CHESTERFIELD #96 NBC #264
DIRECTOR...........JACK WEBB
WRITER............JOHN ROBINSON
MUSIC............WALTER SCHUMANN
SCRIPT............JEAN MILES
SOUND............BUD TOLLEFSON & WAYNE KENWORTHY
ENGINEER........RAOUL MURPHY
ANNCR. #1.GEORGE FENNEMAN
ANNCR. #2.HAL GIBNEY, NBC
CASE.............."THE BIG TRUNK"

RELEASE DATE:......SEPTEMBER 7, 1954
SPONSOR:........CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES
AGENCY:............CUNNINGHAM-WALSH
COMMERCIAL SUPERVISOR:........PETE PETERSON
TECHNICAL ADVISORS:..........
SGT. MARTY WYNN:........L.A.P.D.
SGT. VANCE BRASHER:........L.A.P.D.
CAPT. JACK DONOHUE:........L.A.P.D.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:
RECORDING: SUNDAY - AUGUST 29, 1954 "A"
CAST AND SOUND: 2:30 - 5:00 P.M.
EDITING: .............T.B.A.
SCORING: .............T.B.A.
ORCHESTRA: ...........
ANNOUNCERS.........(COMMERCIAL)
BROADCAST:........6:00-6:30 P.M. -- STUDIO "J" -- BY T.R.
"THE BIG TRUNK"

CAST

SERGEANT JOE FRIDAY........................................JACK WEBB
OFFICER FRANK SMITH......................................BEN ALEXANDER
FERN HARRISON..............................................VIRGINIA GREGG
MARK GILSON................................................HERB ELLIS
DODY FREDERICKS.........................................JOYCE McCLUSKY
DAVE LANSING...............................................HARRY BARTELL
JORDAN ALLEN...............................................JACK KRUSCHEN
SAM......(DBL).............................................JACK KRUSCHEN
"THE BIG TRUNK"
N.B.C. # 264 CHESTERFIELD #96 (V.B.)
FOR BROADCAST: SEPTEMBER 7, 1954

1 MUSIC: SIGNATURE
2 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about to
3 hear is true. The names have been changed to protect the
4 innocent.
5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER
6 GIBNEY: Dragnet, brought to you by Chesterfield, America's most
7 popular two way cigarette. Chesterfield king-size at the
8 new low price and Chesterfield regular.
9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
10 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to
11 Homicide Detail. An attractive divorcee disappears from
12 her home. There's no lead to her whereabouts. There's
13 evidence of foul play. Your job ... find her.
14 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
FIRST COMMERCIAL

1 FENN: This is George Fenneman. In choosing your cigarette, be sure to remember this! You will like Chesterfield best because only Chesterfield has the right combination of the world's best tobaccos...highest in quality - low in nicotine. Best for you. You and I smoke for relaxation, for comfort, for satisfaction...and in the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like a Chesterfield. Buy 'em king-size at the new low price - or regular. Get a carton of Chesterfields today.

JINGLE

IN REGULAR OR KING-SIZE
YOU CAN GET 'EM EITHER WAY
THE BEST SMOKE EVER MADE IS
THE CHESTERFIELD YOU BUY TODAY.
SMOKERS COAST-TO-COAST ARE CHANGING
IT'S A CINCH TO DO
HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY TO GET
THE ONE THAT'S BEST FOR YOU.
CHESTERFIELDS FOR ME
CHESTERFIELDS FOR ME
YOU JUST SAY...IT'S CHESTERFIELDS FOR ME
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 SIDEWALK. OUTDOOR B.G. UNDER.

THEY CLIMB A COUPLE OF WOODEN STEPS AND ACROSS PORCH.

JOE: It was Tuesday, June 10th. It was mild in Los Angeles.

We were working the day watch out of Homicide Detail.

Mr. partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Lohrman.

My name's Friday. We were on our way out from the office and it was 11:15 A.M. when we got to 2962 Reservoir Street ...

(SOUND: DOOR KNOCK) ... the front door.

AFTER BEAT

SOUND: DOOR OPENS.

FERN: You the policemen?

JOE: Yes ma'am. Mrs. Harrison?

FERN: That's right. O' mon in.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE HOUSE. FERN CLOSES THE DOOR

BEHIND THEM.

JOE: This is my partner, Frank Smith. My name's Friday.
FRANK & FERN: Hello...how are you etc.

FERN: I was expectin' you.

JOE: Yes ma'am.

FERN: Other officers said there'd be somebody here from the detectives to see me. You men from the detectives?

JOE: Yes, Mrs. Harrison.

FERN: I got some coffee on if you'd like a cup while we talk.

JOE: No thanks.

FRANK: No.

FERN: Okay...y'want to sit down there? We can get started on this.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK MOVE TO CHAIRS AND SIT DOWN.

FERN: I made some little notes this morning after the other policemen left. Thought it might help me remember.

JOE: Uh huh.

FERN: They didn't find anything when they went into Josephine's house did they?

JOE: No ma'am. Wonder if you tell us what you know about her disappearance.

