DRAGNET - RADIO

"THE BIG KEY"

N.B.C. #252 CHESTERFIELD #103 (V.E.)

FOR BROADCAST: OCTOBER 26, 1954

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 GIBNEY: Dragnet, brought to you by Chesterfield. This is the
best - Chesterfield.... And the time to change - today.

5 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

6 PENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
3 to Robbery Detail. In the past five weeks, an
12 unidentified hold-up man has robbed 12 drugstores.
13 He's taken money and narcotics. There's no lead to
14 who he is....where he is. Your job .... Find him.

7 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

8 (COMMERCIAL INSERT)
PAGES 16/17

FIRST COMMERCIAL

GIBNEY: This is the best - Chesterfield. And the time to change - today!

PECK: 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... tobaccos that are highest in quality - low in nicotine... Best for you.

GIBNEY: All of us smoke for relaxation - for comfort - for satisfaction...and in the whole wide world no cigarette satisfies like a Chesterfield.

PECK: Get a carton of Chesterfields today. Chesterfield regular - Chesterfield king-size... Both at the same price in most places.

MUSIC: JIGGLE

QUALITY IS HIGH IN EVERY CHESTERFIELD YOU BUY
THE NICOTINE IS LOW - AND WE CAN SHOW THE REASON WHY.
WE ANALYZE TOBACCOS... WE EXPERIMENT AND TEST
SO WHEN YOU'RE BUYING CHESTERFIELD - YOU KNOW YOU BUY THE BEST.

CHESTERFIELD FOR ME
CHESTERFIELD FOR ME
YOU JUST SAY IT'S CHESTERFIELD FOR ME.

GIBNEY: This is the best - Chesterfield... and the time to change - today!

LG 0186207
GIENBRY: 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 ... SLIGHT TRAFFIC B.G.

JOE: It was Tuesday, March 16th. It was warm in Los Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Robbery Detail.

My partner is Frank Smith. The boss is Chief of Detectives, Thad Brown. My name's Friday. We were on our way out from the office and it was 9:36 A.M. when we got to the corner of Hobart Boulevard and Westmorland... (DOOR OPENS ... BUZZER RINGS OFF MIKE) ....

the Tischner Drug Store.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO THE STORE ... THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM ... BUZZER SOUNDS OFF MIKE AS THE DOOR HITS THE RELAY SWITCH

FRANK: In the back.

JOE: Yeah.

SOUND: THEY WALK TO THE REAR OF THE STORE

HARRY: (LITTLE OFF) Somethin' you want?

JOE: Yes sir, like to see Tischner.
HARRY: I'm him.

JOE: Police officers...this is Frank Smith...my name's Friday.

HARRY: Hello.

FRANK: (SAME TIME) How are you Mr. Tischner.

HARRY: About the robbery, huh?

JOE: Yes sir. Couple of questions we'd like to ask.

HARRY: Haven't got the fell in jail yet?

JOE: No sir.

HARRY: Too bad. He's a mean one. Oughta got him...gonna hurt somebody if you don't.

JOE: Yes sir.

HARRY: Thought sure he was gonna pop me one this morning.

JOE: Didn't, but I thought he would.

HARRY: Uh huh. You want to tell us what happened?

HARRY: I was robbed.

(JEAT)

JOE: Well, yes sir...but would you tell us how it happened.

HARRY: Just a minute.

JOE: What?

HARRY: Lemme take a look at that card you flashed before.

JOE: When you told me you were a cop.

HARRY: All right sir.
HARRY: (LOOKING) Uh huh...looks like you all right. Okay...
There for a minute I thought there might be somethin'
goin' on...you know sorta off the line.

JOE: Yes sir.

HARRY: Just wanted to make sure you was really a cop. Be
pretty funny if you was another holdup man.

JOE: Uh huh.

HARRY: Pretty funny. Okay...what d'ya want to know?

FRANK: We'd like to get the story of what happened.

HARRY: I was held up.

FRANK: We know that sir.

JOE: We'd like you to tell us how.

HARRY: Ch...now I'm with you. Yeah. Right with you. Let's
go back and sit down. I get to tellin' a story and
time just melts away. Might as well be comfortable
while we all thaw out.

(BEAT)

JOE: Yes sir.

SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM TAKE A COUPLE OF STEPS BACK AND SIT
DOWN IN WIRE CHAIRS

HARRY: Like a phosphate or somethin'?

JOE & FRANK: No sir...no thanks.

HARRY: Okay...then let's quit all this foolin' around and get
down to business. Want me to tell you about the
hold-up?

