

Ilion Minute No. 4, 1959

8. Repositioned and larger operating handle pin
9. Revised fore end liner, bushing and spacer
10. Increased chamfer on receiver clearance holes
11. Revisions to gas nozzle and bracket
12. Retainers for rear sight screws
13. Caliber 308 style magazine boxes.

With respect to the new bolt latch listed under (1) above, the Research & Development Department stated that a keyway has been provided to prevent over-rotation of the bolt when fully retracted in a firing cycle. Over-rotation of the bolt was found to cause impact damage to the receiver guide rails, and consequent rough bolt functioning resulted from the damaged receiver rails after relatively few operating cycles. The new bolt latch corrects this source of malfunctions.

A collateral advantage derived from design changes to the breech ring nut is the facility with which the barrel may be removed from the action. By use of tools, the customer may remove the rifle barrel. The rifle is thus a takedown model.

The Research & Development Department considers that the design changes will provide a rifle which is slightly better on all counts than the original design.

The question of model number and receiver decoration for the revised rifle was discussed. In the Sales Department opinion, a new model number should be chosen which disassociates the revised model from the Model 740 as much as possible, since the Model 740 does not have an excellent reputation with shooters. "Model 750" was suggested as a designation.

Sample receiver decorations for the rifle receiver were shown by the Research & Development Department. Since receiver decorations must comprise a continuous pattern to permit transfer from die rolls to the receiver, and since the Sales Department wants receiver decorations executed by the outdoor artist Robert Kuhn who is not familiar with the rolling process requirements, it was agreed that both the Research & Development and the Sales Departments would discuss decoration requirements with the artist.

The Plant pointed out that delivery time for receiver die rolls approximates two months. Decorations must be defined and approved by September 1, 1959 if the revised model is to be ready for announcement on January 1, 1960. The Sales Department agreed to the September deadline.

The Committee agreed that the revised model with receiver decorations should be ready for announcement by January 1, 1960.

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