



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD # 59 NBC # 227 RELEASE DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1953

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CASE: "THE BIG LITTLE JESUS"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

RECORDING: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1953

CAST & SOUND: 1:00 - 3:30 PM

EDITING: TBA

RECORDING: TBA

ORCHESTRA: TBA

ANNOUNCERS: TBA (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 9:00 - 9:30 PM - STUDIO J - BY TR

W. J. ...
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"THE BIG LITTLE JESUS"

SGT. JOE FRIDAY. JACK WEBB
OFF. FRANK SMITH. BEN ALEXANDER
FATHER ROJAS. HARRY BARTELL
MR. FLAVIN. RALPH MOODY
CAPTAIN BARNARD. WALTER SANDE
JOE HEFFERNAM. BILLY CHAPIN
CLERK. HERB VIGAN
CLAUDE STROUP. JIM GRIFFITH
PACO MENDOZA. JOE CARIOCA, JR.

1 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE

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

4 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER:

5 GIBNEY: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield, made by
6 Liggett and Myers, first major tobacco company to give
7 you a complete line of quality cigarettes.

8 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR 30

9 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
10 to Burglary Division. You get a call that a thief has
11 entered a church and stolen an important piece of
12 religious art. There is no lead to his identity. No
13 apparent motive. Your job.....get him.

14 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

48
DRAGNET RADIO
DEC. 22, 1953

FIRST COMMERCIAL

FENNEMAN: To sell a product you have to make it good and keep it good. What do the latest reports show about Chesterfield? Our research laboratory has compared it with the leading cigarettes in the country. Chesterfield is highest in quality ... low in nicotine. Another good reason why thousands of people are changing to Chesterfield every day. Smoke America's most popular two-way cigarette regular or king-size ... You'll find Chesterfields really mild ... really satisfying ... Best for you.

100
1/22

130

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIENEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
3 the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los
4 Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by
5 step on the side of the law through an actual case
6 transcribed from official police files. From beginning
7 to end...from crime to punishment...Dragnet is the
8 story of your police force in action.

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

10 SOUND: JOE'S STEPS ON CORRIDOR. SLIGHT ECHO AND CORRIDOR B.G.

11 JOE: It was Wednesday, December 24th. It was cold in Los
12 Angeles. We were working the Day Watch out of Burglary
13 Division. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is
14 Captain Barnard. My name's Friday. I'd gone across 2/00
15 the street to buy some stamps and it was 9:15 A.M.
16 when I got back to Room 45.....(SOUND: DOOR OPEN)...
17 ...Burglary.

18 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO THE ROOM. THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND HIM.
19 B.G. CHANGES. HE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND SITS
20 DOWN AT A TABLE. HE TAKES SEVERAL ENVELOPES OUT OF
21 HIS POCKET AND PUTS THEM ON THE TABLE. AS HE DOES
22 THIS, WE HEAR THE DOOR OPEN AND FRANK COMES IN. WE
23 HEAR THE RUSTLE OF CHRISTMAS PAPER AS HE DOES SO.

24 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Hi, Joe.

25 JOE: Hi...want me to give you a hand?

26 FRANK: (FADING IN) No...I can mange it.

27 SOUND: FRANK COMES ON MIKE AND DROPS SEVERAL PACKAGES ON THE
28 TABLE.

1 FRANK: Working on your Christmas cards, huh?
2 JOE: Yeah.
3 FRANK: A little late, aren't you?
4 JOE: I was going to send 'em Monday....but we had that
5 shake-out.
6 FRANK: You oughtta get married, Joe. 2/30
7 JOE: Yeah?
8 FRANK: Only system. Faye ~~does~~ all this stuff for me. Laundry.
9 ...mails cards...only system.
10 JOE: It might help.
11 FRANK: You got a big stack there.
12 JOE: I oughtta cut down the list. Look at this.
13 SOUND: HE LIFTS ENVELOPE
14 JOE: Uphostery shop.
15 FRANK: Yeah?
16 JOE: They send me a card every year. I never get anything
17 upholstered.
18 FRANK: Faye and I oughtta go over our list...cut off a few
19 names. (PAUSE) I brought in your present. Want to
20 open it now?
21 JOE: No, I'll wait.
22 FRANK: I always open a couple the day before.
23 JOE: Why?
24 FRANK: Puts you in the spirit ahead of time. I opened Phil's
25 this morning.
26 JOE: Who's he?

