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A



PRESS BOOK

"A DRAMATIC JOURNEY WELL WORTH TAKING!"

— NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE




SEVEN ARTS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

TAXI FOR TOBRUK

the most exciting, explosive journey the screen has ever taken
THROUGH A MINEFIELD OF HUMAN EMOTIONS



with
CHARLES AZNAVOUR • HARDY KRUGER • LINO VENTURA • in DENYS De La PATELLIERE'S 'TAXI FOR TOBRUK'
MAURICE BIRAUD • GERMAN COBOS • BASED ON AN ORIGINAL SCRIPT BY RENE HAVARD • ADAPTED BY MICHEL AUDIARD • RENE HAVARD AND DENYS De La PATELLIERE
SCREENPLAY BY MICHEL AUDIARD • DYALISCOPE • A FRANCO LONDON FILM S.N.E. • GAUMONT-PROCUSA CO-PRODUCTION • A SEVEN ARTS PICTURES RELEASE 

1 SHEET

A SEVEN ARTS PICTURES RELEASE

PUBLICITY

"TAXI FOR TOBRUK" ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT!

(Advance feature)

During the filming of the rugged war drama, "Taxi For Tobruk", which opens at the theatre, handsome Charles Aznavour, who stars along with Hardy Kruger and Lino Ventura, was called upon to drive three miles across the burning North African desert in a beat-up, old German half-track truck. While doing the scene, an unexpected sand storm blew in and separated the actor from the rest of the shooting company. As the storm grew in intensity, the crew lost sight of Aznavour. Producer-director Denys De La Patelliere was frantic. Such storms in the Sahara have been known to blind a man as well as cover him whole.

Fearing for the actor's life, the entire cast and crew began searching for Aznavour. After twenty minutes of being brutally lashed by the sand, the men thought they heard a strange humming through the subsiding winds. Investigating the noise, they stumbled over to the other side of a sand dune. There, to their amazement, was Aznavour snugly encamped in the

equipment trailer. With feet resting on an oil drum, a soft drink in his hand, he was gaily humming one of the many songs he has made famous in Europe. Needless to say, the crew didn't laugh as much as Aznavour who took the scare in his typical, easy-going stride.

Aznavour, who subsequently earned a reputation for his devil-may-deviltry among the crew, portrays just the opposite role in the film, "Taxi For Tobruk." He is one of four, tough French Commandos in the strife-ridden Sahara desert who suddenly find themselves stranded and fighting for survival in a trackless wasteland.

In its recent American Premiere in New York, "Taxi For Tobruk" was acclaimed by critics. Hailed the New York Herald Tribune, "a dramatic journey well worth taking . . . loaded with suspense and tense situations. A taut war drama that is immeasurably heightened by crack performances and crisp direction."

"Taxi For Tobruk" is being released by Seven Arts Pictures.



HARDY KRUGER stars in "Taxi For Tobruk", a suspenseful drama of men at war with each other and the enemy. Set in North Africa, the adventure opens at the MAT 102

"Taxi" No Ordinary Run-Of-The-Mill Battle Adventure

(Advance Story)

"Taxi For Tobruk", opening at the theatre on is a war adventure different than most. Its many-faceted ingredients skillfully combine to make unusual, explosive screen fare while, at the same time, pointing up the absurd logic of war itself.

Producer-director Denys De La Patelliere, whose goal was to make a film that would stand on all levels, has taken for his vehicle the story of four French Commandos lost in the vast, trackless Sahara desert after a successful sabotage mission in Tobruk. He has welded together the inherent brute action and dramatic interplay of men faced with a mutual predicament of getting out of the desert together or the alternative of dying a slow death, and come up with a motion picture which the New York Herald Tribune acclaimed as "A dramatic journey well worth taking . . . loaded with suspense and tense situations. A taut war drama that is immeasurably heightened by crack performances and crisp direction."

A Seven Arts Picture release, "Taxi For Tobruk" stars Charles Aznavour, who has been aptly dubbed "the Frank Sinatra of France" because of his many successful concert and film appearances; Hardy Kruger, who is best known for his award-winning performance in "Sundays And Cybele;" and fast rising newcomer Lino Ventura.

Ex-Boxing Champ Out For Boxoffice

Young Lino Ventura, co-star of the forthcoming war adventure, "Taxi For Tobruk", which opens at the theatre, was once Europe's championship boxer. His rise to stardom was purely accidental. Having studied and practiced almost every trade except acting, he was spotted by a well-meaning bystander who recommended him for a film role because of his muscular build and physical prowess. Ventura got the part and the rest is history. In the short period of three years, he has appeared in seven films with each role winning him an ever expanding following.

