SOUND ENGINEER:
ANNCR. #1.
ANNCR. #2.
CASE.

#85 NBC /'25 3
JACK
VAN
12.1 I,OBINSON
WALTER S
CHIUMANN
BUD TOLLEFSON &
WAYNE MI ORTHY
RAOUL MURPHY
GORM FENNEM1N
HAL GIB Y, NB C
"TFIE BIG CUTOIER"

'REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:
RECORDING SUNDAY: JUNE 12, 1954
CAST AND SOUND: 3:30 - 6:00 P.M
EDITING:
SCORING:
ORCHESTRA:
ANNOUNCERS:
BROADCAST:

RELEASE DATE: JUNE 22, 1954 -
SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR:
Pete, Peterson

TECHNICAL ADVISORS:
SGT. MARTY HARR: L.A.P.D.
SGT. VANCE PRASBER: L.A.P.D.
CAPT. JOHN DONOHOE: L.A.P.D.

(COMIC / COMIC / COMIC)
1 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

2 PENN: (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 GINNEY: Dragnet - brought to you by Chesterfield.....America's most popular two way cigarette......Chesterfield king-size at the new low price.......and Chesterfield regular.

5 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

6 PENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to Robbery Detail. A special officer has been shot during a routine patrol. His assailants have escaped into the city. There's no lead to their whereabouts. Your job...

7 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

8 (COMMERCIAL INSERT)
1. FENN: What a pair .... What a buy!....King size Chesterfield now at the new low price and Chesterfield regular. 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. They satisfy millions .... They're best for you....
MUSIC: THEME

GIBNEY: Dragnet, 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 case, transcribed from official police files. From beginning to end.....from crime to punishment.....Dragnet is the story of your police force in action.

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

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

BUZZER IN B.G....

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

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

IRENE: (LITTLE OFF) That you, doctor?

JOE: No ma'am, (BEAT WHILE HE WALKS TO HER) Police officers.

The doctor said we could ask you some questions

IRENE: About the robbery?

JOE: Yes ma'am. This is my partner; Frank Smith. My name's Friday.
1 FRANK: Hello, Mrs. Montgomery.
2 IRENE: Have you heard anything about Keith? 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: Keith 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. Keith 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?
Oh yes. We had the card table set up right in the doorway of the back room.

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

Kieth went out and asked them what they wanted,

Uh huh.

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

Yeah.

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

The second man drew the knife?

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

Yes ma'am.

Did the men know you were in the back room?

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

Uh huh. You feel up to going on?

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

All right ma'am. Go ahead. What happened after they pulled the knife.
The short one told Keith to give him the money. Said it was a holdup.

You remember his exact words?

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

Uh huh. What happened then?

Keith told him to get out of the store. Said the two of 'em were too young to get mixed up in that kind of foolishness. Told 'em to get right out.

Yeah.

Little fella......the short one with the knife grabbed Keith and told him they weren't playing games. That if he knew what was good for him, he'd do like he was told.

Had the knife right at his chest. I thought he was gonna cut Keith.

Yeah.

That's when I came out from the back room. When I thought they were gonna hurt Keith.

You feel like going on?

Yes.....I want to get this over. Tell you what you need to know so you can catch the fellas.

All right ma'am. What happened when you came into the store?

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

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

JOE: Yeah.

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

FRANK: What was your husband doing?

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

FRANK: Uh huh.

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

JOE: Yeah.

