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Nikon Historical Society • Nikon Historical Society • Nikon Historical Society • Nikon Historical Society • Nikon Historical Society

# 28TH

# SEPT. 30, 2011

# NHS-113

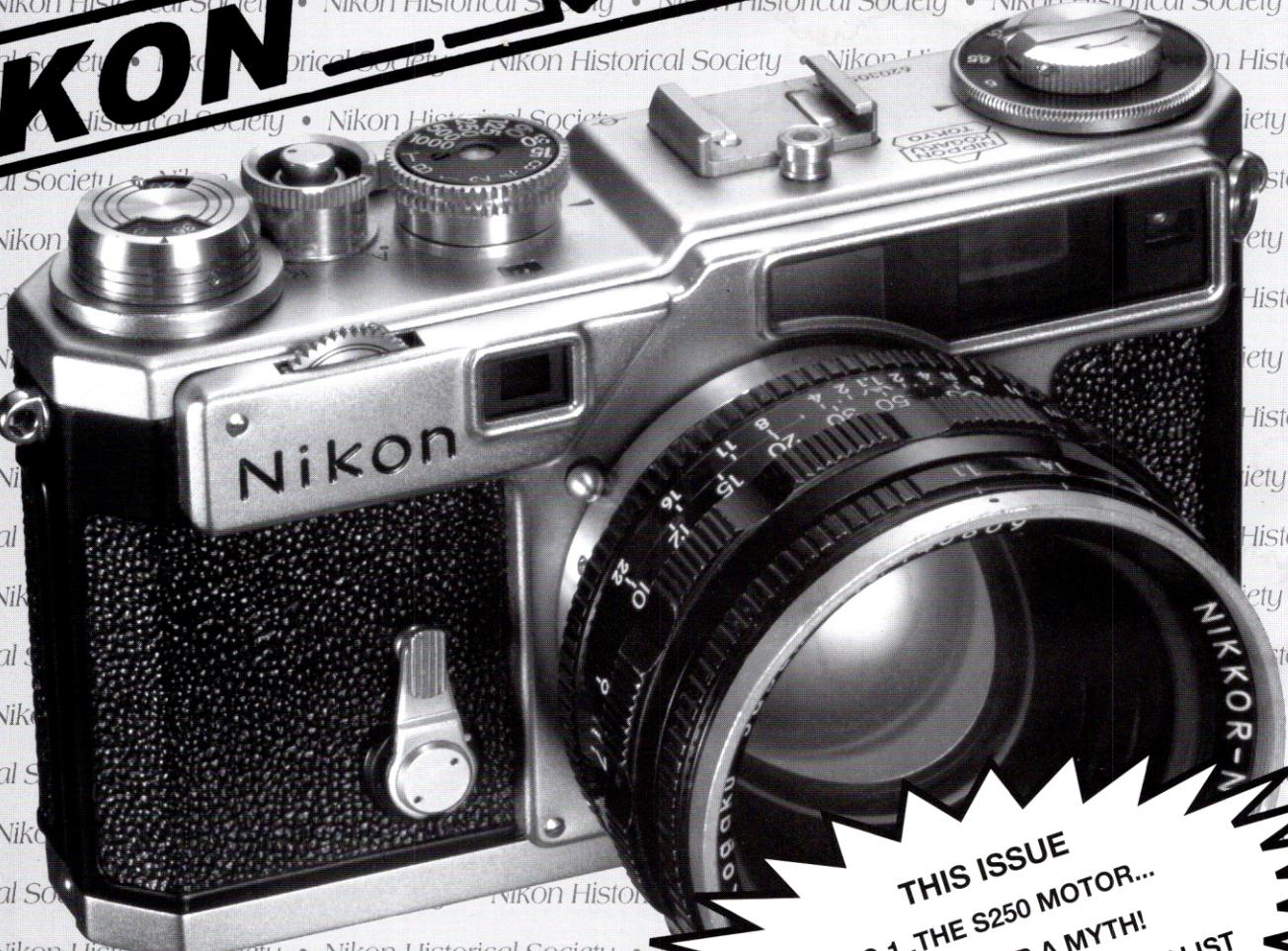
# ANNIVERSARY

# ISSUE!

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY • MIROFF

# NHS-CON13...PARIS...JOURNAL



# THIS ISSUE

## PG 1..THE S250 MOTOR...

## NO LONGER A MYTH!

## G 8..THE NHS BLACK BODY LIST



# THE NIKON JOURNAL ISSUE #113

VOLUME TWENTY EIGHT – NUMBER FOUR – SEPT. 30, 2011

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## NHS -114 DEADLINE!

The deadline for the next issue of our **NIKON JOURNAL**, **NHS-114**, is **November 15, 2011**. Please get all your correspondence and photos to me on time so I can bring it out on schedule during the Holiday madness. Thank you. **RJR**.

## EDITORIAL

These Anniversary issues seem to be coming around more quickly every year. Or am I just aging at an ever-increasing rate? Since I was 35 when I started the NHS, and this is our 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue, that makes me 63. Hmm...Medicare is right around the corner. Regardless of the passing of time I still enjoy putting the Journal together and I hope the results are to your liking. We have a full issue this time around and NHS-Con13 is getting closer every day and the planning committee is hard at work. I can attest to this as I look at my stack of emails that have been going back and forth. It should be a great time for all.

My lead off article this issue is quite special. After nearly 40 years searching for information about the S250 motor for the SP that has only been seen in the literature, an actual example has finally surfaced. An item that was thought to possibly be a myth and no longer exist has seen the light of day and is illustrated in these pages. This is the first time such photos have ever been published anywhere and is a Journal exclusive. My thanks to Peter Coeln who supplied the photos and who will feature this item in his upcoming Westlicht auction. (I must also thank Peter for something else. He has agreed to be a sponsor for NHS-Con13 and has pledged money to help defray some of our costs. See the NHS-Con13 page for more info.)

It is hard to believe but it has been six years since I last ran a complete and updated 'Black Body List' in the Journal (NHS-90). On page 8 you will find the latest knowledge about these rare and valuable Nikon RF bodies that were made in less than 5% of the entire production! We now have nearly 800 recorded examples (as well as 130 Fakes!) to help with your search for these beautiful cameras. I hope you find our list a valuable source of information.

On page 13 Finnish member Veli Miettinen has a short article about an interesting Nikkor reflex lens. It is the first I have heard of a 'Dummy' 400mm/f4.5 interchangeable lens head. Such a low production item for a dummy. What is also interesting is Veli's story about how he acquired it.

On page 14 I have started a new series about Nikon items calibrated in the metric system. Although identical in all ways to those in feet, metric equipment from Nikon is surprisingly uncommon and rather difficult to find. They make for an interesting variation but what attracts me is their low production, for which I have no explanation.

See page 17 for an announcement of a new research project, this one by Canadian member Robert Rayzak. He is trying to make some sense of certain numbers found inside early Nikon One cameras. Look and see if you can help.

There was recently a movie posted on 'YouTube' that you might find very interesting. It is a two-part video on the designing and birth of the Nikon F that I have never seen before. It includes interviews with some of the people involved. I don't know where this has been all these years, as I have never even had a hint of its existence. Go to the following to view it. I am sure you will like it!

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKyR9Z\\_ZUsU&feature=share](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKyR9Z_ZUsU&feature=share)

HAVE A GOOD HOLIDAY SEASON & SEE YOU IN PARIS!

# THE 'MYTHICAL' S250 MOTOR...

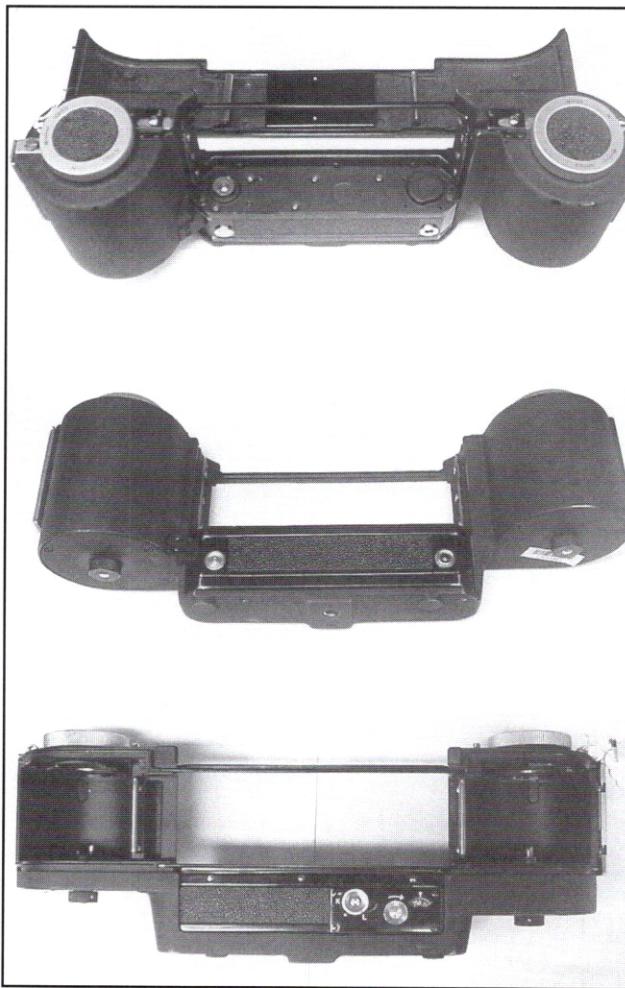
# NO LONGER A MYTH!

BY ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

You may remember the special issue we did on the Nikon bulk film backs in NHS-86 (12/04) in which Peter Lownds and Tony Hurst covered, in great detail, the backs made for the Nikon F through the F4. Going back to that issue you will see that I grafted 3 pages onto the end of their article to include all we knew at that time about the S250 model made for the SP. It wasn't much but did include photos of two versions of the S250, one a known item, the other nearly mythical. I have rerun all the photos of the S250 from that issue plus some new ones. To recap the information in NHS-86 we knew then of photos of a version not yet found but seen in the pages of one of Simon Nathan's Fawcett books as well as a single EPOI magazine ad. A second, different, unit had recently appeared at Christie's (see photo this page). I was able to examine this second unit at NHS-Con9 in Tokyo in 2004 as it belonged to Tad Sato. It all fit together well and appeared completely original and matched perfectly the engineering drawings of the S250 I had obtained from its designer, Shigetada Fukuoka (also reproduced on this page). You will also find the photos and drawings

in my book on pages 436-440. At the time NHS-86 appeared in 2004 and my book in 2007 this was the sum of our knowledge about the S250. And still the one in Nathan's Fawcett photos and that EPOI ad remained a mystery.

*Above..This motor was featured in the November 2003 Christie's auction & was purchased by Japanese member Tad Sato. It caused some controversy since it did not match the one seen in the Fawcett book or the EPOI ad. However, it did correspond to the drawing at right that I obtained directly from Mr. Fukuoka, who was the designer of the original S36 motor. I was also able to personally examine it at NHS-Con9 in Tokyo where it certainly looked to be completely original. But is was so 'F' like that it could not have been the earliest version. The one in Nathan's & the ad was very different. But where was it?*



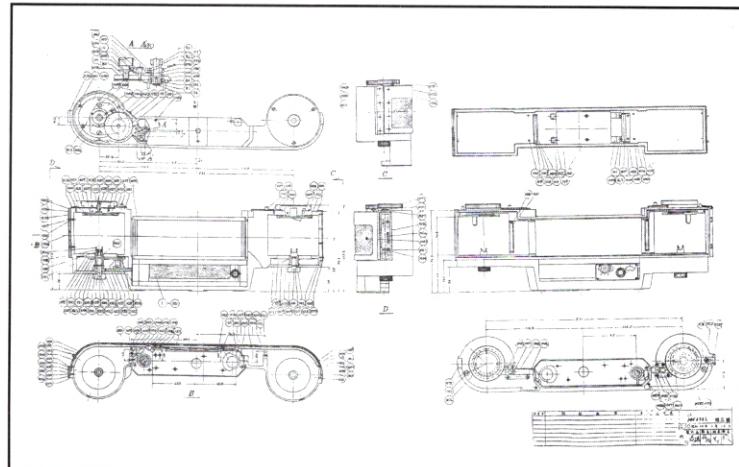
But time marches on, as does our quest for knowledge. In this issue of the Journal those two motors from NHS-86 as well as a strange and wonderful unit whose origins are unknown are showcased. I hope you enjoy them.

