

MacGyver: "The Golden Triangle"
Season 1, Episode 2

Original Airdate: October 6, 1985

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Opening Gambit directed by.....Donald Petrie

Opening Sequence Credits

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Supervising Producer..... Stephen Downing
Executive Producer.....Jerry Ludwig

Beginning Credits

Guest Starring:

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George Kee Cheung.....[General Narai]
Clyde Kusatsu..... [Anek]
Keye Luke..... [Prasert]
Benjamin Lum..... [Truang]
Bryan Price..... [Chan]
James Saito..... [Ming]

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Created by..... Lee David Zlotoff
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Directed by.....Paul Stanley

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Co-Starring:

Angus Duncan..... *as* The General

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.....Mike Melvoin
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I give permission to distribute this transcript wherever you want; just remember to put my name somewhere. If you have comments or questions, please e-mail me at cat-fancier3@hotmail.com, and put “MacGyver” in the subject line. Don’t be afraid to correct anything, please—I’ll be happy to acknowledge and edit my mistakes.

This episode has a lot less dialog than the Pilot, I think, and much more description; so I hope you can visualize what I’m trying to say. Enjoy!

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Notes: (These apply to all of my transcripts.)

All of MacGyver’s quotes are in color (blue, etc.) for easy reference.

Superscripts in the text (¹) indicate that there is a corresponding note in the section “Notes and Nitpicks,” located near the end of the document.

VO (voiceover) indicates that the person (usually Mac) is talking to himself and not aloud. However, when the VO is in parentheses, it indicates dialogue spoken aloud but obviously not filmed at the same time.

My designations for certain small-role characters might not always follow who played who in the credits.

I’ve tried to come as close as possible to actually writing people’s (especially Mac’s) accent and slurring of words. The only two words that I didn’t even try the accent on were “well” and “alright.” “Well” often is pronounced “’ell,” and “alright” is usually something like “arright.” The dialogue’s punctuation, while sometimes ungrammatical, has also been kept true to how the characters say it.

Note that I have decided not to write out the full swear words for principle’s sake. Mac very rarely swears, and other characters swear little as well; so, there isn’t much to cut out anyway.

And lastly, brackets in the credits indicate that the role of the actor is not specified on-screen, but that I have credited him or her with that role here.

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MACGYVER

Episode #2—THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

Opening Gambit—CRUSHER

A man in dress pants and dress shoes drops a cigarette and squashes it with his foot. He’s carrying a black briefcase with handcuffs hooked to the handle of it. He places the briefcase on top of a tan car, then checks his watch. (He has white hair and is wearing sunglasses.)

A head pops up a little ways from White-Haired Man, watching him. It’s MacGyver. The man continues to wait for someone near the car, and it’s now clear that he’s in a junkyard. Mac climbs over the wall that he was hiding behind with the aid of a pole. (Mac is wearing black gloves, khaki pants, and a greenish-grey coat with a pink shirt underneath.) He silently runs over a few junk cars and then to a pile of junk, which he lurks behind.

MacGyver Voiceover: **People usually go to a junkyard lookin’ for a bargain. I did. When I got my first set of wheels, one o’ them was kinda flat.**

Mac ducks down further as a light blue car drives up. When it stops, two men in suits walk out of it, Black-Suited Man and Grey-Suited Man. They walk over to White-Haired Man, who shakes Grey-Suited Man’s hand and says something like “hello.”

Mac VO: **I spent a lot of time in hubcap heaven, (White-Haired Man opens the briefcase on top of the car to show the others the contents.) piecin’ together that first car. (Grey-Suited Man takes a folder out of it.) So would anybody else lookin’ for a real bargain—like a matched set of top-secret Pentagon missile launch codes.**

Grey-Suited Man flips through the contents of the folder as the other two watch. Mac appears behind something, watching the three men, then runs off in another direction. Grey-Suited man gets a small packet out of his suit (presumably containing money), and White-Haired Man takes it. Mac runs up to several big stacks of tires.

Mac VO: **‘Coarse missiles come in all kinds, sizes, and shapes. I’ve always been partial to...round. (He topples over the stack, alerting the men nearby.)**

Grey-Suited and Black-Suited Man pull out guns (“stay here” can be heard, probably said to White-Haired Man), and they start running around looking for Mac. (“See anything?” can be heard.) White-Haired Man remains by the tan car with his gun at the ready. (Someone says “Anything?”) While they are

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looking around the tire pile, in the opposite direction, above the tan car a huge junkyard magnet is being lowered, and the briefcase is attracted to and becomes stuck to the magnet.

Mac VO: **As long as you keep a grip on a thing.**

White-Haired Man notices and tries to grab the briefcase from the magnet before it is hoisted up again, getting his gun stuck to the magnet as well, and saying something like:

White-Haired Man: **“No! Briefcase! Gone! Up there!”**

In the vehicle which controls the magnet, Mac is smiling while he rotates the machine arm holding the magnet about 90 degrees, then turns its magnetism off so that the briefcase falls. Then Mac runs out of the vehicle to get it. As he’s bending down to pick it up, the three men appear.

Black-Suited Man: **There he is!**

They shoot at him, and he first throws White-Haired Man’s gun through the back window (no glass) of a junk car, then runs off through the cars, with the briefcase.

White-Haired Man: **Hey, get him!** (They run after him.)

They slow down when they reach the cars, looking around cautiously, and White-Haired Man gets on the back of the car Mac threw his gun into, to retrieve it.

Mac VO: (running through junk cars) **Thing about a junkyard is, the treasure you find is liable to be somethin’ another fellow lost.** (walks on top of a few cars) **Sometimes he wants it back—real bad.**

Black-Suited Man is lurking around the cars, just where Mac had left. White-Haired Man, with gun ready, sidesteps behind a car, then jumps out into the open space pointing his gun. At the same moment Grey-Suited Man does the same on the opposite side of him, so that they’re pointing their guns at each other. They then relax a bit and keep moving. After passing the next pile of cars, they see each other again at opposite sides. Grey-Suited Man gives a motion like “will you stop doing that?” and White-Haired Man gestures to move on.

