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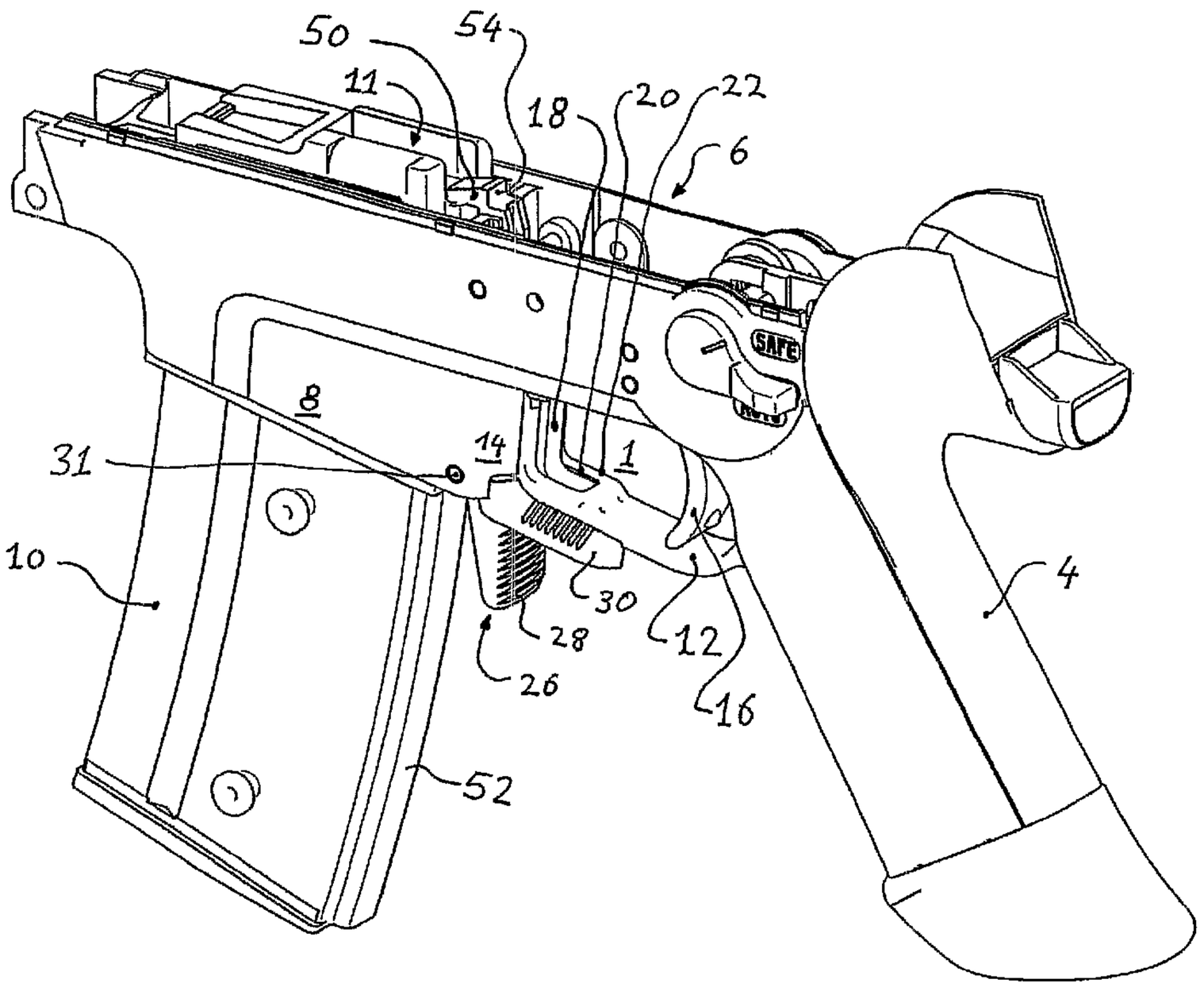

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
The invention relates to a trigger device wherein a spring-biased breechblock (46), by engagement with the feeder (11) of an ammunition magazine, can be displaced from a non-operational position in which the breech (48) is released into an operational position in which the breech (48) is maintained in an open position. The breechblock (46) has an actuator element (18) disposed on the trigger bow (12), which can be actuated with the shooting hand holding the grip (4) and the breechlock (46) can be adjusted from the operational position to the non-operational position, thereby releasing the breech (48). The direction of actuation of the actuator projection associated with the actuator element runs substantially perpendicular to the force pulling the trigger.

