



# **FX Video Ed/it<sup>TM</sup> 4**

## **Special Effects Editor and Sound Mixer**

# INSTRUCTIONS



# **FX Video Ed/it 4**

## **Special Effects Editor/Sound Mixer Model SFX-4**

### **INFORMATION**

This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy and if not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient the receiving antenna;
- Relocate this equipment with respect to the receiver;
- Move this equipment away from the receiver;
- Plug this equipment into a different outlet so that this equipment and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful:

"How to identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems". This booklet is available from the US Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

The Sima Special Effects Editor will add a new dimension to your edited home videos. Not only will it perform professional fades between scenes, it will also let you create hundreds of different wipe effects by combining 9 basic wipe patterns. The timing and color of the wipes and fades can be selected by you. Two source inputs are provided along with the ability to automatically fade out the scene from one source and fade in a scene from the second source. An audio mixer is also provided that allows you to add music or narration to your original soundtrack or replace the original soundtrack. The possible variations in fades and wipes are too numerous to list and the only way to fully appreciate them is to experiment with the unit.

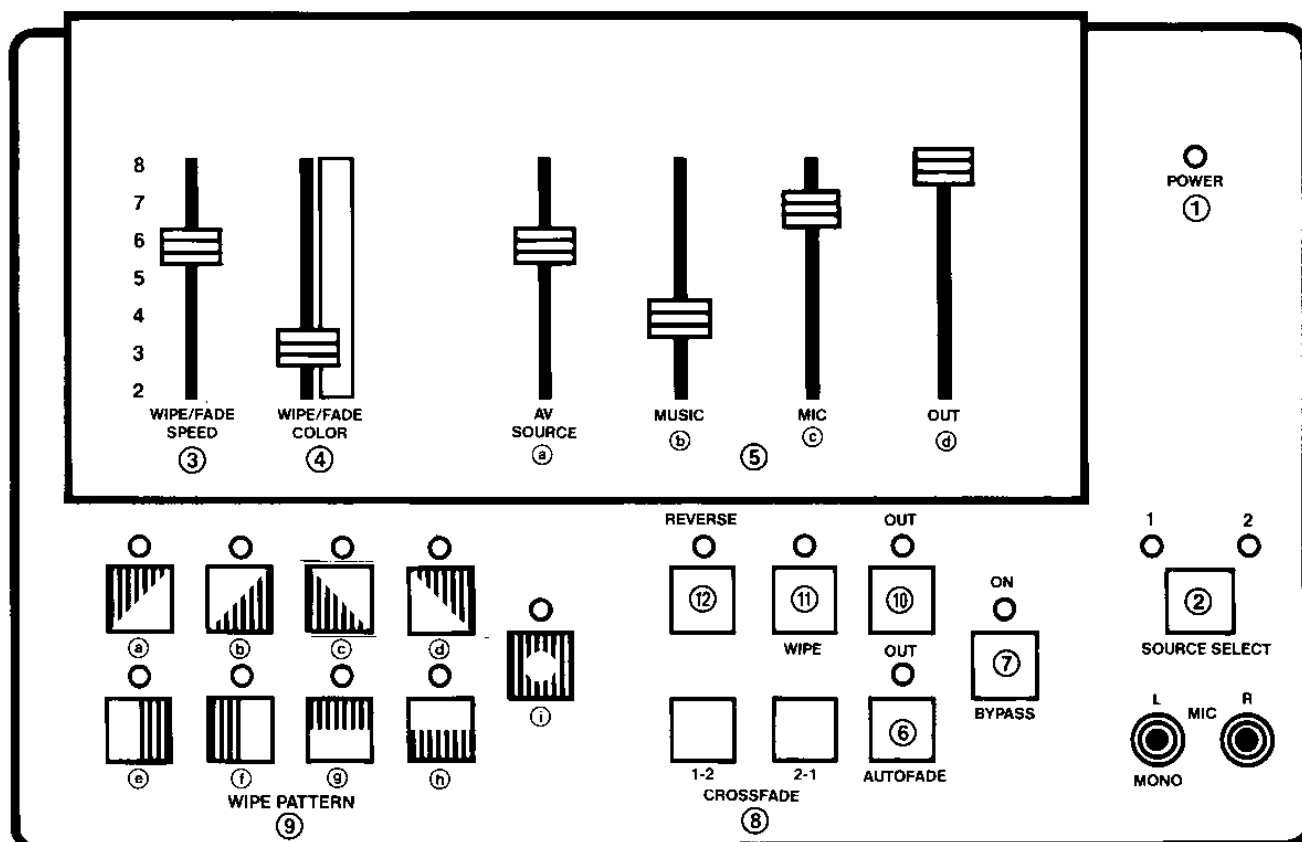


FIGURE 1

## CONTROLS

### 1. POWER LED

When the power switch on the back of the unit is turned on, all of the LED's on the unit will sequentially light. At this time the unit is performing a self-diagnosis. When this is completed, the power led and the SOURCE 1 LED will stay on.