Mac VO: **Now, I’ve always got the start of a plan.**

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Mac’s head pops out of the driver’s window of the car the bad guys have just passed. He looks around, then opens the door and gets out, leaning over as he walks so as not to be seen. He’s carrying the briefcase.

Mac VO: **‘Course sometimes plans don’t work out.** (looks to the side, then looks forward) **But you always know for sure when they hit you right in the—** (Black-Suited Man punches Mac in the face.)—**face.**

Mac is unconscious in the back seat of the tan car. He wakes up, then sits up, looking around. Through one window he sees the three men standing there, watching him.

Grey-Suited Man: **Go on!** (indicating with his hand toward something beyond Mac)

Mac looks in the direction in which Grey-Suited Man was indicating and is freaked out to see a fork-lift bearing down on the car he’s in. He attempts to open the doors with no results. He ducks down as the forks crash through the windows of the car. It then lifts the car up from the ground and drives forward with it, as the three men follow a little behind. Mac’s hands are tied and he can’t do much, and he has a bruise on his face. The forklift finally deposits the car near a large debris pile and on a platform of some type, backing up and removing the forks from the car’s windows. A large metal crusher is starting to lower.

Mac VO: **Now, you may find this hard to believe,** (beats at the door desperately) **but there have been times when I’ve had a lot more fun in the backseat of a car.**

He pries open the back seat, (as the crusher gets closer) and climbs into the trunk. Inside the trunk, he tries to open it unsuccessfully, then finds a pry bar to use. (The crusher is making contact with the car now.) He uses all his might with the pry bar, and the trunk opens. The crusher is completely crushing the car as he climbs out of the trunk just in time. Running away, he unties his hands. (There is a wall between him and the three men now.)

The three men walk toward the blue car, take the briefcase from off its roof, and get in the car.

Mac VO: (Mac is driving the forklift now.) **I think the last thing I wanted to do before these guys left the party, was to find the nicest way I could to...lift their spirits.**

The forklift and the blue car are heading straight for each other, and the blue car swerves out of the way. Mac maneuvers the forklift so that the forks crash through the windows of the blue car (the men inside duck), and lifts it up. The

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blue car in its elevated position, Mac forces it against a tall, thin metal structure in the junkyard.

Mac climbs out of the forklift and walks toward the metal structure, which has a phone on its side. He picks up the phone and dials a number on the receiver. He waits for a second with the phone to his ear and his other hand in his pants pocket.

Mac: **Yeah. It’s MacGyver. You know that diplomatic security case you guys put me on a while back? Well I got it, and the boys who took it.** (pause)
Yeah. You wanna come pick ‘em up? I just did. (smiles a little)

Launch into Intro.

Seagulls are flying in the clear blue sky. A person is lying sunbathing on a sandy beach, with the waves rolling in in front of him. He’s wearing red bathing shorts and sunglasses. Yes, it’s MacGyver. It seems to be sunset, the sun being low. There is blue sky, but one scene shows orange sky around the sun. (This scene is possibly meant to be a view through Mac’s orange-ish sunglasses, since the sky around the sun in the next scene is blue again.)

Mac VO: **It’s my humble opinion that old Alexander Graham Bell has a lot to answer for.**

He’s lying on some sort of wicker beach chair (not especially a chair, because he’s lying on it). There’s a towel by him.

Mac VO: **Gettin’ away from it all gets tougher and tougher.** (takes sunglasses off, with eyes still closed) **Not just the newspaper, the telephone, and the radio—but people.** (There’s a shadowy military officer standing in front of him, in dress blues. His nametag reads “Hawkins,” and he has three stars.) **It’s hard. Maybe impossible.**

Mac opens his eyes to look at him.

General Hawkins: **Good morning, MacGyver.** (He’s blocking out the sun, and is wearing sunglasses.) **Ever been to Burma?**

The scene switches to a beautiful mountainous landscape with fog in the valleys. (stock footage)

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Hawkins VO: **You’ll be going deep into wild country. There’s no government, no law—just two kinds of people: opium vendors, and the local people they hold as slaves.**

The scene switches to several Orientals working in the field, wearing Chinese hats. (stock footage)

Mac VO: **Sounds like you’re sendin’ me to a real nice neighborhood.**

Scene switches to that of dense jungle. (stock footage once again)

Hawkins VO: **Uh it’s dangerous; it’s important. Very.**

Scene switches to that of someone cutting away at dense vegetation with a machete.

Mac VO: **I hear it’s also sweaty and hot. Very.** (It’s MacGyver, slashing his way through plants as tall as him.) **No place to buy a condo.**

Hawkins VO: **The cargo plane hit hard. Pieces scattered all over the jungle. Main thing is we lost a canister. Toxic. Enough heavy-duty poison to destroy a thousand acres of plant life, animals, and people.**

Mac VO: **And you’d kinda like to have it back.**

Hawkins VO: **Get it if you can, destroy it if you have to. We’ll have a pickup chopper come for you at twenty-four hours after you drop in. Don’t be late MacGyver—or you won’t be back.**

Mac VO: **Aw shucks. I guess this means I won’t have time to do any shoppin’.**

Mac comes to the end of the field of plants, and comes to a normal jungle. A group of Orientals are walking through it, headed by one with a gun. Mac sneaks through the jungle, trying not to be seen. He hears a command in Burmese (or whatever language it is). He crouches down to watch.

Mac VO: **Slavery. It’s just a word, something out of ancient history—until you see it, get a close look at human beings treated like animals.**

In the group of people that go by him is a young Burmese carrying a pole on his shoulder with his head down; an Oriental with a stern, slightly chubby face, a small mustache, a military-type cap, and carrying a stick; an old person with a Chinese hat; another old person with a Chinese hat who is being clung to by a small Burmese boy wearing a red American Air Force cap; a Burmese girl wearing a Chinese hat, two black braids, and a light pink shirt; and a young Burmese man wearing a Chinese hat and blue shirt.

