

cc: M. *Walker* - File ✓

May 17, 1963

Les Bowman  
L-B Ranch  
South Fork  
Cody, Wyoming

Dear Les:

Sure am sorry that you became concerned by that letter from John Appelt. I also received a copy from him pertaining to the same subject and was wondering just how it was going to affect you. I feel slightly guilty, too, because I was involved in the part of asking you to test out this item, but I still think it was our business and not his. I agree with you 100%. Some of the patents issued on gun items and I suspect on others are very weak and probably not worth the paper they are written on. I am not too sure how secure his patent is.

We at the present time have no intention of marketing a sling for this pistol or providing any attaching means. Therefore will leave it up to the individual as to how he wants to handle this item.

Your question about the 7mm Magnum that Mike Walker made up for you - I haven't the slightest idea how many rounds he put through it but will send him a copy of this letter, and am sure he will advise you as to just what he did do with that gun.

Don't worry about misspelling, spaces, etc. in your letters to me. I appreciate the problem and realize that you are very busy answering letters and certainly can't blame you for not going back to make corrections.

That's all for now, Les. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

*WEL*  
W. E. Leek  
Firearms Design & Development  
Illion Research Division

WEL:T