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DON'T SAY IT—WRITE IT

To G. M. CALHOUN

DATE March 31, 1945

FROM S. M. ALYIS

MODEL 700 - C-GRADE - RK-W Finish

I think it is only right that we inform all concerned the C-Grade rifle production is continuing to be in serious jeopardy because of difficulties in finishing. Another dilemma is apparently we are not sufficiently qualified in research to know just what to do. However, the Plant Engineering personnel are certainly helping us the best they can.

The main trouble seems to be in "packing and chipping" of the finish. This is especially critical in the checkering areas. It seems that we have had this trouble on upwards of approximately 50 stocks and when the difficulty arises the only thing that can be done is to strip the RK-W finish and start over. Apparently there is still no feasible method of removing the RK-W finish except by mechanical means and as result a percentage of these reworked stocks have to be scrapped, including all of the extra labor.

We can only say that our people are certainly continuing to work diligently on the problem but with some degree of discouragement. We do not know the answer. Lloyd Fox has advised our people it seems that our trouble may be due to "contamination" and suggests that everything possible be done to eliminate this.

We have been sharing the RK-W finish facilities with Arms Service, and in this connection they also have to use cabinets, spray booths, etc. for their lacquer stocks. Quite sometime ago Mike suggested we set up a small spray booth downstairs. However, we ran into so many problems in order to meet State requirements together with rather excessive cost that this was abandoned in view of the Plant's offer that we share facilities with Arms Service.

Ray Williamson's people in the Plant are going to try to help us further in the light of continued difficulty, but in the meantime are afraid that we will lose out on making any gains in the way of shipments for March, not to mention the effect on factory cost for the C-Grade.

SMALT

cc: F. L. Morgan
R. A. Williamson
M.H. Walker - L.P. Gogol