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The man who the little boy had been clinging to, Grandfather, falls, saying something like “ai, ai.” The girl in the pink shirt, Lin, the man in the blue, Ming, and the boy, Chan, go after him to help him up.

Chan: **Oh, Grandfather!**¹

Mac watches this. The stern man with the stick, Truang, who is wearing a black long-sleeve shirt and green camo pants, comes over to where Grandfather is still lying on the ground, and beats the stick into his other palm. He raises the stick to strike Grandfather.

Lin: **Leave him alone!**

Truang stops the stick in front of her, then runs it down her body a little in disgusting pleasure. Ming looks a little mad, and the Grandfather is relieved. Mac looks sympathetic towards them. A short, bald Burmese man, head of the slaves, comes up behind the commander.

Headman: **Is there trouble, sir?**

Truang: (turns from the girl towards Headman) **You told me you could get your people to work hard, harvest the opium.** (indicates to Grandfather) **This one can’t even walk.**

Grandfather: (still on the ground) **I’m alright.**

Lin: (to Truang) **Please.**

Truang looks at her and walks away.

Lin: **Come, Grandfather.** (taking his arm to help him up)

Grandfather: **I can walk.** (Chan helps.)

They lead him away, Lin and Chan at each of his arms, Ming behind, and a man with a gun following.

Chan runs ahead in the path to where a branch goes over it, and takes the branch. (Chan is wearing green shorts, a white tank top, and a black jacket.) Behind him, Grandfather falls again.

Lin: **Grandpa! Oh...**

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She and Ming, her brother, start to help him up again. Truang comes up, pushing the branch aside. He beats his stick into his palm, but then Chan takes the branch and snaps it into his backside.

Truang: **Oh!**

He turns toward Chan, extremely angry. Chan then looks scared.

Chan: **I’m sorry!**

Truang goes after him, and the boy runs.

Truang: (to his men, as he runs after the boy) **Keep them moving!**

Headman: (to slaves) **Hurry, back to the village! Move!** (claps his hands)

MacGyver runs to intercept the running boy. (Mac is wearing khaki pants and coat, with a dark brown tank top underneath.) He grabs Chan and puts his hand over his mouth.

Mac: (struggling to keep the boy still) **Shhh. Quiet, quiet.**

Truang runs the way Chan had come, stops, looks around, but doesn’t find him. He turns and goes back. MacGyver watches and waits till he’s gone.

Mac: (whispers) **Alright.** (takes hand off Chan’s mouth) **Alright. I’m on your side** (points to him). **Just want to ask you about this red hat.**

Chan nods, but then runs off. Mac goes after him and grabs him. Chan struggles, but finally submits.

Mac: (whispering loudly, a little mad) **Come on now! I just helped you out of a li’l jam—Is that any way to thank me? That’s gratitude! Nice guy.**

The boy hangs his head, and Mac does a little too, calming down.

Chan: **Who are you?**

Mac: **Name’s MacGyver.**

Chan: (shakes Mac’s hand) **Chan.**

Mac: **Good to meet ya.**

Chan: **I apologize.**

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Mac: (waving it off with his hand) **No problem. Now ya wanna tell me where you got the hat?** (pointing to it)

Chan: (nods) **I will show you.**

Mac and Chan are walking through a field, Mac still carrying his machete (in a sheath).

Mac (VO): **Who’s that guy that was chasing ya?**

Chan (VO): **He is Truang, General Narai’s dog.**

Mac (VO): **He in charge of forced labor for the poppy fields?**

Chan (VO): **Yes.**

Mac (VO): **And who’s Narai—his boss?**

Chan (VO): **They say General Narai is not human. They say he drink blood!**

They come to a plane wreck.

Chan (VO): (points to wreck) **This is where I find my red hat, MacGyver.**

Mac walks around in the wreck, searching, as Chan watches. He goes into the fuselage, setting down his machete, and opens a square box connected to the wall of the fuselage. On the box lid is the words “Controlled Materials, Danger.” Mac sees that the box is empty.

Mac VO: **Of course—poison canister’s gone. Pentagon’s not gonna be too happy.**
(closes it)

Taking up his machete again, he goes through the hanging wires in the fuselage to come out in the open. However, Truang is waiting for him, and hits him down with his stick. One of Truang’s men is holding a struggling Chan.

Mac is hanging by his tied hands and feet from a bamboo pole, and is being carried through a village. He sees everything upside-down, and some of the villagers stand and watch him. Truang is following a little behind, and he pushes Chan to the rest of his family.

Truang: **You’re lucky, boy.** (as his family comforts him) **I don’t have time to punish you now.**

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Lin: (to Chan) **Did he hurt you?**

Ming: **Who is that?**

They set Mac on the ground and take the pole from his hands and feet, then stand him up. Mac leans on the nearby truck, holding the side of his head in pain.

Truang: **I know who you are, and what you are doing here. So do not lie. French? (Mac fingers his wound, blood coming from behind his ear) English? American...(says in disgust)**

Mac: **Well, take your pick.**

Truang smacks him hard across the face. Chan’s family watches, afraid.

Truang: **Wherever you come from, I know what you are. Narcotics agent.**

Mac: (looks up from leaning down) **A what?**

Truang: **Your kind have been in our area before. (nods to assert himself) I know.**

Offscreen Man: **The General is coming!**

Truang turns around and Chan’s family looks as the sound of a helicopter can be heard, and then as it comes into view.

