THE BIG STUDENT

CAST

SGT. JOE FRIDAY

OFF. FRAMIL SMITH

VIOLA CZAR C

IISTER GL°DL

CALVIN NIIES

LOUIS ROZ`L

VOICE, (DEL)

JUNE WHITLE Y

LG 0183163
ANNCR: Dragnet - brought to you by Chesterfield - America's most popular two-way cigarette. Chesterfield King Size at the new low price. And Chesterfield Regular.
1 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

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

3 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER

4 GROOVE: Dreamt, brought to you by Chesterfield. For the taste
you want - the mildness you want - a really refreshing
smoke... buy America's most popular two way cigarette -
Chesterfield. They satisfy millions.

5 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

6 PAWN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
to Robbery Detail. A holdup man has been hitting the
banks in your city. After 2 months of following down
leads, you got a possible identification. Your job....

7 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
DRAGNET RADIO
June 8, 1954
FIRST COMMERCIAL:

1. PENN: What a pair....What a buy!.....King size Chesterfield
now at the new low price and Chesterfield regular.

2. They're the quality twins. The same highest quality, the
same low nicotine. Either way you like them you get the
same wonderful taste and mildness, a refreshing smoke
every time. Change to Chesterfield - America's most
popular two-way cigarette. Yes, The Chesterfield you
smoke today is the best cigarette ever made.....What a
pair. Chesterfield regular - Chesterfield King size

3. They satisfy millions.....They're best for you.
MUSIC: THEME

Dramat, the documented drama of an actual crime. For the next 30 minutes, in cooperation with the Los Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by step on the side of the law through an actual police 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: OUTDOOR B.G. JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON SIDEWALK. UP

JOE: It was Thursday, July 25th. It was warm in Los Angeles.

We were working the day watch out of Robbery Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is chief of detectives, Thad Brown. My name's Friday. We were on our way out from the office and it was 10:42 A.M. when we got to 896 Duane Street .......(SOUND: DOOR KNOCK) .... the front door.

FRANK: I'll get it again.

SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO THE DOOR AND NOCKS AGAIN

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

SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO ONE SIDE OF THE PORCH

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

JOE: Let's try the back.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: THEY MOVE OFF THE PORCH

JOE: Around this way.
1 FRANK: Uh huh.
2 SOUND: STEPS HOLD FOR 1 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 big but we got roses on it already.
8 JOE: Yeah.
9 FRANK: I'll pick a couple of 'em for you. Bring 'em into the office.
10 JOE: Thanks Frank. I don't know what I'd do with 'em.
11 FRANK: You could give 'em to Ann. She'd like 'em.
12 JOE: Yeah.
13 SOUND: STEPS STOP
14 JOE: I'll get it.
15 SOUND: JOE UNLOCKS A WOODEN GATE AND OPENS IT. COUPLE OF STEPS
16 FRANK: See anybody?
17 JOE: Looks like there's someone on the lawn chair over there.
18 FRANK: Uh huh.
19 JOE: (UP) Mrs. Clark?
20 VIOLA: (OFF) Yes... who is it?
21 JOE: C'mon.
22 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK ACROSS THE YARD. STOP
23 JOE: Mrs. Viola Clark?
24 VIOLA: That's right.
1 JOE: Police officers Mrs. Clark. This is Frank Smith...my
    name's Friday.
2 VIOLA: How d'ya do. What can I do for you?
3 JOE: Like to ask you a few questions.
4 VIOLA: About Louis?
5 JOE: Yes ma'am.
6 VIOLA: Would you mind talking inside. I'd rather the neighbors
        didn't know all my business.
7 JOE: No ma'am.
8 VIOLA: (GETTING UP FROM THE CHAIR) We can talk in there without
        anybody hearing.
9 SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM WALK TO THE BACK PORCH
10 VIOLA: Sure a beautiful morning. Hot.
11 FRANK: Uh huh.
12 VIOLA: We're planning a little trip down to the desert this
        week end. Get some rest...little sun.
13 JOE: Yes ma'am.
14 VIOLA: I was trying to get a tan before then.
15 SOUND: SHE OPENS THE DOOR
16 VIOLA: G'wan in.
17 JOE AND FRANK: Thank you.
18 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE HOUSE
19 VIOLA: Just go on through the kitchen. We can talk in the
        dining room.
20 JOE: All right.
VIOLA: I just feel funny going to a place where there's a swimming pool and sitting there without a tan. Don't you?

