



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD, #80

NBC #248

RELEASE DATE: MAY 18, 1954

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 TOLLIFSON &
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 GIENEY, NBC

CASE: "THE BIG HELP"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING: SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1954

CAST AND SOUND: 12:00 - 2:30 P. M. - "B"

EDITING: T. B. A.

SCORING: T. B. A.

ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCERS: (COMMERCIAL)

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

"THE BIG HELP"

C A S T

SGT. JOE FRIDAY.....JACK WEBB
OFF. FRANK SMITH.....BEN ALEXANDER
TOM DAWSON.....VIC PERRIN
BEATRICE DOWLING.....VIRGINIA GREGG
CECIL MADDOX.....STACY HARRIS
PAUL HADLEY.....HARRY BARTELL
HARRY.....(DEL).....HARRY BARTELL

1 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

2 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about
3 to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect
4 the innocent.

5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER

6 GIBNEY: ~~Dragnet~~ is brought to you by Chesterfield. For the
7 taste you want -- the mildness you want -- a really
8 refreshing smoke buy America's most popular two
9 way cigarette -- Chesterfield. They satisfy millions.

10 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

11 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
12 to Forgery Detail. A group of expert check passers is
13 working in your city. They've hit over 50 places of
14 business. You've got no lead to their true identity.
15 They're still working. Your job stop 'em.

16 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

17 (COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET - RADIO
5-18-54

FIRST COMMERCIAL

1 FENN: "One of the biggest comedy hits of the year" ... that's
2 how the movie critics are describing Bob Hope's latest
3 Paramount picture ... CASANOVA'S BIG NIGHT. Like so
4 many other millions of smokers ... Bob and Audrey
5 Dalton, who appears with him in the picture, says--
6 "Chesterfields for me." First, Audrey Dalton....
7 DALTON: (TAPE) I changed to Chesterfield king-size because I
8 think it's better than any other king-size cigarette.
9 FENN: Bob Hope says....
10 HOPE: (TAPE) Five years ... that's how long I've been smoking
11 Chesterfields. And they've always had what it takes to
12 satisfy me. What's more, I've seen how Chesterfields
13 are made - down in their Durham factory - and I
14 wouldn't smoke any other cigarette. Try Chesterfields
15 yourself. You'll find they're best for you, too.
16 FENN: For the taste you want - the mildness you want - a
17 really refreshing smoke every time ... Buy America's
18 most popular two-way cigarette. Chesterfield king-size
19 - now at the new low price ... or Chesterfield regular.
20 They satisfy millions - they'll satisfy you.

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIENEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
3 the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los
4 Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by
5 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 Dragnet is
8 the story of your police force in action.

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

10 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON SIDEWALK. TRAFFIC B.G.

11 JOE: It was Wednesday, July 11th. It was warm in Los
12 Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Forgery
13 Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Chief
14 of Detectives, Thad Brown. My name's Friday. We were
15 on our way out from the office and it was 11:20 A. M.
16 when we got to the corner of York Boulevard and
17 Buchanan Street (SOUND: DOOR OPEN) the
18 Yorkanan Market.

19 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO THE MARKET. DOOR SWINGS CLOSED
20 BEHIND THEM. COUPLE OF STEPS THEN STOP.

21 HARRY: (LITTLE OFF) Yeah somethin' you're lookin' for?

22 JOE: Like to see Tom Dawson.

23 HARRY: He's in the back there over by counter 11. Cold
24 cereals.

25 JOE: Thanks.

26 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK GO THROUGH A TURNSTILE AND WALK BACK
27 THROUGH THE MARKET. STOP. AS THEY DO WE HEAR TOM
28 STACKING CEREAL BOXES.

29 TOM: Yeah?

30 JOE: Mr. Dawson?

1 TOM: Yeah.

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

3 TOM: 'Bout the check, huh?

4 JOE: Yes sir.

5 TOM: You mind if I go ahead with this display? Like to get
6 it finished. I got enough trouble with the boss as it
7 is. Don't want to build any more.

8 JOE: No sir go right ahead.

9 TOM: This fella a cop too?

10 JOE: Yes sir. Officer Frank Smith my name's Friday.

11 TOM AND FRANK SAY HELLO TO EACH OTHER.

12 TOM: Sure hope you can get the guy who gave me the paper. Way
13 it stands now, I'm gonna have to make it up outta my
14 salary. I don't make that much.

15 JOE: Uh huh.

16 TOM: Haven't told my wife yet. She's gonna scream like an
17 eagle when she finds out. Got a real strict budget. Sure
18 gonna louse it up.

