



# DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #29 NBC #197 RELEASE DATE: SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1953

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES  
WRITER: JOHN ROBINSON AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH  
MUSIC: WALTER SCHUMANN COMMERCIAL-SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSON  
SCRIPT: JEAN MILES  
SOUND: BUD TOLLEFSON & WAYNE KENWORTHY TECHNICAL ADVISORS:  
ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY SGT. MARTY WYNN: L.A.P.D.  
ANNCR: #1 GEORGE FENNEMAN SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L.A.P.D.  
ANNCR: #2 HAL GIBNEY, NBC CAPT. JOHN DONOHUE: L.A.P.D.  
CASE: "THE BIG INFORMANT"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1953

CAST AND SOUND: 11:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

EDITING: T.B.A.

SCORING: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1953

ORCHESTRA: 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

ANNCRS: 12:00 (4 shows) (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. - STUDIO J-BY T.R.

*Agency  
Cut & Taped*

"THE BIG INFORMANT"

C A S T

SGT. JOE FRIDAY . . . . . JACK WEBB  
OFF. FRANK SMITH . . . . . BEN ALEXANDER  
OTTO BRONSON . . . . .  
JERRY (DBL). . . . .  
CHARLES GLEASON . . . . .  
MARK ANDERSON . . . . .

- 1 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"  
2 GIBNEY: Sound off for Chesterfield.  
3 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"....DRUM ROLL  
4 GIBNEY: Chesterfield, first cigarette with premium quality  
5 throughout in both regular and king size....  
6 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL CONTINUES  
7 GIBNEY: .....brings you Dragnet  
8 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE  
9 FENN: EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, ~~the~~ story you are about  
10 to hear is true. The names have been changed to  
11 protect the innocent.  
12 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR  
13 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned  
14 to Burglary detail. For the past two months a gang  
15 of safe burglars have been operating in your city. In  
16 that time they've hit a dozen places. You've got no  
17 lead to their identity. You're job...get 'em.  
18 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO  
MARCH 22, 1953

(REVISED: 3/19/53)

FIRST COMMERCIAL:

1 FENN: Here's a report never before made about a cigarette.  
2 Smoked day after day by a group of people smoking from  
3 ten to forty cigarettes a day for a full year - here's  
4 Chesterfield's record... A medical specialist giving this  
5 group thorough examinations every two months for a full  
6 year...reports no adverse effects to their nose, throat  
7 and sinuses from smoking Chesterfields. Don't you want to  
8 try a cigarette with a record like that? You'll find  
9 Chesterfields best for you. They're much milder with an  
10 extraordinarily good taste - and for your pocketbook,  
11 Chesterfield is America's best cigagrette buy.

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1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For  
3 the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the  
4 Los Angeles Police Department, you will travel step  
5 by step on the side of the law through an actual  
6 case transcribed from official files. From beginning  
7 to end...from crime to punishment, Dragnet is the  
8 story of your police force in action.

1/00

9 MUSIC: UP TO SEMI BUTTON AND FADE ON SUSTAINED CHORD.

10 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS IN CORRIDOR. SLIGHT ECHO.

11 JOE: It was Tuesday, August 10th. It was warm in Los  
12 Angeles. We were working the day watch out of  
13 Burglary Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss  
14 is Captain Wisdon. My name's Friday. We were on the  
15 way back from lunch and it was 1:17 P.M. when we  
16 got to room 45...

17 SOUND: (DOOR OPEN) .....Burglary.....

18 SOUND: B.G. CHANGE TO SQUADROOM....DOOR CLOSE.

19 FRANK: You got any stomach pills Joe?

2/30

20 JOE: No, You got trouble again?

21 FRANK: Yeah. Always do when we have lunch at Sols'. It's  
22 that cheese cake Joe. Happens every time.

23 JOE: Maybe if you'd stick to just one piece.

1 FRANK: Way Rosie makes it you can't stop there. That Sol  
2 could make a fortune if he'd realize it.  
3 JOE: What 'dya mean?  
4 FRANK: Well, you know how in some places they have a little  
5 bowl of mints by the cash register.?  
6 JOE: Yeah?  
7 FRANK: If Sol'd put in a bowl of stomach pills he could clean  
8 up.  
9 JOE: Yeah.  
10 FRANK: Anything in the book?  
11 JOE: I'll take a look.  
12 SOUND: JOE WALKS OVER AND LOOKS AT THE BOOK  
13 FRANK: (OFF) How 'bout it? 2/100  
14 JOE: Call here from Ernie.  
15 FRANK: (OFF) Our informant?  
16 JOE: Yeah. Say's he want to see us this afternoon.  
17 FRANK: Say what it's about?  
18 JOE: No. Just says to meet him in the coffee place on 7th  
19 FRANK: Sure hope he can come up with somethin'. We could use  
20 it.  
21 SOUND: JOE WALKS BACK TO FRANK.  
22 JOE: Yeah. Been takin' a lot on this one.  
23 FRANK: Way the papers talk, you'd think we were in with the  
24 thieves.

