

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

R & D reported that changes to the checkering inserts in the press form Fore-end dies were completed as scheduled. This change made the parting line follow the checkering diamond pattern rather than a straight line. The checkering inserts were inadequately fastened to the dies and shifted during trial. However, the results indicate that this approach should eliminate the parting line in the checkering pattern. A second set of inserts is being made.

Another proposal was presented which includes press forming followed by the present press checkering operation. Samples were shown of a current press checkered Model 870 Fore-end, a press formed Fore-end and a press formed plus press checkered Fore-end. It was recommended to start production with this process to gain experience with press forming. The goal to press form and press checker simultaneously is not to be abandoned.

Production recommended that tests be made to determine wood recovery for the proposed process. Trial and pilot quantities should be made before going into production.

A sample gun showing the proposed Fore-end and the press formed Stock is to be available for review at the February Operations Committee Meeting.

SHOTGUNSMODEL 1100, 20 GAUGE LIGHTWEIGHT SHOTGUN

R & D reported that two Model 1100, 20 Gauge lightweight shotguns with Receivers made of 1140 modified steel and one standard lightweight gun are in endurance testing. Eleven thousand rounds have been fired in each gun with no Receiver cracking. Testing to 25,000 rounds on each gun will be completed about February 7.