



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #45 NBC 213 RELEASE DATE: TUESDAY, SEPT. 15, 1953

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

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

RECORDING:	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1953
CAST AND SOUND:	11:30 - 2:00 P.M.
EDITING:	T.B.A.
SCORING:	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1953
ORCHESTRA:	
ANNOUNCERS:	(COMMERCIAL)
BROADCAST:	6:30 - 7:00 P.M. -- STUDIO J - BY T.R.

*Agency
Cut & Timed*

"THE BIG CAB"

C A S T

SGT. JOE FRIDAY. JACK WEBB
OFF. FRANK SMITH BEN ALEXANDER
BAILEY
NURSE (DBL).
DR. CARDELL (DBL).
DOUG
VOICE (ON RADIO)
REED
MARIE
EARLE

DRAGNET - RADIO
9-15-53

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NBC #212 CHESTERFIELD #44

- 1 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"
- 2 GIBNEY: Sound off for Chesterfield.
- 3 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD".....DRUM ROLL
- 4 GIBNEY: Low in nicotine...highest in quality...best for you. 15
- 5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL CONTINUES
- 6 GIBNEY: Chesterfield brings you Dragnet.
- 7 MUSIC: DRAGNET THEME
- 8 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about
- 9 to hear is true. The names have been changed to 20
- 10 protect the innocent.
- 11 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR
- 12 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
- 13 to Robbery Detail. A hold up man has robbed the owner
- 14 of a neighborhood grocery store. The victim was beaten
- 15 unmercifully with a sawed off shot gun. The assailant
- 16 escaped into the city without a trace. Your job....
- 17 find him.
- 18 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR: 55

DRAGNET RADIO
Sept. 8, 1953

15
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FIRST COMMERCIAL

1 FENN: Before you buy your next pack of cigarettes, think this
2 over.....A doctor has been examining a group of
3 Chesterfield smokers, with special attention to the nose,
4 throat and sinuses. His latest report...After a full
5 year and a half ... ~~says~~ - No adverse effects from ~~1115~~
6 smoking Chesterfield. Don't you want to try a cigarette
7 with a record like this? Chesterfield ... regular or
8 king-size ... they're low in nicotine ... Highest in
9 quality ... Best for you. ~~1128~~

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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 case,
6 transcribed from official police files. ~~From~~ beginning
7 to end....from crime to punishment... ~~Dragent~~ is the
8 story of your police force in ~~action~~.

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

10 SOUND: HEAVY RAIN HITTING THE PAVEMENT. UNDER LAST FEW LINES,
11 WE HEAR JOE'S STEPS RUN THROUGH THE RAIN. FAR OFF
12 TRAFFIC BG.G. VERY LIGHT.

13 JOE: ~~It~~ was Wednesday, February 18th. It was raining in
14 Los Angeles. We were working the day watch out of
15 Robbery Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is
16 chief of detectives, Taad Brown. My name's Friday. The
17 office had called me at 3:46 A.M. and by the time I got
18 dressed and down in front of my apartment, it was 3:59
19 A.M. when Frank got there...(SOUND: CAR DOOR OPEN)...to
20 pick me up.

2/6?

21 SOUND: JOE SLIDED INTO CAR, AND CLOSES DOOR. WE HEAR THE
22 RUSTLE OF HIS TRENCH COAT AND THE SLAP OF WINDSHIELD
23 WIPERS ON THE CAR. AS HE SLAMS THE DOOR, FRANK PUTS THE
24 CAR INTO GEAR AND IT MOVES FORWARD.

25 ~~FRANK: Took me a little longer to get here than I figured....~~

1 ~~JOE: I din't wait long:~~

2 FRANK: Which is the best way to get there from here?

3 JOE: Guess go down the freeway and cut over Aliso.

4 FRANK: Yeah. Sure comin' down.

5 JOE: Wonder how long it's gonna keep up.

6 FRANK: Any guess is a good one. The weather bureau says they
7 don't see the end of it.

8 JOE: (GRUNTS)

9 FRANK: You gotta cigarette? I came away without mine.

10 JOE: (REACHING INSIDE HIS COAT.) Yeah. Here.

11 FRANK: (TAKES IT) How 'bout a match?

12 JOE: Yeah.

13 SOUND: HE LIGHTS THE MATCH.

14 FRANK: (WHILE JOE IS GOING THROUGH THE MATCH BUSINESS) Sure
15 wish they'd put a lighter in these cars. (HE LIGHTS THE
16 CIGARETTE AND EXHALES) Thanks. Who called you...the
17 hospital or the office?

18 JOE: Office. Said that Bailey had come to...that we might be
19 able to talk to him. 2/30

20 FRANK: Sure hope we can get something out of him...(FAST) Hold
21 it....

22 SOUND: BREAKS SLAMED ON...CAR SKIDS. AS UNIT 1K80 stops, we
23 hear HORN FROM OTHER CAR AS IT PASSES.

Frank: You gonna slow us down?

1 ~~FRANK:~~ Darn fool...drivin' like that in this rain.

2 ~~JOE:~~ They'll get him.

