

June 1, 1956

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- 3—Edward R. Murrow completes writing commentary for "80 Days" prologue.
- 4—Ned Mann reports to studio in charge of special photographic effects.
- 7—Assembly and production of sound effects begins.
- 11—Edward R. Murrow films commentary in New York.
- 18—"80 Days" prologue completed.
- 19—Happy Birthday to Charles Coburn, Cameo player.
- 22—No International Holiday, just Michael Todd's Birthday.
- 25—Saul Bass begins work on epilogue backgrounds.
- 26—Happy Birthday to Peter Lorre, Cameo player.
- 28—National magazine layout on "80 Days" in Mademoiselle.
- 29—Victor Young begins recording "80 Days" musical score with 80-piece symphony orchestra.

July 12, 1956

... Audrey Hepburn feels it is a pleasure to do a musical, which is Paramount's "Funny Face" now shooting here, after the last heavyweight dramatic chore she had in "War And Peace." Speaking of "Peace," she says Mike Todd offered her a chance to repeat her recent role of Natasha in his American-Russian version to be made in Moscow. Miss Hepburn feels it would have been interesting to take another chance at the role but is too tied up at present with "Ariane," rolling here right after "Funny Face."

June 26, 1956

150G Attachment Writ Against Mike Todd

New York, June 26. — The N.Y. Supreme Court issued a writ of attachment against Michael Todd today for failure to meet payment on a promissory note of \$150,000. Robin International, import-export firm which has a showbiz connection via its control of the foreign exhibition rights to Cine-rama is seeking a lien on all the assets of the Todd firm in order to pay the outstanding debt. Sheriff's office has been instructed to serve a warrant on the Bankers Trust Co., and United Artists, both of which hold part of the "mortgage" on the Todd property.

June 29, 1956

Todd's New Russian Co-Prod'n Project 'So Colossal I Can't Even Talk About It'

Mike Todd last night planed to Washington, D.C., where tonight he will huddle with officials of the Russian Embassy on a secret film project "so colossal I can't even talk about it," producer reported yesterday. The U.S. State Department "knows all about it," he said.

Film will be part of Todd's five-picture pact with the Soviets, which is to tee off in Moscow this month with a survey of Russian entertainment. There's a possibility the new project may be second on the co-production deal, and supplant the planned production of "War And Peace," even if the matter of "artistic control" of latter is solved in near future. "Peace" tentatively had been slated as follow-up project.

Producer yesterday expressed confidence that he and the Soviets would be able to "work around" this "control," which is a question of "interpretation" of the Tolstoy story. Todd is sending technical man Ted Williams to Moscow this weekend to work with Russians on the first co-production, to be filmed in Todd-AO. All five pix will be lensed in this process,

which will come out of Todd's Magna franchise for 10 films in wide-screen system.

Producer, who was accompanied East by his son, Michael, Jr., veepee of company in charge of technical developments, has completed arrangements to swap Russian distribution of his "Around the World In 80 Days" for two Soviet films, he declared. First will be "Othello," and second a comedy with a title "I can't even pronounce."

"80 Days" is now definitely set to open in Moscow on Nov. 15, Todd stated. He returns to Coast on Thursday.