3/00

-4-

1 FRANK: Faye's brother in Denver. He gave me a magazine. One
2 on those funny ones.
3 JOE: Whatta ya mean...a comic book?
4 FRANK: (PEEVISHLY) No...one of those funny ones..You know.
5 JOE: No, I don't, Frank.
6 FRANK: Well, some of the pages have holes in 'em. You look
7 through and there's a picture on the next page.
8 JOE: I've seen 'em on the newsstand.
9 FRANK: They have cloth pasted in.
10 JOE: Cloth?
11 FRANK: In the ads. If you want to buy a suit...they have a
12 sample right there.
13 JOE: You mean you can feel it?
14 FRANK: Reach right out and feel it. There was one for two
15 hundred dollars.
16 JOE: A suit?
17 FRANK: Sure. The cloth comes from Scotland.
18 JOE: What's it made out of...solid gold?
19 FRANK: No..they've got a special kind of goat over there. Real
20 smooth.
21 JOE: Not a goat..a sheep.
22 FRANK: Well, it's a special kind of sheep then. Because a suit
23 costs two hundred dollars.
24 JOE: (SMILING) You gonna get one?
25 FRANK: I told Faye. She said, "Wear the sample." (PAUSE)
26 Anything on the board?
27 JOE: Fanning and Pryor were in on that market hold-up.

3/20

1 FRANK: They come up with anything.
2 JOE: A pound of air....Nothing else.
3 FRANK: I hope it stays quiet. I've got more shopping to do.
4 JOE: I finished.
5 FRANK: What'd you get Anne?
6 JOE: A stationery set. Some paper and envelopes.....leather
7 binding.
8 FRANK: (TO A SICK CHILD) Joe, you'll never learn. *4/00*
9 JOE: What's the matter?
10 FRANK: No woman wants a stationery set. Get her something
11 personal.
12 JOE: It's got her initials on it.
13 FRANK: No.....no.....you want something more sentimental.....
14 romantic.
15 JOE: What'd you get Faye?
16 FRANK: It's different in her case.
17 JOE: What'd you get Faye?
18 FRANK: A sewing machine.
19 JOE: That's romantic.
20 FRANK: Well, it is in a way....
21 JOE: (CONTINUES) Why didn't you buy her a catcher's mit?
22 SOUND: THE TELEPHONE RINGS
23 JOE: I'll get it.
24 SOUND: JOE PICKS UP RECEIVER.

1 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Burglary.....Friday ~~speaking~~. (A PAUSE)
2 Yes?..... Yes, this is the right department.....
3 (A LONGER PAUSE) We'll be down, Father. You ~~can~~ tell us
4 about it there. 4/30

5 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP RECEIVER. WE HEAR HIM GET UP FROM CHAIR

6 JOE: The Old Mission Church. They've had a theft.

7 FRANK: Collection money?

8 JOE: No. A statue of the Child Jesus.

9 END SCENE 1

10 JOE: Frank and I checked out of the office and rode over to
11 the church at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Main,
12 near the Union Station. It was an old church. It was
13 there before there was a Union Station or trains to come
14 into a station. The padres from down in Mexico built it.
15 The devout Mexicans in town still attended services there.
16 10.05 A.M.....We ~~asked~~ for Father Xavier Rojas, who had 5/30
17 communicated with us. We were told he was inside. We
18 found him up near the sanctuary. He told us about the
19 crib. ~~It~~ was a seventy-dollar duplication of the scene
20 6/00 at Bethlehem. The parishioners had taken up a collection
21 for it thirty-one years ago. It was put up every year on
22 December 22nd and taken down after the Holy Season. It
23 was beautiful.....except that one of the shepherds had
24 lost an arm, a sheep was old and cracked.....and the
25 Infant Jesus was missing. Father Rojas lead us into the
26 sacristy.

27 ROJAS: I'm sorry to bother you men.

28 FRANK: It's all right, Father.

6/30 -7-

1 ROJAS: Especially now.....the holiday season.
2 JOE: (SMILING) We cash our checks, Father. Wanna tell us what
3 happened?
4 FRANK: Or what you think happened?
5 ROJAS: I discovered the statue was missing right after the six
6 o'clock mass.
7 FRANK: Did you say the six?
8 ROJAS: Yes. I started over to the rectory and stopped by the
9 crib.
10 JOE: Was the statue there before mass?
11 ROJAS: I don't know. But it was there last night.
12 JOE: How late is the church open?
13 ROJAS: All night.
14 JOE: You leave it wide open.....so any thief can walk in?
15 ROJAS: (QUIETLY) Particularly thieves, Sergeant.
16 (BEAT)
17 JOE: You say it was there last night, Father.....how late?
18 ROJAS: Ten or eleven o'clock. We had confessions.
19 FRANK: No one saw it after that?
20 ROJAS: One of the altar boys.....he says it may have been there...
21 he thinks it was. 700
22 JOE: Did he see it?
23 ROJAS: He's not sure.
24 JOE: What's his name?
25 ROJAS: There's the schedule, over there. You'll find the names
26 for every mass.
27 FRANK: I'll get them, Joe.

1 JOE: Right.

2 SOUND: FRANK MOVES OFF MIKE AND STOPS

3 JOE: Was there a big crowd at the six o'clock mass, Father?

4 ROJAS: Not too many. Seven's the big one....people on their way
5 to work.

6 JOE: Did anyone stay after mass? Did you notice?

7 ROJAS: Not especially. I came back here, took off the vestments.
8 I suppose it was ten or fifteen minutes before I went
9 back in the church.