3 FRANK: Hope he's able to know it.

4 JOE: Better use the light and siren Frank. We may not have
5 much time.

6 FRANK: Huh?

7 JOE: Way the Skipper put it to me on the phone.

8 FRANK: Yeah?

9 JOE: They don't know if Bailey's gonna live.

Scene
END SCENE 1

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1 JOE: Raymond Bailey was 62 years old. He owned and operated
2 a small neighborhood grocery on the corner of Witman
3 and Beacon Streets. Two days before, on Monday night,
4 a man had entered the store and at the point of a
5 sawed off shotgun, had robbed Bailey. After emptying
6 the cash register and the safe, he'd slugged the
7 elderly man with the barrel of the gun and fled. Bailey
8 had been rushed to Georgia Street receiving hospital
9 and then transferred to the County Hospital for treatment.
10 For the past two days, he'd been under heavy sedative
11 and had been in a coma. He was suffering from a skull
12 fracture, ~~broken jaw as well as~~ cuts and bruises. His
13 condition was listed as critical and we'd left word to *3/30*
14 be called the minute he regained consciousness. 4:26 A.M.
15 we got to the hospital and went up to the fourth floor.
16 We met and talked with the doctor who'd been taking
17 care of Bailey. He told us that the patient had just been
18 given another shot to ease the pain and would probably
19 drop off to sleep. We went into the hospital room and
20 walked over to the side of the bed. It was a few
21 minutes before the old man started to talk.

22 BAILEY: (WEAK AND TIRED, NO PAIN) I'll tell you what I remember.
23 All seems kinda far away. Like I read about it in a
24 book. Not like it really happened to me.

25 JOE: If you'd just tell it in your own words sir.

1 BAILEY: What time is it?
2 FRANK: It's a quarter to five Mr. Bailey.
3 BAILEY: Who's that? *4/100*
4 FRANK: I'm Frank Smith.
5 BAILEY: You a policeman too?
6 FRANK: Yes sir.
7 BAILEY: Oh. Quarter to five huh. That day or night?
8 JOE: In the morning sir.
9 BAILEY: Uh huh. I sure been out.
10 FRANK: If you'd tell us what happened sir.
11 BAILEY: How many of you are there in here?
12 JOE: Just the two of us.
13 BAILEY: Way they got my head all bandaged...can't see. Say
14 officers?
15 JOE: Yes sir.
16 BAILEY: The doctor said this was wednesday. Is that true?
17 JOE: Yes sir, Wednesday the 18th *1/30*
18 BAILEY: Can't figure where the time's gone. It can't be,
19 Wednesday. Why do you have to agree with them. Why
20 don't you tell me for true.
21 FRANK: You've been asleep for a couple of days.
22 BAILEY: Really?
23 JOE: Yes sir.

1 BAILEY: Been pretty sick huh?

2 JOE: Yes sir.

3 BAILEY: Uh huh. Seems like every time I turn around they give
4 me another shot. Takes the pain away but it makes
5 everything seem so far away. Like nothin' was really
6 happening to me.

7 JOE: Yes sir. Would you go on with the story?

8 BAILEY: Yeah. This fella came in Monday night. I was rainin and
9 there wasn't much business. I was figurin' on closin'
10 when he came in. He took one of the carts and started
11 to pick up stuff off the counter..

12 JOE: Yes sir.

13 BAILEY: Say would you give me a drink of water please? Awful
14 thirsty.

15 JOE: I'm not sure whether we're supposed to do that Mr.
16 Bailey.

17 FRANK: I'll check with the nurse Joe.

18 JOE: Right.

19 SOUND: ~~FRANK EXITS THE ROOM. SWINGING DOOR...NO LATCH.~~

20 JOE: He'll be right back.

21 BAILEY: It's alright. You'll see.

22 JOE: Probably is sir...but we have to be sure. You want to
23 go on?

24 BAILEY: ~~Yeah.~~ Well, fella picked up a lot of stuff. He had this
25 shopping bag with him. Hung it on the cart. I figured
26 that I'd have to check the bag when he got to the check
27 stand. We've had a lot of shoplifting lately.

5/00

1 JOE: Uh huh.

2 BAILEY: He musta been in the store about 20 minutes. Just took
3 his time. Browsed around...read the labels on the cans.
4 Couple of times he came over to me and asked where he
5 could find things. I'd tell him and he'd go back and
6 start browsin' again.

7 SOUND: FRANK ENTERS THE ROOM.

8 FRANK: Nurse says it's okay Joe.

9 JOE: I'll get it.

10 SOUND: JOE TAKES THE TOP OF OF A METAL DECANTER AND POURS A
11 HALF A GLASS OF WATER.

12 FRANK: Glass straw there on the table.

13 JOE: Oh yeah.

14 SOUND: HE PICKS UP THE STRAW AND PUTS IT IN THE GLASS.

15 JOE: Here you are Mr. Bailey.

16 BAILEY: Thanks. (HE TAKES A SIP OF THE WATER) Tastes good. cool.

17 JOE:: You want any more?

18 BAILEY: Not right now.

19 SOUND: JOE PUTS THE GLASS DOWN ON A METAL TRAY.

20 JOE: Go ahead sir.

1 BAILEY: Well, after he'd looked the store over he came up to
2 the check stand. I checked out the stuff he had. Came
3 to over five dollars. Picked out all kinda things.
4 Most of 'em imported. 5130

5 JOE: Uh huh.

6 BAILEY: I added the stuff and it came to a little over five
7 dollars. I forget exactly how much. A little over five
8 dollars.

9 JOE: Yes sir.

10 BAILEY: After I got everything all totaled up, I asked him if
11 I could put it in the shopping bag for him. I didn't
12 want to come right out and ask to see in it. After all,
13 he mighta just moved into the neighborhood, and ✓ 6100
14 haven't got that many regulars that I can insult 'em.

15 FRANK: Uh huh.

16 BAILEY: That's when he pulled the gun. Pulled it right out of
17 the shopping bag.

18 JOE: You saw that it was a shotgun?

19 BAILEY: Yeah. Barrel was short. I guess it'd been sawed off. He
20 pointed it at me and told me to give him the money in
21 the cash register.

