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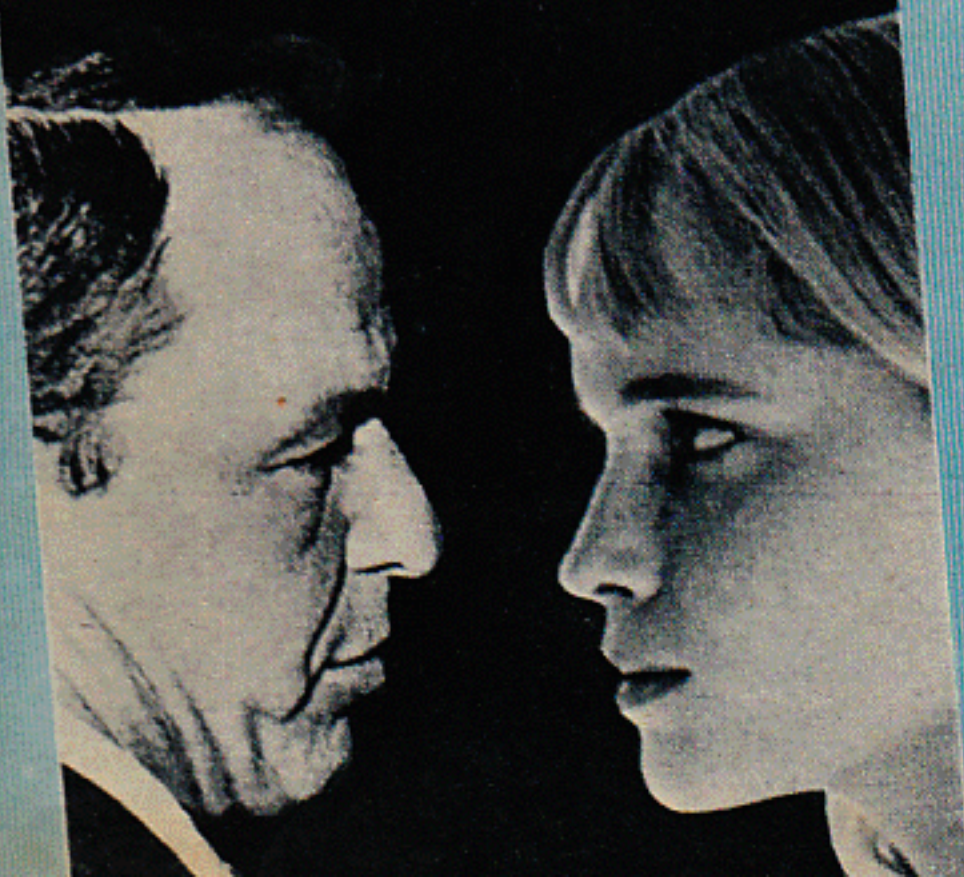
SPECIAL!

THE PROBLEM

KIM NOVAK

SHARES WITH EVERY WOMAN

**WHAT MIA FARROW
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THAT OLDER WOMEN CAN'T**





PATRICK MCGOOHAN

stars in ATV's *Danger Man*

photoplay

McGOOCHAN

McGOOCHAN

T.V.'s *mystery* DANGER MAN

BY
PETER
HOWELL



"I want to be myself, not a public image that has to be lived up to," says Patrick McGoochan

It was a hazardous assignment, and Q knew it. As always when he was sending me on a mission of great danger, he dispensed with the preliminaries and came straight to the point.

"I'm relying on you 001," he declared, "to get me a complete dossier on that man McGoochan. It's five years since he became 'Danger Man' and we still don't know very much about him. The man's a mystery."

There goes my imagination, running away with me again. But the task did indeed call for the Bond touch, for in the last few months it has been a devil of a job to get an interview with Mr. Patrick McGoochan.

In fact it is true to say that few journalists have been able to find out what kind of a man this top TV star really is. The last worthy soul who tried, departed from the scene with "Mind your own business!" ringing in his red ears.

Accordingly, I set out to see Mr. McGoochan with the cold hand of fear stealing across my heart. But there was no need to worry... as expected, he refused to see me.

There was only one thing to do if I was to find out about the real McGoochan and compile that dossier. I made his friends and colleagues temporary secret agents. . . .

