



# DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD, #83 NEC #251

DIRECTOR:.....JACK WEBB

WRITER.....JOHN ROBINSON

MUSIC.....WALTER SCHUMANN

SCRIPT.....JEAN MILES

SOUND.....BUD TOLLEFSON &  
.....WAYNE BEMWORTHY

ENGINEER.....RAOUL FURPHY

ANNCR. #1.....GEORGE FENNEMAN

ANNCR. #2.....HAL GIBNEY, NBC

CASE....."THE BIG STUDENT"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING SUNDAY: MAY 30, 1954

CAST AND SOUND: 2:30 - 5:00 P.M.

EDITING: T.B.A.

SCORING: T.B.A.

ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCERS: (COMMERCIAL)

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

RELEASE DATE: JUNE 8, 1954

SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSON

TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

SGT. MARTY WYNN: L.A.P.D.

SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L.A.P.D.

CAPT. JOHN DONOHOE: L.A.P.D.

*Agency Copy*  
*cut + turned*

"THE BIG STUDENT"

C A S T

SGT. JOE FRIDAY.....JACK WEBB  
OFF. FRANK SMITH.....BEN ALEXANDER  
VIOLA CLARK.....JUNE WHITLEY  
LESTER GLADE.....HERB ELLIS  
CALVIN NILES.....VIC PERRIN  
LOUIS ROTE.....OLAN SOULE  
VOICE.....(DEL).....JUNE WHITLEY

DRAGNET RADIO SHOW  
JUNE 8, 1954

OPENING COMMERCIAL:

- 1 ANNCR: Dragnet - brought to you by Chesterfield - America's
- 2 most popular two-way cigarette.....Chesterfield King Size
- 3 at the new low price. And Chesterfield Regular.

30

- 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 GIENEY: Dragnet, brought to you by Chesterfield. For the taste  
7 you want - the mildness you want - a really refreshing  
8 smoke...buy America's most popular two way cigarette -  
9 Chesterfield. They satisfy millions.
- 10 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR
- 11 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned  
12 to Robbery Detail. A holdup man has been hitting the  
13 banks in your city. After 2 months of following down  
14 leads, you get a possible identification. Your job....  
15 check it out. *Sc*
- 16 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO  
June 8, 1954

FIRST COMMERCIAL: 55

1, FENN: What a pair.....What a buy!.....King size Chesterfield  
2 now at the new low price and Chesterfield regular.  
3 They're the quality twins..The same highest quality, The  
4 same low nicotine. Either way you like them you get the  
5 same wonderful taste and mildness, a refreshing smoke / 1/10  
6 every time. Change to Chesterfield - America's most  
7 popular two-way cigarette. Yes, The Chesterfield you  
8 smoke today is the best cigarette every made.....What a  
9 pair. Chesterfield regular - Chesterfield King size  
10 They satisfy millions.....They're best for you.

1/10

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For  
3 the next 30 minutes, in cooperation with the Los Angeles  
4 Police Department, you will travel step by step on the  
5 side of the law through an actual police case, transcribed  
6 from official police files. From beginning to end.... 2/00  
7 from crime to punishment....Dragnet is the story of your  
8 police force in action.

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

10 SOUND: OUTDOOR B.G. JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON SIDEWALK. UP  
11 ONTO PORCH UNDER

12 JOE: It was Thursday, July 25th. It was warm in Los Angeles.  
13 We were working the day watch out of Robbery Detail. My  
14 partner's Frank Smith. The boss is chief of detectives,  
15 Thad Brown. My name's Friday. We were on our way out  
16 from the office and it was 10:42 A.M. when we got to 896  
17 Duane Street.....(SOUND: DOOR KNOCK) .....the front  
18 door.

19 BEAT

20 FRANK: I'll get it again.

21 SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO THE DOOR AND KNOCKS AGAIN

22 BEAT

23 JOE: Doesn't look like there's any body at home.

24 SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO ONE SIDE OF THE PORCH

25 FRANK: (LOOKING THROUGH THE WINDOW) Can't see anybody moving  
26 around in there.

27 JOE: Let's try the back.

28 FRANK: Yeah.

29 SOUND: THEY MOVE OFF THE PORCH

30 JOE: Around this way.

1 FRANK: Uh huh.  
2 SOUND: STEPS HOLD FOR A MINUTE  
3 FRANK: Sure pretty isn't it, Joe?  
4 JOE: What's that?  
5 FRANK: Rose tree there. Belle of Portugal. Sure pretty.  
6 JOE: Uh huh.  
7 FRANK: Fay's got one started out by the back fence. Isn't that  
8 big but we got roses on it already. 3/00  
9 JOE: Yeah.  
10 FRANK: I'll pick a couple of 'em for you. Bring 'em into  
11 the office.  
12 JOE: Thanks Frank. I don't know what I'd do with 'em.  
13 FRANK: You could give 'em to Ann. She'd like 'em.  
14 JOE: Yeah.  
15 SOUND: STEPS STOP  
16 JOE: I'll get it.  
17 SOUND: JOE UNLOCKS A WOODEN GATE AND OPENS IT. COUPLE OF STEPS  
18 FRANK: See anybody?  
19 JOE: Looks like there's someone on the lawn chair over there.  
20 FRANK: Uh huh.  
21 JOE: (UP) Mrs. Clark?  
22 VIOLA: (OFF) Yes...who is it?  
23 JOE: C'mon.  
24 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK ACROSS THE WALK. STOP  
25 JOE: Mrs. Viola Clark?  
26 VIOLA: That's right.

