at Nippon Kogaku that led to the beginnings of camera production and the BIRTH OF THE NIKON!

## Chapter 3: The Quickening Period of Camera Making

### The First Business Negotiation

Saburo Uchida, founder of Canon, together with Takeo Maeda who brought with him an unfinished product, visited the main Nippon Kogaku factory in Ohi, Tokyo, in 1934. It was a hot day in early fall, and it turned out to be a memorable day in the history of the Japanese camera industry!

Sigeharu Yamamoto, Sales Section Chief in the General Affairs Division, and Noboru Hamashima, Head of Section C (Civilian Goods) greeted these visitors on very short notice. Kadono Sunayama joined them later. Incidentally, it was characteristic of a weaponry manufacturer to house within its General Affairs Division a Sales Section whose activities were focused upon receiving orders and delivering products to a very select group of clients, namely the Army and Navy. Their sales activities differed greatly from those of a company who conducted marketing research on general clients, produced items on speculation, and sold the products in the commercial market.

Until that day, Uchida had no idea what sort of company Nippon Kogaku was. A year earlier, Goro Yoshida, his brother-in-law (his wife's older brother) who was a broker of machinery, had talked him into founding **Seiki Kogaku Kenkyusho** for the purpose of producing 35mm cameras that were comparable to the Leica. Trial camera production by Yoshida, however, wasn't going anywhere. Uchida gave up on Yoshida and, upon consultation with his brother, Ryonosuke, decided to seek cooperation with Nippon Kogaku.

I have a detailed account of this fateful day in Chapter 2, Section 3 of *The Founding*, entitled, "Betting the Company's Future." As explained in the section, "the fact that was revealed for the first time," Uchida hadn't known that Nippon Kogaku had already successfully manufactured a trial lens of high quality for 35mm cameras. Uchida was at his wits' end, and visited Nippon Kogaku thinking that this visit would make it or break it for his company. He learned of Nippon Kogaku's successful lens production only after he talked with Yamamoto and Hamashima. It turned out to be serendipity not only for Uchida but for Nippon Kogaku, for it meant the first (general) customer for the company.

Lenses for 35mm cameras couldn't be sold by themselves. Leica and Contax were equipped with popular standardized lenses such as the Elmar and Sonnar. At a time when no Japanese camera manufacturers produced 35mm cameras

that required high quality lenses, here was a person who knew nothing about cameras asking Nippon Kogaku to supply lenses for cameras that would be comparable to the Leica!

**The Nippon Kogaku side didn't hesitate for a moment to promise cooperation, and agreed to supply lenses to Uchida!**

Uchida remembered later that he asked Nippon Kogaku to supply only lenses at this meeting. However, he had another important item on the agenda, that of asking for technical assistance in making the camera bodies themselves, which Goro Yoshida had never completed.

Uchida surely knew almost nothing about cameras when he founded Canon. However, a year later, he probably understood what was holding up camera production; Uchida not only asked for the lenses, but he also asked for technical assistance in the designing and manufacturing of the camera mechanism as well!

Seiki Kogaku Kenkyusho was a pioneer in venture business, as it were, and a small one at that. Furthermore, the people at Nippon Kogaku had never met this businessman before. Uchida always remained grateful that Sunayama had believed in him and gave Uchida the chance to give birth to the Canon camera.

The negotiation with Seiki Kogaku was the first real business negotiation, and a successful one, for Hamashima, who was in charge of civilian goods.

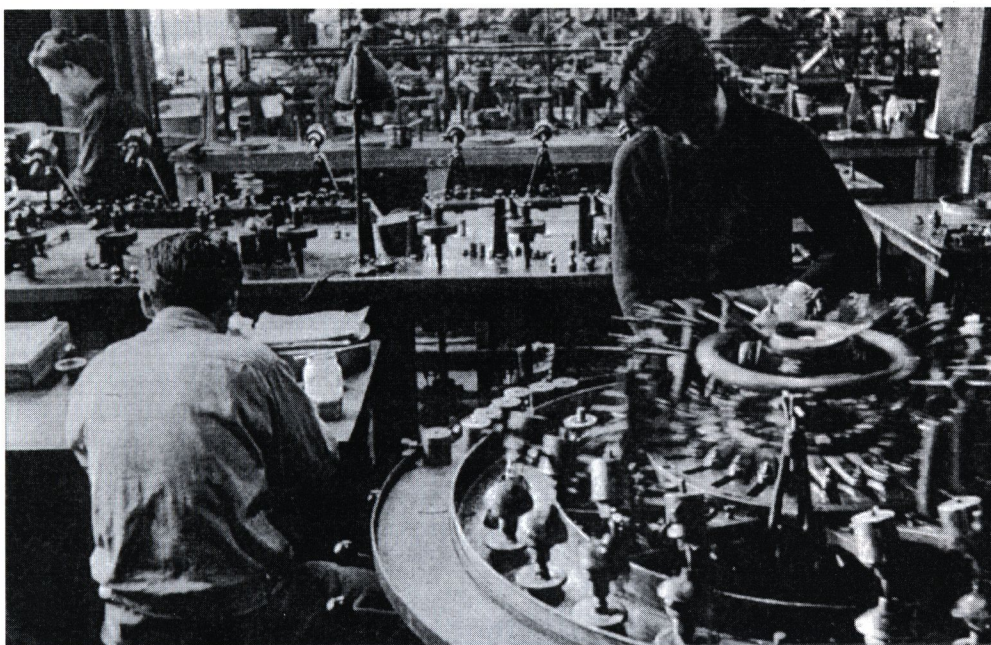
The first Canon cameras were released onto the market under the name of "Hansa" through the wholesaler, Ohmiya Photo Equipment Co., Ltd., at the end of 1935.

Hamashima eventually had some dealings with this distributor, and thus was able to obtain some knowledge of what was going on in the camera industry.

At that time there was another powerful camera and photo distributor named Asanuma, and Hamashima got acquainted with this firm as well.

Around that time Nippon Kogaku had a plan to design and manufacture the first domestic lens that would be used for phototype processing by printing companies and newspapers. The lens was to be an apochromat that would enable trichromatic photography. It was to be a lens highly corrected for chromatic and other types of aberrations, a type of lens for which, until then, Japan depended entirely on imports. Mr. Hamashima began to have contact with Asanuma, who was also dealing in printing equipment, for the purpose of doing market research on the new product that was to be marketed under the name of "Apo-Nikkor".