Truang: (to Headman) **Get everything ready! The storeroom! He will want to see the opium! His guns—make sure his guns are ready. Move!**

Headman: **Move!** (claps hands, and the slaves scatter) **Move!**

Mac watches, still holding the side of his head. The helicopter, sleek and black, lands, stirring up a little dust. A man steps out of it. The slaves stand all in a row. The man is wearing all black, with one black glove and boots, black beret, sunglasses, a red scarf around his neck, and a small moustache. In the gloveless hand he carries a stick. He looks around, seeing the cowering slaves, and MacGyver.

Mac VO: **Long time ago my cousin Allie got a dog from the pound—part Airedale, part Spaniel, real cute—but she’d been beaten. All that puppy knew how to do was cower, cringe away from you, expecting to be hit. (General Narai walks along the row of slaves, carrying his stick.) It’s a real ugly thing to see in a dog—it’s even worse in a human being.**

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Finally General Narai reaches Truang, who stands at attention. Then he goes over by the truck to inspect MacGyver, who has two men holding him, one on each arm.

Narai: **This is something I did not expect. Who are you?**

Mac: (sounding casual) **Name’s MacGyver. And I’ll just bet you’re General Narai.** (General Narai just looks at him.) **That was a nice landing, General. Little flashy, but effective.**

Truang: (accusingly) **He’s a narcotics agent.** (smiling) **I made him speak.**

General Narai turns to look at Truang, then back to Mac. Mac just raises his eyebrows and shrugs. Narai walks back over to Truang, hitting the stick into his other palm.

Narai: **The poppies.**

Truang: **Only half the harvest is complete.**

Narai takes off his sunglasses.

Narai: **You radioed about downed American airplane, with weapons.**

Truang turns to his men and vehemently motions to them. The men take the cover off the back of a nearby truck, as Narai walks over to it followed by Truang. MacGyver looks at the truck, trying not to betray anything by his face, and apparently looking for the canister. He finally spots it.

Mac VO: (whispers) **Bingo!**

Mac turns away so as not to arouse suspicion. General Narai inspects a large gun that the men are holding up.

Narai: **Good. Very good.** (turns) **My helicopter will become a gunship. A powerful weapon.** (turns to men) **Load ‘em.**

The General then goes over to Mac again, who is trying to look nonchalant.

Narai: **You wish to tell me the real reason you’re here?**

Mac: (shrugs a little) **Tourist?**

Ming looks surprised and confused. Both Narai and Truang laugh.

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Narai: **Hehehe. I like a sense of humor. Shows spirit.** (He becomes serious again and looks at Truang.) **Five days and my caravan will come here to pick up the opium. Finish the harvest. And if you’re not ready—**

Truang: **They are slow! Too many old men and women, lazy children. They are stubborn!**

Narai: (yells sternly) **Headman!**

Headman goes from his place in the line of slaves, to in front of the slaves. Narai steps up to him, putting his stick on his shoulder.

Narai: **Are your people slow, stubborn?** (The slaves look down.)

Headman: **I’ve told them, General. I-I’ve warned them you’d be angry.**

Narai pushes him with his stick, and Headman goes back in line.

Narai: **I care for you** (Mac gives a look like “yeah, sure”), **give you protection, food, shelter. But as children are responsible to their father, you must not disappoint me, hurt me. If I suffer, you will suffer.**

The slaves don’t dare to look him in the eye.

Headman: **We will bring in the crops, I promise.**

Narai: **Good. Just to remind all of you, how important this is** (hits stick into palm), **I will give you an example.** (turns around to Truang) **Stake our narcotics agent out at the head of the trail. No food, no water.** (Mac tries not to look afraid.) (General turns back to the line of slaves.) **Every morning you go to work, every evening you come back, you can watch him dying. He will inspire you to work.** (The slaves look afraid, and sad.) **I will return in five days.** (turns back to Mac, hitting his stick in his palm, smiling) **And with luck, you may live the entire five days.** (Truang sneers at Mac, and Mac tries to look emotionless.) **But I doubt it.** (Truang’s sneer grows bigger.)

Mac is stretched across a bamboo framework raised about a foot off the ground, his hands and feet tied to each corner. The sun is beating down on him, and he’s sweating.

Mac VO: **My mom used to make a great broiled chicken—one of my favorites. Funny—I’m startin’ to feel real sympathetic towards them chickens.**

From out of the foliage behind him comes Chan and his sister.

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Chan: (to sister) **I’ll watch.** (to Mac) **MacGyver, her name Lin, my sister.** (runs over to watch for any people)

(The flies can be heard a lot in the background—and Mac can’t swat them...)

Mac: **Hi.**

Lin: (at Mac’s side, with cloth in hand) **Chan has told me how you helped him. We’re very grateful.** (dabs at wound behind his ear with cloth)

Mac: **Well you’re very welcome. Now if you wanted to cut me loose, I bet we could call it even.**

Lin: (sad) **I’m sorry. I can’t. If we help you escape, Narai will kill many of our people. MacGyver don’t know Narai. He has burned entire villages, and massacred many people, because they refused to harvest his opium poppies. He is very rich and powerful. We have no way to fight him.**

Chan: (raises fist) **I would fight.**

Mac: **I’ll bet you would, Champ.**

Chan smiles, but then turns to hear a rustling in the nearby jungle.

Chan: **They’re coming!** (runs to his sister) **Lin, please come now!**

They both run off in the way they came from. Mac lays his head back all the way again. He lifts it again to see one of Truang’s men approaching with gun in hand.

Mac: **Been wonderin’ when somebody’d show up.** (smiling a little) **Gettin’ some good rays here.**

The man only smiles, slinging his gun across his shoulder by the strap. He takes a cigar out of his pocket, as Mac watches, and puts it in his mouth. He walks over to his position as guard, on the edge of the jungle behind and to the right of Mac.

A truck drives up as the people work nearby.¹

Truang (VO): **You must work faster, faster!**

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With stick in hand, Truang walks past Ming (Chan’s brother), who is squatting down packaging the opium. Ming wipes the sweat from his brow.

