

A PUBLICATION OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



MARCH 31, 2012
NHS-115

NHS-CON13...PARIS...JUNE 1, 2012
NIKON JOURNAL



THIS ISSUE
PG 2..THE WALZ STORY..NIKON'S
FIRST FLASH MAKER?
PG. 10..THE NIKON S2 SHUTTER

ROBERT J. ROTOLONI
EDITOR/PUBLISHER



THE NIKON JOURNAL ISSUE #115

VOLUME TWENTY NINE - NUMBER TWO - MARCH 31, 2012

THE *NIKON JOURNAL* IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR BY "RJR" PUBLISHING, INC.,

At P.O. Box 3213, Munster, Indiana 46321 U.S.A.

© 2012 By "RJR" Publishing, Inc.

ALL OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE THOSE OF THE VARIOUS AUTHORS AND NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE NIKON JOURNAL OR OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Our Official Web Sites are..... <http://www.nikonhs.org>
& <http://www.nikonhistoricalsociety.com/>

E-Mails...rotoloni@msn.com or r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net

ANNUAL SOCIETY DUES ARE

U.S./CANADA	1 Year \$35	3 Years \$85
OVERSEAS	1 Year \$45	3 Years \$115
New Rates Effective Jan. 1, 2007		

~ CONTENTS ~

INSIDE FRONT COVER:

NHS-115 EDITORIAL..... By ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

PAGE 1.....NHS-CON13 FINAL INFO PAGE!

PAGE 2..... THE 'WALZ' STORY..WHO MADE NIKON'S FIRST FLASH?
By JEFFREY FELTON

PAGE 10.....THE NIKON S2 SHUTTER DESIGN
By DR. MANABU NAKAI

PAGE 14.....MY NIKON 'S' TO MICRO 4/3 ADAPTER
By ALEX SHISHIN

PAGE 16....INTERESTING VINTAGE LITERATURE...II
By JIM EMMERSON

PAGE 17.....BOOK UPDATES & MEMBER FEEDBACK

PAGE 18.....THE AUCTION SCENE

PAGE 20..... CLASSIFIEDS
BACK ISSUE SERVICE
BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL
NEW MEMBERS/ADDRESSES

INSIDE BACK COVER..... 'ODDS N' ENDS'
TWO ERRORS...MINOR & MYSTERIOUS!

NHS -116 DEADLINE!

The deadline for the next issue of our NIKON JOURNAL, NHS-116, is JUNE 15, 2012. This will be the Convention issue & may be a week or so late due to the meeting dates. I will get it out as soon as possible. Thank you. RJR.

EDITORIAL

This is the last issue of the Journal before NHS-Con13 in Paris. It looks like we will have a good turnout and I am looking forward to seeing many of my old friends, as well as some new ones, in the 'City of Light'. I will have complete coverage of the event in the next Journal, which is normally due out the first week of July. Because the meeting is so close to my normal deadline for that issue it will have to be a few weeks late this year. If all goes to plan I should have it out about July 15th or so. Please be patient for NHS-116.

Jeffrey Felton has the second installment of his opus about the early flash units made for the Nikon MS and S models. In this issue he covers in great detail the very first units made for and sold by Nippon Kogaku. Note that I say 'made for' as these units were actually manufactured by the well-known Japanese accessory make 'Walz', and not Nikon! Jeff goes into great detail about the construction and variations found in these very early units and provides us with a wealth of information. Nippon Kogaku needed to assemble and produce as complete a system as possible, and as quickly as possible, to compete with the re-emerging German industry. Not yet having the resources to develop their own units they went to Walz who already had one in production. The design was a good one and N-K would even copy it when finally designing their own units. I bet you never gave the flash units much thought but they were really well made and thought out and an important selling point in the early fifties when flash photography was the rage. See page two.

Dr. Manabu Nakai has again submitted a learned paper on an aspect of the Nikon RF system. This time he deals with the shutter mechanism found in the Nikon S2. Keep in mind that the S2 was a breakaway model for Nikon that left behind the original design that was the Nikon I, M, MS and S. The S2 was a great leap forward for Nikon with a completely redesigned body, rangefinder and shutter. This new shutter was very different than its predecessor and has proven to be a great design. The S2 has aged very well and its shutter system works perfectly in the vast number of still functioning examples. See page 10.

On page 14 Alex Shishin talks of his fun times using his Nikon RF optics on his Micro 4/3 Olympus body. His results seem first rate and the possibilities seem to be endless.

Jim Emmerson sent me more interesting vintage literature that I think you will find enjoyable. You will see that the 'ban' on importing Nikons mentioned last issue was lifted! See page 16.

The two auction houses that have sponsored our convention are having major sales that are not timed for this issue but will be covered in #116. See pre-sale coverage starting on page 18 of Peter Coeln's sale set for May 12th (2 weeks before the meeting) and Stan Tamarkin's, which occurs on April 29th, too late for this issue. Results will be covered in NHS-116.

Our veteran 'back cover' genius, Tony Hurst was again featured in the magazine 'Nikon Owner' along with some of his awesome Nikon RF images, all in color. Congratulations Tony, you deserve it.

US postage, domestic and international, is up again! They are killing me! Our last dues increase was in January of 2007. Not sure what to do right now. I'll have to think about it. RJR



NHS-CON 13 PARIS, JUNE 1

This being the last issue of the Journal before our Paris meeting, I need to summarize everything and try to mention all that is important. So here goes.....

I hope everyone who is attending has booked their hotel as we are now past the cut-off date. Please refer to NHS-114 if you need hotel info.

For all the latest meeting info as well as travel tips while visiting Paris, please go to our official convention website. Thierry Ravassod is keeping it up to date so visit often.

<http://web.me.com/magicworldofimaging/NHS-CON-13>
<http://www.nipponkogaku8klub.com>

The Convention fee of \$150 is now due for those who have not yet paid. However, after midnight April 15th there is a late charge of \$25 per person so please get your money to us as soon as possible. We have many bills to pay with almost 90% of the fee being absorbed by the hotel charges for the Friday meeting room, coffee breaks and lunch. Those of you outside the EU can pay directly to me either by check (**RJR PUBLISHING**) or **PAYPAL** me at (rotoloni@msn.com). Those within the EU or Europe should 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

Our closing dinner has been decided. We will dine on Friday evening in the **Eiffel Tower!** Dinner is at 6:30 (18:30) so we need to finish the meeting by 5PM or so. Cost will be around 70-75 Euro per person and there is a tower entry fee of 8.50 Euro. We will have definite prices for you at the meeting. I hope that most, if not all attending, join us in the Tower for some great views of Paris at night. (WE WILL NEED TO KNOW WHO WILL ATTEND SO WE CAN GIVE THEM A NUMBER. LET US KNOW BEFORE OR WHEN YOU ARRIVE IN PARIS IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING. THANK YOU.)

We will be in the hotel lobby on Tuesday evening at 7pm for a little get together. Also to discuss what we can do such as day trips to Versailles, the Eiffel tower, Notre Dame, etc. Please look for us there and help us 'take over' the bar & lounge!

The speakers have been set for this meeting. They include:
ULI KOCH..... GERMAN VARIMAX HISTORY..50 YEARS
BILL KRAUS MYTHICAL 30MM BRONICA-NIKKOR
THIERRY RAVASSOD/BOB ROGEN.....
THE NIKONOS SYSTEM FROM THE MODEL I TO THE RS
YUKI KAWAI..... TO BE ANNOUNCED
CHRIS SAP..... TO BE ANNOUNCED
TONY HURST SLIDE SHOW..... ODDS n ENDS
RJR..... THE WORLD OF NIKON MOVIE

We also have some other ideas for the meeting. We hope to have time for a 'Show-n-tell' session so **BRING SOMETHING!** Also we will have a contest. Whoever has the worst looking but '**functional**' Nikon product in the room will receive a **FREE** signed copy of my book. So bring your favorite disaster!

We hope to have time for a small swap meet. We can set this up once the speakers are finished. So why not bring something to sell or trade?

As announced in NHS-114, we also have a special promotion planned to help increase attendance. **A chance to get my Nikon RF book for FREE! A \$100 value!** Anyone attending the meeting, non-member or not, who joins the Society for 3 years, or extends their current membership by 3 years, will receive a free signed book.

- (1) Membership fee can be paid in advance along with the Convention fee or paid at the meeting.
- (2) The 3-year membership is \$85 US and \$115 ROW.
- (3) **Books are for pickup only at the Convention. No shipping.**

Those of you who were in Vancouver may remember that I brought along a few boxes of Nikon promo items that I had accumulated over the years. I set them out on a table and simply offered them to those in the room who wanted some. The response was great and everything went! So we thought we might try it again. I don't have much left but if you have something in Nikon that you no longer want/need or have as duplicates, why not bring it along for our '**GIVEAWAY**' table? Nothing of great value but maybe something someone else will want. It can be fun and you never know what will show up. Please help us with this. I am sure we all have 'something' to contribute.

So here is a summary of events:

- 1) We will start promptly at 9am on Friday, so please be on time. We must finish on schedule so we can get over to the Tower
- 2) Coffee, etc, will be furnished in the morning as well as a catered lunch, so there is no need to leave the hotel. This is all covered by your Convention fee.
- 3) Bring something for 'show n' tell'.
- 4) You can also bring items to sell and trade for the afternoon.
- 5) Remember a **FREE** signed copy of my book to the worst functioning Nikon in the room!
- 6) Remember also a **FREE** book to whoever pays for a 3-year membership (new or upgrade).
- 7) Bring some inexpensive items for our 'Giveaway table' so we can all enjoy it.
- 8) I hope everyone has their rooms arranged and please get your fee to us as soon as possible.

WHO ACTUALLY MADE NIKON'S 1ST FLASH?? THE 'WALZ' STORY

BY JEFFREY FELTON WITH PHOTOS BY SHIN NIMURA

The Nikon S (and its predecessor, the MS) were made with novel flash synchronization sockets not used on any other camera. Prior to that, Nikon rangefinder cameras did not have flash synch. The flash synchronization cord for use with the Nikon S has a corresponding Nikon 'bi-post' plug to fit these sockets and the other end is an ordinary 'household type' electrical plug. We are all familiar with the Nikon flashgun units for the model S, which were marked 'Nikon B.C.B.'. The first two letters stand for 'Battery-Capacitor', but we are not sure what the last 'B' stands for. Two models of the Nikon B.C.B. were produced, named the B.C.B. and the B.C.B.-II, as printed on the covers of their instruction books. The earlier of these two models is now commonly referred to as the B.C.B.-I. Both models were engraved simply 'B.C.B.', without any Roman numeral to distinguish them. Both types accepted the household plug on the Nikon S synch cord. These two B.C.B. models were succeeded by a series of flashguns marked simply 'BC', instead of 'B.C.B.'. The first of this series was the BC-III which, like its two predecessors, has a one piece round solid flash reflector bowl.

After the BC-III, most of the later Nikon BC models had a folding 'fan-flash' reflector. These include the BC-4, BC-5, and BC-7. The BC-6 is an odd little exception to this rule, and is not a fan-flash.

But the B.C.B.-I was not the first flash unit for the Nikon S. It was preceded by an earlier unit produced by the Walz Company. This 'Walz For Nikon' flashgun has been described in a nice article by Tony Hurst published in NHS-33, page 12, Sept. 30, 1991. The photos in this article show a unit with a distinctive rounded bullet shape on the back end of the head. The gun is engraved 'Walz For Nikon' on the top of the head, and further, its synchronization cord has the unique Nikon S bi-post plug fitting into which is molded the N-K logo. However, the words 'Nippon Kogaku' do not appear anywhere on the flashgun or its bracket, but the word 'Nikon' is engraved in what appears to be the font used on the early Nikon rangefinder cameras. Finally, Rotoloni found in his collection a piece of *bona fide* Nippon Kogaku literature, a leaflet (reproduced here), that shows a flash-gun which is indistinguishable from this 'bullet-head' model, and seems to match it perfectly. The photos in the leaflet were made in such a way that the words 'Walz For Nikon' could not be seen (even if they were present). The

two authors state that the flashgun was not an N-K product, and speculated on what the close relationship between Walz and N-K might have been for this product, and whether a version of this bullet-head flash marked simply 'Nikon' might ever have been produced. More about this later.