IRENE: Terrible the way it happened. The tall man hit Kieth along the neck with the edge of his hand and knocked my husband down. Then the little fella jumped on him. Held this knife right at his throat and told him to take the money and put it in a bag. That he didn't want any more trouble or he'd kill us both. All the time, he had the knife right here (INDICATES) at Kieth's throat.
JOE: Your husband did what they said?
IRENE: That's right. He opened the register and gave 'em the money. Put it in a paper bag. I thought they'd leave after that but they didn't. Only made 'em madder.
JOE: Why's that?
IRENE: Wasn't enough money. Only about 30 or 35 dollars. They said we had more in the back room and they wanted that too. Said for us to get it or they'd kill us.
JOE: Did you get it for them?
IRENE: Yes. I went back and took it out from where we hid it.
JOE: Handed it right over.
JOE: Uh huh.
IRENE: What'd the doctor say about Keith? He must have said something?
JOE: (TO FRANK) You wanna check with Dr. Sebastian, Frank?
FRANK: Yeah.
JOE: Would you go on please?
IRENE: After they got the other money, the two men left the store. Put the cash in the paper bag and walked out. Said for me to stay still for five minutes or they'd come back and kill Keith and me.
JOE: Uh huh. When did the Special Officer come into the store?
IRENE: He didn't.

JOE: Ma'am?

IRENE: He drove up when we were arguing with the men on the sidewalk. After they left the store, Keith got up and ran after them. Tried to hold 'em.

JOE: Did the officer know what was going on?

IRENE: Not at first. He thought it was just an argument. When he walked up, Keith tried to tell him that the store was being robbed but the tall robber said it was just a personal fight. Said that it didn't concern anybody else but Keith and him.

JOE: Were you on the sidewalk at the time?

IRENE: Yes, right beside Keith.

JOE: Uh huh.

IRENE: The robbers said that Keith was just an old crackpot trying to cause trouble and that the officer should forget about it.

JOE: Yeah.

IRENE: I guess it didn't sound very good to him 'cause he said it'd be better if Keith and the men talked to a policeman. That's when the tall holdup man grabbed the gun and shot.

JOE: At the officer?

IRENE: Yeah. Grabbed the gun out of his holster and shot him in the stomach.

JOE: What happened then?

IRENE: The smaller of the two stabbed Keith a couple of times 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 "Claw 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?
IRENE: They looked like he never cleaned 'em. Real long and dirty. I remember that.

JOE: Was there anything else?

IRENE: No.

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

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

SOUND: THE DOOR OPENS OFF MIKE.

FRANK: (OFF) Joe?

JOE: Yeah, Frank.

FRANK: See you a minute?

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

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

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

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

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

JOE: Yes ma'am.

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

JOE: You call county?

FRANK: Yeah. They're operating on Holman.

JOE: How's he doin'?

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

JOE: What about Keith Montgomery?

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

(END SCENE 1)
The story we'd gotten from Irene Montgomery was pretty much the same Special Officer, Kenneth Holman had given us.
Immediately after the robbery, a local and an A.P.B. had gone out on the suspects. In canvassing the neighborhood, the investigating officers had found two eye witnesses to the shooting-stabbing. A man and a woman had been parked in an automobile directly across the street from the Montgomery store. They'd been able to give us a description of the car the suspects had driven away from the scene, along with the last three numbers on the license plate. While Frank and I had been talking to Mrs. Montgomery, Officers Benson and Herman from Robbery Detail had been going through the Department of Motor Vehicle records looking for the owners name. Information on the method of operation used in the crime was sent to the states office and a run was started. The moniker file at .R. and I. was checked for a suspect with the nickname "Hank" who matched the description of the smaller thief. The two eye witnesses were brought to the city hall to go through the mugg books for a possible identification. While Frank went to the office to check with Benson and Herman, I worked with the witnesses.
PAUL: Wait a minute...this fella here. See...

JOE: Yeah.

PAUL: It's not the holdup man but he's got the same kind of ears. Close to his head like. The same kind of ears.

JOE: It's not the man though?

PAUL: Uh uh (NO) just got ears like him.

JOE: All right, Mr. Steele, you wanna go on?

PAUL: Yeah.

SOUND: PAGE TURN

PAUL: Remember those ears. I used to go to school with a kid who had ears like that. Junior High School.

JOE: Yeah.

PAUL: Mean kid. Never forget him...Real mean. Don't guess I've thought of him for at least fifteen years. Never forget him though. Mean. He waited for me after school once.

JOE: I don't even know what it was about.

PAUL: Big fight. He really beat me up.

SOUND: HE TURNS ANOTHER PAGE

PAUL: Sure like to meet him now. Be a different story.