Truang (VO): **Work faster Ming, you lazy boy. We only have four days left to harvest!**

Ming looks a little like he would strangle Truang, but keeps calm.

Chan walks past the workers and to Lin, who is tying an opium package. Subtly, he looks down and pulls Mac’s SAK out of his pocket.

Lin: (whispers, afraid of being caught) **Where did you get that?**

Chan: (whispers) **I stole it back from guardhouse. For MacGyver, or he will die out there!**

Mac fingers the SAK. Chan is kneeling at his side. Mac gives him a little thumbs-up, and Chan returns the sign, then runs away. Mac turns his head to look at the guard, who is sleeping, then fingers the SAK again.

The workers continue to package the opium. Truang walks up to one of his men.

Truang (VO): **Go to the narcotics agent and relieve Ho.**

The man walks off.

When he reaches Mac’s place, he finds the guard (Ho) sleeping. Mac looks at him. The man then sees the open SAK lying on the ground to the side of Mac’s framework, reflecting light from the sun. He walks over to pick it up. As he does so, Mac suddenly gets up and hits him on the back, knocking him out. Mac stands up, retrieves his SAK, then walks over to the “sleeping” guard. He takes his belt from around the guard, causing the guard to slump down. Mac then enters the jungle path (from which Chan and Lin came before), putting his belt back on as he goes.²

Ming and two other workers are loading opium packages (piled on a bamboo framework) into the back of the truck, as Truang watches.

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Truang: **Be careful.**

Once done loading it, Ming turns to follow the other workers, but is stopped by Truang.

Truang: **For a second I thought you were truly stupid, boy.** (Ming lowers his head.) **Are you?** (raises Ming’s chin with stick) **Are you a stupid boy?**

Truang then laughs, hitting his palm with his stick, and walks off. Subtle anger and determination show in Ming’s expression.

Through the jungle and behind one of the village huts, MacGyver sneaks up. Hiding behind the hut, he sees the slaves continuing their work, and in the middle of the village is a large tarp with the things recovered from the American airplane beneath it. Then taking another quick look around, he runs, ducked down, through the jungle, until he is behind a pigpen. Swiftly and silently he runs over to the tied-up gate of the pigpen. He squats down next to it, opening his SAK, then cuts the thin rope tying the gate. He puts his SAK back in his pocket and opens the gate wide. The pigs remain inside, so he runs back to his other position behind the pen, shooing the pigs out.

Mac VO: **When I was a kid, one of the big events of the country fair was watchin’ a lot of optimists tryin’ to catch a greased pig.** (He steps inside the pen to shoo them out further.) **It was a lot of fun. Sure keeps a crowd occupied.**

Truang notices that the pigs are running loose in the village, and the slaves start running around trying to shoo them back into their pen. While they are all distracted, MacGyver swiftly runs over to the middle of the village, to the tarp. Quickly he ducks underneath the tarp. Underneath it, he crawls until he reaches the canister, and takes it under his arm.

Meanwhile the slaves are still occupied with the pigs. Still underneath the tarp, Mac sees next to him a small object. He picks it up to see that it says “Pen Type Flare,” and “Miniflare-2” on its other side. He takes a flare out to look at it.

The slaves are still herding the pigs, and Truang and his men are laughing at them.

Mac VO: (whispers) **Now let’s try a little chain reaction action here.** (A life jacket is hooked to a life raft. Mac has one signal flare in his mouth, and is doing something with the flare box.) **I’ll get the signal flare tucked under the airplane tire—should serve nicely as a delayed fuse.** (The flare is hooked to the life

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raft.) **And a little air pumped into the life jacket**—(pulls the string to inflate it).

After looking around first, Mac runs out from underneath the tarp, carrying the canister. He hides beside a hut, behind a table with a large basket on it. There he hides the canister.

Mac VO: **The boat inflates, hopefully**—(the boat does start to inflate)

Truang, who is still laughing about the pigs, suddenly looks to the side, and his smile fades. The tarp is then yanked off as the boat continues to inflate. Truang puts his stick in his belt, ready to go to check it out.

Mac VO: **Signal flare pops**—(the signal flare does pop)—**and you get a big bang.** (It explodes.)

Right as it explodes, Mac pole-vaults to hit the driver of a jeep. He pushes the unconscious man aside and hops in the jeep.

Meanwhile Truang and his men are standing to the spot, looking around frantically for the perpetrator. They draw their guns and start shooting as Mac drives across the village in the jeep. He then bales out, landing to aim a signal flare at the said runaway jeep, blowing it up. He runs across the village to get to a truck.

In the meantime Chan tries to go out of his hut to help Mac, but Grandfather pulls him back.

Grandfather: **No Chan!**

Mac tries to open the door of the truck, but it's locked. Instead he just jumps through the window, as Truang's men fire at him. One of Truang's men is still lying there a little stunned from the explosion.

Lin: **Ming, he needs help!**

Ming runs out of their hut, as Lin watches from the window. Ming tackles the stunned man, taking the gun from his hand. He looks over to Lin for reassurance, and she nods.

As Mac is driving the truck through the village, Truang is running along shooting at him. Mac crashes it into a hut, as Truang goes into the hut. Truang goes out of the hut, and spots Mac through the debris. Mac looks at him too. Truang reaches for his gun, but finds he doesn't have it. Mac then quickly kicks through the debris out of the truck window, and Truang desperately runs away. Finally getting out free, Mac runs after him. Truang is far off into the

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jungle by now, so Mac stops after a little ways and looks at where Truang ran off. He turns and walks back to the village.

All the slaves are gathered there to meet him when he comes out of the jungle into the village.

Mac: (addressing them all) **Well I guess that’s it then.** (They all just look at him.)
Now you’re free.

Grandfather: **No. Truang will reach General Narai’s convoy. They will return very soon.**

Headman: (walking up to him, angry) **You—you have destroyed us all!**

Mac just looks at them, not sure of what to do next.

