

'DR. WHO: SCIENCE FICTION HERO'

Science fiction from the British Broadcasting Corporation? Yes, the same BBC that turns out dramatic blockbusters also is capable of producing cliffhanging science fiction serials, as viewers will find out beginning Tuesday at 7:30PM on KCET, Channel 28. KCET will carry 13 different adventures (a total of 72 episodes) of the invincible, eccentric "Dr. Who," a Time Lord who defends Earth against all kinds of



incredible menaces. Starring Jon Pertwee as the hero who combats lizard-like Silurians, Ice Warriors, Sea Devils and other monsters, the series is one of the longest running in BBC history.

Though no youngster, Dr. Who sports a flaring red silk cape and bounces in and out of the Time-Space Continuum in a machine called Tardis. For his earth-bound adventures, he switches to a more conventional helicopter and anachronistically motors about in an Edwardian Roadster called "Bessie," which has some James Bondish-type special equipment.

In the opening seven-part adventure, "The Silurians," strange events take place at a secret atomic research center located in a natural complex of caves in the north of England. Important work there is hindered by mysterious incidents and power losses, and staff members suffer nervous breakdowns. A technician is killed while working in the unoccupied caves and claw scratches are left on the body—the mark of some kind of monster.

Summoned to investigate, Dr. Who finds that the caves harbor not only prehistoric monsters but intelligent alien life. The power generated by the center has resurrected the Silurians, intelligent reptiles who evolved millions of years before man. When the Silurians emerge to find their planet taken over by a civilization descended from the despised apes, they become determined to win back control of Earth.

"The Silurians" is produced by Barry Letts, written by Malcom Hulke and directed by Tim Combe. "Dr. Who" is distributed by Time-Life Films.