



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD, #85 NBC #253

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SCRIPT JEAN MILES

SOUND BUD TOLLEFSON &
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ANNCR. #1. GEORGE FENNEMAN

ANNCR. #2. HAL GIENEY, NBC

CASE "THE BIG CUSTOMER"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING SUNDAY: JUNE 12, 1954

CAST AND SOUND: 3:30 - 6:00 PM

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 22, 1954

SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR:
PETE PETERSON

TECHNICAL ADVISORS:

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

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

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

C.P.E.

"C"

" THE BIG CUSTOMER "

C A S T

SERGEANT JOE FRIDAY	JACK WEBB
OFFICER FRANK SMITH	BEN ALEXANDER
IRENE MONTGOMERY	VIRGINIA GREGG
PAUL	WHIT CONNOR
SARAH	VIVI JANNIS
NEAL	HERB ELLIS
HENRY LARSON (DEL)	WHIT CONNOR
NICK ROXFORD	JACK KRUSCHEN

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 - brought to you by Chesterfield.....America's
7 most popular two way cigarette.....Chesterfield king--
8 size at the new low price.....and Chesterfield regular.

9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

10 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant.. You're assigned
11 to Robbery Detail. A special officer has been shot during
12 a routine patrol. His assailants have escaped into the
13 city. There's no lead to their where-a-bouts. Your job...
14 find 'em.

15 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO
JUNE 22, 1954

FIRST COMMERCIAL

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

1 MUSIC: THEME

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

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

10 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON CORRIDOR SURFACE. SLIGHT ECHO.

11 BUZZER IN B.G.

12 JOE: It was Saturday, May 21st. It was warm in Los Angeles,
13 We were working the night 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 back from
16 the scene and it was 10:56 P.M. when we got to Georgia
17 Street Receiving Hospital.....(SOUND DOOR OPENS)The
18 treatment room.

19 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE ROOM. DOOR SWINGS CLOSED BEHIND
20 THEM. COUPLE OF STEPS INTO THE ROOM.

21 IRENE: (LITTLE OFF) That you, doctor?

22 JOE: No ma'am. (BEAT WHILE HE WALKS TO HER) Police officers.
23 The doctor said we could ask you some questions

24 IRENE: About the robbery?

25 JOE: Yes ma'am. This is my partner; Frank Smith. My name's
26 Friday.

1 FRANK: Hello, Mrs. Montgomery.

2 IRENE: Have you heard anything about Kieth? Is he alright?

3 JOE: Doctor's still with him.

4 IRENE: Is he going to be all right?

5 JOE: Better talk to the doctor about that.

6 IRENE: He tried to stop the men from robbing us. Tried to
7 throw them out of the store.

8 JOE: Uh huh. Can you tell us what happened?

9 IRENE: I guess so. If the doctor said I could.

10 JOE: Anytime you don't feel like going on.....you tell us.

11 IRENE: All right.

12 JOE: What time did the men come into the store?

13 IRENE: 'bout 9:30. Right around in there.

14 JOE: Yeah.

15 IRENE: Kieth and me were sitting in the back room playing
16 cribbage. We usual play a couple of games before we close
17 up.....specially when business is kinda slow.

18 JOE: Uh huh.

19 IRENE: These two men came in. Kieth went out to wait on 'em.

20 FRANK: Did you go with him?

21 IRENE: No. Wasn't any reason to. Just two customers. No reason
22 for me to go out. They looked like they came in together.

23 FRANK: You could see them from where you were?

1 IRENE: Oh yes. We had the card table set up right in the doorway
2 of the back room.

3 JOE: All right ma'am.....you want to go on,

4 IRENE: Kieth went out and asked them what they wanted.

5 JOE: Uh huh.

6 IRENE: One of 'em said he wanted a bottle of Vodka. Kieth
7 asked him what kind and the man said it didn't make any
8 difference. Said he wanted the hundred proof though.

9 JOE: Yeah.

10 IRENE: Kieth got the bottle off the shelf and came back, He told
11 the man how much the bottle was and that's when the other
12 man pulled out the knife.

13 FRANK: The second man drew the knife?

14 IRENE: That's right. Short fella. Had this kind of knife with
15 the spring blade. Where you push a button and the blade
16 snaps out. You know how?

17 FRANK: Yes ma'am.

18 JOE: Did the men know you were in the back room?

19 IRENE: Must have. All they had to do was look through the door
20 and they'da seen me. I wasn't trying' to hide.

21 JOE: Uh huh. You feel up to going on?

22 IRENE: Yes. Doctor gave me some kinda pill. Makes me a little
23 numb but I feel all right.

24 JOE: All right ma'am. Go ahead. What happened after they
25 pulled the knife.

1 IRENE: The short one told Kieth to give him the money. Said it
2 was a holdup.

3 JOE: You remember his exact words?

4 IRENE: I don't know.....seems he said....."all right old man....
5 this is a stick up. Put all the money in the register in
6 a paper bag and don't cause any trouble." Near as I can
7 remember, that's what he said.

