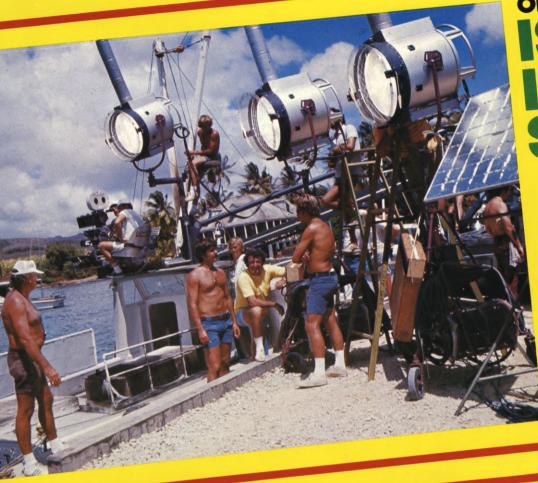
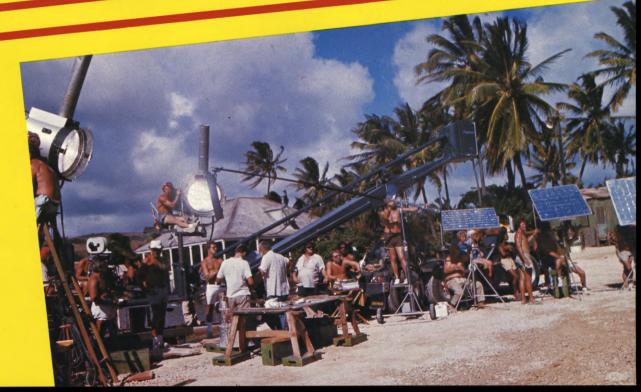
American CINEMATOSTAPHER International Journal of Motion Picture Photography and Production Techniques

NOVEMBER 1976/ONE DOLLAR



ISLANDS IN THE STREAM



Handling 7247 color negative in the film lab is easy If you know how



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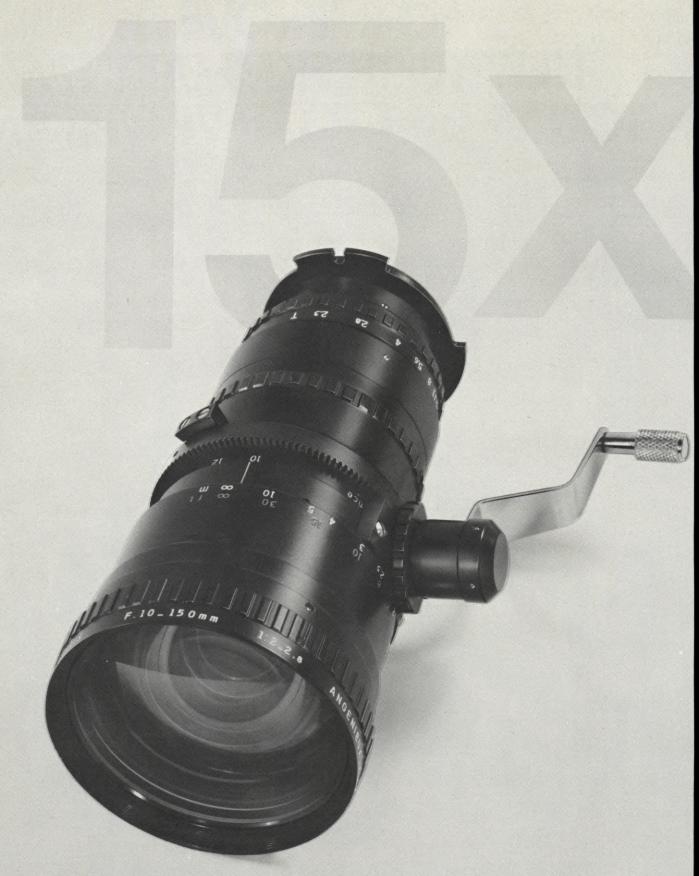
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CINEMATOGRAPHE International Journal of Motion Picture Photography and Production Techniques

The American Society of Cinematographers is not a labor union or a guild, but is an educational, cultural and professional organization. Membership is by invitation to those who are actively engaged as Directors of Photography and have demonstrated outstanding ability. Not all cinematographers can place the initials A.S.C. after their names. A.S.C. membership has become one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon a professional cinematographer, a mark of prestige and distinction.

NOVEMBER 1976

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ON THE COVER: On the island of Kauai, Hawaii, Hollywood film crew shoots scenes for the Connaught Production (Paramount release) "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM", adapted from a posthumously published semi-autobiographical novel by Ernest Hemingway. The film stars George C. Scott and is directed by Franklin J. Schaffner, both of "PATTON" fame.

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THE EVOLUTION

CANON'S NEW

Ten years ago, you helped us start a legend. And since that time, you've helped it grow. Into a camera that offered increased versatility for news and documentary people...ultimately, into a camera that's equally at home in sports and features, on campus or on location.

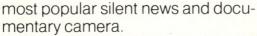
In the beginning, you wanted a compact, self-contained, professional

> 16mm camera. Versatile enough to

shoot razorsharp footage in a wide variety of documentary

situations. Yet rugged, fast and economical enough for platoons of people to use.

We listened. Well enough to make our original Scoopic the



The original.

But you wanted more. More creative latitude. A more efficient battery/transport system to put more footage through the camera. And other features, to give you greater flexibility for low-light and animation.

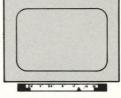
Our answer was the Scoopic 16M, which found its way from news and docu-

mentaries onto campuses and into corporations. Thanks to growing numbers of happy Scoopic users... and a number of remarkable features.

First and foremost was the Macro 12.5-75mm f/1.8 (T2.5) lens that set



Much more than a superb macro.



Larger, brighter viewfinder shows and tells more.

new standards for the state of the art. Besides superior conventional capabilities, it introduced continuous focusing from under 3½" to infinity. And unique optical dollying - with con-

A boon for

animation and

time-lapse.

stant image size-from a fixed position.

But we didn't stop there: Scoopic 16M offered a brighter finder with built-in T-stop indicator and wider autoexposure range. For animation and stop-motion, we added a single-frame control, plus an improved



Built-in battery check ends guesswork.

frame/footage counter. A redesigned battery/ transport system

doubled capacity to 1600' on a single charge. While many other features, including a film feed indicator, inching knob, iris opening switch and battery check circuit, added further convenience.

With no other camera under twice the price providing all these features, Scoopic 16M soon became even more popular than its predecessor. But the more filmmakers



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Sound economy with built-in crystal sync.

discovered about Scoopic. the more they wanted it to do: Could its capacity be increased? What about crystal control and even lower noise for sound? Built-in filtration? And more.

The answer is "yes" on all counts. And the proof, our new

Wider wides and

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For greater capacity, filming sports or features. you can use our 400' magazine adapter, with CP

keeps you in action longer.

or standard Mitchell magazines. All without losing Scoopic's

internal 100' capability. For sync sound. there's an optional built-in. crystal-controlled 24fpsaccurate to .003% over -20 to +50°C. And we've reduced noise by more than 3dB, as well. You get a lot more optical versatility, 400' adapter and magazine too. In terms of filtration. And focal length.

> For quick changes between daylight and artificial lighting, there's a

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that accepts sheets of gel. And if you'd like wider wides or closer telephotos.

Easier-to-add, built-in filtration.

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with no loss of t-stop. Thanks to an optional snap-on 9mm wide-angle adapter and 112.5mm teleconverter. There's a lot more to the new

Scoopic you helped us design-

remote control. sound barney, coldweather shooting case...even an optional light-mounting stud, to shed more foot candles on the subject. But the best news may be that the



A brighter way

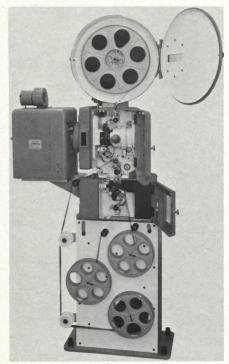
entire kit-camera with lens, battery, charger, sunshade, CdS cell hood, 5 gel filter holders, comfort eyepiece, lens cap and deluxe hard case—is still one of the best values on the professional market today. Ask your Canon professional dealer for a demonstration of the Scoopic MS... or contact us for

more information.

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WHAT'S NEW

IN PRODUCTS, SERVICES AND LITERATURE



ULTRA COMPACT DUAL FILM PROJECTOR SYSTEM

A new, moderately priced, extremely compact, professional dual film projector is now available from Kelmar Systems, Inc. A customized Century projector and soundhead are incorporated in a total performance, singlesource package. A rigid lamphouse table easily supports Xenon lamps of up to 1600-watt capability. All spindles and bypass guides roll on prelubricated ball bearings, insuring clean and uniform film path travel. It is available with standard AC, variable speed, or synchronous-drive motor packages. Built-in broadcast quality preamps and power supplies are available for both the optical and magnetic reproducer.

The system is ideal for use in broadcast studios, preview rooms, laboratories, and other installations requiring professional quality equipment that is prewired, attractive, and occupies minimum space.

For further information contact Kelmar Systems, Inc., 284 Broadway, Huntington Station, New York 11746.

BEAULIEU SINGLE-FRAME DEVICE

Hervic Corp., importers and distributors of Beaulieu Super-8 and 16mm motion picture equipment, announces the availability of a new

SINGLE FRAMING ACCESSORY for use with their line of Beaulieu Super-8 Sound Cameras.

The new accessory, called a SINGLE FRAME DEVICE, can be easily attached to the camera in minutes, and may be activated with any standard cable release to advance Super-8 Sound or Silent cartridges one frame at a time for animation, time and motion studies, time-lapse photography and special effects.

The Single Frame Device fits Beaulieu 5008S, 5008MS Multispeed and 3008MS Multispeed cameras. Price: \$54.25

For further information, contact: Hervic Corporation, 14225 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks, California 91423.

"ONE-STOP" PERMITS FOR FILMING ON CALIFORNIA STATE PROPERTY

State Senator Alan Robbins, Chairman of the California State Motion Picture Development Council, has announced that the Council has become the official State agency designated to issue permits for commercial motion picture filming on any State property.

This will become effective January, 1977 under the provisions of Assembly Bill 3114 by Assemblyman Herschel Rosenthal and Senator Robbins, which has been signed by the Governor.

"As of January 1, any commercial filmmaker wishing to shoot on State-owned or operated property will have only one stop to make to obtain the necessary permit," Robbins said. "The MPDC office will be available to clear the way, to deal directly with the State agencies involved, and generally speed-up the whole process," he added.

"Between now and January, our staff will be pre-clearing hundreds of State facilities in cooperation with the operating department and with the Department of General Services," he said. "The resulting roster of approved facilities will be available to anyone in the industry. Exceptions not on the list will be handled on a case-by-case rush basis, to eliminate costly delays to the producers and protect the taxpayers' interest."

The "Roster of Approved Properties" will contain State Parks, hospitals, highways, beaches, forest camps, office buildings and a wide variety of

other facilities. In the past, each company had to deal with not only the operating agency and the person in charge at the site, but with a large number of other concerned State agencies. The new structure will allow the MPDC to pre-cut much of the redtape, according to the chairman.

"Although Assemblyman Rosenthal was not a member of the Legislature when the MPDC was created, he has performed an invaluable service to his Hollywood-area district and to the State by authoring this bill," Robbins commented.

Robbins carried the original legislation which created the Motion Picture Development Council in 1974. He was active in industry efforts which led to the Governor's decision to advance funds from his personal office operation budget to open the Council coordinating office in April 1976. A budget item for office operating expenses was included in the 1976-77 State Budget which became effective July 1. The new bill carries an additional \$50,000 to implement the onestop Statewide permit office assignment.

A nominal permit fee will be charged, but will be limited to reimbursement of the actual costs involved as a result of the filmmaking activities.

"The new one-stop permit facility will cut down much of the confusion and 'red-tape irritation' which has plagued the industry," Robbins stated. "We strongly feel that this will result in an improvement in the general business climate and for the motion picture industry in particular and will help stop the flow of film industry dollars out of State.

"Runaway production has been costing California taxpayers over \$100 million dollars per year in lost film revenue," he said. "The MPDC office through its present system of assistance to filmmakers needing permit information and State-wide location site information has already made a healthy dent in that figure. We're sure that after January the positive effect will be even more noticeable."



Rain Drops Fallin' On Your Camera?

Even though wet winter weather is approaching, there's no need to postpone your outdoor filming. AGE Rain Covers, now available for all popular professional cameras, afford maximum protection against the elements and allow you full filming freedom even under the rainiest skies. Made of durable Nappa artificial leather with a special insulated lining constructed to give years of service, these attractive covers are extremely lightweight and waterproof. While completely covering the camera, they allow for all necessary camera functions and adjustments. Velcro fasteners permit the cover to be fitted or removed within seconds. Cameras with AGE Rain Covers may be used hand-held or on a tripod and, in addition to weatherproofing, the covers provide excellent protection from sun and heat. Available in desert white.

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Bolex H16/RX 400' mag only	15.95
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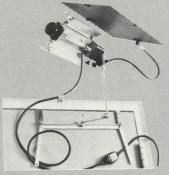
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Tota-Light: new flexibility in mounting and control.

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Variflector II: the

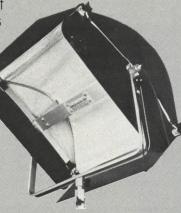
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reflector

Folding Softlight 1500. Only a fraction of the weight of studio units, it makes soft-shadow location

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750-watt
lamps. Mounts
or clamps anywhere...folds into
compact case
for travel.
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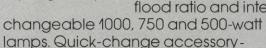


Softlight 1500: the large, soft-shadow source that fits in a small case.

Variflector II. The only truly portable, professional reflector. Complete flood control through 3:1 ratio,

to adjust brightness and spread. Rolls up to fit in compact case with stand.

Workhorse Quartz "D."
Studio versatility
in a compact, lightweight focusing unit
with wide (7:1) spot/
flood ratio and inter-



reflector system transforms it from a versatile general-purpose light to a

high-intensity, long-throw source.

Quartz "D": 7-1 focusing

plus high intensity.

Lowel-Light. The tapeup, clamp-on light that helped change the industry's approach to location lighting, and introduced Gaffer-Tape™ Some of the original units are still going strong, after 15 years of rental.



The Antique

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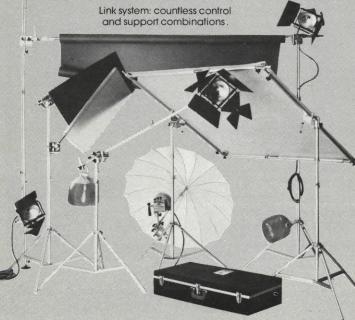
tions in motion pictures, still photography and video. And, in the process, changed location lighting from a compromise to a creative tool.

Tiny Total light More than

Tiny Tota-Light. More than a small 1000, 750 and 500-watt light with an ultra-wide, even pattern: it's the first professional quartz light built like a system camera, with lock-on mounting and control accessories.

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Programmed blowups at CFI

State-of-the-art techniques, fast service and consistent quality, because *every step* is under one roof.

Every step in the making of a blowup affects, or is affected by, every other step.

Fine Tuning

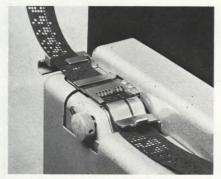
Every function—sensitometric, chemical, chromatic, mechanical, electronic and optical—must be fine-tuned to work best with the others. At CFI, there's a department that does nothing but monitor the whole system, *continually*.

Consistency

A blowup made at CFI benefits from this in two important ways. Benefit One: since it all goes through the one tuned system, quality is *consistently* the best possible.

One Light

For example—nine out of ten CFI blowups can be printed one light. For us, that means the system's working smoothly. For you, it means the job's ready sooner.



Computer punched tape automatically controls lamphouse timing settings during blowup.

Save Time

Benefit Two: faster service. Because it's all in-house, we can schedule every step whenever we choose—day or night. And our blowup machines are used *only* for blowups (not for titles, etc.). So they're always set up, ready to go.

Liquid Gate

Hiding scratches: some blowup machines coat each frame with liquid just



Rubber tubes pressurize liquid in glass gate. Film is fully immersed during entire exposure.

before it enters the gate. That works well, if the abrasions aren't too deep...At CFI, the film is *completely immersed* in a pressurized, glass-enclosed liquid gate.

Programmed

After timing the original on an electronic video analyzer, we make a 16mm first trial, which the timer corrects. A computer tape of his corrected timing is then fed into the blowup printer's program input.

Academy Award

The printer combines a standard additive-head lamphouse with a patented multicellular optical system. For this combination, (plus the liquid gate and programmed timing), the machine won an Academy Award. Here's why:

Subtle Control

This optical system transmits a great deal of light. That lets us take advantage of the additive head's subtlety (fifty timing settings for each of the three primary colors). And it lets us use a slow-speed finegrain internegative—and still make a 10 minute blowup from A and B rolls in $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

More Awards

Three of this year's films nominated for Academy Awards were blown

up at CFI. A fictional short subject and two documentary features: *Dawn Flight*, *California Reich* and *The Incredible Machine*.

Deadline

"The Academy's delivery deadline was Tuesday at 6 PM. We arrived at CFI on *Monday* morning, with 58 minutes of A/B rolls," says Walter Parkes, who coproduced *California Reich* with Keith Critchlow.

Next Day

"At 5:30 PM the next day," says Mr. Parkes, "We picked up a 5,000 foot one-light 35mm print—and that's what the Academy projected!"

One Roof

Irwin Rosten produced *The Incredible Machine*. "I had the blowup made at CFI because they'd done the 16mm work," he says. "The quality is very, very good."

Service

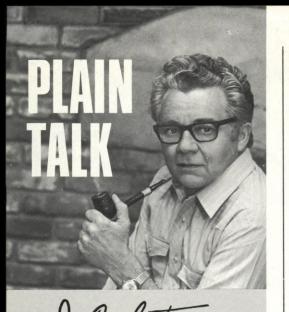
"We came in with a 750 foot workprint and uncut negative," says Lawrence Lansburgh, who produced *Dawn Flight* with Claire Wiles. "But you'd think we were CFI's biggest customer."

Madman

"Everybody was *enthusiastic*," says Mr. Lansburgh. "The timer kept polishing until I couldn't *see* his changes. A real madman. And the blowup print actually looks better than one made from the camera original."



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by J. Carl freise

If a processor has to be modified beyond Kodak specifications, to give you the speed you want, don't buy it.

It's no trick to increase the film speed of a processor. All you have to do is raise the temperature, thus decreasing the development time.

However, when you do this, you're exceeding the specifications provided by Kodak for processing color films.

Maybe you can get away with it for awhile. But sooner or later, something will go wrong and when that happens, you've got no one to blame but yourself.

To put it bluntly, whenever a firm persuades you to buy a modified unit, you're asking for trouble.

How do we know?

We not only build processors, we rebuild them, too. And most of the units we're asked to work on belong to people who "bought a pitch" and then later came to us for advice on how to get out of the jam they found themselves in.

This kind of talk won't stop people who are interested only in price. But it might make a difference to those of you who are willing to spend a few extra bucks for a processor you don't have to "push" to give you the speed you want.

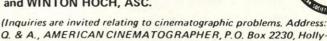
In the long run, you'll save money, as well as a lot of grief.



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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Conducted by CHARLES G. CLARKE, ASC. and WINTON HOCH, ASC.



I would like to know what kind of use a low-contrast filter has. Can you use a low-contrast filter for color cinematography also? I read that Harrison has a low-contrast filter but they explain the use only for B&W cinematography. What difference, if any, does exist between flashing and the use of low-contrast filters? How does a low-contrast filter work?

wood, Calif. 90028.)

A Some people feel that the color on the movie screen is too vivid, or too "saturated." To overcome this effect, a certain filter is used to flatten out the contrast and thus reduce the color to more tint-like hues.

These "low-contrast" filters are a type of fog filter in that they create a white veil over the entire picture, thus reducing the contrast between the light and dark areas. A colorless, low-contrast filter works equally well with color or black-and-white film.

Another way to accomplish the same effect is to "flash" the film before or after exposure. Flashing means to expose the negative to a very weak light, in effect, fogging it just before development. A third way to desaturate color is to light a scene with soft, diffused light sources. You probably have noticed that scenes made on a hazy day are more diluted in color than those made under the high contrast conditions of bright sunlight.

Photography goes through a series of fads and the current one seems to be to "flash" all the film. This is good when certain effects such as low-key moods are wanted. It is of questionable taste for high-key moods such as happy parties, action scenes and bold drama.

What is the most satisfactory method of copying still transparencies (35mm or 21/4 x 21/4) onto 16mm motion picture film? Is there a single workable way or are there alternate approaches I could try?

A Probably the best workable way is to use 16mm print stock EK emulsion 7389. This is a very slow film. It should not increase the contrast of the still transparency images.

What is the purpose of the traveling matte and how does it work?

A The traveling matte offers a means of combining a fore-

ground photographed on the stage with the principal actors with a background scene, such as a miniature setting, as a separate part. The method is described in the October 1975 issue of American Cinematographer.

I edit my original color reversal film and have it magnetic-sound-striped. However, I get an audible "bloop" when the splice hits the sound head, and after a few showings the film tends to split at the splice. The splice does not open up, but cracks develop on the soundtrack side immediately past the splice. What is the best method for obtaining a good print that will hold up and deliver good sound reproduction?

A Best results can be obtained by editing the original color reversal film and then having a print made. This unspliced print can be sound-striped and projected without the problems you mention.

MOVING?

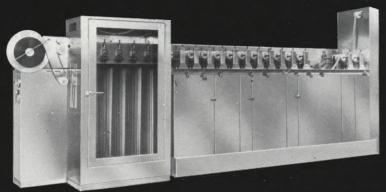
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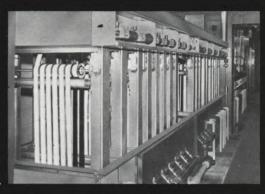
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Typical medium size Filmline processor available in speeds from 7-200, f.p.m.

One of five 320 f.p.m. Filmline Color processors installed at Technicolor, Hollywood, California.



Micro-Demand is a patented exclusively different concept in demand drive film transport systems.

Micro-Demand is a dynamically tension-controlled friction film transport system that operates effectively at minimum tension and with complete reliability. When used with Filmline Feather-Touch film spool "tires" it transports 35mm, 16mm and single strand 8mm film interchangeably and without adjustments even when these films are spliced back-to-back.

Once optimum tensions are set there is no need for further adjustments, yet the design allows easy and rapid, dynamic adjustment of film tension while the machine is running.

Micro-Demand has a broad band of self-compensation, is of functional construction and requires minimum maintenance.

There are no fragile, plastic spring bushings, no wobble rollers. No elaborate articulations, of any type. Just sound engineering and the highest quality materials and workmanship.

No other competitive processor or film transport system commercially available has ever achieved the operational speeds and proven reliability of Filmline Micro-Demand Processors.

SIGNIFICANT MICRO-DEMAND FEATURES:

Versatility Any speed, any process.

Credibility

Reliability Rugged construction, quality materials and sound

engineering. Always ready when you are!

Flexibility Any format 35mm, 35/32mm (1-3), 35/32mm (1-4),

35mm 5R S8, 16mm — 70MM-105MM etc.

Dependability Can stand the gaff of long, continuous, top

speed runs with "Zero-down-time."

Ask the labs who own them. Most of them own

not one but several.

Maintenance Exclusive Maintenance Monitor tells when and

where the machine needs attention. Significant

savings assured.

Performance Every Filmline machine is backed by a superb performance record compiled in over 25 years of

continuous service to the industry. Twenty five years in the forefront of processing machine

design and innovation.

- ☐ Push-Button operation, and reliability allows operator to perform other functions while the machine is running!
- Automatic compensation for elongation and contraction of film during processing cycle.
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- Entire upper film shaft/roller assemblies easily removed.
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CINEMA WORKSHOP By Anton Wilson

AUDIO BASICS V — LEVEL METERS

The audio level meter is probably the most basic tool in sound recording. Every professional recordist, and even most amateurs, have a basic feeling for these meters. The general rule of thumb seems to be, "Keep the needles kicking up around 0 VU, but don't let them go over." This is like a cameraman saying, "Point the camera at the subject and push the button." While neither of these statements is false, they are obviously gross simplifications. Yet, for many sound recordists, the former statement represents the extent of their knowledge of level meters.

What is a level meter really telling you? To begin with, there are two different types of level meters in use today, and each displays entirely different information.

The older type of device is called a VU meter, while the modern trend is toward the Peak Reading Meter or Modulometer. An understanding of the VU meter requires a quick look into its history. In the old days of recording, before solid-state microelectronics, a meter had to be direct and simple. What could be more simple than a basic voltmeter, reading the level of the audio signal? That is basically what a VU meter is — a voltmeter connected to the recording amplifier. However, the VU meter turned out to be too simple. A voltmeter is partly a mechanical device,

and the moving pointer has a definite mass, inertia, damping, and friction. All these characteristics are called its "ballistics". The audio signal is often comprised of quick transient peaks on the order of a milli-second which the mass of the VU pointer couldn't possibly register. The mass of the pointer is great enough that many extremely short peaks can be there and gone before the pointer even begins to budge.

What this boils down to is the following: If the audio signal is a long, sustained note, the VU meter gives an accurate indication of the signal. It has plenty of time to reach the maximum level of the signal and stabilize. If the signal is of extremely short duration, the VU meter may not register at all or, at best, give an indication significantly below the actual maximum level. If the signal is comprised of a series of peaks and dips (human voice, music), the VU meter will give an average reading somewhat below the peaks. In this respect, the mass of the VU pointer acts like a mechanical flywheel displaying the average energy being fed to it.

To make the matter even more complicated, the various audio manufacturers incorporated meters with different ballistic characteristics and different calibration points. Eventually a standard had to be agreed upon.

Since the human voice seemed to be the most prevalent signal in the early days of broadcasting, the VU meter was calibrated with voice as a reference. Once the ballistics of the VU meter were standardized, it was found that the quick peaks of the human voice (to which the meter does not respond) were actually 8 to 10 dB above the average reading that the VU meters displayed. As a result, the 8 VU point on a VU meter was (and is) set 8 to 10 dB below actual 100% modulation. In the case of tape recording, the 0 VU point is actually 8 to 10 dB below the point of tape saturation. FIGURE 1 best explains this fact. Note that the line representing actual tape saturation is 8 to 10 dB above the 0 VU meter point for the most significant portion of the audio spectrum. This 8 to 10 dB area is sometimes referred to as recording head-

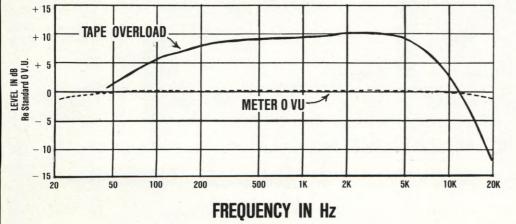
In practical terms, the two important points to remember are, one, that the VU meter has mechanical mass that prevents it from responding to quick peaks. As a result, it will average quick fluctuations of volume. Point two is that the VU meter is usually calibrated such that 0 VU is really 8 to 10 dB down from actual tape saturation or broadcast overmodulation.

When recording voice, the needle should be kept close to 0 VU and rarely should it be allowed to dart much above the 0 VU point. This practice is based on the definition of the VU meter. Since we know that the peaks of the human voice are 8-10 dB higher than the average reading of the VU meter, these peaks will "use up" the 8-10 dB headroom. Therefore, the average reading of the VU meter should not be allowed to go above the 0 VU mark.

