

Nov. 19, 1991

To Jim Stekl,

Mr. Stekl, I am sending you my Remington 700, 308 because of a problem I encountered on Sunday, November 17, 1991. I am sending you my rifle at the request of Jerry Beigh, who I talked to on November 18, 1991. *Serial #A6430942*

The Problem occurred when I was unloading my rifle. I and a hunting partner had just finished hunting. I turned my gun to the ground (thank God) and moved the safety to fire (which obviously has to be done to open the bolt and remove the round in the chamber), the gun immediately discharged into the ground. I don't need to tell you that this scared the hell out of me!!!

After this happened, I removed the rest of the shells from the bottom (3 shells) and attempted to reproduce what happened.

- 1- With an empty gun I opened the bolt and closed it.
- 2- I moved the safety lever to safety.
- 3- I then pulled on the trigger and released it.
- 4- I then moved the safety to the fire position.
- 5- The gun fires!

I have repeated this many times, as I believe you will be able to do. I am of the opinion that this should not be able to happen. If the trigger mechanism is locked in the firing position (for whatever reason ), the safety should not be able to be moved, I guess you would call this a failsafe.

I am extremely interested in what you find, fortunately, because of proper gun handling, no one was the worse for wear except for frayed nerves. This malfunction could have caused a tragic accident. This gun has been a good weapon for me, never having missed a deer, but I now have reservations about it's continued use.

Sincerely,  
Scott Vinkemulder  
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