CHESTERFIELD #124 NBC #292 RELEASE DATE MARCH 22, 1955

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB

SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

TECHNICAL ADVISORS: BUD TOLLEFSON & WAYNE KENWORTHY

SGT. MARTY WYNN. L.A.P.D.

WRITER: FRANK BURT

AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

MUSIC: WALTER SCE

COMMERCIAL SUPERVISION: PETE PETERSON

SCRIPT: JEAN MILES

ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY

SGT. VANCE BRASHER. L.A.P.D.

ANNCR #1: GEORGE FENNEMAN

CAPT. JACK DONOHOE. L.A.P.D.

ANNCR #2: IM GIBNEY, NBC

CASE: "THE BIG TALK"

BROADCAST: 7:00 - 7:30 P.M. - STUDIO "J" -- BY T.R.

ORCHESTRA.

ANNOUNCERS. (COMMERCIAL)

SCORING.

TELEGRAPHING.

RECORDING: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1955 "A"

CAST AND SOUND: 12:00 - 2:30 P.M.
ARCH 22, 1955

FIRST COMMERCIAL RADIO MUSIC: HARP UP AND OUT

GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.

FENN: Next time you buy cigarettes... Stop... Remember this:

In the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like Chesterfield.

GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking!

MUSIC: VIBRAHARP STINGS

FENN: You want them mild. We make them mild. Mild and smooth with the smooth and refreshing taste of the right combination of the world's best tobaccos. So next time you buy cigarettes... 

GROUP: (SHOUT)

WOMEN: SING!

GROUP: VW SATISFY!

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

START SMOKING WITH A SMILE WITH CHESTERFIELD

SMILING ALL THE WHILE WITH CHESTERFIELD

PUT A SMILE IN YOUR SMOKING - JUST GIVE THEM A TRY

LIGHT UP A CHESTERFIELD.
MAGNET RADIO
ARCH 22, 1955
SECOND COMMERCIAL

1 GROUP: STOP!
2 WOODBLOCK - TRIPLET FIGURE
3 GROUP: START SMOKING WITH A SMILE WITH CHESTERFIELD
4 SMILING ALL THE WHILE WITH CHESTERFIELD
5 PUT A SMILE IN YOUR SMOKING - JUST GIVE 'EM A TRY
6 LIGHT UP A CHESTERFIELD!
7 WOODBLOCK - TRIPLET FIGURE
8 GROUP: THEY SATISFY!
9 MUSIC: VIBRAHARP STINGS
10 FENN: Instantly, you'll smile your approval of Chesterfield
11 quality...highest quality at no extra cost to you.
12 MUSIC: STINGS OUT
13 FENN: Today's Chesterfield is the best cigarette ever made - and
14 our factory doors are always open to prove it.
15 MUSIC: STING
16 FENN: Come in any time and see the quality detective .. the
17 newest - the most important discovery in cigarette making
18 in over thirty years. The quality detective -- another
19 reason why the Chesterfield you smoke today is highest in
20 quality ....
21 MUSIC: STING
22 FENN: Low in nicotine ....
23 MUSIC: STING
24 FENN: Best for you!
25 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking!
26 FENN: Next time you buy cigarettes ... Stop .... Remember this
27 -- In the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like
28 Chesterfield.
1 PENN: Now, here is our star - Jack Webb.
2 WEBB: Thank you, George Fenneman. Friends, baseball is more
than just a game. You might call it a bank account ...

drawing compound interest in the name of the United
States. This is National Baseball Week ... fungo
weather. Pretty soon the regular season will start.
Go out and watch your ball team play. Whatever the
league is ... sandlot, double A or Major. When you
support baseball, you support one of the things America
stands for. So, get out a lot this summer. Go out and
hear those two wonderful words. "Play ball." I sent
for my tickets today.
LG 0190499
CROSS PLUG

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

SGT. JOE FRIDAY .................................................. JACK WEBB
OFFICER FRANK SMITH ........................................... BEN ALEXANDER
RUSSELL LIGGINS ............................................... JACK KURSCHEN
SAM HUPPLE ...................................................... HERB ELLIS
DRIVER ............................................................ BARNEY PHILLIPS
JEANETTE GROVER .............................................. VIRGINIA GREGG
TOM KERNAN ..................................................... BERT HOLLAND
"THE BIG TALK"

1 FENN: (COLD) Chesterfield brings you Dragnet.
2 MUSIC: HARP AND UP:
3 GIRL: Put a smile in your smoking.
4 GIBNEY: Buy Chesterfield. So smooth...so satisfying...
5 Chesterfield.
6 MUSIC: SIGNATURE
7 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect the innocent.
8 9
10 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
11 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to Robbery Detail. A watch salesman tells you his sample case has been stolen. He says he knows the men who did it. Your job....find 'em.
12 13 14
15 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
   (COMMERCIAL INSERT)
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: STEPS IN CORRIDOR...SLIGHT ECHO AND CORRIDOR BG

JOE: It was Tuesday, October 4th. It was cool in Los Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Robbery Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Chief of Detectives Thad Brown. My name's Friday. We were on our way into the office and it was 7:46 AM when we got to Room 27A...

