

A PUBLICATION OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

NHS-81



SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY ISSUE - 20 YEARS!

NIKON = TV JOURNAL



THIS ISSUE
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PAGE 6..CANADIAN RAIDS U.S. FOR A NIKON ONE
PAGE 12..A 'NEW' SHADE FOR YOU F1.1 NIKKOR??
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ROBERT J. ROTOLONI
Editor/Publisher



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NHS-82 DEADLINE!

The deadline for the next issue of our NIKON JOURNAL NHS-82, is NOV. 15, 2003. It will be our last issue before the Convention & I need to start early!! Thanks! RJR.

EDITORIAL

This issue of our NIKON JOURNAL marks our 20th Anniversary as a Society and two decades of continuous publication. I have had one or two issues come out a few weeks late over the years, but fortunately I have never missed an issue. There have been times when I wondered if I would have enough interesting material to fill the pages or enough funds to cover the constantly increasing postage and printing costs, but each and every time things have fallen into place and another issue was completed. But from the very beginning in 1983, I have said repeatedly that our NIKON JOURNAL would not exist without you, and this is more true than ever. Just the simple act of joining and maintaining your membership over the years has made the NHS a success, and for this I am grateful. People have come and gone over the years, but we retain a core of dedicated members plus there are new collectors joining every issue. But there are other factors as well. We have had eight successful conventions that NEVER would have happened without member participation and support. Many meetings have been organized and all the work done by the respective chairmen and I think each of you for that. There has been constant input from you with suggestions for articles and possible improvements as well as encouragement, and I thank 'all' of you for that. In the beginning I had to write and photograph most, if not all, of the material for each issue. This is no longer true! Now I receive a steady stream of material from you to the point where there have been issues with no photos or articles by me! That is what I call a SOCIETY! There are a few letters of congratulations in this issue and I have also received calls and emails, all of which I am sincerely grateful for. But...I really feel that the true congratulations should go out to you, the membership, along with my sincere appreciation for your 20 years of support!

I wanted to make this issue 'special' in some way. I had a good line-up of articles: Wes Loder on the First Bellows; Mike Symons on his recent discovery of a very early Nikon One; and Stephen Gandy with another superbly illustrated article on the Voigtlanders. I also knew that Tom Abrahamsson would have his awesome reproduction of the 'metal' shade for the 50/f1.1 Nikkor ready and that he had plans to engrave them in honor of our 20th Anniversary. But I had one other idea in mind for the last year that has come to be. Last April I approached our resident photographic genius, Tony Hurst, about doing something 'really special' for this issue. Naturally another superb rear cover was in the works, plus I wanted a unique two-page center spread of his work He agreed whole-heartedly and went to work on it. However, what would make it really special was I wanted to do it **IN COLOR!** We decided to do both the covers as well as the center spread to make this a truly unique Journal (as well as the most expensive ever...please no more color till our 25th)! Tony has done a superb job & continues to make our Journal a handsome & classy publication. His magnificent center spread will be collectible in its own right!

The Convention is rapidly approaching! You must get back to me if you plan on attending. Please get your fee to me as soon as possible and also your arrival dates so I can contact the hotel. With the holidays coming everyone will be busy. **There is only 1 more issue before Tokyo! Contact me as soon as possible!!**

NIKON'S FIRST

BELLOWS

MICHAEL WESCOTT LODER

Pictures of the "Bellows Focusing Device for Nikon" first appeared in the United States in September 1957 in George Wright's *Nikon Manual* and in the feature article on the new Nikon SP that appeared in the October issue of *Modern Photography*, which would have hit the newsstands the previous month.

The Bellows appears twice in the *Nikon Manual*—on page 230 as a formal illustration to accompany the textual description, and on page 250 in a staged setup that Wright probably created himself.

The *Modern Photography* issue includes the bellows as part of a display on Nikon accessories on page 60 credited to Maynard Frank Wolfe. The pose is the reverse of the one in Wright's. The front mount's throat appears smaller than possible until one realizes that one of the reversing rings has been left on. All future formal photographs show this same view—proof that Nikon reused the same shot over and over again. That particular bellows was probably the only unit available in the United States in August when *Modern* did its layout. It is also possible that it was the only unit in existence!

While Wright indicated that the new bellows was available, and *Modern* characterized the bellows as 'newly introduced,' it did not appear in the new Nikon price list published that September to mark the introduction of the SP. Instead, it first got a price and listing in May 1958—eight months later. The 135mm Bellows Nikkor that Wright described as 'In preparation' also appeared in the May 1958 list for the first time.

Nikon advertising literature included the bellows starting in 1958. All these above illustrations show several features that do not appear to have made their way into any of the actual production units. Most noticeable is placement of the Nippon Kogaku Tokyo (NKT) logo, Japan and serial number on the front standard just below the lens mount. This inscription moves to the front mount of the dual rails in the production units.

The second obvious difference is the front mount itself. The mounting in the publicity still shows a narrow waist between the two rails that swells outward to wrap around the rail ends. It is not apparent how such a narrow center could have supported a tripod socket and it undoubtedly did not. An added front tripod socket may be why the later units differ.

In the production models, the front mounting runs straight across both top and bottom. The larger crinkle black finished mounting now bears the NKT logo, Japan and serial number. It is also possible that the earliest units have a thick, polished chrome plate into which is set a tripod bushing attached to the front mounting (as illustrated herein). The front bellows standard has no lettering.

The only other possible difference is in the lens mount. The

illustrations do not show any screw heads and the internal threading might be the larger 46mm that was used by the reflex housing.

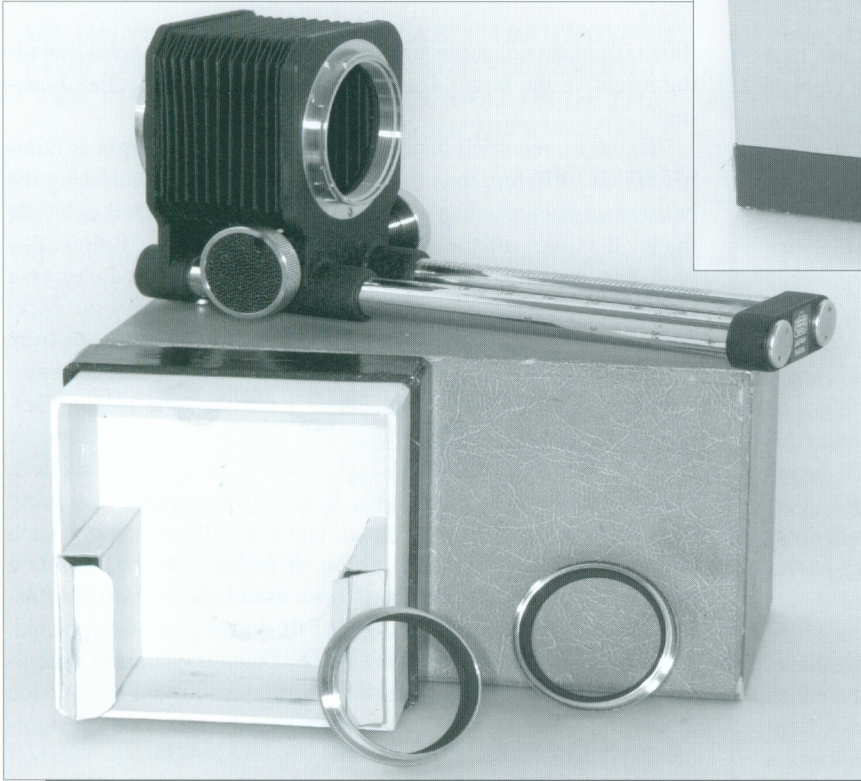
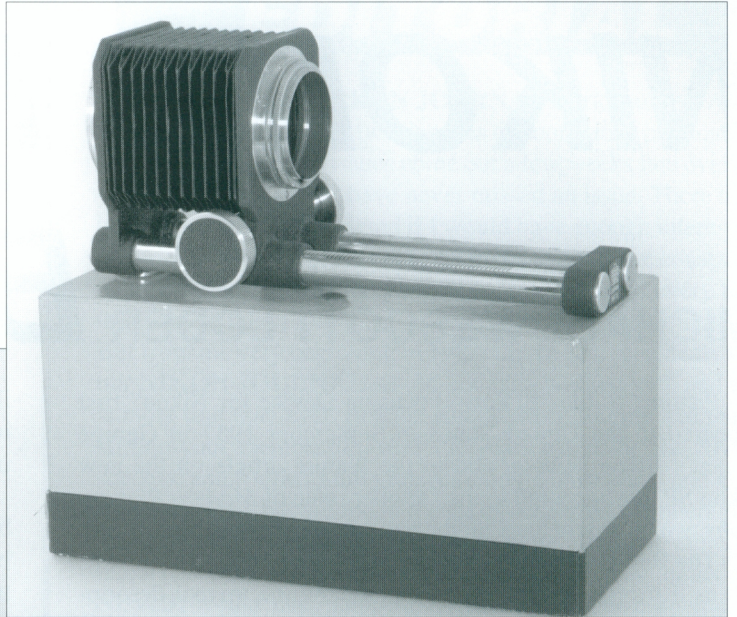
Based on recorded data, the 'production units' begin at number 56001 (different than that seen on the prototype), making the bellows in this article's pictures probably the second example made. It is like all the other production units that followed—with two possible exceptions. When inspecting a Model One Bellows, check the placement of the rail lettering and the rack-and-pinion. On some units the rack-and-pinion is on the left from the photographer's viewpoint and the numbers showing reproduction ratios for the reversed 50mm lenses and the 135mm Bellows Nikkor are on the right hand rail. In other units one sees the reverse, with the rack on the right and the numbers on the left. There is no serial number logic to this arrangement. Assuming the two rails are otherwise equal, and that either focusing knob could control the rack-and-pinion, it is possible that this is a random variation that may say more about the mood of an assembler that day than anything else. If that was what happened, the reproduction ratio numbers had to be engraved after assembly since the red numbers for the 50mm lens are on the outside of the rail—left side on left-mounted rails, right side on right-mounted rails.

The right-hand racking matches the orientation of the second model Bellows Nikon designed for the new Nikon F and released in July 1959. The front standard of the Bellows Model 2 can only be focused from the left—a design decision that makes sense if one assumes that the right hand would be busy with cable releases and film advancing. The focusing knob on the Model 2 is the same as the Model 1's and the front standard almost the same except reversed front-to-back.