Where the signal is relatively sustained and not peaky, the VU meter can actually be allowed to go significantly above 0 VU. For example, an opera soprano hitting a sustained note can put the needle up to +3 VU easily. As a matter of fact, if the VU meter was marked up to +8dB, the needle could be allowed to reach this point. The reason should be clear. On sustained notes, the VU meter has time to display the actual peak or maximum level, and, by calibration, the maximum level is 8 to 10 dB above 0 VU on the meter.

On the other hand, recording Continued on Page 1282

FIGURE 1 — Note that for the major portion of the audio spectrum, tape saturation is actually 8-10 dB above 0 VU. This 8-10 dB distance above the meter 0 VU is called recording headroom.



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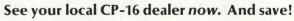
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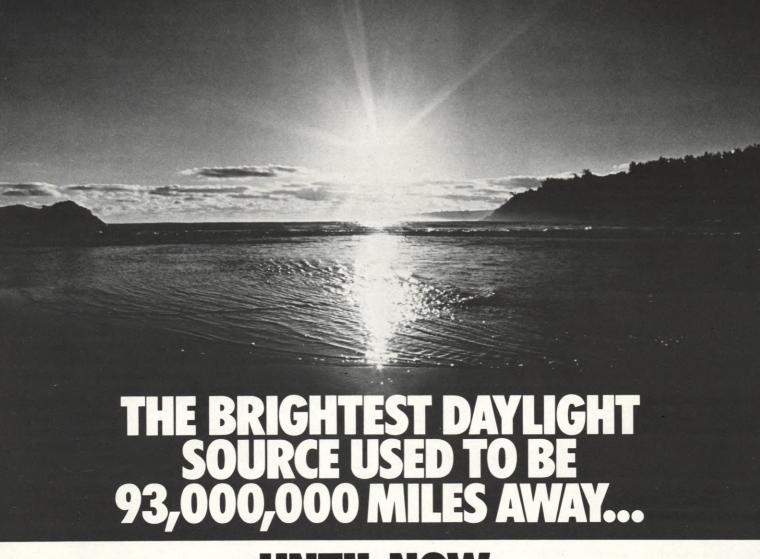






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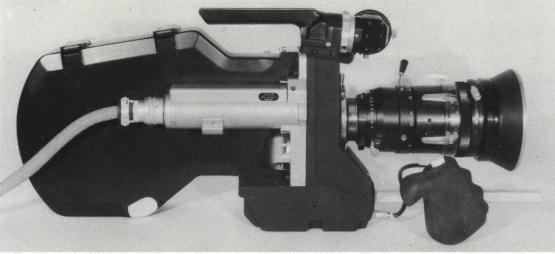
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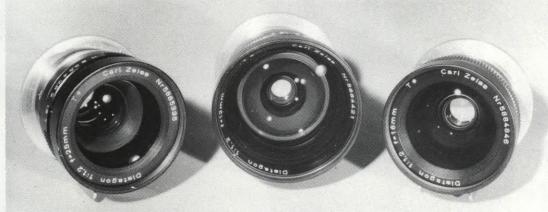
The Aaton showing the TV viewfinder and Zeiss 10:100mm zoom



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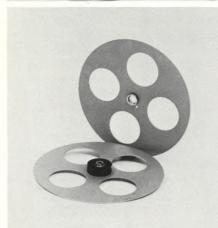
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INSIDE ANIMATION

Mastery of the purely scientific-mathematical to be precise side of animation techniques is essential to provide the necessary illusion of smooth movement on the screen. A total approach to the problems involved is taken by Brian Salt in MOVEMENTS IN ANIMATION, a large format 2-vol. boxed set. Vol. 1 deals with the planning of zooms, pans, curves, aerial images, etc., while Vol. 2 carries mathematical tables for the computation of special effects. A truly indispensable book to any producer or practitioner of animation. (Pergamon Press, Fairfield Park, Elmsford, NY 10523; \$100.)

In THE FLEISCHER STORY, Leslie Cabarga heralds the saga of Max Fleischer and his 4 brothers who made cartoons a household word. Betty Boop, Popeye the Sailor, Koko the Clown and Superman were some of their seminal characters, not to mention a 1923 seven-reel animated feature, Einstein's Theory of Relativity. (Crown \$12.50)

The value of storyboards and other types of drawing in translating words into graphics is amply demonstrated in VISUAL SCRIPTING. Edited by animator John Halas, this strikingly illustrated book draws upon 14 experts to scan that technique's utilization in various fields, from television commercials to animated features. (Hastings House \$30.)

ALL ABOUT DIRECTORS

"Even under the most ideal conditions, a director must work under tremendous handicaps." Guided by this wise maxim, Ronald Lloyd examines closely, in AMERICAN FILM DIRECTORS, the work of Ford, Welles, Hawks, Penn, Hitchcock, Kubrick and 3 "new" directors (Bogdanovich, Coppola and Altman). The author's espousal of the "auteur" theory is a measure of his understanding of the director's crucial function. (Franklin Watts \$4.95)

Donald Spoto's ambitious and scholarly work, THE ART OF ALFRED HITCHCOCK, offers a comprehensive portrait of the director and his oeuvre. In addition to in-depth analyses of all his 53 films, the book explores Hitch-cock's artistry from his story plotting to his visual techniques. An exceptionally thoughtful book that picks up where Truffaut's "Hitchcock" leaves off. (Hopkinson & Blake \$13./8.95)

The 5th volume of the Hollywood Professionals series contains expert studies of KING VIDOR by Clive Denton and of JOHN CROMWELL and MERVYN LEROY by Kingsley Canham. Their factual and perceptive surveys are well-researched and include complete filmographies. (Barnes \$3.50)

In the Monarch Film Studies, Thomas R. Atkins discusses British director KEN RUSSELL and documentary filmmaker FREDERICK WISE-MAN, while John Baxter tackles KING VIDOR. These three books search out the essential characteristics of their subjects in expertly written texts and contain useful filmo-bibliographies. (Simon & Schuster \$2.95 ea.)

A fitting tribute to a notable British director, THE FILMS OF ANTHONY ASQUITH by R. J. Minney follows a distinguished life (1902-1968) marked by such exceptional films as *Pygmalion The Browning Version* and *The Doctor's Dilemma*. (Barnes \$10.)

THE MANY FACETS OF FILM

As a child, author James Horwitz was an avid fan of Western movies which he celebrates in THEY WENT THAT-AWAY for their innocent and upstanding picture of American manhood. This well-rounded history of Hollywood oaters is an entertainingly literate evocation. (Dutton \$8.95)

In the guise of a picture quizbook, John Cocchi's THE WESTERNS is an attractive visual cavalcade of the genre, covering a 75-year span in 238 stirring stills. (Dover \$3.)

Thomas R. Atkins' SCIENCE-FICTION FILMS and GRAPHIC VIO-LENCE ON THE SCREEN, together with R. H. W. Dillard's HORROR FILMS, are 3 additions to the Monarch Film Studies that handle these popular subjects in well-documented and attractively presented books. (Simon & Schuster \$2.95 ea.)

With permissible sensationalism, FREAKS: CINEMA OF THE BIZARRE by Werner Adrian and SWASTIKA: CINEMA OF OPPRESSION by Baxter Phillips cover their specialized fields without mincing words or sparing illustrations. (Warner \$5.95 ea.)

Twenty years of pop music on the screen are surveyed by Philip Jenkinson and Alan Warner in CELLU-LOID ROCK, starting (arbitrarily, the authors admit) with Marlon Brando's The Wild One through Harry and Ringo's Night Out. Perhaps not the definitive book on the subject, but informative and entertaining. (Warner \$5.95)

BUSY HEADLINERS

Winner of 2 Oscars, screenwriter Ring Lardner, Jr. has written a fascinating, eloquent and detailed memoir about his kinfolk, THE LARDNERS, as delightfully untypical a family as ever sprang from the staid background of early American settlers. (Harper & Row \$12.95)

Anne Baxter displays remarkable literary ability in INTERMISSION, a brilliant and moving autobiographical account of the four years she lived with her husband in the Australian bush, with only occasional movie jobs in the U.S. (Putnam \$10.)

The life of one of the most accomplished actors of our times is skillfully narrated in CHARLES LAUGHTON by Charles Higham. This detailed and sympathetic biography offers rich insights into a complex personality, disclosing Laughton's secret homosexuality with considerable tact. (Doubleday \$8.95)

Telling his own story to Harry Stein, TINY TIM manages to enlist the reader's goodwill and empathy for one who is too often considered merely an efficiently packaged entertainment curiosity. The real Tiny Tim emerges as a kooky, but likable real personality. (Playboy Press \$8.95)

Groucho Marx, now a youthful 85, has no less than 2 books out at the same time. THE SECRET WORD IS GROUCHO (Putnam \$8.95), written with Hector Arce, is all about his popular TV series "You Bet YOur Life" which opened in 1947 and is currently enjoying a healthy rerun. Highlights of the show, quips, gags and repartee are reprinted as well as comments by the program's staff. Groucho's second book is BEDS (Bobbs-Merrill \$2.), based on the premise that "Anything that can't be done in bed isn't worth doing at all." (Bobbs Merrill \$2.)

The life story of actress Grace Kelly is told with charm and distinction in PRINCESS GRACE by Gwen Robyns. (McKay \$8.95)

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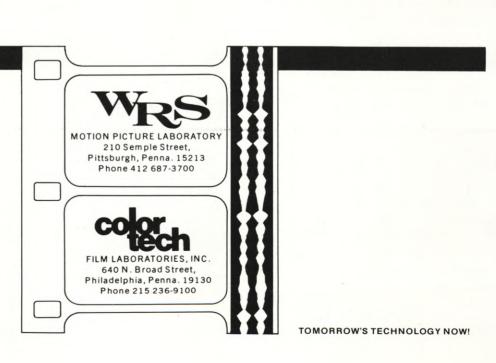
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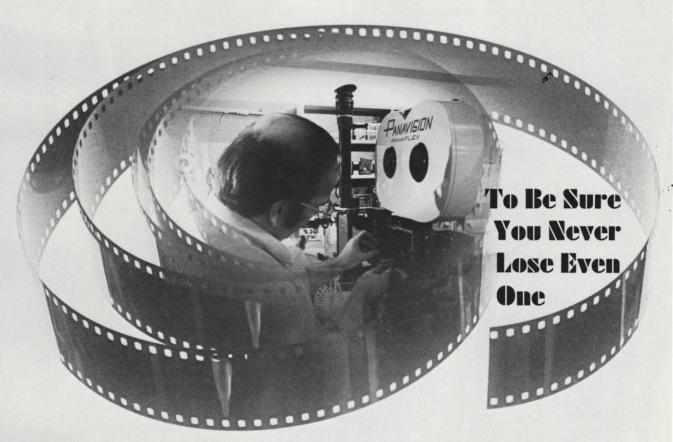
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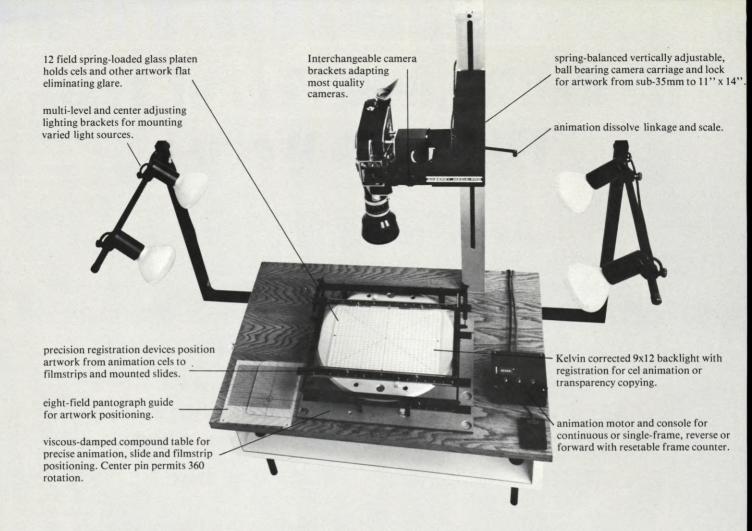


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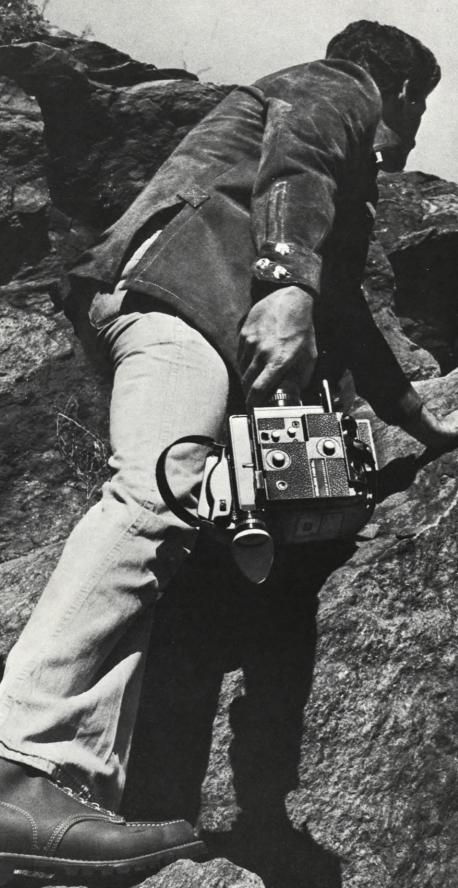
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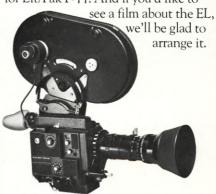
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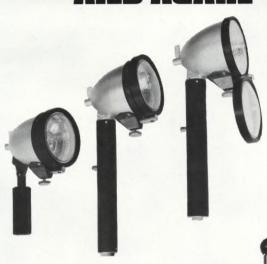
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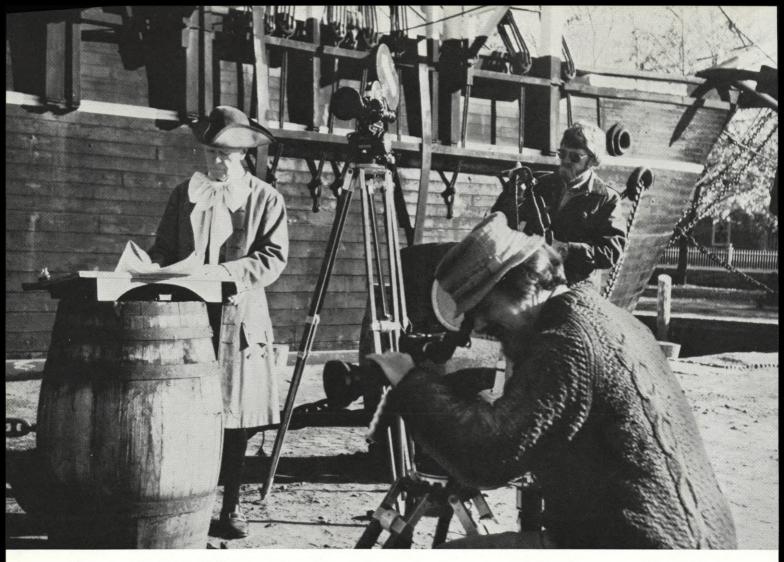


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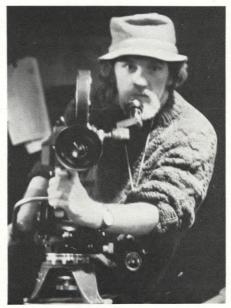
"TVC's role in 'American Enterprise' didn't end with dailies... TVC is now making thousands of release prints...

"Once in a while, an idea taps unexpected enthusiasm. AMERICAN ENTERPRISE is one of those ideas. Turns out there's a great hunger in schools across the country, as well as public television, for films on the nation's economic history. "AMERICAN ENTERPRISE, with Star Trek's William Shatner as host/narrator-illustrates America's economic history through five half-hour films plus a ten-minute introduction to the series.

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TVC's role in AMERICAN ENTERPRISE didn't end with dailies and answer prints. TVC is now making thousands of release prints for distribution by the Phillips Petroleum Company to most of the nation's high schools and to public television.

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Soremec-Eclair U.S.A. is setting up two full service centers—one in Hollywood, the other in New York. Our Head Office address is 905 N. Cole Avenue, Hollywood, California 90038. Please call Los Angeles Information for the phone number. Our New York Service Center will open in January. We will let you know that address as soon as we can.

We have appointed Saba Camera Service official French Eclair service agent. Saba will be located at Soremec-Eclair's service centers—both in Hollywood and in New York.

We look forward to being of service to you.



Verna Fields

Verna, you're credited with making major contributions to hit movies like "American Graffiti," "Paper Moon," and "Jaws," name just a few. How would you compare the editing on those pictures?

I've been very lucky in my career, working with so many gifted directors. George Lucas, who made "Graffiti," has an excellent eye. All his shots are beautifully composed, and he conveys much of his information visually.

Peter Bogdanovich's "Paper Moon" has a particularly strong and emotional storyline. The father-daughter relationship and Peter's deft handling of it made that movie really easy to edit.

We thought we were going to have tremendous problems with "Jaws" because of the unpre-

dictable weather and water conditions. But Steve Spielberg delivered so much good footage that it became an editor's dream. By not having to compromise, and by being able to cut on the exact frames needed, we were able to maintain the rhythm and pacing so important to this kind of high adventure film.

As a vice president of Universal, an executive creative consultant, a producer, and soon-to-be director, you must have a lot of young people asking you how to break into movies. What do you tell them?

Producers, writers, even successful ones, as well as students are always saying they want to be directors and I look at many of their films which were usually made in 16 mm or super 8-some very good. There is great advantage in their working this way since,

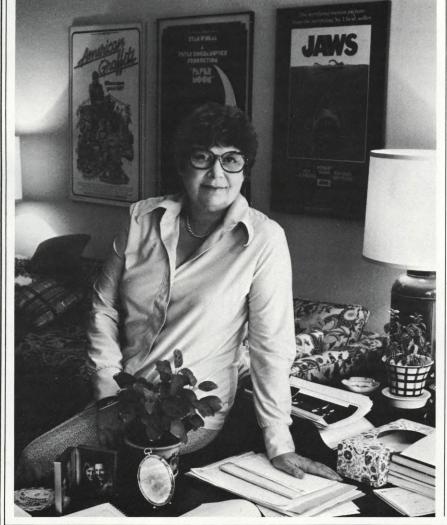
without great cost or weighty equipment, they can learn composition, pace, rhythm and other essentials of filmmaking. If anyone needs help or information about film, I advise them to do what I do-call the local Kodak office. The people there are always helpful.

It's a business where you never stop learning. I was very impressed with Laszlo Kovacs. He's one of the top cinematographers. When he got the assignment for "Paper Moon," he hadn't worked with black-and-white film for a while. so he went out and shot about 12,000 feet of it. Testing different color lipsticks and costumes, and using different filters to find out which reproduced best in black and white. I think he deserves a lot of credit for the movie's look

Getting back to our young filmmakers, when they're not out with a camera, I think they should be seeing movies and plays and doing a great deal of reading, not only novels, but plays as well. to learn about story construction and character development. There are a few people who seem to be born directors but most of us have to work hard at it, studying and learning from experience.

I'm getting involved in a million different areas—trouble-shooting, consulting on scripts, sitting in on all the Universal dailies, consulting with producers, directors, writers and executives. Every day I learn something new. It's a lot of hard work. But I can't think of anything more

stimulating. Or more fun.



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ON LOCATION WITH "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM"

The key figures who made "PATTON" reunite in Hawaii to shoot the screen version of a posthumously published Hemingway novel

By HERB A. LIGHTMAN

KAUAI, Hawaii

From beautiful Blue Hawaii, Pearl of the Pacific, comes the inevitable phone call — this time from an old friend, Ken Wales, Associate Producer of the Connaught Production (Paramount release), "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM". He relays an invitation from Producer Peter Bart for me to hop a plane and come on over to see what they're doing.

What they're doing is filming a posthumously-published novel by the late Ernest Hemingway and, for this purpose, they have reunited three of the key people responsible for the phenomenal success of "PATTON". These are the star, George C. Scott; the Director, Franklin J. Schaffner; and the Director of Photography, Fred Koenekamp, ASC.

It sounds interesting, so I hop a plane or two and eventually land at the Kauai airport, where Ken Wales is waiting. He clues me in on the production.

"ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" is the story of one Thomas Hudson on the island of Bimini during the first year of World War II.

Hemingway, then living in Cuba, began work on a long piece of fiction which would include the story of a twice-divorced, famous middle-aged artist living in the Bahamas after a successful career in Paris, and of his poignant relationship with his three young sons, and what happens to this man when he finds himself drawn into the conflict, away from his self-imposed security on the island.

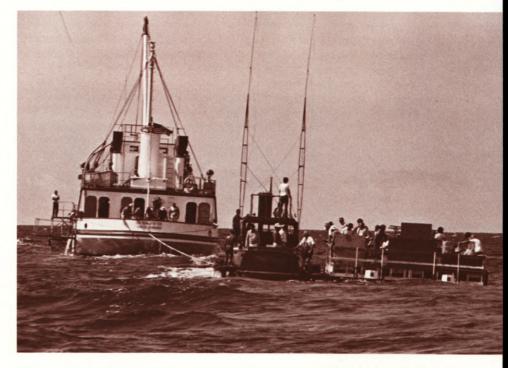
Because Hemingway found the ma-

terial in this semi-autobiographical book personally too painful, he put it aside in 1942. Later he extracted from it a novella, "The Old Man and the Sea", which was published in 1952, winning the Pulitzer Prize for Hemingway. The author's widow, Mary, with help from his longtime publishers, Scribners, did further editing on "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" and it was published in 1970. Now a cast and crew numbering more than one hundred has been laboring on the island of Kauai for the past several weeks to bring the author's last work

faithfully to the screen.

Kauai, "the Garden Island", is considered by many to be the loveliest of the Hawaiian chain (although Maui is my own personal favorite) and it is the least populated, having only 30,000 inhabitants. This is fine for the filming, but doesn't offer many after-hours recreational options to the hardworking company personnel, several of whom are beginning to exhibit symptoms of "rock fever".

Kauai, created by violent volcanic upheavals from the ocean floor, is



(ABOVE RIGHT) Off the coast of Kauai, Hawaii, the "mother ship" (a small freighter) tows a 36-foot 1940s sports fishing boat, with "modular" platform attached, out to sea for filming of scenes for "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM". (BELOW LEFT) George C. Scott, in the starring role of the Hemingwayesque Thomas Hudson, fires at pursuers during night chase. (RIGHT) The chase takes on a fiery character as an explosion occurs.









(LEFT) George C. Scott rehearses a scene with one of the other actors on the dock of the village built at Kukuiula Bay. (CENTER) The "mother ship", a small freighter, tows Hudson's boat with pontoon modulars attached out into deep water of an offshore location. At least a third of the action of "ISLANDS" is played in or around the water. (RIGHT) Busy crew, most of whom were brought from Hollywood, sets up on the beach.

(LEFT) A "shark wrangler" waltzes a rubber dummy shark into shallow water for sequence in which one of Hudson's sons is supposedly attacked by the beast. (CENTER) Playing the role of Thomas Hudson, a famous sculptor who has dropped out of society, Scott works on metal sculptures in outdoor foundry. (RIGHT) Rock jetty in the distance and wooden dock in foreground were built by construction crew to convert Kukuiula Bay into a small harbor.







(LEFT) Boats are extremely important props in "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM". Several types were required, including supposedly Cuban Coast Guard runners, fishing and sports boats — and all had to be of the correct period — built prior to 1940. (CENTER) Sequence aboard Hudson's boat, in which his young son tries vainly to catch a huge Marlin. (RIGHT) Mary Hemingway, widow of famed novelist Ernest Hemingway, visits the Kauai location. When she saw Hudson's boat, she said it looked exactly like her late husband's boat, *Pilar*.







Using a combination of arc lights and reflectors as booster fill for the hot Hawaiian sun, the crew prepares to shoot a scene at the village built from the ground up expressly for the film. Kauai was judged to be the ideal location because it had the right combination of remote terrain, dramatic sea and a natural harbor which did not require dredging to permit large yachts to navigate it.



sculptured with magnificent mountains and awesome canyons, terrain that is totally different from that of the low-lying coral-reef islands of the Bahamas, locale of the story.

"How are they going to reconcile that little discrepancy?" I ask.

"They're shooting around it," says Ken, using the time-honored Hollywood phrase.

After a quick check-in at the Kauai Surf Hotel, where the company is headquartered, we drive out to the location where shooting is in progress. It is a fair distance away at Kukuiula Bay, a compact natural harbor now ringed by a two-story hotel, an impressive-looking mansion (which is the British High Commissioner's residence), a long dock, fishing shacks and markets. Bobbing about in the harbor is a sparse fleet of pre-1940-vintage boats and a small seaplane.

When we arrive they are shooting a scene of George C. Scott, Susan Tyrrell and David Hemmings on the porch of the hotel's second story. Director of Photography Fred Koenekamp is up on the Chapman boom checking the angles of two Panaflex cameras. He waves a cheerful welcome when he sees me. Down below the street of the village is crowded with more than 70 extras in 1940's clothing, with some marvelous old cars putt-putting along.

I am introduced to Director Franklin Schaffner (quiet, calm, cigar-puffing) and Producer Peter Bart (young, wiry, intense).

I ask Bart about the apparent inconsistency of shooting the picture on a volcanic island, when the script calls for a coral reef island. "We faced a no-win situation whichever way we went," he explains. "We could have actually gone to the Bahamas, but we might have faced political instability and hostilities there. Also, our star, George C. Scott, had made a picture there ("THE DAY OF THE DOLPHIN") and wasn't too anxious to return. On Barbados or Bermuda we would have faced other problems. Hawaii was appealing to us because of its political stability and ostensible friendliness (which doesn't extend to the economic situation; they drive a hard bargain here). But aesthetically the decision proved to be a right one because, even though we had to do an awful lot of building, the place looks like one would have wished Bimini would look. It's much more colorful and even more exotic. Kauai has an aggressively volcanic landscape, which added up to our biggest problem, but we have managed to avoid the sugar plantations and volcanic peaks and find some good locations on the island."

Despite the inevitable problems of shooting on location (having to wait hours for the sun to come out in sundrenched Hawaii) and the shock of finding that everything here costs more than it was supposed to, he's happy with the way the shooting is going and the style that is beginning to make itself evident in the dailies.

Can he define the style of this film for me, I ask — knowing that "style" is sometimes a very elusive element indeed?

"Well, it is a love story," he says, "but since it also reflects Hemingway's world, there is a kind of toughmindedness to it, an eye for realism. On the other hand, it is a period piece and the look of the picture should reflect that. Frank and Fred and I all agreed that there should be a more austere attitude toward camera movement than we usually adopt. They wanted very much

— and I concurred with them — not to have the camera steal the show. This is really an *actors'* picture, and that attitude, I think, reflects itself in the way that it is being photographed.

"A very narrow line has had to be drawn, because, while it is basically a romantic picture, we did not want to go into enormously soft focus - that sitback-and-watch-our-love-story sort of thing - because it is also a picture with a lot of action, and a sea movie. It's a very tough line to draw. I think you'd have to call the picture 'realisticromantic'. It's not gauzed and hyped up with a lot of strange color effects. It's not a schmaltzy romantic picture, but it's not a macho picture either. One of the things that we worked on most assiduously when preparing it was to present Hemingway sort of stripped of the macho conventions that people think of in terms of his work.

