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(Ammunition and Firearms)

Minute #11 - 1981

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Bridgeport, Connecticut
July 17, 1981

JOINT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
AMMUNITION-FIREARMS DIVISIONS

June 29, 1981

Present:Committee

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W.T. Cole, Bpt. Secretary
L. Fox
J.P. Glas
E. Hooton, Jr.
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Others

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W.D. Nickel
W.H. Padgett
W.L. Penn
R.E. Schrader
R.S. Swartz
W.L. Tomek
C.B. Workman

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. in Bridgeport.

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FIREARMS

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT

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June 29, 1981

CENTER FIRE RIFLESMODEL 700 ADL RESTYLE
(1982 Introduction)

Marketing recalled that the Bolt Action Rifle strategy was reviewed in detail with the Committee last March. They noted that the most significant part of that plan is a restyling of the Model 700 ADL for 1982 introduction. Marketing has been working with Research and Production to establish exact model requirements and the feasibility of a late 1981 warehouse date. Marketing stated that they are close to a decision on the final package and expect to make a recommendation to the Committee in July.

Production reported that a list of possible specifications is currently being evaluated from the standpoint of cost reduction potential and earliest possible warehouse date. Production is also attempting to project the year-end inventory position in the current ADL.

RESEARCH PLANNING REVIEWINTRODUCTION

J. F. Glas introduced the Research Planning Review as follows:

"This year we have elected to take a second step of departure from the traditional long range Research review for the Operations Meeting. We have elected to title this segment a Research planning meeting. Beginning from a manpower base of the organization which we expect to have in place by year end, the managers will review the major programs we propose to support, and the major milestones to be achieved. They will also indicate what might be achieved with a reallocation of these resources, or with additional resources. This feature of their presentation is important because we have not had the manpower to accomplish everything we had planned for 1981, and we will not have the manpower in 1982 to accomplish some of the backlog programs we regard to be worthwhile (Charts 11 and 12). It is our objective today to provide a forum for your critique of our proposals. We plan to develop firm budget plans over the next two months, with guidance from the Operations Committee, and present these plans to the September Operations Meeting.

"Last year we reviewed 12 key objectives for 1981 (Chart 13). We stated that we expected to accomplish the following in 1981.

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"Necessity

- (1) We will demonstrate improved fire control mechanisms for bolt action rifles. This program is on target as Clark will indicate.

"Commitments

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FIREARMS NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

C. B. Workman presented 1981-1982 strategy and new process Research plans for Firearms New Product Development.

"My objective today is to review the workload established within the charter of the Firearms Research Division, and how our assignable Exempt Salary manpower will be allocated to each category. The strategy used is to establish overall manpower needs and assign existing manpower to projects on a priority basis with the difference creating a backlog of work that must be deferred to a future date.

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"There have been 91 individual items identified in our research work pool. Obviously all cannot be covered in detail at this meeting. They will be grouped as appropriate under one of five main headings.

1. Necessity
2. New Product Development
3. Process Development
4. Other Work
5. Backlog

"Under the heading of Necessity we have one commitment, Bolt Action Fire Controls (Chart 32). Our objectives here are to enable the shooter to load and unload his gun with the safety switch in the 'ON' position and prevent him for 'adjusting' himself into trouble. This work has been pursued in two ways:

1. Make the present fire control more tamper proof.
2. Design a new fire control.

"Working with Production, the Legal Department and Du Pont consultants, a number of possible improvements to the present fire control have been identified (Chart 33).

- (1) A warning 'Do not adjust Trigger Assembly' will be stamped into the side plate of the fire control.
- (2) Special screw heads will be developed to further discourage adjustment by anyone other than the factory or an authorized gunsmith.
- (3) A new sealant will be investigated that will enable us to prove conclusively that the seal on the adjusting screws has been broken.
- (4) A \$5,000 work order was authorized in March of this year for the Du Pont Engineering Department to assist us in developing a cleaning and lubrication procedure for the Model 700 Fire Control that can be included in the rifles instruction book.

"The evaluation program will consist of a preliminary review of all potential cleaning and lubrication candidates within proposed guidelines and selected products will be screened for performance. It is the program aim, if possible, to specify products on a generic name basis.

"Results of this work are expected in September.