(SOUND...DOOR OPENS)...Robbery.

SOUND: THEN ENTER THE ROOM. DOOR SWINGS CLOSED BEHIND THEM AND THEY MOVE ON INTO ROBBERY SQUADROOM. B.G. CHANGES...

FRANK: I'll check the book.

JOE: Okay.

SOUND: COUPLE OF STEPS OFF BEAT

JOE: Anything for us?
FRANK: (OFF) Uh - uh. (NO)

SOUND: STEPS FADE ON

FRANK: Took Fay to the movies last night.

JOE: Oh?

FRANK: Darned good double bill. Mystery and a comedy. Sure had me fooled.

JOE: Hmm?

FRANK: The mystery. Never can figure out a who-dun-it.

JOE: Yeah.

FRANK: There was this rich society girl.

JOE: Uh-huh.

FRANK: Lived in a penthouse. Top floor. Real modern...glass mostly.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS OFF ... STEPS FADE IN

FRANK: Found her lyin' outside on the roof garden part. Doors were all locked. Police had to break 'em down to get in.

SOUND: STEPS COME TO A STOP ON

RUSS: (CLEARING THROAT)

JOE: Yes, sir?

RUSS: I'd like to report a robbery. Is -- is this the right place?

JOE: Yes, sir. Like to sit down?

RUSS: Thank you.

SOUND: SCRAPE OF CHAIR...RUSS SITS
1 RUSS: My name's Liggins -- Russell Liggins.
2 JOE: Mind spelling it please.
3 RUSS: L-i-g-g-i-n-s. Liggins.
4 SOUND: SCRATCH OF PENCIL AS JOE MAKES A NOTE
5 JOE: Um-hum. This is Frank Smith. My name's Friday.
6 RUSS: Pleased to meet you.
7 FRANK: How do you do.
8 JOE: Suppose you tell us what happened, Mr. Liggins.
9 RUSS: Be okay to smoke?
10 FRANK: Sure.
11 RUSS: You fellows care for a cigarette?
12 JOE: Thanks.
13 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK TAKE CIGARETTES....JOE FLIPS LIGHTER
14 JOE: Here's a light.
15 SOUND: THEY LIGHT UP
16 RUSS: (EXHALES) Well, it was my own fault to begin with. Just
17 wasn't using my head.
18 JOE: Uh-huh.
19 RUSS: Company ought to fire me. Wouldn't blame 'em if they did.
20 FRANK: What company is that?
21 RUSS: Sentinel Watch Factory...up in Seattle.
22 FRANK: I see.
23 RUSS: New outfit. They import movements from Japan. Put 'em
24 in cases over here and wholesale 'em.
1 JOE: Yes, sir.
2 RUSS: I'm one of their head salesman. Came down for the jewelers convention.
3 JOB: Uh-huh.
4 RUSS: Convention ended yesterday. I was supposed to leave for home this morning...nine o'clock plane. Guess I have to take a later flight.
5 FRANK: Yes, sir.
6 RUSS: Of all the dumb stunts. Practically handed 'em my sample case on a silver platter.
7 JOE: Oh?
8 RUSS: Over a hundred watches. Our best stuff. Lot of 'em in jeweled cases. Company wanted to make a good impression, you know.
9 FRANK: Where'd the robbery take place, Mr. Liggins?
10 RUSS: Front of the hotel -- for all intents and purposes.
11 JOE: Which hotel is that?
12 RUSS: Graystone. That's where I've been stopping.
13 JOE: Do you have any idea who robbed you?
14 RUSS: Best idea in the world.
15 JOE: Oh?
16 RUSS: Spent a couple of hours with 'em last night.
17 JOE: Uh-huh.
You see what happened is this. Like I said the convention was over yesterday. Wound up about five o'clock in the afternoon. Well, I had the whole evening ahead of me with nothing to do.

Go on.

Had dinner there at the hotel, couple of drinks.