1 JOE: From where they sit it probably looks that way. We  
2 sure haven't been able to stop them  
3 FRANK: You hear anything more on the last run from the Staats  
4 office?  
5 JOE: Yeah. Nothin. They've run the M.O. over and over.  
6 Nothin' we can't make it, I saw the skipper this  
7 mornin'. He's sore, too.  
8 FRANK: Figures. They're leanin' on him, too. 2/30  
9 JOE: There's gotta be a break somewhere along the line.  
10 Their luck can't hold out forever.  
11 FRANK: Maybe they don't know that.  
12 JOE: You check the F.I. cards from last night?  
13 FRANK: They're doin' it now. They might come up with  
14 somethin'. How 'bout Rubles and Towald? You heard  
15 from them yet?  
16 JOE: No. They're runnin' down the report from the liquor  
17 store owner. Doesn't look like it's goin' anywhere.  
18 SOUND: PHONE RING.  
19 FRANK: I'll get it.  
20 SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO PHONE AND PICKS IT UP.

1 FRANK: Burglary, Smith. Oh yeah...did you find anything?  
2 Uh huh. Yeah. Where was that....Yeah. Uh huh. How *4/00*  
3 do you spell the last ~~name~~? S-O-N? Right. Okay thanks.

4 SOUND: -- FRANK HANGS UP PHONE AND MOVES BACK TO JOE.

5 FRANK: Might have something.

6 JOE: Yeah?

7 FRANK: Officer made a field interrogation report on an Otto  
8 Bronson last night. Time was listed as 10:46 P.M.  
9 4th and Central.

10 JOE: Yeah, that's close.

11 FRANK: The last Burglary was at 7th and Central at  
12 approximatley 11:00 P.M.

13 JOE: How's this Bronson fit in?

14 FRANK: They checked him out. He's got a ~~burglary~~ record.

15 END: SCENE 1

*Joe: yeah?  
Frank: Burglary. 4/19*



1 JOE: 1:35 P.M. Frank and I checked the name Otto Bronson  
2 through R. and I. We found that he had an arrest  
3 record dating back 10 ~~years~~. He'd been picked up  
4 three times on suspicion of violation of section 459  
5 P.C. He'd been convicted once and had served time at  
6 San Quentin. He'd been released four months before  
7 He served his full term and was not on parole. We got  
8 his last known address from his ex-convict registration  
9 and drove out to see him. The address listed was a  
10 rooming house on Alexandria Street. We talked to the  
11 Landlady but she could tell us nothing about Bronson.  
12 She said that he'd moved in about four months before  
13 and in that time she'd seen very little of him. He  
14 didn't eat at the house but took his meals outside.  
15 She was unable to tell us what time Bronson had come  
16 home the night before. He was registered in room 2B.  
17 Frank and I went up and knocked on the door.

18 SOUND: DOOR OPEN

19 OTTO: Yeah?

20 FRANK: You Otto Bronson?

21 OTTO: Yeah. What about it?

22 JOE: Police officers. Like to talk to you.

23 OTTO: Okay. Go ahead.

24 JOE: Might be better if we talked inside.

25 OTTO: Maybe I don't want any cops in my place.

26 FRANK: We can talk downtown.

27 BEAT

4/30

5/00

1 OTTO: Come on in.

2 SOUND: THE OFFICERS MOVE INTO THE ROOM AND OTTO CLOSES THE DOOR.

3 OTTO: Now, what's this all about?

4 JOE: Wonder if you could tell us where you were last night?

5 OTTO: Why?

6 FRANK: We'd like to know.

7 OTTO: Let's see....I went downtown....had dinner....~~met~~ some  
8 friends, and had a few drinks and then came home.

9 JOE: What time'd you get home?

10 OTTO: Maybe about 8. Around in there.

11 FRANK: We got <sup>word that</sup> ~~information~~ says you were seen downtown at 10:46.

12 How 'bout ~~that~~?

13 OTTO: Maybe my watch stopped.

14 JOE: Were you downtown then?

15 OTTO: You guys know all the answers. You tell me.

16 (BEAT)

17 JOE: C'mon, mister. Get your hat.

18 OTTO: Why?

19 JOE: Let's go downtown and talk.

20 OTTO: All right, so I was <sup>there</sup> ~~downtown~~ then. What's that prove?

21 FRANK: Why'd you lie about it?

5/30

1 OTTO: I didn't lie. I told you...my watch stopped.  
2 JOE: Yeah. According to the F.I. report you were stopped  
3 on the corner of 4th and Central. That right?  
4 OTTO: I dunno. I guess so. Why?  
5 FRANK: What were you doing there?  
6 OTTO: I was on my way home. 6/100  
7 JOE: From where?  
8 OTTO: Like I told you, I had a couple drinks with some  
9 friends of mine, and then I came right home.  
10 FRANK: Where'd you meet these friends of yours?  
11 OTTO: Bar down on Central.  
12 JOE: Which bar?  
13 OTTO: I don't know the address. I can show it to you if  
14 you gotta know.  
15 FRANK: Who were the friends?  
16 OTTO: Look, I don't like <sup>any</sup> ~~and~~ this, ~~around~~. You guys comin'  
17 in here and askin' all these questions. What's all  
18 this about?  
19 JOE: A liquor store safe was burgarized near 7th and  
20 Central last night. You look good for the job.  
21 OTTO: Boy, it's sure true.  
22 FRANK: What's that?

1 OTTO: Old sayin' up at the joint. Do a little time and you'll  
2 have every cop in the world on your back at one time  
3 or another.

