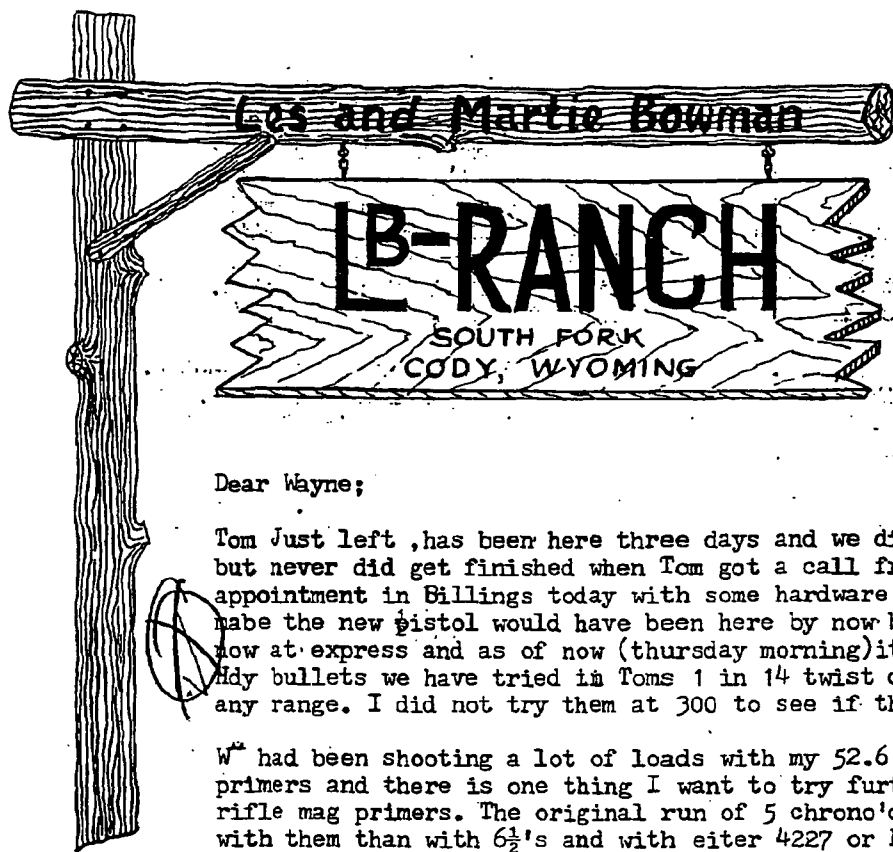




FEB. 6, 1963

Dear Wayne;

Tom Just left, has been here three days and we did some shooting and chrono'ing but never did get finished when Tom got a call from his wife that he has an appointment in Billings today with some hardware men. Also we had thought that mabe the new pistol would have been here by now but I checked again just now at express and as of now (thursday morning) it has not arrived. The 60 gr Hdy bullets we have tried in Toms 1 in 14 twist did not give much accuracy at any range. I did not try them at 300 to see if they were keyholing.

W had been shooting a lot of loads with my 52.6 gr handmade bullets and various primers and there is one thing I want to try further and thats the CCI small rifle mag primers. The original run of 5 chrono'd loads were 40-50 FPS faster with them than with 6 1/2's and with either 4227 or H4227. Funny thing I did find out is that a change of setting in the Hollywood measure is necessary when I chngne from one of those 42 powders to the other. I have a new Saeco powder measure coming and it should be here today. Besides the regular rifle drum it has a special deep-small drum for pistols only and as this one is small capacity too it may work like mad on here.

I can thro either of the 42 powders in the Hollywood to within .1 gr. But I have a hunch I can do better in the Saeco. The closeness of machining in it is far superior to any others and the small drum may help. The new Saeco press and its stubby dies are sure the berries for the 221. I seat in a small CH. I am going ahead with exhaustive primer tests to include accuracy-- vel. and all as soon as I have a gun. The mounts you sent came yesterday and I put the steel one on Toms gun as he wanted it. It is a good mount except for the weight. The Nickle scope with Jaeger rings fit it okay. But there was terrific parallax in that scope and I took it most all out. But we still can't make near the groups with it that we can with the Phantom and fine X hairs.

The Redfield still has not come but mabe will. Don't make much difference as it will be too bulky anyway. Tom had the new holster that he had made in Sheridan. Beautiful work but too damn bulky. So I'm now awaiting a holster from Dave Bushnell. I had sent him the stock to help in making it up but now he informs me in a phone talk yesterday that he already has a new gun and will really rush the holster. Also will send the stock back and then I'll mess with the slings etc.

I blew up rabbits at fair close ranges with the regular bullets in the 221 so yesterday I was forming 600 more 52.6 gr ones in the B&A dies and I turned 15 of them around and made them solids on the front end. Loaded them and had Tom go out and shoot some rabbits in the head and also body to see how they worked. Fine. So now we have a rabbit load. Thats for cottontails. For Jacks we use the regular ones. Had ten twelve big Jacks photo'ing them yesterday.