HANDLE WITH CARE:

Old Style Single-Action Revolvers

Limitations on Use:

1. Regardless of the position of its hammer, an old style single-action revolver with a loaded chamber under the firing pin may discharge if accidentally dropped or struck on the hammer.

2. The safety notch in the hammer provides only limited protection against accidental blows to the hammer or accidental pulling of the trigger.

3. Ever since the introduction of the famous “Peacemaker” single-action revolver over 100 years ago, it has been generally known that the safest way to carry such revolvers is to load no more than five cartridges and to keep an empty chamber under the firing pin.

Exceptions:

1. Although many are still in use, we discontinued our old model single-action revolvers in 1973 when we introduced our history-making, patented “New Model” revolvers. The internal mechanism of our New Model single-action revolvers is entirely new and is not subject to the limitations on use listed above for the old model. Both models look alike, but the New Model has the words “NEW MODEL” marked on the frame and has only two visible pins in the side of the frame instead of three screws as in the old model.

2. Some of the other brands of old style single-action revolvers, particularly those of foreign manufacture, have added various manual “safeties” which may or may not be reliable. Even if it functions properly, a manual safety device is no safer than the person using it. It is useless if it is not used, or if it is used improperly by mistake.

Why Are We Telling You This?

In the last few years, people are apparently becoming more willing to handle firearms, including Ruger single-action revolvers, without first receiving proper instruction from a knowledgeable shooter. No one should handle any gun without first having supervised instruction about the particular type of gun he is using, as well as about gun safety in general. Until very recently, everyone, gun users and non-users alike, seemed to be well aware of this obvious rule, and accidents with single-action revolvers, as well as with other types of guns, were limited to those very few occasional lapses of common sense against which, unfortunately, there appears to be no real protection. Now, with the growth of consumerism, people who should know better are acting as though guns, like electric Toasters, are meant to be foolproof. There is no such thing as a foolproof gun.