4 JOE: How long you lived here Bronson?

5 OTTO: Couple of months.

6 FRANK: This the closet over here?

7 SOUND: FRANK STARTS TO MOVE TO CLOSET.

8 OTTO: You stay away from there. Isn't anything in there  
9 that matters to you.

10 JOE: Than you shouldn't mind if we take a look,

11 OTTO: You keep your hands offa my stuff.

12 SOUND: FRANK OPENS CLOSET DOOR OFF.

13 JOE: If you haven't done anything, then you got nothin'  
14 to worry about have you Bronson?

15 OTTO: It isn't what I've done...it's what you guys are  
16 gonna say I did.

17 SOUND: WE HEAR FRANK FADE BACK ON

18 FRANK: How 'bout this Bronson?

19 SOUND: FRANK PUTS SMALL SUITCASE ON TABLE.

20 OTTO: That's mine. You got no right.

21 JOE: See what's in it Frank.

22 SOUND: FRANK UNSNAPS CATCH ON SUITCASE. OPENS IT. WE HEAR  
23 HIM MOVE A COUPLE OF IRON BARS ETC.

6/30

1 JOE: How 'bout it Bronson?  
2 OTTO: I never saw those before in my life. It's a frame  
3 you guys are tryin' to tie to me. It won't work cop.  
4 You know it won't. 1/50  
5 FRANK: How do you explain these tools?  
6 OTTO: I don't have to. They belong to a friend. He asked  
7 me to take care of 'em.  
8 JOE: How 'bout this Bronson?  
9 FRANK: Can't see Joe, what is it? 107  
10 JOE: Cutting torch...looks like it's been used lately.  
11 END SCENE 2  
12 JOE: 2:15 P.M. We searched the suspect's room. We found  
13 nothing further that would tie him in with the  
14 burglaries. We talked to the other people in the  
15 boarding house but they couldn't give us any further  
16 information. They were unable to tell us if Bronson  
17 had any friends and the landlady told us that he  
18 hadn't gotten any mail since he'd been there. We  
19 called the office and arranged for a stakeout on the 7/30  
20 boarding house and then we took the suspect downtown  
21 to the city hall. We talked to him for an hour. 4:30  
22 P.M.  
23 FRANK: That's where you stand on this thing Bronson. Now  
24 you make up your own mind. You want to take the  
25 beef by yourself or you gonna tell us where you got  
26 the tools?

1 OTTO: I been tellin' you that I don't know anything about  
2 the tools, I got 'em from a friend. He asked me to  
3 keep the suitcase for him. As a favor. Asked me to  
4 keep 'em for him. That's all I know.

5 JOE: What's the friends name?

6 OTTO: Like I told you.....a fella named Shorty.

7 FRANK: What's his last name?

8 OTTO: I don't know. If I knew I'd tell you. I got no  
9 reason to hold back on it. I didn't have nothin' to  
10 do with the jobs?

11 JOE: Otto, we were talking to you about one burglary- what  
12 do you mean ~~jobs~~? 8/00

13 OTTO: Way you guys talk I figured there was more than one.

14 JOE: You know what we're talking' about.

15 OTTO: I don't, I'm tellin' you the truth, I don't.

16 FRANK: When'd you last see this Shorty?

17 OTTO: When he gave me the suitcase.

18 JOE: When was that?

19 OTTO: Week....maybe ten days ago.

20 JOE: Where'd you see him?

21 OTTO: In a bar down on 7th.

1 FRANK: And he just gave you this suitcase...asked you to take  
2 care of it for him. That what you expect us to believe?  
3 OTTO: It's the truth.  
4 JOE: Hard to buy.  
5 OTTO: I can't help that. That's the way it happened.  
6 FRANK: Well, your friend sure left you in a good fix didn't  
7 he?  
8 OTTO: What d'ya mean?  
9 FRANK: Looks like you're gonna have to go this route by  
10 yourself. 8/30  
11 OTTO: How do you figure that?  
12 FRANK: You got the tools. You got a record. You were in  
13 the vicinity just before the safe was burned. You  
14 look real good for it.  
15 OTTO: I ain't gonna take it alone.  
16 JOE: You haven't got much choice about it.  
17 OTTO: What happens if I help you get the rest of 'em.  
18 JOE: It'll be marked down that way.  
19 OTTO: That all you can do?  
20 JOE: That's it.  
21 OTTO: Not much if I help you break the gang.  
22 JOE: It's all we can do.  
23 OTTO: One thing you gotta understand.  
24 FRANK: What's that?

1 OTTO: I had nothin' to do with the jobs myself. I just  
2 heard a few rumbles. You gotta know that I wasn't in  
3 on it.

4 JOE: What have you heard?

5 OTTO: There's three guys. They're from the east. Been  
6 workin out here about 6 weeks. Real heavy fellas.

7 JOE: Who are they? 9/50

8 OTTO: I don't know 'em. Only one I ever saw was Shorty  
9 and I'm not sure he's in on it.

10 FRANK: You know where we can pick 'em up?

11 OTTO: No. Like I said, I just heard a few rumbles.

12 JOE: How 'bout this Shorty...he got a record?

13 OTTO: I dunno. Might have.

14 JOE: He ever say anything about doin' time?

15 OTTO: No, not so I could hear.

16 FRANK: How long you known him?

17 OTTO: 'bout three months. I met him right after I got out  
18 of "Q".

19 JOE: Where'd you meet him?

20 OTTO: Bar downtown. We got to talkin' one night. After  
21 that I'd see him around there. I never got to know  
22 him real well.

