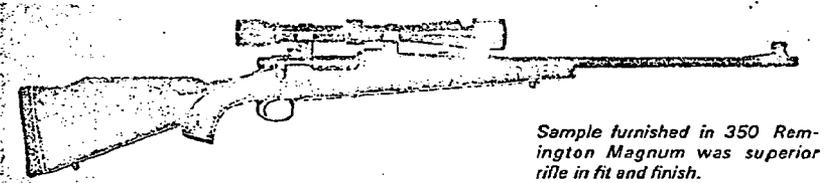
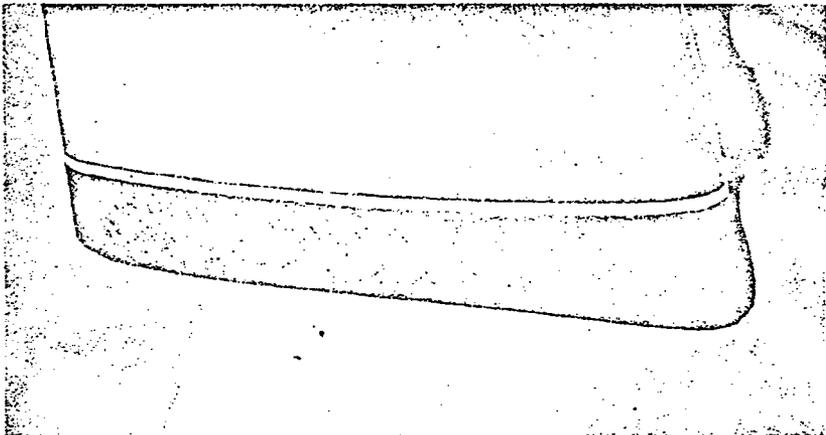


Gunfacts Shoots:

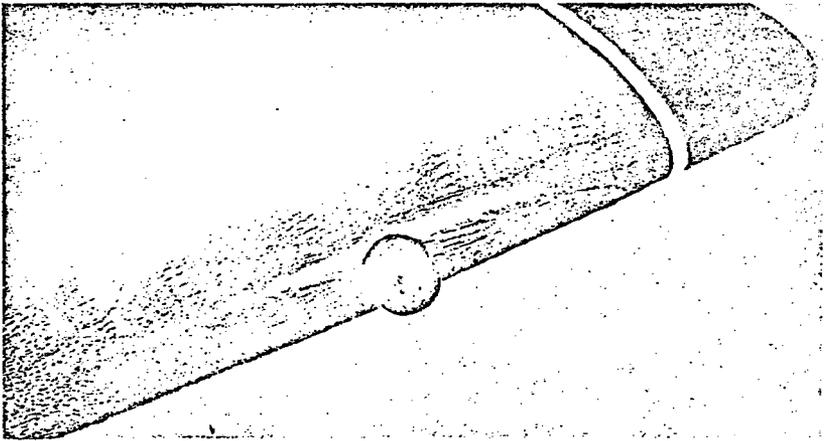
REMINGTON'S 1969 MODEL 700 IN 350 REMINGTON MAGNUM



Sample furnished in 350 Remington Magnum was superior rifle in fit and finish.



Recoil pad installation was excellently accomplished and this photo shows how such a job should look.



Swivels on the sample were fitted cleanly, and finish was unmarred, another mark of care in production.

The facts: Remington now offers the Model 700 in 350 Remington Magnum and in 6.5mm Remington Magnum. The new rifles are on the short 700 action—not the 30-06 length—with 24" barrels. Apart from a change in the factory impressed checkering, a fancier pattern, the rifles are normal 700's at first glance.

However, the rifle furnished Gunfacts was anything but normal. It is a superior rifle in terms of fit and finish. The filled and rubbed-out stock is just short of what one might expect from a custom stockmaker. The metal work, finishing and bluing are remarkably "pre-war." There are, in fact, just three blemishes on the entire piece, evident only to a trained or professional observer. There is a tiny hole in the finish of the stock just to the rear of the cheekpiece, and a tiny chip out of the stock at the forearm tip which was filled with finish and a small gap at one point along the floor plate inletting. If this is a fair sample of 1969 Remington production, then this year's buyers are in for a treat.

