

MODEL 700 EDL - CALIBER 300 WINCHESTER MAGNUM

The Committee approved marketing the 300 Winchester Magnum Model 700 EDL with 24 inch stainless steel barrel for the same \$154.95 retail price as the other Magnum calibers, 7MM Remington and 264 Winchester.

Production indicated the rifle can be warehoused by mid-July. Production was unable to improve the warehouse date but will analyze their schedule for that objective. Sales desires an earlier date to counter Winchester's Model 70. In view of the unlikelihood of an improvement in Production's schedule, Sales may announce the caliber in April for later delivery.

Committee Action

The Committee recommends General Management approve adding the caliber 300 Winchester Magnum in the Model 700 BDL.

CALIBER 6MM REMINGTON

The Committee reviewed the current status of the caliber 6MM Remington ammunition and Models 700 and 742 rifles against the program objective. The objective of this caliber ammunition and rifles was to offer a cartridge with a hunting weight 100 grain bullet to compete directly with Winchester's caliber 243 ammunition and their Models 70 bolt action and Model 100 autoloader. The goal accuracy specification for the Model 742 was a normal hunting accuracy of 2 1/2 inches and for the Model 700 a varmint accuracy of 2 inches extreme spread in a five shot group. Subsequent development indicated the objective could be met by renaming the .244 Remington and rifles with a 9" twist.

Current testing of rifles and ammunition indicates the accuracy objectives are not being met as summarized below:

- The ammunition is meeting its specifications and is equivalent to the .222 and .243 ammunition produced during the same period as tested by the Bridgeport Plant Ballistics unit.
- Only 50% of the Model 700's are meeting the 2" accuracy specification. Approximately 90% will meet a 2 1/2" specification which is still low compared to the usual Production experience of 98% to 100%.
- Tests conducted in 1958 with 100 grain bullet weight .244 (6MM) ammunition in Model 722 with 10" twist produced 2 1/2" accuracy and appear to confirm the results being obtained in the Model 700 as the inherent accuracy of this caliber bolt action rifle and ammunition.
- About 90% of the Model 742's meet its 2 1/2 inch accuracy specification.