

Jack Lord—tired of Hawaii Five-0?

With eleven seasons to its credit, *Hawaii Five-0* has become the third longest running series in network television history. JACK LORD, star and behind-the-scenes contributor to the show, is synonymous with *Five-0* and must be credited with the series' longevity. In discussing his association with the hit show, he says, "I won't put my name on anything without it being the very best that I'm capable of giving."

"Our ratings were pretty bad during our fifth year," LORD continues, "and we weren't sure if we would be back for a sixth. We decided it was essential to broaden the format of the show. As a result, *Hawaii Five-0* has not been your average police series. We've done mysteries with the Wo Fat character, comedy with Hume Cronyn,



love stories, stories about our regulars. Mix that in with the quality we demand and that explains why we've kept our viewers. People would be surprised at how many scripts we throw away. We've discovered that a lot of writers go from show to show with the same story—all they do is change the names and the lead character's suit. We don't tolerate that kind of writing!"

Even though *Hawaii Five-0* is still strong in those all important ratings, JACK realizes that 10 years is a long time to portray any one character and is giving strong indications he wants to quit while still riding the wave. "There comes a time when you get tired of playing any character. I've involved myself in directing and that's what I eventually want to do. Primarily movies because I've grown weary of the hassles of television. I'd like to buy a good book and make a good movie out of it."