



Smith & Wesson

gunsmiths

11/8

12:30 194R7

13 October 1988

The City of New York
Police Department
One Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

Confirming our telephone conversation on Friday 07 October 1988, we have been able to duplicate the hammer bind (sticks to the rear when the trigger is pulled through its entire stroke). This condition is the result of the hammer nose hitting the rear of the hammer nose bushing. This results in an impact force transmitted back through the hammer stud and can cause the stud to fail in fatigue.

There are other situations that can aggravate this hammer nose/bushing condition. The oversize hammer stud hole or chamfer depth allows the stud to move excessively. Your Model 60's should be acceptable in this respect due to the previous inspection and repair that is currently underway. Also, during assembly, the trigger/hammer mechanism is operated without the sideplate in place which further stresses the stud when the hammer nose is hitting the hammer bushing. Normally, our assembly personnel would pick up the condition of the hammer nose hitting the hammer nose bushing by operating the hammer with their thumb on the hammer spur. This was not possible with the spurless hammer.

The condition of the hammer nose hitting the bushing can be determined by a visual inspection. I am enclosing a photograph of a bushing that came from a unit you returned for hammer bind. We subsequently noted it also had a broken stud. You might note a slight outward peening of the top of the bushing on some units. This is normal and should not be considered a defect.

We believe the units that have been returned to us during the past year, represent the small percentage that had the combination of hammer nose hitting the bushing and oversize sideplate hole. There is little to no risk involved now with the safety or function of those currently in service. However, as part of your routine semiannual qualification program, we recommend the Model 60's be visually inspected for hammer nose hits bushing. If it is present, the revolver should be returned to Smith & Wesson. We will replace the bushing, hammer nose and/or hammer stud.

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In closing, I want to reemphasize our primary concern has and will continue to be the safety and function of every gun we deliver to you. Your support has been extremely helpful in bringing this to a successful conclusion.

I encourage you to stay in touch and report any problems directly to my attention or to Rich Mackney. If I can be of any assistance in the future please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

SMITH & WESSON

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Warren L. Tomek".

Warren L. Tomek
Director Quality Assurance

WLT/gmc

Enclosure

From the collection of RM Vivas - email: robert@vivasandson.com - www.vivasandson.com

