ESTERFIELD #115  NBC #283

RECTOR............JACK WEBB

WRITERS...........JOHN ROBINSON & EARL SCHLEY

DIR..............WALTER SCHUMANN

PROD:..............JEAN MILES

UND:...............BUD TOLLEFSON & WAYNE KENWORTHY

ENGINEER...........RAOUL MURPHY

MCR #1............GEORGE PENNEMAN

MCR #2............HAL GIBNEY, NBC

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1954 "A"

ST AND SOUND: 11:00 - 1:30 PM

DIRECTING............TBA

FORING..............TBA

CHESTRA..............

ANNOUNCERS............(COMMERCIAL)

RADIOCAST: 6:00 - 6:30 PM - STUDIO "J" -- BY T.R.

RELEASE DATE..........JANUARY 18, 1955

SPONSOR...........CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

AGENCY............CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISION........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.
CAST

SERGEANT JOE FRIDAY ........................................... JACK WEBB
OFFICER FRANK SMITH ............................................ BEN ALEXANDER
JACK (DBL) ........................................................ HERB ELLIS
SIMMONS ........................................................... MONTY MASTERS
BANLEY DAWSON ................................................ BEN MORRIS
ANITA BLAIN ....................................................... VIRGINIA GREGG
HENRY ............................................................... VIC PERRIN
PEGGY KING ....................................................... PEGGY KING
GERALD ............................................................. HERB ELLIS
VOICE ON RADIO (DBL) ............................................ VIRGINIA GREGG
MAX HAMILTON ................................................... HARRY BARTELL
MUSIC: SIGNATURE

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

MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER

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

MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to Robbery Detail. For the past ten days, a gun man has been terrorizing the downtown area of your city. You know he's armed and dangerous. Your job... stop him.

MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
FIRST COMMERCIAL

1 MUSIC: HARP UP AND OUT

2 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

3 FENN: Next time you buy cigarettes ... Remember this -- in the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like Chesterfield!

4 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

5 MUSIC: STING IN

6 FENN: Instantly, you'll smile your approval of Chesterfield quality ... highest quality.

7 MUSIC: STING OUT

8 FENN: Today's Chesterfield is the best cigarette ever made. And our factory doors are always open to prove it! Come in any time. We're installing the quality detective ... the newest - the most important discovery in cigarette making in over thirty years .... The quality detective - another reason why the Chesterfield you smoke today is highest in quality ... low in nicotine .... Best for you!

9 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

10 FENN: Next time you buy cigarettes ... Remember this -- in the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like Chesterfield!

11 MUSIC: CLOSE UP FULL
MUSIC: 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'S STEPS IN CORRIDOR...SLIGHT ECHO AND B.G.

JOE: It was Tuesday, October 5th. It was raining 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. I was on my way back from Metropolitan Division and it was 7:56 P.M. when I got to the city hall...(SOUND: Door Open) ..... Robbery Squadroom...

SOUND: JOE ENTERS THE OFFICE...DOOR SWINGS CLOSED BEHIND HIM... CHANGE IN B.G...COUPLE OF STEPS INTO OFFICE.

JOE: (UP) Frank?

FRANK: (OFF) In here Joe.

SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO ROOM 27

FRANK: Get it set up?

JOE: Yeah. Talked to Stan Uno

FRANK: How many men they got on it?

JOE: 6 cars.
FRANK: Four from here should cover it huh?

JOE: Should. You talk to Stoner.

FRANK: Yeah. Says they'll meet us later.

JOE: Okay...wanna go.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: FRANK TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS down pretty hard.

JOE: Better get your coat. Comin' down pretty hard.

FRANK: (GRUNTS) Think it'll keep the suspect inside?

SOUND: FRANK STARTS TO WALK OFF MIKE

JOE: I dunno....it isn't gonna work for us.

SOUND: FRANK GETS TO HIS LOCKER AND OPENS IT...UNDER THE FOLLOWING, HE TAKES HIS RAINCOAT OUT AND CLOSES THE DOOR...AS HE OPENS THE DOOR, THE HOT SHOT PHONE RINGS.

JOE: Hot shot....I'll get it.

SOUND: JOE MOVES TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP...PAUSE, THEN...HANG UP

FRANK: For us?

JOE: Yeah. Two-eleven at Flower and 14th.