8 JOE: Uh huh. What happened then?

9 IRENE: Kieth told him to get out of the store. Said the two
10 of 'em were too young to get mixed up in that kind of
11 foolishness. Told 'em to get right out.

12 JOE: Yeah.

13 IRENE: Little fella.....the short one with the knife grabbed
14 Kieth and told him they weren't playing games. That if
15 he knew what was good for him, he'd do like he was told.
16 Had the knife right at his chest. I thought he was gonna
17 cut Kieth.

18 JOE: Yeah.

19 IRENE: That's when I came out from the back room. When I thought
20 they were gonna hurt Kieth.

21 JOE: You feel like going on?

22 IRENE: Yes.....I want to get this over. Tell you what you need
23 to know so you can catch the fellas,

24 JOE: All right ma'am. What happened when you came into the
25 store?

26 IRENE: I tried to get the men out of the place. Told 'em that if
27 they knew what was good for 'em, they'd leave right then.

1 JOE: Uh huh.

2 IRENE: Might as well been talking to a wall. They didn't pay any
3 attention to me.

4 JOE: Yeah.

5 IRENE: That's when I tired to get to the phone.....I wanted to
6 call the police.

7 FRANK: What was your husband doing?

8 IRENE: Standing there trying to keep from moving into the knife.
9 This short little fella had it pressed right against his
10 chest. Had the point right here (INDICATES) Kieth made
11 any kind of a move and he'd been stabbed.

12 FRANK: Uh huh.

13 IRENE: When they saw me go to the phone, the tall one grabbed me
14 and hit me. With his closed up fist. Hit me about as
15 hard as he could. As soon as he did that, Kieth seemed to
16 go crazy. He wreched himself away from the one with the
17 knife and jumped on the tall man. Fought him as hard as
18 he could.

19 JOE: Yeah.

20 IRENE: Terrible the way it happened. The tall man hit Kieth
21 along the neck.with the edge of his hand and knocked
22 my husband down. Then the little fella jumped on him.
23 Held this knife right at his throat and told him to take
24 the money and put it in a bag. That he didn't want any
25 more trouble or he'd kill us both. All the time, he had
26 the knife right here (INDICATES) at Kieth's throat.

1 JOE: Your husband did what they said?

2 IRENE: That's right. He opened the register and gave 'em the
3 money. Put it in a paper bag. I thought they'd leave
4 after that but they didn't. Only made 'em madder.

5 JOE: Why's that?

6 IRENE: Wasn't enough money. Only about 30 or 35 dollars. They
7 said we had more in the back room and they wanted that
8 too. Said for us to get it or they'd kill us.

9 JOE: Did you get it for them?

10 IRENE: Yes. I went back and took it out from where we hid it.
11 Handed it right over.

12 JOE: Uh huh.

13 IRENE: What'd the doctor say about Kieth? He must have said
14 something?

15 JOE: (TO FRANK) You wanna check with Dr. Sebastian, Frank?
16 See what's happening?

17 FRANK: Yeah.

18 ~~SOUND: FRANK LEAVES THE ROOM. DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE.~~

19 JOE: Would you go on please?

20 IRENE: After they got the other money, the two men left the
21 store. Put the cash in the paper bag and walked out.
22 Said for me to stay still for five minutes or they'd
23 come back and kill Kieth and me.

24 JOE: Uh huh. When did the Special Officer come into the
25 store?

1 IRENE: He didn't.
2 JOE: Ma'am?
3 IRENE: He drove up when we were arguing with the men on the
4 sidewalk. After they left the store, Kieth got up and ran
5 after them. Tried to hold 'em.
6 JOE: Did the officer know what was going on?
7 IRENE: Not at first. He thought it was just an argument. When
8 he walked up, Kieth tried to tell him that the store was
9 being robbed but the tall robber said it was just a
10 personal fight. Said that it didn't concern anybody else
11 but Kieth and him. 7/10
12 JOE: Were you on the sidewalk at the time?
13 IRENE: Yes, right beside Kieth.
14 JOE: Uh huh.
15 IRENE: The robbers said that Kieth was just an old crackpot
16 trying to cause trouble and that the officer should forget
17 about it.
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 IRENE: I guess it didn't sound very good to him 'cause he said
20 it'd be better if Kieth and the men talked to a policeman.
21 That's when the tall holdup man grabbed the gun and shot.
22 JOE: At the officer?
23 IRENE: Yeah. Grabbed the gun out of his holster and shot him
24 in the stomach.
25 JOE: What happened then?
26 IRENE: The smaller of the two stabbed Kieth a couple of times
27 and both of them ran down the street.