Yes, sir.

Still too early to go to bed so I thought I'd look the town over.

Stopped by Pershing Square, listened to the characters spoutin' off. Along about ten o'clock I headed back toward the Graystone. Passed a bar and decided to go in for a night-cap.

Do you remember the name of the bar?

Fraid not. Just a couple of blocks from the hotel though. Had a little combo. Played pretty good music. So I sat around for a while.

Yes, sir.

Guess I had too much to drink. Oh, I wasn't drunk or anything like that but I had my share.

Uh-huh.

Must've been a little high or I wouldn't have started talkin' to a couple strangers the way I did.
I see. They were sittin' next to me -- these two fellows -- and we got to chattin' -- you know.

Yeah.

It was about the music at first -- they seemed to be enjoyin' it. One thing led to another and they bought me a drink and then I had to pay 'em back.

Yes, sir.

Asked me what line I was in and I told 'em I sold watches.

Said I was in town for the jewelry convention. They took it real big, said that's why they were here too. Claimed they had a jewelry store in Salt Lake City.

Did they mention their names?

Oh, sure, they introduced themselves, but it didn't sink in. Not their last names anyhow. George and Paul -- that's all I can remember.

What happened next?

Well, they started complainin' about the quality of the watches they'd been shown. Said they hadn't seen anything worth buying. I asked 'em if they'd looked at my samples and they said they didn't think so.

Uh-huh.
RUSS: I offered to make an appointment to show 'em my stuff. Figured I could stay over an extra day on the chance of making a good sale. They said that wouldn't be necessary -- for me to stay over. Said they could meet me this morning before I left for the airport.

JOE: Did you set up an appointment?

RUSS: Yes sir. I told 'em it would have to be early if I was still going to catch my plane. That was fine with them -- the earlier the better. Agreed to meet me at seven a.m. Even offered to drive me to the airfield. Couldn't ask for anymore than that, could I?

FRANK: No, sir.

RUSS: Well, anyway, I came downstairs about a quarter of seven, checked out. They were supposed to pick me up in front of the hotel.

JOE: I see.

RUSS: About five or seven they came by. I hopped in the car and we drove off. We hadn't gone more than a mile or so when they pulled over and parked. Quiet street, not much traffic.

JOE: Uh-huh.

RUSS: I asked 'em why they were stoppin' there. I'd figured on showin' 'em my watches out at the airport. They said they wanted to look at 'em now.
JOE: Struck me as kind of funny but I didn't see where it would make any difference. I opened up the case and they just sort-a glanced inside. Then one of the fellows -- one named George -- took out a gun and started shovin' me through the door. I tried arguin' with him. I wasn't gettin' anywhere.

RUSS: Finally I asked 'em to give me my suitcase. Said it wouldn't be worth anything to them. They tossed it out onto the street beside me and drove off.

JOE: What about your wallet?

RUSS: Hmm?

JOE: Did they take your wallet too?

RUSS: No. Just the sample case. Guess they were in a hurry and didn't want to spend a lot of time there on the street in broad daylight.

JOE: Uh-huh.

RUSS: Soon as they left I started lookin' around for a cab. Had to walk a couple of blocks before I found one. Got him to bring me straight here.

JOE: What kind of a car did they drive?

RUSS: Fellows that robbed me?

JOE: Yes, sir.
RUSS: Black sedan. Ford I think.

JOE: You get the license?

RUSS: No. Didn't even think of tryin' until after they were out of sight.

FRANK: Would you describe them for us please.

RUSS: Well, they were about forty. Medium-sized. George had black hair. The other fellow was sort of sandy.

FRANK: Any marks or scars?

RUSS: I don't think so.

JOE: How were they dressed?

RUSS: Suits. Conservative. Blue or grey I'm not certain.

JOE: Were they wearing the same clothes this morning?

RUSS: I'm not sure. Had on top-coats today.

JOE: Uh-huh.

FRANK: You said their names were George and Paul?

RUSS: That's right.

FRANK: Anything else you can tell us that might help identify them?

RUSS: I'm afraid not.

JOE: Do you have a list of serial numbers from the watches?

RUSS: Why -- yes.

FRANK: Could we see it?

RUSS: It's in my wallet -- just a minute. Here you go.

SOUND: LITTLE RUSTLE OF PAPER

FRANK: I'll get out a circular Joe.

SOUND: STEPS PADING
OKAY.

Anything else you want from me?

Yes, sir. We'd like to have you show us the bar where you met these men.

Not sure I can. Lot of bars in the neighborhood. I didn't pay much attention.

