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RUTHLESS COMMANDANT'S RULE ENDED

IN _____ "ZORRO" EPISODE

The ruthless rule of the pueblo of Los Angeles by the military commandant is abruptly ended in Walt Disney's _____ episode of "Zorro," "The Fall of Monastario."

Closer to the truth than he knows, Capitan Monastario (BRITT LOMOND) accuses and jails Don Diego de la Vega (GUY WILLIAMS) as the feared masked avenger, Zorro. A chance visit by the king's Viceroy (JOHN DEHNER) prompts the commandant to release all prisoners but Diego to dispute the emissary's understanding of widespread crime and corruption in the village.

At a banquet honoring the Viceroy, Monastario surprises everyone by producing the masked man, Zorro -- in the person of Don Diego. This surprise, however, turns into bewilderment as another black-clad Zorro appears on the scene at a crucial moment, then departs. It is Diego's masquerading servant, Bernardo (GENE SHELDON), coming to the rescue just in time.

Thus discredited, Monastario and his chief henchman, Licenciado Pina (THAN WYENN), are placed under arrest.

In featured roles are Gene Sheldon as Bernardo and Henry Calvin as Sergeant Garcia. Also to be seen is Lisa Gaye as Constancia, the Viceroy's daughter. "The Fall of Monastario" was directed by Norman Foster from John Meredyth Lucas' teleplay.