1 JOE: Did you see where they went?
2 IRENE: Yes. They got into a car that was parked about a half a
3 block away. Jumped into the car and left.
4 JOE: All right, Mrs. Montgomery.....just a couple more
5 questions. Did either of the two men use a name at any
6 time?
7 IRENE: What' d'ya mean?
8 JOE: When they were talking to each other, did they use a name
9 of any kind?
10 IRENE: Yes.....When they shot the officer, the big one.....he
11 did the shooting.....he said "C'mon Hank.....let's get
12 outta here" Like that he said it.
13 JOE: Uh huh. Was there anything outstanding about the two men?
14 Anything that would make them easier to identify?
15 IRENE: I can't think of anything right off. Just that one was
16 tall and the other one was short. That's all I can think
17 of.
18 JOE: About how tall?
19 IRENE: The big one?
20 JOE: Yes ma'am.
21 IRENE: Over six feet. I'd say he was about six feet three...
22 maybe even more.
23 JOE: Uh huh. Did he have any special marks or scars you can
24 recall?
25 IRENE: No. Nothing like that.
26 JOE: How 'bout the short one? Anything that would make it
27 easier to identify him?
28 IRENE: Just his fingernails.
29 JOE: What d'ya mean?

1 IRENE: They looked like he never cleaned 'em. Real long and
2 dirty. I remember that.

3 JOE: Was there anything else?

4 IRENE: No.

5 JOE: Did either of them speak with any kind of an accent?

6 IRENE: No. Sounded just like anybody else. Nothin' special
7 about him.

8 SOUND: THE DOOR OPENS OFF MIKE.

9 FRANK: (OFF) Joe?

10 JOE: Yeah, Frank.

11 FRANK: See you a minute?

12 IRENE: Did you find out about Kieth? Did you talk to the doctor?

13 FRANK: He'll be right in to see you, Mrs. Montgomery.

14 IRENE: Is Kieth going to be alright? Why don't you tell me
15 what's happening?

16 JOE: Take it easy, Ma'am. The doctor'll be right in.

17 IRENE: All right....but tell him to hurry please. Please.

18 JOE: Yes ma'am.

19 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO THE DOOR AND INTO THE HALL. DOOR CLOSE BEHIND
20 HIM. CORRIDOR B.G. IN.

21 JOE: You call county?

22 FRANK: Yeah. They're operating on Holman.

23 JOE: How's he doin'?

24 FRANK: Soon as they get the bullet out he should make it. Wound's
25 not serious.

26 JOE: What about Kieth Montgomery?

27 FRANK: He just died.....of knife wounds.

(END SCENE 1)

1 JOE: The story we'd gotten from Irene Montgomery was pretty much
2 the same Special Officer, Kenneth Holman had given us.
3 Immediately after the robbery, a local and an A.P.B. had
4 gone out on the suspects. In canvassing the neighborhood,
5 the investigating officers had found two eye witnesses to
6 the shooting-stabbing. A man and a woman had been parked
7 in an automobile directly across the street from the
8 Montgomery store. They'd been able to give us a
9 description of the car the suspects had driven away from
10 the scene, along with the last three numbers on the
11 license plate. While Frank and I had been talking to Mrs.
12 Montgomery, Officers Benson and Herman from Robbery Detail
13 had been going through the Department of Motor Vehicle
14 records looking for the owners name. Information on the
15 method of operation used in the crime was sent to the
16 state's office and a run was started. The moniker file
17 at .R. and I. was checked for a suspect with the
18 nickname "Hank" who matched the description of the smaller
19 thief. The two eye witnesses were brought to the city hall
20 to go through the mugg books for a possible identification.
21 While Frank went to the office to check with Benson and
22 Herman, I worked with the witnesses.