FRANK: (AS HE PUTS HIS COAT ON) How about the description?

JOE: Match our boy?

FRANK: Pretty close. One thing puts him in line.

JOE: Huh?

FRANK: He shot the victim.

(END SCENE 1)
Frank and I left the office and drove out to the address. It was a small neighborhood liquor store. In spite of the heavy rain...a large crowd had already gathered in front of the place. Frank and I parked our car and tried to get into the store.

SOUND: OUTDOOR NOISES...RAIN COMING DOWN...CROWD MURMER...JOE AND FRANK'S STEPS

FRANK: (AS HE MOVES) Let us through here...c'mon...let us through.

JACK: You stand there like everybody else. No reason to give you a special pass.

JOE: Police officers...let us through.

JACK: Sorry. I didn't know.

JOE: Yeah.

JACK: (FAADING) I didn't mean anything by it.

SOUND: THEY GET INTO THE STORE...STEPS CHANGE AND RAIN GOES TO B.G.

HANLEY: (OFF MIKE) I been around...seen a lotta tough guys...but there was somethin' wrong with this fella.

FRANK: Back there.

JOE: Yeah.

SOUND: THEY CONTINUE TO WALK ON FLOOR

HANLEY: (FAADING IN) You call the ambulance yet? Oughta do somethin' for poor Claude. Can't just let him lay there.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK REACH HANLEY AND SIMMONS

SIMMONS: You from downtown?
JOE: Friday and Smith...Central Robbery. You answer the call?

SIMMONS: Yeah. Me and my partner.

FRANK: That him outside?

SIMMONS: Yeah.

JOE: Get a description?

SIMMONS: Yeah. It's out.

JOE: Okay.

HANLEY: Ain't anybody gonna ask me what happened?

JOE: Yes sir.

HANLEY: Seems all you fellas are interested in is what the guy looked like. Don't nobody wanna know what happened?

JOE: Yes sir. If you'll wait a minute.

HANLEY: No choice.

SIMMONS: Anything more I can do here?

JOE: Not right now.

SIMMONS: Okay. I'll be outside if you need anything.

JOE: Right.

SOUND: SIMMONS LEAVES AND WALKS TO THE DOOR. AS HE GETS THERE.

WE HEAR THE CROWD PRESS IN.

SIMMONS: (OFF MIKE) All right...c'mon now...you all got homes.

SOUND: HE CLOSES THE DOOR AND SHUTS OFF THE CROWD AND THE RAIN.

JOE: All right sir...if you'll tell us.

HANLEY: 'Bout time.

JOE: What?
HANLEY: All this runnin' around and yellin'. Wonder you fellas
don't catch anybody. Don't slow down long enough for me
to tell you what happened.

JOE: If you want to go ahead.

HANLEY: Worst thing I ever saw in my whole life. Most terrible.

JOE: Uh huh. Were you alone in the store when the shooting
occurred?

HANLEY: No.

FRANK: Who else was here?

HANLEY: Claude... Anita and me.

FRANK: Claude's the victim?

HANLEY: Yeah. (POINTING) That's him there...

JOE: Uh huh.

HANLEY: Don't you think somebody oughta do somethin' for him..

Seems like the ambulance oughta be here.

JOE: He's dead.

HANLEY: Claude.

JOE: Yes sir.

HANLEY: You gotta catch the fella what done this. Most brutal
thing I ever saw. No reason for any of it. That guy was
off his rocker.

JOE: You mentioned someone named Anita. Is she still here?
HANLEY: Yeah... in the back room. She wasn't feelin' too good.
Almost scared her half to death. Went back there to take
an aspirin and lay down. Scared.

FRANK: Wonder if we could talk to her.

HANLEY: You have to?

FRANK: Yes sir.

HANLEY: Okay... I'll go get her. You just wait here.

SOUND: HE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS OFF MIKE AND WE HEAR A QUICK
LITTLE KNOCK.

HANLEY: (OFF) Anita... Anita... it's me Hanley. Can you come out?

BEAT

HANLEY: Poliice men... they want to talk to you.

SOUND: THE TWO OF THEM WALK BACK TO JOE AND FRANK

JOE: We don't like to bother you ma'am... we'll try to be as
brief as possible.

ANITA: It's all right.

JOE: Would you give us your name, first, please?