Mac takes the canister from where he hid it before. He walks back up to the villagers, tossing the canister around in his hands, and stops in front of them.

Lin: (holding up a rifle) **MacGyver, maybe you can teach us how to use these guns.**

Mac: (looks down, then looks back up to say:) **No I don’t think so.** (He kneels down.) **It takes a couple of weeks or so to train a soldier how to use a rifle.**

Headman: (angry) **We need no training, we need you to leave now, before it gets worse. So go, just go!**

Mac: **Is that the way all of you feel?**

Ming: **If we cannot find our souls we do not deserve our lives.** (Grandfather nods.)
(turns to Mac) **Thank you for what you have done, MacGyver.**

Headman: **You need not thank him. Just pray that Narai does not kill us all!**

Mac looks down a little sadly, then stands up.

Mac: **You know, I think you folks oughtta decide which way you’re gonna go now.** (He pauses, and they all look at him.) **I promised a man I’d do a job for him, that’s what I gotta do.** (Pauses again, looking sadly around.) **I got a chopper to meet.**

He turns around, a little regretfully, and walks away. Chan looks sadly after him. Then Headman steps up.

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Headman: **Everyone, it will be alright. When General Narai comes back, we will apologize. We will beg him to forgive us.**

The villagers are all unconvinced, and are still sad at Mac leaving.

The helicopter is approaching in the sky.

Helicopter Voice: **42-23 Alpha. Look’s like MacGyver’s got the goods. Goin’ in.**

Chan runs through the jungle to the clearing, to watch the helicopter land. He covers his eyes from the dust, crying. Mac runs up to the chopper, carrying the canister. The dust still flying, Chan cries as he sees the chopper fly away again. However, MacGyver is still there, and Chan suddenly sees this.

Chan: **MacGyver!**

He runs to the other side of the clearing, to Mac. They hug.

Mac (VO): (hugging Chan) **Easy, big guy. I wasn’t goin’ anywhere.**

The slaves are still gathered together.

Ming: (addressing everyone) **I was a hunter, I have been a farmer. Now I’m a slave.**

Headman: (to Ming) **You are alive.**

Ming: (turns to Headman) **At Narai’s whim.**

Lin: **Ming is right. Narai controls our lives, and everything else.**

Headman: **This is a useless conversation. We have no means to fight, and your great hope MacGyver has gone.**

Chan: (from a distance, walking with Mac) **Grandfather, Lin! MacGyver is back!**

They all turn. MacGyver stands there next to Chan, smiling. Then they walk up to the gathering together.³ Mac and Chan stop in front of them, Mac with his hands in his pockets.

Mac: **I’ve finished the job I was sent here to do—What’ve you all decided? You gonna keep peelin’ poppies, or ‘re we gonna give this fashion-plate Narai a run for his money?**

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The people look at each other and talk among themselves. Ming looks at the people and then at Lin, who nods slightly. Then he turns to Mac.

Ming: **Teach me to be a soldier MacGyver.**

Headman: (yelling) **You are fools! All of you! You will suffer! Narai will kill you!**

Headman walks off angrily.

Mac: **Listen folks, I don’t think we have much more than a few hours before ol’ Truang spreads the good news.**

Ming: **You said we cannot learn to shoot in time. How do we fight?**

Mac: (shrugs a little) **Oh, I’ve got a couple ideas.** (smiles)

Ming: **A little higher.**

They are pulling on a rope, which in turn lifts a large log connected to it (hanging from the branches above).

Ming: **That’s good.**

Headman: **That is to be seen.**

Mac runs up (his jacket has been taken off, and he just wears the brown tank top), ducking a little underneath the raised log.

Mac: (to the people holding the rope) **Excellent.**

A woman runs up and shows him a handful of things—a small mirror, a life jacket (?).

Mac: (taking it from her) **Yes yes yes, here.** (turns mirror, making it reflect) **Take this up to the ridge. Signal us as soon as you see the convoy.** (hands it back)

The helicopter then can be seen and heard flying. The people flee for cover.

Man: **It is Narai!**

Mac, carrying the life jacket the woman gave him, squats down next to Ming, watching the helicopter.

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Mac: **He’s just checkin’ us out. Headin’ north.**

Ming: **Yes, heading north to process his opium.**

Mac: **We’ll let’s hope they keep him busy for awhile. Truang should reach that convoy in a bit.**

Mac lightly pats Ming on the back, and they both get up and walk off.

Chan is spooning ashes into a bowl.

Mac VO: **Now this is how you cut the bandits down to size—teamwork.**

Chan walks over and then sets the bowl down next to four women who are cutting holes into lengths of bamboo.

Mac VO: **The women and children are cookin’ up a bamboo buffet—**

They cut the holes by placing an upright stick with a pointed end in the place where a hole is needed in the bamboo, wrapping string around the stick, and pulling the string back and forth, causing the stick to turn and cut a hole into the bamboo.

Mac VO: **—A giant wooden flute filled with fire ash and rice alcohol.** (The women spoon the mixture into leaf funnels and, through those, into the holes they have made.) **Guaranteed to bring tears to the eyes.**

The men, meanwhile, are carrying a large, curved log. They set it down in the road, while Mac comes to inspect their work. (He now wears a red bandanna around his head.)

Mac: **How’s it goin’?**

Grandfather: **Fine, except for the guns. I set traps like this when I was a boy.**

Mac: (smiles and pats him on the back) **That’s why you’re in charge.**

Grandfather: **Ah, you have given Ming a chance to become a man.** (They turn to see Ming handing rifles to three men, and rope to one. He says “do it like this.”) (VO) **I can see the change in him, from a slave to a leader.**

Ming takes the end of the rope the one man holds, and wraps it around the gun he’s holding. He hands the gun to him.

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Ming: (to man) **OK? Go now.**

The three walk off. Ming watches them go, nodding slightly and smiling proudly.

