



ADDENDUM

To RUGER PISTOLS & REVOLVERS

Regardless of how carefully a manuscript and proof copy is edited, mistakes always seem to manifest themselves in the printed version of all books; Even though *Ruger Pistols & Revolvers* was carefully edited four separate times by the author and the publisher's staff some misprints and typographic errors persist. This complex narrative was structured as a research base, and as such accuracy is essential; the idea of course is to at least minimize mistakes – pursuant to this objective the following corrections and clarifications are presented here. Due to the page count, the three charts had to be omitted from the book. There are a few misspelled words throughout the book; the context will clarify the sentences to the reader.

Page 50..... The second paragraph at the top right of the page should read - (serial number ranges 0001-0665 and 2000-3500)

Page 67..... The second paragraph from the bottom right of the page should read - *HENCHO EN MEXICO*

Page 104.....regarding base pins; the second paragraph at the top right of the page should read – *After its introduction, except for the .357, all Blackhawk models and the Hawkeyes were fitted with the collared base pin. The Bearcats and Single-Six family retained the original straight configuration. Of course the Old Army has its own unique design.*

Page 107.....the photos on the right side of the page are from the early 1970s rather than late 1960s.

Page 116.....Out-of-Sequence Numbering; correction at the first paragraph - *at serial number 4684. Also - resulting in serial number 14684.* The second paragraph should read - *continued from 4685.* See the revised narrative below for Page 252.

Page 126.....Color Case-Hardening; the serial numbers of the color case-hardened .357 Blackhawks should read - *5784, 5785, 5786, 5787, 5788, 5789, 5790, 5790 and 5791.*

Page 158.....Flatgate Variant 2; the serial number range should read, 2XXX – **20XXX**

Page 172..... The beginning of the first paragraph at left top of page should read - *Twenty sample aluminum cylinder frames were received on April 1, 1955 (the last date in the paragraph, December 1955 is correct).*

Page 203..... Should have caption explaining that Spanish gun #5110 was done in the most common pattern.

Page 209..... Should have caption explaining that All-Blue gun #13511 is from Group 1, this gun was a cabinet gun listed on the inventory that was moved from Station St. to Lacey Pl. on February 12, 1959 by Walter Berger. See Appendix.

Page 252.....Sub-variant 2: The Ross Variation: an expanded narrative - *This out-of-sequence serial number situation (#14684 – 15483) was first brought to our attention in 1978 by late collector and author Bill Ross. As such, collectors have endeared these guns as The Ross Variation. Actually this group of .357 Magnum Blackhawks is not a separate and distinct variation; rather, they are an interesting marking variant, and as such are regarded as an integral part of a Ruger flattop collection.*

In early 1956 numbering of the .357 Blackhawks was progressing in a routine manner when at serial number 4684 - for some unknown reason the operator spanned the ten thousand (5th wheel) figure wheel on the stamping head from the blank position to number 1 rather than turning the first wheel to 5, resulting in serial number 14684, the error persisted consecutively to serial number 15483. When it was discovered, the offending wheel was simply spanned back to the blank position and the other wheels reset, sequential numbering continued at 4685.

Fitted with components in use at the time, most of the out of sequence Ross guns were inspected and shipped in June 1956, while the regular numbered guns (4684 – 5483) were inspected and shipped the previous month. There is some assembly overlap indicating both groups were mixed with numbers before 4684 and after 5483. At the time there were several thousand numbered receivers in the shop, in all stages of production.

Heretofore, erroneous theories have been established, chief among them, that Ruger intentionally serial numbered the Ross group of guns out of sequence in an effort to appear that they were producing Blackhawks at a greater capacity – or that two guns bearing each serial number were unintentionally marked, and later number 1 was added to the number sequence of one set of guns to differentiate them from the former.

Blackhawk production numbering in the 14XXX and 15XXX serial number range was not produced until May 1958 - two years later. See the following chart for detailed serial number data.