JOE: Yes sir...We'd like that.
1 HARRY: Good...that's what I'm gonna do.
2 (BEAT)
3 JOE: Go ahead.
4 HARRY: Aren't you gonna take anything down in writin?
5 JOE: Yes sir...as you tell the story. Y'wanna go ahead?
6 HARRY: Well, he came in about 8.
7 JOE: This morning.
8 HARRY: Yeah. Just walked right in the door. Came back to the
9 prescription counter. Stood there.
10 JOE: Uh huh.
11 HARRY: Had this little piece of paper in his hand. I figured ..
12 it was from a doctor. Y'know to prescribe medicine.
13 JOE: Yes sir.
14 HARRY: Wasn't.
15 (BEAT)
16 JOE: Well, what was it?
17 HARRY: Note. Had written on there like this..."This is a
18 stickup. Don't make any noise."
19 JOE: Uh huh.
20 HARRY: Just pushed the note across the counter and I didn't
21 have to have anybody push me offa cliff to know what
22 was goin' on.
23 JOE: No sir.
24 HARRY: I was bein' robbed.
25 (BEAT)
26 FRANK: Yes sir. You want to go ahead.
HARRY: Well, after he showed me the note, he kinda pushed me back into the little room at the rear of the store.

JOE: He say anything at all to you?

HARRY: Not a word. Just pointed with that gun for me to get into the back room. I went.

JOE: Uh huh. What happened then?

HARRY: He pushed me down onto the floor and then tied my hands and feet.

FRANK: What'd he use?

HARRY: I'mean to tie me up?

FRANK: Yes sir.

HARRY: Rope.

JOE: Did he bring it into the store with him?

HARRY: No sir. Picked it up in household on his way back to the prescription counter.

JOE: Uh huh.

HARRY: Soon as we got to the storeroom, he took off the label and then undid the rope. Made a loop and put it around my feet. Next thing I knew I was all trussed up like a rolled roast ready for the oven.

JOE: Yes sir.

HARRY: I'll say one thing for the guy, though.

JOE: What's that?

HARRY: He's very neat. Tied good knots.

JOE: Uh huh.
HARRY: Other officers...the ones in the black and white car y'know?
JOE: Yes sir.

HARRY: Them.

(HEAT)

JOE: What about 'em?

HARRY: Oh...Yeah...well, they took the ropes with 'em. Said somethin' about takin' 'em to a laboratory (LAB-OR-I-TORY).

JOE: Uh huh.

HARRY: You can see if you want to. Very neat.

JOE: Yes sir. What happened after the bandit tied you up?

HARRY: Robbed me.

JOE: You personally?

HARRY: Yeah. Personally and otherwise.

JOE: Would you please tell us?

HARRY: Well, first off he went to the safe and took the tin box out. Opened her right up and took the money.

FRANK: Is that all he stole from the cash box?

HARRY: Yeah...I had some government bonds in there but he didn't take those.

JOE: Uh huh.

HARRY: Guess he knew they wouldn't do him any good.

JOE: Yes sir.

HARRY: Didn't take them. Took the money but didn't take the government bonds.
JOE: According to what you told the officers, this morning, the thief took a supply of narcotics too...that right?

HARRY: Yeah. Got them from the safe too.

JOE: After he got finished with the safe, what happened?

HARRY: Left. Walked out of the place. Just ambled right out.

JOE: During the time he was in the store...he didn't say anything at all?

HARRY: No.

FRANK: Did anybody else come in while he was here?

HARRY: I'mean like a customer?

FRANK: Yes sir.

HARRY: No.

SOUND: FROM OFF MIKE...WE HEAR THE PHONE RING

HARRY: Excuse me.

SOUND: HE STANDS UP...CHAIR SCRAPE...STEPS OFF MIKE

JOE: That might be our office, Mr. Tischner. We left this number.

HARRY: (OFF MIKE) Okay...if it is, I'll tell you.

SOUND: HE STOPS WALKING AND PICKS UP THE PHONE OFF MIKE
1  HARRY: Tischner Drugs...Uh huh. Oh yeah, Mrs. Kenworthy.....
2      Uh huh...No, shouldn't be. Uh huh...No I can't do that.
3      If you'll have your doctor call me, I'll make it up and
4      send it over yeah. No...not without a prescription.
5      Uh huh. Okay. Well, I'll call you when it's ready
6      then and you can send Lanny over. Right ... G'bye Mrs.
7      Kenworthy. Huh? ...Oh, well, if that's the way you
8      feel, I won't. Sure.... Okay. G'bye.
9  SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE AND WALKS BACK ON MIKE
10  HARRY: (AS HE FADES IN) Can't imagine why she'd say a thing
11      like that. Just no reason at all.
12  JOE: Sir?
13  HARRY: Mrs. Kenworthy...told me when her son comes over to get
14      the prescription, not to give him any candy.
15  JOE: Oh.
16  HARRY: I usually throw in a licorish whip y'know.
17  JOE: Uh huh.
18  HARRY: She don't want me to do it. Too bad.
19  JOE: Yes sir. I wonder if we could go over this description.
20  HARRY: Sure...I guess so.
21  JOE: From what you told the investigating officers, the man's
22      about 35 .... to 38 ... light in color ... 5 feet 10....
23      a hundred and 75 pounds.... No visable marks or scars.
24      That right?
25  HARRY: Yeah. I guess that's pretty close.
26  JOE: If there's anything different, we'd appreciate you
27      telling us.
HARRY: No not with you...just that I can't understand why Mrs. Kenworthy'd say a thing like that. Just a penny licorish whip. Little bitty thing. Like that (INDICATES) .... couldn't hurt anybody.