19 JOE: Do you have the check?

20 TOM: Yeah. I got it right here.

21 SOUND: HE TAKES HIS WALLET OUT AND GOES THROUGH IT.

22 TOM: Came back from the bank this morning. Boss gave it to
23 me. (FINDS IT) Here y'go.

24 SOUND: JOE TAKES THE CHECK

25 JOE: Uh huh.

26 FRANK: Same as the others?

1 JOE: Looks like it here.
2 FRANK: (TAKES THE CHECK) Thanks.
3 SOUND: TOM FINISHES THE DISPLAY AND STEPS BACK.
4 TOM: How's that look to you?
5 JOE: Sir?
6 TOM: The display look all right?
7 JOE: Yes sir.
8 TOM: Get this mask finished and it's all done.
9 JOE: What can you tell us about the man who gave you the
10 check?
11 TOM: What do you want to know?
12 JOE: What kind of identification did he use?
13 TOM: Had just about the whole thing. Driver's license
14 social security card .. gasoline credit card. The works.
15 JOE: Uh huh.
16 FRANK: This pencil notation on the back of the check
17 that his license number?
18 TOM: Lemme take a look.
19 SOUND: TOM MOVES TO FRANK AND LOOKS AT THE CHECK
20 TOM: Yeah. That's it. I figured sure it'd be good. Nice
21 lookin' fella. Sure never go him for a paper hanger.
22 JOE: You give us a description of him?
23 TOM: Yeah, sure can. I got a good look at him.
24 SOUND: TOM MOVES TO THE DISPLAY AND TAKES A LARGE ENVELOPE.
25 TEARS IT OPEN.
26 TOM: This sure oughta sell the stuff.
27 JOE: What?

1 TOM: This mask. We're givin' them away when you buy the
2 breakfast food. Extra quarter and you get one of these
3 head things. Kids sure go for 'em.
4 JOE: Uh huh.
5 TOM: Whole display is built around it. See ... finished mask
6 goes right there. Makes it look like the cardboard kid
7 is wearin' it.
8 JOE: Yeah.
9 TOM: You wanna go ahead with the questions while I put it
10 together?
11 JOE: Yeah. You ever seen this man before?
12 SOUND: UNDER THE FOLLOWING, WE HEAR TOM PUTTING THE MASK
13 TOGETHER
14 TOM: No. Course he might have been around. We do a pretty
15 good business. He could have been in and I wouldn't
16 remember.
17 FRANK: What'd he say to you?
18 TOM: Just came in and bought some groceries. Must have been
19 about a dollar and a half's worth. Asked me to cash
20 the check. I told him that the manager would have to
21 okay it.
22 FRANK: Uh huh.
23 TOM: Told him that the manager wasn't here. He'd have to
24 wait.
25 JOE: Can't anyone else give the okay?
26 TOM: Not supposed to. If we do and something goes wrong
27 we're stuck for it.
28 JOE: Uh huh.

1 TOM: Guy told me that he didn't have time. Said he was on
2 his lunch hour and he had to get the groceries home. I
3 asked him if he had any identification. He said he did...
4looked all right to me so I cashed the check. Got
5 me for 89 dollars and 60 cents.
6 JOE: Uh huh.
7 TOM: Say.. Would you hold this mask for me while I get the
8 rubber band around the top.
9 JOE: Yeah.
10 TOM: Wait'll I wind it around a couple of times. We put these
11 things up high but the kids still find a way to get 'em
12 down. If they're not put together good...they don't last.
13 long. That'll do it. Now let's see...(HE LOOKS AT THE
14 ENVELOPE) I guess this is what goes in next...the
15 eyepiece. (READING) Take the eyepiece and put it inside
16 the mask....slip into notches.....Y.....and T...I guess
17 that's these.
18 SOUND: HE PUTS THE EYEPIECE IN
19 FRANK: You don't seem very worried about the check Mr. Dawson.
20 TOM: Isn't gonna do much good to be upset about it now. Thing
21 I got to worry about is that I don't loose my job. That's
22 the important thing.
23 JOE: Uh huh.
24 TOM: Gonna be pretty rough when the wife finds out, but it'll
25 ~~be worse~~ if I gotta tell her that I lost the job too.
26 FRANK: Did you look at the man's identification closely?
27 TOM: How d'ya mean close?
28 FRANK: Did you take a good look at it?

1 TOM: Good enough to think it was all right to cash the check.
2 FRANK: It looked genuine.
3 TOM: If it didn't, I wouldn't have gone for the money.
4 FRANK: Yeah.
5 JOE: Was there anything about the man that would make it
6 easier to identify him?
7 TOM: Not that I could see. Looked ordinary enough. Nothin'
8 special about him. Nothin' that'd stand out. Hold this
9 a minute will you....while I put the ear pieces in?
10 JOE: Yeah.
11 SOUND: UNDER, TOM PUTS THE EAR PIECES IN THE MASK
12 TOM: Thanks.....Guess that's all there is. (REACHING) Put it
13 up here on the top.....That does it....there.....
14 SOUND: HE STEPS BACK
15 TOM: How's it look?
16 JOE: Fine.
17 FRANK: Yeah. Good.
18 TOM: Sure hope the boss likes it. He's sure been on my back
19 since that check came back. Seems like everything I do
20 is wrong. Be glad when this day is over.
21 JOE: Uh huh. You want to give us the description now?
22 TOM: Of the man who gave me the check.
23 JOE: Yes sir.
24 TOM: Sure. Want to do all I can to help. You think if you
25 catch him, I'll be able to get the money back?
26 JOE: Hard to say sir.

