

.22 Rim Fire Boxes
of the U.S.A.
ID. Reference



Robin Hood
Ammunition Company
Swanton, VT

Created and Edited By
Roger E. Huegel
2012

CONTRIBUTORS

THANKS

Special thanks to the following collectors for helping me with this project by supplying me with box images and sharing their knowledge. Presented in alphabetical order.

.22 BOX NEWSLETTER

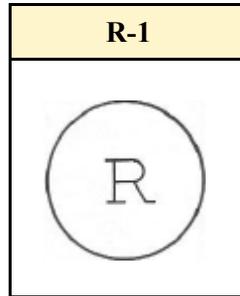
DAVE CLEMENCE

JERRY HANEWINCKEL

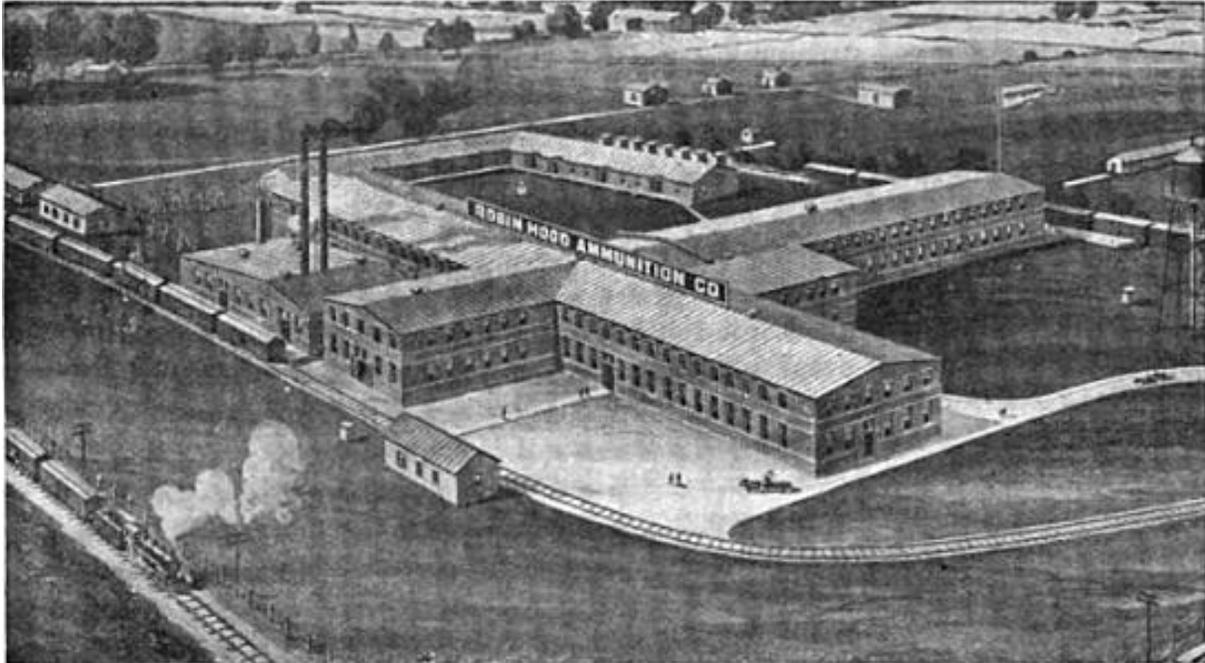
JOHN KUNTZ

HEADSTAMPS (h/s)

Headstamp drawings courtesy of the RIMFIRE HEADSTAMP GUIDE by George Kass and Ron Merchant



HISTORY



The Robin Hood Ammunition Company's plant at Swanton, Vermont

The Robin Hood Ammunition Company was created by the Robin Hood Powder Company to load shells using their powder. The Robin Hood Powder Company was organized and incorporated in Vermont on January 8, 1900. Its cartridge subsidiary, the Robin Hood Company, was incorporated in Vermont by a special act of the Legislature #326. of 1904 and its title was changed to the Robin Hood Ammunition Company by a special act of the same body, #422, in 1906.

