September 29, 1976

Mr. C. V. Tompkins 803 Ave. J South Houston, Texas 77587

Dear Mr. Tompkins:

We have reviewed your M/700 BDL rifle, serial number 6581402, and we cannot duplicate the conditions you describe in your letter. Our preliminary examination does not show any conditions which would cause the condition you describe. In matters such as this we do not want to leave any stone unturned so could you give us a better description of the events and motions you went through when you loaded, repositioned, and moved the safety from the "safe" to the "fire" position.

We are also concerned about the other M/700 rifles you describe in your letter and would like the names and addresses of the owners of these rifles so we can contact them and subsequently inspect their rifles.

We would be glad to check over your two sons' M/600 rifles. Return them when it is convenient for you and we will check them for proper functioning. Please return theme 600 rifles to the Ilion Plant, marked to the attention of Mr. George Martin, insured and collect.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John P. Linde, Manager Manual Firearms Design Ilion Research Division

JPL/ol