

June 22, 1983

C. Wheeler Gun & Optical Shop
1908 Bldg. E. Geo. Washington Way
Richland, Washington 99352

Gentlemen:

Examination has been completed on your customer's, Mr. Arlen R. Schade, Model 700 BDL 300 Win. Mag. caliber rifle, serial number 6365637, which you returned to us because "the rifle fired when the safety was released".

The returned firearm, which was produced in September of 1970, has been examined by our firearms experts who report that it contained our high-pressure proof test, gallery test, and final inspection stampings, indicating that it had successfully passed all our necessary tests prior to shipment.

The general condition of the gun appeared to be good, but well used, and it was noted that the stock contained numerous marks. In addition, it was noted that scope mount bases had been added after the rifle originally left our factory.

Examination of the rifle and trigger assembly could not duplicate the reported malfunction. All parts tolerances and dimensions were found to be normal, including sear-connector engagement. Also, factory seals were intact on the trigger adjustment screws, indicating no alterations were made on the trigger outside our company. Trigger pull was well within specifications at 4½ pounds. In addition, a special test was conducted prior to disassembly, consisting of storing the firearm at an extremely cold temperature and then testing the gun's function. The rifle functioned normally in all respects.

Based on our findings, Remington Arms Company, Inc., cannot accept any liability or responsibility for the accident. It is possible that while Mr. Schade was moving the safety lever from the "safe" position to the "fire" position, he at the same time was inadvertently applying finger pressure to the trigger. When the safety lever reached the "fire" position, the gun then discharged - as it was designed to do - because the trigger was being pulled with the rifle no longer on "safe".