1 JOE: Police officers Mrs. Clark. This is Frank Smith...my  
2 name's Friday.

3 VIOLA: How d'ya do. What can I do for you?

4 JOE: Like to ask you a few questions,

5 VIOLA: About Louis? 3/30

6 JOE: Yes ma'am.

7 VIOLA: Would you mind talking ~~inside~~. I'd rather the neighbors  
8 didn't know all my business.

9 JOE: No ma'am.

10 VIOLA: (GETTING UP FROM THE CHAIR) We can talk in there without  
11 anybody hearing.

12 SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM WALK TO THE BACK PORCH

13 VIOLA: Sure a beautiful morning. Hot.

14 FRANK: Uh huh.

15 VIOLA: We're planning a little trip down to the desert this  
16 week end. Get some rest...little sun.

17 JOE: Yes ma'am.

18 VIOLA: I was trying to get a tan before then.

19 SOUND: SHE OPENS THE DOOR

20 VIOLA: G'wan in.

21 JOE AND FRANK: Thank you.

22 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE HOUSE

23 VIOLA: Just go on through the kitchen. We can talk in the  
24 dining room.

25 JOE: All right.



1 VIOLA: I just feel funny going to a place where there's a  
2 swimming pool and sitting there without a tan. Don't  
3 you?

4 JOE: ~~I don't know~~ <sup>Yes</sup> ma'am. 4/00

5 VIOLA: I do. Makes me feel self conscious like.

6 FRANK: Uh huh.

7 VIOLA: Just go on in and sit down. I'll get us something cold  
8 to drink.

9 JOE: No thank you Mrs. Clark.

10 VIOLA: How 'bout you Mr. Smith?

11 FRANK: No ma'am.

12 VIOLA: Well, I'm going to have something. Bill....that's my  
13 husband brought me a case of that new kind of drink...  
14 you know without any calories?

15 JOE: Yes.

16 VIOLA: All kinds of flavors...supposed to be for people who are  
17 supposed to reduce. 'Course I don't really need it. Just  
18 that Bill bought it and all.

19 SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE LINE, VIOLA HAD OPENED THE REFRIGERATOR  
20 AND TAKES A BOTTLE OF COLA FROM IT. SHE CLOSSES THE DOOR  
21 AND THE THREE OF THEM WALK INTO THE DINING ROOM

22 VIOLA: Sit down.

23 JOE: Thank you.

24 SOUND: THEY SIT DOWN 4/30

25 VIOLA: Now what was it about Louis?

26 JOE: He's your brother, that right?

27 VIOLA: Well, yes. Actually, he's my half brother. Y'see, his  
28 father died and our mother remarried.

29 JOE: Uh huh.

- 1 VIOLA: He's my half brother.
- 2 FRANK: When'd you see him last?
- 3 VIOLA: Let's see....I guess it was before the trouble...that'd  
4 make it ten years ago.
- 5 JOE: Uh huh. Have you heard anything from him since?
- 6 VIOLA: Oh, a couple of times...different people have told me  
7 they saw Louis. He always sent his best.
- 8 FRANK: But you haven't talked to him?
- 9 VIOLA: No...not in ten years. Would you excuse me a minute...  
10 I forgot to get a bottle opener.
- 11 JOE: Sure.
- 12 SOUND: VIOLA STANDS UP AND WALKS TO THE KITCHEN. UNDER THE  
13 FOLLOWING, SHE OPENS A DRAWER AND FINDS A BOTTLE OPENER.  
14 WALKS BACK ON MIKE 5100
- 15 VIOLA: (OFF) When Louis got into trouble, we sort of stopped  
16 seeing each other. I tried to write him when he was in  
17 prison. Little talky talk letter but they just seemed to  
18 separate us more.
- 19 JOE: Did you see him when he was in prison?
- 20 VIOLA: No. It was during the war and I was pretty busy with other  
21 things.
- 22 JOE: Uh huh.
- 23 VIOLA: Bill, my husband, was overseas...I was writing to him....  
24 sending him little things. Just never seemed to get  
25 around to seeing Louis. I thought about it. But just  
26 never quite seemed to get to it. 5130
- 27 SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE SHE HAS FADED IN AND OPENS THE BOTTLE
- 28 VIOLA: New flavor. Pinapple - Papaya. Kinda tangy. Sure you  
29 don't want any?
- 30 JOE & FRANK: No thanks.

1 VIOLA: (DRINKING FROM THE BOTTLE) Good. Got some little  
2 crackers. Low calorie. Like some of them?  
3 JOE: No ma'am.  
4 VIOLA: Well, when Louis got out of jail, I heard he went back  
5 East. Salt Lake I think. Got a job with a paint store  
6 back there.  
7 JOE: Uh huh.  
8 VIOLA: Did pretty good. Something happened though. He quit or  
9 got fired or something. Anyway, he came out here again.  
10 ~~I heard from a girl I went to school with that she'd seen~~  
11 ~~Louis on the street one day. Main I think it was.~~  
12 JOE: Uh huh.  
13 VIOLA: Embarrassing...he was drunk. Louis was an awful drinker.  
14 JOE: Yeah. Wasn't so bad that he drank but when he was drunk  
15 he was mean. Real mean.  
16 FRANK: Does he have any close friends that you know of?  
17 VIOLA: Not that I can tell you right off. Seems to me there  
18 was one man that Louis used to pal around with.  
19 JOE: You know his name?  
20 VIOLA: I'm not sure....seems to me it was Rickey or Rocky.....  
21 something like that.  
22 JOE: How 'bout his last name?  
23 VIOLA: No. I can't give you that.  
24 JOE: Do you have any idea where your brother might be staying?  
25 VIOLA: No. Last I heard it was in some furnished room down  
26 on Pico.  
27 JOE: Do you have the address?

6/00

1 VIOLA: I'm afraid not.

2 FRANK: Do you have any idea where we might be able to get it?

3 VIOLA: (TAKING A DRINK OF THE SODA) Not the least.

4 JOE: Uh huh.

5 VIOLA: What's he done this time?

6 JOE: Be better if we talked to him about it.

7 VIOLA: Well, it seems to me I'm his sister. you should be able  
8 to tell me. I'm certainly going to cooperate with you.

