

RIM FIRE RIFLESMODEL 552 GALLERY SPECIAL

Field test experience continues to be very acceptable. The Ilion Plant has assembled a number of guns, tested and put them through a function pilot test by Research. These tests have been very satisfactory with Remington ammunition, but have continued to show up some feeding and blowback failures with Winchester ammunition. The Sales Department now feels that this gun is acceptable and should be added to the line.

On May 15, N. F. Larsen submitted comparative economics between the Model 552 and the 552-GS. These figures showed that with a forecast of 1,000 rifles per year the 552-GS would show operative earnings of only 3.6 per cent in the first year, but 20.4 per cent in the average year, which is 4 per cent higher than is estimated for the Model 552.

As is recorded below, the Operations Committee adopted the recommendation to approve introduction of the gun, but with the understanding that only the first 100 rifles (75 of which are already in the warehouse) would be produced by Ilion and released to Sales for extended testing. If Sales experience with these rifles is satisfactory, the Ilion Plant can then resume scheduled production two months after release by Sales, and no further approvals will be requested. Only if significant design deficiencies become apparent after sale and field use of the first 100 guns will this matter be returned for further action by the Operations Committee and Management.

Decision:

The Operations Committee (Arms Division) recommends to Management the introduction of the Model 552-GS at an initial list price of \$62.25.

MODEL 552 - FORE-END SUPPORT

Field experience with the Model 552-GS has led to reinforcement of the fore-end bushing to stand the rough treatment expected of a gallery rifle. It has been suggested that it might be advisable to include this heavier fore-end support in all Model 552 rifles. The Ilion Plant has estimated that this would increase cost by approximately 6 cents per gun.