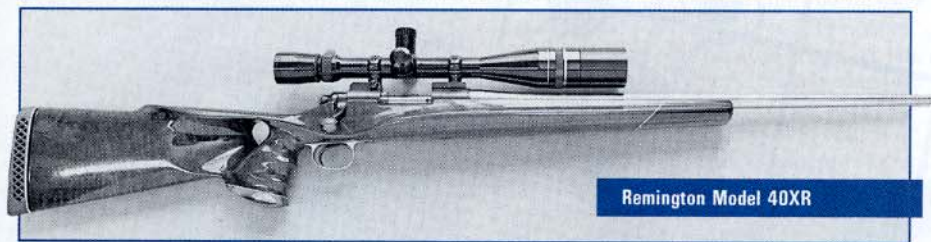
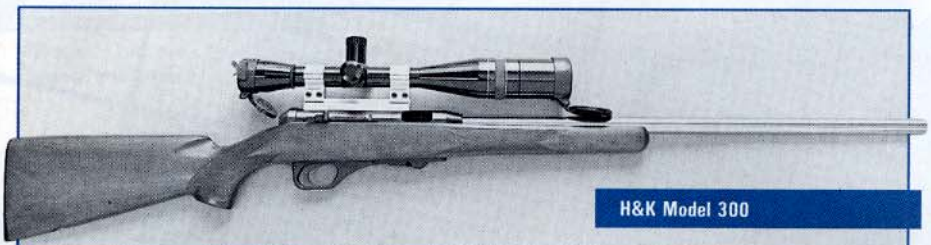


Ruger Model 77/22 Magnum



Remington Model 40XR



H&K Model 300

To turn these .22 Magnum rifles into .17 Rimfires, Chernicky merely replaced barrels.

tridges side by side reveals only minor differences, primarily in shoulder angle. As mentioned, Kopp's cartridge was intended to replace the 5mm Remington Magnum. This .20-caliber round utilized a 38-grain bullet at about 2100 fps. The

various Kopp .17 Rimfire loads with 25-grain bullets I fired produced 2100 to 2400 fps from Kopp's converted Marlin lever gun with its 20½-inch barrel.

Chernicky's approach was entirely different. He was looking for something



.17 Rimfire is capable of 1/2 MOA accuracy.

to outperform the 5mm Remington Magnum, not duplicate it. He wanted optimum performance in a rimfire round for shooting ground squirrels and prairie dogs. Indeed, Chernicky's loads, which
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WHAT THE MANUFACTURERS ARE SAYING...

Mike Bussard, Sturm, Ruger & Co.

"The proposed .17 Rimfire Magnum cartridge bridges the gap between rimfire and centerfire ammunition performance. The range, accuracy, and knockdown power of the .22 Long Rifle and .22 Magnum cartridges are limited. The .17 Rimfire Magnum cartridge will outclass either. The .17 will have a higher muzzle velocity and a flatter trajectory. This means a greater effective range. At the same time, .17 Rimfire Magnum ammunition will be far less expensive than centerfire ammo.

"This new cartridge far exceeds the performance of the old 5mm Remington Magnum, without the necessity of costly, specially made rifles. It will be easy to make rifles for the new round by putting a .17-caliber barrel on a basic .22 Magnum action. This will not take a lot of expensive new tooling, and that will help keep costs down for the shooter.

"The round is effective and practical for small game and pests. It's terrific for the hide hunter who doesn't want to put big holes in pelts. It's great for populated areas because it doesn't make much noise, and the light .17 caliber rimfire bullets will not ricochet like .22 rimfire bullets.

"Perhaps most important, the .17 Rimfire puts the fun back into rimfire

shooting. Ruger stands ready to make rifles in this caliber."

Jim Smith, Thompson/Center Arms

"I think it's ideally suited to a varmint handgun because of its minimal recoil and minimal noise. The rimfire powders it uses leave a minimal amount of residue in the barrel so that you don't have the cleaning problem that you do with a centerfire .17. I think the other plus is that using the rimfire-type powders, you're going to burn the powder completely within a T/C Super 14 barrel so that it's efficient in a handgun-length barrel.

"If the ammunition is offered commercially we'll chamber it in the Super 14 barrel and also in the Contender Carbine. I see it as a super little suburban varmint, due to the low noise level. I think this cartridge has a great future as long as ammunition is commercially available."

Nick Maravelli, U.S. Repeating Arms Co.

"We had the Model 94/22 Magnum in the 1992 catalog as also being available in the .17 Rimfire Magnum and we've taken it out due to the lack of factory ammo. Federal was going to make it but they've put it on the back burner."

Mike Jordan, Olin-Winchester Ammunition

"We're looking at it as we look at any new product and we'll give it a fair assessment and then decide whether to go with it."

Bob Behn, Marlin Firearms

"Sounds interesting to us and we'll certainly entertain the idea of chambering for it. First we have to do some testing with production ammunition. So far, that has not been available."

Mike Larsen, Federal Cartridge Co.

"The possibility of producing the cartridge is being reviewed and studied at this time. Right now, priority is being placed on producing the Ultra Match .22 rimfire ammunition for the U.S. Shooting Team. We want to have this ammunition ready for the shooting portion of the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, next August."

Allen Jones, CCI (Blount)

"CCI is looking at the .17 Rimfire Magnum and evaluating the base of guns that might be produced. We're also considering the time we've committed to other projects and we don't plan to take any action or make any decision on the .17 for at least six months." ■