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Ilion, New York
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WORKS MANAGER

CONSUMERS' UNION - MODEL 700 BDL VARMINT SPECIAL, CAL. 22-250

Following the visit of Earl Larsen and Mike Walker to Consumers' Union on March 3, 1968 to inspect a malfunctioning Model 700 Varmint rifle (letter March 11, 1968), the Ilion Plant has audited Model 700 rifle assemblies, receivers, stocks and fire controls. We have found tolerance build-up in components which could lead to trigger binding as reported by Consumers' Union. The following corrective action has solved this problem and will lead to long range product improvement:

- . Trigger Clearance - The design of the Model 700 trigger has been modified to increase the clearance between the trigger and trigger guard. This new design is in production.
- . Stock Inletting - The tooling and gaging for the Model 700 stock inletter is being changed to reduce the probability of tolerance buildup among the receiver, magazine and floor plate cuts and the guard screw holes. These changes require several weeks for completion.
- . Richardson Inletter - It is planned to transfer the Model 700 inletting from the Pratt and Whitney machine to a new Richardson long stock inletter. This process change will provide inherent tolerance improvements and will be completed in 1969.
- . Product Inspection - At final inspection, all Model 700 rifles are being gaged to assure clearance between the trigger and trigger guard.

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