There are two different versions of the Walz For Nikon bullet-head flash. They are practically identical, differing in the position of the engraved words 'Walz For Nikon'. The bullet-shaped head on these flashguns is composed of two parts. The rear part is the bullet-shaped tip, and the front part is a short horizontal cylinder or tube, to which the tip is attached. On the earlier (Type I) unit, 'Walz' was engraved on the front cylinder, and 'For Nikon' on the rear bullet-shaped tip. But on the later model (Type II), 'Walz For Nikon' was all engraved on the short front section, leaving the bullet-shaped tip with no engraving whatsoever.

The Walz For Nikon flashgun does not use the battery-capacitor (BC) type electrical system. Instead it just uses regular 1.5-volt D-cell batteries; 2 or 3 of them.

A complete 'Walz For Nikon' flash outfit includes the following:

1) The main flash gun head, with long tube/handle and base cap. It is about 8 inches tall and 1.5 inches in diameter; there is a bulb ejection lever on the lower side of the bullet-shaped projection; a short extension tube, 2.5 inches long, to hold an extra (3rd) D-cell battery. It can be screwed to the bottom of the main tube and it accepts the base cap.

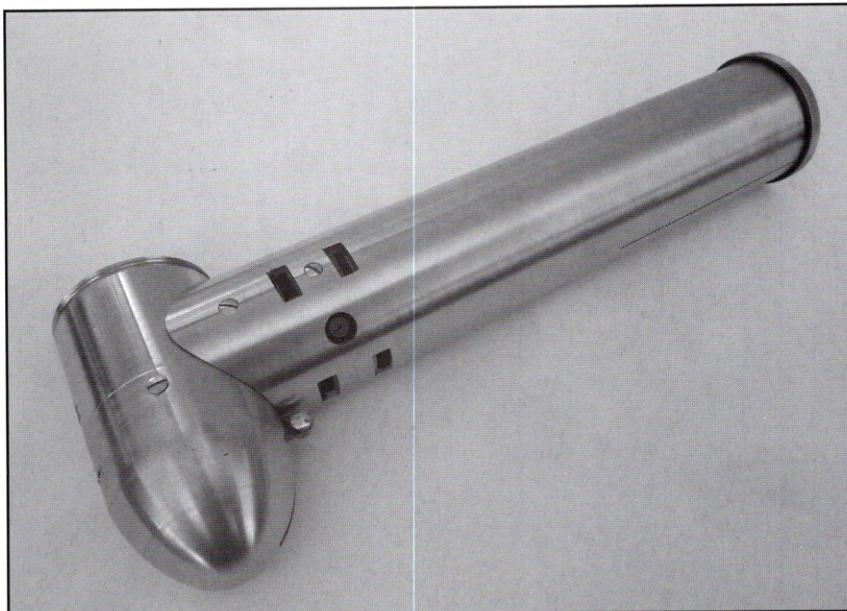
2) One large reflector bowl (5.5 inches diameter), shiny chrome plated on the inside. On the early model the bowl is painted black on the outside. On the later model it is black crinkle finish. The bowl screws onto the front of the flash head using threads surrounding the bulb socket.

A push-in adapter to allow use of Swan-type 'midget' bayonet bulbs is also provided. Without this adapter, the socket accepts large Edison-type threaded bulbs.

3) A clamp to attach the tube/handle and a bracket to hold the camera. The clamp and bracket are one connected piece. They do not come apart from each other on the Walz For Nikon flash. Both clamp and bracket are shiny chrome plated. The bracket has a vertical support piece in the back, which is all one long piece, and includes two tabs that stick up on the ends.

Top..The 'Walz' box for the Nikon version of their flash. (Richard Leon) Below..The Nippon Kogaku box. Note the same label!

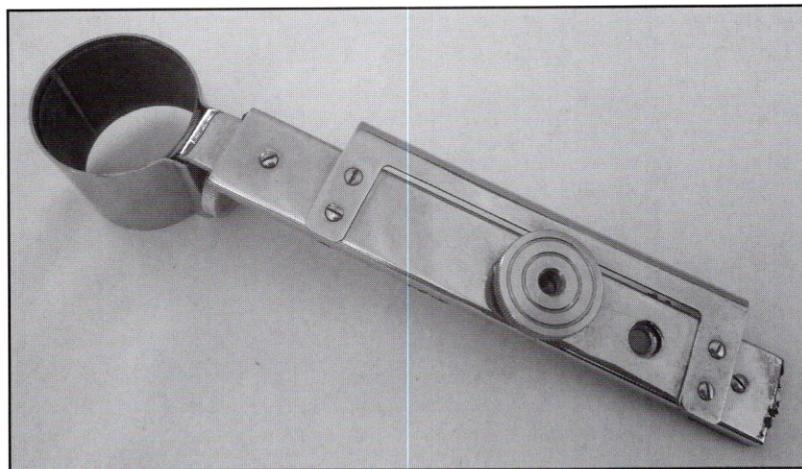




We start off with the early version off the 'Waltz For Nikon' flashgun. At left is an overall view of the tube/handle without the extension. It would hold 2 D-cells. Below is a close-up of the engraving style used on the early version only.



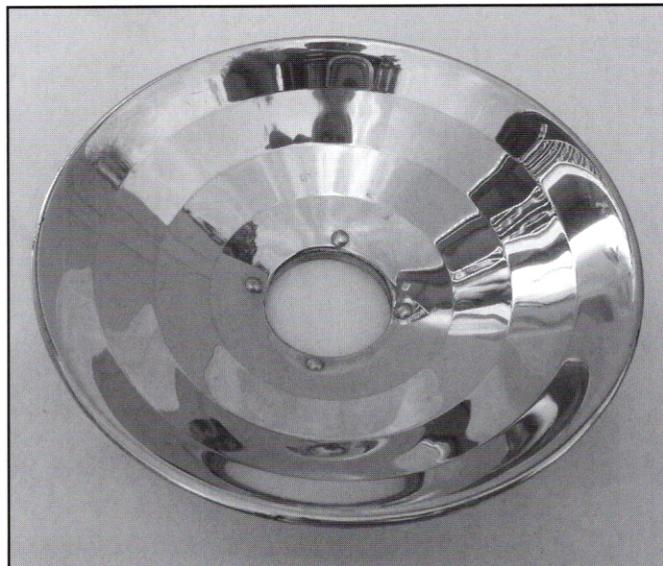
Below is the one-piece clamp/bracket assembly found on the early version of the 'Waltz For Nikon' flashgun. Also note the added piece screwed to the bracket bottom to hold the camera body in correct alignment.

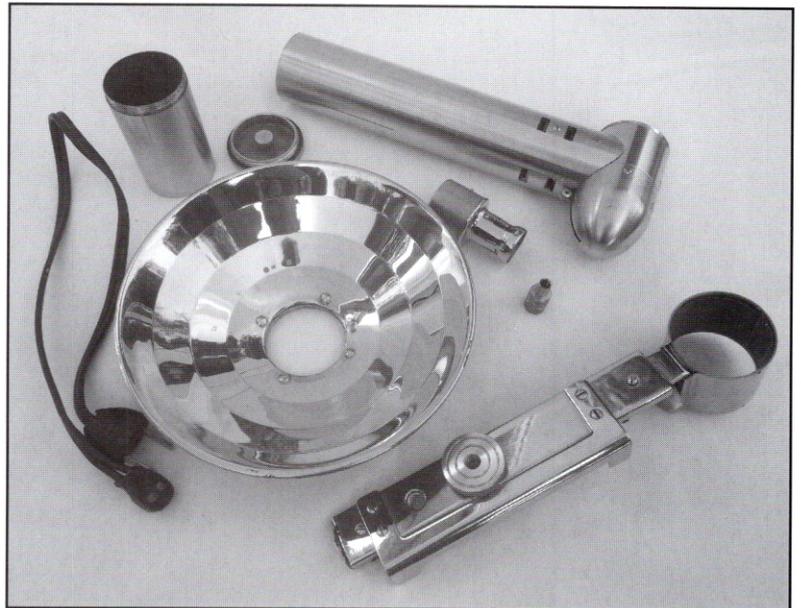
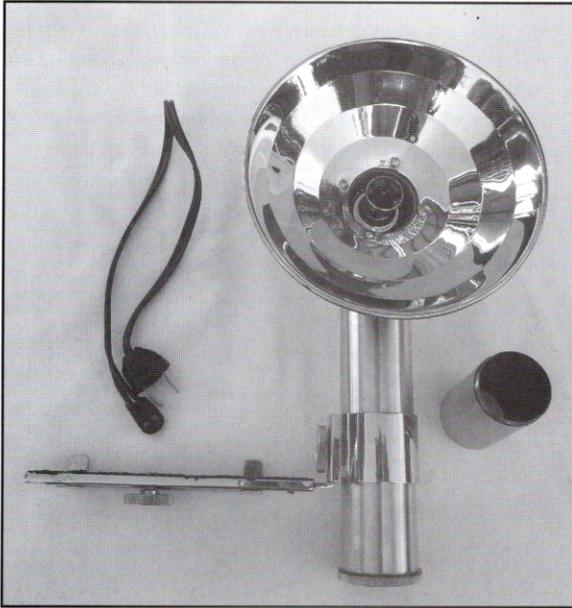


Below left & right...The flash bowl on the early type 'Waltz For Nikon' version has a highly polished internal surface and a dull black painted rear surface.



Above...The synch cord, extension tube, midget Swan-type adapter & the terminal plug mentioned in the text.

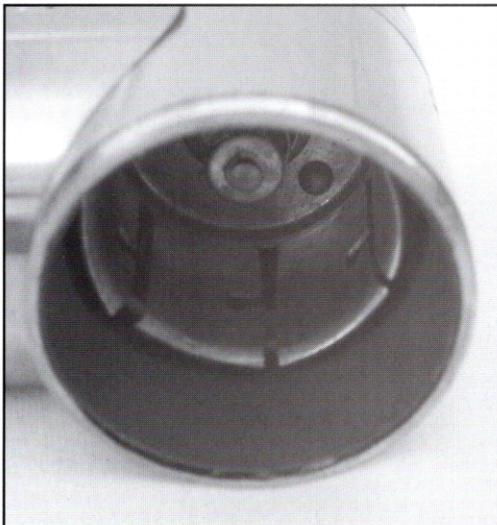




Continuing with the 'Walt For Nikon' early version, the two photos above illustrate a complete outfit in both assembled and disassembled mode. If you come across such a unit it would need to possess all the parts pictured here to be a truly 'complete' example.



Above...The tube/handle with the screw-on base cap removed. Above right..Here you can see both the manual trigger & protruding terminal plug as well as the Swantype midjet adapter inserted. Below right..The rather shallow reflector bowl found on these units.



4) A synch cord made of black rubber zip cord. On one end is the Nikon male bi-post flash connector bearing the N-K logo. It is 17 inches long. On the other end is a typical household male plug.

5) There is a small knurled metal terminal plug that will insert into an electrical outlet on the tube. It seems to be provided for the purpose of fabricating your own custom synch cord with whatever connector you want on the other end.

6) The boxes for these outfits will be discussed later in this article.

The immediate predecessor of the two Walz For Nikon bullet-head units (Types I & II) was a bullet-head flash that was marked simply 'Walz' on the front section of the head. There was no engraving of 'Nikon' anywhere on it. This Walz-only bullet-head flash closely resembled the two made for Nikon versions that followed it, with similar handle, reflector bowl, clamp, camera bracket, extension tube for a 3rd battery, and an adapter for midget bulbs. Prior to this bullet-head unit, Walz flashguns did not have the bullet-shaped head.

Although it is similar to the Walz For Nikon models, there are several differences. The Walz-only unit is 1.25 inches taller and the diameter of the tube is smaller by 1.8mm, but it will still accept D-cell batteries. The reflector bowl is chrome on both the inner and outer surfaces (shiny on the inner & dull on the outer surface). It is a little bit larger in diameter and a lot deeper (2.5 inches versus 1.5 inches). The two types of bowls have the same female mounting threads, so they can be interchanged between the two types of flash heads. The Walz-only model also has an extension tube to hold a third D-cell battery. This tube is a little longer at almost 3 inches. Unlike the short extension tube on the For Nikon models, which is open on both ends, this tube is closed on the top with a solid metal lid that is not removable. An insulated electrical contact comes through the lid, and there are threads around the top rim so it can be screwed into the bottom of the main tube/handle.

On the Walz-only bullet head flash the tube clamp and camera bracket come apart into separate pieces, both chrome plated. On the bracket for the Walz-only unit there is no vertical support piece in the back.

The Walz-only flash has an adapter for midget-type bayonet bulbs, which is quite similar to the corresponding adapter for the Walz For Nikon model. However, the top of this adapter flares outward on the Walz-only version, whereas it flares out and then curves back inward at the top on the Nikon version.