The first output of the new company was loaded shot shells. At first Robin Hood loaded their shells with components purchased from other shot shells manufacturers and their own powder. When the major manufacturers formed the Ammunition Manufacturers Association to control the marketing and pricing of ammunition by controlling the supply of components to the smaller manufacturers, Robin Hood was forced to produce their own components or go out of business, as did many of the other smaller producers of that era.

This led to the reorganization and recapitalization of the company which then led to the name change to the Robin Hood Ammunition Company in 1906. They were forced to add centerfire and rimfire cartridges to product line to become a full line manufacturer. Their factory in Swanton was a major employer in that town and occupied a fair amount of land. It was served by a railroad and had a steam power plant to run its equipment.

Forced to compete with Winchester, the U.S. Cartridge Company and the Union Metallic Cartridge Company, it is surprising that Robin Hood was able to continue in business. However, they not only continued, but produced a very wide line of products, and seemingly, with very good sales results. Their shotshells can be noted with a wide range of brand names stamped on their heads. They

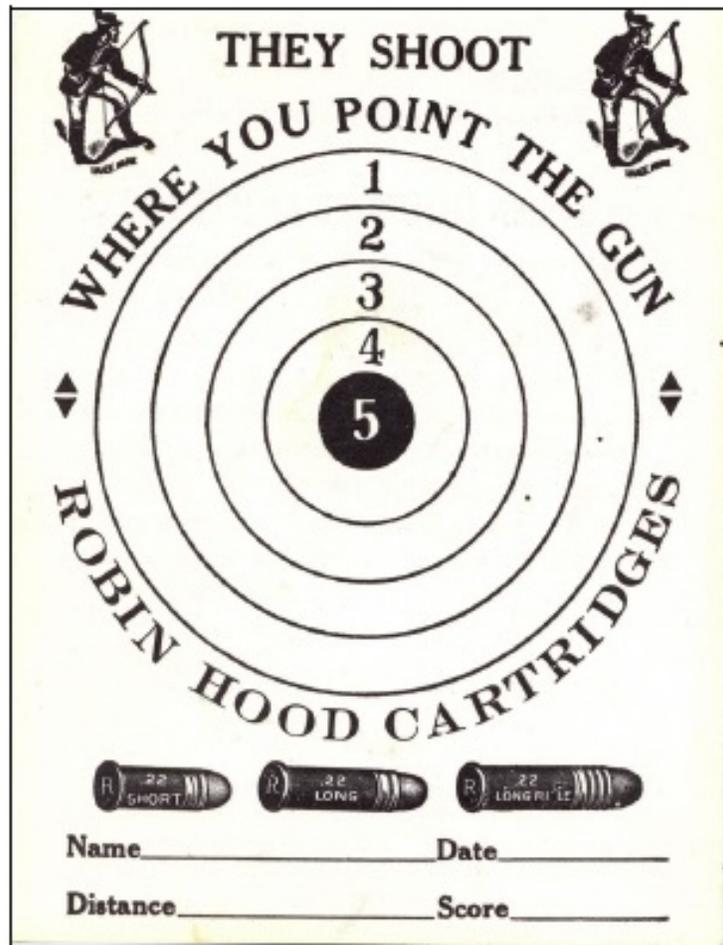
HISTORY

produced an almost full range of .22 rimfire cartridges, with many of the singles being very collectable and the boxes are all desirable and rare.

In 1915, the Remington Arms Company purchased the assets of Robin Hood. In January 1916, Remington merged Robin Hood in to its cartridge manufacturing operation, the Union Metallic Cartridge Company.

At the same time a new company was formed, the Remington Arms-Union Metallic Cartridge Co., which combined the assets of all three companies. It is not known when their production of .22 rimfire cartridges ceased, but Remington continued to operate the Swanton plant until 1919, producing military ammunition for World War 1, mostly for export. By 1920 all production was transferred out of Swanton. Today, the plant is completely gone.

