

Remington.



our files

REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY, INC.

SPORTING ARMS-AMMUNITION-TARGETS-TRAPS

ILION, NEW YORK 13357

TELEPHONE (315) 894-9961

August 21, 1990

Red's Gunsmithing
1230 East 68th Ave.
Suite 102
Anchorage, AK 99518

Dear Red:

Examination has been completed on the custom, modified Model 700 .416 Taylor caliber rifle, serial number A6381341, that you returned to us for a customer of yours because the rifle could be made to fire by the following manipulation you conducted on the fire control:

"Pull trigger & hold open bolt - put safe on - push connector up - close bolt - release trigger - push safe off."

I understand from the telephone conversation with you that the customer's complaint to you was that the rifle would not cock on closing the bolt.

The returned firearm was shipped by us in January 1977 as a Model 700 BDL in .300 Winchester Magnum. The rifle you returned has been highly modified, with a replacement barrel chambered in .416 Taylor, an after-market synthetic custom stock, and with all the component parts polished and chrome-plated, with the exception of some of the fire control parts.

The general condition of the rifle was good, with indications that it had been well used in the field. However, it was noted that the safety lever would not move to the full safe "on" position, due to rear interference with the stock. This condition did allow the safety to be "on" in the rear position, but the interference was enough so that the bolt lock feature did not work. We were unable

to measure headspace on this wildcat caliber, but we found that the bolt and recoil shoulders appeared to be normal.

Initial testing and functioning of the rifle, in its as-received condition revealed that although trigger pull was in a normal range of 4-1/2 pounds, the trigger felt very loose on the trigger pivot pin, and would sometimes tend to bind in the fully pulled position. Sear lift with the safety all the way rearward, although not in the full safe-on position, was adequate at .007".

Subsequent disassembly of the rifle revealed that the fire control assembly was quite clean, with a very light coating of oil. The engagement adjustment screw appeared to have the factory sealant in place, but the trigger pull and overtravel adjustment screws had been adjusted outside the factory and not resealed. The overtravel setting was found to be extremely excessive.

On disassembly of the trigger housing and examination of the internal parts, it was noted that the chrome-plated trigger had been bent at the fingerpiece, had been filed and buffed, and the trigger pivot hole had been deliberately enlarged and elongated, and damaged during assembly. In addition, the bottom of the trigger where the connector fits had been filed prior to plating. The safety lever had been chrome plated also, but appeared proper. The other fire control parts were not plated, and appeared normal.

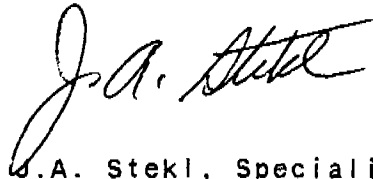
Although your customer reported to you that the rifle did not cock on several occasions, the rifle did not malfunction in any way during our extensive testing. However, we strongly recommend replacement of the trigger assembly because of the alteration of the trigger pivot hole and the out of adjustment condition. Per our telephone discussion, we will install a new trigger assembly, using the chrome-plated safety lever if possible, at one-half the normal retail price, as a gesture of our good-will.

In reference to the test you conducted on the rifle, where you pulled the trigger with the safety "on" and pushed up on the connector "ala "experts" testimony in Campbell vs Rem in Alaska": I

understand from our telephone conversation that this and various information regarding the Campbell trial has been conveyed to you from customers in the area. As we discussed, it's unlikely that people who were not directly involved in the Campbell trial will be correct in their knowledge of what the "experts" said during that trial. The fact that the rifle can be fired by inserting a tool to push up on the connector does not show a malfunction, or indicate that the rifle would ever malfunction in the field.

Thank you for this opportunity to examine the rifle, report our findings and to be of service. Further, with the Campbell lawsuit still pending, it would be best for you to simply continue your work as a Remington New Gun Repair Station in a normal fashion, and not feel compelled to correct the rumors you are told regarding that case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J.A. Stekl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "A".

J.A. Stekl, Specialist
Product Service

JAS:tpg

P.S. When the new trigger assembly is installed, we will make certain that the safety lever has adequate clearance in the stock to move to the full "on-safe" position.