1 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"
2 GIBNEY: Sound off for Chesterfield.
3 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"... DRUM ROLL
4 GIBNEY: Chesterfield is best for you. First cigarette with
5 premium quality in both regular and king size.
6 Chesterfield brings you Dragnet.
7 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE
8 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect
9 the innocent.
10 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
11 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective Sergeant. You're assigned
12 to Auto Theft detail. You get a call from a truck
13 rental service. One of their trucks has disappeared.
14 There's no sign of the man who rented it. Your job...
15 find him.
16 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
FIRST COMMERCIAL

GIBNEY: (ECHO) Years ahead of them all.
FENN: Chesterfield is years ahead of them all.
GIBNEY: The quality contrast between Chesterfield and other leading brands is a revealing story.
FENN: Recent chemical analyses give an index of Good Quality for the country's six leading cigarette brands. The Index of Good Quality Table -- which is a ratio of high sugar to low nicotine -- shows Chesterfield quality highest.
GIBNEY: (FILTER) Chesterfield quality highest.
FENN: Fifteen percent higher than its nearest competitor.
GIBNEY: (FILTER) Chesterfield quality highest.
FENN: Thirty-one percent higher than the average of the five other leading brands.
GIBNEY: Yes, Chesterfield is first with PREMIUM QUALITY in both regular and king-size.
FENN: Don't you want to try a cigarette with a record like this? Chesterfield!
MUSIC: THEME

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

MUSIC: UP TO SEMI BUTTON AND FADE ON SUSTAINED CHORD

SOUND: JOE'S STEPS WALKING DOWN CORRIDOR, SLIGHT ECHO AND CORRIDOR B.G.

JOE: It was Monday, April 20. It was warm in Los Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Auto Theft Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Nelson. My name's Friday. I was on my way into the office and it was 8:02 A.M. when I got to Room 40 ...... (SOUND: DOOR OPEN AND B.G. CHANGE) ... Auto Theft.

SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO SQUADROOM AND CLOSES DOOR BEHIND HIM.

TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND STOPS

JOE: Hi, Frank.

FRANK: Hi.

JOE: Where'd you get the sunburn?

FRANK: Went fishin' yesterday.

JOE: Where'd you go?

FRANK: Down Newport.

JOE: How'd ..you do?
FRANK: Didn't.

JOE: What'dya mean?

FRANK: I didn't.

JOE: Huh?

FRANK: Yesterday's the first day off we been able to collect in a month.

JOE: Yeah...I know.

FRANK: Last Thursday I checked with the Skipper. He said it looked like I'd be able to make it sure this week-end. So I called the place and made reservations. All set. Gonna go fishin'.

JOE: Yeah.

FRANK: Saturday night I got all my tackle out. Took my reel apart...cleaned it up...all ready. Fay packed a lunch...I'm all set. Got up at 4:45 in the morning. Drove down to Newport. Beautiful morning. Little wind...sun's shining. I'm really looking forward to it. Gonna be a real day off y'know?

JOE: Uh huh.

FRANK: Got down there...got on the boat. Not many people...maybe 15 or so.

JOE: Not many for a Sunday.

FRANK: No...I see I think I got it made. Doesn't look like we're gonna have to use the clothespins.

JOE: What?

FRANK: Clothespins...we're not gonna have to use 'em.

JOE: You don't huh?

FRANK: No.

JOE: What're the clothespins?
1. FRANK: Oh yeah...you don't go for deep sea fishin' do you?
2. JOE: No...not much.
3. FRANK: Well, y'see when it get's crowded...they give you these clothespins. They gotta number on 'em and each one's a different color. When we start fishin'...they call out a color and the guys holdin' those, are the ones that get to fish from the back of the boat. Sort of rotation, y'see?
4. JOE: Yeah.
5. FRANK: Well; yesterday...it didn't look like we were gonna need the clothespins. Everything's great. Gotta place right at the back of the boat. Then we shoved off. I went down to have some breakfast. Y'know...load up to pull all the fish in.
7. FRANK: Got through with eatin' and I went up on deck. Where do you suppose we were?
8. JOE: I dunno.
9. FRANK: Take a guess.
10. JOE: Wouldn't have the least idea. Where were you?
11. FRANK: Right back at the dock.
12. JOE: Huh?
1. FRANK: Yes sir...right back at the dock. We'd gone out to
   the ocean and the water was too rough so we turned
   right around and came back. All while I was down
   havin' breakfast. Didn't even see the ocean.
2. JOE: Yeah well, that's too bad.
3. FRANK: So I just picked up my tackle and went over and fished
   from a pier. Just sat there all day. Ate my lunch
   and fished. All day.
4. JOE: How'd you do there?
5. FRANK: All day. Gettin' a blister on my lip from the sun.
6. JOE: Yeah...well, did you catch anything? How'd you do?
7. BEAT
8. FRANK: Skunked.
9. JOE: What?
10. FRANK: Skunked. Nothin'.
11. JOE: You mean you didn't catch anything at all?
12. FRANK: Couple of little perch.
13. JOE: Uh huh.
14. FRANK: Skunked.
15. JOE: Yeah...you check the book?
16. FRANK: My day off...Skunked.
17. SOUND PHONE RING. JOE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS TO THE PHONE
18. AND PUNCHES THE BUTTON AND PICKS UP PHONE.
1. JOE: (INTO PHONE) Auto Theft...Friday. Yeah. Uh huh. When'd it go out? Yeah....What's the address again?....Uh huh...Okay...we'll be right there. Yeah. 4/30

2. "SOUND PHONE HANG UP. JOE MOVES BACK TO FRANK."

