

Ilion, New York
February 21, 1963

W. E. LEEK

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the extremely hazardous condition found when checking over a production Model XP-100.

On February 18, 1963 John Finnegan and I were instructed by you to withdraw from the warehouse one XP-100. This gun was to be used as a standard in determining whether or not our present packaging system afforded the gun sufficient protection. The gun was to be inspected by me prior to commencing the test and following each test phase.

Initial inspection of the gun showed the following:

1. The gun had a tendency to follow down on closing of the bolt. If the action were closed with extreme care, the "follow down" occasionally would not occur. A very slight blow on the rear of the firing pin head, however, would cause the sear to release the firing pin and fire the gun.
2. The safety could not be operated by hand. In order to rotate the safety to the "On Safe" position, the safety lever had to be hammered rearward.
3. On removing the stock, it was found that the trigger had a tendency to bind in the trigger housing. The housing was opened to allow free trigger motion, but the "follow down" and "jar offs" still persisted. The sear block-sear engagement was increased to minimize the aforesaid tendencies, and the test was run.

On completion of the test, the gun was completely disassembled and critical fire control parts were inspected. This inspection showed the following:

1. Sear block-sear contact radius on sear block - .453 inches. OK
2. Sear height - .341 inches at widest point. Sear contact area appeared to be angled upward at contact point with sear block.
3. Sear block pivot hole in sear housing - OK.