The main flash unit has a cocking lever on the Walz-only model. This must be cocked before the flash can be manually triggered using the release button on the tube/handle. There is no such lever on the Walz For Nikon version, and it can be manually triggered just by pushing downward on the stepped button on the tube. Above the cocking lever there is a 5mm hole in the tube. Inside the hole there are brass threads, and it seems that there is some accessory that should screw into this hole, but missing from the specimen I have.

The non-bullet-head Walz flashguns that preceded the Walz-only bullet-head model all had long tall handles (tubes to hold D-cell batteries). I know of three models with solid reflector bowls, and I have one very early Walz model that was a fan-flash. One early Walz flash (with a solid reflector) is called the 'Walz Synchro Flash Gun (Type B)'. Another one is called the 'Walz A'. These types are labeled on their boxes, & also on a piece of Walz literature.

Recently, evidence has emerged that the Walz For Nikon flashgun

was, in fact, sold as a Nippon Kogaku product. Richard Leon has a website that contains a page titled;

www.reocities.com/rodeodrive/4999/nikonrfd/nrfflash2box.jpg.

This page shows a picture of the box for the second type of Walz For Nikon flash unit. The box is a light-brown corrugated cardboard Walz-type box with a hinged folding lid and a string tie, not a dark pasteboard Nikon-type box with a separate lid. On top of the box is a blue printed pasted-on label, which reads:

**FLASH EQUIPMENT
FOR Nikon Model "S"
NIPPON KOGAKU K.K.
SHINAGAWA TOKYO**

This label is nearly identical to the label on the box for the Nikon B.C.B.-I flashgun. It has the same wording, the same layout, and even the same font. The only difference is the color of the background; blue for Walz For Nikon, red for the Nikon B.C.B.-I.

Nowhere on this label is Walz mentioned, but the contents of the box is a Type 2 Walz For Nikon flashgun outfit. The four website photos immediately following this one depict the interior and contents of that box, and confirm that this item is, in fact, a Walz For Nikon flashgun.

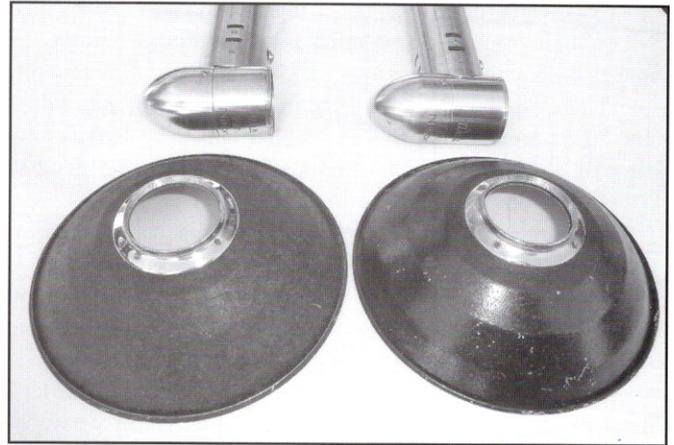
Seven photos in the section of the website preceding the photo referenced above show the first version (Type I) of the Walz For Nikon flash, including its original box, which resembles the second box except that it does not have any label on it, and is not marked Nikon or Nippon Kogaku. This earlier version of the box bears no label.

However, I have seen another Type I Walz For Nikon outfit, and in that instance the box is identical to the box for the Type II outfit in the web photo described above.

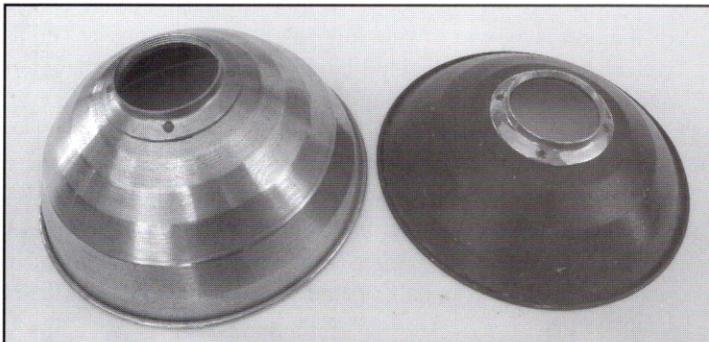
Both types of the Walz For Nikon flashguns come with the same Nippon Kogaku leaflet, and with the same synch cord that has the N-K logo molded into it. Both of which we know of from the 1991 NHS-33 article.

All this provides irrefutable evidence that the two Walz For Nikon flashguns were distributed and sold as Nikon products by Nippon Kogaku. As such, they are the first Nikon flash units. They are not just a 'For Nikon' after-market accessory marketed separately by Walz. It seems certain that they were manufactured for Nikon by Walz. Because of some striking similarities, to be discussed in a future article, it is very likely that Walz was also the manufacturer of the Nikon B.C.B. flash units. The next flashgun that follows the late-type Walz For Nikon version is the Nikon B.C.B.-I model. There are three types of the B.C.B.-I. The first two types are transitional from the Walz For Nikon flash, and this will be discussed in a future article.

**EXCEPT FOR THE UPPER BOX PHOTO ON
PAGE 2, ALL PHOTOS IN THIS INSTALLMENT
WERE TAKEN BY MR. SHIN NIMURA. BOX
PHOTO IS COURTESY OF RICHARD LEON.**

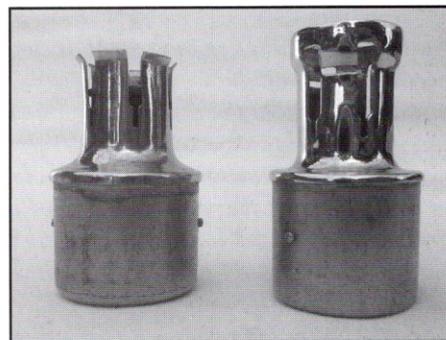
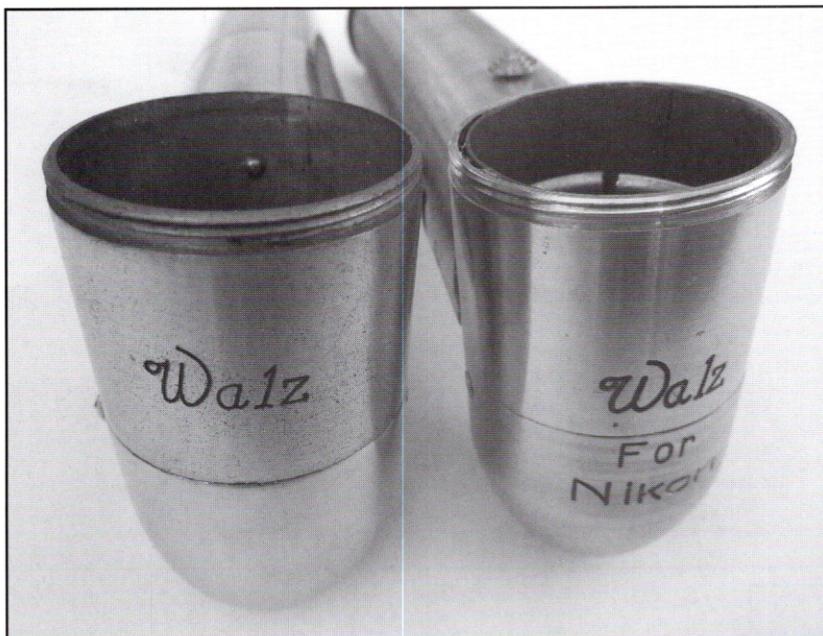


Left & above...Comparison photos of the two types of 'Walz For Nikon' flashguns. At left we have the two types of engravings seen on these units. The above photo illustrates the two types of reflector bowls. On the right is the earlier dull black painted type and on the left the later crinkle finished bowl.

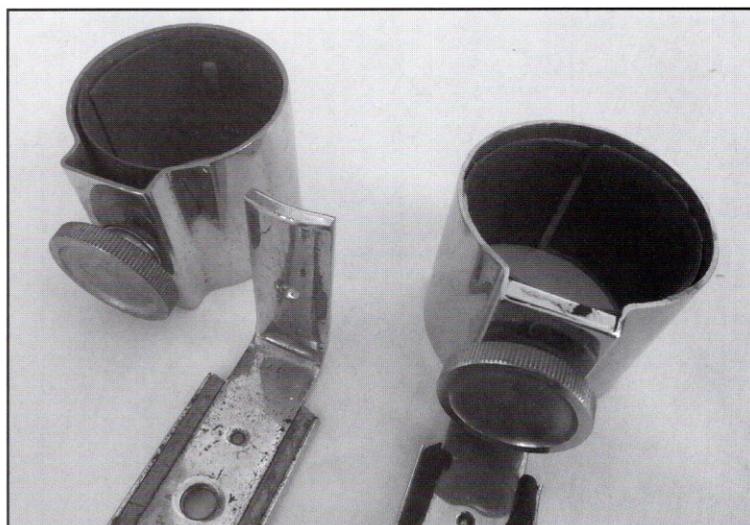


Now lets compare the early 'Walz For Nikon' unit with the 'Walz-only' version. The above two photos show the very different reflector bowls found on these units. The 'Walz-only' type is to the left in each photo. Note that it is chrome finished on both surfaces and that it is much deeper than that for the 'Nikon' version. Below photos..Left we see the cocking lever on the 'Walz-only' unit that is not present on the Nikon version (Rear). Right..A comparison of the tube/handles. Note the much longer 'Walz-only' tube.

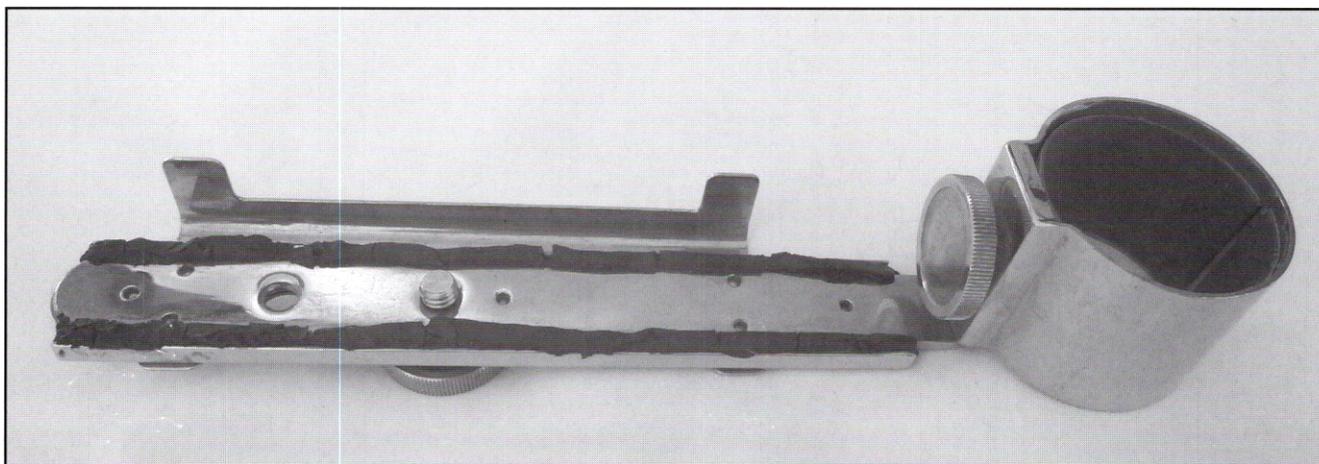




At left is shown the obvious difference between the 'Walz-only' version and the early 'For Nikon' version. Above are the slightly different Swan-midget bulb adapters mentioned in the text. On the left the 'Walz-only' version with the 'For Nikon' type on the right.



Above left...Their different extension tubes for the 3rd D-cell. The 'Walz-only' is not only longer but has a closed top with an electrical contact. . Above right...The Walz-only two-piece clamp/bracket and the Walz For Nikon one-piece version. Below...The one piece clamp/bracket has an added piece at the rear used to help fix and properly align the camera body to the bracket.



This is the leaflet mentioned in the text. It came to me inserted in the standard manual. If you look closely you will see that the unit used to illustrate this piece of literature is actually the 'Waltz For Nikon' bullet head flashgun. Note the clamp/bracket assembly. But the most telling shot is on the third page where the unit is shown from the side and the 'bullet-head' design is very obvious. This unique head configuration was very different than that used on the later Nikon B.C.B. units and sets the Waltz flashguns apart from all others.

