

Dennis:

Please hold rifle for reply.

Jim

March 26, 1981

Grice Gun Shop, Inc.  
Attn: Mr. George Gill  
114 North Third St.  
Clearfield, Pa. 16830

Dear Mr. Gill:

Examination has been completed on your customer's Mohawk 600 222  
Rm. caliber rifle, serial number A6798858, which you returned to  
us when it allegedly fired as the bolt was closed.

The returned firearm, which was produced in September of 1979, has  
been examined by our firearms experts, who report that it contained  
our high-pressure proof test, gallery test, and final inspection  
stampings, indicating that it had successfully passed all our neces-  
sary tests prior to shipment.

The general condition of the gun appeared to be good, but used, and  
it was noted that the stock had been drilled for sling-swivel studs  
and the scope base mounting screws removed after it originally left  
our factory. Also, it appears that, although this rifle was not sub-  
ject to the 600 recall, the trigger assembly had been changed, as  
indicated by the "V" stamped on the trigger. In addition, it was  
noted that there were marks on the stock and barrel and that the bolt  
was rusty. In going over the individual parts, we found the head-  
space normal, recoil shoulders normal, and chamber normal.

The rifle and trigger assembly could not duplicate  
the malfunction reported. All parts tolerances and dimensions  
were within specification, including sear-connector engagement. Also,  
the trigger adjusting screws, indicated by the "V" stamp, were made on the trigger outside our company,  
and were within our specifications at 5 1/2 pounds.

Washington Arms Company, Inc., cannot accept  
responsibility for the incident. We can only as-  
sume that when the customer closed the bolt, he inadvertently brushed  
the rifle to fire.