THE ROSS VARIATION & CORRESPONDING BASIC SERIAL NUMBERS

A sampling of final inspection dates and overlap in 25 gun increments

793 net base numbered guns (# 4684 - 5483) inspected April 30 - June 29, 1956

777 net Ross guns (# 14684 - # 15483) inspected June 6 - Sept. 28, 1956

| | | | | | |
|----------|---------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| 4684 | May 25, 1956 | 5100 | May 29, 1956 | Omitted or | |
| (14683 - | May 5, 1958) | 15100 | June 12, 1956 | scrapped | |
| 14684 | June 27, 1956 | 5125 | May 13, 1956 | numbers | |
| 4700 | May 29, 1956 | 15125 | June 20, 1956 | | |
| 14700 | June 27, 1956 | 5150 | April 30, 1956 | 5191 | 15164 |
| 4725 | May 21, 1956 | 15150 | June 11, 1956 | 5218 | 15165 |
| 14725 | June 22, 1956 | 5175 | May 8, 1956 | 5228 | 15169 |
| 4750 | May 14, 1956 | 15175 | June 25, 1956 | 5297 | 15171 |
| 14750 | June 22, 1956 | 5200 | April 30, 1956 | 5300 | 15174 |
| 4775 | May 28, 1956 | 15200 | June 12, 1956 | 5323 | 15178 |
| 14775 | June 23, 1956 | 5225 | April 30, 1956 | 14810 | 15179 |
| 4800 | May 28, 1956 | 15225 | June 11, 1956 | 14993 | 15180 |
| 14800 | June 23, 1956 | 5250 | May 1, 1956 | 15154 | 15181 |
| 4825 | May 29, 1956 | 15250 | June 29, 1956 | 15155 | 15182 |
| 14825 | Feb. 14, 1957 | 5275 | May 10, 1956 | 15157 | 15183 |
| 4850 | June 11, 1956 | 15275 | June 21, 1956 | 15158 | 15185 |
| 14850 | June 20, 1956 | 5300 | July 6, 1961 | 15161 | 15186 |
| 4875 | May 24, 1956 | 15300 | June 28, 1956 | 15162 | 15189 |
| 14875 | June 20, 1956 | 5325 | May 10, 1956 | | |
| 4900 | May 9, 1956 | 15325 | June 28, 1956 | Ross Guns | |
| 14900 | June 12, 1956 | 5350 | May 24, 1956 | Inspected later | |
| 4925 | May 8, 1956 | 15350 | Sept. 11, 1956 | | |
| 14925 | June 23, 1956 | 5375 | May 3, 1956 | 14765 | 8/2/57 |
| 4950 | May 28, 1956 | 15375 | June 26, 1956 | 14803 | 1/29/57 |
| 14950 | June 23, 1956 | 5400 | May 4, 1956 | 14825 | 2/14/57 |
| 4975 | May 24, 1956 | 15400 | June 28, 1956 | 15018 | 12/10/57 |
| 14975 | June 28, 1956 | 5425 | May 8, 1956 | 15031 | 1/16/57 |
| 5000 | May 23, 1956 | 15425 | June 28, 1956 | 15067 | 12/10/57 |
| 15000 | June 27, 1956 | 5450 | April 30, 1956 | 15151 | 1/29/57 |
| 5025 | May 29, 1956 | 15450 | June 28, 1956 | 15153 | 7/26/57 |
| 15025 | June 25, 1956 | 5475 | April 30, 1956 | 15252 | 1/6/58 |
| 5050 | June 12, 1956 | 15475 | June 27, 1956 | 15298 | 2/14/57 |
| 15050 | June 20, 1956 | 5483 | May 1, 1956 | 15307 | 1/16/57 |
| 5075 | May 9, 1956 | 15483 | June 27, 1956 | 15352 | 1/16/58 |
| 15075 | June 25, 1956 | (15484 - | May 7, 1958) | 15399 | 1/6/58 |

Page 255.....Production dates for the .357 Magnum Flattops: should read, *Ross Variation 14684 - 15483*

Page 344.....Transition Period:

| | | | |
|------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | September | November | December |
| RSS | 196565 – 196940 | | 349909 – 353470 |
| RSSM | | 334076 – 342450 | |

Page 380..... Brass frame .45 Blackhawk: the 4 5/8” and 7 1/2” barrel column headings are reversed.