1 TOM: Sure hope so. 89 - sixty....lotta money. Hate to lose
2 it.
3 JOE: Uh huh.
4 TOM: Don't even want to think about what my wife's gonna say.
5 Liable to be pretty rough
6 JOE: All right, Mr. Dawson. How old was the man?
7 TOM: 'Bout 27....around in there.
8 JOE: How tall was he?
9 TOM: Five - nine I guess. Say....if you do catch him...how do
10 you go about gettin' the money back?
11 JOE: It's booked as evidence first.
12 TOM: Then I get it back?
13 JOE: Depends on what happens at the trial. Not up to us to
14 decide.
15 FRANK: The suspect has gotten to several other people too. If
16 there's anything recovered....they've got a share of it.
17 TOM: Then I probably won't get what's comin' to me.
18 JOE: No sir.....but you can be sure of one thing.
19 TOM: What's that?
20 JOE: The suspect will.
21 (END SCENE 1)

1 JOE: 11:46 A.M. We got the complete description of the suspect
2 and made arrangements for the victim to come down to the
3 city hall and go through the mugg books. The information
4 on the driver's license was checked through R. and I. and
5 the department of Motor Vehicles and found to be false.
6 The first bad check had come to our attention on February
7 16, five months previously. Between then and the present
8 forgery, the gang had taken approximately 60 thousand
9 dollars from business men in the southland area. All
10 attempts had been made to stop them. The checks cashed
11 were all issued for the same amount....ninety one dollars
12 and ten cents. The checks were drawn on existing companies
13but on banks where no account existed. Examination
14 of the forgeries by the crime lab and by Handwriting
15 showed that the checks themselves were not genuine. The
16 signatures on each of them varied. The typewriter used
17 to fill in the payee and the date was different in each
18 instance, as was the check protector used. M.O. bulletins
19 carrying pictures of the checks and lists of the companies
20 they were drawn on were gotten out to all super markets
21 and check cashing agencies in the city. None of the
22 precautions we took, did any good. The gang continued
23 to operate. Each of the victims was questioned, but the
24 descriptions of the suspect they gave us was different
25 in all instances. Examination of pictures of known check
26 forgers using the same method of operation netted us
27 nothing. The staats office had made several runs on the
28 information we had but were not able to come up with any
29 new evidence. (MORE)

1 JOE: George Brereton in Sacramento was contacted and he
2 (CONT'D) furnished a list of possibles. These were checked out and
3 several arrests were made clearing up other forgeries but
4 our prime suspects were still free and operating.
5 Wednesday, 4:15 P.M. Frank and I came back from Captain
6 Welsh's office.
7 SOUND: SQUADROOM EG.. JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO ROOM
8 FRANK: Now we know how the skipper feels.
9 JOE: You blame him?
10 FRANK: No....I guess not. We're doin' all we can. If the people
11 who run the stores won't look at the bulletins, there's
12 nothing we can do.
13 JOE: The breaks are bound to go with us. Gotta start sometime.
14 SOUND: PHONE RINGS
15 JOE: I'll get it.
16 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO THE PHONE AND PUNCHES THE BUTTON
17 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Forgery, Friday....Just a minute ma'am.
18 (TURNS TO FRANK) Fergie around?
19 FRANK: I'll take a look in back.
20 SOUND: FRANK TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS OFF
21 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) (CALLING) Ferguson.....Ferguson...
22 SOUND: HE WALKS BACK ON MIKE
23 FRANK: Not here.

1 JOE: (INTO PHONE) He's not here right now....can I take a
2 message? Uh huh. Yes ma'am.....no he's working today.
3 Yes ma'am. If you'll give me your number, I'll have him
4 call when he gets in. Uh huh. (WRITES)....That's /
5 nine-eight? Yes ma'am. No....it's right in the message
6 book. He'll see it. ~~That's~~ right. Yes ma'am. Uh huh.
7 No, he'll look at the book when he comes in. Right away
8yeah. You're more than welcome. Yes ma'am. G'bye.

9 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE

10 FRANK: Problem?

11 JOE: No. She just didn't believe that Fergie'd get the
12 message.

13 FRANK: Yeah....sometimes Fay says the same thing.

14 SOUND: DOOR OPENS OFF

15 BEA: (OFF) Sergeant Friday?

16 JOE: (TURNING) Yeah....(RECOGNIZES BEATRICE)....Hi Beatrice
17c'mon in.

18 SOUND: DOOR CLOSES OFF AND BEATRICE WALKS ON MIKE

19 BEA: Wasn't sure you'd be in.

20 JOE: You know my partner, Frank Smith don't you?...Beatrice
21 Dowling?

22 BEA: Yeah...we've met.

23 FRANK: Sure....haven't see you in a long time.

24 JOE: You wanna sit down Bea?

25 BEA: Thanks

26 SOUND: SHE PULLS UP A CHAIR

27 JOE: What can we do for you?

28 BEA: Just thought I'd drop in and say hello. Been a while.

29 JOE: Yeah. How's it goin' with you?

1 BEA: Pretty good. Got myself a job when I got out. Things
2 are workin' good for me.
3 JOE: How long's it been?
4 BEA: A year ago last January.
5 JOE: Anything we can do for you?
6 BEA: No...might be the other way around.
7 JOE: What d'ya mean?
8 BEA: I never got the chance to tell you, Sergeant, how much I
9 appreciated what you did for me. What you said in court.
10 JOE: We just told the truth.
11 BEA: Yeah I know...but it would have gone a lot harder with
12 me if you hadn't been on my side.
13 JOE: Nice of you to think that way.
14 BEA: It's true. I never got the chance before, now maybe
15 there's a way I can pay you back.
16 JOE: Not necessary.
17 BEA: I know. I want to.
18 JOE: Go ahead...what've you got?
19 BEA: You know how it is when you get out of jail. Y'meet a
20 lot of the people in the business. They all got a deal
21 for you...something to put you back on your feet.
22 JOE: Uh huh.
23 BEA: Same thing happened with me. I stayed clear of it
24 though. Never went near 'em.
25 JOE: Yeah.