23 FRANK: ~~Only~~ <sup>Just</sup> well enough for him to give you a suitcase <sup>full</sup> of  
24 burglar tools. to keep for him.



9/30

1 OTTO: Yeah that's right.  
2 JOE: And you didn't know what was in the case?  
3 OTTO: No. I didn't look. Didn't figure it was any of my  
4 business.  
5 JOE: That's real ~~hard~~<sup>easy</sup> to buy.  
6 OTTO: I can't help it...that's the way it is.  
7 FRANK: What do you know about how the gang works?  
8 OTTO: Not much. Rumble is that they case a place for a  
9 couple of days..... figure out when's the best  
10 time to hit it. Then they walk in and burn into the  
11 safe.  
12 JOE: They use a car?  
13 OTTO: I dunno. Guess they do.  
14 FRANK: This Shorty have a car?  
15 OTTO: I dunno. Never saw him with one. Never mentioned it.  
16 JOE: He ever mention where he lived?  
17 OTTO: No...not to me. I figure it's over on the east side.  
18 FRANK: How do you figure that?  
19 OTTO: Way he talked. Nothin' definite, ~~what~~. Just the idea.  
20 JOE: You look at some Muggs and ~~tell~~ us if you see this  
21 Shorty?  
22 OTTO: Sure. I'd like to see you get him. Leavin' me to stand  
23 for a thing like this by myself.  
24 JOE: Anything else you can tell us about the gang?

1 OTTO: No....that's about it.  
2 FRANK: Okay. Let's look at the muggs.  
3 OTTO: How 'bout it? I still have to go to jail.  
4 JOE: You still haven't convinced us you're clean.  
5 OTTO: I told you everythin I know.  
6 FRANK: Yeah.....let's go.  
7 OTTO: Wait a minute, I'd go nuts in a cell.  
8 JOE: Should have thought of that before.  
9 OTTO: I can give you guys a lotta help if I'm on the outside.  
10 FRANK: You haven't given us much here.  
11 OTTO: Yeah? Well, maybe I can.  
12 JOE: Go ahead.  
13 OTTO: I can tell you when they're gonna pull the next job.  
14 END SCENE 3

10/30

1 JOE: We continued to talk to Otto Bronson. He told us that he'd  
2 heard that the gang was planning to rob the safe of a large  
3 chain grocery store in the southern part of the city. He gave  
4 us the date and the time that the operation was expected to  
5 take place. He was unable to give us the exact details of  
6 how the burglary would be committed. The suspect couldn't  
7 tell us whether a car would be used or how the store would be  
8 approached. He was unable to give us a description of the  
9 other two men in the operation, but he did give us a <sup>1100</sup>  
10 description of "Shorty". We ran ~~the~~ name through the moniker  
11 file in R. and I. We got back 285 possibles, and had the mugg  
12 shots on the suspects pulled. These were shown to Bronson,  
13 but he failed to make an identification. We showed him our  
14 mugg files on known burglary suspects, but he again failed to  
15 come up with an identification. The burglary tools were  
16 booked as evidence, then Frank and I talked with Captain  
17 Wisdon, and it was agreed that it might be better to release  
18 Bronson and have him followed. 8:31 P.M. The suspect was  
19 released and placed under constant surveillance. The date  
20 Bronson had given us for the next burglary was the following <sup>1130</sup>  
21 ~~Saturday~~, August 14th. Frank and I made arrangements to place  
22 a stakeout on the store. We checked the store and found that  
23 there were two entrances. One off a parking lot to one side of  
24 the building, and one on the street. We took up our position  
25 so that both doors could be seen. The area was placed under a  
26 Code 5 call so that the stakeout would not be burned. Frank  
27 and I waited. 10:00 P.M....11:00 No sign of the burglars.  
28 Midnight came and went. At 5:30 A.M., the stakeout was called  
29 off, and Frank got to a phone. <sup>12100</sup>  
30 SOUND: EARLY MORNING STREET B.G.

1 FRANK: (IN PHONE BOOTH) Yeah...uh huh. When was that? Yeah?

2 Okay...we'll be right in.

3 SOUND: PHONE HANG UP

4 ~~FRANK:~~ <sup>JOE:</sup> Anything?

5 FRANK: Yeah. They lost the tail on Bronson.

6 END SCENE 4

7 JOE: At approximately 10:30 Saturday night, Otto Bronson had  
8 gone into a Theatre on South Spring. The officer  
9 following had entered, but had lost the suspect in the  
10 darkness. The next morning, Sunday, August 15, we got a  
11 report that Bronson had turned up at his rooming house  
12 at 7:45 A.M. I got a call from the business office with  
13 this information, and at 8:20, I picked up Frank, and we  
14 drove over to see Bronson.

15 SOUND: DOOR KNOCK

16 (BEAT)

17 OTTO: (OFF) Who's there?

18 JOE: Joe Friday, Bronson.

19 OTTO: (OFF) Oh....just a minute.

20 (BEAT)

12 SOUND: WE HEAR THE DOOR UNLOCKED AND THEN OPENED.

1 OTTO: Hi. c'mon in. You guys are up early this morning. How'd  
2 it turn out last night?

3 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO ROOM AND CLOSE DOOR.