Note: Much of the above information is from THE RIMFIRE CARTRIDGE by John Barber. Many thanks to John for allowing this information to be used in this cartridge.

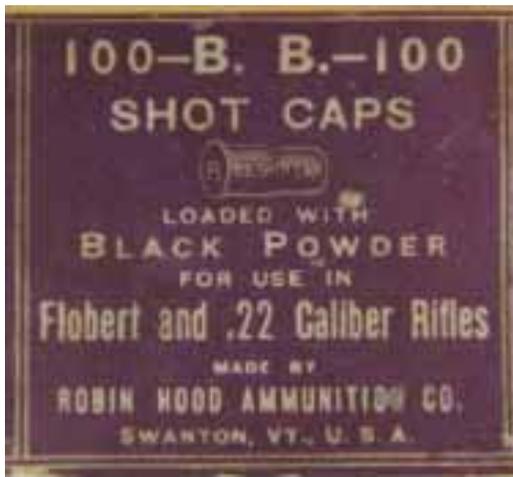


Advertising target showing some of their .22's

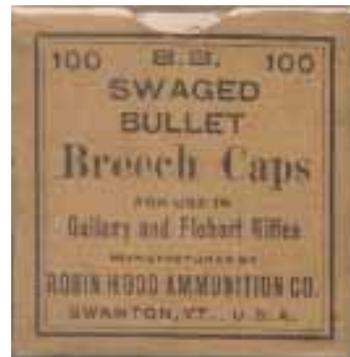
ROBIN HOOD AMMUNITION Co.

PLAIN LABEL Issues

BB-1



BB-2



CB-1



S-1



S-1.1



S-1.2



S-2



PLAIN LABEL Issues

It is not known how these issues fit into the product line of Robin Hood. They could have been produced before the boxes with the drawing of Robin Hood, or after, or during. It might-be assumed that they were produced before, due to the boxes that are over-stamped GREASELESS. The boxes with the drawings of Robin Hood have the GREASELESS as part of the label.

NOTE: All Robin Hood .22 cartridges have copper cases with "R-1" headstamps (h/s) and loaded with lead bullets, except the blanks.

- BB-1 **.22 B.B. CAPS (SHOT).** Blue label with white printing. Box of 100 rounds. All that is available to the catalog is a label, so contents are unknown at this time. This is a black powder loading.
- BB-2 **.22 B.B. CAPS.** "SMOKELESS" Buff one piece end flap box with black printing. Box of 100 rounds. Marked SMOKELESS on bottom of box. Box is empty so contents are unknown.
- CB-1 **.22 C.B. CAPS.** Red label with white printing. Box of 100 rounds. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets. This is a smokeless powder loading.
- S-1 **.22 SHORT (BLANK).** Buff, one-piece box with a tray. Black printing on the box. Bulk packed box of 50 rounds. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Buff wads.
- S-1.1 **.22 SHORT BLANK.** Buff one piece end flap box with black printing. Back of box states BEVEL CRIMPED BLANKS, EXTRA LOAD REPORT. Copper cases with white top wad.
- S-1.2 **.22 SHORT BLANK.** Same as S-1 except for slight difference in font size and placement.
- S-2 **.22 SHORT (BLANK).** Buff label with black printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Buff wads.