FRANK: Would you be able to identify the hold-up man if you saw him again?

HARRY: Oh yeah...no trouble. I'd know him.

JOE: Uh huh.

HARRY: He'd never say a thing like that.

JOE: Sir?

HARRY: Fella who robbed me....

JOE: What di'ya mean?

HARRY: On the way out, way I was la ng I saw him stop. Right up there by the candy and magazines. Stopped dead in his tracks. Went over and helped himself.

JOE: Uh huh.

HARRY: Took the top off and helped himself to a handful. Sure must like 'em.

JOE: What?

HARRY: Licorish whips. Just reached into the jar and took a handful.

JOE: After that, he left?

HARRY: Yeah. Soon as he put his gloves back on.

JOE: What?

HARRY: Couldn't work the top of the jar with the gloves, so he took 'em off.

JOE: Yeah.

HARRY: Used his bare hands.

(END SCENE 1)
1 JOE: 10:02 A.M. Frank put in a call to Harlan Stall in Latont
fingerprints. We asked him to come out and go over the
2 glass candy jar. While we waited for him, Frank and I
3 checked the list of stolen narcotics with the druggist,
4 Harry Tischner. We also made arrangements for him to come
downtown and look through the mugg books. When the glass
5 candy jar was checked, Harlan Stall was able to come up
6 with two partials. They were enough for comparison but not
7 for identification. 11:15 A.M. Frank and I left the store
8 and spent the rest of the afternoon checking out the list
9 of names we'd gotten from the staats office. Several of the
10 possibles looked good, but after each one of them was
11 investigated, we still didn't have a suspect in custody.
12 Wednesday morning, March 17th at 8:06 A.M. Frank and I met
13 in the squadroom.
14
15 SOUN: DOOR CLOSE. JOE'S STEPS INTO THE ROOM. SQUADROOM B.G.
16 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Mornin' Joe.
17 JOE: HI.
18 FRANK: Tried to call you this morning..., thought maybe you'd wanna
19 stop and have some breakfast.
20 JOE: I left the house early.
21 FRANK: Uh huh.
22 JOE: You check the book?
1 FRANK: Yeah.
2 JOE: Anything?
3 FRANK: Skipper want's to talk to us.
4 JOE: I figured that'd happen. He in now?
5 FRANK: Yeah.
6 JOE: Well c'mon....let's get it over with.
7 FRANK: FRANK STANDS UP
8 JOE: Okay.
9 SOUND: THEY WALK TO THE DOOR OF THE CAPTAIN'S OFFICE. STOP.
10 THEN DOOR KNOCK.
11 DONAH: (OFF MIKE) (BEHIND DOOR) Come in.
12 SOUND: DOOR OPEN AND JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE ROOM
13 DONAH: (ON THE PHONE, LITTLE OFF) Yeah....That's right. No....not yet. I'm gonna try and line it up this afternoon. Yeah.
14 I'll call you back. Uh huh. They're here now. Right. G'bye.
15 SOUND: OFF MIKE. DONAH JAMS UP THE PHONE
16 JOE: You want to see us, Captain?
17 DONAH: (OFF) Yeah. C'mon in....sit down.
18 SOUND: AS JOE CLOSES THE DOOR, THE SQUADROOM B.G. GOES OUT...JOE AND FRANK TACK CHAIRS
19 DONAH: Goin' in...I won't tell you who's on my back about this thing...and you don't give me any excuses....Right?
20 JOE: Yeah.
21 FRANK: Sure.
DONAH: Where are you?

JOE: Still in front of the first store.

DONAH: That's how long ago?

JOE: Five weeks.

DONAH: What d'ya know about him?

JOE: WMA...Description...clothes.

DONAH: Match on all of the jobs?

FRANK: Close enough so we know it's the same guy.

DONAH: Okay....what else?

JOE: Uses a stolen car to get to the store...drives it away.

Isn't too careful to hide the license plate. We've been able to come up three out of the five.

DONAH: Check the cars out?


FRANK: Picked up somethin' yesterday. Should help when we nail him.

DONAH: What's that?

FRANK: Stall lifted a couple of partials from a candy jar. Gonna be enough for comparison.

DONAH: Can't make the suspect on 'em though, huh?

JOE: No....not enough to classify.

DONAH: What about the narcotics he's taking? Showing up any place?

JOE: Not that we can find. Been down all the alleys...nothin' there....Talked to Lucarelli....hop squad's got nothing on it.

DONAH: If none of it's showin' up....then it could mean he's usin' the stuff himself.
FRANK: What we got figured.

DONAH: How 'bout the staats office?

JOE: We spend much more time down there and they're gonna put us to work with the machines.

DONAH: Informants?

JOE: They've given us smiles.

DONAH: You think they're holdin'?

JOE: No.

