

cc: G.M. Calhoun  
F. E. Morgan  
M.H. Walker  
R. P. Kelly - File

Ilion, New York  
June 11, 1969

V. G. DE REUS

MODEL 700 - BOLT HANDLE

We have reviewed the latest sample of formed bolt handle and have the designer's conclusions from M.H. Walker. There is agreement that the latest sample is improved and more nearly conforms with the present bolt handle. However, from standpoint of Walker's personal preference, which he claims to be in agreement with other knowledgeable bolt handle shooters, the current design is to be favored. This is understandable since had there been a preference for inverse type of checkering as well as the flatter type of knobs on the handle, this would have no doubt been put in the original design.

Mike also pointed out that the bolt handle on the earlier Models 721 and 722 were continuously under criticism by the customers and writers, and when the new Model 700 design appeared we received "applause". Since this is considered to be a very sensitive part of the visual design for a bolt action rifle he would be hesitant in making any change at the moment that could possibly upset the unprecedented sales of this rifle.

Walker is willing to accept decision for proposed change if this is the desire and responsibility of Marketing. Also, he would feel more prone to changing now if we were experiencing processing and quality problems. Will discuss further with Messrs. Calhoun and Morgan on next visit.

SMA:T

S. M. Alvis, Manager  
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