DYNAX
500si
SUPER

MAXXUM
500si
500si
SUPER
550si
PANORAMA DATE
RZ 530si
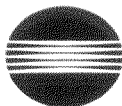
MINOLTA

Thank you for purchasing a Minolta camera and welcome to the wonderful world of autofocus SLR photography. Minolta is pleased to offer you one of the largest accessory lineups to suit your every need. Please take the time to read through this instruction manual for it contains information that is important to the use and care of your camera. Enjoy!

The information contained in this manual is relevant for products introduced before July, 1995. To obtain compatibility information for products introduced after this date, contact the authorized Minolta Service Facility nearest you.

FOR PROPER AND SAFE USE

STANDARD SYMBOLS

Various symbols are used throughout this instruction manual and on the product itself for your proper and safe use of this product, and to prevent personal injury, injury to others, or property damage. An explanation of the symbols follows. Read and understand each caution thoroughly before reading the main text of this instruction manual.

EXAMPLES

The outer triangle is for warning, and the symbol inside illustrates what the reader is being warned about. The example at left means beware of electric shock.

The circle with a diagonal slash denotes prohibition ("don't do"), and the symbol inside illustrates what act is prohibited. The example at left means do not disassemble.

SAFETY CAUTIONS

Read and understand all cautions and warnings thoroughly before use of this product.

⚠ WARNING

Do not touch the flashtube during operation - it may become hot when the flash fires.

Do not look directly at the sun through the lens or viewfinder.

Do not subject the camera to direct sunlight. Fire may occur if the sunlight focuses at one point.

⚠ CAUTION

⚠ Do not fire the flash near the eyes of people or animals, especially babies and young children. Maintain a distance of one meter (three feet) or greater.

⚡ • If the camera is dropped or subjected to an impact in which the interior is exposed, immediately remove the batteries and discontinue use.
• Do not disassemble. Contact a Minolta Service Facility when repairs are required.
Electric shock may occur if a high-voltage circuit inside this camera is touched.

🚫

⚠ BATTERY CAUTIONS

⚠ Read and follow all warnings supplied with the batteries.
Batteries may explode due to improper use.

♨ • Do not install batteries upside down (+/- reversed).
• Do not use batteries with visible damage.
⚠ • Do not subject the batteries to fire, high temperatures, or attempt to recharge, short, or disassemble.

Carefully observe the following warnings when using this product near young children or persons with learning difficulties.

⚠ WARNING

Use caution when using this product near young children or persons with learning difficulties. Always keep out of reach when not in use. If caution is not used, the following accidents, and others, may occur:
- Flash fired near the eye.
- Fingers caught in a running motor.
- Strap wound around the neck.

⚠ CAUTION

Young children may swallow small objects.
Always keep small accessories, or things that could be swallowed, away from young children.
Contact a doctor immediately if an object is swallowed.

⚠ BATTERY CAUTION

Young children may swallow batteries.
Always keep batteries away from young children.

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BATTERY CAUTIONS

• When photographing in cold weather, we recommend that you keep the camera and spare batteries inside your coat to keep them warm when you are not shooting. Cold batteries will regain some of their charge when they warm up.

• The low-battery symbol may appear even with a fresh battery depending on the storage conditions. To restore camera power, repeat turning the camera on and off.

OPERATING TEMPERATURE AND CONDITIONS

• This camera is designed for use from -20° to 50°C(-4° to 122°F).

• Never leave your camera where it may be subjected to extreme temperatures such as the glove compartment of a car.

• At colder temperatures, the data panel response time will be slow; at higher temperatures, the display will temporarily darken but will restore when the temperature normalizes.

• Never subject your camera to extreme humidity.

• To prevent condensation from forming, place the camera in a sealed plastic bag when bringing it from the cold exterior to a warm building. Allow it to come to room temperature before removing it from the bag.

HANDLING CARE

• This camera is not waterproof, dust-proof, or sand-proof; take care when using at the beach or near water - costly or irreparable damage to the camera may occur.

