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E. F. SIENKIEWICZ

1025 Hill Street Durant, Oklahoma 74701 December 6, 1978

Mr. E. F. Sienkiewicz Remington Arms Company, Inc. Products Service Ilion, New York 13357

Dear Mr. Sienkiewicz:

Recently I was in contact with you by telephone about a Remington Model 700-30-06 which fired when I pushed the safety off. You instructed me to ship this rifle to you, UPS, collect. I had some difficulty finding a box for it, which delayed shipment. In the meantime, I could not get this gun to malfunction as it did on the hunting trip. This had me completely baffled, until one night last week. I sat on my couch and placed the rifle at my side as it was in the pick-up, reached over, gripped the stock and pushed the safety off - it snapped. I repeated this several times and each time it snapped. Here I reached a conclusion as to how the accident occurred. The safety requires considerable force to push it to the off position, and when it goes, it is in a snap. With my fore-finger inside the trigger guard, not touching the trigger, and the force required to push the safety off, I found that the thumb moves forward with the safety which causes the rest of the hand to have a caming action to the rear. Here is when the finger hit the trigger at the same time the safety went to the off position. This is what fired the rifle. By doing this over and over, the only time it snapped was when the finger was in the trigger guard.

As stated before, this accident had me completely baffled, especially since I could not get the rifle to malfunction no matter what I tried until I re-enacted what had happened.

At this time, I feel that this accident occurred due to my ignorance, not practicing what I have preached to many others and, as bad as I hate to admit it, carelessness. I am thankful that I only lost a truck engine. Under different circumstances, it may have caused loss of life or limb.

I want to thank you and Remington Arms for your interest, speedy contact and concern. I DO NOT feel the rifle was at fault – only the nut behind the stock, which has been corrected. There is no better teacher than experience. Based on this, I will not be sending you the rifle.