

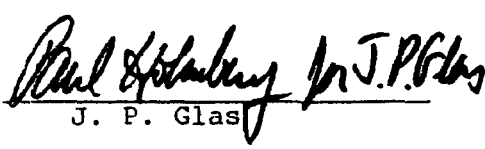



The attached summarizes the current Departmental positions concerning the change from stainless steel to standard steel on the Model 700BDL .17 Remington.

Please signify your approval or comments opposite your name. These comments will be given at the next meeting of the Operations Committee.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Comments</u>
 J. G. Williams	7/6/81
 E. Hooton, Jr.	7/6/81
 J. P. Glas	7/6/81 Per approval of C.B. Waldman.
 E. F. Barrett	7/6/81 Notification of Deleted Curdoo Winters!

PHH:b
Attach.

MODEL 700BDL .17 REMINGTON CALIBERProduction

We recommend that the barrel specification for the Model 700BDL .17 Remington be changed from stainless steel to standard steel. (See attached letter)

Research & Development

We are currently conducting accuracy tests of the Model 700BDL in .17 Remington caliber. Five guns with stainless steel barrels and five guns with standard steel barrels are involved in the test. The results are as follows:

Accuracy* at indicated barrel life	<u>5-gun Test</u>			<u>2-gun Test</u>
	New	500 rds.	1000 rds.	1500 rds.
Stainless Steel	1.22"	1.25"	2.13"	2.48"
Standard Steel	1.01"	.96"	1.33"	1.72"

* Average of three, five-shot groups.
Barrel cooled after 20 rds; barrel
cleaned after 100 rds.

It is the R&D recommendation that the barrel specification for the Model 700BDL .17 Remington be changed from stainless steel to standard steel.

Marketing

We support the recommended change from stainless steel to standard steel in the Model 700BDL .17 Remington. From the introduction of this gun in 1971 until now, we have not made claims in any catalog, catalog page or consumer advertising that the gun featured a stainless steel barrel. We therefore do not anticipate

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any adverse trade or consumer reaction to this change. No announcement will be made of this change; no changes will be made in order number.

We feel that stainless steel technology will play an increasingly important role in the future of longarms. We have seen the impact stainless steel has had on the handgun industry. Ruger is successful with their stainless steel Min-14 and is rumored to be working on a stainless steel Model 10/22. To maintain our prominent position in the industry, Remington will be required to offer stainless steel firearms in the future. While at the same time supporting this request to drop the only stainless steel hunting gun in our line, we want to reaffirm our position and stress the importance of stainless steel technology in the future.

Approval for this change in barrel steel is requested.

PHH:Holmberg:b
7/6/81
Attachment