HOW TO USE THE Nikon CAMERA, MODEL-S, WITH BUILT-IN FLASH SYNCHRONIZER

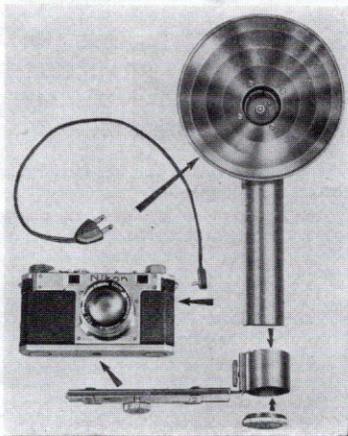
With the Nikon Camera, Model S, any marketed flash gun may be used, but the Nikon Flash Gun has specially been designed and therefore is more preferable.

1. The Nikon flash gun can be fixed to the camera with the ever-ready carrying case attached.
2. Push the smaller plugs on the connecting cord into sockets marked "F" on the camera, when fast shutter is used.

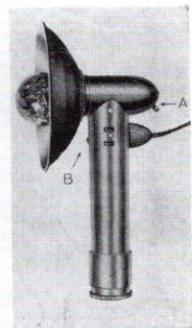


Push the smaller plugs on the connecting cord into sockets marked "S" on the camera, when slow shutter is used.

3. For both fast and slow shutter speeds, thrust the larger plugs on the connecting cord into yellow sockets found on the rear side of the flash gun. The gun is provided with 2 extra pairs of green socket holes on the sides, which are used with extension cords for additional lamps.
4. When a peanut-shaped midget bulb with a swan base is used, an attachment piece must be added to the lamp socket of the gun.



5. If it is desired to ascertain the satisfactory working of the gun beforehand, a test bulb supplied with the gun may be used.
6. For fast shutter speed, a flash bulb for focal plane shutter (say GN No. 6 or similar), and for slow shutter speed, an open flash bulb (say: GE No. 11 or similar) must be used.
7. The flash lamp is automatically lighted with the release of the shutter button, which must not be touched until all is ready.
8. When the flash gun lever (A in Fig.) is pressed down, the used bulb will automatically be released and drop off.
9. The flash gun may be operated independently, apart from the camera, by pushing the button (B in Fig.) on the front side of the gun.



Important :

1. Marketed flash guns are sometimes not insulated between the gun and the holder. It is important that the insulation be inserted, if it is absent.
2. For a shutter speed of 1/500 of a second or when more than two

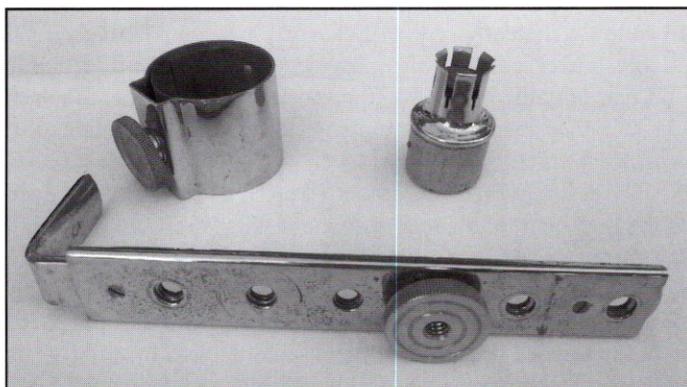
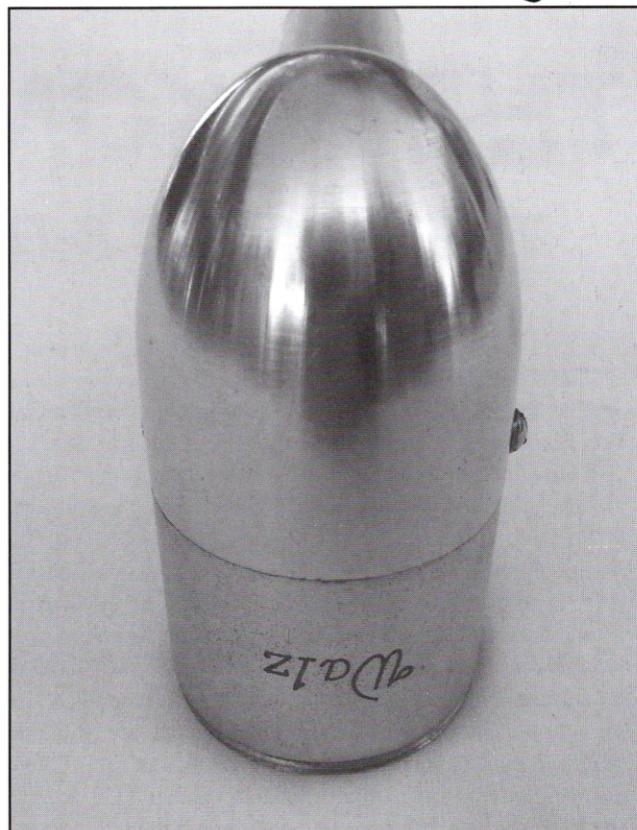
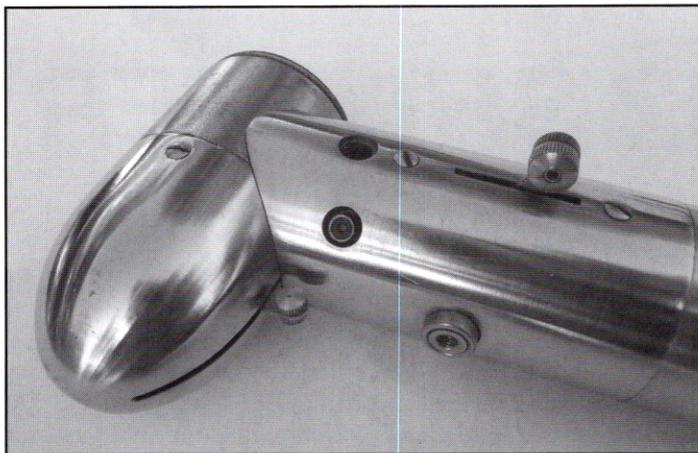
flash bulbs are consumed on the circuit, increase the battery voltage to not less than 4.5 volts.

3. For shutter speeds of 1/20-1 sec, a strobo flash may alternatively be used with the smaller cord plugs in sockets "S" on the camera. It is essential to see that the synchro-time adjuster be correctly set prior to use of the strobo apparatus.

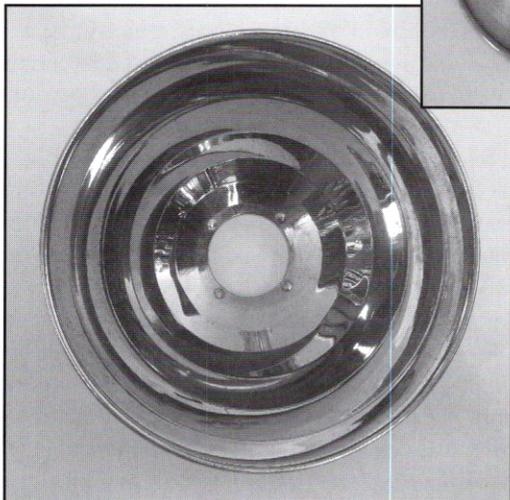
Shutter speed	Fast 1/20-1/500	Slow 1-1/8
Sockets on the camera to be used	"F"	"S"
Flash bulb to be used	Focal plane shutter bulb (GE No. 6 or similar)	Open flash bulb (GE No. 11 or similar)



NIPPON KOGAKU, K. K.
(JAPAN OPTICAL CO., LTD.)
SHINAGAWA, TOKYO



On this page is a series of detailed photos of the 'Walz-only' flashgun. Clockwise from top left... The flash handle showing the cocking lever. The bullet head with just the 'Walz' engraving. The tube/handle with its extension tube & its different cap system. All the parts making up this version of the Walz flashgun. Two views of its very different reflector bowl which is shiny on all surfaces and much deeper than those on the Nikon units. The two piece clamp/bracket assembly and the Swan-midget bulb adapter correct for this model.



THE NIKON S2 SHUTTER

THE BRAKES & BALL BEARING SYSTEM

By DR. MANABU NAKAI

INTRODUCTION

The Nikon S2 (Fig 1-photo of the exposed internal mechanism) was designed as a high quality model intended to rival the Leica IIIc. However, in April 1954, when the fabrication of its parts was already underway, Ernst Leitz GmbH released the Leica M3 at the 4th Photokina trade show in Cologne. It created a sensation with its epoch-making, sophisticated features and high performance (Fig. 2-photo of an early type body with a Swedish-Army-type Elmar 5cm/f3.5 lens mounted). Consequently, Nippon Kogaku Kogyo reconsidered some specifications of the S2 to upgrade its features and released the new model in December 1954. The most important changes in the specifications are: the viewfinder magnification changed from about 0.9 power to 1.0 power, and the wind system from knob wind to lever wind [1]. In contrast to the Nikon S, which did not sell very well in the US market despite its rabid recognition thanks to the use by LIFE photographers, the Nikon S2 sold much better. While a total of 226,178 sets of the Leica M3 were produced over 15 years, 56,715 sets of the Nikon S2 were produced over only 5 years. On the US market, the Nikon S2 was priced at about 2/3rds the price of the Leica M3 [2].

To the author, the Leica M3 and the Nikon S2 seem quite apart in their design philosophies: besides function and performance, the Leica M3 puts great emphasis on the sensory charm of operating a camera [3], while the Nikon S2 puts much value on durability and the engineering spirit from its development process. Presumably the difference may stem from the origins of the two companies. While Ernst Leitz was originally a manufacturer of upper-grade microscopes, Nippon Kogaku originally manufactured upper-grade optical arms. The Nikon S2 has a number of unique technical features. Out of them, here the author will discuss the shutter brakes and the ball bearings employed in the shutter mechanism.

THE SHUTTER BRAKES IN THE NIKON S2

In the Nikon S2, because the shutter curtain speed of 16ms/36mm, which was much higher than that of 18ms/32mm in the Nikon S, a new brake system with a higher performance was essential. The brake for the front curtain is called a "pendulum brake", in which the front curtain system hits a counterweight just as massive as the front curtain system to stop it immediately [1]. This mechanism can be exposed by removing the bottom cover of the shutter mechanism (Fig. 3). When the shutter release button is pressed, a hook of the angle lever comes off from a cutout in the angle cam which appears at the center of Fig. 3, causing the angle cam to turn counter-clockwise in the figure and the front curtain to start traveling. When the rear end of the front curtain has passed the picture aperture, a pin protruding backward in the figure from the angle cam reaches the downward lever of the

