

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION

MINUTE #7 - 1979

Bridgeport, Connecticut
April 27, 1979

PRODUCT SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 26, 1979

Present:

Subcommittee

E. F. Sarrett, Chairman
B. K. Daubenspeck, Secretary
E. Hooton, Jr.
R. A. Partnoy
J. G. Williams

Others

W. J. Boettner J. E. Praiser
J. H. Chisnall T. W. Rawson
E. G. Larson R. B. Sperling
W. D. Nickel
W. L. Penn

30-06 HIGH PRESSURE LOADS

In gallery testing at Ilion, some 30-06 ammunition loaded at Lonoke in September, 1978, was found to produce swelled heads and dropped primers. In pressure tests, Ilion found a maximum of 80,000 psi, but the appearance of some fired rounds from gallery shooting appeared to have been loaded to higher pressures. In Lonoke testing one round produced 98,000 psi. Except for the occasional high pressure the extreme variation appeared to be normal.

Causes of the high pressures have not yet been established. Lonoke tests have shown that low moisture content of the powder is not responsible, and powder charge weights are normal.

No complaints have been reported from the field, according to Marketing. Ilion testing has shown that pressures of at least 125,000 psi would be required in our Model 742 before metal failure of the action might occur.

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PRODUCT SAFETY
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

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Olin reports that WC759 is sometimes made from a blend of 760 and 749 powders. They have offered to examine the suspect ammunition to determine whether their blending was inadequate.

It is not known for a certainty whether the high pressure loads were confined to only the one day's production in which they have been found. Field and Consumer Services will attempt to obtain from customers ammunition loaded before and after this date.

Some .17 cal. ammunition has been loaded with the same lot of WC759 powder. Production will test this ammunition.

Results of further investigation will be reported at the next Subcommittee Meeting on May 2, 1979.

B. K. Daubenspeck
B. K. Daubenspeck
Secretary

BKD/cas

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