

From: Reviews and Criticism of Vietnam War Theatrical and Television Dramas
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compiled by John K. McAskill, La Salle University (mcaskill@lasalle.edu)

A3910 AIR AMERICA (USA, 10/1/1998-5/1/1999) [TV SERIES]

Credits: (pilot) director: Dimitri Logothetis ; writer, Philip DeGuere.

Cast: (pilot) Lorenzo Lamas, Frank Bennett Perry, Scott Plank, Diana Barton, John Beck.

Summary: Action/adventure series set in a contemporary fictional Central American country of Costa Perdita loosely based on the 1990 Mel Gibson/Robert Downey Jr. motion picture. Rio Arnett (Lamas), a Navy pilot assigned to work undercover, and his buddy Wiley Ferrell (Plank) run an air cargo service that serves as a cover for CIA operations. Rio's father Frank (Perry) is a Vietnam veteran and former diplomat who runs an anti-drug trafficking organization in Buenaventura, the Costa Perdita capital. The series lasted just a year and only 22 of its 26 filmed episodes were aired. The episode "Old gold" (1/23/99) also features Al Craven (Beck) a Vietnam veteran buddy of Frank who is supposedly hunting for a legendary treasure, but turns out to have ulterior motives.

Bawden, Jim. "The Lamas method of acting: Lorenzo wants to be an action hero, not a heartthrob like dad Fernando" Toronto star (Jun 14, 1998), p. B6.

Brownfield, Paul. "First-run syndicated series are flexing their muscles; Television: The demand for product is high, and action shows provide a bonus: They're strong in foreign markets" Los Angeles times (Oct 24, 1998), Calendar, p. 2.

Friedman, Wayne. "Microsoft, Pearson in flight with 'Air' promo" Hollywood reporter (Oct 22, 1998), p. ?

Garron, Barry. "Air America" Hollywood reporter (Oct 2, 1998), p. ?

Green, Nick. "Ventura county roundup; West County/Venture; television show shoot takes city by storm" Los Angeles times [Ventura County ed.] (Sep 24, 1998), p. 3.