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Subject: Re: Caliber 740 (Premo, WSC, Guild) - 17J & 19J variants

Posted by [Case](#) on Sun, 09 Feb 2020 05:05:51 GMT

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Checked US patent 833489, and the expiration date is listed as 10/16/1923. So my above statement was incorrect—and I've found an example 749 from my records to show the patent stamp remains through at least the WSC days. May mean my Guild one above is later 1923 (orphaned, so no case ref.)

WSC 740 example: front plate stamped with sn 936549 & US Pat 833489. Case is Wadsworth House # Line, Referee, not Gruen signed but stamped "740". I read case #4775606.

Other non-Gruen signed Referees I've also noted stamped "750". So the Referee cases were original issue.

Not sure that it was an overorder of 740 cases, but rather an indicator of what the case stamped caliber meant at the time. The "740" case stamp seems to be the base/original model, like the "153" stamp on early Cartouche models, denoting the spec for the movement & crystal size to fit the case design but not necessarily the actual caliber used. The early 835 cartouches all were 153-stamped cases, and some continued to be stamped 153 even after 835 case stamps come into play (close study may show a slight difference in crystal sizes/shapes).

"740" stamped in the case may have just remained the case spec reference for early semi-thin cases that were 17L, open face, and had the same crystal size as the original 740. Would explain why so many 75X semis from the early 20s have 740 case stamps.