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CAESAR'S LAST STAND!

By R. Allen Leider

Well, those aggressive apes are back and TMT's got 'em. Media editor R. Allen Leider has the story of the BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES, the fifth and last (that's right...last) film in 20th Century Fox's memorable Apes cycle. R. Allen, who has impressive connections among humans and simians alike, tells the tale herewith...

Sufferin' Simians... the apes are back for the last time!

That's right, 20th Century Fox has just completed shooting the final scenes of the fifth and last entry in the PLANET OF THE APES series. The latest and last apes opus, BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES, will pick up where CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES left off and continue up to the final atomic holocaust that wipes out human civilization and places the planet under complete ape domination.

Much of the location shooting for this final Apes feature was done in the California wilderness only moments before tract houses were dropped upon the site by eager contractors. The location set-up presented some unique problems for the ape actors who were accustomed to the luxuries of the sound stage. For one thing, they had to stay in their make-up and costumes all day. This made little things like eating difficult, as



BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES will be the last outing for our simian friends, who seem to be thinking fondly of the good old days in this shot. The future of the simian-labor situation hinges now on the proposed PLANET OF THE APES TV series.

the ape masks provided a stubborn obstacle even to the enjoyment of a simple cup of commissary coffee. But, thanks to some long plastic straws that

THE BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES

"Uh... it sez here dat' da apes 'showed an intelligence an' grace dat a human would be proud of.' Gee, I didn't know dat." Which just goes to show that even apes can benefit from reading THE MONSTER TIMES.



It's not easy being an ape, especially a part-time one. The ape masks forced the actors to slurp their coffee through straws. The Mickey Mouse mugs were optional, however.

happened to be on paw, no one starved. In fact, it was all like a grand family picnic... if your family happens to be King Kong's.

As you can see in this exciting set of exclusive TMT photos, there was a great deal of action shooting for this film. One wonders how a stray hunter might have reacted if he'd sighted a band of machine gun-toting gorillas marching through the woods in full battle dress!

BATTLE begins after the world has been virtually destroyed by an atomic war inspired by the apes' revolt. A few apes and humans manage to escape the

nuclear plague—the apes, led by Caesar, taking refuge in the woods; the radiation-scarred humans living in primitive bands in a bomb-ravaged Los Angeles. Caesar is forced to do battle not only with the decimated but still hostile humans, but with simian malcontents in his own ranks led by a power-mad gorilla named Aldo. It seems like the whole world (of which, in this movie, there isn't much left) is conspiring to bury Caesar, but the wily ape is a tough competitor and hangs in there down to the finish.

20th Century Fox has already sold the entire five film cycle to television, after which, it is rumored, there will emerge a PLANET OF THE APES "TV SERIES." We'll have more about that proposed series in a future issue of TMT. Look out for it.

"I hear you can make big money driving a tractor-trailer..." says unenthusiastic and soon-to-be-unemployed ape. What with Ed Sullivan off the air, there's not much of a market for out-of-work apes, although, if worse comes to worse, there's always the Chicago police force...



Machine gun in paw, the militant ape leader Caesar (RODDY McDOWALL) stalks through the post-holocaust L.A. streets in search of stray humans, who, you can rest assured, will only be getting what they deserve.

BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES CREDITS

Producer Arthur P. Jacobs
Director J. Lee Thompson
Story Paul Dehn
Screenplay Paul Dehn
John William Corrington
Joyce Hooper Corrington
Makeup Joe Dibella

CAST

Caesar Roddy McDowall
Aldo Claude Akins
Lisa Natalie Trundy
Kolp Severn Darden
Mandemus Lew Ayres
Virgil Paul Williams
Alma France Nuyen
With Austin Stoker, Richard Eastham,
Noah Keen, Robert Porter, Michael
Stearns... and Sam Jaffe as
"Lawgiver."

