

Obituaries



John C. Lakotas

John C. Lakotas, a Regional Coordinator of Technical Services for Eastman Kodak Company's Motion Picture and Audio Visual Division was among the victims of the crash of a jet liner at Chicago's O'Hare Airport on 25 May 1979.

John was born 16 July 1942 in Minneapolis and had been employed by Kodak since 1964, following graduation from the University of Minnesota. For the last seven years, he had been prominent in the motion-picture community in Hollywood, handling the engineering services and technical assistance for Kodak's MP and AV Division, Pacific Southern Region.

John had been active in SMPTE affairs, serving as Program Co-Chairman for the 119th Technical Conference in Los Angeles in 1977 and as Program Chairman for the 121st Technical Conference to be held in October. He was also Secretary/Treasurer of the Hollywood Section of the SMPTE.

John is survived by his wife and four children. Memorial services were held on 30 May in Westlake Village, Calif. Services were also held in Rochester, N.Y. and Minneapolis, Minn.

Francis R. Orban

Francis R. Orban, a Life Member of the Society, died in the month of March 1979 at the age of 72. At the time of his death he resided in Toronto, Canada.

He attended the Technical University in Budapest, Hungary, graduating with the B.S. degree. He did graduate work at the Technical University in Dresden, Germany, receiving the degree of Doctor of Engineering. He joined the SMPTE in 1934; at that time he was employed by the Hunnia Film Studios in Budapest as a sound engineer. That same year he transferred to Film Sonore in Bucharest, Rumania, later returning to Budapest.

His membership in the Society lapsed in 1941 because of World War II, but he was reinstated as an SMPTE member in 1948.

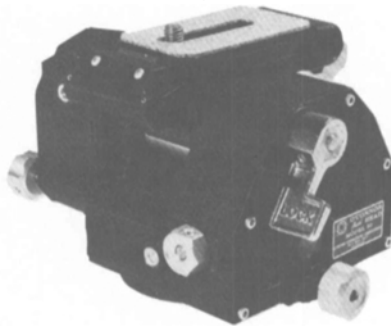
Beginning in 1942, he resided in Munich-Gruenwald, Germany, in the U.S. zone, where he was employed by Bavaria-Filmkunst GmbH as a sound mixer. In 1953 he moved to Canada where he was employed by Crawley Films in Ottawa. Spoken of by his colleagues as "a top man" in the field of sound engineering, his interests included all phases of sound recording and mixing; he was also knowledgeable in the field of architectural acoustics.

O'Connor

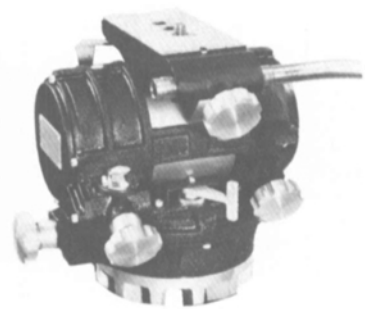
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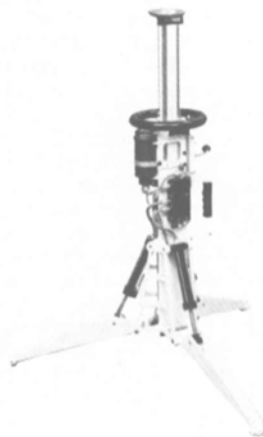
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