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ensure continuity of production until such time as the British Ministry of Supply decide whether or not to proceed with the production of rifles No. 5 "British Lightened Pattern".

Production schedules for the second quarter of 1945 have been established upon the basis of an assembly requirement of 14,000 rifles No. 4 Mk.I per month, plus the specified complement of "Spare" parts.

At present production of rifles No. 4 Mk.I is proceeding in a highly satisfactory manner, and as mentioned in the previous quarterly report, 90% of the plant is now operating on a single shift of 48 hours per week.

RIFLE NO. 5 (British Pattern Lightened)

Total production to end of 1944	33
Production - 1st quarter 1945	<u>-</u>
Total production to date	33

Distribution of Experimental Lightened Rifles to date is as follows:

Light weight rifle	27
Light weight rifle No. 5	<u>6</u>
Total shipments to March 31, 1945	33
Total orders received to date	33
Total production to date	<u>33</u>
Balance to produce	0

On previous quarterly reports, this item together with sniper's rifles and .22 calibre rifles has always been included under the heading of "General Progress - rifle No. 4 Mk. I". However, starting at the end of January, these items have been classified separately and reported accordingly on the monthly reports which have been submitted since that date.

The above summary indicates the total extent of experimental production to date on Lightened Pattern rifles, and does not necessarily apply only to the rifle No. 5 (British Lightened Pattern).

At the present time there is still no definite indication as to the intentions of the British Ministry of Supply on the production of rifles No. 5. However, engineering, planning and tool procurement is proceeding in accordance with original instructions received, and tool proving schedules have been advanced approximately two months pending a clarification from the Department of Munitions and Supply in this connection.

The production schedules that have been established for the 40,000 rifles No. 4 Mk. I, have been so calculated as to provide assembly requirements of 14,000 per month plus spare parts, and also to maintain the major machine lines intact and with sufficient "work-in-process" to follow through with production of rifles No. 5 if and when the same is released.