

CENTER FIRE RIFLES - contd.MODEL 700 CENTER FIRE RIFLES FOR 1969

R & D reported that a shrouded Bolt design is being tested. This design provides for partial covering of the end of the Firing Pin Assembly but still would make a part of the Firing Pin Head visible when the rifle is cocked. If testing is completed by April 15, the design can be released for production. If not, the design similar to the Model 660 will be released so that production schedules for the 1969 version can be met.

Production reported that a visit was made to the vendor fabricating the special machine to damascene finish the Bolt Assembly. The equipment should be ready for tryout in May. Funds were authorized for the changes to the Stock configuration and checkering pattern. Tool design has started. Due to the number of calibers and two grades, tooling must be completed so that production of some calibers can start not later than October 1, 1968. Schedules have been set up on this basis.

The Regional Managers recommended the addition of the 350 Rem. Mag. and 6.5mm calibers to the Model 700 "BDL" for 1969 announcement. R & D is testing model rifles to verify the design. When the design is established, economics will be developed. As part of the discussion, the recommendation was made to drop the 222 Rem. Mag. and 264 Mag. calibers in 1969. Marketing questioned the advisability of dropping the 264 Mag. caliber from the line since this would eliminate a competitive rifle for this caliber.

A sample single thickness "Corfam" Sling Strap was shown to the Committee. The R & D opinion was that it is too thin. Samples of a double thickness bonded together are being obtained. The appearance of the sample was questioned. This might be approved if the edges were colored and beveled.

Committee Action:

The proposed program for the shrouded Bolt was approved.

83