

CENTER FIRE RIFLESMODEL 744-766 CENTER FIRE RIFLES
(Introduction 1972)

R & D reported that the objective of starting a formal design test on the new center fire rifles by August 1, 1970 was not met. Decisions were made to incorporate modifications to Action Bars, Bolt Carriers and Bolt Latches to improve feeding, ease alignment of gas system parts and improve manual operations. Processing problems made a change to a steel in place of the proposed fiberglass liner for the Fore End necessary.

A prototype autoloading rifle incorporating the changes should be ready for design test in October. R & D does not consider it advisable to release any drawings to production until a satisfactory design test has been completed. To meet the scheduled 1972 announcement, tooling and special machine design should virtually be completed. Due to the delays that have been experienced, it now appears that announcement will have to be 1973. Revised economics should be available for review at the October meeting. 83

The indicated delay was discussed. The Arms Development Schedule indicates a new family of center fire rifles and shotguns. R & D has started initial development for these new guns and by giving priority to the center fire rifles, an earlier introductory date is believed possible. Marketing and R & D were charged with the responsibility of reassessing the entire program for autoloading and slide action center fire rifles. There are also problems of space, adequate design and processing personnel as well as time for equipment and tooling procurement that should be considered. The Arms Development Schedule to be reviewed at the October meeting should reflect the priorities and sequence for new models which can realistically be achieved.

MODEL 700 BOLT ACTION CENTER FIRE RIFLECaliber 25-06 "Varmint Special"
(Introduction 1971)

Production reported that forty-three (43) pilot "Varmint Special" Barrel and Receiver Assemblies have been roll marked, colored and are ready for pilot assembly.