22 FRANK: Do you remember exactly how he said it Mr. Bailey?

23 BAILEY: Huh?

24 FRANK: Do you remember the exact words he used?

1 BAILEY: (THINKING) I think it was... "Okay Pop...this is a stick
2 up...don't make any trouble and you'll be alright."
3 Near as I can remember...that's what he said.
4 JOE: You want to go on?
5 BAILEY: I told him that it was a foolish thing he was doin'.
6 Told him that it was wrong but he did it anyway. Made
7 me give him all the money. Then he made me open the
8 safe and give him the money in that. Just a little
9 safe.
10 FRANK: How much money did he take Mr. Bailey?
11 BAILEY: I can't be sure. I'd guess about 5 hundred dollars.
12 Somewhere's around there. There was 350 in the safe.
13 I know that. Must have been around another hundred and
14 fifty in the cash register.
15 JOE: He take any checks do you know?
16 BAILEY: No..he just took the money. Paper and silver. Just the
17 money.
18 JOE: Alright sir.
19 BAILEY: Then he told me to lay down on the floor. To stay there
20 for five minutes and not to move.
21 FRANK: Uh huh.
22 BAILEY: I was gonna do it. I wasn't gonna give him any trouble.
23 Money doesn't mean that much to me. You get to be my
24 age...62 ... and it's more important that you're alive
25 than how much money you have. A lot more important.

6/30

1 JOE: Yeah.

2 BAILEY: Well, I was just gonna do like he said and Mrs. Colton
3 came into the store. She's one of the regulars. She saw
4 this fella with the gun and she let out a scream. I tried
5 to tell her to keep quiet but before I could say much of
6 anything, this fella turned around and hit me with the
7 gun. ~~Hit~~ me just about as hard as he could. I kinda
8 remember the sirens comin' but after that it's kinda
9 hazy. Like it didn't really happen to me. Like I read
10 about it.

11 FRANK: Can you give us a description of the man?

12 BAILEY: Yeah. Guess I can. Before I do though...

13 JOE: Yes sir.

14 BAILEY: Would you tell me what time it really is?

15 JOE: It's 4:50 Mr. Bailey.

16 BAILEY: Wednesday morning?

17 JOE: Yes sir.

18 BAILEY: I ~~don't~~ think it's very nice of you two fellas to play
19 a joke like this on an old man. Seems like you could be
20 honest. If I had my watch, I could tell myself.

21 JOE: We're telling you the truth about the time Mr. Bailey.

22 BAILEY: Alright...you have your little joke. But I don't think
23 it's funny at all.

1 FRANK: Can you tell us how old the man was?

2 BAILEY: 'bout 24...26.

3 FRANK: How Tall?

4 BAILEY: Tall as me. I remember because I could look right over
5 straight at him. That'd make him five and eight. Right
6 about that.

7 JOE: Was he heavy or slight?

8 BAILEY: I couldn't tell too well. He had a big over coat on.

9 JOE: Uh huh. How 'bout his coloring?

10 BAILEY: Dark complected. Had dark eyes.

11 JOE: How 'bout the color of his hair?

12 BAILEY: I could just see at the temples. It was black. He had
13 this hat on...had it pulled down.

14 FRANK: Was he clean shaven?

15 BAILEY: Yeah...yeah he was.

16 JOE: Any marks or scars?

17 BAILEY: Had a little mole on the side of his nose. Small little
18 one.

19 JOE: Which side of his nose?

20 BAILEY: Well when he was facing me it was on the left so it'd
21 be on his right. Yeah the right side.

22 JOE: How 'bout this hat what color was it?

1 BAILEY: Grey. Light grey. There was a stain around the sweatband.
2 Had a black ribbon on it.
3 JOE: And the coat?
4 BAILEY: That was a black. Looked real heavy and it was all wet.
5 Shoulders were all wet.
6 FRANK: Did he have anything different about the way he talked?
7 An accent or something like that?
8 BAILEY: No. Say, how 'bout the things he picked out. You get
9 any finger prints from them. 9/100
10 JOE: No sir, he must have taken them with him. Would you
11 know the man if you saw him again Mr. Bailey?
12 BAILEY: You bet I would. I'll remember that face till my dyin'
13 day. Won't ever forget it.
14 JOE: Did you ever see this man before?
15 BAILEY: No...never did.
16 JOE: D'y know if he drove a car?
17 BAILEY: I don't think so. Way he was so wet when he came in,
18 he musta walked a ways. Like I said...his shoulders
19 were just soakin' wet.
20 JOE: We'd like to have you look at some pictures when you
21 feel a little better Mr. Bailey. 9/30
22 BAILEY: You just bring 'em on. If you got a picture of that
23 young hoodlum..I'll know it.

1 JOE: Alright sir. We'll be back to see you. You oughta try
2 to get some sleep.

3 BAILEY: I suppose so. Last couple of minutes you fellas been
4 gettin' further away. Seems like none of this is
5 happening to me. Like I'm just dreamin' it.

6 FRANK: We'll be back to see you sir. Is there anything you need?

7 BAILEY: No...not a thing.

8 JOE: Well, g'bye Mr. Bailey. Get some rest now. 10/11

9 BAILEY: I'll do that. Say...one thing you could do for me.

10 JOE: What's that?

11 BAILEY: Would you ask the nurse to come by. I think the joke is
12 funny but you fellas carried it on to far. I'd like to
13 know what time it really is.

14 FRANK: Alright Mr. Bailey..we'll send her in.

15 BAILEY: Thanks.

16 JOE: Bye sir.

17 FRANK: 'bye.

18 BAILEY: G'bye.

19 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK LEAVE THE ROOM. (NO CATCH ON THE DOOR)
20 THEY WALK DOWN THE CORRIDOR AND STOP.

