

# The Honolulu Advertiser

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## Film 'em, Danno!

"Obviously, we want top actors for McGarrett and Danno. We need a star, that's clear. But I don't want to mention names."

— George Litto, movie producer



Cory Litt/The Honolulu Advertiser



Carl Vis/The Honolulu Advertiser

Top photo shows the wave scene from 'Hawaii-Five-O' opening credits. At left is a current photo of James MacArthur, who portrayed Danny Williams, sidkick to Steve McGarrett, played by Jack Lord. At right is a current photo of Kam Fong, who played Chin Ho Kelly on the TV show. Fong lives in Hawaii; MacArthur is vacationing here.

## Hollywood producer books Hawaii to make 'Five-O' film

By Will Hoover  
Advertiser Staff Writer

The signature rolling drum cadence, that trademark Morton Stevens' theme music, the world's most recognizable ocean wave and even those immortal words — "Book 'em, Danno!" — are all to be faithfully maintained.

Steve, Danno, Chin and all their crime-busting cronies may once more stand ready to defend Hawaii from villains too heinous to comprehend.

Only the faces are to be different in what a Hollywood producer says will be a \$50-70 million blockbuster movie version of "Hawaii Five-O," to be filmed here next year.

"We'd like to get started the beginning of the year," said George Litto, former chairman of Filmways and producer of "Dressed To Kill," starring Michael Caine, and "Blow Out," starring John Travolta.

"It'll take us that long to get the financing put together with the major studios and get the actors and director and pre-production. It's going to be a big picture."

Litto said "It would be crazy" to think of filming "Hawaii Five-O" anywhere but in the 50th State. If all goes well, this will be the first of several such films produced in Hawaii.

Georgette Deemer, manager of the Hawaii Film Office, said, "Any indication that this might happen is a good thing. And it couldn't happen at a better time."

However, Deemer — who was unaware of Litto's plans — cautioned



Jack Lord holsters his revolver after solving another case during a 1969 episode of 'Hawaii-Five-O'. The TV series ran from 1968 to 1980 on CBS.

that this isn't the first time there has been talk of making a "Hawaii Five-O" film.

"There's a long row to hoe between the planning and the development of any movie," she said.

Economically, Deemer said, a \$50-70 million movie made entirely in Hawaii could bring about \$10 million to the state's economy. The real payoff from

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The producers of the proposed "Hawaii Five-O" movie have a big challenge ahead: Casting.

Who better to help with this tricky problem than local people — members of the generation who watched the original, as well as today's rerun fans?

Producer George Litto said he'd be eager to see what Advertiser readers suggest: "I always want to know what people think. Because, you know what, that's what sells tickets, isn't it?"

So here's the question: Who of today's crop of actors would you cast as take-charge Steve McGarrett, eager-to-please Danno, non-committal Chin Ho Kelly and stoic Kono.

Call our Readerline at 525-5461, leave your name, neighborhood and phone number and offer your votes. Be brief, and please spell your name. We'll share your thoughts later in the week.

Michael R. Brown/Associated Press  
The space shuttle Atlantis is removed from the launch pad at Kennedy space center, Florida, as overcast skies precede Hurricane Bertha.

## Bertha: 500,000 people told to evacuate in Florida

40,000 people were to be evacuated from bogue beaches, a group of southern-facing beaches, this morning.

Officials also urged the evacuation of parts of two South Carolina counties with 380,000 residents. In Georgia, only voluntary evacuations were in effect, and many residents appeared to be holding their ground.

Traffic was bumper-log bumper going through Mantoloking, N.C., along the mostly two-lane evacuation route from Hatteras and Nags Head to the mainland. "We have about 24 hours of safe travel time before we risk the loss of the evacuation route," said Ray Sturza, a spokesman for Dare County, which includes Manteo.

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"It's a mighty big storm," said Tom Ditt, a spokesman for North Carolina's division of emergency management. "Whether the eye comes in at Myrtle Beach or Wilmington or got hit in some fashion.

An estimated 500,000 people were ordered to evacuate six Florida counties. Hospitals and nursing homes in coastal areas were emptied, shelters were opened, shuttles went up and quarter-mile lines grew in the 90-degree heat at gas stations. Some 50,000 more were urged to get off Hatteras and Ocracoke islands on North Carolina's Outer Banks, and about

eration of artists who should have the opportunity to show their design talents.

## Producer: 'Five-O' film to be made in Hawaii

Litto left the door open to the possibility that any of the original series actors might be involved. But one person associated with the original series agreed that casting new characters is probably the right idea.

"If you're going to do a big movie, I would think you'd have to change gears," said "Danno" actor MacArthur, who's vacationing in Hawaii.

Still, he admitted he'd consider a part if one were offered.

"It might be fun to have some of the older folks in it," said MacArthur. "It would give it a note of authenticity."

Another series actor, Kam Fong, who played Chin Ho Kelly, would also take a part. "You hear so many rumors," said Fong. "Then, nothing much materializes. In fact, we were supposed to go to Hong Kong several years ago and do a two-hour 'Hawaii Five-O' special — Jack, myself and everybody else. I even got my passport and everything was cleared. And then, the whole thing was dropped.

"But yeah, I'd go back and play again. Because I miss it."

Litto said he was the agent of the late Leonard Freeman, creator of "Hawaii Five-O." About a year ago he signed a deal with Freeman's wife, Rose, to develop a screenplay and film based on the series.

"Originally, I licensed this to Disney. But they fell to come up with a proper script. So I told Mrs. Freeman that I would come up with a screenplay that would be appropriate."

Litto said he and writer Avery Duff co-wrote the script, which centers on a peace conference in Hawaii involving heads of state from the Pacific Rim — including the president of the United States and the prime minister of Japan.

"What happens is anything but peaceful. A Japanese secret service agent turns up dead. Intrigue ensues. The security of the president and prime minister is threatened. The governor of Hawaii calls in the one man who can solve the mystery: Steve McGarrett. Drum roll ... Wave ... Music. "It's 'In the Line of Fire' meets 'The Rising Sun,'" said Litto, who added it's too soon to say who'll star in the film.

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introduced in Congress this week temporarily swap Washington's profile for 50 new styles celebrating the states.

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such a project would be its indirect promotional value, she said. The TV series, she said, has been "a golden goose" for Hawaii.

The Five-O TV series focused on a special state law enforcement force headed by Steve McGarrett, who reported directly to the governor.

Starring Jack Lord and James MacArthur, it was the longest-running crime show in television history, beginning in 1968 and continuing through 1980 on CBS. It later went into syndication and has remained popular around the world ever since.

## Two held in Florida killing

Each depositor

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