

From James C. Hayes, 4046 Fullerton, Detroit, Mi.48238

Dear Peter,

I read with interest Idle Thoughts #14 on p.16 of Exakta Times #16 on the Stereo Hyponar lens. I had written an article on the f4 Hyponar and the f3.5 Kin-Dar lenses that you may want to use in a future issue of *E.T.* My original was sent to another magazine but was never published, so you may find difficulty in reprinting from copies.

I do not know the intent or purpose of these lenses but I think it might have been scientific or medical. I hope this article will be of interest to members of the Circle.

One other thing, "an unknown lens" by Stein Falchenberg; ten years ago I bought a Meyer-Optik Görlitz 2.5/100 Orestor #4153108 at a little shop near the cathedral in Cologne. It is a manual click-stop lens for the Exa or early Exakta. Like Stein, I too checked and never found any reference any place. The serial no. is on the bezel on this one.

Last but by no means least, I had a most enjoyable visit in the home of Klaus Rademaker and his lovely family in June, saw the new boy.

Yours Exaktaly, James C.Hayes #99

Thank you for the letter and contents, Jim. Although I may be running out of space in this issue, I'd like to make it a bumper Christmas issue, so I will type it up and see how we go for space. If you read this in the smaller type used for the minutes on pp.24-25, it doesn't denote anything of lesser importance, just a squeezing up to get it all in!

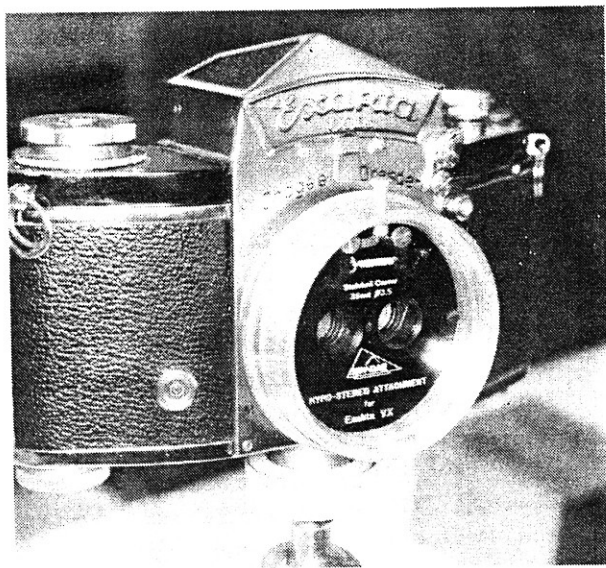
THE STEREO LENSES FOR THE EXAKTA VX MADE BY SETON ROCHWITE By JAMES C. HAYES

The Rochwite 35mm f4 Hyponar and the 35mm f3.5 Kin-Dar stereo attachments differ from the Stereo-Tach and the Zeiss Jena stereo devices in that they fit into the camera itself. The Zeiss and Stereo-Tach devices attach to the 50mm lens of the camera. Even though Rochwite calls it an attachment, to me its a lens.

I had heard of the Kin-Dar stereo lens for the Exakta VX made by Seton Rochwite of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in about 1956. It contained two Steinheil Cassar 35mm f3.5 lenses permanently focussed at twelve inches. It came in a nice green felt lined wooden box fitted to hold the lens with its chromed front and rear protective covers and three 300mm Kin-Dar achromat supplementary lenses for close-ups. It must be for medical or other specialized purposes.

A friend has one and permitted me to photograph it,

but only on the camera. He was afraid of damaging the articulated beam splitter (divider between the lenses).



Of course I was happy just to do that but had no idea of how the lens worked. Just recently one turned up at a local dealer who permitted me to take it home over the weekend to photograph. A better understanding was gained. The photos weren't as good as I'd like, but will have to do as the lens has since been sold.

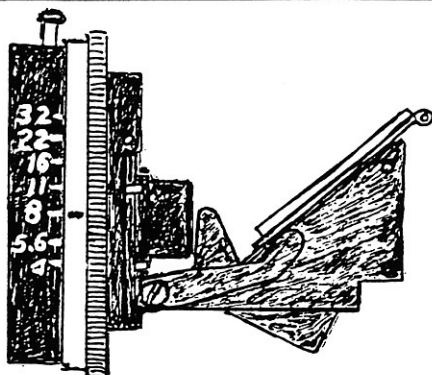
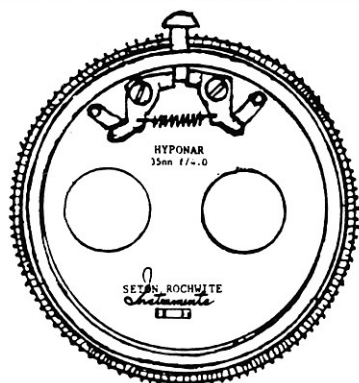
It has been said that "wonders will never cease". Well, I heard of another Rochwite lens for the Exakta, a 35mm f4, and called the dealer who confirmed over the phone that it was indeed an f4. I requested photos and he graciously obliged. Unfortunately his photos were no better than mine. It, too has now been sold.

While both lenses are semi automatic and seem to operate the same, there are some physical differences as can be seen in the photos. I'm not sure if the f4 is focussed at twelve inches, if its lenses are Steinheil, and don't know which was first, the f3.5 or the f4, but think the f4 might have been earliest. The owner of the f4 seemed just as concerned about damage as my friend, He had this warning taped onto the rear cover: "Never install or remove lens without first pressing the exposure button to be sure the mirror is up." As an extra safety precaution, push the diaphragm cocking plunger and observe if diaphragm returns to the stopped down position. If lens stays open the mirror is down and damage can occur.