10 JOE: It was empty then?

11 ROJAS: No. People were coming in for the seven o'clock.

12 SOUND: UNDER ABOVE, FRANK HAS RETURNED AND REJOINED THEM.

13 FRANK: ~~These names, Father.~~ Are these the altar boys.....James
14 Courneen and Joseph Heffernan? 7/30

15 ROJAS: That's right....Joe's the one who mentioned it might have
16 been there.

17 JOE: Did you check with the other priests, Father?

18 ROJAS: Before I called you. None of them knows anything about
19 it.

20 FRANK: Just for a check on the pawnshops.....how much is the
21 statue worth?

22 ROJAS: In money?

23 JOE: That's the point in pawnshops, Father.

24 ROJAS: Only a few dollars. We could get a new one.....but it
25 wouldn't be the same. We've had children in the parish....
26 they've grown up and married. It's the only Jesus they
27 know.

1 FRANK: We understand.

2 ROJAS:and we've had children who died. It was the only
3 Jesus they knew. So many of the people who come here
4 are simple people. They wouldn't understand, Sergeant.
5 It would be like changing the evening star.

8/20

6 JOE: We'll do our best, Father.

7 ROJAS: That's why it would mean so much to have it back for the
8 first mass on Christmas.

9 JOE: That's not very long, Father.

10 FRANK: (LOOKING AT HIS WATCH) Less than twenty-four hours.

11 JOE: If anything turns up here.....you know where to get in
12 touch with us.

13 ROJAS: Yes. (SIGHS) It's sad, isn't it?

14 JOE: How's that?

15 ROJAS: In so short a time men learn to steal.

16 JOE: Yes, but consider us, Father.

17 ROJAS: Us?

18 JOE: If some of them didn't.....you and I'd be out of work.

8/30

19 END SCENE 2

1 JOE: We notified pawnshop detail. 10:50 A.M. We gave a
2 preliminary description of the missing object, time and
3 place of theft. A few minutes later, Frank and I checked
4 out the two altar boys. The first one....James Courneen...
5 said he knew nothing bout the missing statue. After mass,
6 he'd gone out the sacristy door and come straight home
7 for breakfast. The second one.....Joseph Heffernan....was
8 not at home.. His father said he had a part-time job.
9 He'd have him get in touch with us after lunch. By 11:30
10 A.M. we'd run out of book procedure.....We had a man to
11 find.....our only clue: He'd been to church. 11:33
12 9/10 A.M. We checked the phone books for the names of religious
13 stores in the area. We found three listed in the vicinity
14 of the Old Mission Church. Two of them were closed. We *tried*
15 drove over to the third. When we got there, the only
16 person in the store was an elderly man, sitting by a
17 table. In front of him was a large, beautifully-carved
18 chess set.

19 SOUND: DOOR OPENS. SMALL TINKLE BELL. JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE
20 STORE. DOOR CLOSSES BEHIND THEM, WITH BELL. THE TWO
21 OFFICERS WALK INTO THE STORE AND STOP.

22 FLAVIN: ~~Yeah?~~

23 JOE: We're police officers. My names Friday.....This is my
24 partner, Frank Smith.

25 FRANK:
& (EXCHANGE "HELLOS")

26 FLAVIN:

27 FLAVIN: Pleased to see you. Caught me in the middle of a big
28 chess match. 9/30

29 (BEAT)

1 FRANK: Where's your partner?
2 FLAVIN: Up in San Jose. We've been playin' for years.
3 JOE: Same match?
4 FLAVIN: No. Just two or three months on this one. What I meant
5 was, we been playin' different matches for years.
6 JOE: I see.
7 FLAVIN: You know.....we do it through the mail. I send him a
8 move, then he sends me one.
9 FRANK: Must keep you on your toes.
10 FLAVIN: Except during holidays. The mail gets all fiddled up.
11 That's no good.
12 JOE: I guess not.
13 FLAVIN: Slows things down and that's no good. I like to catch
14 him off guard.
15 JOE: You Mister Flavin?
16 FLAVIN: How'd you know? We never met.
17 JOE: Your name's on the window out front.
18 ~~FLAVIN: Oh, yeah.~~
19 FRANK: Mister Flavin, we checked the other two religious stores
20 in this neighborhood.....they're closed. 10/00
21 FLAVIN: This is the best one anyway. ~~Fifty~~ percent European
22 items.
23 JOE: We're checking the stores around the Mission Church.
24 FLAVIN: For what?
25 JOE: Statues of the Child Jesus. Have you one we could look
26 at?
27 FLAVIN: Sure. ~~I'll get it for you.~~
28 SOUND: HE STANDS UP FROM TABLE AND HIS STEPS FADE. WE HEAR HIM
29 STOP. THEN HE RETURNS.

1 FLAVIN: How about this one?

2 JOE: No. A larger one.

3 FLAVIN: You don't want a larger one.....unless for a church.....

4 that's where you want a larger one.

