

A PUBLICATION OF THE NIKON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DEC. 31, 2006

NHS-94



NIKON F2H JOURNAL



ROBERT J. ROTOLONI
EDITOR/PUBLISHER

THIS ISSUE
PG. 1..THE RARE NIKON F2H-250
ONE OF ONLY TEN MADE!
PG. 14..HISTORIC NIKON M



THE NIKON JOURNAL

VOLUME TWENTY FOUR – NUMBER ONE – DEC. 31, 2006

THE *NIKON JOURNAL* IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR BY "RJR" PUBLISHING, INC., At P.O. Box 3213, Munster, Indiana 46321 U.S.A. © 2006 By "RJR" Publishing, Inc.

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

Our Web Site is<http://www.nikonhs.org>
Our E-Mail Addresses are.....r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net and....rotoloni@msn.com

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

~ CONTENTS ~

INSIDE FRONT COVER:
NHS-94 EDITORIAL.....By ROBERT J. ROTOLONI

PAGE 1.....A TRUE RARITY DISCOVERED!!
'THE NIKON F2H-250'
by CHRISTOPHE SAP

PAGE 13.....THE CASE OF AN UNUSUAL CASE
by MIKE SYMONS

PAGE 14.....A SECOND HISTORIC CAMERA
FROM A TIME OF TRANSITION
by MICHAEL WESCOTT LODER

PAGE 16.....A TALE OF TWO BUBBLES
by JAN JONKER
THE AUCTION SCENE

PAGE 20.....NHS-CON11 VENUE ANNOUNCED!
CLASSIFIEDS AND NEW MEMBERS
NEW ADDRESSES AND BACKISSUES

INSIDE BACK COVER...'ODDS N' ENDS'
ONE MAN'S 'NHS-R2S'
by BILL KRAUS

NHS-95 DEADLINE!
 The deadline for the next issue of our **NIKON JOURNAL, NHS-95**, is **MARCH 1, 2007**. Please get all correspondence and articles to me by then so I can get our Journal to you on schedule. Thank you. **RJR.**

EDITORIAL

It looks like NHS-Con11 will be held in..... VANCOUVER, CANADA! Mike Symons has agreed to take on the momentous task of arranging the next meeting in the Spring of 2008. From member feedback, Canada is a popular choice. Please turn to page 20 where Mike gives us an introduction to some of his plans. We have decided against Victoria, mainly because of logistics, with Vancouver a better venue and it still puts us in the truly gorgeous western Canadian province of British Columbia. Believe me when I say that Canada as a whole, and British Columbia in particular, affords visitors one of the most beautiful scenic destinations on this small planet. Look to future issues for more info and contact Mike with any suggestions and help. It's never too late to start working on NHS-Con11!

After nearly six years I am afraid that I have to announce a small dues increase for the Society! Our last increase was March 31, 2001. Since then I have had 4 postage increases (with another due soon!) plus a 20% increase in printing costs that I must now pass on. I have held the line as long as possible but the dues have not covered my costs of producing the Journal for some time now. Effective immediately the new rates are as follows...

US & CANADA.....1 YEAR \$35.00.....3 YEARS \$85.00
OVERSEAS.....1 YEAR \$45.00.....3 YEARS \$115.00

Our main article this issue is by Belgian member Christophe Sap, and in essence is probably the final chapter on the Nikon bulk backs that were so well covered by Peter Lownds and Tony Hurst in NHS-86. But at that time the item in this installment was not even known to collectors! Chris takes us from the acquisition of his rarity (a story in itself) through his research that led him to Tokyo and the Nikon designer and the discovery that his example is 'one-of-only-ten' every produced! What is it? To date it is the only known Nikon F2H High Speed with a 250 exposure bulk back! See page 1 for the entire story!

Mike Symons shows us an unusual variation of the common Nikon S leather case that may make you look through your collection (page 13). Wes Loder continues along the lines of his previous article when he shows us a Nikon M that was once owned by the Adolph Gasser family and is part of a small batch imported into the US. See page 14 for his article on a camera he had around his neck during NHS-Con10 in Vienna.

There's a new book out there called 'Nikon-A Celebration'! Written by Brian Long (does anyone know who he is?) it is really a beautifully designed and printed item that qualifies as a 'coffee table book' with a large 14x14in format and a lot of color. It tries to cover the entire Nikon line from the Model One to the Coolpix series in about 220 pages, so it really cannot be too detailed. Only about 50 pages are devoted to the rangefinders and he cannot get close to covering the 'F' like Uli Koch has, but it is an interesting book and I highly recommend it. Speaking of books...I have had to start legal action against Hove Books as the saga of my book enters a new era! They are simply sitting on it and I now have to see if a lawyer can get them to do something! I will keep you informed.

Member Al Satterwhite's photography is part of a new book on Hunter Thompson called 'Gonzo' that also involves actor Johnny Depp. Al is a very widely published pro who has even done print ads for Nikon!

NIKON BULK BACKS....THE LAST CHAPTER?? THE NIKON F2H-250....

A TRUE RARITY!

BY CHRISTOPHE SAP

(What follows is a fascinating account of one man's quest to learn the facts behind a very rare Nikon product that came to him in a most interesting way. The story not only illustrates what limits we sometimes go to in our search for our Nikons, but also how chance or fate, or whatever one wishes to call it, can add to the fun of collecting. Chris' account of how he acquired this rare item, and what he went through to establish its history, can be an inspiration to all of us. There are still things to discover and mysteries to solve for we still do not know all there is to know about Nippon Kogaku and their Nikon camera. This article was presented by Chris at NHS-Con10 in Vienna, and is a condensed version although I have tried to run as many photos as space allows. RJR)

Well, fellow collectors, sometimes we read about great finds at garage sales and flea markets, but it's always the others who are lucky. This time I was the lucky guy. What follows is a condensed historical overview of the discovery of a rare and unknown Nikon masterpiece, which required some exciting research.

2004

Dec. 8 A Nikon F2H High Speed is offered on eBay. Many see it but no one bids. I contacted the seller who sent me photos and told me to compare his with one at Grays of Westminster offered for 12,000 pounds (\$21,000+). He made me an offer I felt to be too high, especially when I saw it had a non-matching back (a MF-3).

Dec. 10 While driving on Holiday I received a call offering me a Nikon MF-1A back. I had never heard of a MF-1A so I showed interest and requested photos. This was promised to me by the seller.

Dec. 13 Back home I checked my email and there were the photos! I immediately saw the 'MF-1A' engraving, and thought I had seen the same strange 'A' in a circle on the motor of the recent F2H on eBay. So I checked the eBay listing and there it was; the same 'A' in a circle, and there was still not a single bid. I contacted the seller again and he lowered his previous price and I bought it. I then contacted the seller for the MF-1A back and bought that as well. Then I waited....and waited....

Dec. 20 I now had both items in my hands and the 'A' in a circle was exactly the same on each! But then for the real surprise....I saw that the stamped serial numbers inside the back of the MF-1A were the same as those on the F2H and the MD-100 motor! So I had a matching set that had become separated but were now together again! But what I had found? What did the 'A' mean? Was there really an 'F2H-250' made by Nikon? No one had ever heard of one. That evening I sent emails to some close friends with photos for their feedback. I showed that the 'A' was either painted or engraved exactly as the other numbers it was part of. I

told them that it came with 18 batteries. Some feedback follows..

Thierry Ravassod...Chris, you have found the first F2H-250 I have ever seen! (We later found out in Tokyo that this was the actual model designation for this product.)

Pat Rouillard...The battery check has been removed & both of the MB-100s can not be separated and they must have to remain together for a reason. Also the engraving of the 'A' is just like all factory engravings.

Dec. 21 Hans Braakhuis...The 'A' could stand for 'adjusted' or 'adapted'. This also was correct when we later learned from the factory that the 'A' stood for 'adjusted'.

Pat Rouillard...I contacted Sover Wong, the F2 expert, & he thinks the 'A' could signify a prototype or first production. So this could be the earliest one. We later learned this was wrong.

Dec. 23 The 'A' mystery is mentioned on the NHS website forum. Hans Braakhuis asked the question "Who knows something about the 'A' engraving on the MF-1. Two answers were posted the same day. One said the MF-1A version was only for the high speed F2. The other said he had seen the F2H with the 'A' on eBay before the seller sold it offline.

Dec. 27 Patrick Rouillard searched for 'Bild Service', a name found on only 1 of the 18 batteries, & he discovered that Bengt Dobrin, whose name was on the same battery, was a staff photographer for 'Bild Service', which is in Sweden.

Dec. 28 From Peter Walnes came the first concrete details. "I must keep my source confidential but it comes from inside Nikon USA & he states...." that he remembers Nikon bringing some 250 exposure high speed F2s to the Olympic Games (for 1984 I think). Nikon USA bought 5 or 6 sets after the games were over. They loaned these sets to various pros but I don't remember any of them using the 250 magazine. Nobody wanted to deal with the long film lengths. Later on Nikon sold them off to the Atlanta, Georgia, Journal Constitution newspaper who did use them with the 250 magazines a few times for football games. These cameras were hand-built. Maybe the 'A' designated that they had been earmarked for use with the 250 backs."

This was interesting information, which later on, in March 2005, appeared to be very accurate. So you see, in only a few weeks time I got so much feedback that I got the impression of having found a very special Nikon, but still I was not totally convinced.

2005

Feb. 23 With Hans, Patrick & Thierry, I went to the Tokyo Radiomuseum. We saw lots of communication items from WWII & also some cameras. In NHS-39 there is an article by Mike Symons 'The Original Nikon I', which is about a WWII artillery spotting camera. In the one at the museum the inside of the box is marked 'Sendai Japan Sept. 26-45, and as I was going to Sendai

the very next day, I took some photos.

Feb. 24 Three staff members of Nikon Ohi met us at the Akasaka Prince hotel and escorted us to Nikon Sendai plant north of Tokyo, via the bullet train. Following a genuine Japanese lunch we were driven to the factory and met there by the directors. With this visit was the start of my real research on the F2H-250. You all know how difficult it is to obtain info from Nikon, but at this factory they gave us lots of figures about actual production. We also received a guided tour of the factory where they were making both the D2X and the F6 bodies. Once you see how they manufacture Nikons you know why they are not cheap. Quality control is exceptionally strict. You can speak all day long about Nikons, but those gentle people were also interested if knowing if we had visited Japan before. I had in 1997, and told them I and my son had climbed Mount Fuji, which they highly appreciated and broke the ice. We were then allowed to take photos of some strange models and I felt it was the moment for me to show some of my own. First was the military camera with that Sendai mark on it. No one knew about this and they were not even aware it was a Nikon product. Then I showed the F2H with the MF-1A and one of them recognized it! He promised me he would look for details and I left happy and hopeful.

Mar. 4 I received an email with some information. A small number (less than 50?) of the F2H-250 were made for the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984. We are trying to determine the exact number & will inform you when we know for certain. It is not a combination of a normal F2H and MF-1. We had to do a special tune-up. For identification we engraved the 'A' in a circle on the motor drive (MD-100), battery case (MB-100) and MF-1 film back. The reason why it only needs 3 batteries, and not 4, is in order to stop the film in the accurate position we had to lower the voltage and reduce the frames per second.

I had some questions. I asked for the exact number made and if they were a consecutively numbered batch.

He answered that he would talk to the designer of the F2H at Nikon Tokyo on the 7th and will try to get your answers.

Mar. 14 I received more information. 'Only 10 sets were made and not sold normally but just for the press. They were made at the Ohi factory in Tokyo. They were made in May 1984 just before the LA Olympics. They were not made as a batch so the numbers are not consecutive. We have used the letter 'A' for any modification of current production items for 50 years. I cannot confirm the exact meaning of the 'A' but it might be for 'adjusted'. The circle has no real meaning but the Japanese like circles around letters. The designer of the F2H-250 was Mr. Matsukawa who is now 52 years old and is working as the manager of camera production planning in the Tokyo office. He designed many cameras and motor drives such as the F4, F5, MD-3 and MD-4, etc. My questions would be sent on to two other gentlemen at Nikon Tokyo who may have more answers for me.

