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4. File: ED180  
18 April 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Obtaining Information on Colt "Armalite" Model AR-15 Rifle

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1. On 29 March 1960 [redacted] requested that we obtain information on a rifle being manufactured by Colt - the "Armalite", Model AR15. [redacted] asked that we specifically determine if Colt was making arrangements to manufacture the Model AR15 outside the United States.

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2. [redacted] understood that it fired a Remington .222 caliber cartridge. That it had a muzzle velocity of 3200 ft/second. Also, that a [redacted] had a sales interest in this rifle and had apparently interested Mr. Bissell. The address of [redacted]

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3. In addition [redacted] stated that Colt had submitted a Model AR10 to Army Ordnance for evaluation. We have a copy of the report prepared by Springfield Armory on this evaluation test of the Armalite Rifle, 7.62mm (.308 caliber) Model AR-10 filed in the Reports file under ED-180 Weapons, General.

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4. Our first action was to ask [redacted] of Olin Mathieson to find out what he could for us. He reported that Colt was undertaking what could be referred to as a developmental production. Winchester was making the barrels for Colt. That it would be weeks before any brochures would be available to him. That Colt was hoping to sell to the Dutch government but was not planning to manufacture overseas.

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5. This information was passed on to [redacted] on 15 April. On this date, [redacted] stated that what he now wanted were three test reports on the Model AR-15; one prepared by Aberdeen, one by the Infantry Board at Fort Benning and the third written by the Combat Development Experimental Center at Fort Ord, California. That he was getting these reports and would review them before determining if any further evaluation was necessary.

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6. No further action will be taken by us at this time. If [redacted] comes up with anything more which would warrant forwarding to [redacted], we can so do.

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*Col is .223*

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