

"bolt lock" feature assures that the rifle will be ready to fire when needed in the field, and is a very common feature on quality bolt action rifles. Model 700 rifles are currently made without the bolt lock feature, but with the provision for the bolt lock to be added, if the customer prefers.

You do not state in your letter whether you bought your Model 700 new or used. I assume that you bought your rifle used, and that the alteration of the trigger assembly and stock was done either by or at the direction of the prior owner.

It is understandable that when an accidental discharge with a firearm occurs, the gun handler's confidence in his firearm is shaken, and particularly so in your incident with a loaded rifle firing inside the house with adults close by and children in adjoining rooms. We want to be as helpful to you as possible, and to return your Model 700 to service with your confidence in it restored.

Therefore, as a gesture of our goodwill, we will replace the trigger assembly at no charge. The replacement trigger assembly can have the same features as your present gun, that is, with the bolt lock feature. Or, we can provide the replacement trigger assembly with one which allows opening the bolt with the safety in the "safe" position. Whichever you prefer, we hope that your confidence in this rifle will be restored.

With regard to the cracked stock, continued use of the stock in its present condition will cause it to break completely, with the possibility of injury to the shooter, and the certainty of an unusable rifle. We do not consider that an adequate repair of the stock is possible, but we will return it as-is if you choose to attempt a repair. Or, we will replace it with a standard ADL stock, with a recoil pad installed at a cost to you of \$175.00 (normal retail cost would be \$285.00). In addition, we will clean and lubricate the rusted areas of the rifle, and, of course, test fire it before returning it to you. Please advise me of your preference regarding the trigger assembly and your decision regarding the stock.