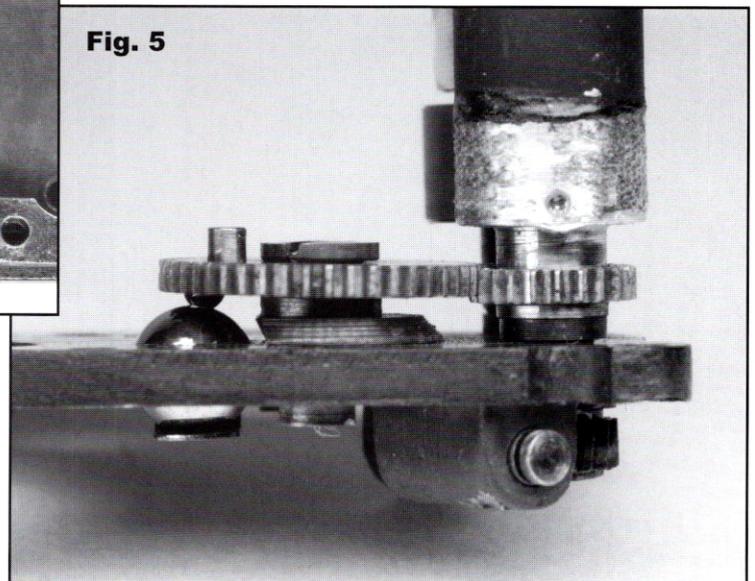
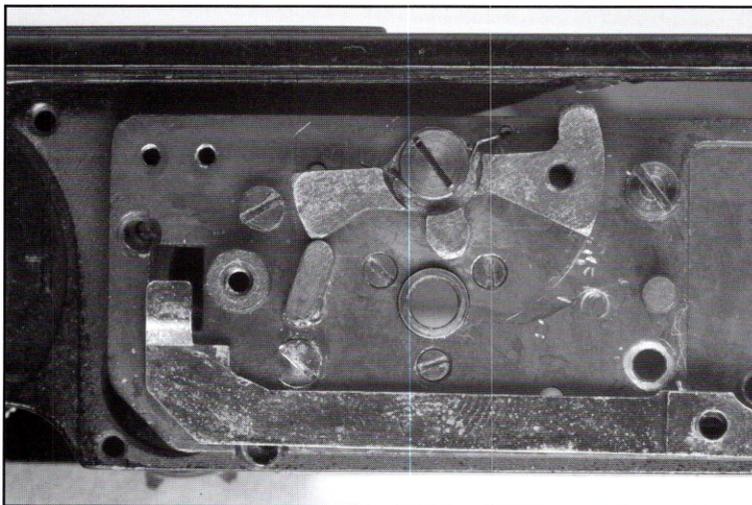
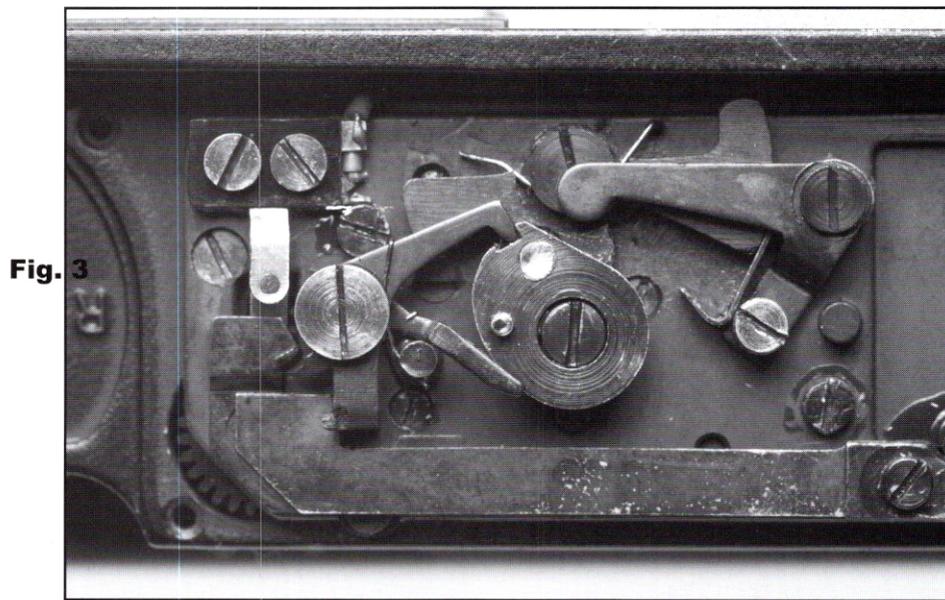
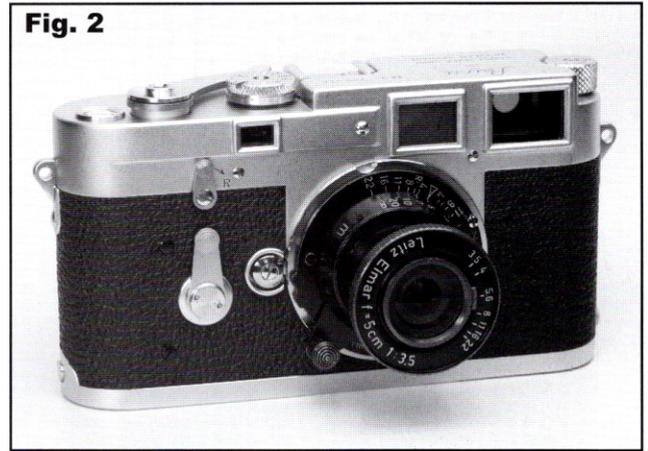
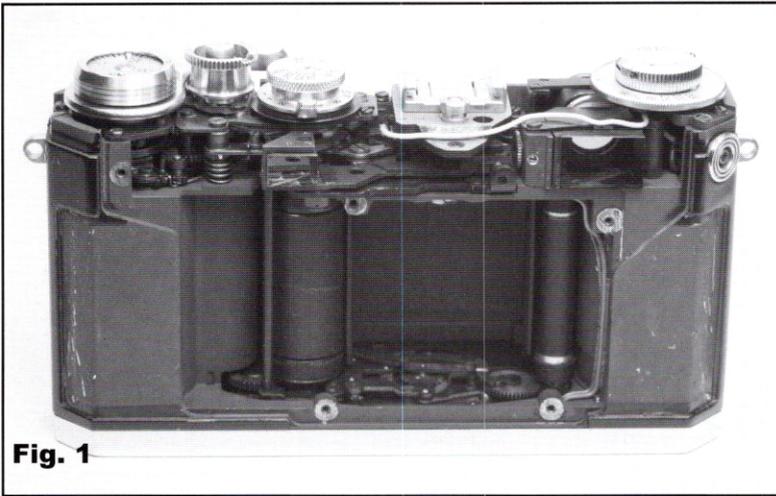
pendulum shown in the upper part of Fig. 4, to activate the front curtain brake. This braking mechanism may have been invented by an engineer with a background in physics. The front curtain stops as a result of a combination of this and many other factors. In contrast, the early type of Leica M3 has comparatively small friction brakes independently provided for each of the front curtain and rear curtain. While the front curtain brake in the Nikon S2 clacks rather cheerfully at braking, the brakes in the Leica M3 work very quietly.

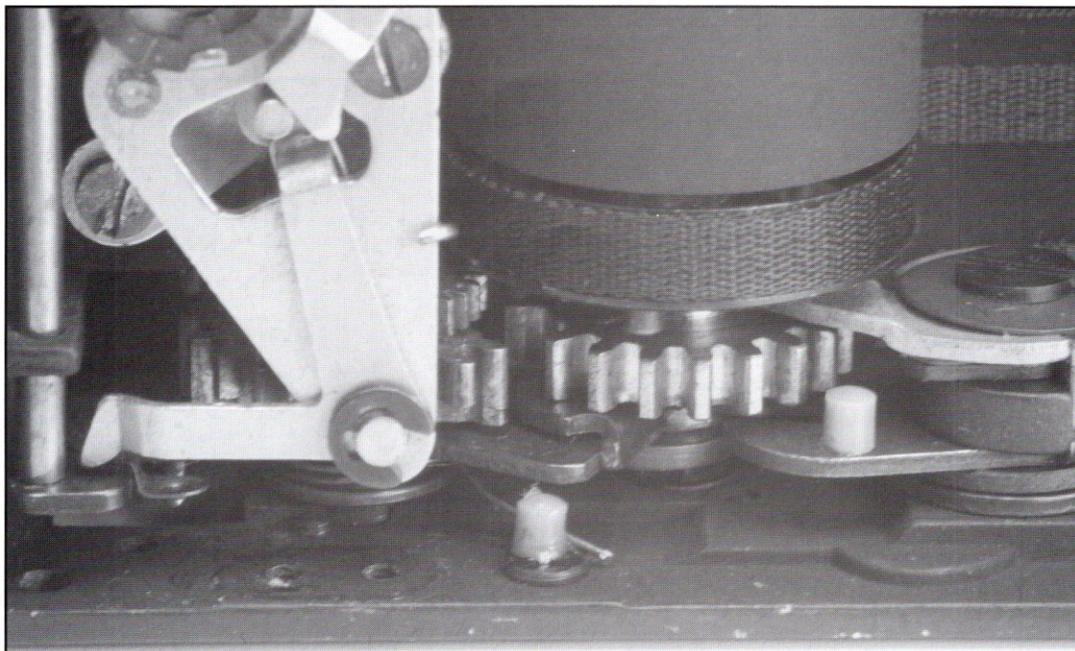
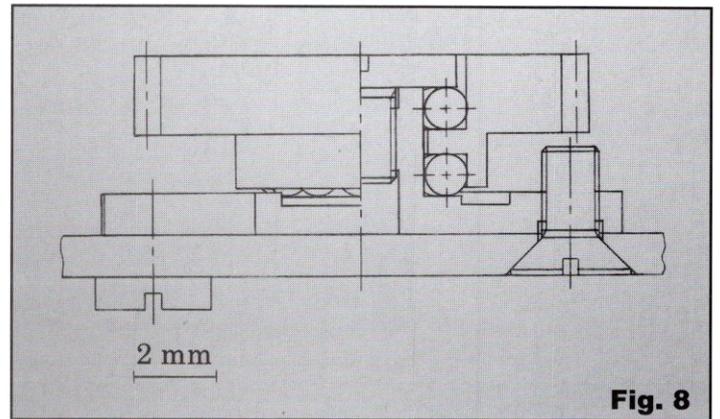
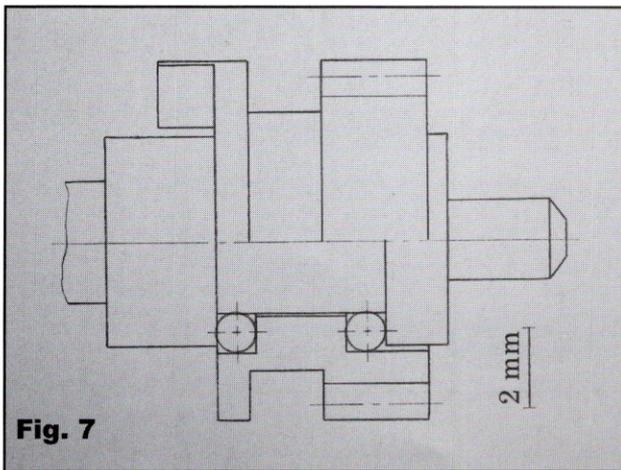
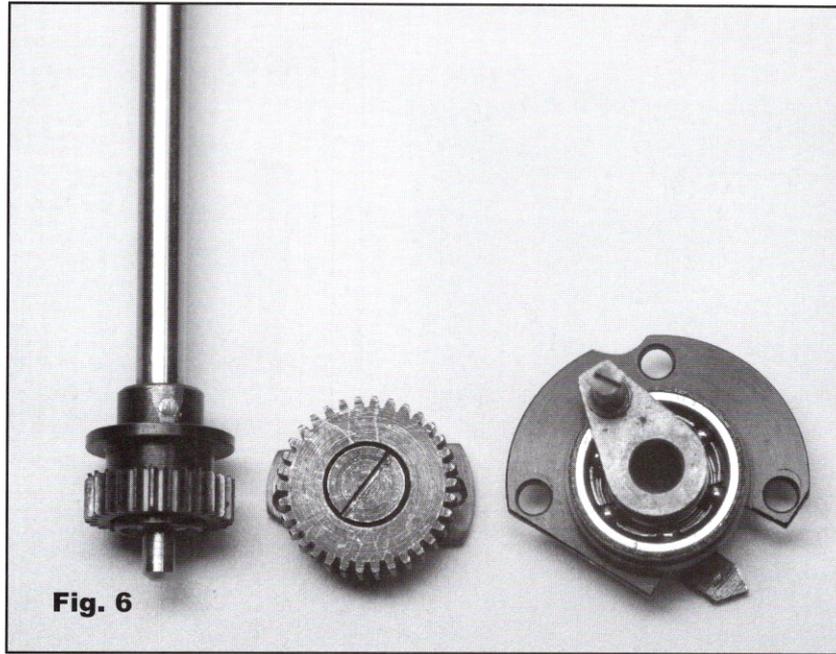
The rear curtain brake of the Nikon S2 is positioned adjacent to the lower part of the rear spring tube (Fig. 5). There is a gear at the bottom of the rear spring tube, which is engaged with another gear having a pin protruding on its underside. When the front edge of the rear curtain has passed the picture aperture, this pin passes over the top end of a steel ball pressured upward by a flat spring underneath, which actuates braking. Arresting the rebound of the rear curtain, this brake acts on the motion of the rear spring tube and the motion of gears. The focal plane shutter cameras designed by Nippon Kogaku Kogyo and Nikon Corporation to date have employed brakes with a variety of creative ideas [4]. The brake system in the Nikon S2 is uniquely designed rather than just an imitation of the Leica.

THE BALL BEARINGS IN THE NIKON S2

The Nikon I, M and S employ a ball bearing in the pawl of the shutter mechanism, and the design of this construction is patented. The part with an equivalent function to this pawl is called "double arm" in the Leica IIIc and IIIc. In general, the pawl of a Nikon camera turns faster than that in the cameras of other brands [5]. Roughly speaking, ball bearings have much smaller starting torque and running torque than slide bearings. But using a ball bearing in a camera increases the size of the bearing part, which increases vibration and chatter. However, ball bearings are used in certain types of the Leica IIIc [6] and in all Leica IIIc, but in no versions of the Leica M3.

