

Since this happened to a youngster, I still did not believe in a mechanical problem and proceeded to work the bolt and safety until it finally discharged. This happened after 20 or 30 openings closing off the bolt and flipping from safety to fire.

I took the rifle to a very reputable gunsmith in Laredo, Mr. Humberto Acevedo, and he explained to me that it was possible and he supposedly fixed it for me.

This season while hunting with my father-in-law (who has also hunted all his life) in my presence the rifle went off, and we had a close call but luckily the bullet did not strike anything. He at first commented that he had hunted all his life and this was the first time this happened to him, and he must have accidentally pulled the trigger before he was ready to fire.

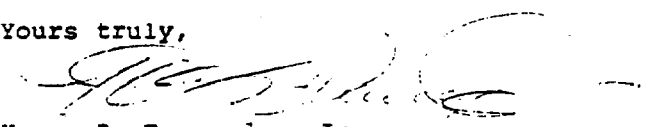
I, somewhat shaken sat down and asked him to carefully go over the motions that led to this incident.

After he did, I got the rifle and worked the bolt and safety many times until it went off in my hands without pulling or touching the trigger. I must also add that the trigger pull has never been adjusted or tampered with other than by Mr. Acevedo when he fixed it, and the pull is a normal hunting pressure pull.

A life or lives could have been lost because of this malfunction and now I have lost all faith in that particular rifle, and I do not care to get it fixed by a gunsmith, the factory or anyone. I also do not want to sell it as it is because I do not want to have the responsibility of an accident.

I feel we have been more than lucky in not having any injury with so many accidental firings of this particular rifle and I am calling this to your attention with a request that you take this rifle back and send me either a refund or replace it with a new and safe equivalent rifle.

Yours truly,



Henry B. Fernandez, Jr.

HBF/ca