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PLAIN LABEL Issues

S-3



S-4



S-4.1



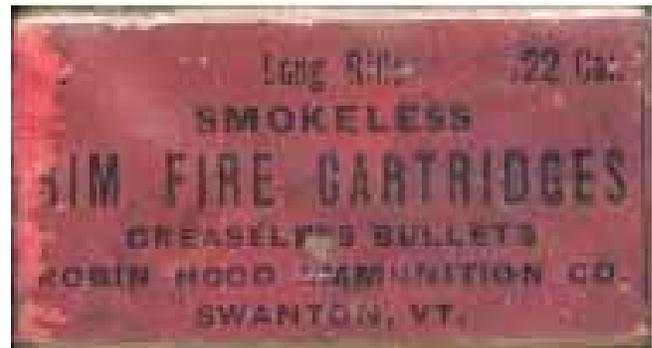
S-5



L-1



LR-1



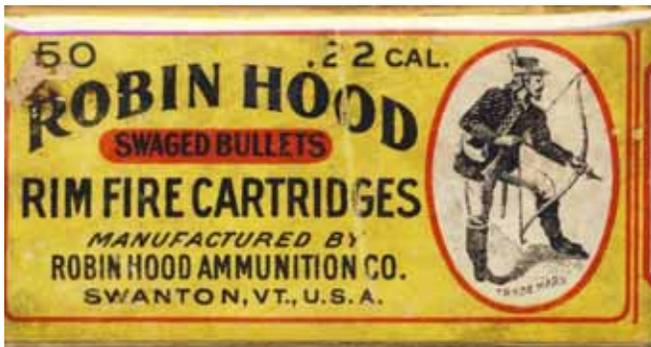
PLAIN LABEL Issues

- S-3 **.22 SHORT (BLANK)**. Same as S-2 except a different format to the printing of the label.
- S-4 **.22 SHORT**. "SWAGED BULLETS". Blue label with black printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- S-4.1 **.22 SHORT**. "SMOKELESS". Blue label with white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. No product code. Full wrap-around end label. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- S-5 **.22 SHORT**. "SMOKELESS GREASELESS". Red label with white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets. The GREASELESS is over-stamped in black ink.
- L-1 **.22 LONG (SHOT)**. "BLACK POWDER". Buff label with white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. No product code. Box is empty, so contents are unknown at this time. This very poor box is the only known specimen.
- LR-1 **.22 LONG RIFLE**. "SMOKELESS GREASELESS". Only this red label is known to exist.

ROBIN HOOD AMMUNITION Co.