9 JOE: We still better talk to him.

10 VIOLA: Well....if that's the way you're going to handle it..  
11 there's not much I can do.

12 JOE: Did your brother have any hobbies...anything that he  
13 might try to work at?

14 VIOLA: No...not that I can remember. When he was a kid...I  
15 think he used to collect stamps...but then I guess every  
16 boy does that. 6/30

17 JOE: Uh huh.

18 VIOLA: Mostly though...he used to read a lot. Always had his  
19 nose in a book.

20 JOE: Yeah.

21 VIOLA: Had a big collection of those books you could buy in  
22 the five and dime. Y'know the little thick ones.

23 FRANK: Yeah...I think I know what you mean.

24 VIOLA: I guess he had just about everyone that was ever published.  
25 They were a big thing with the kids in the neighborhood.  
26 Louis had about a hundred...all different stories. He  
27 built a case for them out in the garage out of apple  
28 boxes. I remember that. Out in the garage.

1 JOE: Uh huh.

2 VIOLA: Had a library going. Little cards and everything. Charged  
3 the kids two cents to read the book. Real goin' business.

4 JOE: Yeah.

5 VIOLA: He was a funny kid. Always ~~trying~~ <sup>add</sup> to figure out how to get  
6 somebody else do the work for him. He'd say that if he had  
7 his way, he'd get what he wanted without really working for  
8 it. Wonder if being in jail made him change....if he still  
9 feels like that?

10 JOE: What's that?

11 VIOLA: That he can live the easy way?

12 JOE: He's still trying.

13 (END SCENE 1) 7/15

1 JOE: 11:31 A.M. we left the house and continued checking out the  
2 friends and relatives of the suspect. Louis Rote. According  
3 to his record, the suspect had been arrested for the first  
4 time, ten years previously on charges of 459 - Burglary, 7/30  
5 5 counts. He'd been sentenced to San Quentin and had been  
6 released four years previously. On June 11th, he walked  
7 into a bank at the corner of Reservoir and Montana Streets  
8 and robbed the place of 11 hundred and eighty dollars. He'd  
9 hit again on June 19th, July 12th and on July 23rd. In  
10 each instance, the victims were shown mugg books but were  
11 unable to make a positive identification. On July 24th, we  
12 talked to a cab driver who had driven the suspect away 8/10  
13 from the latest holdup. He was able to give us the name  
14 of the suspect but when we checked the area where Rote had  
15 been left, we were unable to come up with additional  
16 information. The other victims were shown Rote's picture  
17 and all of them made a positive identification. Locals and  
18 A.P.B. were gotten out on him and all places he was known  
19 to frequent were checked. Still we couldn't take him into  
20 custody. Two days passed while we looked for the suspect.  
21 On Friday, July 26th, A bank located on Hollywood Boulevard  
22 was held up for 18 hundred dollars. The suspect matched the  
23 description of Rote. From one of the people in the vicinity, 7/30  
24 we got the number of a cab the suspect was supposed to have  
25 taken. We got in touch with the traffic manager of the  
26 cab company and got the name and stand number of the  
27 driver. 9:20 P.M. Frank and I drove out to see him.

28 SOUND: TRAFFIC B.G.

29 LESTER: Corner of Hollywood and Loma Linda?

1 JOE: Yeah.

2 FRANK: Bank near there.

3 LESTER: What time was this supposed to be?

4 JOE: Way we got it, about five.

5 LESTER: Tonight?

6 JOE: That's right.

7 LESTER: I don't recall the guy. You sure it was me?

8 JOE: We got the number of your cab.

9 LESTER: Been pretty busy tonight. Let me check the waybill.

10 SOUND: HE TURNS AND OPENS THE CAB DOOR:

11 LESTER: I'll take a look.

12 SOUND: WE HEAR HIM TURN A COUPLE OF PAGES:

13 LESTER: Yeah...here it is. Loma and Hollywood.

14 FRANK: Where'd you drop the fare off?

15 LESTER: 2000 block on Sunset.

16 JOE: That'd be near Echo Park?

17 LESTER: Yeah.

18 FRANK: Can you tell us anything about the man?

19 LESTER: Not a lot....I told you, I've been pretty busy tonight.

20 JOE: This is pretty important.

21 LESTER: Well, what kinda things do you want to know?

22 JOE: What'd he say to you when he got into the cab?

23 LESTER: Not much....Seems to me he just told me to drive right

24 down Sunset and he'd tell me where to let him out.

25 FRANK: Did he talk to you on the way?

9/00

1 LESTER: Well, yeah. Y'know...almost everybody talks in a cab. Unless  
2 they're with a girl or somethin'.

3 JOE: Uh huh. What'd he say?

4 LESTER: Not much. Asked me how I liked drivin' a cab. How the tips  
5 were...what hours I had to work.

6 JOE: Yeah.

7 LESTER: I asked him if he was thinkin' about gettin a job. He said  
8 not right away.

9 JOE: Yeah.

10 LESTER: I told him it wasn't a bad way to live. We just talked  
11 like that...nothin world shattering.

12 FRANK: He say anything else?

13 LESTER: We talked about the news...Y'know..politics...what's goin  
14 on in the world. Bout that time we were where he wanted to  
15 get out.

16 JOE: Was there anything about him that stood out? Accent maybe  
17 ...a scar...birthmark?

18 LESTER: Doesn't seem to me there was. I could only get a glimpse  
19 of him in the rear view mirror. He was sittin kinda off to  
20 one side. Hard to see.

21 JOE: You don't remember anything about him then?

22 LESTER: No. Nothin' that'd help.

23 JOE: He say where he was goin?

24 LESTER: Not that I remember. Just told me to drive right down  
25 Sunset until he told me to stop.

26 FRANK: Did you see where he went when he got out of the cab?

9/30



1 LESTER: I didn't notice. He said something about getting a drink.  
2 Asked me if I could name a good bar for him.  
3 JOE: Did you?  
4 LESTER: Couldn't. I don't know the neighborhood very well. I told  
5 him they were all probably pretty good.  
6 FRANK: Did he seem drunk to you?  
7 LESTER: He'd had more'n a couple. I can't tell you how many.  
8 Y'know how some guys can hold more than others without  
9 showin' it.  
10 JOE: Uh huh.  
11 LESTER: He was like that. Hard to tell how many he'd lifted.  
12 JOE: Yeah.  
13 LESTER: Say....something might help....just thought of it.  
14 JOE: What's that? 10/00  
15 LESTER: He had a kinda mole on his face. Right by his mouth.  
16 JOE: On which side?  
17 LESTER: Lemme think.....I was lookin' at him in the mirror....it  
18 was on his left side....mirror shows things on the side  
19 they are....it'd be on his left side.  
20 JOE: Yeah.  
21 LESTER: I always get mixed up about that. Y'know how when you look  
22 at a mirror if you've got something on the right side of  
23 your face it's on the left side in the mirror.  
24 JOE: Uh huh.  
25 LESTER: But I was lookin' at him so it'd be on the same side as I  
26 saw it.....Left side.

