MADMAX NOTES

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- In one scene, Max eats a can of "Dinki-Di" dog food. "Dinki-Di" is Australian slang for "genuine, real." (I'll leave you to draw your own conclusion.)
- Renamed "The Road Warrior" for North American distribution because at the time, the original Mad Max (1979) had only been released there on a limited basis, so calling it Mad Max 2 would have confused viewers.
- The logo on the tank truck is "7 Sisters Oil", reference to a conspiracy theory, popular before OPEC-conspiracy theories took over, that Standard Oil and six other companies controlled the world oil market and bought up and suppressed 200-MPG carburetor and so on to keep oil prices up.
- Reasons for Max's silly outfit: Right arm of jacket missing- He had his arm run over by a bike in the first movie and medics would have cut the sleeve off rather than pull it over a damaged limb. Squeaky leg brace- He had his kneecap shot through in the previous movie. Harness with spanners and stuff dangling off it- To do running repairs on the V8. First two fingers of each driving glove missing- To enable easy insertion/ retrieval of shotgun shells from gun.
- Because he was relatively unknown in the US, the trailers did not feature Mel Gibson, but instead focused on the chases and action scenes.
- Director/Co-Writer <u>George Miller</u> was given the rights to this and <u>Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome</u> (1985) to get him to step aside as the director of <u>Contact</u> (1997).
- One of three originally customized black '1973 FORD Falcon XB-GT Coupe' used in the original Mad Max (1979) better known as "the last of the V8 Interceptors" is now housed at the Cars of the Stars Motor Museum in England. Another of the Mad Max cars is housed at the Planet Hollywood in Sydney, Australia. And there's rumor that a possible original third car, the one used for the wrecking footage in The Road Warrior, may have been restored to prestige condition and currently owned by a private car collector.
- After Mad Max (1979) was finished, all of the cars were supposed to be destroyed, including the black interceptor. But someone thought the interceptor was too good to lose, so they saved it from the crusher. This was before the film was even released. When was in its planning stage, someone found out the interceptor had somehow survived, so they tracked it down, and bought it back.
- The black Interceptor driven by Mel Gibson is a 1973 Ford Falcon XB GT Coupe, a car exclusive to Australia. A limited number of these cars were exported by Ford to New Zealand and the United Kingdom, but never to North America. Since only 949 of that particular model Falcon were ever produced, they have become

highly sought after by car collectors on six continents; there are approximately 13 of them that were privately brought over to the United States along with several Interceptor clones assembled from "non-GT" Falcon coupes.

- The dog used in the film, named simply "Dog", was obtained from a local dog pound and trained to perform in the film. Because the sound of the engines upset him (and in one incident, caused him to relieve himself in the car), he was fitted with special earplugs. After filming was complete, he was adopted by one of the camera operators.
- Like <u>George Lucas</u> with <u>Star Wars</u> (1977), screenwriters <u>Terry Hayes</u>, <u>George Miller</u> and <u>Brian Hannant</u> were inspired by both <u>Akira Kurosawa</u>'s samurai films and Joseph Campbell's book "The Hero With a Thousand Faces."
- It was the most expensive Australian film produced up to that time.
- Contributing to the cost of production was the most expensive set ever constructed for an Australian film: the desert compound built in the desert of Broken Hill, New South Wales. The production also boasted the largest explosion ever created for an Australian film, which destroyed that very set.
- Both Mad Max 2 & 3 contain quotes from former Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam (1972 - 1975) These are the lines "We"re going to either crash, or crash through" from Mad Max 2 and "One day cock of the walk, next a feather duster" from Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome
- Continuity: A reverse angle shot of Max and another man show totally different weather patterns.
- Crew or equipment visible: After the driver-side door on the truck is ripped off, a crew member can been seen at Max's feet inside the cab.
- **Factual errors:** The Gyro Captain lands his aircraft like a normal helicopter (vertically), which is not possible for this type of aircraft. The Gyro-plane he flies operates like an airplane and requires forward motion for its wing (the overhead rotor) to generate lift. Without getting too involved in the aeronautics involved, as forward motion decreases the wing will stall (NOT generate lift) and the aircraft would then descend too quickly to perform the controlled landing shown.
- Continuity: When Max turned the Mack truck 180° to go back and do the front hit against Humungus' car, you can see in the aerial view, the front of the truck without Wez attached to it.
- **Factual errors:** The gyro-plane is far too small to carry two men and four jerry cans of gasoline across a desert.
- Crew or equipment visible: When Papagallo is shot in the leg by Humungous' goons, a wire attached to the arrow is visible momentarily.