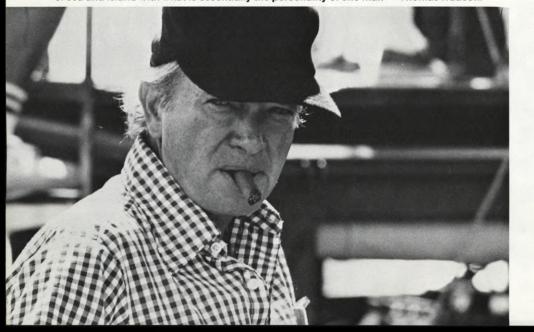
"I get sort of distracted by pictures where you feel that someone came in with a preconceived stylistic approach — a style in search of a movie. This film has a style, but that style is very understated, reflecting the personality of its director."

On the set I meet Production Designer William Creber, whom I haven't seen since he was building those crazy upside-down sets for "THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE". He very kindly offers to show me the other major sets that have been built for the picture, and off we go.

Our first stop is a giant warehousetype of shed on somebody's farm. It has been taken over as the construction center for the film and strange things are in progress. A whole group of technicians is busily routing and painting "life-size" cut-outs of World War II British Spitfires. Outside, on flat terrain backed up by rolling hills uncannily suggestive of English countryside, several of the cut-outs have been set up. They have been designed so that a man can appear to climb up onto the wing and get into the cockpit, and so realistic is the effect, even from a relatively short distance away, that they look for all the world like actual threedimensional Spitfires.

Back inside the shed, Creber shows me two small interior sets that have been built. One is the dormitory of a boy's school in New England (which Hudson's sons are supposedly attending when they receive letters from Dad), and the other is the orderly room of a small British air base. What is extraordinary about this latter room is the meticulous authenticity of the 1940's furnishings provided by Set Decorator Raphael Bretton — including war propaganda posters, British news-

Distinguished film director Franklin J. Schaffner, whose credits include the original "PLAN-ET OF THE APES", "PATTON" and "PAPILLON", puffs his ever-present cigar on location for "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM". His main problem on the assignment: to fill the vast space of sea and island with what is essentially the personality of one man — Thomas Hudson.







At Kukuiula Bay, heretofore a small empty natural harbor on Kauai, an elaborate set was built to represent a village on an island in the Bahamas circa 1940. The buildings erected by the film company construction crew included a two-story hotel-bar, fishing shacks and openair market (shown here), as well as an impressive mansion, supposedly belonging to the British High Commissioner, and a distinctive home for the main character situated on a lonely stretch of beach at Mahalulepu.

papers with the latest battle reports, canned goods of that era and period furniture.

We move on to Mahalulepu, an area north of Kukuiula Bay, where, on an isolated low cliff directly above the pounding surf, the home of Thomas Hudson has been erected. In exterior contour it is a "Sadie Thompson" type of house, but the interior is sparsely masculine, very precisely reflecting the personality of its inhabitant.

The house looks as though it's been there forever and it appears to be as solid as any real house I've ever seen. Yet Bill Creber tells me that every single exterior wall has been built "wild" for purposes of shooting. In fact, all of them could be removed at the same time and the roof would still stand, supported by posts. The magic of the movies!

I find Nobles' matter-of-fact description of these engineering miracles to be fascinating, and I mention the construction of the Hudson house: "Bill Creber tells me that all of the walls are wild and that the whole thing comes apart like a jigsaw puzzle."

"That's true," says Nobles. "The original conception was that we were going to have about three-quarters of the house wild, but then, after his survey, Mr. Schaffner requested that all walls be wild. So we changed the design from what was originally discussed and made it post and beam construction. What we actually have now is four corners with steel H beams running across the top to support the roof, and you could take every wall away, all at the same time, and it would still stand up with the roof supported. There are no load-bearing walls in the structure. In fact, we left a one-inch gap between the walls and the actual ceiling, so that when the grips get ready to take a section of wall out they can move it out right away, without any binding or stress."

The ride out to sea where the shooting is to take place is a matter of several hours and we eat lunch on board. When we arrive at the spot, a motorboat pulls alongside the mother ship to run me out to the modular platform, which has Hudson's boat securely in its grasp. The large platform supports the entire crew, plus all the camera and arc lighting equipment.

The sequence to be filmed that day is one in which Hudson's young son fights a fierce battle with a giant marlin, trying to land the beast single-handedly before it eventually slips off his hook. However, there is a long delay before shooting can begin because the sun is playing peekaboo in the clouds, creating a severe matching problem. During the long wait, the star, George C. Scott, sits quietly inside the cabin reading a paperback book. There is no expression of impatience from him, no display of star temperament. A real pro!

By the time shooting can begin, the sea has grown rather rough and the large modular platform with its attached boat rises and falls on the undulating swells. No one on the crew actually gets throwing-up seasick, but they all look a bit green about the gills.

It is a long frustrating day, playing tag with the sun, and when we finally get back to the harbor the final mishap is enough to make a grown man cry. Someone neglects to secure the rope attached to the rubber marlin being used in the sequence and it sinks in 350

feet of water — too deep for a diver to retrieve it. There is no back-up duplicate.

"What will happen now?" I ask Peter Bart.

"Who knows?" says he, with a touch of Kismet in his tone. "That rubber fish is now probably mating with some tuna — so we can expect very rubbery tuna for the next few generations."

Throughout all the day's frustrations Director Franklin Schaffner has remained calm and cool, puffing quietly on his ever-present cigar. I had never met him before, but have long admired his work. I remember how he took what was basically a ludicrous *melange* of comic-strip elements and forged them into the original "PLANET OF THE APES", a distinguished, high-quality action-adventure film with certain fairly profound undercurrents. Then came the magnificent Academy Awardwinning "PATTON", followed by the very laudable "PAPILLON".

I finally have a chance to talk to him in a quiet moment, and our conversation runs like this:

QUESTION: I'd like to ask you, first, about the vehicle itself: the novel "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM". In the past, most Hemingway works have not been considered basically very cinematic. I'm wondering about this one and how you've approached translating it into screen terms.

SCHAFFNER: First, I'd quarrel with your analysis that Hemingway's works haven't been cinematic in the past. Certainly "THE KILLERS" was a marvelously cinematic piece. Of course, one of the difficulties in Continued on Page 1258

A CAMERAMAN'S DIARY ON PHOTOGRAPHING "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM"

By FRED KOENEKAMP, ASC

Director of Photography

Director Franklin Schaffner first contacted me a year ago and asked how I would like to again work with him and George C. Scott. Having enjoyed working with them both on the highly successful "PATTON", I looked forward to the new venture.

Like most big pictures, it was being well-planned much in advance of the shooting date, September 22. Between these dates I worked on two other projects and received the first draft of the script some time in April. Director Schaffner wanted my opinions on some of the physical problems connected with the photography of this picture. We were anticipating and preparing for those problems prior to the time of the actual shooting. At this writing I am very high on the picture. It has all the potentials of a really good picture.

Some time in June:

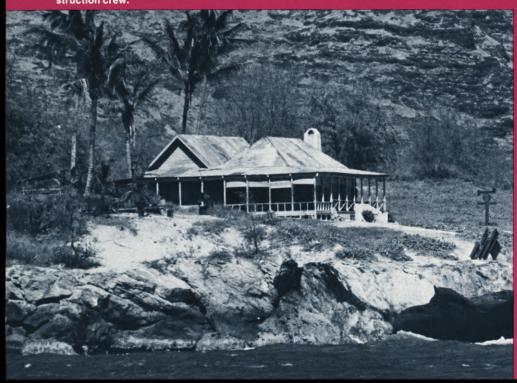
The Art Director, Bill Creber, with whom I had worked on "THE TOWER-ING INFERNO", called me at home to discuss the location survey trip he was about to take with the Production Manager and the Director. At this time no locations have been picked for the picture. We discussed at length such items as sun direction, day-for-night photography, the look of the types of boats to be used and, of most impor-

Proof that even a highly experienced Academy Award-winning cinematographer can encounter some photographic challenges he has never grappled with before



Arc lights were needed to provide balanced fill for the harsh Hawaiian sunlight on Kauai. The total lighting complement transported to Hawaii included six arcs, six 10Ks, eight Seniors, eight Juniors, twelve Baby Juniors, ten FAY 9-lights, many lightweight quartz lights and some small clip-on units for filming boat interiors. A 750-amp generator was also standard equipment.

The house of Thomas Hudson, the Hemingwayesque character portrayed by George C. Scott in "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM", was built on a private beachfront cliff owned by the C & H Sugar Company. This area provided a strip of beach and rock completely isolated from any other man-made structure, an important factor for establishing the "loner" personality of the main character. Five palm trees of the type found in the Bahamas were planted by the construction crew.



tance, the type of equipment we would need for working at sea a great deal of the time. It is most helpful when an Art Director will discuss anticipated shooting problems with the Cameraman. We talked about the sets he would have to build, even the direction they should face; that is, West, East, or whatever. All this pre-production planning is very important, as it makes the actual shooting so much easier, since always there are some unforeseen events to deal with during the actual filming.

They scouted locations in the Caribbean area, Mexico and Hawaii. After much heavy consideration by the group, Hawaii was chosen because, all things considered, it offered the best selection of shooting sites without spending a greater amount of money.

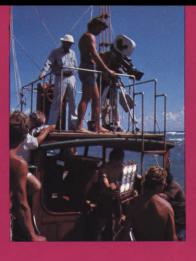
JULY:

Schaffner called and told me we would be leaving for Hawaii to scout locations there some time during the first week of July. This now would be





(LEFT) "Water, water, everywhere!" "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" is a very water-oriented film, with at least one-third of the action taking place on the sea. The crew got used to having at least their feet wet most of the time. (CENTER) An arc is brought in to fill a shot on the flying bridge of Hudson's boat. (RIGHT) Shooting down from the bridge of the boat. A FAY 9-light is used to boost the natural sunlight.



my first chance to really get into the picture. I contacted my Gaffer, Gene Stout, and my Key Grip, John Murray, as they would be going over with me. The Director and Art Director had really pretty well selected location sites, or I should say, a choice of sites. There are to be about five major areas for shooting, as called for in the script the main house, one dock area, a small harbor, an inland waterway and open sea areas. The house site, or Hudson House, couldn't have been better. It was located on a private cliff and beach belonging to the C & H Sugar Co. This area gave us a strip of beach and rock completely isolated from everything an important factor for the main character in the story.

The small harbor is like a picture postcard. There is a rock jetty with a small cove behind it for small fishing boats; open sea on one side, a few small houses and open cane fields on the other. Here they would construct about six buildings with the 1940-period look.

Since a great deal of this picture takes place on a small 36-foot boat, it is also most important to find a boat of

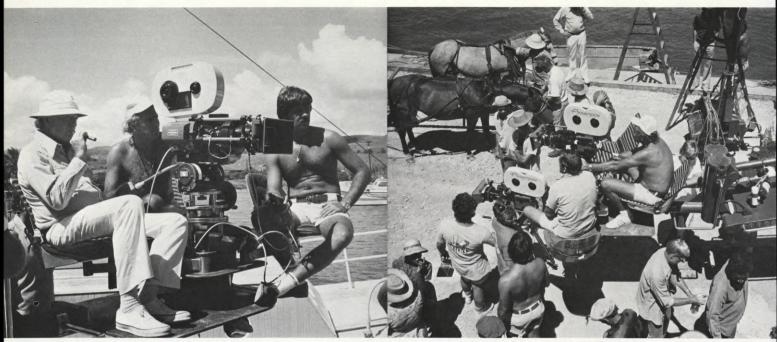


Shooting interior/exterior day-for-night, as in this scene, was a new challenge for Cinematographer Koenekamp, who had never heard of it being done before. After making tests, he arrived at a combination of 85-N6 1/4-inch gels on the windows, then added two more N6 neutrals and built up the foreground interior light to about 600 footcandles. Getting just the right balance between the interior and the hot ocean and sky outside was tricky, but it worked. Ordinarily such a scene would have to be filmed in the studio on a set placed in front of a rear-projection process screen.

(LEFT) Two 20 x 20-foot modules are attached to the boat to provide a large platform for cameras, lights and crew. Each unit is self-propelled. They could be used singly or bolted together (as shown here) to provide a larger platform as needed. In this photograph it can be seen that one module has been raised higher than the other by filling its pontoon tanks with air. (RIGHT) Hudson's boat at sea with a single 20 x 20-foot module attached to it.







(LEFT) Director Franklin Schaffner puffs on his cigar, as Director of Photography Koenekamp lines up a shot. Having worked together before on "PATTON" and "PAPILLON", the director and cinematographer had developed such a close rapport that a minimum of verbal communication was needed. This, according to Schaffner, freed him tremendously to concentrate on the actors' performances, rather than on technical details. (RIGHT) Two Panaflexes were routinely used at the same time to film exterior scenes, thus greatly speeding up the shooting.

that year which will be workable and look as much as possible like Ernest Hemingway's boat, the *Pilar*. Some time was spent looking in the Hawaii area, but almost every boat looked too modern. Finally, the boats (we needed two) were found on the West Coast—one at Point Dune and the other in the San Francisco area. Two boats were needed to give us a back-up boat in case of problems, such as engine failure. Also, and even more impor-

tant, on one boat we were to cut the top front hatch off so that I could have a better chance to light the interior of the cabin and maybe gain a better camera position for shooting.

We drove over most of the island of Kauai looking for beaches, reefs and an ocean area where we could shoot a swimming sequence, a shark scare and a boat running aground on a reef.

On the northern end of the island, where some of "SOUTH PACIFIC" was

shot, we found a long reef that gave us a quiet and not too deep area in which to work. The script calls for some underwater shots and this would be a good location to shoot them.

The Wailua River, winding down from the mountains of Kauai, was found to be large enough for our small boats. This is the area where the famous Fern Grotto is located. Branching off the river are three smaller inlets. In the script this is where Scott's boat is forced to hide. He is running refugees and the Coast Guard is after him. The big action sequence takes place here. I might add that it is a night sequence and when I first saw this location I could foresee many physical problems. The open sea area will be on the leeward side of the island, so the filming at sea should be somewhat smooth. Basically these are our shooting areas.

Director Schaffner and I now talked about the look of the picture. As the island of Kauai has such clean, clear air, beautiful, lush green foliage, plus very impressive clouds every day, we knew these combinations would make a picture with a great deal of contrast. So, one of the first questions from him was how to achieve a softer look. I had brought along a Panavision camera and three types of film - Eastman's new 5247, the old Eastman 5254 and the Japanese film, Fujicolor, I tested at both the dock area and the house on the cliff just for comparison of the three films. I made many day-for-night tests, as it appeared at this time that we might have a number of day-for-night scenes. Then, with each film, I tested different

In a jovial mood, Cinematographer Koenekamp checks angles of two Panaflexes mounted side-by-side, but shooting in different directions. Two years ago Koenekamp shared a "Best Cinematography" Academy Award with Joseph Biroc, ASC, for their inspired photographic work on "THE TOWERING INFERNO".



densities of fog filters, low-contrast filters, pola-screens and some nets.

Back at Paramount Studios, Director Schaffner, Producer Peter Bart, Head of Production Lyn Parsons, myself and some crew members viewed our tests. Believe me, a lot can be learned from this type of test. We ran the film twice, then we broke it down to what we liked best and ran that again. The Fuji film looked very good for the effect we wanted. The landscape had a softer quality than the Eastman Film gave. It also took away the sharp contrast from the seascapes. The new Eastman 5247 stock has a much finer grain that gives you a very sharp and contrasty picture. For some work this is an ideal quality. The older 5254 film is somewhat softer and has a little harder grain structure. With the use of fog or low-contrast filters you could achieve about the same look the Fuji film gave.

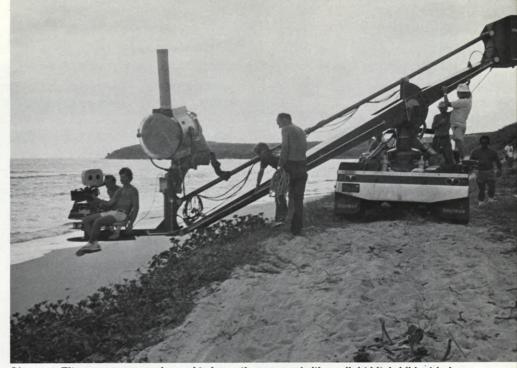
At this time I found we could not obtain Fuji film. It is less expensive than Eastman, so many television shows were using it and the distributor could not guarantee us a large quantity of film. After many discussions with Schaffner, I decided to go the same way I did on the picture "PAPILLON" and use Eastman 5254 with a 1/4 fog filter. On the interiors I will also try for a softer look, but on the interior-to-exterior shots I will keep a balance between the two. I don't want to burn up the exterior and lose the vistas we are on location in Hawaii to attain.

THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST:

It is now time to select the camera equipment and determine the Electrical and Grip equipment. For the Electrical, we will use all the lightweight quartz lights. We will have six Arcs, six 10Ks, eight Seniors, eight Juniors and twelve Baby Juniors, ten FAY 9-lights and some clip-on small units for boat interiors.

Grip equipment will include one Chapman Titan Boom, one Fisher Crab Dolly, one Western Dolly, 100 feet of dolly track, 30 feet of parallels, some large nets and silks. We also ordered correction filters of 85-30 and 85-60 in 1/4-inch-thick plastic sheets, sizes of 5 x 8 for use outside windows to correct from incandescent to sunlight and also to use less light inside. I had to use the heavier sheets, as there is a constant wind on the island.

It has been decided that we will have two shooting cameras. With so much exterior work and many action scenes, we can pick up valuable shots with a second camera. We are going to use Panavision equipment. This equipment is, I'm sure, the very best. I selected the new Panaflex camera



Chapman Titan camera crane is used to lower the camera (with arc light hitch-hiking) below the level of the road. In addition to the Chapman crane, the company shipped to Hawaii one Fisher Crab Dolly, one Western Dolly, 100 feet of dolly track, 30 feet of parallels and some large nets and silks. Due to the isolated location of Kauai, all equipment that might be needed had to be anticipated in advance and shipped from the Mainland.

because of its light weight and size. It will be so much easier to use this camera on the boats and in the river areas. We will have two Panaflex cameras and one Arriflex camera for non-sound hand work. (The hand camera has long been one of my favorite tools.) Panavision has just completed a new model 10-to-2 (50mm-500mm) zoom lens. It has new glass for better definition and a new type of coating. It is also lighter in weight than the older model. I'm very pleased to have this lens. Also the new 5-to-1 (40mm-200mm) zoom lens is the real work horse. It will be on the camera most of the time. In addition, I will have a complete set of regular lenses, i.e., 30mm, 35mm, 40mm, 50mm, 75mm and 100mm. All Panavision equipment is interchangeable, so there is no need for anything else.

AUGUST 25:

This is my starting date on the film. The week of August 25-to-29th was spent making sure all the equipment we need has been or will be shipped. There is one sequence in the picture that calls for one of Hudson's (George C. Scott) sons to catch a large marlin, so on the week of Sept. 2, I took two camera crews to Kona, on the "Big Island" of Hawaii, and had high hopes of catching a huge marlin. Let me explain that one camera was for bluebacking matte shots; the other (with a long lens) would be for tighter cutaway shots. At a later date we will do blue backing on a stage where we will put a boat mock-up in front of the blue screen with the actors in it. We hoped in this manner we would get the tie-in shots of the fish jumping and the ocean movement in the background. The two pieces of film would be put together at that time by Frank Van derVeer, Photo Effects.

The blue backing will be a new challenge to me. Previously, as a Production Cameraman, I have had with me such people as Bill Abbott, the Special Effects Cameraman who did such wonderful work on "THE TOWER-ING INFERNO".

The fishing trip was a complete bust — one small 203-pound marlin that never jumped once. After seven long days of vainly trying to find the marlin we all hoped to hook, we still need fishing footage.

Back again on the Island of Kauai, I made last-minute set checks and conferred with Director Schaffner on numerous last-minute details. The Art Director and construction crew have really done a magnificent job on the sets. The 22nd of Sept. draws closer. Crews from every department are working feverishly on final important details. The camera equipment will arrive on the 16th with Ed Morey, my Asst. Cameraman, and Tom Laughridge, my Camera Operator. We will test all equipment and be ready for the starting date.

SEPTEMBER 18:

Mr. Schaffner asked me if it would be possible to shoot much of the night work at the Hudson house set day-for-Continued on Page 1262

RE-CREATING ON FILM THE WORLD OF ERNEST HEMINGWAY

The problem was not simply one of constructing a group of interesting buildings, but an appropriate environment for a most unusual character

William Creber, Production Designer for "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM", includes in his long list of credits such ambitious and widely varied films as "PLANET OF THE APES", "JUSTINE", "THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE" and "THE TOWERING INFERNO", to name just a few.

In the following interview he explains some of the problems and challenges peculiar to the designing of sets for "ISLANDS":

QUESTION: On the face of it, one would assume that "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" is not nearly as complex from the production design standpoint as some of the other films you've designed — most notably "THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE" and "THE TOWERING INFERNO". Is that statement true, or is there more to this picture than meets the eye?

CREBER: Well, the problem of my position as Production Designer is that I take every assignment seriously and

like to do everything as well as possible in the time that's available. I think I've worked as many hours on this picture and just as hard, trying to do it as meticulously as it can be done. On pictures like "POSEIDON" and "INFER-NO", there is more time consumed in working with other departments - but you are given a lot more time to prepare. In the final analysis, it's just a fulltime job, no matter what the picture is. That applies to TV also, because the time you have is much shorter and there are days when it's impossible to even work, for the simple reason that there is no script. Actually, it's quite possible that I've taken this picture too seriously - in terms of my own feelings, that is. You get involved. I love to do the so-called "action" and science-fiction pictures because they represent such a challenge, but the real fun sets to do are those that relate to people personally. That's what has made this picture really interesting. The sets are a statement of the person who occupies them.

QUESTION: Are you referring to the character of Hudson played by George C. Scott — a sort of semi-autobiographical Hemingwayesque character?

CREBER: Yes. You might well ask how the Hudson house came to look like it does and be placed where it is. Well, we thought about every inch of that building. With all the space that we had to play with, you can't imagine the care that Franklin Schaffner, the director, took in placing it — shifting the location a couple of feet in order to align it perfectly to the vistas and orient it to the ocean and put it on a level where it could become part of the landscape. Even the positions of the windows were meticulously planned. It's fun to work that way.

QUESTION: What about the physical choice of the location, that low bluff just above the sea?

CREBER: There were a number of

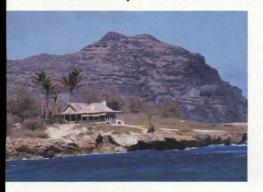
(LEFT) At Kukuiula Bay on Kauai, the principal locale for "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM", George C. Scott waits to play a scene. In the background can be seen the elaborate mansion of the British High Commissioner — like all the rest of the buildings, constructed from scratch by the film's construction crew. (CENTER) The village at Kukuiula, with the two-story hotel-bar in the foreground. (RIGHT) A "reverse angle", showing the hotel-bar from the opposite direction.

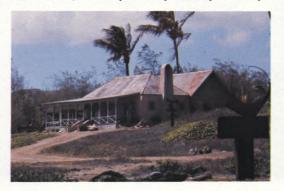






(LEFT) The home of Thomas Hudson, portrayed by George C. Scott. From this angle the mountain is very much in evidence, a physical feature totally out of character with the story's locale, a low-lying coral island in the Bahamas. (CENTER) From the opposite angle, the volcanic mountain is out of frame and the home appears to be in the correct locale. (RIGHT) Porch overhang extending entirely around the home allowed for any of the "wild" exterior walls to be removed, with the porch tarped in to provide a place for the camera.









(LEFT) Hudson's home, with all of its meticulously selected furnishings was part of a carefully thought-out total environment for the Heming-wayesque character portrayed by Scott. (RIGHT) Hudson's boat, shown here was the result of an extensive search by Creber through all the harbors and marinas of California and Hawaii. Finally, seven matching boats of the proper period were located. The two best were bought and shipped to Hawaii, where they were refurbished to closely resemble Hemingway's boat, *Pilar*.

physical requirements we had to keep in mind. We wanted it to look as much like the geography of the Bahamas as possible, which meant keeping it low and finding ways to mask the mountains. Then, also, it had to be rather isolated — the kind of lonely place favored by a man who might be a hermit type, without being a complete recluse.

QUESTION: I'd say that you certainly found the perfect site. But what about the other locations — the little harbor, for example?

CREBER: That one gave us lots of problems. We looked all over the Bahamas, trying to find the ultimate location — which can get really frustrating when the company gives you the

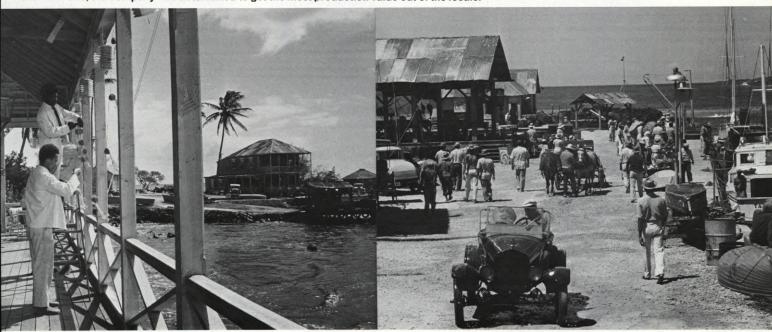
time to do it and you're trying to be meticulous. You look and look and look and you ask yourself: Is this place really going to give us something so unique that it's worth taking an entire shooting company there? You really have a battle with your conscience. And there are practical logistical questions that must be answered: Can you house your people adequately within a reasonable commuting distance? Will people really work for the month that it's going to take, in that kind of weather, under those living conditions? Will it be possible to provide adequate transportation? Add to that the fact that on Kauai there is very little to do after hours. Even though everyone is too tired to do very much, the fact that beyond that fence there is nothing can

be kind of demoralizing. All these things must be taken into consideration when choosing locations, not just whether the site will look right on film.

QUESTION: How did it happen that the decision was made to shoot in Hawaii, rather than, let's say, in the Bahamas, where the terrain is much more faithful to that described in the novel?

CREBER: Ken Wales, the Associate Producer, had done a quick survey in Hawaii while we were scouting possible locations in the Bahamas. We explored Bimini in the course of our research and the picture could probably have been made there, but it would Continued on Page 1269

(LEFT) From the verandah of the High Commissioner's mansion, the hotel-bar can be seen across the bay. (RIGHT) The village constructed at Kukuiula continues down a rock jetty and consists of an open-air fish market and other structures. These were purposely designed as open pavilions in order not to block off any more of the seascape than was absolutely necessary. Having come such a far distance on location from the Mainland, the company was determined to get the most production value out of the locale.



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THE IMPOSSIBLE TAKES A LITTLE LONGER

By KEN WALES

Associate Producer

It is the job of the production people, working quietly behind the camera, to solve problems before they develop — expensively — in front of the camera

The problem: to create a realistic representation of a low-profile island in the Bahamas thousands of miles away on the ruggedly mountainous volcanic island of Kauai, Hawaii.

Impossible!

Perhaps — but the word "impossible" is not one that is recognized in the lexicon of professional film production, with its almost limitless capacity for creating illusion. That which others would consider "impossible" is, to the skilled film technician, simply something that takes a little longer to achieve.