FERN: Glad to. Last time I saw her was...Friday. The sixth. Last Friday.

JOE: Uh huh. Where was that?

FERN: Out in her yard. She was out hangin' up clothes. We got to talkin'. Y'know about neighborhood stuff.
JOE: Yeah.
FERN: We talked for a little while. Her hangin' up the clothes and I was workin' around the yard.
JOE: Did there seem to be anything wrong then?
FERN: What d'ya mean?
JOE: She seem upset about anything?
FERN: Well, she was a little angry at her washer. Seems it broke down in the early morning. Kinds old and it just stopped. She had to wait until she got it fixed so she could finish.
JOE: Yeah.
FERN: I offered to let her use mine. Said she was welcome, but she decided she didn't want to. She's kinda stubborn y'know sometimes.
JOE: Did she seem in good spirits, though? Was there anything else worrying her?
FERN: Not that she told me about. We were pretty close. She told me just about everything happened to her.
JOE: Uh huh.
FERN: When her and Jordon were still married we used to get together all the time. Have a little barbeque...maybe take in the drive in movie.
FRANK: That's her husband?
2 JOE: She's divorced?
3 FERN: Yeah. Got the interlocutory about 6 months ago. Not
4 final yet.
5 FRANK: Where's Mr. Allen now?
6 FERN: Last I heard he was workin' down at San Diego.
7 FRANK: Do you know where we can get in touch with him?
8 FERN: Not right off. Must be some letters over to Joesphine's
9 though. He was always writin' her.
10 JOE: Was there any trouble between them?
11 FERN: They got a divorce.
12 JOE: No ma'am. I mean after. Did they have any arguments...
13 any disagreements?
14 FERN: Off and on. Jordon wanted to get back together again.
15 Always askin' her to call off the decree.
16 JOE: Did he see her often?
17 FERN: I don't think they got together in the last couple of
18 months. I know Josephine got some phone calls from him
19 though.
20 JOE: From San Diego?
21 FERN: Yeah.
22 FRANK: Did Mrs. Allen say anything to you about taking a vacation
23 .. anything like that?
FERN: No. If she'd had anything like that in mind, she'd a told
me. We were pretty close.
FRANK: Uh huh.
FERN: First time I really figured there was something wrong was
when I saw Calvin.
JOE: Who's that?
FERN: Josephine's cat. He kinda hung around my back porch for a
couple of days. I guess he was hungry. Sure ate the food
I gave him.
JOE: Yeah.
FERN: That's why I told the officers who were here this morning
that there was something wrong. I know that Josephine
wouldn't go off somewhere and leave Calvin by himself.
JOE: Did she have any men friends?
FERN: She's a handsome woman, Mr. Friday. Had a lot of 'em.
JOE: She see any one person more than the others?
FERN: David Lansing. They used to go out quite a bit. I think
David wanted to marry her as soon as the divorce was final.
JOE: Has he been around lately?
FERN: Not since Josephine disappeared.
FRANK: How 'bout before that?
1 FERN: Had a date with her the very night before. Went out to
dinner and then went dancing.
2 JOE: Any trouble between them?
3 FERN: I don't want to get mixed up in anything, Mr. Friday. You
can understand that can't you?
4 JOE: Yes ma'am. But if you know anything about Mrs. Allen's
disappearance, we'll have to ask that you tell us.
5 FERN: It's just that I don't want David to find out about it.
6 JOE: He won't hear it from us.
7 FERN: That's a promise?
8 JOE: Yes ma'am.
9 FERN: (TO FRANK) How bout you?
10 FRANK: Yes ma'am.
11 FERN: Well, then...if you ask me...I d say that David had
something to do with Josephine's bein' gone.
12 JOE: Why do you say that?
13 FERN: Because they were always fightin'. I could hear 'em all the
way over here.
14 JOE: What'd they argue about?
FERN: David wanted to marry her. She wouldn't tell him whether she would or not until after the divorce was final. Way she put it...until she got the paper...she was still a married woman.

JOE: Lansing didn't like that, huh?

FERN: Not a bit. He used to get pretty sore too about Jordon callin' and writin' all the time.

JOE: Yeah.

FERN: Kept tellin' Josephine that she oughta leave that behind her...build a new life for herself. They used to get in some awful fights. Wonder to me they kept goin' together.

FRANK: Any of these arguments ever get serious?

FERN: If you mean did David ever hit her....No. Couple times though, I've seen him so mad I thought he was gonna do it. He'd stand there and just glare at her. Fists clenched up and tell her that one day she was gonna press too hard and that'd be the end of it.

JOE: Did Mrs. Allen take him seriously?

FERN: No, and that only made David madder. About 10 days ago I was over there. My T.V. was on the blink and I went over to see one of my favorites.

JOE: uh huh.
David was there and it wasn't no time before they was
at it. Yellin' Screamin'. Kinda made me embarrassed.
That's when he said it.

What's that?

Said for her to tell Jordon off. Get rid of him once
and for all. Save her a choice.

What?

Said for Josephine to get rid of Jordon or David would
get rid of her.

