

H. DUNCAN ABRAHAM,

P.O. Box 3113, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

Serial No. ~~111~~ 4.

DOPE SHEET.

Date ~~15th March 1947.~~

Story JOHANNESBURG

Cameraman H. Duncan Abraham

Length ~~1000 ft~~
Approx.

Location ~~Johannesburg~~

Also covered by _____

Roll Number

Footage

1. 1. Chrysler Building.
2. 2. C.B. "
3. 3. Pan shot of Corner House. Famous for many years as the home of the Gold Mining Industry.
4. 4. Diamond polishing C.B.
5. 5. Diamond cutting. 20 cut. stone.
6. 6. Medium shot --- Row of Diamond cutters at work.
7. 7. Diamond sawing. Large stones take three days to saw in two.
8. 8. " "
9. 9. Display of cut diamonds, with a couple of uncut stones.

2. 1. Display of diamonds with man examining same by picking stones up with tweezers. About £20,000 worth.
2. 2. De. Close up.
3. 3. Street scene. The ordinary people of Johannesburg in Eleff Street going about their daily business.
4. 4. De.
5. 5. And rest of roll.
Aerial views of Orlando Native Township.
The last shot or two are Aerial views of Native squatters' camp near Orlando Township.
These shots are not intended as part of Johannesburg story, ^{they are taken in advance of story} about natives in South Africa, so please cut out and keep in library pending completion of Native story.

3. All shots on this roll are Aerial views of the Reef Gold Mines and the centre of the City of Johannesburg. The first shots show the white mine dumps which may be seen at various angles and stretching for miles towards the East.
These Mine dumps extend for over a hundred miles and stretch out both East and West of Johannesburg known as the East Rand and West Rand. Seen from the Air they give a very good indication of the position of the great Gold Reef of the Rand.
Aerial views of the City of Johannesburg may easily be distinguished by the blocks of high buildings, seen from a distance looking "North East" and East, and show the Draft Board effect of the Town planning. Also closer views are shown of the business and shopping areas.

H. DUNCAN ABRAHAM,

P.O. Box 3113, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

b-30440

Serial No. ~~122~~ 4.

DOPE SHEET.

Date.....

Story.....

Camerman..... Length.....

Location.....

Also covered by.....

Roll Number

Footage

4.

(Background X Film) F6.

1. Pan view of veld illustrating what Johannesburg looked like over 60 years ago.
2. Pan view of centre of Johannesburg as it is today, from the Berea.
3. Stationary shot of view of Johannesburg from the Berea.
4. " " with lens 6", of Johannesburg from Berea showing buildings and mine dumps in background.
5. View of Johannesburg (6" lens) the highest building; showing prominently is "Ansteys" Building.
6. View of Johannesburg (6" lens) showing His Majesty's Building in distance. With a large crown on top of each high point.
7. The actual spot where the Main Gold Reef was first discovered. Mr. Harrison's old workings. It has been established that Mr. Harrison was the discoverer of the Main Reef and this is where he found it just over 60 years ago. After doing a limited amount of work on his claim which was proclaimed the Discoverer's Claim, Harrison sold it and went away, and was not seen again in South Africa. He did not realise that he had made the greatest gold discovery in the history of the world. Since then the Gold Mining Industry on the Rand has produced approximately £2,412,000,000 worth of gold.
8. Close up of one of the shafts Harrison dug in following the gold reef under the surface.
9. C.V. showing the outcrop of the actual gold bearing rock in reef formation as Harrison left it. The young man is demonstrating the width and angle of the reef.

~~10. (See out, see Roll 5.)~~



5.

10. Shot of first ten stamp battery to be brought to the Reef and to start work. This bulky piece of machinery with its heavy stamps and huge timbered supports had to be transported from the beach in the old days in ox-waggons, over a distance of ^{hundreds} ~~more than 150~~ miles, at walking pace and no properly constructed roads.

5.

- 2.1. C.V. and upward pan of first ten stamp battery.
- 2.2. View of modern shaft head-gear and mine dump on the Langlaagte Mine, on the same property as Harrison's old workings.

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Also covered by.....

Roll Number

Footage

5 cont..