JOE: I don't know ma'am.

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

FRANK: Uh huh.

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

JOE: No thank you Mrs. Clark.

VIOLA: How 'bout you Mr. Smith?

FRANK: No ma'am.

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

JOE: Yes.

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

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

VIOLA: Sit down.

JOE: Thank you.

SOUND: THEY SIT DOWN

VIOLA: Now what was it about Louis?

JOE: He's your brother, that right?

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

JOE: Uh huh.
VIOLA: He's my half brother.

FRANK: When'd you see him last?

VIOLA: Let's see...I guess it was before the trouble...that'd make it ten years ago.

JOE: Uh huh. Have you heard anything from him since?

VIOLA: Oh, a couple of times...different people have told me they saw Louis. He always sent his best.

FRANK: But you haven't talked to him?

VIOLA: No...not in ten years. Would you excuse me a minute...

I forgot to get a bottle opener.

JOE: Sure.

SOUND: VIOLA STANDS UP AND WALKS TO THE KITCHEN. UNDER THE FOLLOWING, SHE OPENS A DRAWER AND FINDS A BOTTLE OPENER.

VIOLA: (OFF) When Louis got into trouble, we sort of stopped seeing each other. I tried to write him when he was in prison. Little talley talk letter but they just seemed to separate us more.

JOE: Did you see him when he was in prison?

VIOLA: No. It was during the war and I was pretty busy with other things.

JOE: Uh huh.

VIOLA: Bill, my husband, was overseas...I was writing to him.... sending him little things. Just never seemed to get around to seeing Louis. I thought about it. But just never quite seemed to get to it.

SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE SHE HAS FADED IN AND OPENS THE BOTTLE.


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

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

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

JOE: Uh huh.

VIOLA: What's he done this time?

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

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

JOE: We still better talk to him.

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

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

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

JOE: Uh huh.

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

JOE: Yeah.

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

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

VIOLA: I guess he had just about everyone that was ever published. They were a big thing with the kids in the neighborhood.

Louis had about a hundred... all different stories. He built a case for them out in the garage out of apple 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 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).
11:31 A.M., we left the house and continued checking out the friends and relatives of the suspect, Louis Rote. According to his record, the suspect had been arrested for the first time, ten years previously on charges of 459 - Burglary, 5 counts. He'd been sentenced to San Quentin and had been released four years previously. On June 11th, he walked into a bank at the corner of Reservoir and Montana Streets and robbed the place of 11 hundred and eighty dollars. He'd hit again on June 19th, July 12th and on July 23rd. In each instance, the victims were shown mug books but were unable to make a positive identification. On July 24th, we talked to a cab driver who had driven the suspect away from the latest holdup. He was able to give us the name of the suspect but when we checked the area where Rote had been left, we were unable to come up with additional information. The other victims were shown Rote's picture and all of them made a positive identification. Locals and A.P.B. were gotten out on him and all places he was known to frequent were checked. Still we couldn't take him into custody. Two days passed while we looked for the suspect.

On Friday, July 26th, a bank located on Hollywood Boulevard was held up for 18 hundred dollars. The suspect matched the description of Rote. From one of the people in the vicinity, we got the number of a cab the suspect was supposed to have taken. We got in touch with the traffic manager of the cab company and got the name and stand number of the driver. 9:20 P.M. Frank and I drove out to see him.
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
down Sunset and he'd tell me where to let him out.
24 FRANK: Did he talk to you on the way?
LESTER: Well, yeah. Y'know...almost everybody talks in a cab. Unless they're with a girl or somethin'.

JOE: Uh huh. What'd he say?

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

JOE: Yeah.

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

JOE: Yeah.

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

FRANK: He say anything else?

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

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

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

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

LESTER: No. Nothin' that'd help.

JOE: He say where he was goin'?

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

FRANK: Did you see where he went when he got out of the cab?
LESTER: I didn't notice. He said something about getting a drink.

LESTER: Asked me if I could name a good bar for him.

JOE: Did you?

LESTER: Couldn't. I don't know the neighborhood very well. I told him they were all probably pretty good.

FRANK: Did he seem drunk to you?

LESTER: He'd had more'n a couple. I can't tell you how many.

JOE: Y'know how some guys can hold more than others without showin' it.

LESTER: He was like that. Hard to tell how many he'd lifted.

JOE: Yeah.

LESTER: Say... something might help... just thought of it.

JOE: What's that?