JOE: Yes sir. Do you see either of the suspects?

PAUL: No. No picture in this book. Y'got another one?

JOE: Yeah...I'll get it.

SOUND: JOE GET'S ANOTHER MUGG BOOK FROM THE SHELVES AND PUTS IT ON THE TABLE. ...HE HEAR THE BOOK (FAN).

PAUL: How many more you got of these things?
JOE: Quite a few.

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

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

PAUL: Gonna take a while.

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

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

JOE: Mrs. Holman?

PAUL: Montgomery...Holman was the officer who was shot.

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

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

JOE: From being stabbed?

PAUL: Yes sir.

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

PAUL: Uh huh.

JOE: Me 'n Harriet were just sitting there. All of a sudden there's this fight and the shot...we didn't know what the fracus was.

PAUL: Yes sir. You wanna check the books?

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

JOE: Robbery.
PAUL: Yeah...you can tell. Look at the face. You can always tell.

SOUND: PAGE TURN

PAUL: No, don't see him here.

SOUND: PAGE TURN

PAUL: Perry.

JOE: Sir?


JOE: Uh huh.

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

JOE: Yes sir.

SOUND: DOOR TO THE MUGG ROOM OPENS.

FRANK: (FADING IN) Joe...

JOE: Yeah.

FRANK: The holdup car...

JOE: Yeah.

FRANK: They just found it... abandoned.

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

OUTDOOR NIGHT NOISES. BEAT THEN DOOR OPEN.

Yeah?

Like to see Mr. Vargas.

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

You know where he is?

No. I imagine he got held up downtown. Probably working late.

Wonder if I could wait for him?

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

Police officer...My name's Friday.

What'd the cops want Ed for?

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
but you can bet that it's some kind of mistake. Ed's
never had no trouble with the cops. None.
12 SOUND: THE DOOR CLOSES. B.G. OUT.
13 JOE: (LOOKING) Where's that door lead?
14 SARAH: Bedroom.
15 JOE: You mind if I take a look?
16 SARAH: Go ahead...you ain't gonna find anything.
17 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO THE DOOR AND OPENS IT. BEAT
18 JOE: (FROM LITTLE OFF) That the bathroom?
19 SARAH: Yeah.
20 SOUND: WE HEAR JOE WALK TO THE BATHROOM AND OPEN THE DOOR. A
BEAT AND THEN HE WALKS BACK ON MIKE.
21 JOE: Just the one bedroom?
No need for anymore. Me and Ed don't have any children.

Kitchen this way?

Yeah. If you're lookin' for something...maybe if you'll
tell me what it is, I can help you.

Just want to check the house.

They have reached the kitchen. Steps on linoleum.

That all there is to the house?

I told you we don't need any more room.

Uh huh.

He walks to the back door and unlocks it. Door opens...

B.G. in

(UP) Okay Frank.

We hear Frank pale in, up a couple of steps and into

Kichen.

He here?

No.

Who's this? Another cop?

This is my partner, Frank Smith. Mrs. Vargas.

Hello.

(Paying no attention) Seems to me you should be able to
tell me what this is all about, Mr. Friday.

Can you give us a description of your husband?

Why?

Might help get him out of trouble.

He's in no trouble. You've got something on your back
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 numbers?

2 SARAH: (AFTER BEAT) It's in the phone book. Look under Emergency numbers.

3 JOE: You wanna call Frank?

4 FRANK: Yeah.

5 SOUN D: UNDER THE FOLLOWING, FRANK WALKS TO THE PHONE AND DIALS

6 7 NUMBERS.

7 FRANK: MUMBLES CONVERSATION IN B. G.

8 9 SARAH: What d'ya think he's done?

