LIGHT METER

SEKONIC L-398 Studio Deluxe is used mainly as an <u>incident</u> light meter which measures the amount of light <u>falling on the subject</u>. It can also be used as a <u>reflective</u> light meter which measures the amount of light <u>bouncing</u> off the subject.

Light meters are sensitive instruments. If you want accurate readings, handle with care.

Incident Readings:

- 1. Place the neck strap over your head so the meter won't accidentally drop.
- 2. Make sure the "lumisphere"-little white bubble- is in place. Align white dots and turn clock-wise until secure.
- 3. Take the "high" slide from the back and insert in the center slot on top of the meter.
- 4. Set the ASA of the film you are using by turning the center dial until the correct number appears in the ASA window opposite the tiny black pointer.
- 5. Place the meter as close to the subject as possible, without casting your shadow on the lumisphere. Point the sphere
 towards the camera and press the center button which allows the
 needle to swing to the proper reading. Release the button to
 lock the needle in place. The needle will then point to the
 number of footcandles of light falling on the subject, as indicated on the large scale from 0 to 1250.
- 6. Turn the largest black dial until the red "H" arrow points to the indicated footcandle number on its own scale.
- 7. Take the f-stop reading at the bottom scales. Find the shutter speed of your camera on the upper row. Bolex Rex (reflex camera with turret) use 1/80th. [604 125]

Bolex H-16M (eyepiece tube mounted on base of lens) use 1/60th. The correct f-stop is read directly below the applicable shutter speed. This is assuming camera is set for 24 fps. The red "cine" scale applies only if the camera shutter speed is 1/50th.

Lumigrid

Lumidisc

Lumisphere

LIGHT METER (cont'd)

8. Reading Low Light Levels: If the needle will not move out of the compressed portion at the left end of the scale. Kemove the high slide and replace in the back of the meter. Now take a reading and instead of using the red "H" arrow (H=high slide in), use the silver "L" arrow (L=low light) to align large dial. Take f-stop reading as usual. If removal of the high slide still does not move the needle enough, there is probably insufficient light.

CAUTION

Always take the first reading with the high slide in. This will protect the delicate mechanisms from "pegging" the needle. "Pegging" will eventually damage the meter and give incorrect readings.

- 9. The numbers to either side of the "H" and "L" are <u>filter</u> <u>factors</u>. If you are using filters on the lens, the factors are used to compensate for the light absorbed by the added filter. various filters have different factor numbers. Simply use the appropriate number instead of the H or L to align large dial and read f-stop as usual.
- 10. The Lumidisc is the flat white attachment that can be used instead of the Lumisphere to read light more directionally, such as individual light sources for contrast ratios.
- 11. The Lumigrid is used for reflected light readings. Replace Lumisphere with the Lumigrid. Remove the high slide. Take a reading on the subject as close as posible without casting its own shadow on the subject, only this time point the Lumigrid towards that same subject. Use only the "H" arrow to align the large dial and read the f-stop as usual.

 9/81 WHC