CHESTERFIELD, V18
DIRECTOR:
WRITER:
MUSIC:
SCRIPT:
SOUND:
ENGINEER:
ANNCR. #1:
ANNCR. #2:
CASE:
NBC; 2k5
RELEAS DATE:
APRIL 27, 1954
SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES
AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALS11_ COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSC - TECH11TICAL ADVISORS:
SGT. MARTY WYNN: L .A. P.D.
SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L .A. P.D.
CAPT. JOHN DONOHOE: L .A. P.D.
REHEARSAL SCHEDUIE:\nRECORDING: THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1954
CAST AND SOUND: 11 :00 - 2 :30 P.M.
EDITING:
SCORING:
ORCHESTRA:
ANNOUNCERS
T.B.A.
T.B.A.
(BROADCAST: 6:00 - 6:30 P.M. -- STUDIO J - BY T. R.}
LG 0182901
THE BIG LIFT

CAST

SGT. JOE FRIDAY . . . . . . . . . . .' . . . . . . . . . . JACK WEBB

OFFICER FRANK SMITH . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . BEN ALEXANDER

MA. RGE (DBL) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . V IRGINIA GREGG

JERRY DUNLOP . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . JACK KRUSCHEN

ALICE EVANS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ALICE BACKUS

TOBIE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . RALPH MOODY

KENNETH, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . HERB ELLIS

VOICE, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . VIRGINIA GREGG

ARTHUR., . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . : . . . . . VIC PERRIN

SAM (DBL) . . . . . . . . . ; . . . . . . . . . . . .Jack KRUSCHEN

LG 0182902
Music: Signature

Fenn: (Easily) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about to hear is true. The names were changed to protect the innocent.

Music: Drum Roll Under

Gibney: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield, made by Liggett and Myers, first major tobacco company to bring you a complete line of quality cigarettes.

Music: Up and Fade For:

Fenn: (Easily) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to Forgery Division, Shoplifting detail. An organized gang of thieves has started operating in your city. In spite of the precautions taken, the thieves are still working. Your job ... stop 'em.

Music: Up and Fade For

(Commercial Insert)
DRAGNET RADIO
APRIL 27, 1954
FIRST COMMERCIAL

1 FENN: Today's Chesterfield is the best cigarette ever made. It's
the cigarette tested and approved by thirty years of
scientific tobacco research. The cigarette proved highest
in quality - low in nicotine ... best for you.
Chesterfield gives you the taste you want ... the mildness
you want - a really refreshing smoke every time. It all adds up to Chesterfield's world famous slogan .. "They
satisfy." Buy Chesterfield today ... regular or king-size ...
just light up - relax and enjoy America's most popular
two-way cigarette. Chesterfield - they satisfy millions.
MUSIC: THEMES

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 on 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 AND FRANK WALKING ON CARPETED HALLWAY...SLIGHT

DEPARTMENT STORE B.G. AUTO CALL ETC

JOE: It was Monday, September 20th. It was cold in Los Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Forgery Division, Shoplift Detail. My partner's Frank Smith, the boss chief of detectives, Thad Brown. My name's Friday. We were on our way out from the office and it was 9:45 A.M., when we got to the eighth floor of the Whitfield Department Store....(SOUND: DOOR OPEN)

Security office.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO THE OFFICE, DOOR CLOSE BEHIND THEM, COUPLE OF STEPS ON CARPET

MARG: Yes sir...can I help you?

JOE: Like to see Mr. Dunlop...he's expecting us.

MARG: Your name?
1 JOE: Joe Friday.
2 MARG: Oh yes...you want to go right in?
3 JOE: Thank you.
4 FRANK: Thanks.
5 SOUND: THEY WALK AWAY FROM THE DESK...STOP.
6 JOE: (UP) This door?
7 MARG: (OFF) Yes...go right in.
8 SOUND: JOE KNOCKS TWICE LIGHTLY AND THEN OPENS THE DOOR
9 JERRY: (OFF) Joe...Frank...c'mon in.
10 JOE: Hi Jerry.
11 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE AND JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE OFFICE
12 JOE: You know Frank don't you Jerry?
13 JERRY: Sure. How's it goin'? 
14 FRANK: Hi Jerry.
15 JERRY: You want to sit down...I'll have the girl sent up,
16 JOE: Right.
17 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK SETTLE DOWN IN CHAIRS...JERRY REACHES
18 FOR INTERCOM SWITCH AND CLICKS IT
19 MARG: (ON FILTER) Yes sir.
20 JERRY: You want to have Miss Evans sent up, please?
MARG: (ON INTERCOM) Miss Evans...yes sir.

SOUND: JERRY CLICKS INTERCOM OFF.

JERRY: (AS HE SITS BACK IN CHAIR.) Like to ask you guys a favor.

JOE: What's that Jerry?

JERRY: This Sally Evans. She's new here. Poor kid thinks this whole thing is her fault. I'd appreciate it if you could take it easy on her.

JOE: Don't worry about it.

FRANK: Sure.

JOE: What'd they got away with this time?

JERRY: Here's the list.

SOUND: HE TOSSES PITCH OF ONION SPLIT IN PAPER ACROSS THE DESK.

JOE: (TAKING THE PAPER) Thanks.

JERRY: Here's a copy for you, Frank.

SOUND: HE TOSSES ANOTHER COPY.

FRANK: Good.

JOE: You got any idea when they were in?

