

DESTINATION:



The coordinates are set and the **TIME TUNNEL** is ready to take you back to the year of **INDIANA JONES**, **RONALD REAGAN** and **MTV**

Whipping Boy!

The biggest news to hit the movie world this year is that Harrison Ford was making waves as the new – but strangely old-fashioned – action-hero, Indiana Jones in Raiders of the Lost Ark.

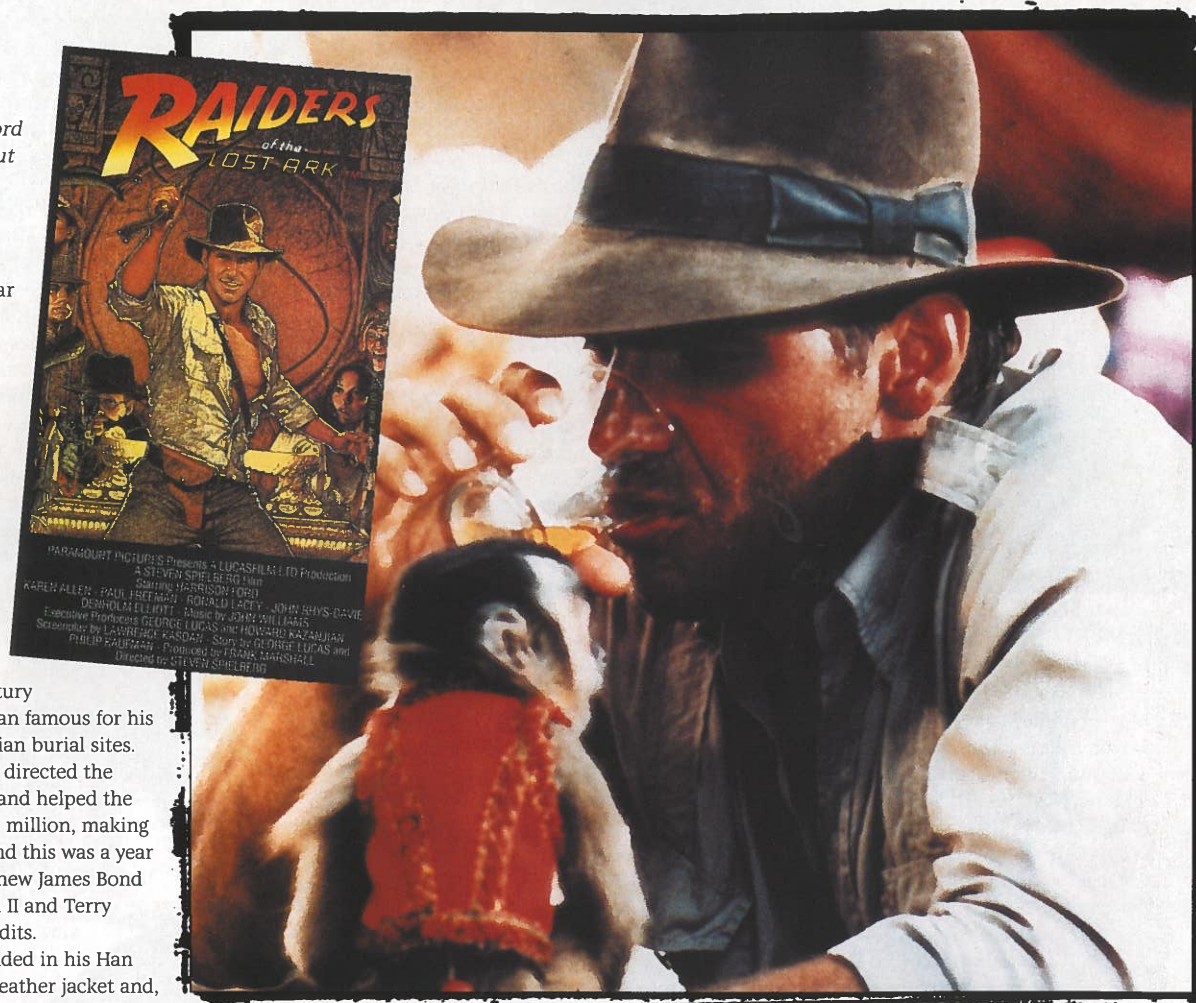
After coming to prominence in Star Wars, Ford whipped moviegoers worldwide into a frenzy in a film that brought back all the excitement and adventure of the swashbuckling films of Saturday matinees.

Marking the first collaboration between two of the world's most successful movie-makers, Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, Raiders of the Lost Ark was a tribute to the cliff-hanging thrillers, westerns and serials of the 1930s and 1940s, with the character of 'Indy' loosely based on the 19th Century archaeologist Giovanni Belzoni, a man famous for his exploration and excavation of Egyptian burial sites.

While Lucas produced, Spielberg directed the action with his trademark panache and helped the film reach a box-office gross of \$242 million, making it the highest earner of the year – and this was a year that saw such notable features as a new James Bond film (For Your Eyes Only), Superman II and Terry Gilliam's inspired fantasy, Time Bandits.

As the eponymous hero, Ford traded in his Han Solo gear for a brown fedora, short leather jacket and, of course, his trademark bull-whip; a device which served as a multi-function tool and weapon and proved invaluable as an aid to stealing ancient idols from their plinths as well as despatching the occasional Nazi.

The story concept went back to the days of thrilling serials and saw Indy battling across continents in a bid to prevent the Nazis from stealing the mythical Ark of the Covenant – a religious icon so



powerful that it could kill in the wrong hands. Mixing period drama with the supernatural allowed the FX house, Industrial Light & Magic (ILM), to shine, and with John Williams' rousing score throughout, the movie proved to be a perfect piece of escapism using the styles and approach of the serials it sought to emulate. Certainly the Academy Awards seemed to think so, as Raiders of the Lost Ark was nominated in

nine categories and won five, including Best Art Direction / Set Design, Best Sound, Best Film Editing, Best Effects / Visual Effects and a Special Achievement Award for Sound Effects editing.

Taking this as all the proof needed that they had a hit on their hands, Lucas and Spielberg started making plans to continue the series: Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom would be next...

World Events In 1981

On 20 January, Ronald Reagan takes his oath as the 40th President of the United States. Meanwhile, 52 hostages held in Tehran since 1979 are welcomed back home. Two months later, on 30 March, President Reagan is shot and wounded by gunman. Unconfirmed reports at this time claim that the gunman,

John Hinckley, was influenced by the movie, Taxi Driver...

Pomp and ceremony abound in the UK as Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer are wed in Westminster



Abbey. The pair will stay together until they divorce in 1996.

The US spacecraft Voyager comes within 63,000 miles of Saturn's cloud cover, relaying pictures and data back to Earth.

The AIDS virus is first identified.

The Supreme Court of America allows television cameras into the courtroom.

The home-computer age begins as IBM unveil its first personal computer, which uses the Microsoft operating system, MS-DOS

