

To: K.W. Soucy
From: R.A. Jackson
Subject: Progress Report, November 1993.



M/700 DETACHABLE BOX MAGAZINE

We have successfully completed Trial & Pilot testing of .30-06 and .280 calibers in both stainless synthetic and non-stainless wood stock versions. This T&P testing included magazine box interchangeability testing. T&P testing of .270 caliber was in-process on 11/30/93.

Production build and Gallery testing of 6000 rifles began 11/15 with the understanding that these rifles will not be released for sale except by lot sampling. This is an additional ensurance measure that our very first production lots of rifles will function well. It is intended that the Test Lab sample each of the 8 RAMACs which make up this first 6000 DM rifles and test them prior to customer delivery. We expect to have all of these built by early January '94.

We have encountered "normal" amounts of difficulties while bringing this model into steady-state production. The most stubborn issue remaining involves our ability to powder coat the gloss black trigger guards and magazine box bottoms. We expect yields to come into line as processes are developed using our new infrared curing oven.

POWDER-COAT OVEN INSTALLATION

This oven will allow us to apply different powders which will eliminate the out-gassing problem and increase our output. December's tasks will include integrating this new infrared oven into the powder coating process and developing new processes.

With the advent of this new capability, we expect to be able to eliminate the need for the anodize and paint process now employed on M/552-572 receivers and M/700 BDL trigger guards.

The order of process development will be:

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1) M/700DM gloss box | 2) M/552-572 receivers |
| 3) Gloss trig. plate | 4) M/700DM gloss guard |
| 5) M/700 BDL guard | |

OTHER TESTING PROCEEDS

- * 6.5 X 55 Classic M/700 - T&P testing is in process
- * M/700 Varmint Synthetic Stainless Fluted - on sched. for Dec.
- * Synthetic trigger plate - prototype ready for dry cycle testing
- * Synthetic Viper mag. box - prototypes ready for test.