

FIREARMSWOOD PRESS FORMINGMODEL 870, 12-16-20 GAUGE FORE-ENDS

R & D reported that improved matching of the checkering pattern form #1 to #2 die was accomplished during recent tests by revising the fixtures in both presses to allow the Fore-end to be positioned by the dies. Fore-ends which have been produced since this revision indicate excellent repeatability and no checkering line mismatch. Some areas between the two dies still show a mismatch; however, this can be corrected without too much difficulty.

Final modifications to the dies are expected to begin this week and be ready for press forming of acceptable Fore-ends during the first week in October. 83

The revised fixture components for carving the Fore-ends on the Onsrud Carver were assembled earlier this month and are being used by Production. Random measuring of dimensions affected by the revised fixtures indicate controllable and uniform tolerances which previously could not be met. A study of these improvements will be made in conjunction with two new form cutters during the running of additional Fore-end blanks for press form manufacture later this month.

The special Fore-end contouring machine is being wired electrically and it is expected to be completed as scheduled by October 1, 1972.

The special Fore-end radii sanding fixture is being fabricated in the EDL shop and is being scheduled in conjunction with other project requirements. Completion of this fixture is expected during the latter part of October, 1972.

In discussion it was noted that successful results have been slow in materializing and that estimated project return on the Model 870 only was low. However, the current rate of expenditure is low and prospects for success appear to be improving. The potential for quality improvement still exists. It was recommended to continue the development.