3. JOE: Get your hat.

4. FRANK: Huh?

5. JOE: Truck rental company out on Pico...guy came in Saturday and rented a two ton from 'em.

6. FRANK: Yeah.

7. JOE: Guy said he'd be back in a couple of hours.

8. FRANK: Uh huh.

9. JOE: Haven't seen him since. 4/30

10. "END SCENE 1"
8:24 A.M. We drove out to the address of the Coventry U Drive Truck Service. The lot was on the corner of Pico Boulevard and Cambridge Street. Along the front of the place were several panel and pickup trucks and in the back of the yard was one large stake truck. The office was in a small wooden building at the rear of the lot. We went in and talked to the manager, a Mr. Steven Cole.

Yeah...I just called the insurance company. They said they'd send a man right out.

Have you been able to contact the man who rented the truck?

No...I haven't been able to get in touch with him. I called his place but they say he isn't in. Landlady told me that she hasn't seen him since yesterday.

You have the rental slip?

Yeah...it's here on the desk. I'll get it for you.

I tried to check him this morning when the truck wasn't back. From what the landlady said, she saw him come home with the truck Saturday and then he shoved off right away. She says she hasn't seen him since.

What's the man's name, Mr. Cole?

Name he used when he rented the truck was George Summers.
FRANK: He have any identification?

STEVE: Yeah...had a driver's license. I got the number here on the slip.

SOUND: HE FINDS THE SLIP AND WALKS BACK ON MIKE.

STEVE: Here it is. California license...gotta have one to rent a truck. (READS) Signed his name...George R. Summers. Number on the license was...W414626.

FRANK: What kind of a truck was it?


FRANK: What color was it?

STEVE: Blue. Light blue. Had the name "Coventry" painted on the side. Name's in a cream color.

JOE: What kind of a truck is it?

STEVE: Two ton stake.

JOE: Is it possible that this Summers is just keeping it out longer than he said he would?

STEVE: Possible but it isn't likely. He said when he came in that he wanted to haul a load of furniture. Said he'd just need it a couple of hours. That was Saturday morning. We haven't heard a word from him since. I got Red out lookin' for it now.

JOE: Red?
1 STEVE: Yeah... he works for me. When a truck is late getting
2 back, we usually call first and then send one of our men
3 out to check on it. Red drove over to see Summer. He left
4 about an hour ago. Haven't heard from him yet.
5 FRANK: Do you ask for a deposit on the trucks?
6 STEVE: Yeah.... we do. Some of the places don't but we get one.
7 20 bucks.
8 JOE: This Summers pay cash?
9 STEVE: No... gave me a check. Haven't had a chance to deposit
10 it yet. I'll call the bank later.
11 JOE: Can you give us a description of the man?
12 STEVE: Not very good. I was out in the yard when he came in. I
13 didn't handle the deal myself. I got a look at him but
14 not good.
15 FRANK: Would you know him again if you saw him?
16 STEVE: Gee... that'd be hard to say. I couldn't be sure. Girl would
17 though. She wrote out the papers.
18 JOE: Could we talk to her?
19 STEVE: Yeah... she'll be in at nine. You can talk to her then.
20 FRANK: You got his address there? I'll see if I can check the
21 name.
22 STEVE: Yeah.
23 SOUND: HE LOOKS AT THE SLIP
STEVE: Here it is... 2462 New Jersey Street.
FRANK: Okay. You give us any kind of a description on him?
STEVE: I told you I didn't get a good look at him. Small fella. Blond. Maybe 25 or 26 around in there. That's about the best I can do.

SOUND: PHONE RING
STEVE: Excuse me a minute.
JOE: Yeah sure.

SOUND: STEVE WALKS TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP.

STEVE: (INTO PHONE) Coventry U Drive. Yeah.... How big?
Uh huh, we got one. Yeah. Wait a minute I'll check.

SOUND: HE PULLS OUT A DRAWER

STEVE: Just a minute. It'll run you two - ten the first hour and a dollar - twenty five an hour after that. Yeah.
No there's gas in it when you get it. That's right...
you pay for the gas. Uh huh. Well, there's a twenty dollar deposit. That's right. You get it back. Uh huh...
A California driver's license. Right. Cole. (SPELLS)

SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE AND WALKS BACK ON MIKE.

FRANK: Alright if I use your phone?
STEVE: Yeah...help yourself.

FRANK: Thanks.

SOUND FRANK WALKS TO PHONE AND DIALS M1 5211.