5 JOE: Could we see it please?

6 (BEAT)

7 ~~FLAVIN: Yeah...all right.~~

8 (BEAT)

9 SOUND: WE HEAR HIM FADE OFF AGAIN AND FADE BACK ON. HE PLACES

10 HEAVY PIECE OF STATUARY ON COUNTER.

11 FLAVIN: It's not my due to butt in.....but unless you live in a

12 *1137* big place, this'll make your livin' room all skilter.

13 JOE: Do most of the people who go to the Mission Church trade

14 here?

15 FLAVIN: Good many of 'em. Especially the kids.

16 JOE: Why kids?

17 FLAVIN: More religious. Check on yourself.....see if kids aren't

18 more religious than you.

19 JOE: Might be so.

20 FLAVIN: That's what's wrong with the world. Oh, I don't mean

21 you're wrong with it. Everybody.

22 JOE: Can we stick to the point, Mr. Flavin?

23 FLAVIN: Sure, a lot of people from the Mission Church come in

24 here. *1100*

25 JOE: Do people ever come in and sell back a religious article?

26 FLAVIN: Like a prayer book or rosaries?

27 JOE: Yes.

1 FLAVIN: Second-hand, you mean?

2 JOE: Yes.

3 FLAVIN: Not since I ever been around. It's silly.

4 JOE: Why?

5 FRANK: Why?

6 FLAVIN: People don't have religious articles so they can get
7 rid of 'em. They have 'em so they can have 'em.

8 FRANK: But if a man had a statue and wanted to sell it, he'd come
9 to a place like this?

10 FLAVIN: Sure, but he wouldn't want to sell it.

11 JOE: He would if it was stolen.

12 FLAVIN: No, sir.....if a man was to steal a statue.....he'd be
13 ¹¹³⁰ crazy or something like that. The only place he'd want
14 to go is where crazy people are.

15 JOE: You may be right, Mr. Flavin. ~~Here's our card. But if~~
16 ~~someone does come in.....will you call us at this number?~~

17 ~~FLAVIN: Michigan five-two-one-one?~~

18 ~~JOE: Yes sir. It's on the card there. Extention two-five-two-~~
19 ~~four.~~

20 FLAVIN: I don't know what you fellas are lookin' for.....but if
21 it's somebody who stole a statue.....he's crazy and you
22 won't find him. You won't find him as long as you live.....
23 or in a million years.

24 JOE: Well, that should cover it.

25 END SCENE 3

1 JOE: We checked religious stores as far out as Van Ness.
2 We asked the same questions. The owners gave us the
3 same answers, but none of them were as encouraging as
4 Mr. Flavin. Frank and I had lunch and reported back to
5 the office. It was 1:30 P.M.

6 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER BURGLARY SQUADROOM. SQUADROOM B.G.