Most of the action of Ernest Hemingway's novel "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" takes place on Caribbean islands during pre-World War II days. In translating this story into screen terms, the obvious approach would have been to actually film it on location in the Caribbean. However, for several practical reasons, the studio and others involved felt that it was important to try to find a locale that would *simulate* the Caribbean, rather than actually be the Caribbean.

As soon as that conclusion was reached, I immediately set out to see if I could find some feasible alternatives. I asked myself: "Where in the United States is it possible to find the correct physical atmosphere for this story?" The only place within actual U.S. territorial limits that might possibly do was Hawaii, so I went on a five-day location-scouting rampage through the Islands, trying to ascertain what might work.

Having produced several features and done some directing, I simply asked myself, in the course of my search, what I would look for if I had to make this picture myself, and in this way I was able to align my response with the requirements of the producer, the director and the production designer, and try to see if I couldn't put it all together.

Sure enough, it finally did come together - though not easily. As the result of a cooperative effort, I was able to find on the island of Kauai all of the items that would go together and that would work. To put this story realistically on the screen we needed three essential elements. We needed a village on a bay; we needed a long dock; we needed a more isolated locale where the home of the central character, Hudson, could be built. We did manage to locate suitable areas for these key elements on Kauai - but there was yet another requirement that posed a more serious problem.

The climactic sequence in the script is a boat chase through what was originally written as the Everglades of Florida, but because the bayous, swamps, submerged logs and hanging cypresses of the Everglades are so distinctive in appearance, there was no way this sequence could have been filmed without actually going to the Everglades — an expensive haul of many thousands of miles for an entire film production company.

Realizing the impracticability of such a far-flung move, we then really had to "put our thinking caps on", as the saving goes, in order to stage our boat chase with a minimum of moving from a central base area. At that point we began to realize that the Wailua River on Kauai bears a close resemblance to inland rivers that exist on certain Caribbean islands - Cuba, for instance. Storywise, it seemed just as logical for Hudson to put his refugees ashore in Cuba as in the Everglades of Florida, because he simply wanted to give them an escape route over which to make their way to freedom. So Cuba (and the nearby Wailua River) became an acceptable compromise in our script.

On Kauai we found Kukuiula Bay, a small natural harbor where we could build our Bahaman village, with its twostory hotel-bar, the British High Commissioner's residence, fishing shacks and markets, on a rock jetty stretching out to sea. When I took pictures of this bay for my location survey, I could see that it was just the right size for filming. It was big enough to have some importance and accommodate several boats and a small seaplane, but small enough so that we didn't have to spend huge sums of money constructing an entire city around it.

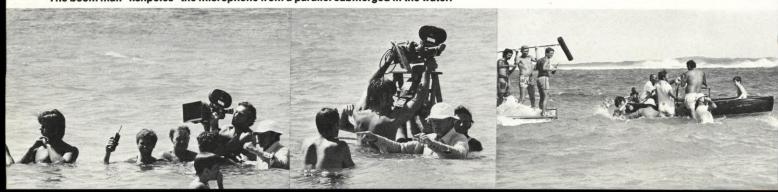
After considerable searching, the perfect site for Hudson's house was found — an isolated virgin bluff overlooking the sea at Mahalulepu.

One of the most basic problems of a film company shooting on location is becoming part of the local scene. Some companies tend to forget that they are coming into somebody else's town somebody else's backyard, so to speak - and that not everyone welcomes motion picture-making at close range. Even though a film company on location brings a tremendous surge of money into the local economy in the form of payment for housing, food, general supplies, construction materials and the salaries of local people hired for the production, it's very important to establish a positive relationship with the people who live there.

There is also the problem of working out arrangements and getting permits to shoot on State property and in National Forest preserves. Some of these permits, for reasons of environmental and ecological protection, become very difficult to obtain in many cases, and we had to make an entire presentation to State of Hawaii officials to convince them that we would put everything back exactly as we found it. We could not leave any of the buildings. Everything had to go right back from sand to sand.

With only 30,000 full-time residents,

Water "sports" were on the daily schedule for the crew of "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" during almost the entire time that they were working on Kauai. Some jokingly complained that they had no chance at all to get completely dry. In these photographs (LEFT) and (CENTER) Director Franklin Schaffner, maintaining his hat and his dignity, directs scenes from the best vantage point — next to the camera. (RIGHT) The boom man "fishpoles" the microphone from a parallel submerged in the water.





(LEFT) Hudson's boat, Tortuga, makes its way up an inlet of the Wailua River on Kauai. The climactic boat chase sequence, originally scripted for the Everglades of Florida, would have necessitated a time-consuming and tremendously expensive move of the entire company over a distance of thousands of miles. To solve the problem, the sequence was rewritten for Cuba and the river on Kauai doubled nicely — until a storm broke the river dam and left the boats stranded in mud. (RIGHT) Camera and sound crew chest-deep in the river, along with the actors.

Kauai is the least populated of the Hawaiian Islands and its facilities, except those for tourists, are limited. In an isolated location of that sort, you can't just reach out for whatever you might need, whether it be an extra character actor or a donkey cart. You have to plan for those things well in advance and include them in your budget, in order to prevent as many unpleasant surprises as possible.

Any time that you work on water and about one-third of our filming involved water - you are at the mercy of a capricious natural element and it can drive you right up the wall. Consider what happened to us. This year the rains did not come to Hawaii during the usual rainy season. It was unusually dry during the initial period of our shooting and this was very convenient, but when the rains finally did come we had rain constantly for several days. We were working up at the head end of the river where it is quite shallow, but the water was high enough to permit a certain amount of draft for the boats we were filming. However, the surge of the river, being swelled by the rain, burst the sandbar dam between the mouth of the river and the ocean, with the result that the water level dropped two or three feet. Our boats were left sitting high and dry in the mud. Immediately we had to try to dam up the mouth of the river again and this took phone calls to the Governor's office, to the Mayor, to the County Engineer and to various other people who were off the island in Honolulu. All this was done at midnight in order to try to rescue whatever water we could for the river.

The moral to the story is that whenever water work is scheduled, a very large contingency in the budget should be provided for "acts of God",

the various natural disasters that can

Perhaps the most important element in overseeing film production work is trying to keep your fingers on the pulse of the myriad of things that are happening simultaneously. You have to provide for the needs of the director, while holding a certain rein on him by reminding him that limitations (especially in terms of budget) do exist. You should be able to offer him alternative ways of shooting, so that he can get what he wants, while working within those limitations. Most important of all, you should have conferences as often as time and exhaustion permit, during which you can sit down with the director, the assistant director and the production manager and discuss plans for forthcoming operations. It pays to take a few minutes at the end of each shooting day (and on weekends, too) so that everyone will know what's happening.

From my point of view, as a production person, I feel that it's well worth taking this time and making the extra effort in order to seek perfection in all of the endeavors that we undertake when we are producing a picture. Every person on the crew must see to it that his particular craft is pursued as efficiently as possible — given, of course, the extenuating circumstances you encounter when shooting on location.

Producer Peter Bart and Director Franklin Schaffner discuss upcoming scenes — and possible problems ahead — between setups. It is of utmost importance for the key personnel to hold frequent meetings to stay on top of problems — each night after shooting preferably and on weekends. Bart, long a top production executive at Hollywood's major studios, makes his debut as a line producer on "ISLANDS".



FIELD MAINTENANCE FOR YOUR MOTION PICTURE CAMERA EQUIPMENT

The proverbial "ounce of prevention" is far more important than a "pound of cure" in protecting your costly filming equipment

By DIANNE T. SABA

In the ten years that I've been maintaining motion picture equipment, I've heard the same question from the cinematographer over and over again: "What can I do in the field to keep my equipment as trouble-free as possible?" The first thing you can do, friends, and the most important thing is to keep your equipment clean.

There is no way to overstress the need for keeping your camera spotlessly clean. A thousand problems can develop which relate back to that speck of dirt in the wrong place. The following locations are particularly vital to keeping your equipment in good working order:

Aperture plate: Check for dust, hairs and emulsion buildup prior to the first shooting and, if possible, after each magazine change. To clean use only a wood orange stick, a clean soft cotton handkerchief or chamois.

Claw: Use a small brush, being extremely careful not to push the claw into the camera as you could knock it off the claw spring (and that would require in-shop repair).

Stationary side film guides: A wooden toothpick works well for getting the crud out of the crevices.

Spring loaded film guide. Sometimes dirt build-up can prevent the movement of the spring which could hold back the top or bottom of the film guide and cause the film to float. This, in turn, causes side-to-side unsteadiness. Dirt can usually be removed with a toothpick.

NEVER USE METAL ON ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Optical systems, lens surfaces and mirror surface should never be touched with the fingers.

Mirrors: Some can be cleaned with lens tissue or a camel hair brush using care. However, with an Eclair NPR, it is most important to note that you never touch the mirror surface with anything — use a bulb syringe.

The lens itself: Do not clean your lens every time you use it. You must clean your lens, however, if it has finger prints, salt spray or grease on the elements as these can etch the glass. Always hold the lens so that the surface you are cleaning is angled downward. Using a clean camel hair lens brush or a bulb syringe (I prefer a bulb syringe) rotate the lens and gently brush or blow the dust particles off the surface. (If this is not done, the dust can act as a grinding compound and scratch the surface of the elements.) Then use a drop of lens cleaning fluid on a bunched-up lens tissue, and gently wipe the lens.

Often it is more important to know what you should not do when cleaning the lens.

Do not use dry lens tissue on your lens.

Do not use lens cleaning fluid directly on the element as it will loosen the cement.

Do not use your lens brush for anything other than cleaning the elements.

Do not wipe the lens brush on anything other than the lens (that means your hands.)

Do not use your shirt tail, handkerchief or other articles of clothing, because they pick up all the dirt and grime that floats in the air.

When out in the field, the following procedure could be used for checking ground glass, back focus and focal plane distance.

Attach your camera and lens to a tripod.

Set up a fixed target at approximately 8-10 feet. (The target could be your slate board, or a sheet from a magazine, but not newspaper, because you need sharp lines.)

Attach a piece of ground glass to the aperture opening with the granulated side against the aperture plate (for an Arriflex where you cannot look directly into the aperture plate, use a right-angle prism with one ground surface.)

Attach a strip of tape to the focus ring of the lens. With the zoom in telephoto position, view the target through the viewfinder and adjust the focus to its sharpest image.

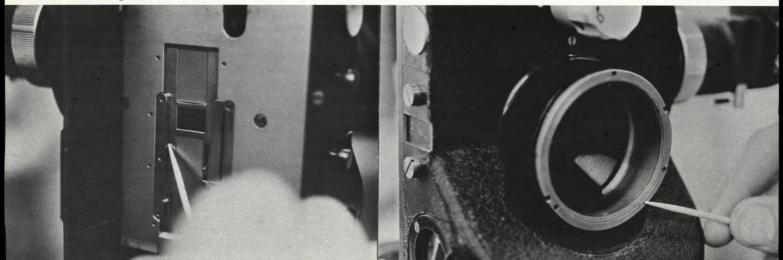
Place a reference mark on the tape to line up with the fiduciary line (witness line) on your lens.

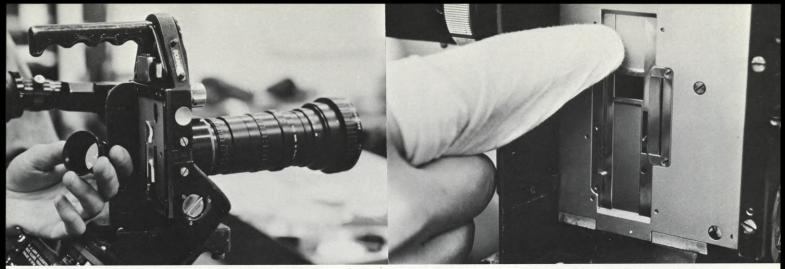
Return your eye to the finder and pull the lens slowly to the wide angle position watching for any change of focus or image shift.

Now return the lens to the telephoto and move the mirror out of the viewing position.

Using a magnifying glass, look through the ground glass attached to the aperture plate.

(LEFT) FIGURE 1 — In cleaning the stationary side film guides of your camera, a wooden toothpick works well for getting the crud out of the crevices. (RIGHT) FIGURE 2 — On cameras with movable turrets, check for dirt or burrs on the seating area behind the turret, as well as the turret seating area on the camera body.





(LEFT) FIGURE 3 — When out in the field, use a magnifying glass to look through the ground glass attached to the aperture plate. (RIGHT) FIGURE 4 — The aperture plate should be checked for dust, hairs and emulsion build-up prior to the first shooting and, if possible, after each magazine change. To clean, use only a wooden orange stick, a clean soft handkerchief or chamois.

Refocus the lens and check that the reference mark previously put on the tape is lined up with the witness line

If the reference line on the tape matches the witness line on the lens, and all looks good when you pull back to the wide-angle position, you can assume your lens, camera film-plane and camera ground glass are in proper adjustment. However, if the reference mark does not line up with the witness line of the lens, or the image goes soft when you pull back to wide angle continue checking as follows:

Remove the lens from the camera.

Check seating areas, lens and camera for dirt or burrs.

Wipe dirt off with a clean, soft cloth, or for stubborn dirt, use a wooden toothpick or an orange stick (never metal!).

On cameras with movable turrets, check for dirt or burrs on the seating area behind the turret, as well as the turret seating area on the camera body.

Replace the lens and follow the

steps above.

When using a zoom lens with your camera, a little special attention needs to be given because of its weight. With a "C"-mounted zoom lens, there is very little material holding the lens in register. Therefore, it is extremely important to use a lens support and eliminate any possibility of the heavy zoom pulling away from the camera, therefore changing focal plane distance. A lens support will also save excessive wear on the lens mount, and will help to insure the quality of footage you're trying to achieve.

One of the best systems for support of zoom lenses is one which is attached to the camera from below to support the zoom lens.

Now, what about the mysterious film scratch which ruins what would have otherwise been a perfect picture? To avoid that problem, check your camera out for scratching in the following manner:

Set up the camera in a normal manner and load with film.

Run off a few feet of film through the camera.

Remove the film from the takeup core.

Angle the film so that the light will reflect off of it, looking for scratches.

Hopefully, you won't find any scratches, and you'll know you are okay to proceed. However, if you do find a scratch, continue the check list:

Mark the film with a felt pen at these four locations.

Where film exits the feed roller.

Before film enters the gate. After film exits the gate.

Where film enters the take-up roller

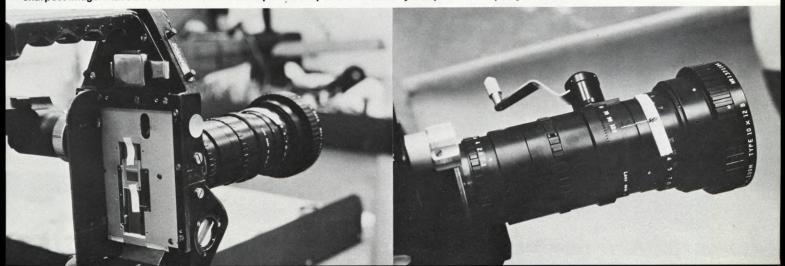
Carefully unthread the film from the camera and examine the film as before, angling it to reflect the light.

The area causing the scratch is indicated by the origin of the scratch on the film (i.e., the location at which the scratch first began.) The suspect area should be checked carefully for film chips, emulsion buildup, dirt or burrs.

With instant loading magazines, like the Eclair, the steps are a little different:

Continued on Page 1266

(LEFT) FIGURE 5 — Attach a piece of ground glass to the aperture opening with the granulated side against the aperture plate (for an Arriflex, where you cannot look directly into the aperture plate, use a right-angle prism with one ground surface). (RIGHT) FIGURE 6 — Attach a strip of tape to the focus ring of the lens. With the zoom in telephoto position, view the target through the viewfinder and adjust the focus to its sharpest image. Place a reference mark on the tape to line up with the fiduciary line (witness line) on your lens.



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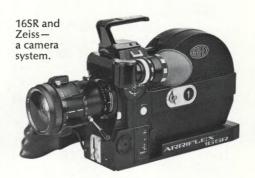
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AN AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE SEMINAR WITH STANLEY CORTEZ, ASC

A distinguished Hollywood cinematographer shares his views and expertise with A.F.I. Fellows and American Cinematographer readers

As perhaps the most important aspect of education for the Fellows in training as film-makers, historians and critics at its Center for Advanced Film Studies, located in Beverly Hills, California, the American Film Institute sponsors conferences and seminars with top technicians and talent of the Hollywood film industry. These men and women, outstanding professionals in their respective arts and crafts of the Cinema, donate generously of their time and expertise in order to pass on to the potential cinema professionals of tomorrow the benefits of their vast and valuable experience.

In keeping with this tradition, Cameraman's Local 659 (IATSE) sponsors a continuing series of seminars with ace cinematographers. These men - both contemporary working Directors of Photography and some of the now-retired "greats" of the past — meet informally with the Fellows at Greystone, the magnificent estate which is the headquarters of the AFI (West), to present valuable information on cinematographic techniques and answer questions posed to them. Very efficiently introducing and moderating each of the individual seminars is "Emmy" Award-winning Director of Photography Howard Schwartz, ASC.

Through a special arrangement with The American Film Institute and Local 659, American Cinematographer will, from time to time, publish excerpted transcripts from these seminars, so that readers of this publication may also receive the benefits of the information conveyed.

The dialogue which follows has been excerpted from the A.F.I. seminar featuring Stanley Cortez, ASC. The seminar followed a screening of Orson Welles' THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS, on which he was Director of Photography.

Long one of Hollywood's most distinguished cinematographers, Mr. Cortez wrote the definitive section on Motion Picture Photography for the Encyclopaedia Britannica. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, as well as the Board of Governors of the American Society of Cinematographers.

His extensive roster of feature credits includes THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS, NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (both regarded as classics of black and white cinematography), SINCE YOU WENT AWAY, BACK STREET, FLESH AND FANTASY, THE THREE FACES OF EVE, BLUE, and THE BRIDGE AT REMAGEN. He is currently assigned as Director of Photography on IMPULSE.

SCHWARTZ: THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS is still a great movie. I'm very proud to have been associated with it. I was the assistant cameraman on the show and the more I see it, the more I love it. It stands the test of time. I'd like you to meet Stanley Cortez, who photographed it.

CORTEZ: It's one of my all-time favorite films.

SCHWARTZ: Speaking of AMBER-SONS, I want to pay tribute to Jimmy Daly, the operator on it, who is no longer with us. In those days you didn't have zoom lenses and reflex cameras. This picture was all done with flat lenses and a finder. Jimmy did a great CORTEZ: And we had no exposure meters either.

SCHWARTZ: It was uncanny what this guy (Stanley) did. In those days, most cameramen played it safe. They exposed their negatives rather fully and let the lab print them down. Stanley didn't do that. He exposed it properly in the camera. He was far ahead of one-light printing. He printed his own stuff practically. Anyway, I think that now I'll let Stanley tell you more about it.

CORTEZ: After seeing this film again, I realize more and more that Orson Welles is truly one of our great, great geniuses — and to have been associated with him on this particular film and to have it received during all these years as a classic throughout the world is very heartwarming. I became associated with Orson Welles in a very strange way. AMBERSONS was made at the RKO-Pathé Studios in Culver City and, in those days, David O. Selznick shared the same studio. I was with

Director of Photography Stanley Cortez, ASC, shown plotting camera angles with Orson Welles at the R.K.O. Ranch during production of Welles' masterful "THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS". Considered a classic of black and white cinematography, the film suffered dramatically when scenes and sequences totalling 5,000 feet were arbitrarily cut from it by the studio.



Selznick at the time and, while between assignments, I would walk around to the different stages and see these sets going up, and I would often remark to myself, "I pity the poor guy who has to photograph this damned thing." I was told by Orson's right-hand man, Jack Moss, that the picture would be photographed by one of the RKO staff cameramen. I said, "Great!" and went off to New York to do some things for David. While there I received a telephone call informing me that Orson wanted me to photograph AMBER-SONS — and I had never even met the man. After calling David Selznick for permission to leave New York, I left on Sunday, arrived here Monday afternoon, met Orson for the first time on Monday night, and we started shooting Tuesday morning. Did you know that, Howard?

SCHWARTZ: No, I didn't realize that. I may have forgotten it, though; it's been so many years.

CORTEZ: Anyway, that particular evening I made many changes in the lighting scheme. It was an all-RKO staff and I was the only outsider. Why was I chosen to do AMBERSONS? Gregg Toland was a dear friend of mine and we shared many innovative ideas in those days. I'm pretty sure it was Gregg who first recommended me to Orson, but equally important to this story was a great projectionist out there named Charlie . . . What was his name, Howard?

SCHWARTZ: Charlie McCloud.

CORTEZ: Charlie McCloud - a great Irishman and a great human being. Charlie knew that Orson was looking for someone to photograph AMBER-SONS. At that time, Hal Kern, who was the film editor for Selznick, had quite a few tests which I had made for David and, since they'd already been seen, he had thrown them into the disposal can. It was Charlie McCloud who went to this disposal can, put what Hal Kern had discarded on a reel, called Orson and said, "I think I have something that you're going to like." As a result, I photographed AMBERSONS. When I arrived here and met Orson for the first time, I hadn't read the script, but I had an idea of what he was trying to do. I had seen CITIZEN KANE many, many times and had marvelled at this man's creative talents and his ability to do things with the camera. On the first sequence that I did for AMBERSONS the whole cast worked. It's the sequence where they're all having dinner. I had tested no one, made nothing for the



Cortez with Director John Guillermin during the filming of "THE BRIDGE AT REMAGEN" at Barandov Studios in Prague. Shooting was interrupted by the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia and the company was forced to complete the film in Hamburg. It is a tribute to the director and cinematographer that no discrepancy in locales is apparent on the screen.

lab, but after the first day's work I went to the lab at midnight to get the first test coming through, and from what I saw on the negative, I had a good idea that Orson would like the print. The next morning everybody was there to see the film and when it was over, Orson threw his arms around me. From that moment we had the kind of relationship that doesn't exist too frequently these days. Not only did Orson create enthusiasm among the actors, but among the men behind the camera, which is a rarity these days. There are some interesting things about AMBER-SONS that I'd like to tell you about. For example, where do you suppose the snow sequences were made? Was it at Big Bear? Or Yosemite?

RESPONSE: It was made in the studio.

CORTEZ: No.

RESPONSE: It was shot in an ice house.

CORTEZ: Thank you. You've been reading books. It was filmed downtown in an old Union Ice Company ice house. What Orson was trying to do, and rightfully so, was to get a true feeling of the cold, so that when the actors would speak, their breath would be visible. The thing that I was trying to do there was to create, with Orson, a

kind of Currier & Ives concept of light and shade, and I think we captured that to a very high degree. There was one sequence in that picture where we had the process machine up on the ceiling shooting down, because our camera was shooting up. That was an enormous undertaking, because your axes of both camera and projector had to be in the same plane, as you all know. In AMBERSONS we had many, many shots where we would start low and go three or four stories. How do you light a thing like that? The first Sunday on the picture, Orson, Chick Kirk (Production Designer Mark Lee Kirk) and I went out to the RKO Ranch, where many of the sequences were shot. The sets for the Amberson home (three stories high) and the other one were already built together with car tracks, fences and all. I said, "Orson, why were these sets built in this particular section?" I was told that it was because of the light, and so forth. Having read the script by this time, I wanted to get a certain effect and where it was built was all wrong. Now, to move this set would cost an enormous amount of money. I didn't want them to move it, but, by God, they did. A three-story house, fence, tracks and all. That was the kind of person Orson was - a perfectionist and a great, great talent. Now, I would like to talk a bit about the depth of field problem on AMBERSONS.

Continued on Page 1242

























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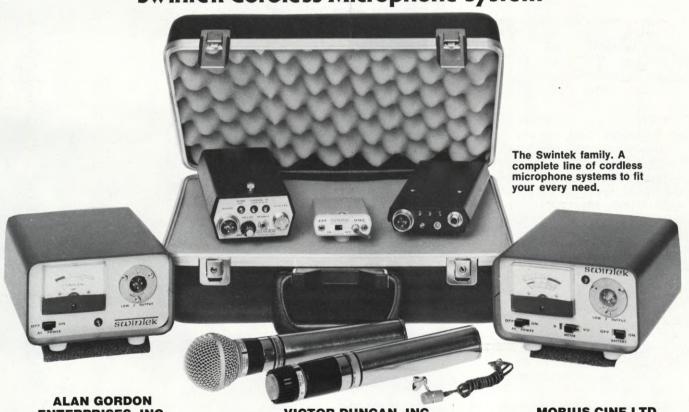
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CORTEZ A.F.I. SEMINAR Continued from Page 1239

SCHWARTZ: I was hoping you'd get to that.

CORTEZ: The so-called "third dimension", if you want to call it that. On CITIZEN KANE Gregg Toland did many things to achieve great depth of field, including multiple exposures. The end result was that the foreground was sharp and so was the background. At that time, there were several of us who started working with that concept of depth of field. Gregg was one of them. Arthur Miller was the second and I was the third. And without us being aware of it, we would be thinking along the same lines. Where Gregg would work anywhere from f/5.6 to f/16, we seldom went down beyond f/5.6, if that. Generally it was around . . .

SCHWARTZ: f/4.2

CORTEZ: Thank you, Howard.

SCHWARTZ: I suffered greatly on that picture, trying to keep everything sharp.

CORTEZ: Now, I don't know how much you know about optics, ladies and gentlemen, but working at f/4.2 and creating the depth of field that we had to (because of the way that Orson staged his scenes) was, I think, a rarity of the highest order.

SCHWARTZ: May I interrupt for one quick question, because this is very relevant to what you're talking about. I presume that the reason you worked at that f-stop, rather than the other way, was due to two things: you wanted a softer quality than KANE, and you didn't have a way to get the lights in to build up to that kind of a stop.

CORTEZ: That is partly true. Of course, we didn't have forced development in those days, but I don't quite agree with Howard there. You can create a feeling of depth by virtue of light - by contrast. Now, KANE, as Howard said, was of a more contrasty nature. AMBER-SONS did not fit the KANE concept in the slightest degree. It had to have the depth. It had to have a certain amount of contrast, which is what created the depth, as against going down to f/11 or f/16. I should point out that among my colleagues each of us has his own approach to getting a certain result. Many fellows today resort to laboratory treatments - plural. That's perfectly all right. But personally, I would rather have the control. I would rather be the

one to get the blame if its wrong, or credit if it's right. I don't want the lab to do anything except give me a darned good negative with proper color balance. There are exceptions, of course. A certain amount of flashing or forced development may sometimes be called for, but even that should be done under the control of the man behind the camera and not left specifically to the lab. Let me ask you one little question before you ask me questions: Does anybody in this room miss color in AMBERSONS?

RESPONSE: Not one bit.

CORTEZ: Thank you very much, because, as I'm sure all of you know, photographing a picture in black and white, believe me, is a lot more difficult than photographing it in color.

SCHWARTZ: Something that Stanley said brought to mind the fact that in AMBERSONS we had a tremendous shot that lasted about 900 feet. It

started in the upper hallway where the family was around the big table, and we went clear down the hallway on a crane where we panned over, and the prop man slid out the tables as we went down. There were compositions on the stairways, which we never saw in the edited version, because they cut it very drastically. They cut from that to the mirror in the ballroom, which was the tag of a tremendously long and involved thing. They cut out that whole thing, which was a crime.

