

Subject:

WAR DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE.

WASHINGTON.

C

13092-507

April 18, 1906.

Sir Charles Ross,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1. There is sent you herewith, under separate cover, one brown print of Drawing 18, Class 47, Division 3, showing the details of experimental ball cartridges for revolvers and automatic pistols, caliber .45, adopted by this Department for use in a competitive test to be held for determining that type of caliber .45 arm best suited for adoption for use principally by the cavalry and light artillery of the United States Army. It will be noted that the cartridges for revolvers and automatic pistols differ only in that those for the former arms have a rimmed shell and those for the latter arms a cannellured shell. The bullet weighs 230 grains, and with a charge of smokeless powder of approximately 5.2 grains gives in automatic pistols a muzzle velocity of 600 feet per second, and in revolvers, with a charge of smokeless powder of approximately 7.2 grains, the same muzzle velocity.

2. The Ordnance Department will furnish at its own expense all cartridges of the designs shown on the drawing required in the test of all arms entered in the competition. Should inventors desire to procure in limited quantities these cartridges for making preliminary tests of the arms which they intend to



submit for test, they will be sold by the Department at \$2.05 per hundred, delivered f.o.b. Bridgeport, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

3. The competitive test will be conducted by a Board of officers of the United States Army that will be convened by the War Department to meet at the Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A., on September 12, 1906. All arms submitted for test must therefore be delivered to the Commanding Officer, Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts, not later than 12 o'clock, noon, September 11, 1906. No arms will be tested which do not use cartridges of the designs shown on the drawing herewith. Both revolvers and automatic pistols will be tested; any inventor is at liberty to submit arms of both classes and more than one arm of either class.

4. You are hereby invited to submit for the above-mentioned competitive test such revolvers and automatic pistols as you may desire; the only restriction placed upon their design is that they shall use the cartridges to be furnished by this Department for the test.

5. You are requested to inform this office of your acceptance or declination of the above invitation.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM CROXIER

Brig.Gen.Chief of Ordnance.