

WOOD - contd.Finishes - contd.Committee Action:

The Committee approved the change to the lacquer finish.

Reporting on wood finishes will be dropped by the Committee.

Blanks

Costs of four (4) types of wood (walnut, birch, mahogany and sycamore) were evaluated for the Model 514, 580 Series and 788 rifles (Exhibit 7). The previously approved samples of the Model 514 birch and mahogany Stocks and the recently processed sycamore, all with walnut finish, were reviewed by the Committee. Sample Model 580 and 788 rifles with mahogany Stocks (walnut finish) were also shown. R & D indicated that any of the woods would be satisfactory for the Model 580 and 590 Series rifles. Tests indicate mahogany has adequate strength for the Model 788 rifles.

Sycamore is now being marketed under the trade name of "Am-Wal" by the American Walnut Company.

The economics as shown indicate that at present sycamore produces the lowest cost for the Model 514 and mahogany for the other rifles. Based on supply and demand, prices of the blanks vary. Approval was therefore requested to allow the plant to use any of the four woods which will produce the lowest end cost.

The catalog description of the Model 788 states "American Walnut Stock." Marketing proposes to change the description in 1968 to omit reference to walnut. A price increase of \$5.00 is also proposed for 1968. At present, Marketing would prefer to continue the use of walnut through 1968.