

cc: J. E. Dickey
F. E. Morgan
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✓ M. H. Walker - Ilion

Hand to D. M. 3/15

Bridgeport, Connecticut
March 11, 1968

TO: J. G. WILLIAMS

FROM: E. G. LARSON

SUBJECT: VISIT REPORT - CONSUMERS' UNION - MODEL 700 BDL 22/250

On March 8, Mike Walker and the writer met with Mr. Bert Strauss, of Consumers' Union, to examine the Remington Model 700 BDL caliber 22/250 Varmint Special rifle #262315. This rifle was involved in their test and report as published in the March 1968 issue of "Consumer Reports."

Mr. Strauss explained that when the rifle was received they fortunately noted prior to any firing tests, that when the trigger was depressed with the safety on, it would remain back, and the gun would fire when the safety was released. It was explained that after approximately 100 dry-firings the condition disappeared.

In our examination we found that there was some stickiness in the trigger release, although not enough to have the trigger remain back when pulled with the safety on.

Mike disassembled the rifle and examined all parts within the fire control and trigger guard to determine the cause. There was a bright spot on the side of the trigger cut in the trigger guard, indicating the possibility of the trigger rubbing at this spot. In further disassembly of the trigger housing, we found slight burrs in the trigger pin hole of the trigger and an extremely tight fit of the trigger pin in the housing, and a slight cramping on the various parts due to tightness in the housing.

Mike then re-assembled the trigger assembly and, when he replaced the action in the stock and tightened the front guard screw first, there was a distinct twisting motion of the action

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in the stock and the condition noted in the "Consumer Reports" test was prevalent once again.

We then found that if the rear trigger guard screw was inserted first, the trigger assembly would operate normally; but, of course, due to the condition noted previously, once the front screw was tightened, the stresses remained.

We asked if we could replace or purchase the gun in question, and were advised that this was impossible due to policy. Their normal procedure is to sell all items tested to employees sometime after the tests are completed and the reports are issued.

It was agreed, however, that when this rifle was sold to an employee, it would be returned to the writer for repair prior to useage.

It was imperative that we make this offer because, if the gun were disassembled and the front guard screw replaced first, a dangerous condition could result.

Mike Walker will discuss the matter with Ilion production personnel and, if necessary, institute a new inspection procedure.

EGL:k