NACHES PASS WAGON DESCENT MEMORANDUM

You have received rumors, no doubt, of the Naches Pass Descent scheduled for July 30th.

The background is this: A century ago the first wagon train to cross the Cascades (ahead of any trail) reached the top of a cliff, which apparently blocked their way and seemed to spell death for the party. The final solution was to let the wagons down the 1000-foot cliff, which was done with the aid of all available rope and the hides of three cows killed for the purpose.

As part of the Centennial, this scene—probably the most thrilling in all of Western history—will be re-enacted. Whether it is ever done again is problematical. There will be no excuse for it until 2053.

The plan follows: The re-enactment proper will take place July 30 FOR NEWS AND COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TELEVISION ONLY. There will be a second show the following day but NOT on the original cliff. That will be nearer the highway and for public consumption.

Travel directions: ON the Chinook Pass highway, 25 miles toward the summit, turn at Boundary Guard Station and follow the Twin Camp Road to Himes Camp. There is an unavoidable hike of about a quarter mile. Forest Service men and State Police will be on hand for directions—also to keep the public back if possible. In our news stories we are saying nothing about the 30th, only the 31st. We suggest and request that newspapers and others involved make no mention of the 30th.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. Don King are making the descent. As of today they will be all ready to start down at 12 o'clock. We may push this ahead if that would suit the photographers better. This scene is being done for you and we want to turn in to you a real piece of cooperation. If there are any changes in the set-up we'll advise you. We'll probably send out another bulletin, anyway.

If this is not directed to the right office, please pass it along for this is really IMPORTANT—the first time this thrill scene has been re-enacted and probably the last time.