



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

DEC 11 1986

LE:F:(b) (6)

CATCo.
P.O. Box 4013
Napa, California 94558

Dear Sir:

This refers to your letter of November 4, 1986, with which you submitted a steel tube with template for the manufacture of a STEN submachinegun receiver affixed to the outside of the tube.

The receiver tube and template, in and of themselves, are not regulated by the Gun Control Act of 1968. However, if this tube is possessed in conjunction with other STEN submachinegun components, the combination could be considered a combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled, and subject to the provisions of the National Firearms Act (NFA).

With respect to your question concerning the marking of a machinegun by an individual, Section 922(o), Chapter 44, Title 18, U.S.C., makes it unlawful for any person to possess a machinegun which was not registered prior to the effective date of this section. Therefore, an ATF Form 1, Application to Make and Register a Firearm, cannot be approved if the application is to make a machinegun.

The fixture for use in locating the mounting hole for an M16 automatic sear in the lower receiver of an AR15 type weapon is, in and of itself, not subject to the provisions of the NFA. Additionally, the M16 automatic sear, in and of itself, is not subject to the provisions of the NFA. However, if the automatic sear and locating fixture are possessed in conjunction with other parts intended to be used in the conversion of a weapon into a machinegun, those parts could be considered a combination of parts designed and intended to be used for converting a weapon into a machinegun.

With respect to your question concerning component parts for machineguns, internal parts for machineguns, in and of themselves, are generally not subject to the provisions of the NFA. It is recommended that machinegun component

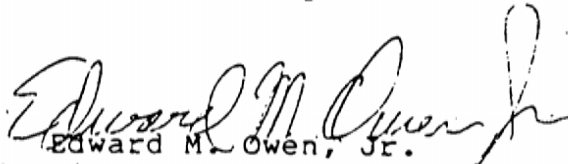
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parts only be sold to individuals who lawfully possess weapons for which the parts are designed. If machinegun component parts are possessed in conjunction with drilling fixtures, templates, and/or instructions intended for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, those combinations could be subject to the provisions of the NFA.

If you plan to offer any of the above tubes, drilling fixtures, templates, or parts for sale, you should notify customers that machineguns cannot be lawfully made from these components.

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

Sincerely,



Edward M. Owen, Jr.
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch