



Region 1 (Continued)

Oblivious Duck Hunters

By Frank A. Reger

During the first split of duck season Sgt. Roy Schufft and I were working late duck shooters in Caddo Parish. We launched our boat from a hidden location and proceeded toward an area known for late shooting. We stopped along the bayou to listen for late shooting. We knew we were in the right area but did not know where the hunters would be or if they were even going to be there. Well about five minutes before legal shooting hours ended Roy's phone rang and it was not on silent!

We all know how loud things sound when you are trying to be quiet. We also know how when you are listening you can hear the smallest noise out of the ordinary. Not long after that we heard someone blowing on a duck call we both looked at our watches and it was after legal shooting hours. We knew all we needed were some ducks and they would start shoot-

ing. Shortly, thereafter; the ducks came; the shots rang out and proceeded for the next fifteen minutes. We began to approach the hunters. We began paddling the boat trying to be as quiet as possible when an unsecured flashlight rolled across the floor of the aluminum boat. No noise there at all!

The hunters were totally oblivious to us the entire time. They gathered their gear and entered their boat. We stopped them and conducted a field check and then informed them that they were shooting past legal shooting hours. They received citations for Hunting MGB Illegal Hours. I believe we could have been blaring a siren and these guys would have never even heard us. You can bet the next time I was working I made sure the phone was on silent and the flashlight was secured.

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