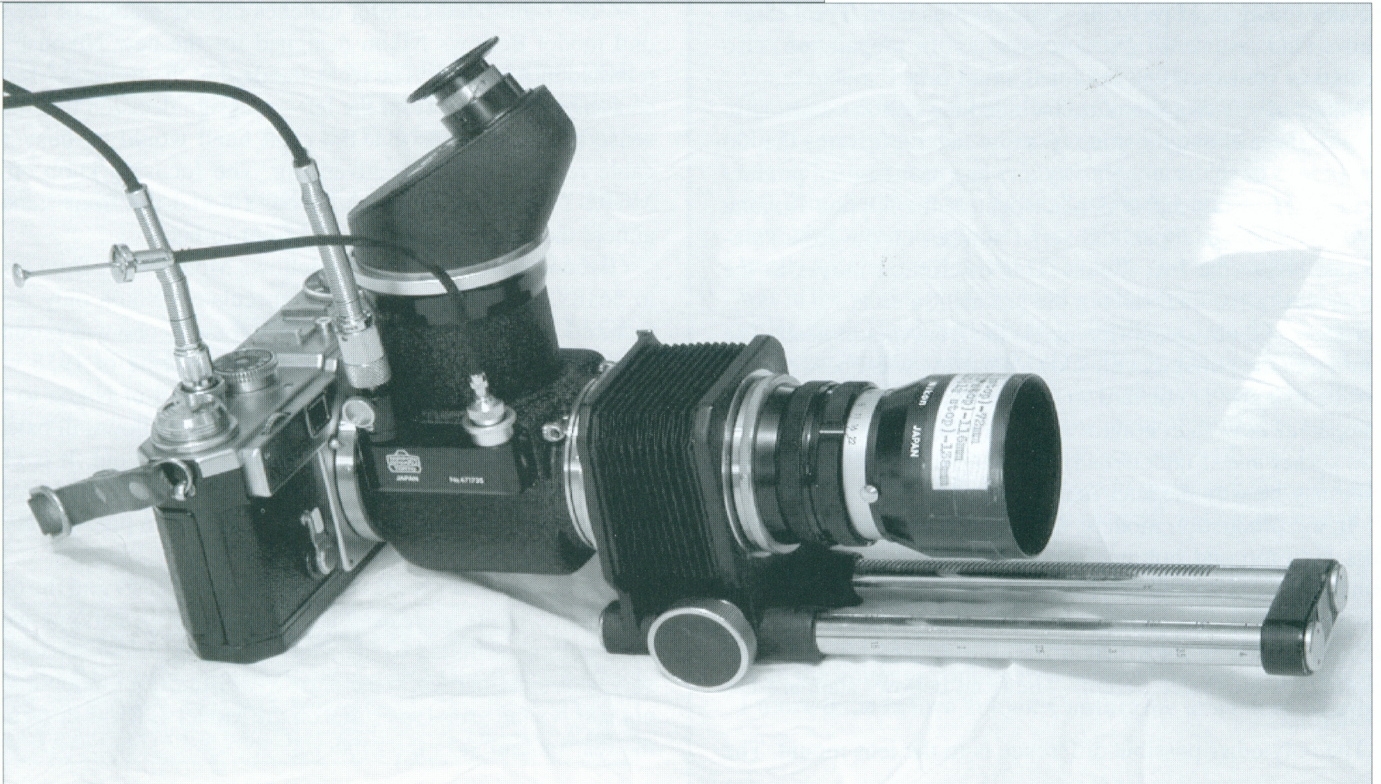
Recorded numbers for the Bellows Model 1 run from 56002 to 56188. If, as Robert Rotoloni speculates, Nikon only manufactured 200+/- units, it is possible that every one was produced sometime between October 1957 and the spring of 1958 when they went on sale. It would have been typical of Nikon to produce small demand accessories, such as this bellows, in batches, then stop production until the first run had sold out. It is likely that there never was enough demand to gear up a second production run. OR, it is possible that Nikon made two production runs of a hundred each.

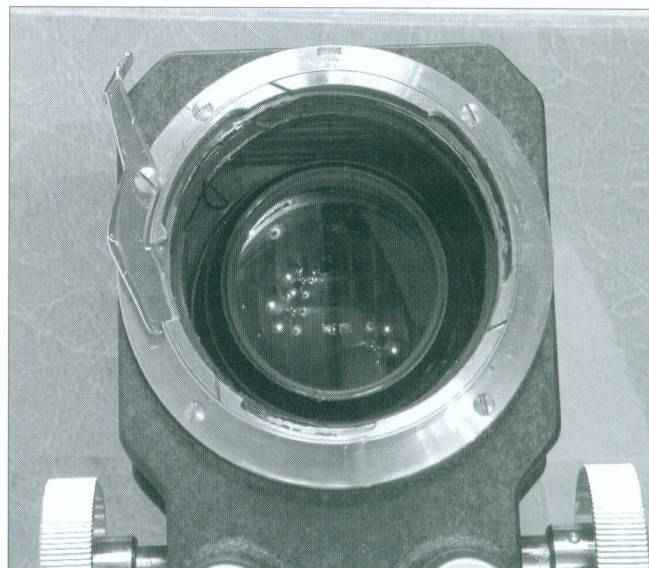
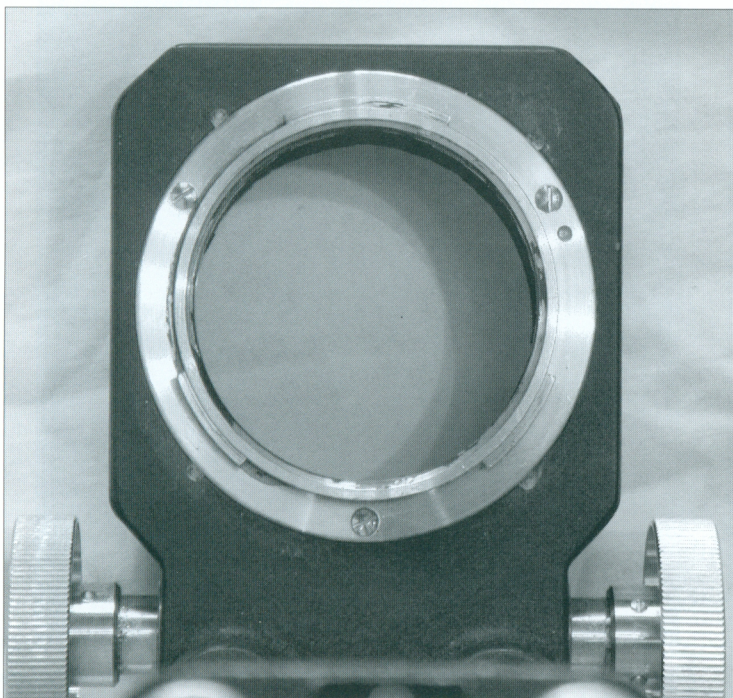
The spectacular success of the Nikon F in 1959 and the quick acceptance of its more sophisticated Model 2 Bellows would have both contributed to the short marketing life of this accessory. But note that while the narrow-waisted front mounting did not survive the prototype stage on the Model 1, it did show up as the rear mounting in the Model 2!

Illustrated here are the 2 known variations in packaging for the Bellows Model One. Early units, such as #56035 below, were shipped in a vertically orientated box where the unit sat into the base with the rails pointing upward. To the right is the later style horizontal box. Both types were plain gray boxes with glued on name tags like that shown on page 3. They did vary in finish..matte then glossy. R. Rotoloni

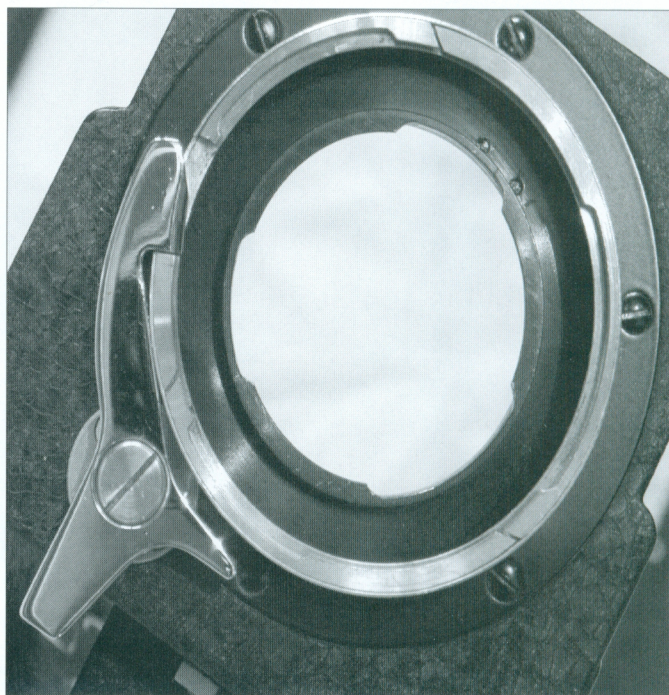
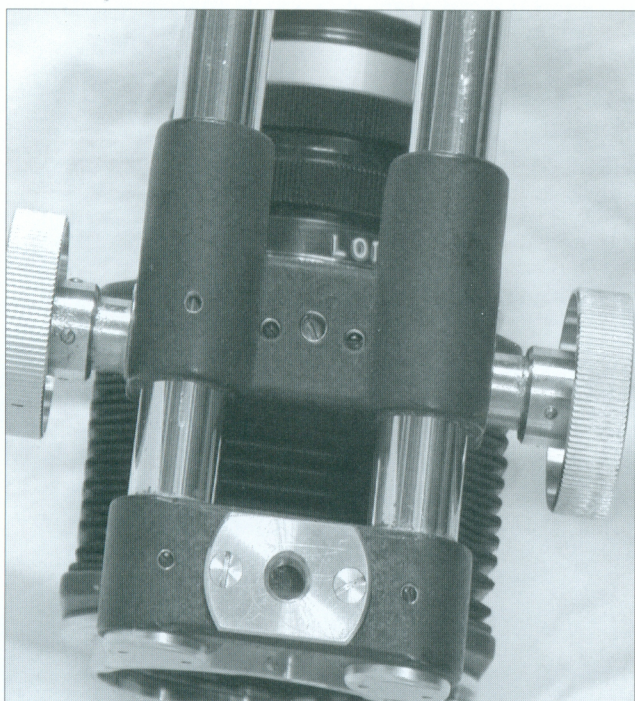
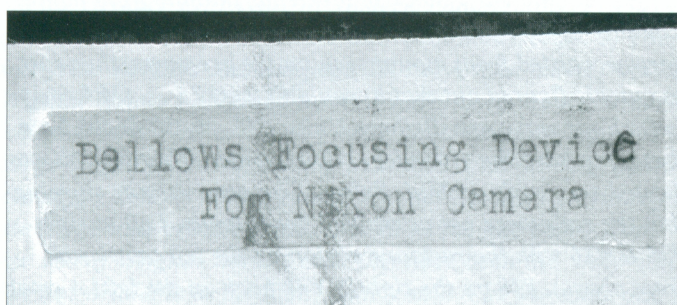