Apr. 29 My second son, Patrick, working for Volvo parts, is regularly in Goteborg, Sweden, home base of Volvo. I asked him to go to the address of 'Bild Service' and look them up. Unfortunately they were not there and he could find no new address.

May 16 On the NHS Forum I asked for any information on Mr. Bengt Dobrin of Sweden.

May 20 A Martin Norberg said it is an unusual name in Sweden and I could try the phone book.

May 21 Jaarle Aasland gave me an Internet address found on Google.

May 25 I found 13 Dobrins in the phone book, but no Bengt Dobrin.

May 26 BINGO! Tobias Rostlund gave me an address & phone number. It happened that Bengt now lives near Paris, so I phoned him up. I told him I did not find him in the phone book, but he said in the 70's he took the name Dobrin as a company name, his real name being Johanson. I sent him an email with all my questions and photos of the camera, and an appointment to meet in France the week after the show at Bievres was made.

June 4 Meeting with Bengt Dobrin. He told me when he worked for Bild Service they bought the F2H in the USA, but without the 250 back, which he never saw before. He had used the F2H to make about 20,000 photos then bought it for himself for 3,000 Swedish crowns, which is about 330 Euro! He liked the camera, especially for shooting the 100m races. But he did not like the weight. Soon after he sold it to Keith Hammet, a sports photographer in the UK. Unfortunately, he no longer had Keith's address.

June 6 Back on the NHS forum asking for help finding Keith Hammet.

June 7 Again Jaarle Aasland put me on the right track believing a Norwegian newspaper had a connection with Keith Hammet. I contacted them and they gave me 2 phone numbers. I immediately called and got Keith Hammet, who gave me his email address asking me to send him questions, which I did. He emailed me back with some interesting information. He used the F2H for about 6 years shooting about 1.5 million frames, or 42,250 rolls of film! It was used at Wimbledon, the Belfast riots, football and Formula One and speedway races. It also once saved his life at a demonstration in East Belfast when he used it as a weapon against 2 guys with knives trying to stop him from taking photos! We made an appointment to meet in London where he lives.

June 11 I meet with Keith in London at his favorite pub where we had hot chocolate and bananas. He told me how he earned his living as a photographer, sometimes working undercover, but mostly sports. From this meeting I learned the following..

- He is using Nikon digital but also sometimes F2's and F3's.
- Mostly sports and big events for a Scandinavian newspaper.
- Also criminal investigation.
- Once used the F2H as a weapon during a riot in East Belfast.
- Never saw the 250 back, but would not have used it anyway, as most photographers at that time used portable development systems that only handled 36 exposure rolls.
- In fact, the F2H was too noisy, especially when shooting tennis.
- Keeps a logbook & inventory of films, which is why he knows how many rolls were taken with the F2H. On average he used 40 rolls at Wimbledon, 10 for a golf or football game, & 5 for a pop concert.
- After using it for some time, in about 1989 he lent it to a Peter Van den Berg but he did not use it much so Keith took it back and sold it to a certain Phil of 'Shutters' in London. One of 4 shops being able to Service Nikons.

Oct. 9 More details from my source at Nikon USA...."There were 2 variations of the F2H that I dealt with. The first was the

10fps type that used 4 battery packs, only 3 for powering the camera & the 4th was used only for the rewind. These were hand built cameras made for the Olympic Games and only used standard 36 exposure film loads. I don't believe they were ever offered as a product in the US and we (Nikon USA) bought around 10 of these cameras after the Games to use as loaners for NPS members. Later...for the next Games...the factory brought some 250 exposure F2H cameras and Nikon USA bought maybe 5 or 6 cameras. The framing rate dropped to 8fps with the 250 magazines. A standard back could also be used. I really don't think anyone that we ever lent them to used the 250 magazines. In reality no one wanted to deal with the long film load. Later I sold them to the Atlanta Journal Constitution newspaper and they did use the 250 magazines a few times for football games, but they too soon got tired of dealing with the long film loads. A few years later I heard they traded these rare cameras to a dealer in Atlanta (KEH) for F3 cameras. It was an even trade: 1 F2H-250 for 1 F3! I had a small Nikon collection at that time and I purchased one of the F2H-250 cameras from KEH at a very good price, as the owner was a good friend of mine.

2006

Mar. 14 I finally received details about Phil Sheldon, whose name is on some of the batteries. Unfortunately, this was a dead end, literally, as Phil Sheldon had passed away in August 2005. I learned that he had used it for shooting golf swings! Jack Nicklaus and other famous golfers would have their swings photographed. It was thought he had bought it in the USA.

Mar. 24 A message from Nikon Tokyo. Did I still want to meet with Mr. Matsukawa, designer of the F2H-250, and when can I come to Tokyo? My reply "YES! Whenever you like."

Mar. 28 Mr. Matsukawa can meet with you on March 31st in our office if you like. Also, it is better to send us your questions regarding the F2H-250 in advance.

So I had only a couple of hours to prepare!

Mar. 28 Contact airlines to leave on Wednesday & arrive on Thursday. Obscene prices..7,000 or more Euros! This is becoming an expensive camera. I sent emails to various friends who knew about the camera asking them if they had any questions for Nikon and to answer me at once. I emailed Nikon with a confirmation and my questions so, due to the time difference (9hrs) they got it the next day, Thursday, one day before the meeting. Received an email from Shusaku-san, who would be my guide for a couple of days, confirming his assistance and telling me that I was invited by Tamla-san (chairman of Tokyo Nikon Kenkyukai) for a Friday night dinner. GREAT!

Mar. 30 I knew that fellow NHS member Thierry Ravassod was traveling in Japan and his Tokyo contact man was the same as mine (Shusaku-san) so it was arranged that they meet me at my hotel room at noon.

Mar. 31 Thierry was extremely happy to be involved with this event so we took the train to the Ohi factory in Shinagawa. It was there that I finally met Mr. Matsukawa, who was very enthusiastic, which made the 'question hour' such a success. These were the 'Q'estions and the 'A'nswers..

Q: Was the F2H-250 developed on the demand of users?

A: Yes it was.

Q: Was it developed in a hurry or was it planned?

A: It was a planned project and not done in a hurry.

Q: When was the first one actually used in the field?

A: The 1984 Olympic Games.

Q: Why was the framing rate of the F2H-250 reduced?

A: For technical reasons, including friction & jamming. Special contact was made with the trigger.

Q: Why was it not designed with a remote power connector?

A: This caused problems with the power connector.

Q: A few have reported seeing F2H's with B, T & 1/2000sec. settings. Would those be prototypes?

A: We never made an F2H with B, T & 1/2000 sec. settings!

Q: Were special serial numbers used or just taken out of normal production?

A: Just taken out of normal production with normal numbers.

Q: How many were produced?

A: First we made 20 backs for testing until we were satisfied. These were destroyed during testing & by quality control. We then produced 'TEN' finished examples, which were all delivered to the USA! The back was totally handmade, but the body & motor were taken out of regular production so the mirror system was not changed.

Q: What was the response of users?

A: It was good. We received no complaints.

Q: Why was it not put into normal production?

A: Totally hand-built & too many modifications. It would have been much too expensive to produce.

Q: What happened to those 10 cameras? Were they all sold? Did any of them come back to the factory?

A: We sold all 10 and none came back to us. **This is the first one we have ever seen since they were produced!**

Q: Do you know how many have survived?

A: **We know of only one so far....this one!**

While talking with Matsukawa-san I learned that he also designed the F4 and F5. He told me that they made more than 1000 F2H cameras but less than 2000. I then asked him two more questions.

Q: Was the F2 Titan ever made in chrome?

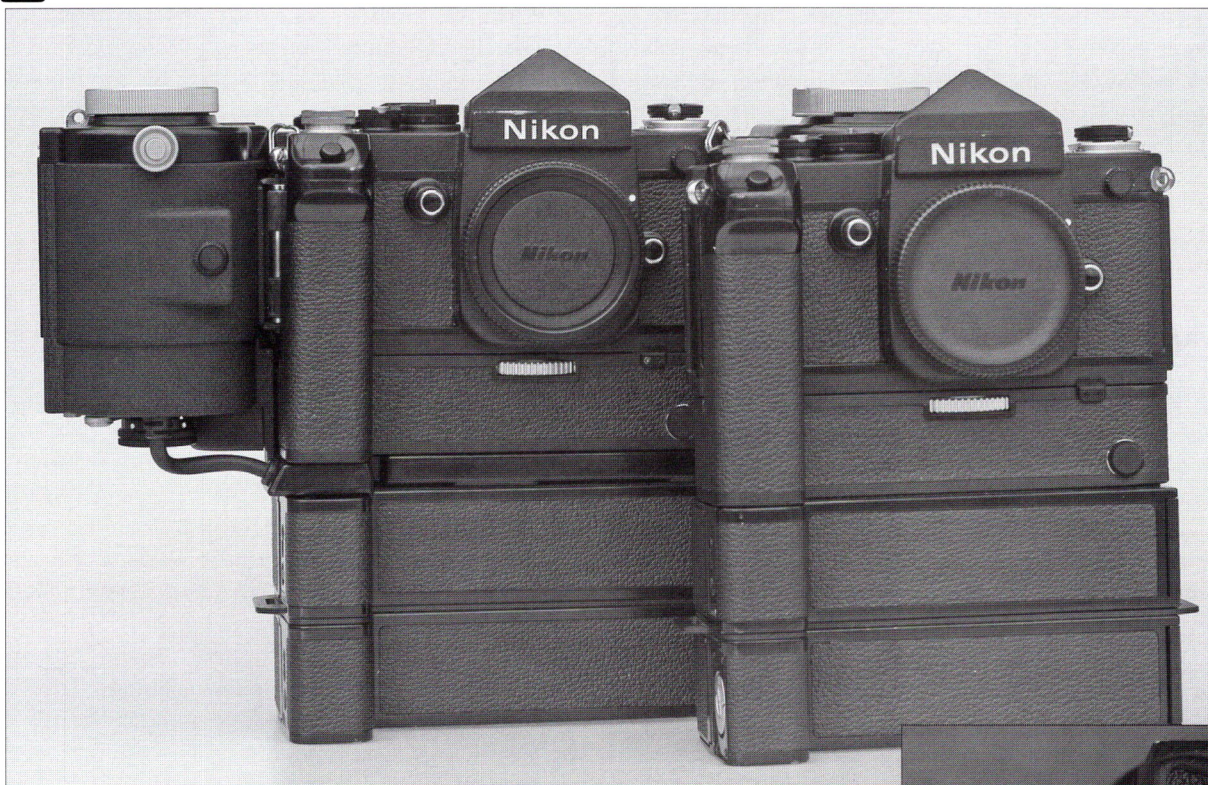
A: No, none were made in chrome.

Q: Was there ever a Nikon F High Speed with 250 back?

A: No, the F2H was the first 250 back made for any of our High Speed cameras.