21 JOE: Pardon me?

1 NURSE: Yes?

2 JOE: Would you check Mr. Bailey. He'd like to know what
3 time it ~~is~~. 10/30

4 NURSE: He's been asking the same question the last two days.
5 He won't seem to believe any of us.

6 JOE: You know where we can find Dr. Cardell?

7 NURSE: Just down the hall...Two doors past the turn.

8 JOE: Thank you.

9 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK DOWN THE HALL. SLIGHT ECHO.

10 JOE: Like to find out when he'll be able to look at the muggs.

11 FRANK: Yeah. Good description.

12 JOE: Uh huh. Gonna make it easier.

13 SOUND: STEPS STOP.

14 JOE: I guess this is it.

15 FRANK: Two doors past the turn.

16 SOUND: JOE TAPS AT THE DOOR.

17 CARD: (OFF, THROUGH DOOR) Come in.

18 SOUND: JOE OPENS THE DOOR. AND THE TWO OFFICERS WALK IN.

19 JOE: Sorry to bother you again Doctor.

20 CARD: It's alright. What can I do for you. 11/80

1 JOE: When would it be possible for Mr. Bailey to look at some
2 pictures for us.

3 ~~CARD: That's a difficult question to answer Mr. Friday.~~

4 ~~JOE: Sir?~~

5 CARD: With the way he's reacting to treatment, I think he'll
6 be alright. At least he'll live. *John*

7 JOE: Yes sir.

8 CARD: But he'll never see again. *11/10*

9 END SCENE 2

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-17-

1 JOE: 5:10 A.M. we got to the city hall. We got out a
2 supplementary broadcast and an A.P.B. carrying the
3 description of the suspect. We asked the staats office
4 to make a run for us on the information the victim of the
5 holdup had given up. They said they'd be able to give 11/30
6 us a list of possibles by 10:30 that morning. We checked
7 through the oddity file to see if there might be something
8 in the records on the small mole on the suspects nose.
9 There were several cards turned over to us, but none of
10 them matched the rest of the description we had. 6:30 A.M.
11 we went across the street and had breakfast, and then
12 came back to the office and put in a call to the hospital
13 to check on Bailey. The doctor told us that he was
14 sleeping comfortable and appeared to past the critical
15 point. For the next hour, Frank and I checked through
16 the mugg books to see if there were any recent parolees
17 who matched the description given us. We came up with 12/100
18 nothing that would help us in getting an identification
19 of the suspect. The woman customer of the store mentioned
20 by Bailey in his report of the crime, had been questioned
21 thoroughly but she was unable to give us any information
22 on the hold-up man. She was unable to give us a concrete
23 discription of the thief. She'd been shown the mugg
24 books but after looking at them, she'd stated that she
25 was more confused then than she had been before looking
26 at them. 10:30 A.M. we got the results of the run from
27 the staats office.

(MORE)

12/30

1 JOE: There were 17 names on the list. All men who matched the
(CONT) description of the suspect and had at one time or another
2 used the same M.O. he'd used in holding up Bailey. It
3 took us two days to check them out and at the end of 48
4 hours, we were no nearer apprehending the thief than we
5 had been before. 7:58 A.M. Saturday morning, I checked
6 into work.

7
8 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. RAIN OUTSIDE THE WINDOWS. DOOR CLOSE AS
9 JOE ENTERS THE ROOM.

10 FRANK: Hi Joe.

11 JOE: Mornin' Frank.

12 SOUND: JOE TAKES OFF HIS TRENCH COAT AND SHAKES THE WATER FROM IT

13 JOE: One of the best investments I ever made.

14 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Huh?

15 JOE: This trench coat. Sure given me a lot of wear.

16 FRANK: If you only used it this week...you'da gotten your money's
17 worth.

18 JOE: Sure is the answer to the drought question.

19 FRANK: I been wearin' that plastic coat of mine so long I'm
20 beginning to feel like a package of frozen food.

21 JOE: Yeah.

22 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO HIS LOCKER AND OPENS THE DOOR. HE HANGS UP
23 THE COAT UNDER.

24 JOE: Anything in the book?

1 FRANK: No. Talked to Stoner this morning. Thought for a
2 minute he had something for us.

3 JOE: Huh?

4 FRANK: They picked up a kid down on 7th yesterday. Tried to
5 heist a liquor store. Manager pulled a gun and held him.
6 Stoner answered the call. Thought at first it might be
7 the guy we're looking for.

8 JOE: Didn't check out huh?

9 FRANK: No. Kid just got in town yesterday morning. Broke,
10 hungry. Figured this was a way to get a stake I guess.

11 JOE: Anybody hurt?

12 FRANK: No. This is the fifth time somebody's tried to knock
13 over the store. Manager finally got tired of it and
14 bought a gun.

15 JOE: Good way to get hurt.

16 FRANK: Yeah. Try to tell 'em. Let the thieves have the money.
17 Don't cause any trouble. There are still a few of 'em
18 that want to be heros.

19 JOE: Where they got the kid now?

20 FRANK: Over at the city jail. Stoner says he's really down.
21 Comes from a good family in the middle west. Just got
22 tired one day and shoved off. Hitch hiked out here.

