

cc: C.B. Workman

Illon, New York  
June 8, 1971

To: W.E. Leek  
 From: D.S. Hardy  
 Subject: Evaluation of Remington Model 700 BDL in .17 Remington

I checked out from the Research Test Lab one Remington Model 700 BDL in .17 Remington and 100 rounds of 25 grain H.P. & B. Lokt ammunition for evaluation. I mounted a K10 Weaver Telescope on it and took the gun with me to South Dakota for my vacation. I shot some of F. Storiza's hardware in this high-speed unit.

I fired several groups with it while sighting the gun in. Three-shot groups averaged about 3/4" and five-shot groups ran about 1 1/4" at 100 yards from a sandbag rest at the rear with a Harris Bipod mounted on the front sling swivel.

The gun and ammunition combination was sudden death on blackbirds and striped gophers (a trophy "stripy" stands about 8" tall). On a trip to the middle of the state (near Chamberlain), I used the gun on prairie dogs. It was quite windy (about 25 mph) and, as expected, the little 25 grain bullet drifted quite severely when shooting in a cross wind. Bullet strike at distances of 200 to 300 yards were very difficult to spot because the little bullet didn't kick up much dust. I did shoot several prairie dogs at ranges from 75 to 100 yards which were killed instantly. I also shot one New York State wood-chuck which gave up without a flutter. In most cases, the bullet penetrated through the prairie dogs and the one wood-chuck and showed a fairly good sized exit for the size of the bullet.

All in all, I was very pleased with the gun's performance and had no malfunctions and no blown primers in the 100 rounds I shot. Other people that shot the gun were impressed with its lack of recoil and its minimal flight time. When told what the gun cost, however, most thought they could live without it.

DH:sp  
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