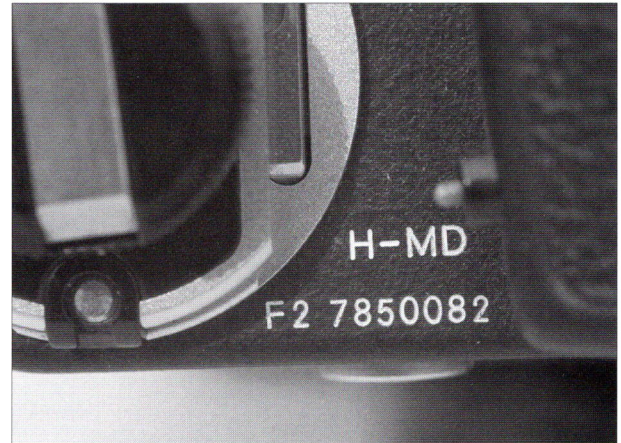
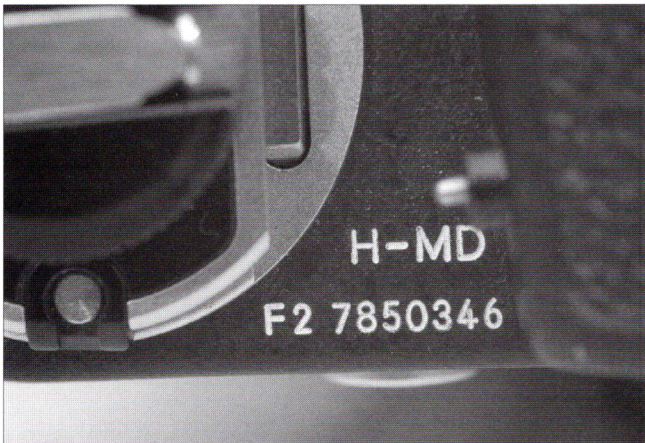
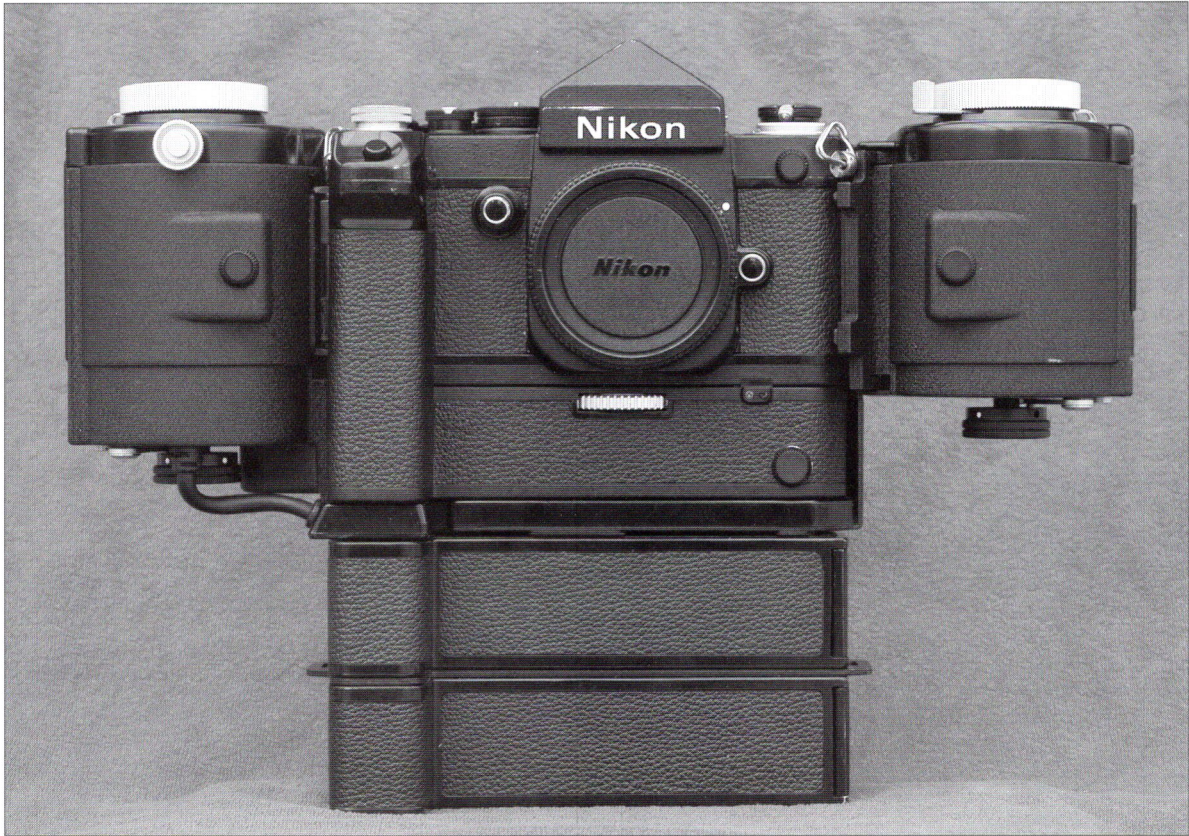
While writing this history I spoke about the batteries which were a great help in tracing the ownership of this camera. The various names and dates on the batteries led me to Bengt Dobrin and then on to Keith Hammet. The third name, Phil Sheldon, did not help as he had died not too long before I began my search. The dates on the batteries give us a little history. The period when Keith owned it (the 1980's) is born out by the latest date found in that series, 1989. Remember, he lent it out to a friend in 1989. On one set of batteries I found the date June 1990, and the name Phil Sheldon. So Sheldon must have bought it some time in 1990. On other batteries I found the very latest date of all, 10/1/93. So he used it up to at least late 1993.

The thrill of finding both matching parts by chance and bringing them together again is exciting enough, but to learn that my set is one of only TEN to have ever been made, makes the find even more thrilling. Collecting can be exciting and rewarding, but isn't the real fun in the 'chase'?



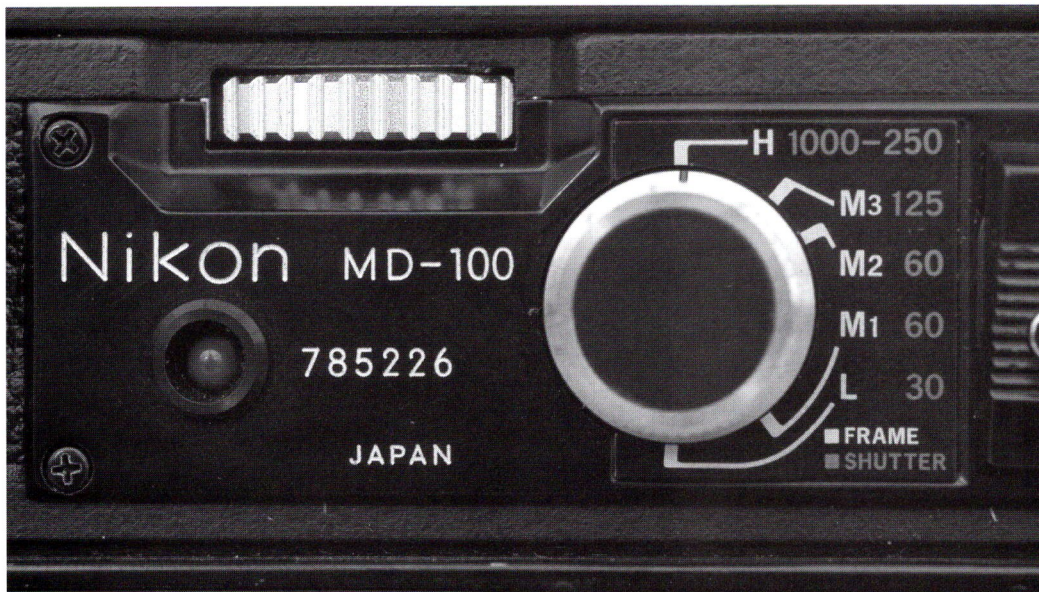
Both a standard F2H and the rare special model F2H-250 are pictured. For comparison purposes F2H #7850082 w/MD-100 motor #785226 is used here. Somewhere between 1000~2000 standard F2H cameras were produced (the factory has not given us an exact number) and all would have been sold only as a set with its special motor and standard eyelevel prism. I remember when it was current and the US price was \$1,995.00! What a bargain! Chris' very special 250 shot version is body #7850346 mated to MD-100A motor #785534 and 250 shot back MF-1A #306056. As you can see, no special numbers were used and the 10 F2H-250s' produced were taken out of the regular production. Only the 'A' within a circle externally differentiates this special model.





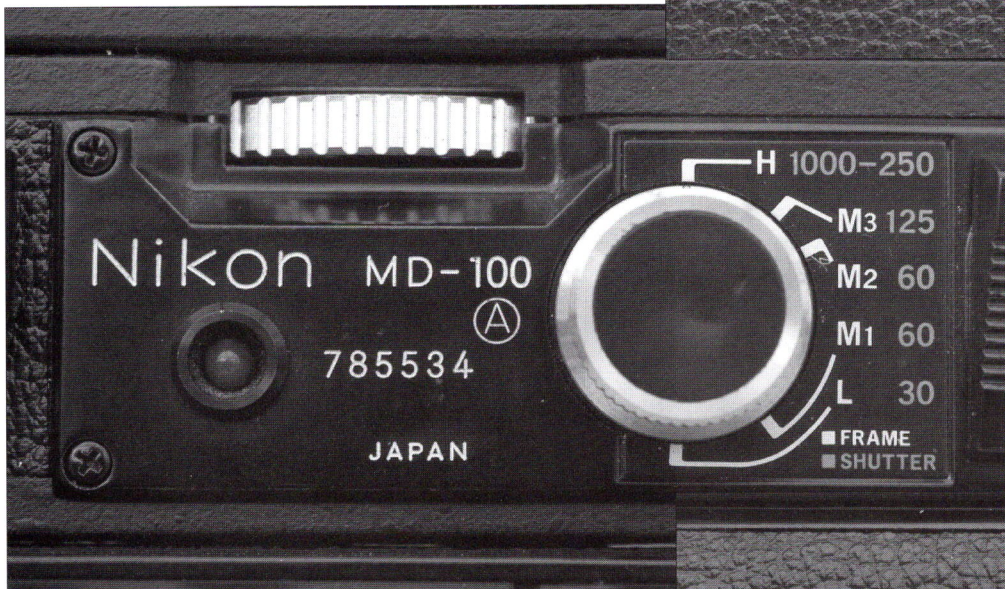
Top photo...As with any 250 exposure Nikon, the F2H version is a very impressive piece of equipment. Large and heavy, it was designed to take the stress and abuse that professional photographers would put it through. Thus they were built without regard to weight and size, resulting in massive tools the likes of which we will never see again. Truly professional all the way. Note how the bodies were factory mated to a specific MD-100 motor. This was done to assure optimum performance at the 10fps speeds at which they would be used. The numbers of each matching set were then painted inside the cameras and motors so they would remain together at all times.



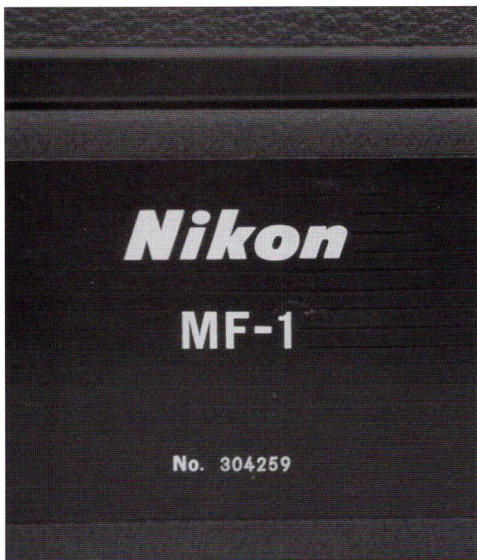


Only the 'A' within a circle is your clue that something is different here. Remember that the camera and motor were first offered on eBay 'without' the back, so there was nothing save the 'A' to differentiate it. And so small a mark can easily be missed, which probably accounts for the fact that not a single bid was made. Even if the price was too high, if the 'A' had been more visible it may have attracted some bidders. So now every time you see an F2H up for sale make sure you check out the rear faceplate on the MD-100 and the MB-100. You just might find a really rare item!