BOXES WITH ROBIN HOOD DRAWINGS

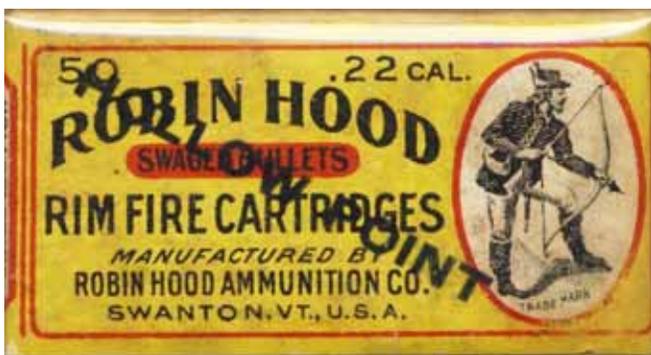
S-1



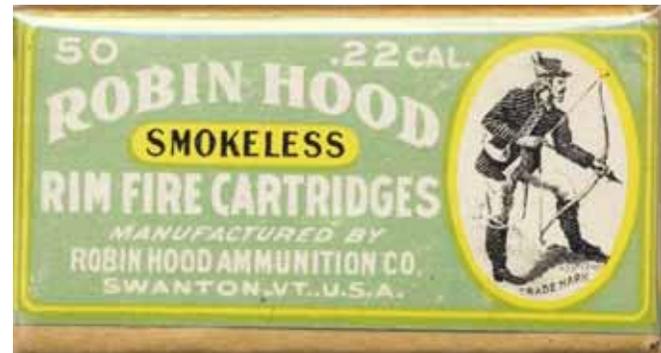
S-1.1



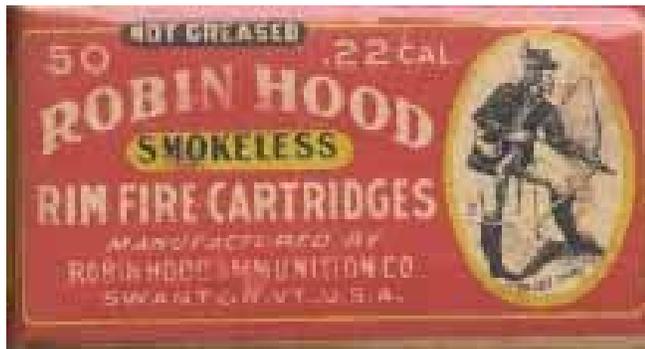
S-1.2



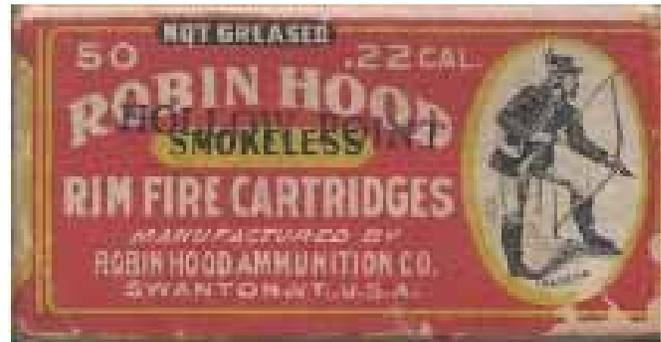
S-2



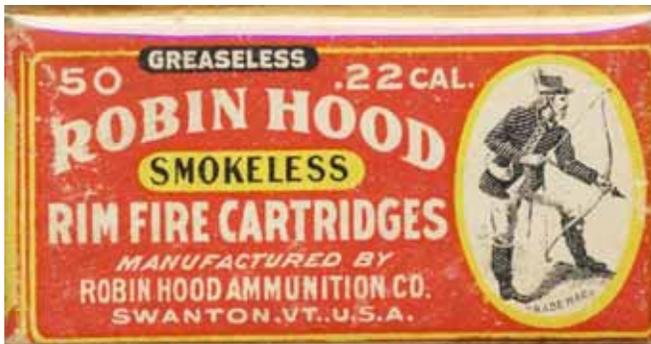
S-3



S-3.1



S-4



S-4.1



BOXES WITH ROBIN HOOD DRAWINGS

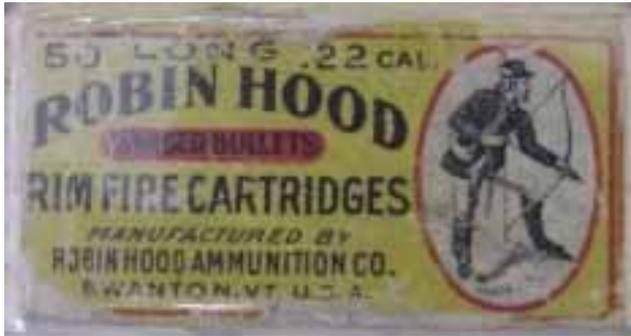
These boxes were probably produced in the 1912 to 1916 period. They are one of the most collectable of all of the U.S. boxes. Very few are known to exist today.