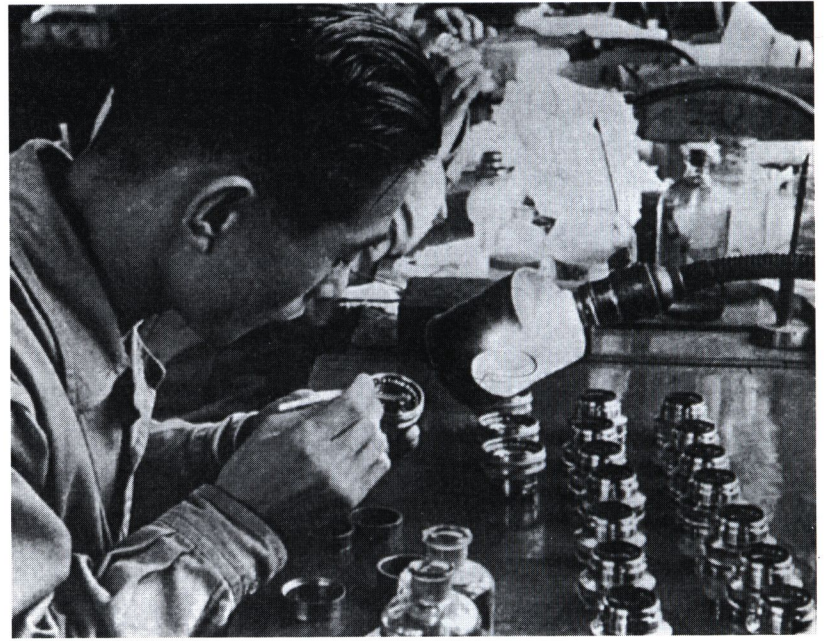
It was after WWII that Nippon Kogaku finally marketed its own printing lenses, and I was put in charge of advertising them. As you can see by now, Hamashima was the only Nippon Kogaku executive with any knowledge of product marketing, especially the goings on in the Japanese photo industry, who stayed on in management after the war.



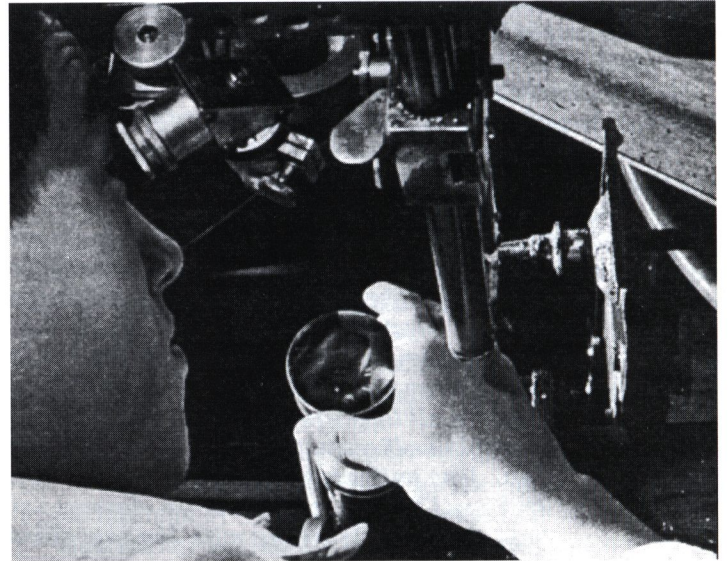
*In my files I have many early factory photos depicting various stages in the production of Nikon cameras and Nikkor lenses. The sources have been factory issued literature as well as magazine ads and some articles published over the years. Unfortunately, I have none that are original photos, only these 2nd generation shots, so please pardon their lack of resolution. However, even these less than top quality photos are (much) better than nothing. I have always found such shots very interesting in that they not only give one a good idea of the process involved but also how different things really were during the early years at Nippon Kogaku! What you see is a very labor intensive process with a great deal of hands-on work and not a "clean room" in sight! So how did they manage to produce all that equipment, most of which has held up so well this half century?*

*Top...lens polishing. Today the room would be very different! Right...Inspecting an element using a light bulb! Bottom... Working with the raw glass!*





*Clockwise from upper left...here we have a worker inspecting an already polished lens element. A gentleman seated at his bench with rolls of 50mm/f1.4 Nikkors before him. He is applying something to the front of another Nikkor. Note that none of the lenses are covered and he is working under a bare-bulb lamp! Another lens inspection, this time using some sort of optical device. Finally, a room full of workers at their stations obviously performing various tasks on lens elements. again note the bare-bulb lamps used for illumination. What you may also notice in all these photos is a total lack of any gloves being worn by the workers. Definitely a different era.*





### “So, You Think So Too?”

In early October when the third wave of lay-offs was over, and the Workers Division had done the majority of its work, Noboru Hamashima came to me and asked, “What do you think?” I immediately understood what he was asking. The Production Division had excluded cameras from the list of products in their report. Ever since the Workers Division met for the first time, I had repeatedly expressed my opinion to Hamashima, who I thought would understand my point, that the company must make cameras its mainstay if the company wanted to rebuild itself. I knew he was asking me for my opinion on this issue again. Without hesitation I told him that I didn’t understand why the company wouldn’t manufacture cameras. Hamashima smiled and said, “So, you think so too?” After over a half century I have never forgotten the excitement I experienced upon hearing those words.

As he parted, he asked me to show him the production plan I had. I went back to my desk immediately, put together and delivered to him my production plan under the title, “Major points in my personal argument for the production of cameras” which reads as follows:

#### D) The general product types must be as follows:

##### a) Primary products (planned production)

- Photography related: cameras, lenses, finders, etc
- Motion picture related: projectors & lenses, etc
- Land survey related: transit levels, etc
- Measuring instruments: microscopes, light meters, shutter testing machines, etc

##### b) Secondary products (using surplus resources)

- Binoculars limited to the following; Micron 6x, Novar 7x, opera glasses 3x, Luscar 6x, Orion 8x. Plus one waterproof type for fishermen.

II) In order to mobilize production power, the production division must be efficiently organized.

III) The job and personnel distribution must be organized with a clear chain of command.

IV) To reduce intermediate expenses, personnel must be re-distributed and a policy of hiring a few good people must be adopted.

V) Lay offs may be inevitable if we do implement II-IV.

VI) Adoption of various policies to increase efficiency.

In early October, 1945, Hamashima was the only boss who would take my production plan and opinions seriously.

#### If We Combine...

I knew by then that Hamashima had a passion for camera production. I would visit him frequently and deliver to him an opinion paper that he could look at at his leisure.

At that time I saw a great future for camera production for the following reasons:

- (1) We are currently occupied with concerns to ease day to day hunger, but sooner or later the love for photography, which was suppressed during the war, will come back even stronger.
- (2) Nippon Kogaku would be a good company to make small precision cameras of Leica & Contax caliber, and it seems technically feasible.

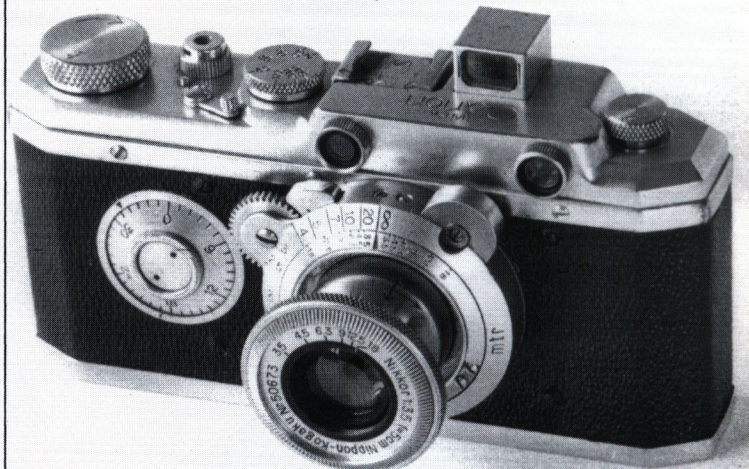
(3) Land survey measurement equipment and other optical products may be popular, but they are for limited technical use, and the demand will never be large. On the other hand, there is an infinite market for cameras. Popular camera models are not only talked about among ordinary people, but they also improve the image of the maker. I have copies and drafts of my opinion papers in my old files. Here is what I wrote on the topic of “the psychological basis for love of photography” in the paper entitled, “Personal opinions on the basic policies for reconstruction.”

