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FOR UNITED ARTISTS

PROGRAM NEWS

STATION WXLO

DATE AUGUST 15, 1979 7:30 A.M. CITY NEW YORK

BROADCAST EXCERPT

BOB SLADE: I have to take my hat off to Francis Coppola for his fourteen months on location filming in the Philippines, and he encountered many hardships. And the result of his effort can be seen clearly in his epic war film, "Apocalypse Now." It is not a masterpiece like his "Godfather" movies, but nevertheless it is visually impressive. "Apocalypse Now's" story reminds one of the old "Mission Impossible" series.

Martin Sheen, an intelligence officer, is given the assignment of tracking down and killing Colonel Kurtz, played by Marlon Brando. Kurtz is a rebel officer living a Reverend Jim Jones life in the jungles of Cambodia. Sheen travels up river with a four-man crew in a small gunboat and they encounter the horror, madness and insanity of war.

"Apocalypse Now's" strong points are its well-filmed battle scenes, which successfully manage to recapture the Vietnam war with true realism. The acting is top-notch, but Coppola's film wanders when he starts exploring the philosophies of war and the final Sheen -- Brando confrontation becomes anti-climactic. There are no credits before or after the film and patrons are given a program when they leave the theater, which I thought was different.

You may or may not like this movie, but despite the fact that it is not classic Coppola, "Apocalypse Now" is an interesting film to watch. And I give Coppola a lot of credit.

Bob Slade, 99-X.