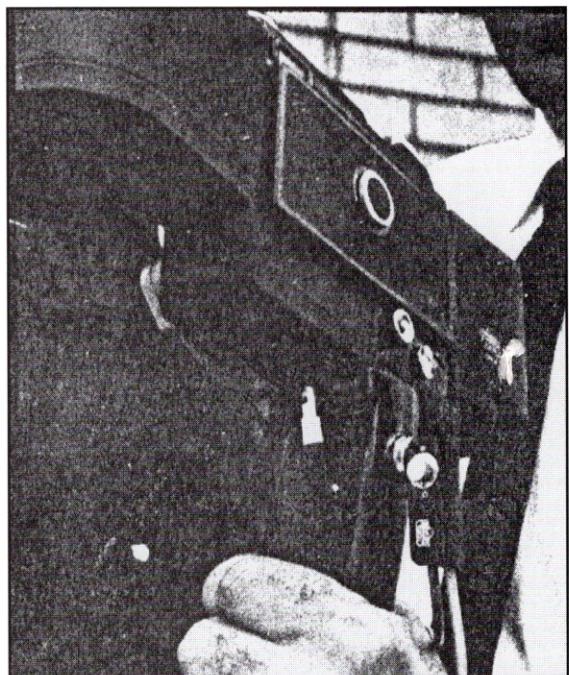
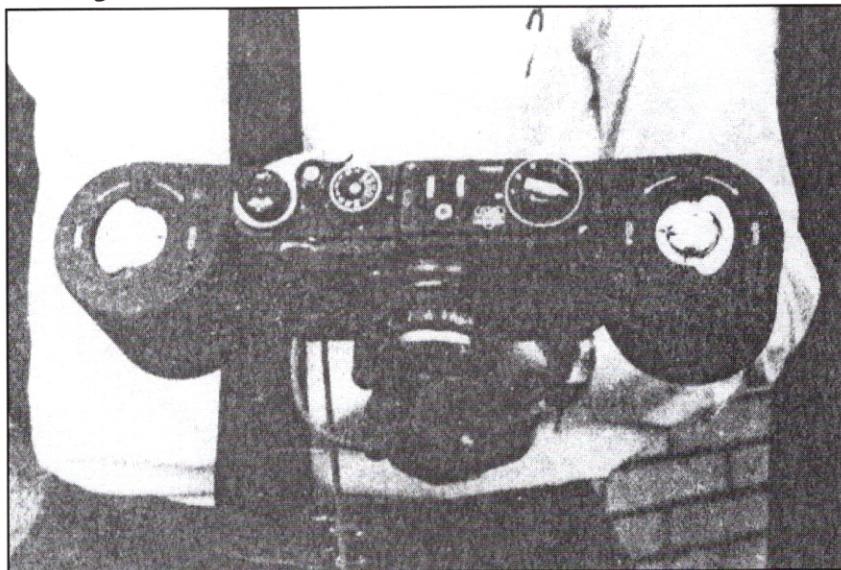
I have reproduced the Christie's unit on this page and more photos can be found in my book. I have also reproduced, on the following pages, the photos I had obtained from the late Simon Nathan and that EPOI ad of a seemingly mythical unit no one could find. Well, it is no longer a myth as a unit has finally surfaced in the New York area. I obtained these photos from Peter Coeln of the Nathan/EPOI type S250 that answers the question: does it really exist? Yes, it certainly does.

The final motor in this article is one I recently received photos of. Though not a Nikon made item it is so well executed and interesting that I just had to run it. I have no idea where, when or by whom it was made, but it is a neat item and worth a look.

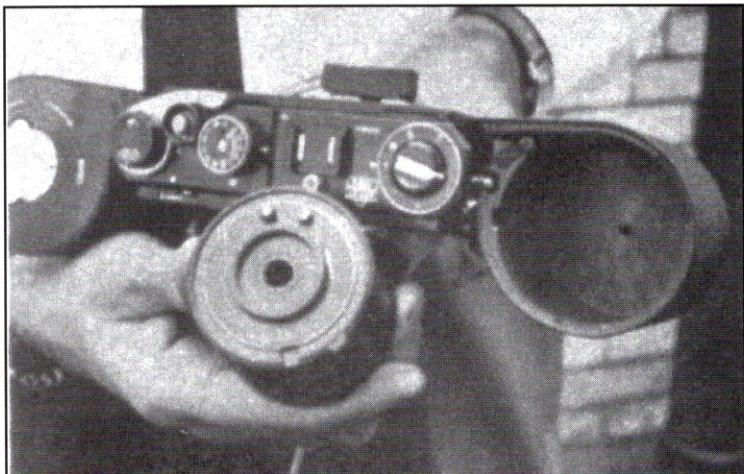
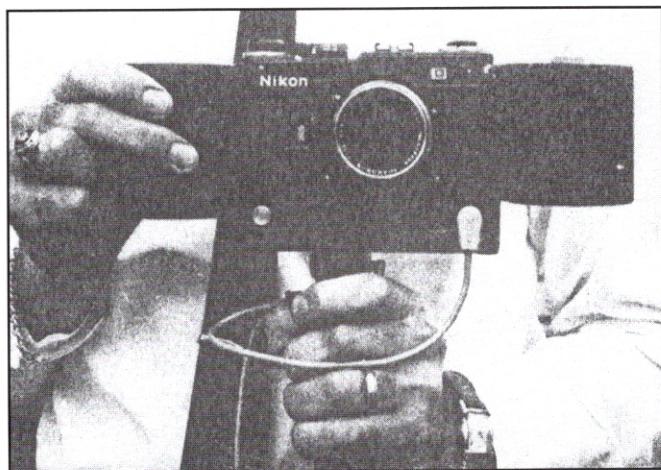
Is this article the final word on the S250 motor drive? I have learned that it will be in the Westlicht auction November 12th! Stay tuned!

RJR

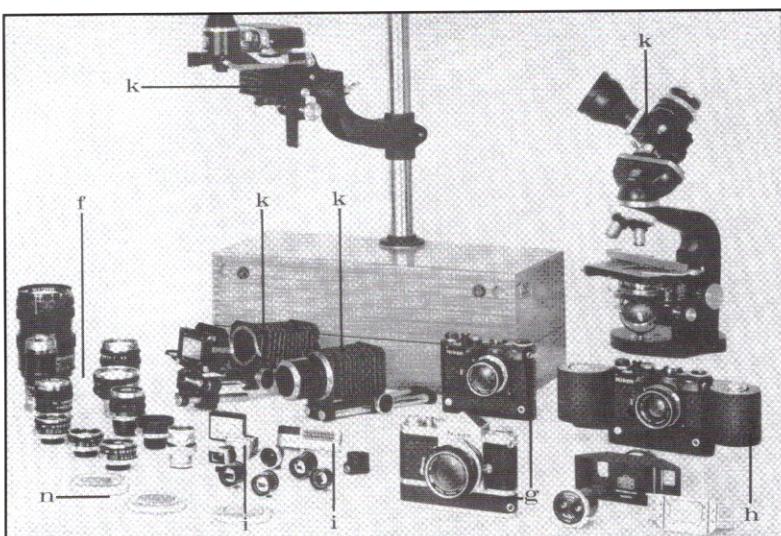


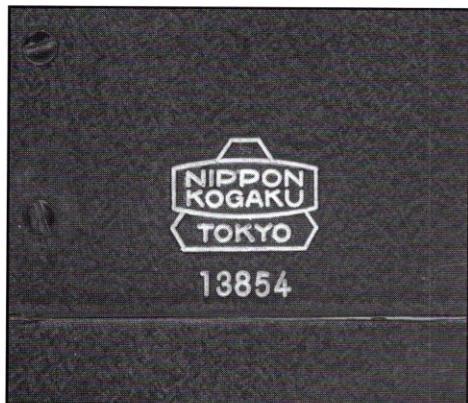
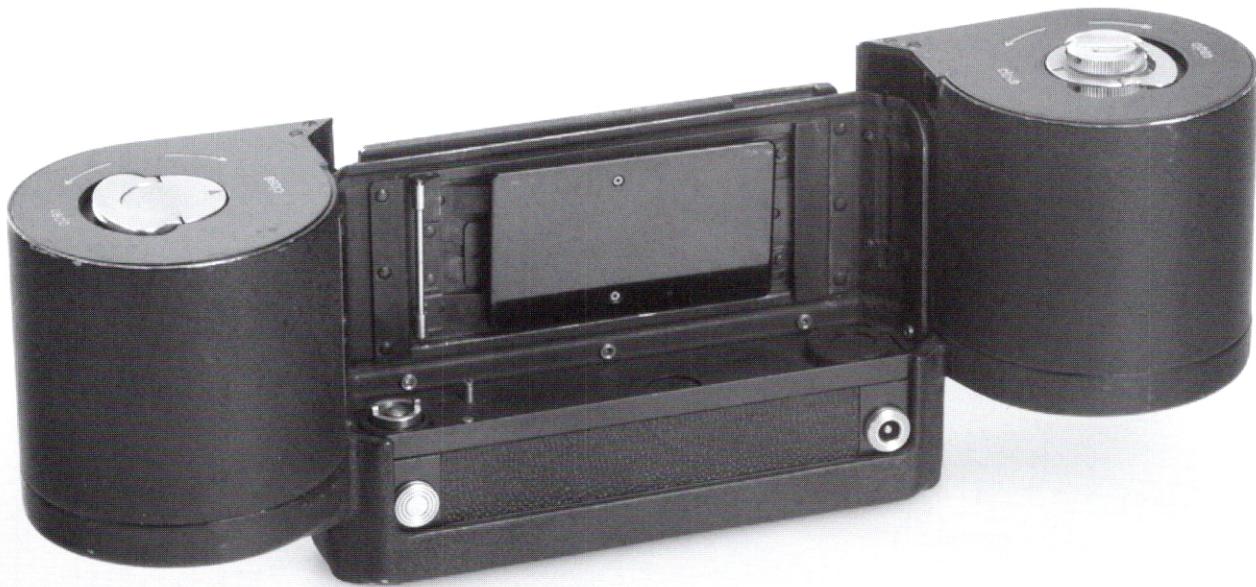


These four photos and the EPOI ad are all we have had of what is probably the prototype of the S250 motor. Note the following differences between it & the Christie unit: the film cassettes load from the top, not the back; their chamber tops are secured by large D-rings like the back locks on the SP; the back has a rectangular protrusion about the size of the camera with some sort of control knob in the center. Was the entire back fixed?

