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REVISIONS FOR MODEL 740 RIFLE - Continued

Various questions were raised regarding use of decorations on both A and ADL models, possible retention of the Model 740 in A grade offerings, and price relations between A and ADL models. It was agreed that the Sales Department would resolve these questions, along with determination of model number designation and forecasts.

The relationship between the introduction date of the revised Model 740 and the probable introduction date of the XC-6 autoloader was discussed. The Research & Development Department stated that the XC-6 concept is at least a year from fruition and it is preferred that two years be allowed for complete development and adequate testing of the XC-6, before introduction into the line.

XR-3 RIFLE

The Research & Development Department reports that development had progressed to the point where costs could be made both on the XR3 Single Shot rifle, and a clip fed autoloading version known as the XR4. This was done although the Research & Development Department sensed diminishing interest in this project. Results indicated a sales price for the XR3 below that of the current 514 model, but the total cost of the XR3 project appeared very high. By adding 10 to 12% additional factory cost, the XR3 can be converted to a clip-type autoloader which would sell for 50% more than the 514 model and still be priced at the bottom of the competitive price structure. The Research & Development Department states status of their work to be completion of costing and preparation of a functioning autoloader.

Sample guns were shown to the Committee. The autoloading version was provided with a Model 514 stock, a steel barrel, and a Model 511 clip. A second version was provided with a special stock of new configuration. In commenting on the samples, the Sales Department commented that one consideration which should be approached with caution is reduction of weight of our rifles. It is their feeling that weight reduction below a certain point is detrimental to sales of firearms.

The Research & Development Department stated that while development planning of the autoloading XR-4 was not based on a January, 1960 introduction date and was contingent on a Sales Department desire for the item, it was felt that Sales should evaluate the concept based on shooting models and determined costs.