23 SOUND: TURNING PAGES IN A MUGG BOOK.

24 PAUL: (AS HE LOOKS AT THE PICTURES) No.....Uh huh.....not on
25 this page.

26 SOUND: HE TURNS THE PAGE

27 PAUL: Don't see them here either.

28 SOUND: PAGE TURN

1 PAUL: Wait a minute...this fella here. See...
2 JOE: Yeah.
3 PAUL: It's not the holdup man but he's got the same kind of ears.
4 ..Close to his head like. The same kind of ears.
5 JOE: It's not the man though?
6 PAUL: Uh uh (NO) just got ears like him.
7 JOE: All right, Mr. Steele, you wanna go on?
8 PAUL: Yeah.
9 SOUND: PAGE TURN
10 PAUL: Remember those ears. I used to go to school with a kid
11 who had ears like that. Junior High School.
12 JOE: Yeah.
13 PAUL: Mean kid. Never forget him...Real mean. Don't guess I've
14 thought of him for at least fifteen years. Never forget
15 him though. Mean. He waited for me after school once.
16 Had a big fight. I don't even know what it was about.
17 Big fight. He really beat me up.
18 SOUND: HE TURNS ANOTHER PAGE
19 PAUL: Sure like to meet him now. Be a different story.
20 JOE: Yes sir. Do you see either of the suspects?
21 PAUL: No. No picture in this book. Y'got another one?
22 JOE: Yeah...I'll get it.
23 SOUND: JOE GET'S ANOTHER MUGG BOOK FROM THE SHELVES AND PUTS IT ON
24 THE TABLE. WE HEAR THE BOOK OPEN.
25 PAUL: How many more you got of these things?

1 JOE: Quite a few.

2 PAUL: Want me to go through all of 'em?

3 JOE: Like to have you check the pictures, yes sir.

4 PAUL: Gonna take a while. #13

5 JOE: You and your wife are the only two people who can give us
6 an identification.

7 PAUL: How 'bout the woman who was held up...What's her name?
8 Mrs. Holman?

9 JOE: Montgomery..Holman was the officer who was shot.

10 PAUL: Oh yeah..What about Mrs. Montgomery? Can't she tell
11 you about the robbers?

12 JOE: She's under the care of her doctor, Her husband died.

13 PAUL: From being stabbed?

14 JOE: Yes sir.

15 PAUL: Too bad. We didn't know what it was all about y'know?

16 JOE: Uh huh.

17 PAUL: Me 'n Harriet were just sitting there. All of a sudden
18 there's this fight and the shot..we didn't know what
19 the fracas was.

20 JOE: Yes sir. You wanna check the books?

21 PAUL: Oh yeah.

22 SOUND: PAGE TURN.

23 PAUL: No...not here.

24 SOUND: PAGE TURN.

25 PAUL: Uh huh (NO) ...he's mean. What'd he do?

26 JOE: Robbery.

1 PAUL: Yeah...you can tell. Look at the face. You can always
2 tell.

3 SOUND: PAGE TURN

4 PAUL: No..don't see him here.

5 SOUND: PAGE TURN

6 PAUL: Perry.

7 JOE: Sir?

8 PAUL: Perry Nicholson. That's the guys name. One with the
9 close ears. Remember it now. Haven't thought of him
10 in fifteen years. Perry Nicholson. Bully. 12130

11 JOE: Uh huh.

12 PAUL: Sure like to meet old Perry now. Be different story if
13 he wanted to fight. Different story..

14 JOE: Yes sir.

15 SOUND: DOOR TO THE MUGG ROOM OPENS.

16 FRANK: (FADING IN) Joe..

17 JOE: Yeah.

18 FRANK: The holdup car...

19 JOE: Yeah.

20 FRANK: They just found it .. abandoned. 1140

(END SCENE 2)

12/47

1 JOE: Two officers in a radio unit had found the car in a
2 parking lot at the corner of Rosemont Avenue and Waterloo.
3 When the vehicle was discovered and the similarity to
4 the description that had been broadcast was noticed, the
5 car was put under surveillance and our office had been
6 notified. Frank and I left the city hall and drove out
7 to the parking lot immediately. The car was placed
8 under surveillance and we checked it through D.M.V.
9 We found the car was owned by an Edwin Vargas, 1879
10 Moss Street in Burbank. We checked the name through
11 R. and I. but found that he had no criminal record in
12 our files. We drove out to see Vargas. While Frank
13 covered the rear of the place, I rang the bell of the
14 house and waited.