(WEND SCENE 1)

We continued to question the Harrison woman about Mrs.
Allen. She could give us no reason for her disappearance
Frank and I left and went next door. We checked through
the house. It was exactly the way the two uniformed
officers had found it that morning. The shades on all
of the windows were drawn. None of the furniture
seemed to be disturbed, there was no sign of a struggle.
On the dining room table, there was a setting for two
people. Silverware, napkins, and glasses were ready to
be used. On the plates themselves was a complete meal.
None of the food had been touched. We looked for Mrs.
Allen's luggage. There was no way of being sure, but
apparently none of her things had been taken. We went
on through the house and out into the back yard. There
was no sign of anything wrong there either.

SOUND: OUTDOOR B.G. JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON CEMENT PATH
JOE: We put in a cell to Sergeant Roxy Lucarelli at Narcotics Division. Five minutes later, the suspect was brought to our office. He was identified as Fredrick Gabriel Garth. He had record listing several arrests for burglary and Narcotics. He'd served one term at the county jail on the narcotics charge. He was brought into the interrogation room where we questioned him.

GARTH: What're you givin' me trouble for? I'm clean. They found nothin' on me.

JOE: That right?

GARTH: Yeah. Marks are old...been a long time since I had a fix.

FRANK: Uh huh.

GARTH: What d'ya want from me?

FRANK: Information.

GARTH: On what?

JOE: You been around a while haven't you Garth?

GARTH: I'm a native son.

FRANK: You must have a lot of friends.

GARTH: A couple.

JOE: Any of 'em sellin' wrist watches?

GARTH: What d'ya mean?

JOE: You don't need a drawing for this one. Any of your friends sellin' watches cheap?
FRANK: Sure doesn't figure.
JOE: Uh huh.
FRANK: Table all set...the food...and none of it touched.
JOE: Gotta be an answer someplace.

SOUND: THEY WALK A COUPLE MORE STEPS
JOE: Let's check the garage.

SOUND: THEY CONTINUE TO WALK
JOE: I'll get it.

SOUND: HE OPENS A DOOR AND THE TWO MEN ENTER THE GARAGE
FRANK: No sign here.
JOE: Uh uh (NO) Wanna check the stuff at the back?
FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: THEY WALK TO THE BACK OF THE GARAGE. STOP
JOE: Trunk there...looks like stains of some kind.
FRANK: Better take a look.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK MOVE TO THE TRUNK
FRANK: Way it's wrapped up.....they were gonna mail it.
JOE: Yeah. Labels....all that rope.
FRANK: (AS HE WORKS WITH THE ROPE) You got anything to cut this with?
JOE: Might be something here.

SOUND: JOE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS OFF MIKE AND THEN COMES BACK ON.
JOE:
Try this.

FRANK:  (TAKING THE KNIFE) Thanks.

JOE:
Keep those knots.

FRANK:  Yeah.

SOUND:  UNDER, FRANK CUTS THROUGH THE ROPES

FRANK:  Here.....gimme a hand with the lock.

SOUND:  JOE AND FRANK STRAIN AT THE LOCK.

JOE:  (AS HE WORKS) It's comin'.

SOUND:  THE LOCK SNAPS

JOE:  Okay...open it up.

SOUND:  THEY LIFT THE LID OF THE TRUNK

BEAT:

JOE:  Now we know where she is.

FRANK:  Yeah.

JOE:  Let's find out who put her there.

(END SCENE 2)
1 JOE: A crew from the crime lab was called and they came out to
go over the house and garage. Frank and I called the
office and told them what we'd found. We checked the
labels on the trunk. They were addressed to a David
Lansing on Rowena Avenue in Glendale. We went back to
the woman who'd put in the original call. From her we
got a complete description of Lansing and called it into
the office. We found that he had an arrest record listing
several drunk charges and two major 415's, fights. While
the men from the crime lab continued their investigation
on the scene, Frank and I drove over to see Lansing. He
wasn't home. We talked to his landlady but she told us
she hadn't seen him in several days. She was unable to
tell us where he was employed. We checked his room and
questioned her about his car. She gave us the name and
business address of his room mate. We drove over to see
him. He worked in a large television store on Pico
Boulevard.

