

JULY/AUGUST 1986



STEREO WORLD



★ Arizona Stereo Parts II & III ★ EXPO 86 3-D

THE MAGAZINE OF STEREO PHOTOGRAPHY



CHALLENGER DISASTER SEQUENCE

NSA member Colonel John Newman purchased a Stereo Realist camera at an antique fair in DeLand, Florida on January 18, 1986. His Florida home is in Ormond Beach, about 60 miles north of Cape Canaveral, and he decided to try out his "new" camera a few days later during the scheduled launch of the Shuttle Challenger.

With no meter handy, he guessed at an exposure of 1/100th at f/8 for the Kodachrome 64 film he had loaded in the Realist. Then, from his front door, he shot a series of slides of the launch with a tree in the yard providing some stereo effect against the houses across the street and the rocket trails 60 miles to the south. He mentions in a note with the slides, "I was so busy snapping that I didn't know

anything had gone wrong until it was all over."

The two slides reproduced here are from the middle of the sequence, and show the immediate aftermath of the explosion. Images both tragic and historic to be the first ones shot with a new camera! The story also prompts the question, does NASA make any effort to get synchronized hyperstereo images of launches from tracking cameras near the cape? Even if the answer is no, there may somewhere, among the miles of film shot of the launch, be an accidental hyperstereo pair or two awaiting only someone with the time to find them, identify synchronized frames, and make the needed image size corrections. Truly a job for a dedicated stereo fanatic!





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COVER: Railroad crew moving bridge timber on handcar, Flagstaff, July, 1883. From a Ben Wittick stereo negative in the collection of the Museum of New Mexico. One of several rare views illustrating the installments of **ARIZONA TERRITORIAL STEREOGRAPHY** by Bruce Hooper in this issue.