LESTER: He had a kinda mole on his face. Right by his mouth.

JOE: On which side?

LESTER: Lemme think... I was lookin' at him in the mirror... it was on his left side... mirror shows things on the side they are... it'd be on his left side.

JOE: Yeah.

LESTER: I always get mixed up about that. Y'know how when you look at a mirror if you've got something on the right side of your face it's on the left side in the mirror.

JOE: Uh huh.

LESTER: But I was lookin' at him so it'd be on the same side as I saw it... Left side.
Where was the mole?

Right here (INDICATES) Right by the upper lip. Not real big... so's you'd notice it right off. I forgot about it until just now.

When he paid the cab bill... what'd he use?

Y'mean the size bill he gave me?

Yeah.

A twenty. I think I got it right here.

He takes a roll of bills from his pocket.

Real new... (FINDS THE BILL) Yeah... here it is. He had a whole fist full of bills just like this. All brand new.

I asked him if he was goin' on a trip. Y'know how people draw a lot of money when they're gonna take a trip. I figured maybe that was what he was gonna do.

What'd he say?

He said he wasn't. Said he just made a withdrawal from the bank. But he said he wasn't goin' away.

He's wrong there.

Huh?

Soon as we find him he is.

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

SQUADROOM B.G. NIGHT
You wanna check the book...I'll sign us out.
Yeah.

SOUND: Joe walks over to the book. Couple of pages turn

FRANK: (Little off) Anything?
JOE: Message from Fay.
FRANK: Yeah?
JOE: Wants you to stop by the drugstore and pick up a re-fill prescription for the baby. She says she's already called them. You just have to pick it up.

SOUND: Frank walks on Mike
FRANK: That blows the coffee.
JOE: Yeah...I oughta get home anyway. Like to get a good night's sleep.
FRANK: See you in the morning then old buddy?
JOE: Yeah. You gonna have breakfast at home?
FRANK: I dunno. Fay was up half the night with the kids. Might be better if I let her sleep.
JOE: Why don't you meet me at the dairy place?
FRANK: Good. About 7?
JOE: Yeah.
SOUND: THEY WALK TOWARD THE DOOR. DOOR OPEN
JOE: Go ahead...I'll get the lights.
SOUND: FRANK STARTS THROUGH THE DOOR. PHONE RING
JOE: Hold on...I'll get it.
SOUND: JOE WALKS BACK TO THE PHONE...PUNCHES BUTTON AND PICKS UP THE RECEIVER.
JOE: (INTO THE PHONE) Robber, Friday. Yes sir...that right...
no...we're the ones...yeah. How long ago? Uh huh...yeah...
right away.
SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE
FRANK: What is it?
JOE: Bar on Sunset Boulevard.
FRANK: Yeah?
JOE: Suspects there now...tearin' the place up.
(END SCENE 3)
3. JOE: We left the city hall and drove over to the bar on Sunset Boulevard. By the time we'd gotten there, a police unit had arrived and the disturbance was under control. The suspect had left the scene and a broadcast was put out to all ears in the area carrying his description and the description of the clothing he was wearing. When we walked into the bar, the bartender was sitting at one of the tables in the back of the place, holding a steak to his left eye. The place itself was a mess. Barstools were scattered over the floor. Tables were up ended. The back bar was smashed and the mirror that ran along the length of the bar itself was broken. Frank and I checked with the officers from the unit and then went back to talk to the bartender.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS.

16 CALVIN: (PADING IN) Why didn't you guys tell me about him?
17 JOE: Sir?
18 CALVIN: Why didn't you tell me who he was? I didn't know. Look at this place. Look at what he done.
19 JOE: How'd it happen?
20 CALVIN: Guy came in here. Sat down and ordered a drink. Next thing I know, he'd belted the guy on the stool next to him. From there it went.
21 FRANK: What started the fight?
22 CALVIN: I dunno.
23 JOE: Did you recognize him when he came in?
24 CAL: Not right off. He sat down, ordered a drink. Next thing I know the place is comin' down around me.
25 FRANK: When'd you know he was the man we were looking for?
CALVIN: After he belted the fella next to him. That's when I knew. Called you right away. You shoulda told me that he was rough. You shoulda told me.

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

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

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

CALVIN: We were havin' a nice night. Pretty good business. Sittin' here watchin' the fights on the television. Nice and quiet. Pourin' good. Looked like a good night for the till.

FRANK: Yeah.

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

JOE: Uh huh.