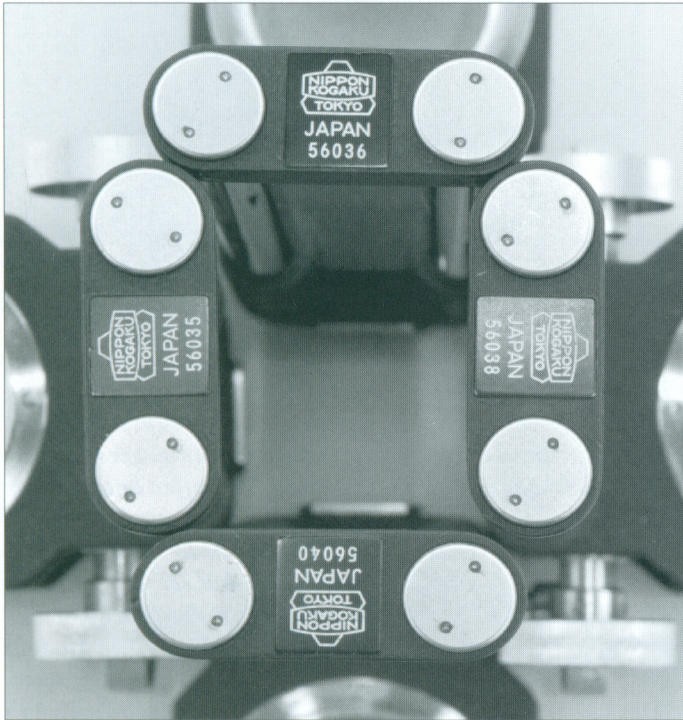
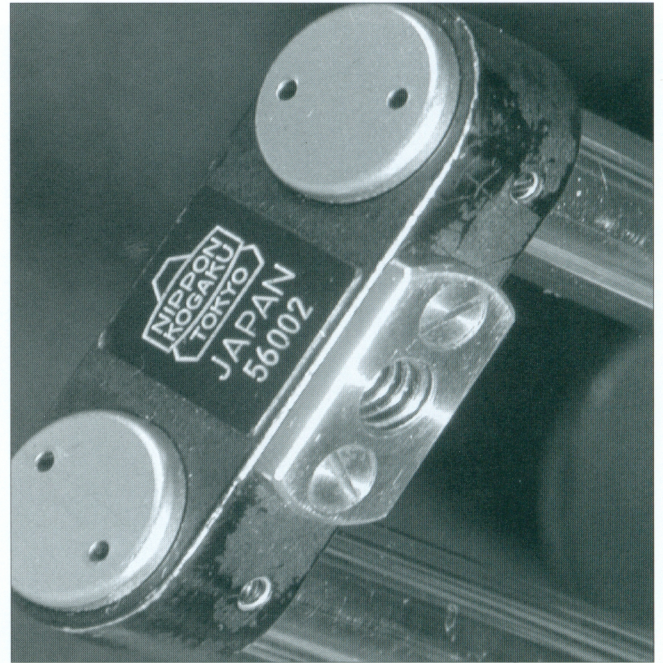
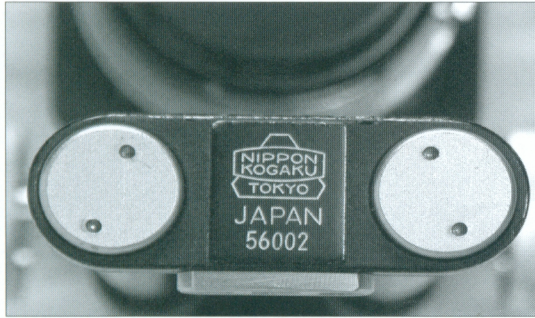
Bellows Model One #56002, the 2nd production unit mounted on a Reflex Housing Type II with SP & a 135mmf4 Bellows Nikkor. The cable release is not original. The numbers taped to the lens hood are exposure compensation factors...a critical item in a world without through-the-lens metering. Operation of the unit is quite smooth and not much different or slower from even the most modern bellows setup..except for the metering. The 135mm Bellows Nikkor provides a focus range from infinity to 1:1. Using other Nikkors yields a range from 0.8x to 4.8x depending on which Nikkor is used. (M. Loder)





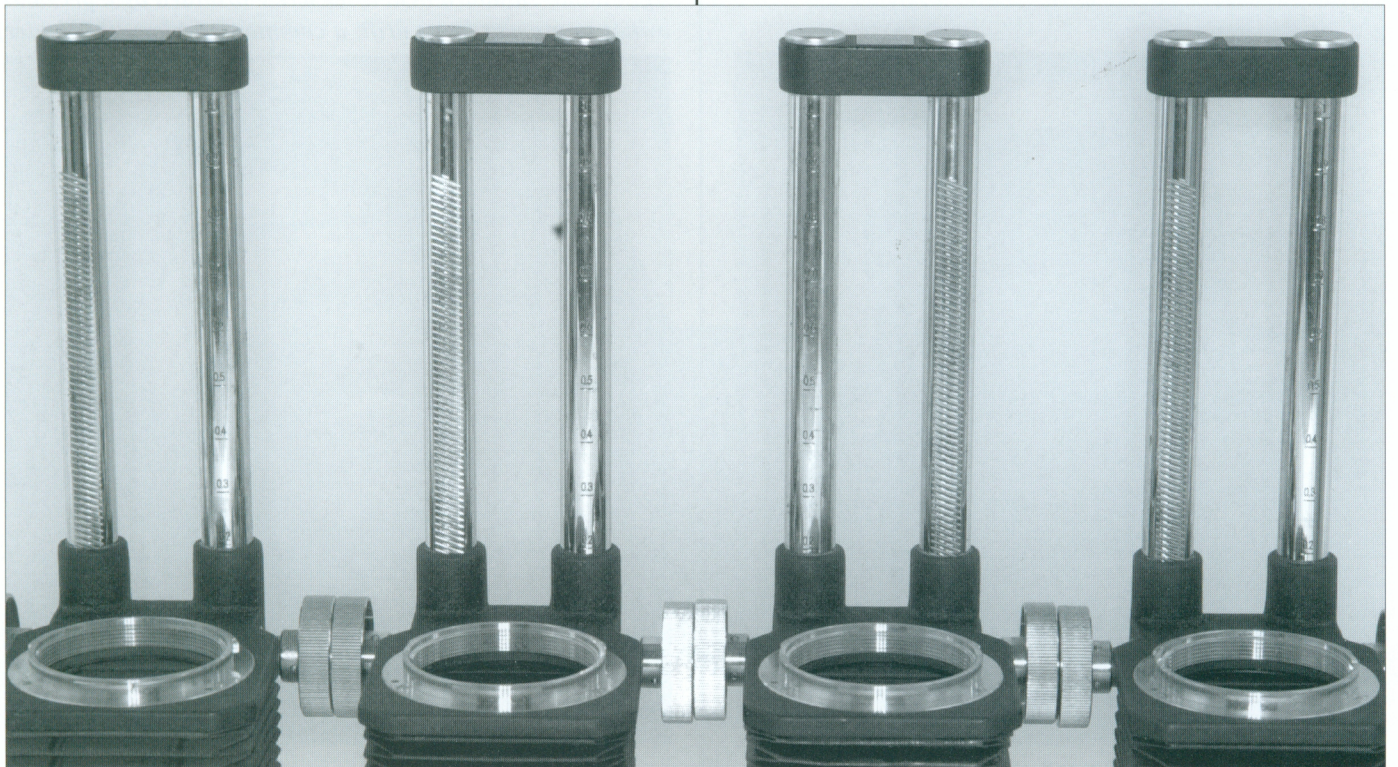
Clockwise from upper left..1) The front lens mount. The NF and BR-1 rings use the same mount & screws. The reversing rings screwed into the 45mm internal threads. The Reflex Housing mount appears to be the same, but the throat is about a millimeter wider & its screw-on body cap will not fit the bellows. 2) The unique pivoting latch mount release. No other Nikon product used this arrangement, needed because of the minimal depth of this mount. The reflex housing was optimized for the 250mm lens. It has a long mirror & a 74mm deep box. To allow the 135mm lens to work the bellows had to have a narrow profile & a lens that sat way back. The 135 fits both the Nikon BM & a 39mm Leica SM! 3) The Model SA copy stand has a pivoting release but it rotates down rather than up. 4) The underside of #56002. The hole drilled on the right hand standard held a set screw installed by a previous owner to prevent focus drift, a common problem. (M. Loder)

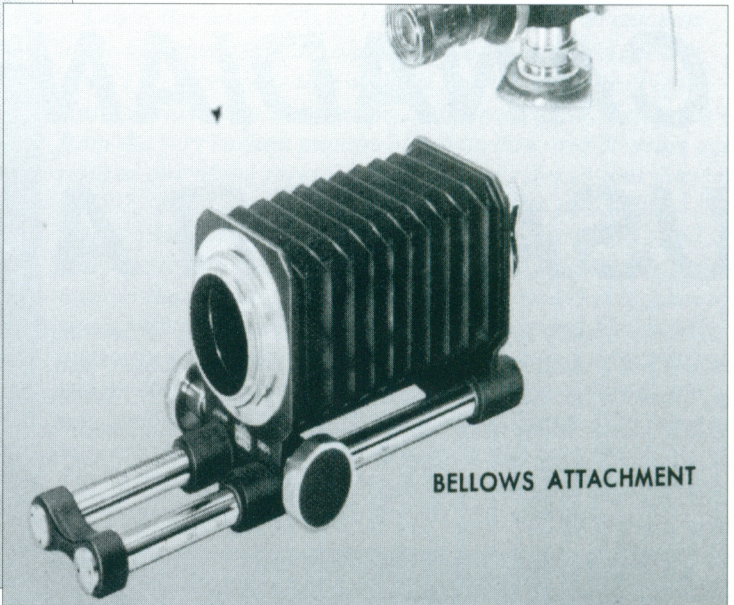
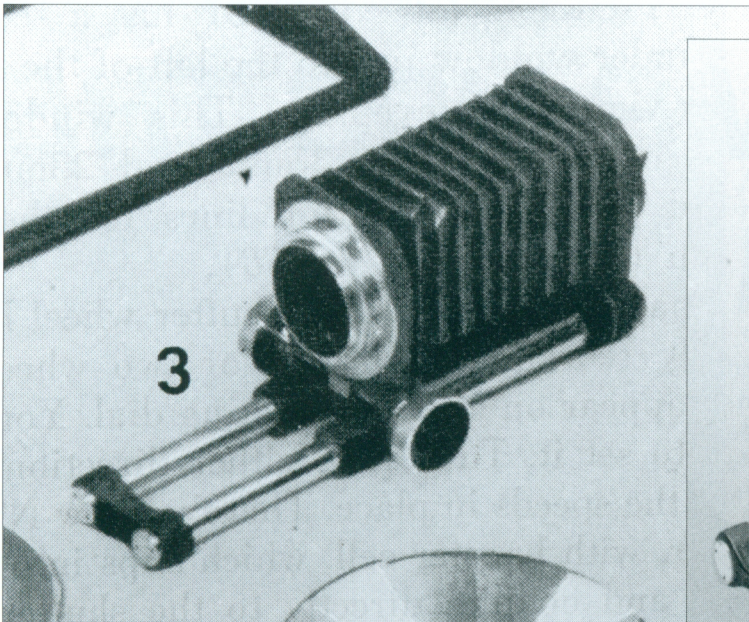