FRANK: (IN B.G. UNDER FOLLOWING) Record bureau please. Yeah
...2626. (PAUSE) Officer Frank Smith 2633...Uh huh. Will you check the name George R. Summers. Described as W.M.A.: 23 to 27. Slight build...blond. Possible address given as 2462 New Jersey Street. Yeah.

(HE WAITS FOR THEM TO CHECK AND THEN WE HEAR HIM MUMBLE BEFORE HE HANGS UP)

JOE: (AS FRANK MAKES CALL) Wonder if we could see the check he left as deposit?

STEVE: Yeah. I got it clipped on the back of the slip....here it is.

JOE: Uh huh. Have you ever seen this Summers before?

STEVE: No...I haven't. Maybe he's been around but I've never seen him. I'm not in the office a lot. Y'see we run the service station on the corner across the street. Lots of times I'm over there working on the trucks. Red or the girl run the office here.

JOE: How about them...either one of them seen him before?

STEVE: Red hasn't. I asked him about it this morning. He said he'd never seen the guy hangin' around. I haven't been able to talk to the girl yet. Hasn't come in. Maybe she can come up with something. You think the truck is stolen?
JOE: I don't know, Mr. Cole. We'll check it out.

STEVE: I think it was stolen. I'm pretty sure about it. That truck is worth 'bout 28 hundred dollars as it stands.

J O E : You carry insurance on it don't you?

S T E V E : Sure it's covered but that isn't the point. That guy that just called wants to rent a two ton stake. I only got two of 'em. Somebody else calls and I'm gonna lose a rental. That's what gripes me. Probably turn out that the deposit check isn't any good either. I'm out all the way around.

SOUND: OFF MIKE FRANK HANGS UP THE PHONE AND WALKS BACK ON MIKE.

J O E : How 'bout it?

F R A N K : Can't be sure. We got a record on a George R. Summers that might be it. Address is different, but outta 6 cards it's the closest. Done time for possession.

S T E V E : What's he mean possession?

J O E : Narcotics. (TO FRANK) How 'bout it... he wanted now?

F R A N K : No... nothin' on him, he's not on parole.

SOUND: PHONE RING

S T E V E : Excuse me.
JOE: Yeah sure.

SOUND: STEVE WALKS TO TELEPHONE AND ANSWERS IT.

STEVE: Coventry U Drive...yeah...Uh-huh. Yeah I remember you just called. Yeah...Yeah if you keep the truck 8 hours you're allowed a hundred miles. Yeah. Over that it's a straight 10 and a ½ cents a mile. Right. There'll be somebody here. Yeah...bye.

SOUND: STEVE HANGS UP THE PHONE AND WALKS BACK.

JOE: You give us the license number of the truck.

STEVE: Yeah. Right here. I got the body and motor serial number too.

SOUND: PHONE RING

STEVE: Lousy phone. Here's the slip...you can copy the dope yourself.

JOE: Thanks.

SOUND: STEVE WALKS TO PHONE AND PICKS IT UP

STEVE: Conventry U Drive. Oh yeah...Yeah...is he there? Uh huh. Tell him to get right down here. Yeah...You bring him. Right.

SOUND: PHONE HANG UP...STEVE WALKS BACK ON MIKE.

STEVE: Well, that's it.

JOE: Huh?

STEVE: Call was from Red. He found Summers in his boarding house. Says he's been there since Saturday night.
1 JOE: How 'bout the truck?
2 STEVE: 'Cording to what he told Red he left it out in front
3 of the house Saturday afternoon.
4 JOE: Yeah.
5 STEVE: Came back and it was gone.
6 END SCENE 2
9:14 A.M. The owner of the truck rental service called the bank the deposit check had been written on. He talked to the cashier and found that there was enough money in Summer's account to cover the check. We got a full description from Cole's secretary of the suspect. A check of the truck company records showed he'd never rented a truck from them before. 9:46 A.M. Summers arrived at the office of the U Drive company. We talked with him briefly and asked him to accompany us downtown. We got out a local and an A.P.B. on the stolen truck. We checked his fingerprints against the record card and got a positive identification. 10:37 A.M. We took him to the interrogation room.

FRANK: You ever been arrested?
GEORGE: You know the answer to that.
JOE: Like to have you tell us.
GEORGE: Yeah...I fell once. Did my time and I'm clean. No parole.
FRANK: Wanna tell us about this truck deal?
GEORGE: Sure...I got nothin' to lose. I didn't have anything to do with it.
JOE: Alright...from the beginning.
1 GEORGE: I rented it about noon on Saturday.
2 JOE: What were you going to use it for?
3 GEORGE: I had to help a friend of mine move some furniture.
4 FRANK: What's the friend's name?
5 GEORGE: Way you guys act you'd think I had something to do with this.
6 JOE: Why'd you wait so long to report the truck stolen?
7 GEORGE: I was afraid.
8 JOE: Of what?
9 GEORGE: I figured that with a record you'd think sure I was in on it. I thought that maybe whoever took it would ditch it someplace. That way I'd be able to prove what I was sayin'
10 JOE: Yeah...tell us about it huh?
11 GEORGE: I drove the thing home. I had to go upstairs to change my clothes. When I came back the truck was gone. I scouted around the neighborhood lookin for it. Couldn't fink it so I went over to see my friend.
12 FRANK: What's the friend's name?
13 GEORGE: I figured you'd get back to that.
14 JOE: What's the name?
15 GEORGE: It's a girl.
JOE: What's her name?