Sinatra French Style

Ever since handsome, versatile Charles Aznavour started appearing in concerts and movie roles throughout Europe, he has been called the French Frank Sinatra.

Girls, young and old, swoon and scream over him and his autograph fans are legion. Now starring in the highly acclaimed war drama, "Taxi For Tobruk", which opens at the theatre, he doesn't seem to mind the Sinatra comparison. Muses Aznavour, "As long as they judge me on my talent and not on looks or not look-alikes, I'm happy."



TIME OUT FOR STRATEGY! Hardy Kruger and Charles Aznavour map plans for escape in this scene from "Taxi For Tobruk", an explosive war drama of French Commandos fighting for survival in the strife-ridden wastes of the Sahara, which opens at the theatre. Lino Ventura, German Cobos and Maurice Biraud also star. MAT 202

"Taxi For Tobruk" Dramatic Journey Well Worth Taking

(Opening day story)

"Taxi For Tobruk", the rugged war drama starring Charles Aznavour, Hardy Kruger and Lino Ventura which won wide acclaim from the critics at its American Premiere in New York, opens today at the theatre.

Hailed by the New York Herald Tribune film critic as "A dramatic journey well worth taking . . . a taut war drama loaded with suspense," it is the story of four French Commandos who accidentally capture a German soldier as they attempt to escape across the vast, trackless and strife-ridden deserts of North Africa. Admittedly lost—with the prospects of dying a slow, uncertain death drawing closer by the minute—their conflicts and hatreds rise to the surface to present the film viewer an incisive emotional experience seldom found on today's screen.

The film, consisting of many skillfully intertwined human facets, has been designed, according to producer-director Denys De La Patelliere, to stand on all levels. It has been considered by many as a final statement on the horrors and absurdities of war.

"Taxi For Tobruk" is being released by Seven Arts Pictures.



CHARLES AZNAVOUR plays one of the four French Commandos stranded in the North African desert in the taut war drama, "Taxi For Tobruk", opening at the MAT 101

Acclaimed Novel Hailed As Movie

The highly successful novel, "Taxi For Tobruk" has been equally acclaimed in its American Film Premiere in New York by critics who hailed it as "loaded with suspense . . . a dramatic journey well worth taking". The rugged war drama, starring Charles Aznavour, Hardy Kruger and Lino Ventura, is scheduled to open at the theatre on

The story of four Frenchmen and a German whose lives and destinies cross on the battle-torn desert of North Africa, "Taxi For Tobruk" is considered by many as a final statement about the horrors and absurdities of war.

Denys De La Patelliere, the producer-director, sums up his motion picture by saying, "In war you should kill a man before you get to know him".

"Taxi For Tobruk" is being released by Seven Arts Pictures.



THE LONG JOURNEY HOME! Charles Aznavour, Hardy Kruger, Lino Ventura, German Cobos and Maurice Biraud survey the vast, trackless desert in a scene from "Taxi For Tobruk", a taut war drama of French Commandos in North Africa, which opens at the MAT 201

billing

TAXI FOR TOBRUK

starring

CHARLES AZNAVOUR - HARDY KRUGER
LINO VENTURA

with

MAURICE BIRAUD and GERMAN COBOS

Based on an original script by
RENE HAVARD

Adapted by
MICHEL AUDIARD - RENE HAVARD
and DENYS De La PATELLIERE

Screenplay by
MICHEL AUDIARD

DYALISCOPE • A FRANCO LONDON FILM S.N.E.

Gaumont Procusa Co-Production

A Seven Arts Pictures Release

cast

Theo	LINO VENTURA
Captain von Stegel	HARDY KRUGER
Samuel	CHARLES AZNAVOUR
Paolo	GERMAN COBOS
Francois	MAURICE BIRAUD

credits

Producer - Director	DENYS DE LA PATELLIERE
Screenplay	MICHEL AUDIARD
Director of Photography	MARCEL GRIGNON
Filmed in	DYALISCOPE

A Seven Arts Pictures Release

Running Time: 87 Minutes

synopsis

In the night of August 25th-26th, 1942, a small French commando unit have just blown up four enemy gasoline depots in Tobruk. By the light of the blazing tanks, the Very-lights and the tracer-bullets, they are now trying to make their getaway. Their half-track hits a mine and their commanding officer is cut down by an exploding shell. The four survivors, three enlisted men and a non-com, strike out blindly in the night in an attempt to escape their pursuers. Early the next morning they find themselves in the middle of the desert, lost.

Fixing their bearing as best they can, they set out for El Alamein.

All day they walk across the desert until their throats are parched, their strength exhausted and their morale very low.