### 2. SOURCE SELECT

Selects which source is being used as the input. Each depression of this key switches between the two sources and the appropriate LED is lit.

### 3. WIPE/FADE SPEED

This slide switch chooses the speed at which the picture will fade out or fade in as well as the speed of the wipe. The range is from 2 to 8 seconds.

### 4. WIPE/FADE COLOR

This slide switch provides a full spectrum of colors, including black for your faded or wiped out scenes. The color bar should be used as a reference. The actual colors may vary slightly from the position shown on the color bar.

### 5. AUDIO MIX

Adds music from any stereo or mono source, and narration using the microphone supplied. The volume level of each of the inputs and the output can be raised and lowered (even eliminated) individually by use of the slide controls.

### 6. AUTOFADE

Fades out video and audio completely at the speed selected with the WIPE/FADE speed control to the color selected with the WIPE/FADE color control. The green LED lights when in the fade-out mode.

Pressing again fades the picture back in at the same speed at which it faded out. If the WIPE/FADE speed switch is changed, the fade-in will be at the new speed selected.

### 7. BY PASS

When on, the audio and video signals pass through the Special Effects Editor unaffected and the LED is lighted.

### 8. CROSS FADE

Will automatically fade-out the Audio and Video from Source 1 and fade in the Audio and Video from Source 2 at the speed selected with the WIPE/FADE SPEED control (3). The same can be done going from Source 2 to Source 1.

### 9. WIPE PATTERN

When a pattern is chosen, the LED above it will light. Patterns (a) through (h) can be selected individually or in combination with each other.

- Diagonal upper left to lower right
- Diagonal lower right to upper left
- Diagonal lower left to upper right
- Diagonal upper right to lower left
- Right to left
- Left to right
- Top to bottom
- Bottom to top
- All four sides to the center in a circle pattern

### 10. OUT

Selects either Wipe Out or Wipe In. LED is lit when Wipe Out is selected. "wiping out" means that the picture is being removed from the screen.

## 11. WIPE

This is the activating switch. If WIPE OUT has been selected with Switch 10 and this key is depressed, the wipe pattern selected will be activated at the speed and the color background selected. The pattern will continue until the picture is completely eliminated and only the color background exists. If this key is depressed again when only a portion of the picture is wiped out, the wiping action will stop

and a portion of the picture and portion of the wiped out section will remain. Pressing the key again will continue the wipe out process.

## 12. REVERSE

Reverse the wipe pattern, interchanging the picture and color portions. Most effective when combinations of wipe patterns are chosen.