You said they had a combo?

Yeah.

That ought to make it easier.

Well, I'll do my best.

Yes, sir.

Have to get my airline ticket changed, too.

We'd appreciate it if you could stay over a couple of days.

Oh?

In case we turn 'em up we'll need you to identify 'em.

There isn't much chance of that, is there?

What do you mean?

The descriptions I gave you -- could be anybody.

Yeah.

Besides the company will want me back on the job -- that is if they don't fire me for this.

You aren't the only thing they'll want back.

Huh?

What about the watches?

(END SCENE 1)
JOE: Frank and I checked the MO and descriptions Russell Liggins had given us with the Staats Office. They came up with eleven possibles. We took the names to R & I and pulled the packages. Liggins was unable to identify any of the mug shots. 10:13 AM we cruised the vicinity of the Greystone Hotel looking for the bar where Liggins had first met the suspects. He told us the Green Hat Cafe on Sixth Street seemed familiar but he wasn't certain. We left him in the car and went inside to interview the bartender.

SAM: Look you boys know me. I run a nice clean place. Don't even cut the liquor.

FRANK: Sure.

SAM: I ain't caused you no trouble. Why don't you lay off?

JOE: Just a couple of questions, Sam.

SAM: Sure, sure, a couple of questions, next thing I know I'm testifyin' in court.

JOE: You got something you ought to testify about?

SAM: No, no, of course not. I'm just talkin'.

JOE: Then talk to us.

SAM: Okay, okay, what do you want?

JOE: You on the job here last night?

SAM: Yeah.
1 JOE: All evening?
2 SAM: All evening. I got a little combo workin' in the joint now. They cost money. There's nothin' left over for extra bartenders.
3 JOE: You see that fellow out in the car?
4 SAM: Where?
5 JOE: Out there.
6 SOUND: COUPLE OF STEPS
7 (BEAT)
8 SAM: (SLIGHTLY OFF) Yeah, I see him.
9 JOE: Take a good look.
10 SAM: All right, I looked good.
11 SOUND: STEPS ON
12 JOE: He ever been in your place?
13 SAM: Like when?
14 JOE: Last night.
15 SAM: Bar was real crowded last night. Music helps the business.
16 JOE: Un-huh.
17 SAM: He might-a been here.
18 JOE: Yes or no.
19 (BEAT)
20 SAM: Yeah, he was here.
21 JOE: Alone?
22 SAM: Came in alone.
JOE: Uh-huh.

SAM: Took that stool over there. Had a few drinks. Left.

JOE: He talk to anybody?

SAM: Talked to me.

JOE: What did he say?

SAM: That he liked the music. That's about all.

FRANK: Who else did he talk to?

SAM: Girl. Sittin' next to him.

FRANK: Who's she?

SAM: I don't know her name. Comes in once in a while. Kind-a nice lookin'.

JOE: There were a couple of men in here too, weren't there?

SAM: There were a lotta guys, why?

JOE: Well-dressed, middle-aged.

SAM: Could be.

JOE: They talked to him too?

SAM: Fellow in your car?

JOE: That's right.

SAM: If they did I didn't see 'em.

JOE: Had quite a conversation.

SAM: I didn't hear it. Music's pretty loud.

JOE: Who were they, Sam?

SAM: I don't ask for a drivers' license unless a guy looks like he's under twenty-one.

JOE: Come on, Sam, who are they?
1 SAM: He's connin' you.
2 JOE: Hmm?
3 SAM: Your friend out there.
4 JOE: Yeah?
5 SAM: End stool, that's where he sat.
6 JOE: Uh-huh.
7 SAM: Girl was next to him -- the whole evening.
8 JOE: Well?
9 SAM: He couldn't-a talked to nobody else.
10 (END SCENE 2)
11 JOE: We brought Liggins into the Green Hat Cafe and he said
12 he was certain this was where he had met the two men
13 known as George and Paul. Sam Hupple, the owner of the
14 bar, was equally certain that Liggins was mistaken. 10:48 AM
15
16 STREET BG
17 DRIVER: Thought I was never gonna get me a fare. And when it
18 starts like that the whole day's shot. Look at me now.
19 Been sittin' here for the last twenty-five minutes.
20 JOE: Did you see a man come out of the hotel about five
21 minutes of seven.
1 DRIVER: I was watchin' those doors real anxious. If he came
2 out, I saw him.
3 FRANK: Same fellow we just let off.
4 DRIVER: Oh.
5 JOE: You remember him?
6 DRIVER: Sure.
7 JOE: Did you notice the car he drove off in?
8 DRIVER: Are you kiddin'?
9 JOE: What do you mean?
10 DRIVER: This hack of mine.
11 JOE: Huh?
12 DRIVER: He was my first fare this a.m.
13 JOE: You picked him up here?
14 DRIVER: That's right. Wasn't five of seven though -- closer
15 to seven-thirty.
16 JOE: Where'd you take him?
17 DRIVER: City Hall.
18 (END SCENE 3)
We went into the hotel and talked to the desk clerk. He told us that Liggins had been assigned the same room he had previously occupied -- No. 417. He also told us that he was almost positive Liggins had not carried a sample case when he checked out that morning. We talked to the bellhop who had brought down Liggins' baggage. He said Liggins had had only one suitcase. 11:13 AM. Frank and I went up to Room 417.