CORTEZ: Thank you for refreshing my memory, Howard. There was one thing that we did in this film that was very interesting and very difficult. The opening sequence of the ball — which has been terribly chopped up — Orson originally rehearsed to be filmed in four or five cuts. I said to Bob Wise, the editor (who is now a famous director), "Gee, Bob, if he would only do this one in one cut." Perhaps Orson overheard me. I don't know. But he said to me, "Can we make this sequence in one

Sitting behind a DeBrie camera and flanked by camera operator André Germaine and Assistant Cameraman Jean Beauvet, Cortez lines up a scene for "THE MAN ON THE EIFFEL TOWER", while shooting on location in the famous Paris Left Bank cafe, Les Deux Magots. In recent years, Cortez has photographed several features in Europe.



cut?" I said, "Orson, if you're willing, I'm more than willing." So we did it. The camera goes through seven or eight rooms, and in each room (which required an entirely different lighting concept), the camera sees all four walls and the ceiling. And in some of the rooms there were mirrors. You may wonder how we did it. It was all predetermined. Walls would be raised and lowered on a certain cue. Lights would be moved into predetermined positions on floor marks. Mirrors would be tipped and tilted to accommodate the lens. It was done all in one move, ending up on a big closeup of Anne Baxter and Tim Holt, which is the opening of the ballroom sequence.

SCHWARTZ: Yes, we ended up with this huge closeup of Anne Baxter in the mirror. Then we pulled back, but they cut it after that.

CORTEZ: These are the things you contend with, and this is where experience comes in, and a certain amount of bravery. You've got to be brave. Get out there and do it! Gamble!

QUESTION: How long did it take you to do that shot — pulling through the eight rooms?

CORTEZ: We were on a crane and there were about 104 light changes. With rehearsals it took us about three days to do it, whereas we would have spent perhaps a week on the separate cuts. If you noticed, there are in this film many long dialogue sequences without a cut. I kind of like that. It creates a feeling of continuity and the audience is not confused by too many cuts.

QUESTION: In that shot in which Tim Holt is looking out the window at Joseph Cotten, I'm supposing that you actually shot his reflection in a piece of glass. Was that any problem to you?

CORTEZ: It was a problem, of course, to increase your light to balance with the exterior. But you do it. Get out there and do it. Don't be afraid.

QUESTION: How much actual space was there between the background and the foreground?

CORTEZ: I don't remember exactly, but I would say that the distance from the mirror's image to the lens was seven or eight feet, something like that, and we probably used a 30mm lens. Incidentally, most of the picture was shot with the 30mm lens. Is that right, Howard?



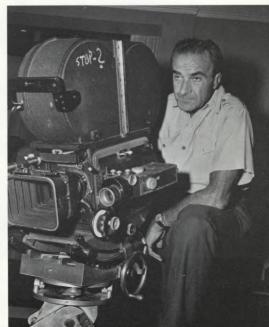
Bundled up in winter gear, the cast of "THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS" pauses for a lunch break outside an ice house of the Union Ice Company in downtown Los Angeles. Welles, with typical perfectionism, decided to film the winter scenes inside the ice house so that the breath of the actors would be realistically visible. In this photograph, Cortez (in knit cap) stands directly behind Welles.

SCHWARTZ: That's correct. The 30mm lens at f/4.2. On KANE everything was f/8 or f/11, but this has a nice softness. It was much more in keeping with the mood of the story.

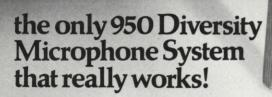
CORTEZ: Everything depends upon the mood. That's why I feel that any creative cinematographer is really an interpreter of the drama. All of us in our field are basically dramatists to a very high degree, just as a writer is. But we do it with light, with optics, with the camera, with all kinds of gimmicks. Who cares what we use? If the result is there, that's what's important.

SCHWARTZ: I'd like to comment on the compositions in this picture. I think there's some outstanding compositions in AMBERSONS. It's a lesson in composition for anybody. Because of the nature of the sets you could do this. Even those miserable ceilings gave tremendous effects compositionally. The set-ups were considerably lower because of those ceiling pieces and they did add tremendously to the drama of the picture. Sets like these are something that you rarely see today and young operators really don't have much opportunity to get involved with bold compositions. I think most of the compositions in AMBERSONS can be credited to Stanley, but I must say that Orson Welles was a master of composition and he probably picked a lot of them. One thing that Stanley, in his modesty, hasn't mentioned and that's the matter of separation. Stanley was daring. He would let people go into deep silhouette against the sets. He'd have light in the foreground and then dark and then light and then dark. Continued on Page 1246

Trained in the classic tenets of cinematography, Cortez prefers to maintain control by getting his effects in the camera, not in the lab.







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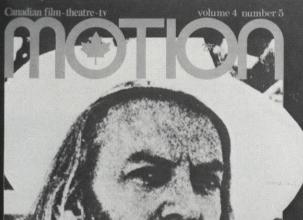
Jan-Feb

This issue features:
PORTRAIT OF FRENCH CANADIAN FILMMAKERS









volume 5 number 1



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CORTEZ A.F.I. SEMINAR Continued from Page 1243

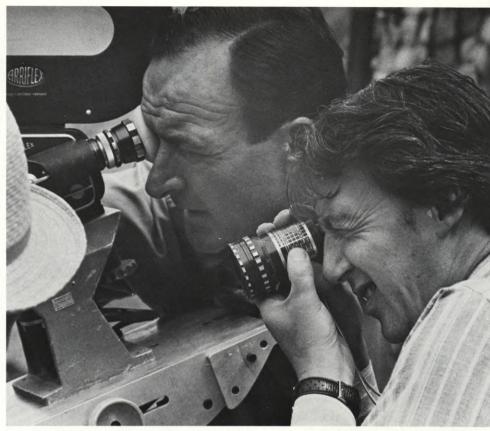
This is what gives you the separation — lighting people against dark backgrounds or vice versa.

CORTEZ: I'd like to add that all of this goes back to the so-called psychology of photography — creating visual mood and effect.

SCHWARTZ: I recall that Stanley used an aero filter in shooting a closeup of Dolores Costello inside. That's the first time I'd ever seen a cameraman do that.

CORTEZ: The reason for using any kind of colored filter on an interior in black and white is to correct something that can't be corrected in any other way. For example, if you were photographing someone who had light-colored eyes — grayish-blue eyes, for example — you might use a light yellow filter to darken that blue and give the face more contrast — this is in black and white, of course. But most necessary corrections can be made with light or makeup, and without resorting to tricky filters inside.

QUESTION: I would like to ask about how you made the transition from



Cortez lines up a shot for Canadian director Silvio Narrizano during the filming of "BLUE". The ruggedly picturesque area around Moab, Utah was the location for the shooting of this classic Western, during the course of which director and cinematographer developed a very close working rapport.

Cortez as guest of "Terrible-tempered Otto" Preminger at EXPO '67 in Montreal. The two film-makers had journeyed to EXPO specifically to see the outstanding and unique examples of the Art of the Cinema which were such a spectacular feature of the Canadian Exposition



black and white to color photography, because your style of lighting in black and white would seem to be the most dangerous style for color.

CORTEZ: As film speeds increase, the technique changes, and sometimes the concept changes. I feel that you're alluding to contrast now, compared to some of the flat concepts.

RESPONSE: Yes.

CORTEZ: Actually, I didn't change a great deal. I really didn't. In the early days of color - what we call the "threestrip days" — Technicolor wanted light every place, under the table. God knows where else. Flat. They may have been right, but I didn't agree with them, nor did some of my colleagues for whom I had a great regard and respect - people like Leon Shamroy, George Barnes, Harry Stradling and Charles Rosher. These were the great masters. They made the lab change. I don't know how you feel about it, but today there seems to be the lack of usage of gelatins on sets. It no longer takes place the way it used to. Maybe it is because the eye has become accustomed to pastel shades, but I really feel that we're losing a great deal. To a great degree, this technique was introduced by Leon

Shamroy on a film called LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING. Then Leon and I worked together on SOUTH PACIFIC, which is a story in itself. But Leon did some great things with gelatins, as did some of the English cameramen. One of the most beautiful films I've ever seen in color was a magnificent thing called BLACK NAR-CISSUS, photographed by Jack Cardiff - a truly magnificent film. There are many great English films in which they used color for interpreting drama. That's my point; interpretation, in terms of color. You don't find that very often nowadays. But I certainly use it whenever I can - not in an ostentatious way, but subtly.

QUESTION: Do you use some manipulation of color by putting color filters on the lens?

CORTEZ: No, I don't use color filters on the lens — only on lights. There are several schools of thought on that point and several of them are valid. For example, one school says that if you do it with light, you're stuck with it. Maybe so, but as I said before, I personally want to have the control. I don't want the lab to have it. I want to do it myself on the set, not in the lab. But the use of colored gelatins — properly used, as Leon Shamroy used to use them — is becoming a lost art.

SCHWARTZ: May I just add a word to that? I think one of the things you're referring to is separation. Stanley still goes for separation. I think that most of the cameramen who were cameramen during the black and white days realize the importance of separation. They still go for their breaks and for their differences in balance of light. I've found that the fellows who are doing the flat lighting, and who came in from commercials, have picked up this technique now and are going back to separation. They're making breaks and putting in colors and all of that. They're not lighting with photofloods anymore, and letting the colors do the separation.

CORTEZ: You know, Howard just mentioned a very important thing. There's a word that applies to almost everything in life, really, and that word is "balance". It applies equally to painting or music or photography. Personally, I don't particularly care for what some of my colleagues are doing. By that I mean those tremendously hot windows that you see every so often — all flared out. I think that sort of thing has crept into features by way of commercials. Once in a while I guess it's

all right to see hot flare coming through, but when I see it all the time it tells me that the person who photographed it doesn't know what he's doing, that he doesn't know the meaning of the word "balance". Howard, you've been around for a few years and you've had a lot of experience. Do you concur in my thinking on this point?

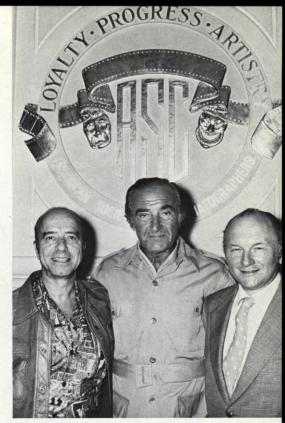
SCHWARTZ: Absolutely!

CORTEZ: People say: "When you go into a room and look out the window, it's generally very hot." This may be true — if you're looking only at the sky. But when you see a street down below, it's not that hot. You have all kinds of textures and all kinds of separations — which are totally lost when what's outside is exposed five times hotter than the interior.

QUESTION: I'd like to know who decides what finally goes onto the film, the director or the cinematographer? In the case of your working with Welles on AMBERSONS, for example, who set up the compositions of the shots — you or him?

CORTEZ: Now listen carefully: never once was I interfered with in regard to lighting by Orson Welles. Never once. Now, many directors do interfere — and I believe validly so. If they have a constructive idea, I think it's great. Four eyes are better than two. But as a rule, few directors become involved in the lighting phase or the composition, because they have too many other things to worry about. Do you agree, Howard?

SCHWARTZ: I do and I don't, but basically I do. It depends a lot on your schedule and the type of work you're doing. If you're on a short schedule, the director should be able to communicate with the cameraman and not waste his time looking through the camera, except after the cameraman has set the shot up. He should be utilizing his time working with the actors, rehearsing and getting the scene to play properly. It's amazing to me how many directors today - and they are the ones who are telling the story cannot communicate. A number of directors I know waste so much time on the camera, whereas other directors can accomplish the same thing in a few words. This is basically the same relationship that a cameraman has with his gaffer, with his operator, with his key grip. He has to be able to tell them these things quickly. Now, on a picture like KANE

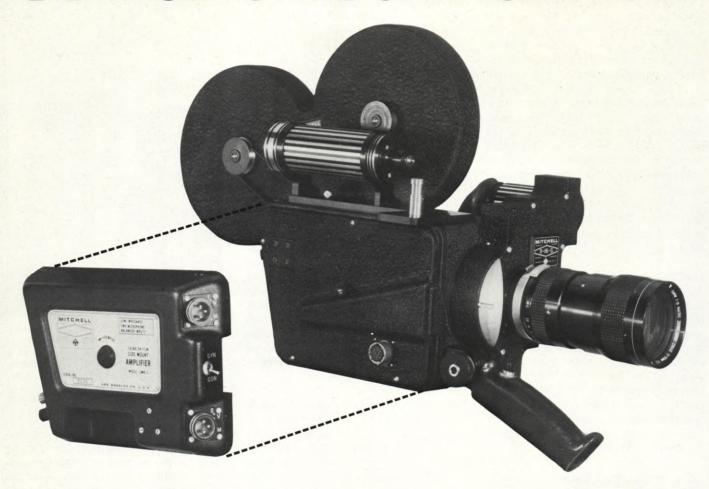


Cortez with Panavision President Robert Gottschalk and David Samuelson (Samuelson Film Service Limited, London) at a recent reception at the American Society of Cinematographers clubhouse in Hollywood. A member of the A.S.C. Board of Governors, Cortez is very active in Society affairs.

or AMBERSONS or any other big feature, if a director wants to spend some time on the camera with the cameraman in order to get the most out of the mood, or to decide the scope of the shot or whether the camera should be high or low, that's his privilege and it's certainly a great contribution — if you have the time. But if you're on a short schedule, forget it. Learn how to talk to your cameraman in a few words and tell him what you want. Then, get out of the way and let him do his stuff, and come back and check to see that he's giving you what you wanted. That saves a lot of time — but even in TV, if a director likes to line up his shots through the camera, that's his prerogative.

CORTEZ: One of the nice things about working with Orson is that he has great sympathy for the cinematographer. And he has a great feeling for and appreciation of cinematic images. When you're striving for something, he will adjust the movement of his actors to fit what you're trying to do in terms of light. In that respect, Orson should be given a great deal of credit. There was a photographic interplay between us. I knew what he was trying to do and he knew what I was trying to do, without our having to say a word. That is one of the great things about Orson Welles.

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FILM vs. VIDEO MYTHS EXPLODED

By LARS SWANBERG

A convincing argument that the great film/videotape debate is actually a "pseudo-problem" and, therefore, much ado about practically nothing

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following has been excerpted from a speech delivered at the Nordic Film and TV Union conference, held in Copenhagen in February of this year. The material was authored and presented by Lars Swanberg, head of the Department of Technical Information and Development at the Swedish Film Institute in Stockholm.)

Life consists of pseudo-problems and real problems. A pseudo-problem is a small and comparatively unimportant problem, which by being favoured by mass media and by being controversial in a simple, harmless or perhaps even entertaining way, is made to appear as a real problem.

The question 'film or video?' is a pseudo-problem and is, as such, entertaining. It is controversial in the proper way and totally harmless. We debate Film vs. Video with the same glowing enthusiasm with which we argue for or against certain football or ice-hockey teams.

Origins of the debate

The film/video debate has its roots in the birth of television broadcasting. It is, in other words, a typical 'old man's' debate, a quarrel between officials who are well-established enough to have removed themselves from the dirt of practicalities. To me, neither young nor old, it is totally irrelevant whether you shoot on film, on videotape or live. The important thing is not what you've got in the camera, it's what you've got in front of the camera! The real problems lie in what happens in the heads, hearts and stomachs of the people behind the camera.

I don't think that the cameramen or cinematographers - I am one myself - will be an obstacle to a change from film to video, from video to film or anything in-between. The basic problems are the same - panning, lighting, cropping - whether we work with an Arriflex BL or a Fernseh KCN (but I admit that I feel naked without the matte box). We must not forget that the lowest common denominator for all information storage methods dealing with images is - optics: The same fundamental optical principles apply whether the reduced upside-down image is projected onto a silver halide film, onto a silicon chip or onto a CCD converting light into electrical signals.

For whom is this then a problem since we spend so much time and money on film/video conferences and do so much writing and speculating about an eventual total victory for

videotape technology? Is Eastman Kodak the driving force behind it all? It can't possibly be so. From what I understand, over 80 per cent of their capital revenue comes from the amateur market and so far I haven't heard anybody talking about shooting Instamatic stills on video.

Is it the laboratory bosses who try to make us believe that the choice between film and video is of paramount importance? There are eight of them in Scandinavia. It wouldn't be unfair to call them a minority: eight guys who get their annual turnover cut down by approximately 30 per cent if the Scandinavian broadcasters decide to abandon film totally. In no way a serious catastrophe, considering that there is a certain over-capacity in the Scandinavian laboratory industry (at least in Sweden). Furthermore, three of them have recently entered the Wonderful World of Video. I am quite sure that both Eastman Kodak and the film laboratories will survive.

TV seeks to wreck film

The film/video debate is sometimes charged with Middle Ages death-fear arguments. Film is ugly! Film is dead! Long live Video!

This foolish prestige struggle seems to be specifically a broadcaster's problem. It is the large broadcasting companies who try to make us believe that this pseudo-problem is a real problem. The electronics bureaucrats have obviously decided to prove, at any cost, that film is inferior and in doing this they do not hesitate to use lies, half-lies and manipulated statistics.

When I watch newsfilm on television I sometimes get the feeling that an exasperated film-hater has been maltreating the print or even the original before broadcasting. I have seen more scratches, dirt and projection errors on television than I have seen during my total time as a film cameraman (which is considerably longer than the time I have spent in front of the TV set). For me, as a TV viewer, it would just be a relief if newsfilm was replaced by electronic news gathering.

In many cases newsfilm cameramen will operate the new portable ENG cameras. RCA says openly that they have designed their new ENG camera, TK76, with the 16mm film cameraman in mind — in terms of weight, balance and handling. Thank God that they did not go so far as to incorporate a 33dB

camera-noise generator.

It is rapid technological progress. especially in the field of micro-electronics, that has made it possible for the professional television camera to move into places where only film cameras could go before. However, this rapid technological development (sometimes referred to as 'galloping') does not follow straight linear or exponential curves. It seems to move in the form of a spiral or along a 'two-stepsforward-one-step-back' pattern. Disappointments derived from using a new medium or method can lead to the rediscovery of old media and methods. In doing this, you convey new growth energy to an old technology.

Video boosts sponsored film

I mentioned earlier that the prestige struggle between film and video is a specific broadcaster's problem, a cock-fight between department heads and technocrats. In the sponsored film industry - a less prestigious and preiudiced area - the sponsors (corporations, institutions, government agencies, etc.) have experienced disappointments in video production and thereby have rediscovered film as an information carrier. The emergence of the videocassette has caused a growth of the Swedish sponsored film market - largely but not totally due to the fact that many producers shoot on 16mm and distribute on video. Video. as a concept, carries the charm of novelty and a seductive atmosphere of modernism. The lack of hardware standardisation, lack of established working routines and lack of knowl-Continued on Page 1264

A noted cinematographer, Lars Swanberg knows the video medium, as well, having for the past few years done considerable directing for the electronic medium.



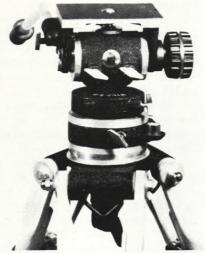
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MULTI-SURFACE IMAGES IN A FILM ABOUT SPACE-AGE EDUCATION

By WILLIAM PHELPS

Associate Producer

Imagine a high school where every student chooses his own learning activities; where learning takes place not only in the classroom, but in dozens of situations inside and outside the school building; where minority youngsters can learn in terms of their own cultures.

This high school exists in the imaginations and plans of educators, and in a new film — OPTIONS — completed by The Creative Establishment in Chicago.

"An innovative style of education calls for an equally innovative method of presentation," says the film's writerAn intricate film on a low budget uses superimposure, aerial image, front projection and closed-circuit video to achieve striking effects

man-made, artistic universe whose shapes are constantly changing — pulsing with life.

Don Klugman explains: "On one hand, the film deals with problems faced by two mature, straight-thinking adults — a businessman and a homemaker. These people effectively cope with life and its problems — perhaps because of the way they've been educated.

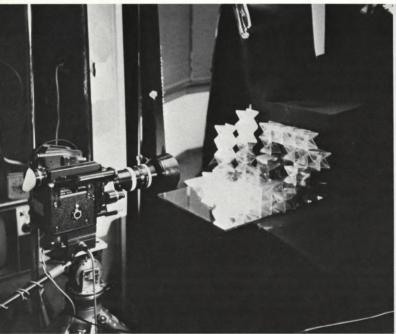
"On another level, the film deals with three people in the high school environment: a student, a young teacher and a principal — all benefiting from a system of education that gives than costly equipment.

So OPTIONS was shot in five weeks — mostly with a Bolex EBM — edited in five more weeks with a four-head upright Moviola and a two-viewer bench.

(B) Stunning, sharp images are worth any amount of time, discomfort and heat.

That's why OPTIONS was shot with 7252 Ektachrome, as close as possible to the optimum recommended aperture of f/4, at a shooting ratio approaching twenty-five to one.

Breakdown of the script revealed a hundred-sixty lengthy moving shots





(LEFT) Writer-director Don Klugman's homemade rig for filming colorful plastic cubes. In this setup, an aerial image is being rear-projected into a space between the blocks. The mirror below gives the illusion of an infinite number of plastic shapes. (RIGHT) Klugman adjusts the plastic blocks prior to shooting. The effect of "internal glow" was achieved by side-lighting the setup with a Kodak Carousel projector.

director, Don Klugman. "We tried to find an idiom to express the searching nature of learning — the importance of free-form, adaptable schooling in producing a mature, effective adult."

Klugman's idiom appears on the screen as a world of colorful three-dimensional translucent shapes. The camera searches among these shapes, moves into them and between them, and discovers . . . a moving picture. The camera leaves the picture, moves deeper into the shapes, turns a corner and discovers . . . another moving picture. The process repeats itself, giving the viewer the feeling of traveling into a

every student the power to chart his own educational course, to learn the way that he learns best.

"To separate these different kinds of images we have our visual idiom, a combination of 'live' shapes and moving images that signifies the search for knowledge."

How was this blend of images and idioms created? To begin, Don and his Director of Photography, Ron Osso, discussed ways to make best use of the film's limited budget. Among their decisions were:

 (A) A prolonged production schedule is more important including only twenty matching shots. A hundred-forty vastly different syncsound setups were involved, and eighty of the shots had to be specially composed for superimposition.

In this situation pre-production was crucial. A three-person pre-production team, consisting of myself, Don Klugman and script secretary Sissel Hanssen visited thirty Chicago-area high schools, to find three that we would eventually use.

A major criterion was racial balance. The film had to be relevant in any community in the country. Another Continued on Page 1260







(LEFT) Rehearsal for a complex moving shot. Tough Blue gels on quartz lights balance daylight streaming into school's lounge. Cameraman Ron Osso and Klugman line up shot, while Gene Elders pushes wheelchair dolly. (CENTER) Sync-sound setup in a school TV studio. Such shots were made using an Auricon camera with TV shutter to eliminate "banding". (RIGHT) Klugman explains a shot to cinematographer Osso, behind Bolex EBM camera. The entire film, with exception of underwater scenes, was shot with a Vario Switar lens.



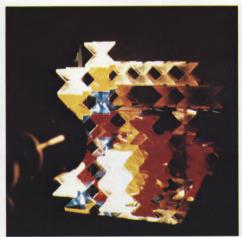


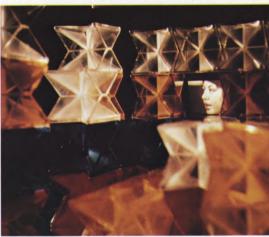


(LEFT) An example of visual continuity in OPTIONS. Sequence begins with a celestial globe in a geography classroom. Over this we see a pair of TV cameras — their monitors bearing the image of a student. (CENTER) The globe disappears and the cameras part, revealing the student making a presentation. (RIGHT) A re-focus and zoom-out reveal the student speaking to others in the school TV lab.

(LEFT) Klugman uses a fluid-head tripod for smooth panning across plastic cubes and rear-projected images in motion. Bolex crystal-control unit synchronized the camera shutter with sync-motor projectors behind cubes. (CENTER) As the film's ideas become more complex, so does the setup. (RIGHT) As the camera scans plastic shapes, ideas and philosophies unfold. At the climax, the camera arrives at moving image illustrating the concept.







(LEFT) Superimposition in a steel mill setting. The businessman is faced with a decision whether to remodel his plant. At the moment of decision, the super ends, and camera moves in to closeup of his face. (CENTER) A zoom-out reveals man's face, still in motion, among colored shapes. (RIGHT) A panning shot across the shapes ends with the first picture of the next sequence already in motion. With a zoom-in, this picture fills the frame.







"OFF THE EDGE" IN NEW ZEALAND

By MOLLIE GREGORY

Their first time out, young Kiwi film-makers score with a stunning action-adventure feature shot in the spectacular New Zealand Alps

Give Michael Firth a couple of Bolex cameras and a mountain glacier, and he'll come back with a feature film. Along the way he might fall into a crevasse (which he did), or get caught in an avalanche (which he did), but he will get the film — even if it takes two years (which it did).

"It's a wonder any of you got back alive," I said to him when he'd told me about his shoot in New Zealand with two ski-and-hang-glider friends and a third pal who ran sound and the second camera. It was a stunning moviemaking tale: one of endurance, tenacity and devotion to filming against odds that would stagger even the most avid documentary or sports filmmaker. Most amazing — Michael Firth had never made a film before!

"I'd shot some Super-8 footage, ski films, and of course I'd skied with Jeff and Blair. What we wanted to do was combine our interests - filming, hanggliding, skiing - with new challenges. We thought other people (whether they skied or not) could respond to a story about two guys who were tired of resorts - all those crowded, worn-out slopes - and who actively set out to find new, perhaps dangerous, certainly exciting experiences. Actually, what we wanted was a new frontier. We ended by finding our own kind of frontier in those mountains - our own test - our own measure - and we made a film about that."

Their feature-length film, OFF THE EDGE, will be released this month. The film doesn't pretend to be anything but what it is: a wild, playful adventure story of two hang-glider/skiers, Jeff Campbell and Blair Trenholme, on the snow

and in the sky. "We just shot it the way it happened," says Mike. "Blair and Jeff are themselves in the film. We didn't have any pretensions about making them into 'characters'."

Michael Firth, who was born and raised in New Zealand, is the kind of filmmaker who simply will not give up. He decided to make OFF THE EDGE in 1973. Originally about skiing - and there's still plenty of ski footage in it the film has turned into an aerial event with the addition of the hang-gliding sequences. That he had never shot a foot of 16mm film or used a Nagra: that his two actors had never hang-glided before; that his second cameraman, Geoff Cocks, had never used any sort of camera or even been in the snow; that the terrain was completely new to them, and, in places, unexplored, zigzagged with hidden crevasses; that his "dailies" were bi-monthly at best - none of this stopped him. Mike Firth has a quiet. pleasant, straightforward manner that belies the kind of determined tenacity it took for him and his crew to make a film like OFF THE EDGE.

GREAT WHITE WILDERNESS

Mt. Cook National Park is a vast Alpine area in New Zealand, bounded on one side by the Tasman Sea and on the other by the Barron McKenzie Basin. The highest peak — Mt. Cook — is 12,250 feet. The area cradles the Tasman and Murchison glaciers.

Mike, Jeff and Blair were (and are) fanatical skiers. They met by accident at Val d'Isere in France, Blair from British Columbia, Jeff from America, and Mike, of course, from New Zealand.

