

SHOTGUNS - contd.

MODEL 1100, 20 GAUGE LIGHTWEIGHT SHOTGUN - contd.

will be built and testing will be completed in March, 1974. The first and third changes above will be used with the long Barrel Extension.

Introduction schedule and economics for the proposed long Barrel Extension skeet gun are to be developed. January, 1975 introduction is not realistic.

Production reported that African mahogany blanks at Ilion plus lumber at the vendors is adequate for 1 1/2 years production of Model 870 and 1100, 20 gauge lightweight, 28 gauge and 410 gauge shotguns. If all Model 870 and 1100, 20 gauge shotguns were to be lightweights, this supply is adequate for 1/2 year.

The best consultant on available wood to substitute for African mahogany appears to be our current vendor, Thompson Mahogany Company. Two species of African wood have been suggested - Danta and Iroko. Samples of Iroko were received and are to be evaluated. Samples of Danta are due in January. In addition, quotations are being requested from a Philippine mahogany company and from the Bureau of African Affairs and Industrial Development Company for direct procurement of mahogany.

The vendor has found that a continuing supply of African mahogany is available at significantly increased cost. Cost comparisons are:

	<u>\$/Short Stock + Fore-end Blanks</u>	<u>Cost - \$ - Compared to</u>	
		<u>Present</u>	<u>American</u>
		<u>Mahogany</u>	<u>Walnut</u>
African Mahogany -			
Present Cost	\$1.34		
New Cost	\$2.92	+\$1.58	+\$ .55
Danta	\$2.23	+\$ .89	-\$ .14
Iroko	\$2.51	+\$1.17	+\$ .14
American Walnut	\$2.37		

83