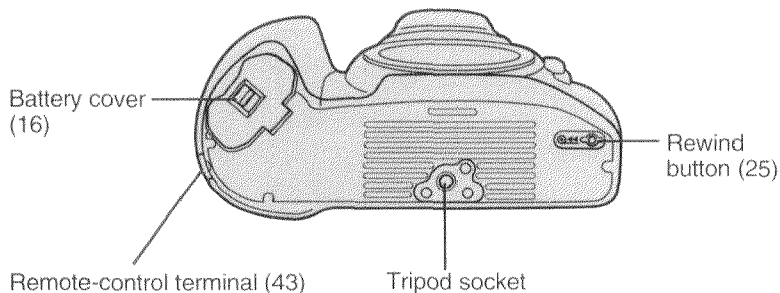# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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FLASH

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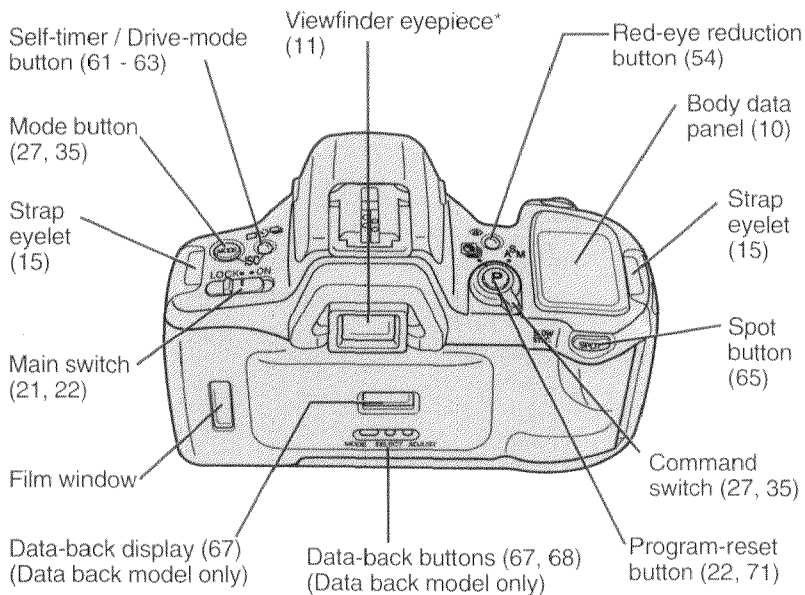
APPENDIX

CAMERA BODY

* Do Not Touch!
For more information on specific parts, refer to the page number in paren-
theses.

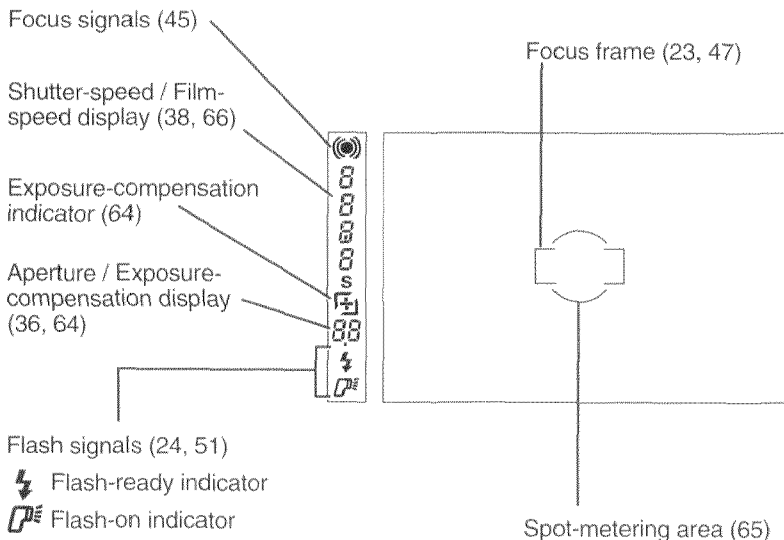Built-in flash (51) ———————————————————————— Accessory shoe

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⚡ Flash-ready indicator

⌐ᴰᴱ Flash-on indicator

Spot-metering area (65)

NOTE:

In this manual, glowing and blinking displays or indicators are identified as follows:

⚡ Glowing   ⚡ Blinking

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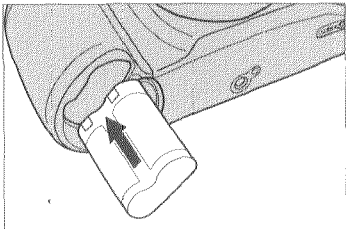
1. Insert battery

