

SHOTGUNS - contd.PHOTO-ETCHED MATTING OF VENT RIB BARRELS - contd.

Corrective measures are being taken to improve the output rate, and it is anticipated that the project rate of 110 Barrels per hour can be met by implementing proposed method and operating improvements. Increasing the output rate will have the effect of reducing the operating cost to approximately 46¢ per Barrel as compared to 35¢ per Barrel in the mechanical process.

Any further possible operating cost reductions will be dependent upon the successful completion of a program to reduce chemical costs. Chemical costs are currently about 28.5% higher than estimated in the project. It is hoped that by applying present day known technology and by improved operating procedures, it will be possible to reduce operating costs somewhere in the range of 35¢ to 40¢ per Barrel.

Several reasons for continuing this development were brought out in the discussion:

- . Different matting patterns are possible.
- . This process is needed for matting capacity now.
- . This process is being proposed for decorating Models 742-760 New Generation rifle Receivers.
- . Chemical prices may come down.

Production has a program to improve capacity and feels confident that this will be accomplished. Work to reduce chemical cost is just beginning.

EXPENDABLE CASE SHOTSHELL

R & D reported that it is estimated to cost \$56,000 to:

- . Complete development of single shot shotguns.
- . Endurance test prototype Models 870 and 1100 shotguns that have been revised for the expendable case ammunition.
- . Build five Model 870 and five Model 1100 expendable case shotguns for Marketing test. These would all be single shot guns.