

Colt's Manufacturing Company, Inc.

Past Historians:

Arthur Ulrich 1903-1941

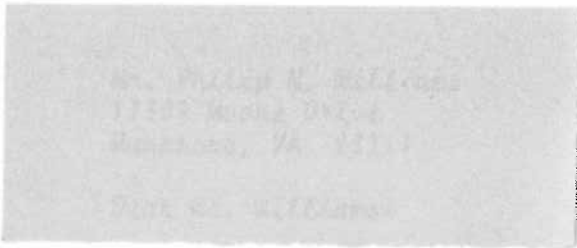
Harold Hart 1942-1945

March 17, 1993

Charles Coles 1950-1965

Ron Wagner 1957-1972

Martin Huber 1972-



Colt, by the means of this letter, is proud to authenticate the manufacture of the following Colt firearm:

COLT COMMANDER AUTOMATIC PISTOL

Serial Number:	0056
Caliber:	9 M/M
Barrel Length:	4 1/4"
Finish:	Blue
Type of Stocks:	Not Listed
Shipped To:	Mr. Marion Williams, Special Agent F.B.I. Laboratory Washington, D.C.
Address:	Washington, D.C.
Date of Shipment:	December 13, 1949
Number of Same Type Guns in Shipment:	1

Remarks: The above firearm is an early production of the aluminum lightweight 9 M/M. Markings on the slide are special roll markings which indicates the standard marking dies were not available and the eventual marking of this arm was not certain. The barrel marking also is an indication that standard barrels were not available. This prototype was sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for evaluation and test purposes for possible production by Colt later on.



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Serial Number 0056

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Eventually, this model was marketed by Colt as the "Commander". The serial numbers 001 to 0065 appeared on the first 65 guns assembled and numerated by the engineering dept. Starting with 66 the letters 00 were omitted and the letters LW were substituted and used as a suffix. Records do not mention the .45 caliber conversion parts with this gun. As noted stocks were not listed.

We trust the information supplied above will be of interest.

Sincerely,


M.S. Huber
Historian Emeritus

MSH:mecu