1 BEA: I'm not gonna con you...couple of times...it was pretty hard
2 but I'm on the road and I'm gonna stay there.

3 JOE: Glad to hear it.

4 BEA: But you get rumbles....y'know....things come up.

5 JOE: Uh huh.

6 BEA: I got one the other day. More than a rumble. Thought about
7 you right away. Figured this was a way to pay you back.

8 JOE: What is it?

9 BEA: Met a guy in a bar. Little place near where I work. Usual
10 after work, I stop in and have a beer while I wait for the
11 traffic to clear up....before I go home.

12 JOE: Yeah.

13 BEA: The other night...fella came up and started talkin. Nice
14 lookin' guy. We got to talkin about different things.

15 Nothin' big...just things. You know how you do at a bar.

16 JOE: Yeah.

17 BEA: He asked me what I did for a living...how things were goin..
18 ...like that. Then he wanted to know if I'd like to pick
19 up a few extra bucks.

20 JOE: Uh huh.

21 BEA: He said he wanted me to cash a check for him. I told him I
22 didn't have the money. Didn't make any difference how small
23 the check was...I didn't have the loot.

24 JOE: Yeah.

1 BEA: Then he sprung it. Said he didn't want me to cash it
2 myself. Said he wanted me to take it to a store and
3 cash it. Said he'd give me half of what the check was
4 for.

5 JOE: Why didn't he do it himself?

6 BEA: I asked him the same thing. That's when he told me,
7 Soon's I heard it, I figured it might be something for
8 you.

9 JOE: Yeah.

10 BEA: He said the check was stolen.

11 (END SCENE 2)

12 JOE: Beatrice Dowling had been convicted of forgery three
13 years before. She'd been sentenced to the California
14 Institution for Women at Corona, California. Frank and I
15 had a small part in the investigation that resulted in
16 her conviction. During the trial, we'd testified that
17 her cooperation had aided us in apprehending the rest of
18 the gang and allowing us to clean up the operation.
19 Since she'd been paroled, we'd lost track of her but on
20 those occasions when we'd talked to her parole officer,
21 we found that she was living up to all of the conditions
22 of her release. Frank and I took her across the street
23 to a restaurant and talked to her.

24 SOUND: RESTAURANT B.G.

25 BEA: Pass the sugar will you, Sergeant?

26 JOE: Yeah...here y'go

27 SOUND: JOE PASSES THE SUGAR

28 BEA: You don't use it?

29 JOE: No thanks.

1 BEA: How 'bout you, Mr. Smith?
2 FRANK: No thanks...I take it black.
3 SOUND: BEA SPOONS THE SUGAR INTO HER COFFEE AND STIRS IT
4 JOE: About this guy...what'd you tell him?
5 BEA: Said I'd think over the deal and let him know.
6 JOE: Did you get a chance to see the checks?
7 BEA: A couple. He took 'em out of a wallet in his coat. I
8 didn't get a good look at them though.
9 JOE: Uh huh. How 'bout the man himself..you ever seen him
10 before?
11 BEA: I don't think so.
12 FRANK: You know why he picked you?
13 BEA: I been tryin' to figure that one myself. The only thing
14 I can think of is that the bartender there knows I fell
15 once. He might have given the word.
16 JOE: He got any record that you know of?
17 BEA: The bartender?
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 BEA: I don't think so. He likes to talk big...but I don't
20 think he's ever done big time.
21 JOE: Uh huh.
22 FRANK: You set up anything about meeting the man with the check?
23 BEA: Not definite. I told him I'd think it over. Asked him
24 if I decided to do it...would the offer still be open.
25 FRANK: Yeah.
26 BEA: He said it would. Said to look him up.
27 JOE: At the same bar?

1 BEA: Yeah. Said I could get in touch with him there.
2 JOE: Any special time.
3 BEA: Didn't name one. I want you to know, I wasn't even
4 figuring to go through with it. Not for a minute. When
5 he told me the checks were stolen, I thought right away
6 about you. Thought you might want the information. I
7 never figured to get mixed up in it. 141
8 JOE: We'll buy it.
9 BEA: What're you gonna do about it?
10 JOE: Try to find out where the checks came from.
11 FRANK: This guy use a name at all while you were talking with
12 him?
13 BEA: Not right out. While we were sitting there, another
14 fella came in and talked to him. I heard the other guy
15 call him Cecil.
16 JOE: How 'bout this other man...you know him?
17 BEA: No.
18 JOE: Never saw him around the bar huh?
19 BEA: No. Never did.
20 FRANK: Thing I don't understand is if you stop at this bar
21 regularly, how come you haven't seen this Cecil before.
22 Looks like he's a regular customer of the place.
23 BEA: You don't believe me, do you?
24 FRANK: Just trying to get it straight.
25 BEA: I told you before, I only go in there about 5:30. I'm
26 only in the place maybe...15 minutes. Then I leave.
27 There's a lot of times when people are comin' in, that
28 I'm not there.