- ~~4.3~~ Another man-made mountain, a great mine dump alongside the Main Reef Road running from Johannesburg to the West Reef.
- 5.4. Pan shot first showing group of old mine dumps, sometimes called the Alps of Johannesburg, pan continues showing skyline of portion of the City of Johannesburg, as seen from the West.
- 5.5 Similar view (stationary).
- 7.6 Similar view between two old dumps with short pan.
- 8.7 View of Johannesburg's Electric Power Station.
- 9.7 A scene at one of Johannesburg's fashionable residential suburbs. A few of the houses at Northcliff.
- ~~10.9~~ At the top of a hill at Northcliff, once the abode of vultures and known as Vultures Hill. — Now stands a delightful Tea Room and pleasure garden, from which may be seen the expansive views of Johannesburg's suburbs with the City on a distant skyline.
- ~~11.10~~ Exterior view of the Stock Exchange behind which is to be seen the Chamber of Mines, Johannesburg. It is at this stock exchange where fortunes are made and lost. Plans are laid to pull down this historic building and rebuild a larger and better Stock Exchange as soon as building materials are more plentiful. The Chamber of Mines is where the organisation of the Mining Industry as a whole is governed and directed.
- 12.11. False start, film ran out. (See Roll No.6.)

- 6.
1. The Anglo-American Corporation Building, one of the most modern and beautiful Mining houses in Johannesburg. It is here where Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, the Diamond King, controls the vast Diamond Industry and here too, many other mining interests have their home, including Gold and Minerals.
 2. Do. Different angle.
 3. The New Magistrates' Court; a vast and beautiful building, — it is this length and design on all four sides.
 - ~~4.~~ View of Eleff Street, Johannesburg's main shopping thoroughfare, along which the Royal Family will drive. The decorations are taking shape.
 5. The finishing touches to decorations on the City Hall. Fitting some of the many thousands of electric bulbs.
 6. Close up of electrician fitting bulbs on some illuminated decoration.

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Serial No. ~~132~~ 4.

DOPE SHEET.

Date.....

Story.....

Cameraman..... Length.....

Location.....

Also covered by.....

Roll Number

Footage

6 cont.

- X
X
7. Decorative work proceeding on clock tower of old Post Office, Rissik Street.
 8. One of Johannesburg's typical homes. This one has a distinct English touch.
 9. Another delightful home set in a lovely garden; also very English.
 10. Another man-made mountain. The old Village Deep Mine dump, now disused, but one of the largest on the Rand. In order to prevent the sand blowing about, grass has been induced to grow over large areas of the dump. A few trees too have put in an appearance.
 11. Old photographs of Johannesburg in Album. As the leaves are turned over so Johannesburg is seen to grow.
 - (1) The beginning of Johannesburg,; a few shacks on a stretch of veld in the year 1886.
 - (2) Commissioner Street in 1887.
 - (3) Johannesburg a year later, 1888.
 - (4) " again in 1889.
 - (5) The town now takes the shape of a real township. Johannesburg in the early 90's.
 - X 12. Commissioner Street as it is today, lined with great modern buildings reaching almost skyscraper proportions
 13. False start, film ran out.

X 7. C.U. Vertical pan shot of one of Johannesburg's large buildings.

2. Rest of roll Native Street-entertainers dancing. Johannesburg like most large towns has its wandering minstrels and the natives have not been long in discovering this form of making a livelihood. Here we have three dancers and a guitar player. An admiring native audience looks on.

X 8. 1. Vertical pan of Escom House, the home of the Electricity Supply Commission, bedecked with flags for the Royal visit.

2. Vertical pan of Ansteys Building, one of Johannesburg's large department stores.

3. A typical Johannesburg private residence of modern design.

4. Entrance to Johannesburg. This decorative archway is erected on the Municipal boundary of Johannesburg, through which the King and Royal Family will pass on entry to the city.

ABR. 4.

Roll No 8 cont.

- Another example of a beautiful Johannesburg
5. Another example of a beautiful Johannesburg private residence --- this one has a thatched roof.
 6. A large illuminated Royal Crown completely covering a palm tree --- a part of the decorations for the Royal Visit.
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H. DUNCAN ABRAHAM,

P.O. Box 3113, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

Serial No. ABR. 4.

DOPE SHEET.

Date 15th March 194

Story JOHANNESBURG.

Cameraman H. Duncan Abraham.