Nikon MB-100
MADE IN JAPAN



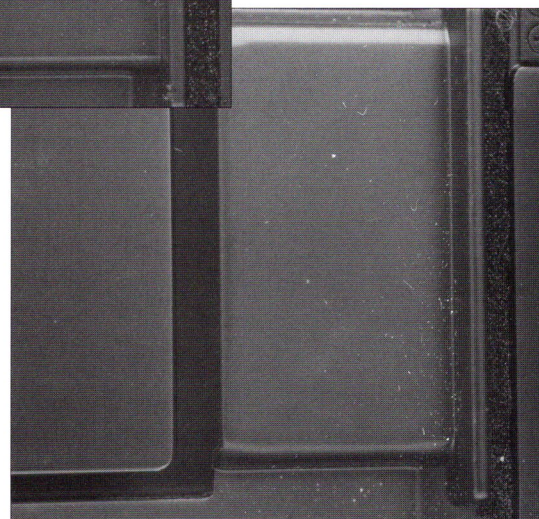
Nikon MB-100
MADE IN JAPAN (A)

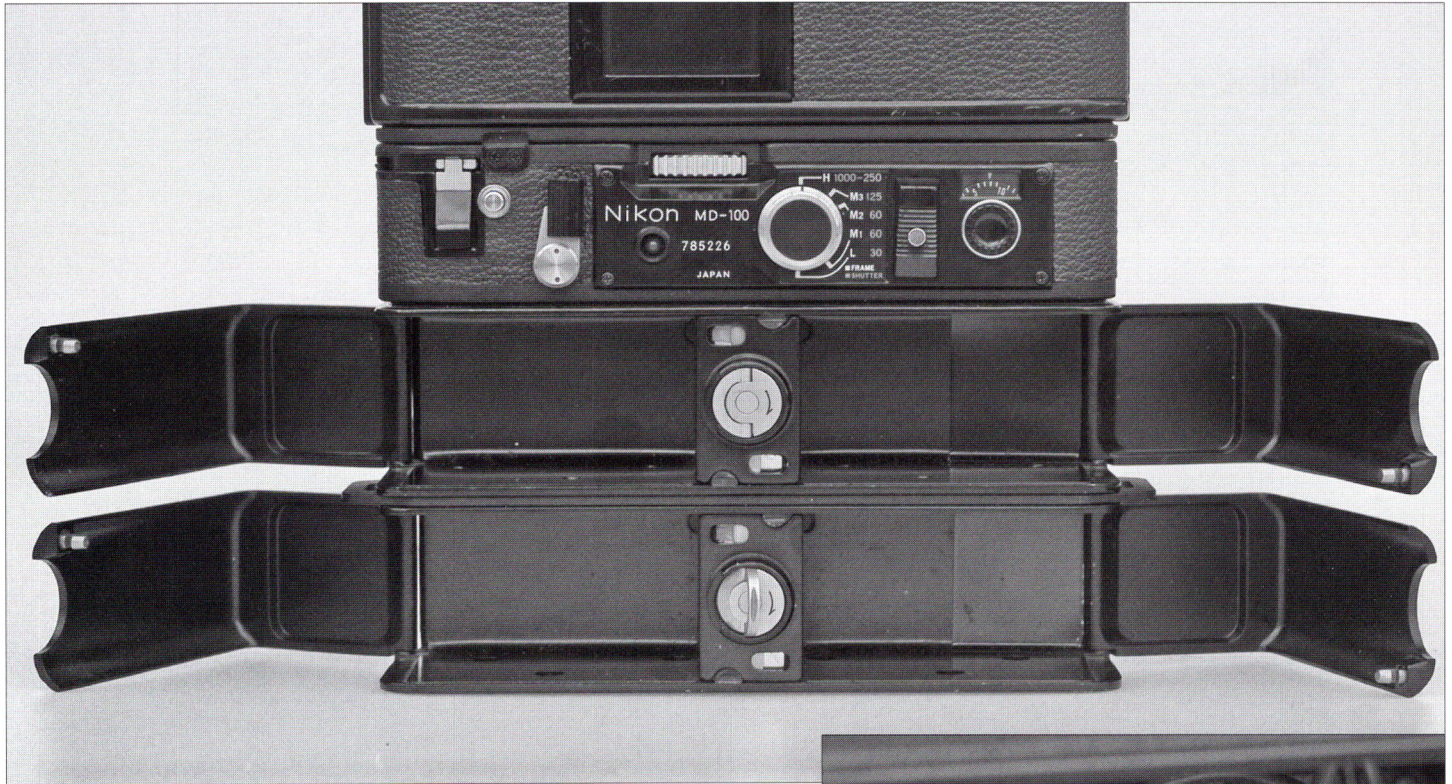


Both a standard MF-1 (304259) and the special MF-1A (306056). The serial number is repeated inside the back.

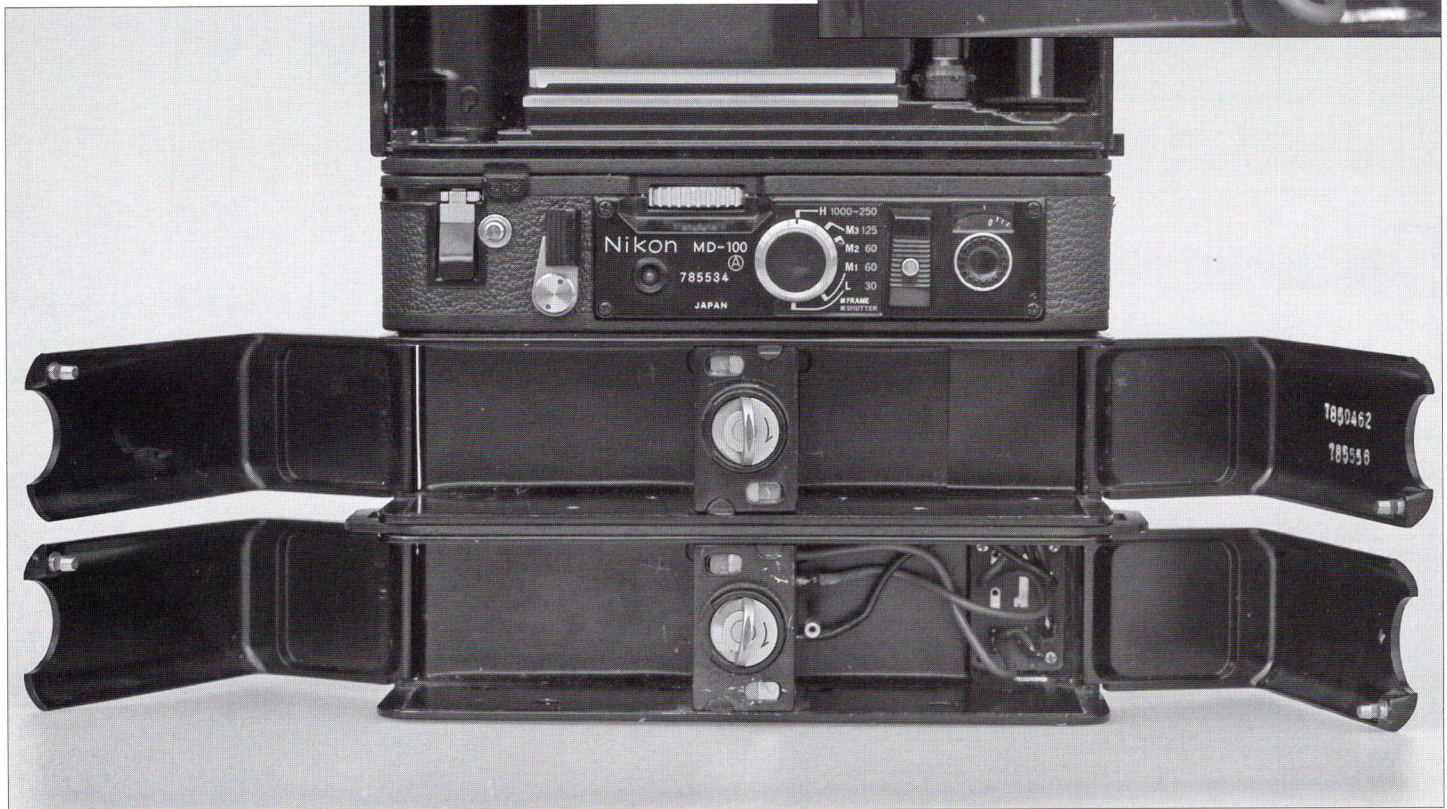
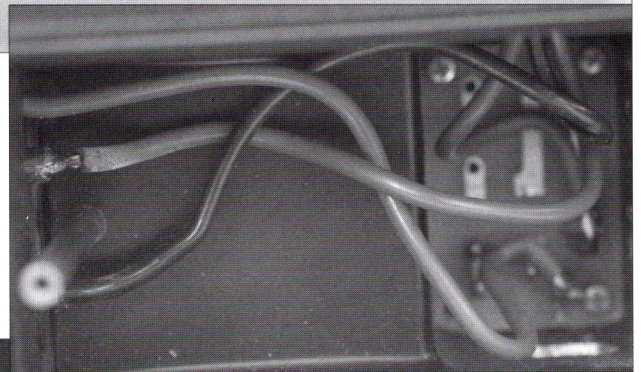


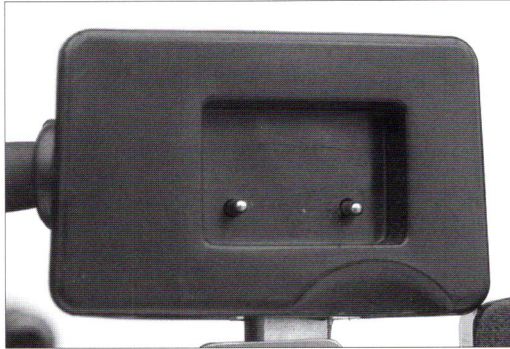
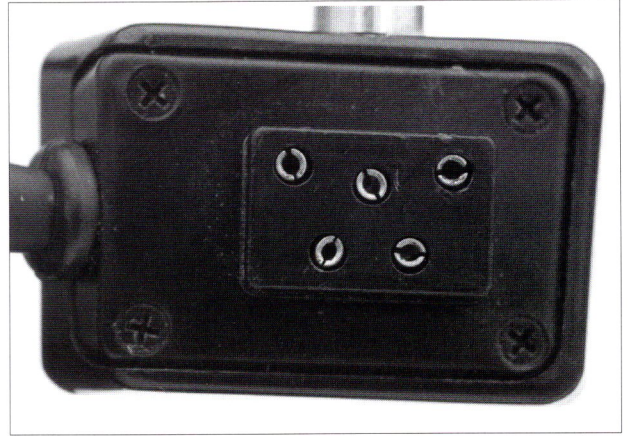
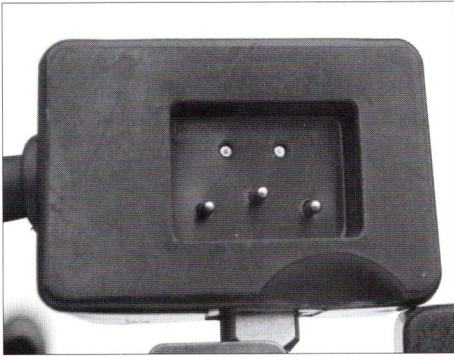
F2H-250 has both its body and motor numbers painted inside the camera while the standard F2H does not. Below is another F2H set where the numbers are inside the battery pack. The location of these secondary numbers does vary, but Nikon made this effort to assure that matched bodies and motors would stay that way over time. This was done to maintain optimum framing rates and reduce jamming.





Top photo..Standard F2H with both battery compartments on the MB-100 opened. Below...the F2H-250 from the same perspective. Note that the lower right compartment of the F2H-250 has extra exposed wires and a small control board. The F2H-250 only takes 3 batteries (7.5V), not 4, reducing its framing rate from 10fps to 8fps. Why? To reduce friction and jamming and also because power for rewinding the film is no longer needed. Although a factory modification, it is obvious it was a handmade procedure. Note the painted serial numbers inside the MD-100A door.