First steps toward an unforgettable adventure. Blair Trenholme (from British Columbia) and Jeff Campbell (from America), superb skiers and daredevil hang-glider novices, backpack their gear up 12,250-foot Mt. Cook in the New Zealand Alps, as Mike Firth films them, aided by Geoff Cocks. The four-man movie company faced many dangers during the shooting, but came through unscathed.



"I was running around filming them with my Super-8 camera, and trying to keep up with them — they were such remarkable skiers. We used to sit around and dream about the big movie we would make."

When the three went their separate ways, Mike kept the dream alive and plotted out a rough story line for it. Unable to find people in New Zealand to play the two leads, he contacted Jeff and Blair, and the search for the "actors" ended. Blair dropped out of school — only for a semester, they thought at the time — but he missed two years. "The poor guy is back there now," says Mike, "driving a taxi to work his way through school — after flying hang-gliders off 10.000 foot peaks!"

They all met up in Mt. Cook National Park in May of 1973 for a four-month shoot. They were there for a total of nine months over the next two winters.

Mike had ordered two 16mm Bolex cameras: an EBM with a Switar 10-to-1 automatic zoom lens, and a Rex 5 motor-driven Bolex with a compact 17mm-to-85mm zoom. A GSAP gun camera with 50-foot loads and a 10mm Switar lens, was used on the gliders, and attached to ski boots and helmets. For the skiing sequences they recorded all their sound on a Nagra 4.2 with a Sennheiser shotgun mike.

"We were shooting in very high light conditions. We chose Eastman's 7252 ECO reversal film stock because of the low (16) ASA, but also because we wanted to blow it up from 16mm to 35mm. ECO has a fine grain and has proven most successful in blow-ups.

"Our exposures were normally about F/16. That high reading gave good depth of field so I didn't have to pull focus all the time on the skiers who were constantly moving from long shot to close-up."

The 50-foot magazines were constantly being reloaded, which is quite tricky, involving a lot of handling of the film. Thanks to the ECO stock, not a single scratch has shown up on the blow-up.

The remarkable thing about this gang is the scope of their film compared to their lack of technical knowledge. Mike is candid about his naivete and inexperience, and the fact that he carried the Bolex book of instructions around in his hip pocket for the first few weeks of shooting.

Learn-as-you-go also applied to the fourth member of the team, Geoff

Cocks, a university student from Auckland. Geoff had run some sound on a Super-8 film he'd made with Mike, so he was recruited to run the Nagra 4.2 and the second camera. Turning out to be a whiz kid with the gear, he quickly learned how to adapt it to the rigorous uses needed, and how to repair it.

Geoff and Mike formed the basic film crew of two. Tony Lilleby, a Mt. Cook National Park Ranger and expert mountain climber who was also familiar with 16mm cameras, joined in some of the tough mountain-climbing sequences. Jeff Stevens, a professional cameraman from Auckland, ran the Arriflex BL for 10 days during the climbers' hut scenes and some of the hang-gliding sequences. But the Bolexes and the GSAP gun camera did eighty percent of the shots which appear in the film.

HANG-GLIDING OVER THE ALPS

The hang-gliding sequences were the toughest of all the shots to achieve. "Basically, we were there to film a ski movie; we weren't geared to shoot hang-gliders. You might say that preproduction planning just didn't exist for the first winter's gliding shots," observes Mike.

Their first problem was that although Jeff had done some hang-gliding, he wasn't any expert, and had never piloted the Seagull III, which was one of the two kites he brought with him to New Zealand. Blair and Mike had never flown at all.

"We went out to the sand dunes near Christchurch and flew them off the sandhill," says Mike. "We just had these little flights, crashing everywhere. Then we went out to Round Hill. a beginner skiing area, about 5,000 feet up. It was a good place to gain more confidence. About 300 yards down, the slope drops off about 80 feet. We were going 25 miles per hour at this point, so we just sailed off into the air and landed a few minutes later at the bottom . . . like an airplane landing. And we'd just ski it out. We learned to hang-glide in a week, and by the time a month had passed, Blair and Jeff were flying off 10,000-foot peaks for the cameras."

During the first winter's shoot, they had two different kinds of gliders — the Seagull III and the Flexy Flyer. The Seagull had a glide ratio of four-to-one. The Flexy, with a straighter nose, had a lower glide ratio, and it just "sank like a stone" compared to the Seagull. It was almost impossible to get a shot of the two gliders flying together. In their first dailies they quickly saw that the Seagull's green sail did not show up well against the mountains, either.

They resolved to come back the



Equipment spread out and ready for loading into the helicopter to be transported to the base area. During the actual shooting, the men back-packed the cameras on skis, often over distances as far as six miles. Although "OFF THE EDGE" is a first effort, it is a thoroughly professional product and technically impeccable.

following winter with new gliders, an Eclair, Tyler mount and a 12mm-to-240mm zoom lens.

THE SECOND TIME AROUND

"In June of 1974 we got back to Mt. Cook with the two gliders that would fly side by side," says Mike, "but we couldn't get a Tyler mount, which proved to be all for the best because of our scheduling problems with helicopters, and the weather. I rented an Eclair with a 12mm-to-240mm lens but, like some rented gear, it had been banged about a lot. It flared the first footage we took with it, so it was back to the old Bolex again and the Fleximount."

Shooting schedules centered entirely around the weather. If it was perfect — with no wind — they went out and shot hang-gliding. If too much wind was blowing, they would hike up on the glacier and film skiing. If the weather was too poor for either, they shot something else — like the ice caves sequence. But the filming pattern was completely dominated by — and at the mercy of — the winter.

Sometimes for as long as three weeks, they would sit out a storm in the Mt. Cook village near the foot of the Main Divide Ranges. Then, suddenly, the weather would clear.

"Getting helicopters was always a problem for us because the 'copters were being used for hunting deer, chamois, and Thar up there. But we ran across two of New Zealand's best pilots, Bill Black, and Mel Cain. They were a tremendous help to us."

Black flew a Jet Ranger which was ideal. Capable of holding four people, the Jet has a large luggage compartment in the back and ample space to shift crews, gear and hang-gliders around in it. It's speedy, can fly at high altitudes, and turned out to be steady for shooting. Firth preferred it for his aerials, compared to others he'd used before meeting Bill Black.

The dawning of a beautiful break in the weather sent them rushing off into the mountains in the Ranger. But because of the weather, they never had the luxury of going up to an area days in advance, getting out of the 'copter and checking positions. "We would only have this one golden day sandwiched in between weeks of bad weather, so we just couldn't blow a moment — literally."

Usually, Jeff, Blair and Mike made one quick pass in the Ranger over the location, deciding which peak they'd use for the gliders' take-off, and where they'd put the other cameramen.

Returning to the valley, they'd pick up the cameramen and drop them at their prearranged spots on the mountainside. As the pilot flew Jeff and Blair up to some high exposed eagle's aerie, he'd point out to them where the cameramen were stationed. When they were dropped off on the top, they had about 10 to 15 minutes to get their gliders ready and the camera attached and loaded. To make them easier to handle and set up, the battery-tocamera wiring ran inside the aluminum tubing of the gliders - another helpful invention by Geoff Cocks. They were racing against sudden changes in the wind, but invariably, they finished up with a side wind or a tail wind, which isn't good for gliding.

While they were unscrambling their gear and gliders, the pilot returned for Mike. "I'd take the door off the Ranger and jump in the back. This made it possible for me to get back up to the top again just as the kites were ready to take off," he explains.

The Fleximount proved invaluable for filming in remote locations. Since they had only one helicopter to transport crew and gear, as well as to film from, a Tyler mount would have been cumbersome. Mike sat on the floor of the Ranger with the Fleximount and he was ready to shoot. The Fleximount proved quite steady, and the resulting

shots in the film look smooth and fluid.

"I think for documentary work, where one is filming under pressure, the Fleximount is ideal," said Mike Firth. "The camera sits in front of you securely, which allows you to let go of it in order to make adjustments to the set or to the camera. There were times when I breathed heavily from exhaustion, but the shots still came out steady."

It is hard to imagine, but the location for each hang-gliding sequence was shot over a three-to-four-mile area.

"All snow and ice and, though beautiful," Mike told me, "it all looks the same." As soon as Jeff and Blair took off, they lost all perspective. It was hard for them to locate the cameramen on the ground — perhaps two miles away.



Entrance to one of the ice caves explored and filmed by the crew. Breath-taking in their sculptured magnificence, the caves were fraught with danger, because they underlay a glacier that was constantly moving and shifting its mass. A week after this sequence was "in the can", the whole series of caves in which they had been shooting collapsed.



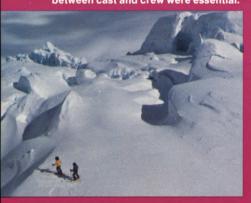


Sometimes, when they did find them, their glide ratio put them out of range of a good shot. Hang-gliders can be very uncooperative, sometimes.

They rarely had two clear days back-to-back, since June begins New Zealand's winter. Each time they went out, they filmed three kinds of shots in one flight, in one day: from the ground crew, from Mike in the Ranger for the aerials, and from the gliders with the GSAP gun camera. Consequently, they often got into each other's shots. Finally, toward the end of the second winter, they had enough footage so they could afford some separate flights — like one

Continued on Page 1286

(ABOVE LEFT) Blair, a bit apprehensive before "flying" into the valley 4,000 feet below, with a 16mm camera mounted on the wing of his kite for in-flight photography. (RIGHT) Jeff, on a flight off the Minarets. The Tasman Glacier can be seen winding its way through the valley below. (BELOW LEFT) Shots for the Serac sequence were filmed at 50 frames per second to create effect of a dreamlike journey through a surrealistic landscape. (CENTER) Preparing to take off from a 10,200-foot peak. (RIGHT) In filming such action, timing, speed and coordination between cast and crew were essential.







(LEFT) Jeff and Blair ready their kites for take-off to fly in dual formation, which proved to be very difficult, but is truly spectacular in the finished film. (CENTER) Filming the aerials with the Fleximount proved to be very successful. (RIGHT) Swooping low over the angry, grinding terrain of the glacier, which would be a most inconvenient and dangerous place to land in case of an emergency.







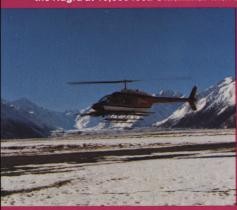






(LEFT) The Pioneer Hut accommodation at 8,000 feet served as a base of operations on the mountain and a principal location in the film. (CENTER) Crew and equipment sitting out one of numerous storms in the snug confines of the hut. During nine months on location, there were only 50 days of weather that permitted filming. (RIGHT) Crew prepares to film hang-gliding sequence at 10,000 feet.

(LEFT) The helicopter proved most valuable for transporting cast, crew and equipment to otherwise inaccessible locations. (CENTER) Part of the Mt. Cook Village, where the crew lived during the nine months of filming. (RIGHT) Geoff Cocks recording hang-gliding sound effects with the Nagra at 10,000 feet. Unfamiliar with such equipment before this project, Geoff rapidly learned to use and repair it.



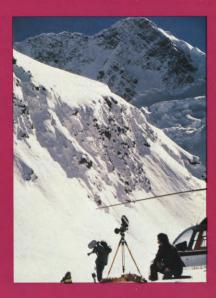


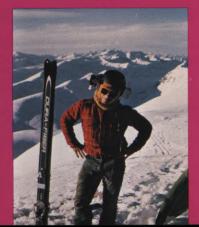


(LEFT) The Mt. Cook ski planes used to transport the crew 14 miles up onto the glaciers. Because of high-altitude weight limitations, no accessories or unnecessary luggage could be taken. (CENTER) Skis strapped to the wing of a ski plane, with the filming location thousands of feet below. (RIGHT) Mike Firth with the Fleximount and Geoff Cocks ready to film one of the 25 hang-gliding flights.









(LEFT) Jeff Campbell with the GSAP camera mounted on his helmet, ready to record some exciting point-of-view ski footage. (CENTER) In contrast to freezing in the ice and snow, filming the hot pool sequence was a welcome change. (RIGHT) The combination of helicopter and Fleximount proved to be the way to go on this particular project.





ON LOCATION WITH "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" Continued from Page 1223

answering your question is that there is Hemingway prose — the Hemingway novel, in this case — and then it goes through an obviously radical change of form when it becomes a film script, as any novel does when it's put into screenplay form. So, therefore, one's interpretation has to be devoted to the screenplay form and not to what obviously is the novel form — which means to say that I would hope that what we're doing here serves the screenplay and not the original novel.

QUESTION: The main action of "ISLANDS" takes place about 1940. Does that make it a "period piece" in your estimation — and, if so, how does that factor affect your approach to putting the story on the screen?

SCHAFFNER: I think it's a period piece. I hope it has a sense of period without copying or imitating a period film. I believe we've approached this film with a great sense of spareness in the doing of it - not because of its period, but because of what is essentially in the script, the extraction of what I think is best out of the Hemingway novel. It's a very human story and, therefore, a tricky one to handle, because there is on that island in the sea an enormous amount of space. That whole space factor has to be captured, but, at the same time, the human story has to be told. Therefore, it's not like a picture

such as "PATTON", where you can fill space with a lot of moving objects — tanks, guns, soldiers, that kind of thing. What this space is filled with is, for the most part, one person: Hudson. To do that successfully I find to be one of the trickiest kinds of problems I've ever tackled. I believe it is working, but I would rather credit certain performances and the script with making it work, rather than say that anything conceptually makes it work. I think that the rhythm of the character and the rhythm of the script are making this work.

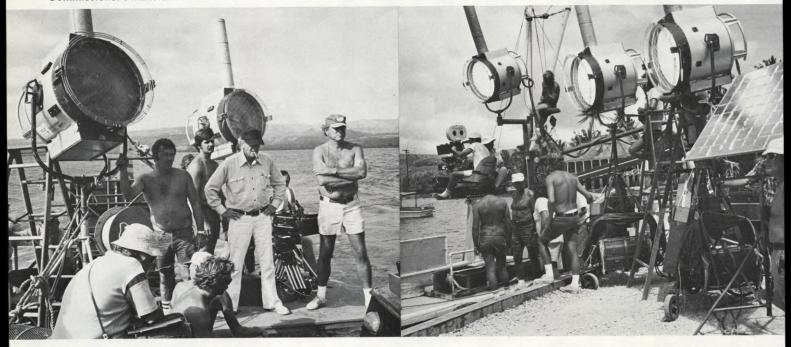
QUESTION: You have interesting locales to work with here. How do they interact with these characters and influence them, and how do you portray that visually?

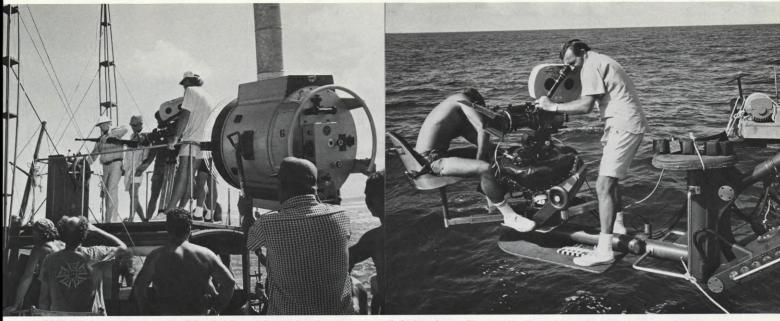
SCHAFFNER: That's one of the problems. Obviously, the story takes place in the Bahamas, which are actually coral reefs. We are working on Kauai, which is really a volcanic island. So we have to be very selective in what we shoot in order to make it look on film like an island in the Bahaman chain. For example, we can't show the mountains. I think we've been very fortunate here, because the color of the water changes much more radically on film than I would have imagined. It looks like Caribbean water. The harbor looks like a Caribbean harbor. The house location looks legitimately like the Caribbean and, indeed, like that of an island in the Bahaman chain. It's my hunch that it probably works better here than if we'd done it in the Bahamas, because the scenery has more radical changes to it. The only major difference there is not in the color of the water, the sky or the greenery, but in the sand. The sand in that part of the world tends to be whiter than it is here. Before we started shooting we made a lot of tests to try to find out what would mute the lushness of this place, and I'm sure Fred has told you that we are shooting everything with a 1/4 fog filter. This will be successful if our final timing on the film is successful. While we're on that subject, I might say that we've done an awful lot of night work and shot it day-for-night, using some techniques that I have never experienced before. I think Koenekamp has done a remarkable job with it. Some of his interior/exterior day-for-night stuff is going to startle a lot of people, because it's that good. Also, I'd never worked with the Panaflex camera before, but working in the interiors of these boats with another kind of camera would have been impossible.

QUESTION: Speaking of Fred Koenekamp, this is your third picture with him — "PATTON" and "PAPILLON" being the two others. I'd like to ask about your method of working with a cameraman, and specifically this cameraman, since you've had such great success together.

SCHAFFNER: Well, it's tough to say now, because we've become so used to each other that the cut-through in

(LEFT) The crew filming from one of the modular platforms at sea. In the center is Director Schaffner, while at right stands Director of Photography Fred Koenekamp, ASC. This director/cinematographer team had previously collaborated most successfully on "PATTON" and "PAPILLON". (RIGHT) It takes a bank of arcs and reflectors to balance the intense Hawaiian sunlight. In the rear can be seen the High Commissioner's mansion.





(LEFT) Filming a scene on the flying bridge of the 36-foot boat supposedly belonging to Thomas Hudson. A lengthy search resulted in the discovery and purchase of two identical 1940-vintage near-replicas of Hemingway's famous boat, *Pilar*. (RIGHT) Operator lines up a camera angle with the Panaflex camera, which appears to be dangling perilously over the sea, suspended from the end of a Chapman boom. Two cameras were routinely used for filming to save time.

communication is startling. There are people with whom the communication is so clear that you can short-cut everything, and now that we've done two and a half pictures together, the whole working relationship has developed to a degree where we understand each other very, very clearly — and it makes it radically easier, I must say. He is certainly a thorough professional enormously inventive and very fast. From a director's point of view, what makes the kind of rapport we have so gratifying is not only seeing the kind of result on the screen that you had hoped for, but the fact that you get more chance to work with your cast during your time on the set. This is in contrast to the kind of experience I've had from time to time, where you're really occupying the set about 10% of the time because of the apparent technical inhibition that might affect the production, from the cameraman's point of view.

QUESTION: I've noticed during the time I've been here that you've used two cameras on practically every setup. Aside from the obvious advantages in action sequences, are there any other reasons for using two cameras so consistently?

SCHAFFNER: We have used two cameras most of the way through and that has been very, very productive. We've picked up time and we wouldn't be where we are on the schedule right now if it hadn't been for the use of two cameras all the way along. In point of fact, many of these sequences, I think, would simply have bogged down if we

hadn't used two cameras — like the shark sequence and the fishing sequence and what will eventually be the final boat-chase sequence when he's in Cuba. But beyond that, we've been able to use a second camera where I had not really thought we could, and that's been nothing but to our advantage. Now, the use of two cameras is not new, very obviously, but it has proved very helpful on this production.

QUESTION: When you say that you've used two cameras where you never thought you could, what sort of sequences are you talking about?

SCHAFFNER: Well, obviously, you'll get into an interior situation where you won't be able to use two cameras. In a critical lighting situation you can't do it, but we've had so much work along the dock and in the harbor that we've been able to use two. Indeed, on the exteriors of the house, where normally you would approach such scenes with a sense of using only one camera, we've been able to use two and pick up time in that way.

QUESTION: You've got some excellent sets on this picture, but I'm especially impressed with the one Bill Creber designed as Hudson's house, the set where everything comes apart to make room for lights and cameras. That must have worked very well for you.

SCHAFFNER: Yes. All of them really have worked very well. When we first scouted Kukuiula Bay as a possible location for the harbor in the film, the geography of the place wasn't at all what I had visualized. I had, somehow or other, developed a mental image of the harbor as having a flow of buildings in the background — which represented the top of a T - with the dock being the leg of the T coming straight out into the water and, of course, it isn't that way at all. The dock is to one side of the harbor, and I had to wrestle against my own preconcept of how it should look in order to accommodate the action. Then Bill sketched out what he thought it should be and that changed my thinking, of course. Now it works extraordinarily well.

Perhaps the quietest director in the film industry, Franklin Schaffner sits in tranquil solitude, while the crew goes busily about their work.



MULTI-SURFACE IMAGES Continued from Page 1252

consideration was the use of audiovisual media in the schools. Many scenes in Don's script called for rephotographing images on closed-circuit television and photographing students and teachers at work beside television screens and projected images. Still another factor was the requirement that the three school buildings be of different ages and architectural styles: one from the turn of the century, one from the 1940's, and one ultra-modern "open school."

Luckily we found all three schools in the same suburban district. The school board read our script, decided that the film would make a contribution to education, and gave their approval.

Somewhat more difficult was the job of finding locations for the adult

characters in OPTIONS.

The Businessman, as scripted, was to be a top-level executive in a huge steel company. His maturity was to be tested as he made a decision to remodel part of his plant. To photograph this we had to find not only a steel plant in need of refurbishing but a company willing to allow us to film a substandard plant.

Visit after visit yielded permission to shoot the more modern aspects of steel production — no go on the older plants — until, finally, a public relations man at Inland Steel read the script, understood what we were trying to do, and not only gave us the use of a dilapidated plant but sent along a company photographer to help with the shoot.

The result was a dramatic walk through a fiery rolling and cutting mill and a meaningful look at a vast crane yard, with steel being loaded on railroad cars.

Our "Homemaker" character presented an easier location problem to solve. Faced with the decision of committing her little son to open-heart surgery, the woman had to be photographed in "working" hospital situations and in a moving ambulance.

The ambulance, with its equipment and two attendants, was obtained for a fee, but hospital locations were offered on a more difficult basis. The hospital's public relations staff could notify us of location availabilities only two hours before those availabilities existed.

To maintain our shooting rate, we asked the hospital to call us at our alternate location whenever an availability occurred. When a call came, we immediately called up actors and facilities, which were on standby.

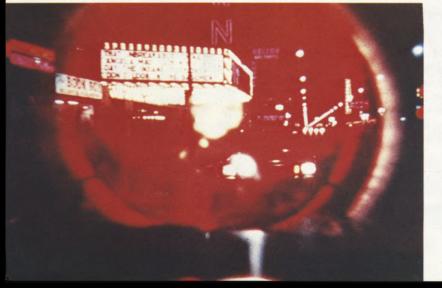
Ideally we were at the hospital in one

(LEFT) Frame blow-up of live action combined with televised images. Exposure was based on the maximum brilliance the television monitors could produce. (RIGHT) The crew donned scuba gear to photograph underwater biology study. Shooting took place in a suburban swimming pool, with the Bolex camera mounted in an underwater housing.





(LEFT) The warning light of an ambulance superimposed over a view through ambulance windshield. A moment later, a zoom-out reveals that action is taking place among moving plastic shapes. (RIGHT) Frame blow-up illustrates how OPTIONS gives insight into character through superimposition. In this example the reacher is listening to a critique by his associates. Closeup reveals his attitudes.









(LEFT) An inexpensive but effective way of handling multiple images: Editor Barbara Kaplan cuts "OPTIONS" at an editing table that has two viewers and a motorized synchronizer. (RIGHT) Don Klugman and Barbara Kaplan check the two-strand workprint of "OPTIONS" on a multihead upright Moviola. Projection was accomplished by overlapping the images with two sync-motor projectors.

hour, juiced and lighted, rehearsed and ready to shoot in another. A difficult system, but one that enabled us to use sophisticated medical equipment, examining rooms, and real hospital personnel.

Casting non-professional actors is a tricky business, and OPTIONS employed some fifty teachers and students in important, tightly-scripted speaking parts. How was casting handled? In each of the three high schools, a "facilitator" was appointed — the school's drama teacher or the head of the Radio-TV department. The facilitator was given directions and forms for recruitment.

Then, in a single day, director Don Klugman, script secretary Sissel Hanssen and I visited all three schools, screened recruits on the basis of age, sex and acting ability, appointed extras and bit parts, and held a readoff for principal parts. Exhausting, but it worked!

Don Klugman and Ron Osso ordinarily work with the smallest possible crew, the lightest equipment. Director, cameraman, assistant, script secretary, grip, gaffer, recordist — these, with the special help of two TV students at each school, were our crew. With the Bolex EBM we carried eight Colortran 1000's and three Lowel Tota-Light kits. Our dolly was a wheelchair — our tape recorder an Uher 1000 with three Sony tie-clip mikes and a shotgun for difficult situations.

An Auricon with TV shutter enabled us to shoot interesting combinations of live and televised material in these modern TV-equipped schools. So often did we shoot television that it became standard practice for our crew to adjust

the television units for maximum brightness, and to use readings off the TV screens to determine the general light level of the set.

Re-photographing motion pictures and slides in the classroom, our problem was to boost the brightness of the projected image to an ASA that was photographable on 7252. One obvious solution was to use Xenon projectors, which we did. Another solution, incorporated later in the filming, was to cover the school projection screens with Scotchlite. This, combined with Xenon projection, gave us the necessary screen brilliance.

To demonstrate an interesting outof-school activity, our crew donned scuba gear and photographed a student collecting biological specimens underwater. A Bolex underwater camera housing and a 10mm. wide-angle lens did the job in a suburban swimming pool. To give the illusion of authenticity, we held sea plants, mounted on long poles, within camera range, and we turned live fish loose in the pool. Because the fish had difficulty surviving in chlorinated water, we found ourselves constantly recovering them, giving them R&R in fresh water, and replacing them with new

Another outside activity took a group of students and our crew to the communications room of the Cook County Police Department, where a house electrician informed us that 20,000 watts of power were available for our lights. After everything blew, he reevaluated, and the shoot proceeded smoothly.

Even during night shooting outdoors we did not compromise our decision to

shoot 7252 at its normal ASA. Eight battery-operated Sun-Guns were standard night equipment for our crew, and we shot at wide aperture to capture relatively dim headlights and street signs.

Among the many special effects in OPTIONS are the photography of polarized crystal slides in the school laboratory and a shot of a photographic print developing before our eyes — a simple match-dissolve with locked-down camera. Transparent globes and lab equipment are used as transitions, and long shots and closeups of the same moving subject are superimposed for greater insight into the meaning of that subject.

When initial location shooting was complete, the real job of constructing OPTIONS began. It was then that Don Klugman, working with film editor Barbara Kaplan, began to shoot the colorful multisurface images that give this film its unique character.

"The ideal equipment," says Don, "would have been a horizontal animation stand with aerial image capability. You see, our three-dimensional translucent shapes were actually plastic cubes, slightly altered from a set purchased in a toy store. And the moving pictures that appear on and between the cubes were projected with a pair of sync-motor Bell and Howell projectors.

"Doing the job the low-budget way, we used a periscope-like arrangement of mirrors to either front-project or rear-project a two-inch-wide picture that we re-photographed with our crystal-controlled camera. As the film's ideas became more complex, the Continued on Page 1283

A CAMERAMAN'S DIARY Continued from Page 1227

night. This means shooting many interior-to-exterior shots. I found this to be a real challenge. I felt some more tests were necessary, as I really didn't know of any day-for-night, interior-to-exterior having been shot before. Of course, many exterior day-for-night shots have been made with much success over the past years. Shooting out to sea with a very hot ocean and sky line, I had my work cut out for me.

I first put a combination of 85-60 1/4" gels on the windows; then I added two more 60 neutrals and, by building up the foreground inside to about 600 footcandles, it looked like it might work. 85-N60 is two 3/4 stops, as a 30 neutral is one stop, and an 85 is 3/4 of a stop; so I had six 3/4 stops less light now from exterior to interior.