HANLEY: This is Miss Anita Blaine. I'm Hanley Dawson. I don't
think you told us your names.

JOE: This is Frank Smith... my name's Friday.

HANLEY: How d'ya do. }

ANITA: Hello. } TOGETHER

FRANK: How do you do.
JOE: Is there anything we can get for you Miss Blaine?

ANITA: No... I'm all right now.

JOE: Would you tell us what happened?

HANLEY: We was back of the counter, playin' a game of cribbage.

JOE: You and the victim?

HANLEY: Yeah... me and Claude. His full name's Claude Langford. We was there playin' the game.

JOE: (TO ANITA) Were you in the store at the time?

ANITA: No.... I came in later.

HANLEY: I'm tryin' to tell you in the right order. Can't do it if you're gonna keep interruptin'.

JOE: All right sir... go ahead.

HANLEY: We were havin' a good game. Claude was ahead. Already made the first turn. My crib and I really had a good hand... mighta caught him.

JOE: Yes sir.

HANLEY: We was just about to play the hand when the door opened. kinda surprising.

FRANK: Why's that?

HANLEY: Didn't figure anybody'd be out on a night like this.

FRANK: Uh huh.

HANLEY: It was this young kid.

JOE: All right sir... go ahead.
JOE: Came in and asked me where we kept the canned nuts.
HANLEY: Y'know...cashews...almonds.(AL-MONDS)
JOE: Yeah.
HANLEY: Pointed it out for him and he went over to have a look.
JOE: Uh huh.
HANLEY: Claude and me started back to the game but the kid found what he wanted and come up to the counter.
JOE: Yeah.
HANLEY: I got up to wait on him. Handed me a five dollar bill for two cans of peanuts.
JOE: Uh huh.
HANLEY: Opened up the register to get change and that's when he pulled the gun.
FRANK: Where'd he have it?
HANLEY: In his over coat pocket. It was funny though. Not funny Ha-ha but funny...odd. Y'know?
JOE: What do you mean?
HANLEY: Well, you know how most raincoats have a little slit in the pocket so you can reach into your pants pockets without unbuttoning your raincoat.
JOE: Yeah....I know what you mean.
HANLEY: Well, the kid unbuttoned his coat and reached right through the slit with the gun. Kinda like this...Y'see?
FRANK: Yes Sir. What'd he say when he showed you the gun?

HANDLEY: Like this (IMITATES)...this is a stick-up. Keep your mouth shut and you might not get hurt. Might...that's what he said.

JOE: Uh huh. What happened then?

HANDLEY: Told both Clyde and me to come out from behind the counter. Said for us to lay down on the floor.

JOE: Yeah.

HANDLEY: We did like he said y'know...there was just something about that kid so you had to go his way.

JOE: Uh huh.

HANDLEY: He made us lay down right there...where Claude is now. On our stomachs.

JOE: What'd he do then?

HANDLEY: Went over and took the money out of the cash register.

JOE: Then he really got sore. I thought he was gonna explode.

HANDLEY: Went over and took the money out of the cash register.

JOE: Why?

HANDLEY: Wasn't much for him to take. Only about 20...25...dollars

JOE: Guess he expected more.

JOE: Yeah.
HANLEY: He came over to where me and Claude were on the floor.
Told us to take the money out of our pocket. Stood there
with the gun pointed right at us. He was mad.

JOE: Uh huh. You did what he said?

HANLEY: You just bet we did. I only had about 6 bucks on me.
Gave it right to him though.

JOE: Yeah.

HANLEY: That's when Anita here came into the store. Just walked
in...like a rabbit into a foxes trap.

ANITA: That's right. I didn't have any idea what was goin' on.

JOE: Couldn't you see through the door?

ANITA: Guess I should have...but it was rainin' so hard....I
didn't take the time.

HANLEY: Glass was kinda steamed up too. Make it tough to look
in.

JOE: What happened when the holdup man saw you?

ANITA: Told me to keep my mouth shut. Not to make a sound and
to get down on the floor.

HANLEY: Just like us.

JOE: Uh huh.

ANITA: He grabbed my purse and took the wallet out. Went
through it and took the money.

JOE: How much was that?
ANITA: Just a couple of dollars. I came over to get a bottle of wine and I only took what I needed.

JOS: All right...what happened then?

HANLEY: He started on Claude. Told him to empty his pockets.