1 JOE: Where was the mole?  
2 LESTER: Right here (INDICATES) Right by the upper lip. Not real  
3 big....so's you'd notice it right off. I forgot about it  
4 until just now.  
5 FRANK: ~~When~~ he paid the cab bill....what'd he use?  
6 LESTER: Y'mean the size bill he gave me?  
7 FRANK: Yeah.  
8 LESTER: A twenty. I think I got it right here.  
9 SOUND: HE TAKES A ROLL OF BILLS FROM HIS POCKET.  
10 LESTER: Real new....(FINDS THE BILL) Yeah....here it is. He had  
11 a whole fistfull of bills just like this. All brand new.  
12 JOE: Uh huh.  
13 LESTER: I asked him if he was goin goin' on a trip. Y'know how  
14 people draw a lot of money when they're gonna take a trip.  
15 I figured maybe that was what he was gonna do.  
16 JOE: What'd he say?  
17 LESTER: He said he wasn't. Said he just made a withdrawal from the  
18 bank. But he said he wasn't goin' away.  
19 JOE: He's wrong there.  
20 LESTER: Huh?  
21 JOE: Soon as we find him he is.  
22 (END SCENE 2)

10/30

10/53

11/30

1 JOE: The cab driver identified Rote's mugg shot and at 10:08  
2 P.M. Frank and I drove over to the two thousand block on  
3 Sunset Boulevard. We checked at several bars but were  
4 unable to find the suspect. One of the bartenders said  
5 he thought that a man answering Rote's description might  
6 have been in but he couldn't be sure. In each of the  
7 places, we left our card and asked the owner or bartender  
8 to notify us if the suspect came in. 12:26 A.M. Frank and  
9 I checked back into the office.

10 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. NIGHT

11 FRANK: You wanna check the book...I'll sign us out.

12 JOE: Yeah.

13 SOUND: JOE WALKS OVER TO THE BOOK. COUPLE OF PAGES TURN

14 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Anything?

11/30

15 JOE: Message from Fay.

16 FRANK: Yeah?

17 JOE: Wants you to stop by the drugstore and pick up a re-fill  
18 prescription for the baby. She says she's already called  
19 them. You just have to pick it up.

20 SOUND: FRANK WALKS ON MIKE

21 FRANK: That blows the coffee.

22 JOE: Yeah...I oughta get home anyway. Like to get a good  
23 night's sleep.

24 FRANK: See you in the morning then old buddy?

25 JOE: Yeah. You gonna have breakfast at home?

26 FRANK: I dunno. Fay was up half the night with the kids. Might  
27 be better if I let her sleep.

1 JOE: Why don't you meet me at the dairy place?  
2 FRANK: Good. About 7?  
3 JOE: Yeah.  
4 SOUND: THEY WALK TOWARD THE DOOR. DOOR OPEN  
5 JOE: Go ahead...I'll get the lights. 12/100  
6 SOUND: FRANK STARTS THROUGH THE DOOR. PHONE RING  
7 JOE: Hold on...I'll get it.  
8 SOUND: JOE WALKS BACK TO THE PHONE...PUNCHES BUTTON AND PICKS UP  
9 THE RECEIVER.  
10 JOE: (INTO THE PHONE) Robber, Friday. Yes sir...that right...  
11 no..we're the ones...yeah. How long ago? Uh huh..yeah...  
12 right away.  
13 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE  
14 FRANK: What is it?  
15 JOE: Bar on Sunset Boulevard.  
16 FRANK: Yeah?  
17 JOE: Suspects there now...tearin' the place up. 12/119  
18 (END SCENE 3)

1 JOE: We left the city hall and drove over to the bar on Sunset  
2 Boulevard. By the time we'd gotten there, a police unit  
3 had arrived and the disturbance was under control. The  
4 suspect had left the scene and a broadcast was put out to  
5 all cars in the area carrying his description and the  
6 description of the clothing he was wearing. When we  
7 walked into the bar, the bartender was sitting at one of  
8 the tables in the back of the place, holding a steak to his  
9 left eye. The place itself was a mess. Barstools were  
10 scattered over the floor. Tables were up ended. The  
11 back bar was smashed and the mirror that ran along the  
12 length of the bar itself was broken. Frank and I checked  
13 with the officers from the unit and then went back to  
14 talk to the bartender.

15 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS.

16 CALVIN: (FADING IN) Why didn't you guys ~~te~~ll me about him?

17 JOE: Sir?

18 CALVIN: Why didn't you tell me who he was? I didn't know. Look  
19 at this place. Look at what he done.

20 JOE: How'd it happen?

21 CALVIN: Guy came in here. Sat down and ordered a drink. Next  
22 thing I know, he'd belted the guy on the stool next to him.  
23 From there it went.

24 FRANK: What started the fight?

25 CALVIN: I dunno.

26 JOE: Did you recognize him when he came in?

27 CAL: Not right off. He sat down..ordered a drink. Next thing  
28 I know the place is comin' down around me.

29 FRANK: When'd you know he was the man we were looking for?

1 CALVIN: After he belted the fella next to him. That's when I knew.  
2 Called you right away. You shoulda told me that he was  
3 rough. You shoulda told me.

4 JOE: We told you not to try to take him yourself.

5 CAL: You didn't make a point of it. I just thought it was  
6 something you told everybody.

7 JOE: Can you tell us what was said when he came in?

8 CALVIN: We were havin' a nice night. Pretty good business. <sup>13/30</sup>  
9 Sittin' here watchin' the fights on the television. Nice  
10 and quiet. Pourin' good. Looked like a good night for  
11 the till.