SOUND: DONAHOE GET'S UP. TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS

DONAH: (AS HE MOVES) C'mon over here and take a look at the map.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK STAND UP AND WALK OVER TO WALL MAP. UNDER FOLLOWING, WE HEAR DONAHOE'S FINGERS SLIDE ALONG THE MAP.

DONAH: Way he's picking the places...he's set up a pretty definite operating schedule. Here...on Venice Boulevard....Kingsley Drive....Western....Adams....Washington. The rest of 'em. They're all grouped in this area.

JOE: Uh huh.

DONAH: Y'gotta figure he's gonna keep working the vicinity until he's hit 'em all. Then maybe, he'll move on to something else.

JOE: Might help if we could come with the reason he's working there.

DONAH: Anything you can come up with has got to help.

JOE: Uh huh.
DONAH: If it's true that he's using the narcotics himself, it's just a matter of time before we hand this one over to homicide. He's gonna walk into a store and somebody's gonna give him trouble. If he's on the needle, he isn't gonna take it.

FRANK: Yeah.

DONAH: So it adds up to a big stop... and fast.

JOE: If we work the area... it's gonna take a lotta men.

DONAH: Get 'em. I've talked to Stoner. He's taking care of all the help you need from here. There'll be four teams available. You can call Metro Division for whatever else you need.

JOE: Okay. We'll set it up for tonight.

DONAH: Check with communications. Make sure you've got the 3 way's working.

JOE: Right.

DONAH: This guy's been pressin' his luck for a long time.

JOE: Yeah.

DONAH: Bound to run short on it sometime.

SOUND: PHONE RING. DONAHOE PUNCHES THE BUTTON AND LIFTS THE RECEIVER.

DONAH: (INTO PHONE) Robbery Donahoe... Yeah. When? Uh huh... okay... we'll take care of it.

SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE

DONAH: Looks like you just got partners.

JOE: What d'ya mean?


JOE: Yeah.

DONAH: They don't expect the victim to live.

(END SCENE 2)
Frank and I left the office and drove over to Georgia Street Receiving Hospital. We talked with the officer on duty. He told us that the victim's name was George Railor. He owned a small neighborhood drugstore at the corner of Pico Boulevard and Vineyard Avenue. He went on to say that he didn't have all of the particulars of the beating but that it had occurred during the commission of a robbery. We talked to Doctor Sebastian. He told us that the elderly man was suffering from a fractured skull, broken ribs and possible internal injuries. He added that from Railor's appearance, it looked as if he'd been beaten about the head and shoulders with a heavy instrument and then kicked in the chest. We left word to call as soon as he could be questioned and then drove over to the store on Pico.

16 SOUND: DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE. STEPS INTO THE STORE
17 CALVIN: (LITTLE OFF) Yes sir...something I can do for you?
18 JOE: Police officers.
19 CALVIN: How's Mr. Railor...you seen him?
20 JOE: No sir.
21 CALVIN: You heard anything? He gonna be all right?
22 JOE: We don't know sir.
24 JOE: Uh huh.
CALVIN: Not enough just hittin' him but then he knocked him down and stopped him. Awful.

FRANK: Were you here when it happened?

CALVIN: Yeah....saw the whole thing.

JOE: You wanna tell us what happened?

CALVIN: Y'mean for the investigation?

JOE: Yeah....

CALVIN: Okay.

FRANK: Wanna give us your name first?

CALVIN: Gavin Webster,

JOE: You work here in the store, do you?

CALVIN: Yeah....that's right. Sort of general left hand.

JOE: What?

CALVIN: Well, y' see, Mrs. Railor's his right hand. I'm the loft.

JOE: Oh yeah.

CALVIN: She wasn't here t'day. Down havin' her hair fixed.

JOE: Probably just as good.

JOE: Uh huh. All right Webster, you want to tell us? 

CALVIN: Fella came in about 8:30. Right after we opened. Came in and went back to the prescription counter. I was goin' back to tell him that Mr. Railor would be right out and then he was.

JOE: Railor?
CALVIN: Yeah. He was back checkin' the stock on Vitamin pills. We do a big business in 'em. Have to keep a pretty careful watch on the supply. Wouldn't want to get caught short.

JOE: Go ahead.

CALVIN: Well, the fella...the hold-up man y'know....

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: He took this little piece of paper out of his coat. I figured it was a prescription. Looked like it.

FRANK: Uh huh.

CALVIN: Wasn't. Turned out to be the note where he said he wanted the money.

JOE: Did you see the note?

CALVIN: Not so's I could read it. First I knew there was something wrong when Mr. Railor started to yell at the guy. Told him to get out of the store. Ran around the counter and tried to grab him.

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: Yellin' all the time for me to call the police. Call the cops....Call the cops....like that he yelled at me.

JOE: What'd you do?

CALVIN: Looked to see if I had a dime.

JOE: What?

CALVIN: Well, y'see.....in the past, Mr. Railor's had trouble with people makin' phone calls on the private phone so he had one of those little lock things put on it. Y'can answer incoming calls but you can't phone out.