JERRY: Hard to tell for sure. We're open Friday night and then Saturday is a pretty rough day. Wasn't until after closing that we found it. I figure they either moved in late Friday night or early Saturday morning.

JOE: This Evans girl discover the thefts?
JERRY: No. She didn't know anything about it. The stock clerk found it. He was running through the inventory to replace the coats and suits. Noticed that there were several that couldn't be accounted for. He called me. The Evans girl is in the department. I talked to her this morning and it looks like she waited on the pair.

FRANK: She able to come up with any kind of description?

JERRY: Yeah....I think she'll be able to help.

SOUND: THE INTERCOM BUZZES.

JERRY: Excuse me.

SOUND: JERRY CLIPS THE SWITCH.

JERRY: (INTO INTERCOM) Yes?

MARG: (ON FILTER) Miss Evans is here.

JERRY: Send her in please.

MARG: Yes sir.

SOUND: (INTERCOM OFF) BEAT. THEN DOOR KNOCK.

JERRY: (UP) C'm in.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS. OFF MIKE.

ALICE: (LITTLE OFF) You wanted to see me Mr. Dunlop?

JERRY: Yes...would you come in please?

ALICE: (OFF) Yes, sir.

SOUND: DOOR CLOSES AND ALICE WALKS TO THE DESK.
JERRY: (STANDING UP) Miss Evans...this is Sergeant Friday...and Officer Smith. They're from the police department.

JOE AND FRANK: AS JERRY DOES INTRO SAY HELLO.

ALICE: (TO THE OFFICERS) Hello. (TURNS BACK TO JERRY) I don't know why you want to see me, Mr. Dunlop. I told you I didn't know anything about them. I told you. You've got to believe me that I didn't have anything to do with them. I never saw 'em before. (SHE STARTS TO BREAK)

JERRY: Sit down, Miss Evans.

ALICE: Thank you.

SOUND: SHE SITS DOWN AND BLOWS HER NOSE.

JERRY: The officers are here to talk to you. They want to ask you a couple of questions. There's nothing wrong.

ALICE: (BLOWS HER NOSE AGAIN) You mean I'm not going to lose my job?

JERRY: No.

ALICE: Really? You're not going to fire me?

JERRY: We never even considered it.

ALICE: I don't know how to thank you. My first job and to have a thing like this happen. I sure appreciate it. Anything you want to know, I'll tell you. You just ask...I'll tell you.
JOE: All right Miss Evans. Now have you any idea who might 

have stolen the merchandise?

ALICE: (TO JERRY) Didn't you tell them what I said Mr. Dymlop?

JERRY: I thought it would be better if they heard it from you.

ALICE: Oh...I see. (BACK TO JOE) Well, I think I know who they 

were. I've tried to remember all the people I waited on.

Everyone. There's only two that stand out. Like they 

were different.

FRANK: How do you mean...different?

ALICE: Well, they didn't seem like the other customers. Y'know... 

like they really wanted to buy something. They just 

wanted to look around. I could tell they didn't really 

want to take anything with them. We had a course on that 

in school. How to tell if a customer really wanted to 

buy.

JOE: Uh huh.

ALICE: That was one of the class problems...to sell a customer 

who really didn't want to buy anything.

JOE: Yes ma'am. About these people...what was it they did that 

makes you think they might have been the shoplifters?

ALICE: First...the way they talked...I was trying to wait on 

other people at the same time and they kept me showing 

them all kinds of things. Took me almost a half an hour 

to clean up after they left.

FRANK: There were two people?
1 ALICE: Yes...a man and a woman.
2 JOE: Uh huh. Can you give us a description of them?
3 ALICE: I told Mr. Dunlop all about it. You want me to go over it
4 again?
5 JERRY: I've got it, Joe...I'm having it typed for you now.
6 JOE: Good.
7 ALICE: You want me to tell it again?
8 JOE: We'll check it with you...yes ma'am.
9 FRANK: What kind of things did these two people want to see?
10 ALICE: Just about everything at the counter. They had me so
11 mixed up I didn't know what to do. I told you I was trying
12 to wait on another customer. A woman who wanted to buy a
13 suit. I kept trying to take care of her. She finally
14 left. These two were causing so much trouble every time
15 I left them I couldn't even take care of the woman. She
16 got mad and left. I don't really blame her. (TO JERRY)
17 Y'know Mr. Dunlop...there really should be more people up
18 there. Only three girls and when we get busy...there just
19 aren't enough to go around. Lots of customers walk out.
20 JERRY: We'll see what we can do.
21 ALICE: Lots of times they walk out without buying something
22 because there isn't somebody to help them.
23 JERRY: Uh huh.
24 JOE: This woman who walked out...can you describe her for us?
ALICE: You bet. She was real nice. Had a lot of patience. Kept waiting for me to go back and take care of the troublemakers. Never said a word.

FRANK: Can you give us a description of her?

ALICE: Well, I'd say she was about 35. It's hard to say for sure. She took real good care of herself. Y'know...hair all nice and good makeup. Not cheap like. Nice hands and a manicure.

JOE: Was she carrying any packages when she came in?

ALICE: Gee...I gotta think about that...(THINKS) I don't think so...Oh you know a couple of paper bags like from the notions department. Maybe face cream or cologne...things like that?

JOE: No large boxes?

ALICE: No. I don't see why you're so interested in her. The other two were the ones who caused the trouble. They're the ones who must have taken the things. Why're you askin' about the lady?

JOE: How was she dressed?


FRANK: She wearing a coat?