Insert one 6-volt 2CR5 lithium battery into the chamber as indicated by the + and - marks on the inside of the battery cover.
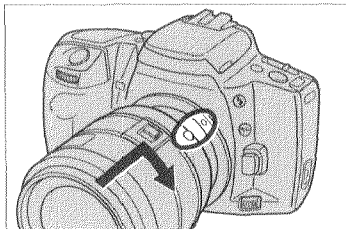
2. Attach lens

Align the red mounting index on the lens with the one on the camera. Gently insert the lens into the mount and turn it clockwise until it clicks into the locked position.
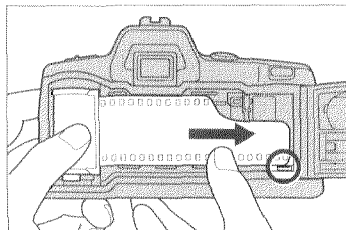
3. Load film

Insert the film and extend the film tip to the film leader index. Make sure the film is lying flat between the guide rails and close the back cover.
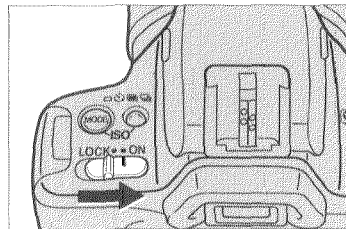
4. Turn on power

Turn the camera power on by sliding the main switch to ON.

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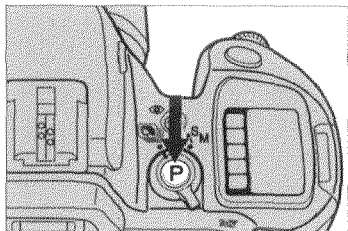
5. Set Full-Auto mode

Press the program reset button to set the camera to fully automatic mode.
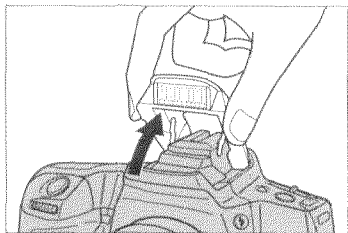
6. Lift built-in flash

Grip both sides of the flash and gently lift it. The flash will automatically fire when necessary.

7. Focus on subject

Align the subject within the focus frame and press the shutter-release button partway down to activate autofocus. The focus lock indicator will glow when the subject is in focus.
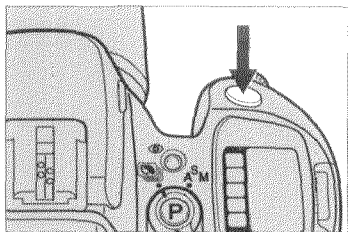
8. Take the picture

Gently press the shutter-release button all the way down to take the picture.

BASIC

OPERATION
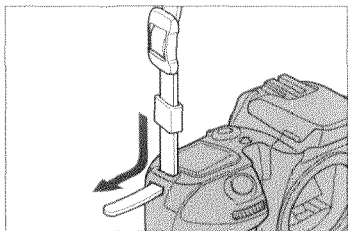
1. Undo the camera strap buckle and loop the strap through the eyelet of the camera.
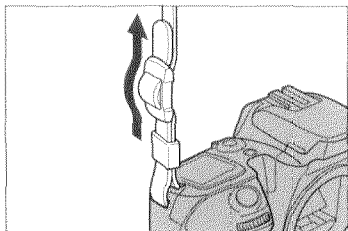
2. Redo the camera strap buckle.
3. Repeat for the other side.