- Crew or equipment visible: During the big chase when the motorcycle rider flips end over end into a ditch, you can see a blue safety mat at the bottom of the screen. (Widescreen version only.)
- **Continuity:** Towards the end of the movie we see that the gyro rotors are totally bent. In the next shot, as it comes to a stop, the rotors are in perfect condition.
- **Continuity:** Some steel plates protecting the truck's wheels reappear after the truck has crashed.
- Continuity: In the final chase, you can see the sand "leaking" from the tanker before the crash.
- **Continuity:** Wez is on the roof of the tanker spinning his chained spike-ball and Max hits the brakes. In the first shot, Wez is falling with his body turned to the right, but in the next shot, he falls with his body turned to the left.
- Continuity: When the Gyro Captain meets Mad Max at the crashed tanker at the end of the movie, his teeth are normal.
- **Crew or equipment visible:** When Max hits Humungus with the truck and when the camera is in the left side of the truck, you can see the driver wearing a helmet.

Alternate Versions for Mad Max 2 (1981)

- The UK Warner Bros. PAL video is uncut & longer than the US R rated print; the extra footage (mere seconds) contains graphic torture to the good guys.
- The initial US alternate version is distiguished by a unique "lightning bolt" design for the title logo. Subsequent US releases still bear The Road Warrior title, but in block lettering, and contain the full original footage.
- When shown on American TV for the first time, the Feral Kid's speech was redubbed by someone speaking in a Southern accent--perhaps to make people believe the action took place in the US!
- The opening chase sequence jumps straight into the action with the camera pulling out of the V8's supercharger. This scene was originally shot with Max driving past a farm that Wez and others were ransacking, the bodies of the owners hanging dead from a tree. Seeing Max they all ran to their vehicles and gave chase and there were several cars. The camera then panned out of the car's charger to signify a short passage of time and THEN the scene is as we know it with just Wez and two cars still still in pursuit due to the Interceptor's power.

- There are two versions avaiable in Australia (M15+ and R18+). -The R-rated (and very rare) version contains more footage of Wez pulling the arrow from his arm including a close-up shot where the arrow can be seen poking through his arm and out the other side, and remains in close-up as he begins pulling the arrow through and out. The M15+ version cuts to a long shot after a very quick shot of the arrow in Wez's arm.
 - The rape and execution of the female driver as seen through the jiro captain's telescope is longer and more explicit
 - o The shot of the two lovers in the tent that is torn away by Max in the truck is in normal speed, rather than fast motion as it is in the M15+ version.
 - There are two different voiceover versions for the beginning montage of the film. One is an Australian voiceover and the other American. The dialogue is also changed somewhat e.g. the Australian voiceover says, "...men like Max, the warrior Max, in the roar of an engine he lost everything. And became a shell of a man, a burnt out desolate man, haunted by the demons of his past. A man who wandered out into the wastelands and it was here in this blighted place, that he learned to live again," while the American voiceover says, "men like Max, who roamed the highways in the name of the law, who became a lover, husband, father, in the roar of an engine he lost everything, his woman, his child, his world. He wandered out into the wastelands. And here he would learn, that beyond the world of ? and machines, hope survives."
 - o In some versions, Papagalo's speech from the scaffolding (after Humongous tells them all to "just walk away") is longer. eg. "And what then...?" (extra dialogue = We wander the wastelands and become like them, savages?) "But the first step, defend the fuel." (extra dialogue = and I stay, alone if I have to. I'll leave them nothing, that I promise!)