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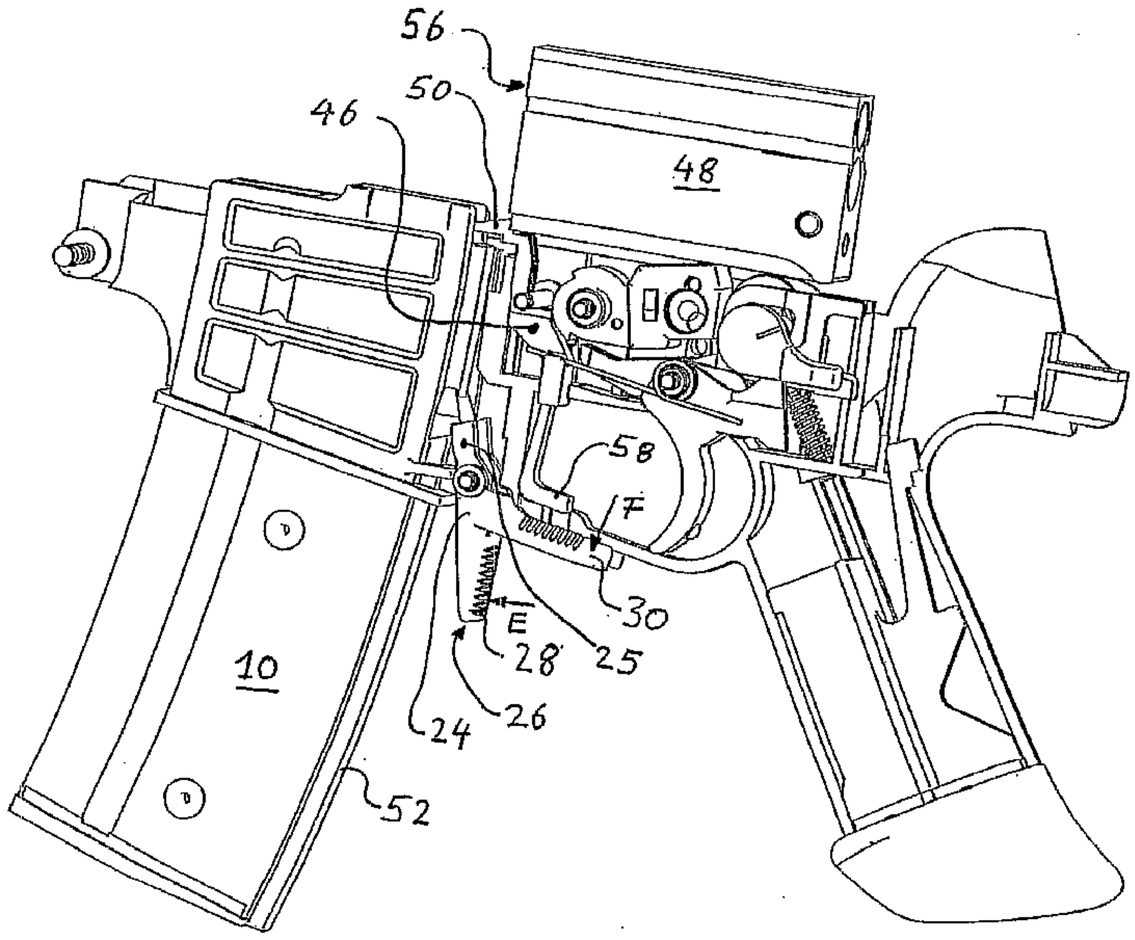
(54) Title: BREECHBLOCK

(54) Bezeichnung: VERSCHLUSSSPERRE



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a trigger device wherein a spring-biased breechblock (46), by engagement with the feeder (11) of an ammunition magazine, can be displaced from a non-operational position in which the breech (48) is released into an operational position in which the breech (48) is maintained in an open position. The breechblock (46) has an actuator element (18) disposed on the trigger bow (12), which can be actuated with the shooting hand holding the grip (4) and the breechlock (46) can be adjusted from the operational position to the non-operational position, thereby releasing the breech (48). The direction of actuation of the actuator projection associated with the actuator element runs substantially perpendicular to the force pulling the trigger.

(57) Zusammenfassung: Die Erfindung betrifft eine Abzugseinrichtung, bei der eine federbelastete Verschlusssperre (46) durch den Eingriff mit dem Zubringer (11) eines Munitionsmagazins aus einer Ruhelage, in der der Verschluss (48) frei gegeben ist, in eine Arbeitslage verschiebbar ist, in welcher der

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— *vor Ablauf der für Änderungen der Ansprüche geltenden Frist; Veröffentlichung wird wiederholt, falls Änderungen eintreffen*

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Verschluss (48) in offener Stellung festgehalten wird. Die Verschlusssperre (46) weist dabei ein am Abzugsbügel (12) angeordnetes Bedienelement (18) auf, das mit der das Griffstück (4) haltenden Schiesshand zu betätigen ist, und die Verschlusssperre (46) aus der Arbeitslage in die Ruhelage verstellbar ist und der Verschluss (48) freigegeben wird. Die Betätigungsrichtung des dem Bedienungselement zugeordneten Betätigungsfortsatzes verläuft im wesentlichen senkrecht zu einer den Abzug auslösenden Kraft.

Breechblock Stop

The invention relates to a spring-loaded breechblock stop which can be moved by means of engagement with the follower of an ammunition magazine from a resting position, in which the breechblock is released, into an operative position, in which the breechblock stop locks the breechblock in open position. Such a breechblock stop is for example disclosed in DE 196 55 169.

Positional terms used in the following such as "up", "forward" etc. refer to a weapon which is in normal firing position and whose axis of the bore (barrel-center-line) runs horizontally; "forward" lies in the direction of fire; "left" and "right" are described from the vantage point of a marksman who has the weapon in firing position.

The functional principle of a normal breechblock stop, in particular one for automatic weapons, consists in the fact that a tongue of the breechblock stop extends into the region of the follower of the ammunition magazine, which in the case of an emptied magazine moves the tongue up and pushes a catching surface into the path of motion of the breechblock, which then is blocked behind the magazine. The frictional force applied by the lock spring between the breechblock and catching surface is sufficient in order to keep the breechblock stop in engagement with the breechblock even in the case of the magazine being removed (without engagement of the follower). The breechblock stop is unlocked by means of pulling back the breechblock together with the firing lever, a spring which moves the

breechblock stop downward so that the catching surface no longer lies in the path of motion of the breechblock, and the breechblock with the firing lever can rocket forward and, in the case of an inserted filled magazine, guides a cartridge into the cartridge chamber. That means that after replacement of an emptied magazine for a full one the firing lever is operated, in order to make the weapon ready to fire again. This type of operation costs time and usually requires that the weapon must be brought out of an aiming position. Possibly the marksman must then even move out of his cover.