INSERTING THE BATTERY

Your camera uses one 6-volt 2CR5 lithium battery which supplies power for all camera operations. Please read all warnings in the Safety cautions section of this manual as well as those supplied by the battery manufacturer.
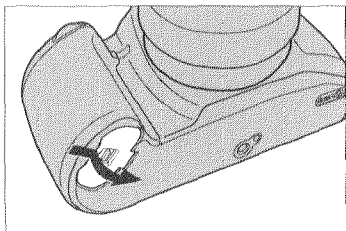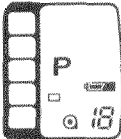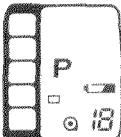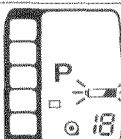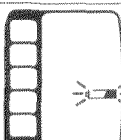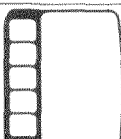
1. Open the battery chamber cover by pushing the cover release in the direction of the arrow.
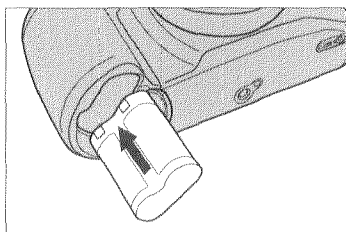
2. Insert the battery into the chamber as indicated by the + and - marks inside the battery cover.
3. Close the cover until it clicks and locks closed.

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Your camera is equipped with a automatic battery power indicator. Each time the main switch is turned ON a symbol will appear in the data panel to indicate the power status of the battery. It is recommended that you always carry a spare battery in your camera bag.

P	Full-battery symbol -- power is sufficient for all camera operations.
P	Low-battery symbol -- power is sufficient for all camera operations, but is getting low. Keep new battery handy.
P	Blinking low-battery symbol appears -- power is extremely low but all functions are operational. Battery will have to be replaced very soon. Flash recycling time may be slow.
	Blinking low-battery symbol appears by itself and the shutter locks -- power is insufficient for camera operation. Replace the battery immediately.
	No data appears in the data panel. Replace the battery or check that it is inserted correctly.

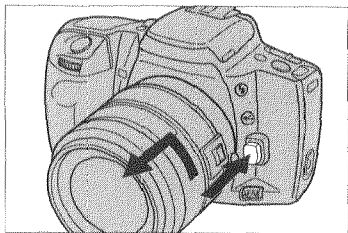17

ATTACHING THE LENS
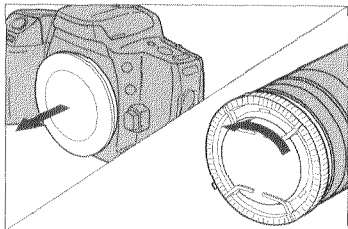
1. Remove the camera body cap and rear lens cap as shown.
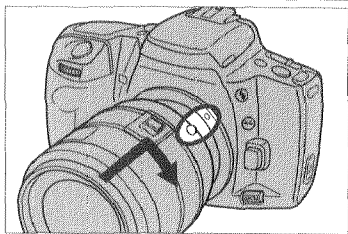
2. Align the red mounting index on the lens with the one on the camera.
3. Gently insert the lens into the mount and turn it clockwise until it clicks into the locked position.
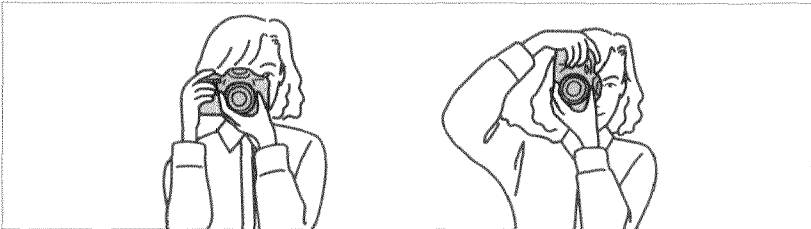
REMOVING THE LENS

1. Press the lens-release button and hold it while turning the lens counter-clockwise until it stops.
2. Gently remove the lens from the mount and replace caps or immediately attach another lens.

Caution
• Do not force the lens if it does not turn smoothly.
• Do not touch the inside of the camera, especially the lens contacts and mirror.

HOLDING THE CAMERA

Hold the camera grip firmly with your right hand while supporting the camera or lens with your left hand. Make sure that your fingers are not blocking any of the camera's features; they should fit securely around the grip. To hold the camera steady, always keep your elbows at your side and your feet shoulder-width apart for support. Always keep the camera strap around your neck or wrist in case you accidentally drop it.

