

Dec.11,1982
Ocate,N.M, 87734

PC Boy 88

Ted McCawley
Remington

Dea Ted:

I just had a letter from Charlie Askins and also one from Wayne Leek. IN fact in charlie's letter was another copy of a letter from Wayne to him. Then too I get them from Bob Wallack in the east, Ted Wilcox in the north, with some in between. IN every one of course there is remarks re the Seminar, the deer hunting, and also on the new Model 7.

While in Pincher Creek, when a small group of us were talking I had said that I hoped that later, maybe next year, or any time as an addition, you all would see fit to chamber that small handy gun for the .350 Remington Magnum cartridge. Besides making a real fine set up for the guys that like to use a heavy bullet in brushy country for game (elk as well as deer) the .350 would also make a real good cartridge in the for use on game that were in DANGEROUS game areas. A real good instance of that is along all the coastal areas of Alaska where guys hunt deer and caribou but in Dangerous game country. YOU can walk up on a Brown or Grizzly very easily there. I KNOW that as I have done it. I well remember back in the 60s when I had taken that first little 600 and its 18 1/2" barrel in .350 Rem Mag to Admiralty Island to get me a Brown bear with it. I wanted to prove my contention that it was a damn good gun to have as a back up when not actually hunting Browns. But the only way I could definitely do that was to actually KILL a good Brown with it. WE had already sent one of these to Ralph Young, the Mr Bear of Alaska I was going to visit. HE took a look at it and the cartridge and never shot it till I arrived. Then he remarked that it did look like an awfully little gun for such a big bear. That he would let me do the honors and kill the first one ever with it. SO while he was hunting one of the two hunters I had taken up with me I took the other one that had already filled and went out for my own bear. I saw a good one coming up the beach and casked my hunter and myself behind a log laying endwise in the sand. I had already decided that the ballistics of that cartridge when using the .250 gr Rem. Bullet was such that it should kill well at out to 150 yards on those big bear. SO I let him come to what I judged was that distance as I wanted to prove my point. Otherwise in hunting those big bear I would have let him come in closer. 100 yards or less. Just that much easier to kill one. SO I fired and that bear fell forward, grabbed a mouthful of drift wood and was dead. INSpection showed that the bullet had hit exactly where I aimed. Right on the point of the shoulders. It broke both shoulders and went on thru leaving a hole about 2 1/2" in dia on exit. Next day two Game and fish men surveying bear kills that year wanted to go back out with me when I skinned him out to weigh it, saw a took off to check his exact age and check him otherwise. they were elated. They carried old custom 30.06s for their backup guns. Long, heavy and cumbersome to keep on their backs all day. They were going home to ask management to buy 6 of those small guns for their use on the backup teams.

Anyway I knew that I had the gun I wanted for my own backup gun when prowling around in dangerous country taking pics etc. SO the next day I wanted to get some pics of Sea Otter that were using a small lake on the east shore of Admiralty. SO taking my BACKUP gun plus my camera and such I started across the Island alone for that lake where I had seen the Otter. IT was thick high Hazel not brush and other kinds I did not know the name of. Bear trails went all ways across there but at times I'd have to crawl to get under some trees the bear went under. I was doing just fine and watching where I put my feet when I suddenly looked up and there ahead of me right in the trail facing me and standing on his hind feet with his big old arms across his chest was a bear. YOU maybe have heard the expression "HE looked 10 feet tall) ??? Well, he was 10 feet tall. I have been in on the kill of one lot of bear of all kinds in my life Ted. I immediately saw that his ears were forward. I started talking to him in a damn loud tone of voice telling him what I thought of him. that if he so much as put his ears back I'd shoot him in the Adams apple. hat close and with that gun I KNEW that I could break his spine the first shot. Distance was not over 40-50 feet. The bear was to be if one of those big bears charged. Momentum alone would carry him thru. I was afraid to try backing up lest I fall. And I sure

was not about to turn my back to him. HE looked at me curiously for some time. I won't even guess how long, seconds or minutes. I just kept talking. He finally dropped to his fours and turned into the side brush and was gone. I stayed right there for some time before I went any further.

Like the time I spun a new model airplane I was testing for spins down to 1,500 feet from 11,000 before I got it out back at the factory in Ohio, I did not get scared till later that evening when I was having a drink on the boat.

But Ted, I feel that I can say as an expert on dangerous game in the U.S. or on the ice adjoining, that .350 cartridge is the smallest such I will be willing to stake my life on in such areas. Anything smaller may just make such an animal mad at me.

Bob Wommack said in a talk with him that made the .358 Win would be the chambering. But I would veto that as a dangerous game cartridge. Definitely. It does not have the FPE at a reasonable distance. I would not even want to depend on it in small grizzly country.

So Ted I put this down on paper for your perusal (how's that for a word). And for considering later on. Just one suggestion. Put a 22 inch barrel on that caliber Model 7.. OR at least a 20". That's what's on my Model 660.

I am very interested in view of all the bad reports on Winchester's FWT as to grouping to really give one of the Model 7s a going over accuracy wise as soon as one is available. I'd like that in 7MM 08. That will make a most excellent all round gun for Australian use as well as here in N.M.

I never did write up the Win. FWT for Australia as it grouped far too poorly for that. I am shipping back the 3rd one of those in .257 that I have had here for test. And the bad thing is I cannot find out a remedy for it. OR suggest one unless it might be a new barrel.

It's been hellish cold and freezing rain and snow for 4 days. Right now it's bright sunshine and 35 in the shade but fine in the sun.

That's it for now Ted.

Les

I'd make you a bet that right now the deer are all over the place at Pincher Creek. It's not that they were not back up there when we were there but that they had not come down low enough for the way we were hunting from cars.

Les