SOUND: COUPLE OF STEPS,...KNOCK ON DOOR...

RUSS: (THROUGH DOOR) Come in.

SOUND: OPEN DOOR,...WALK IN...CLOSE DOOR.

RUSS: (OFF SLIGHTLY INTO PHONE) Yes, sir. That's very kind of your. (TO JOE AND FRANK) Be with you as soon as I get off the phone.

JOE: Sure.

RUSS: Yes, sir. Well, a day or two I guess if that's all right.... No, no they didn't take my money....Yes, I can manage....Just one thing, would you ask one of the girls to call my wife and explain the delay...

Thank you very much....Goodbye.

SOUND: HANG UP PHONE

RUSS: Talking to the boss in Seattle.

JOE: Uh-huh.

RUSS: Says it's all right for me to stick around a few days.

JOE: Yeah.
RUSS: You really think you can find those guys that fast?
JOE: We may not have to look for 'em.
RUSS: What do you mean?
FRANK: We've been checking your story, Liggins.
RUSS: Yeah?
JOE: Leaks like a sieve.
RUSS: That lousy bartender, uh? You're takin' his word against mine.
FRANK: We've got more than the bartender.
RUSS: Oh?
FRANK: Cabdriver says he picked you up here at seven-twenty and drove you to the city hall.
RUSS: He's crazy.
JOE: You can have it in person.
BEAT:
RUSS: He must-a picked up somebody who looks like me, that's all.
JOE: We talked to the bellhop who brought down your luggage. There wasn't any sample case.
RUSS: I carried it myself. I wasn't going to let a bellhop handle something as valuable as that.
JOE: Uh-huh.
RUSS: He just didn't notice it, that's all.
1 JOE: The desk clerk didn't notice it either.
2 RUSS: I stood it in front of his desk when I paid up.
3 JOE: That's why.
4 RUSS: What do you guys want from me?
5 JOE: Just tell us what happened to the sample case.
6 RUSS: I've told you...the whole story.
7 JOE: One thing you left out.
8 RUSS: What's that?
9 JOE: The truth.

(END SCENE 4)
(END PART 1)

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)
We continued to question Russell Liggins in his hotel room. He insisted that he had been telling us the truth. We confronted him with the cab driver, the desk clerk and the bellhop. He refused to change his story. 1:05 PM we drove Liggins down to the City Hall for further interrogation.

SOUND: INTERROGATION ROOM B.G.

8 RUSS: Some police force you guys have got.
9 JOE: Uh-huh.
10 RUSS: Man gets robbed. You act like he had something to do with it. Bet if I was a local citizen you'd treat me different.
11 FRANK: Suppose you describe 'em again.
12 RUSS: Who?
13 FRANK: George and Paul.
14 RUSS: Why should I? You don't even believe they're real.
15 JOE: Maybe you can convince us.
16 RUSS: I told you half a dozen times. They're about forty. One of 'em had black hair.
17 JOE: That was Paul.
18 RUSS: I guess so.
19 JOE: You said George before, didn't you?
20 RUSS: I don't remember.
21 FRANK: How much are the watches worth?
22 RUSS: Wholesale or retail?
23 FRANK: Both ways.
1 RUSS: About four thousand wholesale. Maybe ten retail.
2 JOE: Lot of money.
3 RUSS: Sure.
4 JOE: Was your boss upset?
5 RUSS: He wasn't very happy about it.
6 JOE: He's insured, isn't he?
7 BEAT
8 JOE: Well?
9 RUSS: I guess so.
10 JOE: Don't you know?
11 BEAT
12 RUSS: Yeah, he's insured. He said over the phone. Told me not to worry.
13 JOE: You didn't know about the insurance before?
14 RUSS: What if I did?
15 JOE: Maybe we'd better talk to your boss. What's his number?
16 RUSS: (BEAT) Come on, what's his number?
17 JOE: That you've been handing us a line about being robbed.
18 RUSS: Why can't you believe me?
19 JOE: It's too hard to sell. Look at it our way, Liggins.
20 RUSS: You claim you met two fellows in a bar last night. They picked you up this morning and heisted your sample case.
21 JOE: That's what happened.
Joe: Except for a couple of things. You didn't meet 'em in a bar, they didn't pick you up today, and you didn't even have your sample case.