From DE 18 90 933 U an additional trigger device in accordance with the generic term of Claim 1 is known, in which the breechblock stop exhibits an operative control arranged next to the trigger guard, which can be operated by means of one finger of the shooting hand in order to adjust the breechblock stop from the operative position to the resting position, so that the breechblock is released. This breechblock stop is designed as a swiveling lever whose operative control is operated in the same direction as the trigger but in opposing orientation. An involuntary extension of the trigger finger can result in the unlocking of the breechblock stop. The operative control runs laterally outside of the trigger guard and can thus easily be operated or damaged by outside influences (e.g. by brushing up against objects, roots, equipment or the like).

The object of the present invention lies in the creation of an operating option which is easy to operate and is constructed to be insensitive to incorrect operations.

This problem is solved by a trigger device in accordance with Claim 1.

The operative control is particularly well accessible when it runs within the trigger region, namely within the trigger guard, to be precise, along an area which is located opposite the trigger. The interior surface of the trigger guard can also be formed by a case section. This arrangement also prevents an unintended operation of the trigger safety, since the trigger guard practically forms a cage around the operative control. The guiding of the operative control in a recess in the trigger guard mounted for this purpose, into which the operative control protrudes downward, improves and stabilizes the guiding of the entire trigger safety and helps prevent damage of the operative control (for example breaking or bending).

An inwardly extending control extension facilitates the operation which can for example take place via the index finger of the shooting hand resting on the trigger.

In accordance with Claim 3 the breechblock stop, operative control and control extension can be manufactured of a single piece, for example as a metallic cast part, as a forged piece or also as a plastic injection molded part, under circumstances with a metal insert.

The improvements according to Claims 4-6 offer further operational advantages. For example the positioning of the operative control or the control extension and with it the positioning of the breechblock stop can be detected by touch. If the breechblock stop is located in its operative position, i.e. in the case of a magazine that has been emptied, the control extension protrudes at least partially upward out of the trigger guard. In the case of a resting breechblock stop, i.e. with a magazine that is filled or partially filled, the control extension runs flush with the profile of the trigger guard (Claims 4 and 5). These variable positions can be easily detected by means of feeling with one's fingers, i.e., the marksman can determine whether the magazine is still loaded

and whether an unintentional or unexpected interruption of the firing sequence is being caused either by an emptied magazine or by a jam or some other malfunction of the weapon.

The improvement in accordance with Claim 6 makes it possible to arrange the control extension in such a way that in its operative position it protrudes from the surrounding enlargement so that the control extension can be felt, and in its resting position forms a continuous surface with the enlargement. This design allows an unlocking of the breechblock stop without removing the finger from the trigger region.

Claims 7 and 8 relate to a design in which the operative control of the breechblock stop can be arranged flush with the operative control of a lever for locking a magazine without an interaction taking place. In the process an operative control of this lever, which extends in the region of the breechblock stop below the trigger guard, also exhibits a recess, to be precise, a recess which is to a large extent in alignment with the recess in the trigger guard. With this the deposited impurities, dirt or objects in the operation of the breechblock stop do not affect the positioning of the magazine lock and vice versa. That is, a release of the breechblock stop does not cause the magazine lock to release, just as an operation of the magazine lock or the insertion of a new magazine has no effect on the position of the breechblock stop.

The locking mechanism cited in Claim 9 can shut down the function of the breechblock stop by fixing it in its resting position.

Claim 10 is geared toward a semi-automatic weapon in which in particularly advantageous manner the operation of the breechblock stop

as well as also that of a lever for locking the magazine is realized.

The invention will be explained in greater detail in the following with the assistance of the attached drawings of an embodiment in which:

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a grip or of a case part of a weapon which exhibits an inventive breechblock stop,

Figure 2 shows a partially broken view of Figure 1,

Figure 3 shows a perspective view of a section of the trigger region from Figure 2 from above, obliquely

Figure 1 shows the trigger region 1 of a weapon which among other things exhibits a case/grip 6 with a handle 4 and a magazine well 8 as well as a removable magazine 10. In the trigger region 1 there is a trigger guard 12 to be placed at the upper end of the handle 4, said trigger guard extending to a case region 14 abutting the magazine well 8. The trigger as well as an operative control 18 is located within the trigger guard, said operative control extending from above outside of the case/grip 6 on the case region 14 along to a recess 20 of the trigger guard 12, whereby the trigger guard 12 itself exhibits in this region an enlargement 22 partially enclosing the lower end of the operative control 18. The function of operative control 18 will be described further below. At the underside of the case region 14 the operating end 24 of a lever 26 appears, which serves the purpose of spring-loaded locking of the magazine 10. A first operative control 18 as well as a second operative control 30 is arranged on the operating end 24. The lever 26 itself is swivel

mounted with a pin 31 penetrating the case between the magazine well 8 and the trigger region 1.

Figures 2 and 3 show the function of the lever 26. In the interior of the case region 14 a locking end 25 of the lever 26 extends, said lever exhibiting a snap-in face 27 at its end pointing upward, said locking end engaging in the represented locking position in a corresponding opposite surface 29 on the magazine 10. With or even without a similarly designed but unmovable snap-in pair (not shown) on the opposite side of the magazine 10 the magazine 10 is thus secured in the magazine well 8. The lever 26 itself is spring-loaded by means of a leg spring that is not shown in such a way that the locking end 25 engages with the snap-in face 27 on the magazine 10.