As night falls, they come upon a German half-track and the five occupants have settled down comfortably for the night. A few minutes later four of them are dead, while the fifth, a thirty-year old captain, has been captured unharmed.

As was to be expected, relations between the four free French volunteers and their prisoner are fairly strained, at first. But as their mutual predicament grows increasingly absurd, and faced with the alternative of getting out of the desert together or of dying a slow death, the men in the command-car slowly begin to form a team.

When they finally reach their own lines again, the Frenchmen haven't the heart to turn in their prisoner.

The story could have had a happy ending. But, the absurd logic of war wouldn't have it that way.

ADS

**"A DRAMATIC JOURNEY
WELL WORTH TAKING!"**

—NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE

**"ABSORBING AND
GRIPPING!"**

—CUE MAGAZINE

"SUSPENSEFUL!"

—NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN

**"A PERILOUS,
PROVOCATIVE
AND TENSE
JOURNEY!"**

—NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM

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TAXI FOR TOBRUK



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T H E A T R E

100 x 2 – 200 Lines Mat 205



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T H E A T R E

65 x 2 – 130 Lines Mat 204



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T H E A T R E

119 x 3 – 357 Lines Mat 302

"A TAUT WAR DRAMA!"—NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE

"PROVOCATIVE AND RUGGED!"—NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM



SEVEN ARTS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

TAXI FOR TOBRUK

CHARLES AZNAVOUR • HARDY KRUGER • LINO VENTURA
A SEVEN ARTS PICTURES RELEASE

T H E A T R E

50 x 2 – 100 Lines Mat 203

SEVEN ARTS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

TAXI FOR TOBRUK

A SEVEN ARTS PICTURES RELEASE

T H E A T R E

18 x 1 – 18 Lines
Mat 101

"A TAUT WAR DRAMA!"—NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE

SEVEN ARTS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

TAXI FOR TOBRUK

A SEVEN ARTS PICTURES RELEASE

T H E A T R E



29 x 2 – 58 Lines Mat 202

CRITICS ACCLAIM

for "TAXI FOR TOBRUK"

"FASCINATING . . . AUTHENTIC!"
— Redbook

**"A DRAMATIC JOURNEY WELL WORTH TAK-
ING! A TAUT WAR DRAMA THAT IS IMMEA-
SURABLY HEIGHTENED BY CRACK PER-
FORMANCES AND CRISP DIRECTION.
LOADED WITH SUSPENSE, TENSE SITU-
ATIONS AND UNNERVING FORCE THAT
KEEP THE VIEWER RIVETED!"**
— Salmaggi, N.Y. Herald Tribune

**"INTERESTING . . . HUMAN AND REAL! The
story is tried and true. Rigorous direction . .
shrewd, good acting of a well-chosen cast.
A bitterly ironic ending!"**
— Archer, N.Y. Times

**"AN ABSORBING, GRIPPING, COMPELLING
AND WELL-MADE FILM!"**
— Cue Magazine

**"AN ADVENTURE DRAMA THAT IS SIMPLE
AND DIRECT, COMPLEX AND SUBTLE AND
EFFECTIVE IN ITS SPECIAL WAY. EXCEL-
LENT AND DISTINCTIVE PERFORMANCES
WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THOSE
OF KRUGER, VENTURA AND AZNAVOUR."**
— Winsten, N.Y. Post

**"A PERILOUS, PROVOCATIVE AND TENSE
JOURNEY! CONVEYS IMAGINATION AND
RUGGED VIGOR! A PRETTY GOOD FILM!"**
— Cook, N.Y. World Telegram

**"ACTION IS SUSPENSEFUL AND THE STORY
THREAD IS SMOOTHLY SUSTAINED
THROUGH AN IRONIC ENDING! STRONG AND
INTERESTING PERFORMANCES!"**
— Pelswick, N.Y. Journal American

ORDER FROM — NATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE

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T H E A T R E

95 x 3 - 285 Lines Mat 301

"A TAUT WAR DRAMA!" — NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
SEVEN ARTS PRODUCTIONS PRESENT
TAXI FOR TOBRUK
T H E A T R E A SEVEN ARTS PICTURES RELEASE
15 x 2 - 30 Lines Mat 201

accessories

"A DRAMATIC JOURNEY WELL WORTH TAKING!"
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
AZNAVOUR KRUGER VENTURA
TAXI FOR TOBRUK
11 x 14

"A DRAMATIC JOURNEY WELL WORTH TAKING!"
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
AZNAVOUR KRUGER VENTURA
TAXI FOR TOBRUK
22 x 28

"A TAUT WAR DRAMA!" — NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
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T H E A T R E
115 x 1 - 115 Lines
Mat 102