Frank: We've got enough to hold you, Liggins.

Russ: For what?

Frank: A false police report.

Russ: You think I robbed myself? Is that what you're gettin' at?

Joe: What else can we think?

Russ: You're crazy.

Joe: Where are the watches?

Russ: Somebody stole 'em.

Frank: Yeah, George and Paul.

Beat

Russ: Okay, it wasn't George and Paul.

Joe: Go on.

Russ: I made it up -- the whole thing about them. I -- I had to tell you something.

Joe: Sure.

Russ: You want the truth, don't you? Well, you're gettin' it.

Least you can do is try to believe it.
We'll try.
I went into that bar last night. Just like I told you.
Uh-huh.
The bartender was right. I didn't talk to anybody except the girl sitting beside me.
Yeah?
She said she came in because she liked the music. I was feeling kind-a lonesome -- don't know anybody in LA -- so we started talkin'.

Said her name was Barbara. Didn't give me her last name because she was married and she wanted to keep things on a first name basis. That was all right with me. Told her to call me Russ.

Said her husband worked nights -- one of the aircraft plants.

I told her about my job, that I sold watches. She kind-a laughed when I told her.

What about?
It was a big coincidence -- me being a watch salesman.
She was plannin' to buy a watch. Told me the one she had has was ready to give up the ghost.
JOE: I see.

RUSS: Showed it to me -- on her wrist. Real cheap kind, just a piece of junk.

JOE: Yeah.

RUSS: Asked me if maybe I could get her a new one wholesale. I said I might be able to arrange it. Suggested that she come up to my room and look at the samples I had there.

JOE: Uh-huh.

RUSS: I wasn't up to anything. Oh, I figured we'd have a couple of drinks but that was all.

JOE: Sure.

RUSS: She kind-a hesitated, said it wouldn't look very good. Finally she agreed and we went over to the hotel. I had a bottle in my room and I fixed us a drink. Then I showed her the watches. She picked out one she liked but she didn't have any money with her -- not enough to pay for it.

JOE: Yeah.

RUSS: I told her she could have it for free. You know as a present.

JOE: Uh-huh.

RUSS: Wasn't an expensive model. I was gonna pay the company back out of my own pocket. She took off her old watch, put it in her purse. Put the new one on.
Then she said we ought to have a couple more drinks to
celebrate. She offered to fix 'em. Maybe she put
something in mine or maybe they were just strong, I dunno.
Anyway I don't remember much after that.

You pass out?

Guess so. Next thing I knew it was morning -- about
six-thirty. I'd fallen asleep on the bed with all my
clothes on.

Uh-huh.

That must be why she didn't take my wallet.

What happened then?

I didn't think anything was wrong. I couldn't remember
when Barbara left -- but I've blacked out before when
I've had a little too much.

Yeah.

Took a shower and got dressed. It was while I was dressing
that I noticed the sample case was gone. Looked every-where
for it.

You figure she took it?

Who else could have?

Maybe.

You guys are pretty hard to convince, aren't you?

Why didn't you tell us about Barbara when you first came
in here?

I was thinkin' of my job.
JOE: Oh?
RUSS: Boss just promoted me a couple of months ago. I'm doin' pretty good, making fair money.
JOE: Un-huh.
RUSS: If he ever found out I let some dame roll me in a hotel room, well...I'd be out on my ear.
JOE: I see.
RUSS: That's not all. I got a wife. Helen, that's her name.
JOE: You guys married.
RUSS: He is.
RUSS: Maybe you'll understand. We've only been married a couple of years. Helen doesn't like the idea of me bein' on the road half the time. She's suspicious enough as it is.
FRANK: Yeah.
RUSS: So I did some quick thinkin' and came up with the story I gave you this morning -- about George and Paul. It wasn't my own idea exactly, What I mean is I was talkin' to a salesman at the convention the other day -- real old timer -- he told me how some guys had robbed him once when he was just starting out. That's where I got the idea. Sorta switched it around to fit what had happened to me.
JOE: GRUNTS
RUSS: I didn't see where I was doing any harm. I never thought you'd be able to get the watches back anyhow.
JOE: You weren't making it any easier on us.

