

(NO CHANGE TO BILL)

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2/19/61
given to Sater
Mason
what took a long
time to get
about 2 1/2 hours
NO PRESS RELEASE
ISSUED*

Approved by
Surname: Sater
Date:
Lawrence
Wells
Fisher
Suzuki

The names of the persons arrested were: Walter F. Clark, Sr.,
Walter Clark, Jr., Clarence Clark, Mark Sater, John Daisy and (James Clark.)
The name of the seventh person was not available.

*Saitan Trade
Seaman Service*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release _____

SEVEN MEN AND ONE WOMAN ARRESTED FOR DUCK LAW VIOLATION

Seven men and one woman were arrested today in Chincoteague, Virginia, on the charge of the sale of wild ducks and geese. The arrests were made by officials of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Fish and Wildlife Service.

The seven men were arraigned immediately before U. S. Commissioner Gilbert Swink of Norfolk who came over to Exmore, Virginia, for the arraignments. The woman, whose name is being withheld until her arraignment, will appear before the Commissioner on Tuesday. The men have been released on bond. Trial has been set for May 2 in the U. S. District Court, Norfolk, Virginia.

The arrests were made between 11:30 AM and noon today at the homes of the individuals. The action was taken as the result of undercover operations by the Federal officials.

Since October 1, 1959, in Accomac and Northhampton Counties of Virginia, the U. S. Game Agents have made 105 arrests for violation of the migratory birds laws, including 7 involving the trapping of ducks.

Wash. Star, 2/20/60

U. S. Agents Arrest 7 In Sales of Wild Ducks

EXMORE, Va., Feb. 20 (AP).—Seven Chincoteague men were released under bond here yesterday by United States Commissioner Ernest M. James for appearance in Norfolk District Federal Court May 2 to answer charges of illegal sale of migratory water fowl.

The seven were picked up in raids by agents of the Fish and Wildlife Service who had been conducting an undercover investigation of the trapping and sale of wild ducks on the Eastern Shore for the past several years.

The defendants, and the bonds posted, were identified as Dalton Trader, \$250; Leonard Shrieves, \$250; John A. Daisey, \$250; Mark Daisey, \$500; Walter Clark, jr., \$500; Clarence Clark, \$500, and Walter P. Clark, \$250.

No reason was given for the

difference in the amount of bond required.

Weather Aided Roundup

About a half dozen Federal agents took part in the roundup, speeded by the fact that the watermen remained home because of inclement weather.

It was the first mass arrest for illegal duck-taking in the Eastern Shore town in about 10 years. Agents said they were told that the ducks taken in wire net traps set in marshes

had been sold for \$1.50 each on a black market.

The birds were bought by city hunters, restaurant owners and operators.

According to D. Warren Lupton of the Wildlife Service's southeastern district, the agents who had done the undercover work the past several years said there were not more than 5,000 illegal trappings a season.

Hoped for More Arrests

Joseph Withers, chief of the service's Eastern Shore unit, said the arrests had been delayed by the agents until now because they were trying to win the confidence of the watermen, naturally suspicious of strangers, in the hope of catching more violators.

It also was understood action was taken yesterday because the word was spreading that "something was up" and Federal agents were ready to crack down.

Meanwhile, in Baltimore, three Easton men were charged with illegally selling wild geese—to Federal game agents last December.

Two criminal informations filed in Federal court by Assistant United States Attorney John G. Underwood named P. G. Burt, 60; operator of a seafood and poultry market; Okie H. Powell, 35, an exterminator, and Francis C. Cole, 35, a guide.

Star 7/23/60

Woman Charged In Sale of Fowl

EXMORE, Va., Feb. 23.—Mrs. Margaret Bloxom, of Chincoteague, has been released under \$250 bond for action of the United States District Court at Norfolk May 2 on charges of illegal sale of migratory waterfowl.

She appeared yesterday before United States Commissioner Ernest Milton James.

Last Friday, agents of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service arrested seven Chincoteague men on charges of trapping wild waterfowl.

7 Nabbed as Ringleaders in Sale Of Wild Ducks Trapped at Shore

Wash Post - Oct. 11 AM 7/20/60

By Aubrey Graves
Staff Reporter

CHINCOTEAGUE, Va., Feb. 19—Ten armed Federal Wildlife agents descended on this seaside community today and arrested seven men for illegal sale of wildlife.

Handcuffed, they were taken to Exmore, Va., where United States Commissioner Ernest M. James Jr., after a hearing, released them on bonds of \$250 to \$500 each. They were ordered to appear for trial in Federal Court at Norfolk on May 2.

Joseph D. Withers, agent in charge of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, said those apprehended today were ringleaders in the largest commercial wildlife operation in the eastern United States.

Said Withers: "They are acknowledged by everyone to be the most notorious and efficient in the business; they are responsible for a sizable portion of the illegal catch."

Withers estimated that during this winter 5000 wild ducks have been trapped and sold on the Eastern Shore in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Undercover agents for the Wildlife Service during the last three years have bought approximately 300 birds, di-

rectly from the trappers in most cases.

Arrested today were: Walter P. Clark Sr., 39; Walter P. Clark Jr., 19; Clarence Clark, 23; John Daisey, 55; Mark Daisey, 45; Leonard Shrieves, 34; and Dalton Trader, 45—all of Chincoteague.

Still sought is a woman charged with being prominently involved in the organized violations.

Under Federal law, the penalty for trapping or selling wild ducks is \$500 or six months in jail or both for each offense. Earlier this week the Virginia House voted to make duck trapping a felony punishable by a fine of \$1000 and six months in jail for each offense.

The sales cited in the warrant served today occurred as far back as 1957. The most recent purchases were made on Feb. 2, 1960.

The Federal men said most of the fowl were sold alive and their necks were wrung in the presence of the agents who bought them.

As handcuffs were being snapped on one of the accused, he said: "This must be serious. Two years ago when I shot my wife they didn't handcuff me."

Said William T. Davis of Atlanta, enforcement supervisor for the 12 Southeastern states, who was here for the occasion: "The people down here who are guilty should be the most concerned with upholding our wildlife regulations. By this wholesale trapping of ducks, they are actually cutting their own throats."

Davis said that Federal agents had broken up 152 duck traps on the Eastern Shore this season. Six agents and two spotter planes have been active in and over the Chincoteague marshes throughout this winter.

Most of the Federal purchases were made at a shed less than 500 yards from the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

Still to come, agents said, are the arrests of four men on charges of trapping ducks.