

Arms Minute #3, 1956 - 1/5/56

File: M/725  
M/721  
M/722  
Match Rifle  
375 H&H Magnum  
30/06

cc: G. M. Calhoun

Ilion, New York  
November 23, 1955  
(Revised January 9, 1956)

TO: OPERATIONS COMMITTEE - ARMS DIVISION

H. A. Brown, Chairman  
S. M. Alvis  
N. F. Larsen  
J. D. Mitchell  
J. B. Maupin  
P. H. Burdett

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGE TO M/721-722 LINE  
AND ADDITION OF M/725

In accordance with the minutes of the November meeting of the Operations Committee, we have prepared a tabulation showing present and proposed lines for high power center fire rifles. As indicated, the present line consists of 8 calibers and 40 items exclusive of the high grades D and F. These are in grades A, ADL, and BDL with high and low comb stocks, except for the BDL grade which is offered in high comb stock only.

In the proposed program there would be 28 deletions, as follows:

1. Drop 300 Savage completely.
2. Drop caliber 300 Magnum in M/721 line (available in M/725).
3. Drop ADL and BDL grades in all calibers of the M/721 and 722 line.

The program also proposes 24 additions as follows:

M/725 in 8 calibers (30/06, 270, 300 Magnum, 375 Magnum, 257, 222, 244 and 308) in ADL and BDL grades and with options of either high or low comb stocks.

After the above adjustments are made there would still be a total of 36 items with the M/721-722-725 combination. In this connection, Sales has proposed to eliminate the caliber 300 Savage completely and also eliminate the 300 Magnum from the M/721 line, being available in the proposed M/725 only. All of the ADL and BDL grades would be deleted from the M/721 and 722 line.

The volume forecast shown on the attached tabulations were supplied by Sales and distributed over the various calibers. However, no estimates were given to show distribution expected between high comb and low comb stocks. The present normal year forecast for the M/721 and 722 totals 35,000 rifles; however, it is understood that this forecast is to be reduced to a normal year of 20,000 rifles. Sales anticipates recovering a total normal year sales of some 7,500 rifles with the addition of the proposed M/725 together with the new caliber 375 Magnum. A larger quantity is of course forecast for the first year. Specifications for the proposed new model were reported in the minutes of the November meeting, and it is understood that the selling price for the M/725 will be approximately \$120, which is about the same as the competing M/70.

Although sufficient deletions were made to the M/721 and 722 line so that in net effect we would be carrying only 36 rifle items between these models, there will be quite a significant adverse effect on parts interchangeability. The total variations as to stocks will remain virtually the same. At the present time there are 12 different stocks required for the various calibers and grades and also to take care of both high comb and low comb sizes. This, of course, is based on the fact that the ADL grade stock is the same as the A grade until after it has been withdrawn from stores for checkering and addition of sling swivels. The proposed new combination of models will still require 12 stock types.

In barrels the situation becomes more adverse. At the present time there are 8 barrels; namely, one for each caliber. However, in order to accomplish the proposed new specification involving weight and length for the M/725, changes will have to be made so that we would then have a total of 14 different barrels. As indicated in the M/725 specifications, additions of new parts items will be required for front sights, front sight ramps, rear sights, trigger guards, bolt handles, and butt plates.

The above situation will undoubtedly be included in economics for required working capital. No attempt has been made to prepare an exhibit to show "competition" and price information since, if desired, we believe the Sales Department will be in better position to supply this.

The present program anticipates Research's proceeding with the preparation of a definitive model of the M/725 which might be appraised in conjunction with the economics as soon as they have been prepared by the Treasurer's Department. Present indications are that the model will not be available before March, 1956.

S. M. Alvis, Manager  
Illion Research Division

SMA:ND

Ilion, New York  
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MODELS 721-722

Present line

Caliber	A Grade Low Comb Stock	A Grade High Comb Stock	ADL High Comb Stock	ADL Low Comb Stock	BDL High Comb Stock Only	Total
30/06	-----	5,000	-----	50	25	5,075
270		2,500		50	25	2,575
300 Mag.		500		50	25	575
300 Sav.		300		15	10	325
257		1,500		25	25	1,550
222*		4,600		600	200	5,400
244*		2,360		100	40	2,500
308		<u>1,950</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Totals		18,710		920	370	20,000

Total calibers 8  
 Total items 36

Reference: Letter W. H. Foster, Jr., to N. F. Larsen dated 10/14/55.

\*Furnished in high comb only

SMAlvis:ND

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MODELS 721-722

Proposed Line

Caliber	A Grade Low Comb Stock	A Grade High Comb Stock	ADL High Comb Stock	ADL Low Comb Stock	BDL High Comb Stock Only	Total
30/06	---- 5,500	----	None	None	None	5,500
270	2,900		None	None	None	2,900
300 Mag.	None		None	None	None	0
300 Sav.	None		None	None	None	0
257	1,800		None	None	None	1,800
222*	5,300		None	None	None	5,300
244*	2,500		None	None	None	2,500
308	<u>2,000</u>		<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Total	20,000		0	0	0	20,000

Total calibers 6  
 Total items 10

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MODEL 725

Caliber	A Grade	ADL High Comb	ADL Low Comb	BDL High Comb	Total
30/06	None	---- 1,830 ----		20	1,850
270	None		940	10	950
300 Mag.	None		475	25	500
257	None		590	10	600
222	None		1,815	35	1,850
244	None		830	20	850
308	None		395	5	400
375 Mag.	<u>None</u>		<u>475</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>500</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>7,350</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>7,500</b>

Total calibers 8  
 Total items 24

Reference: Letter W. H. Foster, Jr., to N. F. Larsen dated 10/7/55.

SMAlvis:ND