23 JOE: He armed when they picked him up?

24 FRANK: No...just had his hand inside his coat pocket, looked
25 like he had a gun.

1 JOE: Maybe someday they'll learn.
2 FRANK: Don't think you or I'll be around to see it.
3 JOE: Probly not. Say.. I got to thinking about the Bailey
4 thing last night.
5 FRANK: Yeah.
6 JOE: What he said about the suspect bein' soaked.
7 FRANK: Uh huh.
8 JOE: Doesn't seem that anybody'd walk far in that rain.
9 FRANK: Nobody in the neighborhood has seen him before.
10 JOE: We got an idea he didn't drive a car up to the place.
11 FRANK: Yeah.
12 JOE: Maybe he took a cab.
13 FRANK: Possible.
14 JOE: Might have gotten out a block or so from the store and
15 then walked to it. Y'wouldn't have to walk very far to
16 get soaked, way it was comin' down that night.
17 FRANK: Makes sense.
18 JOE: It's a place to start anyway. We haven't got anything
19 else.
20 FRANK: What'dya figure.

1 FRANK: No Joe - Bailey didn't say exactly that. He said the
2 shoulders on the coat looked wet. But that woman
3 customer - Mrs. Colton - she told us that the guys coat
4 looked dry except at the shoulders.

5 JOE: That's the point I'm trying to make here - if just his
6 shoulders were wet - the way the rain was coming down -
7 he couldn't have walked far and come in out of it that
8 dry, could he?

9 FRANK: There's no bus or street car lines within 6 blocks of
10 Bailey's store.

11 JOE: We know he doesn't live close to the store. He had to
12 come in a car.

13 FRANK: Nobody saw one.

14 JOE: Yeah.

15 FRANK: Well, it's happened before -- I guess it's the same
16 thing you're thinking.

17 JOE: Yeah.

18 FRANK: Could've taken a cab, huh?

19 JOE: Maybe.

20 FRANK: Well, let's run it down.

21 JOE: Better'n standing still.

22 (END SCENE 3)

14/14

1 JOE: Check the way bills on that date. See if any cab dropped
2 a passenger off within a couple of blocks of Bailey's
3 store about the time of the holdup. We might be able
4 to come up with where the guy came from.

5 FRANK: Sure a long shot.

6 JOE: Well, once in a while they come in.

END SCENE 3

14/17

1 JOE: There are twenty two taxi-cab companies listed in the
2 phone directory all serving the downtown Los Angelse
3 Area. Each of these companies may have from 6 to several
4 hundred cabs in service at any given time. Each driver
5 might make as many as 6 trips an hour. In wet weather, 14/30
6 the cab traffic is almost double that of a normal day.
7 As a result of the number of possibilities, Frank and I
8 spent the next week going through driver's way bills,
9 checking for a cab that dropped a customer near the
10 corner of Virgil Avenue and Bimini Place, at approximately
11 9:30 P.M. on the date of the robbery. After checking the
12 reports, we came up with one trip that looked good. A
13 driver had picked up a passenger at the corner of
14 Mariposa and Wilshire boulevard and dropped him one block
15 from Bailey's store, waited for him then driven him
16 downtown. We checked with the traffic manager of the 15/100
17 cab company and found that the driver could be located
18 at a cab stand out on Wilshire boulevard. Frank and I
19 drove out to see him. We gave him the description of
20 the suspect and asked if he'd ever seen anyone who
21 matched it.

22 SOUND: TRAFFIC B.G.

23 DOUG: Hard to be sure. Y'pick up so many people y'know.

24 JOE: Yes sir. But if you can remember...it's pretty important.

25 DOUG: Uh huh. Y'say I dropped this character off on Bimini
26 Place?

27 FRANK: That's what the weighbill says.

1 DOUG: Uh huh. Yeah.. I remember the night. Got a trip out to
2 the valley. Airport. Got stuck out there. Hadda wait
3 for an hour before I could get the cab started. Points
4 got wet.

5 JOE: Yes sir.

6 DOUG: Wife was sure sore. I got out of the car to see what
7 I could do to get started. Got my shoes all set. Brand
8 new pair of Argyle socks she'd knitted for me. Shrunk
9 all up. Can't wear 'em at all. Sure sore about it.

10 JOE: Yes sir. But do you remember this man?

11 DOUG: Yeah...yeah I remember him. Little guy. I picked him up out
12 on Wilshire I remember because he wanted out on a corner
13 I thought it was funny that he didn't want me to let him
14 out in front of where ever it was he was goin'.

15 JOE: Did you wait for him?

16 DOUG: Yeah, He gave me a sawbuck and said for me to wait. I
17 dropped the flag and ... I guess it was about half an
18 hour later he come runnin' back to the cab. Jumped in
19 and told me to take him down to 1st and Spring. I let
20 him out there. I remember him good now. Had a big
21 shopping bag.

22 JOE: You know where he went when he got out of the cab out
23 on Bimini?

24 DOUG: No. I think it was in an apartment out there. Way the
25 rain was comin down, I didn't stick my head out and
26 watch him.

27 FRANK: How 'bout when you dropped him off downtown? You see
where he went then?

1530

1 DOUG: No. I just dropped him off and right away I picked up
2 this fare for the airport.
3 JOE: You think you'd know this fella if you saw him again?
4 DOUG: Not sure. He wore his hat kinda down over his face.
5 Dark in the back of the cab. I might know him...then
6 maybe I wouldn't.
7 JOE: Like you to come downtown and look at some pictures.
8 See if you can spot him.
9 DOUG: Sure. I gotta get it cleared through the dispatcher 16/00
10 first.
11 FRANK: We can take care of that.
12 DOUG: What's this guy done. Something pretty bad huh?
13 JOE: We wanna talk to him.
14 DOUG: Goin' to a lot of trouble just to talk to a guy. C'mon..
15 you can tell me...I won't spread it around. What's the
16 beef. What's he done?
17 JOE: Be better if we talked to him about it.
18 DOUG: Okay. If that's the way you wanna play it. I don't
19 want to get nosey.
20 FRANK: I'll get you cleared with the dispatcher.
21 DOUG: Okay.
22 JOE: Like you to show us the apartment you think the man might
23 have gone into.
24 DOUG: Sure...glad to do anything I can to help. Say..about
25 these pictures..
26 JOE: Yeah?
27 DOUG: Sure was dark that night. I hope I can point him out.