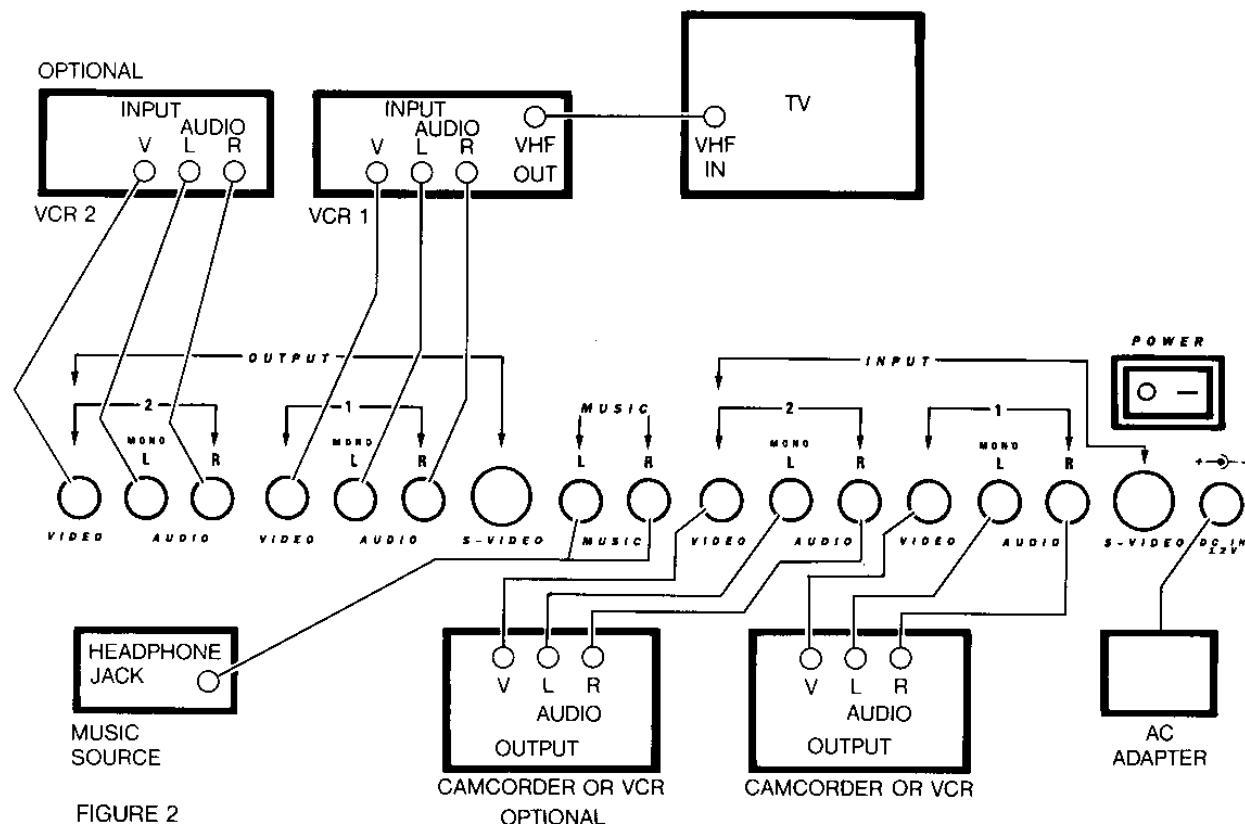


FIGURE 2

## SET UP

1. Connect the Special Effects Editor as shown in Figure 2.

- If your system has S-VHS or Hi-8 capability, connect the S-VHS cables instead of the video cables. The audio cables should be connected as shown.
  - Make sure that your recording VCR has been switched to the LINE or AUX mode to receive the signals from the video or S-VIDEO input. Consult your VCR manual to determine how to record using the Audio/Video inputs or S-Video input.
  - The recording VCR should be put into the VCR mode and the TV set to either channel 3 or 4.
- For your convenience, the Special Effects Editor has two inputs so that two different sources can be used during editing. The SOURCE SELECT BUTTON (2) lets you easily choose the input source.
  - Two outputs are provided so that two copies can be made at the same time using two recording VCR's.
  - The Special Effects Editor is designed to accept stereo audio inputs from your camcorder and/or VCR. If your input source and recording VCR is monophonic, the LEFT AUDIO INPUT should only be used. If your input source is monophonic and your recording VCR is stereo, the audio should

be connected to the LEFT AUDIO INPUT. The output will be directed to the LEFT AND RIGHT AUDIO OUTPUTS.

- For music input, connect your music source to the Special Effects Editor's MUSIC INPUT jacks using the music cable. This cable has a standard 1/4" headphone plug that can be plugged into any stereo component that has a headphone jack. An adapter is also provided which converts the 1/4" plug to a mini-plug for use with a personal tape player or radio. If your recording VCR is monophonic, a "Y" adapter is required at the AUDIO LEFT and RIGHT OUTPUT to the VCR audio input, so that stereo sound will be converted to monophonic.
- For adding narration during editing, a high-fidelity omni-directional dynamic microphone is included. Plugging the microphone into the LEFT MIC INPUT will produce monophonic narration through both the left and right audio outputs. If you should want stereo narration (and have a stereo VCR and TV) you will need another microphone, which should be plugged in the RIGHT MIC INPUT.
- In addition to the music cable, adapter and microphone provided, an AUDIO/VIDEO OUTPUT cable is also supplied. The other cables shown in Figure 1 were supplied with your VCR and camcorder.

## PRE-EDIT PREPPING

Video editing consists of eliminating, rearranging or adding scenes when duplicating your home videotapes. You are actually copying your tape, adding or deleting sections as you go. The Special Effects Editor will help you obtain clean, professional transitions at your edit points with the use of fades or wipes.