- S-1 **.22 SHORT.** "SWAGED BULLETS". Yellow label with black and red printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. Ends read .22 CAL. ROBIN HOOD GREASED. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets. This is a black powder loading.
- S-1.1 **.22 SHORT** "BLACK POWDER GREASED". Yellow, white, and red end wrap-around label with black and white printing on a two-piece, full-cover box. This box is thought to be an early printing of S-1 without the black printing. Note that the other red and green short boxes all have white printing.
- S-1 **.22 SHORT (HOLLOW POINT).** "SWAGED BULLETS". Same as S-1 except over-stamped HOLLOW POINT. Contents unknown.
- S-2 **.22 SHORT.** "SMOKELESS". Green and yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No callout for style of bullet lubrication on the top or ends. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- S-3 **.22 SHORT.** "SMOKELESS, NOT GREASED". Red and yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- S-3.1 **.22 SHORT (HOLLOW POINT).** "SMOKELESS, NOT GREASED". Same as S-3 except over-stamped HOLLOW POINT.
RECLASSIFIED from S-3A.
- S-4 **.22 SHORT.** "SMOKELESS, GREASELESS". Same as S-3 except for the change in the bullet lubricant call-out on top of the label.
- S-4.1 **.22 SHORT.** "SMOKELESS, GREASELESS". Same as S-3 except for the change in the bullet lubricant call-out on top of the label. Note small GREASELESS at bottom left edge of top.
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ROBIN HOOD AMMUNITION Co.

