



OFFICE OF
THE DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20226

RE: Firearms Classification
Panel

T:T:F:CHB
7540

26 JUN 1979

Mr. Lewis E. Yearout, Executive Secretary
Winchester Arms Collectors Association
308 Riverview Drive East
Great Falls, Montana 59404

Dear Mr. Yearout:

This is in reference to your two letters of February 15, 1979, and your subsequent letter of March 19, 1979, in which you requested that two Winchester "Trapper" carbines be considered for removal from the purview of the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As you are aware, we recognize that original Winchester "Trapper" carbines are desirable collector's items which merit consideration for removal from classification as NFA firearms. In the absence of any factory records which would establish the authenticity of these two "Trappers," we accept your statements and notarized documents as the best available means of authenticating these two firearms. Based upon the information which you provided and our additional research, we have determined that these two firearms are primarily collector's items and are not likely to be used as weapons. Therefore, the following firearms are removed from the purview of the NFA:

Winchester Model 1894 carbine, serial number 883055,
caliber .30 W.C.F., with 15 inch barrel.

Winchester Model 1892 carbine, serial number 659700,
caliber .44 W.C.F., with 15 inch barrel.

Further, we have determined that since these firearms derive a substantial part of their monetary value from the fact that they are novel, rare, or bizarre, they are also curios or relics as defined in Title 27, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 178, Section 178.11. Thus, licensed collectors may acquire,

Mr. Lewis E. Yearout

hold, or dispose of them as curios or relics subject to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code (U.S.C.), Chapter 44, and Title 27, CFR, Part 178. They are still firearms as defined in Title 18, U.S.C., Section 921(a)(3).

Please note that in the case of any registered NFA firearms, which are removed from the Act, the owner should submit a written request to the National Firearms Act Branch, Washington, DC 20226, in order to amend the official records.

We appreciate your offer to assist in authenticating additional specimens and trust that we may call upon you for assistance should the need arise. However, we must recognize that in many instances it may not be possible for you to personally examine additional specimens which may come to our attention. For this reason, we would still appreciate any additional information, photographs, drawings, etc., which could aid in distinguishing authentic "Trappers" from modified rifles and carbines. We feel that this information could be of great benefit to all persons who have an interest in these firearms.

We trust the foregoing has been responsive to your inquiry. If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,


Director



GUN MUSEUM

275 WINCHESTER AVENUE, NEW HAVEN 4, CONNECTICUT

WINCHESTER[®]

June 6, 1962

Mr. Lewis E. Yearout
4005 Fourth Avenue North
Great Falls, Montana

Dear Mr. Yearout:

The Winchesters you inquired about are recorded, in the old serial number records, as follows:

Model 1876, serial number 3468, rifle, 24" octagon barrel, plain trigger, caliber .45-60. Shipped July 12, 1880.

Model 1894, 324611, rifle, caliber .30, 1/2 octagon barrel, plain trigger, take-down style, sporting rear sight, pistol grip and engraved for \$2.00. (Engraving not identified) Shipped April 26, 1907.

Model 1894, serial number 883055, no record. Our 1894 records go to number 353,999, the remainder up to number 1,643,000 have been destroyed.

Single shot, serial number 104843, rifle, caliber .25-20, 36" octagon barrel #4, double set trigger, Lyman combination front and rear sights, cup disc, plain pistol grip. Shipped May 3, 1907.

Single Shot, serial number 114,039, no record. Single Shot records in my file go to number 109,999, the remainder have been destroyed.

Model 1886, serial number 133200, rifle, caliber .45-70, 22" round nickel steel smokeless extra light weight barrel, plain pistol grip, shotgun butt rubber buttplate, take-down style, plain trigger, 4 cartridge magazine. Shipped August 28, 1909.

Model 1876, serial number 4529, rifle, caliber .45-60, 30" octagon barrel, set trigger. Shipped August 6, 1881.

Model 1876, serial number 53766, rifle, caliber .45-60, octagon barrel, plain trigger, 1/2 Magazine. Shipped May 14, 1886.

Single Shot, serial number 142, rifle, caliber .45-70, 28" octagon barrel, plain trigger. Shipped April 27, 1886.

Single Shot, caliber 101627, rifle, caliber .32-40, 30" octagon barrel, plain trigger. Shipped March 1, 1907.

Our records do not identify the original buyer or destination of the order.

Sincerely yours,



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We trust the foregoing has been responsive to your inquiry. If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,


Director

308 Riverview Drive East
Great Falls, Montana, 59404
January 5, 1980

Mr Ron Keysor
Associate Editor
National Rifle Assoc.
1600 Rhode Island Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20036

Dear Mr Keysor:

As per your request:

I enclose three black and white photos for your use as per your letter of Dec. 13, 1979.
I picture is of an I873 Carbine Serial no. 486139
I picture is of an I892 Carbine Serial no. 659700
I picture is of an I894 Carbine Serial no. 883055
With related data of each carbine attached to each picture.

For your convenience I have also enclosed the three original negatives of the above pictures, should you wish them. The negatives, I would appreciate being returned when your project is complete.

I have attempted to obtain a picture of the Model I885 Carbine of Mr Mackin, but there has to date, been no response. He perhaps is not home in the Winter time.

The pictures as submitted are full length views of the left side, as on a Carbine this exposes the "Saddle Ring and Stud"--a highly desireable feature to any Carbine Collector. You will note on the Model I873 Photo--It has two highly desireable features--seldom found on Carbines, that being not only the Saddle Ring and Stud, but also two Sling swivels. The Picture of the I894 Carbine also features another scarce Collector feature--the 3/4 length magazine tube.

Sincerely

Lewis E. Yearout

You may use the Serial numbers and pictures as from the Collection of

Lewis E. Yearout

If you so wish:

All three guns are free of the N.F.A.
All by special letters of release as
signed by the Director of the BATF.