

CONFIDENTIAL

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March 83

a jam condition can be created which is difficult to clear without removal of the fire control. While no complaints have been received from the field, modifications have been considered which will prevent jamming under the above conditions. Proposed modifications include changes to the slide and carrier assemblies.

Preliminary tests have been successful using slides modified to include an additional shell latch and carriers modified to provide additional shell clearance. Three (3) modified Model 870 Riot endurance test shotguns have been turned over to the Research Test Lab for a 20,000 round endurance test. The test will include a 25 round test of the jam condition after every 1,000 rounds.

Marketing has expressed concern about the disassembly of the action. With the new design slide latch, the fire control must be removed in order to depress the slide latch to remove the action bar assembly. Revisions are being considered to both the slide latch and carrier to simplify the disassembly feature. Our goal is to make the disassembly no more difficult than the standard (field) Model 870. However, in order to correct the jam condition and still maintain our standard for malfunction rate, this may not be achievable.

~~Both rifles are included in the bolt action program.~~

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(F. E. Martin, T. G. Bauman)

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Two (2) new rifles are included in the bolt action program. replacements for the Model 700 Classic and BDL, respectively. The replacement for the Classic will be designated the Model 700 Lightweight and is planned for 1985 introduction. While a designation has not yet been determined, the replacement for the BDL is currently scheduled for 1986 introduction. Both rifles will feature a stock designed by Bob Emmons and a lightweight barrel contour. The BDL replacement will include other distinctive styling changes, such as an octagonal receiver with integral scope mounts. Functional improvements to the BDL will include a rotary magazine box for more reliable feeding, fully enclosed claw type extractor for added strength, no hind-easy lift bolt for smoother action, receiver with heavier - integral recoil lug for added stability, a redundant safety switch, and a fully adjustable fire control that does not require removal from the stock.

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