19 SOUND: SLIGHT TRAFFIC B.G. JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS ON HARD SURFACE

20 MARK: (FADING IN) Yes sir...something I can do for you
gentlemen?

22 JOE: Like to see Mark Gilson.

23 MARK: I'm him.

24 JOE: Police officers, Mr. Gilson. This is my partner, Frank
Smith. My name's Friday.
1 MARK: How are you. What can I do for you?
2 JOE: Like to ask you a couple of questions about David Lansing.
3 MARK: Dave in trouble again?
4 JOE: You know where he is?
5 MARK: No...I haven't seen him for a couple of days.
6 FRANK: You haven't got any idea where we can find him?
7 MARK: If I had, you'd get it. Can't you tell me what this is all about?
8 JOE: Be better if we talk to Lansing about it.
9 MARK: If he's in a beef again, I'd just as soon stay out of it. Won't make me unhappy.
10 JOE: When'd you see him last?
11 MARK: The day?
12 JOE: Yeah.
13 MARK: Lemme see....I guess it was Friday night.
14 JOE: He say anything to you then that might give us a lead as to where we can find him?
15 MARK: No. I was home when he came in. He was pretty bugged about something.
16 JOE: You know what it was?
17 MARK: Only a couple things ever got Dave upset. His boss or his girl.
18 JOE: Do you know his girl?
FRANK: Never met her. Dave was all the time talkin' about how we were gonna get together some night... have dinner...
take in a few places... Never quite got around to it though.
MARK: Uh huh. He ever say anything about her?
MARK: Not much. He was pretty crazy about her. Wanted to marry her as soon as her divorce was final.
JOE: What was he mad about when you saw him last?
MARK: Guess it was Josephine.... that's his girl.
JOE: Yeah... we know.
MARK: He was sore about her. She's got this husband down South someplace I don't know... either San Pedro or Diego. Somewhere down there.
FRANK: Yeah.
MARK: He's tryin' to get Josephine to come back to him. Call off the divorce. He's always callin' about it. Tryin' to see her. Made Mark sore. Way he put it, he and Jo had gotten into a beef about it that day.
JOE: Friday?
MARK: Yeah. He had a couple of drinks before he got home. While he was there and we were talkin' he had a couple more. Got pretty mean.
JOE: That right?
Yeah. Dave doesn't drink too good. All he needs is a
couple and he thinks he can lick the world. He get's
pretty mean. I don't like to have him around when he's
loaded.

He give you any idea where he was goin'?

No. I left him at the apartment.

What time was that?

I dunno, about 6:30. Around in there. I had a date
with a girl. She lives out in the Santa Monica Canyon.
Takes about an hour to drive out there. I left about
6:30 because I met the girl at 7:30.

Lansing was still in the apartment?

Yeah. He was just sittin' there pourin' the booze away.
I told him to take it easy. Slow down. He said for me
not to worry. Said he had to decide somethin'. I
figured it was about Josephine.

Yeah.

Y'know....Dave really loved that girl. All this stuff
with her ex-husband was eatin' at him. Guess he was
tryin' to figure out what to do.

Uh huh.

Funny thing about Dave. Takes him a while to make up
his mind about what to do...but once he decides, there
isn't anything that can stop him.
1 JOE: That right?
2 MARK: Yeah. Takes him a while...but he's always right.
3 JOE: Not always.
4 MARK: Huh?
5 JOE: Looks like he missed this time.

(END SCENE 3)

7 JOE: Frank and I went back to the office and got out a local broadcast and an A.P.B. on David Lansing along with the information on his automobile. We made arrangements for a stakeout to be placed on his home. A call was put through to the firm who employed him but they told us that he hadn't shown up for work that week. Frank and I went back to the crime lab and met with Lieutenant Lee Jones. He went over the physical evidence found at the murder scene. The trunk itself had been checked over as well as the ropes it was tied with and the mailing label. There was nothing about the trunk to tell where it might have come from. The rope was of a common variety that could be purchased anywhere. The knots, however, were of a type generally used by seamen to secure heavy articles. We made arrangements to obtain samples of Lansing's handwriting for comparison with the writing on the label. The evidence was marked and booked. The next morning Frank and I met with Captain Lohrman and went over what we had. It was decided that in David Lansing, we had a prime suspect. After we left the city hall, we started to check on the people in Lansing's package as being friends or acquaintances. The first one we talked to was a Miss Dody Fredericks.
1 DODY: Honey, he's a bum.
2 JOE: How long have you known him?
3 DODY: 'bout 10 years. We went together. Even thought about
4 gettin married. It was all a big deal. Right now, I
don't much care if I never see him again.
5 FRANK: When'd you see him last?
6 DODY: Let's see...I guess it was Saturday. Yeah...Saturday
7 night.
8 JOE: Last week?
9 DODY: That's right. He came in the place. We talked.
10 JOE: What place?
11 DODY: Bar over on 6th. I work there as a sort of hostess.
12 FRANK: What'd Lansing have to say when you saw him?
13 DODY: Not much. I did most of the talkin'. Just like usual.
14 FRANK: Uh huh.
15 DODY: Just came in and sat in a booth. Always sits in a booth.
16 Ordered a drink and we talked. It was kinda slow so we
17 just sat and talked.
18 JOE: What'd you talk about?
19 DODY: The old days. I'm not gonna give you a line. I
20 was in love with Dave. Always was right from the first
time I saw him. I wanted to marry him. Everything
21 was goin' good until he met this Allen broad.
JOE: Yeah.

DODY: All of a sudden he figures I ain't good enough for him or somethin' like that. Anyway he drops me right in the middle of the street, and takes off.

JOE: He say anything about Mrs. Allen, Saturday night?

DODY: Honey... he don't talk much else. All the time it's what she said... or what she did. All the time that way.

JOE: Yeah.

DODY: You'd think she was the Taj Mahal or something the way he talked about her.

FRANK: Yeah... but what'd he say Saturday night?

DODY: Just about old Josephine. I tell you... I'm so sick of that name I could scream.