ALICE: Yes. Long. Had a stand up collar...real full skirt.

Tight bodice.
JOE: Where was she looking at the suits?

ALICE: Over by the counter. She'd hold 'em up y'know in front of the mirror. She knew what she wanted. Looked at the material...the way they were made. She'd have bought if I could have spent a little time with her. She liked the merchandise. Liked everything I showed her.

JOE: How many things did you take off the racks for her?

ALICE: I guess she looked at a dozen styles. Y'know...a dozen real high style suits. That seemed to be all she was interested in. You don't think she had anything to do with the stealing though do you?

JOE: Looks like she was the one who did the actual taking of the merchandise. The other two were there to keep you busy.

ALICE: I can't believe that. She was so nice. Never seemed to get upset. Even when I couldn't spend more time with her. Real nice. Didn't get upset at all when she couldn't find what she wanted.

JOE: You're wrong there.

ALICE: Huh?

JOE: She found it.

(END SCENE 1)
JOE: We continued to interrogate the witness. We got complete
descriptions of the trio. Their physical appearance and
their method of operation matched those of the gang, Frank
and I had been working on for the past six weeks. Alice
Evans was shown mugg shots of known shoplifters, but was
not able to give us an identification. We made
arrangements for her to come down to the office and check
additional mugg files. The average citizen looks at
shoplifting as a petty nuisance which business men are
expected to endure. This is not true. Shoplifting is
big business. Last year, hundreds of thousands of dollars
worth of merchandise was stolen from stores in the Los
Angeles Area alone. Most of the goods stolen by organized
gangs is sold to fences for final disposal. During the
course of our investigation, we'd been working with Stores
Protective Association, incorporating all of the security
officers in the larger businesses. M.O. bulletins had
been gotten out on the gangs activities. From what we had
been able to find out, there were three people working as
a unit. Two women and a man. The three suspects would
enter a store and split up.

(MORE)
JOE: (CONT'D) One woman would pretend to be looking at merchandise while the other two suspects would engage the clerk in conversation, keeping her away from the first member of the trio. The articles stolen were almost always either coats or suits and we noticed that one line of merchandise seemed to attract the criminals more than the others. The numbers of this particular brand of suits was far in the majority when compared to other articles stolen. Monday, 3:46 P.M. Frank and I went down to a second hand clothing store on Fifth Street to talk to the owner.

SOUND: DOOR OPEN...TINKLE BELL...JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO THE STORE.

TOBIE: (OFF) Be right with you.

JOE: (UP) Tobie?

SOUND: TOBIE WALKS OUT FROM REAR OF STORE. WE HEAR CURTAIN PULLED ASIDE.

TOBIE: Yeah...(SEES JOE AND FRANK) ...Hi fellas. What's goin' on?

JOE: Got some things we wanna talk to you about Tobie.

TOBIE: Sure...Just havin' a cup of coffee in the back. C'mon...

I'll pour you a cup.

FRANK: Okay....

SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM WALK INTO THE BACK OF THE STORE.

CURTAIN RISE.

TOBIE: Sit down. Get you some java.
JOE: Thanks.

SOUND: THEY SIT DOWN. TOBIE WALKS OFF MIKE AND WE HEAR HIM FUR.

TWO CUPS FROM A PERCUITATOR.

TOM (LITTLE OFF) Anything special?

JOE: Just fishin' Tobie. Thought you might be able to come up

with something for us.

SOUND: TOBIE FADES IN. PUTS CUPS DOWN ON TABLE.

TOM: Here y'go. Either of you want sugar?

JOE: No thanks.

FRANK: Don't use it.

SOUND: TOBIE SITS DOWN.

TOM: Just doin' part of your work here.

JOE: That right?

TOM: Yeah...buy sheets. Want to get it in the mail tonight.

JOE: We don't want to keep you.

TOM: No trouble Sergeant. Back's getting tired anyway. Just

as soon stop and have a cigarette.

SOUND: UNIVER, TOBIE TAKES A CIGARETTE OUT OF THE PACK AND LIGHTS IT. HE OFFERS ONE TO JOE AND FRANK.

FRANK: Business pretty good?
1 TOBIE: Keepin' up. *(LIGHTS HIS CIGARETTE AND EXHALES)* Now, what can I do for you?

2 JOE: You got anything on a boosting gang working?

3 TOBIE: No more than usual. Why?

4 JOE: Got a bunch that's givin' us trouble. Tryin' to come up with something that'll hang together on 'em.

5 TOBIE: Two men and a woman?

6 FRANK: Yeah, you got anything on 'em?

7 TOBIE: Nothin' worth repeatin'. Rumbles around about the three of 'em...that's about it. If I had any more, I'da called you sooner.

8 JOE: Where's the information comin' from?

9 TOBIE: You know how it is, Sergeant. Y'hear something here, somethin' else there. Y'put 'em together. Y'end up with a story but no way to trace it.

10 JOE: Yeah. You got any idea where the stuff is being sold?

11 TOBIE: Same answer. Rumble's got it that all the loot's being shipped out of town. Some of it back east...some goes up north. I got a piece the other day that some of it's goin' south.

