

cc: G.M. Calhoun
P. E. Morgan
H. J. Nachman - V.G. DeRous
M.H. W. 11/14/64
W.E. Look - R.P. Kelly - file ✓

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W. D. VUONO
Bridgeport

MODELS 800 and 700 BOLTS - SAFETY

It was recently decided to go ahead and provide a new plug on the rear of the bolt which would be extended sufficiently to shroud the projecting end at rear of firing pin. The object is to provide a means of protecting the ends of the firing pin from being struck in such a way as to accidentally fire the rifle when cocked. The Plant's cost estimate is based upon the design which you may have seen earlier and as shown on the attached print.

Before releasing this to production it would be well to check a question which has been raised as to adequacy for accomplishing this, particularly by the Australian authorities. Although the new bolt plug extends rearward sufficiently so that there is no projection from the rear of the firing pin, it would still be possible to contact the firing pin when struck by an object of relatively smaller diameter, such as a ballpeen hammer. This could be prevented by a redesign in the form of a steel cap that would be attached to the present bolt plug. Although 100% effective it would be considerably more expensive. This would not be a serious factor if only supplying several hundred per year, but would be true if all the rifles were to be made this way.

One feature in argument of using the proposed lower cost shroud method is that the shooter can still see whether or not his rifle is cocked, which would not be the case with the more expensive design.

If you think you would like to send one of these bolts to Australia for appraisal, please advise. And to save time can arrange to send direct.

See
S. M. Alvis
Ilion Research Division

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