GEORGE: Listen... she had nothin' to do with this. I'd appreciate it if you'd leave her out of it.

JOE: We didn't bring her into it. All we want is her name. We'll check it out. It's a way of checkin' your story.

BEAT

GEORGE: Louise Jordon.

JOE: Where's she live?

GEORGE: 2487 Clifford Street.

JOE: She got a phone?

GEORGE: No. Listen I don't want you guys goin' around there and givin' her a bad time.

FRANK: According to the landlady at your place, she saw you drive away from the rooming house in the truck Saturday afternoon. How 'bout that?

GEORGE: Yeah... how 'bout it.

JOE: What've you got to say?

GEORGE: She's off her rocker. If she saw anybody... six two and even, it wasn't me.

FRANK: Way we get it... she's pretty sure.

GEORGE: Then you get it wrong.

JOE: According to the record, you were picked up for violation of the State Narcotic Act, that right?
GEORGE: I don't write the record. If that's what it says, that's what I fell for.

JOE: Lemme see your arms, huh?

GEORGE: Why?

JOE: Like to see 'em, that's all.

GEORGE: I don't like the way you guys are actin'.

SOUND: HE STANDS UP

GEORGE: You got nothin' on me. Now if you got anything to say ... say it and get it over with. If you got nothin' lemme get out of here.

JOE: 'Sit down.

BEAT

JOE: C'mon Summers .... sit down.

BEAT

SOUND: GEORGE SITS

JOE: Now lemme see your arm.

GEORGE: Not gonna prove anything.

SOUND: JOE MOVES IN AND LOOKS AT GEORGE'S ARMS.

JOE: Looks like you been ridin' high.

GEORGE: It's not as bad as it looks.

JOE: Lotta scar tissue.

GEORGE: That's from before.

JOE: They look fresh. When's the last time you had a pop?

GEORGE: A long time ago.
JOE: How long?

GEORGE: I don't remember.

JOE: You holdin' now?

GEORGE: No.

JOE: You got a habit?

GEORGE: No ...... nothin' rough. A joy pop once in a while.

JOE: You must think you're playin' with kids, Summers. Why don't you stop connin' us. You look like you're hooked and you know it.

GEORGE: You're as bad as my landlady.

JOE: Frank?

FRANK: Yeah?

JOE: Wanna get in touch with narcotics. Ask Roxy to come over, huh?

FRANK: Yeah, right away!

SOUND: FRANK EXITS ROOM. CORRIDOR B.G. IN AND OUT AS DOOR IS OPEN

GEORGE: What's the deal callin' him over?

JOE: Like to have him look at your arm. See what he thinks.

GEORGE: He'll tell you it's like I said.

JOE: There's one sure way to find out.

GEORGE: What's that?
JOE: Drop you in a cell and wait. If you haven't got a habit you won't mind. We're gonna hold you any way.

GEORGE: For what?

JOE: Story about the truck's got too many holes in it.

GEORGE: What d'ya mean? It's true the way I told you .... that's the way it happened. You don't believe anything, do you?

JOE: The truth when we hear it.

GEORGE: I'm givin' you that. You aren't buyin' it.

JOE: Maybe it's the way you're trying to sell it. You wanna tell us what really happened to the truck?

GEORGE: I told you. I parked it out in front of my house. When I came back, it was gone. Isn't anything more.

JOE: If you were home, how come your landlady says she didn't see you from Saturday afternoon on?

GEORGE: I came in the back way. For once, the old bat was lookin' the other way.

JOE: You mean you stayed in your room all that time?

GEORGE: That's what I said. You gotta cigarette?

JOE: Yeah, here.

SOUND: JOE TOSSES PACK ON TABLE. GEORGE TAKES ONE.
1 JOE: Here's a match.
2 SOUND: JOE STRIKES MATCH.
3 JOE: Wait a minute.
4 GEORGE: Yeah.
5 JOE: Look up here will you?
6 GEORGE: What for?
7 JOE: Lemme see your eyes.
8 (PAUSE)
9 GEORGE: Well?
10 JOE: How big a habit you got?
11 GEORGE: I told you... I haven't got one.
12 JOE: What do you do for a living?
13 GEORGE: Y'mean do I work?
14 JOE: Yeah.
15 GEORGE: No.
16 JOE: You don't work huh?
17 GEORGE: No, I had a job but I lost it.
18 JOE: When?
19 GEORGE: Friday.
20 JOE: What'd you do?
21 GEORGE: I was a pearl diver.
22 JOE: Where'd you wash dishes?
23 GEORGE: Place down on 6th.
JOE: Why'd you get fired?