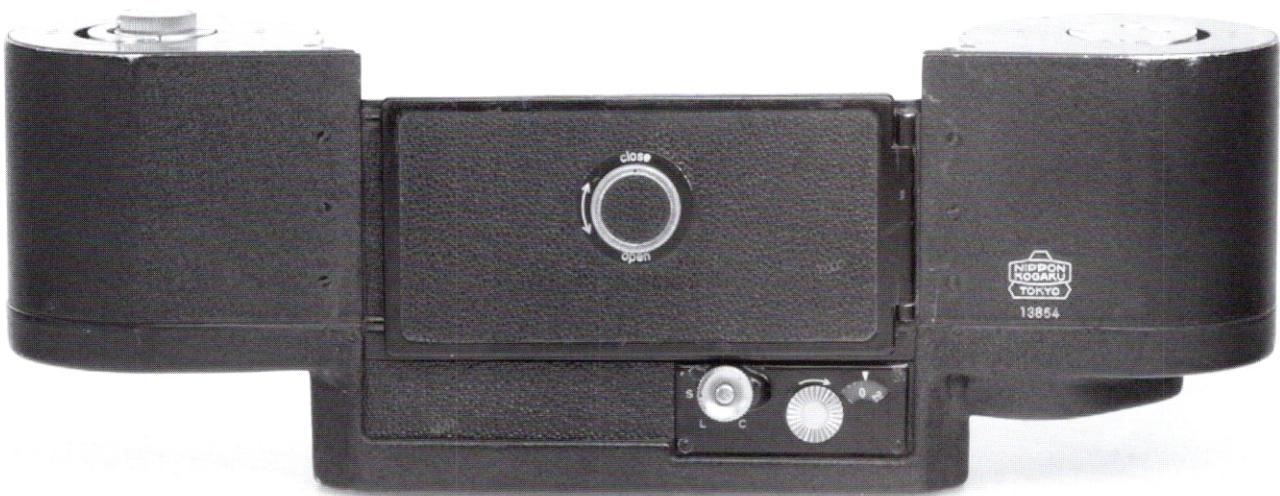


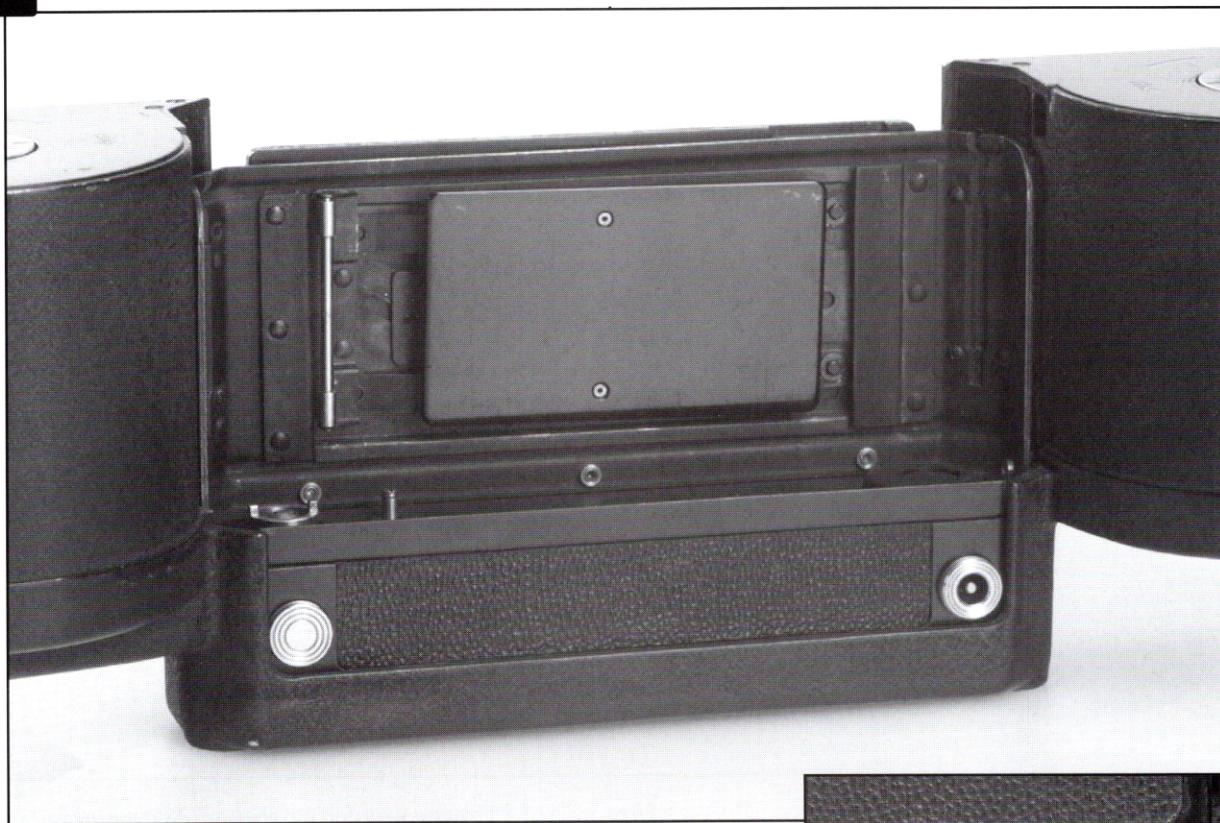
The ad below appeared in the June 1960 issue of Modern Photo. I have enlarged the motor image. Note it is a top loader just like the Nathan motor. Could it be the same motor? Or were there two of them? Could the one on the facing page be the same unit?



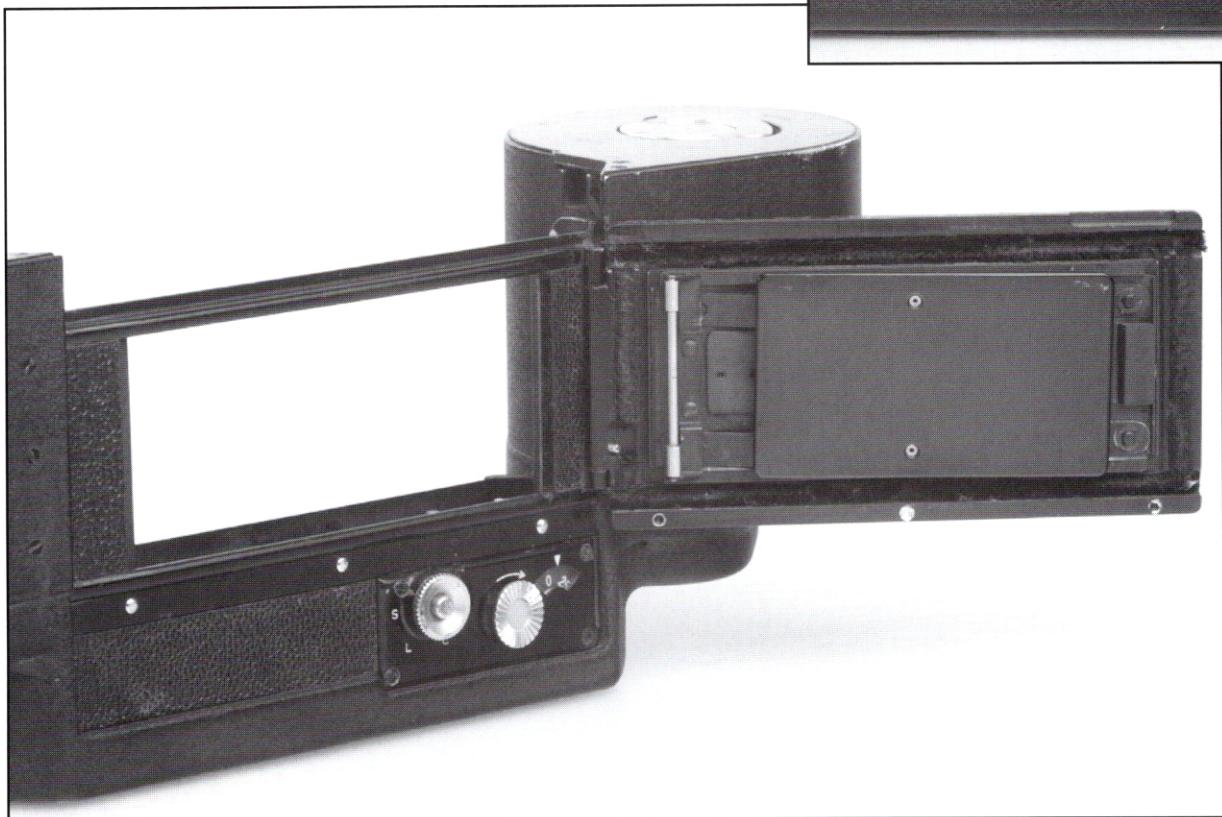
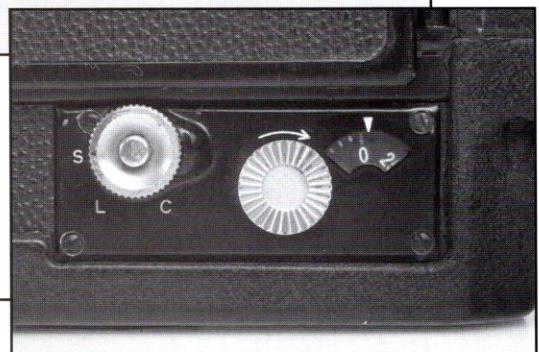


After nearly 35 years wondering if the S250 motor seen in Simon Nathan's Fawcett book article and that lone EPOI ad really existed, we now can say without a doubt, YES! Note the top loading cassette chambers with their very large 'D' rings identical to those used by Nikon for their baseplate locks through the Nikon F. Also note that there is a standard RF/F era rewind lever present. Now who is going to rewind 250 exposures on a cassette-to-cassette system? Not me! The rear view clearly shows the rectangular protrusion barely visible in the Nathan photos. What is it? Turn the page and see. And the round knob in the center? Well that is an O-C knob. And finally we have a serial number for this prototype version seen below the N-K logo. It is 13854. To me a strange number indeed. Not the type Nikon would usually use for a prototype or low production item. That is unless they started at 13851 or 13801? But that can't be! Right?



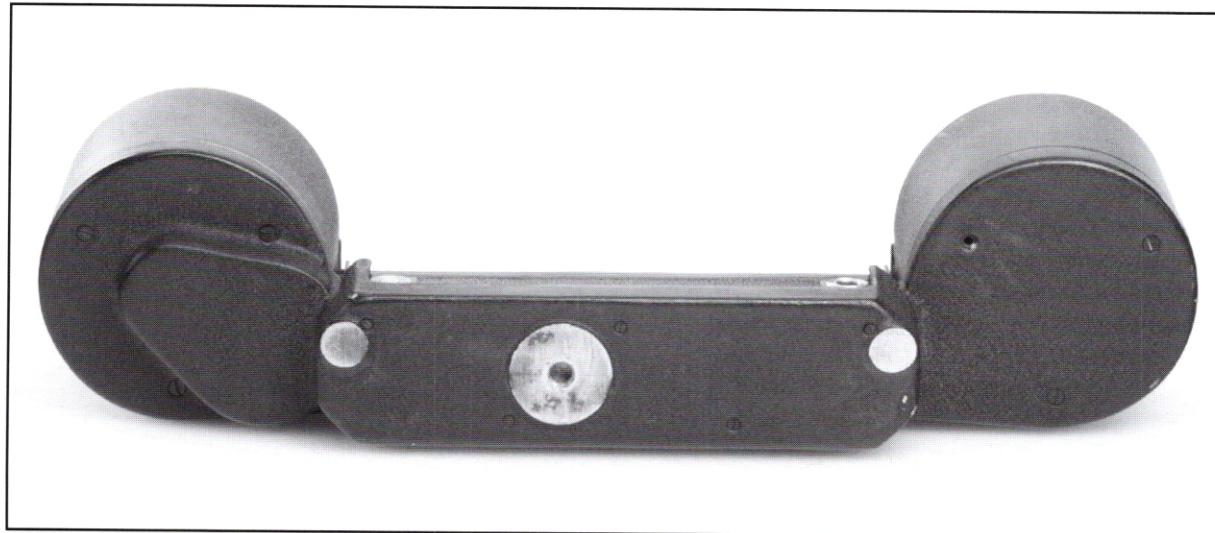
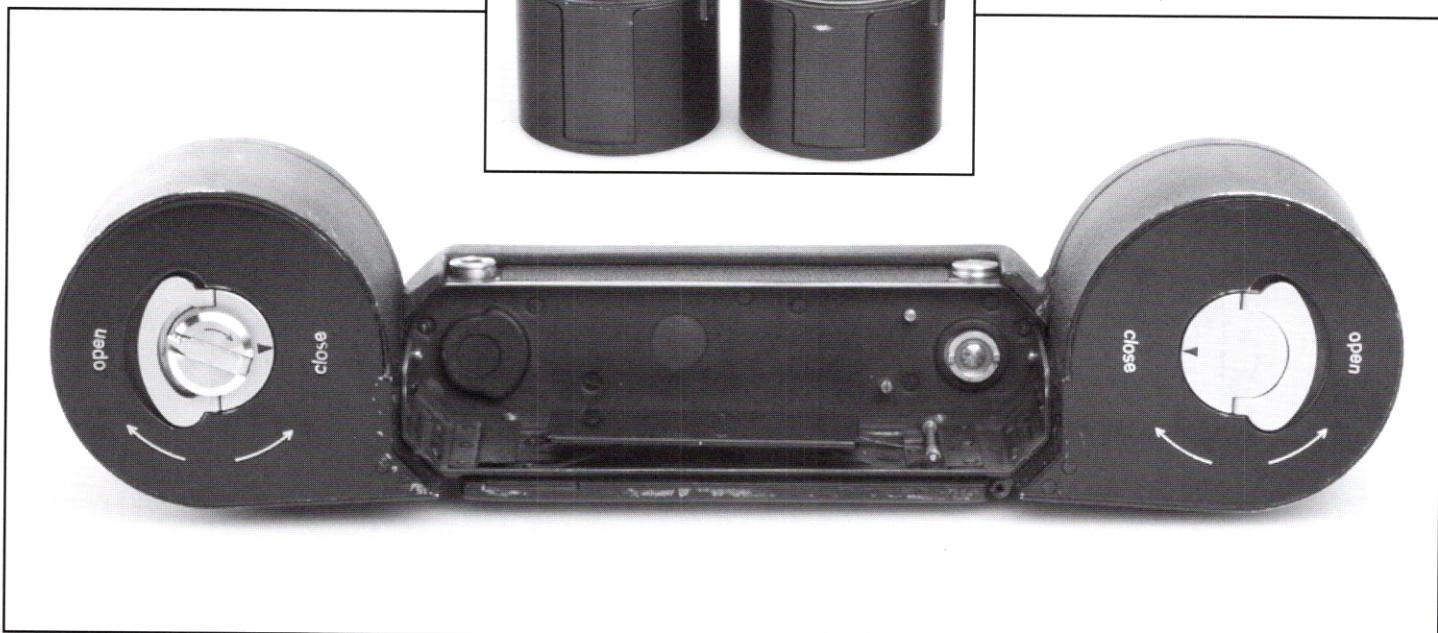