7 ~~JOE &
FRANK: Hi, Skipper.....Hello, Captain.~~

8 BARN: I checked for you in the lunchroom.

9 JOE: We've been on that theft down at the Mission.

10 BARN: (A TRIFLE BRUSQUELY) We may get some action on the
11 Patterson case. 12/10

12 JOE: They locate him?

13 BARN: They think he's on the bus from Sacramento.

14 JOE: That means the police at Bakersfield.

15 BARN: (SHORTLY) We'll wait and see.

16 SOUND: BARNARD FADES OFF AND WE HEAR DOOR OPEN

17 HEFFER: (OFF) Where can I find Sergeant Friday?

18 BARN: (OFF) He's in there, son.

19 HEFFER: (OFF) Thanks.

20 SOUND: HEFFERNAN FADES ON MIKE. STOPS

21 HEFFER: Are one of you fellas Sergeant Friday?

22 FRANK: He is.

23 HEFFER: I'm Joe Heffernan. My father said you wanted to see me.

24 JOE: Oh, yeah. Sit down, son.

25 SOUND: THE BOY SITS DOWN

1 JOE: You didn't have to come in. A phone call would've
2 worked.

3 HEFFER: My father said to get on over. He said any kid that
4 uses phones is lazy.

5 FRANK: We want to ask you about this morning. 12/30

6 JOE: You served six o'clock mass?

7 HEFFER: Yes, sir. I'm senior boy. So I get the six.

8 FRANK: You're senior.....and you take the early trick?

9 HEFFER: Yes, sir. That way, if you receive communion, you get
10 to have breakfast sooner.

11 JOE: Father Rojas says you think the statue was there before
12 mass.

13 HEFFER: I didn't look. But I have a feelin' it was there.

14 FRANK: A feeling?

15 HEFFER: You know....how you have a feelin' about something, but
16 you're not sure.

17 JOE: Did you stay around long after mass?

18 HEFFER: I put out the candles.....hung up my surplice.

19 JOE: How long would that take?

20 HEFFER: About five minutes maybe.

21 JOE: Did any of the people at mass stay on? 13/00

22 HEFFER: Some of them always do. Especially ladies.

23 JOE: Oh?

24 HEFFER: I guess they don't finish up on time. Or else they start
25 new prayers.....I don't know.

26 FRANK: So when you left....,there were still some women there?

1 HEFFER: No, sir...that was at first. After I went back to the
2 sacristy there was just this one man.
3 JOE: What man?
4 HEFFER: He comes to six o'clock all the time.
5 JOE: Do you know his name?
6 HEFFER: No, sir. But he works down on Olive. I ~~see him there~~
7 ~~one time. He's a painter. Where they paint signs.~~
8 FRANK: Could you describe him?
9 ~~HEFFER: What?~~
10 FRANK: ~~Can you give us a description of the man. Tell us how~~
11 ~~how he looked?~~
12 HEFFER: Sort of medium...he was wearin' a suit that didn't
13 match.....
14 JOE: Didn't match? ^{13/30}
15 HEFFER: You know...different pants than coat.
16 FRANK: How about his age?
17 HEFFER: Oh, he was pretty old.
18 JOE: Take a guess.
19 HEFFER: About forty maybe. There's nothin' particular about
20 him.
21 JOE: Then why'd you notice him?
22 HEFFER: I've seen him before....and the bundle, I guess.
23 JOE: The bundle?
24 HEFFER: Out in front...I saw him when he was comin' out. He had
25 this bundle....and then almost dropped it.
24 JOE: How large a bundle?
25 HEFFER: It's hard to say.....
26 JOE: (INTERRUPTING; IMPATIENTLY) Come on, son....was it
27 large of small.....The size of the statue?

1 HEFFER: About that big. Yes, sir. 14/09

END SCENE 4

2 JOE: We located the sign shop. The suspect didn't work there
3 any more, but we discovered his name was Claude Stroup.
4 We found out where he lived. 2:25 P.M. we arrived there.
5 It was a hotel for men. Mostly old men, mostly down-and-
6 outers. It was called The Golden Dream.

7 ~~SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO HOTEL LOBBY. FOOTSTEPS ON THIN~~
8 ~~CARPET~~

9 ~~FRANK: Desk clerk over there.~~

10 ~~JOE: Yeah.~~

11 ~~SOUND: FOOTSTEPS CONTINUE AND STOP~~

12 ~~CLERK: You fellows lookin' for a room? Nothin' we can do.~~
13 ~~We're all full up. Every room. Full up.~~

14 JOE: Police officers. We're looking for Claude Stroup. 14/30

15 CLERK: I hope Claude didn't get in any trouble.

16 JOE: So do we. Is he in?

17 CLERK: No. He's got Room 307. You can check if you like.

18 FRANK: We'll take your word.

19 JOE: Were you on this morning.

20 CLERK: Huh?

21 FRANK: Did you have the early shift?

22 CLERK: We don't have shifts. My uncle owns the place. I'm
23 the shift.

24 JOE: Did Stroup spend last night here?

25 CLERK: Yeah. Came in about eleven.

26 JOE: When did he leave this morning?

1 CLERK: Around six. Maybe before.
2 JOE: Did he come back after?
3 CLERK: Eight o'clock or so. Then left....Supposed to be back
4 at ten....then pulls this trick.
5 JOE: What trick?
6 CLERK: Our program. He knows the other fellas need him.
7 FRANK: Program? 15/00
8 CLERK: Here at the hotel. Every Chirstmas we have a program.
9 Put up a tree, and sing. They're mostly old fellas.....
10 singin' like that makes 'em remember back when they were
11 kids. Then Jimmy Finn comes on.
12 JOE: Jimmy Finn?
13 CLERK: He shares number 409. His family once had a lot of
14 money, so he tells the fellas about it. Stories about
15 Christmas.....how they had this big log and his
16 grandfather used to start it up....and after dinner
17 everybody turned over his place and there underneath
18 was a twenty-dollar gold piece. A brand new one.
19 JOE: When Mr. Stroup came in this morning.....did he have a
20 bundle?
21 CLERK: I didn't see come in. 15/30
22 FRANK: You said you saw ~~him~~.
23 CLERK: I saw him go out after. But not come in.
24 JOE: When was that?
25 CLERK: Eight. If you want to look for a bundle....I could give
26 you his key.
27 JOE: We don't have a warrent.

1 CLERK: It's all right....I know about police. It's all right
2 with me.
3 JOE: It's not with us.
4 CLERK: I didn't mean that. I just meant it was all right with
5 me.
6 VOCAL: OFF WE HEAR 3 MEN SINGING "ADESTE FIDELIS" SLIGHTLY OFF
7 KEY
8 CLERK: That's our Choir.
9 ~~JOE: Sir?~~
10 CLERK: Our Choir. The Golden Dream Balladeers. All fellas
11 that live in the hotel. Always get together for
12 Christmas Carols this time of year. This is the last
13 rehearsal. They got most of the songs down pat.
14 FRANK: Sounds pretty good.
15 CLERK: That's why it's a shame Claude isn't here. He's tenor
16 and they need him to make it sound just right.
17 JOE: Does Mr. Stroup have a job?
18 CLERK: No, sir. He used to have jobs....but not so much lately.
19 JOE: Did he say where he was going? 16/30
20 CLERK: No. He should've. The fellas need him.
21 FRANK: Well, here's our card. When he comes in, will you call
22 us?
23 CLERK: Sure. And not say anything to him?
24 JOE: That's right.
25 CLERK: I hope it's nothin' serious for Claude. A fella's
26 troubles oughtta be over.