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

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

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

JOE: Yeah.
CALVIN: I'm standin' there watchin' the fight. All of a sudden there's one goin' on in the room. This new guy and the fella next to him. Goin' at it hot and heavy.

JOE: Go ahead.

CALVIN: This do any good d'ya know?

JOE: What's that?

CALVIN: Holdin' a steak on a black eye? Supposed to take the swelling down.

JOE: I don't know.

CALVIN: Sure hope so. Guy laid a bottle on my cheek...feels like he broke something.

FRANK: You want us to call a doctor for you?

CAL: No. I'll check one later. Other cops asked the same thing. I'm alright.

JOE: You want to go ahead with your story?

CALVIN: Not much more to tell. Place just seemed to explode. I jumped over the bar. I gotta billy club in back. Grabbed that and jumped over the bar to try to get the two guys apart. They were throwin' everything they could lay their hands on at each other. Look at the place. Be better if I just put a lock on the door and open up someplace else.

FRANK: Just to be sure...is this the man who caused the fight?

SOUND: FRANK TAKES A MUGG SHOT FROM HIS POCKET

CALVIN: Wait a minute...can't see too good. (LOOKS) Yeah..that's him.

JOE: You're pretty sure about it?
CALVIN: Yeah. Louis Rote. That's the fella.

JOE: This afternoon when we talked to you, you said you didn't know him.

CALVIN: Didn't make much of an impression then. When I saw him in person I remembered.

JOE: He was in here earlier then.

CALVIN: Yeah...same guy.

JOE: Did you hear him say anything at all that might help us find him?

CALVIN: No...but you oughta talk to the guy he had the fight with.

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: He went to school with Rote.

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

**SOUND:** DOOR KNOCK

**BEAT**

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

23 **BEAT**

**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 L O U I S : For what?
2 J O E : Suspension of robbery.
3 B E A T
4 L O U I S : How'd you get to me?
5 J O E : We did.
6 L O U I S : Can I get a coat?
7 J O E : You tell us where it is. We'll get it for you.
8 L O U I S : Closet over there.
9 F R A N K : I'll get it.
11 L O U I S : (U P T O F R A N K ) T h e r e ' s a b o t t l e o f aspirin in the pocket.
12 Make sure you don't drop it. Hangover I got... I'm gonna
13 need something.
14 F R A N K : (O F F ) Y e a h .
15 L O U I S : D o n ' t t h i n k I ' v e e v e r h a d a h e a d a c h e l i k e t h i s o n e .
16 T e r r i b l e .
17 J O E : Better get used to it.
18 L O U I S : Huh?
19 J O E : They're gonna get worse.
20 (E N D S C E N E 5 ) (E N D A C T I )
21 G I B N E Y : Y o u a r e l i s t e n i n g t o D r a g n e t , t h e d o c u m e n t e d d r a m a o f a n
22 actual crime.

(M I D D L E C O M M E R C I A L I N S E R T )
1 FENN: You hear it everywhere. Chesterfield for me. Here's how
2 television star Robin Chandler puts it.
3 CHANDLER TAPE There are so many reasons why I like Chesterfield. I like
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. 11/15
7 FENN: Now let's hear from Stage and Movie star, John Hodiak.
8 HODIAK TAPE It's Chesterfields for me all right. I've smoked 'em for
9 9 years. Now, I like a longer smoke - so I go for the
10 King Size. They're Great. 11/20
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.
A showup was arranged and all of the victims of the hold-ups were present. They all gave positive identifications of Louis Rote as the man who'd held them up. A complaint was issued by the district's attorney's office and on the following Friday, August 2nd, a preliminary hearing was held in Division 34 of the municipal court. Rote was bound over for the charges filed against him. September 2, at 10 A.M. the suspect pled guilty to robbery in the first degree, 2 counts. Rote asked for immediate sentence and the judge complied with the request. He was sent to San Quentin where he went through the clinic. On recommendation of the authorities at the prison, the board ordered him sent to penitentiary at Chico, California. Seven months had passed since his arrest. From what we heard, Rote was a model prisoner. During that time, we'd cleaned up a string of loan company hold-ups and Frank's children had gone through the chicken pox and several types of virus. On Sunday, February 23, Frank and I were in the office trying to catch up on the detail work.

Frank: You got the L.A. number on Lawrence Pichetti?
Joe: Yeah... just a minute.