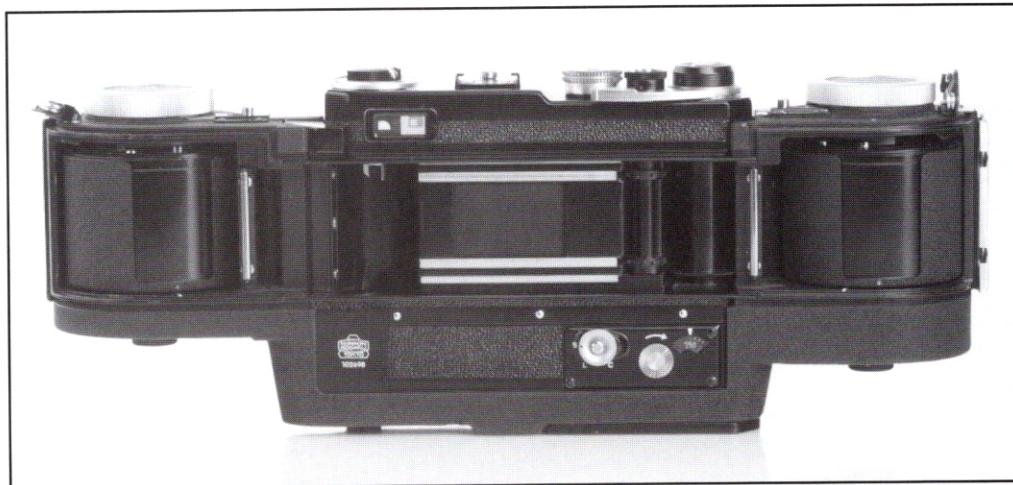
*In the closer view above note the slightly different leading edge of the metal undercarriage. It is deeper and covers the motor's baseplate, whose front edge is visible on the F-type motor housings. Also note the unusual configuration of the area behind the pressure plate. That protrusion turns out to be a swing-open back to aid in making sure the film engages the sprocket wheel correctly. Drop in loading and easy film alignment!*

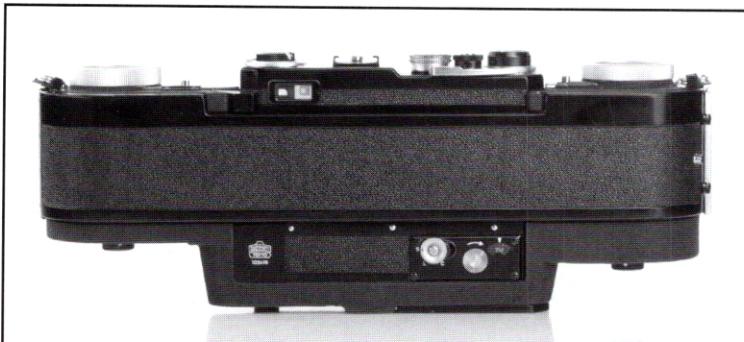




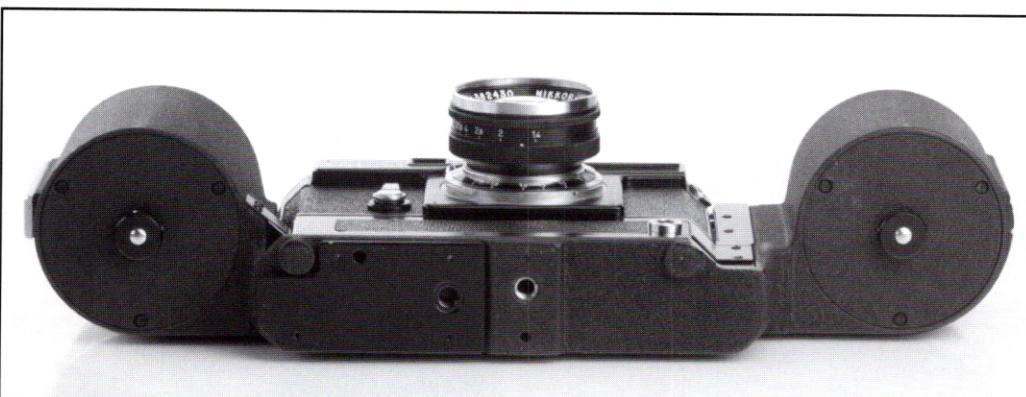
The rear view with the back closed clearly shows the O-C knob used to open the swing back. This is an RF motor in that there is no rate control wheel but it is a late one since it has the S-L-C knob. Could there be a second number on its baseplate? Might be. Again you can see that the undercarriage comes up higher. So high that they had to notch it out to clear the motor control panel. But all in all a very clean design. Below are top and bottom views illustrating just how 'finished' this design is. It does not look like a prototype as everything appears so well designed. At this time we do not know if the cassettes that came with it will work in the later type motors, nor did this unit come with a battery pack. I assume it would have been the long leather pack. So finally the 'Mythical' S250 has surfaced and it looks to be a very clean, unmodified or damaged unit. It will be featured in the November 12th Westlicht Auction in Vienna and I wish to thank Peter Coeln for supplying these photos. See NHS-114 for auction results.



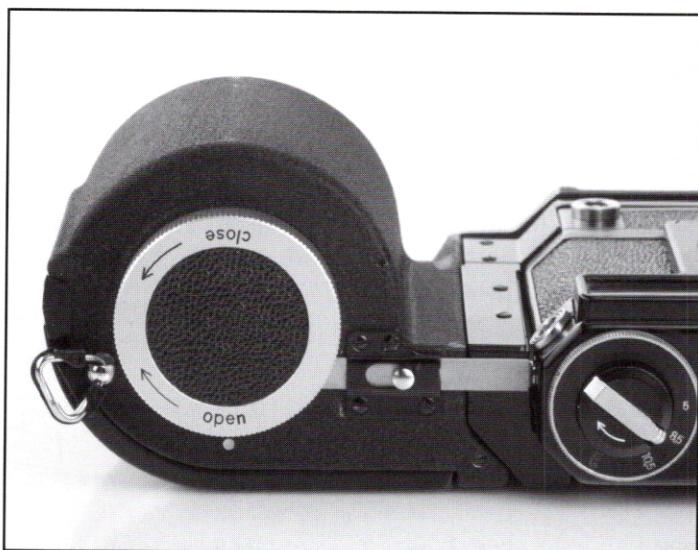
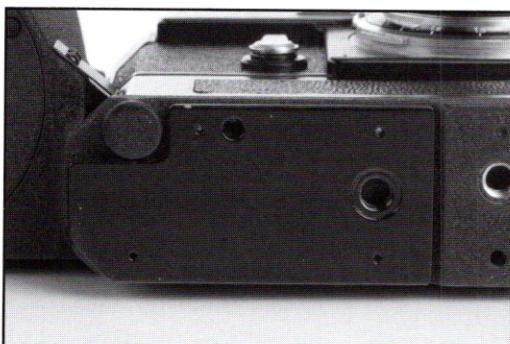




Now take a look at this item. Peter Coeln also supplied these photos of a most unusual, and surely unique, 250 shot motor on an SP. Obviously made by mating an F250 motor to an SP, it is so well done and finished that I felt it should be included here. The motor itself is an S36 as it lacks a frame rate selector and has a front facing power socket. However, the 250 chassis is an 'F' item. Note the 'spacer' on the rewind side between the body and film housing. This is required because the RF body is about one-fourth inch shorter than the 'F' body. But it is well done. The serial number plate?



Very interesting indeed. An 'F' era number and probably that of the original F250 set. Note the matching number on the inside of the back. A neat item to own and display. Peter tells me this one will not be in his auction as it was sold privately.



# “BLACK BODY LIST”

## COMPILED BY ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

The last time I compiled a completely updated ‘**NHS BLACK BODY LIST**’ was in NHS-90 dated December 2005, nearly 6 years ago. I have meant to do this update sooner but could not find the time or space until now. Since the last list I have been able to add nearly 160 confirmed black RF Nikons as well as 50 ‘**FAKES**’ that have been reported to me. I have added them as they have been reported to me in each Journal in our ‘Black is Beautiful’ feature, but felt it was time to publish it in its entirety as a service to my members. In this way you can make a copy and keep it with you as you browse camera stores, flea markets and collectors’ shows, as well as auctions, both live and on line. Remember that fakes are out there (more so now than ever before!) and black bodies command much higher prices, so ‘knowledge is money’.

What you see here represents well over 35 years of locating and cataloging black RF body numbers that I have examined personally, or had reported to me from countless sources, including many of you. This current edition totals ‘**769**’ bodies that research has substantiated as original and correct. From just a cursory examination you will notice that Nippon Kogaku obviously made their black bodies in batches, some large, others quite small. This is similar to what Leitz did and makes sense, as this was an era when black bodies were a definite option, and not one often chosen by the public. Only starting with the model ‘F’ did Nikon produce a significant number of black bodies. During the RF era this was not the case, as they were aimed more at the professional and seldom used in advertising. Therefore, black Nikon RF bodies are rare today and much more valuable than their chrome counterparts (save for the S3M), making our list even more important.

Unlike the previous edition I have made an attempt to separate the numbers into obvious (where possible) batches as they were produced. In some cases this is very easy to do where we have nicely contiguous numbers. Other times it is more difficult for fewer examples have been reported. Please keep in mind that all batches, even the largest ones, started off as a single example and grew from there. Of course, as more numbers are reported the batches become less ‘iffy’. So please, if you have any numbers not on this list, real or fake please, let me know, as I will continue to list additions in every issue of the Journal.

At the end I have included a list of ‘**FAKE**’ black Nikons so far reported to me. Some I have examined or seen photos while others come from third parties. Sometimes a body appears fake because its number does not fit a batch and can only change status if another closely numbered body appears. Other times it is a legitimate black that has been badly repainted and looks fake. Others are simply obvious ‘hatchet jobs’ converting chromes to blacks. Declaring a fake can be risky if not personally examined but I have been known to transfer a camera from the fake list to the real when others show up. It appears that towards the end of

the RF era a few black cameras were made on special order, so ‘batches’ of 1 or 2 bodies may exist. This list is definitely a ‘work in progress’ so modifications can be done at any time. But do keep in mind that the sightings of fakes have definitely increased the last 10 years, so keep your eyes open, especially on eBay where some of those photos are less than enlightening.

Happy Hunting and keep those numbers coming in so our list can grow and remain both timely and accurate.

RJR



### NIKON ONE:

609431

### NIKON M:

M6092934

### NIKON S:

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6101424 | 6105936 | 6108685 | 6112267 |
| 6112580 |         |         |         |

### NIKON S2:

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6137647 | 6137658 |         |         |
| 6140804 | 6140805 | 6140806 | 6140818 |
| 6140822 | 6140823 | 6140824 | 6140825 |
| 6140834 | 6140838 | 6140841 | 6140848 |
| 6141623 |         |         |         |
| 6144454 | 6144489 | 6144496 |         |
| 6144520 | 6144531 | 6144533 | 6144574 |
| 6144662 | 6144666 | 6144669 | 6144677 |
| 6144682 | 6144689 |         |         |



6144766

6145922

6146101

6157502

6157510

6157523

6157531

6157554

6157569

6157576

6170901

6170906

6170924

6170934

6170941

6170954

6170967

6170991

6180596

6180637

6180659

6180666

6180723

6180758

6180793

6180866

6180915

6180954

6181654

6181707

6185735

6194001

6194013

6194061

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6194082 | 6194109 | 6194115 | 6194116 |
| 6194126 | 6194142 | 6194146 | 6194148 |
| 6194158 | 6194197 | 6194204 | 6194208 |
| 6194281 | 6194294 | 6194297 |         |

**NIKON SP:**

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6200035 | 6200041 | 6200043 | 6200045 |
| 6200048 | 6200050 | 6200060 | 6200065 |
| 6200068 | 6200080 | 6200082 | 6200083 |
| 6200084 |         |         |         |

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6202453 | 6202459 | 6202466 | 6202469 |
| 6202480 | 6202482 | 6202489 | 6202495 |
| 6202500 | 6202508 | 6202509 | 6202511 |
| 6202513 | 6202515 | 6202516 | 6202525 |
| 6202526 | 6202528 | 6202530 | 6202533 |
| 6202538 | 6202547 | 6202549 | 6202551 |
| 6202552 | 6202557 | 6202562 | 6202571 |
| 6202577 | 6202580 | 6202583 | 6202585 |
| 6202587 | 6202588 | 6202589 | 6202590 |
| 6202594 | 6202595 | 6202599 | 6202601 |
| 6202611 | 6202613 | 6202618 | 6202619 |
| 6202628 | 6202630 | 6202632 | 6202636 |
| 6202646 | 6202652 | 6202653 | 6202658 |
| 6202660 | 6202663 | 6202668 | 6202671 |
| 6202672 | 6202678 | 6202681 | 6202684 |
| 6202687 | 6202688 | 6202694 | 6202698 |

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6206332 | 6206364 |         |         |
| 6206405 | 6206413 | 6206414 | 6206415 |
| 6206419 | 6206422 | 6206423 | 6206434 |
| 6206441 | 6206448 | 6206451 | 6206452 |
| 6206453 | 6206456 | 6206463 | 6206471 |
| 6206472 | 6206473 | 6206476 | 6206480 |
| 6206482 | 6206488 | 6206489 | 6206494 |