The Brass Frame serial number lists were taken from the Ruger final inspection sheets, and due to the fact that some sheets are missing, the lists are incomplete. After 1968 the serial numbers and model are identified in computer spread sheets (the day books); it didn’t occur to the author to cross reference the inspection sheets with the day book listings for accuracy. If a gun is not included in the respective lists, a call to the Ruger archivist will verify if a specific gun was fitted with a brass grip frame at the factory.

U.S. MECHANICAL AND DESIGN PATENTS ASSIGNED TO WBR AND STURM, RUGER & CO., INC.

| filing date | application number | patent granted | patent number | patent title |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--|
| August 7, 1940 | | November 6, 1945 | 2,388,281 | MACHINE GUN |
| June 9, 1944 | | November 6, 1945 | 2,388,443 | FIRING MECHANISM (trigger & hammer group for machine gun) |
| November 5, 1946 | 707,773 | October 20, 1953 | 2,655,839 | BLOWBACK AUTO LOADING PISTOL (Standard Pistol) |
| December 5, 1946 | | June 1, 1948 | Des. 149,843 | HAND DRILL |
| July 16, 1947 | | November 9, 1948 | Des. 151,719 | BRACE |
| August 10, 1949 | 109,491 | February 12, 1952 | 2,585,275 | RECEIVER AND GRIP CONNECTION FOR AUTOLOADING PISTOLS (Standard Pistol mainspring housing) |
| April 29, 1950 | 9,594 | October 2, 1951 | Des. 164,735 | PISTOL (Ornamental design for Standard Pistol) |
| June 28, 1950 | 170,753 | January 13, 1953 | 2,624,969 | STANDARD PISTOL CAPTIVE FIRING PIN |
| July 28, 1953 | 370,732 | February 7, 1956 | 2,733,529 | CYLINDER STOP FOR REVOLVER ("Old Model" coil spring and cylinder latch) |
| April 14, 1955 | 35,517 | November 27, 1956 | Des. 179,319 | REVOLVER (Ornamental design for Blackhawk) |
| January 30, 1956 | 562,305 | September 17, 1957 | 2,806,316 | SPRING-PRESSED PAWL FOR ROTATING REVOLVER CYLINDER ("Old Model" coil spring and detent for pawl) |
| April 17, 1956 | 578,727 | August 11, 1959 | 2,898,693 | .22 CALIBER CONVERSION FOR A COLT, .45 CALIBER SEMI AUTOMATIC PISTOL |
| March 20, 1958 | 722,669 | April 26, 1960 | 2,933,983 | SEMI-AUTOMATIC PISTOL (baby Nambu) |
| April 10, 1959 | | October 11, 1960 | 2,955,373 | REVOLVER CYLINDER PIN AND CROSS PIN ("Old Model" base pin and latch) |
| June 18, 1962 | 203,033 | August 4, 1964 | 3,142,924 | SINGLE-SHOT GUN WITH LATERALLY ROTATING BREECHBLOCK (Hawkeye) |
| see amended patent # 3.830,001 | | August 22, 1972 | 3,685,193 | REVOLVER CYLINDER RETAINING MEANS (Old Army basepin) |
| January 3, 1972 | 215,127 | October 30, 1973 | 3,768,190 | LOADING GATE ARRANGEMENT FOR SINGLE-ACTION REVOLVER (New Model loading gate interlock) |
| May 5, 1972 | 250,824 | December 11, 1973 | 3,777,384 | MECHANISM FOR SINGLE-ACTION FIREARM (New Model transfer bar) |
| May 10, 1972 | 252,046 | January 8, 1974 | 3,783,545 | LOADING LEVER ARRANGEMENT FOR MUZZLE LOADING REVOLVER (Old Army) |
| July 26, 1973 | 382,934 | August 20, 1974 | 3,830,001 | REVOLVER CYLINDER PIN AND RETAINING MEANS THEREFOR (Old Army) |
| August 25, 1971 | 174,849 | June 12, 1973 | 3,738,042 | SAFETY DEVICE FOR REVOLVERS (Rebounding hammer and latch activated pawl stop) |
| October 12, 1973 | 406,020 | October 1, 1974 | 3,838,533 | HAMMER DEACTIVATOR MEANS (Rotating wheel on top of revolver hammer) |
| October 20, 1981 | 313,215 | May 22, 1984 | 4,449,312 | MECHANISM ADAPTABLE FOR SINGLE-ACTION REVOLVERS (conversion mechanism) |