4 JOE: What're you trying to pull Bronson?

5 OTTO: What d'ya mean?

6 FRANK: You know what we're talking about. Nothin' happened last  
7 night.

8 OTTO: You mean they didn't break into the place?

9 FRANK: That's it.

10 OTTO: I can't understand it. From what I heard they had it  
11 all cased.

12 JOE: Where were you last night?

13 OTTO: You figure I had somethin' to do with it huh?

14 JOE: We just ask where you were?

15 OTTO: What's the matter, the tail you had on me get lost?

16 FRANK: We're waitin' for an answer Bronson.

17 OTTO: I went to a movie and then came on home.

18 JOE: You came right home after the picture?

19 OTTO: Yeah. Right home.

20 JOE: How come it took you so long?

21 OTTO: What's that mean?

22 JOE: You didn't get home until this morning.

23 OTTO: You guys are thorough, aren't you?

13/07

1 FRANK: Where were you?  
2 OTTO: Alright, I stopped and saw a friend. We got to drinkin'  
3 and forgot all about the time. That make me a pigeon  
4 for you?  
5 JOE: C'mon Bronson, let's go downtown.  
6 OTTO: What for, I haven't done anything.  
7 JOE: You gave us wrong information about last night.  
8 OTTO: That's not my fault. I'm not running with the guys. I  
9 told you what I heard. It's not my beef that it didn't  
10 work out. From what I knew that was the way it was  
11 gonna be.  
12 JOE: Yeah...let's go.  
13 OTTO: Now just a minute. We can work this out.  
14 FRANK: I'm afraid not.  
15 OTTO: I leveled with you guys. I'm not givin' you a snow job.  
16 That's the way it is. You got nothin' on me. If you had  
17 you wouldn't have let me go before. And now that I think  
18 about it, I don't like the idea of a tail on me. What're  
19 you guys gonna prove with that. Way you act, no wonder  
20 you get no cooperation from anybody. No wonder.  
21 JOE: Yeah. you've make your point... Now let's go *downtown*.  
22 SOUND: DOOR KNOCK.  
23 OTTO: (UP) Yeah...who is it?

14/100

- 1 JERRY: (OFF, THROUGH DOOR) Mr. Bronson? It's me, Kelly.
- 2 SOUND: OTTO MOVES TO THE DOOR
- 3 OTTO: (AS HE MOVES) The landlord.
- 4 SOUND: DOOR OPENS.
- 5 OTTO: (AT DOOR) Yeah, what is it?
- 6 JERRY: There a Mister Friday here?
- 7 JOE: Yeah, I'm Friday.
- 8 JERRY: Phone call for you. You can get it here in the hall.
- 9 JOE: Thanks.
- 10 SOUND: JOE AND JERRY MOVE OUT INTO HALL AND TAKE A COUPLE OF
- 11 STEPS.
- 12 JERRY: You can get it here. 11/20
- 13 JOE: ~~Yeah...~~ Thanks. *you.*
- 14 SOUND: JOE MOVES TO WALL PHONE AND PICKS UP RECEIVER.
- 15 JOE: INTO PHONE) Friday. Yeah...Uh huh. When <sup>it happens</sup> ~~d...~~ Right. We'll
- 16 be right there. Thanks.
- 17 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP PHONE AND WALKS BACK INTO ROOM.
- 18 JOE: Business office. We gotta leave.
- 19 FRANK: Yeah?
- 20 JOE: You called it Bronson, They worked last night alright.
- 21 OTTO: See, I told you.
- 22 JOE: Yeah, We staked out in South L.A.

DRAGNET RADIO  
MARCH 22, 1953

(REVISED: 3/19/53)

15/110

SECOND COMMERCIAL:

1 FENN: Chesterfield is best for you. ...Chesterfield regular -  
2 or Chesterfield king-size...which contains tobaccos of  
3 better quality and higher price than any other king-size  
4 cigarette. And always remember this...Chesterfield  
5 is first to give you premium quality in both regular and  
6 king-size...just as Chesterfield has been first to name  
7 its ingredients...the ingredients that make the best  
8 possible smoke. Enjoy your smoking. Change to Chesterfield  
9 ...much milder with an extraordinarily good taste. The  
10 best for you.

15/45



1 OTTO: ~~So?~~

2 JOE: ~~They hit in West L.A.~~

(END SCENE 5) *Commercial Insert*

3 JOE: 9:15 A.M. Frank and I contacted the West Los Angeles  
4 detectives and drove out to the scene of the latest *16/0*  
5 burglary. It was a large chain grocery store. The safe  
6 had been burned into and it was the same M.O. that had  
7 been used in the other burglaries. All contents of the  
8 safe worth anything had been removed. The crews from the  
9 crime lab and latent prints had already finished their  
10 investigation and had gone back to go over their findings.  
11 Frank and I talked to the manager of the store, a Mr.  
12 Charles Gleason.

13 CHARLES: *let me see, Sergeant*  
First I knew about it was when they called me to say that  
14 the safe had been robbed.

15 JOE: You know how much was taken sir?

16 CHAR: I'd just be guessing, with the officers working around *16/1*  
17 here I didn't get a chance to check it yet, but I'd say  
18 about 5 to 6 thousand dollars. Weekend and all we'd done  
19 a pretty good business and I didn't get the chance to get  
20 to the bank. Had all that money in the safe. I'll have to  
21 check the books to tell you exactly how much they took  
22 but like I said, it was probably about 5-6 thousands.