1 FRANK: Uh. huh.

2 BEA: Listen, I'm tryin' to give you guys something for free.
3 If you don't want it...don't worry, you're not gonna
4 hurt my feelings.

5 JOE: It's not that, Bea. Frank and I've been on a thing for
6 the last four months. Been giving us a lot of trouble.

7 BEA: Yeah. (BEAT) Well... (SHE FINISHES HER COFFEE) ...
8 that's it. Think it's worth anything?

9 JOE: We'll check it out.

10 FRANK: Did this Cecil give you any idea where he got the checks?

11 BEA: Just said they were stolen payroll checks. All made out
12 and ready for endorsement.

13 JOE: If they're made out...what about identification?

14 BEA: He said he had that. All I'd need to put the checks
15 through.

16 JOE: He show you any of that?

17 BEA: No. Just said that he had it all ready.

18 JOE: All right, Bea. Can you come back to the office and
19 check through the books? See if you can spot "Cecil"
20 for us?

21 BEA: Sure. Be glad to help out.

22 FRANK: I'll get a bill and we can leave.

23 SOUND: FRANK GETS UP FROM THE CHAIR AND TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS
24 OFF MIKE.

25 BEA: I don't want to bring this up sergeant...

26 JOE: What's that?

27 BEA: Hope you'll understand...I'm not tryin' to get out of
28 line.

29 JOE: Go ahead.

1 BEA: They know me in this bar. This fella Cecil knows me.
2 What'd happen if I went ahead with the deal.
3 JOE: Make the connection for us?
4 BEA: Yeah. Line him up...find out how the gaff is workin'.
5 Then you move in and make the pinch.
6 JOE: We can't ask you to do that?
7 BEA: It's not your idea. I just figure that it might be
8 easier all the way around. You and Mr. Smith'll be
9 right there. Soon's I get the information...then it's
10 up to you.
11 JOE: I'll have to check it with the Skipper. We'll find out
12 what he thinks of the idea. Might be pretty dangerous.
13 BEA: I've thought of that too. Only one thing bothering me.
14 JOE: What's that?
15 BEA: Someplace along the line, I'm gonna have to tell this
16 joker that I don't go for the deal. He's gonna find
17 out I'm workin' with you.
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 BEA: When he does...Be there.

(END SCENE 3)

1 JOE: We returned to the office and made arrangements to meet
2 Beatrice Dowling the next day. Frank and I got the name
3 and description of the bartender at the place where the
4 Dowling women said she'd been approached. We ran it
5 through R. and I. but were not able to find a record
6 for the man. The next morning, we met with Captain
7 Welsh and told him of the offer. He agreed that it
8 appeared to be the only way we had of stopping the
9 suspect. We contacted Miss Dowling and made arrangements
10 for her to be kept under constant surveillance. That
11 same day, Thursday, July 12th, at 5:20 P.M. she entered
12 the bar. Frank and I were parked down the street in
13 our car.

14 SOUND: OFF MIKE TRAFFIC. CARS PASSING ETC.

15 FRANK: How 'bout it? See the doorway?

16 JOE: (LOOKING) Yeah. (BEAT) Now we just wait.

17 BEAT:

18 FRANK: Here y'want a cigarette?

19 SOUND: UNDER THE FOLLOWING, FRANK GIVES JOE A CIGARETTE

20 JOE: Thanks.

21 FRANK: You got any?

22 JOE: I think there's some in the back of the car.

23 FRANK: Last two in this pack.

24 SOUND: HE CRUMPLES UP THE PACK. LIGHT BUSINESS

25 FRANK: (EXHALING) Sure be glad to get home,

26 JOE: Yeah.

27 FRANK: Fay and me had a big argument last night.

1 JOE: What's the matter?
2 FRANK: I came home...Y'know I guess it was about 7:30...around
3 in there.
4 JOE: Uh huh.
5 FRANK: Right after dinner, I went in to go to bed. That's when
6 I saw it. (TAKE A DRAG ON THE CIGARETTE) I shoulda
7 known right from the start.
8 JOE: You should have, huh?
9 FRANK: Sure. Fay fixed Swedish meatballs for dinner. Should
10 have known right then.
11 JOE: Oh yeah....that's what happens when she's bought
12 something.
13 FRANK: Always. She figured that'll soften me up so I won't
14 mind.
15 JOE: What'd she buy this time.
16 FRANK: New bedroom set. King sized bed...mattress...springs...
17 couple of those new rubber pillows...y'know sponge rubber.
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 FRANK: I took one look at 'em and the roof went off.
20 JOE: Y'mean she bought the whole thing?
21 FRANK: Refurnished the whole room.
22 JOE: Kinda expensive isn't it?
23 FRANK: That's what I thought. I was pretty sore about it. We
24 had words.
25 JOE: Uh huh.
26 BEAT:
27 FRANK: Pretty bad.
28 JOE: Yeah.
29 BEAT:
30 FRANK: Time I got calmed down, she was asleep. That's when I
31 saw the bill.

