Holocaust live

by Gregory J. Larsen

Damnation Alley is a frighteningly enlightening film. This well done piece of cinema turns all the fears of the cold war into reality. It shows what might happen as a result of another Cuba crisis, and what our world might be like after a short lived third world war.

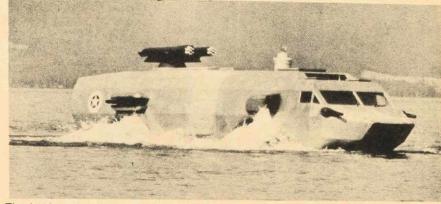
The story behind the film is basic yet adequate. The acting is good yet not superior. The technical high point of **Damnation Alley** is its special effects.

Special effects is a currently popular trend that was established early this year with Star Wars.

Constantly changing electrically colored landscapes are inherent throughout the film. Oddities and freaks of nature are plentiful enough to act as the obstacles of the story. But most impressive of all is the prolonged sequence of nuclear explosions that takes place early in the film.

The impressiveness of this sequence is derived from the fact that these explosions really took place in order to be filmed. When one considers that such phenomena are possible one shudders.

As one nuclear mushroom after another creaks itself in a sinister.



The landmaster is the vehicle of which the survivors hope to travel to safety through the nuclear terrors of "Damnation Alley."

charge of the launching room are given their orders and the missiles are launched. A number of the enemy missiles are unaffected and North America is destroyed. This nuclear holocaust knocks the Earth off its North, South axis and major unexpected tremors occur because of this. Few survive the whole escapade and they are sparsely scattered.

Furthermore the still intact antiballistic missile base is destroyed by a fluke explosion leaving only four survivors. Denton, the senior officer, reveals two secret all-terrain vehicles that are to be used for just such catastrophes. The decision is made to start out for Albany, N.Y. where there have been radio signals indicating the possibility of civilization. Thus begins a cross country trip on a route called **Damnation** Alley.

Keegan (Paul Winfield) and Perry (Kip Niven) are killed, and Janice (Dominique Sanda) and Billy (Jackie Earle Haley) are picked up, along the route. The trip is filled with excitement, adventure, horror, suspense and euphoria; all for the purpose of finding civilization.

This is a film that should be seen by everyone if not for its entertainment value then for the purpose of undergoing the experience of a nuclear holocaust. Of course the one difference is that everyone survives this holocaust to tell just how disastrous such an incident could be.



Radiation in the wake of nuclear holocaust has created many freaks of nature, among them these giant scorpions

Damnation Alley has successfully attempted to continue this trend. But unlike Star Wars there is far less depending on modulation and simulation and more stress on trick photography based on natural phenomena and landscapes. This presents the incidents of the film in an authentic and plausible fashion which results in producing the story in a credible light.

and omnipotent way the audience watches the destruction of North America. One can't help but think that this horrible and merciless occurrence could actually happen.

The film begins when approaching enemy missiles are detected at an anti-ballistic missile base, presumably in California. Denton (George Peppard) and Tanner (Jan-Michael Vincent), the two officers in

Humming along

by Cheryl Downton

For most people, humming is not a major component of a lifestyle, and is certainly not a money making venture. For the Dixie Humming-birds, humming and harmonizing and spreading the word about heavenly love is what it's all about. They feel they are best able to deliver this message through song.

The Dixie Hummingbirds have been together a long time; twentyfive to forty years out-distances most others. Their cohesiveness and versatility as a team can be evidenced through the close harmony and open affection among its members. James Davis, the man who formed the group in the 1930's, has a simple, undemanding honesty about him which infects all those who hear him talk of his love of the Lord. He has an excellent harmony voice, and it is he who really hums. James Walker, Ira Tucker and Beachey Thompson make up the main singing force of the Hummingbirds, while Howard Carroll plays admirable guitar and occasionally adds his rich baritone to the singing contingent.

The Hummingbirds' Halifax concert at the Cohn was not greeted by a large turnout, but the performers seemed to take this in stride and



America's foremost gospel singers, The Dixie Hummingbirds, appeared recently at the Cohn for a buzzing performance.

sang a song Who Are We which tells of their musical career and the disappointments of 'slim' crowds and the difficulty of making ends meet, especially in their early days. The audience was able to respond to this honesty and seemed determined to let the group know that they were appreciated and had no difficulty reassuring them through vigorous hand clapping and audience participation.

The concert itself was the medium used by the Dixie Hummingcontinued on page 13

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