

by PETE RAHN  
Globe-Democrat TV-Radio Editor

"THIS is Jack Lord. Good morning from beautiful Hawaii. How's your weather in the Midwest? I'm up a little early this morning and it is still cool. But it was 81 here yesterday. Gorgeous. Just right for swimming and skin diving."

As the reader can see, he's something of a wise guy—is actor Jack Lord.

Work on his "Hawaii Five-O" series is at a between-seasons lull, so Jack "idles away a little time each day" telephoning tv columnists to fill them in on plans for the show's second year.

Fill 'em in, or rub it in—I'm not quite sure. Actually, we talked very briefly about "Hawaii Five-O," but chatted at length about "beautiful Hawaii."

With Jack, it's one and the same. He has moved his permanent resi-

dence to Hawaii where episodes for the series are filmed. And it is unlikely that you'll ever find a man with more enthusiasm for a job of acting currently occupying his time.

"My wife and I bought a condominium home right next to the Kahala Hilton," said Jack. "It overlooks the Pacific and we have a 40-foot lanai (patio to Mainlanders) that is about 60 feet from the ocean.

"Diamond Head is on our right, and the sun is just coming up. The little cove we're in has a coral reef about 100 yards off, so we are protected from the big waves and sharks. I go skin diving out there and get all the small lobsters we want.

"Just a second and I'll take the telephone out on the lanai, so you can hear the surf. I'll give you the full treatment this morning."

He did and I could. As indicated, this Jack Lord knows how to hurt a guy.

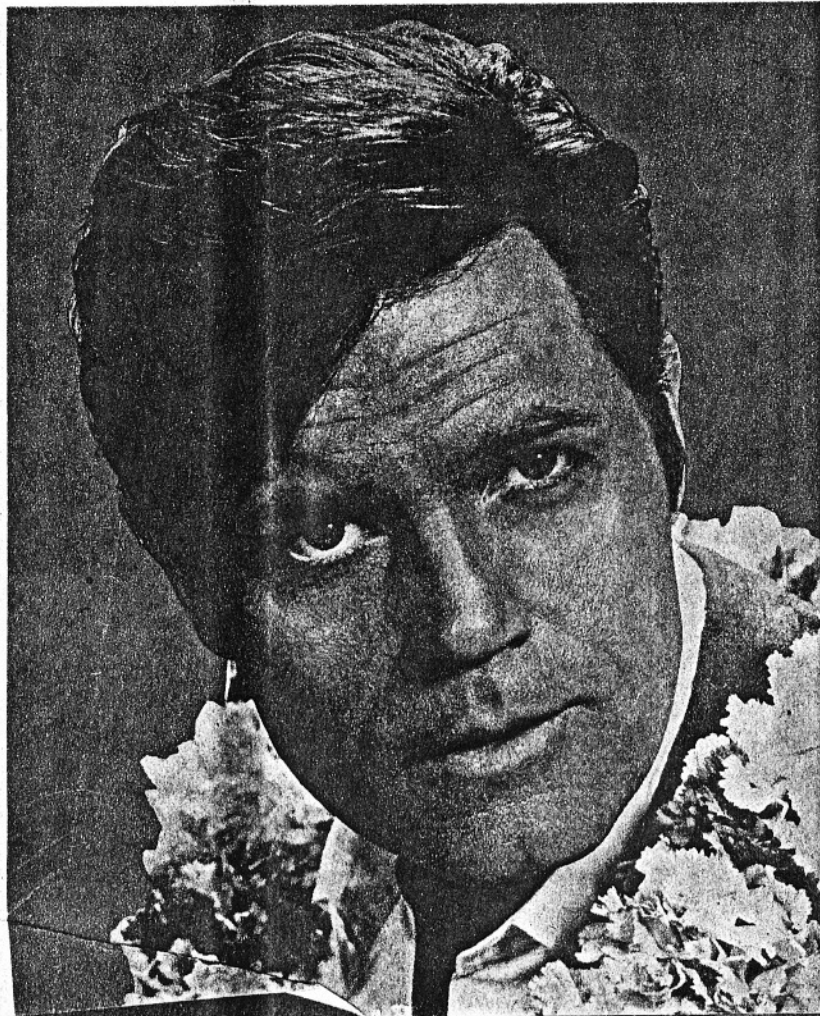
In "Hawaii Five-O," he portrays Steve McGarrett, the rugged chief of a state police unit operating out of Honolulu. It is a pretty good police-action program that leans to mystery more than bang-bang heroics.

When the series premiered, CBS had it in an early Thursday time-slot where ratings were so poor that we worried about its survival. But at mid-season, the network moved the show to Wednesdays at 9 and, presto, top 20 numbers.

"That move was one of the greatest Christmas presents I ever got," says Jack, "we took off like a big bird. And I think it proves again the importance of a lead-in show and the right slot for the right show.

"On Thursday nights, we had the 'Blondie' comedy (now canceled) for a lead. 'Blondie' was one of the biggest fiascoes CBS ever had. I wouldn't wish it on a dog.

## Jack Lord Reports From Hawaii



"Most of the film for our series is shot outdoors to capture the beauty of our Islands state. But the network is now building a studio for the "few interior shots we use," Jack reports, "the first studio in the history of the Islands."

That building also would seem to express CBS' belief that "Hawaii Five-O" will be around for awhile.

"It'll come in handy—save us money," says Jack, "but we'll still make 'em mostly outside. That gives our shows the something extra that can't be duplicated in a Hollywood backlot.

"You see, besides the natural beauty, there also is an intensity of light here that is three times that on the Mainland. It helps give our films a kind of sparkling color that just can't be beaten."

Yeah, we know Jack. And you're sitting on your lanai and the sun's coming up over Diamond Head to warm up the swimming hole.

Now if you'll just hush for a minute, we'd like to hear the surf one more time before we say Aloha.