“Needless to say, the desire to record forever one’s actions and impressions is the psychology of amateur photographers. It is similar to the desire to break a branch off a blooming cherry blossom tree so that one can take it home, or the impulse to write graffiti on the ceiling of the Golden Pavilion. This is common amongst people all over. When this psychology is combined with some scientific & cultural considerations, it manifests as love of photography. Photography may satisfy this desire in all of us. However, it doesn’t always do it perfectly because current technology and photo equipment are not satisfactory in terms of ease of handling, perfection of expression, and cost. They are still being developed. The public is looking for more simple, more beautiful, and cheaper products. If we can come one step closer to satisfying their needs, this common psychology will be manifested as a great market demand. It doesn’t require much elaboration in explaining that another manifestation is evident in the way they want to know the current news through journalistic photography. Here is a document which suggests that there is a large potential demand amongst those who are developing their love for photography but who currently have no buying power, and a budding demand amongst the young masses.”

I wrote the above when the camera boom that was created by the occupation forces was still not known amongst the Japanese public. What I sensed then was the growing enthusiasm amongst photography-loving Japanese people, who had just been liberated from the long period of war.

I remember Hamashima wanting me to assure him that what I wrote was really true!

When did the policy change?



*The Hansa Canon...the camera that resulted from the meetings between Saburo Uchida and Noboru Hamashima of Nippon Kogaku, and started it all!*

# CLOSE-UPS WITH YOUR 'RF' NIKONS!!

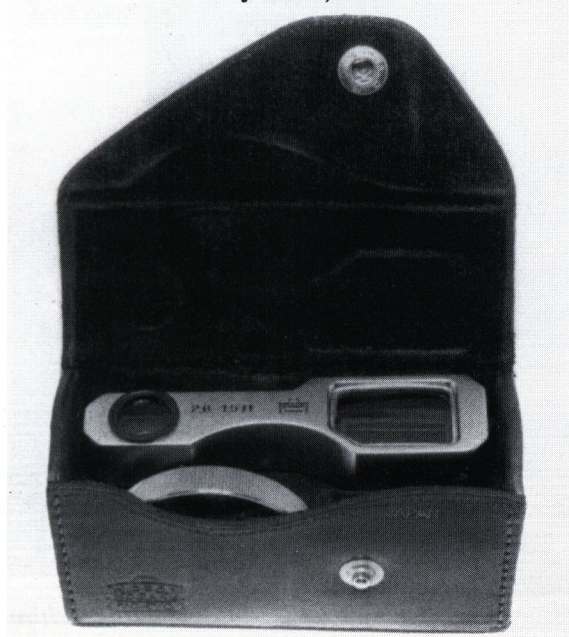
by **ROBERT J. ROTOLONI**

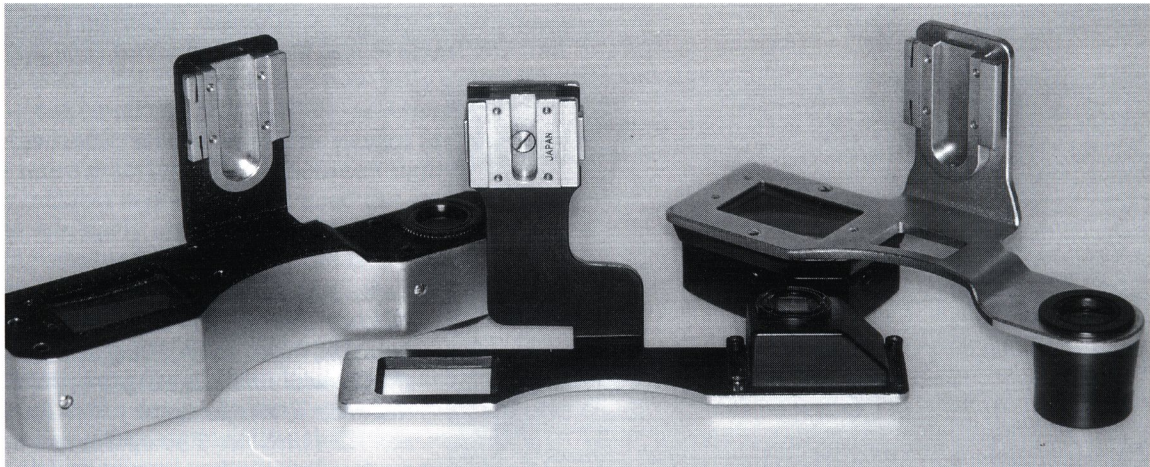
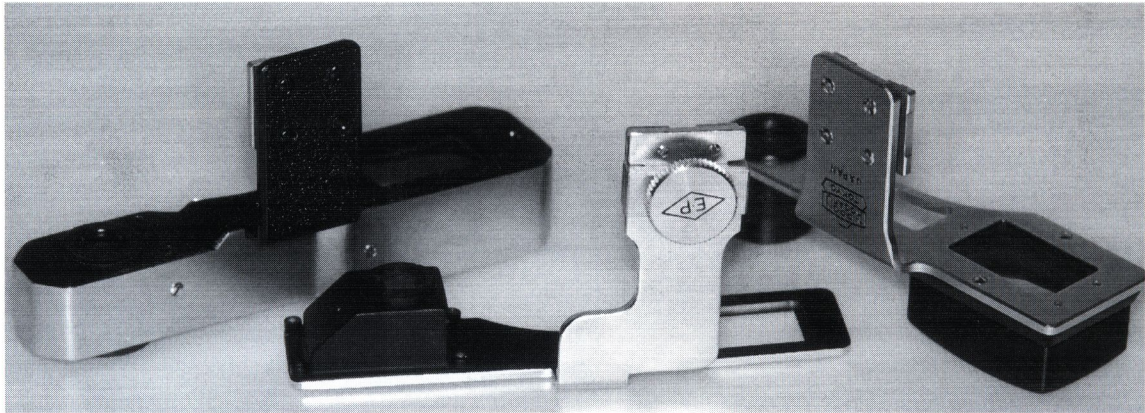
One of the more esoteric accessories made for the Nikon RF cameras was the series of close-up attachments produced from at least the very early Model S through the SP/S3/S4 years. Three distinct models exist, based on the camera body they were designed to fit, with two varieties per model which is determined by which normal lens they will mount to, for a total of six versions to be collected. I will get to the individual types shortly, but first some general overall points of information and an opinion or two.

To date no units have been found marked "MIOJ" but it does appear that they were first made at least by 1952, just after the occupation. In all cases, the auxiliary screw-in close up lenses came in either 40.5mm or 43mm, for the 50/f2 and 50/f1.4 lenses respectively, and any vintage lens can be used with any vintage camera bracket. It is the bracket which differentiates the three models and not the lenses, for each is designed to properly mount to the correct body. Three types are needed because the Nikon RF cameras exist as basically just three configurations: Nikon I, M and S; Nikon S2; Nikon SP, S3, S4 and S3M. The three basic body styles result in a distinctive placement of the accessory shoe in relation to the RF and VF windows, and the size and location of the windows themselves. But only three, no more.

