

In this test, functional performance was outstandingly good with approximately half of the rifles giving no malfunctions and with the overall malfunction rate (0.375%) being practically identical with that found in the original test at Ilion (0.41%). Two-thirds of the reports commented on outstanding accuracy. Many of the reports commented favorably on one or all of the features of the gun but there were also some unfavorable reports. Among the features receiving unfavorable attention were a number which had already come to light in the course of testing at Ilion and Bridgeport. The Committee concurred in the recommendation of Research and Development that corrective measures should be taken in the following cases:

1. Magazine Tube Plug. The finger hold on the original magazine tube plug was small and awkward and, in addition, the magazine tube protruded into the recess in the butt plate making it even more difficult to operate the magazine tube plug. The tube has been shortened and the plug redesigned to provide a better finger hold. The tooling cost for this change is estimated at \$1,250 and the increase in material and labor at \$.025 per gun.
2. Safety. There was a feeling that the colored dots on the safety provided an ambiguous warning. It was not clear whether the green dot meant the gun was safe to fire or safe to carry. As a result, it had been agreed to drop the green color and leave only the red dot. This will, of course, not increase cost.
3. Front Sight. The black front sight worked well against a strongly lighted background but against a mottled or dark background, it was difficult to see. Apparently a bright bead is needed. Since it would be difficult to apply this to the nylon front sight, it is planned to substitute a powdered metal sight with a milled area on the rear, providing a bright bead. Tooling cost for this change is estimated at \$2,000 and the increased material and labor at \$.05 per gun.
4. Grip Cap. The grip cap on the sample guns is considered to be unattractive. It is also generally felt that the name "Bearcat" would be detrimental to acceptance of the gun. Research and Development presented an alternate design of grip cap which the Committee agreed would be satisfactory. Research and Development will work with