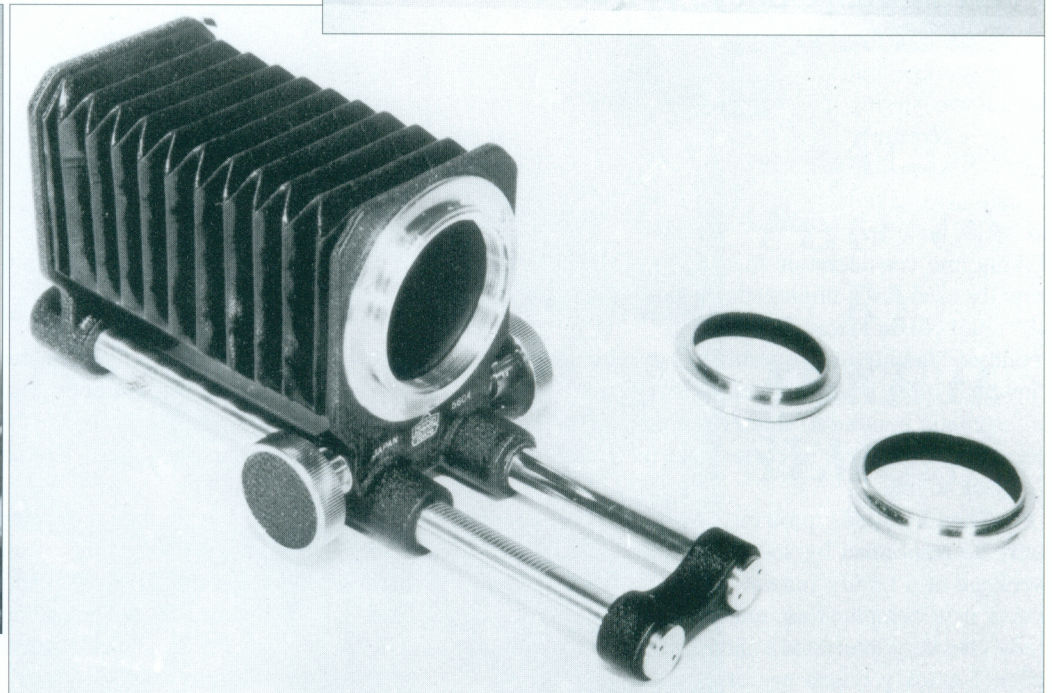
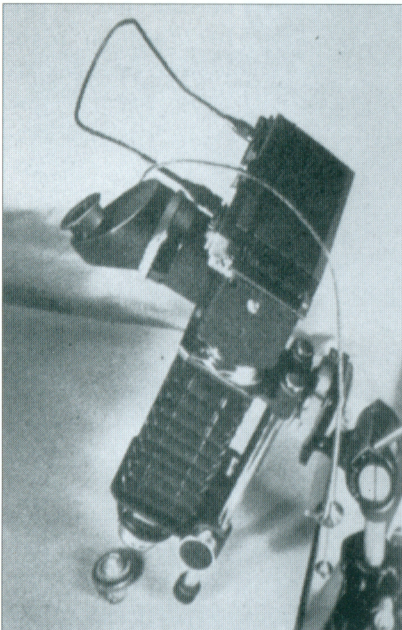
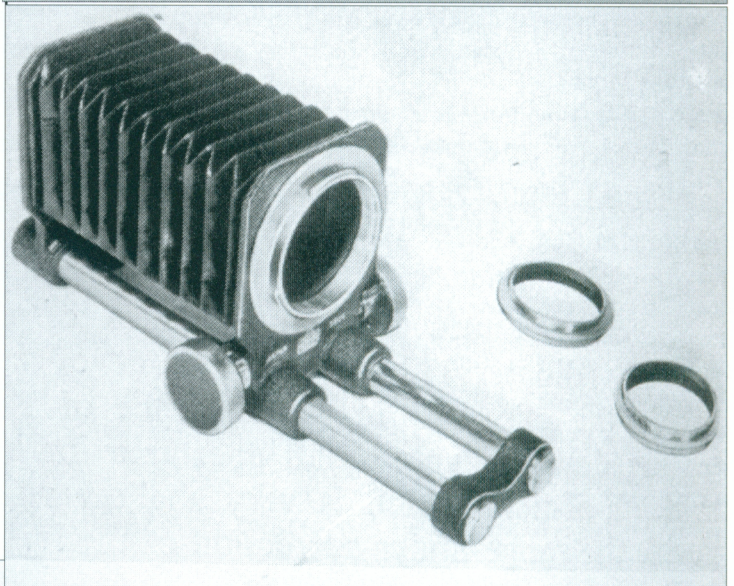
Top left & above..Bellows #56002 with its possibly unique front mounted secondary tripod bushing. Both plates share the same metal, same finish & use the same spec screws. It is not just a plate but a block that extends into the front mount. Could N-K have added this front socket, thus modifying the narrow waisted front mount seen on the prototype, then just as quickly figured out that it wouldn't work? (M.Loder)

Left...Four very early Bellows Units, #35, 36, 38 & 40! Note that none have the secondary tripod socket! Therefore, it was deleted very early, indeed. Below...The same 4 units showing that the rails were not assembled consistently. Left to right.. #35 & #36 with the rack and pinion on the left (as viewed from above), #38 on the right & #40 back on the left! A small but interesting variation. (R.Rotoloni)





The Bellows Model One in the early literature! Note that these prototypes (or is it really the same unit?!) have the narrowing of the front mount mentioned in the text that is not found on the production units as early as #2! Clockwise from above..1) This is from the October 1957 issue of Modern Photography. 2) This is from the official EPOI brochure on Nikon accessories. 3) The photo from Wright's Manual page 230. 4) A scan taken from an "Original" photo I obtained from Al Levin used for EPOI ads! It is serial #5604! This is the very same photo that was supplied to George Wright for his upcoming new book, and the only photo of a prototype Bellows with a readable serial number! Obviously it is the same unit in both photos as well as the one below from page 250 of Wright's book. Could this have been the 'only' unit that was available at the time? And could it be the same one supplied to Modern Photography for their article? And also the one used for the promo shot in the accessory brochure? I think it is the very same unit in all these photos! What do you think??



6

CANADIAN RAIDS THE USA FOR A NIKON ONE

BY MIKE H. SYMONS

As is usually my daily routine, I was cruising 'e-bay' and came upon a scruffy 8.5cm case for an RF Nikkor lens... starting price \$9.95. Normally I would have passed it by, but the header stated "Made in Occupied Japan". I wrote to him, mainly to tell him that if it didn't state MIOJ on the object, then it ain't! Then I casually asked if he had any old Nikon items that actually were marked MIOJ? About an hour later he responded by saying that he had been asked by his aunt to sell her late husband's old Nikon camera that had "Made in Occupied Japan" on the bottom plate. The uncle had bought it in Japan while on military duty in the late 1940's and early 1950's. "Would I be interested in seeing some photos of it?" The hair on my neck was standing straight up by this time! An hour later he sent 4 terrible jpeg images of a Nikon One, #60969 with a collapsible 5cm/f2.0 Nikkor #70862.

According to known records on Nikon Ones, it appears that the camera and lens are a factory match. Even through these fuzzy jpegs I could see that the chrome was in pretty poor condition, evidence of poor plating or perhaps improper storage, but here I was staring at an extremely early Nikon Oneand was asked to make an offer!

Taking into consideration that the first 21 Nikon Ones were internally used test samples, the camera I was staring at was the 48th retail Nikon made! Could this be happening? After the usual round of "feeling out" questions/price considerations, I made a "lowball" offer, which he seemed to approve of...based on overall cosmetic condition, shutter problems, etc., but that the final decision would have to come from the aunt. He said he would get back to me.....

Then I waited...probably the longest 3 days in my life. Finally he responded by stating that he was out of town for the weekend at a family funeral (not the late uncle!) but that there was a new complication, and that his cousin had found somebody else very interested....and had, in fact, submitted a higher offer. I quickly raised my offer and remembering his terrible

jpeg images, offered to throw in my boxed Nikon Coolpix 4500 camera..just to sweeten the deal.

Well this appeared to excite him, as he responded the next day stating that if I increased my offer by a further \$350.00, plus throw in the digital camera...the Nikon was mine! He also told me earlier that his aunt had promised to give him \$100.00 if he sold "that old camera". I now feel that my offer of the digital camera seemed to have cemented the deal.

I won't divulge the final price, but let's just say that it worked out to under \$7,500 USD. The accompanying images show my Nikon One with a bad case of chrome "pitting". The lens is in



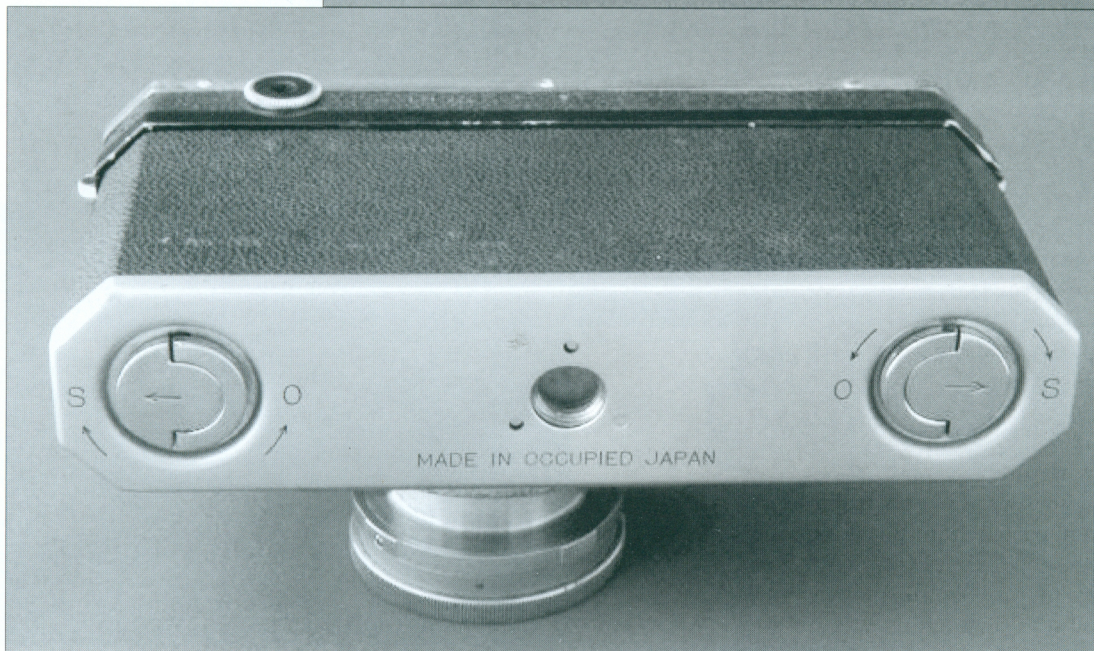
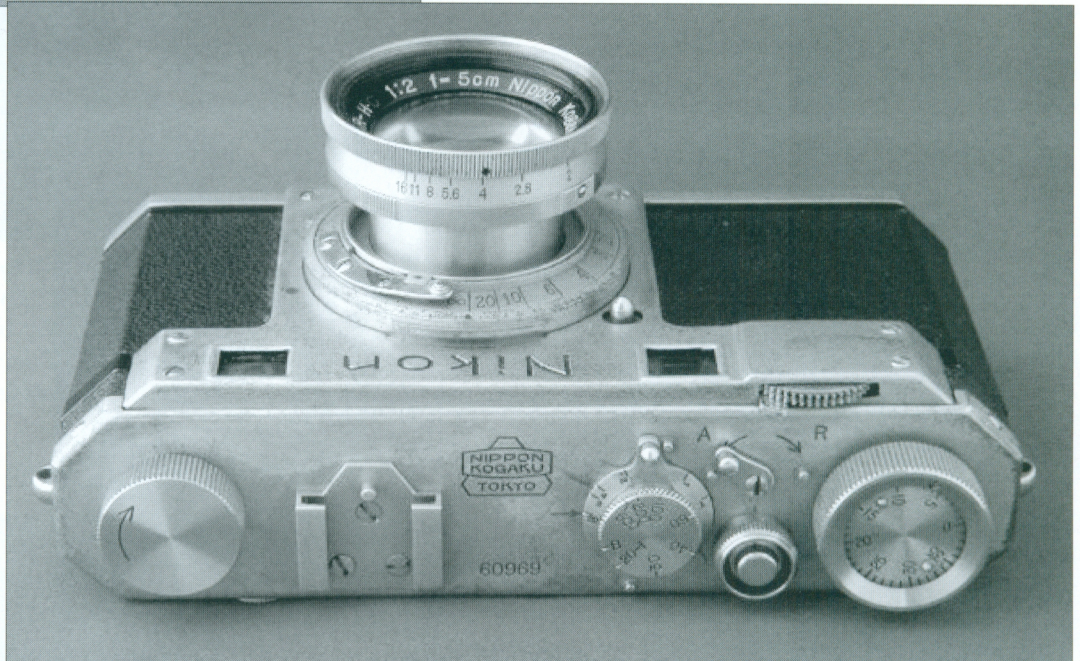
very nice condition, as is the rare domed front cap and leather case. Funny, the case didn't state "MIOJ" in any of the usual places, but fellow NHS member Stephen Gandy believes that it is the authentic item...with "military type" straps on the back. The back/bottom plate has fared the best, as there are very few marks/pitting, evidence of case protection over the years.