JOE: Uh huh.

HANLEY: Claude didn’t take too kindly to the way this fellow was actin. If he’d just come in and taken the money it might have been different but Claude don’t like to be shoved around.

JOE: Yeah.

HANLEY: He did like the kid told him though. Emptied his pockets right out.

FRANK: Uh huh.

HANLEY: Well, you just figure the man was real sore when he saw how much money he was gonna get.

FRANK: Yeah?

HANLEY: Y’see...Claude don’t work. He’s got some kinda pension. All alone in the world and he usually don’t have much money. Main reason he comes over to play cards...he ain’t got nothin’ else to do. And it’s free.

JOE: Uh huh. How much did he have on him tonight?

HANLEY: 37 cents. Kid/saw that and I thought sure he was gonna kill us all.

ANITA: He sure acted like it.

HANLEY: Then he figured maybe Claude was holdin’ out on him. Told him to turn his pockets inside out.
1 ANITA: He did like he was told.
2 JOE: Yeah.
3 HANLEY: When he did...somethin' fell out of his pocket. A coin hit the floor and rolled around. Dissappeared under the counter over there.
4 ANITA: Man with the gun saw it and got real mad. Said Claude tried to get away with somethin'. Said for him to go pick up the coin.
5 HANLEY: Claude told him if he wanted it that bad...he could get it himself.
6 JOE: Yeah.
7 HANLEY: Fella just looked at Claude for a minute and then put the gun right against his head. Right here... (INDICATES) ...Didn't say a word. Just pulled the trigger.
8 ANITA: He was crazy.
9 HANLEY: No reason for it. Claude musta been dead when he hit the floor.
10 ANITA: (STARTING TO EREAK) Just brutal.
11 JOE: What'd he do then?
12 HANLEY: Ran outside.
13 FRANK: Did you try and follow him?
14 HANLEY: No sir. Me and Anita were tryin' to see if there was anything we could do for Claude.
15 JOE: Did he get into a car do y' know?
16 HANLEY: I didn't see. Might have...but I didn't see it.
17 JOE: Did you hear a car?
18 HANLEY: No.
J: Uh huh. Have you ever seen the man around here before?
H: Not that I remember. Lotta people go by the door.
J: Hard to pick one. And make it stand out.
J: You'd know him again if you saw him though, huh?
H: I think so.
A: I would.
J: Ma'am.
A: Never forget the way he looked at me. Like some kinda
of animal. Y'sorta expected to see those metal things
stickin' out of his neck...where they attach the
electricity...like they do in the horror movies.
J: Uh huh.
A: Somethin' about his eyes. He looked crazy. Real wild.
S: FRANK WALKS OFF MIKE
J: What d'ya mean?
A: He wasn't lookin' right at us. Like there was
somebody standing behind me. He was lookin' at them.
C: Couldn't focus y'know?
J: Yes ma'am.
F: (LITTLE OFF) Did you see the coin, Langford dropped?
H: No...just heard it hit the floor.
F: (OFF) Uh huh.
J: Find it?
I think so.

HE WALKS ON MIKE.

Sure doesn't make much sense. Take a look.

(LOOKING) Yeah. Musta been crazy to kill a man for that.

What is it?

A streetcar token.

(EN D SCENE 2)

The men from the crime lab arrived and photographed the store. Diagrams were made showing the position of the body and the premises were checked thoroughly. The victims were taken to the City Hall to check the mug book. They were unable to make an identification. A canvass was started of the immediate area in the hope we might be able to turn up a witness to the shooting.

One of the uniformed officers talked to a newsguy who had seen a man run from the liquor store. Frank and I went down to talk to him.

HEAVY RAIN FALLING IN STREETS.

Yeah, I saw him. Heard this noise like a backfire then this fella came out of the store and started to run down the street.

Did you get a good look at him?

No. He went down that way. (INDICATING) Away from me.

Did you see if he got into a car?

No. Ran around the corner. I didn't think a lot about it until after the whole thing was over.
JOE: Can you describe the man for us?
HENRY: No. I just got a look at his back. Nothin' about that that'd stand out.
FRANK: Un huh.
HENRY: Y'might talk to the girl though.
JOE: Who's that?
HENRY: When the fella ran out of the store, he almost knocked her down. Ran right by her.
JOE: You know the girl?
HENRY: Not right out...sure feel like I do.
JOE: How d'ya mean?
HENRY: See her every week.
JOE: Where?
HENRY: Home, Every night.
JOE: What?
HENRY: She's on television.

