O2240 L’OCCHIO SELVAGGIO (ITALY, 1967)
(Other titles: The savage eye; The wild eye)

Credits: director, Paolo Cavara; writers, Paolo Cavara, Tonino Guerra, Alberto Moravia.

Cast: Philippe Leroy, Delia Boccardo, Gabriele Tinti.

Summary: Melodrama set in 1967 and filmed on location in various places including North and South Vietnam. Paolo (Leroy), an amoral documentary filmmaker, searches for the bizarre and the sensual. After staging a breakdown in the Sahara to film his companions’ reactions, Paolo travels to Bombay, Bali and eventually Saigon searching for more bizarre and violent scenes to stage and film. In Saigon he witnesses the execution of a Viet Cong suspect and is himself beaten by the Viet Cong. When Paolo learns that the Viet Cong plan to plant a bomb in a local bar, he sets up a hidden camera and hides in a back room without warning the bar patrons of the danger. Paolo is elated when the blast kills most of those present. When he discovers the lifeless body of his mistress, he tells his cameraman to keep the camera focused on his face as the tears roll down his cheeks.

Devine, Jeremy M. Vietnam at 24 frames a second [GB] (p. 35-6, 49-50)

C2005 J.K.M. Enterprises