JOE: Uh huh.
CALVIN: So, I needed a dime to call the cops.

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: Didn't have one. Only 75 cents for my lunch... half and a quarter.

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: All this time, Mr. Railor's yellin'. He's yellin' and the robber is hittin' him. I didn't know what to do.

FRANK: Uh huh.

CALVIN: I thought about runnin' back and tryin' to help but Mr. Railor don't like for nobody to do somethin' different that what he says.

JOE: Uh huh.

CALVIN: He told me to phone.

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: Then all of a sudden... bang... the fella hit Mr. Railor with a gun. Took it right out of his pocket and hit him on the head. Next thing... Mr. Railor's on the floor and this fella's stompin' him.

JOE: Yeah.

CALVIN: I couldn't just stand by no more, so I went back to help. Too late.

JOE: What?

CALVIN: It was too late. Mr. Railor was on the floor and this guy was pointing the gun at me and was leavin' the store. I didn't see how it'd help any to try and stop him.

JOE: Was there anybody else in the store?

CALVIN: No. Just Mr. Railor and me. We'd just opened up. Still kinda gettin' ready for the day.

FRANK: Did you get a good look at the man?
1 CALVIN: Oh yeah....I saw him good.
2 JOE: You'll be able to give us a description.
3 CALVIN: Yeah. Tell you how he looked.
4 FRANK: Did you see if he drove a car?
5 CALVIN: I guess so.
6 JOE: You don't know for sure?
7 CALVIN: No. I didn't go after him. I figured that it'd take somebody a lot bigger than me to stop him. Besides, I didn't take care of Mr. Bailor.
8 JOE: Uh huh. Did you see the gun he was using?
9 CALVIN: Yeah. Got a real good look at it when he was hittin' the boss.
10 JOE: What kind of a gun was it?
11 CALVIN: Pistol. Y'know...like y' see in the movies.
12 FRANK: No sir. Was it a revolver or an automatic?
13 CALVIN: I think it was a revolver. Had a barrel on it. Short. 'Bout that long. (INDICATES)
14 FRANK: Uh huh.
15 JOE: We'd like you to come down and look at some pictures.
16 CALVIN: At the city hall?
17 JOE: Yes sir.
18 CALVIN: Be glad to help out. Soon's Mrs. Bailor comes back...I'll go with you.
19 JOE: All right.
20 CALVIN: Can't leave the store alone y'know.
J OE: Uh huh. You want to give us the description of the man now?

C ALVIN: You bet. Sure hope you can catch the fella.

J OE: So do we.

C ALVIN: This the same guy I been readin' about in the papers?

J OE: It might be, yes sir.

C ALVIN: He's mean. Real mean. Doin' a thing like that to Mr. Railor.

J OE: Yeah.

C ALVIN: When you catch him...I'd sure like to talk to him. I'll tell him...pretty strong words too.

J OE: When we come up with him...we'll let him know.

C ALVIN: Yeah?

J OE: With more than words.

(END SCENE 3)
As soon as someone arrived to take care of the drugstore, we took Calvin Webster down to the City Hall. He was shown all of the mug books and pictures of recent parolees. He was unable to make an identification. We had him returned to his home and then Frank and I checked with Dr. Sebastian at Georgia Street Receiving Hospital. He told us that the latest victim had been transferred to County and was out of the critical stage. He went on to say however, that it would be several hours before we'd be able to talk to him. We checked with Captain Donahoe and Lieutenant Stoner. We also contacted officers from Metropolitan Division and made arrangements for the additional cars we'd need in setting up the rolling stakeout. That night, at 7:30 P.M., the plan was put in operation. Ten undercover cars maintained a watch on the drugstores in the area. All suspicious cars were checked on. All pedestrians loitering in the vicinity were interrogated. Our suspect remained free. Three days went by without result. The bandit had stopped his operations. On Sunday, March 21st, Frank and I were driving up Western Avenue, just north of Pico.

Frank: What d'ya think?
Joe: I dunno.....maybe after he had trouble with Railor he decided to call it quits.
FRANK: Doesn't figure.
JOE: Huh?
FRANK: Guy that's had the breaks he has, isn't gonna let something like a beating stop him.
JOE: Hope your right.
SOUND: SQUELCH IN
VOICE: (ON FILTER) All units on Frequency one stand by...All units on Frequency one...stand by.
JOE: Might be a good one.
FRANK: Yeah.
SOUND: SQUELCH UP IN VOLUME
VOICE: (ON FILTER) Stand By 1-J-14.
(Beat)
VOICE: All units in the vicinity of 1947 Wilton Place...One - nine - four - seven Wilton Place...An Officer needs help. Code three. All units in the vicinity of nineteen forty seven Wilton Place. An officer needs help. Code three.
FRANK: You got the lens?
JOE: Yeah...here you go.
SOUND: THE CAR PICKS UP SPEED...SIREN COMES IN
FRANK: Think it might be our boy?
JOE: I dunno.
FRANK: He's gotta be way out to tackle a cop.
JOE: Won't do him much good.
FRANK: Huh?

