



The University of Georgia

College of Agriculture
GEORGIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS

Department of
Agronomy

September 15, 1990

Georgia Station
Griffin, Georgia 30223-1797

Arms Service Division
Remington Arms Company, Inc.
Ilion, New York 13357

Gentlemen:

The enclosed model 700LH 30-06 caliber rifle (Serial No. A6452288) was purchased new by me I believe in 1978. The rifle was fitted with a scope at that time and no other alterations or changes were made to the rifle. Since its purchase the rifle has discharged unexpectedly five (5) times.

Approximately one year after I purchased the rifle I loaned it to my brother-in-law, who is also left handed, so he could see if he liked the rifle and would be interested in purchasing one like it. While unloading the rifle it discharged. It was raining and cold and he layed the rifle on the truck seat. Upon placing the safety in the 'F' fire position to open the bolt, the rifle discharged without him touching the trigger. As result a hole was blown through his truck door. The rifle was taken to a reputable gunsmith in Albany, Georgia, who carefully inspected the rifle and said he could find nothing wrong with it and insisted, despite my brother-in-law's protest, that my brother-in-law must have accidently hit the trigger during the unloading process.

The rifle was used once or twice and was then stored in the gun safe for seven or eight years and never used. In the fall of 1988, I took the rifle to a rifle range before the opening of deer season to check the scope. The rifle was on sand bags on the bench when I loaded one shell into the chamber and closed the bolt with the safety in the 'S' position. When I placed the safety in the 'F' position the rifle immediately discharged without touching the trigger. Since I was not firmly-holding the rifle the force of the discharge caused the rifle to fall from the rest. I held the rifle, opened the bolt, returned the safety to the 'S' position, and reloaded the rifle with a single shell. Upon moving the safety from the 'S' to the 'F' position, the rifle again fired without me touching the trigger. After this incident the rifle was taken to three reputable gunsmiths in Griffin, Georgia, all of whom refused to work on the rifle because of its past record. Finally, I found an individual who is experienced in gun repair who looked at the rifle and said that the trigger and sear needed adjusting, which I allowed him to do, because he insured me that this adjustment would solve the problem. After the adjustment was made I took the rifle to the range and fired it more than a dozen times and it performed properly. In fact, I even placed the rifle in the 'F' position and tapped the butt plate with a rubber mallet in an effort to make it discharge which it did not do. However, the problem was not solved and now I wish that I had returned the rifle to Remington earlier, because it has since discharged twice.