Frank: (writing) 6 - 8 - 9 - 4 - 7 Sure a mean one.
Joe: Yeah. Terrible what he did to that kid.
Frank: Uh huh.
JOE: (INTO PHONE) Robbery, Friday...Yeah, Savage...Uh huh.

When'd it happen? Yeah. They know how he did it? Yeah.

Okay...we'll check it right away. Thanks. Send it down will you? Right. G'bye.

SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE

JOE: Teletype in from Chino.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Rote just broke outta jail. / 1930

(END SCENE 6)
An immediate watch was put on all of the places Rote was known to frequent. All officers in the fields were supplied with descriptions and pictures of the suspect. From the story as we got it from the prison officials we were able to piece together the method of Rote's escape. Several months before he'd started on the bank robberies, he'd gotten work as a day laborer at Chino. He'd managed to bury a gun and several hundred dollars in a water tight container in the prison grounds. On his arrival at the prison, he'd waited for the right moment and then dug up the weapon and money and made a break. He'd picked Sunday a day when the prison grounds are crowded with visitors. Fortunately, there had been no one hurt when Rote had escaped, however we knew he was armed and was to be considered dangerous. Two days after his escape, a man answering his description held up a grocery store. From the clerk, we obtained a positive identification of Rote. The next day, he hit again this time, he beat one of the clerks in a store when the man refused to open the cash register. Additional information was forwarded to all law enforcement agencies in the area. Rote's picture was carried on the police television show and the daily newspapers cooperated and carried his likeness and description. Calls began to come into the complaint board from people who thought they'd seen the suspect. In each instance, the information was checked out and several of the reports appeared authentic. On Wednesday, March 4th, we got a call from Calvin Miles...the bartender who'd given us the original information on Rote. Frank and I drove out to see him.
CALVIN: I tried to hold him here. Tried my darndest but he wouldn't go for it.

JOE: Uh huh.

CALVIN: Even told him I'd buy a couple of drinks. That wouldn't do it.

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

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

JOE: You talk to him at all?

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

JOE: What about?

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

JOE: Yeah.

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

FRANK: Uh huh.

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

JOE: He say anything at all about where he was staying?

CALVIN: Not a word.

JOE: Didn't give you any indication.

CALVIN: No.

FRANK: Was he driving a car?
CALVIN: Not that I could see. When he walked out, I went over to
the door to see if I could spot anything but by the time I
got out from behind the bar, he'd disappeared.

JOE: There a cab stand around here?

CALVIN: Couple of blocks up the street. You think he might have
taken a taxi?

JOE: We'll check it out.

CALVIN: I don't think he could have gotten that far in the time
it took me to get to the door. I can see that far and I
didn't see him.

JOE: Uh huh.

CALVIN: I don't think he took a taxi.

JOE: Did he come in alone?

CALVIN: Far as I could tell. Came in and sat down, ordered a
highball. Drank it up and left. I don't think he was here
more than five minutes all told.

JOE: But you're pretty sure there wasn't anybody with him.

CALVIN: Yeah. Had been, I'da seen 'em.

FRANK: Did he look like he was going to meet anyone here?

CALVIN: Not especially.

JOE: He give you any reason for coming in?

CALVIN: Not right out he didn't.

JOE: What'dya mean?

CALVIN: Lucky I did it now, I guess...I didn't plan it that way.

JOE: What's that?

CALVIN: I told you, I thought he wanted to make a touch.

JOE: Uh huh.

CALVIN: I told him that I'd just taken the money to the bank,
Dropped it in the night depository. Said I'd cleaned the
place out.
JOE: He left right after that?
CALVIN: Yeah...finished up his drink and walked out. Sure got a lot of nerve if you ask me.
JOE: What d'ya mean?
CALVIN: He comes in the place once...breaks it up then comes back to try to hold it up.
JOE: You're not sure about that.
CALVIN: Far as I'm concerned, that's what he came in for.
JOE: Uh huh. Can you give us a description of what he was wearing?
CALVIN: Plain blue suit...looked like it was gabardine...two button.
JOE: How 'bout a hat?
CALVIN: No...he wasn't wearing one. Had on a white shirt...black knit tie the narrow kind and one of those little stick pins. Shaped like a little lady bug...You know the kind I mean?
JOE: Yes sir.
CALVIN: One of those.
JOE: All right, Mr. Miles. If anything more comes up...we'd appreciate a call.
CALVIN: You'll get it. Tell you one thing sergeant.
JOE: What's that?
CALVIN: After that fight, I did just about everything I could to help business...help pay for the damage.
JOE: Yeah.
CALVIN: But this is one customer I want to lose.
(END SCENE 7)
JOE: For the next two days the search for the suspect went on. Rooming houses where he might have been staying were checked. Friends and relatives were interrogated. Al Gayton in San Diego was notified and he alerted the authorities at the border in the event Rote tried to escape into Mexico. In the meantime, a rolling stake out was set up in the area where the thief had been hitting. Two more days passed without activity. On Monday, March 9, Frank and I were in unit 1K80 cruising on West Pico.

