cc: W. E. Leek
G. W. Martin
C. F. Prosser

TO:

J. P. LINDE

FROM:

F. E. MARTIN

SUBJECT:

M/700 25/06 Ser. #6496814

CUSTOMER COMPLAINT ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE

This rifle was received from G. W. Martin for examination by R. & D. This inspection was made March 2, 1976 by J. P. Linde, C. F. Prosser and F. E. Martin.

It was found during examination that this gun could be made to "Follow -Down". It was decided at this time to replace the fire control. This was done by C. F. Prosser and examination of the fire control assembly continued. During this examination the following items were noted. The sear safety cam showed a radius at the sear area. The trigger connector also showed the same radius at the mating point. This damage as noted is indicative of being caused by a pierced primer. The fire control itself showed less trigger-sear engagement than is presently accepted. It was noted that the rifle was not tampered with and the fire control was of the type that was set entirely by the assembler. Present practice is to set sear engagement by use of a comparator. There was no damage to the fire control assembly noted.

To determine if pierced primers had been experienced, G. W. Martin contacted the former owner of this rifle. It was determined thru this conversation that the former owner was not a handloader and had not used handloads. It was also determined that he did not know what a pierced primer was. Further examination of this rifle is to be done. This will include a chamber cast and shooting.

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It is felt by all persons that examined this rifle that thru some misuse the fire control of this rifle was made defective.

FEM:bd Ilion Research Division