

ALOHA

KONO

HAWAII FIVE-0



ZULU

Kono in "Hawaii Five-0"

Zulu was born Gilbert F. L. Kauhi in Rainbow Falls, Hilo, on the "Big Island" of Hawaii. When the family moved to Honolulu, he attended Kamehameha Schools, reserved for those of true Hawaiian blood. Zulu, three-quarters Hawaiian, one-quarter English (by way of a grandfather from Ypsilanti, Michigan), grew up loving water sports; he became a beach boy, giving surfing lessons and outrigger canoe rides at Waikiki Beach for a living.

Zulu and his buddies would compose and sing Hawaiian songs for their own amusement. He learned to play the guitar and ukulele and became the "clown" of the group. He formed a small musical group of four called "The Polynesians" which performed at tea-house parties. He also worked in construction. At 17 he joined the U.S. Coast Guard and served for four years in Atlantic and Pacific ports. Zulu later formed a "Polynesian Revue" and toured Japan. He has appeared in many movies made in Hawaii, including "Rampage," "Hawaii," "Gidget," "Day of Infamy" and "Diamond Head," as well as Japanese and Italian movies filmed in Hawaii.

Later Zulu became one of Hawaii's most popular disc jockeys. He was associated with KHVH, the ABC Radio Network affiliate station in Honolulu. He was also a popular nightclub performer and stand-up comic, having worked for several seasons with Don Ho. His musical group, "Zulu and the Sons of Hawaii," performed Hawaiian music. Zulu sings in five languages. In 1966, Zoulou joined Don Ho at KHVH, then a Hawaiian music radio station. Two years later, he recalls: "I went to a casting 'cattle call'. They gave me the part of Kono and I was on the pilot and then on the show for the first five years."

When not at home on the Big Island, Zoulou (the preferred spelling of his name) played the international convention circuit and occasionally appeared in films — but not as a heavy. "No drug dealers, no pimps. Playing a cop gives you a good-guy image, so the fans are always friendly. I enjoy meeting them and sharing their aloha." He appeared in many television series such as "Magnum, P.I.," "Charlie's Angels," "Midnight Special" and "The Glen Campbell Show." Zoulou has always thoroughly enjoyed helping young children and various charities in Hawaii.

In October 1994, Zoulou had a sobering brush with death. He'd not been feeling well and on a hunch, he went to have his blood pressure checked at the local fire station. It proved to save his life. He was instantly placed in the hospital and spent several weeks in intensive care but finally rallied and got the skyrocketing blood pressure under control. He has spent time since working to show how important such checks can be and how invaluable the fire department service is, especially in the rural areas of Hawaii. "You better bet I was going to thank them," he said emotionally.

The health problems have led to Zoulou slowing down his many entertainment activities and he currently lives quietly on the big island of Hawai'i with his cousin, "helping him plant taro and awa root." However, he plans to move back to Waikiki soon — to return to the beach.

Zoulou is looking forward to meeting the Five-O fans in both Los Angeles and Honolulu during the upcoming reunions.

CAPSULE CLOSE-UP:

Born:	Oct. 17, 1937 at Rainbow Falls, Hilo, Hawaii
Education:	Kamehameha Schools
Height, coloring:	5'11", black hair, brown eyes
Hobbies:	Surfing, motorcycle racing, foreign languages and cultures, sail boat, outrigger canoe and power boat racing, Hawaiian "throw net" fishing, ethnic cooking, fashion design, sky diving, traveling; a true museum buff.
Home:	The Big Island of Hawaii
Private life:	Divorced