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Minute #9 - 1979

PRODUCT SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

JUNE 8, 1979

Present:

Subcommittee

E. F. Barrett, Chairman
B. K. Daubenspeck, Secretary
E. G. Larson
R. A. Partnoy
J. G. Williams

Others

J. H. Chisnall
W. L. Flaherty
W. D. Nickel
J. E. Preiser
T. W. Rawson
R. B. Sperling

30-06 HIGH PRESSURE LOADS

Some ammunition which was loaded on September 22, 1978, (the day after the suspect ammunition was loaded) was procured from customers. This lot was the same 30-06 product (180 gr SP) as the suspect ammunition. In testing the September 22 lot, five rounds of 450 fired were found to produce high pressures. Four rounds (0.9%) gave pressure readings over 70,000 psi and one (0.2%) was over 90,000 psi. This compares with 6.4% over 70,000 psi and 3.2% over 90,000 psi in the ammunition loaded on September 21.

Olin has examined 320 rounds of the September 21 lot and found an excessive amount of fines in the powder from these cartridges. Ammunition loaded with a high percentage of fines was found to produce high pressures, establishing a correlation between the presence of excessive fines and high pressures. It is concluded on the basis of evidence at hand that the pressure problem was caused by contamination of a small amount of powder with an excessive amount of fines.

WIL06701