
DANGER MAN (D.100)

From the M.I.9 Files.....

NEWS FROM THE "DANGER MAN" SET.

Those spectacles which Patrick McGoohan sometimes wears to help him in his "DANGER MAN" characterisations have only plain glass in them.

But it's no new experience for Pat to wear glasses. He revealed, when trying on a new pair to help him pose as a lawyer for his currently-filming episode "The Goat", that he needed them for a year when he was a youngster.

"There was something wrong with my eyes, and I needed corrective lenses," he explains. "They did the trick. I've never had to wear glasses since".

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Who thinks up those spy-kit gadgets which have become such talking points in the "DANGER MAN" series?

No one man has the task. But Pat McGoohan himself is one of the prime creators. A cunning tape-recorder which looks like a double-headed electric razor is one of his ideas. A "Bug-detector" disguised as a cigar is another of his inventions.

Executive producer Ralph Smart, the various writers and almost every member of the unit come up with fresh ideas these days. The one thing they all have to remember is that they have to be practical. No far-fetched science-fiction gadgets are permitted in this realistic series.

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Patrick McGoohan's enormous success in "DANGER MAN" has one snag for the good-looking actor.

Pat is a man who enjoys a glass of beer. He used to go along to a working man's club for his evening refresher. Now, as often as not, he drops into one or other of the local inns.

"I had to switch," he says, regretfully, "because when television made my face so well-known, I found it impossible just to look in at the club for a 'quick one.' I knew all the fellows there, and they expected me to join in round after round. I had a feeling that, if I refused, they'd think I was getting too big-headed to accept their drinks. Trouble is that I have to keep a clear head to cope with working on 'Danger Man' all day long!"

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Patrick McGoohan seems to be lining up a second career for himself.

He has become a director.

Pat has just directed one of the new "DANGER MAN" episodes, titled "To Our Best Friend" - and, of course, stars in it as well. It's the first of the hour-length programmes he has directed, but he did try out his wings with a couple of the early half-hour episodes several years ago, and also directed himself in an elaborate "commercial."

First reports are that "To Our Best Friend" has turned out so well that Pat is keen to double up as actor and director again.

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Patrick McGoohan is the star of the "DANGER MAN" stories, but he refuses to call himself a star. He detests the description.

"I am an actor," he declares, emphatically, "and that's what I like to be called".

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Could you describe the sort of man John Drake, of "DANGER MAN," really is?

It's no good asking Patrick McGoohan, who portrays Drake, to define how he sees him. His conception of the character is too clever for that, and explains why Drake has become such a popular TV image.
