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March 7, 1985

H. L. Hampton, Jr. Executive Director Donald Gregory . Secretary-Treasure Paul C. Eschrich Technical Adviser

Members, Firearms Section - Technical Committee TO:

RE: Drop and Jar-Off Tests

Gentlemen:

On February 27 I received a call from Mark Humphreville of the U.S. Customs Service in Georgia. Mr. Humphreville informed me that he is currently preparing a purchase standard for 357 Magnum revolvers for the U.S. Customs Service. This purchase standard is being developed with the cooperation of his office and Mr. Ron Elbe of Rock Island, Illinois.

I was informed that their current plan is that the firearm will be dropped from five feet onto concrete without firing a primed empty case, and with the firearm still in workable condition after the drop. The Customs Service has not ruled out the use of steel plate (boat decks), but at this point in time, still considers concrete as their major test surface. Their concern apparently stems from practical experience of officers climbing ladders aboard ship and accidentally dropping a firearm.

SAAMI does not have a draft of their proposed standard, but I am in hopes of obtaining a copy before it is approved and circulated.

Sincerely, schrich

Paul C. Eschrich Technical Advisor

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