(END SCENE 3)

JOE: From the witness, we got the time and day of the television show. We contacted the network and obtained the information that the girls name was Bette Miller. They went on to tell us that she was working in a small night club out in Beverly Hills. Frank and I drove out to see her. She was sitting at a table talking to some people and we asked the waiter to tell her we wanted to see her.

SOUND: NIGHT CLUB B.G. STEPS INTO MIKE AND STOP. JOE AND FRANK STAND UP.
He...you want to see me?
Yes ma'am. Won't you sit down?
Thanks...
Here..let me get that chair for you.

JOE TAKES CARE OF THE CHAIR. THEN SITS DOWN HIMSELF.

What can I do for you?
We're police officers, Miss...this is Frank Smith...my name's Friday.
How d'ya do.
Hello.
We understand that you were in the area of 14th and Flower tonight.
Yes that's right. Why?
There was a holdup and shooting down there. It's possible that you might have seen the man who did it?
I don't think so. My manager and I went to listen to a group that's playing down there. Far as I know...I didn't see anybody else.

OFF WE HEAR THE SOUND OF THE ORCH CALLING FOR PEGGY.

Excuse me...I'll be back. If you'll wait until I'm finished...I'll tell you what I can.
This is rather important, Miss...I'll do one song...then I'll be back.
All right.
PEGGY: Excuse me.

SOUND: SHE GET'S UP AND WALKS AWAY.

MUSIC: AS PEGGY WALKS AWAY FROM THE TABLE, SHE STARTS TO SING.

SOUND: SHE REACHES THE STAGE AND SINGS "ANY QUESTIONS".

SOUND: AFTER SHE FINISHES, THERE IS A SMATTERING OF APPLAUSE

SOUND: AND THEN SHE WALKS BACK ON MIKE.

PEGGY: (AS SHE SITS DOWN) Hope you understand.

JOE: Sure.

FRANK: Pretty song.

PEGGY: Thanks. It's new. Written by Arther Hamilton.

JOE: Very nice.

PEGGY: Now what's this about a man I'm supposed to have seen?

JOE: I told you there was a shooting at 14th and Flower.

PEGGY: Uh huh.

JOE: One of the people in the neighborhood recognized you.

PEGGY: Gee..I don't remember....just a minute. (SHE REMEMBERS)

JOE: Now...I remember...Yeah. He ran out of a store.

PEGGY: Almost knocked me down. Didn't even stop to say

JOE: Did you get a good look at him?

PEGGY: I guess...he ran right into me.

JOE: Can you tell us anything about him?
I'm afraid not. I didn't pay a lot of attention. Somethin' that happens and you don't think it's important.

Would you know the man if you saw him again?

I don't think so. Whole thing happened so fast.

Uh huh. Nothing about him that you'd remember?

No... unless it was his eyes.

Ma'am?

His eyes. Real wide... scary. Like he was lookin' right through you.

Remember those. But I'm afraid that's about all I can tell you.

All right Miss King. Like to thank you for helping us out.

I didn't do very much.

It all helps.

Tey: GET UP FROM THE TABLE.

Wish I could help you more.

You tried.

Yeah.

That's more than a lot of people do.

(END SCENE 4)
11:46 PM Frank and I went back downtown. The search for the killer had spread throughout the city. Additional units from all divisions were called in to help. From the description given us by the victims and witnesses it appeared more than likely that the suspect was a narcotic user. If this was true, it was more than possible that he'd cut down anybody who got in his way. Frank and I contacted the office and talked to Captain Donohoe. He'd taken over the search for the gunman. Because it was impossible to cover all of the liquor stores in the area, it was decided to ask the owners to close. Frank and I were assigned the places along Vermont avenue. The first six stores we contacted cooperated. By the time we got to the seventh, the rain had stopped. We parked the car in front of the place and walked in. At first, there was no one in sight then in the store room, we found the owner. He was lying on the floor his head buried in his arms.

20 **SOUND:** JOE AND FRANK WALK ON WOODEN FLOOR.