1 JOE: Uh huh.
2 FRANK: Couldn't believe it. Seems that people in America,
3 have grown so much...the companies who make beds sell
4 so many king sized beds, they don't charge any more
5 than for standard size.
6 JOE: Yeah.
7 FRANK: Sure slept good. (BEAT) I think I could make it, Joe.
8 JOE: What's that?
9 FRANK: You know how I'm always talkin' about sleepin' for a
10 week?
11 JOE: Yeah.
12 FRANK: Way I slept last night, I think I could make it. Sure
13 like to try.
14 JOE: Gonna have to wait to try. Take a look.
15 FRANK: Huh?
16 JOE: The bar...Beatrice is comin' out.
17 FRANK: (LOOKING) Yeah. Couple of guys with her. (BEAT WHILE
18 HE LOOKS) Actin' kinda funny aren't they?
19 JOE: Yeah.
20 FRANK: Way they're shovin' her around.
21 JOE: Only one reason for that.
22 FRANK: Huh?
23 JOE: They've found out about us.
24 (END SCENE 4)
25 (END ACT 1)
26 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of
27 your police force in action.

(MIDDLE COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET - RADIO
5-18-54

SECOND COMMERCIAL

1 GIBNEY: Our great laboratories in Durham, North Carolina give
2 today's Chesterfield every conceivable test for quality,
3 for mildness and for taste. But Chesterfield research
4 continue beyond that ... beyond that of any cigarette.

5 FENN: You have all heard of tea tasters and wine tasters.
6 Well, now there are cigarette tasters - a group
7 organized several years ago by the makers of
8 Chesterfield. Smoking is their business and their
9 expert opinion is your assurance that Chesterfield
10 always gives you the taste you want, the mildness you
11 want ... a really refreshing smoke every time.

12 GIBNEY: It all adds up to Chesterfield's world famous slogan --
13 THEY SATISFY.

14 FENN: Buy America's most popular two-way cigarette.
15 Chesterfield king-size - now at the new low price .. or
16 Chesterfield regular. They satisfy millions - they'll
17 satisfy you.
18

1 JOE: Frank and I followed the three poeple down the street.
2 A half a block from the bar, they got into a black
3 Olsmobile sedan and pulled out into the line of traffic.
4 We kept them under survaillance while they drove to the
5 downtown area. We called communication and got a
6 rolling make on the car. It was registered to a Cecil
7 Maddox, 2482 North Alexandria, Hollywood. We requested
8 that Maddox be checked through R. and I. and found that
9 he'd been arrested twice before on charges of grand
10 theft and had served one term at San Quentin and one
11 at Folsom penitentiary. At the corner of Broadway and
12 Clay streets, the trio pulled into a parking lot and
13 left the car. Frank and I parked unit 1K80 and followed
14 them to a stationary store. From the street, we could
15 see Maddox talk to a salesman while the other man walked
16 to a display of typewriters. He took a slip of paper
17 from his pocket and apparently tired the machine. By
18 the time he was finished, Maddox had gotten through
19 talking to the clerk and they used the same piece of
20 paper to try a check protector. During this operation,
21 Beatrice Dowling stood by and waited for them. Finally,
22 the three of them left the store and walked two blocks
23 east, to a large market, there we saw Maddox hand the
24 Dowling woman, an envelope. After that, she entered
25 the store and came back a few minutes later. Frank and
26 I were about 10 feet from the pair of check men when the
27 woman returned.

28 SOUND: TRAFFIC B.G. WOMAN'S STEPS FADING IN.

29 BEATRICE:(LITTLE OFF) Here it is.

30 MADDOX: How'd it go?

31 BEA: Like you said. Here's the money.

1 MAD: Okay. Let's go to a bar and we'll make the split.

2 BEA: Half of this is mine, huh?

3 MAD: That's the way it was set up. Let's go.

4 JOE: (ON CLOSE) C'mon, Frank.

5 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK MOVE IN

6 JOE: All right, Maddox...hold it up.

7 MAD: What for? What's this all about?

8 JOE: Police officers. You're under arrest.

9 MAD: For what...go ahead..spell out the beef.

10 JOE: How's forgery fit?

11 MAD: I don't know...you won't hang it on me.

12 JOE: Don't book it mister. You'll get short odds.

13 MAD: It's a wrong beef...I won't buy it.

14 JOE: You already have.

15 MAD: Huh?

16 JOE: You paid for it with a bad check.

(END SCENE 5)

17 JOE: The two suspects were taken to the city hall. The second
18 man was identified as Raymond Johnstone. We checked him
19 through Records and Identification and found that he had a
20 long felony record. He'd served sentences in both San
21 Quentin and Folsom and from the record we found, He was
22 in Folsom at the same time Maddox was serving his term.
23 We talked to Johnstone for an hour but he refused to
24 admit any complicity in the forgeries. 9:15 P.M. Officers
25 Ferguson and Reagan went out to the address we'd gotten for
26 Maddox and Frank and I talked to the suspect in the
27 interrogation room.

