

DON'T SAY IT—WRITE IT

To S. M. ALVISDATE July 26, 1963FROM W. E. LEEK *WEL*

This is with regard to a letter from Lt. Josclyn.

In paragraph 3 Lt. Josclyn claims that he can only keep 10 shots in a 1" circle at 25 yds. from a bench rest support. I cannot remember whether we furnished a scope for this pistol, but with an attached scope I would expect he should get about a .7 group at 100 yds., so in this respect, Sam, I rather question his ability to shoot, at least from a bench position.

In paragraph 4, I expected this kind of comment, especially from the so-called pistol experts. I feel that it is impossible to fit the individuals in this group. They are probably even more demanding in their fits of stocks than the trap shooter is with the trap stocks on the M/1100. That is why Herter's and some of the other stock makers provide stocks with adjustable grips. In the early development of the XP-100, adjustable grips were considered, but they did complicate the stock design and it was decided that if we were quite careful we felt we could fit the average hand. I believe we have done this because of the 5,000 or so guns that have been shipped, with about 3,000 sold, our complaints in this area have been rather nil. However, I do not want to quarrel with the Lieutenant because he can probably outshoot me offhand, and therefore must know what he is talking about.

I feel that this pistol was probably designed more for the varmint shooter than the offhand shooter, being a little heavy for the latter type of shooting. But must say this, and I think will get a lot of shooters to admit, that it is one of the easiest handguns to shoot offhand that most of them have used. However, these fanciful offhand shooters work on their grips with wax and plastic built-up supports until they get what they want, and then they have some custom stock maker convert them over to fit their hand, the same as an expert will do in getting the mouthpiece of his trombone fitted perfectly to his lips.

In paragraph 5, his information percentage-wise is probably quite accurate. This may be due to the fact that he has more familiarity with the guns they have been shooting than with the XP-100 and we must admit there must be some fallacy as far as they are concerned in this grip and stock design. I feel that possibly in the future it would be well for us to consider a stock design for the XP-100 which would provide adjustment for the grip and maybe we can consider this as justified for future improvement.

In paragraph 7 he has indicated that the novices seem to shoot quite well and easily with the new grip; and therefore perhaps we do have something that should be used in future design and then provide enough variability and adaptability into the stock to accommodate the experts.

The Lieutenant's report appears to be a very excellent one and I think we should commend him on his thorough investigation and I believe it is an impartial one. I would like for him to know that we might consider a variable stock design in the future and we will keep his letter **THERE IS A SAFE WAY; DO IT THAT WAY** on record.