





















Antique and Modern Firearms 2263 Nicholasville Rd Lexington, KY 40503

April 27, 2018

Dear Sirs:

The revolver described in your recent letter is the .38 Military & Police Model of 1905 4<sup>th</sup> Change. This model was introduced in 1915 and manufactured until 1942. Total production was 759,000 units. It was produced in barrel lengths of 2", 4", 5", and 6", in both .38 Special and .38 S&W calibers.

This Model was supplied to all branches of the U. S. Armed Services in the .38 Special caliber. Guns produced for England, Canada, and other allies were chambered for the .38 S&W cartridge and were supplied under the Lend Lease Program. These revolvers since they were on loan to the Allied Forces were United States property and so marked on the revolvers.

Small groups of these Models were sold to commercial companies and Police Agencies during the war time production. The orders for commercial sales were submitted to the United States Governments Defense Supply Corporation which would then issue sales orders to Smith & Wesson directing them to sell to the various listed companies. The Defense Supply Corporation ordered revolvers were shipped without U.S. or other military markings.

After the start of the World War II and the serial numbers reach 1,000,000 for this model the Company started a new serial number series with a letter V prefix. This group of World War II models was called the .38 Victory Models.

We have researched your Smith & Wesson .38 Military & Police Model of 1905 4<sup>th</sup> Change, United States Navy Contract, caliber .38 S&W Special, revolver in company records which indicate that your handgun, with serial number 758153 was shipped from our factory May 28, 1941, and delivered to United States Navy Department U.S. Naval Yard, Washington, DC. The records indicate that this revolver was shipped with a 4 inch barrel, blue finish, butt swivel, and checkered walnut silver monogrammed grips. This shipment was for 300 units and was ordered for Naval Civilian Police Corps and was stamped on the backstrap "U.S.N.C.P.C." and they were billed at the contract price of \$20.68 each.

We trust that the information furnished will be helpful and of interest.

Sincerely,

S&W Historical Foundation

Roy G. Jinks



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