

## THAT'S A LASKAR PHOTOGRAPH!

Bill Laskar began his photographic career in high school in 1938 with a \$3.50 Kodak™ darkroom kit, a Kodak™ box camera, and an Argus™ 35mm that cost \$10.00. He built his own enlarger and nearly brought an early end to his career when it caught fire one night, having overheated during a long exposure.

After World War II, he embarked on a career as a freelance news photographer, taking photos for the Associated Press, United Press International, the *Denver Post*, the *Albuquerque Journal*, and the *Tribune*. He also worked as a stringer for *LIFE* magazine and opened a commercial studio.

His first published photo was a shot of an airplane crash at the old Albuquerque airport on the East mesa where Sandia is now located. His work has since appeared in books and magazines, including *Time*, *LIFE*, *LOOK*, *Newsweek*, *Fortune*, and *National Geographic*. His photos have also appeared in major newspapers both here and abroad, including the *New York Daily News*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The London Observer*, *La Prensa*, *Pravda*, and the *Belen News Bulletin*.

Bill joined Sandia Labs as an industrial photographer in 1953. In 1957, he became the Labs' first full-time Lab News and Public Information photographer, a post he held for 24 years. He retired in 1980, but continued doing special photo assignments for the Labs until 1984.

Laskar's photographs are beautiful and unique. Sandia employees can often pick his work out of a group of photographs because of the distinctive use of light and shadow. His work graced the *Lab News* for nearly two decades, making us and our work look more attractive and more interesting than we dared imagine.

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These are the captions used under the groups of photos in the exhibit:

TONOPAH TEST RANGE, 1960s.

ECP CAMPAIGNS

BILL LASKAR'S SON

SANDIANS WORKING

CORONADO CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMPONENTS