

The problem of the guns already in the field was analyzed. Of the approximately 24,000 Model 3200s in the field, about 20,000 are target guns and about 4,000 are field guns. The target gun is subject to much heavier use and is therefore more susceptible to tang deformation. All of the guns returned so far with firing-on-closing complaints have been target guns. Nevertheless, due to the emphasis placed on safety by target shooters and range officials and the positions of shooters at a trap or skeet range, the possibility of personal injury as the result of a Model 3200 target gun firing on closing is extremely remote. Significantly, not one injury has been reported. Moreover, the history of our investigations to date indicates by far the great majority of tang breakage or deformation occurs in the top tang, which is easily seen by the shooter, providing ample notice that the gun needs repair. For all these reasons an attempt to recall the guns in the field is not warranted.

COMMITTEE ACTION

A "soft closing" campaign will be instituted, making shooters more aware of the proper handling of an over-and-under shotgun.

A gunsmith bulletin will be sent to all gunsmiths advising of the design changes and requesting that all Model 3200s with a tang problem be sent back to Ilion for modification.

Attendance of Remington gunsmiths at upcoming shoots will be increased, and Model 3200s will be carefully scrutinized.

A seminar will be held with the field force to apprise our representatives of the situation. The whole matter will continue to be closely monitored.

In order to minimize the possibility of a firing on closing and to increase the durability of the Model 3200 when subjected to harsh barrel slamming, the six-step design change previously discussed would be incorporated into all new production guns, all guns still held in the warehouse, and all guns as they are returned from the field for repair, regardless of whether there is any indication of tang damage.