FRANK: Uh huh.

DODY: Big deal with them two. He's always around her but when ever he's got a problem who do you think he comes runnin' to?

JOE: We wouldn't know.

DODY: I'll tell you... me. She gives him the bad time and he comes to me to get over it. Always been like that. Meets some girl and right away, it's the real thing. Always ends up the same way. He comes back.
1 JOE: Uh huh.
2 DODY: Thinks he's a real big man. All the time with the chicks.
3 One of these days, I'm gonna tell him that. Tell him to
4 leave me alone.
5 JOE: Yeah.
6 DODY: Gonna tell him as soon as he comes back.
7 JOE: What d'ya mean?
8 DODY: Huh?
9 JOE: About when he comes back. You know where he is?
10 DODY: No. But when he was in here Saturday, he was broke.
11 Borrowed 30 bucks from me.
12 JOE: Yeah.
13 DODY: Said he had to leave too.

(END SCENE 4)
We continued to talk to Dody Fredericks. We got as much information as we could from her. She told us that Lansing had said he was going to San Francisco. We asked her if he had any friends in the bay city. She supplied a list of names for us. We went back to the office and got in touch with the authorities in San Francisco and asked them to check on the suspect for us. We put in a call to the coroner's office. The body had been posted and the time of death was set at sometime Friday night. We checked out the rest of Lansing's friends and associates without results. We requestioned the suspect's roommate and went over his apartment again but failed to turn up any evidence that might aid us in taking him into custody. Two days passed. Saturday, June 14th, Frank and I checked in to work.

16 SOUND: HOMICIDE SQUADROOM B.G. DOOR CLOSE, COUPLE OF STEPS INTO

17 THE ROOM

18 FRANK: How's it goin' Joe?
19 JOE: All right.
20 FRANK: You gonna be busy tonight?
21 JOE: What d'ya mean?
22 FRANK: Just wondered if maybe you'd like to drop over for dinner. Y'know sit around?
23 JOE: I got nothin' planned.
FRANK: Then it's all set. I'll give Fay a call.

JOE: Okay.

SOUND: FRANK WALKS TO THE PHONE AND PUNCHES BUTTON. HE DIALS NINE AND THEN 7 NUMBERS.

FRANK: Gonna have a little barbeque. Y'know...sit around and talk.

JOE: Yeah.


JOE: You learned how to build the fire yet?

FRANK: What d'ya mean?

JOE: Last time I was over, we didn't eat until 11:15. Kinda late for dinner.

FRANK: Got it all fixed up Joe. Got some little starters. Just light 'em up and it burns real good. (INTO PHONE) Fay?...

JOE: Yeah...I talked to him. It's all set. Him? No...but you better tell her. Yeah. I figured it'd be a surprise for him. Yeah...okay honey...I'll see you later. What?

FRANK: No...not much chance. If somethin' does come up, I'll call you in plenty of time. Yeah...Okay. Get all the stuff ready. Right...G'bye.

SOUND: PHONE HANG UP. FRANK TURNS TO JOE.
FRANK: All set, Joe. She's real happy you can make it.

BEAT

FRANK: Gonna have the hamburgers Joe...with a kinda tossed
green salad. Be great.

FRANK: What's the matter, Buddy?

JOE: Who is she Frank?

FRANK: Huh?

JOE: The girl I'm supposed to meet?

FRANK: Joe...you think we'd try to do something like that...

After all you told me? You think we'd try a sneaky trick

like that on you?

BEAT

JOE: Yes. Now who is she?

FRANK: Well...this new friend of Fay's. She's out here on a

visit. Kinda summer vacation. She doesn't know anybody

in town so Fay and me thought we'd have her over for
dinner. Can't just have a girl alone...so we kinda

figured that maybe you'd like to join us.

BEAT

FRANK: We didn't mean anything, Joe. Just thought you'd like a

home cooked meal, that's all.
1 JOE: Uh huh.
2 FRANK: Even got the new fire starters.
3 JOE: Yeah.
4 FRANK: Good hamburgers.
5 SOUND: THE TELEPHONE RINGS.
6 JOE: I'll take it.
7 SOUND: JOE MOVES TO THE PHONE, FUNCHES THE BUTTON AND PICKS UP THE
8 RECEIVER.
9 JOE: (INTO THE PHONE) Homicide, Friday...Uh huh, Yeah, When'd you get him? Yeah...okay...we'll be right over.
10 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE.
11 JOE: C'mon...we gotta get over the main Jail.
12 FRANK: What's the matter?
13 JOE: They found Lansing.
14 (END SCENE 5)
15 JOE: We went over to the main jail and picked up David Lansing, He'd been picked up that morning and booked for violation of section 4127A of the Los Angeles Municipal Code...Drunk. As soon as the officers at the jail had made sure of his identity, they'd called us. He was taken back to the city hall and taken to Handwriting. An exemplar of his writing was taken for comparison with the printing on the label found on the trunk. Frank and I took the suspect back to the interrogation room for questioning. He was fairly sober, but complained of a bad headache. Frank went down the hall and brought back some hot coffee. We told Lansing of Josephine Allen's death. It didn't seem to make any difference to him.
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28 SOUND: LANSING TAKES A DRINK OF THE COFFEE.
DAVE: That's hot.