12 FRANK: Yeah.

13 CALVIN: Door swings open and in comes this guy. I didn't pay any  
14 attention to him. Walked over and sat at the bar.  
15 (POINTS) Right there, in the middle. Sat at the bar.

16 JOE: Uh huh.

17 CALVIN: Ordered a highball. He'd had a couple. I shoulda known  
18 right then. Been in this business any time at all and  
19 you should be able to spot the ones that're likely to  
20 cause trouble.

21 JOE: Yeah. What'd he ask for in the drink?

22 CALVIN: Bourbon and ginger. I mixed it..collected for it and then  
23 went back to watchin' the fight. I had a little bet on '  
24 it..always take the white corner with one of the regulars.  
25 Y'know..couple of bucks.

26 JOE: Yeah. <sup>14/50</sup>

1 CALVIN: I'm standin' there watchin' the fight. All of a sudden  
2 there's one goin' on in the room. This new guy and the  
3 fella next to him. Goin' at it hot and heavy.  
4 JOE: Go ahead.  
5 CALVIN: This do any good d'ya know?  
6 JOE: What's that?  
7 CALVIN: Holdin' a steak on a black eye? Supposed to take the  
8 swelling down.  
9 JOE: I don't know.  
10 CALVIN: Sure hope so. Guy laid a bottle on my cheek...feels like  
11 he broke something.  
12 FRANK: You want us to call a doctor for you?  
13 CAL: No. I'll check one later. Other cops asked the same  
14 thing. I'm alright.  
15 JOE: You want to go ahead with your story?  
16 CALVIN: Not much more to tell. Place just seemed to explode. I  
17 jumped over the bar. I gotta billy club in back. Grabbed <sup>ME</sup>  
18 that and jumped over the bar to try to get the two guys  
19 apart. They were throwin' everything they could lay their  
20 hands on at each other. Look at the place. Be better if  
21 I just put a lock on the door and open up someplace else.  
22 Be easier.  
23 FRANK: Just to be sure...is this the man who caused the fight?  
24 SOUND: FRANK TAKES A MUGG SHOT FROM HIS POCKET  
25 CALVIN: Wait a minute...can't see too good. (LOOKS) Yeah..that's  
26 him.  
27 JOE: You're pretty sure about it?

1 CALVIN: Yeah. Louis Rote. That's the fella.  
2 JOE: This afternoon when we talked to you..you said you didn't  
3 know him.  
4 CALVIN: Didn't make much of an impression then. When I saw him in  
5 person I remembered.  
6 JOE: He was in here earlier then. 15100  
7 CALVIN: Yeah...same guy.  
8 JOE: Did you hear him say anything at all that might help us  
9 find him?  
10 CALVIN: No...but you oughta talk to the guy he had the fight with.  
11 JOE: Yeah.  
12 CALVIN: He went to school with Rote. 15106  
13 (END SCENE 4)



1 JOE: We got the name of the man the suspect had the fight with.  
2 We drove over to his home and talked to him. He explained  
3 that he'd been enrolled in a night class with Rote. He  
4 went on to say that they'd met at school when both of  
5 them were studying Criminology at one of the colleges in  
6 the area. We got what information we could get about Rote  
7 from the victim and then Frank and I went back to the  
8 office. We tried to contact the school but were not able  
9 to reach anyone who could check the registration records  
10 for us. The next morning, we called the head registrar  
11 and asked her to check the records in the college night  
12 extension courses for a Louis Rote. 30 minutes later,  
13 she called back with the suspects address. Frank and I  
14 left the office and drove out to the place, a two story  
15 boarding house on Adams Boulevard. Rote had moved but  
16 he'd left a forwarding address. We drove over there and  
17 found that he was still registered. We got the number of  
18 the room and went upstairs. Frank stood on one side of  
19 the door while I took the other.

15/30

20 SOUND: DOOR KNOCK

16/00

21 BEAT

22 LOUIS: (OFF MIKE BEHIND DOOR) Just a minute.

23 BEAT

24 SOUND: DOOR UNLOCK AND OPEN

25 LOUIS: Yeah?

26 JOE: You Louis Rote?

27 LOUIS: Yeah...what d'ya want?

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

29 BEAT

1 LOUIS: For what?  
2 JOE: Suspicion of robbery.  
3 BEAT  
4 LOUIS: How'd you get to me?  
5 JOE: We did.  
6 LOUIS: Can I get a coat?  
7 JOE: You tell us where it is. We'll get it for you.  
8 LOUIS: Closet over there.  
9 FRANK: I'll get it.  
10 SOUND: FRANK MOVES OFF MIKE. DOOR OPENS OFF MIKE  
11 LOUIS: (UP TO FRANK) There's a bottle of aspirin in the pocket.  
12 Make sure you don't drop it. Hangover I got...I'm gonna  
13 need something.  
14 FRANK: (OFF) Yeah. 16/30  
15 LOUIS: Don't think I've ever had a headache like this one.  
16 Terrible.  
17 JOE: Better get used to it.  
18 LOUIS: Huh?  
19 JOE: They're gonna get worse.  
20 (END SCENE 5)(END ACT I)  
21 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the documented drama of an  
22 actual crime.

(MIDDLE COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO SHOW  
JUNE 8, 1954  
SECOND COMMERCIAL:

16/52

1 FENN: You hear it everywhere. Chesterfield for me. Here's how  
2 television star Robin Chandler puts it.  
3 CHANDLER There are so many reasons why I like Chesterfield. I like  
TAPE  
4 the pack....it's so smart looking. And I like the way  
5 they taste. All in all, I'm convinced Chesterfields are  
6 best for me. And I prefer the Regular Size. 17/15  
7 FENN: Now let's hear from Stage and Movie star, John Hodiak.  
8 HODIAK It's Chesterfields for me all right. I've smoked 'em for  
TAPE  
9 9 years. Now, I like a longer smoke - so I go for the  
10 King Size. They're Great. 17/30  
11 FENN: What a pair (PAUSE) What a buy (PAUSE) Chesterfield King  
12 Size now at the new low price - And Chesterfield Regular.  
13 The Quality twins for the taste you want - The mildness  
14 you want - A really refreshing smoke everytime - Change  
15 to Chesterfield.....America's most popular two-way  
16 cigarette.

