

JHL/RMM - MARCH 15, 1961

C O P Y

TO: MESSRS. JAMES
LEWIS, CF
CALHOUN
MITCHELL
LEEK V

FOR
CONSIDERATION
and
COMMENT

D R A F T

Commissioner of Internal Revenue,
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Director, Alcohol and
Tobacco Tax Division

Subject: PROPOSED NEW MODEL PISTOL

Sir:

Remington Arms Company, Inc., has in the development stage a proposed new single shot pistol corresponding generally to the so-called "Free" pistols used in International Match competition. In addition to its use as a target arm, the proposed new pistol would be of great utility to the trapper and to those handling cattle and sheep on open ranges. Full development of the potentialities of this arm will open up an entirely new field of varmint hunting for woodchuck, fox, coyote and similar animals, to the pistol shooter.

In view of the fact that the National Firearms Act does not specifically define a "pistol or revolver", and since the proposed new pistol is somewhat unconventional, we deem it desirable to disclose this design to you and ask for your comments while the arm is still in the development stage.

The proposed new pistol is illustrated in the attached photographs and the attached layout drawing. As you will see, its breech locking action is of the turning bolt type similar to some of the German target pistols and like them is provided with a form fitting "Free" pistol type stock. The barrel is 10 inches long, overall length inches, and weight 4 pounds.

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The bolt must be operated to extract each cartridge, and a loose cartridge must be manually placed on a loading ramp before the bolt can be closed to fire a second shot. The model gun is of .22 caliber, chambered for a centerfire cartridge, such as the .222 Remington, and fires a ⁵⁰/₃₃ grain bullet at a muzzle velocity of approximately 2700 fps. The trajectory is quite flat, and good accuracy is achieved at ranges approaching 300 yards. The light high velocity bullet disintegrates on impact, eliminating danger from ricochets, yet is highly effective against varmint animals such as woodchuck, fox and coyote. Target accuracy is consistent with that of other "Free" pistols and, with the adoption of other "Free" pistol features, such as set triggers and extended sight radius, can probably be made superior. We believe the availability and widespread use of such an arm will develop skills in the use of the "Free" pistol which will enable American shooters to become serious contenders in International competition with this type of arm. We visualize this as an extremely practical arm for the cattleman, sheep herder or trapper, and as a popular one for the sport varmint hunter.

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We can see no field of criminal use for such an arm and, although it is somewhat unusual in design, believe it clearly falls within the intended field of "pistols" and, as such, is exempt from the regulatory provisions of the National Firearms Act. If you deem it desirable, we will be glad, on reasonable notice, to arrange to exhibit and demonstrate the model arm, either in Bridgeport or at our Ilion, New York, plant, to some designated agent of your Division. Special Agent of your Utica, New York, office, has seen the model pistol, and has some familiarity with the design and its capabilities.

Your comments will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

JOHN H. LEWIS, Jr.,
Patent Attorney

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