21 GERALD: You go away...leave me alone.

22 JOE: Are you all right sir?

23 GERALD: I am now and I wanna stay that way...get outta here.

24 FRANK: We're police officers. What's wrong?

25 GERALD: Don't try that with me. I know who you are. You got all the money...There's no more to take.

27 JOE: O'mon,...this is no joke.
1 GERALD: Listen...I remember what you said. I ain't gonna get up from here for another two minutes. I can see my watch. Two minutes.

2 JOE: You get your head up from the floor and you can see this card.

3 GERALD: Huh?

4 JOE: It's an identification card...

5 BEAT

6 GERALD: You sure?

7 JOE: Look for yourself.'

8 GERALD: If this is a joke...I'm not gonna like it.

9 JOE: Don't worry about it.'

10 BEAT:

11 JOE: There...you see.

12 BEAT

13 GERALD: About time you rat here.

14 SOUND: HE GETS UP FROM THE FLOOR.

15 GERALD: Terrible thing when a man's robbed in his own store and nobody's gonna take the time to protect him.

16 JOE: You were held up tonight?

17 GERALD: Not more'n three minutes ago. Guy left and he told me to stay where I was for five minutes.

18 JOE: What'd he look like?

19 GERALD: Huh?
FRANK: The man who held you up...can you describe him for us?
GERALD: Young kid. Just outta his teens. Roamin' around the streets threatenin' citizens. You cops oughta do somethin' about it.
JOE: What'd he look like?
GERALD: Dark...Black hair...black eyes. Wildest lookin' eyes you ever saw. One look at 'em and you knew he meant what he said. Stay put...I did.
FRANK: I'll call it in.
JOE: Right.

SOUND: FRANK LEAVES THE STORE
GERALD: What's he gonna do?
JOE: Put out a broadcast.
GERALD: For the holdup man?
JOE: Yes sir.
GERALD: I don't want to tell you your business...but it sure seems like a waste of time.
JOE: What d'ya mean?
GERALD: If he hears it...he ain't gonna give himself up.

(END SCENE 5)
JOE: The broadcast was put out to all units. From the
description given by the victim, we were sure it was the
suspect dragline. All of the cars on the perimeter of
the search area were drawn in and the entire vicinity
was surrounded. It took a little over twenty minutes
to get the cars into position. Frank and I talked to
Captain Donahoe at the corner of Vermont Avenue and
Beverly Boulevard. After the meeting, Frank came back
to the car.

SOUND: OFF MIKE RAIN, FRANK GET'S INTO THE CAR, DOOR CLOSE
FRANK: That does it.
JOE: Yeah.
FRANK: Area's secure.
JOE: They tryin' to nail him down?
FRANK: No. Makin' a preliminary search. If they turn him, good.
Otherwise they'll wait until morning. Make a house to
house check then.
JOE: Skipper think he's still here?
FRANK: No reason to believe otherwise.
JOE: Yeah.
FRANK: Soon as it get's light, we'll move in.
JOE: Uh huh.
FRANK: We'll turn him.
JOE: That's what the Skipper figures?
FRANK: Yeah. We got him made.
JOE: One big problem
FRANK: Yeah?
JOE: The suspect knew it?
FRANK: Funny.
JOE: Wasn't meant to be.
FRANK: Huh?
JOE: What happens if somebody gets in his way?
FRANK: Good question.
JOE: Yeah...well, I hope I don't hear the answer.
(END SCENE 6)
(END ACT 1)
GLENNY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of your Police force in action.
(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
DRAGNET RADIO
JANUARY 18, 1955
SECOND COMMERCIAL

1 MUSIC: HARP UP AND OUT

2 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

3 FENN: Next time you buy cigarettes - stop ... Remember this --
4 In the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like
5 Chesterfield!

6 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

7 MUSIC: STING IN

8 FENN: Instantly, you'll smile your approval of Chesterfield
9 smoothness.

10 MUSIC: STING OUT

11 FENN: You want them mild. We make them mild! Mild and mellow
12 with the smooth and refreshing taste of the right
13 combination of the world's best tobaccos.

14 MUSIC: STING IN

15 FENN: Instantly, you'll smile your approval of Chesterfield
16 smoothness. The pack is clean ... white ... keeps your
17 Chesterfields always fresh .... always tasty.

