R5670 Riptide (USA, 1/3/1984-8/22/1986) [TV SERIES]

Series summary: Adventure/mystery series set in contemporary Southern California. Follows the exploits of struggling private investigators Nick Ryder (Penny) and Cody Allen (King), two Vietnam veteran Army M.P. buddies who open the Pier 56 Detective Agency. They recruit a third Army buddy, bumbling electronics genius Murray Bozinsky (Bray), for support.

Boz busters (2/5/85)

Credits: director, Bob Bralver; writers, Babs Greyhosky, Tom Blomquist.
Cast: Joe Penny, Perry King, Thom Bray.
Summary: One of two story lines is set in the past and details how Nick and Cody first met Boz. They were detailed to escort then Captain Bozinsky to prison after he had been court-martialed for striking a superior officer. Feeling sorry for the inadequate Captain, they take a side trip to New Orleans and arrange for his first ‘experience’ with a woman. Realizing Bozinsky would never survive prison, they seek a favor from a General who owes them. His investigation finds that the Colonel whom Bozinsky struck was in fact stealing his research and set aside Bozinsky’s conviction.

Long distance daddy (3/27/84)

Credits: director, Bruce Kessler; writer, Babs Greyhosky.
Cast: Joe Penny, Perry King, Thom Bray.
Summary: Story concerning American arms smugglers in Cambodia and Nick’s Cambodian foster children.

Prisoner of war (1/15/85)

Credits: director, Michael O’Herlihy; writer, Babs Greyhosky.
Cast: Joe Penny, Perry King, Thom Bray, Nancy Stafford.
Summary: Nick is dating a nurse, Peggy Burke (Stafford), who served in Vietnam and is suffering delayed stress as a result of her experiences there. He arranges for therapy sessions at a VA hospital and a visit from the grateful father of a soldier she cared for during the war.

Heilbronn, Lisa M. “Coming home a hero: The changing image of the Vietnam vet on prime time television” [GB]
Knight, Bob (Bok). “Riptide” Variety 313 (Jan 4, 1984), p. 46.
Muse, Eben J. The land of Nam: the Vietnam war in American film [GB] (p. 139)

c2005 J.K.M. Enterprises