CC: G. A. Calhoun

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Reminston 

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Ilion, New 1 July 29, 195

P. H. BURDETT BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTION

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MODEL 722, CALIBER .222

Since caliber .222 Remington was first introduced in the Model 722 gum a number of competitive rifles have appeared on the market chambered for this new varmint cartridge. Several of these have been found to perform unusually well from the stand-point of accuracy, a fact which is becoming increasingly known by shooters.

To meet this competition the Research Division found that the inherent accuracy with this high velocity cartridge could be improved by increasing the barrel weight 3/4 of a pound. This additional mass tends to reduce barrel vibration. It was also reported that a number of our customers were replacing the barrel on the Model 722 with heavier custom made barrels to gain this advantage.

In developing the .244 caliber cartridge this heavier barrel was adopted for the same reason. Since no additional tools would be required and the components run at the same machining set-up both for the barrel and for the inletting of the stock, the Research Division proposed that the improvement be made effective for the caliber .222 Remington cartridge at the same time. This proposal was reviewed in Minutes 12 dated March 1st and was considered favorable by the Sales Department except for concern as to possible obsolescence of the caliber .222 rifles which have already been produced with the lighter weight barrels. At the subsequent meeting held in the office of J. D. Mitchell samples of the rifle fitted with both the solds and the snew barrels were compared. It was demonstrated that the revised taper had been formed for the heavier barrel in such a way that the appearance is practically the same as for the earlier models.

The cost for the heavier barrel is not increased as it is produced from the same steel blank and actually less material is machined. The stock will be interchangeable with the caliber .244 and requiring no additional machine set-up, can be provided without extra expense. In view of the advantages to be gained by use of this heavier barrel for the caliber .222 Remington, it is recommended that it be adopted without obsolescence with respect to any components which have already been produced.

ILION RESEARCH DIVISION

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