Before you begin editing you must determine what scenes you want to eliminate or add, and in what order.

1. Play the original videotape (on the camcorder or VCR you will be playing it on when you do the editing) and note the appropriate counter readings for the beginning and end of the sections affected by the editing.
2. You must select the background color and the speed of the wipe or fade. While playing the original tape, you can change the speed with the WIPE/FADE SPEED switch (3) and by pressing the AUTO-FADE switch (6), observe the time of the fade. When you decide on a speed, note the switch setting. The colors and speed can be set up in the same way for the wipes.
3. If you will be using the wipe option, the wipe pattern

must be selected by depressing the various wipe switches. More detail on wipe patterns will be covered later.

4. Note that the Special Effects Editor has two sets of AUDIO/VIDEO INPUTS, so that you can input a camcorder and VCR (or 2 VCR's) and edit from two tapes without having to switch tapes or cables. The SOURCE SELECT switch (2) allows you to select the appropriate source. The S-VIDEO input connector is associated with Source 1.
5. The Special Effects Editor has 2 sets of outputs enabling you to make 2 copies at the same time. If the S-VIDEO input is used, the output signals are available on the regular VIDEO output as well as the S-VIDEO output. You will lose the benefits of S-VIDEO if the regular VIDEO output is used.
6. If you desire, sound inputs can be made from the music source and/or microphone as you are editing. You should practice with the system without running the recording tape, to get the "feel" of adding sound. You can monitor the video picture and hear the mixed soundtrack on your TV without recording, and experiment with the various levels of sound inputs and output.

## OPERATION

### EDITING USING THE FADES OR WIPES

1. Load the original tape(s) into the playback camcorder or VCR and a blank tape into the recording VCR(s).
2. Turn on the power to all components and make sure the SOURCE SELECT button is correctly set.
3. Set the counter on the playing camcorder (or VCR) to zero so that the counter readings will correspond to those you noted when pre-edit prepping. Set the FADE/WIPE SPEED and FADE/WIPE COLOR to the positions previously selected. Set the WIPE PATTERN or patterns. Begin duplicating the original tape by playing it and recording normally.
4. When you reach an edit point, follow either the fade procedure or wipe procedure.

### FADES

#### FADE OUT

- a. Press the AUTO FADE (6) button. You will see the picture fade out to the color and speed you had selected. The green "FADE-OUT" LED will be lit.
- b. When the picture and sound is completely gone, press the PAUSE button on the recording VCR(s). This will hold the edited tape ready for the next scene. DO NOT use the "STOP" button on the recording VCR(s).
- c. Press the BYPASS (7) button on the SPECIAL EFFECTS EDITOR. The picture and sound will reappear on the screen and the BYPASS LED will light.
- d. Move the playing tape to the counter reading corresponding to the beginning of the next scene you want to insert or switch to SOURCE 2 and position the tape at the counter setting. Back up the tape to allow for the fade-in time you had selected and put

the playing VCR in "PAUSE". You are now ready to fade back in.

#### FADE IN

- a. Depress the BYPASS (7) button, returning the screen to the color selected.
- b. Next, release the "PAUSE" on the playing VCR. Immediately after, release the "PAUSE" on the recording VCR(s) and then press the AUTO FADE (6) button. The picture and sound will fade back in and the GREEN LED will go out as the recording VCR(s) records the next scene.

Repeat the fade-out/fade-in procedure outlined above whenever you want a fade edit. With a little practice, your edits will be clean and professional.

**NOTE:** Most VCRs will stay in "PAUSE" for approximately 5 minutes, after which the VCR will automatically revert to the "STOP" or "PLAY" mode. Refer to your VCR manual for complete details.

### WIPES

#### WIPE OUT

Select the wipe pattern before starting the playback. For example, assume you have chosen "left to right" (Figure 1, 9e). The LED will light above this button.

- a. Press the OUT (10) button. The GREEN LED above the button will light indicating that you are set up for a wipe out. Start the playback tape.
- b. When you approach the edit point, press the WIPE (11) button. A colored screen will move from the left to the right at the speed and color previously selected. Only the picture is wiped out. If you want to eliminate the sound, the AUDIO OUT slide switch (5d) must be slid down at a rate matching the wipe.