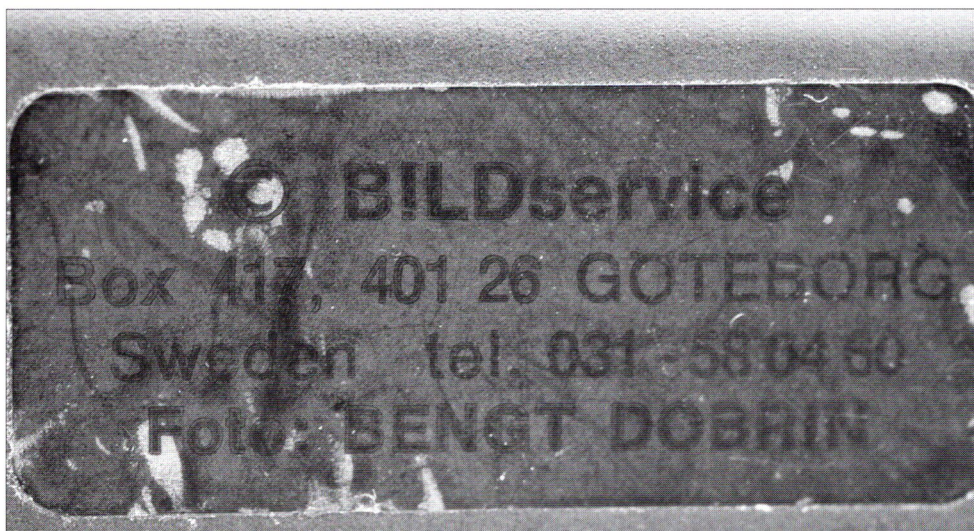


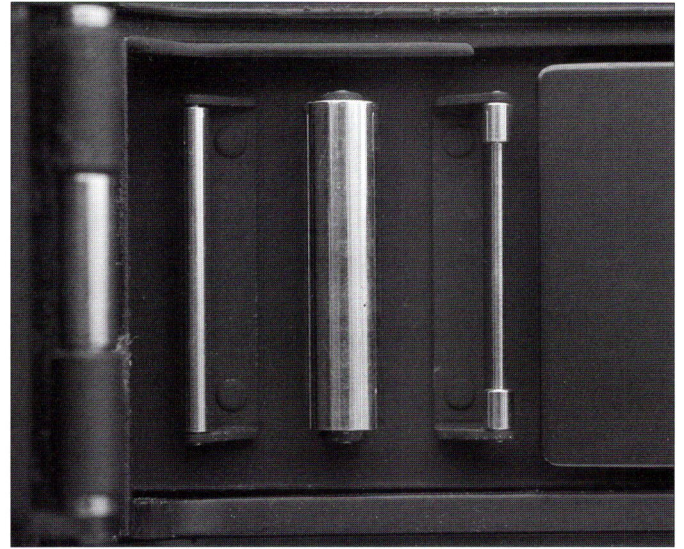
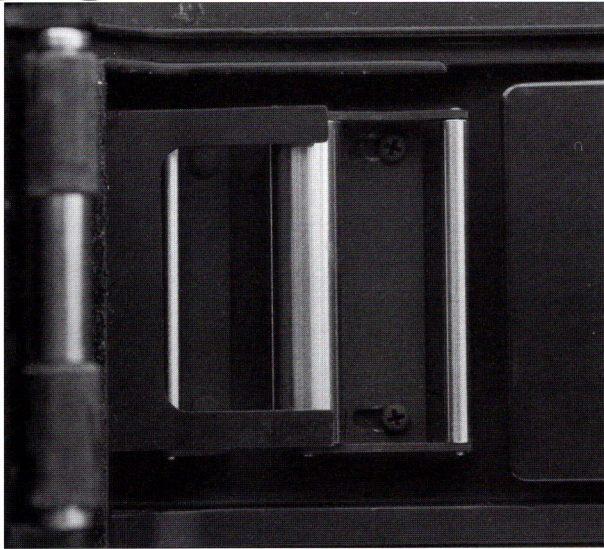


The cable cord for the MF-1A has 5 pins (top left) while the standard MF-1 has only 2 (left), yet the socket has 5 holes (above). According to Nikon, only 3 of the pins on the MF-1A are used and the third pin is for the trigger. The remaining 2 holes on the socket are not utilized at all.

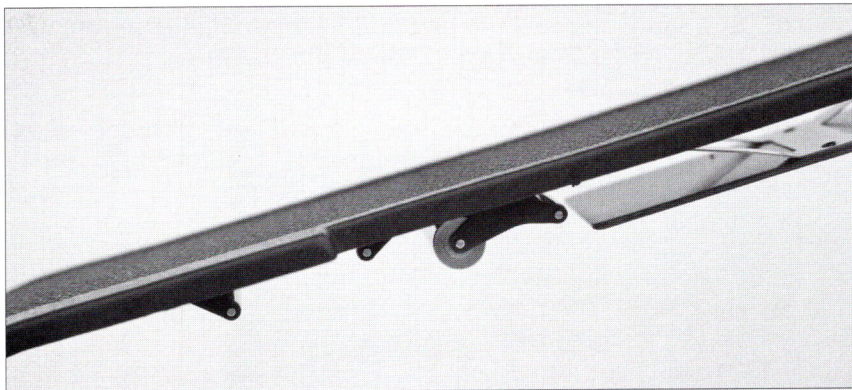
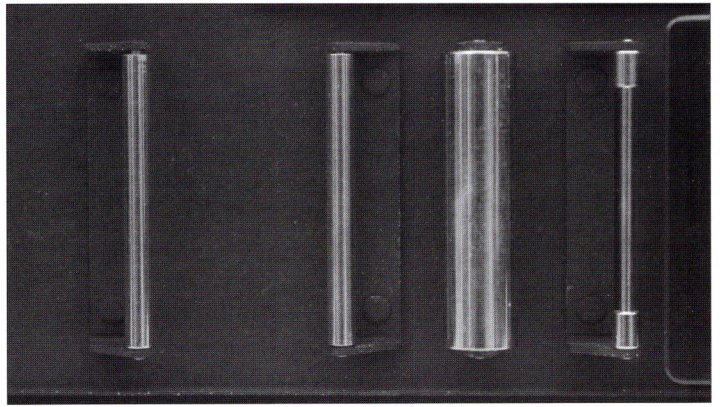
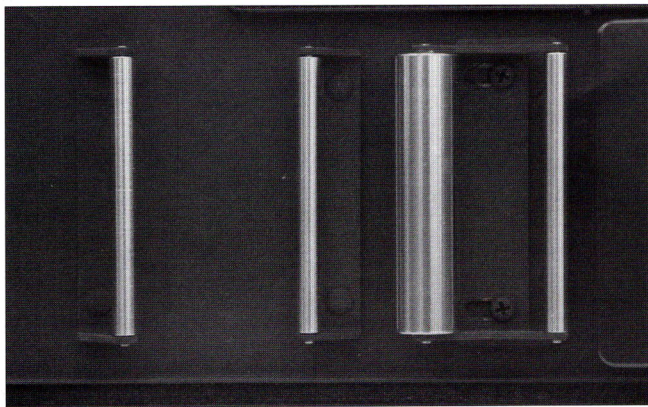
The MB-100 battery packs differ as well. Besides taking one less battery, the MB-100A's two packs cannot be separated and the battery check has been removed.

At the bottom is the battery that led Chris to Mr. Bengt Dobrin and Bild Service. With this lead he was able to make contact with Mr. Dobrin in France where they met. Although he never used it with the 250 back, he did own this very camera for a few years and used it extensively.

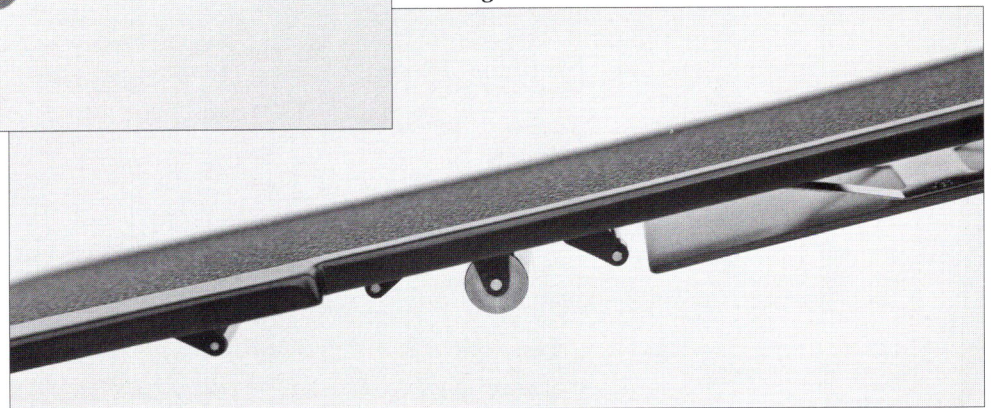


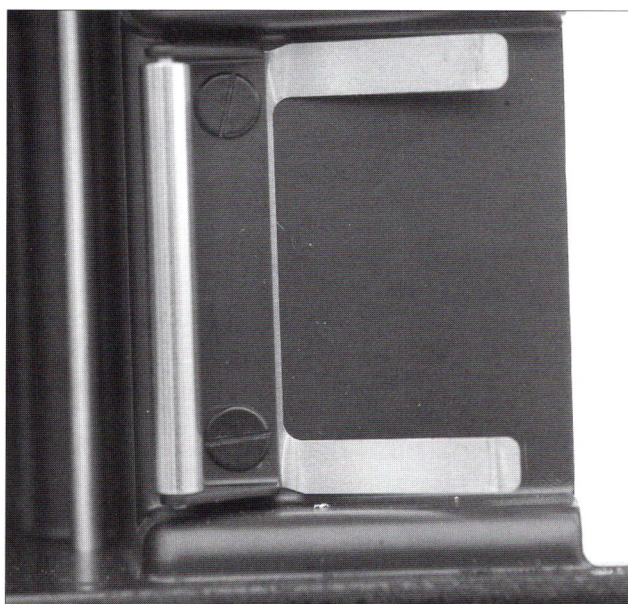


The rollers and guides found on the interior of the 250 exposure backs also vary. These extra pieces are necessary on all long exposure backs to both keep the film flat and allow it to flow smoothly from one cassette to the other. Such a long length of film outside the cassettes (nearly 8 inches) at a time plus the rapid starting and stopping at up to 8fps, could cause havoc if the film was not pulled through the camera smoothly and accurately. One reason long backs are made by so few companies is that the engineering is much more complicated than one imagines. Using one on a high speed model is even more daunting. The MF1-A on the left varies from the MF-1. Note the spring loaded clip and the 2 right rollers connected (above left)! The clip was necessary at high speeds to help that film move through smoothly. Below we again see that the 2 right rollers are connected on the MF1-A (below left)



The above photos show the rollers and guides that are found on both sides of the pressure plate. A total of 7 are used! That how important routing the film correctly really is. Left and below is a side view of some of those rollers. On the MF1-A (left) note that the 2 rollers next to the pressure plate are mounted on one bracket. Was this done as an improvement or was it necessary because of the framing rates. Another sign this is a hand built camera.





The MF-1A has an clip on either side of the film chamber that is not present on the standard MF-1 (top photo). Again, this is yet another indication that the F2H-250 was a model that was hand built and modified as necessary to make it work. The high framing rates that the F2H was capable of were beyond the tolerances of the standard MF-1. Even though it was slowed down from 10fps to 8fps, this was still a very high rate for a long exposure back and the Nikon engineers had to 'adjust' and 'adapt' the MF-1 as they went along (The 'A' now seems so obvious does it not?). These clips were an added feature that helped maintain the precise movement of all that film as it went through the camera, starting and stopping up to 8 times a second! My personal opinion is that a bulk back for the F2H is the most sensible use of any 250 shot back on any Nikon. Having used the Nikon F250 motor to shoot sports, it made sense since you could burn up a 36 exposure roll in seconds. Whereas 1 or 2 rolls of 250 exposures could carry through an entire game. But on an F2H at 8fps it makes perfect sense! I have always wondered (and I am sure many of you have as well) why Nikon never made a bulk back for the high speeds. At 10fps, the standard F2H could only give you a 4 second burst! But now I guess I know. It would have been too expensive to build. What a shame.



Above..Chris Sap (left) and Bengt Dobrin at their meeting in France. Mr. Dobrin is holding the F2H-250, which he did not ever use with the 250 shot back. Right..Chris with Keith Hammet outside a pub in London. Mr. Hammet did use the F2H with the bulk back for sports and reportage photography. Below..The F2H with its MD-100A motor and MB-100A battery pack but minus its bulk back. This is how it was first seen on eBay.



I would like to thank Chris Sap for sharing this story with us. Not only does it illustrate how the 'chase' can sometimes be the best part of the game, it also allows our Nikon Journal to be the first to publish anything on this very rare camera. Only ten were ever made and this is the first time the collecting world has seen its story. All ten examples were loaned or sold to professional photographers who undoubtedly used them heavily. How many remain in existence we may never know, but there is a good chance that all ten are no longer with us. So keep your eyes open the next time you see an F2H! All photos provided by Christophe Sap.