10 JOE: Police business.

11 SARAH: I'm his wife...I gotta right to know.

12 JOE: Be better if we talked to him.

13 SARAH: That's what you say.

14 JOE: Your husband ever been in trouble with the police before?

15 SARAH: Not that I know of.

16 JOE: How long have you lived here?

17 SARAH: Y'mean in California?

18 JOE: Yes ma'am.

19 SARAH: I was born here.

20 JOE: How 'bout your husband?

21 SARAH: He's been here a couple of years.

22 JOE: Where's he from?

23 SARAH: New York State.

24 JOE: Where?

25 SARAH: Little place right out side of Utica.

26 JOE: He ever in trouble back there?

27 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 trouble gettin' work.
3 SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE SPEECH, FRANK HAS HUNG UP THE PHONE AND WALKED BACK ON MIKE.
4 JOE: How 'bout it?
5 FRANK: I talked to the building superintendant.
6 JOE: Yeah.
7 FRANK: He says Vargas left at 5:30 this afternoon.
8 (END SCENE 3)
9 (END ACT 1)
10 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnot, the authentic Story of your police force in action.

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

SARAH: Isn't anyone Ed's real close to.
JCE: Is there one man he's with more than the others? Maybe somebody he works with.

SARAH: No...unless maybe it's Vic. Ed don't have much to do with him though, he knows I don't care for him. Don't like to have him around.
FRANK: Who's that?
SARAH: Vic Noble. He works in the same office as Ed.
FRANK: What's he look like?
SARAH: Not much. Little guy. Kinda non-descript. Never did figure out he could be a good salesman. I'd never buy anything from him. Makes me nervous just to have him around.

SOUND: PHONE RING OFF
SARAH: Excuse me.
JOE: Go ahead.

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

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

BEAT

SARAH: All right.

SOUND: SHE PICKS UP THE PHONE.

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

SOUND: SHE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

SARAH: That was Ed.

JOE: Yeah.

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

JOE: Ma'am?

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

JOE: That's right.

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

JOE: What d'ya mean?

SARAH: Ed's car was stolen tonight.

(END SCENE 4)
JOE: We got the address of the bar where Ed Vargas had called from. Frank and I drove down there and talked to him. He told us that he'd left work and stopped in the bar for a couple of drinks before he went home. However, when he'd left the place, he found that his car was gone. He'd returned to the bar and spent the next several hours trying to figure what to do. We talked to the bartender and he verified Vargas's statement, that he'd been in the place all evening. He was released from custody and allowed to return home. Frank and I continued to talk to the bartender.

NEAL: Gotta get ready to close up pretty quick.

JOE: Just a couple more questions.

NEAL: You mind if I clean up the back bar while we talk?

JOE: Go ahead.

SOUND: UNDER, WE HEAR NEAL WASH AND RINSE THE GLASSES. HE STACKS THEM ON THE BACK OF THE BAR.

NEAL: (AS HE WORKS) What d'ya wanna know?

JOE: You told us that Vargas came in about a quarter of six, that right?

NEAL: Near as I can remember yeah. Give or take a couple minutes on either side.

JOE: But he was here before 7.

NEAL: For sure.

FRANK: He meet anybody here?

NEAL: How far's this gonna go?

FRANK: What d'ya mean?

NEAL: His wife gonna find out if I tell you?

FRANK: Not from us.
Well, Ed and the misses haven't been getting along so good lately. Y'know... been beefin' a lot.

Uh huh.

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

Yeah.

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

He was in here with the girl tonight?

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

Yeah.

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

What about?

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

What was their problem?

Sarah won't hear it?

We told you before.
Yeah, Wouldn't want her to come 'round here causing
no beef. She's jealous y'know. Real jealous.

That right?

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

Where'd he leave it?

Lot behind the building.

He leave the keys in the car?

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

You have anybody else in here tonight that looked like
Vargas?

What d'ya mean?

Tall like he is?

Lotta tall people come in here.

Any tonight?

Coupl'o yeah.

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

Yeah.

What time'd they come in?

Little after seven.

When'd they leave?
I dunno ... maybe seven thirty. Quarter of eight.

I'm not sure. They was at one of the tables back there.

I served 'em a couple of times. Didn't take much notice
of when they left. They paid for the drinks when I
brought 'em. Left a half a buck tip and took off.