16/28

-25-

16/35

1 JOE: Yes sir...so do we.

2 END SCENE 4

3 JOE: We took the cab driver downtown and he went through the
4 mugg books but he was unable to come up with an
5 identification. The neighborhoods where he'd picked up
6 the suspect and where he'd dropped him were checked.
7 None of the people in the vicinity could tell us anything.
8 The usual channels of information were checked, they
9 yielded no new information. It had been 10 days since
10 the hold up and we were no nearer to finding the
11 suspect than we'd been the day after the robbery. Another
12 week passed without results. The thief had dropped
13 from sight, and we still had no idea who he was. On
14 Tuesday March 10th, we got the answer.

17/10

15 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. HOT SHOT PHONE RING.

16 JOE: (MOVING) I'll get it.

17 SOUND: JOE GET'S TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP. BEAT THEN HE
18 HANGS UP THE PHONE.

19 FRANK: Anything?

20 JOE: Yeah...he just hit again.

17/14

21 END SCENE 5

17/24

1 JOE: ~~The~~ description and the M.O. the thief had used was the
2 same he'd employed in holding up Bailey. During the
3 following three days, he hit ~~three~~ more times. Each
4 time, he got away without a trace. From the information
5 we were able to get, it became apparent that he was
6 using taxi cabs to get to, and leave the stores of the
7 victims. We checked the cab companies and got their
8 full cooperation. They agreed to help us as much as
9 they could, but explained that with the tremendous
10 volume of business they handled, it would be almost
11 impossible to check every passenger the drivers carried.
12 We got out printed descriptions of the suspect, giving
13 detailed information of the hat and coat he wore, the
14 shopping bag he carried and the fact that he asked the
15 drivers to wait for him. Another week passed without
16 result. The bandit had stopped operating. Thursday,
17 March 19th, three additional teams of men were assigned
18 to the case and a rolling stake out was set up in the
19 general area where the hold-up man had been working.
20 Additional cars were planted at the cab stands along
21 Wilshire Boulevard and in the vicinity of 1st and
22 Spring streets. Another two days passed. On Thursday,
23 March 21st, Frank and I were staked out at the cab stand
24 at the corner of Wilshire and Teeward. 8:46 P.M.

17/30

18/00

25 SOUND: SLIGHT OFF TRAFFIC. CAR RADIO IN B.G.

26 FRANK: Looks, like it's gonna ~~rain~~ again.

18/30

1 JOE: Yeah. Clouds been movin' in all afternoon.
2 FRANK: Sure cold.
3 JOE: Uh huh.
4 BEAT
5 VOICE: (ON RADIO) Attention all units. All units. 9648 Eldon
6 Place. A 211. Code three. All units in the vicinity
7 of 9648 Eldon Place, a 211, code three.
8 JOE: Let's go.
9 FRANK: GRUNTS.
10 SOUND: FRANK TURNS ON THE SWITCH AND STARTS THE CAR. AS THE
11 CAR MOVES FORWARD, HE TURNS ON THE SIREN.
12 JOE: Coupla blocks over.
13 FRANK: Right...hold on
14 SOUND: THE CAR TURNS THE CORNER FAST.
15 JOE: (LOOKING OUT OF THE WITDOW) ~~This~~ is 9400...should be two
16 blocks down. 19/00
17 FRANK: Yeah.
18 SOUND: CAR SOUND
19 JOE: Hold it Frank..there's a cab headed this way.
20 FRANK: You see who's in it?
21 JOE: No...he's pullin' over to the other side. I'll take a
22 look.
23 SOUND: CAR SLOWS SLIGHTLY.

1 JOE: Looks like it might be.
2 FRANK: Wanna check it?
3 JOE: Yeah.
4 SOUND: THE CAR MAKES A U TURN IN THE STREET AND PICKS UP SPEED.
5 FRANK: Cab's taking off. You see it?
6 JOE: Yeah up ahead....just turning off on Wilshire.
7 FRANK: Hope we don't loose him.
8 JOE: One man in the back seat.
9 FRANK: You get a good look at him when we passed?
10 JOE: Not too good. Hat....pulled down. That's about all.
11 SOUND: THE CAR TURNS OFF ONTO WILSHIRE. WE HEAR THE SCREAM OF
12 BRAKES AS FRANK TAKES THE CORNER.
13 FRANK: Got him?
14 JOE: Yeah...there he is up ahead.
15 FRANK: Probably pulled the gun on the driver.
16 JOE: Yeah. Hang on him.
17 FRANK: Looks like he's headed for Mac Arthur park.
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 SOUND: THE CAR PICKS UP SPEED.
20 JOE: Turned right.