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6206804 | 6206812 | 6206814 | 6206818 |
| 6206819 | 6206823 | 6206825 | 6206835 |
| 6206837 | 6206844 | 6206845 | 6206847 |
| 6206848 | 6206854 | 6206856 | 6206863 |
| 6206874 | 6206876 | 6206878 | 6206881 |
| 6206884 | 6206885 | 6206888 | 6206890 |
| 6206893 | 6206899 |         |         |

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6208291 |         |         |         |
| 6208401 | 6208403 | 6208406 | 6208416 |
| 6208422 | 6208423 | 6208424 | 6208427 |
| 6208430 | 6208436 | 6208449 | 6208456 |
| 6208462 | 6208473 | 6208476 | 6208484 |
| 6208487 | 6208488 | 6208499 |         |

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6209523 |         |         |         |
| 6209602 | 6209605 | 6209611 | 6209615 |
| 6209624 | 6209627 | 6209633 | 6209635 |
| 6209642 | 6209652 | 6209657 | 6209660 |
| 6209663 | 6209679 | 6209688 | 6209700 |

|         |         |         |         | <u>NIKON S3:</u>                    |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6210502 | 6210515 | 6210518 | 6210532 | 6302636                             |         |         |         |
| 6210535 | 6210542 | 6210543 | 6210546 | 6306046                             |         |         |         |
| 6210547 | 6210549 | 6210550 | 6210555 |                                     |         |         |         |
| 6210561 | 6210562 | 6210564 | 6210570 | 6307453                             | 6307454 | 6307461 | 6307467 |
| 6210571 | 6210595 | 6210597 | 6210598 | 6307471                             | 6307475 | 6307481 | 6307482 |
|         |         |         |         | 6307483                             | 6307489 | 6307508 | 6307576 |
| 6210739 |         |         |         |                                     |         |         |         |
| 6212101 | 6212109 | 6212126 | 6212129 | 6312108                             | 6312116 | 6312121 | 6312123 |
| 6212147 | 6212150 | 6212151 | 6212160 | 6312129                             | 6312131 | 6312140 | 6312145 |
| 6212167 | 6212178 | 6212180 | 6212188 | 6312151                             | 6312156 | 6312157 | 6312161 |
| 6212190 | 6212192 | 6212200 |         | 6312187                             | 6312207 | 6312214 | 6312215 |
|         |         |         |         | 6312218                             | 6312220 | 6312235 | 6312245 |
| 6214197 |         |         |         | 6312247                             | 6312248 | 6312256 | 6312259 |
|         |         |         |         | 6312266                             | 6312267 | 6312273 | 6312278 |
| 6215304 | 6215311 | 6215312 | 6215314 |                                     |         |         |         |
| 6215327 | 6215328 | 6215330 | 6215332 | <u>NIKON S3..'OLYMPIC' VERSION:</u> |         |         |         |
| 6215336 | 6215343 | 6215363 | 6215369 | 6320001                             | 6320015 | 6320016 | 6320024 |
| 6215374 | 6215376 | 6215379 | 6215381 | 6320054                             | 6320056 | 6320059 | 6320072 |
| 6215384 | 6215397 | 6215400 | 6215402 | 6320078                             | 6320079 | 6320103 | 6320143 |
| 6215412 | 6215417 | 6215422 | 6215430 | 6320150                             | 6320151 | 6320152 | 6320174 |
| 6215437 | 6215442 |         |         | 6320187                             | 6320200 | 6320203 | 6320220 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320221                             | 6320234 | 6320243 | 6320248 |
| 6215612 | 6215683 | 6215689 |         | 6320284                             | 6320310 | 6320312 | 6320314 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320323                             | 6320340 | 6320355 | 6320365 |
| 6215884 |         |         |         | 6320366                             | 6320381 | 6320410 | 6320411 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320415                             | 6320432 | 6320463 | 6320480 |
| 6216502 |         |         |         | 6320481                             | 6320504 | 6320516 | 6320518 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320522                             | 6320529 | 6320531 | 6320539 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320540                             | 6320542 | 6320543 | 6320556 |
| 6218836 | 6218841 | 6218858 | 6218859 | 6320580                             | 6320590 | 6320616 | 6320636 |
| 6218876 | 6218924 | 6218940 | 6218942 | 6320643                             | 6320648 | 6320671 | 6320674 |
| 6218944 | 6218948 | 6218949 | 6218961 | 6320684                             | 6320694 | 6320699 | 6320705 |
| 6218988 | 6218991 | 6218993 | 6218994 | 6320716                             | 6320719 | 6320755 | 6320758 |
| 6218997 | 6219010 | 6219018 | 6219024 | 6320773                             | 6320775 | 6320790 | 6320814 |
| 6219027 | 6219041 | 6219049 | 6219050 | 6320826                             | 6320837 | 6320871 | 6320880 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320911                             | 6320920 | 6320922 | 6320938 |
| 6219164 | 6219179 |         |         | 6320939                             | 6320941 | 6320945 | 6320961 |
|         |         |         |         | 6320983                             | 6320992 | 6321015 | 6321021 |
| 6219374 | 6219451 |         |         | 6321024                             | 6321054 | 6321069 | 6321086 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321106                             | 6321111 | 6321119 | 6321129 |
| 6219971 |         |         |         | 6321131                             | 6321133 | 6321136 | 6321140 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321147                             | 6321152 | 6321162 | 6321172 |
| 6220677 | 6220689 | 6220710 | 6220713 | 6321184                             | 6321187 | 6321211 | 6321260 |
| 6220720 | 6220721 | 6220731 |         | 6321270                             | 6321276 | 6321282 | 6321283 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321284                             | 6321304 | 6321312 | 6321350 |
| 6221477 |         |         |         | 6321353                             | 6321366 | 6321376 | 6321378 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321379                             | 6321387 | 6321391 | 6321400 |
| 6221531 | 6221534 |         |         | 6321424                             | 6321425 | 6321426 | 6321428 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321456                             | 6321466 | 6321479 | 6321529 |
| 6223116 |         |         |         | 6321535                             | 6321545 | 6321553 | 6321563 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321566                             | 6321571 | 6321628 | 6321640 |
| 6223610 | 6223620 |         |         | 6321691                             | 6321711 | 6321712 | 6321719 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321748                             | 6321750 | 6321764 | 6321776 |
| 6231591 |         |         |         | 6321780                             | 6321806 | 6321807 | 6321829 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321833                             | 6321834 | 6321838 | 6321839 |
| 6232101 | 6232137 | 6232141 | 6232150 | 6321861                             | 6321864 | 6321874 | 6321879 |
|         |         |         |         | 6321886                             | 6321894 | 6321897 | 6321899 |

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6321906 | 6321923 | 6321924 | 6321929 |
| 6321978 | 6321983 | 6321986 | 6321988 |
| 6321989 | 6321998 | 6322019 | 6322024 |
| 6322026 | 6322029 | 6322032 | 6322047 |
| 6322062 | 6322083 | 6322085 | 6322108 |
| 6322121 | 6322125 | 6322127 | 6322129 |
| 6322131 | 6322137 | 6322166 | 6322176 |
| 6322178 | 6322187 | 6322201 | 6322202 |
| 6322204 | 6322217 | 6322229 | 6322247 |
| 6322251 | 6322255 | 6322274 | 6322275 |
| 6322282 | 6322286 | 6322289 | 6322291 |
| 6322304 | 6322315 | 6322327 | 6322329 |
| 6322331 | 6322348 | 6322349 | 6322354 |
| 6322368 | 6322386 | 6322392 | 6322394 |
| 6322395 | 6322405 | 6322409 | 6322413 |
| 6322414 | 6322431 | 6322441 | 6322443 |
| 6322456 | 6322465 | 6322472 | 6322473 |
| 6322501 | 6322503 | 6322516 | 6322517 |
| 6322525 | 6322533 | 6322544 | 6322550 |
| 6322552 | 6322558 | 6322561 | 6322579 |

**NIKON S3M:**

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6600002 | 6600006 | 6600008 | 6600015 |
| 6600031 | 6600035 | 6600041 | 6600042 |
| 6600046 | 6600048 | 6600051 | 6600056 |
| 6600061 | 6600064 | 6600086 | 6600090 |
| 6600092 | 6600099 | 6600100 | 6600110 |
| 6600113 | 6600115 | 6600133 | 6600134 |
| 6600135 | 6600174 | 6600175 | 6600193 |
| 6600198 | 6600199 | 6600201 | 6600207 |
| 6600215 | 6600221 | 6600222 | 6600223 |



What follows are those black RF Nikons that have been determined to be 'FAKES' or are very questionable at this time. The current total is '130' bodies. For the most part their serial numbers fall well outside of any known batch of legitimate factory produced black bodies. Many are poor attempts and a cursory examination is all that is needed. Others are very well done and must be examined with great care. And still others are just too good to be true. Is it absolutely perfect in all ways with bright white lettering and paint that shines? The old adage 'If it's too good to be

true then it isn't!' is something to keep in mind. (Unless you find it untouched for 30 years in an original sealed box still wrapped in cellophane and in a temperature controlled bank vault, I would look very closely.) It seems that most of this activity involves the S2, SP and early non-Olympic S3 models. Not being on our list of verified blacks does not mean it is 'absolutely' a fake (of course every known batch had to start with only 'one' reported sighting somewhere), but if it is not on our list within one of the documented batches, take extra care in buying it and insist on right of inspection and return if not an original.

Here are the fakes so far reported to me. Please give us feedback if you see others or if you feel something on this list is genuine and needs to be moved to the legitimate column.

**NIKON S:**

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6095079 | 6095212 | 6095850 | 6097328 |
| 6098005 | 6104999 | 6106569 | 6109549 |
| 6115264 | 6115753 | 6115759 | 6115769 |
| 6120155 | 6122291 | 6125007 | 6125221 |
| 6126065 | 6126308 | 6127934 |         |

**NIKON S2:**

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6135383 | 6135424 | 6137045 | 6142472 |
| 6142929 | 6144262 | 6145694 | 6146091 |
| 6146295 | 6147301 | 6149997 | 6154237 |
| 6157373 | 6158900 | 6160051 | 6160079 |
| 6161145 | 6161509 | 6162631 | 6165004 |
| 6167394 | 6168092 | 6172622 | 6174103 |
| 6176117 | 6176259 | 6176398 | 6180021 |
| 6182745 | 6182930 | 6183865 | 6188635 |
| 6189680 | 6192296 | 6192630 | 6193175 |
| 6193908 | 6195592 | 6196783 | 6196932 |

**NIKON SP:**

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6200647 | 6200769 | 6201332 | 6201701 |
| 6202185 | 6202226 | 6202411 | 6203296 |
| 6203479 | 6203605 | 6203636 | 6203750 |
| 6204118 | 6204269 | 6204288 | 6204781 |
| 6206766 | 6208973 | 6209947 | 6211413 |
| 6211497 | 6211725 | 6211734 | 6211841 |
| 6212307 | 6212974 | 6213369 | 6213770 |
| 6213786 | 6213858 | 6214859 | 6215102 |
| 6217218 | 6217677 | 6219858 | 6220199 |
| 6221477 | 6222728 | 6222815 | 6223482 |
| 6223600 | 6230411 | 6230844 |         |

**NIKON S3:**

|         |         |          |         |
|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| 6300038 | 6300226 | 6300393  | 6301791 |
| 6302359 | 6302365 | 6302595  | 6302963 |
| 6303149 | 6303303 | 6303444  | 6306509 |
| 6306569 | 6307600 | 6307635  | 6307743 |
| 6308503 | 6308808 | 6310106  | 6310642 |
| 6310706 | 6311578 | 6325099? |         |

**NIKON S4:**

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6501417 | 6502311 | 6502886 | 6505196 |
| 6505891 |         |         |         |

**SO, HOW MANY WERE ACTUALLY MADE?**

If we look at the black RF Nikons as being 'batch produced' then having an idea of where the batches occur and what the starting and ending numbers are can give us a very good idea of how many black RF Nikons may have been factory produced. For the most part (nearly 98% of what I have recorded) these black bodies were made in batches from small to relatively large and can be ascertained by simply observing a list of collected numbers. However, there are some instances of 'single' black bodies (or just 2 or 3) that appear original yet no obvious batch is present. But keep in mind that 'all' batches had to start with just one body at some point, and these examples of single blacks may turn out to be the first of a small batch that will become apparent as we collect more numbers. I have tried to make an 'educated estimate' of the total Nikon RF black body production based on my records. With obvious batches I estimate the starting and finishing numbers by noting chrome bodies that flank the batch as well as Nikon's tendency to start most batches with a number ending in '00' or '01' (such as 6170901 for example). Thus we can estimate with a high degree of accuracy to total number range for a particular batch. Using this approach we see the following...

