

XC-6 AUTOLOADER, XC-7 LEVER ACTION, XC-8 SLIDE ACTION RIFLES

These structurally related high powered rifles are currently under development. Scheduling calls for announcement of the XC-6 autoloader in January, 1963, with XC-7 lever action and the XC-8 slide action to follow in successive years.

The Research & Development Department defined the basic action structure common to all three rifles. The action is an improved version of the German "Gehwer 43" semi automatic mechanism, utilizing two vertically opposed locking lugs. This system is recognized as one of the finest in existence.

In the subject rifles, action strength will closely approach that of the Model 721 bolt action. General metal sections have been provided in the action and around the barrel chamber, and double extractors have been fitted, to make these rifles capable of handling and extracting any cartridge of 30-06 dimension which could be safely fired in the Model 721 bolt action.

Dimensions of the XC Series receiver are substantially those of the Sportsman 58 receiver. There is a strong probability that a new line of shotguns could be based on the XC Series receiver and fire control, without major redesign. It is felt that use of the XC Series fire control in a shotgun would eliminate one of the major sources of functioning difficulties. - 83

The probable cost of completing the XC-6, XC-7, and XC-8 was compared to costs experienced in production and development of Model 740 and Model 760 rifles. The XC rifle concept, in rough estimate, will cost approximately 30% more for development than did the Model 740 and Model 760 rifles. Although costs are higher, three rifles instead of two will result from development. Tooling costs are expected to be less than those experienced with the Models 740 and 760, due to adaptability of present machinery.

The present course of designing a basic firearm structure for adaptability to various action types and calibers is considered desirable by the Committee, despite the fact that development costs of interchangeable and versatile firearms components are initially higher than costs for components of one specific firearm design. Costs for development of the XC concept may prove to be highly economical, in view of the several distinct models to be derived from the concept.

RIM FIRE RIFLES

NYLON 66 GALLERY SPECIAL

This item has not yet been approved.

The Sales Department reported that results of field tests on this item are somewhat inconclusive. Some minor functioning difficulties have been noted, and some objections have