JOE: He can't go far enough.

SOUND: SIREN COMES UP AND THE CAR MAKES A TURN

(END SCENE 4)

JOE: An officer needs help. Of all the calls in the book, this one gets the fastest attention. Not because of an outdone sense of loyalty to a fellow police officer but because it means that someone has decided that lawful authority has no meaning for them. Such a person is an extreme menace to every citizen in the city. By showing that they have no respect for the competence of an armed professional officer, they have also shown that they will not consider for an instant the life or property of an unarmed civilian. By the time we arrived at the scene, there were 14 police units in attendance. From one of the officers we got the story.

SOUND: TRAFFIC B.G. SIRENS COMING IN FROM B.G.

LESTER: Unit was working the street. Saw this young guy run out of the liquor store. Stopped to see what was going on.

JOE: Yeah.

LESTER: Told the fella to stop. Didn't make any difference.

FRANK: Kept goin'?

LESTER: Yeah. Officer in the car told him to stop or he'd shoot. Suspect turned around and fired at the policeman.
JOE: How is he?

LESTER: Flesh wound.

FRANK: What about the suspect?

LESTER: He didn't get the chance to fire more than twice.

JOE: That him over there?

LESTER: Yeah.

JOE: Anything from the owner of the liquor store?

LESTER: Just that the suspect tried to hold him up. Walked in...

showed him a note. Owner went along with it. Handed over

the money suspect left. That's it.

FRANK: Better take a look.

Yeah.

SOUND: THEY WALK ACROSS THE STREET.

FRANK: Might be a break.

JOE: Hard way to get it.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: STEPS STOP.

JOE: I'll check.

SOUND: JOE MOVES IN AND LOOKS AT THE BODY.

FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) How 'bout it?

SOUND: JOE MOVES BACK TO FRANK.

JOE: Can't tell for sure.

FRANK: Ruh?

JOE: Description doesn't match too good.

FRANK: Yeah

JOE: I think it's our suspect.

(END SCENE 5)

(END ACT 1)

GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of your

Police force in action.
FENN: All of us smoke for relaxation - for comfort - for satisfaction .... And in the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like a Chesterfield. You smoke with the greatest possible pleasure when your cigarette is Chesterfield.

GIBNEY: Only Chesterfield gives you the right combination of the world's best tobaccos .... tobaccos that are highest in quality ... low in nicotine - Best for you.

FENN: Get a carton of Chesterfields. Chesterfield regular - Chesterfield king-size ... both at the same price in most places. It's America's most popular two-way cigarette.

GIBNEY: This is the best - Chesterfield ... And the time to change - today!
JOE: The wounded police officer was taken to Georgia Street receiving hospital for treatment. The suspect was removed to the county morgue. Pictures were taken and when they were shown to the victims of the drug store bandit, they all said he was not the man we were after. The rolling stake out went on without results. During the next week, we answered several 211 calls in drugstores but the M.O. the thief used eliminated him as our suspect. Thursday, March 25th, Frank and I met in the squadroom.

SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. FRANK'S STEPS FADING IN.

FRANK: (FADING IN) How's it goin', Joe?

JOE: Tired.

FRANK: Yeah. We get this wrapped up and I'm gonna try to take a few days off. Maybe go up to Refugio beach.

JOE: Nice up there.

FRANK: Yeah. Main thing is that you're away from everything. U'know... nothin on your mind but rest.

JOE: You went up there last summer didn't you?

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Way I remember it, you didn't get much sleep then.

FRANK: Gonna be different, Joe. Not gonna take the kids this time.

JOE: Uh huh.

FRANK: Gonna be different.

SOUND: PHONE RING.
JOE: I'll take it.

SOUND: JOE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND PUNCHES BUTTON. LIFTS RECEIVER.

JOE: (INTO PHONE) Robbery Friday...Yeah that's right...no we're handling it. Uh huh. When was that? ...yeah. Wanna give me that address? Yeah. Okay... (HE WRITES) Yeah... We'll check it out...might be something. Yeah. Thanks for lettin' us know. Right...What? No..if it turns out, I'll let you know...right. Thanks again. G'bye.

SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

FRANK: What've you got?

JOE: Call from a radio unit out in Hollywood.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: They answered a 415 call this morning. Woman and her husband were havin' a brawl.

FRANK: Uh huh.

JOE: Man had left when the officers got there...woman refused to make a complaint.

FRANK: She place the original call?

JOE: No..came from one of the neighbors.

FRANK: Uh huh.

JOE: When the officers were leaving, the woman said she'd handle the beef herself. Said she'd take care of her husband. Called him a lousey hold-up man.
FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Made the statement, she could put him in San Quentin inside of five minutes.

FRANK: Sounds like it might work.

JOE: Better check it.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: If it's the right one... I don't think we can beat her record.

FRANK: GRUNTS.

JOE: But we can sure try.