RUSS: Maybe not. But you don't know Helen. She'll leave me sure as fate if this ever gets out.

JOE: Uh-huh.

RUSS: I didn't mean to cause you any trouble. Didn't seem to make any difference what I told you -- as long as the watches were gone.

JOE: It makes a difference.

RUSS: Yeah?

JOE: If we want to find out who took 'em.

(END SCENE 5)
3:15 PM we went back to the Graystone Hotel and talked to
the manager. He gave us the home telephone number of
the elevator boy who had been on duty the previous night.
We called the boy and he told us he remembered taking a
passenger who resembled Russell Liggins up to the third
floor sometime after two a.m. in the morning. He also
remembered that Liggins had been accompanied by a young
lady. He did not remember bringing the lady downstairs
but he suggested that she might have used the stairs. We
called the crime lab and they went over Liggin's room.
They found no useful fingerprints or other physical
evidence. 5:15 PM we went back to the office. Liggin
gave us a description of the girl known to him as Barbara.
We showed him some mug shots but he was unable to identify
any of the women, 7:18 PM Frank and I again interviewed
the bartender at the Green Hat Cafe.

What did I tell You? Just a couple of questions, that's
all. Next thing I know you guys have moved in for the
winter.

All right, Sam, take it easy.

Have I got any choice?

You remember the girl Liggins was talking to in here last
night?

So it's a girl now. Thought it was two guys.
Come on, you mentioned her yourself.
Never figured you fellows believed anything I told you.
We want to know who she is.
Just a girl, that's all. Comes in once in a while.
She got a name?
Never introduced herself.
She live in the neighborhood?
I dunno.
Who does?
Look, this Liggins is a character. He's already taken you for one ride today, why don't you get off?
We'd like to get in touch with her, Sam.
Get in touch.
You gonna help us?
How can I help you? I don't know her name, I don't know her address.
Maybe you can find out.
I busted my crystal ball just the other day.
Okay. We'll send in a couple of uniforms to watch your joint.
Huh?
Got any objections?
Yeah. Cops make me nervous. Make the customers nervous too.
Maybe you've got the wrong kind of customers.
Well, what can you do. All right, talk to Jeanette.
Jeanette?
1 SAM: Waitress. She's in the back room eating her chow.
2 JOE: She know the girl we're looking for?
3 SAM: They're real buddy-buddy. Spend half their time chinnin' together. Never get any work out of Jeanette once the other one comes in.
4
5
6 JOE: Okay, Sam. Thanks.
7 SAM: You know there's something been worryin' me.
8 JOE: Yeah?
9 SAM: Whenever you guys show up, I make up my mind you're not gonna get any answers from me. I'm not even gonna give you the time of day. And then what happens? I end up tellin' you everything you want to know.
10 JOE: Maybe you just like us, Sam.
11 SAM: That's what's been worryin' me.
12
13 (END SCENE 6)
14 JOE: Frank and I walked back in to the kitchen of the Green Hat cafe and interviewed the waitress, Jeanette Grover. She told us that her friend's name was Barbara Hooper. She also told us that she had no idea where Barbara lived.
15 JEANETTE: Used to have a room over on Western but she moved when she got married.
16 FRANK: How long ago was that.
17 JEANETTE: Three weeks -- no let's see -- it's longer. They went to Vegas on a Sunday. Be four weeks next Sunday.
1 FRANK: Uh-huh.
2 JOE: You're sure you don't have her address?
3 JEAN: She gave it to me once but I didn't take it down. I
4 wouldn't have any use for it.
5 JOE: Oh?
6 JEAN: I don't get along with Tom.
7 JOE: Tom?
8 JEAN: That's Barbara's husband. Tom Kernan. Say that's right,
9 I guess I made a mistake.
10 JOE: Ma'am?
11 JEAN: When you asked me what her last name was, I said it was
12 Hooper. Should have said Kernan now.
13 JOE: Yes, ma'am.
14 JEAN: Don't know why she ever married him. Good looking girl
15 like Barbara. She sure could have done better.
16 JOE: GRUNTS
17 JEAN: Bum -- that's all he is. Well, I told her what she was
18 letting herself in for.
19 JOE: Uh-huh.
20 JEAN: Bet he's got a record as long as my right arm. I've
21 seen 'em come and go -- when you work in a place like
22 this you can spot a rotten apple a mile off.
23 JOE: Uh-huh.
1 JEAN: Never figured he'd get her into trouble this fast though. What do you want with her?