BOXES WITH ROBIN HOOD DRAWINGS

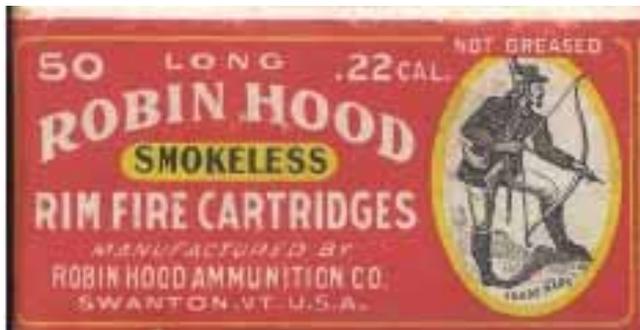
L-1



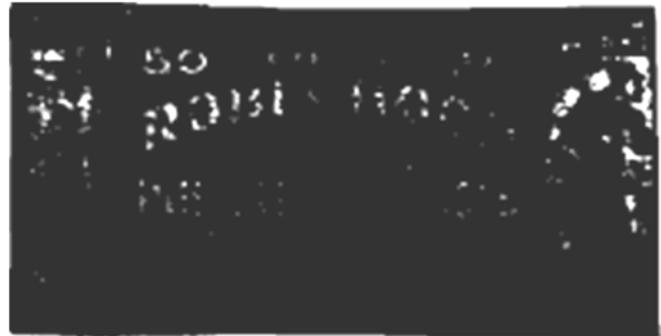
L-1.1



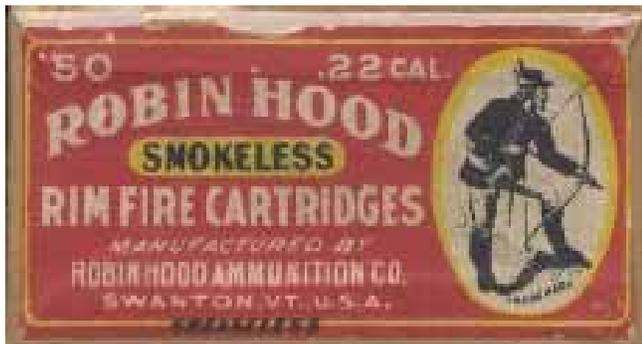
L-2



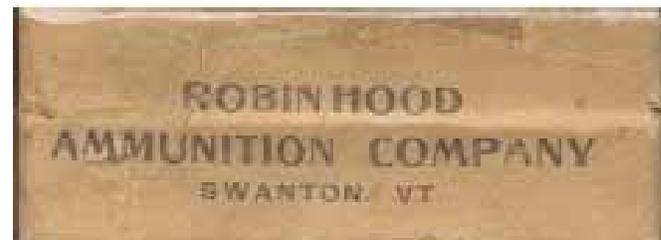
L-3



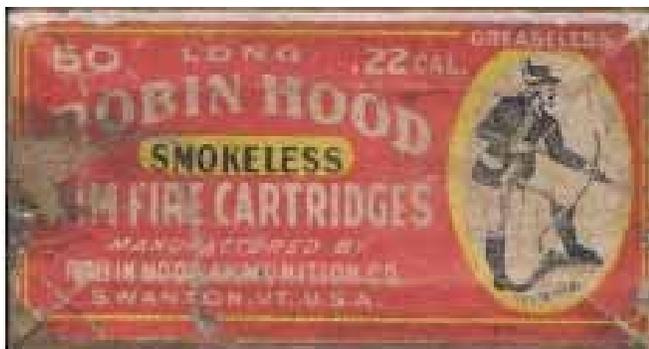
L-4



L-4 Side sealing band



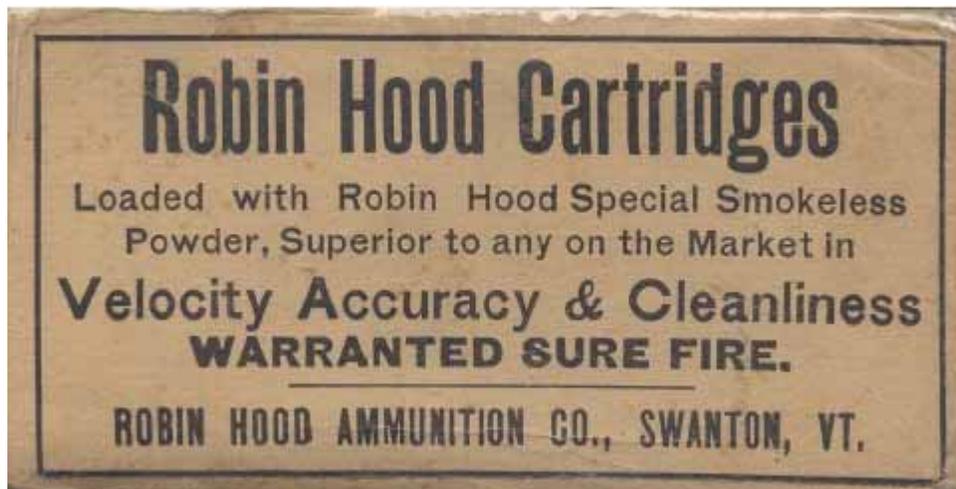
L-5



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BOXES WITH ROBIN HOOD DRAWINGS

- L-1 **.22 LONG.** "SWAGED BULLETS". Yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Ends read .22 CAL. ROBIN HOOD GREASED. No product code. "R-I" h/s on a copper case.
- L-1.1 **.22 LONG (HOLLOW POINT).** "SWAGED BULLETS". Same as L-1 except over-stamped HOLLOW POINT in black ink. Contents unknown.
- L-2 **.22 LONG.** "SMOKELESS, NOT GREASED". Red and yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. "R-I" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- L-3 **.22 LONG.** "SMOKELESS, GREASED". Same as L-2. except for the style of bullet lubricant callout on the top of the label. Note that the GREASED is printed at the bottom of the label.
- L-4 **.22 LONG.** "SMOKELESS, GREASELESS". Same as L-2, except for the style of bullet lubricant callout on the top of the label. Note that the GREASELESS IS printed on the bottom part of the label.
- L-5 **.22 LONG.** "SMOKELESS, GREASELESS". ". Red and yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. No side sealing band.



Brick carton for L-2

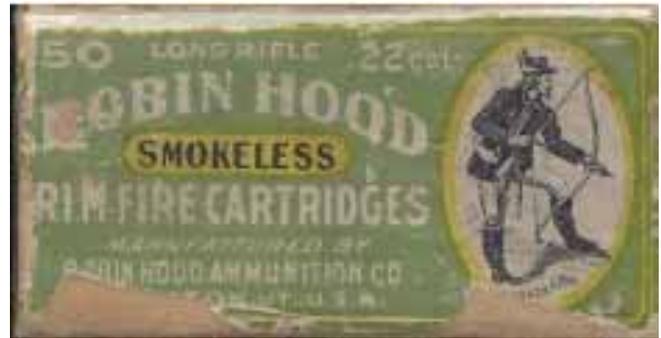
ROBIN HOOD AMMUNITION Co.

