



the avengers

starring

PATRICK MACNEE
as John Steed

and

DIANA RIGG
as Emma Peel

in

"STRICTLY FOR THE WORMS"

by

ROGER MARSHALL

In which Steed watches birds - -
and Emma goes hunting.....

Cast also includes:

Omrod..... WILLIAM FRANKLYN
Juggins..... JACK WATSON
Mellors..... CONRAD PHILLIPS
Croft..... NORMAN BIRD
Miss Snow..... JOANNA WAKE
Clare Prendergast..... ISOBEL BLACK
Sir Manfred Fellows..... CHARLES LLOYD PACK
Quince..... AUBREY MORRIS

directed by ROY BAKER
produced by JULIAN WINTLE



the avengers

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The episode of "The Avengers" referred to in this folder as "STRICTLY FOR THE WORMS" has been retitled. It will now be known as "SILENT DUST".



the avengers

Episode entitled
"STRICTLY FOR THE WORMS"
Synopsis

"STRICTLY FOR THE WORMS"

by

ROGER MARSHALL

In which Steed watches birds -
and Emma goes hunting

- short synopsis -

When a whole county is devastated, when birds and beasts die by the thousand, Steed and Emma are called in. Their investigations culminate in a hunt where The Avengers are the quarry.

- detailed synopsis -

When whole areas of the countryside are laid waste, when birds and beasts die by the hundred, Steed and Emma are called in.

Steed is taken to an area of desolation at Manderley which is under War Department control. A Minister tells him it was caused by 'Silent Dust', an organochlorine fertilizer which went wrong - killing instead of replenishing.

Emma meets a bird-watcher named Quince and she questions him as they walk along country lanes. A gamekeeper, Mellors, confronts them with a double-barrelled shotgun and tells them to keep away from the area.

Omrod, the owner of the land, appears on horseback and sends Mellors about his business. Eyeing Emma admiringly he invites her to join him at the next hunt.

Steed has met Sir Manfred Fellows, Chairman of the Company which made 'Silent Dust', and discovers the man in charge of the project, Prendergast, was sacked years ago. Fellows tells him the man had a daughter Clare, who might be able to help.

Steed visits her and finds she is bitter about the treatment handed to her father, now dead. She pleads to be left alone in peace. When Steed has left Clare she is joined by Omrod, who has been in another room.

Emma is enjoying a drink at the Stirrup Cup Inn with a local rose-grower named Croft, when a nervous Quince beckons her to come outside. He arranges to meet her at ten that night in a nearby spinney. Standing near the bar listening is Mellors.

At the appointed time, Emma arrives to find no sign of Quince, only his broken spectacles suspended on a bush.

contd.....

Emma and Steed discuss events at the Inn when they hear a horse trot into the yard. Steed looks down to see the local beauty, Miss Snow, obviously distressed. He goes down to help and finds her horse is sick. They leave it for treatment and go into the bar for a drink. But when Omrod and Croft appear she makes an excuse and leaves with them.

Miss Snow, Croft and a local ox of a man named Juggins all meet in Omrod's home. They decide to go on destroying Britain county by county until the Government deposits forty million pounds into a Swiss bank.

Later Steed is strolling in the country when he is confronted by Mellors, still with his double-barrelled shotgun. Steed pretends to leave but doubles back to get into a farmhouse. There he finds a padlocked cupboard and on the floor traces of powder. He puts a sample in an envelope and is just leaving when he hears the distinctive sound of a gun being cocked. Instantly he jumps away but a second shot by Mellors hits him in the shoulder. Somehow he staggers away.

Concerned at Steed's disappearance Emma sets off to find him and arrives at the farmhouse. Forcing open the cupboard reveals piles of apples and behind them - the body of Quince. Out of the distance towards her lurches the blood-stained body of Steed.

Omrod arranges for both Emma and Steed to join him at the hunt. Pretending to have difficulty with her horse, Miss Snow lures Steed into a corner of the stable-yard. As he approaches she gallops off leaving him to face Croft, who is carrying a vicious looking curved scythe. After a few wild slashes Croft is dealt with and left to flounder in a horse trough.

Emma has gone off with the hunt and manages to unseat Miss Snow and take her horse. She then follows Omrod and Juggins across country and into the barn where they are piling 'Silent Dust' into containers. From there they'll go to a helicopter and drop it over Dorset.

Emma holds them up with a gun but Mellors arrives and jumps her. She whips him over and into some bric-a-brac where he lies silent. Skilfully evading the others she makes a run for it. Omrod and Juggins pursue her on horseback.

Cornered in a ditch by Omrod she throws him in a fight and then turns to face the challenge of Juggins, who is holding a long whip. As he approaches Steed appears, riding a horse and carrying a pitchfork with which he proceeds to prod Juggins into a duckpond.

They look at each other for a moment and then Steed cannot resist picking up Omrod's fallen hunting horn and blowing a long, triumphant call on it.