

Aerial photos can be easy with fast film and shutter

All of you who have been in an airplane know how different and exciting things look from the air.

Buildings are miniaturized, cars become toys, roads and rivers cut fascinating patterns through forest and hills. Views from the air are dramatically different and are easier to capture on film than you might think.

COMMERCIAL airliners are the most common means of aerial photography. Even though you have no control over route or altitude, there still are some things you can do to get good pictures.

Select a window seat, either in front of or behind a wing.

Set your camera's focusing ring at infinity and the shutter speed control at 1/500th sec. or faster. Because depth-of-field in aerial photography is normally insignificant, you'll usually use a wide aperture in order to obtain as fast a shutter speed as possible.

Don't brace the camera against the window or you'll pick up the plane's vibrations. Be sure your arms don't touch the plane, either.

WHAT FILM should you use from the air? Because extremely fast shutter speeds are mandatory, faster films are usually called for.

Kodak Tri-X is a good black and white choice. Ektachrome 400 or Kodacolor 400 are good color selections, depending on whether you want slides or prints.

When you fly commercially, never allow your film to pass through airport X-ray devices. Most security personnel will gladly accommodate a request for a visual inspection of film.



photography

Monte Nagler

Use a skylight or UV filter at all times to cut through haze. Be careful in the use of a polarizer filter, however, when shooting color from an airliner. It may interact with the polarizing characteristic of the plastic window material and result in out-of-focus color bands in your pictures.

WITH BLACK and white film, use a yellow filter. If haze is particularly bad, switch to a red filter. Because contrast is reduced in aerial photography, you'll have to overdevelop your film to put snap back into your negatives.

With your camera ready, listen for the pilot to identify such famous landmarks as the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam and Niagara Falls. Such locations photograph well from the air.

Other good subjects are dramatic sunsets, snowcapped mountains and city skylines. Look for patterns in plowed farmlands or checkerboard fields.

Be on the lookout for abstract shots, too. Your friends may have to guess what your photo is.

LIGHT PLANES and helicopters can give you greater control over direction and elevation. They can bring you closer to the subject and give you that special angle you may want.

You'll be more flexible in time of day, too. Late afternoon or early morning will produce shadows and textures not obtainable in bright, mid-day sun.

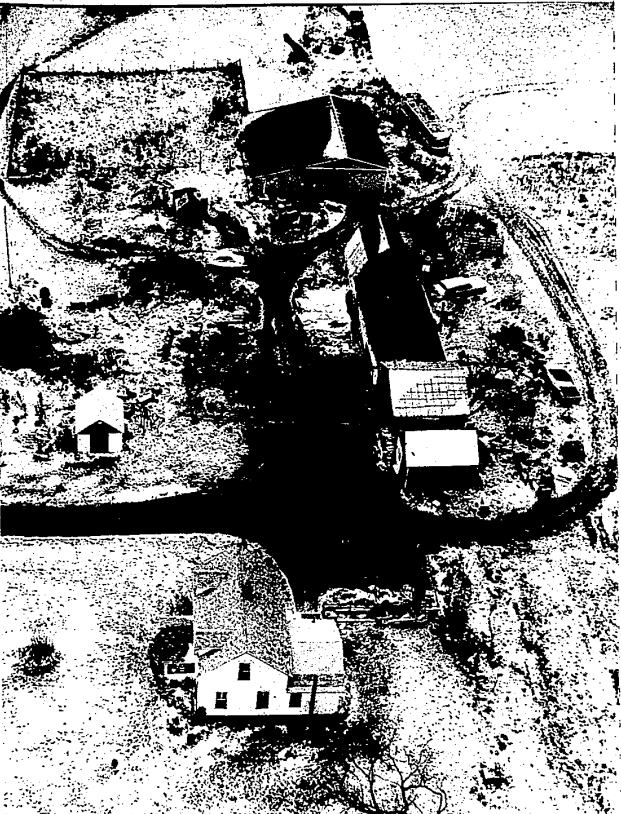
Some of the best aerial shots can be taken from a hot-air balloon. If the opportunity ever presents itself to fly in one, don't pass it up. The view is clear, there are no vibrations, and the perspective is excellent.

Aerial photography will reward you with many different and exciting pictures. Let your photographic growth take off — into the air.

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Shoot faster by spotlight

In Monte Nagler's Feb. 25, we accidentally printed a recommended shutter speed of 1/25th sec. for photographing spotlights on stages and in concerts. That is too slow. The correct shutter speed should be 1/125th sec.



From a hot-air balloon, Monte Nagler snapped this farm scene near New Hudson in western Oakland County. Balloons have no vibration and fly lower and slower, to the photographer's advantage.

Business use of cable TV session topic

A conference on cable TV, designed especially for the business community, will be offered March 24 by the Oakland University Division of Continuing Education at Meadow Brook Hall, Rochester.

The day-long seminar, "Cable TV Meeting Business Needs," will cover the development of cable communications and services important for businesses. Regional cable networks will be discussed, focusing on advertising po-

tential and on two-way, interactive regional networks as used for communicating and accessing business information.

Refreshment breaks, luncheon and all materials are included in the \$75 tuition. For program details and registration information, call the Continuing Education office, 377-3120, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Sessions will be conducted by Thomas Muth, Ph. D and JD, associate pro-

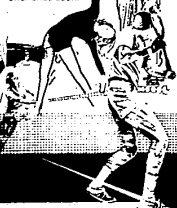
fessor of telecommunications at Michigan State University and director of development for ELRA Group, of Chicago, and representatives of Cox Cable, of Atlanta, Central Videopath, Inc., of Chicago, and Leo Burnett Co., of Chicago.

The conference, offered in cooperation with Michael Zeko and Assoc., of Southfield, will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration and coffee are scheduled for 8:30 a.m.

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