In the insertion of the magazine 10 the upper region of the corresponding magazine wall glides along the locking end 25 and swivels the lever 26 against the spring-load until said lever snaps into a groove 32 provided on the magazine and the magazine 10 is secured downward via the opposite surface 29 in engagement with the snap-in face 27.

To release the magazine 10 the marksman uses one hand to encompass the end of the magazine 10 protruding out of the magazine well 8 so that the thumb comes to rest on the surface 36 of the first operative control 28 facing the handle 4. In grasping the magazine the thumb exercises an unlocking force E on the surface 36, which swivels the lever 26 against the spring resistance so that the locking end 25 moves out of engagement with the magazine 10, the snap-in face 27 is no longer in engagement with the opposite surface 29 and the magazine 10 can be swiveled or pulled out of the magazine well 8.

Alternatively the lever 26 can also be operated with the shooting hand encompassing the grip. In the process

unlocking force is exercised via the second operative control 30 by means of pressing (for example the index finger or thumb) against one of the control surfaces 38, 40 pointing obliquely upward on one of the two control flaps 42, 44 and in this way exercising via the second operative control 30 a downward force F, which also moves the lever 26 from the locking position and thus releases the magazine 10 fixed on the locking end 25. Since control flaps 42, 44 are provided both to the right and to the left of the trigger guard 12, the unlocking can be operated in multiple ways and regardless of whether the marksman is right-handed or left-handed. The surfaces 36, 38 and 40 are provided with grooves to improve handling. However, alternatively they can be furnished with knurls, pimples, dents and/or recessed grips or other surface structures which improve handling. There are also designs with slip-resistant coatings or inserted elastomer elements. In an alternative design (not shown) the trigger guard 12 is interrupted, the resulting gap is filled in with the second operative control 30, which is designed with or without control flaps 42, 44.

The lever itself 26 is fixed in the case region 14 via the pin 31 penetrating the case 6, said pin simultaneously defining the swivel axis of the lever 26. The fixation can also take place via bearing journals (not shown) constructed on the lever 26 itself, which are pivoted but axially fixed in suitable manner in the case. The lever 26 can be manufactured of a relatively light plastic material, for example in a single piece in the injection molding method under circumstances with a metal insert so that shocks and impacts, i.e. forces cannot release the magazine lock from the weapon. The spring resistance of the leg spring acting on the lever 26, the lengths of the locking or of the operating end 25, 24, the position of the swivel axis and the arrangement of the operative controls 28, 30, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 are to be adapted to one another in such a way that the securest conceivable

locking of the magazine 10 in the insert is ensured and simultaneously an operation of the lever 26 is possible, without operating forces E and F becoming so great that an excessive exertion of the operating hands takes place.

In the case 6 of the represented embodiment there is also a breechblock stop 46 which holds the breechblock 48 open after the firing of the last cartridge from the magazine 10 (Figure 2). The breechblock stop 46 exhibits a tongue 50 pointing forward at its upper end, said tongue being moved upward by the follower 11 moving upward when said tongue is in the topmost position with an empty magazine 10. The tongue 50 itself extends only so far into the magazine 10 that it is not touched by the rear ends of the cartridge cases (not shown), but rather only so far that the rear end of the follower 11, which runs in a guide groove 52 provided for this purpose in the magazine 10, lifts the tongue 50 so that a catching surface 54 pointing to the rear extends into the path of motion R of the breechblock 48. The breechblock 48 which runs forward under spring load moves only so far forward that a snap-in surface 56 pointing forward abuts the catching surface 54 and stops the motion. A part of the breechblock stop 46 protrudes downward out of the case into the trigger region 1, whereby the aforementioned operative control 18 extends into the trigger region 1 and runs along the front region of the trigger guard 12, which is formed by the case 6. The operative control 18 exhibits a control extension 58 on its lower end and on its upper end has a handle 60 protruding from the case, said handle only extending into the trigger region 1 a bit.

The control extension 58 proceeds in a recess 20 in the trigger guard 12 and is surrounded by a beveled enlargement 22. The breechblock stop 46 is held via a leg spring 63, whose one leg is held by a groove 64 and whose other leg is held at a suitable place in the trigger region.

The force of the leg spring is set in such a way that it is overcome by spring resistance moving the follower 11 upward, so that the breechblock stop 46 is moved upward, but is not sufficient to overcome the frictional force acting between the front 56 of the breechblock 48 and the catching surface 54 of the breechblock stop 46. Thus the breechblock 48 also remains opened when the emptied magazine is removed and is replaced by a filled ammunition magazine. In the case of a filled magazine the follower is no longer in engagement with the tongue 50 of the breechblock stop 46.

Conventionally the breechblock stop is released by pulling back the firing lever (not shown) and with it the breechblock 48 a bit, as a result the catching surface 54 and the corresponding adjoining face 56 of the breechblock 48 separate, the breechblock stop 46 snaps downward due to the spring load and the catching surface 54 lies outside of the path of motion of the breechblock 48, which is now moved forward (Figure 3) and guides a cartridge into the cartridge chamber.

The control extension 58 now makes this pulling back of the loading lever redundant. The breechblock stop 46 can now namely be unlocked by for example pressing the trigger finger from above onto the control extension 58, which moves downward in the recess 20 and pulls the catching surface 54 out of engagement with the face 56 of the breechblock 48. The breechblock is now released and, as described above, moves forward.