BOXES WITH ROBIN HOOD DRAWINGS

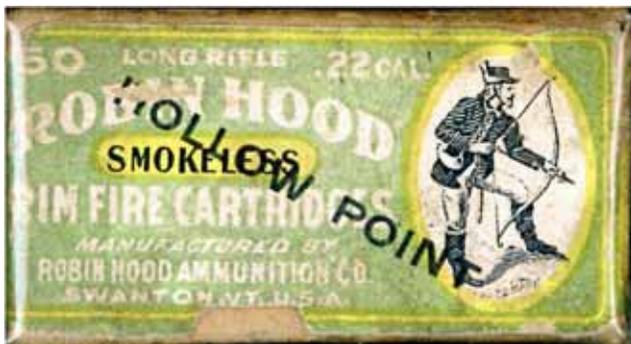
LR-0

NO IMAGE
AVAILABLE

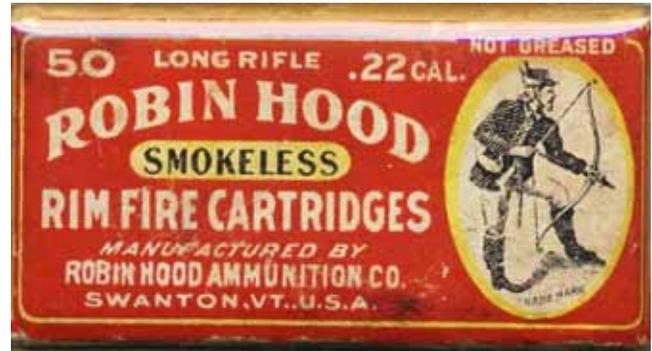
LR-1



LR-1.1



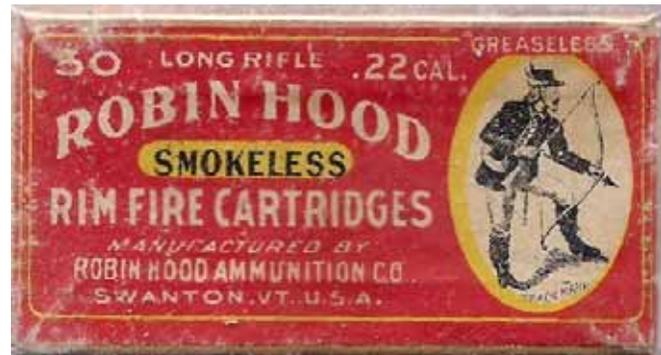
LR-2



LR-3

NO IMAGE
AVAILABLE

LR-4



ROBIN HOOD AMMUNITION Co.

BOXES WITH ROBIN HOOD DRAWINGS

- LR-0 **.22 LONG RIFLE.** "SWAGED BULLETS" Yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. Box is empty so contents unknown.
- LR-1 **.22 LONG RIFLE.** "SMOKELESS" . Green and yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. Ends state GREASED. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- LR-1.1 **.22 LONG RIFLE (HOLLOW POINT).** "SMOKELESS" . Same as LR-1 except. top is now over-stamped HOLLOW POINT.
- LR-2 **.22 LONG RIFLE.** "SMOKELESS, NOT GREASED" . Red and yellow label with black and white printing. Buff, two-piece, full cover box. Full wrap-around end label. No product code. "R-1" h/s on a copper case. Lead bullets.
- LR-3 **.22 LONG RIFLE (HOLLOW POINT).** "SMOKELESS, NOT GREASED" . Same as LR-2 except the top is over-printed HOLLOW POINT.
- LR-4 **.22 LONG RIFLE** "SMOKELESS GREASELESS" Red, white, and yellow end wraparound label with white and black printing on a two-piece, half-split cover box.