



Two of the Tennessee Walking horses that will be used for beach patrol in New Hampshire are prepared for their trip to the New England coastal resort of Hampton Beach. Holding the horses are Lester Weber, left,

breeder of the Tennessee Walkers at R1 Reinholds, and John Margotta, who is serving as advisor and trainer for the Hampton police program.

## Police to use Lancaster horses in N.H. beach patrol

REINHOLDS — If you happen to vacation in the coastal resort of Hampton, New Hampshire, this summer, take special notice of the horses being used by the police for beach patrol.

They come from Lancaster County.

Four horses from the Tennessee Walker operation of Lester C. Weber, R1 Reinholds, traveled this week from the county to New Hampshire to begin their training for police beach patrol and crowd control.

The experimental horse patrol program, which is being sponsored by community donations, is expected to officially begin along Hampton Beach on July 4.

The horses were selected by John Margotta, of Hingham, Mass., who is trainer and advisor to the Hampton Police Department for preparing the mounts and riders for their new duties.

Margotta, who has trained horses previously for working with bird dogs in hunting trials, said he selected the Tennessee Walkers for a number of reasons.

"The primary reason for using them is their easy gait," he said.

"After spending eight hours in the saddle, particularly when they haven't ridden much, the officers are going to appreciate the ease of the Walker gait.

"These horses have the right disposition for this type of work. They are very adaptable and will meet the various requirements for patrol and crowd control.

"In addition, the breed has the stamina to work an eight-hour shift."

Margotta selected those horses in the Weber string that had the size and appearance for the police work. A 16-hand horse is desired for police work.

"I've picked tall, stout and strong horses to meet the demands of the work, but fine enough to be good looking," he explained.

The nature of the town of Hampton and Hampton Beach gives an idea of what will be required of the horse patrol.

Hampton is a resort area, complete with night clubs, motels, carnival attractions, five miles of public beach and several more miles of dunes, where four-wheel vehicles are driven.

On a holiday weekend, like July 4, the beach population can swell to some 50,000, with the corresponding vehicular traffic jam. Patrol cars are useless in such traffic

"The mounted officers will be able to maneuver along the crowded beaches," Margotta explained.

"On the horses, the police will be able to maintain a visible profile and be in a better position to watch activities around them."

Up to June 26, Margotta will work just with the horses, training them for the variety of conditions they will encounter and building up their stamina for the eight-hour shifts.

Training will include becoming accustomed to the firing of guns, work around fireworks and sirens, maneuvering through heavy traffic, ground tying with dropped reins, stepping sideways for crowd control and any other special requirements of police horses.

"The training is quite similar to that given horses which work with dogs," he explained.

"Such things as becoming accustomed to firearms and working in crowds are the same for both types of horses."

The experience training, becoming accustomed to the various situations the mounts will encounter, will cover about two hours a day. The horses will also be ridden in increasing amounts to build up their stamina.

"We'll start with a couple of experience items at first while their minds are still clear," Margotta said.

"In a couple of weeks, we'll have them doing everything they expect to encounter on a daily basis."

The training will be done in a beach atmosphere to acquaint the horses with the rigors and nature of working in sand and handling in water, in the event rescue or special uses of the horses in the surf will be required.

After the horses go through their initial training, Margotta will work with both the mounts and their riders.

The trainer and Hampton police learned of Weber's Tennessee Walkers through one of his horses that had moved from Bernville, Berks County, to the owner of a tack shop in New Hampshire.

Weber, one of largest Tennessee Walker breeders in the Northeast, will be keeping an eye on the progress of the police mounts.

"This is the first time we've had some of our Walkers go into police work," he said.

"They will be well suited for the beach patrol and crowd control and should fit into the police program quite readily."

## N.J. produce firm's PACA license revoked

PATERSON, N.J. — Alexander Bros. Produce, Inc., Paterson, N.J., has had its produce trading license revoked for failing to pay in full for more than \$½ million worth of fruits and vegetables the firm purchased.

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, which licenses produce firms under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, had charged the firm with failing to pay the agreed price — totaling \$597,766 — for 317 lots of produce purchased from October, 1979, through June, 1980.

Charles Brader, marketing official with AMS, said the firm had an opportunity to answer USDA's charges, but did not.

USDA's Administrative Law Judge Victor W. Palmer ruled that the firm had committed willful,

flagrant, and repeated violations of the PAC Act.

Under Palmer's order, the firm may not conduct business subject to the act until March 25, 1983. The firm's officer, director, and major stockholders, Madeline Deiena and Jay Scott, may not be employed by or affiliated with any PACA licensee until March 25, 1982, and then only if the employer posts a surety bond and USDA approves.

Under the PAC Act, all interstate traders in fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables must be licensed by USDA. USDA is authorized to suspend or revoke a trader's license for violating the act.

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