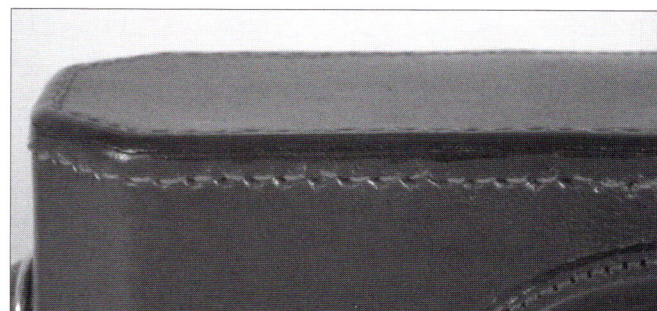
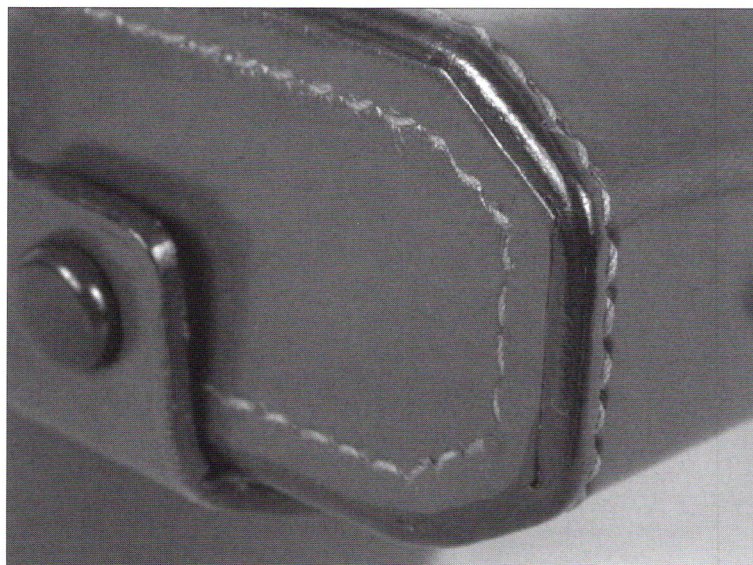
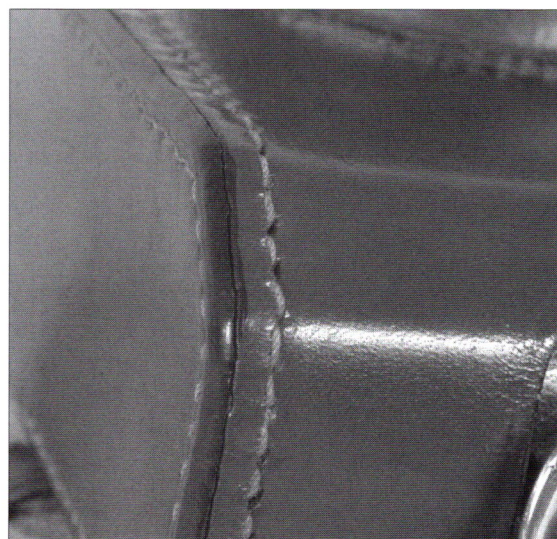


THE CASE OF AN UNUSUAL CASE

BY MIKE SYMONS



Here's a strange case I recently 'discovered' in my collection. One that I hadn't noticed before. This is a run-of-the-mill brown leather case for the Nikon S. However, you will notice that it has black striping around its edges. I checked some of my other 'M' and 'S' cases and none of them have this black striping. Any comments? (Mike, I know I have seen this before. I may even have one but have not located it as yet. Does anyone else possess such a case?)



THE OBJECT AT HAND....

A SECOND HISTORIC CAMERA FROM A TIME OF TRANSITION

BY MICHAEL WESCOTT LODER

The Overseas Finance & Trading Company (OFITRA) began importing Nikon cameras and Nikkor lenses into the United States in February 1949. The small, San Francisco-based, Swedish-owned company, under the leadership of Hans Liholm and his informal partner, Adolph Gasser, worked to build a network of dealer and repair facilities willing to consider the new camera. However, they met almost total resistance from both dealers and customers through December 1950. They were more successful with sales of other Nippon Kogaku products, including binoculars, vertexometers and Cine-Nikkors. Jacob Deschin's laudatory article on the Nikon and the Nikkor lenses that appeared in the December 12th New York Times changed this pattern. Suddenly, OFITRA had dealers and customers clamoring for Nikons all over the country.

OFITRA, in turn, pleaded with NK to ship whatever it could as quickly as possible. NK responded by shipping 100 Nikons—50 with f2 Nikkors and 50 with f1.4 Nikkors, plus 50 each of the three auxiliary lenses then available. NK did this by cutting back temporarily on its shipments to the CPO (military exchange stores), but this allowed OFITRA to supply its small number of dealers with at least one example of every product.

The Nikon M featured in this article, M6093032, is one of that batch of 100 that OFITRA received in January 1951. Adolph Gasser, owner of General Camera Repair in San Francisco, checked out all the cameras and lenses before forwarding them on to dealers. In the process, he bought two for himself. He kept one and gave the other to his brother, Walter. This is that second camera.

Here is a Nikon that has seen it all. Walter used it, then his son took it over and ran hundreds of rolls of film through it over a thirty-year period. The base plate is scratched and worn through to the brass. The leather has so many 'Zeiss bumps' that it is hard to say that it still has a leather covering. The lens' front element is also scratched. But, like old Timex watches, it has 'taken a lickin' and kept on tickin'. Most of the ugliness is superficial. The metal surfaces are mostly intact and it has no dents. The rangefinder is still accurate and the shutter speeds work well. The shutter curtains appear brand new. With new leather this would be a camera that would look good on anyone's shelf. I use

it to take pictures.

There are several items of interest to the collector;

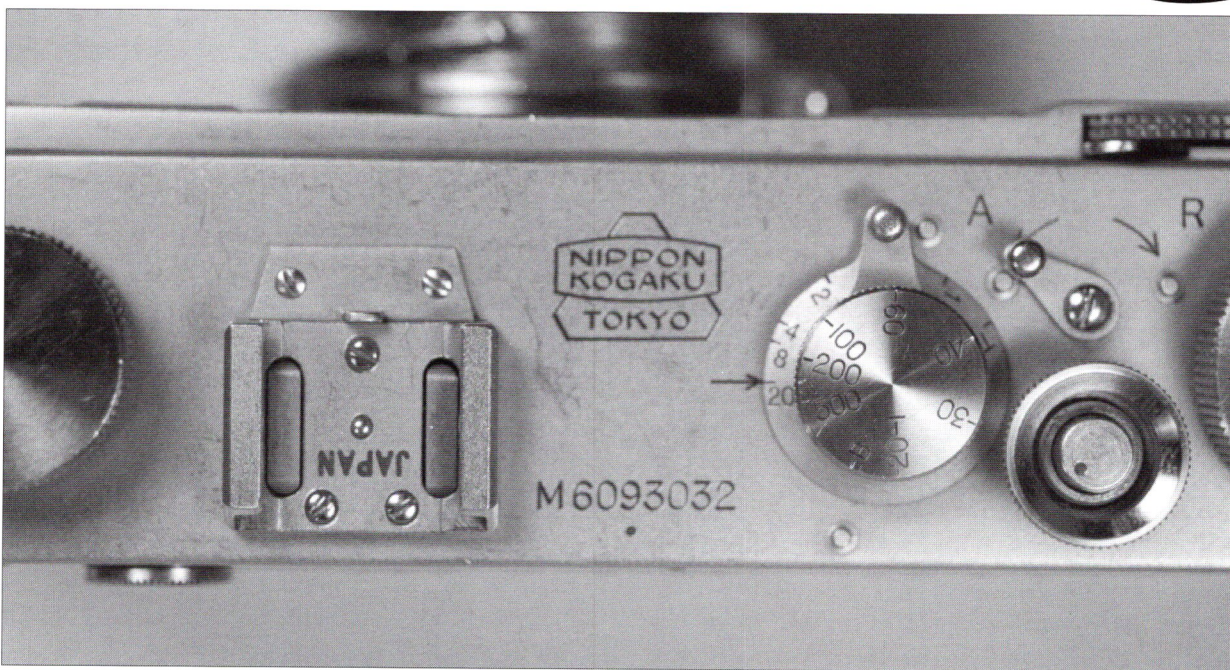
- 1) Flash synch became a standard feature in November 1950. This camera shows the way early Nikons were adapted with a tube for the wires retrofitted in the film cavity and switches added to the bottom of the camera's interior chassis.
- 2) This is one of only a few Nikons with 'JAPAN' engraved in the accessory shoe. Most of the ones that have been found date from the December 1950~January 1951 period and all appear to be cameras that were shipped to the United States. The mark varies in size and sometimes faces front and other times faces back. It is definitely a added-on afterthought, since the camera backs still have the MIOJ stamping in the corner of the back leather.



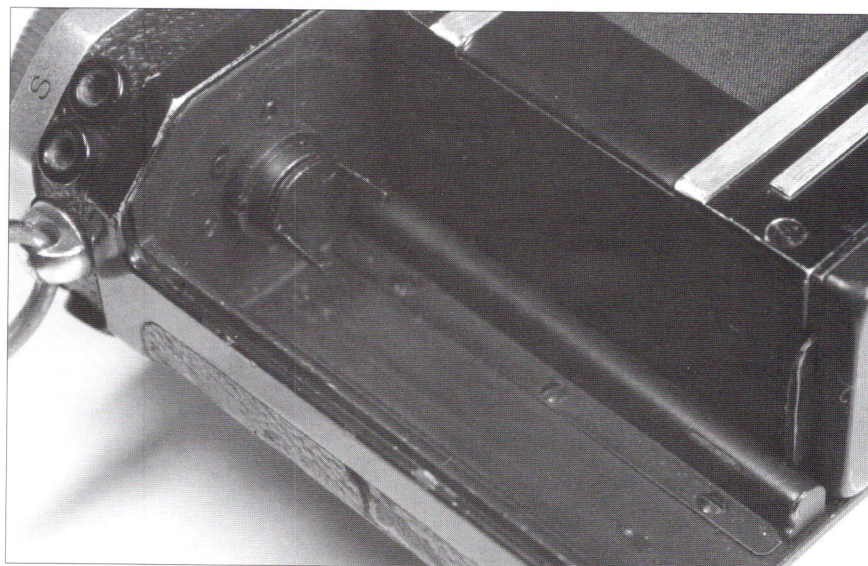
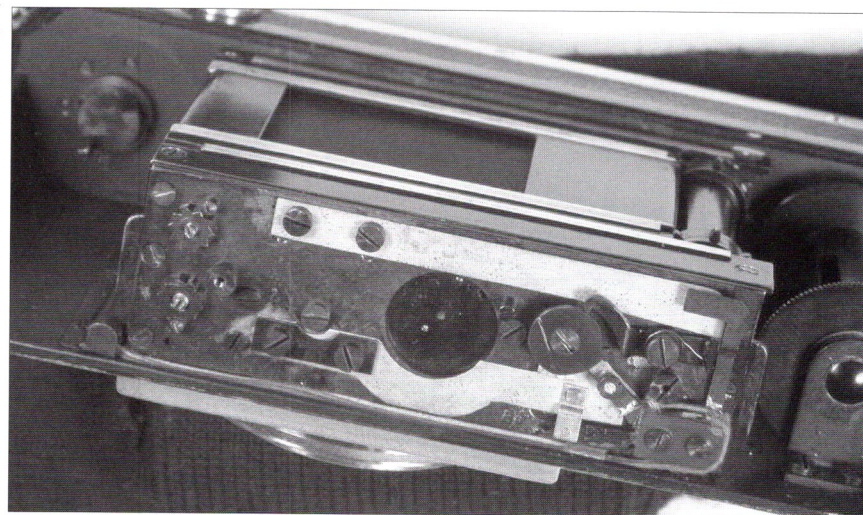
- 3) The lens, 316909, is from the second series of 5cm f1.4 Nikkors. But that does not mean that all the lenses in the preceding 5005xxxx series had already been mounted on cameras or sold, since later cameras have also been found with the 5005 lenses. It would appear that the two initial series overlapped. While the lens has the same standard 43mm filter thread, the front rim metal is thinner than later Nikkors. As a result, later lens caps, made for the thicker rim, will fall off. The lens mount itself is also different with thicker flanges. While the lens

mounts readily on this camera and on a Contax, it will NOT fit completely on a later model Nikon! The camera has a similar problem mounting external bayonet lenses and accessories. Early Nikkors and Contax lenses mount easily, but they will not fit later Nikons properly. The problem appears to lie in the gap between the camera's flanges and its front escutcheon. Later Nikons had a smaller gap.

