

Cst. Gillard (L) and Wildlife Officer Abbott, with some of the firearms and ducks seized.

Three helicopter trips were necessary to transport the ducks from the islands to Musgrave Harbour, and when they were transported to storage in Gander, a half-ton truck could not move them all at once.

A total of 19 charges were laid against the eight individuals, all of whom were from Fogo Island. The charges ranged from exceeding the bag limit for birds, to hunting with unplugged shotguns, to hunting without licences. Only two of the eight were in possession of valid hunting licences. For their activities, all eight were

sentenced to seven days each for possession over the limit. For the additional charges, fines of \$100 per charge were levied.

The incident provoked an unexpected barrage of concern that one of our great natural resources was being pillaged in such a way. And, oh yes, our modern day Robinson Crusoes decided that life marooned on a small island wasn't for them, once their extra-curricular activities were curtailed. After two days, a search and rescue helicopter was sent to rescue them from the depths of boredom.



Wildlife Officer Harold Abbott, with a pick-up truck full of the birds.