12 FRANK: Mexico?

13 TOBIE: Yeah. Most of it's ending up in the east, though.

14 JOE: You know any reason they'd be hittin' one brand more than the other's?

15 TOBIE: Gotta word...that's about all.
1 JOE: What is it?
2 TOBIE: This gang is layin' it out around town that they'll pay up to 25 bucks for a suit. You know the goin' price is around 5....maybe 6 and a half.
3 JOE: Yeah.
4 TOBIE: Figures that if you can do better with one line...that's what you're gonna boost.
5 FRANK: Why's the price gone up?
6 TOBIE: Only way I can figure is that they're worth more on the market.
7 JOE: Anybody approached you?
8 TOBIE: If they had...you'da been called right away. You know that.
9 JOE: Yeah.
10 FRANK: Any idea where we might be able to pick up anything on the trio?
11 TOBIE: Not right out. But I'll tell you one thing.
12 FRANK: What's that?
13 TOBIE: Way I got it...there's four.
14 FRANK: Yeah.
15 TOBIE: Two men and two women. The one man's the gun. He sets up the deals...makes the shipments.
16 JOE: How they gettin' the stuff out?
TOBIE: Pick a kid up and offer him a trip. Ask him to deliver a suitcase. Works out good for them. Carrier doesn't know who he's workin' for...can't lead the cops back to the operation.

JOE: Uh huh.

TOBIE: 'Bout the only way I can figure it. You say none of the stolen stuff's showin' up down here?

SOUND: OFF MIKE WE HEAR THE DOOR OPEN AND THE TINKLE BELL.

TOBIE: Excuse me a minute, huh?

JOE: We'll walk out with you, Tobie. If you hear anything...

TOBIE: Instant...I make it in the perculator.

SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM STAND UP.

FRANK: (TAKING THE LAST DRINK OF HIS COFFEE) Good coffee, Tobie.

TOBIE: Instant...I make it in the perculator.

SOUND: AS THEY TALK...THE THREE OF THEM WALK OUT INTO THE STORE.

CURTAIN RIZ.

FRANK: Gotta tell Fay about it. Have her get some.

SOUND: THEY STOP

JOE: We won't keep you, Tobie.

TOBIE: Hang on a minute.

SOUND: TOBIE WALKS OVER TO KENNETH

TOBIE: (LITTLE OFF) Yes sir...what can I do for you?
KENNETH: (LITTLE OFF) You buy used clothes?

TOBIE: It's on the window. What've you got to sell?

KEN: It's in the car. I just wanted to be sure you were buyin' stuff.

TOBIE: Bring it in...we'll take a look at it.

JOE: (UP) Tobie...we'll see you later.

TOBIE: Right, sergeant. Give me a call.

JOE: Okay.

FRANK: See you, Tobie.

TOBIE: Right.

SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE...KENNETH HAS STARTED TO LEAVE THE STORE

TOBIE: You gonna bring those clothes in?

KEN: Yeah...Yeah...I'll be right back.

SOUND: KENNETH BUMPS INTO JOE AS HE LEAVES THE STORE

KEN: (HURRIEDLY) Excuse me...I'm in kind of a hurry.

JOE: That's all right.

KEN: Excuse me.

SOUND: HE WALKS TO THE DOOR AND RAPIDLY LEAVES THE SHOP

TOBIE: (FADING IN) What d'ya think of that?

JOE: He's sure in a hurry.
TORIE: Soon as I called you sergeant. Wonder what he's afraid of.

JOE: I don't know...let's find out.

(END SCENE 2)

JOE: Frank and I left the clothing store and went out onto the street. The man who'd left in such a hurry was nowhere in sight. Frank and I got into our car and drove down the street looking for him. We circled the block without seeing him. On the way back, we passed a bar on Main Street and caught sight of the suspect as he walked out of the place. Frank pulled the car up to the curb and I got out.

SOUND: TRAFFIC B.G., JOE'S STEPS ON SIDEWALK, CROWD.

JOE: (UP) Hey...hold it up there.

SOUND: JOE HURRYS.

JOE: C'mon...hold it up.

SOUND: JOE CATCHES KENNETH, STOPS HIM.

KEN: What d'you want?

JOE: What's the matter...didn't you hear me? I asked you to wait.?

KEN: Sure, I heard you...I didn't know you were talkin' to me.

KEN: What d'ya want.

JOE: (SHOWING I.D.) Police officer...you want to step over to our car. Like to ask you a couple of questions.
KEN: I haven't done anything.

JOE: We didn't say you did.

KEN: Then why do you want to talk to me? Why d'ya want me to come to the car?

JOE: Let's go.

KEN: All right...but you're makin' a mistake. I haven't done anything.

JOE: Uh huh.

SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE, THE TWO MEN HAVE STARTED TO WALK.

KEN: You got the wrong man. You haven't got no reason to talk to me.

JOE: All right...get into the back seat.

SOUND: STEPS STOP AND WE HEAR CAR DOOR OPEN. POLICE RADIO IN B.G.

FRANK: (LITTLE OFFF) Got him huh?

JOE: Yeah...Stand still.

SOUND: JOE SHAKE KENNETH.

KEN: What're you doin'? You won't find anything.

JOE: (FINISHING) Get in...

SOUND: KENNETH GET'S INTO THE CAR. JOE FOLLOWS.

KEN: I don't know what you guys are after. I haven't done anything.

JOE: Take your wallet out.

