

RECEIVED: E. G. WADLEY.

MAR 5 1942

cc. G. O. Clifford, Ilion
E. G. Wadley
H. A. Brown

RECEIVED: H. A. BROWN

MAR 6 1942

Bridgeport, Connecticut, March 4, 1942

TO:

E. J. LOWE
ILION

FROM:

E. D. HERBERT
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
BUILDING 335

SUBJECT:

MODEL 720 - CRITICISM OF SAFETY

This is to confirm and to add to our telephone conversation of yesterday on the criticisms of the Model 720.

We discussed the condition reported in Trade Report from C. A. Pitts and L. S. Webb, received at Bridgeport February 22, 1942, and also found by S. Carroll of the Laboratory. The criticism was that the safety could be rotated far enough so that the shooter might believe the gun to be safe and yet in such a position that after testing the trigger for safeness, the gun could be discharged by slightly moving the safety toward the off position. We found this condition in our production sample Model 720 and also on two out of three Model 30's. Finding this trouble in the Model 30's was not considered surprising; since there was no change made to the safety when the Model 720 was adopted.

However, one of our Model 30's does not present the same hazard, since the safety locking bolt will not allow the safety to remain in the dangerous position. Possibly through some slight change to the safety, this condition might be obtained in all the Model 720's. On the other hand, we notice in our Model 720 that the locking surface of the safety has been deeply marred by the cocking piece, possibly causing the holdup.

It is our belief that this difficulty should be overcome eventually by designing new camming surfaces on the safety so that it either is on or off, but never in a part way position. For the time being, however, we believe some steps should be taken to remedy the present dangerous condition and we recommend that the Instruction Folder, page 2, paragraph "To put