Three other men (one of them Headman) are digging a huge square pit, probably about 6 feet in depth and 6 feet in length and width. They shovel the dirt into baskets, which are hoisted up with ropes by the people above (including Lin). Mac runs over to inspect it, standing next to Lin.

Lin: **Is it deep enough?**

Mac: (looking at it) **That is perfect.** (breathing hard from running)

Lin: **Perfect—but, they can see it though.**

Mac: (looks at Lin, hands on hips, smiles) **That’s what makes it perfect.**

Lin looks like she still doesn’t understand. Mac runs off again.

Several people are carrying the “bamboo buffet” carefully, and they set it down in a shallow trench in the ground, so that it can’t be seen well. As they do this, all the men, including Mac, walk up. The villagers are all together now.

Ming: (smiling) **A good morning’s work. My...people did a good job.**

As he says this, Headman walks past him, a little mad. Then, a ways from them, in a tree on the jungle’s edge, they see a flash.

Ming: (pointing) **The signal.**

Mac: (looking at it too) **Alright, I don’t think we got more ‘an an hour before Truang and his goons get here.**

Lin: (nervous) **What should we do now?**

Both Grandfather and Mac nod towards Ming, indicating that it’s his decision.

Ming: (pauses, then smiling:) **Get some food. First we eat, then we fight.**

Grandfather nods and smiles in agreement, and they all scatter.

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The bad guys, with Truang in the lead, are riding in their jeeps with mounted guns.

The convoy continues down the road.

Mac is standing on a high, steep ridge with his hands on his hips, looking down at the road below. Truang’s jeep turns a corner and reaches the spot on the road just below Mac.

Mac: (shouts) **Hey!** (Truang and the rest stop their jeeps.) **Uh, it seems only fair to warn ya that these folks don’t want you guys back here.** (Truang stands up in his jeep.) **So if ya just wanna turn around and go back to wherever ya came from, uh, these folks won’t hold a grudge!** (Truang draws his gun; Mac has his hands in his pockets.) **But I gotta warn ya if, uh, ya keep on comin’, you’re liable to have a battle on your hands. So whaddya say?**

Truang aims and fires his gun up at Mac twice. Mac jumps out of the way saying “whoa!” and falling to the ground. He sits up, shaking a prickly weed or something from his hand.

Mac: **Those guys’re just spoilin’ for a fight.**

He brushes a weed out of his face, then gets up and walks off.

Truang: (motions with gun) **Let’s move!**

The jeeps start forward on the road again. There’s at least four of them.

Ming is sneaking through the vegetation, listening for the jeeps to come. When they approach, he stands right in front of them and throws a rock at the windshield. Then Ming takes off, and, the men yelling to each other, the jeep takes off after him, shooting at him. Ming runs a ways ahead of them, looking back occasionally.

Chan and another kid are sitting up in a tree, holding bags in their hands.

Mac VO: **Herpetologists will tell ya everyone has an inner fear of snakes.**

The jeep drives underneath the tree.

Kid: **Now!**

They dump the bags of snakes onto the driver’s and passenger’s laps, and they yell.

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Mac: **Even true for herpetologists.**

As the snakes crawl over the men, they continue to yell and drive their jeep out of the road. The villagers run out and attack the two men, and Mac and Chan jump in the jeep. Mac starts it and is about to put his hand on the shifter, but a snake is coiled up on it.

Mac: **Yow!**

He picks up the snake with distaste.

Chan: **Are you afraid of snake, MacGyver?**

Mac: **No...** (He throws it out, and Chan laughs) **I just don’t like bein’ around ‘em.**

He shifts the jeep and backs up.

The bad guys’ other jeeps continue on the road. Truang puts his hand up to indicate them to stop, and they do.

Mac: **Now you take your psychologists, they’ll tell ya when someone thinks they have ya all figured out,** (Truang stands up in the jeep to look at branches strewn across the road in front of them.) **that’s when they’re the most vulnerable.** (Truang smiles, sitting back down, and points right, indicating them to go on the right fork in the road.) **When it comes to Truang, he doesn’t know an asp from a hole in the ground.**

They continue a little in the left fork of the road and suddenly fall into the pit. They are talking angrily in their own language. Mac drives up in his jeep. (Chan isn’t in it now.) Truang sits up from where he fell, looking a little dazed.

Mac: **C’mon Truang, it can only get worse.** (Truang stands up, looking angrily at Mac.) **Why don’t we call it a day?**

Mac drives off down the road.

Truang: (loudly) **He’s only trying to bait us. We go to the village first! Then MacGyver.**

The jeeps are going down the road again, but in the way ahead is the curved log. On the side of the road, behind the vegetation, is Mac and Grandfather, watching. Subtly attached to the log is a rope that leads up to a gun hanging in

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a tree. In front of the log, Truang lifts his hand again to indicate a halt. Mac and Grandfather duck down. Truang stands up in the jeep.

Truang: **Hurry, dismount, move that tree out of the way!**

The men get out to do it.

Mac VO: **And of course the archaeologist tells us the wheel is man’s greatest invention.** (There are at least three guns attached to trees. A closer look at them shows that the rope is around their triggers.) **I thought we’d blow the air out of that legend.**

The men run up and start lifting the log, talking amongst themselves. As they move it from its position, the rope goes taut and tightens around the triggers. All the guns start firing simultaneously, some hitting the tires of the jeeps. All the men run behind the jeeps for cover, passing out guns among themselves and taking firing positions. Truang, his pistol in hand, looks around, then gets out of the jeep, putting his pistol back in its holster. He looks at a tire of one jeep, and kicks it angrily.

Truang: (steaming) **What are you waiting for? Pick up your weapon! Move out!**

He gets in his jeep (the only one that didn’t get its tires blown out), and some of the men go back to pick up the log from the road. Once it’s out of the way, Truang’s jeep moves forward, and the rest of the men walk behind it, guns at the ready.