17/48

1 JOE: A showup was arranged and all of the victims of the  
 2 hold-ups were present. They all gave positive  
 3 identifications of Louis Rote as the man who'd held them  
 4 up. A complaint was issued by the district's attorney's  
 5 office and on the following Friday, August 2nd, a  
 6 preliminary hearing was held in Division 34 of the  
 7 municipal court. Rote was bound over for the charges  
 8 filed against him. September 2, at 10 A.M. the suspect  
 9 pled guilty to robbery in the first degree, 2 counts.  
 10 Rote asked for immediate sentence and the judge complied  
 11 with the request. He was sent to San Quentin where he  
 12 went through the clinic. On recommendation of the  
 13 authorities at the prison, the board ordered him sent to  
 14 penitentiary at Chino, California. Seven months had  
 15 passed since his arrest. From what we heard, Rote was a  
 16 model prisoner. During that time, we'd cleaned up a string  
 17 of loan company hold-ups and Frank's children had gone  
 18 through the chicken pox and several types of virus. On  
 19 Sunday, February 23, Frank and I were in the office trying  
 20 to catch up on the detail work.

18/00

18/30

21 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G.

22 FRANK: You got the L.A. number on Lawrence Pichetti?

23 JOE: Yeah...just a minute.

24 SOUND: PAPER RUSTLE

25 JOE: Here it is...168947.

26 FRANK: (WRITING) 6 - 8 - 9 - 4 - 7 Sure a mean one.

27 JOE: Yeah. Terrible what he did to that kid.

28 FRANK: Uh huh.

29 SOUND: PHONE RING...BUTTON PUSHED...PHONE UP

19/00

1 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Robbery, Friday...Yeah, Savage...Uh huh.  
2 When'd it happen? Yeah. They know how he did it? Yeah.  
3 Okay...we'll check it right away. Thanks. Send it down  
4 will you? Right. G'bye.  
5 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE  
6 JOE: Teletype in from Chino.  
7 FRANK: Yeah.  
8 JOE: Rote just broke outta jail. 19/30  
9 (END SCENE 6)

1 JOE: An immediate watch was put on all of the places Rote was  
2 known to frequent. All officers in the fields were supplied  
3 with descriptions and pictures of the suspect. From the  
4 story as we got it from the prison officials we were able  
5 to piece together the method of Rote's escape. Several  
6 months before he'd started on the bank robberies, he'd  
7 gotten work as a day laborer at Chino. He'd managed to  
8 bury a gun and several hundred dollars in a water tight  
9 container in the prison grounds. On his arrival at the  
10 prison, he'd waited for the right moment and then dug up  
11 the weapon and money and made a break. He'd picked  
12 Sunday a day when the prison grounds are crowded with  
13 visitors. Fortunately, there had been no one hurt when  
14 Rote had escaped, however we knew he was armed and was  
15 to be considered dangerous. Two days after his escape,  
16 a man answering his description held up a grocery store.  
17 From the clerk, we obtained a positive identification  
18 of Rote. The next day, he hit again this time, he beat  
19 one of the clerks in a store when the man refused to open  
20 the cash register. Additional information was forwarded  
21 to all law enforcement agencies in the area. Rote's  
22 picture was carried on the police television show and the  
23 daily newspapers cooperated and carried his likeness and  
24 description. Calls began to come into the complaint  
25 board from people who thought they'd seen the suspect.  
26 In each instance, the information was checked out and  
27 several of the reports appeared authentic. On Wednesday,  
28 March 4th, we got a call from Calvin Niles, the bartender  
29 who'd given us the original information on Rote. Frank  
30 and I drove out to see him.

20/00

20/30

1 CALVIN: I tried to hold him here. Tried my darndest but he  
2 wouldn't go for it.

3 JOE: Uh huh.

4 CALVIN: Even told him I'd buy a couple of drinks. That wouldn't  
5 do it. 2/1/50

6 FRANK: Didn't you have the chance to call us when he first came  
7 in?

8 CALVIN: He was here a couple of minutes before I knew it. We were  
9 pretty busy. It was a while before I could get to him.  
10 Soon's I recognized him, I tried, but he left before I  
11 could get to a phone.

12 JOE: You talk to him at all?

13 CALVIN: Yeah...had a couple of words.

14 JOE: What about?

15 CALVIN: Mainly about the fight he had before you got him. Y'know  
16 when he broke up the place?

17 JOE: Yeah.

18 CALVIN: Talked about that. He said he was sorry about it. Told  
19 me the other fella caused it.

20 FRANK: Uh huh.

21 CAL: Said he'd like to be able to pay for it but he didn't have  
22 the money. I thought he was gonna hit me up for a loan.  
23 Way he acted and all. Thought sure he wanted to make a  
24 touch.

25 JOE: He say anything at all about where he was staying? 2/1/50

26 CALVIN: Not a word.

27 JOE: Didn't give you any indication.

28 CALVIN: No.

29 FRANK: Was he driving a car?

1 CALVIN: Not that I could see. When he walked out, I went over to  
2 the door to see if I could spot anything but by the time I  
3 got out from behind the bar, he'd disappeared.  
4 JOE: There a cab stand around here?  
5 CALVIN: Couple of blocks up the street. You think he might have  
6 taken a taxi?  
7 JOE: We'll check it out.  
8 CALVIN: I'don't think he could have gotten that far in the time  
9 it took me to get to the door. I can see that far and I  
10 didn't see him.  
11 JOE: Uh huh.  
12 CALVIN: I don't think he took a taxi.  
13 JOE: Did he come in alone?  
14 CALVIN: Far as I could tell. Came in and sat down..ordered a  
15 highball. Drank it up and left. I don't think he was here  
16 more than five minutes all told.  
17 JOE: But you're pretty sure there wasn't anybody with him.  
18 CALVIN: Yeah. Had been, I'da seen 'em. 22/85  
19 FRANK: Did he look like he was going to meet anyone here?  
20 CALVIN: Not especially.  
21 JOE: He give you any reason for coming in?  
22 CALVIN: Not right out he didn't.  
23 JOE: What'dya mean?  
24 CALVIN: Lucky I did it now, I guess...I didn't plan it that way.  
25 JOE: What's that?  
26 CALVIN: I told you, I thought he wanted to make a touch.  
27 JOE: Uh huh.  
28 CALVIN: I told him that I'd just taken the money to the bank.  
29 Dropped it in the night depository. Said I'd cleaned the  
30 place out.