1 FRANK: Troubles?
2 CLERK: Away back...it wouldn't count now.
3 JOE: Tell us anyway.
4 CLERK: I don't know much about it...
5 JOE: (SWIFTLY) As much as you know. Now c'mon.
6 CLERK: It was somethin' back where he used to live...he robbed
7 somebody or something.
8 JOE: What else?
9 CLERK: That's all...It was a long time ago..away far back.
10 But he forgot it all...the robbin' and everything.
11 JOE: Not quite.
12 CLERK: Huh? 17/00
13 JOE: He remembered it this morning. 17/30
END SCENE 5
14 JOE: We went back to the office and ran Stroup's name through
15 R. & I. ~~If~~ he'd been booked anywhere, we had no record
16 of it. At least not under that name. 4:15 P.M.
17 Pawnshop Detail reported back. Up until that time no
18 object resembling the statue of the Child Jesus had
19 been truned in. 4:18 P.M.
20 SCUIND BURGLARY SQUADROOM B.G. DOOR OPENS. CAPTAIN BARNARD
21 FADES IN.
22 ~~BARN: (OFF) Friday Smith~~
23 ~~JOE: Yeah, Skipper?~~
24 BARN: I-just-got-word. Patterson's on the Sacramento bus.
25 FRANK: I thought Bakersfield had it.

1 BARN: Uh-uh. (NO) They were supposed to confirm. They did.
2 Hop over to the station.
3 JOE: What about Franning and Pryor?
4 BARN: They're still out.
5 JOE: They'll be back soon. When does the bus arrive?
6 BARN: Six o'clock.
7 JOE: There's plenty of time for them to make it.
8 BARN: There's more time for you.
9 FRANK: We're still on that theft.
10 BARN: Can't it wait?
11 JOE: No.
12 BARN: What is it? A ten...fifteen dollar statue? *18/00*
13 JOE: When's the price determine a case?
14 BARN: I realize it's a church statue, but that doesn't give
15 it priority.
16 FRANK: It's important to them, Captain. Joe and I promised
17 to get it back.
18 BARN: Whatta you have on it?
19 JOE: Nothing much.
20 BARN: Then why were you so big-hearted?
21 ~~SOUND:~~ THE TELEPHONE RINGS. JOE PUNCHES BUTTON AND PICKS UP
22 RECEIVER.
23 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Burglary...Friday speaking. (PAUSE)
24 When? (PAUSE) No...don't say anything.
25 ~~SOUND:~~ JOE REPLACES RECEIVER
26 JOE: Claude Stroup just walked into the hotel. He's our
27 suspect, Captain.

1 BARN: Nobody's leaked to him?

2 JOE: No.

3 BARN: He'll keep. You can run him down tomorrow.

4 JOE: It'll be too late then.

5 FRANK: They need it for the first mass in the morning. It's
6 kind of a ~~big~~ thing for them. 18/30

7 BARN: I'm sorry. I can't juggle details around so you can
8 get a statue back. If there's time later on...we'll
9 do our best.

10 JOE: Yes, sir.

11 BARN: You better get over to the station.

12 JOE: Yes, sir. Would you call Father Rojas over at the
13 Mission?

14 BARN: Why?

15 JOE: Tell him we're too busy to work on the statue.

16 FRANK: But we'll do it later...tomorrow...or when we get a
17 chance.

18 BARN: Why can't you call him?

19 JOE: We better get over to the station. If Patterson's
20 on that bus we don't want to miss him.

(BEAT)

21 BARN: All right. I'll call him.

(BEAT)

22 JOE: ~~C'mon, Frank. Let's go.~~

23 FRANK: ~~Right.~~

SOUND: THEY WALK TO DOOR AND OPEN IT. CORRIDOR B.G. IN

1 BARN: (LITTLE OFF) Joe?

2 JOE: Yeah.

3 SCENE: BARNARD FADES IN AND STOPS.

4 BARN: I can send Fanning and Pryor over. You might as well
5 stay on that other thing. 19/00

6 JOE: (GENTLY) Whatever you say, Captain.

END SCENE 6 middle Commercial

7 JOE: 4:43 P.M. We arrived at the Golden Dream Hotel. The
8 Desk Clerk was right...Claude Stroup looked like a
9 man who'd had his troubles at bargain rates. 20/30

