

cc: J. D. Mitchell  
R. A. Partnoy  
R. A. Baldwin  
S. M. Alvis

September 15, 1971

Mr. George T. Franz  
200 Virginia Road  
Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401

Dear Mr. Franz:

Thank you for your letter of September 6, 1971. It is nice to know that you are so well pleased with your Model 700 BDL in .222 Remington caliber.

With respect to the "world's strongest bolt action", I will try to get more detailed information for you relative to the means employed to test the rifles for this characteristic.

I was to some extent a participant in the tests which were used to support essentially this same claim relative to the Model 721 which first incorporated the bolt head and extractor construction which provides for such strength. These tests were pretty dramatic and convincing and involved the use of super proof cartridges loaded with charges of compressed powder. For the rifles that survived tests with these super proof loads, the further tests involved 220 grain bullets pushed into the rifling ahead of the super proof load. The original Model 721 rifle fired such a proof load plus either four or five lodged bullets. Recoil shattered the stock and the bolt handle broke off in trying to force the action open, but the action held together. I hauled a big collection of scrap steel to show the Patent Examiner the comparative results including all those that didn't stand up to the test.

Very truly yours,



JOHN H. LEWIS, Jr.,  
Patent Attorney.

JHL'BH