JOE: Get it down...it'll help.

DAVE: Isn't anything that'll do me any good. I just gotta wait it out.

JOE: All right Lansing, You wanna tell us why you did it?

DAVE: Huh?

JOE: You wanna tell us why you killed Josephine Allen.

DAVE: Like to help you out. Only one problem...I didn't do it.

JOE: Evidence doesn't point that way.

DAVE: Then you better take another look.

FRANK: Were you in the service, Lansing?

DAVE: (TAKES ANOTHER DRINK OF COFFEE) No...I got deferred. Bad ear.

FRANK: You ever do any work in the Merchant Marine?

DAVE: No. I get sick on the boats at Mc Arthur Park.

JOE: Never did any sea duty?

DAVE: No....I'm the kinda fella that can only take a shower.

CORRIDOR B.G.

JOE: (LITTLE OFF) Yeah.

SAM: Note for you, Friday.

JOE: (AT THE DOOR) Thanks.

JOE CLOSES THE DOOR. LITTLE RATTLE OF PAPER

BEAT:
JOE: Frank?

SOUND: FRANK FADES IN.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: JOE OPENS THE DOOR AND THE TWO OF THEM STEP INTO THE CORRIDOR. B.G. IN.

FRANK: What've you got?

JOE: Note from Don Mire.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: They checked the exemplars of Lansing against the label on the trunk.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: No match at all. Looks like we might have the wrong mark.

(END SCENE 6)

(END ACT 1)

GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of your police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
There are more than sixty million cigarette smokers in America, who smoke many brands. In choosing your cigarette, be sure to remember this. You will like Chesterfield best because only Chesterfield has the right combination of the world's best tobaccos... highest in quality - low in nicotine. Best for you.

You and I smoke for relaxation, for comfort, for satisfaction... and in the whole wide world no cigarette satisfies like a Chesterfield. Yes, you'll get the greatest possible pleasure from a cigarette when you choose Chesterfield -- the right combination of the world's best tobaccos - highest in quality.... low in nicotine - therefore, best for you. Buy 'em king-size at the new low price - or regular. Get a carton of Chesterfields today!
The information from the Handwriting Division on the results of the comparison, made it possible that we had the wrong suspect in custody. The main two pieces of physical evidence we had were the knots used in tying the rope around the trunk and the label. On both counts, apparently, David Lansing was out. We sent out for more coffee for the suspect and continued to question him. 

Dave: Look...I'll spell it out for you...I didn't have anything to do with killin her.

Joe: You saw her Friday didn't you?

Dave: Yeah...but that don't mean I killed her.

Joe: Tell us what happened when you saw her.

Dave: From where?

Joe: When she opened the door.

Dave: I went over to see her about 7:30.

Frank: Friday night?

Dave: Yeah. I went over to try and talk some sense into her.

Joe: Were you two havin' trouble?

Dave: Yeah.

Joe: About what?
1 DAVE: The same thing all the time. I loved her. Loved her a lot. Wanted to marry the girl. All the time this ex-husband is hanging around. Tryin' to get her to come back. I had a belly full and wanted to get things straightened out. So I went to see her.

2 JOE: Yeah.

3 DAVE: I didn't call and tell her. She was pretty backed about it. Said I shoulda called. She got real sore.

4 JOE: Uh huh.

5 DAVE: I asked her what was wrong. She never acted like that before. I wanted to know what the beef was.

6 JOE: Yeah.

7 DAVE: She filled me in on how Jordon was comin' up from Diego. They had some things to talk about. Big deal. All the time they were talkin'. Him tryin' to get her to come back. Got to the point where I didn't know where I stood.

8 JOE: Uh huh.

9 DAVE: She told me to come in but she said I couldn't stay long because she was expectin' Jordon. Said he was comin' up for dinner.

10 JOE: Yeah.

11 DAVE: I told her I wanted to marry her. Told her to make up her mind once and for all not to keep me on the string anymore.
J: What'd she say?
D: Told me to call her Saturday morning. Said she'd have something to tell me then.
F: Uh huh.
D: Way she put it... things were gonna work out. After we talked for a little bit I left. She told me she didn't want me there when the ex got to the place.
J: What time'd you leave?
D: I dunno.
J: You must have some kind of an idea.
D: Maybe 7:30 or 8. Around in there, I'm not sure. I was pretty sore when I walked out. Didn't pay a lot of attention.
J: Where'd you go then?
D: Went home for a while. Sat round. Then I went over to see a guy I know. Runs a little club on Alvarado. We sat there until the place closed. After that I went home with him.
J: Why didn't you go to your own place?
D: No reason. He lived pretty close. We spent the night there.
F: Why'd you stop going to work?
D: Huh?
F: We checked with the place where you work. They say you haven't been to work this week.
DAVE: Guess that's because I couldn't get in touch with Josephine.

JOE: What d'ya mean?

