In accordance with your letter dated May 12, 1964, and pursuant to the informal request of Mr. Melvin Eisenberg of your staff on May 15, 1964, examinations were conducted on the C6, C7 and C8 cartridge cases and the C8 cartridge to determine if they had been loaded into and extracted from the C14 rifle more than once.

As a result of these examinations, numerous marks were found on these items of the type produced by the magazine follower, chamber, extractor or ejector of a weapon.

Marks were found on the C6 cartridge case indicating that it has been loaded into and extracted from a weapon at least three times. One set of marks was identified as having been made by the magazine follower of the C14 rifle. It is pointed out that the extractor and ejector marks on C6 as well as on C7, C8 and C8S did not possess sufficient characteristics for identifying the weapon which produced them. There are also three sets of marks on the base of this cartridge case which were not found on C7, C8, C8S or any of the numerous tests obtained from the C14 rifle. It was not possible to determine what produced these marks.

Marks were found on the C7 cartridge case indicating that it has been loaded into and extracted from a weapon at least twice. One set of marks was identified as having been produced by the chamber of the C14 rifle and one set of marks was identified as having been produced by contact with the bolt of C14; however, it was not possible to determine whether the two sets of marks which were identified were produced by one or two loading operations in the C14 rifle.

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Two sets of marks were found on the CS cartridge (found in the C14 rifle) which were identified as having been produced by the magazine follower of the C14 rifle. Another set of follower marks was found on C8. The fragmentary nature of this set of marks could possibly account for the fact that these marks were not identified with the C14 rifle.

Marks were found on the CS8 cartridge case indicating that it had been loaded into and extracted from a weapon at least twice. One set of marks was identified as having been produced by the magazine follower of the C14 rifle and one set of marks was identified as having been produced by the chamber of C14; however, it was not possible to determine whether the two sets of marks which were identified were produced by one or two loading operations in the C14 rifle.

The results of the above examinations do not preclude the possibility that these items could have been loaded into and extracted from a weapon one or more times when insufficient force was used to produce marks. It is pointed out that if two or more cartridges are loaded into the clip of C14, only the bottom cartridge will be marked by the magazine follower.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

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