**RECORDED RANGE**    **ESTIMATED RANGE**    **#??**

**NIKON S2:**

|                 |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----|
| 6140804~6140848 | 6140801~6140850 | 50  |
| 6144454~6144496 | 6144450~6144500 | 50  |
| 6144520~6144574 | 6144520~6144600 | 80  |
| 6144662~6144689 | 6144650~6144700 | 50  |
| 6157502~6157588 | 6157501~6157600 | 100 |
| 6170901~6170997 | 6170901~6171000 | 100 |
| 6180596~6180987 | 6180575~6181000 | 425 |
| 6194001~6194297 | 6194001~6194300 | 300 |

**ESTIMATED TOTAL.....1,155**

**NIKON SP:**

|                 |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----|
| 6200035~6200084 | 6200031~6200090 | 60  |
| 6202453~6202698 | 6202451~6202700 | 250 |
| 6206405~6206494 | 6206401~6206500 | 100 |
| 6206804~6206899 | 6206801~6206900 | 100 |
| 6208401~6208499 | 6208401~6208500 | 100 |

**ESTIMATED TOTAL.....1,155**

|                 |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----|
| 6209602~6209700 | 6209601~6209700 | 100 |
| 6210502~6210598 | 6210501~6210600 | 100 |
| 6212101~6212200 | 6212101~6212200 | 100 |
| 6215304~6215442 | 6215301~6215500 | 200 |
| 6218836~6219050 | 6218831~6219050 | 220 |
| 6219164~6219179 | 6219164~6219180 | 16  |
| 6219374~6219451 | 6219350~6219451 | 100 |
| 6220677~6220731 | 6220650~6220751 | 100 |
| 6221531~6221534 | 6221525~6221550 | 25  |
| 6232101~6232150 | 6232101~6232151 | 50  |

**ESTIMATED TOTAL.....1,621**

**NIKON S3:**

|                 |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----|
| 6307453~6307576 | 6307401~6307599 | 200 |
| 6302108~6302278 | 6302101~6302299 | 200 |

**ESTIMATED TOTAL.....400**

**NIKON S3 OLYMPIC:**

|                 |                                  |       |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| 6320001~6322579 | 6320001~6322600                  | 2,600 |
|                 | <b>ESTIMATED TOTAL.....2,600</b> |       |

Taking these numbers literally gives us an approximate production of '5,776'. Is this possible? You need to add the few 'isolated' numbers in my database where only 1 or 2 cameras are known and I have not listed them as a batch. Also the unique black Nikon One, the M and the few S models known. In addition there are the 100 or so black S3M bodies. So an upper estimate of '5900~6000' is probable. If this is an accurate estimate then Nikon RF black body production accounted for about '4.3%' of the entire run of approximately 138~139,000 rangefinder Nikons! Taking into account that the primary customer for these special order black bodies was the pro, not the amateur, could mean that as much as 40~50% were literally worked to death and may no longer exist. Those pro-used bodies that remain would be less than collectible today so it is possible that less than 2,000 or so decent black Nikons may still be amongst us at this time. Or even less! What do you think?

Whatever the figure it is obvious that the black RF Nikons can truly be classified as rare or, at the least, very uncommon.

**And as for finding a mint one.....good luck!**

**RJR**



# THE SPOT!

I was the winning bidder of Lot. 402 in the Westlicht auction last December. It consisted of two Nikkor lens heads; 1200mm/f11 #131040 and 400mm/f4.5 #401190, plus the focusing unit for the Nikon F.

As soon as it arrived I checked carefully that everything was okay and no damage occurred during shipping. The 1200mm lens and focusing unit seemed fine but I couldn't screw the hood out on the 400mm lens. It was stuck.

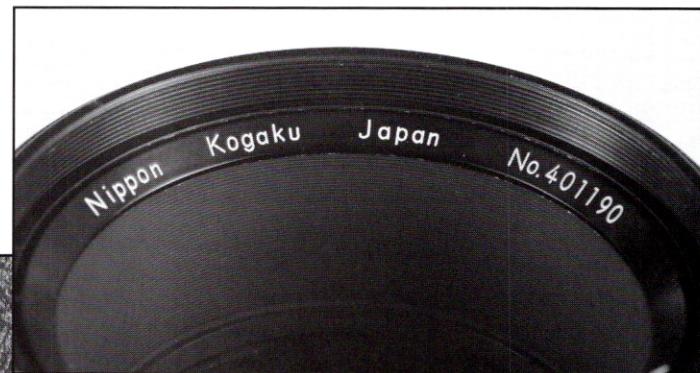
Next day I went to my local camera shop. The repairman and me tried together to twist the hood out but with no luck. Then we tried to heat it with a small gas burner to loosen it. Then three of us tried to screw the hood out with no results. We gave up before doing any damage to the lens. I was disappointed and forgot about it for a few days.

Later I decided just to clean it and put it on the shelf for display. Usually I use alcohol and a soft cloth when cleaning my Nikons. However, while cleaning this lens the cloth became partly black! Nikons never lose their paint during cleaning. Then I looked closer at the black ring on the lens and there it was! A very modest engraving... 'DUMMY'! Someone had tried to hide it with either ink or poor paint.

Next step was to phone member Uli Koch and ask his opinion about my lens. Uli advised me to try to take photos with it. I tried but it was impossible to focus the lens because it was soft all the way. There are probably only the front and rear elements. When Uli heard this he said that this must be an original Nikon 400mm 'Dummy' lens. He also made an interesting comment. Does this mean that Nikon also produced Dummy 600/800/1200mm lenses? The search goes on!

## A 'UNIQUE' 400MM NIKKOR TELE

By VELI MIETTINEN



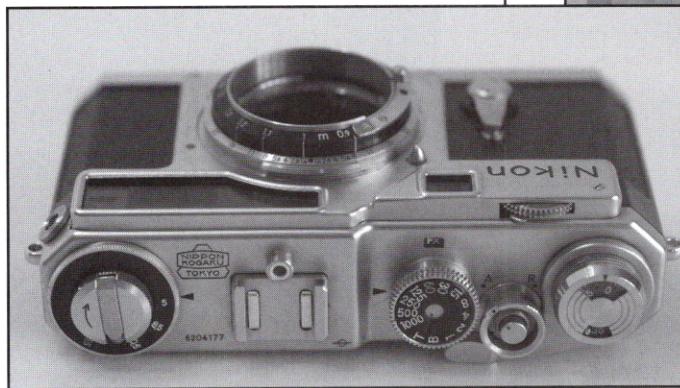
# IT'S A MATTER OF METERS...

BY ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

One observation I made at the start of my research into the Nikon RF system back in 1968 was the relatively small amount of equipment calibrated in the metric system. This struck me as a little odd since I assumed that Japan would have used meters and not feet like the US. I started to keep track of metric gear from the start and after all these years I am still amazed at how little is out there. Although it only qualifies an item as a 'variation', it is a necessary, and interesting, addition to a collection. In this issue I am starting a small series on metric Nikon gear and I hope to get feedback from you for future installments.

There is one unusual pattern in metrics, especially with the bodies. They are more common in very early (1948/49) and very late (1960/64) production and quite uncommon in the years between, which is really the bulk of N-K's RF production. This is brought out by the fact that the bodies with the most metric scales are the early Nikon Ones and the S4/S3M/Olympic S3 cameras from the end of the era. Why might this be?

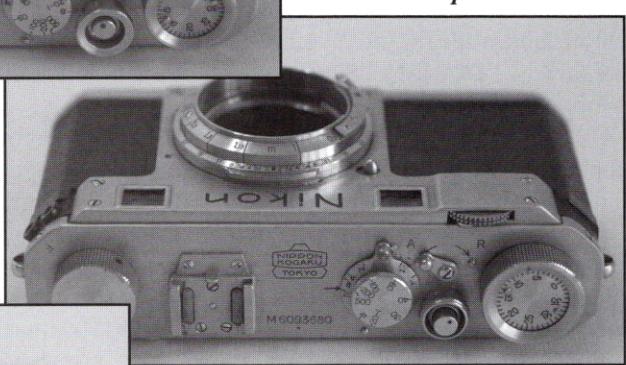
My thoughts are that the late models were primarily meant for the home market since EPOI did not import the S4 or Olympic S3 at all and only a small number of S3M bodies and then only in black.



Since the US was not a target market that would leave, besides Japan, Western Europe, Canada, S. America and the rest of the S. Pacific where the metric system is more prominent. As for the early Nikon Ones, most that I have recorded in meters are in the first 100 made! Could it be that at this very early stage the US was not looked upon as a viable market ('remember Pearl Harbor' was very strong at that time) and we know from Wes Loder's book that Nikon was very slow at getting into the PX system (only after the M came out), thus metric scales made more sense? But very quickly the US got involved with the likes of Overseas Finance & Trading (see Wes' book) and then the PX system and we were the largest and richest market in the world at that time. We had the most troops in the Occupation forces and they had the most money. So



*Above & left..Very early Nikon M #609960 calibrated in meters. This camera is probably from that group of Ones that was converted to Ms. But so few metric Ms have been reported.*



*Above is a much later M body #6093680. Metric Ms are surprisingly uncommon and scattered throughout production. Same for the SP. Left is cloth shuttered body #6204177 and below a much later foil shuttered body #6218741. Two of the 24 reported so far!*



N-K adapted quickly to the point that metric calibrated equipment nearly disappears for all of the 1950s. Food for thought and any comments are welcome.

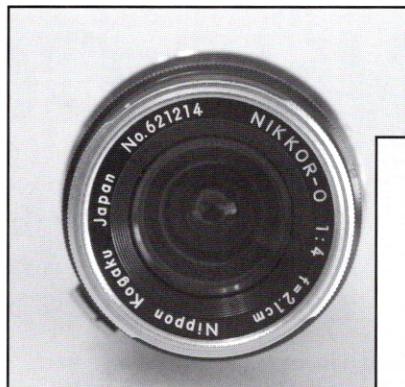
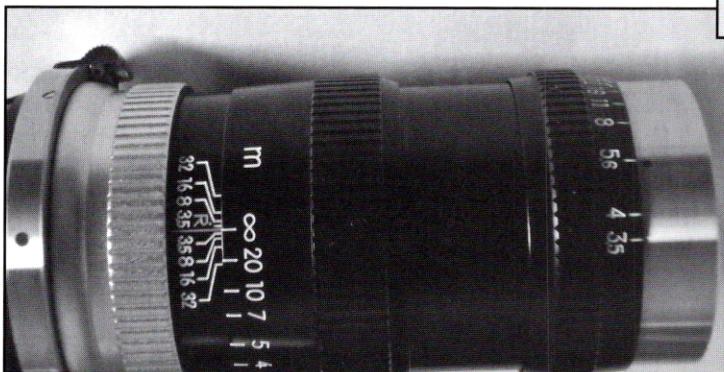
In this issue a few photos of metric items, some not too unusual, other quite so. I have also included my compilation of all metric items currently in my database by type so you can see how 'uncommon' they can be. Of course there are more and I am sure many items reported to me over the years overlooked or neglected to mention meter scales. But we have to start somewhere. Any serial numbers and/or photos for future use will be appreciated. Thank you.

|                  |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| NIKON ONE        | '9'   | (all before #100)                      |
| NIKON M/MS       | '12'  | (dispersed throughout production)      |
| NIKON S          | '5'   | (2 in Scandinavia!)                    |
| NIKON S2         | '7'   | (5 in Scandinavia!)                    |
| NIKON SP         | '24'  | (2 in black paint!)                    |
| NIKON S3         | '14'  | (7 in black paint!?)                   |
| NIKON S4         | '185' | (34 seen in feet & they are all 'EP'!) |
| NIKON S3M        | '44'  | (only 11 others seen in feet)          |
| NIKON S3 OLYMPIC |       | (ONLY '20' out of 2,600 made!)         |

Do you see the pattern? Where are all the S, S2, SP and S3 bodies in meters? Nearly 85-90% of the total RF body production was made up of these 'middle' bodies but metrics are very uncommon. By the S2 Europe was buying Nikons and the SP sold well there. And how were the bodies sold in Japan calibrated? Hard to explain. Note that the late cameras that were not promoted by Ehrenreich are more often found in meters. They weren't meant for here and those S4s in feet are nearly always 'EP' cameras sold in the PX system. What about lenses and accessories?

|              |      |  |
|--------------|------|--|
| 2.1CM/F4     | '4'  |  |
| 2.8CM/F3.5   | '12' |  |
| 3.5CM/F3.5   | '4'  | (2 in Scandinavia!)                    |
| 3.5CM/F2.5   | '5'  | (2 in the 35/f1.8 type barrel!)        |
| 3.5CM/F1.8   | '5'  |  |
| 5.0CM/F1.1   | '3'  | (naturally only in the external mount) |
| 8.5CM/F2.0   | '6'  |  |
| 8.5CM/F1.5   | '1'  | (in Scandinavia!)                      |
| 10.5CM/F2.5  | '8'  |  |
| 13.5CM/F3.5  | '12' | (4 in Scandinavia!)                    |
| ZOOM TYPE I  | '5'  | ('ALL' in Scandinavia!)                |
| 2.8CM FDR    | '2'  |  |
| VARI. TYPE 7 | '1'  |  |

That's all folks! Not very many is it? And note, like the bodies, a significant number were reported in the Scandinavian countries. Interesting. Let me know what you have.

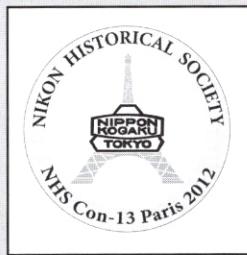


*One of only 4 known to me is 21mm Nikkor #621214. A rare variation of a rare lens. Below is very early metric S3 #6300048.*



*Above & right.. Uncommon last type of the 35/2.5 in the f1.8 style barrel in meters. Left..Italian member Carlo Rivolti sent me a photo of his late 135/f3.5 Nikkor in meters, #277883.*





# NHS-CON13-PARIS

## JUNE 1, 2012!!

I can now announce that the dates for NHS-Con13 have been finalized. Since the Bievres fair will definitely be the weekend of June 2-3, our convention meeting will be on Friday June 1, 2012. So now you can begin to make your plans for spending some time with fellow Nikon collectors in Paris.

Chris Sap and Patrick Rouillard have made repeated trips to Paris to negotiate with the hotels. This has been quite difficult at times. Paris is the most expensive city on the Continent and we will be there the week of the French Open, so the hotels are normally booked and, therefore, not too eager to deal. However, Chris and Patrick have been able to put together a package that is reasonable for the time and place.

Here are the facts to date:

**THE HOLIDAY INN BASTILLE (4 Star).** Room rates will be: Weekdays 160 euros for single, 170 euros for double. Weekends (Fri, Sat, Sun) 130 euros for single, 140 euros for double. These prices **INCLUDE** breakfast! We have blocked rooms from May 28-June 3 but those arriving before the 28<sup>th</sup> and staying after the 3<sup>rd</sup> get the **SAME RATES!** The hotel is located at 11, rue De Lyon only 150 meters from the major train station, the '**Gare de Lyon**'. This station is served by the subway, trains and AirFrance shuttle buses from Charles DeGaulle Airport. So we are centrally located and easy to find. This is the main meeting hotel but we also have booked a second one.

**THE JULES CESAR (3 Star)**, which is only 2 minutes from the Holiday Inn. The rate is 90 euros for either twin beds or double beds and 8 euros for breakfast. If booked for 3 or more nights, breakfast is included. If paid in full before April 15<sup>th</sup>, it is only 85 euros. Prices are non-refundable and these rooms are a little smaller but the cost is more reasonable. Actually very reasonable when you remember that we will be there during their high season and all hotels are fully booked. Our committee has done a great job in securing these hotels at these rates.

But you must act as soon as you are sure you are coming. All rooms are on a first come first served basis, and the **cut-off date is Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>**! To make your reservation use the following email addresses (English is fine) making sure you note to them that our booking code is '**NIKON**' so you get the rates. Also, please 'cc' your email to Chris and Patrick so they can track the numbers.

**For Holiday Inn:** [resa@holidayinnbastille.com](mailto:resa@holidayinnbastille.com) (Mr. Maxim)

**For Jules Cesar:** [elisabethboutes@yahoo.fr](mailto:elisabethboutes@yahoo.fr)

Please make sure you visit our official NHS-Con13 website for up to minute as well as more detailed info, as space here is limited. Thierry Ravassod is keeping it up to date with all the important facts with more to come. You will find information there

and tips on travel to Paris from various points and how to get to the Bastille area. We also plan to list various sites of interest for those who wish to see different things while in Paris. There is a lot to see and you will need to plan ahead. But keep checking the website frequently.

<http://web.me.com/magicworldofimaging/NHS-CON-13>  
<http://www.nipponkogakuklub.com>

It appears that the Convention fee will remain at the \$150 figure as in the past. So it is time that we begin to ask those that have decided to attend to please get their fee to us ASAP so we can start paying our bills. We need to reserve the hotel meeting room and purchase other items, so your money is needed now. Those of you outside of the EU can pay directly to me either by check (**RJR PUBLISHING**) or **Paypal** ([rotoloni@msn.com](mailto:rotoloni@msn.com)) . Those within the EU or Europe can pay directly to Chris Sap using the IBAN/BIC bank to bank system as follows:

**BIC: GEBABEBB**  
**IBAN: BE79 0015 3203 1033**  
**SAP Christophe, B-9800 Deinze**

We hope to start hearing from you soon. We need to get an idea of who is definitely attending so we can judge various costs. At this time it looks like we will have a minimum of 50, hopefully more. So it should be a good crowd!

**At this time I am pleased to announce that we have, at the moment, two official sponsors for NHS-Con13. Thierry Ravassod has been in talks with Nikon France and they have agreed to provide a monetary sponsorship. Also, Peter Coeln, of Westlicht Auctions, has also agreed to be a sponsor and provide funds for our meeting. This will enable us to give more to the members as the customary Convention fee showed signs of falling a bit short. My personal thanks to Peter and Nikon France for their generosity. I hope the membership will convey their thanks as well.**

Any questions? Thoughts? Suggestions? Contact us NOW!  
**Thierry** ..... [terry@magicworld.fr](mailto:terry@magicworld.fr)  
**Chris** ..... [csap@skynet.be](mailto:csap@skynet.be)  
**Patrick** ..... [patrickrouillard@noos.fr](mailto:patrickrouillard@noos.fr)  
**Yuki Kawai** ..... [kawai-tp@nifty.com](mailto:kawai-tp@nifty.com)  
**Bill Kraus** ..... [bildot@comcast.net](mailto:bildot@comcast.net)  
**Myself** ..... [rotoloni@msn.com](mailto:rotoloni@msn.com) & [r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net)

Please consider joining us in Paris next June. It is a beautiful city with countless sights to see, a great time of the year to be there, and a chance to meet up with fellow members and have a good time. Also, it will be a chance to visit the largest outside photo fair in the world at Bievres. It will be my first time. RJR

## A REQUEST FOR NHS MEMBERSHIP RESEARCH FEEDBACK

# VERY EARLY NIKON ONE INSIDE AND ASSEMBLY NUMBERS

BY ROBERT RAYZAK & ROBERT ROTOLONI

An interesting situation has arisen regarding assembly numbers and inside numbers for very early Nikon One cameras. The authors seek the help of the NHS membership to resolve the questions that have presented themselves.

Our request of the NHS membership is summarized at the end of this article.

This situation first arose with early Nikon M #M609857 (this camera is one that would have been a Nikon One before being converted by the NK factory to a Nikon M).

It was found upon disassembly and removal of the front plate and focusing mount that the mount and its infinity locking lever both bore the number '14'. (Please see accompanying photos.)

In studies and disassembly of early Nikon cameras it was found that focusing mounts in the early cameras are *not* necessarily interchangeable. For example, the mount on Rayzak's M609857 did not fit into the body of Rotoloni's M609960 and vice versa. Therefore, we wondered if the number '14' on focusing mount/infinity lock of M609857 would match an assembly number inside the camera body. So, M609857 was further disassembled in the hopes of finding some internal assembly number '14' to match.

However, there is *no* number inside body M609857 so it was wondered if its focusing mount could have originally been fitted to a very early Nikon One which *does* have internal numbers (the 1 or 2 digit numbers that were engraved into the camera back, shutter mechanism plate and in the take up spool recess).

Then it was remembered that the internal numbers in Nikon One, 60933, are, indeed, '14'. It was also recalled that 60933 might be fitted with a not original focusing mount (from a later series of bodies which have f-stop numbers much larger than those of very early cameras) plus a few other missing or non-original parts, e.g., a shutter release button with a red dot.

Could it be that the focusing mount/infinity lock with '14' in Rayzak's M609857 properly belongs to 60933 from when it was originally assembled by Nikon? We cannot be sure because there are no factory data for this. So, we are asking you, the NHS membership, for help.

An accompanying photo compares the characters of the numerals '1' and '4' in Rayzak's M609857 focusing mount to those of the '14' found in 60933. There are differences seen but these can be explained by the fact that the internal '14' in 60933 would have been engraved but those in Rayzak's M609857 have been individually hand stamped.

There were many production problems and faulty early Nikon Ones (especially focusing mount malfunctions per Masahiko Fuketa of Nikon in dialogue with Rotoloni) and their return for repair to the factory. It is therefore easy to imagine how the focusing mount originally fitted to one camera could have been removed from but not replaced in that camera.

The mount/camera body mix-up situation is of interest to us only for very early Nikon Ones with internal numbers. Later cameras have no internal numbers to be matched to.

It is also fair to say that because of the return-for-repair problems with the very early Nikon Ones, that other existing examples may not have focusing mount/infinity lock engraved assembly numbers that match the internal body numbers. That is to say their original parts had been exchanged many years ago.

Too, for some very early Nikon One cameras such as 60924, for example, the internal numbers themselves do not even match.

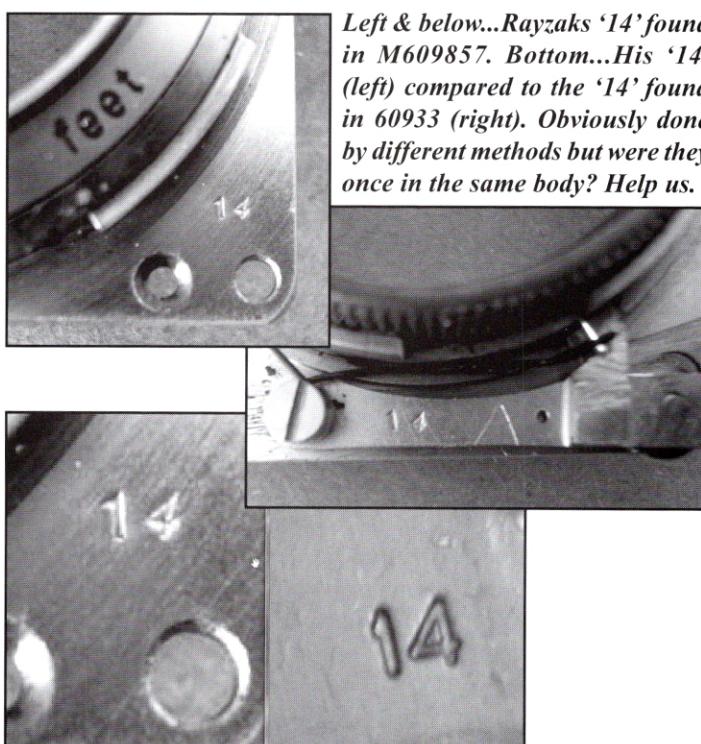
But then, too, some very early Nikon Ones with internal numbers may have matching numbers to them on the focusing mount and infinity lock. This remains to be seen by further research.

The authors hope to attract the help of NHS members for this. Some members have been already individually contacted by the authors and we are awaiting results. Still, more information will be very helpful.

We ask of the NHS membership with very early Nikon One cameras with internal numbers to do the following:

- (a) Remove the 6 or 8 front plate screws and lift it off and remove it from around the focusing wheel.
- (b) Photograph the focusing mount to show and record any numbers found on it.
- (c) If the recorded number matches the internal body numbers remove the focusing mount and photograph any numbers seen on the infinity lock.
- (d) Please send the recorded numbers and the cameras serial number to Robert Rayzak at [bobr.skunklabs@sympatico.ca](mailto:bobr.skunklabs@sympatico.ca)

This information will be received with great thanks and treated with confidentiality. The results from this research will be published in a forthcoming NHS Journal.



*Left & below...Rayzak's '14' found in M609857. Bottom...His '14' (left) compared to the '14' found in 60933 (right). Obviously done by different methods but were they once in the same body? Help us.*

## SOME BOOK UPDATES...

A few new items adding to our knowledge have been reported to me. These are new items not mentioned in my book....

- 1) ALL BLACK 50mm/F2 Nikkor #719170. So we now know of 8 units.
- 2) ALL BLACK 50/F1.4 Nikkor #331342 on Bl. S2 #6170923.
- 3) 50mm/3.5 SM #460362 with a RED DOT of front face? Unusual feature not seen before.
- 4) Nikon S4 '63' type variation #6322674 seen on Yahoo Japan. (You may note that this number is from the Olympic S3 batch.)
- 5) 21mm/F4 Nikkor #621013..Very early lens with an engraving error. Front ring reads 'JAPA'.
- 6) Type One Variframe #70524, one of the earliest ever seen.

Finally, concerning the Motor grip on pg. 441 of my book, Uli Koch writes me: I found an early repair manual for the Nikon F36/F250 motors years ago and found out that there were inserted many additional pages about internal changes to the motor drive. One main change was that NK had huge connecting problems (poor contact) with the power plug on the motor. After the production of only 300 pieces it was changed to a second type and in 1962 changed again to a third type. Why do I tell you this? Because the power plug of the pistol grip in your book is from the second type. If the grip was made by NK, it should have been between late 1959 up to early 1962. So it seems to me that this grip belongs to that era. I was not able to find more info about the battery except that this type came to the market in 1960, so it would fit the same era.