KEN: Why?
1 JOE: Take it out.
2 SOUND: KENNETH GET'S HIS WALLET OUT.
3 KEN: Here.
4 JOE: Take the money out of it.
5 BEAT
6 SOUND: WE HEAR KENNETH TAKE PAPER MONEY OUT OF HIS WALLET.
7 JOE: You always carry that much money?
8 KEN: No...not always.
9 JOE: Keep the money in your hand. Gimme the wallet.
10 KEN: Here.
11 SOUND: JOE GOES THROUGH THE WALLET.
12 JOE: This your true name?
13 KEN: Huh?
14 JOE: Kenneth Elgin Norris. That your right name?
15 KEN: Yeah.
16 JOE: You live there now, do you?
17 KEN: No...not now.
18 JOE: Where do you live?
19 KEN: I gotta room over on Seventh.
FRANK: Want me to run a make on him?

JOE: Yeah...here's his I.D. Card.

SOUND: REACHES FOR THE LICENSE.

FRANK: Thanks.

SOUND: FRANK MOVES OVER INTO THE SEAT AND TAKES THE MIKE FROM THE COMPARTMENT.

FRANK: (INTO RADIO) 1K80 to control one...1K eight oh to control one.

VOICE: (ON FILTER) Control one to 1k80 ...go ahead.

FRANK: (INTO RADIO) Check for want ... Kenneth Elgin Norris ...

Male ...white...American ... 26 years .... 5 feet 10 and three quarters ...168 pounds black hair ... brown eyes ...

K.M.A. 367.

VOICE: (ON FILTER) 1K 80 ... roger and stand by.

SOUND: FRANK PUTS THE MIKE IN THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT.

KEN: What's all that about?

JOE: Checkin' to see if you're wanted anyplace.

KEN: Oh.

JOE: You ever been in trouble?

KEN: Y'mean with the cops?

JOE: Yeah.

KEN: No...never.

FRANK: Why'd you leave that clothing store in such a hurry?

KEN: I remembered I had to meet a guy. I remembered I was late.
1 FRANK: Who's the guy?
2 KEN: A friend of mine... you wouldn't know him.
3 FRANK: Try us.
4 KEN: Guy named Arthur. I don't know his last name.
5 JOE: Where were you gonna meet him?
6 KEN: Bar down the street.
7 JOE: What about the clothes you wanted to sell.
8 KEN: What about 'em?
9 JOE: Where are they?
10 KEN: I don't know....
11 JOE: You went in to sell something that you don't have?
12 KEN: I was gonna pick 'em up from Arthur.
13 JOE: And you don't know his last name.
14 KEN: No,
15 FRANK: How come you were gonna sell the clothes?
16 KEN: Huh?
17 FRANK: Why were you gonna sell the clothes?
18 KEN: That's a silly question. Why does anybody sell anything...
19 because I needed the money.
20 JOE: You look like you're sittin pretty good.
21 KEN: I gotta leave town... I'm sellin' all my stuff.
FRANK: I thought you said the clothes belonged to this Arthur fella.
KEN: Well...they do but I'm gonna sell them for him. He said he'd give me a piece of the profit.
JOE: Why doesn't he sell them himself?
KEN: I don't know. You better ask him.
JOE: We'll try to. Get the rest of the stuff out of your pockets.
KEN: (AS HE WORKS) You guys are makin' a big mistake. You know that don't you...a big mistake.
JOE: If we're wrong...we'll tell you.
KEN: There it is...comb...some change...cigarettes...lighter.
JOE: That's all there is.
JOE: You sure?
KEN: Why would I lie.
JOE: Turn 'em inside out.
KEN: What?
JOE: Your pockets.
KEN: Oh...(HE WORKS) I told you...I gave you everything I had isn't anything else.
JOE: Yeah.
SOUND: WE HEAR A KEY FALL TO THE FLOOR OF THE CAR.
JOE: What's that?
KEN: Huh?

JOE: Move your foot...

SOUND: KEN DOES.

JOE: What's this?

KEN: Looks like a key.

JOE: What's it for?

KEN: I don't know...it isn't mine.

FRANK: Maybe it belongs to Arthur.

KEN: It isn't mine.

JOE: Looks like a check locker key.

KEN: Might be...I never saw it before...

JOE: Came out of your pocket.

KEN: No it didn't. It musta been on the floor all the time.

VOICE: (ON RADIO FILTER) 1 K30...your suspect has a felony record including burglary and is now wanted for parole violation.

SOUND: FRANK TAKES THE MIKE FROM THE COMPARTMENT...CLICKS SWITCH.

FRANK: (INTO MIKE) 1 - K30...roger. K.M.A. 367.

SOUND: FRANK PUTS THE MIKE BACK INTO THE COMPARTMENT.

FRANK: Thought you said you'd never been in trouble...

KEN: I made a mistake.
1  JOE:  Looks like you made more than one.
2  KEN:  What?
3  JOE:  Maybe you were wrong about the locker key.
4  KEN:  I told you... I never saw it before.
5  JOE:  Yeah...sure. (TO FRANK) You wanna wait here Frank?
6  FRANK:  Yeah.
7  JOE:  I'll get to a phone... find out where this key's from.
8  FRANK:  Right.
9  KEN:  It's a locker key...what's that prove?
10 JOE:  It might open more than a locker.
11 (END SCENE 3)
We got the location of the locker, and with the suspect, Frank and I drove over and removed a large black suitcase. The locks on the case had been broken and inside we found 11 women's suits of the same type that had been stolen from Los Angeles stores. All identifying labels had been removed but we were able to find the tag issued by the National Recovery Board inside the seams of the suits. We got in touch with their Los Angeles office and they told us that the serial number had been issued to the Lilliann Company in San Francisco. On the way back to the City Hall, we stopped and searched the suspect's room but were able to find nothing. When we got to the squadroom Frank went to the business office to arrange a phone call to San Francisco and I took the suspect to the interrogation room 6:20 P.M.