- 4) This camera still has the duller brushed chrome finish similar to that found on Leicas. This will change to brighter, better-quality chrome two months later. However, the mirror-polished back latches and releases that mark earlier Nikons are gone. The accessory shoe is also the final version that all Nikons up to the model S2 would use. This camera does sport the final version of the shutter release guard, but whether this is original or a replacement is impossible to determine.



Above..Nikon M6093032 with 'JAPAN' engraved in the accessory shoe. In some cases it is reversed and is right side up from the shooters point of view. Possibly only 100 or so Ms are marked as such. Photos at right show how the first Ms were synced for flash as described in the text. (Photos by Wes Loder)



Here is Wes using M6093032 while in Vienna for NHS-Con10 last May. The photos came out perfectly which says alot for a 50 year old camera. Photo by Bill Kraus.

A TALE OF TWO BUBBLES

Going through a box with a lot of small Nikon stuff I collected over the years, I came across a plastic bag with two bubble levels for the panorama head. Both were bought years ago and I always thought they were identical. However, when I had both in my hands I noticed that there is a difference in the black filled engraving of the words 'Nikon' and 'Japan', as you can see in the photos. The engraving on the left one shows less space between the letters than the right one. The diamond pattern on the right one also seems to be a little less sharp. Now I wonder which one was produced first. Those with the 'Nippon Kogaku' engraving are, of course, the oldest ones. The original boxes for these little parts could tell more but mine came to me without any boxes. I wonder when this change in engraving style took place. Even the smallest pieces of the Nikon system can puzzle us! I hope you, or another member of the NHS, can answer my question.

Jan Jonker jolight@zonnet.nl



THE AUCTION SCENE

Two of the major photographic auction houses had sales in the month of November. Although the amount of Nikon rangefinder gear was not as large as in the past, there were very interesting and important items up for sale. All prices quoted include the buyers' premium.

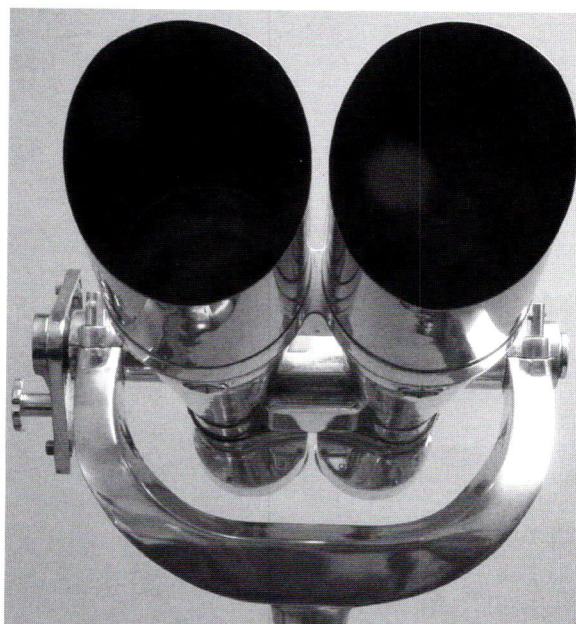
First up was Peter Coeln's 10th Westlicht sale in Vienna. The sale featured 25 various Nikon items, 14 of which were rangefinder vintage and the balance reflex. A really nice boxed Nikon M (M6091141) with the relatively rare 50mm/f1.5 Nikkor went for \$5,000. A real sleeper was a Nikon S (w/50mmf1.4 Nikkor) fitted with the special rapid rewind lever (a very rare factory modification) which sold for just under \$1,100, a lot for an S but really less than it should have with that rewind lever. A clean and original black Nikon SP body only sold for \$6,500, a relatively fair price. A surprise was a clean Nikon S3 Black Olympic body with a final hammer price of only \$3,100, a bit low and a bargain for the buyer. A 21mm/f4.0 RF Nikkor with finder, but no shade or rear cap, in only 'user' condition, went for \$4,400. Still a large price for this rare optic, but less than half what they usually go for. A complete black 25mm/f4 Nikkor set including the rare shade/filter holder, finder, front cap and case realized just shy of \$3,000, which is just about right. An External 50mm/f1.1 Nikkor in Bminus condition sold for \$1,900, which is low for this item. Possibly the condition was the problem but it looked good in the catalog. Two final items are of great interest. An S36 black motor drive with the brown leather battery pack sold for just under \$6,900. It was not a mint specimen yet it sold for a very substantial price. Mint motors can go for well over \$10,000 and have in recent years. The final item is a real rarity. How many of you have seen, let alone owned, the 5cm black brite-line finder? Sold only with the screw mount version of the 50mm/f1.1 Nikkor, it can really be called rare. I have only held one in my hands in the last 35 years! The hammer price for this tiny gem was \$2,800! Niceeeeeee!

On November 22nd was the sale at Christie's in London. This was the sale originally slated for September and announced in a previous Journal. There were only two rangefinder items, the rest being relatively common reflex equipment. However, the two RF items were a pair of Nikon Ones! But only one sold! Nikon One #609593 with an early collapsible f2 Nikkor failed to meet its minimum of \$15,000, which is surprising. The other offering was a special one and it did sell. Nikon One #60959 (from the first 40 Nikons ever made!) and sporting the very rare 50mm/f3.5 Nikkor (of which only about 100 were ever made in Nikon mount!) sold for just over \$27,000! It may sound like a lot but in reality such an early body with the rarest of all Nikon normals went for what must be considered a very fair price! Such early Nikons within the first 100 made are quite rare.

Stan Tamarkin has announced that his next Rare Camera Auction will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2007. He has already said that this sale will include a Nikon S4, a black Nikon SP and a black Nikon S2! Sounds like it will be a good one and I will have the results in our next Journal.

WANTED

**Second World War Large Aperture Nikko
Binoculars**



15 x 80

20 x 120

18.8 x 150

**Highest Prices Paid for Fine Examples
Please Call (914) 552 7303.**

'NHS' e-mail LIST!!

NEW! ROBERT ROTOLONI....r.rotoloni@sbcglobal.net NEW!

As a service to my members I will run an updated list each issue of the NIKON JOURNAL, so keep me informed. Any addresses added or changed since the last issue are in bold italics! This listing has been updated as of Dec. 31, 2006

PETER ABRAHAMAS.....telscope@europa.com
Website...europa.com/~telscope/binotele.htm

TOM ABRAHAMSSON.....ttabrahams@aol.com

BILL ADAMS.....badams6456@aol.com

MICHIO AKIYAMA.....HFD00673@nifty.com
Web Site.....http://homepage2.nifty.com/akiyanroom/redbook-e

GREG ANTHONY.....greganthony2000@yahoo.com

TED BACHO.....tedbacho@aol.com

DOUG BAKER.....dbaker9128@aol.com

ROBERT BAKKER.....rsbakker@planet.nl

DAVE BARTH.....dvbarth@aol.com
Website...starattraction.com

HARVEY BENNETT.....hbb1121@aol.com

JAY BERNSTEIN.....jaybernstein@earthlink.net

SCOTT BILOTTA.....scott@vintagephoto.tv
Web site.....www.vintagephoto.tv

ALAN BLAKE.....arbel@btinternet.com

RICHARD BOOTH.....contax@rochester.rr.com

HANS BRAAKHUIS.....braak117@wxs.nl
Website...http://home.planet.nl/~nikon.catalogus/

MARTIEN BRABER.....martien.b.braber@12move.nl

CHRIS BRENT.....chris.brent@kingssschool.uk.com

ALAN BRODY.....alancbrody@aol.com

PETER BRUNNER.....peter.bwreal@mighty.net

JOSE MIGUEL CABARRUS.....miguel@philwebinc.com

LUIGI CANE.....luigicane@fastwebnet.it

DANILO CAPUANI.....dorti13@hotmail.com

MARV CHAIT.....marv5555@aol.com

JOSEPH CHARLES.....jdcharles@alltel.net

SAM CLARK.....sclark@methodist.edu

RICHARD CREUTZ.....richard.creutz@yle.fi

XAVIER CRISTAU.....cristau@wanadoo.fr

LARS DACHNIO.....lars.dachnio@freenet.de

ALVIN DATTNER.....a.l.datt@nis4u.com

GERALD DAVIES.....gerald.davies6@btopenworld.com

PETER DECHERT.....pdcanon@earthlink.net

IMRE dePOZSGAY.....sales@rclcameras.com
Web site.....www.rclcameras.com

RICHARD deSTOUTZ.....destoutz@swissonline.ch

DONALD DiNARO.....dondi@ptd.net

PAUL EICHENBERGER.....peichenberger@spalding.edu

JAMES EMMERSON.....nsp9107@yahoo.com

UWE FLAMMER.....uweflammer@gmx.net

JEFF FELTON.....jrfelton@earthlink.net
Jfelton@westernu.edu

WILLIAM FISCHER.....ssp2434@aol.com

BENGT FRANSEN.....fransenb@hotmail.com

STEPHEN GANDY.....leicanikon@earthlink.net
Web site.....www.cameraquest.com

ALAN GEORGE.....alangeorge68@aol.com

JOHN GOMPF, JR.....gompfer@ptdprolog.net

HARVEY HANSEN.....harvey@post8.tele.dk

MICHAL HANUSCAK.....michal@hanuscak.sk

GREGORY HARRIS.....gregorygharris@sprynet.com

JOHN HARRIS.....ex120@yahoo.com

JONATHAN HARRIS.....jon@jonathanharris.co.uk

HARRY HARPS.....hharps@lycos.com

RUDI HILLEBRAND.....hillebrand@photodeal.ne.uunet.de

CHANG SHENG HUA.....terryhua@telus.net

TONY HURST.....tonyhurst@eircom.net
Website...tonyhurstnikon.com

BILL JACKSON.....william.jackson@uchsc.edu

NICK JANNES.....jannes6@mchsi.com

GEORGE JENKINS.....jsuzgeo@aol.com

DON JONES.....daj.fseldt@btinternet.com

JAN JONKER.....jolight@zonnet.nl

KIUMARS KAFFI.....kkaffi@hotmail.com

TOSHIKAZU KATO.....tosy3@attglobal.net
Website...www.ca-marche.com

YUKI KAWAI.....kawai-tp@nifty.com

PETRA KELLERS.....Pkell1014@aol.com
Website...camerabooks.com

ROBERT KNOWLES.....knowleshome@verizon.net

ULRICH KOCH.....uli_koch@t-online.de

LOTHAR KOENIG.....nhs-69@koenig.com

KAZUO KOGA.....koga@esi.nagoya-u.ac.jp

JIMMY KOH.....sales@kohscamera.com
Web site.....kohscamera.com

SCOTT KORHELY.....scott@ritz.cam.com

BILL KRAUS.....bildot@comcast.net

FRED KRUGHOFF.....fred@krughoff.com

WOLFGANG KUSTER.....w.a.kuester@gmx.de

REINHARD KUTTNER.....r.kuttner@chello.at

ROB LAFFER.....nikonf@aol.com

JERRY LADERBERG.....jerry@patriot.net

LESTER LAMPMAN.....lester.lampman@comcast.net

RICHARD LANE.....carlane@aol.com

JIM LEATHAM.....jeldgl@aol.com

JOHN LEE.....jwlee01@alumni.poly.edu

GRAY LEVETT.....info@graysofwestminster.co.uk

MATTHEW LIN.....matlin@netvigat.com
Web site.....www.matthewlin.com

MICHAEL W. LODER.....mw12@psu.edu

EBERHARD LOEFFLER.....eberhard.loeffler@balcab.ch

CHRIS LONN.....clonn1@cox.net

RONALD LoPINTO.....ronlopinto@prodigy.net

PETER LOWNDS.....nikon@qualitycamerashop.com
Website...qualitycamerashop.com

ERNESTO LUCIDI.....e.luci@tiscalinet.it

KARL MANTYLA.....kfotog@juno.com

JAMES MARTIN.....shatanaka@aol.com

JOSEF MAYRHOEFER.....fotomayrhofer@fotomayrhofer.com
Website.....fotomayrhofer.com