The bracket would slip into the accessory shoe from the front, not the rear, just like the exposure meter, and it contained the actual optics that were positioned in front of the RF and VF windows. These optics altered the properties of the internal rangefinder of the camera to, along with the lens mounted close-up ring, allow it to focus correctly from 1.5ft to 2.5ft (18 to 30 inches). This was much closer than the standard 3 foot minimum for the normal lenses.

I have always been fascinated by these units for various reasons. They are well made and the optics are first rate, although the early version is quite simple compared to the latter two. They are designed to fit their respective bodies and they do. And, as was more common during the era of classic 35s', they were neat little add-on gadgets that manufacturers loved to make back then and expend the time and effort to design, no matter their real value or utility. They looked good in the catalog and they weren't overly expensive. But who really used them? I have tried, and it isn't the easiest thing to do. Did people really go out there & shoot close-ups of flowers and insects with these units? Well, I think that many were bought with the intention of doing just that but, you know, I have seen probably 100 of these over the years and I can only remember one that showed any signs of use! I think they were purchased and seldom used, which accounts for the fact that most are in mint to mint minus condition, many still with their boxes, 40 years later. But that said, they still are an interesting accessory that belongs in every collection, even if you can't have all six varieties. So here we go.



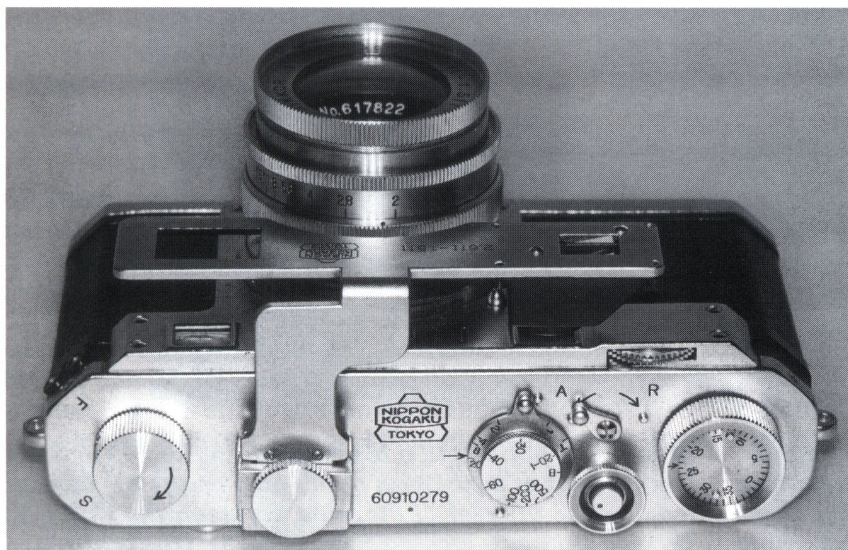
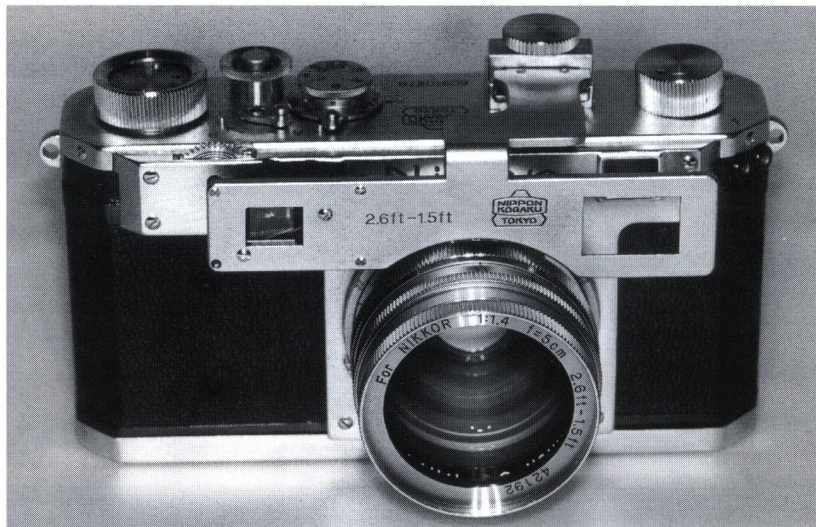


Photos on pg. 8...Each unit came in its own fitted leather case with a slot for the lens and the bracket. Both the size and configuration of these cases were unique to the model they held. The cases are not interchangeable! An example of the packaging. Some came in multicolored & marked boxes (left) while others were shipped in plain gray boxes (right) stamped on the bottom as to their contents (right)! This page..above..Top and rear views of the three bracket types, L to R.... S2, S and SP/S3. Note that each type is unique in some way, and not just because of the camera they were designed for. The S2 is fully enclosed with no

protruding optics and a black mounting shoe. The S is a simple sheet of metal with optics only on the RF side and mounted on the rear of the plate. Its mounting shoe is all chrome but has a locking screw! The SP type is also a simple plate but its optics are mounted on the front side and are present for both windows. Bottom photos..The 3 versions of both the f2.0 and f1.4 close-up lenses. In each case their vintage goes from left to right. Note that they began with completely chrome construction, then hybrid chrome and black, then all black!

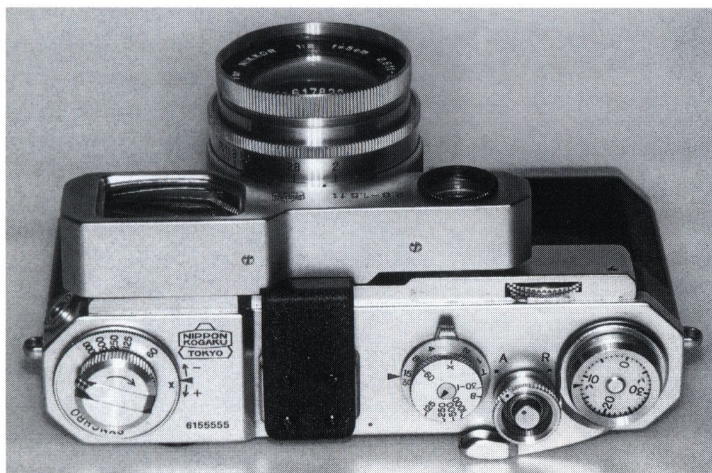
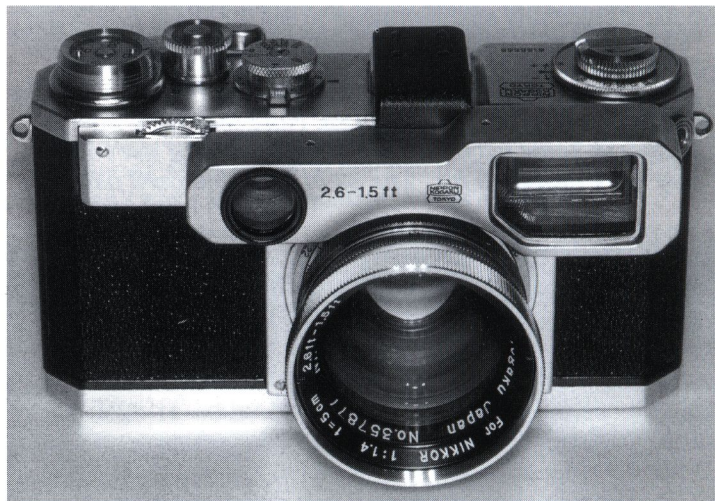