In the Nikon S2, ball bearings are used in three parts. Fig. 6 shows the release shaft assembly, the intermediate gear and the pawl assembly, each having one or two ball bearings. Since the pawl assembly was caulked and could not be disassembled, the author had to break it apart to take out the ball bearings. It was an extra small ball bearing with six balls supported in a cage, measuring about 4.4mm in bore diameter, about 10mm in outside diameter and about 3.4mm in width, appearing to be the same as single-row deep groove radial bearings made by manufacturers of rolling bearings. However, the end faces of the inner and outer races are finished rather roughly, while it has no manufacturer





name that should be engraved on a race end face. It has a raceway groove similar to that in a single-row deep groove radial bearing, but the author wonders if the raceway surfaces are processed by super finishing. It is designed to have a relatively small internal clearance, probably because the tilt of the pawl shaft fitted to the inner race is considerably smaller than that in the Nikon S. The bearing tables of extra small ball bearings based on the current ISO Standard contain no bearing of these dimensions. This extra small ball bearing used in the Nikon S2 is subjected only to a light load and almost no temperature rise, yet it is desirable to use a high-grade lubricant because the inner race is accelerated impulsively. This part was supplied as an assembly probably because it required gauging while being assembled. Anyhow, the introduction of an extra small ball bearing at the pawl part in Nikon rangefinder focal plane shutter cameras was a great success.

Similarly, because it is also impossible to disassemble the release shaft assembly, the author had to break it apart to examine the ball bearings at the gear part. Fig. 7 shows a half-sectional view of the gear part. This drawing was drafted not by Nippon Kogaku, but by the author, in which only the gear is shown in a half section. A full type ball bearing with steel balls of a diameter of 1mm is provided at each of the top and bottom of the gear inside, and the diameter of the shaft on which the steel balls roll is about 3.5mm. The number of balls is calculated to be fourteen by the formula for determining the number of balls in a full type ball bearing [6], but actually, the number will be thirteen considering machining errors. The author tried breaking the gear apart and found twelve steel balls in each full type ball bearing. While the profile curve of a ball bearing race usually has a little larger radius than the rolling element radius, the races of these full type ball bearings are composed of a cylindrical outer surface, a cylindrical inner surface and two plane surfaces. In this case, the rotation directions of rolling elements should vary greatly according to the ratio of the radial load to the thrust load. In fact, on the shaft side and gear side raceway surfaces of the disassembled parts, four streaks from friction were found. Whenever overhauling the Nikon S2, therefore, it is essential to replenish also the lower full type ball bearing, though invisible from outside, with a high-grade lubricant referring to Fig. 7. The author wonders whether the high carbon chromium bearing steel is used for the races of these full type ball bearings. When the author tried rotating the gear manually, it turned smoothly enough. At the portion on which the steel balls roll, the release shaft is covered with a sleeve. This part should be supplied as an assembly, probably because gauging was required to adjust the internal clearance.

In turn, the intermediate gear can be disassembled, and the bearings therein had a design similar to the full type ball bearings in the release shaft assembly as shown in Fig. 8. Since the diameter of the shaft measured in about 3mm, by calculation [6], 12.4 steel balls of a diameter of 1mm can be put in a bearing. However, the author found twelve steel balls in each of the upper and lower bearings. In order to increase the accuracy of the front curtain travel, engineers of Nippon Kogaku changed the bearings for the release shaft assembly and the intermediate gear from slide bearings to full type ball bearings. In contrast, the Leica M3 uses an intermediate gear with a cutout and the engaged gear under the drum is disengaged from the intermediate gear when shutter charge

is completed (Fig. 9). Thus, the travel of the front curtain is not affected at all by the charging gear train. This design must have astonished engineers at Nippon Kogaku. The adoption of full type ball bearings for the release shaft assembly and the intermediate gear in the Nikon S2 embodies their “engineer spirit” truly.

The Nikon S2 is a high quality camera equipped with all essential features. The author loves this camera because it appears to embody the offensive mind-set of Nippon Kogaku, which was aiming to make a camera at the top of the world at the time. However, the chatter of this camera is relatively loud. One of the factors causing this noisiness is considered to be the properties of the curtain material. So, the author tried changing the shutter curtain to one with a smaller bending stress like the one in the Leica M3, made of cloth rubberized on one side. Also, slightly more lubricant was given to the shutter mechanism. As a result, the sound quality of the chatter changed somewhat and the noise became a little less loud, but the effect was not as noticeable as the author expected. In the Nikon I, M and S, the shutter curtain, made of silk rubberized on one side, is sewn onto the curtain plate. Meanwhile, the curtain of the Nikon S2 is made of two silk sheets rubberized in the middle, making much account of the durability of the curtains.

In the Nikon SP, both the front and rear curtains are provided with a brake of a unique design utilizing a helical torsion coil spring respectively. Having had no opportunities to operate the original Nikon SP while it was marketed, the author does not know its operational feeling. Operating a Nikon SP Limited Edition made in 2005, the author can notice that the chatter is minimal and high-grade lubricants are used from the touch of fingers. Hence, it is this camera that can truly rival the Leica M3.

The author wishes to express his gratitude to Mr. Takeshi Kunii, President of Photo Koubou Kiiotos Co., Ltd., which is a repair service company specializing in Nikon cameras and Nikkor lenses. He provided prompt service with regards to the disassembly and the assembly of the Nikon cameras used in this article.

REFERENCES

- [1] Yokoyuki Tateno, Nikkor Club, No.162 (Autumn 1997), pp.94-95
- [2] Tatsuhiko Arakawa, Camera Mainichi, 21-247 (1974-5), pp.258-262
- [3] Manabu Nakai, Photographic Industries, 66-715 (2008-11), pp.58-63
- [4] Yokoyuki Tateno, Nikkor Club, No.164 (Spring 1998), pp.88-89
- [5] Manabu Nakai, Photographic Industries, 64-683 (2006-3), pp.64-78
- [6] Manabu Nakai, Photographic Industries, 62-664 (2004-8), pp.73-79

The author would like to correct typographical errors in his older articles:

- 1) Line 31, left column, pg. 16, NHS-108: “complete” should be “incomplete.”
- 2) Line 2, left column, pg. 11, NHS-112: “the supply-side chamber” should be “the winding-side chamber.”

MY NIKON 'S' TO MICRO FOUR-THIRDS ADAPTER

By ALEX SHISHIN

I came across this Nikon S to micro four-thirds (m4/3) adapter by accident at Yaotomi Camera in Osaka's Umeda underground mall. It was tacked to the wall in a plastic bag which said 'DiscoverPhoto' on it. It cost 4800 yen, just over \$50 at today's exchange rate, which I thought was quite generous for something so superbly machined and finished. The company's official website was listed as www.discoverphoto.jp. I went to it and found they had lots of excellent photo accessories available. Everything was, however, in Japanese.

The adapter went smoothly on to my Olympus E-PL1s and every Nikon S and C (Contax mt) lens made for the outer bayonet mounted smoothly as well. It cannot take inner bayonet lenses, meaning most Nikon and all Contax 50mm lenses. Note that though it is made for Nikon S lenses, my Nikon C 85/f2 and 135/f3.5 worked perfectly well on it.

The lenses I tried ranged from the Voigtlander SC 21/f4 to the Nikon S and C 135/f3.5. All worked without a hitch. This will be good news to anyone who has tried a Nikon S to Leica adapter coupled to a Leica to micro 4/3 adapter, only to find that the rear element was irritatingly a little too wide.

On a micro 4/3 camera your effective focal length is doubled relative to a 35mm camera. This makes the 135mm lens into a 270mm, which is exciting if you want more reach. At the wide-angle end the news is that your 21mm becomes a 42mm optic, while your prized 25mm becomes just like a common 50mm lens. You might value the extended depth of field in what has become a normal lens, or you might not. After a few experimental shots I put my Voigtlander wide angles away.

It was a different story with

my Nikon S 35mm/f1.8. It becomes a compact and fast 70mm/f1.8! It was an ideal short telephoto (or extended normal lens) for everything from portraits to street photography to landscapes. I found myself shooting with this lens more than any other.

The only significant problem the Olympus has is in focusing. The camera has a blow-up focusing aid that is useful in a pinch, but awkward. A green focusing patch just helps you concentrate on one area but does not work as a rangefinder. As might be expected, this was an especially annoying issue with wide angles below my Nikon S 35/f1.8 lens.

On the plus side, in AUTO mode the camera's finder lightens up as you stop down and it can take an optional electronic

viewfinder with a built-in diopter, and the meter is very good in low light.

Do you want this adapter? Forget DiscoverPhoto if you don't live in Japan. That there is no English on their website is a good

indication that they cannot deal with international orders. But despair not! A quick perusal of the Internet turned up the website of Rainbow Imaging, which offers a "Nikon S/Contax RF to m4/3" adapter that looks exactly like mine. Contact them at: rainbowimaging@gmail.com to learn more. Voigtlander makes a Nikon S to the Sony NEX adapter. It can be had from "Cameraquest" and other distributors.

It is a thrill to be able to use all your Nikon rangefinder lenses on a digital camera. It will be an even bigger thrill to use them full-frame on a future mirrorless camera with a rangefinder mechanism for manual focusing. Don't you think so?

35mm/1.8 Nikkor & adapter.



Right & below..A 105mm/f2.5 and a 135mm/f3.5 mounted on an Olympus E-PL1 using the DiscoveryPhoto Nikon S to m4/3 adapter. With this format you actually end up with a 210mm/f2.5 and a 270mm/f3.5, very fast light-weight telephotos. With the 35mm/f1.8 you get a 70mm/f1.8, a really nice portrait lens. But what I would like to play with is either the 50mm/f1.1 or the 85mm/f1.5. Now imagine shooting with a 100mm/f1.1 or a 170mm/f1.5 lens. Can you imagine what prime lenses with these specifications would cost?



Some photos Alex made using the DiscoveryPhoto m4/3 adapter on his Olympus E-PL1 body. Above right..An abandoned house with election posters was made using a Contax mount 85mm/f2 Nikkor. Above..A nicely decorated garbage truck in Akashi was shot with the 35mm/f1.8 Nikkor resulting in a 70mm perspective. Right..Taken in Umeda Mall in Osaka also with the 35mm/f1.8 which, because of its speed, is a very useful available light 70mm/f1.8 optic. It might be time to invest in one of these adapters and an appropriate camera. Could be fun.

MORE.....FROM THE LITERATURE

Last issue member Jim Emmerson sent in some very interesting contemporary Nikon rangefinder literature that he had found in old issues of 'Pacific Stars & Stripes', published by the U.S. Government for our servicemen. I have always used material written at the time to get a more realistic outlook on the history. The 'Ban on Nikons' in NHS-114 really threw but, fortunately, you will see here that it was quickly lifted and was more a legality than any problems with the equipment or Nippon Kogaku. Glad to see that! Also check out the article about the need for secrecy in the Japanese camera industry. Very interesting indeed! Thanks Jim.

Nikon, Nikkor Import Ban Eased

By LARRY ASHMAN
S&S Staff Writer

TOKYO—The Customs Bureau in Washington has eased a ban on the import into the United States of photographic items bearing the "Nikon" or "Nikkor" trademarks, a U.S. Embassy official said Thursday.

Servicemen, dependents and military civilians may now take one item bearing either trademark into the U.S., Smith B. Griffin, U.S. treasury attache and regional customs representative said.

Griffin said he received a cable Thursday from the Customs Bureau in Washington advising him that the ban was eased after Nippon

Kogaku-U.S.A., American owners of the trademarks, filed a letter with the Treasury Department authorizing the import of one item per person.

"The article must be in the owner's possession upon entering the U.S.," Griffin explained, "and it must be for the owner's personal use and not for re-sale."

The import of items bearing the trademarks was banned in July after Nippon Kogaku-U.S.A., as an American firm within its legal rights, asked for "full protection" under the law against the import of those items without its consent.

The Far East Exchange Service at Ofuna, which had removed the items from Army and Air Force exchanges, said they will not be

sold until it has received official notification the ban has been lifted and that officials at U.S. ports of entry have been notified. They also are awaiting an interpretation of the term "one article" used in the cable received by Griffin.

A FEES spokesman said they are not sure a camera with a lens would be one article, or whether a camera body alone would be considered one article.