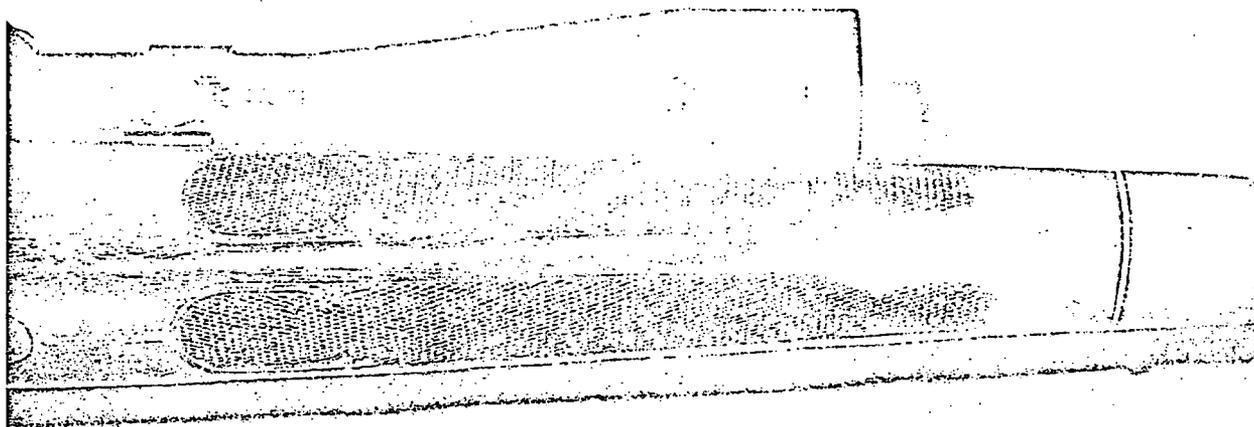
- That is a point worth elaborating:
- There was no finish marring or buildup around the swivel studs.
 - The checkering was applied symmetrically and evenly.
 - The masking of the factory recoil pad and the other details of this job were conscientiously carried out.
 - Only a trained eye can see the few tool marks left under the bluing.
 - There were no rough spots on the stock where rubbing out was skimped.
 - There simply was no reason to touch the trigger mechanism.

The general characteristics of the sample rifle are like all Remington 700's. This rifle has a barrel that is 5½" longer than the original 600 Magnum in which the 350 Remington was introduced, and 3½" longer than the 660 Magnum now offered.

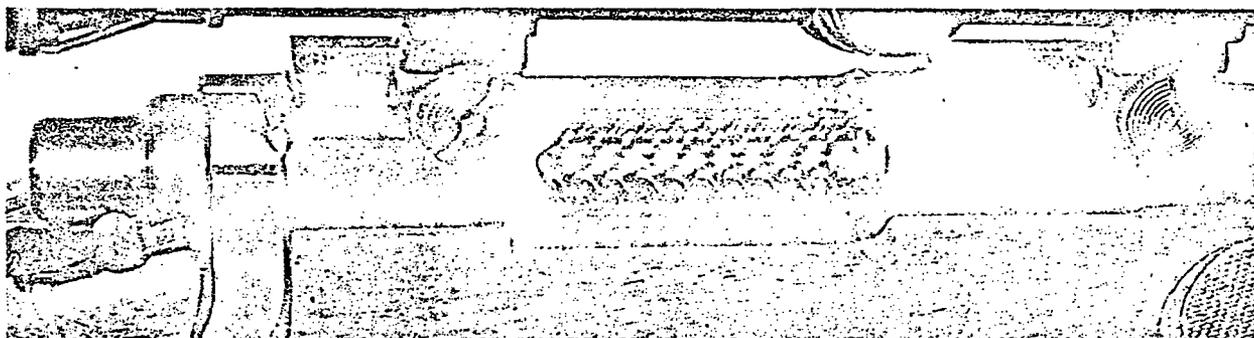
In addition to small production changes, the 1969 Model 700 has some quite visible changes. The bolt shroud of the 1969 has been lengthened, but does not cover the striker by 1/16" when cocked. Thus, it can serve as a cocking indicator. The safety is smaller and a little neater, and the bolt is engine-turned. The checkering pattern is new, and Remington has told us some stock dimensions are slightly changed—grip circumference and forearm diameter being two of these. These are quite minor changes, visually.

The Results: When checked out in the shop, the following facts were noted:

- The recoil lug was bearing against the wood. This was not a tight bearing, but the contact was there.



Checkering pattern was as right as factory impressed checkering can be, evenly pressed and in the right place.



Metal fit and finish fell just short of top-flight custom work. Only expert can see toolmarks.



Sample targets demonstrate rifle will shoot. Control group from known good rifle at right.

- The barrel is bedded just behind the forearm tip on a pad of wood. There was extra pressure at eight o'clock and some pressure along the edges of the barrel groove.
- The action is bedded as Remington beds the 40-X—the bottom is firm against the wood for an included angle of 90°, and the fit is relieved from there up.
- Guard screws were tight.
- Headspace checked out a tight .218".

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The "Go" gauge is .220" and the "No Go" is .223."

I installed and collimated a Redfield 12X Master scope. It came off a 40-X and the installation was simple.

On the range, the rifle presented no problems. It walked a bit for the first few shots, then turned in a three-shot group of 3/4" at 100 yards. A control group shot at the same time with my personal Model 600 Magnum in 350 caliber went 7/16" at 100 yards. For the first three shots, this rifle

as it came out of the box shoots very well.

The Opinion: As a riflemaking job of work this rifle is superior, and if all Remington 700's for 1969 come out of the box looking and acting like this, a new era is here. As a hunting rifle of serious potential, particularly for the Western hunter of elk, this Remington 700 in 350 Magnum is a superior choice—it matches the 35 Whelen (remember the 24" barrel) and shoots factory ammunition. Recoil is not objectionable at all.