15 SOUND: OUTDOOR NIGHT NOISES. BEAT THEN DOOR OPEN.

16 SARAH: Yeah?

17 JOE: Like to see Mr. Vargas.

18 SARAH: He's not in right now...anything I can do?

19 JOE: You know where he is?

20 SARAH: No. I imagine he got held up downtown. Probably
21 working late.

22 JOE: Wonder if I could wait for him?

13/30

23 SARAH: I'm not sure. You mind telling me who you are?

24 JOE: Police officer...My name's Friday.

25 SARAH: What 'd the cops want Ed for?

26 JOE: Might be better if we talked to him.

1 SARAH: (LOOKING) You alone?
2 JOE: Is there anybody else in the house?
3 SARAH: No.
4 JOE: Your husband own a 1953 dark blue Ford sedan?
5 SARAH: Yes.
6 JOE: He driving it tonight?
7 SARAH: Sure...took it to work with him this morning.
8 JOE: Uh huh. Might be better if we waited inside.
9 SARAH: All right...c'mon in.
10 SOUND: JOE ENTERS THE HOUSE.
11 SARAH: (AS JOE COMES IN) I don't know what all this is about
12 but you can bet that it's some kind of mistake. Ed's
13 never had no trouble with the cops. None.
14 SOUND: THE DOOR CLOSES. B.G. OUT.
15 JOE: (LOOKING) Where's that door lead?
16 SARAH: Bedroom. *14/20*
17 JOE: You mind if I take a look?
18 SARAH: Go ahead...you ain't gonna find anything.
19 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO THE DOOR AND OPENS IT. BEAT
20 JOE: (FROM LITTLE OFF) That the bathroom?
21 SARAH: Yeah.
22 SOUND: WE HEAR JOE WALK TO THE BATHROOM AND OPEN THE DOOR. A
23 BEAT AND THEN HE WALKS BACK ON MIKE.
24 JOE: Just the one bedroom?

1 SARAH: No need for anymore. Me and Ed don't have any children.
2 JOE: Kitchen this way?
3 SOUND: HE HAS STARTED TO WALK
4 SARAH: Yeah. If you're lookin' for something...maybe if you'll
5 tell me what it is, I can help you.
6 JOE: Just want to check the house.
7 SOUND: THEY HAVE REACHED THE KITCHEN. STEPS ON LINOLIUM.
8 JOE: That all there is to the house?
9 SARAH: I told you we don't need any more room.
10 JOE: Uh huh.
11 SOUND: HE WALKS TO THE BACK DOOR AND UNLOCKS IT. DOOR OPENS...
12 B.G. IN
13 JOE: (UP) Okey Frank.
14 SOUND: WE HEAR FRANK FALE IN. UP A COUPLE OF STEPS AND INTO
15 KITCHEN.
16 FRANK: He here?
17 JOE: No.
18 SARAH: Who's this? Another cop?
19 JOE: This is my partner, Frank Smith. Mrs. Vargas.
20 FRANK: Hello.
21 SARAH: (PAYING NO ATTENTION) Seems to me you should be able to
22 tell me what this is all about, Mr. Friday.
23 JOE: Can you give us a description of your husband?
24 SARAH: Why?
25 JOE: Might help get him out of trouble.
26 SARAH: He's in no trouble. You've got something on your back
27 and you're trying to dump it on Ed. Isn't gonna work.

1 JOE: Don't worry about it, Mrs Vargas. You want to give me the
2 numbers?
3 SARAH: (AFTER BEAT) It's in the phone book. Look under Emergency
4 numbers.
5 JOE: You wanna call Frank?
6 FRANK: Yeah.
7 SOUND: UNDER THE FOLLOWING, FRANK WALKS TO THE PHONE AND DIALS
8 7 NUMBERS.
9 FRANK: MUMBLES CONVERSATION IN B. G.
10 SARAH: What d'ya think he's done?
11 JOE: Police business.
12 SARAH: I'm his wife...I gotta right to know.
13 JOE: Be better if we talked to him.
14 SARAH: That's what you say.
15 JOE: Your husband ever been in trouble with the police before?
16 SARAH: Not that I know of.
17 JOE: How long have you lived here?
18 SARAH: Y'mean in California?
19 JOE: Yes ma'am.
20 SARAH: I was born here.
21 JOE: How 'bout your husband?
22 SARAH: He's been here a couple of years.
23 JOE: Where's he from?
24 SARAH: New York State.
25 JOE: Where?
26 SARAH: Little place right out side of Utica.
27 JOE: He ever in trouble back there?
28 SARAH: If he was...he didn't say anything to me about it.

- 1 JOE: How long's he had the job?
- 2 SARAH: Since a week after he came out. Ed's a smart guy. No
3 trouble gettin' work.
- 4 SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE SPEECH, FRANK HAS HUNG UP THE PHONE AND
5 WALKED BACK ON MIKE.
- 6 JOE: How 'bout it?
- 7 FRANK: I talked to the building superintendant.
- 8 JOE: Yeah.
- 9 FRANK: He says Vargas left at 5:30 this afternoon.
- 10 (END SCEND 3)
- 11 (END ACT 1)
- 12 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic Story of
13 your polic: force in action.

MIDDLE COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRACNET RADIO
JUNE 22, 1954

SECOND COMMERCIAL

1 ANNCR: Meet the young man with a horn - America's number one
2 bandleader, Ray Anthony, who's taking over the Perry Como
3 show this summer. Ray and his attractive wife, Dee, are
4 another couple who always say "Chesterfields for me"
5 RAY: Chesterfield regular. My reason for smoking them is simple
6 enough - Chesterfields give me the taste and Mildness I
7 want - Best for me. I think that about says it.
8 DEE: Ray and I agree on just about everything and Chesterfield
9 is no exception ... Like a lot of people, though, I like
10 a longer smoke - so I smoke King Size Chesterfields.
11 ANNCR: What a pair - Chesterfield King size at the new low price
12 - and Chesterfield regular. America's most popular
13 two way cigarette.