*Right...The first type Nikon close-up attachment made during the Nikon S era. However, it works perfectly on the earlier Nikon I and M models since they are identical in layout. I have yet to record any units marked MIOJ but they might exist! Note the frame in front of the viewfinder window is just that, a frame, with no optics. This unit is for the f1.4 Nikkor.*



*Left...The same camera now with an f2.0 Nikkor and proper lens, but the very same bracket. Note the locking screw unique to this model and the single optical unit at the rear of the bracket lined up with the RF window. The optics are very close to the camera front plate but do not make contact. No optics before the VF window!*

*Below & right...The S2 version is quite different. You now have optics for both windows but they are completely encased in chrome finished brass. It makes this type appear heavier and more bulky, but it is actually quite light weight. Note the black crinkle mounting bracket with no locking screw. Again the unit comes very close but does not touch the camera front plate.*



**TYPE ONE--NIKON I, M & S**

Although none have been found marked MIOJ, this model will fit all three models since their windows and accessory shoe are identical. The bracket consists of a heavy gauge of chromed brass and is unique for two reasons; there is a locking screw to firmly attach it to the shoe (the next two types do not have this), and there are no optics on the viewfinder side, only a cut out good for framing, unlike the later types that have optics for both windows. The bracket is completely chrome finished save for the backside which is painted matte black to reduce reflections. Both close-up lenses for this version are heavy chrome as well.

**TYPE TWO--NIKON S2**

The S2 had its very own version shared with no other model. It differed markedly from the Type One as it was made from a lighter weight chromed brass, has a black crinkle finished mounting bracket with no locking screw and is about one half inch thick! This is because the optics are now fully enclosed and not hanging naked off the rear surface, and there are now optics for the viewfinder side as well. The design makes this version appear more massive but it is actually lighter than it looks. The very earliest units probably used the same lenses as the Type One, but early on they were modified slightly. The outside rim remained chrome, but the face was now painted black to reduce flare.

**TYPE THREE--NIKON SP, S3, S4 & S3M**

The final version again differed from its predecessor but in a way reverted back to the design of the Type One! The bracket was again now a heavy brass piece like the Type One but this time the finder optics were mounted on the front surface as opposed to the rear! This gave it a distinctive "bug-eyed" appearance totally unique to this type. The mounting bracket was chrome, not black, but the housings for the optics were black. There is also a third window (actually a cut out) between the "bug eyes". Why? Well, on an S3 or S4 or S3M it means nothing. You just see part of the nameplate through it. But...on the SP it allows light to hit the collecting window for the projected frame lines, so you could still see them in the viewfinder. Well done! By this time the close-up lenses are completely finished in black & lighter than the chrome types.

So you have six varieties to look for. Three brackets and six close-up lenses. Also the cases are unique to each type and that includes the slots for the lenses. A 43mm will not fit in a case designed for the 40.5 size! Same for the brackets. They fit only their correct case.

If anyone knows of a black finished type, one marked MIOJ, or one with a serial number on the bracket itself, please let me know.

*The final version was made to fit the Nikon SP/S3/S4 & S3M models, since all had an identical layout. However, note the small cutout in the bracket for the light gathering window for the SP framelines. On the S3 (bottom) it serves no purpose and you can see the letters "kon". The bracket now rest close to the body and the optics protrude outward, opposite of the S type. The mounting bracket is chrome with no locking screw. The "bug-eye" appearance of this model gives it a very different look although the design of all 3 types is similar. (All photos by RJR)*



12

THE

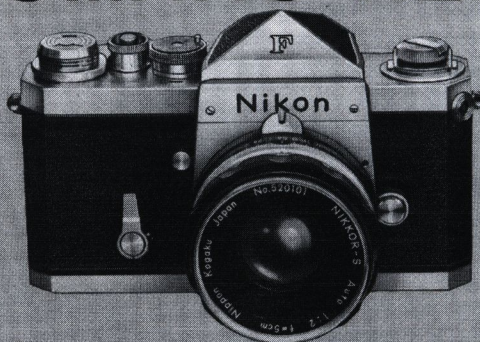
IF

--SPOT!!

WHERE'S THE IF???

On June 1st, 1959...Nikon assumes absolute leadership in 35mm camera design...the new

# NIKON AUTOMATIC REFLEX



featuring:

- INSTANT-RETURN AUTOMATIC MIRROR • INSTANT-REOPEN AUTOMATIC DIAPHRAGM
- DEPTH-OF-FIELD PREVIEW CONTROL • INCOMPARABLE NIKKOR LENSES

to share top honors with the famous NIKON SP, the world's only rangefinder-coupled '35' with a built-in

UNIVERSAL VIEWFINDER SYSTEM



**ON JUNE 1st, NIKON** — who gave you the SP, the most advanced rangefinder-coupled '35'— will bring you the same precision and unmistakable quality in a single lens reflex . . . the Nikon Automatic Reflex.

Beyond question, the Nikon Automatic Reflex will be the finest camera of its type available anywhere. Even its appearance will be typically Nikon . . . trim, smart and distinguished. And, it will offer the professional or amateur user a combination of automatic features that far outstrips anything he may have seen before:

**INSTANT-RETURN AUTOMATIC MIRROR**— springs back to viewing position, automatically, in the wink of an eye.

**INSTANT-REOPEN AUTOMATIC DIAPHRAGM** — returns to full aperture the instant exposure is made.

The result is a new ease, a new accuracy in 35mm reflex photography. You hold the Automatic Reflex to your eye, and you see a brilliant image of your subject. You shoot.

Your subject is still visible in the finder with full brilliance and clarity. For the first time, you have discovered what 'fully automatic' really means.

And you know that what you see in the finder is *precisely* what registered on the film, because lens, mirror and finder-prism are aligned with the precision and accuracy that is a Nikon tradition.

**DEPTH-OF-FIELD PREVIEW CONTROL** permits you to view your subject at 'taking' aperture. At a touch of your finger, the lens stops down. Remove your finger, and the diaphragm springs open again. This remarkable feature is another Nikon exclusive!

Here are some of the precision features shared by the Nikon Automatic Reflex and the Nikon SP: • *Single-stroke film transport* • *high-speed rewind crank* • *non-rotating speed selector dial* • *shutter speeds: 1 sec. to 1/1000 plus "T" and "B"* • *automatic '0' reset exposure counter* • *color coded flash synch control* • *calibrated dual purpose self-timer* • *removable back* • *fixed take-up spool . . . plus the widest assortment of accessory lenses available anywhere.*

NIKON AUTOMATIC REFLEX with 50mm Nikkor f/2 lens, \$329.50

See the impressive array of Nikkor lenses and Nikon accessories on the reverse side.

## NIKON ACCESSORIES

for the new Automatic Reflex extend its versatility  
to virtually every photographic application

### NIKKOR LENSES

Acclaimed the world over for their unique combination of high speed, high resolution and color correction, Nikkor lenses are acknowledged today to be the finest in 35mm optics. They proved a major factor in the fast growing popularity of the Nikon cameras — right up to the current SP — and will contribute substantially to the desirability of the Automatic Reflex.

