

FURTHER INFORMATION ON FLEXITAB KITS

A DOUBLE FEED IS A MALFUNCTION THAT OCCURS WITH THE ACTION OPEN. WITH THE ACTION OPEN THE FEED LATCH IS PHYSICALLY HELD BACK TO ALLOW THE SHELL RESTING ON THE FEED LATCH TO FEED ONTO THE CARRIER. THE STOP LATCH STOPS THE COLUMN OF SHELLS UNTIL THE ACTION IS CYCLED THEN RELEASES THE COLUMN TO THE FEED LATCH - READY TO START THE CYCLE ALL OVER AGAIN. THE FLEXI-TAB DOES NOT ADDRESS A DOUBLE FEED.

FLEXI-TAB WAS DEVELOPED TO CORRECT A MISFEED MALFUNCTION THAT OCCURRED DURING LOADING THE MAGAZINE. THIS MALFUNCTION OCCURRED MOSTLY TO POLICE OFFICERS. THE SHELL WOULD SLIP OFF THE OFFICER'S FINGER BEFORE IT WAS CAPTURED BY THE FEED LATCH. AS A RESULT IT WOULD TRAP UNDER THE BREECH BOLT AND ABOVE THE CARRIER. THE OFFICER HAD TO CLEAR THE MISFEED BY REMOVING THE TRIGGER PLATE ASSEMBLY, OR BY USING SOMETHING TO PUSH THE SHELL UP INTO THE MAGAZINE. IF THE OFFICER WAS IN A HURRY, HE WOULD HOLD THE ACTION BAR RELEASE AND "SLAM" THE BUTT OF THE SHOTGUN ON A HARD SURFACE FORCING THE ACTION TO OPEN. AS A RESULT OF THE LATTER TECHNIQUE - THE RIM OF THE TRAPPED SHELL COULD GET TORN, THE RECEIVER RAILS COULD GET DAMAGED, AND THE CARRIER COULD GET BENT OUT OF POSITION.

THE FLEXI-TAB KIT CONSISTED OF THREE COMPONENTS. THE CARRIER WITH A FLEXI-TAB CUT IN IT, THE BREECH BOLT WITH A CLEARANCE CUT IN THE FRONT, AND THE SLIDE ASSEMBLY WITH THE ADDITION OF TWO RAMP CUTS. THE FLEXI-TAB WOULD BEND DOWN ON A MISFEED EXPOSING A STOP SURFACE TO CAPTURE THE SHELL AT THE PROPER LOCATION ON THE CARRIER. THE CLEARANCE CUT ON THE BREECH BOLT WOULD ALLOW THE BREECH BOLT TO SLIDE OVER THE RIM OF THE SHELL WITHOUT DAMAGING THE TRAPPED SHELL. THE RAMP CUTS ON THE SLIDE ASSEMBLY WOULD ALLOW THE SLIDE TO ENTER THE RECEIVER WITHOUT DAMAGING THE RECEIVER. IT WAS NECESSARY TO HAVE ALL THREE COMPONENTS TO ASSURE THAT THE SYSTEM WOULD WORK PROPERLY.

ONCE THE FLEXI-TAB SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED, ALL THE OFFICER NEEDED TO DO TO CLEAR A MISFEED WAS TO CYCLE THE SHOTGUN NORMALLY.

AS FAR AS I KNOW NO BULLETIN WAS SENT OUT. THE ORIGINAL FLEXI-TAB WAS RESTRICTED TO POLICE SHOTGUNS. CURRENTLY ALL M/870 SHOTGUNS PRODUCED HAVE THE FLEXI-TAB SYSTEM IN THEM. THIS WAS DONE SO THAT WE HAD ONE STYLE SLIDE ASSEMBLY, BREECH BOLT ASSEMBLY, AND CARRIER ACROSS THE BOARD ON M/870 SHOTGUNS.

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