

VII. ACCURACY

The purpose of this test was to determine what effect, if any, the number of fired rounds on the rifle barrel have on its accuracy performance.

Three calibers from each manufacturer were shot for accuracy. They consist of:

- Browning BBR 30-06 Cal., *25-06 Cal. and 7mm Rem. Mag. Cal.
*A 25-06 Cal. was used because they do not manufacture a 243 Win. Cal. rifle.
- Remington M700 30-06 Cal. ADL Grade, 243 Win. Var. BDL Grade, and a 7mm Rem. Mag. Cal. BDL Grade.
- Ruger M77 30-06 Cal., 243 Win. Var., and a 7mm Rem. Mag. Cal.
- Smith & Wesson 30-06 Cal., 243 Win. (Varmint barrel not made), and a 7mm Rem. Mag. Cal.

All the accuracy was shot from the 100 yard bench, using a 10X power scope (indoor range). The same ammunition code was used at each round level. Remington M40 XBs were used to verify that the factory lots of ammunition used were satisfactory for accuracy testing. This same procedure was used before the start of the first group fired:

- Wire brush all barrels with Hoppes' solvent and patch thoroughly.
- Air cool between each group.
- Shoot one warmer before each group.

The results are in Appendix C, Data Sheet No. 8 titled "Accuracy Summary Sheet". There is no accuracy data for the Winchester M70XTR 7mm Rem. Mag. at the 500 and 1000 round levels due to bolt related problems. This will be covered in detail in the Endurance Section of this report, under Breakages.