Length 1440 ft
affix

Location [REDACTED]

Also covered by [REDACTED]

Roll Number

Footage

SUMMARY OF STORY

In view of the visit of the Royal Family to South Africa's largest city, Johannesburg, on April 1st, 2nd, and 5th, together with the fact that, Johannesburg, probably the World's most fantastic city, is just sixty years old, having celebrated her Diamond Jubilee last October, the story of Johannesburg is one that might appropriately be told at this time.

The story endeavours to relate how sixty years ago the site where Johannesburg now stands was just a stretch of unknown South African veld, where wild buck grazed at their leisure. Then gold was discovered, a camp was pitched, iron shanties were built, and the greatest race to build a city was on. The story continues with scenes of modern Johannesburg as it is today and finally dressing herself up in fine array in honour of the Royal visit.

(P.S. Further, in view of so many thousands of Britishers anticipating emigration to South Africa this year, this story should be of added interest to the British public.)

STORY

Opening Scene. Roll No.4, shot 1.

Just over sixty years ago Johannesburg looked like this--a typical stretch of Transvaal veld over 400 miles inland from the port of Durban. There were no proper roads, just ox-waggon tracks over the mountains. The nearest railhead in those days from the coast was at Ladysmith, a distance of about 250 miles away, and the ex-waggons' journey from there to where Johannesburg now stands took anything up to six weeks to complete.

Mr. Harrison then dug this hole in the ground (Roll 4, shot 7, 8 and 9) and so discovered the Main Gold Reef of the Witwatersrand, the greatest gold discovery in the world.

We now turn to an album of old photographs to see what happened next. (Roll No. 6, shot 11.)

The first picture shows the beginning of Johannesburg in 1886-87, just sixty-years ago, a small mining camp of a few tents and shacks. Then on the next page, a few more shacks and the beginning of Commissioner Street in 1887.

(A fade-out and ~~in~~ of modern Commissioner Street could be used here.) Roll No.6, shot 12.

Turning over to the third page we see Johannesburg a year later, 1888. A number of wood and iron buildings have now been erected, and on the fourth page another year's growth is shown—1889. Finally, on the fifth page we see Johannesburg in the early 90's now taking the shape of quite a township.

But what a transformation is the modern Johannesburg of 1947.. (Roll 4, shot 2 to 6, and Roll 5, shots 4 to 7. Also aerial views of city, Roll No.3 second portion.)

What has been at the back of this fantastic development and induced thousands of people to migrate from all corners of the earth to this, the world's youngest city of its size?

The answer is GOLD:

So what of the gold mines? How did they progress? Here is the first ten stamp battery for crushing gold ore, that came to the Reef. (Roll 4, shot 10, and Roll 5, shot 1.) Compare this antiquated mechanism with a mine of today. (Roll 5, shot 2) And if there is any doubt as to the amount of work that has been done, just look at these man-made mountains (Roll 5, shot 3) consisting of fine sand, which was once solid rock, thousands of feet below the surface of the earth, all dug out and crushed to a powder in order to extract the gold. Then the waste sand is piled up year after year creating these mountain-like white dumps.

(Roll 6, shot 10) This one is now in disuse, but is one of the largest of the Reef, and grass and trees have been planted on it to prevent the dust blowing about in the wind. The shaft head-gear seen near the foot of this dump is the famous "Turf Shaft, said to be the deepest in the world going to a depth of over 9,000 feet.

From the Air, the mine dumps of the Reef may be seen in a long line stretching out to the horizon. They cover a distance of over 100 miles, running from East to West. (Roll 3, first part) and with each dump or group of dumps, there is vast mine machinery, Reduction works with Cyanide tanks, shaft-heads, Native Compounds and mine workers' houses. (See Roll 3, C.U. Aerial Views of Mine Workings.)

You may wonder how all this vast enterprise is controlled. The Mines are mostly divided up into groups which are owned and controlled by large mining interests, who have their headquarters in the city. The oldest and most important of these, is the "Corner House". (Roll 1, shot 3) This is the headquarters of the Central Mining Corporation, a grand old building which has seen much of the mining activity of South Africa.

One of the most beautiful and modern mining headquarter buildings is that of the Anglo-American Corporation (Roll 6, shots 1 and 2) It is here where Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, the Diamond King, controls the vast South African Diamond Industry, here too, large gold and mineral interests have their home.

The various mining concerns, and of course, industrial and commercial companies as a whole, make shares available to the public; these are bought and sold on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (Roll 5, shot 10) View of Stock Exchange with the Transvaal Chamber of Mines building in the background. The Chamber of Mines is a governing body with representation from the various mining groups and concerns whose function it is to administer the interests of Mining as a whole.