Nikkor lenses are now available in focal lengths ranging from 21mm extreme wide angle to 1000mm telephoto. The 35, 50, 105 and 135mm lenses for the Automatic Reflex will be equipped with Instant-Reopen Automatic Diaphragms.

#### A MAGNIFICENT NEW NIKKOR LENS 21MM f/4 EXTREME WIDE ANGLE

This new lens exhibits the same qualities that have made Nikkor a byword for excellence in the 35mm field . . . incredible resolution at all apertures, full color correction, and the highest speed of any lens of its kind.

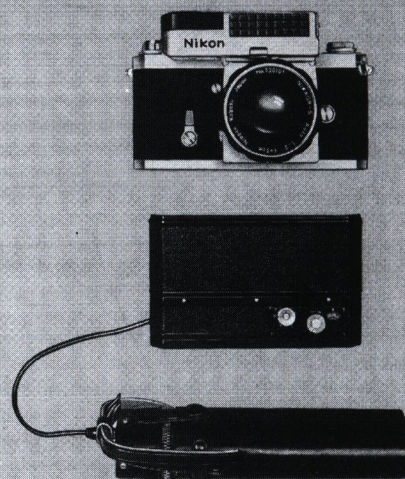


### DIAPHRAGM-AND-SHUTTER COUPLED EXPOSURE METER

Alignment of pointer with indicator needles automatically sets both shutter and diaphragm for correct exposure. ASA settings from 6 to 4000. 400% light booster available as an accessory.

### ELECTRIC MOTOR DRIVE

Battery operated, the Nikon Electric Motor Drive brings automatic firepower to the Nikon Automatic Reflex. Permits power-driven single exposures, bursts of 2 or 3 or more, or continuous firing through an entire 36-exposure load, at the rate of 4 exposures-per-second.



Write for the name of your local Nikon Dealer.

NIKON INCORPORATED, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.

REMEMBER: Delivery date of the Nikon Automatic Reflex . . . June 1, 1959

*Member Ken Reisher has supplied me with this very early double page ad for the Nikon F that may very well be the first reflex ad in the U.S.! Note the following...*

*June 1st date...this ad had to break in early May even before the F was shown at the IPEX show! The SP shares*

*space with the F. All the accessory lenses shown are RF types, not reflex! The motor drive used in this ad is for the SP, not for the F! And finally....NOWHERE IN THIS AD IS IT REFERRED TO AS THE "NIKON F"! NOWHERE!!*

# NHS-CON8 INFO!!

## **SCOTTSDALE FEB. 22-23**

If all goes as planned this issue of the NHS Journal should be in your hands by the 10th of January. That leaves you only 6 weeks to our 8th International Convention! You still have time to make your plans to attend, but you must move as quickly as possible! Those of you who have already sent in your registration form and fee, thank you very much and I look forward to seeing each and everyone of you. For those still thinking about it, ***please do not delay in getting your form & fee in to me!*** The Dec. 31st deadline has passed but those who get their fee in before the convention date can still save some money. Here again is the registration information:

**FEE RECEIVED BEFORE FEB. 23, 2002.....\$50.00**  
**FEE AT THE DOOR ON FEB. 23, 2002.....\$60.00**

**YOUR FEE WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL IF YOU NOTIFY ME BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON FEBRUARY 10TH. AFTER THIS DATE THE FEE IS NOT REFUNDABLE!!**

I think this is quite fair to all concerned. Those of you who are reasonably certain to attend have ample time to get your discounted fee to me, yet everyone has till Feb. 10th to withdraw if circumstances require it. So please do not delay any longer. Make your checks payable to **RJR PUBLISHING, INC.**, and get them top me ASAP!! Send them to the society PO Box and do it soon so you **don't forget! SEE YOU THERE!!!**

Here is some of the latest information and news....

The following speakers have been lined up for this meeting..

**Bill Adams.** Will speak on the "new" rangefinder Technology currently on the market, such as the Hexar by Konica, the Contax G1 and others. He will discuss their advantages & disadvantages and illustrate his opinions with a slide show.

**Bill Kraus.** One of our regulars who always comes up with a very interesting talk. This time some early info & history through the pages of "advertising" of the Nikon here in America over the years.

**Tony Hurst.** Another stunning slide show is in the making as I write this. Tony will use his limitless talent to illustrate "vintage" Nikon literature by both the factory and the importers.

**Uli Koch.....** Will give a talk on his new book which should be close to publication by then. Plans call for slides of some of his many illustrations to be shown.

**Robert Rotoloni.** I will try to give a detailed history of the early days of Nikon in America with info on the first importer (OFITRA) and Joe Ehrenreich.

(Others may be added by the meeting date)

**REMEMBER OUR "FOR MEMBERS ONLY" BUY/SELL/TRADE SHOW FOLLOWING THE SPEAKERS! BRING SOME REALLY GOOD STUFF TO SELL OR JUST SHOW!!**

Show chairman Don Dedera and wife Nancy have been working diligently to make this a great convention. Don has been working on some side activities for those who are interested, and here is his latest news.....

**I believe that side trips should & could be an important element enhancing our NHS-Con8. Nearby Phoenix is America's 6th largest city, & Arizona in late winter is the most delightful Sunbelt getaway. Our state is stunningly scenic, having the most National Parks & Monuments ranging from archeology & Old West to the world wonder Grand Canyon. Arizona abounds in golf courses and museums, and our unique shrines include those to Frank Lloyd Wright & Geronimo. Las Vegas is just an hours' flight or days' drive from Phoenix! My personal travel agent is taking a spirited interest in our side trips, our hotelier wants to do most anything to accommodate us, and one of Arizona's most successful Grand Canyon businessman is an advisor. We are all trying to hold down costs. Here is how things are shaping up:**

**Pre-Convention:** get here by Tuesday the 19th, & you can join our bus (maybe some air) trip to Grand Canyon. On the Edge of Eternity we will have some informal sessions for discussion of the structure & future of the NHS. Lots of opportunity to bond, talk and swap both info & stuff. Sensational photo opportunities! We guarantee having the group back to the Valley of the Sun Thursday or Friday in time for the cocktail/dinner that evening.

**Convention itself:** Smartly organized yet informally amusing program all day Saturday. Richard de Stoutz has done a great job of lining up speakers. We wind up with the White Gloves Swap Meet. Bring your odd, rare, weird and surplus Nikon items for show and trade! For members only! The hotel will provide complimentary pre-show security for your valuables. The Western Outdoor barbecue that night will be outstanding.

**Saturday Option:** For the spouses and friends, Nancy is planning a sizzling tour of Scottsdale's cultural, shopping & dining pleasures, so bring the ladies!

**Post-Convention:** Tell me what you want to do! Golf, a day trip, an overnight to Vegas? The sooner you communicate, the better I can serve you! Don Dedera.