23 FRANK: Do you have a burglar alarm system in the store Mr.  
24 Gleason?

25 CHAR: Yes. Can't understand why it didn't work. The officers  
26 who were here from your crime lab? Is that it? *17/0*

1 JOE: Yes sir.

2 CHAR: They said that evidently it had been turned off somehow.  
3 Don't understand it. But that's what they said.

4 JOE: Wonder if you could give us a list of your employees?

5 CHAR: Well, yes but you don't think that any of them had  
6 anything to do with this do you?

7 JOE: They've all got to be checked out sir. *Can you give me the list?*

8 CHAR: Oh. Well, I guess that's so. But I'm sure that none of  
9 them were involved.

10 FRANK: Have you noticed anyone hanging around the store sir.  
11 Anyone that might have looked suspicious? *That you can remember?*

12 CHAR: That'd be awfully hard to say. We do a lot of business *17/3*  
13 and with all the people who come in and out, it'd be  
14 kinda hard to say.

15 JOE: Yes sir. But was there anyone who attracted your  
16 attention? *Someone unusual? Somebody loitering around the store?*

17 CHAR: No. Not that I can think of.

18 FRANK: Was there anything that was taken from the safe that  
19 might give us a lead. Anything that wouldn't ordinarily  
20 be in there. Something that you could identify easily?

21 CHAR: No... I don't think so. Just the money. Course there were  
22 several ~~checks~~. Y'know ...ones that we cashed for *18/00*  
23 customers. They might have totaled 5 hundred dollars. I  
24 can give you a list of them. We have them photographed  
25 if you want copies of 'em.

26 JOE: Alright sir. That'd help.

1 CHAR: Say there was one more thing, .  
2 JOE: What was that sir?  
3 CHAR: Well, you know how people lose things.  
4 FRANK: Yes sir.  
5 CHAR: Couple of days ago, we found a watch. Looked expensive.  
6 Found it in the back of the store. That was in the safe.  
7 SOUND: HE STEPS TO SAFE..  
8 CHARLES: Everything's gone. Musta taken that too. Isn't there now.  
9 JOE: Can you give us a description of the watch? *18/30*  
10 CHAR: Yes. I noticed it because..well to be honest, I was kinda  
11 hoping that nobody would claim it. Keep things like that  
12 around for a couple of days then turn 'em into you. Like  
13 to have had it myself. A *Certina* Hamilton. Gold case with a white face.  
14 Only had a few numbers. Y'know...some of the numbers were  
15 just little gold spots.  
16 FRANK: ~~Yes sir.~~ I know the kind you mean.  
17 CHAR: Had a gold band. One that was kind of a chain thing. Not  
18 an expansion band. *19/00*  
19 JOE: ~~Would~~ you know the watch if you saw it again?  
20 CHAR: Sure. Looked at it enough. And then there was the scratch  
21 on the crystal?  
22 JOE: Sir?  
23 CHAR: Right over the number two, there was a scratch. *I can show you on your watch*  
24 went off at an angle. Real easy to spot.

1 JOE: Yes sir. Is there anything else you can think of that  
2 would help us? 20/10  
3 CHAR: No, not that I can figure.  
4 FRANK: Well, if you remember anything sir, here's our card.  
5 Appreciate a call.  
6 CHAR: (LOOKING AT CARD) Frank Smith... just ask for you huh?  
7 FRANK: Yes sir. If we're not there, just leave a message and  
8 and we'll get in touch with you.  
9 CHAR: Alright,..I'll do that.  
10 JOE: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Gleason.  
11 CHAR: You bet. Sure hope you catch the fellas that're doin this  
12 JOE: Yes sir, so do we.  
13 CHAR: Guess you've been after them for quite a while now huh?  
14 JOE: Yes sir, we have.  
15 CHAR: From what the papers say, this makes number thirteen for  
16 'em It's bad number....13. Kinda unlucky.  
17 JOE: No worse than number 1.

(END SCENE 6) 20/37

1 JOE: Frank and I went back to the city hall and completed the  
2 crime report. We contacted the crime lab and latent prints  
3 and found that they had been able to come up with no  
4 physical evidence at the scene. From the M. O. it could  
5 be definitely established that they were the same <sup>suspects</sup> ones we  
6 were after. We obtained a list of the employees of the  
7 store and checked them out. We came up with no new leads.  
8 A list of the checks that had been taken from the safe <sup>2/100</sup>  
9 were given to forgery detail. Frank and I went to Otto  
10 Bronson's rooming house and brought him down to the city  
11 hall for questioning.

12 OTTO: Y'know, maybe if you guys would spend a little more time  
13 doing your job and less time botherin' me you'd end up  
14 catching those fellas.

15 FRANK: Don't worry about it Bronson. We'll get 'em. We'd like to  
16 go over what you did last night again.

17 OTTO: I told you once.

18 JOE: Tell us again.

19 OTTO: Like I said. I had dinner around 8...maybe 8:30.

20 FRANK: Where'd you eat?

21 OTTO: Place over on Spring.

22 JOE: You see anybody you knew? <sup>2/130</sup>

23 OTTO: No. I don't think I did.

1 FRANK: Where'd you go then?  
2 OTTO: Went to a movie. Place on 7th.  
3 FRANK: You see anybody you knew there?  
4 OTTO: No.  
5 JOE: Then you'd have a tough time provin' where you were.  
6 OTTO: Not all the way. You had a tail on me. Most of this you  
7 know.  
8 JOE: What'd you do after you left the movie?  
9 OTTO: Went over to see a friend.  
10 FRANK: Where's he live?  
11 OTTO: Hotel on 5th.  
12 JOE: What's his name?  
13 OTTO: I don't want him dragged into this.  
14 FRANK: If he's clean, he's got nothin' to worry about.  
15 OTTO: Yeah..but you guys go over and talk to him. Lotta  
16 embarrasment for him. I don't want it.  
17 JOE: Okay...let's go.  
18 OTTO: You gonna book me?  
19 JOE: That's it.  
20 OTTO: I told you what bein' in a cell does to me.  
21 FRANK: You shoulda thought about that before.