GEORGE: Boss and I had a beef.

JOE: What about?

GEORGE: He got hacked because I came in late.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS AND FRANK COMES INTO SQUADROOM.

FRANK: (AS HE COMES IN) Roxy's on his way over.

GEORGE: This Roxey...that Roxey Luccarelli? (LU-CAR-ELLI)

JOE: Yeah...you know him?

GEORGE: I ran into him before. Nice guy. Treated me right.

JOE: He the one that nailed you?

GEORGE: He's one of 'em.

JOE: These joy pops you've had...where do you get the stuff?

GEORGE: Around.

JOE: Where around?

GEORGE: Here and there.

JOE: Why don't you come off it Summers. You might think you're playin' it cozy...but you're layin' a big bomb. This story you're trying to peddle to us is phoney all the way through. We know it and so do you. Now why don't you level on it. Make it a lot easier.

GEORGE: I'd like to cop. Really I would. Just one big problem.

JOE: Yeah.
GEORGE: You're off base and you know it. You haven't got anything on me. I rented a truck. It was stolen. I'm the one that reported it. I didn't try to get away. I'm tellin' you all I know. You're leaning all over me because I fell once. You guys just can't stand to see anyone carry a lunch bucket for long. You got to try to make 'em for something even if you have to build it yourself. Well you made a big boo-boo this time cop. You haven't got anything on me that you can stick. All I got to do is keep my mouth shut and you're up an alley with no way out. And that's what I'm doin'. You're not gettin' another word out of me.

BEAT

JOE: Now tell us again about the truck.

BEAT

JOE: What time did you find out it was gone?

BEAT

FRANK: You can tell us that.

BEAT

JOE: You leave the keys in the truck when you parked it?
JOE: Okay, mister...you're playin' it smart. Let's see how long it's gonna last. Let's see how it is, after you've been sittin' in a cell for a few hours, and the yen starts to get real big. You'll talk then. You're forgettin' one thing Summers.

BEAT

JOE: We got the time.

END SCENE 3
Sgt. Roxey Lucarelli (LU-CAR-ELLI) came over from the Narcotics Division to talk to the suspect. Summers would say nothing. The narcotics officer told us that the marks on Summers arm were fresh and that indications were that he was a narcotics user. However, he was unable to say just how big a habit the suspect had. Summers was booked at the main jail on suspicion of violation of the State Narcotic Act a Felony, and Frank and I along with Sergeant Lucarelli, went over to his rooming house. A through search of the place netted us nothing. We talked with the Landlady and she gave us the same story she'd given the owner of the U drive truck service. She said that it was possible for Summers to come in through the back of the house and get to his room without being noticed, but she told us that there had been several phone calls for him on Sunday and that when she'd knocked on his door, there'd been no answer. 5:30 P.M. We checked back into the office and found that there'd been no replies to the broadcasts we'd gotten out on the truck. We ran the name of Summers girl friend through R. and I, but found no record on anyone answering her description.

(MORE)
JOE: We drove out and talked to her and she verified the suspect's story about moving the furniture. A meeting with the District Attorney's office decided that there was not enough evidence to bring Summers to court on the narcotic charge and not enough to issue an indictment for the theft of the truck. He was released from custody. In the next three weeks, we got reports of 4 more trucks being stolen. The MO used in the thefts was the same as with the Coventry U. Drive truck. In each instance, the persons involved were checked out but the leads we came up with led us nowhere. Additional MO bulletins were gotten out warning all operators of U drive agencies to be on the lookout for a thief or thieves unknown. Another two weeks passed and the thefts continued but the thieves had switched their method of operation. They were now stealing private automobiles, from parking lots and in front of private homes. Thursday, June 4th, Frank and I checked into the office.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALKING DOWN THE CORRIDOR COUPLE OF STEPS. THEY OPEN THE DOOR TO THE SQUADROOM AND AS THEY DO WE HEAR THE PHONE RING. JOE WALKS ACROSS THE ROOM...PUNCHES THE BUTTON AND PICKS UP THE PHONE.
Auto theft Friday... Yeah. Put it through. (TO FRANK)

Al Gayton from San Diego. (INTO PHONE) Yeah... Hi Al...

Uh huh. When. Yeah. Anybody near it? How 'bout papers?

Yeah. We'll be right down. Yeah. Okay. What?... Uh huh.

They been keepin' up. Right... Maybe it is. We'll leave

here right away. See you in about... (LOOKS AT HIS WATCH)

It's 10:20 now.... about 3 hours. Right. G'bye.

SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

Says that truck from Coventry U drive has been found.

Where?

Just outside Rosarito beach, in Mexico.

Yeah.

Found new registration papers... somethin' else... under the

seat.

Huh?

Twelve bindles of heroin.

END SCENE 4

END ACT 1

You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of

your Police Force in Action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
DRAGNET
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL

FENN: Chesterfield is best for you. Listen to Chesterfield's record.