\*\*\*\*\*

Those of you with questions or suggestions can contact Don or I anytime at the following:

**dondedera@aol.com**

**rotoloni@msn.com** or fax me at 219-322-9977

\*\*\*\*\*

**COME AND ENJOY THE VALLEY OF THE SUN IN FEBRUARY! SEE YOU THERE!!**

**AND FINALLY...THE PLANNED RAFFLE OF THE VOIGTLANDER LENSES HAS BEEN CANCELED! WHY? ABSOLUTELY NO RESPONSE FROM ANYONE!! NONE!!**





**'NHS' SHOWCASE!!**

*Dutch member Erik Van Straten promised to send me an example of what his new 21mm/f4 Voigtlander lens could do. This shot is the result. He is very happy with his new lens and I can see why. Extreme depth of field, very even*

*illumination, no distortion and edge to edge sharpness! Makes you want to go out and shoot with your RF Nikon! Taken with a Nikon S2 using Tmax 400 and printed on Ilford Multigrade 4. More next issue!*

## WHAT MEMBERS ARE UP TO

NHS members always seem to be involved in all types of endeavors that I find interesting such as....

**Fred Krughoff**....Our own webmaster continues to do a bang up job with our website. If you have visited lately you saw a series of "original" and unique photos of the **World Trade Center** atrocity. Fred lives very close to the towers & was on his roof at the moment it happened! He literally saw the 2nd plane hit! The photos you can see on our site were taken within minutes of the event and for days following it. Please check them out and see what New Yorkers had to endure after the attack. Thank you Fred, for sharing them with us!

**Tom Abrahamsson**...Tom is recovering from his illness and will be at our Convention. In the meantime, he is one of three photographers whose recent photos of Havana, Cuba, are currently on display at the **Kwantlen University Fine Arts Gallery in Surrey, BC, Canada**. The show runs from Dec. 6 thru January 18th. Tom is a fine "street" photographer in the fashion of the great B&W masters of the 30s,40s and 50s! Some really fine work from a member who actually shoots!!

**Don Deder**....Our Convention chairman is doing all he can to make this a successful meeting (see pg. 14) including beating the drum in his local area. Recently he spoke before the Arizona Photographic Collectors on rare and unusual Nikons. Besides his main subject matter, Don also was able to get our meeting mentioned in their Newsletter more than once & also passed out apps for those wishing to join (and some have!). So we will have a good number of locals joining us in February!

## AUCTION NEWS!!!

The latest Tamarkin Auction was just held on Dec. 11 in NY city and contained some really interesting Nikon items!!!!.....

**NIKON SP CASE FOR F1.1 LENS!!!.....\$275.**  
**NIKON SP RF ILLUMINATOR WITH CASE.....\$1500.**  
**NIKON RF BELLOWS MODEL ONE.....\$2200.**  
**NIKON REFLEX HOUSING TYPE II W/45'.....\$2200.**  
**ANOTHER W/RARE 90' PRISM!!!!.....\$7700!**  
**NIKKOR 50/F1.1 WITH SHADE & CASE!!.....\$6000!**  
**NIKON M6093477 WITH 50/1.4.....\$3000!**  
**NIKON SP BODY CHROME.....\$1850.**  
**NIKON SP CHROME WITH 50/1.4.....\$2400.**  
**NIKON SP BLACK WITH 50/1.4!!.....\$6500!**

It appears that Nikon prices at auction are doing fine, thank you! Stan Tamarkin continues to come up with interesting Nikon items in his auctions, so pay attention! One of the best ways to track prices is auction results. For a complete listing of all auction items see Stans website..[www.tamarkin.com!](http://www.tamarkin.com)

## AND THE "GIFT KING" IS.....

Member **David Barth** holds the record for the most "gift subscriptions" with "9" currently!! Dave has been doing this for a few years & here are some of his words.. "I have an interest in keeping the NHS healthy, & that is why I give gift memberships. I'd like nothing better than to have the NHS become the largest camera affinity organization in the world! To expand membership, you could mention in the Journal that subscriptions to the NHS make wonderful gifts for camera enthusiasts. Perhaps members would like to give a friend a membership." (Dave, I couldn't have said it better!..RJR)

## ULI KOCH BOOK DELAYED!!

Uli Koch has informed me that the release of his Nikon Trilogy has been delayed! We have been exchanging emails for weeks now and the latest info I have (Dec. 15th) is that the target date is now early spring, 2002. It appears that the World Trade Center attack caused the publisher to hesitate, but it'll go ahead after the first of the year. Naturally, Uli & I are very disappointed by this, since he's had his book ready to go to press for a few months now. Uli still plans to attend the Convention & talk about his book and we will have more info by then. In the meantime, I have made a list of all those who expressed interest in the book & I will inform you as soon as I know a delivery date. So please be patient as everything is being done to see this project through & I know the book will be worth the wait. Those of you who wish to send encouragement to Uli can contact him at [uli\\_koch@t-online.de](mailto:uli_koch@t-online.de)...or at... [www.nikon-f.de](http://www.nikon-f.de). Let him know your interest in his project!

## GOOD-BYE "NIKONOS"!!!

Nikon Corporation has announced that, after nearly 40 years, they are discontinuing the manufacture of the entire **Nikonos** underwater system!! It was in 1962 that Nippon Kogaku took over production of the original French **Calypso** camera, renamed it the **Nikonos**, mounted a Nikkor lens and put together a system with more lenses and flash units. The result was a series of 7 models (including the awesome RS) that reigned supreme all these years. For underwater or bad weather 35mm shooting, the **Nikonos** was the only choice! But now it is gone! The times.....they just keep on a'changin'!!

## 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 should be listed, please let me know & I'll add it. **RJR**

[www.nikonhs.org](http://www.nikonhs.org).....**THE OFFICIAL "NHS" SITE!**  
[www.camerabooks.com](http://www.camerabooks.com)....Petra Kellers very large book list!  
[www.cameraguild.co.jp/nekosan](http://www.cameraguild.co.jp/nekosan).....good Japanese site.  
[www.cameraquest.com](http://www.cameraquest.com).....Stephen Gandy's great site.  
[www.tonyhurstnikon.com](http://www.tonyhurstnikon.com).....Back cover Tony's site.  
[www.kenmarcamera.com](http://www.kenmarcamera.com).....Ken Reisher's great site.  
[www.qualitycamerashop.com](http://www.qualitycamerashop.com).....Peter Lownds' site for his Nikon Museum and Camera Shop! Check it out!!  
[www.nikon.co.jp](http://www.nikon.co.jp).....Nikon Japan's official site.  
[www.nikon.co.jp/main/eng/d-archives/index.htm](http://www.nikon.co.jp/main/eng/d-archives/index.htm).....A section of Nikon's site dealing with historical archives!!  
[www.zoom-net.com](http://www.zoom-net.com).....New site for the international collector's magazine "Classic Camera".  
[www.yoshino.ne.jp/kato/english.htm](http://www.yoshino.ne.jp/kato/english.htm)...A commercial and information site worth looking at.  
[www.fieldgrassandgale.com](http://www.fieldgrassandgale.com)...They update their selling list weekly and have many Nikon items.  
[www.pacificrimcamera.com](http://www.pacificrimcamera.com).....Items for sale but also see their "photographic pages" for information on Nikon Rfs.  
[www.graysowestminster.co.uk](http://www.graysowestminster.co.uk).....Official site for Grays' "Nikon Only" camera shop in London!  
[www.nikonownersclub.com](http://www.nikonownersclub.com).....This is Grays' site for his new Nikon Owners Club. See it for the latest in offers for club members and upcoming events and promotions!  
[www.woodcam.com](http://www.woodcam.com).....Richard Tillis' "Woodmere" site.