1 JOE: He left right after that?

2 CALVIN: Yeah...finished up his drink and walked out. Sure got  
3 a lot of nerve if you ask me.

4 JOE: What d'ya mean?

5 CALVIN: He comes in the place once...breaks it up then comes back  
6 to try to hold it up.

7 JOE: You're not sure about that.

8 CALVIN: Far as I'm concerned, that's what he came in for. 22/30

9 JOE: Uh huh. Can you give us a description of what he was  
10 wearing?

11 CALVIN: Plain blue suit...looked like it was gabardine...two  
12 button.

13 JOE: How 'bout a hat?

14 CALVIN: No...he wasn't wearing one. Had on a white shirt...black  
15 knit tie the narrow kind and one of those little stick  
16 pins. Shaped like a little lady bug...You know the kind  
17 I mean?

18 JOE: Yes sir.

19 CALVIN: One of those.

20 JOE: All right, Mr. Niles. If anything more comes up..we'd  
21 appreciate a call.

22 CAL: You'll get it. Tell you one thing sergeant.

23 JOE: What's that?

24 CALVIN: After that fight, I did just about everything I could to  
25 help business...help pay for the damage.

26 JOE: Yeah.

27 CALVIN: But this is one customer I want to lose. 22/30

28 (END SCENE 7)

1 JOE: For the next two days the search for the suspect went on.  
2 Rooming houses where he might have been staying were  
3 checked. Friends and relatives were interrogated. Al  
4 Gayton in San Diego was notified and he alerted the  
5 authorities at the border in the event Rote tried to  
6 escape into Mexico. In the meantime, a rolling stake out  
7 was set up in the area where the thief had been hitting.  
8 Two more days passed without activity. On Monday, March  
9 9, Frank and I were in unit 1K80 cruising on West Pico.

10 SOUND: CAR TRAVELING IN B.G. POLICE RADIO

11 FRANK: Quiet night. 23/30

12 JOE: ~~Yeah.~~

13 FRANK: Be glad when it's over. Wanna get home and hit the sack.

14 JOE: How you comin' with the books?

15 FRANK: For the sergeant exam?

16 JOE: Yeah.

17 FRANK: Pretty good. Say...reminds me of something.

18 JOE: Yeah.

19 FRANK: Got a note the other day...kinda printed brochure from the  
20 Police protective league.

21 JOE: Uh huh.

22 FRANK: About this false arrest insurance. You carry it?

23 JOE: Yeah...had it for a couple of years.

24 FRANK: You think it's worth the six bucks a year?

25 JOE: Far as I'm concerned it is.

1 FRANK: I don't know Joe...another six bucks. Seems like it's  
2 kinda unnecessary.

3 JOE: Figures out to four bits a month. Pretty cheap  
4 insurance.

5 FRANK: If you look at it like that, yeah. But it's four bits a  
6 month I could spend for something else. I'm just wondering  
7 if I need it.

8 JOE: Suppose you arrest somebody and they slap a suit on you.  
9 What d'ya do then?

10 FRANK: We're not about to haul anybody in that hasn't got it  
11 comin'.

12 JOE: That's what we think...but you get twelve people in a  
13 jury box...they might look at it different. You can  
14 loose your house...your car and be payin' for it a long  
15 time.

16 FRANK: I suppose so.

17 JOE: Like P.L. on your car. You maybe don't use it but if you  
18 need it, it's a pretty good feeling to know it's there.

19 FRANK: What kinda coverage do you get?

20 JOE: Been a while since I read the policy. I think it's a  
21 hundred thousand but that includes the department.

22 FRANK: Uh huh.

23 JOE: All lawsuits for one year.

24 FRANK: Might be a pretty good idea.

25 JOE: I've had it for a while. That might not be a  
26 recommendation for you but you've got a lot more to lose  
27 than I have.

28 FRANK: Uh huh...well, I'll talk it over with Fay...see what she  
29 thinks.

1 ~~JOE: I think she'll go for it.~~

2 SOUND: SQUELCH

3 VOICE: (ON FILTER) All units...attention all units. A 211 has  
4 just occurred at the grocery store at the corner of Pico  
5 Boulevard and Ottawa Street. Unit 1 - R - 13 handle the  
6 call. Code three.

7 JOE: Better hit it.

8 FRANK: Yeah.

9 SOUND: CAR PICKS UP SPEED. SIREN COMES IN

10 VOICE: Attention all units. A 211 has just occurred at the  
11 grocery store at the corner of Pico Boulevard and Ottawa  
12 Street. Unit ~~1~~ - R - 13 handle the call. Code three.