The interior is very crudely finished...definitely hand built and hand painted. Very crude indeed. The shutter curtains are in terrible condition (not unusual, so I understand). There are the usual "Zeiss" bubbles in the leather, mostly on the back, but there are no dents, bad scrapes, or bruises on the body. I am pleased. Cosmetically not the most beautiful of my vintage Nikons, but what an historic camera I have just acquired! I'm still excited...thinking about the coup from Ohio.

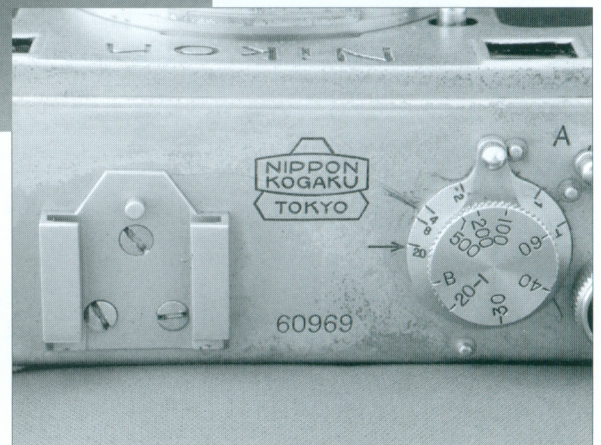
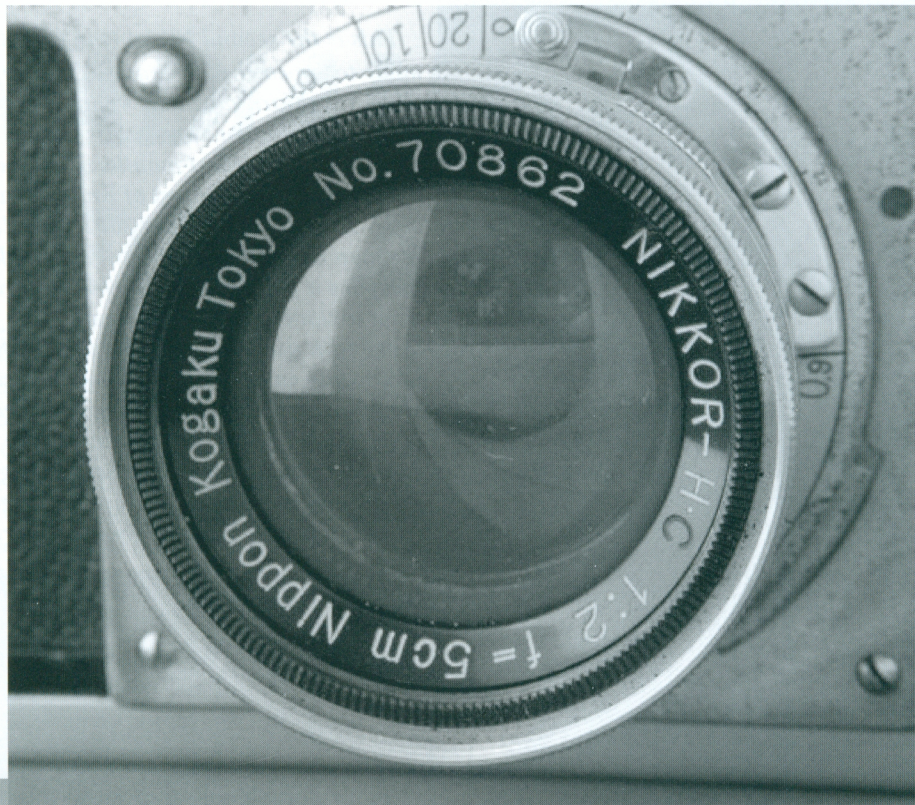
I'd appreciate some member feedback whether I should spend the money to get the camera professionally restored. I couldn't just get the top/front plates restored, but would have to get the entire camera done. You can't just restore parts of a camera, but must do the entire body. From initial feedback, most think it would retain its value with the original patina. Comments?



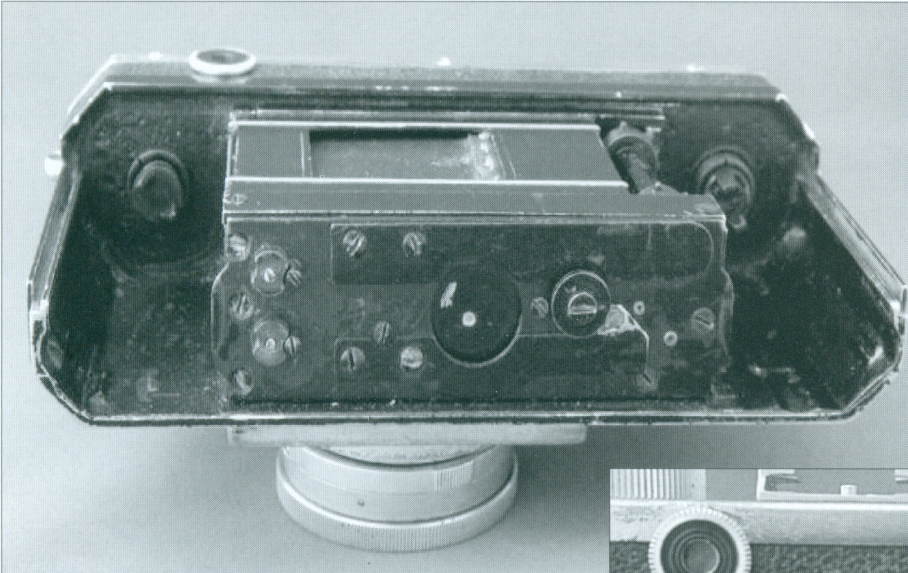
This is the second Nikon One from the first 100 cameras made to appear here in your Nikon Journal within the last year! I feel fortunate that we have had the opportunity to closely examine in these pages such a rare event. Examples from the very earliest months of production over 55 years ago rank as one of the rarest of finds. Please refer to your copy of NHS-77 dated September 2002 for a detailed article by Stephen Gandy on his discovery of Nikon One #60952 and compare it with camera #60969 illustrated here. At this point I want to thank both Stephen and Mike for their willingness to share with the entire membership such rare and historically interesting cameras. Only from such sharing of information can we learn and increase our knowledge. And as you compare photos of these two cameras, you will learn. For you see, as is often the case in Nikon collecting, they are not identical! They actually allow us to narrow the gap for when a certain feature was eliminated from the first run cameras!



**ALL
PHOTOS
BY
MIKE H.
SYMONS**

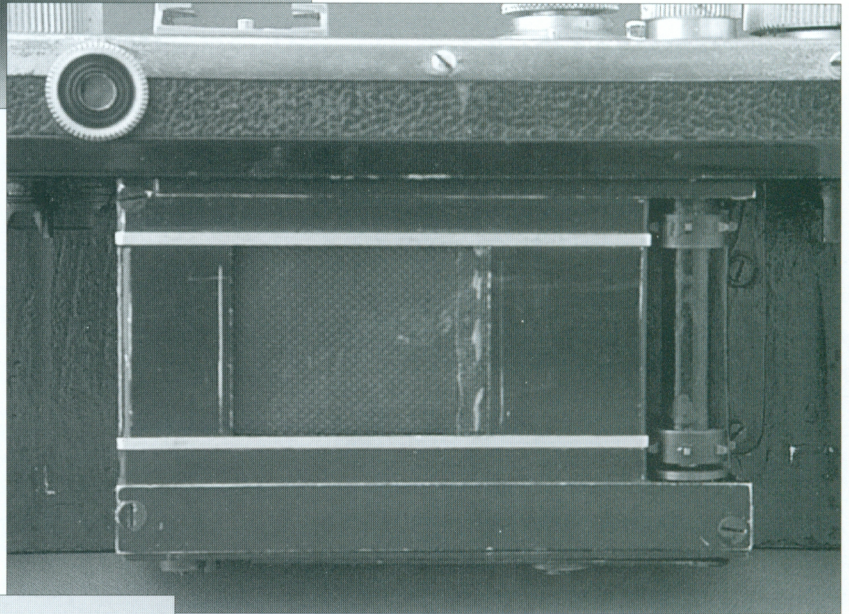


What are we comparing? Stephen's camera is #60952 and came with its proper 50/f2.0 Nikkor #70868 and domed cap! Mike's camera is #60969 and came with its proper 50/f2.0 Nikkor #70862 and domed cap! Two cameras 17 numbers apart with lenses only 6 numbers apart! Obviously both cameras have retained their correct and original normal lenses all these years, to say nothing of the correct domed caps that were never lost! Amazing!