1 JOE: The description of the owner of the car used in the
2 holdup coupled with his absence made him a prime suspect
3 in the robbery. We continued to talk to his wife. She
4 gave us some of the background on Vargas. She told us
5 that they'd only been married a little over a year and
6 that they were still trying to pay off the debts that
7 her husband had incurred before their marriage. She
8 went on to say that in the last few days, he'd been
9 depressed about their finances and that on that morning
10 Vargas had said he'd figured a way out for them. Frank
11 called the office and a broadcast was gotten out asking
12 that the man be picked up and detained for questioning.
13 1:15 A.M. we asked Mrs. Vargas about her husband's
14 friends.

15 SARAH: Isn't anyone Ed's real close to.

16 JOE: Is there one man he's with more than the others? Maybe
17 somebody he works with.

18 SARAH: No...unless maybe it's Vic. Ed don't have much to do
19 with him though, he knows I don't care for him. Don't
20 like to have him around.

21 FRANK: Who's that?

22 SARAH: Vic Noble. He works in the same office as Ed.

23 FRANK: What's he look like?

24 SARAH: Not much. Little guy. Kinda non-descript. Never did
25 figure out he could be a good salesman. I'd never buy
26 anything from him. Makes me nervous just to have him
27 around.

28 SOUND: PHONE RING OFF

29 SARAH: Excuse me.

1 JOE: Go ahead.

2 SOUND: SARAH GOES TO THE PHONE. JOE FOLLOWS HER.

3 JOE: If it's your husband...might be better if you didn't
4 tell him we were here.

5 BEAT

6 SARAH: All right.

7 SOUND: SHE PICKS UP THE PHONE.

8 SARAH: (INTO PHONE) Hello....yeah honey...where've you been?
9 What? D'ya know when? Uh huh. Did you call the
10 police? Well you shoulda called 'em right away. Yeah.
11 No..I'll drive right down and pick you up. You wait
12 right there....uh huh....right away. That's right.
13 Tell me where it is....uh huh....yeah I know. Turn
14 left...yeah. All right...I'll find it. You wait right
15 there. Uh huh. Right away. G'bye.

16 SOUND: SHE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

17 SARAH: That was Ed.

18 JOE: Yeah.

19 SARAH: You're gonna have to find yourself another boy.

20 JOE: Ma'am?

21 SARAH: Whatever this is...it has something to do with Ed's
22 car doesn't it?

23 JOE: That's right.

24 SARAH: Then you're all wrong about Ed. He couldn't have had
25 anything to do with it.

26 JOE: What d'ya mean?

27 SARAH: Ed's car was stolen tonight.

.. (END SCENE 4)

1 JOE: We got the address of the bar where Ed Vargas had called
2 from. Frank and I drove down there and talked to him.
3 He told us that he'd left work and stopped in the bar for
4 a couple of drinks before he went home. However, when
5 he'd left the place, he found that his car was gone.
6 He'd returned to the bar and spent the next several
7 hours trying to figure what to do. We talked to the
8 bartender and he verified Vargas's statement, that he'd
9 been in the place all evening. He was released from
10 custody and allowed to return home. Frank and I
11 continued to talk to the bartender.
12 NEAL: Gotta get ready to close up pretty quick.
13 JOE: Just a couple more questions.
14 NEAL: You mind if I clean up the back bar while we talk?
15 JOE: Go ahead.
16 SOUND: UNDER, WE HEAR NEAL WASH AND RINSE THE GLASSES. HE
17 STACKS THEM ON THE BACK OF THE BAR.
18 NEAL: (AS HE WORKS) What d'ya wanna know?
19 JOE: You told us that Vargas came in about a quarter of six,
20 that right?
21 NEAL: Near as I can remember yeah. Give or take a couple
22 minutes on either side.
23 JOE: But he was here before 7.
24 NEAL: For sure.
25 FRANK: He meet anybody here?
26 NEAL: How far's this gonna go?
27 FRANK: What d'ya mean?
28 NEAL: His wife gonna find out if I tell you?
29 FRANK: Not from us.

1 NEAL: Well, Ed and the misses haven't been getting along so
2 good lately. Y'know been beefin' a lot.

3 JOE: Uh huh.

4 NEAL: Ed's a funny guy. He don't like no trouble at home.
5 Soon's Sarah started givin' him problem, he found
6 another girl. Kid that works in his office. They
7 usually drop in here for a couple of drinks before he
8 goes home.