You guys gotta believe me. That stuff's not mine. I don't know where it came from.

Whore'd you get the key?

It's not mine. I never saw it before.

Kinda hard to buy.

I don't care if you want it or not. That's the way it is.

Tell me more about this Arthur.

I told you everything I know.
JOE: Where'd you meet him?
KEN: In a bar down on Main. I told you that before. What's the matter... don't you believe me?
JOE: You're makin' it tough.
JOE: We haven't seen much of it.
KEN: You have from me.
JOE: Where'd those suits come from?
KEN: I don't know.
JOE: Here... (HE SHOVES THE SUITS ACROSS THE TABLE) Take another look at 'em. Might help you remember.
KEN: They were in the suitcase when Arthur gave 'em to me.
JOE: That's all I know?
JOE: Where'd he get 'em?
KEN: I don't know?
JOE: He steal 'em?
KEN: I don't know.
JOE: Why'd he give 'em to you?
KEN: Just said he wanted me to take care of 'em.
JOE: You told us before, he wanted you to sell 'em.
KEN: Well, he did.
JOE: Where were you gonna make the payoff after they were sold.
KEN: He said he'd get in touch with me.
JOE: Where?
KEN: Around...he said he'd find me.
JOE: He gave you over five hundred dollars worth of suits and
said he'd get in touch with you.
KEN: That's right.
JOE: When?
KEN: Sometime.
JOE: He didn't name a date?
KEN: No... just said he'd look me up.
BEAT
JOE: How many times you been arrested?
KEN: You got the record...why y'askin' me?
JOE: Want you to tell us.
KEN: I dunno... I forget.
JOE: Make a guess.
KEN: Few times.
JOE: Five?
KEN: You got the record.
JOE: When's the last time you checked with your parole officer?
KEN: I forget.

JOE: Y'know your packaged tabbed?

KEN: No... I didn't know until I heard it on the radio.

JOE: You had no idea?

KEN: No.

(HEAT)

JOE: You went up for Burglary... that right?

KEN: Yeah. They sent me to the joint.

JOE: You know you're goin' back.

KEN: I guess.

JOE: Not gonna look good to have another charge marked on you.

KEN: What d'ya mean?

JOE: Burglary again.

KEN: How'dya dig that one up?

JOE: These suits. If you can't explain 'em it isn't gonna look too good.

KEN: I told you... Arthur gave 'em to me.

JOE: And said he'd get in touch with you.

KEN: That's right.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS, CORRIDOR B.G. FRANK ENTERS, DOOR CLOSE.

FRANK: He come up with the answers yet?

JOE: Say's he doesn't know 'em.
1 FRANK: Maybe we can help.
2 JOE: Huh?
3 FRANK: Just got through talking with a Mr. George Righter...
4 sales manager for Lilliann.
5 JOE: Yeah.
6 FRANK: He checked the records. Code numbers are from a
7 shipment to the Whitfield Department Store. Looks
8 like the bunch we're after.
9 JOE: Yeah. (BEAT, THEN TO KENNETH) Now who's Arthur?
10 KEN: Y'mean the suits were stolen?
11 JOE: You called it. Who's Arthur?
12 KEN: I don't want to go back to the joint on a beef like
13 this,
14 JOE: We don't decide that.
15 KEN: But if I help you guys...you'll take care of me.
16 You'll talk to my parole officer.
17 JOE: We make no deals.
18 KEN: But I don't want to fall this way.
19 JOE: It's up to you. You're sittin' in the middle. Which
20 way d'you wanna go.
21 (BEAT)
22 FRANK: Isn't anybody who can help you but yourself.
JOE: This Arthur must be a fine friend. Leavin' you with a bunch of stolen merchandise.

FRANK: Might be the way he figured it. What's the matter... doesn't Arthur like you?

(HEAT)

KEN: Okay... I'll go the route.

JOE: What?

KEN: I'll tell you where to find him.

(END SCENE 4)

(END ACT 1)

GIBNEY: You are listening to Droopnet, the authentic story of your police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
SECOND COMMERCIAL

FENN: You hear it everywhere ... "Chesterfields for me." Here's how lovely New York model and television star Roxanne puts it....

ROXANNE: I started smoking Chesterfields about the time I got into show business. Yes, it's Chesterfields for me ... and I like the regular size.

FENN: Now, let's hear from the man who owns and runs the Stork Club - Sherman Billingsley.

BILLING: You know, it's my privilege to be host to over four thousand very nice people every day. And most all of them smoke Chesterfields. As a matter of fact, our records show that Chesterfield is our largest seller by three to one. And it's Chesterfields for me. I like 'em king-size.

FENN: Either way you like 'em ... Chesterfield regular - Chesterfield king-size ... for the taste you want - the mildness you want ... a really refreshing smoke every time.