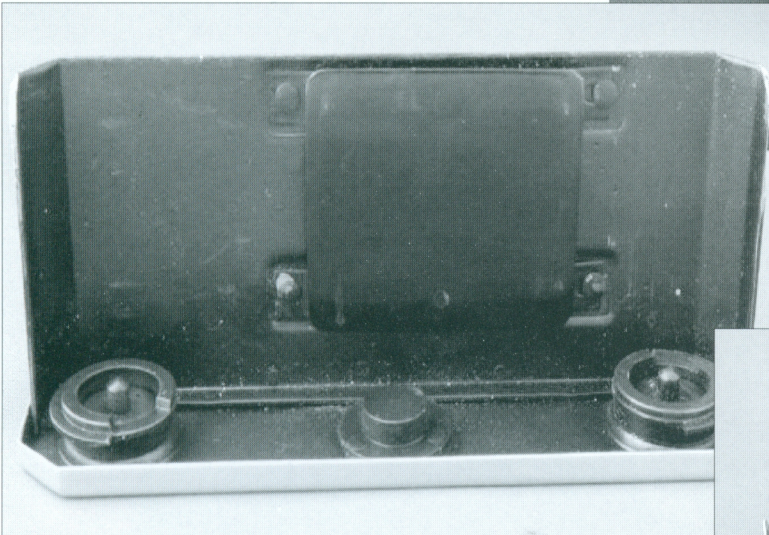


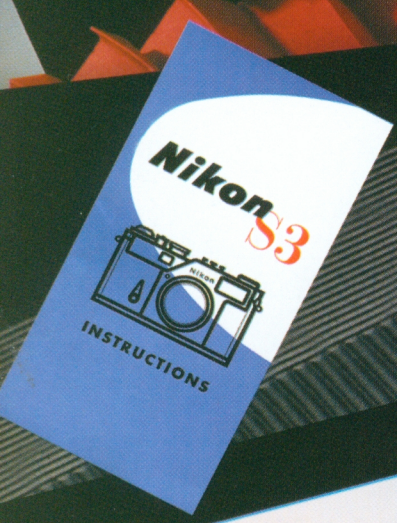
When were they made? According to factory records, Stephens #60952 was assembled in May of 1948 amongst a batch of 33 cameras, which is actually the biggest monthly total in the first 6 months of production! Mike's #60969 was born in July of 1948 and was one of only 4 cameras made that month! So these 2 examples from the first 100 Nikons were made only one month apart! Undoubtedly assembled in the same room and maybe at the same bench and maybe by the same technician! Think about that for a moment.

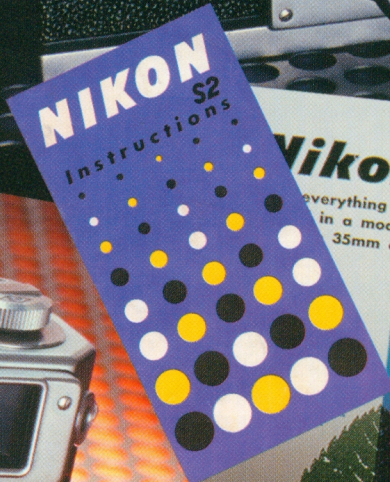
Two cameras made within 60 days of each other over 55 years ago sharing lenses that, being so close in number, could have been made on the same day, should be nearly identical, and these two are. Both have the same control knobs; both are in meters and not feet; both have the large "MIOJ" style engraving on the baseplate; both have the same chassis with no cover plate; both have removeable take-up spools; and both retained their identical domed caps! But! Look closely! Camera #60952 has "EIGHT FRONT PLATE SCREWS". #60969 has "ONLY SIX"!!!! Previously the earliest with 6 'confirmed' screws was #60972. We have now narrowed the gap to only 17 cameras!



They also share the same focal plane configuration with only 2 guide rails. Both have identical backs and pressure plates and, most importantly, both DO NOT have a matching serial number on the camera back! This feature seems to have been added a bit later, or was not done on every one of the earliest cameras. Mike's camera came with what we feel is its original case. I have seen such cases before and all were associated only with the ONE!







12

AN F1.1 SHADE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY!!!

CREATED FOR THE NHS (1983-2003) BY TOM ABRAHAMSSON

It started with a message from fellow NHS member Vick Ko. He asked if I was interested in making a hood for his 5cm/f1.1 Nikkor. Well, a challenge like that had to be investigated! I did some preliminary drawings based on Vick's measurements from his Nikon-made hood and then went out and saw my friend and master CNC (computer numerical machining) expert, Uwe Zum Hingst of Zum Hingst Technologies. Uwe has been making parts for me for close to 14 years and can usually be persuaded to take on really strange projects.

We did our usual sketches on any pieces of paper available and came up with a workable design. Frequent faxes back and forth to Vick and to Bruce Cowan (another NHS member) who "volunteered" his 5cm/f1.1 as a test for threads and fit. Once we got that far we ordered enough material for 50 hoods! This comes in the form of a 4-inch round, solid bar of high-tech alloy, 12 feet long. Pieces of this bar are fed into a numerically controlled milling machine and about 98% of the material is machined away (and recycled). Because of the complexity of the shape of the hood, it requires several passes through the milling machine as well as a stint in a turning center (lathe).

The attachment ring was designed to be made in brass as I have experienced first hand the binding that can occur when alloy is threaded and jams on more or less permanently. Bruce Cowan came up with the idea of having the ring set up so that the hood can be reversed for storage and a matching thread on the brass ring allows the user to mount the original lenscap to protect the impressive front element of the f1.1 lens. The screws holding the hood

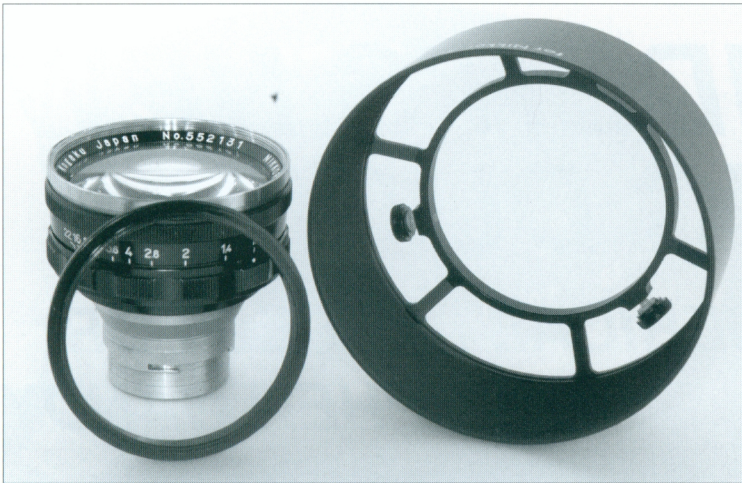


to the ring are made to "break" if the hood is banged hard enough. My feeling is that it is better to have 3 nylon screws break than a bent filter ring. Of course, Murphy's Law applied here. Nobody makes a screw that is exactly right so I had to order screws from Holland, screw-caps from Switzerland and trim off 4mm from each screw and use adhesive to attach the black, threaded caps.

This project started in April and it took longer than we anticipated as we kept running into small and large problems along the way. The aforementioned screws and caps, black oxide coating of the brass rings, laser engraving the hood with the NHS logo, etc. Of course, now that we have the first 10 made, we have already

started thinking of improvements; laser engraving is an extra step and today's milling centers are smart enough to write on a curved surface and then I would only have to white-fill the engraving and the black oxide on the brass could be done in paint instead and be more durable. It seems that the screws and caps are something I have to assemble myself. I did ask a screw-maker for a quote on having a custom screw made but the minimum order was 100,000 pieces and I have not figured out what I could use the left-over 99,000 plus screws for!

I think the NHS Hood is gorgeous and it almost got me thinking of trying to find a 5cm/f1.1 Nikkor for my SPs', just to have something to put it on. It will be a limited production, probably no more than 100 units will be made. It was fun being part of the production and thanks to Uwe, Vick and Bruce we now have the hood that should have been.



The 'Nikon-made' metal shade for the f1.1 Nikkor is very very rare! Casual observation suggests that for every metal shade there are 10 of the plastic variety. Therefore, many of you have not had the good fortune to examine the metal type. Believe me, it is gorgeous! And it was probably a nightmare to produce, which could be why so few were made. Now you can have one that is as well made and designed as the original (maybe better), with the much needed added feature allowing for reversed storage as well as front cap protection! A better mousetrap, and it's gorgeous!!

Tom explains the intricate production in his article. I have purchased 2 and they look great next to my metal one while making my plastic example appear less than inspiring! At this point in time, plastic shades can go for as much as \$2500 while the metal type have changed hands at over \$4000! Yes, it is a bit crazy out there. But now you can have your very own metal f1.1 shade engraved with the 'NHS' logo and it commemorates our 20th anniversary as well! And it can be had for \$500 postpaid! You can contact Tom directly if you wish to purchase. Believe me, it is really a piece for anyone's collection! One-Off Industrial Designs, Tom and Tuulikki Abrahamsson, #203-1512 Yew St., Vancouver, BC, Canada V6K 3E4. Fax.604-731-0868..email; ttahrahams@aol.com



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VOIGTLANDER'S NEW "DYNAMIC DUO"

12/5.6 & 15/4.5 ASPHERICAL LENSES FOR
YOUR NIKON 'F' *by* STEPHEN GANDY





As you read this Cosina-Voigtlander has introduced the "SL" series 12mm/5.6 & 15mm/4.5 lenses in Nikon F mount for mirror lock-up use. Shown in the photo at the bottom is the 12mm mounted on an SP, & the 15mm on a Nikon F2. These are deeply recessed NON-retrofocus lenses which require mirror lock-up. The SL 12/5.6 is the widest non-fisheye lens ever made in Nikon F mount & the SL 15/4.5 is by far the least expensive & smallest 15mm lens ever made for the reflexes. They will ONLY fit Nikon SLRs with full mirror lock-up, but Cosina only guarantees compatibility with the Nikon F & F2. The Voigtlander "F-S" adapter allows them to be used on both the classic Nikon & Contax rangefinders, & probably Kiev Contax copies as well. The "F-L" adapter would allow them to be used on any camera with a Leica screw mount. On the bottom of page 14 we see a Nikon SP with SL 12/5.6 & SL 15/4.5 lenses, F-S adapter, 12 & 15 finders, rear cap, and metal front cap. Either of these lenses are the widest ever made for the classic Nikon rangefinder bayonet mount!