ENZO MAZZEO.....enzomazzeo@tin.it

MITCH McNEIL.....mitchmcneil@sympatico.ca

ROBERT (NICK) MERRITT.....rmerritt@comcast.net

VELI MIETTINEN.....veli.miettinen@hindu.pp.fi

CAROL MIKESH.....bjmikesh@aol.com

JOHN MILLHAM.....johnamillham@aol.com

BRIAN MUGALIAN.....bmugalian@sandc.com

DOUGLAS NAPIER.....douglas@dugwerks.com

RAYMOND NASON.....rmasonpht@comcast.net

AL NELSON.....nelson5248@aol.com

WARREN NORRELL.....warren@minn.net

YASUYUKI OCHIALI.....sp5@ma2.justnet.ne.jp
Website.....www5.justnet.ne.jp/~sp2000/

TED PAPPAS.....tpappas999@aol.com
Website.....TedPappas.com

G. PARSONS.....eparsons@neo.rr.com

HANS PLOEGMAKERS.....ploegmakers@talensfoto.nl

BUD PRES GROVE.....budbudwatch@aol.com

BILL PRINGLE.....redchips@aol.com

JAN PRINSEN.....jprinsen@iae.nl

RICHARD PURDIE.....rwpurdie@aol.com

ARTHUR QUINLAN.....aquinlan@quinlansomerville.com

PHILIP RAMSDEN.....philipramsdn@aapt.net.au

THIERRY RAVASSOD.....Terry@magicworld.fr

OLIVER REDDAWAY.....oliverreddaway@alpha.net.au

KEN REISHER.....cameraken@aol.com

IGOR REZNIK.....igorcamera@adelphia.net

BOB ROGEN.....teamrogen@sbcglobal.net

'NHS' e-mail LIST(cont)

JERRY ROLD.....jlrold@mchsi.com
 PHILIPPE SALOMON.....psalomon@bluewin.ch
 GIL SANDBERG.....gsandberg@cs.com
 JOHN SANDERS.....sandersjm@aol.com
CHRISTOPHER SAP.....c.sap@skynet.be
 SERGIO SASSO.....saxser@tin.it
 AL SATTERWHITE.....avsfilm@comcast.net
 Website.....alsatterwhite.com
 RUDOLF SCHENKER.....ruedischenker@freesurf.ch
 PAUL SCHLOEGEL.....pschloegel@cox.net
 STEVEN SCHWARTZ.....camerarts@msn.com
 BOB SIMPSON.....bob@stonemills.net
 Website.....www.stonemills.net
 PETER SMITH.....nikonsmith@aol.com
 KEN SNOW.....ken.snow@sbcglobal.net
 STEVE STAYTON.....sstayton@earthlink.net
 TOM SUROVEK.....tomsurovek@aol.com
 ROGER SWAN.....swanfoto@iafrica.com
 HENRY SWIECA.....henrys@hcmny.com
 MIKE SYMONS.....msymons6456@telus.net
 AKITO TAMLA.....atam@fine.ocn.ne.jp
 RUTGER TEUSCHER.....rteuscher@surfeu.de
 STAN TAMARKIN.....stan@tamarkin.com
 TOM THOMSON.....tthomson53@comcast.net
 PATRICK TSANG.....patrick.tsang@dsduk.co.uk
 G.H. TSURUOKA.....gtroka@aol.com
 JOHN UTTERSON.....utterson@sbcglobal.net
 GREG VANNASSE.....gregbuys@adelphia.net
 PAUL-HENRY vanHASBROECK.....hasbroeck@aol.com
 KENNETH WAGNER.....kenwagz@aol.com
 PETER WALNES.....pwalnes@joe.truemesh.com
 ROBERT WARWICK.....triton.london@btinternet.com
 MEL WILNER.....dplmd@nyc.rr.com
 BRIAN WOLFE.....cameras@bpwld.com
 RAY YOUNG.....alexyanovic@juno.com
 DALE ZICARELLI.....info@actioncamera.com
 DANIEL ZIRINSKY.....camrabug@optonline.net

'NHS' eBAY LIST!!

Dave Barth.....flier
 Luigi Cane.....Innelda Isher
 Steve Fischer.....selma-1
 Don Gresock.....Roller6519
 Mark Hardy.....cielle926
 Lothar Koenig.....L.KOENIG
 Lester Lampman.....cdorydusty
 Jim Leathem.....NikonSRME
 Enzo Mazzeo.....arriholmes
 Bud Presgrove.....budbudwatch
 Bill Pringle.....BigChips
 Jan Prinsen.....6973sad
 Robert Rotoloni.....6091
 Oliver Reddaway.....oliverinsydney
 Pete Smith.....petesmithnikon
 Roger Swan.....cygnet98
 Mike Symons.....NIKMIKE
 Peter Walnes.....arri888
 Mel Wilner.....rfnikon
 Ray Young.....midwestray
 Daniel Zirinsky.....camrabug

LETTERS...LETTERS...

From Mike Berner...Congratulations on the 23rd Anniversary. I look forward to each issue with great anticipation. I almost went out and bought an F3 outfit to add to my collection after reading this issue. As if I need another Nikon! Anyway, if I may make a suggestion regarding your sell list; perhaps you could create an email group of those of us who are interested and then just email the list as an attachment with each revision. That would save on postage and paper costs and keep every one up to date. *(Mike, that is something I have been contemplating for the future. RJR)*

.....
 From Richard Creutz...I have to tell you that your last issue of the Journal was marvelous. A really interesting article on the Nikon F3 system. Although I do not own one myself it was interesting reading. Now howabout one on my favorite user, the F2?

.....
 From Wolfgang Kuster...Peter Lownds' review of the Nikon F3 was great. The F3 with MD-4 for a better grip is still my preferred camera if autofocus is not needed. Simple straight forward operation and fantastic reliability. Peter raises the question, why the F3 has a slower synch speed. The answer is simple: Because of its shutter construction, the F3 has, as all professional Nikons (beginning with the Nikon One) up to that time, a horizontally traveling focal plane shutter consisting of 2 curtains. In Nikon amateur cameras (Nikkormats and FE/FM series) they had already used vertically traveling blade shutters with an X-synch of 1/125 second, but the durability of this shutter type was inferior to the proven curtain type. (the FE/FM shutter was said to last 50,000 cycles while the F2 shutter could do 150,000 cycles). The horizontal shutter has to move 36mm, the vertical type only 24mm. This translates in a slower synch speed for the horizontal type. Since the F3 was designed to incorporate the traditional horizontal type shutter, it could not simply be modified to give the faster synch speed of 1/250 second of the later FE2. By the way, the F3 was the last professional Nikon with this shutter construction. From the F4 on, all professional Nikons had vertical blade type shutters. It seems that the durability of these new shutters could be improved by the use of 'high tech' materials such as carbon.

.....
 From Philip Ramsden...I must add my thanks to you and Hans and Uli for organizing such a great meeting in Vienna. It is going to be hard to top. Liz and I had a great time. I think that either Brussels or Canada would be a good venue for NHS-Con 11. On my way back from the Leica meeting in Wetzlar, I stopped overnight in Rotterdam and had a chance to visit Peter Lownds' museum and drool over the camerax he wrote about in NHS-93. Tony's photos are terrific and really show off these amazing cameras. We are lucky to have so many talented writers and photographers who love to share their passion with us. The Journal just keeps getting better. *(Philip, you don't know how right you are. In the beginning the Journal was nearly a one-man job for me as I produced as much as 100% of the content. As time passed more members got involved to where I sometimes do none of the main articles! I just returned from Ireland & Holland spending time with Tony & Peter. They have more article ideas & members like them, & there are many, make the Journal what it is! RJR)*

20

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE...Nikon F3 outfit consisting of the following..F3HP body, MD-4 motor drive, databack, flash, extra finder, extra screens, cord, case, all manuals, etc. Asking \$1,000. For more details contact me at...jeldgl@aol.com or call me at (520) 635-2117. Thanks for your interest. James Leatham.

NEW MEMBERS

DR. JORDI BOADA
SANT CEBRIA BAIX, 24
SALAS DE PALLARS
25693 LERIDA, SPAIN

NICHOLAS A. BRAWER
11 LEAFY LANE
LARCHMONT, NY 10538-2217

BORIS JAMCHTCHIK
ALTENFURTERSTR. 16A
90474 NURNBERG, GERMANY

NHS BACK ISSUE & REPRINT SERVICE!

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

32, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 53, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92 & 93.

\$7.00 **EACH** IN U.S.A. POSTPAID
\$9.00 **EACH** OVERSEAS POSTPAID

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

\$5.00 **EACH** IN U.S.A. POSTPAID
\$7.00 **EACH** OVERSEAS POSTPAID

BLACK & BEAUTIFUL!

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NIKON RF BLACK BODY SERIAL NUMBERS TO OUR UPDATED AND REVISED **'NHS BLACK LIST'** LAST PUBLISHED IN NHS-90!

6157522 6170936 6320001 6322414

THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS ARE THOSE OF 'FAKES'!

6597812 (BLACK) 6598431 6600283 6601003

NEW ADDRESSES

RICHARD CREUTZ
KELTASIRKUNTIE 18 A
02660 ESPOO
FINLAND

KAZUA KOGA
ECOTOPIA SCIENCE INSTITUTE
FURO-CHO CHIKUSA-KU, NAGOYA UNIVERSUTY
NAGOYA, JAPAN 464-8601

RICK LOWE
P.O. BOX 2539
MENLO PARK, CA 94026

NHS-CON11 VENUE IS TO BE...VANCOUVER!

Bob has asked me to write a brief introductory notice about NHS-Con11. As you might or might not know, I've agreed to host (or co-host) #11 which is scheduled for the spring or summer of 2008...a mere 16 months hence! Here are some very early preliminary thoughts;

- We've decided that Vancouver, not Victoria, would be the venue of choice. Greater Vancouver is a truly international city of over 2.5 million. There are many convention-type hotels in addition to a wonderful venue on the grounds of the University of British Columbia. If we choose the UBC facilities, we would probably arrange to stay in residences on this glorious site. I'll be checking this out this month.
- Vancouver International Airport is a first class facility with frequent connections from Asia, Europe and the US.
- Vancouver is an excellent staging off point for many other historic and scenic spots, such as the Rocky Mountains (Banff & Jasper); a beautiful ferry ride over to Vancouver Island, Victoria, and Long Beach (Pacific Rim Federal Park); the Whistler area where the 2010 Olympics will occur. The list is too long for this short notice.
- Due to strong Pacific Rim influence, there are hundreds of excellent Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese and Thai and many European restaurants to tempt your taste buds..and wallets.
- A mere 120 miles south is the beautiful 'Emerald City' of Seattle, and points south. The world famous Oregon beaches represent an easy day's drive south of Vancouver.

I've told Bob that I'm totally committed to this convention and to be quite honest, I'm very excited. You might think it is too far in the future to be thinking of the planning process, but it really isn't, as there is so much to do in preparation. If there are any NHS members who live in the greater Vancouver area who would like to get involved in any capacity, please contact me at: msymons6456@telus.net. In the meantime I'll be corresponding with Bob, Peter Lownds, Uli Koch, Hans Ploegmakers and Bill Adams seeking their collective wisdom on the mechanics of hosting an NHS convention. Stay tuned, as I'll probably be submitting quarterly updates. **Think 'VancouverCon-11'.....**

odds 'n ends

SHOPPING FOR NIKONS IN WARSAW.....



Bill Kraus tells me that in Warsaw, Poland, the demand for Nikon products is so great that they sponsor a special 'NIKON ONLY' train for shoppers. Well... that's what they say anyway...

This latest 'spy' photograph taken from over a mile away with the 2000mm f/11 Reflex-Nikkor is proof that such a train exists. Could this be a new trend?



Created For The "NHS" By *Tony Hurst*