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FIREARMS RESEARCH DIVISION

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July 28, 1982

Remington Arms Company Inc.  
P. O. Box 179  
Ilion, New York 13357

Attn; R. L. StJohn Supervisor Field Service

Subject; XP100 design for silhouette shooting.

Dear Dick,

FIELD SERVICE

AUG - 2 1982

I mentioned in my regular report covering Dave's Gun Shop of Buhl Idaho that he had several suggestions to improve the XP100 and expand its sales potential. I also mentioned that Dave is an active competitor as well as gunsmith so he is in close contact with this fast rising sport, having his fingers on the pulse of the problems.

First we discussed production class guns. Of course Remington only offers the 221 fireball caliber at this time in production class. Many shooters use this gun in production class because of its excellent accuracy but find the 221 caliber inadequate for dependable performance on the heavy rams. Dave states if we would produce a 10" barrel production class gun in 7MM caliber preferably based on the 223 case it would totally dominate the production class. The demand for a pistol of this caliber legal for production class shooting would be tremendous.

Secondly the iron sights we now provide with the 221 need to be up graded. Since the sights are constantly being changed at different ranges during silhouette shoots a rear sight that is easy to return to given settings is necessary. This is not the case with the sights we supply. A micro click type of sight is needed which makes repeatable sight settings quick and easy. Dave uses a company in California for the iron sights he places on the guns he sells. He states they are the best he has found. He showed me a set of them and I made some sight changes with them finding them precise and very light in weight. The company is;

Iron Sight Gun Works Inc.  
815 West 17th. St.  
Upland, Calif. 91786  
Phone 714-981-3386

The owners of the company are Joe and Jerry Barlett. Their standard rear sight has a notch 100ths. wide and 125ths. deep. Dave finds this too deep for silhouette so orders the sight insert blank and cuts the notch to 100ths. wide by 60ths. deep. He uses this in conjunction with a front sight blade provided by the same company which is 130ths. wide and 505ths. high. The blade fits the Remington ramp provided with the 221 fireball. He finds this combination works for him and most of the

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shooters in the club use the same thing. He pays \$32.00 wholesale for the complete set of sights.

I am including all this pertinent information in case Remington should decide to produce a more potent "production" class silhouette pistol and equip it with more functional sights.

Dave kept stressing the 7MM bullet as the most popular and functional for silhouette shooting but of course the 7MM BR with its long barrel can only be used in the unlimited class. Approx. three years ago I wrote a report after spending some time with Skip Talbot of Fallon Nevada. That report covered three modified XP100's that were based on the 223 case. They were in 308, 7MM, and 6.5 caliber. My conclusions at that time after shooting all three was that the 7MM was the most accurate.

Other suggestions Dave mentioned was changing the bolt handle to a lighter "spoon" configuration and possibly changing the bolt location to the left side of the receiver but maintaining the right side ejection. I have mentioned this change in other reports. The obvious advantage being most people are right handed and grip the pistol with the right hand. Working the bolt from the left side with the left hand is much simpler and does not require relaxing the right hand grip. Keeping the ejection on the right side would eject the hot brass away from the shooters body since they would be shooting from the "creedmore" position with the pistol steadied along the right side of the body. I realize changing the bolt handle to the left side and maintaining right side ejection would require repositioning of the locking lugs on the bolt and redesigning the locking lug recesses but perhaps the effort would be worth the end result in producing the most versatile silhouette pistol on the market.

Dave also described some design changes in the XP100 stock which would improve its performance in silhouette shoots. In the unlimited class stock changes are allowed but in production class the shooter must use the stock supplied by the manufacturer exactly as it comes from the factory. Dave suggested three changes in design which he feels would improve the factory stock. They are number one, widen the forend area and give it a rounded contour with a checkering design. The reason being the gun when being shot in the "creedmore" position is steadied against the side of the leg and the present narrow, flat, smooth forend design allows the gun to slide down the leg. Dave feels that fattening the forend and providing some checkering would help anchor the gun against the leg. Number two is to reduce the size of the wide flair at the bottom of the hand grip. Especially the left side which strikes against the leg when trying to steady the gun while in shooting position and does not provide a stable anchor point. Number three is the back lower portion of the hand grip has an inverted V design which has very sharp edges.

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During the course of a forty shot match the sharp edges have a tendency to bite into the palm of the hand during recoil making the hand sore. Dave feels rounding the edges slightly would reduce this discomfort.

Dave feels very strongly that a 10" barreled XP100 design in 7MM bore with micro type sights would totally dominate the production class at silhouette shoots. I dont know how many units that projects out to but I do know pistol silhouette is one of the fastest growing shooting sports.

One more thing that Dave mentioned, he stated that Federal is coming out with a fully formed 7MM BR case. If they do it will help the sale of XP100's since our decision not to provide this case to the market.

Sincerely,

Don McClure