## SOME INTERESTING PRICES

Member Peter Lownds tells me of some interesting prices recently seen by a friend in Tokyo. Check these out.....

Nikon F #6400088.....\$38,000 WOW!  
 Nikon S3M.....\$188,000 WOW II!  
 Nikon One black?.....\$240,000 (is this #431?)

## 'NHS' MEMBER DIRECTORY?

Even though there seemed to be significant interest in a membership directory in feedback from our questionnaire, there has been very little response to my announcement in NHS-112. Less than 10 to be exact. Unless a large percentage of members actually want such a list (at least 50%), it is not worth the effort to assemble one. But I will ask again. So this is the 'second call' for those who wish to be included. I will **ONLY** list those members who respond directly to me either by mail or email, since not everyone wants their information out there and I do not want to publish info for anyone who does not wish me to. I will await your response to this project. Thank you. RJR

## TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORT

In NHS-112 member Bud Presgrove suggested that the Society make an effort to collect donations to help with the rebuilding of the area in Japan devastated by the March 2011 Tsunami and earthquake. We even put it on Facebook. However, there has been no response to date! All I have received is Bud's \$50 check, which I will match. If anyone else is interested please let me know ASAP. Checks should be made out to RJR Publishing (not the NHS) so I can deposit them and send just one check. Let me know. (*Bud has also received info from the Red Cross concerning donations to Japan. For those who wish to do it on their own you can either go to their website and click on the red "Donate Funds" button, then select the fund for Japan. You can also mail a check made out to the American Red Cross with "Japan" on the memo line to:*

*American Red Cross  
 PO Box 37243  
 Washington, DC 20013*

## THE AUCTION SCENE...

I have no auction info for this issue since our publication date is too early for two upcoming events. As mentioned in the article on the S250 motor drive, Westlicht will hold their next sale on November 12<sup>th</sup> in Vienna. Also Stan Tamarkin has a sale coming up on October 30<sup>th</sup> but I have no info right now as to what will be featured. Of course I will have a detailed report with photos of prices realized for Nikon items from both sales in NHS-114, which is due out the beginning of January. Look for it then.

## FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT

I am pleased to announce that the US inventory of my book is in place and all orders can be processed for immediate shipment. Since it became available the beginning of March 2008, I have been shipping within 48 hours of receiving payment.

Those of you who wish to obtain a signed copy from me need only to contact me and it will be done. Besides personally signing the book, I have also had made up labels stating to the fact that 'this copy has been purchased directly from the author'. Prices are as follow and include all shipping and postage costs. There has been a significant increase in Priority shipping costs but I will hold these prices as long as possible.

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| United States   | \$100 including Priority shipping.      |
| Canada          | \$115 including Int. Priority shipping. |
| Europe          | \$125 including Int. Priority shipping. |
| Japan/Australia | \$130 including Int. Priority shipping. |

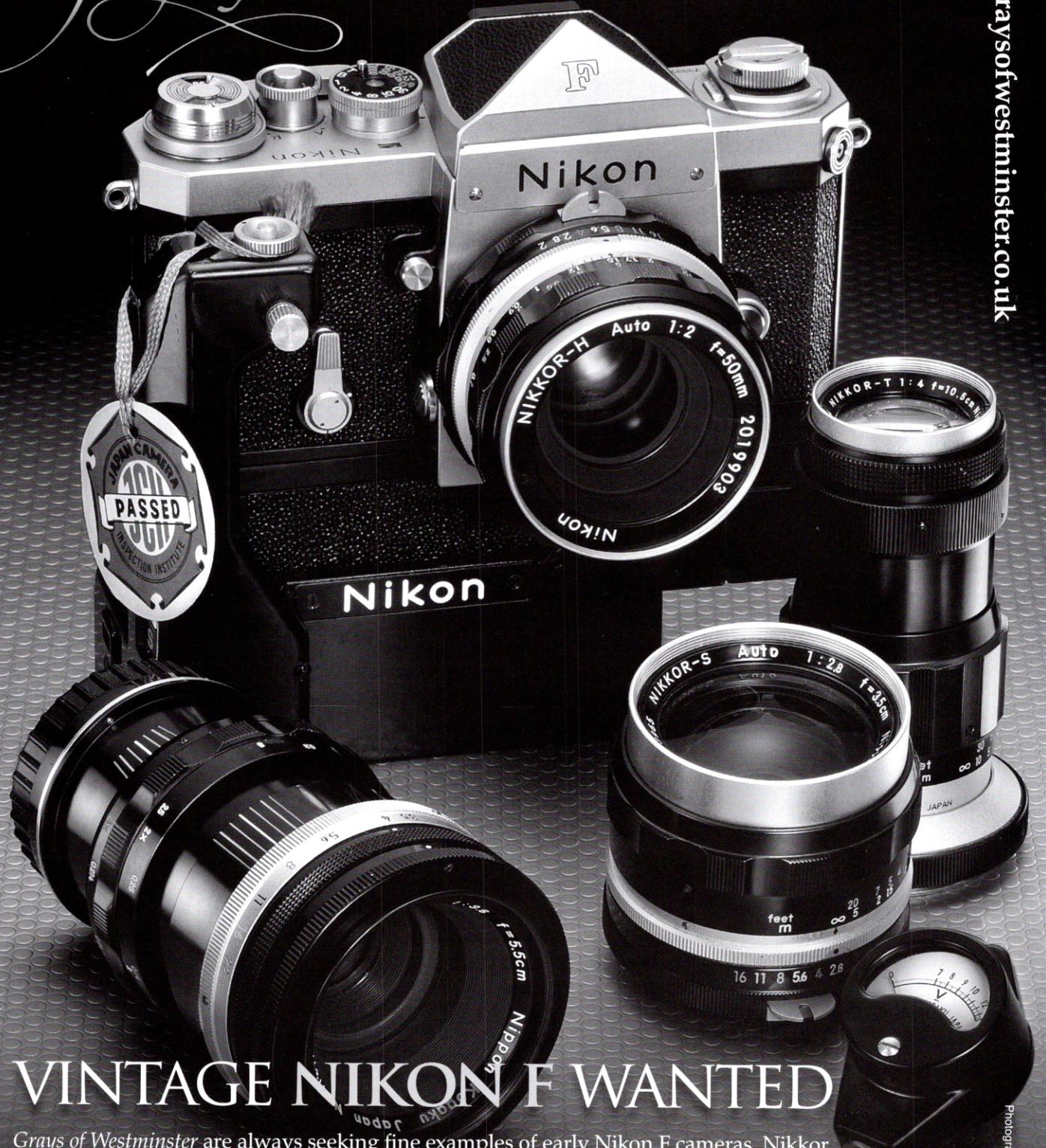
I can accept checks (US/Canada only), money orders, bank wires, cash or **PAYPAL**. My email addresses (rotoloni@msn.com & r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net) are my Paypal account numbers.

Please make all checks/money orders payable to:

**RJR PUBLISHING** or myself  
 (PLEASE, NOT TO THE SOCIETY!).

[www.graysofwestminster.co.uk](http://www.graysofwestminster.co.uk)

Grays of Westminster®



## VINTAGE NIKON F WANTED

Grays of Westminster are always seeking fine examples of early Nikon F cameras, Nikkor lenses with the scalloped focusing barrel, F-36 motor drives, lens hoods and accessories. Please telephone +44 (0)20 7828 4925 or email us full details [info@graysofwestminster.co.uk](mailto:info@graysofwestminster.co.uk)

GRAYS OF WESTMINSTER, 40, CHURTON STREET, LONDON SW1V 2LP, ENGLAND

Photograph by Tony Hurst

# 20

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**SELL LIST...** My latest sell list is available to whomever wishes to see it. Many Nikon RF items. I can send it via email or regular mail. Just contact me anytime. **Robert Rotoloni** [rotoloni@msn.com](mailto:rotoloni@msn.com)

**WANTED...NIKON SP (BLACK) & NIKON S2 (BLACK)** in excellent or excellent plus condition, **NIKON S4** in mint condition, **ALUMINUM** 5cm/f1.4 Nikkor also wanted. **NIKON 120 FISH EYE SKY CAMERA, NIKON/NIKKOR** prototype cameras/lenses & accessories, even broken & incomplete. **PH Van Hasbroeck, 56 Albert Court, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BE.** tel: 0044 (0) 20 7584 0077. Fax: 0044 (0) 20 7591 3848. email address: [HASBROECK@AOL.COM](mailto:HASBROECK@AOL.COM)

**WANTED...** 1940/50's American amateur cine cameras. Contact: **Tony Hurst (Dublin)** at email [nippon54@hotmail.com](mailto:nippon54@hotmail.com) or telephone me at (353) 1288- 4896. Thank You.

**FOR SALE...** Transparent Nikon F90, mint in box, one of only 26 made, 950 euro; **Nikon F2 High Speed**, mint-, 4500 euro; **Nikon FM2 'Half Frame'**, only 34 were made for the Norwegian police, mint-, 5000 euro; **Nikon S3M black body #6600207**, 27,000 euro; **Nikon Model One #609319 w/f2 #708723**, 15,000 euro. Please call or email me for photos. **Peter Lownds, tel. 0031 654694193 (Holland)** [qcsman@gmail.com](mailto:qcsman@gmail.com)

**WANTED...** Looking for MF-1 with inside numbers; B7850536 & M 785462. Please email me at [csap@skynet.be](mailto:csap@skynet.be). **Christophe Sap**

**FOR SALE...** **Nikon F3 accessories;** CF-20 Burgandy cs, 50mm/f1.8 Nikkor w/caps & shade, SB-17 flash cs & IB, DE-2 Non-HP finder, MC-10 remote cord, AC-4 flash coupler w/box, DK-12 eyecup w/box, (2) Nikon E screens w/box, K screen w/box, D screen w/box, finder eyepiece w/box, body cap. Entire group of items for **\$400** or contact me for individual prices. **James Leathem.** email to [jeldgl@aol.com](mailto:jeldgl@aol.com) Thank you.

**WANTED...** Ultra-Micro Nikkors, APO EL Nikkors, Nikkor-O 55mm/f1.2 in screwmount, 50mm/f2 collapsible Nikkor ser #609xx batch, 50mm/f3.5 Nikkor collapsible in Nikon mount, W.A. Apo-Nikkors f9, Vivitar 135mm/f1.5, Nikkor 180mm/f2.5 mint in box, Nippon Kogaku Seiki camera, Ihagee Nachtkamera, Nachtreflex 4.5x6cm & 6.5x9cm. **Biagio Guerra.** Tel (702) 683-7338 or [guerrabn@aol.com](mailto:guerrabn@aol.com)

## NEW MEMBERS

WILFRED LEUNG  
FLAT B, 2/F, BLOCK 2 VILLA CARLTON  
369 TAI PO ROAD  
KOWLOON, HONG KONG

MARCEL MULLER  
VLEUTENSEWEG 219  
3532 HD Utrecht  
NETHERLANDS

ARE SILAND  
ULSRUDFARET 3  
0687 OSLO, NORWAY

## NEW ADDRESSES

PHILLIP MICHAELIS  
1001 COLLINWOOD WEST DRIVE, APT. 218  
AUSTIN, TX 78753

MIKE SYMONS  
#702 - 4515 PIPELINE ROAD  
VICTORIA, B.C.  
CANADA V8Z 5M3

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## BLACK & BEAUTIFUL!

EVEN THOUGH OUR COMPLETE NIKON RF BLACK BODY LIST IS UPDATED IN THIS ISSUE, THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS ARE NEW SINCE NHS-112, & MOST ARE NOT YET ON THE LIST, SO PLEASE CONSIDER THEM ADDITIONS.

6170923 6157532 6200091 6202519  
6215312 6218924 6307487 6321380 6321833

THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS ARE THOSE OF FAKES!

6221643

## 'NHS' RED DOT F LIST

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING RED DOT BODY SERIAL NUMBERS TO OUR COMPLETE LIST SEEN IN NHS-82.....

6602118

Please see the website of NHS member Matthew Lin. He keeps a running list of Red Dot F's on his site and updates it regularly. Look to his site for the most complete & accurate listing.)

[www.matthewlin.com](http://www.matthewlin.com)

# odds 'n ends

## AN 'ISRAELI' NIKON F? PHOTOS BY TONY HURST



*Tony Hurst recently sent me these photos of a Nikon F that he acquired at the London Photographic show last spring from a visiting Israeli. He tells me that the seller said the symbol meant it was for the Israeli Army. A friend of Tony's also confirmed that the symbol was military, as he had a set of army binoculars with this engraving. Beyond this we have no further information. Anyone out there know more about this item?*





CREATED FOR THE "NHS" BY *Tony Kurn*