

Bizarre Kidnapping Movies Unlikely To Win Audiences

By ROB THOMAS
HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Movies about kidnapping are uncomfortable to watch, which may be why none has been successful since a Wet Afternoon, a bizarre kidnap tale, is not likely to win a wide audience because of this apparent distaste to view children in jeopardy.

But it can be recommended for those seeking a completely engrossing, if unnerving, two hours.

The British film begins and ends with an expedition into the occult. In between, two disguised individuals plot and carry out their diabolical scheme.

The idea seems to be that a medium and her compliant husband figure to abduct a rich man's daughter, then help solve the crime as public proof of her extrasensory powers.

There may be deeper meaning involved, but most moviegoers will have enough to do anticipating the next turn of also events. That's how engrossing the film is.

Kim Stanley makes one of her too-infrequent film appearances as the unhappy medium. Her Mrs. adduced to scratchy

opera records and brow-beating her husband, is a rare portrait. The final trace, in which she contorts herself through child hood scenes, is the kind that makes academy consideration imperative.

HUSBAND PLAYED WELL.
Richard Attenborough, who doubles as producer, plays the husband with such deftness and sympathy that you almost find yourself pulling for him to accomplish the job. The director is Bryan Forbes, who scored with last season's The Last Shaped Room.

The Americanization of Emile is another disturbing film on an intellectual level. It takes all the standard cliches of Hollywood war movies and maims them with cynical disdain.

Lt. Cmdr. Charlie Madison is a dog-rober, an admiral's aide who can commandeer the best steaks, booze, women and other necessities for the smooth functioning of the high command in London before D-Day. He is also a coward. When called upon to become the first navy man to die on Omaha Beach as a public relations gimmick, he naturally rebels.

Charlie has an English girl friend named Emily, who is

appalled and yet fascinated by his total lack of morals. She falls in love with him.

The Paddy Chayefsky script provides many guffaws, often at the expense of once-hallowed conventions.

James Garner as Charlie does his best screen work so far. Julie Andrews is down-to-earth as Emily.

STUDENT CLAIMS SHOWER RECORD

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—A bedraggled American International College sophomore stepped out of the shower here after 13 hours and 41 minutes and claimed he had taken the world's longest shower.

Stephen Sher of New York, turned on the water Tuesday night after a Springfield College junior claimed the record Monday: 13 hours and 7 minutes.

Sher, in swimming trunks, talked to classmates who set up a table and chairs outside his metal shower stall, ate two pieces of toast and a bowl of cereal, slept 20 minutes and alternately sat on a chair and paced.

He also used up an estimated 1,200 gallons of water. "I did it because of the challenge," said Sher weakly after his shower, "and for the glory of my college."

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