(END SCENE 6)

JOE: We left the office and drove out to the address I'd gotten on the phone. It was a small one story house set back on the lot. When we got there, the lights in the front room were on. Frank and I went up to the front door and rang the bell.

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

NADINE: Yeah?

JOE: Mrs. Kearney?

NADINE: That's right.

JOE: Police officers... like to talk to you.

NAD: What about?

JOE: Might be better if we talked inside.

SOUND: SHE OPENS THE DOOR AND THE OFFICERS WALK INSIDE, DOOR CLOSE BEHIND THEM. AS THEY ENTER THE HOUSE, WE HEAR THE SOUND OF A BABY PLAYING WITH A KEYRING IN A CRIB AT ONE SIDE OF THE ROOM.
1 JOE: (AS HE ENTERS) This is my partner, Frank Smith...my
name's Friday.
2 FRANK: SAYS HELLO ETC.
3 NAD: Hi.
4 JOE: You alone in the house?
5 NAD: Just the baby and me.
6 JOE: Where's your husband?
7 NAD: Look...before I start tellin' you a lot...why don't you
let me know what this is all about?
8 JOE: We got a report from a radio car that there was a
disturbance here this morning.
9 NAD: Wasn't anything. Me and Keith had a beef. Not even
worth callin' the cops about.
10 JOE: The officers said you made the remark that your husband
was a hold-up man. That you could send him to prison.
11 NAD: They talk a lot don't they?
12 JOE: They listen more.
13 FRANK: You want to tell us what you meant?
14 NAD: Yeah.
15 HEAT:
16 JOE: Go ahead.
17 NAD: You go back and tell the little boys in the play suits,
they're wrong on this one.
18 JOE: That right?
19 NAD: Yeah. 'Cause I meant nothin'. Nothin' at all.
20 JOE: Pretty serious thing to say without reason.
NAD: This morning, I had a reason.

JOE: You want to tell us what it was?

NAD: I don't see why not. You cops start nosin' around and you'll find out anyway. I got trouble with my old man.

JOE: What kind?

NAD: He's out with other women. He didn't come home last night. We had a beef about it. The cops were called and they used their big ears. You guys made the trip out here for nothin. Now beat it.

SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE, THE BABY HAS DROPPED THE CAR KEYS AND STARTS TO FUSS.

NAD: Now look what you done. He's playin' fine and you come in here and raise a big stink. You got him all upset.

FRANK: I'll get it.

SOUND: FRANK WALKS ACROSS THE ROOM AND PICKS UP THE KEYS.

FRANK: (OFF MIKE) Here y'are fella. No reason to cry.

SOUND: FRANK JINGLES THE KEYS. THE BABY CLAMS DOWN.

JOE: What's your husband's full name?

NAD: Keith J. Kearney.

JOE: How long have you lived in Los Angeles?

NAD: Little over six weeks.

SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE, FRANK HAS WALKED ON MIKE.

JOE: Where're you from?

NAD: Idaho.

JOE: Your husband ever been in trouble with the police?
1 NAD: Kioth's got a hard time not being in trouble with anybody.
2 FRANK: He ever been arrested?
3 NAD: I don't know.
4 JCE: How long have you been married?
5 NAD: 7 years.
6 JCE: And you don't know if he's ever been arrested?
7 NAD: No, I don't.
8 JCE: You got a picture of your husband around.
9 NAD: Y'mean that you can have?
10 JCE: We'd like to look at it.
11 NAD: Outta luck. I haven't got one.
12 JCE: Does he work?
13 NAD: Not if he can help it.
14 JCE: Doesn't hold a job of any kind?
15 NAD: No. Kioth's a professional avoider. Doesn't like anything steady. Beginning to look like he means me too.
16 JCE: What's he do with his time?
17 NAD: Nothin'. Just lives it.
18 JCE: He here in the evening?
NAD: If he was, there wouldn't have been the beef this morning, and you wouldn't be askin' a lot of questions. I don't know what you're trying to get me to say, but I can't go along with you. If you got a problem with Kieth, then talk to him. Leave me out of it.

SOUND: UNDER THE ABOVE, THE BABY HAD DROPPED THE KEYS AGAIN AND IS BEGINNING TO FUSS.

JOE: I'll get it.

FRANK: You know where your husband is now?

NAD: No.

FRANK: You don't have any idea?

NAD: Not the least.

JOE: (OFF MIKE) Here y'are, honey.

SOUND: THE BABY TAKES THE KEYS AND BEGINS TO PLAY WITH THEM AGAIN.

FRANK: He drive a car?

NAD: Yeah.

FRANK: You tell us what kind it is?

NAD: 1954 Plymouth.

SOUND: JOE HAS WALKED ON MIKE.

JOE: When do you expect your husband back?

NAD: When he walks in the door.