2 JOE: Just like to get in touch that's all.

3 JEAN: I know better than that about cops. When they want to get in touch, they mean business. Mind me givin' you a piece of advice?

4 JOE: No ma'am.

5 JEAN: Don't blame her, whatever it is.

6 JOE: Uh-huh.

7 JEAN: Oh, I'm not sayin' she hasn't done something she shouldn't. She's kind of a crazy kid, but she's not mean or anything like that.

8 JOE: I see.

9 JEAN: We've been friends for over two years. Used to drop in here two - three times a week. Did a lot of talking, you know, girl stuff.

10 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

11 JEAN: She's had a rough life. Folks are separated -- hasn't seen hide nor hair of 'em since I don't know when.

12 JOE: Uh-huh.

13 JEAN: Maybe that's why she married Tom -- cause she's kind of mixed up, you know.

14 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

15 JEAN: Just give her a break. She'll come to her senses. She's still pretty young. Give her a break, will you?
JOE: That's not up to us.

JEANETTE: Yeah. Well, at least I tried. Tell her if she needs anything to get in touch with me. Anything at all.

JOE: Yes, ma'am.

JEANETTE: He's to blame, whatever she's done. You check into it. You'll see.

JOE: GRUNTS

JEANETTE: Gal gets married to a wrong guy. Louses up her whole life. Not her fault.

JOE: Except for one thing.

JEANETTE: Yeah?

JOE: She married him.

(END SCENE 7)

JOE: We went back to the office and ran the name Thomas Kernan through the Record Bureau. They came up with a package. Kernan had served time for burglary and was now on active parole. We checked with Fred Galloway at Adult Parole. He told us that Kernan's last known address was an apartment on Western Avenue. We drove out there.

SOUND: STEPS ON STAIRS THEN ALONG CORRIDOR...STOP

FRANK: This is it.

JOE: Yeah.

SOUND: KNOCK ON DOOR...BEAT...ANOTHER KNOCK

TOM: (OFF THRU DOOR) Yeah? What do you want?
Come on, open up.
Okay, okay, keep your hat on.
Police officers. Stand still, Kernan.
Who's movin'?
JOE MAKES A QUICK SEARCH
He's not rodded up.
Okay. Where's your wife?
Out.
I dunno. She wasn't here when I came home.
We'll look around.
Be my guest.
Always knew you guys rode us ex-cons, that ain't no surprise. But I didn't know you'd started picking on our wives too.
GRUNTS
She's a nice kid.
Uh-huh.
Don't start in on her. You can stay on my back. I'm used to it. But let her alone.
(SLIGHTLY OFF) Joe?
Yeah?
FRANK: Found this case in the closet.

JOE: Watches still inside?

FRANK: Most of 'em anyway.

JOE: Okay.

TOM: What the heck is that?

JOE: You didn't know about it?

TOM: Course not.

JOE: I'll bet.

TOM: I never saw it before.

JOE: Your wife did.

TOM: Huh?

JOE: How soon will she be back?

TOM: I dunno.

JOE: We'll wait.

TOM: Up to you.

BEAT

TOM: I never saw those watches before in my life. I'm tellin' you the truth.

JOE: Oh, sure.

BEAT

TOM: Even if Barbara did take 'em, that don't make me guilty of anything.

JOE: Uh-huh.

BEAT
TOM: Stupid broad. The minute you start making with the questions she'll spill the whole deal.

JOE: Thought you didn't know anything about it.

TOM: Maybe I knew she was looking for a set-up. What does that prove? Some set-up. Guy with a suitcase full of watches. Dizzy dame didn't even know they had serial numbers on 'em. What a brain. First job she ever pulls she gets picked up.

JOE: Uh-huh.

TOM: Time I was her age I'd pulled half a dozen. You cops hadn't even tumbled once.

JOE: GRUNTS

TOM: What's the use? They won't learn. Tried to teach her the ropes. Gets picked up on her first job.

JOE: You should have expected it.

TOM: Why? What do you mean?

JOE: Look who taught her.

MUSIC: SIGNATURE
The story you have just heard is true. The names were changed to protect the innocent.

On February 2nd, 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.
Thomas Carew Kernan was returned to the Adult Authority for violation of parole. Violation of parole is punishable by the term not served. Barbara Jane Kernan was found guilty of Grand Theft, one count. Grand theft is punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year or in the state prison for not less than one nor more than ten years.

Script by Frank Burt...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)