When they’ve passed by, Mac comes out of his hiding a little and looks after them. He takes a small flute-type thing and blows two notes in it, twice. Ming hears this signal and has his hand ready on a rope. Once the jeep is near enough, Ming pulls on the rope, and a huge log comes swinging across (part of the scene is in slow motion), and they jump out of way, out of their jeep (yelling “ahhh!”). As the log is still swinging back and forth, the men get up again, their guns aimed.

Truang: (into giant radio) **General!**

Meanwhile Mac drives into the village (very fast). Ming indicates to Chan and another kid to run from the hut they’re in. Once he has parked, Mac quickly gets out of the jeep, Chan runs up, and Mac hits Chan lightly as he takes Mac’s place in the driver’s seat. Mac runs into the hut with Ming and shuts the door. The other kid is duct-taping a hose to the tailpipe of the jeep (and the hose is connected to the “bamboo buffet”). Lin and two other villagers pull back the curtains of their hut and peer out, then replace them again. Truang

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and his men are slowly making their way into the village, their guns poised. Chan is waiting in the jeep.

Mac VO: **Gentlemen, you’re in time for the buffet. Our short-order cook just turned on the gas.**

Chan hits the accelerator, and smoke (basically tear gas) comes out of the “bamboo buffet.” It completely surrounds Truang and his men, who are in chaos. Mac runs out of a nearby hut with his bandanna around his mouth, followed by Ming and others. Mac yanks a gun from one confused man and the villagers attack the others. Truang slowly walks away from the gas, coughing. He suddenly spots Ming and comes to his senses a little. Ming hesitates. Truang goes back for his gun, while Ming grabs a stick. Ming hits the gun from Truang’s hand. Other villagers are about to go help Ming, but Mac holds them back. Ming proceeds to hit Truang until he is lying on the ground in pain, defeated. The villagers raise their fists and yell in triumph. Mac takes off his bandanna, waving his hand to say “not bad” to Ming, and smiling. Ming takes off his bandanna, smiling and nodding back to Mac. Now the villagers are herding the defeated men away.

Suddenly Mac hears the sound of a chopper, and then it appears above the trees. Ming and Chan were walking out toward Mac, but Mac quickly pushes them back toward cover. He then takes cover for himself behind a parked jeep, just as the helicopter flies overhead, shooting bullets at both sides of him. Some of the villagers scream.

Mac gets up, watching it with concern, but then he gets an idea. He runs over to where the tarp is covering several boxes, and throws the tarp aside. (A villager peeks out from his curtained window.) Kneeling in the middle of all the boxes and looking around in them, Mac finally spots a coil of cord. As the helicopter makes its way over the village once more, Mac runs behind the jeep again, just as a shower of bullets barely misses him. Mac ducks down until it passes. He then puts the cord into the winch in the back of the jeep, cranking the winch handle until the cord is secure in it. The helicopter flies to the middle of the village and hovers there for a few seconds (General Narai, flying it, looks around for Mac.).

Mac, fighting against the generated wind, runs over to the helicopter, jumps onto the boxes, and jumps to grab onto one of the skids of the chopper. He clings onto it with one hand, his legs swinging, as with the other hand he wraps the cord around the skid. General Narai can’t find him. Once done, Mac hangs down with both hands, trying to find a good place to jump down. Finally he does, and runs over to the winch on the jeep, cranking the cord in. Narai starts having trouble with his controls. As Mac continues to crank it, the helicopter is poised in mid-air, unable to move anywhere.

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General Narai gets desperate and finally just lands the helicopter. He stops it, gets his gun out, and steps out. Mac, pulling the cord out of his way, runs over to punch/kick Narai. Narai turns around and goes into an angry kung fu stance (saying “aah”). Mac goes into a ready stance as well, and Narai tries to land some punches, but Mac avoids them. Mac then punches Narai on the chest, then on the head, and Narai goes down. Mac stands there, ready. Narai gets up, taking out a thin sword from the sheath on his leg. He angrily aims it at MacGyver and lunges for him. Mac backs off, and Narai falls to the ground (in slow motion). The sword goes through Narai as he does so. Mac stands there and looks down at him. Chan runs up next to him. Mac takes the gun from Narai’s body, and Chan looks up at him. Then Chan hugs MacGyver’s waist, and Mac puts his arm around him. Ming comes up too, to inspect the body, and the other villagers follow. Ming looks up at Mac and smiles, in a profound way.

Ming: **Now we are free.**

Mac: (looks at him seriously) **Yeah.**

The helicopter rotor is still turning, and more villagers walk out into the open.

Launch into End Credits.

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Notes and Nitpicks:

Starting at this episode, the opening credits are the same for the rest of season one.

Key Luke as Prasert also plays in “Murderers’ Sky” where he appears as Adam Chen, the company’s president.

¹It is possible that Chan’s voice was dubbed over the child actor’s voice throughout the whole episode.

²In this scene, there is a particular shot, of a girl in a pink-trimmed outfit picking up a package and a guy coming right after her and setting another one down. This same exact shot is used again after Chan gives Mac his SAK.

³When the guard comes to check on MacGyver tied on the rack, Mac has his belt on. However, at that moment his belt is supposed to be holding up the bad guy he had taken out earlier. When he takes out the guard and gets up off the rack, he has no belt and goes to take it from the unconscious bad guy.

Credit for some of these notes goes to either MacGyverOnline, Mika’s MacGyver site, Wikipedia, TV.com, or Nitpickers.com. Others I observed on my own.

Homework:

What was MacGyver really getting into? Find out about Burma and its continuing struggle here, <http://www.uscampaignforburma.org/aboutburma/inbrief.html>, and take their Photo Voyage. Also, find out about the real Golden Triangle here, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Triangle_%28Southeast_Asia%29. Don’t hesitate to find out more interesting things about such topics, using www.goodsearch.com.

Check out my own site, www.rdaetcetera.bravehost.com, for many links concerning MacGyver and Richard Dean Anderson.