With this operation after the insertion of the filled magazine 10 no further activity needs to be performed with the "magazine hand", but rather the magazine hand can immediately hold on to the weapon again. Thus, in this way, for one thing the reloading operation itself is accelerated and for another thing a target can be sighted immediately after changing magazines with the help of both hands.

In addition, the state of the weapon can be "felt" with the control extension 58: Usually it is not clear to the marksman whether the firing sequence was ended due to the fact that the magazine 10 is empty or due to the fact that a jam has occurred. The position of the control extension 58 now makes it possible to distinguish without having to examine the weapon 3 more precisely. If the breechblock stop 46 is in the described operative position with an emptied magazine 10, then the control extension 58 protrudes from the recess 20 in the trigger guard 12 (Figure 2); the marksman thus can feel the control extension 58 in the interior of the trigger guard 12 projecting from the enlargement 22. If the breechblock stop is in its resting position, the edge of the enlargement 22 in the trigger guard 12 runs flush with the surface of the control extension 58 pointing upward (Figure 1); the marksman feels a smooth, continuous surface and knows that the interruption or the end of the firing sequence must have a different cause (possible jamming). That means possible operations on the locking lever or other measures in order to overcome such a jamming are only indicated when the location of the control extension 58 of the breechblock stop 46 indicates that the magazine has not been emptied. In the other case the marksman only has to replace the magazine 10, release the breechblock stop, e.g. via the control extension 58 and then has a weapon ready to fire again.

The aforementioned handle 60 makes it possible to push the breechblock stop 46 up even with the magazine removed or without the action of the follower 11 in order to be able to hold open the breechblock 48 without holding the firing lever, for example for inspection of the weapon.

So that the breechblock stop and the lever 26 for locking the magazine work independently of one another, a recess 62 matching the recess 20 in the trigger guard 12 is provided between the two control flaps 42, 44. This

recess 62 can, as shown, be constructed as an opening in the intermediate region 68 connecting the two control flaps 42, 44. However, it can also result from the fact that the two control flaps 42, 44 are constructed as "fork tines" which, proceeding from the operating lever 26, each run along the trigger guard 12.

The recess 62 in any event prevents for example dirt under the control extension 58 from moving the lever 26 and releasing the magazine at the same time when the trigger stop 46 is being released. Also prevented is any possible material between the underside of the trigger guard 12 and the intermediate region 68 acting on the control extension 58 from below and unintentionally moving the breechblock stop 46 into an operative position, in which the breechblock 48 is blocked.

The combination of lever 26 and breechblock stop 46 described in the embodiment together with their operative controls make possible a very simple accomplishment of all the activities required for the reloading of a weapon. In spite of that, both the lever (26) can be used for spring-loaded locking of a removable ammunition magazine 10 as well as without the spring-loaded breechblock stop 46 and vice versa.

The front leg of the leg spring 63 loading the breechblock stop 46 can be extended forward over the breechblock stop 46 for the purpose of blocking the breechblock stopping function and is located with its end just below a projection (not shown) which is constructed in the weapons case and is located above this leg end. As can be recognized from Figure 3, two grooves 64, 64' are constructed in the breechblock catch piece 46 for holding the spring leg, the distance of said grooves to the horizontal extension of the lower surface of the projection in the case being only slight. The bottoms of the two grooves 64, 64' have a variable distance to the lower surface of the projection. If the leg of the

spring is seated in the one recess 64, in which there is a great distance to the named horizontal extension, the function of the breechblock stop 46 takes place unobstructed as described above. If the function of the breechblock stop 46 is to be suppressed, the end of the leg spring can be moved for example with the assistance of a suitable tool from the groove 64 into the other, higher groove 64' and inserted there. The upward movement of the breechblock stop is now blocked because the extended end of the spring leg only grips the projection on the case, so that the upward movement of this leg and with it also the upward movement of the breechblock stop 46 is blocked.

The setting of the breechblock stop can be made at the factory or at any time on the mounted weapon with a suitable tool (e.g. a thin screwdriver or the tip of a knife).

Further designs and functions of the breechblock stop 46 result from DE 196 55 169, whose content is being expressly included in the present disclosure by reference.

Patent Claims

1. Trigger device with a spring-loaded breechblock stop (46) which can be moved by means of engagement with the follower (11) of an ammunition magazine (10), in particular of a rifle, from a resting position, in which the breechblock (48) is released, into an operative position, in which the breechblock stop locks the breechblock in open position, whereby the breechblock stop (46) exhibits an operative control (180 arranged on the trigger guard (12) which can be operated by means of a finger of the shooting hand enclosing a grip (4) in order to adjust the breechblock stop (46) from the operative position to the resting position so that the breechblock (48) is released, characterized by in that the breechblock stop (46) is constructed as a slider which exhibits a control extension (58) in the trigger guard (12) and whose direction of operation runs essentially perpendicular to the force releasing the trigger.

2. Trigger device according to Claim 1, wherein the operative control (18) extends before the trigger (16) at a surface (2) adjoining the trigger region (1) along said surface.

3. Trigger device according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the operative control (18), control extension (58) and breechblock stop (46) are preferably constructed in a single piece.

4. Trigger device according to Claim 1, Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein the control extension (58) in operative position extends from above out of the trigger guard (12) into the trigger region (1).

5. Trigger device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the control extension (58) in resting position extends in the profile of the trigger guard.