There are many other large business houses in Johannesburg with no direct connection with Mining, such as the Motor Car Industry. Here is Chrysler House (Roll 1, shot 1 and 2) in the heart of Motor Town. Here is a typical departmental store and offices and flats, Manners Mansions. (Roll 7, shot 1.)

One Johannesburg industry that developed enormously during the war was that of Diamond Cutting. Holland, the home of Diamond cutting, was in the hands of the Nazis, so South Africa had to cut her own diamonds. We take a peep into a Diamond Cutting Factory, and here we see a line of skilled craftsmen at work. (Roll 1, shot 6) Diamond cutters earn up to and over £200 per month.

The very large stones are first sawn up into smaller sizes (Roll 1, shots 7 and 8) The saw blade is made of Phosphor Bronze about 1/8,000 of an inch thick, but it takes a diamond to cut a diamond so this blade is smeared with diamond powder mixed with olive oil, and progress is slow; it takes about three days to saw through a large stone.

The next process is the diamond cutting (Roll 1, shot 5) Here is a large 20 carat stone being set up in the machine and cut by another diamond mounted in a tool and skilfully handled by the cutter.

The final operation is the polishing (Roll 1, shot 4) This is done on a flat disc revolving at high speed. The diamond to be polished is set in a leaden mixture to hold it firm, and is guided by the skilful hands of the operator.

The finished article. Just look at this display of sparklers. £20,000 worth of gems lie before you while an expert examines them one by one. (Roll 2, shot 1 and 2)

Take a closer look at these stones; the two large ones are rough uncut diamonds as they come out of the earth, while the others are the finished product after cutting and polishing. (Roll 1, shot 9)

What of the ordinary people of Johannesburg? Here is an everyday street scene in Kloof Street, the main shopping centre of the city, with the people hurrying about their business. (Roll 2, shots 3 and 4)

No city is complete without its street entertainers, and Johannesburg is no exception. The Natives have discovered this method of making a livelihood. These three dancers with their guitar accompanist, draw admiration and amusement from their native audience. (Roll 7, shot 2 to end of roll.)

We have seen the business side of Johannesburg, but every town has its suburbs and private residences, and Johannesburg is noted for its beautiful homes. Here at Northcliffe six miles from the city, are homes on the side of the hill, which have delightful views (Roll 5, shot 8) At the top of the hill, once the abode of vultures and known as Vultures Hill, now stands an attractive Tea Garden with a view for miles looking over suburbs with the city on the skyline. (Roll 5, shot 9)

One of Johannesburg's homes with distinct English style. (Roll 6, shot 8)

Another charming residence set in a rose garden, this too has an English flavour. (Roll 6, shot 9)

Here is a home of modern design where glass plays an important part in the construction. (Roll 8, shot 3)

If you like that, this large residence set back in a spacious garden is one distinctly desirable. (Roll 8, shot 5)

The Johannesburg the Royal Family sees, will be much bedecked with bunting, and illuminations. On approaching the Municipal boundary, the King will drive under this arch of welcome. (Roll 8, shot 4.)

He will then see this enormous reproduction of the Royal Crown which at night will be illuminated. It is situated just before entering the City. (Roll 8, shot 6)

He will then pass up Bleff Street, which is here seen rapidly dressing itself for the occasion. (Roll 6, shot 4)

As the Royal Family gaze up at Johannesburg's skyscrapers this is what they will see. Anstey's Buildings (Roll 8, shot 2) Eschen House (Roll 8, shot 1)

These decorations take much labour and preparation. Here is the City Hall going gay with a large illuminated G.W.R. in coloured lights. (Roll 6, shots 5 and 6)

The old Post Office clock tower is also receiving attention. (Roll 6, shot 7)

H. Duncan Abraham.

H. DUNCAN ABRAHAM,

P.O. Box 3113, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

1627-240

Box

Serial No. ABR. A. 6.

DOPE SHEET.

Date 4th March 1947.

Story Life Size Model of Royal Coronation Coach and Retinue.

Contributor H. Duncan Abraham.

Length 400 feet.

Location JOHANNESBURG.

Also covered by _____

Roll Number

SUMMARY OF STORY.