DAVE: I tried to call her Saturday morning. Didn't get any answer so I figured that Jordon had talked her into comin' back. Just went out on a run.

JOE: Did you try to see her?

DAVE: What?

JOE: Did you go over to the house and try to see her?

DAVE: Yeah. I went over Saturday night. There wasn't any answer. Shades were all pulled down. I figured sure she's left town.

FRANK: What'd you do?

DAVE: Went down to a bar on 6th. Saw a girl I know. We talked. I got pretty loaded. Next couple of days are kinda foggy.

JOE: You ever met Jordon Allen?

DAVE: Yeah. Couple of times. Put it down that we didn't get along too good.

JOE: You know anything about him?

DAVE: What d'ya mean?

JOE: What kinda business is he in?

DAVE: I think it's some kinda photography thing. He sells cameras or somethin' like that.
FRANK: You know anything about his background?

DAVE: Not much. I only met the guy once. We didn't get along too good then. Near as I can remember what Josephine told me...he worked on a boat.

JOE: Yeah?

DAVE: Merchant Marine for about 6 years.

JOE: You sure about that?

DAVE: It's what I heard...take it from there.

JOE: We'll do that.

DAVE: It gonna make a difference?

JOE: It might to you.

DAVE: How d'ya figure?

JOE: You're lucky you get seasick.

(END SCENE 7)
The suspect was returned to the main jail where he was held to answer the drunk charge. We got in touch with Sergeant Tony McGuire in San Diego and asked him to check on the victim's husband. Frank and I met with Chief of Detectives and Captain Lohrman. We laid out the information we'd been able to come up with. They agreed that we should drive to the southland city and talk to Jordon Allen. We checked out a trip car and drove down town to talk to Allen. We found him at his home. A small clapboard house on B street. From the way he looked, he'd been in bed when we rang the bell.

__SOUND:__ NIGHT NOISES

13 **ALLEN:** C'mon in.

14 **SOUND:** THEY ENTER THE HOUSE.

15 **ALLEN:** What d'ya want to see me about?

16 **JOE:** Like to ask you a few questions.

17 **SOUND:** THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM. B.G. OUT.

18 **ALLEN:** About what?

19 **FRANK:** When was the last time you saw your wife?

20 **ALLEN:** Why?

21 **JOE:** Like to have an answer.

22 **ALLEN:** I dunno...maybe a couple of weeks ago.
1 JOE: Bring it down to a day.
2 ALLEN: Why?
3 JOE: Pretty important to you.
4 ALLEN: From there.
5 JOE: You lay it out any way you want to mister. We asked it simple. You can give us the same kind of answer.
6 ALLEN: Look...you come in here. You're not from Diego...you got no right askin' me anything.
7 JOE: The local authorities know we're here. If you want us to have them ask the questions...that can be fixed up.
8 BEAT
9 FRANK: How 'bout it Allen?
10 ALLEN: Go ahead.
11 JOE: When'd you see your wife last?
12 ALLEN: Must a been a couple weeks ago. I can't come up with a date for you.
13 JOE: What do you do for a living, Allen?
14 ALLEN: Sell photographic materials.
15 JOE: What kind of a job did you have before that?
16 ALLEN: I was a first mate on a ship.
17 JOE: How long did you hold down the job?
6 and a half years.
How'd you and your wife get along?
We were divorced.
We understand you saw her quite a bit.
Once in a while yeah...not too often.
Way we got it...you were tryin' to get her to call off
the divorce.
You been listening to a lot of people with big mouths.
They seem to talk pretty straight.
Then you go and ask them the questions.
All right, Allen. Get your clothes on.
What for?
If you don't want to talk here...we can make it
downtown..
(AFTER HALF BEAT) What do you wanna know?
You account for your time last week?
What day?
Start with monday.
Worked.
What'd you do at night?
Took in a movie.
You prove it?
ALLEN: Yeah...I took a girl I know. Works in one of the photo
shops here in town. Check with her.

JOE: What about Tuesday?

ALLEN: Worked during the day. Stayed home Tuesday night.

FRANK: You got any way to back that up?

ALLEN: No. I was alone.

JOE: Go ahead.

ALLEN: Wednesday, I had to go out of town. Took a run over to
Riverside. Didn't get back until about 1:30.

JOE: In the morning?

ALLEN: Yeah.

JOE: You got somebody to back that up?

ALLEN: I can give you the name of the people I was with. You
can call them if you have to.

JOE: Okay.

ALLEN: If there's somebody to get away from it...I'd sure
appreciate it. Don't like to have them brought into it.

JOE: Yeah.

ALLEN: Business thing. The old man buys a lot of stuff from me.

JOE: Don't want to ruin the contact.