18 MUSIC: HARP UP AND OUT

19 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

20 FENN: Remember .... In the whole wide world, no cigarette
21 satisfies like Chesterfield!

22 MUSIC: CLOSE UP FULL
The preliminary search of the neighborhood netted nothing, and the area was secured for the night. The rain kept up. All officers involved in the operation were kept on duty. At 6:20 A.M. the circle began to tighten. House by house the space where the killer could be hiding was eliminated. All cars into and out of the area were stopped and searched. 7:15 A.M. The perimeter began to narrow. At 8:46 A.M. a call went out to all cars.

JOE: The preliminary search of the neighborhood netted nothing, and the area was secured for the night. The rain kept up. All officers involved in the operation were kept on duty. At 6:20 A.M. the circle began to tighten. House by house the space where the killer could be hiding was eliminated. All cars into and out of the area were stopped and searched. 7:15 A.M. The perimeter began to narrow. At 8:46 A.M. a call went out to all cars.

SOUND: SQUELCH

VOICE (IN FILTER) All units on special detail in the vicinity of Vermont Avenue and Beverly Boulevard...Regarding the suspect wanted for murder....possible suspect believed to be in the vicinity of Vermont and Catalina Street. Attention all units...special detail...regarding the suspect wanted for murder....possible suspect believed to be in the vicinity of Catalina Street and Vermont Avenue.

JOE: (OVER ABOVE) That's us.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Be a break if it's him.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: FRANK STARTS THE CAR UNDER THE FOLLOWING. THE SOUND OF THE RADIO VOICE CONTINUES IN THE B.G.

FRANK: Sure doesn't make sense.
JOE: Huh?

FRANK: Why d'ya kill a man for a streetcar token?

JOE: One way to find out.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Ask him.

(END SCENE 7)

JOE: According to the report received by the complaint board, a woman in the vicinity had seen someone run through her back yard. When she shouted at the person he continued running and disappeared into the alley. All cars in the area converged and a complete search was started. As time went on, the possible hiding places narrowed and finally the suspect was left with less than a block to conceal himself. Frank and I joined the officers on foot. After twenty minutes we found ourselves in the back yard of one of the houses on the street.

SOUND: RAIN IN THE B.G. STEPS ON GRAVEL

FRANK: Looks like a chicken house back there. . . . . . . lets check it.

JOE: Yeah.

FRANK: GRUNTS.

SOUND: THEY WALK ACROSS THE YARD

PAUSE

JOE: All set?
JOE KICKS THE DOOR TO THE HENHOUSE OPEN. WE HEAR THE
REACTION OF THE CHICKENS. COUPLE OF STEPS INTO THE HEN
HOUSE.

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: Joe kicks the door to the henhouse. We hear the
reaction of the chickens. Couple of steps into the hen
house.

FRANK: Joe?

JOE: Yeah.

BEAT

JOE: All right.....c'mon out. Keep your hands where we
can see 'em.

MAX: (LITTLE OFF) Don't shoot huh? Please don't shoot. I give
up.

JOE: Stand still.

SOUND: Max comes out of the roost. We hear reaction from the
chickens as he straightens up.

MAX: I'm doin' like you say. Don't shoot.

JOE: Get up against that wall.

SOUND: Max moves to the wall. Frank moves in and does fast
shake.

FRANK: 38 revolver.

MAX: I'da given it to you. I don't want any trouble.

JOE: Always works out that way doesn't it?

MAX: What d'ya mean?

JOE: You guys are big as long as you're holdin' the gun.
Soon as somebody else has got it....you fall apart.

MAX: I don't want no lecture cop. Just take me in. That's
all you got to do. Take me in and make a booking.
JOE: We'll do that.
MAX: You'll end up on a limb anyway. You got nothin' to hold me on.
JOE: That right?
MAX: Yeah. I been around cops a long time. Learned it the hard way. Don't tell 'em nothin'. That's the way to make it. Don't tell 'em nothin'.
JOE: Well you missed one of the big points.
MAX: Huh?
JOE: That gun you were carrying.
MAX: Yeah?
JOE: Maybe that'll tell us.
(END SCENE 8)

JOE: The suspect was taken to the city hall. He was mugged and finger-printed. From his prints, we identified him as Max Hamilton. He had a record listing several arrests for violation of the State narcotic act and two counts of robbery. However, he'd never served time on any of the charges. We talked to him for an hour without results. 10:40 A.M.
MAX: Why don't you leave me alone.....I got nothin' for you guys.
JOE: You keep believin' that. We got people comin' in who gonna lay it on you.
MAX: For what?
FRANK: 211 and murder.