They come in here regular?

Yeah ... couple of times a week. Maybe more.

They usually together?

Never seen 'em any other way except once. Rather not
remember that time.

What d'ya mean?

Come in here early. Spent the whole night here boozin'.

Got pretty plastered. I had to take Nick home.

Couldn't make it alone.

Which one is Nick?

Short one. Little guy.

He work for a living?

Not that I ever heard of.

How's he live?

Any way he can. Always seems to have dough. I think
maybe he's some kinda gambler ... somethin' like that.
Always loaded. Way he looks you'd think he was some kind
of mechanic but he's not.

Yeah?

Sure. Dresses nice. Always got a good suit on but he
don't know how to carry it off.

How's that?

His fingernails ... I don't think he ever cleans 'em.

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

SOUND: FRANK MOVES TO THE DOOR ON CLOSET
FRANK: Sounds like there's somebody comin'.
JOE: Yeah.
SOUND: WE HEAR STEPS OUTSIDE THE DOOR STOP, KEY IN LOCK AND DOOR OPEN.
NICK: (AS HE ENTERS) There wasn't any other way. You were there. Didn't see you doin' anything to stop it. You shot the cop.
HENRY: Still think there should have been another way.

JOE: (INTERRUPTING ABOVE) Hold it right there.

NICK: What're you doin' in here?

JOE: Police officers. You're under arrest.

SOUND: FIGHT STARTS. TEAR THE PLACE APART. FINALLY FRANK AND JOE FINISH IT OFF. NICK AND HENRY ARE OUT.

_JOE: (BREATHING HEAVY) Wanna cuff 'em.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS MOVE IN AND PUT ON HANDCUFFS.

JOE: They made it rough.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Let's get 'em up...take 'em down town.

SOUND: THE OFFICERS MOVE IN.

FRANK: Yeah. Better check the cuffs, Don't want 'em too tight.

JOE: No...might hurt 'em.

(END SCENE 6)

JOE: The two suspects were taken downtown to the interrogation room. Henry Larson was handcuffed to the chair in Robbery while Frank and I talked to Nick Roxford.

NICK: It's a bad beef. I know it and you guys are gonna find out.

JOE: You tell us about it.

NICK: You ain't gonna tie no robbery rap to me.

JOE: We've already done it. Witnesses gave a positive identification.

NICK: How could they...they never seen me.

JOE: We got a picture that's pretty good.
JOE: We don't decide that.

NICK: Seems like if I helped you...it'd be better with me.

JOE: You wanna tell us?

NICK: Make you a deal.

JOE: No go.

NICK: Just promise me you won't tell Hank if I give you the real story.

FRANK: Go ahead.

NICK: The whole thing was his idea. Right from the start. He cased the store. The whole thing was his idea.

JOE: What about the car?

NICK: That was Irv's too. He spotted it. Said it'd make a good deal. You check the car. You'll find his prints all over it.

JOE: What about what happened at the store.

NICK: Hank again. I didn't want no part of it. Hank made me. Said if I backed out he'd get me. He's a big man. Get's mean when he's crossed. I wasn't about to give him any trouble.

JOE: Go ahead.

NICK: We got to the place and he made me go in. Made me take a piece of the action.

FRANK: But all the time, you wanted no part of it?

NICK: No. You gotta believe that.

JOE: Way we got it...you were havin' a time with the knife.

NICK: I got scared. That's all...I got scared. I didn't know what I was doin'.

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
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 PENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The names
14 were changed to protect the innocent.
15 GIFNEY: 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 PENN: Now here is our star, Jack Webb.
20 WEEP: (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.
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, ____________________________


PENN: 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)
ANNCR: Today......L & M Filters have a nation-wide demand never before equalled by any other cigarette in so short a time.

The reason? This is it.....It's the filter that counts...

And L&M has the best. L & M's exclusive miracle tip contains alpha cellulose to give you effective filtration.

Two other things are important. L & M's have much more flavor. Much less nicotine. Buy America's highest quality and best filter-tip cigarette. Light and mild - L & M.