19/30

1 FRANK: Hold on.

2 SOUND: THE CAR TURNS THE CORNER AND THEN SLAMS ON THE BRAKES.

3 JOE: There's the cab.

4 SOUND: THEY GET OUT OF THE CAR AND RUN TO THE CAB.

5 REED: (FADING IN) I couldn't stop. He said he'd kill me if I
6 did. He had the gun pointed right at me.

7 FRANK: You see where he went?

8 REED: Yeah...he ran over there (INDICATES) into the park.

9 FRANK: I'll check it. 20/00

10 SOUND: HE TAKES OFF RUNNING.

11 REED: I didn't know what it was all about. He said that if I
12 didn't keep drivin' he'd kill me.

13 JOE: It's alright. You stay here, I'll be right back.

14 REED: Yeah sure.

15 SOUND: JOE RUNS ACROSS THE STREET AND INTO THE PARK.

16 FRANK: (OFF) Joe?

17 SOUND: JOE STOPS AND WAITS FOR FRANK TO WALK TO HIM.

18 JOE: Yeah. You see him?

19 FRANK: No. He made it. Better get a call out on him. Came up
20 with this though. Might make him easier to take.

21 JOE: Huh?

1 FRANK: His shotgun.

END SCENE 6

END ACT 1

2 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the documented story of your
3 police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO

Sept. 8, 1953

15

SECOND COMMERCIAL

1 ACTRESS: It's so satisfying to know that my Chesterfield is low
2 in nicotine - Highest in quality.

3 GIBNEY: Chesterfield ... low in nicotine ... highest in quality.
4 A fact proved by chemical analyses of the country's
5 six leading cigarette brands.

6 FENN: And it's so satisfying to know that a doctor, who has
7 been making thorough examinations, especially of the
8 nose, throat and sinuses, reports no adverse effects
9 from smoking Chesterfields.

10 GIBNEY: His report is a part of a program supervised by a
11 responsible research laboratory and is based on
12 thorough bi-monthly examinations of a group of
13 Chesterfield smokers over a period of a year and a
14 half.

15 FENN: That's eighteen full months now. Don't you want to
16 smoke a cigarette with a record like this? Regular or
17 king-size...

18 ACTRESS: Chesterfield is low in nicotine ... Highest in quality.
19 Best for me ... Best for you.

1 JOE: A dragnet of Mac Arthur park was ordered. The surrounding
2 streets were checked but apparently the suspect had made
3 good his escape. The crime lab crew was called and they
4 came out and went over the cab for physical evidence. In
5 the back seat of the car, we found the shopping bag the
6 thief had carried. It was a plain brown paper bag with
7 heavy cord handles. There was no way of tracing it. In
8 the bottom of the bag under several cans of food, there
9 was a sales slip with a pencil notation. One of the
10 prices that had been rung up, had apparently been wrong
11 and after the total had been made, a credit to the customer
12 had been deducted. There was no market name on
13 the slip, no address. Just the pencil notation. The
14 shotgun was checked for fingerprints but those that were
15 found were so badly smudged that they were useless. The
16 serial number was checked with gun records and we found
17 that the gun had been reported stolen three months
18 previously. We went out and talked to the man who'd made
19 the report but he couldn't help us. Lee Jones made
20 photographs of the serrated edge of the sawed off barrells
21 and they were booked as evidenced. We checked at the
22 store that had been robbed, but they told us the sales
23 slip wasn't theirs. Monday, March 23rd. We started out
24 to find the store that had made out the sales slip. We
25 checked all of the smaller grocery stores in the area where
26 most of the cabs had been picked up. It took us the better
27 part of three days. On Wednesday afternoon, we stopped at
28 a small delicatessen at the corner of 3rd and Leeward
29 streets.

(MORE)

1 JOE: The manager told us that he didn't recognize the slip
(CONT) but said that it could have come from their cash register.
2
3 He asked us to wait while he called his wife. She came
4 over to the store and we showed her the receipt.
5 SOUND: SLIGHT OFF MIKE TRAFFIC.
6 MARIE: (LOOKING) Yes...yes that's one that I made out. The
7 customer bought four cans of tomatoe sauce and I made a
8 mistake on the register. I overcharged him one cent on
9 each can. He noticed it and made quite a scene. It was
10 pretty embarrassing. I apologized and gave him a credit.
11 JOE: Do you know the man?
12 MARIE: Yes...he comes in quite often. Once or twice a week.
13 FRANK: He live in the neighborhood would you know?
14 MARIE: No...I can't tell you that. He just comes in and then
15 leaves.
16 JOE: Uh huh. You know his name?
17 MARIE: No I don't.
18 FRANK: He drive a car?
19 MARIE: I've never seen him in a car. He usually walks in and
20 get's what he wants and then walks out.
21 JOE: He come in with anybody else?
22 MARIE: No...always alone.
23 JOE: And you don't know if he lives around here?

22/30

1 MARIE: I told you "no." What's he done....what's this all about?

2 FRANK: We want to talk to him ma'am. When do you think he'll be
3 back?

4 MARIE: Well..this is Thursday...he might be in this evening...
5 maybe tomorrow.

6 JOE: What time does he usually come in?

7 MARIE: Mostly in the late afternoon...early evening. Is there
8 something I can do...you have a message I can give him?

9 JOE: No ma'am...we'll give it to him.

10 END SCENE 7

11 JOE: We called the office and told them where we were. Sgts.
12 Murphy and Rafferty were sent out to help us cover the
13 place. They'd stopped by the business office and brought
14 out two shot guns for us. Frank and I checked the small
15 store for someplace to stake out. The only place we could
16 find where we could keep the entire store under observation
17 and yet not be seen ourselves was on top of the large
18 refrigerator that held frozen foods and dairy products.
19 Murphy and Rafferty took up their positions outside of the
20 store and we waited. At 5:30, it started to rain again.
21 There was no sign of the suspect. 7:00 P.M..8. Still no
22 sign of him and the rain got heavier. 8:30...9:00P.M.