BEAT

MAX: You're outta your mind.

JOE: We got you made on all counts. Any way you slice it.... we can drop you so far back it'll take a slingshot to get food to you.

MAX: You're on the needle cop.

JOE: That right?

MAX: Yeah. You got one beef on me,....Most you can tag me for is stealin' chickens. You sit down and try to think what a judge is gonna say when you read that off in court.

JOE: All right Hamilton...you keep that smile on your face. You go right on believing that we can't press a charge that'll stick. We got half a dozen people on the way in here. They'll point you out in a crowd. Soon as they do....we'll drop you in a cell and hold you iso (EYE-SO). Won't be long until that yen get's so big you'll be yellin' for us to turn you loose.

MAX: You got it all figured haven't you.

JOE: Yeah.....all along the line. You're a hype. You hooked bed. Everything's on our side. You go through the cure and you'll tell us what we wanna know and be glad you got the chance to talk. We don't need your help. We're home free without it. You keep up the way you're actin'. See how far it get's you.

MAX: You really figure you can box me in?
JOE: Without a door.

BEAT

MAX: When'd you call the people?

JOE: Huh?

MAX: To point me out?

JOE: Awhile ago.

MAX: Can you get 'em before they leave home?

JOE: Why?

MAX: No reason for them to make the trip. I'll give it to you.

JOE: Want a stenographer?

MAX: Might as well. I got nothin' to lose. I'll give you the story.

JOE: Frank?

FRANK: Yeah.

SOUND: FRANK LEAVES THE INTERROGATION ROOM. B.G. IN AS THE DOOR IS OPEN. DOOR CLOSES.

MAX: Lousy deal.

JOE: That right?

MAX: Yeah. I didn't want to kill that fella y'know?

JOE: Then why'd it happen?

MAX: I was high. Just had a pop....felt like I owned the world. Made me pretty sore to think the guy was holdin' out on me. Guess you think it's a pretty bad reason.......

JOE: Not my choice.

MAX: People dont understand....Y'get a bad habit workin on you and you'll do anything to feed it.

JOE: That right?
MAX: Sure. You let me talk to anybody...Let me tell 'em what it means to have a supply shut off. I'll tell 'em what it's like. I don't care who it is....you put me in front of a jury and I'll ask 'em.

JOE: You'll have the chance.

MAX: I'll ask 'em. Give 'em the whole picture even then they won't know.

JOE: Maybe not. But you be sure of one thing.

MAX: Yeah?

JOE: They'll have an answer.
The story you have just heard is true. The names were changed to protect the innocent.

On February 16th trial was held in department 97, Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Los Angeles. In a moment, results of that trial.

Now here is our star, Jack Webb.
1 FENN: Now here is our star - Jack Webb.
2 WEBB: Thank you, George Fenneman. Friends, no cigarette
satisfies like Chesterfield. I hope you'll remember that
next time you're at your favorite tobacco dealers'. Buy
Chesterfield and put that smile in your smoking. You'll
like 'em as much as I do.

LG 0190114
Max Gifford Hamilton was tried and convicted of murder in the first degree and received sentence as prescribed by law. Because the jury failed to return a recommendation for clemency, he received the maximum sentence and was put to death in the lethal gas chamber at the state penitentiary, San Quentin, California.
DRAGNET RADIO
JANUARY 18, 1955
L & M HITCH-HIKE

1  JINGLE

2   THIS IT IT ... L & M FILTER

3   IT STANDS OUT FROM ALL THE REST!

4   MIRACLE TIP ... MUCH MORE FLAVOR

5   L & M'S GOT EVERYTHING

6   IT'S THE BEST!

7   ANNOR:  L & M stands out for highest quality tobaccos ....

8   low nicotine tobaccos .... L & M tobaccos. And the pure,

9   white miracle tip draws easy ... so you enjoy all the

10  flavor. Yes, L & M's got everything!
DRAGNET RADIO
JANUARY 18, 1955

CROSS PLUG

1. ANNCR: Be sure and listen to Chesterfield's great Perry Como Show - every Monday, Wednesday and Friday ... on another radio network.