GIBNEY: For a full year and two months, a doctor has been making regular examinations of a group of Chesterfield smokers....and he reports no adverse effects to the nose, throat and sinuses from smoking Chesterfields.

FENN: Don't you want to try a cigarette with a record like this? Chesterfield - first with premium quality in both regular and king-size. Chesterfield - first choice with young America....and that's from a survey of 274 colleges and universities.....Try Chesterfields, today.

Remember - Chesterfield is America's best cigarette by.
10:25 A.M. We talked with Captain Nelson about the latest developments in the case and he instructed us to leave for San Diego. When we arrived at San Diego we checked with their auto-theft detail and with Sgt. Al Gayton. He went with us to the border. We talked with the authorities at the border but they could give us little information. They said that they'd received the bulletins we'd sent out but that they hadn't seen the stolen trucks. We checked with the authorities at Tijuana and with them drove to the place where the truck had been found. A thorough search of the area was started but turned up nothing. None of the people in the immediate vicinity could tell us anything about the truck. From the registration papers, we got the name of the owner. The license plates were issued from the State of California but a check of them showed that they had been taken from a wrecked car. The narcotics found in the cab of the truck were turned over to the Mexican police. The next morning Frank and I left for Los Angeles. While we'd been gone, Officers Bill Donovan and Jack Pilkington along with Sergeant All Mancell had been following up the leads in the Los Angeles area. They'd been able to come up with nothing new.

(MORE)
The car thefts continued. State police units along the road to the Mexican border were alerted but the cars continued to disappear. Two weeks went by. Tuesday, June 23rd, Frank and I came back from a meeting with members of the National Auto-theft Bureau.

SOUND: SQUADROOM DOOR OPEN AND JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO ROOM.

DOOR CLOSE AND B. G. CHANGE TO S. R.

JOE: Wanna check the book?

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: These thefts are sure droppin' our recovery record.

SOUND: FRANK GOES OVER TO BOOK AND WE HEAR HIM LOOK THROUGH THE PAGES.

FRANK: (OFF) Yeah, Talked to the skipper this morning. Insurance companies are raisin' the roof.

JOE: Figures...it's costin' them a lot.

FRANK: (OFF) Message here from Jud Shelton...wants us to call him.

JOE: Sheriff's department?

FRANK: Yeah, Marked important.

SOUND: FRANK WALKS BACK ON MIKE AND PUNCHES BUTTON. HE PICKS UP PHONE AND DIALS - PAUSE THEN DIALS MA -6-9511
FRANK: (INTO PHONE) Narcotics please. (PAUSE) Yeah... Jud Shelton there? Thanks. (PAUSE) Jud? This is Frank Smith over at Auto Theft...yeah. Uh huh. Why do you think that's it? Yeah. When you gonna meet her. Uh huh, Yeah...we'll be right over. Right g'bye.

SOUND: PHONE HANG UP.

JOE: Anything?

FRANK: Yeah, Jud got a call this morning from a girl. Says she's been invited down to Mexico.

JOE: Yeah.

FRANK: Says a couple of them are going down to pick up some heroin.

JOE: Uh huh. Where do we fit in?

FRANK: Girl told Jud they'd be drivin' a stolen car.

END SCENE 5
JOE: We went over to the Hall of Justice and talked with Sergeant Jud Shelton. He told us about the call he'd received. He said that he was supposed to meet the girl at 3:30 that afternoon and he wanted to know if we wanted to accompany him. We told him we did and at 3:15 P.M., the three of us walked into a bar on West 7th. We waited until 3:46 for the girl to arrive.

SOUND: SMALL BAR B.G. JUKEBOX IN B.G.

JUD: Here she comes.

FRANK: The blonde?

JUD: Yeah.

SOUND: UNDER ABOVE WE HEAR A WOMAN'S STEPS FADE IN AND STOP

VERA: Hi, Jud.

JUD: Vera ... like you to meet a couple of friends of mine. Vera Collins ... Frank Smith .... Joe Friday.

JOE, FRANK AND VERA SAY HELLO

JUD: Sit down, Vera.

VERA: Thanks.

SOUND: SHE SLIDES INTO THE BOOTH

JUD: You want anything? Drink ..... coffee?
VERA: Yeah...get me an old fashioned hum?
JUD: Yeah...I'll get it. Excuse me.
VERA: Sure.
SOUND: JUD GET'S UP AND LEAVES BOOTH.

BEAT

VERA: You two guys cops?
JOE: Yes ma'am.
VERA: Where do you work out of?
JOE: Central Auto Theft.
VERA: Oh that's why Jud called you huh?
JOE: Pardon?
VERA: About the hot car we're drivin' south.
JOE: Yes ma'am.
VERA: My name's Vera...why don't you use that?
JOE: Alright Vera...You know where the stolen car is? The one they're gonna drive down?
VERA: Not now...I will though.
JOE: What d'ya mean?
VERA: I don't think it's been stolen yet.
FRANK: What?
VERA: I don't think the car's been stolen yet.

JOE: You know when it is gonna be taken?