22/00

1 OTTO: Alright, I'll tell you who he is.  
(BEAT)

2 JOE: Go ahead.

3 OTTO: Name's Anderson. Mark Anderson.

4 FRANK: He ever fallen?

5 OTTO: No, he's clean.

6 JOE: You sure about that?

7 OTTO: Yeah. Suppose you want to talk to him huh?

8 FRANK: Yeah. We'll get to it.

9 OTTO: You still gonna book me?

10 JOE: Haven't <sup>any</sup> ~~get much~~ choice.

11 OTTO: I told you what I know. I told you everything. I can't  
12 help it if I was wrong. It's no crime to make a mistake is  
13 it? I never read about no law that says you can't make a  
14 mistake. - 2/30

15 JOE: Why don't you tell us the truth about what you know about  
16 these burglaries?

17 OTTO: I told you...I told you.

18 JOE: What you told us we can't buy.

1 OTTO: That's tough. But that's the way it is. I told you what  
2 I know. There isn't any more. You check with Mark Anderson.  
3 He'll tell you I was with him all night. He'll tell you.  
4 I don't want no trouble with you guys. He'll tell you.

5 ~~No trouble.~~ *He'll tell you.*  
6 JOE: Well, you've got it if he doesn't.

23/100

END SCENE 7

7 JOE: 6:40 P.M. We booked Otto Bronson at the main jail on  
8 suspicion of burglary. Before he was put in his cell, we  
9 got the address of Mark Anderson. After we'd finished with  
10 the booking, Frank and I drove over to the hotel on 5th  
11 street. Anderson was registered in Room 812. The desk  
12 clerk told us that Anderson was in his room. He was unable  
13 to tell us much about Anderson because, he explained he'd  
14 only worked at the hotel for a week and hadn't seen much  
15 of Anderson. We went upstairs and knocked at the door.

16 SOUND: DOOR OPEN

17 MARK: Yeah?

18 JOE: You Mark Anderson?

19 MARK: That's right. Who're you?

20 JOE: Police officers. Here's our I.D. Like to talk to you.

21 MARK: Sure. C'mon in.

22 JOE: (AS THEY MOVE INTO ROOM) This is my partner Frank Smith.

23/30



1 MARK AND FRANK EXCHANGE GREETINGS

2 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE.

3 MARK: What is it you want to see me about?

4 JOE: You know a fella named Bronson...Otto Bronson?

5 MARK: Yeah, sure. I know Otto.

6 FRANK: When'd you see him last?

7 MARK: What's this all about anyway. Otto done somethin'?

8 JOE: Just a routine investigation Mr. Anderson. When was the  
9 last time you saw Bronson?

10 MARK: Routine huh?

11 JOE: Yes sir.

12 MARK: Saw him last night.

13 FRANK: Where'd you see him?

14 MARK: Here. He came up and we saw around and killed a bottle..  
15 talked it up.

16 JOE: Uh huh. What time'd he leave here?

17 MARK: Musta been about 7:30 this morning. Something like that.

18 FRANK: Alright sir. Thank you very much.

19 MARK: Sure. Glad to help out whenever I can. Otto isn't in any  
20 trouble is he?

21 JOE: Like we said sir, this is just routine.

1 MARK: Uh huh. Well, anything more I can do to help out let me  
2 know.  
3 JOE: Yes sir.  
4 MARK: You leavin' right away?  
5 JOE: Yes sir...we'll be gettin' back to the office.  
6 MARK: I'll get my coat and walk down with you. I gotta date in..  
7 (LOOKS AT WATCH) fifteen minutes. Gonna have to romp on it  
8 or I'll be late.  
9 JOE: That's a nice watch you got there.  
10 MARK: Yeah. New.  
11 JOE: Wonder if I look at it?  
12 MARK: Just a watch. If you don't mind, I'd like to get goin'.  
13 JOE: I'd like to see that watch.  
14 BEAT  
14 MARK: Sure. No reason you can't. Here.  
15 JOE: (LOOKS AT WATCH) You say this was new?  
16 MARK: Yeah. Just got it a couple of ~~days~~ ago. 24/30  
17 JOE: Uh huh. You notice this scratch on the crystal here?  
18 MARK: No...(LOOKS AT WATCH) say..I never saw that before. Guess  
19 I'll have to take it back and get another one.  
20 FRANK: You buy it?  
21 MARK: Yeah.

