

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS LETTER IS ACCOMPANYING A REMINGTON .308 CAL., MOD. 700, BOLT ACTION RIFLE WHICH IS OWNED BY THE SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND SOLELY UTILIZED BY PRECISION MARKSMEN OF THE DEPARTMENT'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM. I WAS ASSIGNED THIS RIFLE ON FEBRUARY 1993. IN FEB. 1993 I ATTENDED A SNIPER SCHOOL PUT ON BY H & K (PHIL SINGLETON, INSTRUCTOR). I WAS ADVISED BY MR. SINGLETON AND OTHER INSTRUCTORS THAT THE BARREL OF MY RIFLE WAS NOT CENTERED AND TOUCHING THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BEDDING. THEY ADVISED ME THE TOUCHING COULD CAUSE VIBRATION AND WOULD CAUSE IT'S SHOT GROUPING TO BE ERRATIC. I EXPERIMENTED WITH MY RIFLE FOR 3-4 MONTHS. I THEN BEGAN TO NOTICE THAT MY COLD BORE SHOT WAS ALWAYS 3/4 TO 1" TO THE LEFT AND ABOVE MY POINT OF AIM. IN AUGUST OF 1993 MYSELF AND THE SPD CADRE LEADER (MARK MOUNT) DISASSEMBLED THE BARREL FROM THE STOCK OF MY RIFLE AND SANDED DOWN THE BEDDING OF THE STOCK. WE REATTACHED THE BARREL. SINCE THEN MY RIFLE HAS PERSISTED IN THE PROBLEM OF MY COLD BORE SHOT BEING 3/4 TO 1" TO THE LEFT AND ABOVE MY POINT OF AIM. IN FEBRUARY OF 1994, DURING A SNIPER SHOOTING COURSE MY RIFLE WAS EXPERIENCING A PROBLEM OF THE SPENT CASING GETTING CAUGHT ON THE EXTRACTOR OF THE BOLT. I EXPERIENCED THIS 3-4 TIMES. I IMMEDIATELY CLEANED MY RIFLE AND THE EXTRACTOR PORTION OF THE BOLT. I HAVE NOT EXPERIENCED THIS PROBLEM SINCE. IN MAY OF 1994 I ATTENDED THE WASHINGTON STATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE BASIC SNIPER SCHOOL. I AGAIN NOTICE MY COLD BORE BARREL SHOTS WERE OFF 3/4 TO 1" TO THE LEFT AND ABOVE MY POINT OF AIM. ONCE I SHOT SEVERAL ZERO SHOTS, MY GROUP WOULD BE FAIR TO GOOD. AFTER THIS SCHOOL, AND BEING WITH MY RIFLE FOR OVER ONE YEAR MY CONFIDENCE IN THIS RIFLE WAS DIMINISHING. I KNEW IN COMPETITIONS I SHOT AS WELL AS ANY OTHER SNIPER; BUT I HONESTLY DID NOT HAVE CONFIDENCE IN MY COLD BORE SHOT. AS A POLICE SNIPER, THE COLD BORE SHOT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SHOT. ON JULY 12, 1994 I WAS ABOUT TO TAKE MY COLD BORE SHOT AND AS I LAYED MY RIFLE DOWN ON IT'S BIPOD I FLIPPED THE SAFETY FROM THE SAFE POSITION TO THE FIRE POSITION. THE RIFLE DISCHARGED WITHOUT MY FINGER BEING ANYWHERE NEAR THE TRIGGER. TWO CADRE MEMBERS WITNESSED THE INCIDENT AND ONE MEMBER POSITIVELY DID NOT SEE MY FINGER ANYWHERE NEAR THE TRIGGER. AT THE TIME MY RIFLE WAS LOADED WITH FOUR IN THE MAGAZINE AND ONE IN THE CHAMBER. THE RIFLE HAS BEEN OFF LINE SINCE. AS A POLICE SNIPER I BELIEVE THE REMINGTON 700, .308 CAL. RIFLE IS VERY CAPABLE OF DOING THE THINGS NECESSARY A POLICE SNIPER RIFLE MUST DO. ALL SEATTLE POLICE ON LINE SNIPER RIFLES ARE THE REMINGTON 700, .308 CAL. BOLT ACTION RIFLE. I HAVE SHOT OTHER CADRE MEMBER'S RIFLES AND HAVE SHOT WELL WITH THEM. I DO BELIEVE THIS PARTICULAR RIFLE IS EXPERIENCING SERIOUS PROBLEMS TO THE POINT OF NO RETURN. SINCE MY TWO YEARS AS A POLICE SNIPER NOT ONE OTHER CADRE MEMBER HAS EXPERIENCED THE PROBLEMS WITH THEIR RIFLES AS I HAVE WITH MINE. PLEASE HAVE YOUR EXPERTS EXAMINE THIS RIFLE THOROUGHLY. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS RIFLE IS NOT USED FOR HUNTING BUT FOR HUMAN LIFE THREATENING SITUATIONS WHERE A PERSON'S LIFE MIGHT DEPEND ON THE PRECISION OF MY RIFLE AND IT'S COLD BORE SHOT.

SINCERELY YOURS,

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