



Les and Martie Bowman

LB-RANCH

SOUTH FORK
CODY, WYOMING

Feb. 22, 1963

Dear Wayne:

Got a coyote today and a badger so some pix of them. Have Toms last gun here so can use it a bit. The one shipped me (IF) has never arrived as yet. Tom Siatos called me yesterday by phone and asked if I'd meet a deadline he had for 2 weeks from then. I will. Got the pix and need just some more shooting and chrono data that I'll make get tomorrow or next day. Had to quit a few days and haul hay and horses.

Was doing some loading tonight of some cases for tomorrow shooting and there is one thing I wish you'd make a note on a piece of paper and airmail it right now. Want to know myself and also for story material.

"Whats the OA length MAX of the case on the 221."

Thats one thing I have to watch here in loading is case growth. They never do need full length resizing but do grow in length. I load in Saeco Stubby dies all the time. But tonight I ran thru 300 fired ones and some had many reloads and are mixed in. The Micrometer calipers show a variance of over .010 ..AS the ones all chamber okay I left the .08's in and seperated all over that out and will trim. I have a already trimmed many before. It takes about 8 reloads or more to make 'em grow.

I fired one case over ten times with 35 gr bullets and CSI mag primers and a good load of 4227 at 3125 and never could make a bit of head increase nor sticky ejection or any other trouble. Some day when I have time I'll go ahead and see if I can fire one a hell of a lot more.

Loran Harbour sent me 2700 new bullets yesterday. I had written asking him to just send me another thou. jackets for making my 53 gr bullets in .38&A dies. He thought I needed more bullets I guess. But I'm glad as he included several Hundred .224's . Some of the 40 gr Hornet .224's . Some of the new 50 gr BLITZ. Many hundred of the 53 gr bench rest. And 2-3 hundred of the 63 gr . So I'll do some chrono'ing and accuracy stuff with them all. We did not get much accuracy with the 30 gr bullets. I even pulled them and reloaded with weighed powder. No good at 100 yards.

Here is a sta up for the length info right quick. Whats std or min .And whats max. Will send some pix some day and in the meantime here is one of me today with the new Bushnell made holster that Al Akin rushed thru for me to criticize. The hold in staps is one I put on today. Holster is light and okay. Toms that he had made in Sheridan weighs four times as much and has a flap over the top. Hell, here's a pix of that too with me on my quarter horse stud scathack. I like the one today best for use but Toms is good for protection to carry in the car.

Best Les