Always say - Chesterfields for me.
JOE: We called a stenographer and Kenneth Norris gave us a complete statement. He said that he'd been approached by a man he knew merely as Arthur and asked to carry a suitcase to St. Louis. Once there, a man would have him paged at the airport and take the valise from him. In return for this service, the suspect was to be paid one hundred dollars and his expenses. Norris explained that he decided he could do better by selling the contents of the suitcase himself. This information was forwarded to the St. Louis Police department. We got a complete description of the man he knew as Arthur and had the suspect check through the mug books but he was unable to make an identification. We got in touch with his parole officer and told him we had Norris in custody. We asked that we be allowed to use him for a few days. The following morning, we met with chief of detectives Thad Brown and Captain Welsh. It was decided that Norris would take us to the bar where he'd met the thief and point him out. Norris would then be brought back to the main jail and booked and I would try to establish myself with Arthur. In that way, we would have a better chance of building a case we could take to court and apprehending the entire shoplifting gang. On Wednesday morning, September 22nd, Norris, Frank and I drove over to Main Street. We checked the bar but the suspect wasn't there. We waited in our car which was parked down the street. Arthur failed to arrive. He didn't show up at the bar on Thursday or Friday. Saturday, 12:40 P.M., Norris pointed down the street.

SOUND: TRAFFIC B.G.
KEN: There... that's him. Just goin' in the place.

JCE: Fella in the grey suit?

KEN: Yeah. That's him.

JCE: You're sure are you?

KEN: What am I gonna make if I give you a bad deal?

JCE: Not much.

KEN: Then I've got no reason to lie.

JCE: Alright. Frank.

FRANK: (IN THE FRONT SEAT) Yeah.

JOE: You want to take Norris to the office? I'll go on in.

FRANK: Okay. I'll be right back.

SOUND: JOE GET'S OUT OF THE CAR.

KEN: Sergeant?

JOE: (STOPPING) Yeah.

KEN: I'll give you something for free.

JOE: What's that?

KEN: Take it easy with Arthur. Don't press.

JOE: What d'ya mean?

KEN: He's a pretty rough guy.

JOE: That right?
I

Yeah. I hear it that he carries a gun. There'll be a lot of trouble if he's got it with him.

Not unless he tries to use it.

I left Frank at the curb and walked to the bar. Inside I could see that the man we knew as Arthur was sitting at the rear of the place. I took a place near the front door and ordered a cup of coffee. In a few minutes, I walked back toward Arthur.

SOUND: JOE'S STEPS. JUKE BOX IN B.G. TO BE ADDED LATER

Arthur: Somethin' you want?

Joe: Wonder if I could have one of your cigarettes?

Arthur: There's a machine up front.

Joe: If I had the price, I'da bought a pack comin' in.

Arthur: All right...here.

Joe: Gotta match?

Arthur: How you fixed for breath?

Joe: Look mister, I asked you for a cigarette. If you don't want to give me one...say so and I'll shove off.
1 ARTHUR: Never mind ... here's your match.
2 SOUND: ARTHUR LIGHTS THE MATCH
3 JOB: (EXHALES) Thanks.
4 SOUND: JOB STARTS TO WALK BACK TO WHERE HE IS SITTING
5 ARTHUR: Hey... you.
6 JOB: (TURNING) You talkin' to me?
7 ARTHUR: You see anybody else in here?
8 SOUND: JOB WALKS BACK, STOPS
9 ARTHUR: You're broke huh?
10 JOB: I'm down to penny one.
11 ARTHUR: Just get in town.
12 JOB: This morning.
13 ARTHUR: Where from?
14 JOB: Up North.
15 ARTHUR: Narrow it down.
16 JOB: Look mister. Here's your cigarette back. Givin' me one doesn't entitle you to a life story.
17 ARTHUR: Y'hungry?
18 JOB: I haven't eaten for a couple of days.
19 ARTHUR: Here.
20 SOUND: HE TAKES A BILL FROM HIS POCKET
ARTHUR: I had it rough once. Take this... get yourself a meal and shave. Someplace to pad down.

JOE: Thanks... I sure appreciate it.

ARTHUR: How long you gonna be in town?

JOE: Depends on how things work out.

ARTHUR: You gotta job?

JOE: I'm gonna look.

ARTHUR: What d'ya do?

JOE: Whatever pays.

ARTHUR: Tell you what.

JOE: Huh?

ARTHUR: I got some friends around town. Might be able to use you. Check with me in a couple of days. I might be able to do something for you.

JOE: How do I get in touch with you?

ARTHUR: Meet me here. I tag the place couple of times a week. Just ask if Arthur's around.

JOE: That your name?

ARTHUR: It's what I'm using this season. You look me up kid... we'll work somethin' out.

JOE: Yeah... I'm sure we will.