VERA: Sometime this afternoon. We're supposed to leave tonight.

JOE: You know who's gonna take it?

VERA: This friend of mine...fella named Harry Sloan.

SOUND: JUD'S STEPS FADE IN. STOP HE PUTS DRINK DOWN ON THE TABLE.

JUD: Here's your old fashioned.

VERA: Thanks Jud.

SOUND: JUD SLIDES INTO BOOTH.

JOE: You know how this operation is gonna work?

VERA: No. All I know is that I got a call from Harry this morning. He asked me what I was doin'. I told him nothin' so he asked me if I wanted to take a drive down to Mexico.

I told him I would and he said he'd be by to pick me up.

JOE: He gonna pick you up at your house?

VERA: No. He said he'd call me and let me know where to meet him.

JOE: Where's he gonna call you?

VERA: My place in about an hour.

JUD: What'd he say that makes you think the car's gonna' be stolen?
VERA: Just the way he talked...I can't say anything real
definite y'know...just the way he talked.

JOE: He work alone?

VERA: No....there's another guy with him. I don't know who
it is.

JUD: What'd he say to you about the narcotics?

VERA: Just said that he was planning to pick up some "H" down
there. Didn't say where.

JUD: You give us a description of this Harry? Where he lives?

VERA: Yeah. I can give you that.

JUD: He got a record do you know?

VERA: He's never talked about it. I think maybe he's been
picked up a couple of times but I don't think he's
served any time.

JUD: You said on the phone you had an idea how we could take
him.

VERA: Yeah. Y'see, I'll have to drive my car to meet them.
As soon as I get the call from Harry, I'll get in touch
with you and tell you where the meet's gonna be. I'll
park my car and I'll leave the license number of the
stolen car in it.

JUD: Where?

VERA: In the back seat.
1 JOE: Jud, wouldn't it be a lot easier if we just kept her under surveillance?
2 VERA: Might be better for you but it wouldn't for me. If Harry found out I'd been playin' footsie with you guys, he'd kill me sure. This is a big operation. Isn't just Harry in on it.
3 JOE: What d'ya mean?
4 VERA: All those cars that have been stolen lately. The trucks. It's all part of the deal. Same bunch is doin' it.
5 JOE: You mean it's an organized ring?
6 VERA: Sure. They got it all laid out from here to Ensenada.
7 JOE: All the way it's planned.
8 JUD: What do you know about the organization?
9 VERA: Nothin'. All I know is that Harry's one of 'em.
10 JOE: You know who the top man is?
11 VERA: No. I never heard the name. Harry never used it.
12 JOE: They take all the trucks down to Mexico?
13 VERA: From what I understand, most of them end up down there.
14 JOE: You got any idea how they do it?
15 VERA: No.
16 JOE: What do you want out of this?
17 VERA: What?
18 JOE: Where you gonna come out. Why're you tellin' us all this?
VERA: Jud gave me a break once. This is my way to pay him back. Harry doesn't mean anything to me. I don't care if you get him.

JOE: I still think we oughta keep you under surveillance. Be safer for you.

VERA: Don't worry about it. I'll let you know right where I'm gonna park my car. You find that, and I'll see that the other information's there. I better get goin' now.

JOE: Just a second. You wanna give us a description of Sloan?

VERA: Sure, I can tell you what Harry looks like. What're you gonna do? Check up on him?

JOE: Like to know who we're after.

VERA: I don't think you'll find anything. I'll be pretty surprised if you do.

JOE: Not as surprised as he'll be.

END SCENE 6
JOE: We got the description of Harry Sloan and called the office to check the name. There was no record of anyone answering his description. Vera Collins was unable to tell us anything about the second man in the operation. She went back to her home and waited for the phone call from Sloan. We returned to the office and waited for her to contact us with the information about the stolen car. At 5:15 PM we got a call from her saying that her car would be parked in the area bounded by Washington Boulevard on the north and Adams Boulevard on the south, from Crenshaw Boulevard on the west to Arlington Avenue on the east. Frank, Jud Shelton and I drove out to the area immediately and began to cruise the vicinity. We spent the next hour looking for the car. When we were sure that it was not in the designated area, we began to expand our search. At 6:37 PM we found the car parked on a side street near Saint Charles Place. We searched the car and found a slip of paper in the back seat with the notation..."Chevrolet sedan, blue, and a license number." There was also a scribbled notation saying that because of where Miss Collins had to park the car, she would try to detain the suspects on the way to Tijuana.

(MORE).
JOE: We got out a local and an A.F.B. with special attention to the border patrol on the car, asking that if it was found abandoned, a stakeout be placed on it and that we be notified. At 7:02 P.M. we started to drive to the Mexican border. We kept in contact with Sgt. Gayton at the border and he told us that the car had not passed over yet. 10:37 P.M. we drove through National City and took the road to Tijuana. Just south of Chula Vista, we picked up a car that matched the description of the stolen automobile. We got close enough to it to see the people in it.

SOUND: CAR RUNNING. OTHER CARS PASSING GOING OTHER WAY.