JOE: All right Mrs. Kearney...I think that'll do it. Sorry if we've caused you any trouble.
1 NAD: You have and you're not.
2 JOE: All right ma'am. Let's go Frank.
3 SOUND: THEY WALK TO THE DOOR. DOOR OPEN. OUTDOOR B.G. IN. JOE
4 AND FRANK STEP THROUGH THE DOOR.
5 JOE: G'night ma'am.
6 NAD: G'night.
7 SOUND: THEY LEAVE AND THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM. COUPLE OF
8 STEPS DOWN WALK.
9 FRANK: Better check on the husband.
10 JOE: Yeah. You get a good look at the keys the baby was playin' with?
11 FRANK: No. Why?
12 JOE: Plastic tag on 'em. Had a license number.
13 FRANK: Yeah.
14 JOE: One of the stolen cars used in a drug store holdup.
15 (END SCENE 7)
16 JOE: Frank and I went back to the car and drove around the block, parking up the street from the Kearney residence. We called the name of the man and his wife into R. and I. but there was no record on him. Because of the remark made by his wife and the finding of the car keys, it was decided to stake out on the house and wait for the husband to return. 7:30 P.M. . . . 8:30 . . . 9. The lights in the house went out but there was still no sign of Kloth Kearney. 10:00 . . . . 10:30. We called the office and told them we'd wait it out. 10:45 P.M.
27 SOUND: OUTDOOR NOISES. DOG BARKING IN THE DISTANCE.
FRANK: Joe?
JOE: Yeah.
SOUND: IN THE DISTANCE, WE HEAR A CAR APPROACH.
FRANK: You see what kind it is?
JOE: Looks like a Plymouth.
SOUND: THE CAR FADES IN AND STOPS.
JOE: Yeah.
SOUND: OFF MIKE, WE HEAR THE CAR DOORS OPEN AND CLOSE.
FRANK: Description checks out.
JOE: Yeah...let's go.
SOUND: THEY GET OUT OF THE CAR AND WALK ON THE SIDEWALK.
JOE: (UP) Hold it up, Kearney.
SOUND: FROM OFF MIKE WE HEAR A SHOT.
FRANK: (WITH THE SHOT) Watch it Joe.
SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS DUCK ASIDE. THERE IS ANOTHER SHOT FROM.
JOE: Give it up, Kearney.
KEARNEY: (FROM OFF MIKE) Keep away from me cop.
FRANK: Tryin' to make the house.
JOE: Yeah.
SOUND: ANOTHER SHOT FROM OFF MIKE.
JOE: Kearney...You won't make the front porch. Don't give your
family any more trouble than they got.
SOUND: SHOT FROM OFF MIKE.
JOE: All right.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK FIRED SEVERAL TIMES.

FRANK: He's down.

SOUND: JOE MOVES AND STANDS UP

JOE: Kearney? Kearney.

FRANK: Careful.

JOE: You don't have to spell it.

SOUND: THEY WALK TOWARD KEARNEY, SLOWLY.

JOE: Kearney... throw that gun away. Kearney?

FRANK: Looks like he's hurt bad.

JOE: GRUNTS.

SOUND: STEPS CONTINUE, PAUSE

JOE: Hold it.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: JOE CONTINUES ALONE, STOPS

FRANK: (OFF) How about it?

JOE: Better call an ambulance.

FRANK: Right.

SOUND: WE HEAR FRANK'S STEPS FADE OFF. AS THEY DO, A HOUSE DOOR OPENS AND WE HEAR NADINE FADE ON.

NADINE: (PAUSING ON) You kill him? Did you kill him?

JOE: No ma'am.

NADINE: He looks dead. (STARTS TO CRY) You killed him.

JOE: He'll probably be all right.
NADINE: You're just saying that. Poor Keith. You didn't give him a chance. Not fair. He didn't even have a chance.

JOE: Maybe you're right.

NADINE: Huh?

JOE: But he had a choice.

MUSIC: SIGNATURE.

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

GIBNEY: On August 17th, 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.

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

WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT
1 FENN: Now, here is our star - Jack Webb.
2 WEBB: Thank you, George Fenneman. You know, any king-size
3 cigarette can give you more length, but only Chesterfield
4 gives you premium quality tobacco to go with it. That's
5 the big difference in king-size cigarettes for my money.
6 Chesterfield has the quality you want! But don't take my
7 word for it... see for yourself. King-size Chesterfield
8 or regular... I think you'll find they're best for you.
GIBNEY: Kjeth Jeris Kearney was tried and convicted on 9 counts of robbery in the first degree, and received sentence as prescribed by law. Robbery in the first degree is punishable by imprisonment for a period of not less than five years.
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, Vic Rodman.

Script by John Robinson, Earl Schley...Music by Walter Schumann...Hal Gibney speaking.

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)
Announcer: L&M Filters are sweeping the country...and here's why -- It's the filter that counts - and no filter compares with L&M's miracle tip for quality or effectiveness. Notice how easy it draws. You get much more flavor - much less nicotine. Effective filtration. Our statement of quality goes unchallenged. L&M is America's highest quality and best filter-tip cigarettes. Buy a carton - king-size or regular...Both at the same low price. L&M - light and mild.