(END SCENE 6)
I sat and talked to Arthur for another half hour. During that time, he wouldn't tell me his last name and I had no way of finding out anything more about him. At 12:10, I saw Frank drive by the front door. That was the signal that the crew of detectives were standing by to follow the suspect. I left the bar and walked down Main Street to Seventh. Frank was waiting for me. We drove back to the City Hall and discussed what had happened with Chief Brown and Captain Welsh. During the next three days, Arthur was kept under constant surveillance. He didn't drive an automobile. He contacted no one. We were able to learn a considerable amount about the man. Although he didn't try to make contact with any of the other members of the gang, it was obvious that he was the prime fence and was directing the operation. In the meantime, the thefts continued. On Monday, we got a report from a department store that 9 women's suits and 2 fur coats had been taken over the weekend. The M.O. was the same as on previous thefts. Wednesday afternoon, I walked into the bar on Main street. Arthur wasn't there but the bartender said that he was expecting him. I waited. At 6:47 P.M. the suspect entered the place. He took a seat at the rear of the bar and motioned me back.
ARTHUR: That right?
JOE: Yeah...I wondered if you'd been able to come up with that job you were talkin' about. I could sure use a touch.
ARTHUR: You like to travel?
JOE: What?
ARTHUR: I think I might have something for you. You gotta go outta town though.
JOE: For money?
ARTHUR: I wouldn't ask you any other way.
JOE: What do I have to do?
ARTHUR: Friend of mine has a suitcase he wants delivered to a party in Chicago.
JOE: Why don't he send it by mail.
ARTHUR: Doesn't want it to go that way. He wants it delivered personally.
JOE: What's the pay?
ARTHUR: All your expenses and a hundred bucks.
JOE: What's in the suitcase?
ARTHUR: That isn't any of your business.
JOE: What happens if I get picked up. How do I know I'm not carrying anything hot.
1 ARTHUR: You gotta take my word for it that you ain't.
2 JOE: Okay...Who do I deliver the suitcase to?
3 ARTHUR: I'll meet you in the morning. I'll give you the bag then.
4 JOE: Who do I deliver the suitcase to?
5 ARTHUR: I'll meet you in the morning. I'll give you the bag then.
6 JOE: How do I know it's the right guy?
7 ARTHUR: We'll give you the name. He's the only one who knows
8 JOE: How do I know it's the right guy?
9 ARTHUR: We'll give you the name. He's the only one who knows
10 JOE: Where do I meet you?
11 ARTHUR: Be out in front of this place at 8 in the morning. I'll
12 JOE: How 'bout the money?
13 ARTHUR: Pick you up.
14 ARTHUR: You won't need any goin' back. When you turn over the
15 JOE: How 'bout the money?
16 ARTHUR: You won't need any goin' back. When you turn over the
17 JOE: Okay...Where do I meet you?
18 ARTHUR: I'll meet you here then huh...8 in the morning.
19 ARTHUR: Right. And be on time. I don't want to miss that plane.
20 JOE: Don't worry.
21 ARTHUR: Lot depends on this deal. I don't want anything to go
22 ARTHUR: What?
JOE: Neither do I.

(END SCENE 7)

JOE: I left the bar and met Frank. We stood by the front of the bar and at 9:56 P.M. the suspect came out. He called a cab and we followed him. He went out to the apartment where we knew he lived. Frank and I waited out in front. At 11:20, a car pulled up in front of the place and three people got out. They matched the description of the thieves in our shoplifting operation. They were carrying a large suitcase. We waited for 10 minutes and then Frank and I went up to Arthur's apartment.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS ALONG CORRIDOR. CARPET

FRANK: Number 408.

JOE: Yeah...should be down this way.

FRANK: Uh huh.

SOUND: STEPS HOLD FOR A WHILE. STOP

JOE: (SOTTTO) I'll get the door.

FRANK: Wait a minute.

SOUND: WE HEAR FRANK TAKE GUN OUT OF HIS HOLSTER.

(HEAT)

SOUND: JOE KNOCKS AT THE DOOR
ARTHUR: (OFF MIKE BEHIND THE DOOR) Who is it?

SOUND: DOOR KNOCK AGAIN

ARTHUR: (OFF) Just a minute.

BEAT

SOUND: DOOR OPENS

ARTHUR: (AS HE SEES JOE) What're you doin' here?

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK BRUSH PAST HIM INTO THE ROOM

SAM: (REACTS AS JOE AND FRANK COME IN) What's this all about.

JOE: Police officers, you're under arrest.

FRANK: Stand still.

ARTHUR: A cop...a lousy cop. I shoulda known. I thought I could trust you...I thought you were honest.

SAM: (TO ARTHUR) Yeah...you sure pick 'em. A cop for a messenger boy.

ARTHUR: I thought I could depend on him. I thought he was honest.

SAM: You don't know what the word means.

JOE: How 'bout it mister.

SAM: What?

JOE: Do you?

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

GIBNEY: On January 18th, trial was held in department 97, Superior Court of the state of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles. In a moment the results of that trial.

FENN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.

WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT
Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.

Thank you, George Fenneman. The Chesterfield you smoke today is the best cigarette ever made and best for you.

That's a fact. And, to my way of thinking, it's the very best reason for you to change to Chesterfield. Buy them either way... regular or king-size..... If you try them, I think you'll say with all of us-- Chesterfields for me.
TRIAL PAGE

GINNEY: Arthur Nelson Thompson, Samuel Donald Hickock, Georgia
Baxter Neilson and Dorothy Marie Simpson were tried and
convicted of burglary in the second degree 14 counts.
They received sentence as prescribed by law. Burglary in
the second degree is punishable by imprisonment in the
state prison for a period not less than one nor more than
15 years.
COSMOPOLITAN PLUG
APRIL 27, 1954

1 FENN: Ladies and gentlemen, we would like to thank the editors
2 of Cosmopolitan Magazine for this month's pictorial
3 feature on Jack Webb and Dragnet. On your news stands
4 tomorrow.
MUSIC: THEME

THEME: UNDER


Heard tonight were: Ben Alexander, 


Hal Gibney speaking.

MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

FNN: Watch an entirely different Dragnet case history each week on your local NBC Television station. Please check your newspapers for the day and time. (HEAT) Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from Los Angeles.

(PATIMA HITCH HIKE)
Filter cigarette smokers ... here is headline news!

Nation-wide demand for L & M Filters drops price!

Now, you save up to four cents a pack ... forty cents a carton. Now, everyone can afford America's highest quality and best filter tip cigarette. Remember -- only L & M's have the miracle filter tip ... containing alpha cellulose. You get much more flavor - much less nicotine. Buy L & M Filters - the distinctive monogram cigarette ... at the new low price - L & M Filters!