

ZIPPORAH FILMS

SINAI FIELD MISSION

Credits: Producer, Director and Editor: Frederick Wiseman
Photography: William Brayne
Camera Assistant: Oliver Kool
Assistant Editor: Stephanie Munroe

Running time: 127 minutes

Length: 4,784 feet

Black & white / Sound / 16mm / Optical track / Normal screen / 5
reels / English

Release date: October, 1978

PBS broadcast: October 1978

Filming Location: Buffer Zone, Sinai Desert

Festival Screenings:

London Film Festival, 1978

Festival Dei Popoli, 1978

Mostra Internazionale del Film D'Autore, Sanremo, 1979

Athens International Film Festival, 1979

Cleveland International Film Festival, 1979

SUMMARY:

SINAI FIELD MISSION shows the routine activities of the diplomats and electronics technicians who operate the United States Sinai Field Mission, the early warning system established in 1976 to help carry out the disengagement agreement between Egypt and Israel following the 1973 war. The major purposed of the Mission is to monitor the approaches to the strategic Mitla and Giddi passes and to verify the operations of the Egyptian and Israeli electronic surveillance stations in the Sinai Buffer Zone. Sequences show the operation of the watch stations, the inspection of all people and vehicles entering Israeli and Egyptian electronic surveillance bases, the monitoring of all traffic through the Buffer Zone, the relationship with the United Nations forces and the day to day activities of 163 Americans living in the Sinai Desert.

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