

Obituaries



Peter L. Shamray died May 12, 1953, in Wadsworth Memorial Hospital, West Los Angeles, Calif. He was 59 years old. Associated for many years with the motion-picture industry, he had worked as a laboratory technician and superintendent with D. W. Griffith Co., Fine Arts Film Co., Triangle-Keystone Co. and the Majestic Moving Picture Co.

During World War I he served in the Signal Corps as a laboratory technician and cinematographer in France. In 1925 he was studio and production manager for H. C. Weaver Studios in Tacoma, Wash. He had been Technical Representative for du Pont Motion Picture Film since 1927. He was an active member of this Society since 1943 and was an Associate member of the American Society of Cinematographers.

Kenneth Shaftan was killed on April 4 in the crash near Washington, D.C., of a small chartered plane in which he was returning to New York with two business associates from a military consulting assignment. As a Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve, he was buried with full naval honors at the National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., on April 8. He was 33 years old.

After graduation from Columbia University, Mr. Shaftan completed extensive postgraduate work at New York University College of Engineering and Columbia Graduate School of Engineering.

Commissioned Ensign, U.S. Navy in 1942, he became Officer-In-Charge of the Photographic Group of the Bureau of Ships.

At the time of his death, he was Director of Photographic Instrumentation, J. A. Maurer, Inc., Long Island City, N.Y., a department which he had organized and directed. At the same time, he was Consultant to the Office of Naval Research and to the Research and Development Board, Department of Defense, Panel on Photography and Optics.

His greatest interest centered around photographic instrumentation. He had established and maintained a voluminous

file of facts and data relating to photographic instrumentation, technology and scientific photographic equipment and procedures. He had written many technical papers, all exceptionally well documented.

After becoming a member of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers in February 1946, he advocated the use of still and motion-picture photography as a tool of industrial research and did intensive studies of the published literature in this field for the Society. His reports, "A Survey of High-Speed Motion Picture Photography" and "Progress in Photographic Instrumentation in 1950" were published in the May 1950 and the November 1951 issues of the *Journal*. He was also Chairman of the Society's Committee on Engineering and Technical Society Liaison.

He was President of the New York Chapter of the Society of Photographic Engineers, and was an active member and contributing author of *The American Physical Society*, *American Institute of Physics*, *Optical Society of America*, *Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain*, *Biological Photographic Association* and the *Photographic Society of America*.