Both lenses bayonet to the outside of the mounting flange and with the exception of the rear of the individual lenses, everything that fits inside the camera is alike. The face of the f4 is black with all black screws, with HYPONAR 35mm f4.0 above the lenses and SETON ROCHWITE INSTRUMENTS (instruments in script) and a stereo slide logo below. The front lens cap

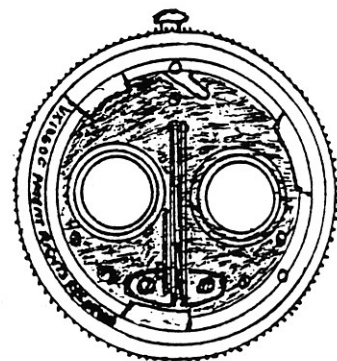
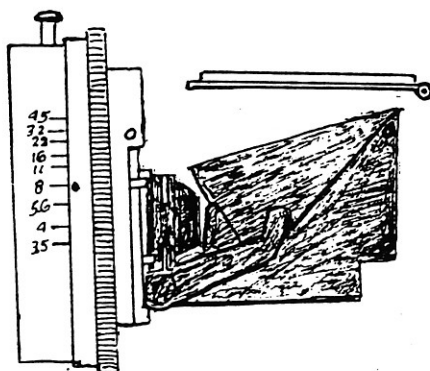
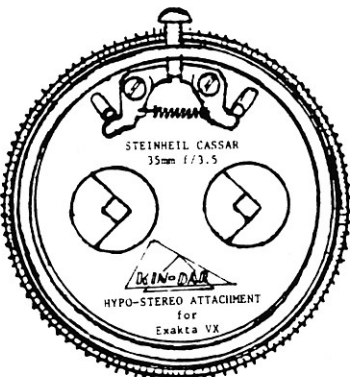
is black with no inscription and the rear cover is chromed and bayonets to the rear of the lens. The face of the f3.5 is black with the top two screws chromed, with STEINHEIL CASSAR 35mm f/3.5 above the lenses and KIN-DAR logo and HYPO-STEREO ATTACHMENT for EXAKTA VX below. The front lens cap is chromed with KIN-DAR logo. The rear protective cover is same as the f4.

Since the beam splitters and operations of both lenses is alike I will illustrate both lenses so you may see the physical differences between the two. But please understand what applies in the explanation of one also applies to the other. These line drawings may augment the photos by showing details that are probably indistinguishable in photos.



When the mirror is in the down position, as in this illustration, the arm is held down, and if the lens cocking plunger is pushed down, the lens will remain fully open

for framing and focussing. The camera has to be moved closer or further from the subject for focussing.



When the shutter release is pushed, mirror goes up, segment of beamsplitter goes up, arm goes up stopping down lens diaphragm. If, after advancing film and recocking the shutter, if the plunger is not pushed down the lens will remain stopped down and can be used manually.

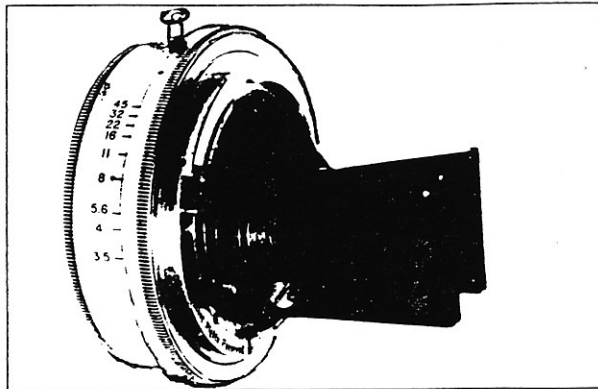
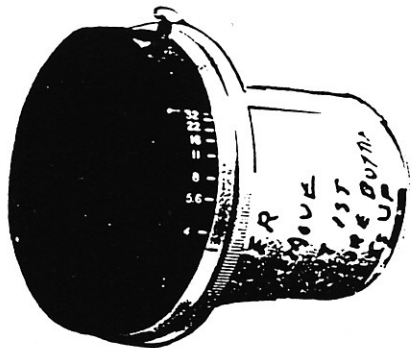
The aperture of the f4 HYPONAR stops down to f32 and the aperture of the f3.5 KIN-DAR stops down to f45.

I was told some time ago that only about a couple of hundred stereo lenses for the Exakta were made by Seton Rochwite. At that time I had not heard of the f4 lens. Were there a couple of hundred each of the f4 Hyponars and the f3.5 Kin-Dars, or is that the total production? The Kin-Dar that I examined had VX 1060C engraved in the chromed surface around the back,

followed by "Patent Rights Reserved". What the starting number was is not known, nor if this is indeed the serial number. The f4 Hyponar has no serial number but the letters WSE. The third letter looks like a British £ symbol when the photo is viewed with a glass. Could this be a prototype?

There is one thing that always seems to happen; just when you think you have all the answers something else shows up. While browsing through an old magazine I came across this advertisement for the Kin-Dar Hypo-Stereo lens. Surely there are many unanswered questions about these lenses; so I toss this into the sea of knowledgeable collectors - it's no telling what other new information will float back. (Illustration overleaf)

Exakta Times



Kin-Dar Corp.
908 Sherman Ave. S.
Milwaukee, Wis.

Kin-Dar Hypo-Stereo Attachment

Permits stereo close-ups from 3-12" with Exakta VX reflex camera; two coated 35mm f/3.5 Steinheil-Cassar lenses in single bayonet lens mount; .625" interocular separation; 12" pre-set focus; closer focus with one or more 12" F.L. supplementary lenses with prism effect to keep image centered; each lens covers both objective lenses. Diaphragm ring closes down to pre-set f-stop when shutter is released. Produces stereo pairs of 4 perforations each for viewing in regular stereo viewers. Comes with two supplementary lenses, case.

\$179.00