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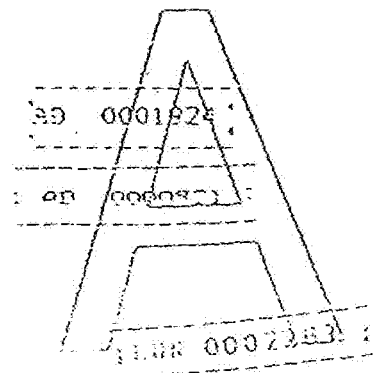
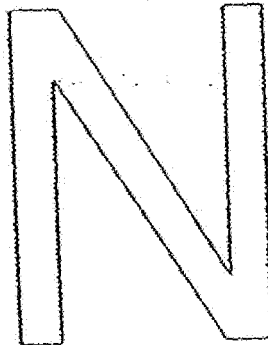
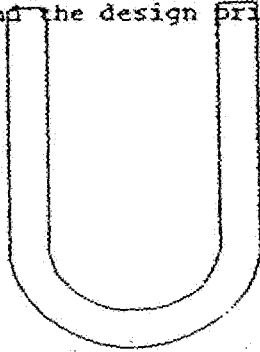


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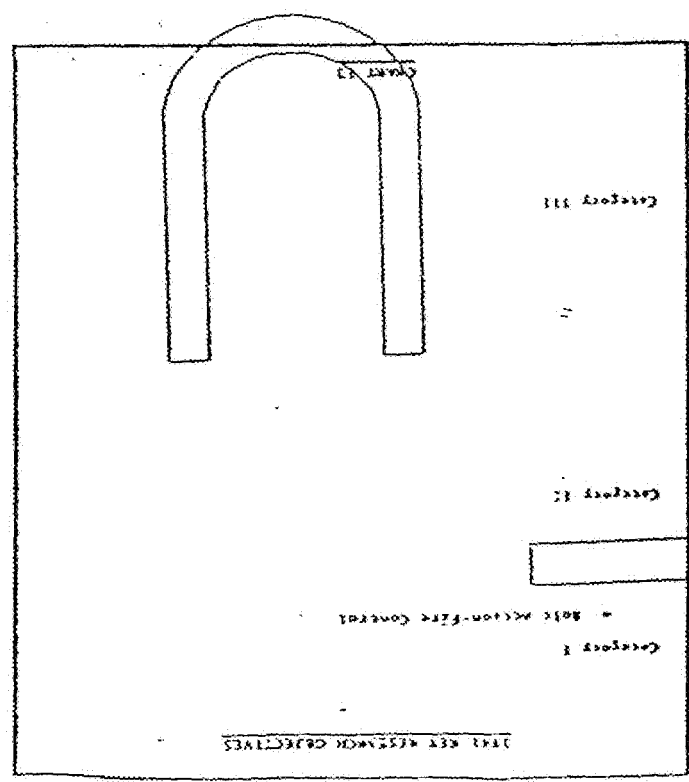
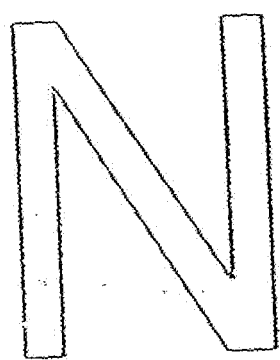
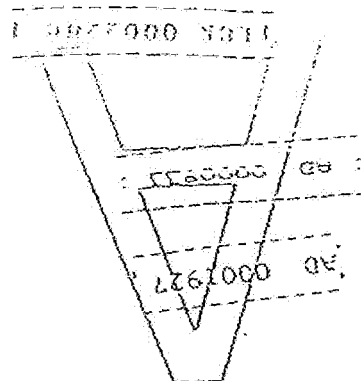
- (5) A longer trigger adjusting spring and screw will prevent 'O' spring load on the trigger if the screw is completely removed.

"Since last year an independent bolt lock and three new designs of a fire control for the M700 have been evaluated. One fire control was selected for continued development. A key feature of the new fire control is a safety that blocks the sear and the trigger. The bolt locks and five samples have been assembled and sent to the Test Lab for preliminary evaluation.

"Our goal remains to complete the redesign for the 700 and then extend the design principles to the 788 and 580 Triggers.



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NECESSITY

Man / Years
Exempt Salary

Bolt Action Fire Control 2.0

CHART 32

BOLT ACTION FIRE CONTROL

- Warning
- Special Screws
- Signature Sealant
- Cleaning & Lubrication
- Longer Return Spring

CHART 32

NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

Assignable Exempt
Man / Year

Project

Direct Tech
Support

M-7

Bolt Action Carbine

M-700 ADL-BDL

.4

.4

.7

.1

.2

Total

CHART 32

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