Now, waiting to see these tests, I can shoot from the results. I made many day-for-night tests at different balances. I even tried some shots without filters on the windows or doors, using arc lights.

SEPTEMBER 22:

Today was the big day! I feel all got off to a good start. I was shooting day exterior; then later in the week nightfor-night. I worked at 100 footcandles and force-developed the night work. By doing this, I had a larger selection of lenses.

I have now seen the day-for-night tests and I'm happy to write that they look very promising. The tests showed that the gels on the windows and doors worked best. They will limit the entrance and exit type shots, but the Director liked the look so much that he will work with me on this situation.

The first week of shooting is over. We learned a lot this week about working on the boat. As I wrote before, it is only 36 feet long, with a small cabin interior. The new Panaflex camera really made it possible to shoot within the boat without taking it apart, so no mock-up had to be built. I can't say enough in praise of this camera.

We also had a chance to work off the modules that were built to work around the boat. Three 20 x 20 modules were built. Each unit can be self-propelled, or they can be bolted together for a larger floating platform.

SEPTEMBER 29:

This week we started working at the "Hudson House". This is George C. Scott's home in the picture. It has been an interesting week for me, as we shot a lot of the interior-to-exterior day-fornight. I have seen some of it and think it



On the Kauai location for "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM", Fred Koenekamp's birthday was lavishly celebrated with a "luau" (the Hawaiian word for "party" or "feast"), complete with pretty girl cheerleaders (?), a camera-emblazoned birthday cake and a brass band. The hard-working crew found little after-hours fun on this sparsely populated island and took advantage of such occasions to let off steam.

is a most rewarding look. It's very interesting to see Scott working at his desk while through the big French doors you can just make out the rolling surf.

OCTOBER 6:

During this week, we were back at the harbor for more day scenes. We have encountered a number of backlight conditions. I used the pola-screen to help with the hot back-light on the water. You can get some very interesting shots this way.

Wednesday we will start one of the more interesting sequences to be shot for this picture — the shark sequence. One of Scott's sons is spear fishing when a Hammerhead shark appears. This is definitely not meant to be another "JAWS" scene. Rather, it is just one scene to show the relationship developing between Scott and his sons. This will be shot inside a reef area for two reasons. The first is the story point. They are supposed to be swimming inside a reef and the calmer water makes it possible to work off the modules. The Art Department has furnished us with a flying bridge mock-up to work off the beach. It's too rough at sea. (I would prefer to work right in the water for true realism.) We are expecting the new Nelson Tyler Gyro Mount this week to try out for the water work. I am most anxious to see how much this new unit can help us in rough water.

Although we had some rough water inside the reef, the week went well. Again, we shot off the 36-foot boat and

the modules. The modules ride much better than the boat. Due to a four-day time delay on the film shipments, we won't see this film or the Gyro test film until next week. There is some underwater work to be done to complete this sequence, but we will not do it until later.

OCTOBER 14:

The Gyro test was most impressive. We will use this unit aboard the mother ship and for the fishing sequence. It seems to take out most of the horizontal roll. Except for the underwater shots, we completed the shark scenes.

OCTOBER 19:

We started working at sea on the modules and the 36-foot Hudson boat. We have what we call a "mother ship", which is a small freighter that tows the modules. Mounted on the foreward deck is the Chapman Boom which can lower its arm over the side of the ship for up-and-down movement and put the camera right on top of the water.

The 750-amp Generator is also on the mother ship and about 150 feet of cable is run out to the modules. I have two Brutes and four 9-lights with us on the modules. With lights, cameras, Grip equipment and around 23 people aboard, it does get crowded at times.

Today we had rough weather and some weldings broke loose, so we had to come in to port. By the way, this is the fishing sequence we are working Continued on Page 1278

STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT LENSES

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FILM VS. VIDEO MYTHS Continued from Page 1250

edge of their own medium among the video producers have, however, made the sponsors realize that their video adventures were not as rewarding in communicative and economical terms as they had expected. Several have 'reverted' to film.

The world's major broadcasting companies have one quality in common with France. They all seem to think that the world ends at their own borders. At least, they choose to act as if the outside world did not exist. I have followed several BKSTS, SMPTE and NFTU conferences on 'Film vs/and/or Tape' and got the impression that the future life of cinematography depends on whether CBS, BBC or the Swedish Broadcasting Corporation close down their film departments.

Such is, of course, not the case. They may do whatever they like with film encourage it, discourage it or kill it. Instructional films, educational films, promotional films, industrial films, scientific films, political films, short films, feature films, pornographic films, amateur films, experimental films, advertising films and animated films will still continue to be produced in large numbers. Eastman Kodak, the labs, the cinematographers, the film producers and Ed diGiulio will still live and perhaps even flourish. I fear that the broadcasters have over-estimated their own importance in this case. They are important, they are trendsetters, but not the centre of gravity in the world of film

Where ENG fails

I'm convinced that the broadcasters have entered a period of accelerating ENG usage. According to my 'twosteps-forward-and-one-reverse' ory, they will probably rediscover film in a few years after a series of ENG tests and applications. The whole truth about ENG has not been revealed. I spoke recently to a film cameraman who had just done his first job with a portable, professional television camera. He described it as 'fun', but complained that interior interviews with a person in front of a window with a sunlit exterior could not be done. The electronics could not cope with the contrasts. Furthermore, when he was shooting at dusk and happened to pan across a bright part of the winter sky, the strangest things happened to the image. That could not be done.

It has been said that ENG saves money and in some cases also labour. It might also create new jobs (windowfilter applicator with a personal staplegun). If these new electronic marvels cannot cope with a sunlit exterior without the aid of three layers of ND filter or 4kW of HMI light, or handle quick pans from dark to light or vice versa, then they have disqualified themselves as news-gathering tools right from the start. But you can, of course, try to avoid windows and skies, all those things which bring depths into the picture.

Mr. J. Flaherty of CBS, the loudest and most eloquent ENG spokesman I have met so far, does not speak of these things. He lives in the abstract world of numbers, statistics and conferences, presumably removed from the dirt of practicalities. In principle he is probably right. Theoretically, it's probably possible to save as much as 30-40 per cent of your operational costs by switching from film to ENG. However, as far as practice and grass-roots reality is concerned, I prefer to add a large Swanbergian question mark.

We must also not forget that the rapid growth of ENG in American television is partly dictated by the fact that the NTSC system allows the use of simpler and cheaper recording technology than applies to SECAM and PAL (quantity television vs. quality television). From what I understand, ENG à la CBS is economically viable only in areas with a so-called high news event frequency, i.e.: big cities. In Sweden we are experiencing a gradual decentralisation and we find large corporation and government departments and agencies spreading all over the country, far beyond the reach of microwave transmitters. The American ENG experiences - and enthusiasm, I might add - cannot be directly applied to Swedish newsgathering.

Defining 'video'

I have used the word 'video' often here. I have also used it carelessly and in such a way that it implies knowledge of what it really means. Do *you* know what 'video' means?

Video, as a collective term or basic concept, is not defined in most dictionaries or encyclopaedias. Nord-Video, the Scandinavian group of video publishers, defines video in the following way: Video comes from Latin and means 'to see'. In the video concept we can also include photographs, films and still films. Generally, the meaning of the word is limited to such audiovisual programmes which are created by means of video signals (the electronic signals which produce images on a TV screen).

Lars Edling, video expert at the

University of Lund, writes: The formal difference between television and video is that television involves broadcasting, while video means playback from a video recorder connected to a TV monitor. This fundamental difference makes television and video two completely different media.

The Videogram Committee at the Swedish Broadcasting Corporation writes the following in their latest report: In a technical sense video means systems, equipment, etc., for the recording and playback of moving pictures with sound, in which the information in one or several stages exists in the form of video signals.

The Swedish Broadcasting Corporation defines video in such a way as to also include their own main activity, broadcasting. They seem to have the ambition of being everything that has anything to do with television. Very large numbers of videotape programmes are being produced today outside the large broadcasting companies. The American video industry produced over 13,000 programme titles in 1973, which was more than NBC, CBS and ABC broadcast together during prime time the same year.

Personally I prefer to exclude broad-cast television from my definition of video, otherwise you might end up with chaos or submit to the general semantic pollution. My definition, not necessarily better than the others, goes as follows: Video means all recording of pictures and sound intended to be shown on a television screen but not broadcast by a public broadcasting company.

Video for communities

Why all this confusion? Film is film and video is video, isn't it? It is not quite that simple. Video is today becoming as complex, diverse and unsurveyable as film has been for many years. When we pros speak about film/video we refer to a battle between two methods of information storage, between two information carriers - film and videotape. Video, however, is also a medium and a new industry based on non-broadcast television. It's the growing activity in videocassette production and distribution, CCTV. sales training, education/information and, of course, the approaching video discs, which have given new meaning to the word 'video' and added confusion to a previously stable world of media and communication concepts.

Video today is no longer limited to large corporations, institutions and government agencies. Today we have Continued on Page 1289

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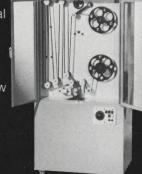
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PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE Continued from Page 1235

Remove the magazine from the camera, and also remove the takeup door.

Take a pair of scissors and cut the film, one piece at a time in the following places on the take-up side:

Before and after the bottom takeup film gate.

At the top and bottom on the pressure plate.

Before and after the top take-up film gate.

On the feed side: Before and after film gate.

Examine each piece of film as you cut it, looking for the origin of any scratch. These procedures can be used for both 16mm and 35mm cameras.

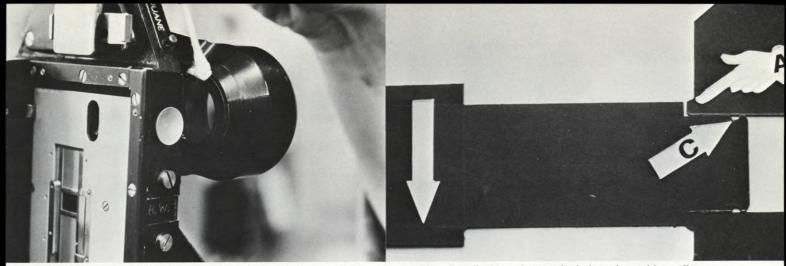
A special note should be made here about removing the magazine doors. When you take the first one off, place it face up on a counter or table. If you take the second one off, lay one on top of the other. If you lay the inside of the door directly on the table there is a tendency to pick up the miscellaneous dirt from the area. The object, of course, is to keep hairs and dust from being transported with the film.

If the door needs cleaning (and they sometimes do,) use a brush or canned air. Canned air should be used only as directed. For doors that have a corduroy type of insulation, a piece of tape rolled around your hand will clean them quite adequtely.

For NPR owners who need to run film through the magazine with the take-up door off, you must first open the film guide, which is normally open when the

(ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Dianne T. Saba, owner of Saba Camera Service, has lectured for cinema students and professionals alike at various universities and seminars. She especially enjoys the cinema student and frequently entertains questions at her shop. Saba Camera Service is the official agent in the United States and Mexico for Soremec Eclair USA Inc.)





(LEFT) FIGURE 7 — Check seating areas, lens and camera for dirt or burrs. Wipe dirt off with a clean, soft cloth or, for stubborn dirt, use a wooden toothpick or an orange stick (never metal). (RIGHT) FIGURE 8 — Zoom lenses present problems because of their weight. Therefore, it is extremely important to use a lens support and eliminate any possibility of the heavy zoom pulling away from the camera, thereby changing focal plane distance.

door is on the magazine. To open the guide, push it forward with your finger and insert a Q-tip. You can now run film through without the film guide scratching.

CABLE TROUBLESHOOTING

There is nothing more frustrating than having a production down because of a faulty cable. It is recommended that you always carry extras. But, if you're having a problem and you suspect a broken wire, you can trouble-shoot in the field. (If the cables are not outfitted with Canon-type connectors, or if the plug has more than 5 pins, it can be difficult to repair in the field.)

However, if you want to give it a go, disassemble the plug and look for the obvious (like a broken wire.) While looking at the face of the plug, note that each pin is numbered. Also the wires are different colors. One end of the plug should correspond with the other, (i.e., the white wire on the #2 pin of the female plug will also be the white wire on the #2 pin of the male plug.) If you find only one broken wire, it will be obvious where it belongs. But, if you find more than one broken wire, you

should be able to carefully trace the correct wiring by following the numbers on the pins. You will, however, need a soldering iron to make these repairs adequately.

CATASTROPHES OF NATURE

If you are a cinematographer who gets hit by an ocean wave or two, damage to your camera would probably be localized to the lens, IF you have covered the rest of your camera firmly in plastic. (Garbage bags, which can be purchased at any market and are extremely easy to store, make a good camera-cover when you're around water, and are flexible enough to allow you to still handle the camera.) But if your camera is not covered, and your equipment gets wet or has been dropped in sand, you have a real problem. The first thing to remember is to NEVER run the camera when it is wet or sandy. The second is to rinse the equipment in FRESH water as fast as possible to retard the corrosion of the salt water. Separate the motor and lens from the camera body and handle each one as follows:

Camera: Leave it in FRESH water, in a

plastic bag or bucket, and get it to the repair shop as quickly as possible. Do not let it dry out.

Motor: Rinse it in fresh water, and leave it out to dry.

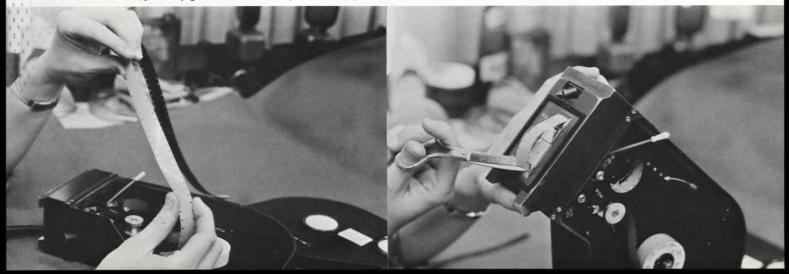
Lens: Rinse it in fresh water and leave it out to dry.

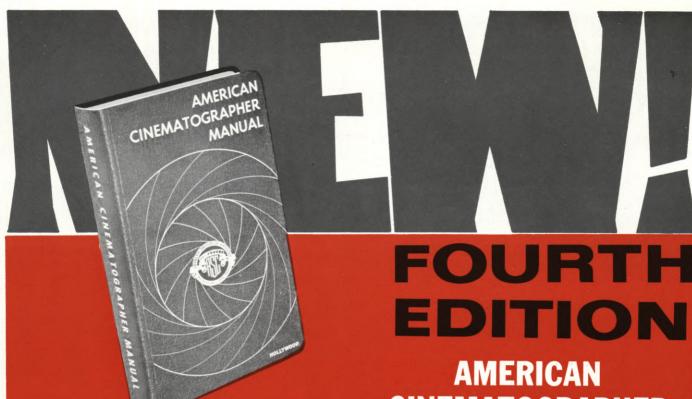
Do not soak the lens, as water can enter easily and cause more damage. Look at the front element and check for water inside. If you find water, and have the proper size screwdriver, you can remove four screws and drain the water out. Around the focus ring you will find eight small screws. Remove two from one side and two from the opposite side. Then set the lens at an angle to drain the water out.

If you have water inside the zoom barrel, remove the three screws directly above the focus collar. Then unscrew the lens and drain out the water. If you do not have a screwdriver, or if the screws will not come loose easily, leave the lens in the upright position so that water can do as little damage as possible.

In any case, get the equipment to the Continued on Page 1282

(LEFT) FIGURE 9 — To test for scratching, run a few feet of film through the camera, remove film from the takeup core and angle it so that the light will reflect off of it. (RIGHT) FIGURE 10 — Remove the magazine from the camera and also remove the takeup door. With a scissors, cut the film, one piece at a time, in the following places: Before and after the bottom takeup film gate, at the top and bottom on the pressure plate, before and after the top takeup gate. Examine each piece, looking for the origin of the scratch.





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WORLD OF HEMINGWAY Continued from Page 1229

have taken as much effort there as anywhere else. After looking all over we realized that we were not going to find the ultimate location without going farther and farther from any kind of population center, with everything beginning to get scarcer and scarcer. So when the decision was made to take a really hard look at the Hawaiian Islands, I was aware that Ken knew more about that area than anybody, so I said to him: "Rather than make another big trip, why don't you show us the three best places - right off the top of your head - and we'll take a look at those three places and think about them." The place where we finally built the little harbor was one of them. We looked at a couple of others on Maui, but it would have been too tough to shoot around the mountains there. The one on Kauai looked like the most ideal place for the harbor terrainwise, and the next consideration was what exactly to do with it. I thought about it for a couple of days and slept on it. Then I sketched a few things and, working virtually from those thumbnail sketches, that's exactly what we built.

QUESTION: As a matter of curiosity, had any consideration been given to the possibility of shooting the picture in California?

CREBER: That would have seemed like an easy solution, except that there is very little of the California coastline that has the right water conditions or the pictorial cloud conditions. (The clouds can work for and against the cameraman. They look beautiful, but can drive him crazy trying to match.) At any rate, when we finally found the ideal location for that harbor, we sent a four-wheeldrive vehicle out and it immediately got stuck in the sand. The head of Transportation said: "Gee, couldn't we pick an easier location to get to?" And I said: "If we're going to get it on film, that's the place to do it and we'll just have to find the right equipment to get there. I've been all over this island and that's the only place to do this sequence." This picture has been an effort on everyone's part, but it's the kind of thing I like to do. I'd just like to do a whole string of "personal" pictures, one after another.

QUESTION: Speaking of that little harbor, with all those structures that look as though they've been there forever — is it true that you built all of that from scratch?

CREBER: Yes. Everything you see there now we built. There just wasn't any-



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thing there before, except a few houses way off in the distance. Included in what we built was a kind of pavilion, because we wanted the kind of structure we could see through. We didn't want to block what we had come there to see. We wanted to keep as much of that environment in the picture as possible. All of the other buildings were situated so that they were in the middle of open places, so that we could see as much of the terrain as possible.

QUESTION: That one large imposing structure, the Commissioner's house — that isn't used for shooting practical interiors, is it?

CREBER: No. The inside is used only for storage, and we put just enough in back of the facade to cover the main camera angle. That's really the one actual "movie set" out there. But there again, that building, to my mind, had to be a structure worthy of burning down, as called for in the script. If it had been merely the Commissioner's shack, who the hell would care? Some people were kind of surprised at how big it got, but I said: "Well, the guy is the Commissioner of the island, so it should be a fairly important building in order to give him some substance." So, as it worked out, that building, although we never get near it, really becomes the balance of the whole set. It kind of makes it appear that there is more population there and it is a bit more important than if it had been a smaller, lesser building. It was probably the toughest one of all to build, because of the height. But inside they just built a tower and a fence around it and put the rafters in. Then, as things went around the corner, we just quit working on it. If you aren't going to see it, we don't build anymore. It was hard to stop, because everyone wanted to finish that building. I caught them shingling the back one day, and said: "Oh no, just tar paper. The camera will never get back there."

QUESTION: Did you use all local construction people, or did you bring some of them with you?

CREBER: We brought six or eight people from Hollywood and the rest were obtained through a local contractor. They were very good people. In fact, our guys were saying that there were three or four of the local people that they wished we had in Hollywood, because of their enthusiasm and workmanship and ability to handle tools. I watched the good ones work, people who had never seen the likes of us before, and they sure fell into the spirit

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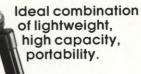
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and got a great deal of satisfaction from what they were doing. We built all the sets in just 34 working days.

QUESTION: Hudson's house - was that also built from scratch?

CREBER: Yes. That kind of location is always tough on art directors, from the standpoint of preserving what you saw that made you choose it on the day that you did. There was a road and existing trees that we wanted to preserve, so we set up a plan to build another road that would come in behind the trees. We walked it off and came in with a bulldozer that graded the whole working area, avoiding the grove of trees and working back around behind where the house would be. The bulldozer operator was told to come in over the dune, drop his blade and level the site going backwards. Then we built a fence all the way around the site about three feet out from where the foundation would be. The workmen on the set never went out into the undergrowth during the entire time that they were building the house. It was all done from the back. When it was completed, we took the fence down, raked a little bit, and the place was just as virgin as the day we got there. I've seen sites like that which just got demolished during the building process, necessitating complete replanting. All we did was put in five palm trees, which we watered every day.

QUESTION: When the shooting is completed, you'll have to put everything back the way it was originally right?

CREBER: Yes, that's the problem, But I think we can grade out the dune so that it will have a natural contour and then plant a little bit. That's a very arid part of the island, so not too much would grow unless you really tended it. The growth that's there now is really old growth.

QUESTION: That main building at the little harbor — the two-story structure with the bar on the lower floor - that has completely practical interiors and appears to have been built exactly as a real bar would be, with no concessions made for lights or cameras. Was this done because of the current voque for shooting in actual interiors where the existing structure can't be changed? In other words, when you build such a set, do you build it just like a real structure would be?

CREBER: Well, sometimes I do, but that wasn't the case here. That building has a lot of wild walls. The back wall comes out: all the porch walls come out; one post in the room is wild, and it's also the kind of structure that is easily cut into. I discussed all that with Fred Koenekamp and told him that if he had to go up to mount any of his lights high, we could simply cut through with a skilsaw and pull out some of the boards. It would be easy to do because it's all open frame. It isn't a double wall thing. So if they had to go back out through a wall that wasn't wild, they could simply kick the boards out. It would be easier to do that and repair it than build a whole structure that is wild.

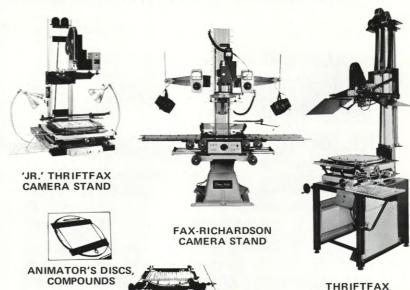
QUESTION: Has the Hudson house been built in the same way?

CREBER: No, that's one that really is completely wild. It's actually a pavilion that's standing on six posts, and all of the exterior and interior walls are wild. It's designed in such a way that all the exterior walls are surrounded by porches or sheds. This means that you can pull out any wall and drop a tarp and the structure is already there to house the camera. The bathroom was the set for the first sequence shot in the house. All the walls were wild, with a ceiling piece just laid on top. The floor is a complete structural system by itself, with floorboards laid over plywood. This provides a double floor that is as strong as that of any sound stage, so that you can use dollies and cranes on it. My objective in designing a set like the Hudson house is, hopefully, to have it appear on the screen as much like an actual live interior as possible, but with as many conveniences of a sound stage as possible.

QUESTION: I noticed inside that former airplane hangar, where the fake Spitfires are being built, two small sets. Can you tell me about those?

CREBER: Well, the main sets in this picture, like the Hudson house and the buildings at the small harbor that we've been talking about, are what I call exterior-interior sets, because they allow for continuous action from the outside into the buildings or vice versa. Aside from that, 99% of the sequences are done in outdoor situations, making this virtually an outdoor picture. However, there is one short sequence that is out of context with the rest of the picture in that respect, but which involves two small interior sets. One of them is the interior of a New England boys' school where a voice-over letter is being read by one of Hudson's sons. There are two of his sons at that school

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and their discussion of getting a letter from Dad adds up to a half-day's shooting. The other piece of that sequence that is sort of out of context with the mainstream of the picture takes place in an airbase outside of London during the Battle of Britain, where the third son, the older one, is shown receiving a letter. This is an odd thing that happens once in a while in production design. You read a script and do a set list and establish a location look for the picture and a certain visual flow and then you discover that there are a couple of things on the list that are really against everything else in the picture - like the two sets I've just mentioned.

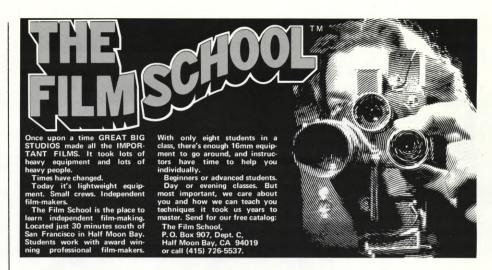
QUESTION: What do you do then?

CREBER: You discipline yourself to give them as much thought and attention as the major sets that account for the overall visual style. In this case, we researched New England boys' schools, picked up what would be an interesting look for a school dormitory and then designed a set that seemed to suit the action and mood. I am a great disbeliever in the co-called "nondescript" set. When you first read the script for almost any film, you find that there is a hotel room or a New England dormitory, or a motel room, or something like that, and you find yourself tempted to think: "Well, it's any kind of room. Who cares?" Instead I try to do something interesting with every single set that I do. It's got to mean something. I learned this from an experience I had working for George Cukor on the film "JUSTINE" and it has become, as much as I can make it, my philosophy of art direction. On that picture the script called for a hospital room, a kind of throwaway thing. It had been done, while I was away, as a cover set and they had found a set in the studio and put together this hospital room with a bed and a chair and that's about all. When Mr. Cukor came onto the picture to replace the former director I showed him the set and he said: "Where are we? What is this room? What does it mean? I don't understand it." I said: "Well, it's a hospital room - and what's in a hospital room?" He said: "Let me ask you a question. If it was 1939 and we were in Alexandria, Egypt [the locale of the story] and we were in a private room of the Jewish hospital, surely the room wouldn't look like this, would it?" And I knew exactly what he meant. That room didn't mean anything. It didn't establish character. It didn't tell you anything about anything. It was just a room. So much work is done in motion

pictures on sets like that. But right then, as far as I was concerned, it began to sink in that every set has got to mean something to the story; it's got to make people believe. Another thing Mr. Cukor said that same day was: "You've got to remember something about our business: it's make-believe. The audience goes into the theatre knowing that they are about to see a story fabricated for the screen. It's our challenge to make them believe our makebelieve. Everything should go toward directing their attention to the story and making them believe every single frame of film - because the words coming out of those actors won't mean a thing if they are surrounded with something that is fake." In the case of Hudson's house, once I had satisfied myself that I believed that entire set, the next step was to get Frank Schaffner to approve it, but the ultimate was to have George C. Scott walk in there and say: "This is what it ought to be." When an actor is comfortable in a set and really believes it, that set helps him get into the role. In this case, the set was accepted 100%.

QUESTION: "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" is being shot entirely on location, although the interiors are not real buildings, but breakaway (wild wall) sets built to look like the real thing. Do you think the current trend to shoot completely on location is necessarily the best way to go from the artistic and economic standpoints?

CREBER: I believe very seriously that what the camera sees is the last court of appeal, so the answer to your question depends upon the degree of meticulous planning that goes into a film, plus the skill of the technicians working on it. To use "JUSTINE" as an example again, when George Cukor took over that picture, he threw out whole scenes because he wanted to reshoot them, but he kept the long shots because they were elaborate exteriors shot on location in North Africa and the studio insisted that he save them. All of the reshooting was to be done in the studio, and because I had been on the North African location and had done all the research and paid attention to how they mix colors over there, we were able to build a section of marketplace that was a good match. The set decorator had also been with us in North Africa and he came up with all kinds of jars of olives to dress the set. I wanted to build our set outside because the original footage had been shot in bright African sunlight, but Leon Shamroy, who was the Director of Photography, insisted that it be built on the sound





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stage. When the picture was cut, you could not tell the difference between the African footage and the footage shot on the sound stage. This made me realize that we might be back at a point where, as in the old days, it would be possible to shoot all the long master shots on location (perhaps even using doubles) and shoot the rest of the picture on the backlot and in the sound stages. This could well be the way to go on a really big picture that might be almost impossible to shoot on location because of the logistics and expense involved - granted, of course, that very careful planning is done and the people involved really know what they're doing.