PRESSING THE SHUTTER-RELEASE BUTTON

The shutter-release button has three positions. To activate the camera's autofocus and autoexposure systems press the shutter-release button part way down. To take the picture, gently (never with a quick jab) press the shutter-release button all the way down.
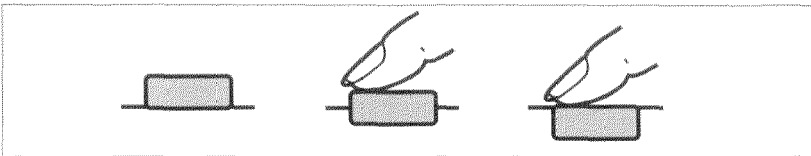
LOADING THE FILM

This camera is equipped with an automatic film transport system which automatically loads the film, sets the film speed, and advances the film after each exposure. **Before you open the back cover,** make sure that there is not a roll of film already in the camera.
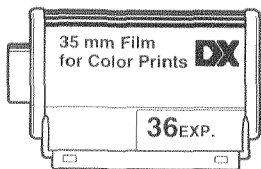

Use DX-coded negative or positive films, ISO 25 - 5000 for regular photographs or ISO 25 - 1000 for flash photographs. The camera will automatically set the proper film speed for the film you are using.
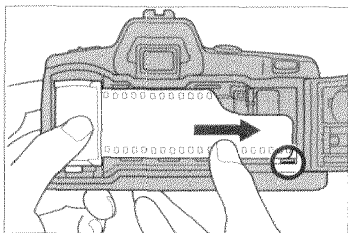
* Non-DX-coded film will be set to the previous film speed.
* Do not use Polaroid instant film or infrared film with this camera.
* Always load and unload film in subdued light.
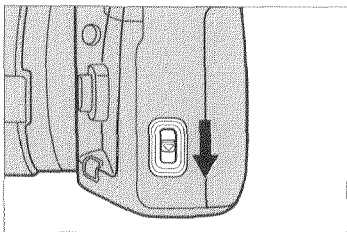
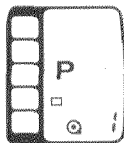1. Slide the back-cover release down and open the back cover.
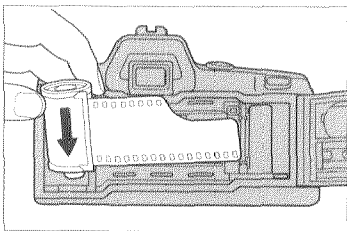
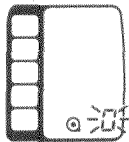2. Place the film cartridge in the chamber making sure that it is seated properly.

3. Extend the film tip to the film leader index making sure that it lies flat between the film guide rails.
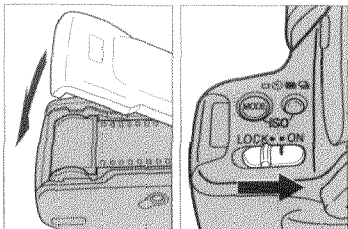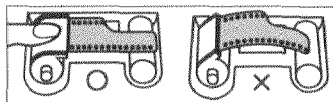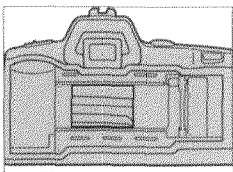

4. Close the back cover.
5. Slide the main switch ON. The film will automatically advance to the first frame.

If the film has been loaded correctly, 1 will appear in the frame counter.

If the film has been loaded incorrectly, 0 will blink in the frame counter. Open the back cover and repeat the loading procedure.


NEVER TOUCH THE SHUTTER CURTAIN WITH YOUR FINGERS OR FILM TIP.
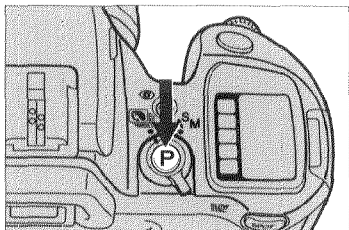Its precision design makes it extremely sensitive to pressure.
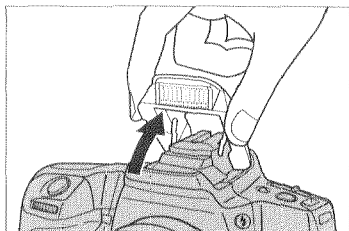
TAKING PICTURES IN PROGRAM MODE