10 FRANK: Mr. Stroup?

11 STROUP: Yes, sir?

12 FRANK: We're police officers. We'd like to talk to you.

13 STROUP: I didn't do anything against the law...honest, I didn't
14 do anything against it...

15 JOE: You haven't been accused.

16 FRANK: Wanna take you downtown.

17 JOE: C'mon, We'd like to talk to you...

18 SCENE: JOE TAKES A STEP AND STROUP COMES IN FAST.

19 STROUP: (COMING IN FAST) No, sir...I'm not goin'...I'm not
20 goin' anywhere and I'm not gonna talk to anybody.

21 JOE: You're half-wrong already.

END SCENE 7

DRAGNET RADIO
DEC. 22, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL

19/18

1 FENNEMAN: There are good reasons why thousands of people are
2 changing to Chesterfield every day ... Why Chesterfield
3 is the largest selling two-way cigarette in America
4 Why Chesterfield is best for me and best for you. People 19/30
5 these days want facts. When you want people to use your
6 product... you have to tell them what effect it has on
7 people who do use it regularly. That's why a doctor has
8 examined for almost two years, a large group of
9 Chesterfield smokers. ~~Forty~~-five per cent of them 19/45
10 have-on the average - been smoking Chesterfields for well
11 over ten years. What is the effect on these people from
12 smoking Chesterfield? No adverse effects to the nose,
13 throat and sinuses ... says the doctor. Consider 20/00
14 Chesterfield's record with these smokers ... with millions
15 of other smokers throughout America. Another good reason
16 for you to change to Chesterfield. Regular or king-size
17 ... Chesterfield is best for me ... Best for you.

20/15

2/1/00

-24-

1 JOE: 5:15 P.M. We returned Stroup for interrogation. He kept
2 his word. He refused to talk. 6:05 P.M. Frank called
3 Faye...told her he'd be a little late. Stroup didn't
4 move for a whole hour. He sat and stared but he didn't
5 talk. 6:40 P.M. We got a final report from Pawnshop
6 Detail. The shops were closed...there was no statue.
7 Stroup still hadn't talked.

8 SOUND: BURGLARY SQUADROOM B.G. LATE AT NIGHT. NOT TOO FRANTIC.

9 FRANK: Dark out.

10 ~~JOE: Yeah...gets that way earlier every day.~~

11 (PAUSE)

12 SOUND: WE HEAR JOE WALK ACROSS THE ROOM TO STROUP AND STOP.

13 (BEAT)

14 JOE: Don't you ever want to go home, Stroup?

15 STROUP: If I was to talk...you wouldn't let me go.

16 JOE: That depends on what you'd say.

17 STROUP: I'd say it wrong...and I wouldn't get home.

18 JOE: You won't this way either.

19 STROUP: I'd like to go...you can bet on that. (BEAT) This is
20 the seventh year we had the program...and I never missed
21 a one. Not a single one.

22 SOUND: FRANK JOINS JOE AND STROUP

23 FRANK: (FADING ON) Why don't you tell us what happened, Stroup.

24 STROUP: How would I know if you'd let me go?

25 JOE: You wouldn't.

26 STROUP: (WEARILY) I might as well, anyway.

27 JOE: What happened...from Mass on?

1 STROUP: Well, there was Mass...I came out and started down toward
2 the hotel.

3 JOE: Back up.

4 STROUP: (STUMBLING ON UNCOMPREHENSIVELY) I left my stuff at the
5 hotel and then I picked up George's car. I didn't steal
6 it. He said I could have it any time I wanted...only 22¹⁰⁰
7 this time I didn't ask him. I took it and started out.
8 I shoulda asked. But I just didn't? I went over to
9 Grand Avenue for the Christmas bulbs...fellow over there
10 sells 'em second-hand. It was comin' out of the lot
11 that I did it.

12 JOE: Yes?

13 STROUP: The bumper must have caught the other car. It didn't
14 leave too big a dent, but there was this long scratch. I
15 got out and tried to wipe it with my handkerchief...you
16 know, spit on it like...only it didn't do no good. I
17 didn't think anybody saw. I don't know how you fellows
18 found out about it.

19 (BEAT) 22/30

20 JOE: Mr. Stroup, we didn't bring you down here to talk about
21 that.

22 STROUP: You didn't?

23 JOE: No. There's a statue missing from the Church..a statue of
24 the Child Jesus.

25 STROUP: You mean I took it?'

26 JOE: You took a bundle out of Church.

1 STROUP: Yes, sir. That was my other pants...for the program
2 tonight. I had a place sewed up and there was a button
3 off. You can check. But I wouldn't take a statue...

4 JOE: I don't think you would either. Go on home. 23/00

5 STROUP: For the program? You mean it's all right?

6 JOE: Goodnight, Mr. Stroup.

7 (BEAT)

8 SOUND: STROUP GETS UP, WALKS SLOWLY TO THE DOOR OF THE CORRIDOR
9 AND OPENS IN. CORRIDOR B.G. IN.

10 STROUP: (FROM DOOR) Goodnight...Merry Christmas.

11 ~~JOE: Yeah. Same to you.~~

12 SOUND: DOOR CLOSES. CORRIDOR B.G. OUT.

13 JOE: Tired.

14 SOUND: JOE SLUMPS INTO CHAIR. 23/30

15 FRANK: Where to?

16 JOE: We could stay and work on it tonight.

17 FRANK: It wouldn't do any good, Joe. We won't find it.

18 JOE: I don't think so.

19 FRANK: No point in kidding that Priest...build his hopes up.

20 JOE: Yeah. We might as well tell him now.

21 SOUND: JOE STANDS UP AND TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND STOPS.

22 (BEAT)

23 JOE: (ABSENTLY) Merry Christmas.

24 END SCENE 8

24/00

1 JOE: 7:27 P.M. We found Father Rojas. Frank told him how
 2 it was...that we couldn't get the statue back by morning...
 3 but we'd keep trying during the week.. He said he
 4 understood. We told him we had to get on.

