**Lecture: 23**

**Episode 9**

Baxter got into the car first. Halls was right behind him. "You drive.You know the area better than I do," Baxter said. They raced out of the town and into the dark countryside. "It's ridiculous." Halls said. "Does he really think he's going to get away from us on a bike?"

"Coke isn't a fool." Baxter answered. "He probably doesn't realize we already know what happened in the old lady's house." "You mean he doesn't know that even village policemen have small two-way radios these days?"

"That's right. He probably thinks it's going to take that policeman at least half an hour to get to the nearest phone. He thinks he can get pretty far in that time."Ten minutes later, about three miles from the old lady's house. Baxter suddenly saw someone on the dark road ahead.

"Look! There!" he shouted. "There's someone on a bike! And look! He's going to get off!" Halls saw the man quite clearly, but only for a second. As soon as the man saw they were in a police car. he dropped his bike and ran into the trees at the side of the road.

"That's Coke!" Baxter shouted. "He isn't going to get away this time!" Baxter jumped out of the car even before Halls stopped it. and ran after Coke. Halls jumped out. too. He did not even switch off the headlights.

All Coke's training as a soldier helped him now. Baxter was just behind him when Coke suddenly turned. Baxter tried to grab him but almost lost his balance. Then Coke hit him on the chin as hard as he could. Baxter fell to the ground heavily. At that moment. Halls jumped on Coke from behind but Coke threw him over his back and against a tree, and then ran back towards the road before Halls could get up. Even when he did, he fell back to the ground again. There was a terrible pain in his ribs. Coke saw the police car very clearly. The headlights were still on. and one of the doors was open.

Coke jumped in. It took Baxter several seconds to realise where he was. At first, all he could feel was a terrible pain in his jaw. Then he heard the sound of a car engine starting. He looked up and saw Halls pointing to it. Suddenly Baxter realized everything. Halls tried to run after the car but it was too late. Coke was gone and so was their car!

**Episode 10**

Coke drove for about twenty minutes. He felt nervous in the police car but he knew it was his only chance. "I wonder how that policeman managed to contact police-headquarters so quickly?" he asked himself. Then he remembered a newspaper article about the new pocket radios all

policemen had. They were small things which they put in their pockets. "Of course! That's it!" he thought. Then he wondered if detectives like Halls and Baxter also had them. He knew they probably did not, because they already had radios in their cars. Suddenly, however, something on the road ahead interrupted his thoughts. Two police cars were there, side by side, blocking the road. Nothing could get by them!

The two policemen at the road block were bored. It was a lonely spot between two hills and there was very little traffic. "Could you give me a light. Tom?" one of them said. It was his tenth cigarette that night. Just then, they both looked up and saw a car coming towards them.

"It's a police car." the other one said. "Perhaps they're bringing us some hot coffee, or something to eat." They both watched the car as it came closer. It was a long, straight road and the car

was still a good distance away. "Isn't it going to stop?" "It doesn't look like it." "Shall we stop it? Our orders are to stop every car." Just then, they heard the two-tone sound of the horn. It was obvious that whoever was in the car was in a great hurry. The two policemen hesitated for a second. Then one of them turned to the other. "Would you move the car out of the way. Bob, or shall I?" "But our orders were to . . ."

"Look! That's a police car. can't you see? You don't think Coke's going to come through here in a police car. do you?" The other policeman got into the car and moved it back a few inches: the gap was just wide enough for another car to get through now. 'Aren't you going to move back some more?" the other shouted. Before he could do so. Coke shot through the narrow gap and raced down the road, in the direction of London.