RUGER GENUINE SOFT IVORY GRIP PANELS

| J.F.Galef & Son, Inc. | | Superior Pearl & Horn Corp. | | American Gun Handle & Novelty Co. | | The House of Treasures Corp. | | Zaharoff, Inc. for Super Blackhawk | |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| date | quantity | date | quantity | date | quantity | date | quantity | date | quantity |
| 3/01/53 | 6 | 10/20/53 | 50 | 4/04/56 | 101 | 8/22/57 | 51 | 9/21/60 | 2 |
| | | 2/25/54 | -21 | 10/04/56 | 27 | 9/03/57 | 55 | 10/06/60 | 2 |
| | | 5/26/54 | 40 | 12/28/56 | 25 | | | | |
| | | 6/28/54 | 60 | 1/25/57 | 53 | | | | |
| | | | | 5/09/57 | 47 | | | | |
| | | | | 6/28/57 | 59 | | | | |
| | | | | 7/24/57 | 52 | | | | |
| 6 | | 129 | | 364 | | 106 | | 4 | |

Quantities that show a negative were flawed and returned for credit.

TOTAL PAIRS OF IVORY

609

RUGER GENUINE STAG GRIP PANELS

| Superior Pearl & Horn Corp. | | American Gun Handle & Novelty Co. | | The House of Treasures Corp. | | Zaharoff, Inc. | |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| date | quantity | date | quantity | date | quantity | date | quantity |
| 10/22/53 | 50 | 3/15/56 | 1 | 8/19/57 | 280 | 3/21/60 | 128 |
| 2/25/54 | -28 | 3/27/56 | 27 | 8/30/57 | 188 | 3/23/60 | 133 |
| 3/15/54 | -7 | 4/13/56 | 52 | 9/25/57 | 69 | 4/20/60 | 33 |
| 2/02/55 | 14 | 5/04/56 | 84 | 2/19/58 | 239 | 7/13/60 | 127 |
| 2/17/55 | 36 | 6/05/56 | 69 | 2/20/58 | 21 | 10/24/60 | 87 |
| 2/25/55 | 50 | 6/06/56 | 112 | 2/21/58 | 4 | 10/11/60 | 250 |
| 3/18/55 | 32 | 11/06/56 | 98 | 3/14/58 | 1 | 11/15/60 | 150 |
| 4/25/55 | 25 | 12/13/56 | 125 | 5/28/58 | 18 | 11/18/60 | -18 |
| 5/06/55 | 100 | 2/20/57 | 92 | 6/03/58 | 48 | 12/06/60 | 457 |
| 6/15/55 | 10 | 4/13/57 | 130 | 7/28/58 | 112 | | |
| 7/07/55 | 14 | 5/02/57 | 149 | 7/31/58 | 154 | | |
| 7/11/55 | 17 | 5/16/57 | 105 | 8/01/58 | 51 | | |
| 10/06/55 | 15 | 6/07/57 | 160 | 8/05/58 | 137 | | |
| 11/16/55 | 31 | 6/18/57 | 147 | 8/11/58 | 113 | | |
| | | 7/02/57 | 52 | 8/20/58 | 123 | | |
| | | 7/26/57 | 139 | 8/26/58 | 49 | | |
| | | | | 9/16/58 | 171 | | |
| | | | | 10/03/58 | 87 | | |
| | | | | 11/25/58 | 90 | | |
| 359 | | 1542 | | 1955 | | 1347 | |

Quantities that show A negative were flawed and returned for credit.

quantity assumed for 1959

TOTAL PAIRS OF STAG

6703

These quantities of ivory and stag grip panels were taken from the Ruger accounts payable records and reflect exact numbers received from the vendors. The dates are invoice dates. The records for most of 1959 were destroyed when the fire sprinklers went into alarm and are not preserved – therefore an estimate of 1500 pairs has been assumed for the missing period and included in the stag calculation.

PEARL GRIP PANELS

| Harvan Sporting Goods Co. | | J.F.Galef & Son, Inc. | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| date | quantity | date | quantity |
| 9/27/55 | 2 | 2/29/60 | 1 |