Program mode is the camera's standard operating mode and is suited for use in virtually any situation. When you press the the program-reset button, all the camera's functions are set to fully automatic operation.
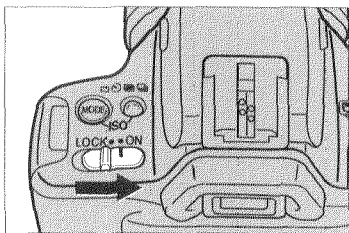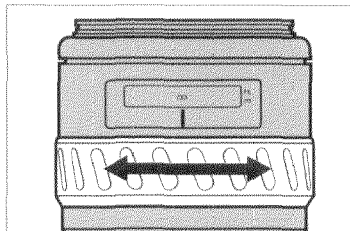

1. Slide the main switch to ON.

2. Press the program reset button to set the camera to fully automatic mode.

3. Grip both sides of the built-in flash and gently lift. If the flash will fire with the next shutter-release, *Dⁱ* appears in the viewfinder when you press the shutter-release button partway down. See page 24.
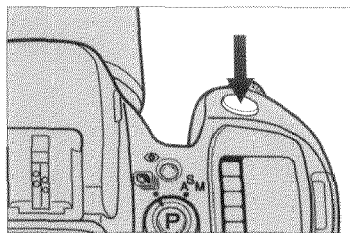
4. If you are using a zoom lens, rotate the zooming ring on the lens to frame your subject as desired.

5. Align your subject within the focus frame [ ] and press the shutter-release button partway down to activate autofocus. The focus lock indicator ● will glow when the subject is in focus. See page 45 for focus signals.

6. Press the shutter-release button all the way down to take the picture.

● When you want to take a picture with your subject outside the focus frame [ ], see page 47.

USING FLASH
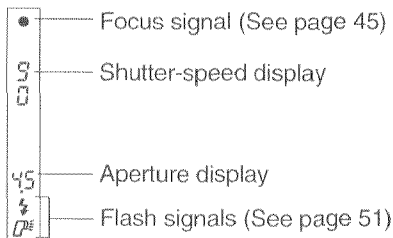
When the built-in flash is up, it will automatically fire in low-light or back-lit situations.

① When you press the shutter-release button partway down, $\mathit{D}^{\scriptscriptstyle\blacksquare}$ appears in the viewfinder.
• If it doesn't appear, the flash will not fire.
② Wait until 🔸 appears.
③ When 🔸 appears, press the shutter-release button all the way down to take the picture.

• 🔸 blinks rapidly after the picture is taken. If it doesn't blink, flash output was not sufficient to provide a correct exposure. Make sure your subject is within the flash range (See page 52).

LOOKING THROUGH THE VIEWFINDER

The following indicators will appear in the viewfinder when the shutter-release button is pressed partway down.

—— Focus signal (See page 45)

—— Shutter-speed display

—— Aperture display

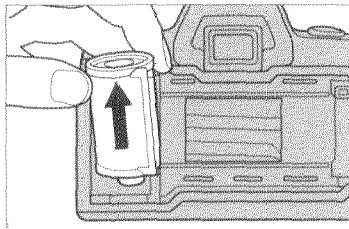—— Flash signals (See page 51)

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REWINDING THE FILM

This camera will automatically rewind the film after the last frame has been exposed. 0 will appear in the frame counter when the film is completely rewound.
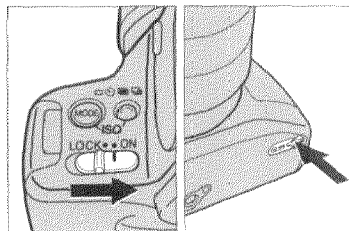
REMOVING THE FILM
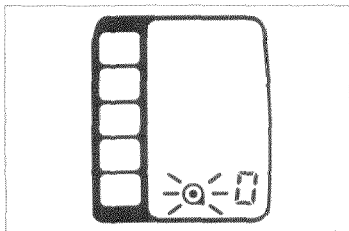
1. Wait for the film to rewind completely. 0 will appear in the frame counter and the cartridge indicator will blink.

2. Open the back cover and remove the film as shown.

STARTING MANUAL REWIND

1. Slide the main switch to ON.
2. Gently press the rewind button.
3. Wait for the film to rewind completely and remove the film.

SUBJECT
PROGRAM
MODES