3308 W. Hundred Road
Chester, VA 23831

December 8, 1981

Remington Arms Co., Inc.
Arms Service Division
Illion, New York 13357

Gentlemen: ·

    Approximately four (4) years ago I purchased a Remington
.243 Model 700 ADL rifle. As you know, this is a bolt action
rifle. In order to load or unload this firearm, you must slide
the safety button into the "fire" position--the bolt will not
move from its locked position until the safety button is in the
"fire" position.

    During a hunting trip in Greenville County, Virginia, on
Tuesday, November 17, 1981, I had the aforesaid rifle with me
in my truck. It was loaded, and the safety button was in the
"safe" position. The stock of the rifle was resting on the
seat of the truck, the trigger was positioned away from me,
and the barrel was resting on the floorboard of my truck. I
drove the truck to the end of the farm road on which I was tra-
veling and parked. Keeping in mind that you cannot have a loaded
weapon on a main thoroughfare in Greenville County, Virginia, I
got out of the truck and reached in to unload the rifle. When I
slipped the safety button into the "fire" position in order to
unload the rifle, the gun discharged in the truck. The bullet
went through the floor and lodged in the torque converter of my
truck's transmission. I sustained damage to the transmission in
the amount of $534.29. This rifle discharged of its own accord,
and not due to my error. In speaking with others in the hunting
party I was with, I found that two (2) others owning the same model
Remington rifle have had the same thing happen to them. Two more
men have had the gun "dry fire"; that is to say, their guns were
not loaded at the time the guns discharged. The names and addresses
of these individuals are shown on a separate sheet attached hereto.

    Fortunately, I sustained only property damage in this incident;
however, if the gun is discharging at random due to some mechanical
defect or a defect in its design, another such incident could result
in the loss of a life.