



DEBRA PAGET - JEFFREY HUNTER

Two Young Stars of Films Descend on New Orleans

Debra Paget and Jeffrey Hunter plug "Siege"

Personable and friendly, even after a week of dodging tornadoes and riding rough airplanes, two of Hollywood's young stars descended on New Orleans

Saturday afternoon. Debra Paget, eye-catching in a skin-tight brown dress, and Jeffrey Hunter, handsome New Orleans native, came to town to plug "The Siege at Red River" by means of an autograph party Saturday night at the Panorama.

"Actually we are here in place of Van Johnson and Joanne Dru the stars of the picture," Hunter said. "Both have other assignments."

The stars, with various publicity men and agents, arrived at Moisant International Airport about 43 minutes late after a bouncy trip from Memphis. Their week-long tour ends here and Sunday they head back for California.

Neither of the 20th Century Fox stars appears in "The Siege at Red River." The last picture they did together was "Princess of the Nile."

Miss Paget has been in pictures for six years, since she was 14. Originally she came from Denver. Her folks all have been in show business and the kids are keeping up a good batting average. Of three brothers and sisters who have had screen tests, all were put under contract, Miss Paget said.

"Mother is a friend of a talent scout at 20th Century Fox," Miss Paget said. "Maybe that had something to do with our good fortune. He told her he would give any of us a screen test anytime."

Hunter got into pictures via a college production. He was doing magic tricks at a show put on by the University of California at Los Angeles when a talent scout spotted him. That was three and a half years ago. "I would like a variation of roles," the graduate of radio school at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and a veteran of summer stock shows said. "As long as I don't become stereotyped I'm satisfied. Fortunately the menu so far has been quite varied."

Although he was born in New Orleans, Hunter was taken to Milwaukee, Wis. at the age of four in 1929. This is his first trip back. This, Miss Paget said, is the first time she ever has been in New Orleans.