

Man and Dog From Alaska Hike It Afoot for Tampa

When Capt. Robert J. Wiese received word of his transfer from Anchorage, Alaska to Tampa, Fla., he decided to see the country in between.

So the captain, a 27-year-old paratrooper - doctor, started walking down the Alcan Highway with his Chesapeake retriever, Brownie. Wiese, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Wiese of Kenilworth, near Chicago, left Anchorage Aug. 6. He carried a 60-pound food pack, and loaded a 20-pound pack with his shaving kit, fish hooks, cartridges and dog biscuits for Brownie.

Some 70 free rides and 22 days later, the hitchhikers arrived in Okotoks, Alberta — 2,400 miles along their way. They took a train to Great Falls, Mont., then hitched rides to Minneapolis.

The captain bought a canoe there and paddled down the Mississippi to Davenport, Ia., taking 17 days to make the 400-mile voyage. From Davenport he and Brownie took another train to Chicago.

Now the travel-weary pair are resting at the Wiese home before proceeding to Tampa. They'll leave Oct. 2, but their hitchhiking days are over. Wiese will drive an automobile loaned him by a friend.

The captain expects to join his new outfit, the Fifth Air Rescue Squadron, in Tampa Oct. 6. Brownie will join it too.