23 SOUND: OFF MIKE SOUND OF CARS ON WET STREET. RAIN ON SIDEWALK.

24 HUM OF REFRIGERATOR.

- 1 FRANK: Everytime this thing switches on, it feels like the
2 dentist is after my teeth.
- 3 JOE: (~~GRUNTS~~)
- 4 FRANK: Sure not much room up here.
- 5 SOUND: HE TRIES TO GET IN A COMFORTABLE POSITION.
- 6 FRANK: There just isn't one.
- 7 JOE: Huh?
- 8 FRANK: There isn't any way a man can lay on the top of an icebox
9 and be comfortable.
- 10 JOE: Yeah.
- 11 SOUND: THE RAIN CONTINUES.
- 12 SOUND: WE HEAR FOOTSTEPS ENTER THE STORE.
- 13 MARIE: (SLIGHTLY) Evening.
- 14 EARLE: (SLIGHTLY OFF) Yeah.
- 15 MARIE: Glad to see you back.
- 16 EARLE: Huh?
- 17 MARIE: I thought you might be mad about me over charging you the
18 other day. You looking for anything special tonight?
- 19 EARLE: (SLIGHTLY OFF) No. Just a couple of canned things. I
20 can get 'em.
- 21 MARIE: (SLIGHTLY OFF) Sure is raining.
- 22 EARLE: ~~Yeah~~.
- 23 JOE: (QUIETLY) Looks good.
- 24 FRANK: Yeah.
- 25 JOE: Wait till he comes over this way. We can jump him then.

1 FRANK: Right.

2 SOUND: WE HEAR EARLE WALK TOWARD WHERE FRANK AND JOE ARE HIDING.

3 WE CAN HEAR THE GROCERY CART SQUEAK.

4 BEAT WHILE EARLE COMES CLOSER.

5 JOE: (FAST) Now.

6 SOUND: WE HEAR JOE AND FRANK JUMP OFF THE TOP OF THE ICE BOX.

7 EARLE: What's goin' on?

8 FRANK: Watch it jce...

9 SOUND: EARLE FIRES AT JOE. THE BULLET CRASHES THROUGH THE GLASS

10 IN THE REFRIGERATOR. THERE ARE A COUPLE MORE SHOTS AND

11 EARLE TURNS AND RUNS.

12 JOE: Let's go.

13 SOUND: OFF WE HEAR EARLE GO THROUGH THE DOOR. JOE AND FRANK

14 FOLLOW. AS THEY GO THROUGH THE DOOR, THE RAIN COMES

15 IN FULL

16 FRANK: There he goes.

17 JOE: Police officer...hold it up.

18 BEAT

19 FRANK He isn't gonna stop.

20 SOUND: JOE FIRES AT EARLE.

21 JOE: You see Murph and Rafferty?

22 FRANK: Yeah...they're across the street.

23 JOE: Looks like he's going in the apartment.

24

25

5/30

1 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK START TO RUN AFTER EARLE. AS THEY GET TO
2 THE DOORWAY OF THE APARTMENT THEY SLOW DOWN SLIGHTLY.
3 JOE: Take it easy. Should be in here.
4 SOUND: THEY APPROACH THE DOOR TO THE APARTMENT. AS THEY DO,
5 WE HEAR A SHOT FROM OFF MIKE.
6 FRANK: He is.
7 JOE: Cover me.
8 FRANK: Right.
9 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO THE ENTRANCE AND PUSHES THE DOOR OPEN.
10 PAUSE THEN A COUPLE OF FAST SHOTS FROM OFF.
11 JOE: Give it up mister.
12 EARLE: Get away from me cop. You come after me and I'll kill
13 you.
14 JOE: Come on downstairs, you'll save yourself a lotta trouble.
15 SOUND: EARLE FIRES AND THEN JOE FIRES A COUPLE OF TIMES. WE
16 HEAR EARLE REACT AS HE IS HIT AND THEN HE TUMBLES DOWN
17 THE STAIRS. JOE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS.
18 FRANK: (FADING IN) You okay Joe?
19 JOE: Yeah.
20 SOUND: FRANK MOVES IN AND SHAKES EARLE DOWN.
21 FRANK: He's still alive.
22 JOE: You wanna call the ambulance?

26/107
1 FRANK: Yeah.

2 SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO THE DOOR AND EXITS

3 EARLE: (COMING AROUND) Who told you...who tipped you off?

4 JOE: You did?

5 EARLE: I never talked in my life.

6 JOE: You did once.

7 EARLE: Huh?

8 JOE: About four cents.

9 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

10 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The
11 names were changed to protect the innocent.

12 GIBNEY: On July 16th, trial was held in Department 96, Superior
13 Court of the State of California, in and for the County
14 of Los Angeles. In a moment, the results of that trial.

26/119
26/137

DRAGNET RADIO
SEPT. 22, 1953

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

1 WEBB: This is brief -- but I think very much to the point.
2 Chesterfield is the only cigarette that gives you proof
3 of low nicotine - highest quality. That's what I want
4 in my cigarette. That's what you should look for in
5 yours. Chesterfield.....regular or king-size.....
6 Best for you. Try them.
7

26/5/71

TRIAL PAGE

1 GIBNEY: Earle Russell Craig was tried and convicted on three
2 counts of robbery in the first degree and one count of
3 assault with a deadly weapon. Robbery in the first
4 degree is punishable by imprisonment in the state
5 penitentiary for a period of not less than five years.
6 Assault with a deadly weapon is punishable by
7 imprisonment for a period not to exceed 10 years.

27/1/7

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME 7/31

2 THEME: UNDER

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

9 _____ Script by John Robinson. Music by Walter
10 Schumann. Hal Gibney speaking.

11 MUSIC: THEME UNDER .. CONTINUES

12 FENN: Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on
13 your local N.B.C. television station. Please check your
14 newspaper for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield
15 has brought you Dragnet transcribed from Los Angeles.

(FATIMA HITCHHIKE)

MUSIC TO TV