SOUND: CAR TRAVELING IN B.G. POLICE RADIO

FRANK: Quiet night.

JOE: Yeah.

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

JOE: How you comin' with the books?

FRANK: For the sergeant exam?

JOE: Yeah.

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

JOE: Yeah.

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

JOE: Uh huh.

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

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

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

JOE: Far as I'm concerned it is.
FRANK: I don't know Joe...another six bucks. Seems like it's kind of unnecessary.

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

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

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

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

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

FRANK: I suppose so.

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

FRANK: What kinda coverage do you get?

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

FRANK: Uh huh.

JOE: All lawsuits for one year.

FRANK: Might be a pretty good idea.

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

FRANK: Uh huh...well, I'll talk it over with Fay...see what she thinks.
I think she'll go for it.

SQUELCH

All units...attention all units. A 211 has just occurred at the grocery store at the corner of Pico Boulevard and Ottawa Street. Unit 1-R-13 handle the call. Code three.

Better hit it.

Yeah.

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

(ON FILTER) Control one to 1-K80 go ahead.

Code six at Pico Boulevard and Ottawa Street.

Control one to 1-K80...roger...KMA 367.
(ON RADIO) Attention all units...attention all units.

Be on the lookout for the following described suspect wanted in connection with 211 at grocery store at Pico Boulevard and Ottowa Street. Suspect described as WMA...

40 or 50 years...five feet eight and one half...one hundred fifty to one hundred fifty five...medium build...
grey hair. Suspect was wearing a dark blue suit...no hat...white shirt...black tie and black shoes. Suspect has a mole on the left side of his face, just above mouth. He is carrying a large blue steel revolver, western type. Suspect believed to be driving a 1952 Chrysler Sedan...dark in color license number unknown.

Vehicle has a damaged left rear fender. Use caution suspect is considered dangerous. K.M.A. 367.

JOE: Sounds like Rote.

FRANK: Yeah. Hang on....

SOUND: THEY TURN ANOTHER CORNER

FRANK: Here's Pico.

SOUND: THE CAR CONTINUES FOR A BEAT.

JOE: Frank...the car that just passed us...

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Dark Chrysler Sedan...dented left fender. Better check it.

FRANK: Right. Hold it.

SOUND: FRANK SWINGS WIDE AND MAKES A U TURN

JOE: He's taking off. Step on it.

SOUND: CAR PICKS UP MORE SPEED

FRANK: Doesn't look like he's gonna stop.

SOUND: CAR HOLDS
JOE: Watch it Frank... that street car...

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

SQUEAL THEN RUNNING

FRANK: Close one.

JOE: Long as they don’t come any closer.

FRANK: You see him?

JOE: Yeah... up ahead.

FRANK: Gonna try a shot at him?

JOE: Can’t... too many people.

FRANK: We’re pullin’ up.

SOUND: BRING SOUND OF OTHER CAR IN

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

FRANK: Doesn’t act like he hears you.

JOE: It’s Rote.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Try to cut him off.

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

EVEN MORE SPEED

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

FRANK: Nothin’.

JOE: Cut him off.

FRANK: Right... hang on.

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

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

AND STOP. UNIT 1K30 PULLS TO A STOP.
1. JOE: Let's go.

2. SOUND: JOE AND FRANK GET OUT OF THE CAR AND RUN OVER TO ROTE'S 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.

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.

2 MUSIC: [Signature]

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

4 GIBNEY: On June 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.

5 PENN: Now, here is our star Jack Webb.

6 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT
DRAGNET RADIO
JUNE 5, 1954

CLOSING COMMERCIAL:

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

THEME: UNUNDER

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

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

MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

FENN: Watch an entirely different Dragnet case history each week
on your local NBC Television station. Please check your
newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT)

Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from
Los Angeles.

(L & M HITCH HIKE)
June 8, 1954

L & M HITCHIKE (m-131)

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

L & M Filters - Light and mild.