QUESTION: You have coming up for "ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" a wild chase that takes place on the river, a purely exterior sequence. How involved will you be in that kind of sequence?

CREBER: Where I come in is in the making of a plan or diagram of this chase. Frank Schaffner first worked out a progression for the action. Then we designed a hypothetical river and fit all his action elements into it, stringing them out so that you could actually follow the chase through our map, so to speak. In the shooting, all these individual areas on the map will be depicted as separate locations, but with a continuous flow of action. We do this sort of thing a lot. On "POSEIDON ADVENTURE", the first thing we did was take an upside-down ship in profile and cut the side away. We then planned how much distance it would take to go through the action of the story. The sets were planned accordingly, with attention to left-to-right and right-to-left movement and all that. As a result, the director always knew where people should come into a set and where they were going and where they should turn in a corridor. There was a consistent progression of action, even though the sets were built on eight different sound stages. I assume that everyone plans the same way on any picture where there is some kind of trek involved. You take the trek and map the movement, so that all of the pieces will fit together. I've even plugged in a sketch of each set-up for the chase through our hypothetical island. What we're going to try to do later is find an island in the Bahamas that has the same elements that we'll shoot here and then do a bird's-eye view from a helicopter to tie the geography together. In fact, I know the island that would be perfect for such a transition shot.

QUESTION: It seems ironical to me that here on a volcanic island like Kauai the mountains are the most beautiful element of the scenery, but you don't dare shoot them.

CREBER: That's not what this story is about, unfortunately. It's as limiting as a sound stage when maybe it's a bright sunny day outside, but you're inside the stage shooting against a sky backing.

QUESTION: Can you tell me a bit about the boats used in this picture?

CREBER: Whenever you open a script and see the word "boats" you've got a problem. What made it worse in this case was that we needed period boats - old boats that would still run. We looked at every boat in Hawaiian waters and came up with a few that would run, but nothing that was really right. We really felt that, for all practical purposes, we needed two identical boats one as a back-up in case anything went wrong. As time got shorter and we grew more desperate I went all out to find the right boats. After looking at hundreds in Los Angeles harbor, I looked at 9,000 boats in Newport Bay, which is the number reportedly based there. Finally, at the last marina in Newport, I found a boat that was just right. Starting with that one, and by means of some dogged detective work, I eventually found seven matching 36foot cruisers, all built by the Stevens Company in 1936, 1937 and 1938. There was one in Dana Point, one in Alamedas Bay and one in Newport. Eventually we also found one in Newport Beach, one at the St. Francis Yacht Club and one in Sausalito. I never could find the seventh one, but I didn't need to. At that point I turned the problem over to our Boat Master, Manny Lewis, and told him to get the two best boats at the best price and ship them. There were subtle differences, but we made them look exactly alike by means of repainting and refinishing. By the time we had added flying bridges, outriggers and all that, the boats were 90% duplicates of Hemingway's Pilar.

QUESTION: It sounds like your job involves much more than artistic and creative ability — bulldog persistence, for one thing.

CREBER: True. But it's a great career and I love it. I don't think that there is anything that I could do that would be as interesting or as diversified. On each picture you can put to use abstract knowledge you've learned from the ones that went before. But the mechanics are never the same. It's always a new deal.



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A CAMERAMAN'S DIARY Continued from Page 1262

on. We will still try later for some good marlin fishing footage that can be cut into this scene, as well as for the blue backing.

The modules, with the Hudson boat docked within them, are working out well. We are getting shots that leave no question whether you are at sea. I find my biggest problem is trying to stay in some direction so that the sun will work for me. I don't mean full sun, but half or three-quarter and some back-light shots. The sky is really hot at times, so balance is a big problem. Clouds, too, pose a problem. They come and go so quickly here that it's quite impossible to match backgrounds all day.

For the past several days, we have been fighting weather. It is cloudy most of the day with some rain, so it's very difficult to start a sequence and finish it with the same type of light. Lots of time is lost waiting for the light changes. I would like it to stay cloudy all day as I like the look of overcast skies.

OCTOBER 27:

This has been quite a week - rough seas and so much overcast. We made some modification on the boat module and it is really seaworthy now. We can also obtain more camera angles than we could before. Thursday, we worked off the mother ship and used the Chapman Boom. We mounted the new Tyler Gyro Mount on it and it seems to be working very well. With the boom arm up 22' and the ship rolling in the seas, believe me, you need some help. Next week Cameraman Bill Fraker is coming over to shoot the marlin fishing. I hope he has better luck than I did. I have suggested the Tyler Mount to him for the long lens shooting. I know it will be a very big help to him,

NOVEMBER 2:

Clouds, clouds and more clouds! It seems every day it's harder to put in a complete shooting day. We have now seen the footage shot with the Tyler Gyro Mount and it is very good. We are working around the Hudson House and again at the small boat harbor. We are to have a Production meeting this Sunday, November 9, as we will start filming the big ocean sequence in about ten days. This is where Hudson leaves for Cuba and picks up refugees at sea and tries to help them. They are attacked by two Coast Guard boats and quite an action sequence develops. We will again be at sea shooting off the modules that have worked so well.

We are scheduled to shoot day-fornight out at sea, but, I believe I will try to talk them into shooting night-for-night. The sky and horizon lines are at times so very hot that, at this point, it would be nearly impossible to obtain a good day-for-night balance. We would have to really burn up faces with light and I have found that sometimes it's just not possible to obtain that much light. Also, it is very hard on actors. (I'm happy to say that the Director agreed with me and this work will be night shooting.)

NOVEMBER 10:

We finished shooting in two of our major sets, the Hudson House and the small boat harbor. I'm also glad to finish the last day-for-night interior-toexterior shots. I feel the day-for-night has worked out quite well. I only hope others feel the same. Friday, I shot my first blue-backing shots without a Special Effects Cameraman standing by. It will be some time before I know if it all worked out well. The other Unit is still trying for marlin fishing footage that goes into the blue screen. This is a process I really want to learn much more about, as today there are only a few Special Effects Cameramen still working.

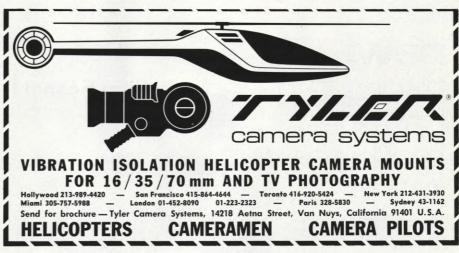
The Company is now back working off the Hudson Boat on the module setup. In fact, the rest of our shooting schedule is all on the water. It will continue for about three to four weeks. We are working nights, and lighting the very small interior of the cabin on the boat is, at times, a problem. When I say problem, I mean you can't always get just exactly the look you would like to have. In this case, it usually ends up a fuller look than I would like for night interior.

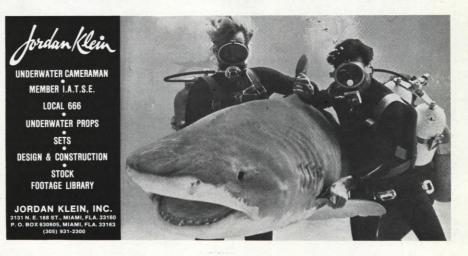
(Footnote: Cameraman Bill Fraker had no better luck than we did in getting the marlin footage, so it had to be obtained elsewhere.)

NOVEMBER 17:

This week we worked part days and part nights. The night work is now finished. We have two more days at sea on the modules. I know the whole company will be happy to have this work completed. Although the module system has worked very well, it's still tough working conditions. The seas have been very rough. Thursday, we had a real thrill while working on the 36foot Hudson Boat. The seas were fairly rough and we got into a following sea. A big wave just picked up the boat and we were sure we were going over. I didn't know a boat could lean so far and not go on over. We will start shooting in the river area next week. That is our last set, except for some post-production shots I have mentioned from time to time.







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NOVEMBER 20:

What a week this has been for this Production Company! It started raining last Sunday night and rained hard until Wednesday. Nothing was shot on Monday or Tuesday. We were able to pick up a couple of shots in the river area on Wednesday. Thanksgiving Day was fairly clear and nice. Friday and Saturday we were again at the river where we shot the beginning of this big sequence. Here, the big problem facing a Cameraman is the high contrast within the heavy greens at the river banks. The sun hits the river very little. It's slow work getting the picture boats into place; then the equipment boats into position for their work. We are again using the modules in their smallest form, which is 10' x 20'. Right now it appears we will finish this picture just before Christmas. (A personal point: I have always wanted to own a boat, but right now I feel I have had enough of boats to last for some time.)

DECEMBER 1:

This was a good working week. Morale is higher for everyone. The river area is slow working, but our master plan of making it work is now paying off. The 750-amp generator is on one small module; then we have the camera, lights and grip module. We place them for each area. As I wrote before, the high contrast is my biggest problem. I can't believe how dark it can get under the heavy foliage. The density is almost like a complete overhead blanket. Where the sun does manage to come through, there is a very hot spot. Mostly I'm using two arcs with silks and double nets on them just for soft fill-light. It's easy to over-light in this kind of situation. We will be getting into the final action sequence this week and this should wrap the first u.....

DECEMBER 8:

Other than the now daily overcast and rain; the last few days on the first unit went well. We shot the big escape scenes where Scott's (or Hudson's) boat gets away from the Cuban Coast Guard. Scott sets a big fire in the mouth of the river to block the Cuban boat. Though I wish it could have been a much bigger fire for a more spectacular photographic image, we were restricted by the Hawaiian Dept. of Parks as to its size. However, they were very cooperative with us in the river area and we were able to do pretty much what we needed to do. The trees and brush along the river banks were so thick we had to use chain saws to cut paths for equipment and people to get through.

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DECEMBER 15:

We wrapped the first unit today. This means we finished working with the principal actors. We now have about seven days of post-production work the boats running through the reefs, the miniature boat hitting the reef and shots of the marlin in the water.

DECEMBER 20:

One interesting marlin shot was a rubber marlin about 16' in length forced out of the water by an air mortar. For this scene the boat was in the background and the large marlin was jumping out of the ocean in the foreground. I used two cameras - one at 32 f.p.s. and one at 48 f.p.s. It turned out to be a very good shot. The miniature boat that hits the reef was half scale, so not too small. I used three cameras - one at 48 f.p.s. and two at 32 f.p.s. Long lenses were used so the boat would not appear small. This, too, worked very well.

On the last two days we did the helicopter shots. These shots will be used for title backgrounds.

On December 23 my Operator and I made the last helicopter shot in the morning and caught a noon flight for home - just in time for Christmas celebrations. There are still three days of underwater work to do - shots of the shark and the boy.

JANUARY 16:

As I have started on a new picture that Peter Bart and Max Palevsky are doing through Columbia, Schaffner used another crew on these underwater shots. Except for special photographic effects which are being filmed by Frank Van derVeer, the picture is complete.

Now the Director has to cut the picture until he gets all he feels he can from the film we shot. It must be a very tough job for a Director to cut down so much footage in order to get the picture into proper showing time.

In a couple of months I hope to be called in to see and help time a print. It's always up-tight time for me to see a first cut. I sit there and relive every scene we shot. Always you seem to ask yourself if you couldn't have done something better or different. It's so easy to criticize your own work. However, I feel this is going to be a picture I will be proud to have worked on.

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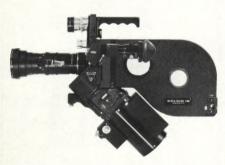
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PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE Continued from Page 1267

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Remember, on location in windy, dusty or sandy areas a simple plastic bag used as a camera cover could save you hours of costly camera repair.

Good shooting!

CINEMA WORKSHOP Continued from Page 1202

musical instruments most often involves the exact opposite technique. Instruments in the percussion or plucking family such as drums, piano, guitar, et cetera, often contain peaks that are 15 to 20 dB above their average signal as displayed by the VU meter. Keeping in mind that the VU meter is based on 8-10 dB headroom (for the human voice), it should be obvious that these musical instruments require an additional 5-10 dB of headroom (or peak room). Depending on the amount of peakiness, these instruments should therefore be recorded with a VU maximum of -5 to -10 dB. This will yield a total of 15 to 20 dB of headroom to accommodate those signal peaks to which the meter is unresponsive.

The use of the VU meter requires a knowledge of its principle as well as constant awareness of the nature of the recorded signal. Mastering the technique of the VU meter usually requires a significant amount of experience.

The peak meter or modulometer, in contrast, is far less mysterious and does not exhibit such a complex personality. We will take a close look at the peak type meter next and compare it to the VU meter in terms of practical recording.

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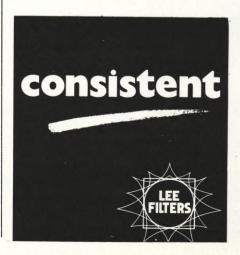
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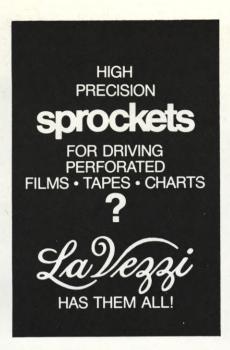
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MULTI-SURFACE IMAGES Continued from Page 1261

arrangements of cubes, projector setups and camera moves became correspondingly complex.

"Because the projectors were running at their normal speed of twenty-four frames per second, we were afraid we might scratch camera original, so we had dupes made for projection. If we had been working a frame at a time, on a stand, we could have used original, and the quality of our images would have been better."

Despite Don's disclaimer, the quality of the small projected images in OPTIONS is good, and the device is effective. As the camera scans plastic shapes, glowing with internal light, ideas and philosophies unfold. At the climax of idea-development, the camera arrives at a picture, in motion, illustrating the concept. A second camera move reveals another moving illustration. Through a barely-perceptible dissolve, the picture becomes a "real" picture, printed from camera original, and the story development continues.

To match the colors of our miniature images with those printed from camera original, some filtering was necessary. Don used a color-temperature meter to discover that the light from his Bell and Howell projectors was too "warm" to properly expose our 7252 film.

An 81B filter was indicated, and Don made tests using the filter on the camera lens and the projector lenses. For some unexplained reason, colors were more realistic with the filter on the camera — and that is the method that was used.

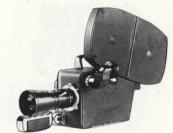
Titles were shot in the same setup, after being reduced to small cels that could be placed among the plastic shapes. Shallow depth of field was an advantage to Don, enabling him to reveal titles through changes in focus.

For the greatest dramatic effect, the cubes were lighted with a direct, focusable light source — a Kodak Carousel slide projector. Spill was avoided with flags and gobos, and reflection was eliminated by a black velvet curtain around the entire setup.

Editor Barbara Kaplan prepared the workprint on two separate rolls, so that side-by-side comparison of superimpositions could be made. She set the film for printing from five original picture rolls. In the re-recording, engineer Rick Coken blended twelve channels into a sophisticated track.

The result is an effective motion picture that helps the viewer to feel the importance of innovation and individualization in high school





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CREATING UNIQUE VISUAL EFFECTS FOR "OPTIONS" By DON B. KLUGMAN

Writer/Director

When our group at The Creative Establishment conceived a film about Individually Guided Education, I saw an opportunity to make a picture with "simultaneity" — sounds occurring at the same time as other sounds, and superimposed pictures. The film was scripted with four columns to the page — two for visuals, one for dialog and another for several different styles of narration.

With such a detailed script, shooting became a matter of translating script to visuals — the usual hassle of casting, lugging, shooting — and the unusual problem of dealing with a script in which nearly every scene is an entirely new lighting and sound setup.

To justify the amount of film we consumed. I have to point out that, throughout most of the production, at least two strands of original are running at the same time. Sometimes there are five strands. And none of it was done by chance. We planned our work, and we worked our plan.

The hangup was budget. At the point where we needed special effects, the foundation that financed the picture refused to go any farther. I had to either work out a low-budget method for shooting effects or change the script. So I went to work.

The problem was clear: to find an inexpensive way of combining three-dimensional shapes and two-dimensional motion pictures in the same frame, and to have the capability of moving from one to the other.

The solution to the problem was limited by the equipment at hand — a crystal-sync camera and two syncmotor projectors. The synchronous feature gave me reasonable assurance that all three shutters would open and close at about the same times. Beyond that, I had no assurances.

To begin, my assistant, Jane Gottlieb, built an experimental setup of plastic blocks, which we sidelighted with a Kodak Carousel projector and an old Sylvania Sun-Gun with a long snoot. With a three-diopter closeup lens on the camera, I practiced zooming in and out on the blocks. It looked good.

Next, I set up a projector behind the

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blocks, threaded and focused it, and projected a tiny image onto a little panel of ground glass among the blocks. Running around to the front, I took a reading, balanced the light level between blocks and motion picture, and made a few shots.

It worked - but - the grain of the ground glass was objectionable, the color was off, and the vibrating projector kept shaking blocks and ground glass out of focus.

The color problem was solved with an 81B filter, and the vibration situation was eased by notching and taping the blocks. However the grainy look was impossible to eliminate in a two-inch picture, though Jane and I tried several kinds of glass, frosted acetate and

Finally, with the glass removed, we projected an aerial image into the slot where the glass had been. Of course, this image was grain-free - but, to photograph it, I had to keep the camera pointed straight at the projector. I could zoom in or out, but panning or tilting meant the loss of the aerial image. This was OK for a few scenes in OPTIONS. but it wasn't the final answer.

Our next move was to front projection. We placed the projector out in front of the blocks, at a right angle to the setup, and inserted a first-surface mirror where we wanted to "turn" the image. For a screen, Jane cut a sticky Kum-Klean office label to the size of one block. Adjustment of the mirror threw a little picture onto the label - a picture that could be panned to, tilted to, zoomed to.

It worked. And, with the addition of a second projector and mirror, aimed from the other side, we had given ourselves the ability to re-photograph a motion picture - to zoom out, revealing that the motion picture is among colorful, indistinct shapes - to pan, tilt and change focus on artistic arrangements of those shapes - and, finally, to arrive at another motion picture.

Here was our special effect, created at a budget price. It would add an interesting touch to our film, but only a touch. Because I don't believe that any individual effect or trick can make a film.

The real questions in my mind were, "is our script valid?"; "did our live shooting capture the essential humanity of the people and the subject?"; "can our editing enhance the drama?"; "can re-recording and printing add to the clarity of the approach?".

If all of this works, then we may have a good film. Thoughts like that can make a man feel humble.

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FILMING "OFF THE EDGE" IN NEW ZEALAND Continued from Page 1256

just for the minicam, "which was fun because the flyers didn't have to worry about getting too close to the helicopter or flying in a special pattern for the ground crew."

In all, it took 25 separate flights over the two winters to get the material for the film — 35,000 feet in all. During the nine months they were on location, they wrenched a total of 50 clear filming days away from the weather.

THE GSAP FLIES A KITE

For point of view shots, they laced the GSAP camera with the 10mm Switar lens onto the kites. Geoff Cocks had fashioned a mount for the GSAP so that — again, racing the weather — all the flyer had to do was screw the camera into the mount Jeff had made, plug it in and he'd be ready to go. The Switar's definition was from a few inches to infinity.

One day they placed the GSAP camera on the control bar of Blair's glider. It was one of his first jumps from 10,000 feet. He had run the cable leading from the battery to the GSAP the wrong way and, as he sailed into the air, he instantly found that the cable prevented him from using his control bar - which is something like driving a car 90 miles an hour with a frozen steering column. He crashed back into the mountain and slid down a 45degree slope, managing to stop a few feet from the cliff's edge. Cutting the cord free, Blair straightened the glider up and slid off the cliff out into the air high above the valley floor.

A combined feat of flying and filming was accomplished by Jeff Campbell. The GSAP camera carries a 50-foot load of film, which is about one minute, twenty seconds. As he flew the glider, Jeff counted out the 80 seconds (GSAPs have no footage counters). Then he'd reach into the camera, slip the cartridge out, put it in his pocket, take a fresh cartridge from another pocket, and push that into the camera — often while gliding close to icy pinnacles and cliffs.

What did they do in the village while they waited for the weather to break?

"Since we couldn't tell in advance that the area was going to be socked in for three weeks, we couldn't go to the beach or drive to the city!"

Once Mike went into Auckland to see what was holding up his dailies (known as "weeklies" since they arrived so infrequently). Of course the moment he left, the weather cleared for two days. "We read a lot — like American



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1459 North Seward Street Hollywood, California 90028 Cinematographer. Most of all we waited."

When they weren't trying to film hang-gliding sequences, they were looking for new skiing challenges to film. One day they learned of "the ice caves". The spring runoff cuts tunnels for miles through the ice, twisting and turning. They found an entrance to these caves, and immediately plunged into icy cold water; most of the time, they waded through it up to their knees. Dripping water fell like an uneven rain, and they were constantly wiping the drops off the lens.

"I had no idea what I was going to film," Mike told me, "and worse, I only had 400 feet of film in the camera. This is where the easy magazine change of an Eclair would have been useful. It was difficult to move around, and freezing cold. We were really afraid the whole thing would collapse - glaciers are constantly moving, you know. We weren't sure of our footing, either. Would our next step put us again on firm ground, or would we just step through a thin sheet of ice and fall down a crevasse? The light was very low, about f/1.5 — a blue light from the ice. We never knew what lay around the next bend, so I spent most of my time trying to judge how much film to use on a shot."

A week later that whole series of ice caves collapsed.

CINEMATIC CLIFF-HANGER

Their equipment held up very well. Film stock never broke from the cold, and they had few problems with condensation. But at one point, when timing was crucial, the Rex 5 broke down and taught Mike a very valuable lesson.

They had been shooting for four days and were on their way back down to the village. The Alpine guide, Gavin Wills, was with them when the pilot dropped them off on the top of a 7,000foot-high, three-mile-long ridge. The mountains suddenly end there, dropping off into the native bush. At one end of the glacier lies the rain forest, and just beyond it, the coastline of the Tasman Sea. When the sun sets at this particular spot, it reflects light off the water, and a golden, deep orange glow spills over sea, forest and mountains. Instead of being black, the shadows are a bright iridescent blue.

They had 30 minutes to shoot the sunset and meet their helicopter. "Once the sun sets, the pilot has no depth perception; he doesn't know if he's 50 feet off the ground or on the deck. Our weather looked threatening, and we didn't want to be stuck out there in the middle of nowhere. But I just

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couldn't afford to miss getting that sunset on film."

Since they'd been shooting hard for four days, the camera had been knocked about a lot. Mike now thinks it was the extreme cold that caused a wire inside the camera to break, because as the sunset approached, he couldn't get the Bolex to start.

"I ripped off my gloves and disengaged the film inside from the 400foot magazine. I always carried a few spare 100-foot rolls of film, plus the handwind lever to the Rex 5. I quickly snapped on the handle and inserted a 100-foot roll of new film."

Fortunately, he had the Rex 5 on the Fleximount so he didn't have to waste any time getting a tripod set up. This also made it possible for him to start skiing with the Fleximount and the Bolex. In the 15 minutes of sunset remaining, and over a three-mile area, he set up ten different shots.

"We got down to the last two shots, when the handle to my compact zoom lens broke off. I took the last shots with my zoom stuck on 50mm. Looking at this sequence in the film you'd never believe the panic that was going on to get it and get out!"

Mike went on: "From now on, whenever I go into any remote area to film, I will always carry a handwind camera, like the Rex 5, because at least then you can still get the shot - even when everything else is breaking down around you."

POST-PRODUCTION

The film was edited in New Zealand. The fine cut was done in Hollywood. slanted for a more general theatre audience. CFI did the blow-up, and the dubbing was done at Todd-A-O.

"Looking back on it it's hard to believe what we went through to get this film made," Mike reflects. "Of course, since we were working on a low budget, it could have been easier if we'd been able to have a full-time helicopter with a Tyler mount ready to go whenever the weather cleared. But on the whole, all the gear worked out very well, and I must say those hang-glider sequences gave us the experience of a lifetime."

(ABOUT THE AUTHOR: MOLLIE GREG-ORY, a writer of feature, documentary and industrial films, is a recent "transplant" to the Hollywood motion picture writing scene. In addition to "OFF THE EDGE", her scripting credits include: "THE LIFE AND TIMES
OF BUFFALO JONES" [soon to be released], "ESKIMO" [in production] and a film for Bank of America entitled "THE INTERVIEW — MANAGEMENT HIRING" [in production]. She teaches Film Distribution and Financing, Scriptwriting, and Film in Society at the San Francisco State University Film Department. She has consulted on the financing of numerous films.)

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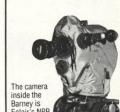
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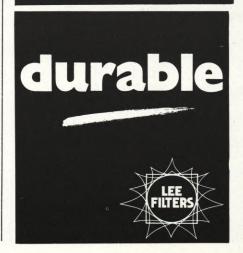
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FILM VS. VIDEO MYTHS Continued from Page 1264

something I call *Sociovideo*. Here we are not dealing with impressive 2-inch technology or streamlined Mini- or Micro-Cams for 6-digit amounts. We're dealing with the most primitive ½-in. or ¼-in. technology, cheap and (almost) fool-proof portapaks in the hands of non-pros: social workers, teachers, video freaks, students and kids.

With these simple tools, handicapped children are given the possibility to help each other discover the world around them. Video workshops (with an ambition to induce a 'we' feeling) are established in boring suburbs with grave social problems; programmes are made to increase our understanding of the problems of old people or immigrants on a local basis and school children are taught not only how to consume information but also how to become information producers. In this area, film cannot compete at all (not even Super-8) because of its slowness, complexity and high costs. The b&w 1/2-in. video can act fast, make direct comments (because of its direct playback possibility) and 'mirror' local problems with great speed and at low cost.

The professional broadcasters fail to notice, or at least fail to take an active interest in what happens outside their own world. In a few years' time, it's perfectly possible that the most interesting television - but not the 'best' in technical terms - will be made outside the Broadcasting Corporation. The dinosaur media in general and broadcast TV in particular are being bypassed by smart-looking Hermes creatures in grey flannel suits and with their attaché cases stuffed with videograms, or by fast-moving guerilla soldiers who have traded their rifles for a Sony Portapak. We are gradually moving away from the comfortable era of mass media into the chaotic era of minority media.

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pros, at least in this part of the world. overemphasise the importance of technical problems to a point where we are in danger of losing our judgment. Technology seems to have an intoxicating or addictive effect. It can partly be explained by the fact that we work in technologically demanding media film and television. I call them Techno Arts - a useful word if you want to separate them from non-technological arts like painting, literature, drama and classical music. (In the Techno Arts. Flash Gordon novelties like laser art. video art and computer art can be included.) It is characteristic of Techno Art that you can't do it alone. The creative process doesn't only involve complex technology but also teams of from two to perhaps 200 people.

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Time to forget technique

Finally let me say this: Now we have been exposing, developing, budgeting, timing/grading, mixing, recording and editing films and TV programmes so damned long that the technique of it must have settled itself in our spinal cord! We ought to be able to 'forget' it. let it withdraw from the limelight and become autonomous - but therefore not less important - and concentrate our collective energies and attention on what happens in front of the lens, on reality, on artistic visions, on LIFE, for God's sake! Come on, let's leave the safe, cosy and stale world of pseudoproblems, and get a crack at some real

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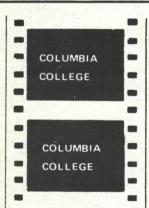
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