

Donna:

Please hold rifle for reply.

Jim

March 26, 1981

Grice Gun Shop, Inc.
Attn: Mr. George Gill
114 North Third St.
Clearfield, Pa. 16830

Dear Mr. Gill:

Examination has been completed on your customer's Mohawk 600 222 Rem. caliber rifle, serial number A6798858, which you returned to us when it allegedly fired as the bolt was closed.

The returned firearm, which was produced in September of 1979, has been examined by our firearms experts, who report that it contained our high-pressure proof test, gallery test, and final inspection stampings, indicating that it had successfully passed all our necessary tests prior to shipment.

The general condition of the gun appeared to be good, but used, and it was noted that the stock had been drilled for sling-swivel studs and the scope base mounting screws removed after it originally left our factory. Also, it appears that, although this rifle was not subject to the 600 recall, the trigger assembly had been changed, as indicated by the "V" stamped on the trigger. In addition, it was noted that there were marks on the stock and barrel and that the bolt was rusty. In going over the individual parts, we found the headspace normal, recoil shoulders normal, and chamber normal.

Examination of the rifle and trigger assembly could not duplicate the malfunction reported. All parts tolerances and dimensions were within specifications, including sear-connector engagement. Also, the trigger adjusting screws, indicating the trigger outside our company, were within our specifications at 5 1/2 pounds.

Washington Arms Company, Inc., cannot accept responsibility for the incident. We can only assume that when the bolt was closed, he inadvertently brushed the rifle to fire.