- c. When the picture and sound are completely gone, press the PAUSE button on the recording VCR(s). This will hold the edited tape ready for the next scene. DO NOT use the "STOP" button on the recording VCR(s).
- d. Press the BYPASS (7) button on the SPECIAL EFFECTS EDITOR. The picture will reappear on the screen and the BYPASS LED will light. (If you want to hear the sound, the AUDIO OUT (5d) must be slid back up).
- e. Move the playing tape to the counter reading corresponding to the beginning of the next scene you want to insert or switch to SOURCE 2 and position the tape at the counter setting. Back up the tape to allow for the wipe-in time selected and put the playing VCR in "PAUSE". You are now ready to wipe back in.

### WIPE IN

- a. Slide the AUDIO OUT (5d) switch down to eliminate the sound.
- b. Depress the BYPASS (7) button, returning the screen to the color chosen.
- c. Press the OUT (10) button to select the wipe in function. The LED above the button will go out.
- d. Release the "PAUSE" on the playing VCR. Immediately after, release the PAUSE on the recording VCR(s) and then press the WIPE (11) button. The picture will begin wiping in from right to left. As the picture is wiping in, the AUDIO OUT (5d) slide switch should be slid upward to bring in the audio with the picture.

### CROSS FADE

The crossfade is a unique feature that allows you to automatically fade from a scene on one source to another scene on the second source. Playback VCR's or camcorders must be attached to both inputs. Pre-Edit prepping is very important. The 2 sources must be set up so that when you reach the end of an edit point on one source, you should be approaching the input point on the other source. The speed control also affects the crossfade and can be adjusted.

#### To Fade From Source 1 to Source 2

- a. Select SOURCE 1 using the SOURCE SELECT switch (2).
- b. Put both sources in PLAY.
- c. Put the recording VCR into RECORD and monitor the picture.
- d. When your edit point of SOURCE 1 is reached, press the CROSSFADE 1-2 switch (8).
- e. The Video and Audio will fade to the color selected and depending on the speed setting the Video and Audio from SOURCE 2 will fade in. The SOURCE 2 LED will light.

**NOTE:** Depending on the difference in signals between the 2 sources, a slight jitter may be observed on the blank screen when the transition from SOURCE 1 to SOURCE 2 takes place. If this is objectionable the following can be done. When the SOURCE 1 Video and Audio has completely faded out, the recording VCR can be put into PAUSE until the jitter takes place and then the PAUSE released to get a smooth transition. The faded color may also change when the transition takes place because of the different signal levels.

### AUDIO MIXING

The Sima Special Effects Editor/Audio Mixer provides maximum sound flexibility when editing a videotape. You can reduce or increase the volume or even eliminate sections of your original soundtrack while adding music and narration, and can easily control the relative levels of each. With a little practice, you will be able to use sound to make your home videotapes more professional and creative.

During the editing process, you will monitor the video picture and hear the final soundtrack as it is being recorded on your TV set.

#### 1. Adding Music As You Are Editing

Music can be added to the soundtrack by simply turning on the music source. The volume of the music tracks can be raised or lowered using the MUSIC slide control (5b). When set at its lowest position, the music volume will be eliminated completely.

#### 2. Adding Voice

Similarly, the volume of the voice tracks you are adding can be controlled with MIC slid control (5c). The microphone has an "on/off" switch. To record with it, the switch must be "on". (**Note:** If you want to switch the microphone on or off during the tape editing process, make sure the MIC volume is in the lowest position (off) or a "pop" will occur which will be heard on the tape).

#### 3. Camera Audio

The AV SOURCE slide (5a) controls the volume of the original videotape soundtrack as it is being recorded. It allows you to lower (or eliminate) the original soundtrack in favor of the music or voice being added. Or you can make the original louder in relation to the other tracks.

#### 4. Audio Out

The OUT slide (5d) controls the volume of the complete mixed soundtrack which is being fed to the recording VCR. It allows you to select a comfortable final volume level for your edited tape. This control must be used to eliminate the sound during wipeouts and return the sound during wipe ins.



## DEMONSTRATION

A demonstration program has been built into the Special Effects Editor so that some of the available patterns can be seen. To activate the demonstration program, do the following:

1. Make the connections as shown in Figure 1.
2. Turn power on to all units.
3. Select the SPEED and COLOR background using slide switches (3 & 4).
4. Turn on the playback camcorder or VCR so that a picture is viewed on the TV.

