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MINUTE #1, 1948
ARMS

cc: J. J. Craig

MINUTES
SPECIAL PRODUCTS COMMITTEE MEETING
C. B. WELLS' OFFICE - JANUARY 20, 1948

PRESENT: E. C. Hadley
C. B. Wells
R. D. Jack
W. L. Clay

ALSO PRESENT: G. E. Pinckney

ABSENT: *H. K. Faulkner
*H. A. Brown

* Voted by telephone.

SUBJECT: MODEL 721 PRODUCTION SAMPLE (FINAL PRESENTATION)

Reference is made to Arms Minute #5 dated March 12, 1947 and Arms Minute #6 dated March 17, 1947 on the subject of Model 721 Production Samples.

In view of the numerous changes that have been incorporated in this rifle since the pilot production run, it was considered advisable to examine a rifle from current production to determine how well present rifles corresponded to the requirements established for previously approved production samples in relation to the pilot model. Accordingly the Products Committee examined Production Sample, Serial #21319, which had been previously approved by Messrs H. A. Brown and H. K. Faulkner. In addition, the pilot model (270 Winchester) now designated as P-258-1 was available for reference purposes.

In comparing the current production sample #21319 with the requirements set forth in Minutes #5 and #6 of 1947, the following discrepancies were noted:-

RECEIVER:

Rails - (b) The right rail on top of the receiver shows a wood margin whereas Minute #6, 1947, requires that the right rail be flush with the wood or show a slight steel margin. While the wood margin is approved for this particular sample, yet future production should adhere as closely as possible to the marginal requirements set forth in Minute #6, 1947. In this connection, G. E. Pinckney on April 7, 1947 wrote to C. W. Borden calling attention to the above requirements.

The serial number is on the inside of the receiver but later production will have serial numbers on outside of receivers - see Products Committee Minute #16, dated October 8, 1947.

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Tang - The wood margin on the production sample exceeds the .020" and shows a hump on the top of the grip. This condition should be corrected in future production.

BOLT AND BOLT PARTS:

(c) Bolt handle touches wood when the bolt is closed and the handle turned down whereas Minute #5, 1947, requires that the bolt handle should clear all wood. This condition should be corrected in future production.

TRIGGER AND TRIGGER GUARD:

The trigger on the production sample differs from the trigger on the pilot model in cross section as the flange has been removed and shape changed in accordance with Products Committee samples previously approved.

STOCK:

The stock clearance cut for the bolt handle is rounded at the bottom instead of square as shown on the pilot model but this change was approved by the Products Committee on previous samples.

Also, there is a reinforcement pin through the stock of the production sample as a temporary expedient with the understanding that the Technical Department and the Ilion Plant will make every effort to devise a means of avoiding the requirement for such a pin (see Minute #15, dated September 10, 1947).

In addition, the stock and fore-end are not provided with sling loops as they are not required on Grade A rifles. They will be furnished at an extra charge (see Products Committee Minute #29 dated July 11, 1946).

BUTT PLATE:

The production sample has an aluminum butt plate instead of a steel butt plate assembled to the pilot model. However, aluminum butt plates were approved by the Products Committee by Minute #29, dated July 11, 1946.

SAFETY:

The Products Committee members were of the opinion that the Safety still works too hard and that efforts should be made to ease its operation (see Products Committee Minute #5, dated March 12, 1947).

In conclusion, attention is called to the fact that the introductory selling prices of these rifles (Models 721-722) will result in an unsatisfactory return even though the prices are much higher than originally contemplated in relation to competitive models. The latest economics are set forth below:-

	<u>M/721A</u>	<u>M/722A</u>
Retail including tax	\$79.95	\$74.95
Wholesale including tax	60.00	56.25
Jobber's cost without tax and with 5% year end discount and 2% cash discount deducted	43.70	40.97
Less 15% for G & A	37.14	34.83
Profit	.44	
Loss		1.87
If the 15% G&A is deducted before the 2% cash discount, the following results:-		
Profit	1.21	
Loss		1.17
Factory cost - mid-1948 (Warden's letter 12/11/47 to Strader)	36.70	36.70

Decision:

The Products Committee recommends to Management that the Production Sample, M/721 (30-06) identified by Serial Number 21319, be approved subject to the conditions set forth above.

W. L. Clay
W. L. Clay
Secretary

WLC:VPD
1/21/48