

chased machinery, tooling and parts have been scheduled for delivery to permit initial gun assembly to commence in October.

Research and Development reported that one difficulty has arisen which may delay the program. The barrel, grip cap, and butt plate all carry the model designation 555. It is now understood that this model designation will not be acceptable and approval of a replacement designation is being sought. Change in the mold for the grip cap, however, will require six weeks and for the butt plate and barrel a somewhat lesser time. Research and Development believes that if the model designation can be approved this week, it may still be possible to meet the schedule. A delay beyond this week, however, may make it impossible to meet the January 1, 1959 warehouse date.

MODEL 572 LIGHTWEIGHT

Orders for the Model 572 Lightweight continue to exceed forecasts and the Sales Department has now recommended the addition of a third color, green, in accordance with the samples submitted by Research and Development. If the green color can be added shortly after mid-year, the No. 3 forecast will show sales of 22,000 units of crow wing black and buckskin tan and an additional 5,000 units in green for the year 1958. For the reasons mentioned below, this figure of 5,000 additional guns may be reduced slightly during the calendar year 1958.

The Union Plant reported that they are prepared to undertake manufacture of the green gun but that this will require the installation of five new tanks (dye, seal, hot water and two cold water rinses). Delivery of the glass lined tanks required for color is estimated at six to eight weeks. Even with prompt approval, this would indicate that warehouse stocks would not be available until late in September, which might reduce 1958 sales below the 5,000 mentioned above. Sample guns, however, can be produced on temporary equipment and efforts will be made to obtain better delivery on a suitable production tank.

The sample gun approved by Sales has, in addition to the blond wood and green color, gold trigger, gold front sight, chrome magazine tube and a gold rear sight. Sales would like to consider a green rear sight matching the other metal work on the gun but since the sight parts are made of steel, Research and Development is not sure that it will be possible to provide the