## 'NHS' e-mail LIST!!

**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. Any addresses added or changed since the last issue are in bold italics! This listing revised 12/30/01

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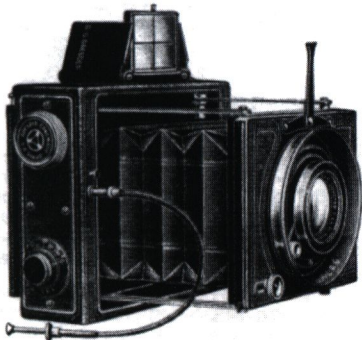
DALE ZICARELLI.....info@actioncamera.com

DANIEL ZIRINSKY.....camrabug@aol.com

From the exotic...



...to the  
mundane



# Pacific Rim Camera

Vintage Photographic Equipment  
[www.pacificrimcamera.com](http://www.pacificrimcamera.com)

## INTERESTED IN BUYING, TRADING OR REPAIRING USED NIKON CAMERA GEAR OR BUYING BRAND NEW NIKON USA GEAR?

PLEASE DO VISIT US AT: [WWW.USEDCAMERA.COM](http://WWW.USEDCAMERA.COM) ,  
[WWW.CAMERAREPAIR.COM](http://WWW.CAMERAREPAIR.COM) , OR AT [WWW.TECHNILAB.COM](http://WWW.TECHNILAB.COM)

\*\*\* We can **FIX** most things Nikon including most **PHOTOMIC METERS**.\*\*\*

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Laney), M2M and M4M (both with motors), black M4 with 'Midland Canada' top plate, M4-P half frame, M3  
prototypes, dummies, Betribsk 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 Compars. 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-  
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Olympic, black SP with motor and black S3M with motor. 35/3.5 Stereo Nikkor. Nikon F# 6400xx.



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

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**SELLING/TRADE LIST...** Those of you who would like to receive my list with each issue of the Journal need only tell me so and it shall be done. I try to add items with each edition & always include a large amount of Nikon RF & Reflex items. Also included are products from other quality makers such as **Bronica, Canon, Pentax, Zeiss** and others. Consignment items are always welcome. If you have a list make sure to send me a copy! I am always open to trades of all kinds!!

**Robert Rotoloni, P.O. Box 3213, Munster, IN 46321. My NEW FAX # IS 219-322-9977 or you can e-mail me at.... rotoloni@msn.com Thank You**

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# odds 'n ends

## ***THE CASE OF THE 'NUMBERLESS' NIKON S3?***

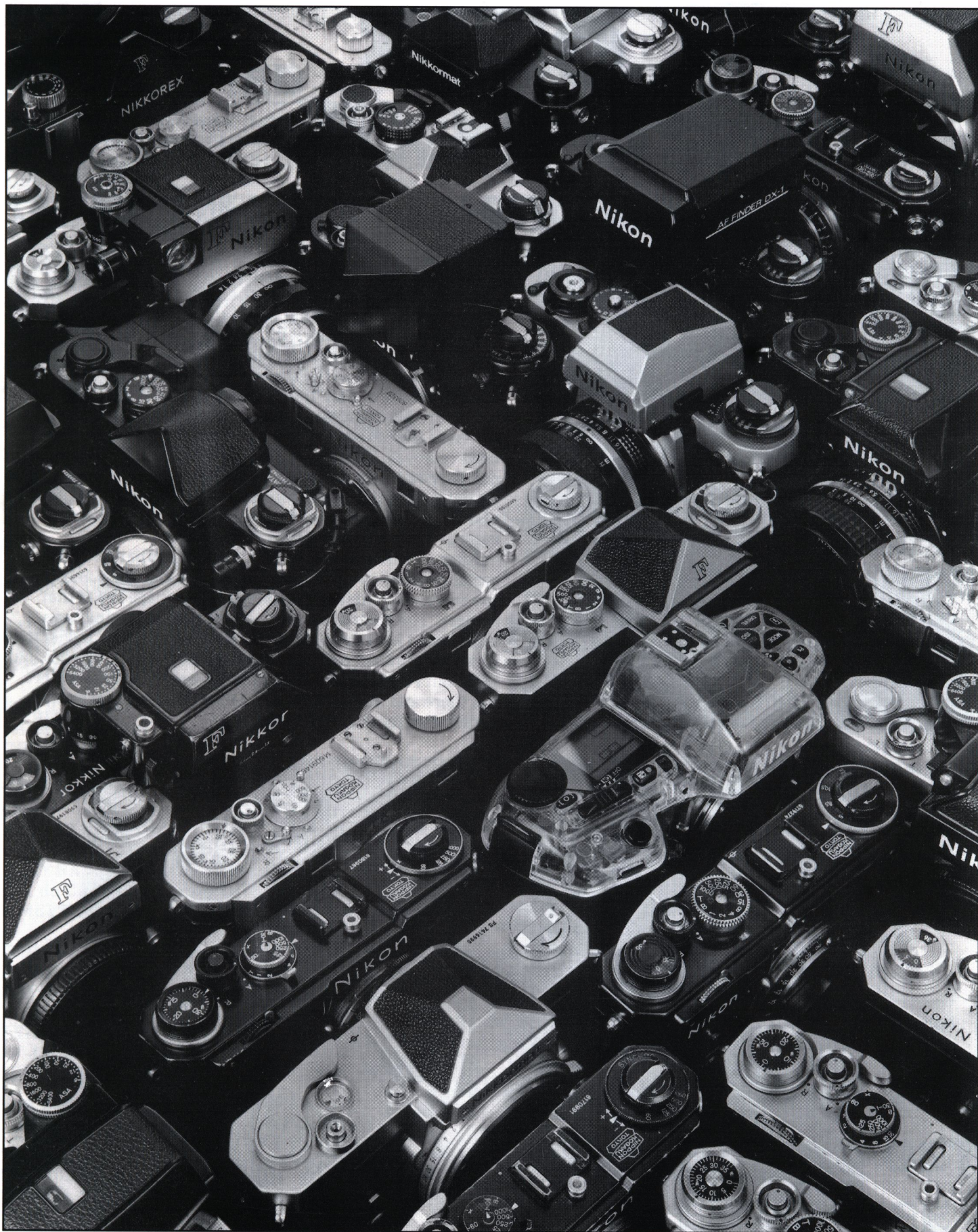


About 25 years ago I was in hot pursuit for an item a fellow in Virginia had on his selling list. We exchanged a few letters as I tried to pin him down about his description. (Yes, there was a time when you could think about a purchase and even exchange letters or calls with the seller, with little fear of someone else buying it out from under you!) What I had to find out for sure was the serial number of the Nikon S3 on his list. According to him, the camera had no visible serial number! I carefully described where it should be but he assured me there was no number present nor any sign of one having been removed. I never did get that camera and I wonder who did. Anyway, I know now that a Nikon with no number is not an impossible thing, as I own an assortment of brand new top plates with no numbers! A repaired camera could possibly be returned to the owner with a blank plate.

After all these years I recently found another S3 with no serial number on eBay (could it be the same one?) and was the successful bidder. The photos on this page are of that camera. The plate is blank, no number ever having been engraved. I have knowledge of only 1 other Nikon model with no serial number, and that was a Nikon S which was also on eBay but I was not able to obtain it. So there may be others out there and they are worth looking for. They are an interesting item for your collection.

RJR





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