Griffin emphasized that the decision to allow one article per person is not that of either the Customs Bureau or the Treasury Department—but is a decision of the U.S. trademark owners, who legally have the right to set the conditions under which the article can be imported.

Far East Focus

Work on New Model Nikon Top Secret

By T/SGT. SANDY COLTON

TOKYO (S&S)—The secrecy in Japan's camera industry almost equals anything the military services ever thought of having. New developments are classified "Absolute Top Secret" and company officials guard them zealously until they are released.

Last week we visited the Nippon Kogaku Co. in Tokyo, makers of the Nikon camera and Nikkor lens. We'd heard rumors that the company was working on modifications of the S-2 model and wanted to find out what they were going to do.

We talked to N. Hamashima, director of the company who has just returned from three years in the U.S. where he established Nikon service centers, an import company, and managed to push the Nikon S-2 close to the top among desirable miniature cameras among American pros.

"WE'RE NOT sleeping," he told us. But he wouldn't tell us what the modifications were.

He did admit customer suggestions and criticisms play a large part in the modifications and admitted there have been a considerable number of requests for a quieter shutter and a viewfinder that will adjust automatically with lens changes similar to the one now incorporated in the Leica M-3.

But he spiked one rumor when he said the company is not considering bringing out a single lens reflex model. Another rumor concerned the possible manufacture of motion picture cameras.

"IT'S A COMPLETELY different manufacturing process," he said, pointing out that only Eastman in the U.S. manufactures both still and motion picture cameras.

We did get to see the new f1.1 50mm lens and the 35mm f1.8 and, after watching resolution tests, can report that the 1.1, which will sell for \$299.50 in the States but is not yet available through Ship's Store and PX sources in Japan, compares favorably in sharpness when wide open with the f1.4.

In our opinion, though, the 35mm f1.8 doesn't measure up to the f2.5 in sharpness, even at 2.5.

INCIDENTALLY, if you buy a 1.1, the factory asks that they get your camera in order to tailor the lens to it. The new 1.1 is that critical, they say.

It's doubtful that the shortage of Nikons will be relieved any in the near future. The factory hasn't been able to keep up with demand because they prefer human dexterity over mass production. "It's more reliable," Hamashima said. He admitted that they are studying mass production methods, though.

Even though we couldn't get anything from the company on the release of the new Nikon, we'd like to predict that it will feature a quieter shutter and some form of variable view finder. We'll stick our neck out a little further and say, with the help of a ouija board and some inside contacts, that the new model will be announced late this fall.



F1.1 50MM LENS, LEFT, AND F1.8 35MM LENS

S&S Photo

DivArty CO

1st Cav.
Units Plan

SOME BOOK UPDATES

It seems that for every issue I have new items to report to you. This is very positive feedback and I feel that we all benefit from this type of discussion, since no one knows everything and none can learn unless we share. No matter how small an item do not feel it is insignificant. Someone else may benefit from it being posted here. Thanks you to all who participated in this issue. RJR

Member Chris Sap sent in this information;
An Exacta 135mm/f3.5 lens #264784 has been reported.

We have an addition to our very small list of 'Type I' 'Eight Digit Nikon S' bodies as discussed on pages 86~88 in my book. These are the cameras that have an extra '1' added to the end of their numbers that we think denote duplicate body number. Please add body #60945241, which falls right into the batch shown in the book. See photos on this page.

Chris also corrected an error in NHS-114. The Type 7 Variframe # 544815 is not the highest seen. That honor belongs to #544993 mentioned in issue #110. Good feedback.

I have also seen the following items of interest;

- 500mm/f5 Nikkor #647057 in Leica Screw mount!
- 500mm/f5 Nikkor #647084 in Nikon mount
- 250mm/f4 Nikkor #272280 in Manual barrel
- 135mm/f4. Nikkor #90483 in Leica screw mount!
- Early Nikon S #6094178 MIOJ red eye synch
- Early Nikon S #6094249 MIOJ red eye synch
- Early Nikon S #6094552 MIOJ red eye synch
- Black 28mm/f3.5 Nikkor #718757 in METERS!

Nikon I #609500 is on the market (I held this very camera in my hands about 20-25 years ago!)

And of course, Nikon S2E #6194011 in the Westlicht auction!

Jim Emmerson sent in the number of a very early 5cm/f3.5 Nikkor #501996 which reads only Nippon Kogaku (no Tokyo or Japan) with the # 17829 scratched on the rear mount & 29 in another spot. It is in meters and was found on Leica #206217.

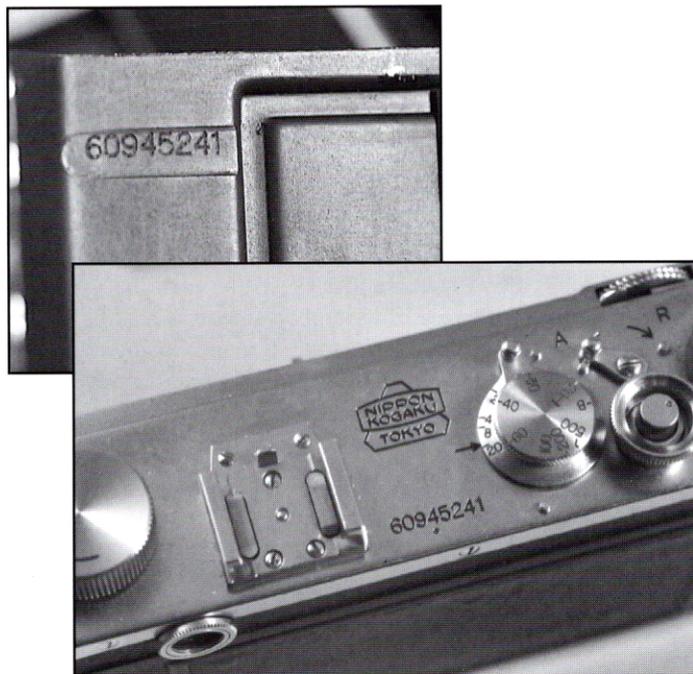
MEMBER FEEDBACK

Member Ed Schwartzreich has again given us some feedback on a Journal article as he did last issue. I love feedback!

Dear Robert...

I read your question in NHS-114 about the Nikon B.C.B. flashes, and what the second 'B' might mean. I cannot answer this myself, but it is useful to point out that this nomenclature was used in Japan at about the same time by both Nicca and Leotax, as well as Nippon Kogaku, to describe their flashes. Clearly there was some common meaning.

Two photos of 'Eight-Digit Nikon S' #60945241 with is extra '1' tacked on the end. Note even the back number has been altered to match. Ed sent a Leotax brochure as well as a photo of a Nicca flash, both of which use the B.C.B. type nomenclature. We still do not know what the last 'B' means.



軽小で美麗で強力な LEOTAX FLASH MODEL B・C・B

レオタックス強力発光器 B・C・B 型

本発光器は鍍金鍍銀黒色ワックシ仕上げで、大きさは22×51×106mm、重さは250g、見るからに美麗で、コンパクトで、携帯に便利です。内部の美しいプラスチック製の蓋に、

積層電池22.5Vとコンデンサーを収納し、高電圧と高電流を得ますから、高度のシャッタースピードにも対応し、従来の発光器よりも一層強力な光線を得られ、シンクロ撮影を確実に行うことが出来ます。信憑できるワックシバルブを標準使用すれば、1/2000秒回可可能です。又本器は、上記の積層電池が入手困難の場合は、



特等3号（インソート用）3本を使用することも出来るように設計されています。テストランプはワックシバルブと電気回路の良否を調べる為、外部のスイッチ操作を伴わずに操作できるようになっています。

反射鏡は鍍銀鍍クローム鍍金で、各種のワックシバルブに最高の反射効果を挙げます。コードは二芯式と一芯式の二種が別備します。

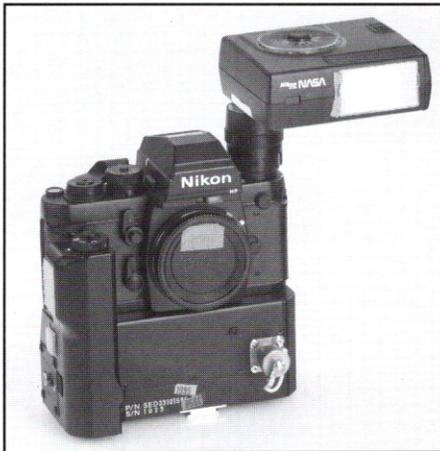


18

THE AUCTION SCENE

Peter Coeln will hold his 21st Westlicht Auction on Saturday, May 12th just before our Paris Convention. You will recall that Peter agreed to be a sponsor for NHS-Con13 with a generous contribution of \$1000. I want to thank him here publicly and also repay his support with this preliminary introduction to his next sale, the results of which will be published in NHS-116. Of course I have concentrated on the Nikon items using actual catalog photos supplied by Peter. Besides these there will be some very historic items in the sale of around 500 items including; one of the 25 prototype Leica 'O' series models; one of only two genuine gold plated Leica M3 cameras; a Shanghai Red Flag outfit; a rare Yalluflex and a 1935 AEG Cloud Camera, the first 'fisheye' lens ever made. The sale in Vienna begins at 11am. Preview is possible from May 10th daily from 10am-6pm.

Now for the Nikon items of interest.



Above...A Nikon F3 HP 'NASA' set serial #1023. Very rare original NASA camera with special features produced for space shuttle Challenger & Columbus missions. Special motor drive with connection to an intervalometer, battery pack, data back with flight data & special SB-17 flash. Estimate is 14,000-16,000 euro (\$19,000-\$22,000)



Above...A complete, very early & rare Nikon F outfit consisting of F body #6400518 with straight prism & 4 matching 'tick mark' lenses! (5cm/f2 #521858, 3.5cm/f2.8 #920200, 10.5cm/f2.5 #120372 & 13.5cm/f3.5 #721010). A rare outfit from the first production run. Estimate is 3,500-4,000 euro (\$4,700-\$5,400)

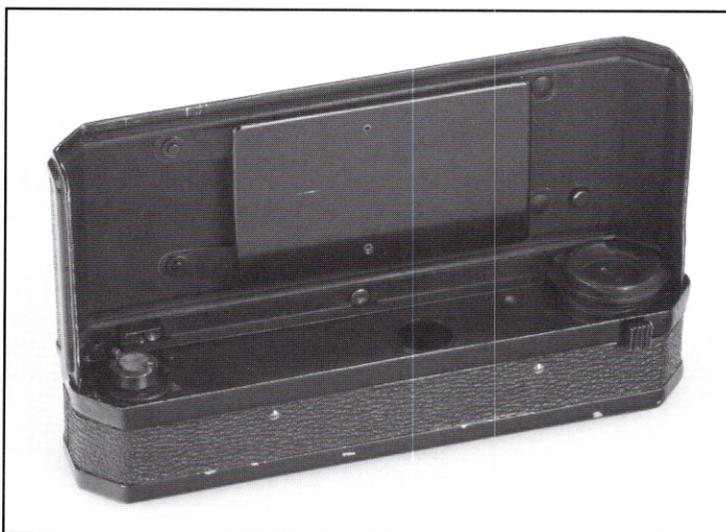
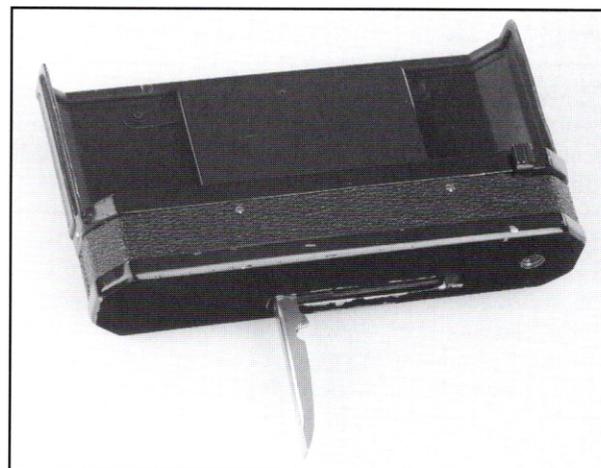


Above...Nikon FEA Underwater camera #5400014. A special Nikon FE body fitted with an F2 style Action Finder for underwater photography used with a housing. Only 50 of these were ever made and most were delivered to National Geographic and prominent underwater photographers. Estimate is 1,600-2,000euro (\$2,100-\$2,700)
Left...Nikon KS-80A 'US NAVY' camera #100047. F body #6544176 engraved 'U.S. NAVY', with prism, enlarged rewind knob, back with all Navy markings, special F36 motor, hand grip & electrical release. Matching Zoom-Nikkor 43~86 #443885 engraved 'U.S.NAVY'. Estimate is 4,000-5,000 euro (\$5,400-\$6,700)



Left...The 'gem' of this sale is this black Nikon S2 camera #6194011. Not only is it in fine condition but this is no ordinary black S2. This is a genuine Nikon S2E! Recently said to be discovered in Greece, we can add it to our small list of S2Es (6194007, 6194009, 6194013, 6194051, 6194052). Estimate is 30,000-40,000 euro (\$40,000-\$54,000).

