

cc: E.S. McCawley

December 3, 1965

Mr. F. Bunham Chapman
Chapman, Inc.
512 Park Drive
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Chapman:

Ted McCawley has forwarded the Model XP-100 with modifications for my evaluation.

Since introduction of the XP-100 I have seen more combinations tried on it than any other sporting arm with which I have had the pleasure of being associated. The first device to steady the support for offhand as well as bench shooting was forwarded to me by Les Bowman, a big game outfitter in Cody, Wyoming. He suggested a strap fastened to the butt section of the stock; this strap to be over the shoulder and under the arm. And I have to admit it did steady the pistol in offhand shooting. Others have worked up different devices for supporting the muzzle and the grip section for bench rest shooting; all of which appeared to give added support.

Your device, although not tested, I am sure would also aid one in offhand shooting as it adds weight to the pistol as well as changing several of the moments during recoil.

As the years go by I expect to see more activity in this area by the enthusiastic shooters, and this we welcome as it does increase interest in our products. I want you to know that I appreciate your efforts and interest, as well as logic in your approach to the problem. I feel it is more of this type of creative thinking that is needed in this country rather than being satisfied with the commonplace.

In experimenting by dry firing on targets with your device I found it to be an aid in steadying the sights. I have done considerable amount of offhand shooting with pistols and the trick of course is to put increasing pressure on the trigger by the trigger finger as the sights approach the bullseye, regardless from which side the approach is made, and then as the sights move outwardly from the bullseye, restraint on pull of the trigger is made. However, with other devices similar to yours and the one I experienced

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with yours, a steadying of this condition is indicated.

Your thoughts on this problem were certainly appreciated.

Best regards,

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W. E. Leek
Manager - Firearms Research & Design
Ilion Research Division

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