The non-retrofocus Voigtlander 12mm lens (page 14 top) is the widest non-fisheye ever made in Nikon RF or SLR mount. It and the 15mm are the same optics as Voigtlander's Leica screw mounts, but made in Nikon F bayonet for mirror lock-up use, & with higher levels of finish & fit than the screw mount types. The SL 12 & 15 are so well made they look like they came off a production line in the late fifties during the rangefinder's golden era. The rear cap, which also stores the viewfinder, is constructed of very heavy duty plastic, similar in design to the original for the classic 21/f4 RF Nikkor, only better. The thin original 21/f4 caps have a tendency to break. These new caps appear to be much more robust. SPECS: SL 12/5.6 to f22, half click stops, focus to 0.3 meters. SL 15/4.5 to f22. Finders & caps included with lenses. Adapters (F-S & F-L & the Nikon F accessory shoe are optional. The upper left photo is the "F-S" adapter mounted on a Nikon SP with the SL 12mm lens attached. The "F-S" adapter uses a breech lock mechanism to mount onto the outer bayonet of the RF Nikon then presents a standard Nikon F bayonet to which the lenses are mounted. The adapter can be left on the body to interchange the SL 12 & 15 lenses. I had hoped the "F-S" would allow me to mount Nikkor wides on my rangefinder bodies. Alas, it was not to be. It seems the inside of the adapter is chock full of the camera's helical. Most Nikkor wides would hit this helical and not mount. My examples of the 20/2.8, 28/2, 50/2, 50/1.4 & 105/2.5 AI lenses would not work, but my 55/3.5 Micro & 85/1.8 would! (More experimenting will sure be done. What others might fit? Let us know what worked for you!)

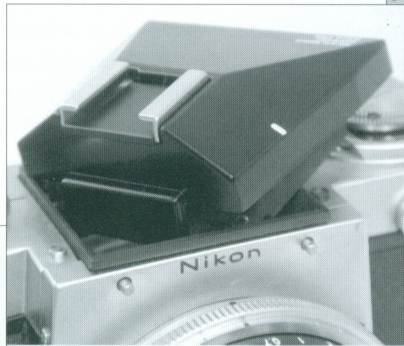
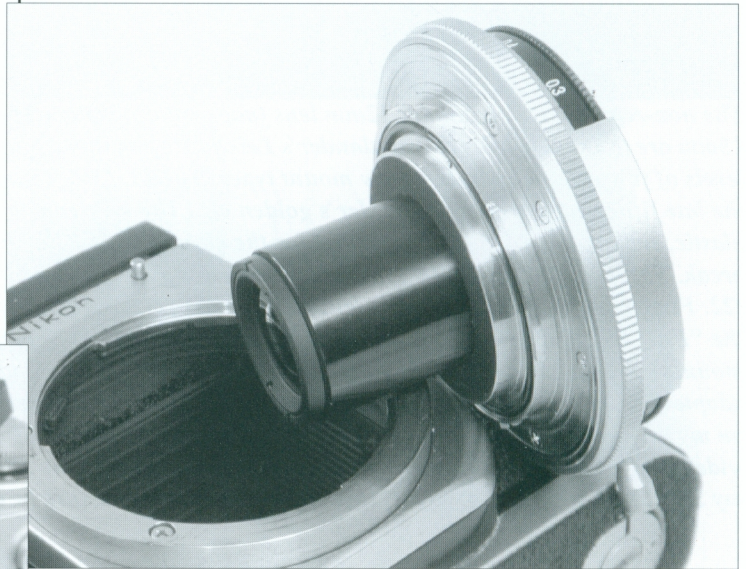


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In the bottom photo we have the SL 12/5.6 on a Nikon FTn & the rewind lever mounted accessory shoe for the finder. The 15/4.5 is on a Nikon F2 using Voiglander's F/F2 Accessory shoe. This special shoe (shown in the 2 small photos below) is an optional item since the Nikon F/F2 accessory shoes are easily found on the used market. It replaces the F/F2 finder, locking in and removing the same way as the camera finders via the push button release on the camera back. It is a neat little item that would also be useful when using Nikon's older 21/4 mirror lock-up lens. It centers the finder & lessens the overall weight of the package.

What Nikons will these lenses fit? Cosina only guarantees they will work with the Nikon F & F2, but it is likely they will fit most Nikon SLRs with a mirror lock-up: F, F2, F3, F4, F5, & possibly the Nikkormats. I have NOT tested all of these yet, so be careful you do not damage the lens or the camera. The high quality machining and finish of the new SL lenses is easily apparent. Like those for the Leica SM cameras, these are scale focus lenses. These lenses add to Cosina's modern multi-coated 21/4, 25/4, 35/2.5, 50/1.5, & 85/3.5 Nikon rangefinder line up. With the exception of the 50/1.4 made for the S3-2000, these are the only lenses made for the rangefinders since Nikon ceased production in the mid sixties! Cosina's CEO, Mr. Kobayashi is not yet finished. The NEW SC 28/3.5 & 50/2.5 Nikon RF lenses will be available in September 2003!

All photos & captions in this article by Stephen Gandy & are copyrighted. For more information, availability & prices see his website at.....
www.cameraquest.com



ULI KOCH'S NIKON F TRILOGY IS HERE!!

Since our last issue I have received my shipment of 50 sets of Uli Koch's "Nikon F Trilogy", the new landmark book on the entire Nikon F system. Believe me, this is one beautiful piece and a MUST for any Nikon collector or anyone who wants to know 'everything' about the classic "F" system that made Nikon a household word and made the 35mm SLR the 'choice' of the world's major photographers. You really have to see this massive work to appreciate it. Here is some feedback from readers....

From Dave Barth...I have just received Uli Koch's Nikon F Trilogy, and I am astounded by the detail he provides. I am reading them like I read a novel. I can't seem to put them down. They are much more than reference material, they are really good

reading. I must mention the quality of the many color photos that accompany the descriptions and the serial number ranges. I recommend his work over and above any other published work on the Nikon F that I have seen.

From Colin Grant...Pleased to inform you that I received the Koch Nikon F Trilogy books this morning. With just a quick browse through they look like they will be a great read for an "F" enthusiast like myself. I feel I should take time off work just to sit down and read them all.

I still have copies left and I will list the member prices again for your information. Please get your orders to me as soon as possible. You do not want to miss out on getting your copy!

United States...(FIRST CLASS).....\$164.00
(PARCEL POST).....\$160.00
(BOOK RATE).....\$157.00
Canada..(AIRMAIL ONLY!).....\$173.00

"JOURNEY TO NIKON'S BIRTHPLACE" NHS-CON9... TOKYO 2004!

FEBRUARY 22-25, 2004

There is only one more issue of the Nikon Journal before NHS-Con9 in Tokyo! As we get closer I would hope that those of you planning to attend contact me **as soon as possible!** Why? There are a great many details that need to be addressed when undertaking an 'international' meeting such as this. With members coming from all over the world, the more advance planning that can be done the better. And the sooner the better!

Please refer to page 16 in NHS-80 for all the details and plans that have been formulated to date. That information is correct but any changes will be conveyed to all those **who have committed to attending!** Those who have sent in their fee will be contacted separately from the Journal with new and additional info as it becomes necessary. Others will need to wait till the next issue (NHS-82) for final facts and figures. That issue will not be out until the first of January, almost too late to make any plans. Therefore, this issue is really the last one in which I can make my pitch to you to attend if at all possible. So please, if you have plans on joining us, **you must contact me! Do not wait too long.** Here are the basic facts...

- Sunday, Feb. 22.....6PM Welcome Party
at the Akasaka Prince Hotel
- Monday, Feb. 23.....9AM-5:30PM.....Convention Meeting
6PM-8PM...Buffet Party at JCII
- Tuesday, Feb. 24.....Ohi Factory Visit & Tokyo Camera
Stores & Sightseeing
- Wednesday, Feb. 25.....Matsuya Camera Show in Ginza
6PM-Banquet at Akasaka Prince Hotel

We will be using the Akasaka Prince Hotel, one of the best in Tokyo. The rates are as follows....

1 PERSON PER ROOM..15,000 YEN PER PERSON/NIGHT
2 PEOPLE PER ROOM..11,000 YEN PER PERSON/NIGHT
(These prices DO NOT include taxes & service charges)

I have had calls from members wanting to contact the hotel to make reservations. **DO NOT CONTACT THEM!** They prefer that I handle this matter. Therefore, I will need from each of you your arrival and departure dates and times and how many people per room. I will relay this info to the hotel, **so please get this to me as soon as you know!**

Also keep in mind the Convention fee of \$100 must be received by me before midnight December 1st, 2003! After this date it is \$125. The entire fee is refundable upto December 31st, 2003! After this date only 50% can be refunded **BUT** after January 31st, 2004 there are NO REFUNDS! Please contact me with any questions you might have. (rotoloni@msn.com or phone me at 219-322-9966 or fax me at 219-322-9977)

So far I have commitments from 28 members not including those who live in Japan. It looks like it will be a very good turnout as it was the last time! Come and join us for a really great time in a really great city!

MEMBERS, PLEASE GET YOUR FEE AND ARRIVAL DATES TO ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN MAKE OUR PLANS FOR A GREAT NHS-CON9!! THANK YOU!! SEE YOU THERE!!

'NHS' e-mail LIST!!

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LETTERS ON OUR 20th ANNIVERSARY!!!

From Peter Lownds...

Bob, you are to be congratulated. Another milestone has been reached with this issue of The Journal, 20 years! With diligent attention to duty over the past 20 years, you have acquired an encyclopedic-like knowledge of all things Nikon. Your attention to detail in researching some of the more exotic and esoteric Nikon items that have been covered in the pages of the NHS Journal, is amazing. 'Bob' to your friends, you have always shown a willingness to share information without any financial gain or reward for yourself or the Society. Always willing to talk Nikon, give a free appraisal or valuation. Your integrity is to be commended.

Issue after issue with the most incredibly interesting articles about all things Nikon. This Society under your leadership has become a meeting place for old and new friends. Now that your circumstances have changed, and you have a bit more free time, you've become a world traveler. I hope you can look back on the warmth and hospitality shown to you on your trips to Holland and recently to London. If I remember correctly, during the London show you were taken downstairs to the coffee shop at least 15 times by the enthusiastic members who were pleased just to meet you for the first time. This reflects the esteem in which you are held. I think that the title 'Professor of Nikon' should be bestowed upon you.

I think I can speak for all the members, both past and present, in congratulating you on this gargantuan task you've undertaken these past 20 years. Lesser men would have fallen by the way-side long ago. I've just done a little calculation. You have in the course of the last 20 years posted more than 30,000 Journals in individual envelopes using 90,000 labels and I don't know how many miles of tape! And how many pounds of paper does it come to? A truly amazing feat in itself.

Bob, my friend, congratulations and many many thanks.

From Mike Symons...

The Society continues to hold up very nicely, and Bob, you have my full support as our esteemed leader. You have done one hell of a fine job over all these years, and are to be congratulated! The Journal continues to shine with excellence, and I must get busy to contribute a few articles as I used to in the past. I realize how tough it is to think of new and interesting items to fill its pages, but somehow you never let us down, even having to write many of the articles yourself.

From Takayuki (Yuki) Kawai...

My heaviest Congratulations to you, Bob! When you started the Journal 20 years ago, I had no idea how big & strong the Nikon Historical Society was going to be. You built up the Nikon fan empire with your enthusiastic (maybe fanatic?) effort. Early NHS Journals don't look as pretty as recent issues, but they show your passion & love for Nippon Kogaku & Nikon products right from the beginning. Thank you for providing us valuable information as well as opportunities to acquire many fantastic friends.

