



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

29 MAR 1978

REFER TO  
T:T:F:CHB  
7540

Mr. James B. Hughes, Jr.  
Deep River Armory, Inc.  
5700 Star Lane  
Houston, Texas 77057

Dear Mr. Hughes:

This is in reply to your letter of March 15, 1978, in which you ask about the status of Charola y Anitua pistols. Section 921(a) (16) of Title I of the Gun Control Act of 1968 defines the term "antique" to include any firearm manufactured in or before 1898; and replicas of such firearms if such replicas use rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition which is no longer manufactured in the United States and which is not readily available in the ordinary channels of commercial trade.

Our research indicates that the Charola y Anitua semiautomatic pistol was first manufactured in 1897 and since these pistols are chambered for 5mm and 7mm ammunition which is not available in ordinary commercial channels, these pistols qualify as antiques as defined. Such classification would also include Belgian copies of the Charola y Anitua pistol provided that they are chambered for 5mm or 7mm ammunition.

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

Sincerely yours,

*Nick Vannucci*  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch