
JUST DON'T CALL ROD TAYLOR "RODNEY"

His first name is Rodney, but don't call him anything but "Rod" Taylor if you want him to like you. While Rodney is his official appellation, and a good sound name in Australia where he hails from, Taylor finds it formal and a bit fancy, two qualities he can do without.

"I went by my complete name when I first arrived in Hollywood," he says, "but shortened it after a couple of years. Now it annoys me a little when people ask me what my *real* name is. I guess 'Rod' sounds like something I picked out of The Guaranteed Guidebook of Names That Lead to Hollywood Success."

Not only his name but everything else about Taylor is genuine. He insists on doing his own stuntwork and during filming of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's comedy, "The Glass Bottom Boat," in which he stars with Doris Day, he took repeated dunkings in chilly waters rather than have director Frank Tashlin employ a substitute.

Whether performing for the cameras or for real, Taylor is a man who can take care of himself—and sometimes of others. His close friend, Fed Hakim, can tell you about the time that Rod saved his life when they were hunting in the wild interior of Catalina Island while on location for "The Glass Bottom Boat."

Hakim had wandered into the brush to get a better look at some wild goats. Suddenly Taylor heard a cry and spotted a boar (that proved to weigh

255 pounds) bearing down on Hakim. He wheeled around to their jeep, grabbed a 30-06 Winchester rifle, and from 200 yards away drilled a bullet into the wild animal's backbone. It fell just a few feet from Hakim.

Taylor is not only talented at drawing a bead, he's also good at drawing people and scenery. In his youth he planned to become an artist and was well along the road before switching to acting. Between scenes of "The

Glass Bottom Boat" he drew "instant sketches" of Doris Day, Arthur Godfrey, who makes his screen debut in the comedy, John McGiver, Paul Lynde and other members of the cast.

"One thing about being an artist," he grins, "is that I've done almost all the oil paintings that hang in my house. My wife calls me 'the resident artist.'"

How does he sign his pictures?

"Just 'Rod,'" he says. "It's brief and unadorned."



SPACE-AGE ROMANCE . . .
Doris Day, as a public relations girl in a space laboratory, falls in love with her boss, Rod Taylor, in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Glass Bottom Boat." Arthur Godfrey, in his screen debut, co-stars in the gay romantic comedy, filmed in Panavision and Metrocolor.

V. I. P. TREATMENT

No pedalling around from one sound stage to another on bicycles for Doris Day and Rod Taylor when they co-starred at MGM for the romantic comedy, "The Glass Bottom Boat."

The two popular stars were given the ultra-deluxe dressing room treatment, reserved in the old days for such glamorous Hollywood personalities as Marion Davies, Gloria Swanson and John Gilbert.

Miss Day and Taylor were allotted special "houses-on-wheels" in which they were able to travel between stages or to the studio's back lot with all the comforts of home.