Below & Below left...An Abrahamsson Nikon SP/S3 Rapid Winder. A very rare trigger wind made by NHS member Tom Abrahamsson (Famous for a similar item he produces for the Leica M cameras). Only a few pieces have been produced to date. Estimate is 800-1,000euro (\$1,100-\$1,350).



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!).

THANK YOU.....RJR

MORE AUCTION NEWS

Stan Tamarkin has also sponsored our NHS-Con13 with a \$250 donation to help make the meeting a success. He will also be having another sale between issues #115 & #116 but I have no photos as this time nor an extensive list to see what will be there of interest to Nikon collectors. The sale is set for Sunday, April 29th in Woodbridge, Connecticut. You can learn more by going to auctions@tamarkin.com. By the time you get this issue the entire catalog should be posted.

As always Leica is represented in abundance and rarity. From what I know at this time there will be two Leica MPs (black & chrome), two Reporter 250 shot cameras, two prototypes of the original Leica M motor drives, and a grey wartime IIIcK. One Nikon item that I believe will be in this sale is a 50mm/f1.1 Nikkor that I hope I am right about. If there is only one Nikon item in the sale you can't beat this one.

I will have all the results in NHS-116. But make sure you go to his website, as the catalog should be posted by April 2nd.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SELL LIST... My latest sell list has grown to 8 pages and is now ready. Many Nikon RF, Reflex & Bronica items. I can send it via email or regular mail to any one who wishes to be on my mailing list. Just contact me anytime to add your name. **Robert Rotoloni** rotoloni@msn.com & r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net **Thank you!**

WANTED...NIKON F 'RED DOT' BLACK BODY; exposure meter for Nikon F model 1-type 1 (Uli Koch pg. 20-The Accessories) possibly with incident light plate & booster; telescope adapter for Nikon F in case with its filters & screen in plastic bags. **Carlo Rivolti, Italy.** please email to rivolti@libero.it

WANTED... 8mm/f2.8 **FISH EYE NIKKOR**, 13mm/f5.6 **NIK-KOR**, **120 FISH EYE SKY NIKKER**, experimental **NIKON** cameras and/or lenses/accessories, even if broken. **NIKON S2 & SP (BLACK)**, **ALUMINUM 5cm F1.4 NIKKOR**. **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

WANTED... Nikon SLR items: BR-15 (39mm) & BR-16 (microscope lens thread) adapter rings; "K" focusing screen for the F4. Contact **Dave Howard (Arizona)** at dustyink@tabletoptelephone.com

FOR SALE...REFLEX-NIKKOR 1000MM/F6.3 in the Nikon F reflex mount #631042. A rare lens and #41 out of a probable 50 ever made. Item is complete with both caps, shade & original metal carrying case. Optics are clean & clear. External cosmetics are in EX condition. Price is \$18,000 with shipping costs to be determined with buyer. Contact **Ian at...** ianb@conservancy.org.

WANTED... 1940/50's American amateur cine cameras. Contact: **Tony Hurst (Dublin)** at email 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 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

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 **Thank you.**

NEW MEMBERS

ROBERT L. BERKMAN
P.O. BOX 368
NEWBERRY SPRINGS, CA 92365

ROBERT D'AMICO
329 NORTH FAIRVIEW STREET
BURBANK, CA 91505

BARRY HART
PO BOX 2277, BROOKSIDE MAIL CENTRE
MITCHELTON, BRISBANE, QLD 4053, AUSTRALIA

DAVE HOWARD
P.O. BOX 849, AJO, AZ 85321

ZAFAR KHAN
24 W. BAYVIEW AVE., ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, NJ 07632-1401

PHILIP MROZINSKI
807 CENTER STREET, MINERAL POINT, WI 53565

SPYROS PAPAGIANNIS
6, EKALIS STREET, 14561 KIFISSIA, GREECE

TSUN TAM
PO BOX 580, CLOSTER, NJ 07624-0580

PIERRE-YVES de ZEEUW
5 RUE ELISA LEMONNIER, PARIS, FRANCE 75012

NHS BACK ISSUE & REPRINT SERVICE!

AVAILABLE "ORIGINAL" BACKISSUES OF THE "NIKON JOURNAL" INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

32, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 53, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113 & 114.

\$7.00 EACH IN U.S.A. POSTPAID

\$9.00 EACH OVERSEAS POSTPAID

HIGH QUALITY COPIES PRINTED ON 11X17 PAPER THEN FOLDED & STAPLED (INCLUDES "ONLY" THOSE ISSUE NUMBERS "NOT" LISTED ABOVE!)

\$5.00 EACH IN U.S.A. POSTPAID

\$7.00 EACH OVERSEAS POSTPAID

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.

6194011 (S2E!) 6202519 6208453 6321396

THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS ARE THOSE OF FAKES!

6120055 6176396

'NHS' RED DOT F LIST

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

6589534 6591439 6595320 6596941 6597208

6597684 (BL) 6598243 6600645 6601241

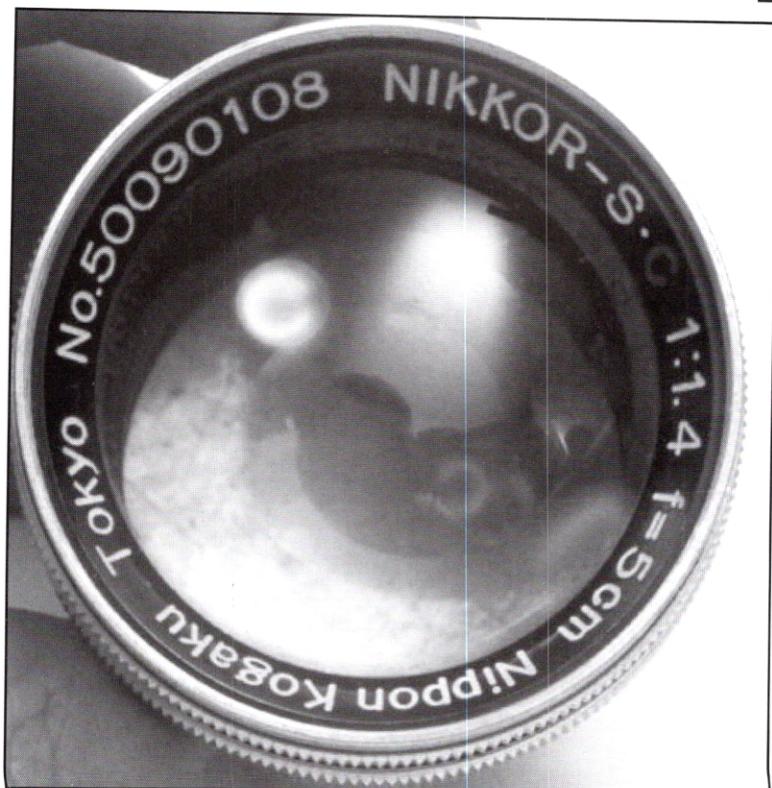
Please see the website of NHS member Matthew Lin. He keeps a running list of Red Dot Fs on his site and updates it regularly. Look to his site for the most complete & accurate listing.)

www.matthewlin.com

odds 'n ends



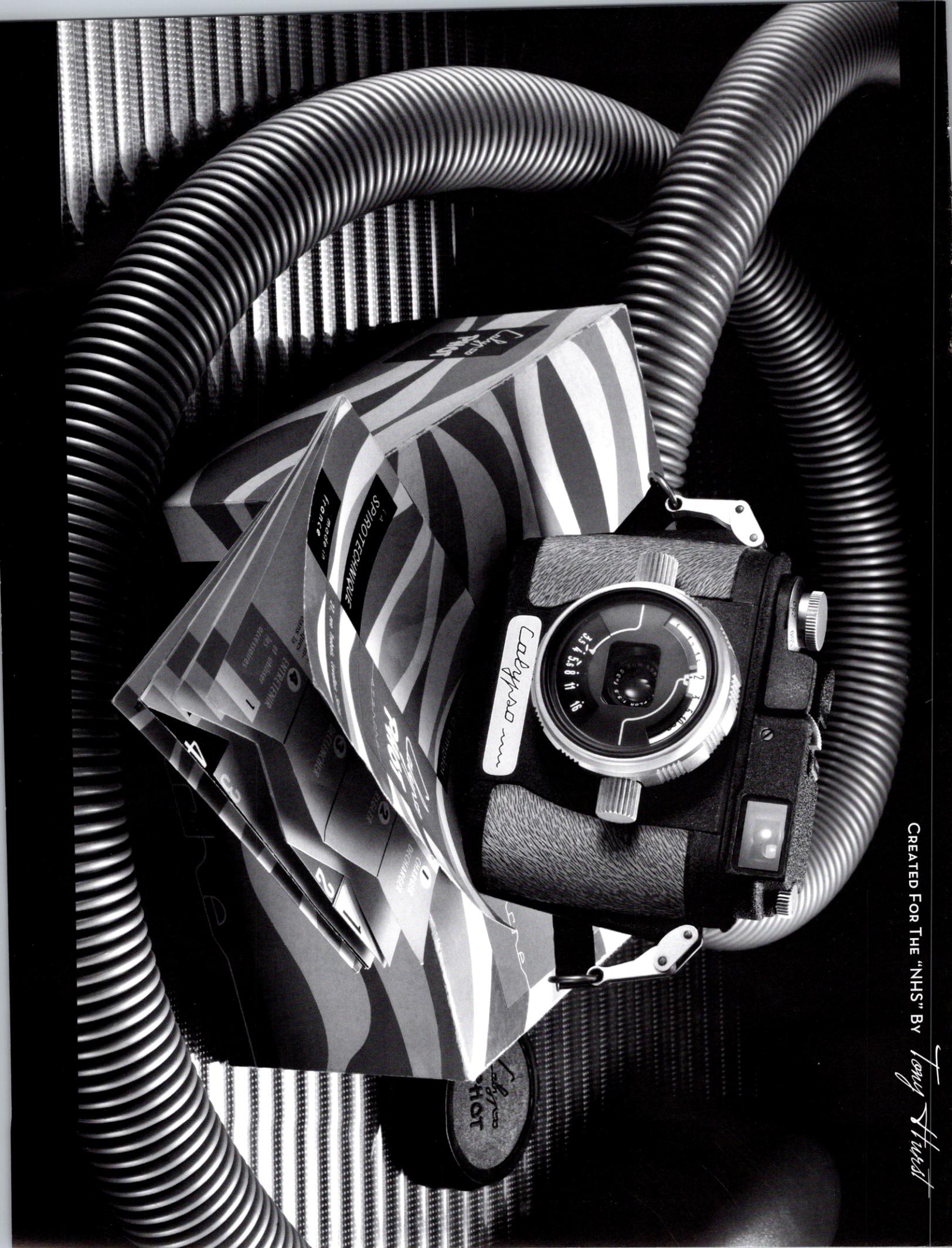
TWO ERRORS.... ONE MINOR AND...ONE MYSTERIOUS



Engraving errors are not that uncommon on Nikon equipment, especially during the rangefinder and early reflex years when most were literally done by hand. Today we have silk screenings and engravings done by computers and automated machines, so errors are virtually a thing of the past. But finding them can be fun. Chris Sap sent in two examples, one of which is a minor error while the other much less so.

Above left & right...We have an early 135mm/f2.8 Auto-Nikkor for the Nikon F. Note that when the worker was engraving 'Kogaku' he actually produced 'Kojaku'! Maybe he had a sleepless night or a fight with the wife. Who knows.

Left...Now this error may be simple but much more interesting. The serial numbers on the first type 50mm/f1.4 Nikkors was '5005xxxx' and have been recorded up to at least 50052116. However, the pictured example is '50090108', which is an early number (50050102 is in the literature). Looks like the engraver had a slight attention lapse when doing this lens. But it makes for an interesting collectible.



CREATED FOR THE "NHS" BY *Tommy Howard*