5. Depress the 2 CROSSFADE SWITCHES (8) simultaneously. The 2 SOURCE SELECT LED's will begin flashing.
6. The Special Effects Editor will perform a variety of fades and wipes. When the sequence is completed, it will automatically begin again.
7. To stop the demonstration, press the 2 CROSSFADE SWITCHES (8) simultaneously again. The Special Effects Editor is now ready to do your editing.

## ADVANCED EDITING TECHNIQUES

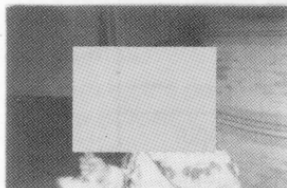
The variations in wipe patterns are too numerous to list. Some examples will be listed with emphasis on the functioning of the controls and how they affect the wipe sequence. The best way to determine the kinds of effects that can be achieved is to experiment with different combinations of wipe patterns and record desirable ones in a notebook for future use.

### 1. Some Possible Wipe Combinations

Wipe Pattern Selections See Fig. 1



9a, 9b, 9c, 9d



Reverse 12  
9e, 9f, 9g, 9h



9c, 9d, 9g, 9h



9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 9e, 9f

### 2. Stopping A Wipe

While in the wipe out mode, if the WIPE BUTTON (11) is depressed before the picture is completely wiped out, the wipe will stop. At this point a variety of options are available.

- a. The WIPE BUTTON can be depressed again to continue wiping out the picture.  
or
- b. The OUT BUTTON (10) can be depressed and the unit will be in the wipe in mode. The OUT LED will be off. Now when the WIPE BUTTON (11) is depressed, the picture will be wiped back in.

**NOTE:** The WIPE (LED) is on whenever the picture is partially or totally wiped out.

or

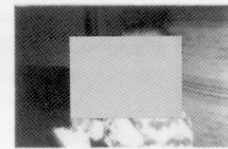
- c. The reverse button (12) can be depressed.

### 3. Reversing A Wipe

When the REVERSE BUTTON (12) is pressed the picture and blank screen will change places, as depicted in the example below.



NORMAL



REVERSE

If you remain in the wipe out mode (out LED on) and depress the wipe button (11), the picture will continue to wipe out but this time from the center out instead of from the outside in.

**NOTE:** "Reverse" means the direction of the wiping pattern. Some other examples are:

- a. If the LEFT to RIGHT PATTERN (9E) is selected and the REVERSE (12) also selected, the wipe pattern will go from right to left.
- b. If the LEFT to RIGHT and RIGHT to LEFT patterns (9e, 9f) are chosen along with the REVERSE (12) the wipe out will begin in the center and go left and right.

### 4. Speed Adjustments

The speed adjustment is referenced to a single wipe pattern. For example, if 6 seconds is selected, it will take 6 seconds to wipe out the picture completely from left to right. However, if 2 wipe patterns are chosen, left to right and right to left the picture will be wiped out in 3 seconds. Internally the unit is still wiping out for 6 seconds but the picture disappeared after 3 seconds.

The wipe in time will appear to take longer for the same reason. The wipe in begins at the sides that are overlapped and the picture will not be seen until the pattern reaches the center past the overlap.

There are many unique effects that can be achieved using the Reverse switch. The best way to see all of these is to try various combinations and see for yourself.

### 5. Partial Wipe With A Fade

It is also possible to combine a wipe and fade, to create a truly unique effect. Simply stop the wipe when partially complete and continue with a fade by pressing the autofade.

## TROUBLE SHOOTING SUGGESTIONS

Check the following list of problems and remedies before calling service personnel. The problem may be one you can solve yourself.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	REMEDY
Power LED does not go on	Switch is off	Turn Switch on
	Adapter is not connected to the Editor	Attach adapter cable to the Editor
	Adapter is not plugged into a good outlet	Try a different outlet
No picture or audio on TV	Connections are not correct	Check connections as shown in Figure 2
	Recording VCR not switched to line or Aux	Switch recording VCR to line or Aux input to accept signals through the A/V connectors. Refer to VCR manual.
	VCR output not switched to VCR or TV not switched to Channel 3 or 4	Switch to VCR and turn TV to Channel 3 or 4
	Wrong source input selected	Select correct source input
No picture on TV	Auto Fade is on and LED is lit	Depress Auto Fade so LED goes off
	Wipe Out is on	Turn off Wipe Out and depress Wipe
No audio	AV Source slide switch is at minimum	Push slide to maximum
	Audio Out slide set at minimum	Push slide to maximum
Controls have no affect	Bypass switch on, LED lit	Turn off Bypass