13 SOUND: JOE TAKES THE MIKE FROM THE COMPARTMENT.

14 JOE: (INTO MIKE) 1-K80 to control one.

15 VOICE: (FILTER) Control one to 1-K80 go ahead.

16 JOE: (INTO MIKE) Code six at Pico Boulevard and Ottawa Street.

17 VOICE: (ON FILTER) Control one to 1-K80...roger..KMA 367.

18 SOUND: THE CAR TAKES A CORNER

24/00

1 VOICE: (ON RADIO) Attention all units...attention all units.  
2 Be on the lookout for the following described suspect  
3 wanted in connection with 211 at grocery store at Pico  
4 Boulevard and Ottawa Street. Suspect described as WMA... 24/3c  
5 40 or 50 years...five feet eight and one half...one  
6 hundred fifty to one hundred fifty five...medium build...  
7 grey hair. Suspect was wearing a dark blue suit...no  
8 hat...white shirt...black tie and black shoes. Suspect  
9 has a mole on the left side of his face, just above  
10 mouth. He is carrying a large blue steel revolver,  
11 western type. Suspect believed to be driving a 1952  
12 Chrysler Sedan...dark in color license number unknown.  
13 Vehicle has a damaged left rear fender. Use caution 25/02  
14 suspect is considered dangerous. K.M.A. 367.  
15 JOE: Sounds like Rote.  
16 FRANK: Yeah. Hang on....  
17 SOUND: THEY TURN ANOTHER CORNER  
18 FRANK: Here's Pico.  
19 SOUND: THE CAR CONTINUES FOR A BEAT.  
20 JOE: Frank...the car that just passed us...  
21 FRANK: Yeah.  
22 JOE: Dark Chrysler Sedan...dented left fender. Better check  
23 it.  
24 FRANK: Right. Hold it.  
25 SOUND: FRANK SWINGS WIDE AND MAKES A U TURN  
26 JOE: He's taking off. Step on it.  
27 SOUND: CAR PICKS UP MORE SPEED  
28 FRANK: Doesn't look like he's gonna stop.  
29 SOUND: CAR HOLDS

1 JOE: Watch it Frank... that street car...

2 SOUND: FRANK SWINGS THE CAR AROUND THE STREET CAR...BRAKES

3 SQUEAL THEN RUNNING

4 FRANK: Close one. 25/30

5 JOE: Long as they don't come any closer.

6 FRANK: You see him?

7 JOE: Yeah...up ahead.

8 FRANK: Gonna try a shot at him?

9 JOE: Can't...too many people.

10 FRANK: We're pullin' up.

11 SOUND: BRING SOUND OF OTHER CAR IN

12 JOE: (YELLING) Pull over... police officers.

13 FRANK: Doesn't act like he hears you.

14 JOE: It's Rote.

15 FRANK: Yeah.

16 JOE: Try to cut him off.

17 SOUND: FRANK PRESSES THE PEDAL TO THE FLOOR. THE CAR PICKS UP

18 EVEN MORE SPEED

19 JOE: (YELLING) Rote...pull over...

20 FRANK: Nothin'.

21 JOE: Cut him off.

22 FRANK: Right...hang on.

23 SOUND: FRANK EDGES THE POLICE CAR INTO ROTE'S CAR. THERE IS A

24 GRINDING OF METAL THEN WE HEAR ROTE'S CAR HIT A LAMPOST

25 AND STOP. UNIT 1K80 PULLS TO A STOP

26/00

1 JOE: Let's go. 26/20

2 SOUND: ~~JOE AND FRANK GET OUT OF THE CAR AND RUN OVER TO ROTES CAR.~~

3 FRANK: ~~AS THEY RUN~~) Really plowed into that lamp post.

4 JOE: Yeah.

5 SOUND: ~~THEY REACH THE CAR.~~

6 JOE: C'mon out of the car.

7 LOUIS: LITTLE OFF) All right.. I'm gettin' out. I'm gettin out.

8 See...I got my hands up in the air. I'm doin' like you say.

9 JOE: C'mon.

10 SOUND: ~~THE CAR DOOR OPENS AND ROTE GET'S OUT OF THE CAR.~~

11 JOE: C'mon...put your hands on the car...lean on it.

12 SOUND: ~~ROTE MOVES.~~

13 FRANK: I'll shake him.

14 SOUND: ~~FRANK MOVES IN AND SHAKES HIM DOWN.~~

15 FRANK: Here's the gun, Joe.

16 JOE: Got it.

17 FRANK: C'mon Rote...get your hands behind you.

18 SOUND: ~~CUFFS ON.~~

19 JOE: All right..let's go.

20 LOUIS: What about my car. 26/30

21 JOE: We'll take care of it.

22 LOUIS: You're not gonna just leave it there are you?

23 JOE: What difference does it make?

24 LOUIS: Huh?

1 JOE: You're not gonna be drivin' it for a while. *26/38*

2 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

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

5 GIBNEY: On June 18th, trial was held in Department 97, Superior  
6 Court of the State of California in and for the County of  
7 Los Angeles. In a moment the results of that trial.

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

9 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT



DRAGNET RADIO  
JUNE 8, 1954

CLOSING COMMERCIAL:

27/01

1 WEBB:        ~~To~~ get the taste and mildness you want - a really  
2                refreshing smoke every time.....I'd like you to try  
3                America's most popular two-way cigarette. Chesterfield.  
4                King size....now at the new low price - or Chesterfield  
5                regular. They satisfy millions they'll satisfy you.

27/19

TRIAL PAGE

1 GIBNEY: Louis Albert Rote was tried and convicted of robbery  
2 in the first degree, 4 counts and violation of section  
3 4530 P.C. escape. Robbery in the first degree is punishable  
4 by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a period  
5 of not less than five years. Escape from a state prison  
6 is punishable by imprisonment for a period of not less  
7 than one year, said second term of imprisonment to commence  
8 from the time the prisoner would otherwise have been  
9 discharged from said prison.

27148

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 THEME: UNDER

3 GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet - a series of authentic cases  
4 from official files. Technical advice comes from the  
5 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 tonight  
8 were: Ben Alexander, Gene Kelly

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

12 MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

13 FENN: Watch an entirely different Dragnet case history each week  
14 on your local NBC Television station. Please check your  
15 newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT) 28/00  
16 Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from  
17 Los Angeles.

18 (L & M HITCH HIKE)

DPAGNET RADIO  
June 8, 1954

L & M HITCHHIKE (m-131)

1 ANNCR: Thousands of big city dealers report L & M's their  
2 largest selling filter cigarette....The reason? Only  
3 L & M's have the miracle filter tip containing Alpha  
4 Cellulose for effective filtration....Much more flavor....  
5 Much less nicotine. Buy L & M Filters....The distinctive  
6 monogram cigarette. Save up to 4 cents a pack.....40 cents  
7 a carton at the new low price.  
8 L & M Filters - Light and mild.