

SMITH & WESSON

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SPRINGFIELD, MASS. 01101

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMPANY

May 5, 1975



Mr. Robert T. Williams
59 Field Road
Cromwell, CT 06416

Dear Mr. Williams:

We received your letter of recent date requesting information on one of the original .357 Magnums. The .357 Magnum was introduced in 1935, and was a custom manufactured revolver. It was available with a minimum barrel length of 3-1/2 inches and a maximum of 8-3/4 inches. Each revolver was manufactured to the individual's specifications. The revolver was stamped with a registration number and a card was enclosed with each revolver. When the gun was received and the registration card filled out and returned, the owner received a registration certificate, which included the owner's name, registration number, barrel length and trigger pull, both double and single action. The certificate was signed by Douglas Wesson, Vice President of our company.

Unfortunately, this practice proved too costly for a revolver that sold for \$60, and was discontinued after approximately 5,500 of the registered .357 Magnums were manufactured. We are sorry, but we do not have any facsimile of the original certificates that we can send to you.

Your revolver, Serial Number 60177, Registration Number 5408, was shipped from our factory on October 25, 1939, and originally purchased by Oscar Placco, Cranston, Rhode Island.

We hope this information is of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

SMITH & WESSON

R. G. Jinks
Product Manager-Handguns
Historian

RGJ/gmc