DESCRIPTION:—Most women consider Patrick McGoochan to be good looking, although the attraction is just as much due to his phlegmatic bearing and charming manner as to his handsome features. Tall, and of medium build, he has fair hair and startling blue eyes. He looks, and generally dresses like, an English gentleman. He is a man of many faces and can adapt himself successfully to a variety of roles—it is this ability to blend with his surroundings (*Continued overleaf*)



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PATRICK McGOOHAN

(Continued from previous page)

that makes him such a fine secret agent. His taste in cars is unostentatious. He used to drive modest Fiat and Volvo saloons, but now avails himself of chauffeur-driven studio transport. When off-duty he usually smokes cigars . . . he used to smoke cigarettes, but decided it was a bad example to his three young daughters.

CHARACTER: In private life, a complete opposite to "Danger Man" John Drake. He is a family man and puts his extremely attractive wife, Joan, and his three children, before his career.

His leading ladies report that he is rather shy until he gets to know them.

Susan Hampshire, who starred with him in *The Three Lives Of Thomasina*, told me: "At first he was terribly quiet, but when he got to know me better we would talk quite intensely about all kinds of things. Everything, in fact, except Patrick himself. At the end of the film I still didn't know much more about him than when we started. I think he's shy. After we had finished the film he bought me a beautiful bunch of flowers—but do you know, he was too shy to give them to me himself and sent a porter round with them. And he doesn't like being photographed—he's rather strict about it. The only ones taken were of scenes we did together. Never anything informal."

Once or twice during the film, the star's children came to see him on the set. Says Susan: "They were terribly intelligent, well-adjusted children, but rather quiet like their father. We didn't speak about his family very much, but he did mention that he doesn't want them to choose acting as a career."

Another side of the "Danger Man" is presented by Frank Maher, who does many of McGoohan's screen stunts for him.

"He'd be a good man to have with you in a punch-up," says the burly six-foot-two stunt-man. "He's much tougher than he looks and packs quite a punch. I've had some fair bruises to show for it on the occasions when he's slipped."

Director Quentin Lawrence, who has been responsible for several of the films in the "Danger Man" series, agrees.

"You wouldn't trifle with him, but on the other hand, if you made him very angry I don't think he would take a swing at you. He'd be far more likely to just walk away."

McGoohan detests violence—even though it is his livelihood. "Because of that I never go out on St. Patrick's Night," he once said.

Surprisingly enough, he does have a sense of humour. "He knows a lot of very funny stories," claims Adrienne Corri, who has been his leading lady in two of the films. "But once he is on the set he is the utter professional—terribly serious. I think I must have been one of the few women who have worked with him who have ever made him laugh on the set, but it was a rare occasion."

"I am," he was quoted, "reasonably well off, and I want to be myself, not a public image that has to be lived up to."

Not ambitious

BIOGRAPHY: Patrick McGoohan was born 37 years ago in New York. His family moved to Ireland, where he lived until he was nine, when they again uprooted and went to live in Sheffield.

It was there that McGoohan decided to become an actor. After gaining experience in amateur dramatics, he got a job at the Sheffield Playhouse. There he met an actress. Later they were married.

The couple moved to London and after a few plays he was signed by the Rank Organisation. He did not particularly enjoy the films he made.

When the film industry fell on hard times in the mid-fifties, he was fired. The reason, he claimed, was because the powers-that-be did not consider him ambitious enough. And, in fact, he is not.

Fortunately, his performances in those Rank films and his more impressive stagework, had been noticed, and after turning down the starring role in "The Saint"—because he felt the role was too amoral—he became "Danger Man."

FUTURE: McGoohan is an extremely talented actor and today he can afford to be more selective in his roles than ever before.

Even on his own terms, he could in time become an international star. For even though he sometimes gets carried away by an excess of principles, you have to admire him for having them.

Long ago, "Danger Man" McGoohan decided that his screen life would never endanger his private one.

A screen kiss was a very real danger. Who was to say where business ended and pleasure took over? Not the gossips! And what if his children should be watching?

No. Far better to play safe. And who can blame him? Who can blame him, either, for wanting his wife and family to lead a normal existence, outside the glare of publicity? Not me.

CONCLUSION: It's his life, not mine.