

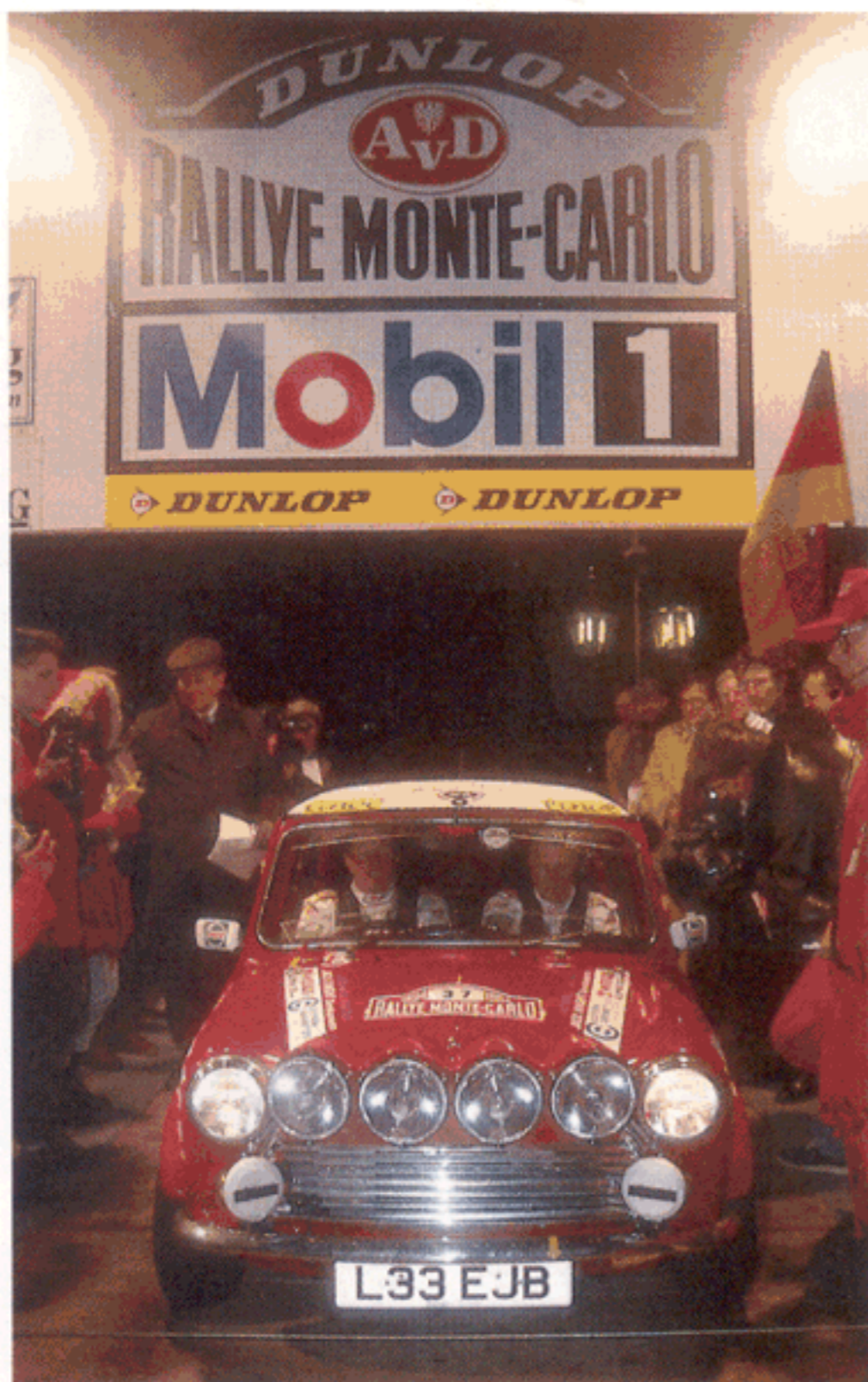


# Mini

## Monte Gallery







Paddy Hopkirk and the Mini Cooper returned to Monaco in 1994, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of their historic win on the gruelling Monte Carlo Rally.

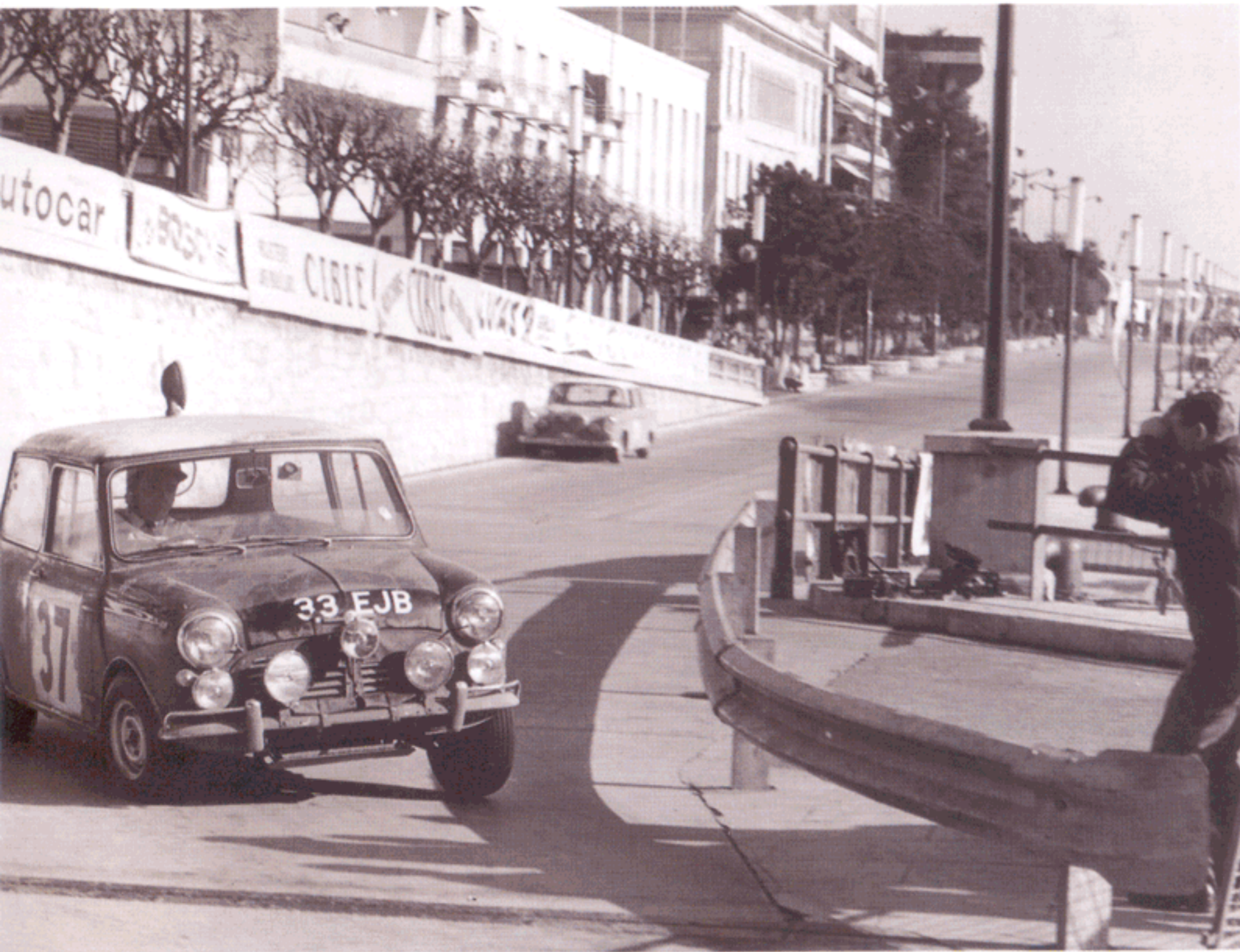
But this was no commemorative parade; Paddy and co-driver Ron Crellin were there to mount a challenge for class honours.

The world of rallying has changed a great deal since the 1960s; the top teams now have space-age technology, armies of mechanics and helicopters to shuttle engineers from stage to stage. Francois Delecour, who won this year's event in the four-wheel-drive Ford Escort RS Cosworth, had three times as much power available under his right foot as Paddy in the Mini Cooper 1.3i.



*As a mark of the respect in which the Hopkirk/Mini Cooper partnership is held, the organisers allowed them to use the same start number as in 1964. It makes an evocative sight as Paddy and co-driver Ron Crellin (right) head off at the start*





No, it's not the Monaco Grand Prix, it's a rally stage! Hopkirk hurls his Mini through the famous Tabac corner on the Formula 1 GP circuit, en route to victory on the 1964 Monte Carlo Rally. Note the collar and tie, Paddy's chosen attire before fireproof overalls became obligatory

Throughout the arduous six-day event, Paddy, Ron and the Mini Cooper were warmly cheered by the French crowd, who welcomed the spectacular antics of the car they dubbed 'Le Mini Anglais'.

Hopkirk and Crellin started well, holding 60th place overall. They fought their way up to fourth in class when the finish line hove into view. It was a position the team had wanted: bar a minor mechanical problem at the end, the mission had been accomplished!

The Mini had proved that after 30 years it is still as fresh and exciting as ever.



Hopkirk's team mate Philippe Camandona cranks his Mini Cooper over through a typically slushy corner, spurred on by enthusiastic French supporters



Night falls over Monaco harbour, home of the world's most glamorous rally; for Paddy Hopkirk and Ron Crellin, the handshake (right) says it all





*Hopkirk wasn't the only member of the 1960s crew to make the return trip. Bill Price, one of the original mechanics, lends a hand with the spanners. A small, front-wheel-drive car is still a boon when the going gets really tight and slippery (below)*





*Then and now for car No 37: Hopkirk in 1964-winning car (above), and powering through the same snowy terrain in the 1994 version. Who could guess the pictures are 30 years apart?*



To the victors the spoils: 1964 was a vintage year for 33 EJB after an epic Monte drive by Paddy and then-co-driver, the late, lamented Henry Liddon.

Thirty years on, the Mini Cooper has again been the car to capture the rallying world's heart — just as the Mini in all its forms continues to do in the showrooms.







*Rover dealers are running a promotion with Monte Carlo decal packs and Mini Cooper accessories.*

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