FIELDGRASS & GALE

Please let us know your wants – we are buying
daily from dealers and private individuals
worldwide so we can probably help you!

BUYING ★ SELLING ★ TRADING

LEICA NIKON CONTAREX

Also Leica copies (Leotax, Hansa, Kardon, etc)

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 Betribsk #1004 with 'Sumnikron' (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, 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 III f and III g (Swedish army), pre-production Ig and III g bodies (some illustrated in Lager vol.1), 33/3.5 Stemar set, 33/3.5 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 point. 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 S3, 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 TRADE OR??...I have the inspection certificate for Nikon S #6103980 dated December 4, 1952. Do you have this camera? If so please contact me and maybe we can work out a trade of some kind. Also...**Young male searching for my brother...** I am a 5cm/f1.4 Nikkor #359078: looking for my matching numbered brother out there somewhere! Do you know where he is? Please contact me at...Christophe.sap@belgacom.net.

WANTED...Unusual Nikkors, like Repro, CRT, Ultra-Micro, COM, Fax, Fax-Ortho, Aero, Cine, U.V., some APO & Process, 70mm & 150mm Micro-Nikkors, Macros (for Multiphot) & any strange ones you might have. Must be in excellent plus condition or better. Please E-mail johnamillham@aol.com or write, fax or phone **John Millham, 82 Brasenose Road, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7BN, England. +44 (0) 1235-817-157.**

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 number is 219-322-9977 or you can e-mail me at....rotoloni@msn.com Thank You!**

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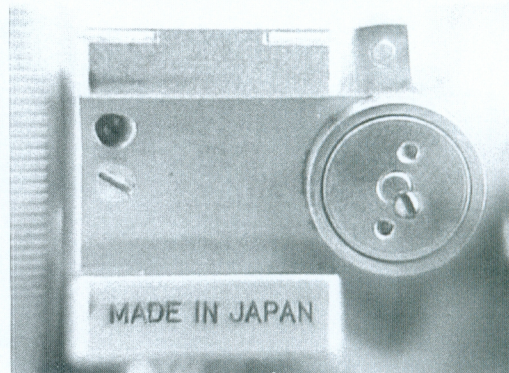
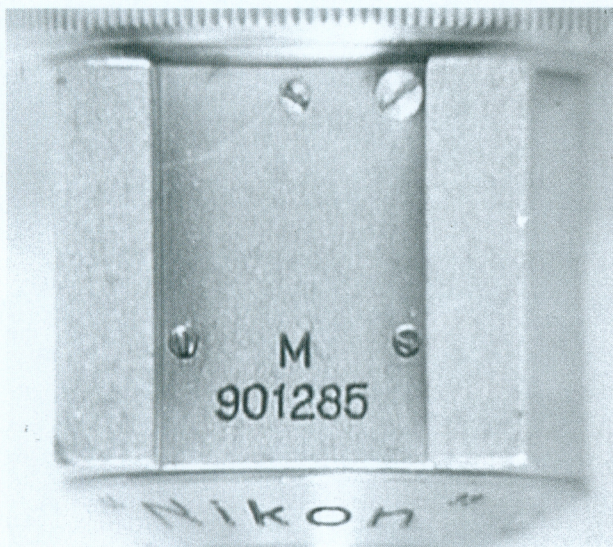
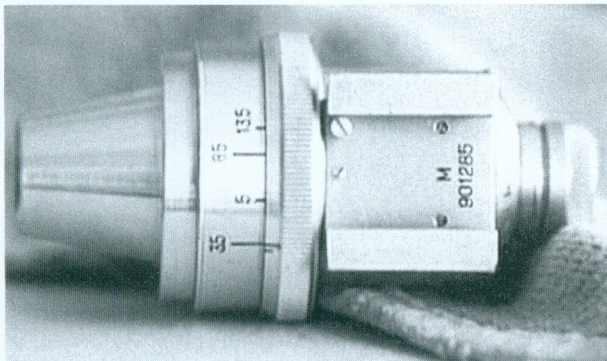
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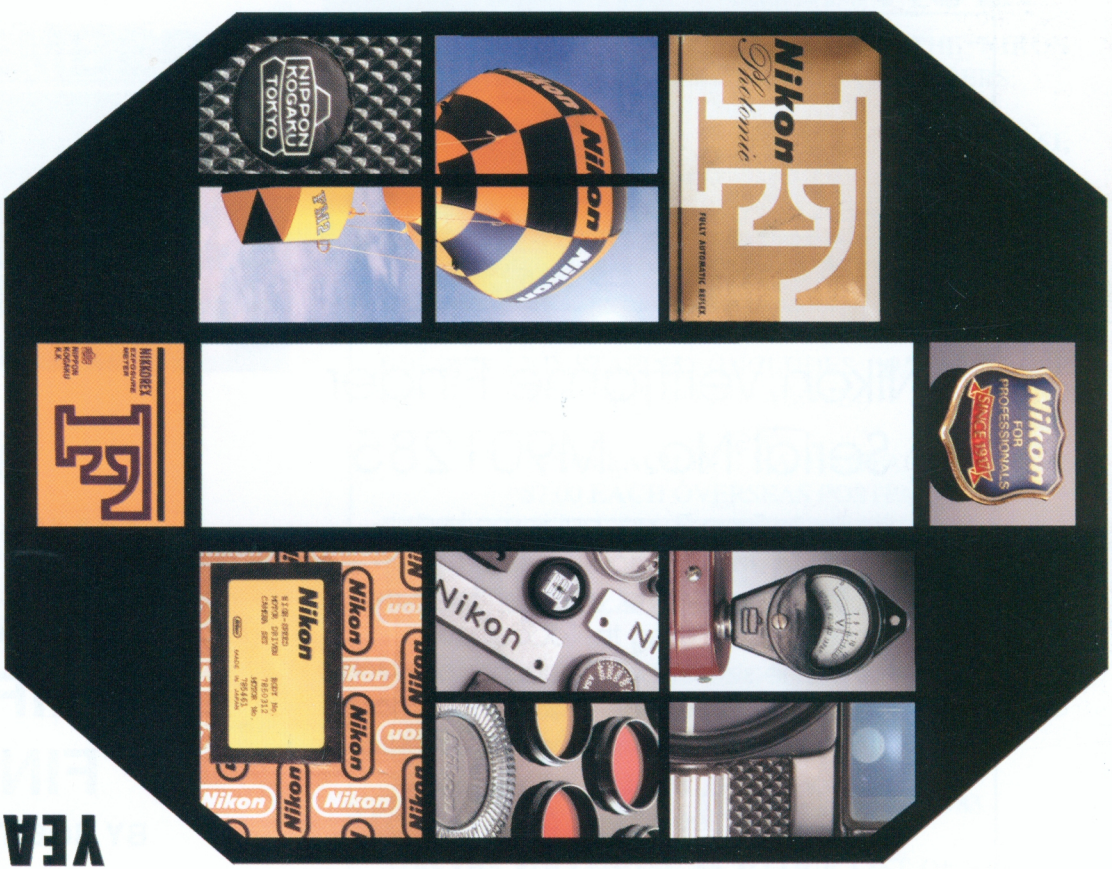
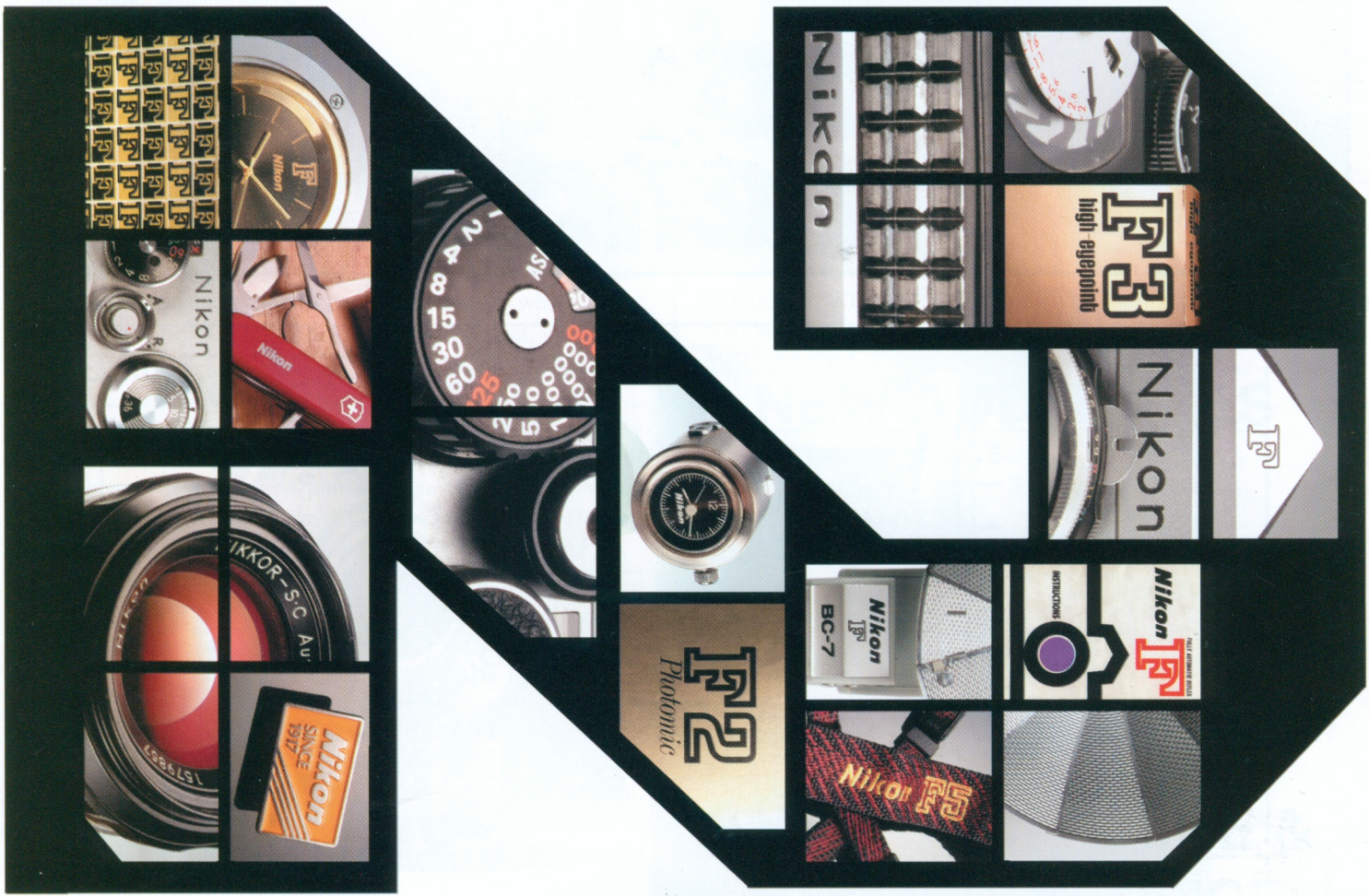


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