JUD: IN THE BACK SEAT) How 'bout it?

JOE: Yeah...matches. (TO FRANK) Can you get a little closer?

FRANK: Yeah...I think so.

SOUND: CAR PICKS UP SPEED.

JOE: Different licence plate.

JUD: Probably switched to cold plates. That's why they haven't been spotted before.

PAUSE WHILE WE HEAR CAR.

FRANK: You see 'em yet?

JOE: Yeah...it's the Collins woman, alright.

JUD: You wanna take 'em now?

JOE: Might as well.

JOE: I'll hit the siren.

SOUND: JOE TURNS ON SIREN...CAR PICKS UP SPEED.
JUD: Doesn't look like they're gonna stop.

SOUND: UNDER FOLLOWING...WE HEAR THE CAR GO AROUND CURVES

JOE: I'll try for the tires.

FRANK: Road's clear ahead.

JOE: Okay.

SOUND: WE HEAR JOE FIRE A COUPLE OF TIMES

FRANK: Hold it Joe...they're slowin' down.

SOUND: JOE'S CAR SLOWS...SIREN WINDS DOWN

JOE: Stoppin....

SOUND: JOE'S CAR STOPS

JOE: (FROM CAR) Get your hand's on the wheel. Where I can see 'em.

JUD: I'll cover the other side.

SOUND: JUD GETS OUT OF CAR....JOE CLIMBS OUT OF CAR AND WE HEAR HIM WALK TO THE OTHER CAR

JOE: Get outta the car.

GEORGE: (IN CAR) What're you tryin' to prove with all this shootin?

JOE: C'mon Mister...get out of the car.

SOUND: GEORGE GET'S OUT OF THE CAR

JUD: (OFF) C'mon you two...get out.

VERA: (OFF) I don't know what you're tryin' to prove. We haven't done anything.

HARRY: (OFF) C'mon...don't argue with 'em. Do like they say.

They haven't got anything on us.

JOE: Alright Mister....over by the car.
FRANK: (FADING IN) I'll shake him Joe.

GEORGE: You're gonna be sorry about this. You got no right to stop us.

FRANK: He's clean.

JOE: Turn around.

SOUND: GEORGE DOES

JOE: You're George Summers aren't you?

GEORGE: Yeah.

JOE: We picked you up for that stolen truck about six weeks ago, wasn't it.

GEORGE: Yeah... and you haddaw let me go. You're gonna do the same this time. You got nothin' to hold me on.

JOE: You're wrong Summers. Where'd you get this car?

GEORGE: I borrowed it.

JOE: From who?

GEORGE: A friend of mine.

JOE: He knows you took it?

GEORGE: Certainly... he told me to.

JOE: Come off it Summers. This car's stolen and you know it. We know all about the operation. The whole deal. You gonna stand the rap alone or are you gonna tell us who the big gun is?

GEORGE: What d'ya mean operation?
JOE: This isn't the first car you've shoved across the border. We know about the narcotics too. You're in this up to your neck whether you like it or not. You got a choice anyway. You can take it alone or you can go along with us and nail the big guy. It's up to you.

(BEAT)

GEORGE: Wouldn't do any good if I told you who he was. I can't prove anything on him. Neither can you. You'll never get him. Never.

JOE: That right?

GEORGE: Sure...he's told me so. Cops'll never get me...those are his words. That's what he said.

JOE: It's not new.

GEORGE: Huh?

JOE: You said the same thing.

MUSIC: SIGNATURE
FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The names have been changed to protect the innocent.

GIBNEY: On November 19, trial was held in Department 89, Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles. In a moment, the results of that trial.

FENN: And now, here is our star, Jack Webb.

WEBB: (COMMERCIAL INSERT)
1 WEBB: Friends, all of us on Dragnet are proud to be associated
2 with Chesterfield because, believe me, Chesterfield is
3 years ahead of them all. You just can't beat a cigarette
4 that was good to begin with and keeps getting better all
5 the time. But, of course, you can't find out how much
6 you'll like 'em till you try 'em. So that's what we'd
7 like you to do....... Try a couple packs of milder
8 Chesterfield -- regular or king-size -- I know you'll
9 agree that Chesterfield is best for you.
GIBNEY: George Richard Summers and Harry Aldon Sloan were tried and convicted of Grand Theft Auto, 1 count. They received sentence as prescribed by law. Grand Theft Auto is punishable by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for not less than one, nor more than ten years.

FENN: Next week, the Big Narco, part two.
GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet -- a series of authentic cases from official files. Technical advice comes from the office of Chief of Police, W. H. Parker, Los Angeles Police Department. Technical advisors: Captain Jack Donohoe, Sgt. Marty Wynn, Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heart tonight were Ben Alexander________________________

______________________________________________


Hal Gibney speaking.

MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

FENN: For a million laughs, tune in Chesterfields "Martin and Lewis Show" Tuesday on this same NBC station, and Sound Off for Chesterfields. Either regular or King size, you will find premium quality Chesterfields much milder. Chesterfield is best for you.

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