9 JOE: Yeah.

10 NEAL: Nothin' serious goin' on with 'em. Just they like to
11 sit and talk. Ed's all the time tellin' her how his
12 wife doesn't understand him. Old line but I think he
13 means it.

14 JOE: He was in here with the girl tonight?

15 NEAL: Yeah ... Just like all week. Every night they come in
16 about quarter to five. Sit in a back booth and have a
17 couple martinis and then leave. I think maybe Ed
18 drops her off on the way home. She don't have a car.

19 JOE: Yeah.

20 NEAL: Tonight ... they had more'n just a couple of drinks. I
21 think maybe there was something wrong. Y'know. Little
22 problem.

23 JOE: What about?

24 NEAL: People come in here to relax. They all got something
25 on their minds. I make it a practice not to eavesdrop
26 or interfere.

27 JOE: What was their problem?

28 NEAL: Sarah won't hear it?

29 JOE: We told you before.

1 NEAL: Yeah. Wouldn't want her to come 'round here causing
2 no beef. She's jealous y'know. Real jealous.

3 JOE: That right?

4 NEAL: Yeah. Anyway .. Ed musta told the girl that he was
5 thinkin' of leavin' his wife. Cause tonight she
6 told him to do something about it or she was walkin'
7 out. Had a little kinda tiff and then she left. After
8 that, he went out to get the car and found it'd been
9 stolen.

10 JOE: Where 'd he leave it?

11 NEAL: Lot behind the building.

12 JOE: He leave the keys in the car?

13 NEAL: I dunno. You saw him when he left. Carryin' a big
14 load. He don't remember. Probably did though.

15 JOE: You have anybody else in here tonight that looked like
16 Vargas?

17 NEAL: What d'ya mean?

18 JOE: Tall like he is?

19 NEAL: Lotta tall people come in here.

20 JOE: Any tonight? 21/3

21 NEAL: Couple yeah.

22 FRANK: Any of 'em come in with a short fella. 'Bout 5 feet
23 six or seven.

24 NEAL: Yeah.

25 JOE: What time 'd they come in?

26 NEAL: Little after seven.

27 JOE: When'd they leave?

1 NEAL: I dunno ... maybe seven thirty. Quarter of eight.
2 I'm not sure. They was at one of the tables back there.
3 I served 'em a couple of times. Didn't take much notice
4 of when they left. They paid for the drinks when I
5 brought 'em. Left a half a buck tip and took off.
6 JOE: They come in here regular?
7 NEAL: Yeah ... couple of times a week. Maybe more.
8 FRANK: They usually together?
9 NEAL: Never seen 'em any other way except once. Rather not
10 remember that time.
11 JOE: What d'ya mean?
12 NEAL: Came in here early. Spent the whole night here boozin'.
13 Got pretty plastered. I had to take Nick home.
14 Couldn't make it alone.
15 JOE: Which one is Nick?
16 NEAL: Short one. Little guy.
17 JOE: He work for a living?
18 NEAL: Not that I ever heard of.
19 JOE: How's he live?
20 NEAL: Any way he can. Always seems to have dough. I think
21 maybe he's some kinda gambler ... somethin' like that.
22 Always loaded. Way he looks you'd think he was some kind
23 of mechanic but he's not.
24 JOE: Yeah?
25 NEAL: Sure. Dresses nice. Always got a good suit on but he
26 don't know how to carry it off.
27 JOE: How's that?
28 NEAL: His fingernails ... I don't think he ever cleans 'em.
29 (END SCENE 5)

1 JOE: We got a complete description of the two men. They
2 matched those of the thieves perfectly. The bartender
3 closed the place and took us down the street to a hotel
4 where he said he'd taken Nick Roxford. We talked to the
5 desk clerk but found that Roxford had moved several
6 months before. By checking with some of the people in
7 the hotel, we got a forwarding address for him. It was a
8 cheap rooming house on South Pico. Frank and I went by
9 the city hall and ran the name through R. and I. We
10 found that Roxford had an arrest record for petty theft
11 and ADW. He'd served a term in the county jail, and
12 was at the time, under the jurisdiction of the court.
13 His mugg shot was pulled and taken out to the witnesses
14 for identification. We checked with the manager of the
15 boarding house and found that Roxford and a Henry Larson
16 were registered in one of the rooms. In the company of
17 the manager we went up to the room but the pair wasn't
18 in. We contacted the office and told them where we
19 were. They told us Roxford had been positively
20 identified as one of the holdup men. We settled down to
21 wait for the suspects to come back. 3:30 A.M. .. 4:00....
22 5:00 5:15 A. M.