1 JOE: Where?  
2 MARK: Jewelers down the street.  
3 JOE: You get a receipt for it?  
4 MARK: No. No I didn't. I know the guy. Didn't figure I'd  
5 need one.  
6 JOE: Wonder if we could take a look through your room?  
7 MARK: Why? What're you lookin' for?  
8 JOE: Just like to take a look.  
9 MARK: You got a search warrant?  
10 JOE: No...but we can get one if we have to.  
11 MARK: Then you better go get one. I'm not having no cops looking  
12 through my stuff.  
13 JOE: Frank? 25/00  
14 FRANK: Yeah.  
15 SOUND: FRANK WALKS OVER TO CLOSET.  
16 MARK: I told you to get a warrant. You got no right to look in  
17 there.  
18 JOE: Something in the closet you don't figure we should see?  
19 MARK: No it's not that.  
20 JOE: Then there's no problem is there?  
21 SOUND: FRANK OPENS CLOSET DOOR OFF.  
22 (PAUSE)  
23 FRANK: Couple of suitcases, Joe?

- 1 JOE: Let's take a look huh?
- 2 SOUND: FRANK BRINGS THE CASES BACK AND PUTS THEM ON THE BED.
- 3 FRANK: (AS HE LIFTS CASE) This one's kinda heavy. Feels like  
4 there's some sort of tools in it.
- 5 SOUND: HE PUTS IT DOWN ON BED AND STARTS TO OPEN LATCH. FINDS  
6 IT'S LOCKED.
- 7 FRANK: You got the key for this Anderson? -5/30
- 8 MARK: There's nothin' in there for you.
- 9 JOE: We'll figure that.
- 10 FRANK: Looks like this one is open Joe.
- 11 SOUND: FRANK UNSNAPS CASE.
- BEAT
- 12 JOE: How 'bout this Anderson. This money and these checks.
- BEAT
- 13 FRANK: Watch it Joe.
- 14 SOUND: MARK SWINGS AT JOE. QUICK FIGHT. THEN STOP.
- 15 JOE: Alright, Anderson..on your feet.
- 16 FRANK: I'll shake him down Joe.
- 17 SOUND: FRANK MOVES IN SHAKES MARK DOWN.
- 18 FRANK: He's clean.
- 19 SOUND: FRANK SNAPS CUFFS ON MARK.
- 20 JOE: C'mon Anderson. Let's go. 26/03

1 MARK: Otto told you didn't he. Lousy little sneak. He told you.  
2 Never did trust him. I kept tellin' Shorty. I kept tellin'  
3 him that we shouldn't trust him.  
4 FRANK: Who's Shorty?  
5 MARK: Shorty Miller.  
6 JOE: Wanna tell us where we can find him?  
7 MARK: Sure. I got nothin' to lose. Lousy little Otto.  
8 JOE: Just the three of you in on the jobs?  
9 MARK: Yeah...that's all. Otto, Shorty and me. Just the three.  
10 Him and his big ideas. How he had it all fixed up when  
11 you tagged him. How he was gonna get us in the clear.  
12 Don't worry he said. He'd take care of everything. Lousy  
13 liar. He'd fix it for us. That's real funny. 26/30  
14 JOE: Shouldn't be. 26/30  
15 MARK: What?  
16 JOE: He fixed it. 26/30  
17 MUSIC: SIGNATURE  
18 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard was true. The  
19 names were changed to protect the innocent.

1 GIBNEY: On December 14th trial was held in department 87, Superior  
2 Court of the State of California, in and for the County of  
3 Los Angeles. In a moment, the results of that trial.

DRAGNET - RADIO  
3-22-53

2-7/01

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

1 FENNEMAN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.  
2 WEBB: I've been pleased to see how many of you king-size  
33 smokers have been changing to Chesterfield. It's  
4 just as I've been telling you ... King-Size  
5 Chesterfields contain tobaccos of better quality than  
6 any other king-size cigarette. Either way you like  
7 'em .... regular or king-size ... Chesterfields have  
8 a better taste and they're really milder.

2-7/18

1 GIBNEY: Otto N. Bronson, Mark A. Anderson and Samuel R. Miller  
2 were tried and found guilty of 9 counts of burglary with  
3 explosives. They received sentence as prescribed by law.  
4 Burglary in the first degree is punishable by  
5 imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for a period of  
6 not less than 10 nor more than 40 years.



1 MUSIC: THEME

2 THEME: UNDER

8/100

3 GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet - a series of authentic cases  
4 from official files. Technical advice comes from the office  
5 of Chief of Police, W. H. Parker, Los Angeles Police  
6 Department. Technical advisors: Captain Jack Donohoe,  
7 Sgt. Marty Wynn, Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heard tonight were  
8 Ben Alexander

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9

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10

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11 Script by John Robinson. Music by Walter Schumann.

12 q Hal Gibney speaking.

13 MUSIC: THEME UNDER.....(CONTINUES:)

14 FENN: For a million laughs, tune in Chesterfields Martin and  
15 Lewis show Tuesday on this same N.B.C. station, and sound  
16 off for Chesterfields. Either regular or king size, you  
17 will find premium quality Chesterfields much milder.  
18 Chesterfield is best for you.

19 GIBNEY: Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed from  
20 Los Angeles.

28/44

DRAGNET RADIO  
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 1953

ALLOCATION : 29

28/47

1 FENNEMAN: Ladies and gentlemen.....in the fight against an old  
2 enemy - polio - medical research has armed us with a  
3 powerful new weapon - GAMMA GLÖBULIN. Used soon enough,  
4 it can prevent the paralyzing effects of polio. But  
5 first, YOU must furnish the raw material - blood. Doctors  
6 urgently need your donation of blood to make gamma  
7 glöbulin. So call the Red Cross. Please don't put it off  
8 - it's too important. Call the Red Cross tomorrow, and  
9 make an appointment to give blood.

29/17