6. Trigger device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the trigger guard (12) exhibits an enlargement (22) in a section surrounding the recess (20), said enlargement at least partially enclosing the control extension (58) of the breechblock stop (46).

7. Trigger device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein an operative control (30) of a lever (26) for locking an ammunition magazine (10) extending in the front region of the trigger guard (12) exhibits a recess (62) matching the recess (20) of the trigger guard.

8. Trigger device according to Claim 7, wherein the operative control (30) exhibits two control flaps (42, 44) running on the right and left next to the trigger guard.

9. Trigger device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein a locking mechanism (64) is provided which makes it possible to fix the breechblock stop (46) in its resting position

10 Semiautomatic weapon, in particular a rifle (1), with a trigger device according to any one of the preceding claims as well as a spring-loaded lever (26) for locking a removable ammunition magazine (10), wherein the lever (26) exhibits an operating end (24) which exhibits at least two variably oriented operative controls (28, 30) via which an unlocking force (E, F) can be exerted.

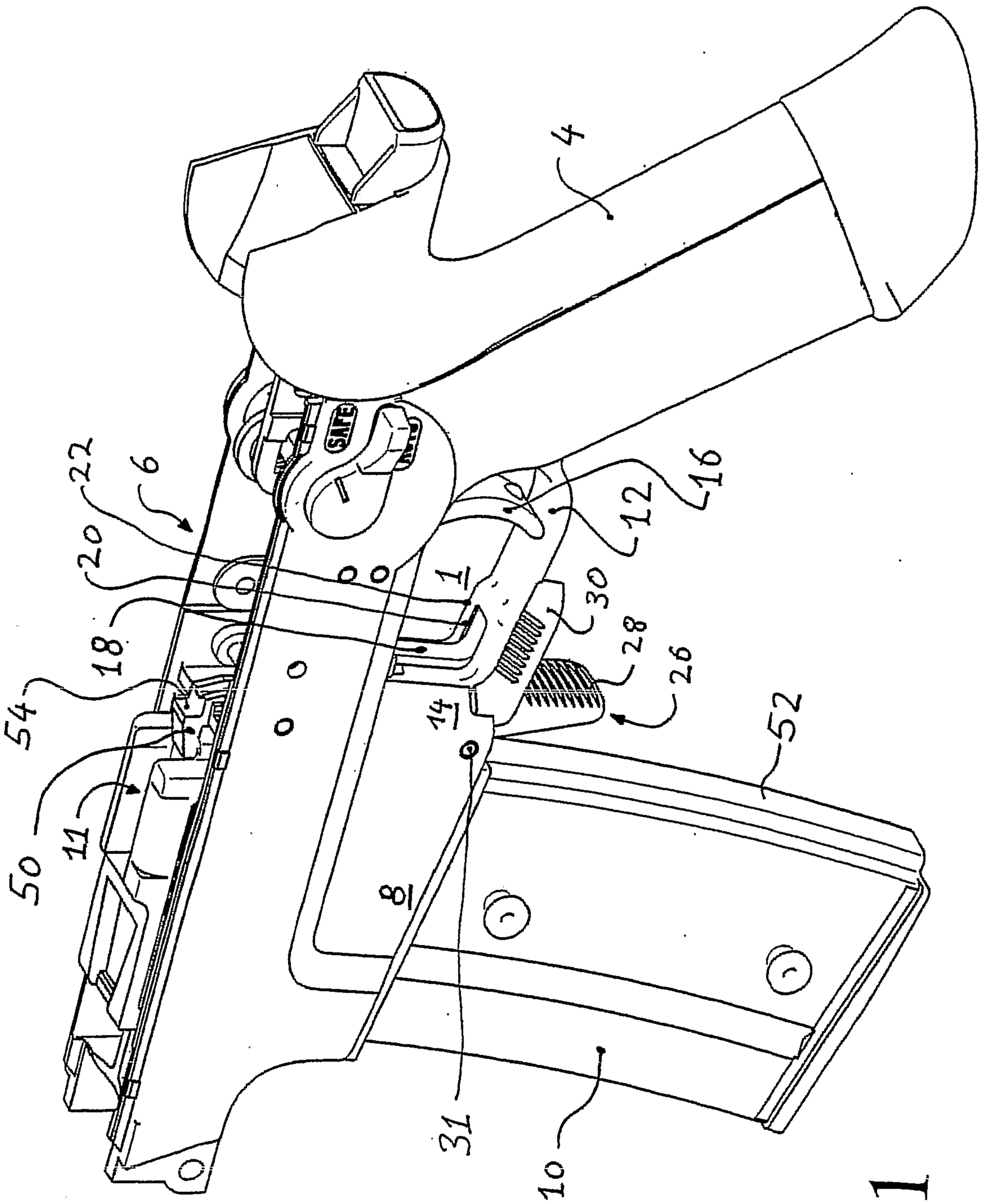


Fig. 1

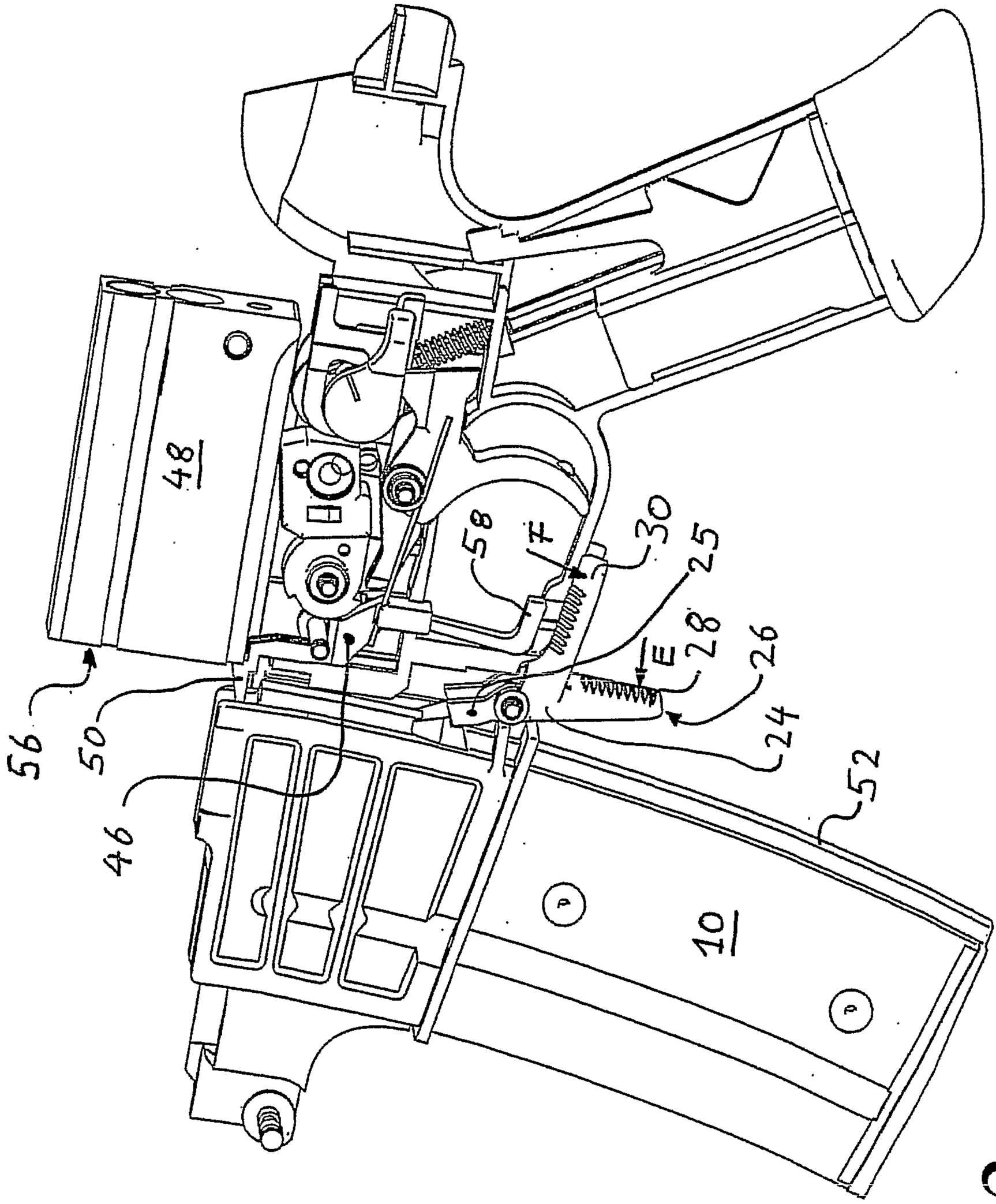


Fig. 2

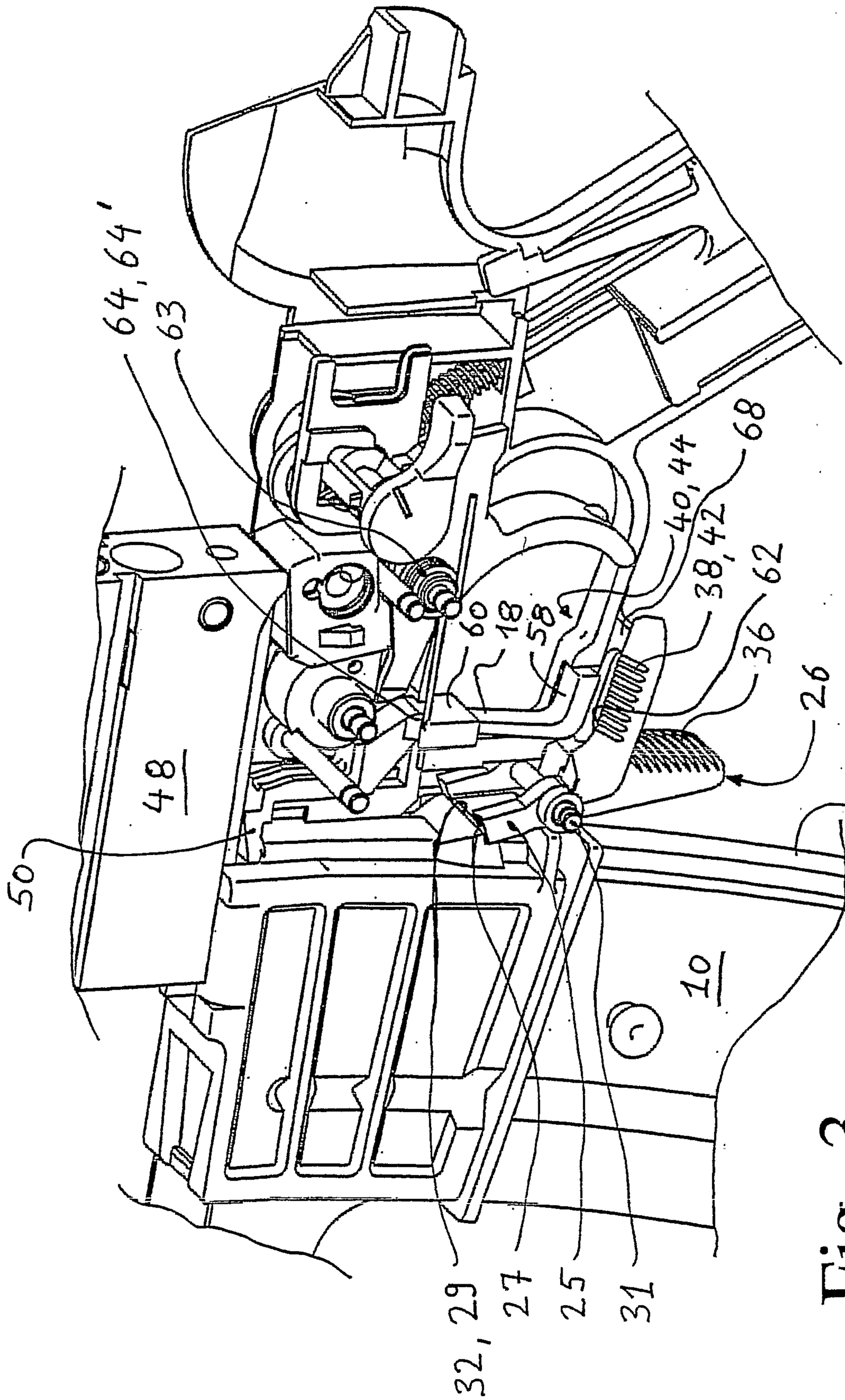
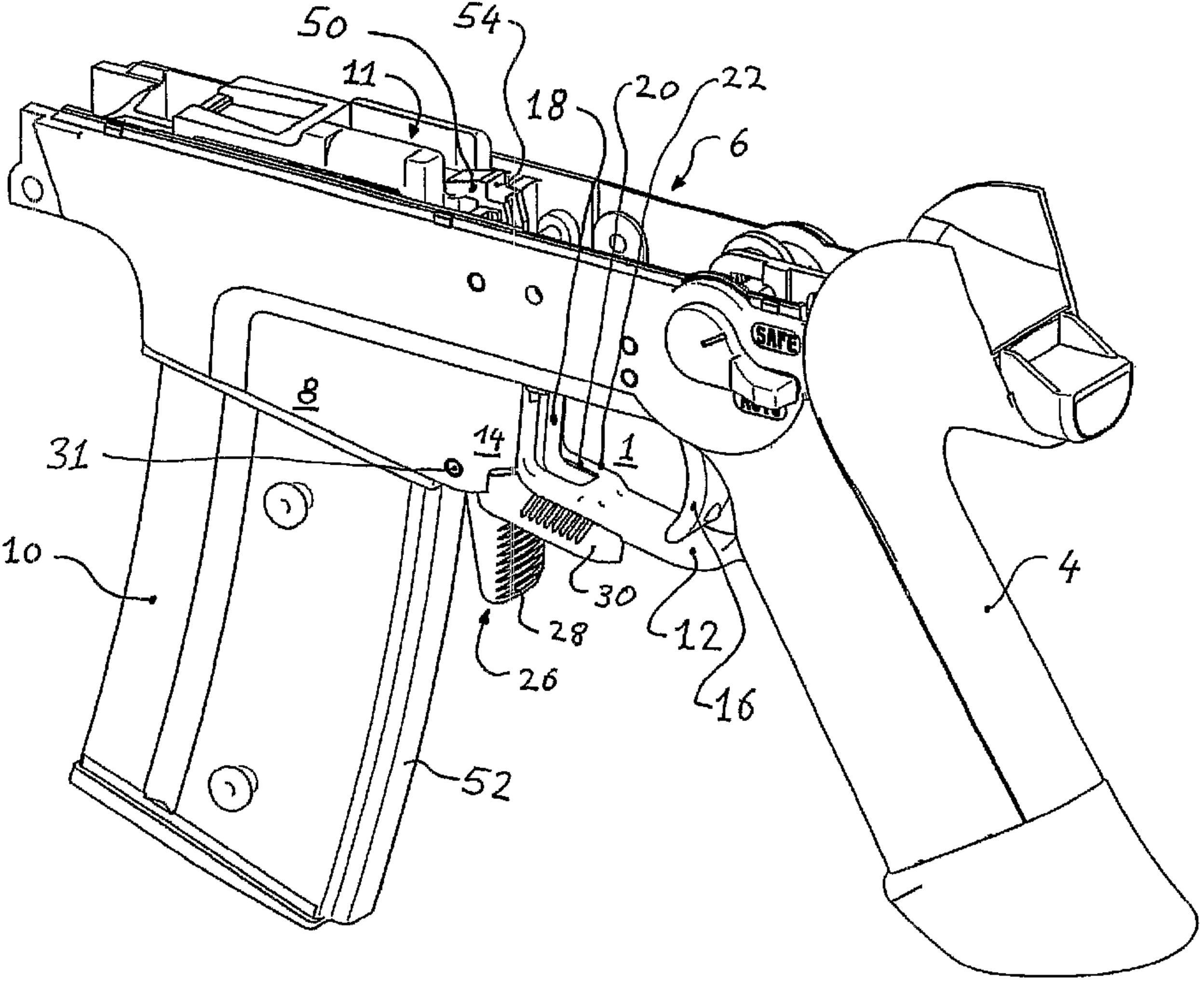


Fig. 3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