28 JOE: C'mon Maddox ... empty your pockets.

1 MAD: What for?

2 JOE: Because we asked you to.

3 MAD: Do I get the stuff back.

4 JOE: Put it on the table here.

5 MAD: I haven't got anything. Nothin' you want.

6 JOE: Let us figure that.

7 FRANK: C'mon...on the table.

8 SOUND: MADDOX EMPTIES HIS POCKETS UNDER THE FOLLOWING.

9 MAD: (AS HE WORKS) There y'are. Wallet...handkerchief....change
10package of gum...keys...That's it.

11 JOE: Now the coat pockets.

12 BEAT

13 MAD: Cigarettes....lighter. More change. Parking stub.

14 JOE: The inside pockets too.

15 MAD: There's nothin' there that you'd be interested in.

16 JOE: Let's see.

17 BEAT

18 MAD: Couple of letters...that's all.

19 SOUND: HE TOSSES THEM ON THE TABLE.

20 JOE: Let's take a look.

21 SOUND: JOE PICKS UP AN ENVELOPE AND OPENS IT.

22 JOE: Your true name is Cecil James Maddox, that right?

23 MAD: Yeah.

24 JOE: Who's this stuff belong to?

25 MAD: I don't know anything about it.

26 JOE: Driver's lisenche...social security card...oil company credit
27 card. These don't belong to you?

1 MAD: Take a good look cop, you see my name on 'em?
2 JOE: We found 'em in your pockets.
3 MAD: Cleaner must have left them there.
4 JOE: Come off it, Maddox. We've got you nailed and you know
5 it.
6 MAD: You gotta show me.
7 JOE: These other envelopes here....same thing in all of 'em.
8 Where'd you get 'em?
9 MAD: I told you...I got a sloppy cleaner.
10 BEAT
11 JOE: (TURNING) You wanna check and see if Fergie's back?
12 FRANK: Yeah.
13 SOUND: FRANK LEAVES THE ROOM. CORRIDOR B.G. COMES IN AS THE DOOR
14 OPENS.
15 JOE: You got any money in the wallet?
16 MAD: Couple of bucks.
17 JOE: Take it out.
18 MAD: Sure.
19 SOUND: HE PICKS UP THE WALLET AND TAKES THE MONEY OUT.
20 MAD: Do I give it to you now?
21 JOE: Keep it in your hand. Give me the wallet.
22 MAD: Here.
23 SOUND: HE TOSSES THE WALLET ONTO THE TABLE. JOE PICKS IT UP.
24 MAD: You find anything interesting in there and I'll split with
25 you.
26 JOE: (LOOKING) Uh huh. How 'bout these checks...where'd you
27 get them?
28 MAD: I forgot.
29 JOE: You better start remembering.

1 MAD: I'm tryin'...just isn't working out.
2 JOE: Pretty important to you.
3 MAD: I think I found 'em
4 JOE: Where?
5 MAD: I don't remember.
6 JOE: You turn up with five hundred dollars worth of checks
7 and you don't know where you got 'em?
8 MAD: Haven't got the slightest idea.
9 JOE: What about this receipt? What's it for?
10 MAD: I dunno.
11 JOE: It's in your wallet. You must have put it there.
12 MAD: Look at the back...maybe there's a phone number on it.
13 Maybe that's why I kept it.
14 JOE: No phone number.
15 MAD: Then I can't tell you where I got it. Guess I been
16 carrying it around for a long time.
17 JOE: It's dated a couple of months ago.
18 MAD: That's a long time to me.
19 JOE: What're you tryin' to prove with this innocent pitch?
20 You know we got you goin' in. We're gonna make a
21 forgery complaint stick. Why're you tryin' to make
22 it harder.
23 MAD: I don't think you can trip me for the beef.
24 JOE: There's a couple of officers over at your apartment now.
25 If they come up with the press you used to print up the
26 checks and the identification, you've had it.

1 MAD: If they find the press.
2 JOE: Yeah.
3 MAD: Only one big hole in the fairy tale.
4 JOE: That right?
5 MAD: I haven't got a press. I don't know where I got those
6 checks. I think I bought 'em. You try to take me to
7 court on that kind of evidence and you'll make the front
8 pages as the dumbest cop of the year.
9 SOUND: DOOR OPEN ... CORRIDOR B.G. IN.
10 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Joe?
11 JOE: (TURNING) Yeah.
12 FRANK: Got something for you.
13 JOE: You wait here, Maddox.
14 MAD: Only one door and you're in front of that. I'm not goin'
15 anyplace.
16 SOUND: JOE WALKS OUT INTO THE CORRIDOR ... DOOR CLOSE.
17 JOE: Yeah.
18 FRANK: How's it goin'?
19 JOE: Not good. He won't cop to anything. How'd you do?
20 FRANK: Just talked to Fergie. They went over Maddox's apartment.
21 JOE: Yeah.
22 FRANK: Didn't find anything.
(END SCENE 5)

1 JOE: We went back into the interrogation room and talked to
2 the suspect. He'd admit nothing. We talked to Raymond
3 Johnstone but he refused to cooperate with us. A
4 thorough search was made of their car, but we failed to
5 turn up anything new. We contacted the printer who'd
6 made up the receipt blanks. He checked his records and
7 was able to give us the address of the place that had
8 ordered them. Officers Ferguson, Reagan, Frank and I
9 drove out to the place. It was a cheap hotel located on
10 East 7th. We checked with the desk clerk and showed him
11 the receipt. He told us two men answering the descriptions
12 of the suspects had rented a room two months previously.
13 He went on to say that there was a third man with the
14 pair and that he was in the room at the time. We asked
15 about luggage and the clerk said that the trio had moved
16 in several large trunks. We got the room number and while
17 Ferguson and Reagan covered the rear of the building,
18 Frank and I went up to the room.

19 SOUND: QUIET FOOTSTEPS ON CARPET.

20 FRANK: (SOTTO) Down this way.

21 JOE: Uh huh.

22 SOUND: STEPS CONTINUE THEN STOP.

23 JOE: Set?

24 FRANK: Yeah.

25 SOUND: JOE STEPS TO THE DOOR AND KNOCKS.

26 BEAT

27 SOUND: DOOR OPEN

28 PAUL: Yeah?

1 JOE: Paul Hadley?
2 PAUL: That's right. What d'ya want?
3 JOE: Like to talk to you.
4 PAUL: I'm kinda busy right now. What's it about?
5 JOE: Police officers.
6 PAUL: (TRYING TO SLAM THE DOOR) Get outta here cop. Get out.
7 SOUND: STRUGGLE AS PAUL TRIES TO KEEP JOE AND FRANK FROM COMING
8 IN. JOE PUSHES THE DOOR ASIDE ANF THE TWO OFFICERS ENTER.
9 PAUL: You got no call to bust in here. I'm not doin' anything
10 wrong.
11 JOE: Then why're you tryin' to keep us out?
12 PAUL: I just don't like cops runnin' all over the place.
13 FRANK: Where's that door go?
14 PAUL: Bedroom, but there ain't nothin' in there that concerns
15 you.
16 FRANK: I'll take a look.
17 PAUL: You stay outta there. What's this all about anyway.
18 What're you cops tryin' to build?
19 SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE LINE, FRANK HAS GONE TO THE DOOR AND
20 OPENED IT. HE WALKS INTO THE ROOM
21 JOE: How 'bout it?
22 FRANK: (OFF) Take a look.
23 JOE: C'mon Hadley.
24 SOUND: JOE AND PAUL WALK TO THE DOOR. STOP.
25 JOE: Press and everything.
26 PAUL: I do a little printing for the neighborhood people.
27 Nothin' to concern you.

1 FRANK: You do work for the Department of Motor Vehicles too
2 PAUL: What?
3 FRANK: These drivers license blanks. What're they for?
4 PAUL: Who tipped you?
5 JOE: What?
6 PAUL: Who told you about the plant? Who told you?
7 JOE: That make any difference?
8 PAUL: You bet it does. All the difference in the world. I don't
9 know what they told you....but I'm not gonna take the
10 beef alone. I'm not gonna take it alone.
11 JOE: That right?
12 PAUL: Sure. You go back and tell Cecil and Ray that they're
13 goin' with me. I'm not gonna carry this by myself. You
14 tell 'em that will you?
15 JOE: Yeah.
16 PAUL: Phoney deal anyway. I sit up here with the press...all
17 the checks. Anything goes wrong and I'm the one that
18 stands for it. They're out with the money. One sided
19 that's what it is. They get the kicks and I get the
20 work. One sided.
21 JOE: Not this time.
22 PAUL: Huh?
23 JOE: You're all gonna come out even.
24 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

- 1 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The
2 names were changed to protect the innocent.
- 3 GIBNEY: On November 6th, trial was held in department 97,
4 Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the
5 County of Los Angeles. In a moment, the results of that
6 trial.
- 7 FENN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.
- 8 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT

DRAGNET - RADIO
5-18-54

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

1 FENN: Now, here is our star - Jack Webb.
2 WEBB: Thank you. Earlier, George Fenneman told you exactly
3 why the Chesterfield you smoke today is the best
4 cigarette ever made...And best for you. The rest is
5 up to you. Get a carton or two for yourself. Smoke
6 them and you'll say - as we do - it's Chesterfields for
7 me.

TRIAL PAGE

1 GIBNEY: Cecil James Maddox, Raymond Richard Johnstone and Paul
2 Milton Hadley were tried and convicted on 18 counts of
3 Forgery. They recieved sentence as prescribed by law.
4 Forgery is punishable by imprisonment in the county
5 jail for not more than one year or by imprisonment for
6 not more than fourteen years in the state penitentiary.

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END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 MUSIC: THEME UNDER

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

9

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

12 MUSIC: THEME UNDER....CONTINUES

13 FENN: Watch an entirely different Dragnet case history each
14 week on your local NBC Television station. Please check
15 your newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT)
16 Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from
17 Los Angeles.
18 (L & M HITCH HIKE)

DRAGNET - RADIO
5-18-54

L & M HITCH-HIKE

1 ANNCR: Thousands of big city dealers report L & M's their
2 largest selling filter cigarette. The reason? L & M's
3 miracle filter tip containing alpha cellulose for
4 effective filtration. Much more flavor - much less
5 nicotine. Save up to four cents a pack ... forty cents
6 a carton. Buy L & M Filters at the new low price.
7 L & M Filters... light and mild.