ALLEN: What about Friday night?
1 ALLEN: I was home all night. Didn't feel too good so I was here all night.
2 JOE: Anybody back that up?
3 ALLEN: No. I called a couple of people, but there wasn't anybody here.
4 JOE: Uh huh.
5 ALLEN: Saturday night...I went out with the same girl I dated Monday.
6 JOE: Uh huh.
7 ALLEN: You wanna tell me what this is all about?
8 JOE: We think you know.
9 ALLEN: How'd I know? You guys come in here and cause a lotta trouble. How'm I supposed to know what it's all about?
10 JOE: Alright Allen...we'll lay it out for you. Your wife's dead.
11 ALLEN: Josephine?
12 JOE: Yeah.
13 ALLEN: When'd it happen?
14 JOE: Last week.
15 ALLEN: You think I had something to do with it?
16 JOE: Everything we've got points that way.
17 ALLEN: How d'ya figure that? Why'd I wanna kill her? What reason would I have?
18 JOE: We want you to tell us.
19 ALLEN: I haven't any. Now c'mon fellas...tell me the truth.
20 JOE: This is a joke huh? How much did Jeff give you to pull the gag?
JOE: It's no joke.

ALLEN: Look, I don't know what he gave you...but I'll double it.

JOE: You just tell me the bit and I'll double your money.

ALLEN: Like to get back at Jeff.

JOE: No joke, Allen. All the evidence we've got points out that you killed your wife. We just wanna know why.

ALLEN: You mean that you're really got a case you can take to court?

JOE: We think so.

JOE: Allen.....you wanna tell us about it?

ALLEN: I got scared. That's the only way you'd a known. I got scared.

JOE: Go ahead.

ALLEN: I saw her Friday night. She said she'd have dinner with me. Said we had some stuff to talk about. I went up to have dinner with her.

FRANK: Yeah.

ALLEN: She told me that she'd made up her mine. Said that she didn't want to get back together.

FRANK: Uh huh.

ALLEN: Past six months. I figured it'd work out. All the time. I kept callin her and askin' her to take me back. All the time.
1  JOE:  Yeah.
2  ALLEN:  I woulda done anything in the world she asked me to do
3    if she'd have taken me back. None of it worked. We sat
4    there and had a couple of drinks. Then she went out in
5    the kitchen and got dinner ready. All the time, I
6    figured sure she was gonna say we were goin' back
7    together.
8  JOE:  Go ahead.
9  ALLEN:  I went out in the kitchen with her. We talked while she
10    put the stuff on the plates. Then she told me that she
11    was gonna marry this David Lansing. I tried to talk her
12    out of it. Told her it wouldn't work, she just wouldn't
13    listen.
14  JOE:  Yeah.
15  ALLEN:  You just don't know how much I loved her. Nobody in the
16    world's gonna know. When she told me she'd made up her
17    mind..., everything went wrong. Just seemed like I
18    couldn't think good anymore. I tried to tell her how
19    she was makin' a mistake. But she wouldn't listen. Kept
20    tellin' me to sit down and eat my dinner. Kept tellin' me
21    that.
22  JOE:  Uh huh.
23  ALLEN:  Just couldn't take any more of it. Couldn't see her goin'
24    to anybody else. You can see that yourself. There wasn't
25    anything else I could do. You can see that can't you?
26  JOE:  Why'd you put Lansing's name on the trunk?
That's where I was smart. I figured I'd have it sent to his place and then pick it up and get rid of it. If I couldn't do that... then he'd get the blame for it. Either way it worked out for me.

All right.... get dressed.

Yo, gonna take me back to Los Angeles?

Yeah.

I don't much care anymore. Long's she's gone.... there isn't much. Big thing is that you know that I really loved her.

Yeah sure.

No.... you gotta belive that. I did love her. It's important you believe me. Important everybody believes me.

One thing mister.

Yeah.

Maybe you can convince us.

---Un-huh---

How you gonna tell her?

(MUSIC & SIGNATURE)

(EASILY) The story you have just heard is true. The names were changed to protect the innocent.
On November 18, 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.

Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.

COMMERCIAL INSERT
DRAGNET RADIO
SEPT. 7, 1954

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

1 FENNEMAN: Now here is our star, Jack Webb.

2 WEBB: Almost 100 years ago, Charles Kingsley wrote that

tobacco is ... "a lone man's companion - a bachelor's

friend - a hungry man's food - a sad man's cordial - a

wakeful man's sleep - and a chilly man's fire." Truly

these words describe what Chesterfield means to millions

of smokers today. The right combination of the world's

best tobaccos - the best cigarette ever made.

Chesterfield ... highest in quality - low in nicotine ...

Best for you.
Jordon Kieth Allen was tried and convicted of murder in the second degree, one count and received sentence as prescribed by law. Murder in the second degree is punishable by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a period of from five years to life.
GIENNY: 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 Brasier. Heard

tonight were: Ben Alexander,

______________________________________________

Script by John Robinson...Music by Walter Schumann...

Hal Gibney speaking.

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)
L & M goes king-size. Yes - L & M goes King-size.

Now ... L & M is king-size as well as regular. Both have the same low price ... Both have the miracle tip for the effective filtration you need. Yes, it's the filter that counts ... And L & M has the best. You get much more flavor ... much less nicotine. A light and mild smoke. Yes, this is it! L & M Filters ... just what the doctor ordered. Buy a carton - king-size or regular ... both at the same low price ... L & M Filters! America's highest quality and best filter tip cigarette.