Footage

Amongst the numerous and elaborate decorations in Johannesburg in honour of the Royal Visit, probably the most outstanding single item is a life-size working model of the King and Queen seated in the Royal Coach, with retinue of horses and attendants. This item was kept secret until the last minute, and attracted considerable attention from the Royal Family, to say nothing of the thousands of spectators who gaze at it daily.

It is of special interest to the British public, as the model is likely to be lent to the S.A. Red Cross for exhibition in various centres in South Africa, for the purpose of raising funds for the relief of British flood victims. It is however, necessary to verify the latter statement which will be done by cable immediately definite information is available.

The film shows views of the display from the street, then behind the scenes, and the ingenious working parts are shown close-up, and various angle shots of the whole set up.

STORY

Most towns in South Africa have been lavish with their decorations in honour of the Royal Tour, and of them Johannesburg is in the forefront, the Municipality alone having spent approximately £40,000 on its decorative work. In addition to this private concerns and business houses have furnished their own decorative schemes. Outstanding among these is the display created by Messrs. O.K. Bazaars, a large departmental store, of Eloff Street, Johannesburg. Their effort was kept a close secret but for many days before the arrival of the Royal Family, the public knew something interesting was going on behind large awnings on the balcony of the O.K. Bazaar, and many were the speculations. On the evening before the Royal Family arrived, the awnings were removed and the amazed citizens of Johannesburg crowded in their thousands to gaze at the spectacle, of a life size working model of their Majesties in Coronation robes wearing the Royal crowns and seated in the Coronation coach drawn by eight grey horses complete with flunkys, Beefeaters and a Life Guardsman on a rearing black charger.

The whole thing appears to be on the move and the King and Queen seated in the coach bow gracefully to the spectators.

When the Royal Family arrived in Johannesburg and drove down Eloff Street, the first to notice this display

was Princess Elizabeth. She excitedly turned round to the King, who was seated behind her, and drew his attention to it, and he in turn, pointed it out to the Queen who was busily greeting crowds. The Royal Family appeared extremely interested in the display and on their return journey later in the day, were seen to be looking out for this display in order to have another look at it as the procession drove by.

The entire model was constructed within the premises of the departmental store by their own staff. The man responsible for the entire creation is Mr. F.E. Norman (Display Manager) who was assisted by Mr. D. Levine (Shop Fitter) Mr. G. Scott (Electrician) Mr. Montgomery (Modeller) and several others, but no mechanics were employed. The work took twelve weeks to complete and cost approximately £150 for material and a total cost with labour of about £1,800.

The coach and bodies are constructed mainly of Papier Mache, the mechanical side of it is of wood, and about 50 pulley wheels made of Beaver Board, together with various wires and springs. The driving power is supplied by nine electric motors of half horse power each. The entire display is 80 feet long. No scale plans were available and the whole construction was made from photographs and the scale determined by comparison with the normal size of men and horses.

The likenesses of the King and Queen were taken from photographs of their Majesties.

The display is dismantled on Tuesday 8th. inst. and is being handed over to the South African Red Cross which body is arranging for it to be exhibited in various centres in the Union for the purpose of raising funds, presumably for the Flood victims of Britain. Money is now hastily being collected throughout the country for this purpose and a cheque will be handed to Princess Elizabeth on her 21st. Birthday as a gift, to help the British victims.

H. Duncan Abraham

SHOTS

As the pictures will explain themselves it is not necessary to detail each shot.

Roll No. 1.

Various views from the street level of the display.

Up on the balcony showing behind the scenes. A view from the front looking along the row of horses legs. Mr. Norman, who was responsible for the construction comes into picture.

Roll No. 2.

Various angles of working parts as seen from the inside of the display.

Mr. Norman is seen below the rearing horse of the Life Guardsman, inspecting its operation.

What the King and Queen look like inside the coach.

Close up of some of the pulley wheels working horses legs, Mr. Levine oils the bearings.

A view of their Majesties as seen framed through the front window.

View of innards of rearing Guardsman's horse.

NOTE. There are several repeat shots for selection.

ROYAL TOUR MATERIAL - BATCH NO. 15.

CAMERMAN: GRAHAM THOMPSON.

27th March, Kruger Park.

The Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret change over to their own car after entering the Reserve.

Princess Elizabeth shows great interest in imprints of Lion's paws in mud.

Several shots of Impala - Wildebeests.

As Their Majesties watch Hippe in pool Several more shots of animals including a Jackal.