5 SOUND: CHURCH B.G. JOE, FRANK AND FATHER ROJAS WALKING IN CHURCH
 6 OFF MIKE WE HEAR THE DOORS TO THE CHURCH OPEN AND PACO
 7 MENDOZA ENTERS PULLING A WAGON BEHIND HIM.

8 FRANK: I'm sorry we couldn't help, Father.

9 ROJAS: I understand. You did what you were able to.

10 SOUND: WE HEAR PACO FADE IN MORE SLOWLY.

11 FRANK: Joe?

12 JOE: Yeah. Little kid pulling a wagon. He's not much better
 13 than a pint of milk.

14 SOUND: PACO AND THE WAGON ARE ALMOST ON MIKE.

15 JOE: Father. In the wagon. Is that the statue?

16 ROJAS: Yes. It's the Child Jesus.

17 SOUND: FATHER ROJAS STARTS FOR PACO.

18 PACO: Padre Rojas.

19 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK JOIN FATHER ROJAS AND PACO.

20 ROJAS: Paquito.

25/00

21 PACO: Padre Rojas.

22 ROJAS: It is Paco Mendoza, ~~Sergeant. He is a boy~~ from the parish

23 JOE: Ask him where he found it.

24 ROJAS: (TO BOY) Donde Lo encontraste?

25 PACO: (ON VERGE OF TEARS) No lo encontré.....lo cogíesta
 26 mañana.

27 ROJAS: (TO JOE) He says he did not find it. He took it.

1 JOE: Why?

ROJAS: (TO BOY) Por que?

2 (BEAT)

3 PACO: (CLOSE TO TEARS) Todos los anos Paquito rezp por un
4 camincito rojo. Este ano Paquito le rezo al nino Jesus.
Yo prometiu al nino Jesus el primer yiaje en mi camioncito.

5 ROJAS: H says all the years he has prayed for a red wagon. This
6 year he prayed to the child Jesus. He promised that if he
7 received the red wagon, the Child Jesus would have the first
8 ride in it. 25/15

9 PACO: (TEARRULLY) Vendra el Diablo para llevara Paquito?

10 ROJAS: He wants to know if the devil will come and take him to
11 hell?

12 JOE: (QUIETLY) That's your department, Father.

13 SOUND: FATHER ROJAS KNEELS BESIDE THE BOY.

14 ~~ROJAS: No el Diablo. Jesus ana a Paquito-mucho. Vuelve a tu casa,~~
15 ~~Paquito.~~

16 ~~PACO: Si, Padre. Adios.~~

17 ~~ROJAS: Adios, Paquito.~~

18 SOUND: PACO TAKES HIS WAGON SLOWLY DOWN THE AISLE AND OUT THROUGH
19 DOORS. THE DOORS CLOSE BEHIND HIM.

20 FRANK: I don't understand how he got the wagon today. Don't kids
21 wait for Santa Claus anymore?

- 1 ROJAS: It is not from Santa Claus. The firemen fix the old toys
- 2 and give them to new children. Paquito's family...they are
- 3 poor.
- 4 JOE: (QUIETLY) Are they, Father?
- 5 MUSIC: THEME

27/45

28/40

1 FENN: The story you have just heard is true. The names were changed.

DRAGNET RADIO
DEC. 22, 1953

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

28/51

1 FENNEMAN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.
2 WEBB: Friends, remember your cigarette dealers will be open
3 right up to Christmas Eve ... and he can take care of
4 your last minute shopping problems with Chesterfields...
5 ~~Chesterfields in the special Christmas cartoon featuring~~
6 ~~the covered bridge and the KISSING BRIDGE.~~
7 Now, on behalf of the makers of Chesterfield - Liggett &
8 Myers Tobacco Company - their over six thousand
9 wholesale distributors, and one million three hundred
10 thousand retail dealers ... And all of us on Dragnet ...
11 I'd like to wish you a very Merry Christmas!

29/02

Finish 29/21

✓ Hear John Cameron Swartz
on the NBC Radio Network.
29/24

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 THEME UNDER

3 GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet -- a series of authentic
4 cases from official files. Technical advice comes from
5 the office of Chief of Police, W. H. Parker, Los Angeles
6 Police Department. Technical advisors: Captain Jack
7 Donohoe, Sgt. Marty Wynn, Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heard
8 tonight were: Ben Alexander, _____.

9 Script by _____.

10 Music; by Walter Schumann. Hal Gibney speaking.

11 MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

12 FENN: Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on
13 your local NBC Television station. Please check your
14 newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield
15 has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from Los Angeles.
16 (FATIMA HITCH HIKE)