

5mm REMINGTON MAGNUM

Big Bear Stores, Minot, N.D., returned two M591 rifles and several fired shells to Ilion. The rifles were reported as not functioning properly. Ilion's examination indicated high pressure cartridges. The dealer was requested to return any unfired ammunition to Bridgeport.

Upon receipt by Bridgeport of 450 rounds and several fired cases, the loading code was identified as X25D, loaded August 25, 1972, a Friday. 116,000 rounds of this code were loaded on that day. A total of 501,000 rounds were loaded the week of August 21.

Examination of the returned ammunition indicated that a mix of powders had occurred. The prescribed load is 6.2 grains of #2395 powder. Some cartridges contained #8159 powder in varying degrees from a small percentage to 100% or 5.2 grains. Normal average pressure is 32,500 cups and proof load pressure is 51,000 to 54,000 cups. However, a 100% load of #8159 powder gives 54,000 cups. Thus, a cartridge with a 100% load of #8159 powder produces pressure at the maximum proof load limit.

The ammunition is plate loaded. A total of 680 rounds from loading and packing were fired for pressure and velocity and for casualty tests. At loading, samples were taken approximately one hour after the start and four hours after the start. The entire lot was random samples at packing. No discrepancies were noted in the testing.

Bridgeport and Lonoke warehouses do not have any of this code remaining. A check of seven jobbers who received substantial shipments shortly after the warehousing of this code, disclosed the following:

1. Leonard Melton Co., Nashville, Tenn.
Will return 2,000 rounds Code X25D;
2. Bernard Gitlin Co., Hartford, Conn.
Will return 2,100 rounds Code X25D; and
3. George Lawrence Co., Portland, Oregon
Will return 2,000 rounds Code X24D, which will be examined.