

REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY, INC.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE



"CONFINE YOUR LETTER TO ONE SUBJECT ONLY" _____

Ilion, New York
April 2, 1981

TO: H.K. BOYLE

FROM: J.P. LINDE

SUBJECT: CARTRIDGE DETONATION - WHEN TRYING TO
REMOVE STUCK CASE IN CUSTOMER REPAIR.
APRIL 2, 1981 - M/700 A3204647 - 7mm MAG.

SCOPE: A Customer Repair employee was attempting to remove a stuck loaded round from a M/700 7mm Rem. Mag. Rifle when the cartridge detonated. He was removing the round by holding the barreled action (without the Breech Bolt) in a bench vise. He was using a brass mallet to strike on a rod inserted down the Barrel up against the cartridge bullet. The cartridge was stuck in the chamber and the case detonated and built pressure until sufficient force was achieved to overcome the strength of case. At this point the base of the cartridge, primer, bullet and pieces of the cartridge were blown out the back of the action. The bench vise was mounted on the corner of the bench adjacent to the aisle. The rear of the action was pointing towards the aisle, and an employee was hit with pieces of the brass case.

When the cartridge ruptured the primer, cartridge base, bullet and brass cartridge fragments were blown from the rifle and were found on the other side of the aisle, some twelve feet from the rifle. The cartridge head had the most energy - it had penetrated 1.8 inches into a wood bench. The other items only penetrated some cardboard packing material.

To: H.K. Boyle

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SCOPE - Contd.

The rifle chamber, bore and action have been checked and no defective characteristics have been found.

CONCLUSION: The struck cartridge fired from the force generated by hammering on the cartridge bullet. The pressure back loaded the primer causing it to fire.

RECOMMENDATION: A special guarded fixture should be constructed and used in an isolated area to remove stuck cartridges from rifles.

JPL;js