23 SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO THE DOOR ON CARPET

24 FRANK: Sounds like there's somebody comin'.

25 JOE: Yeah.

26 SOUND: WE HEAR STEPS OUTSIDE THE DOOR STOP. KEY IN LOCK AND
27 DOOR OPEN.

28 NICK: (AS HE ENTERS) There wasn't any other way. You were
29 there. Didn't see you doin' anything to stop it. You
30 shot the cop.

1 HENRY: Still think there should have been another way.
2 JOE: (INTERRUPTING ABOVE) Hold it right there.
3 NICK: What're you doin' in here?
4 JOE: Police officers. You're under arrest.
5 SOUND: FIGHT STARTS. TEAR THE PLACE APART. FINALLY FRANK AND
6 JOE FINISH IT OFF. NICK AND HENRY ARE OUT.
7 JOE: (BREATHING HEAVY) Wanna cuff 'em.
8 FRANK: Yeah.
9 SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS MOVE IN AND PUT ON HANDCUFFS.
10 JOE: They made it rough,
11 FRANK: Yeah.
12 JOE: Let's get 'em up...take 'em down town.
13 SOUND: THE OFFICERS MOVE IN.
14 FRANK: Yeah. Better check the cuffs, Don't want 'em too tight.
15 JOE: No...might hurt 'em.
16 (END SCENE 6)
17 JOE: The two suspects were taken downtown to the interrogation
18 room. Henry Larson was handcuffed to the chair in
19 Robbery while Frank and I talked to Nick Roxford.
20 NICK: It's a bad beef. I know it and you guys are gonna find
21 out.
22 JOE: You tell us about it.
23 NICK: You ain't gonna tie no robbery rap to me.
24 JOE: We've already done it. Witnesses gave a positive
25 identification.
26 NICK: How could they...they never seen me.
27 JOE: We got a picture that's pretty good.

1 JOE: We don't decide that.
2 NICK: Seems like if I helped you...it'd be better with me.
3 JOE: You wanne tell us?
4 NICK: Make you a deal.
5 JOE: No go.
6 NICK: Just promise me you won't tell Hank if I give you the real
7 story.
8 FRANK: Go ahead.
9 NICK: The whole thing was his idea. Right from the start. He
10 cased the store. The whole thing was his idea.
11 JOE: What about the car?
12 NICK: That was Hank's too. He spotted it. Said it'd make a good
13 deal. You check the car..You'll find his prints all over
14 it.
15 JOE: What about what happened at the store.
16 NICK: Hank again. I didn't went no part of it. Hank made me.
17 Said if I backed out he'd get me. He's a big man. Get's
18 mean when he's crossed. I wasn't about to give him any
19 trouble.
20 JOE: Go ahead.
21 NICK: We got to the place and he made me go in. Made me take a
22 piece of the action.
23 FRANK: But all the time, you wanted no part of it?
24 NICK: No. You gotta believe that.
25 JOE: Way we got it...you were havin' a time with the knife.
26 NICK: I got scared. That's all...I got scared. I didn't know
27 whet I was doin'.
28 JOE: Sure.

1 NICK: You gotta believe me. I'm tellin' the truth. It was all
2 Hank's idea. The whole thing. I wanted no part of it.
3 Never did.
4 JOE: Uh huh.
5 NICK: I told you...Now you know about the whole thing. You won't
6 tell Hank, will you?
7 JOE: What difference does it make?
8 NICK: He finds out I told and he'll kill me.
9 JOE: I asked you before.
10 NICK: Huh?
11 JOE: What difference does it make?
12 MUSIC: SIGNATURE
13 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The names
14 were changed to protect the innocent.
15 GIFFNEY: On September 4th, trial was held in Department 98,
16 Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the
17 County of Los Angeles. In a moment the results of that
18 trial.
19 FENN: Now here is our star, Jack Webb.
20 WEEB: (COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO
JUNE 22, 1954

CLOSING

1 WEBB: Friends - for taste and mildness you just can't beat -
2 Get yourself a carton of Chesterfields. Either
3 Chesterfield King-size at the new low price or
4 Chesterfield Regular Try'em - and you'll be sold on
5 America's most popular two way cigarette. They're plenty
6 mild. They're best for you.

END PAGE

- 1 MUSIC: THEME
- 2 MUSIC: 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
- 8 tonight were: Ben Alexander, _____
- 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
- 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
JUNE 22, 1954

L & M HITCHHIKE

1 ANNCR: Today.....L & M Filters have a nation-wide demand never
2 before equalled by any other cigarette in so short a time.
3 The reason? This is it.....It's the filter that counts...
4 And L&M has the best. L & M's exclusive miracle tip
5 contains alpha cellulose to give you effective filtration.
6 Two other things are important. L & M's have much more
7 flavor. Much less nicotine. Buy America's highest quality
8 and best filter-tip cigarette. Light and mild - L & M.