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CARTRIDGE RAM LINK

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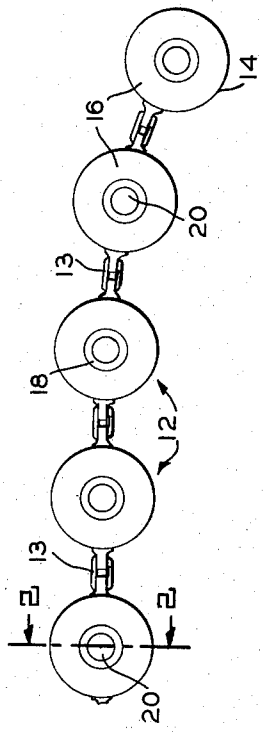


Fig. 1

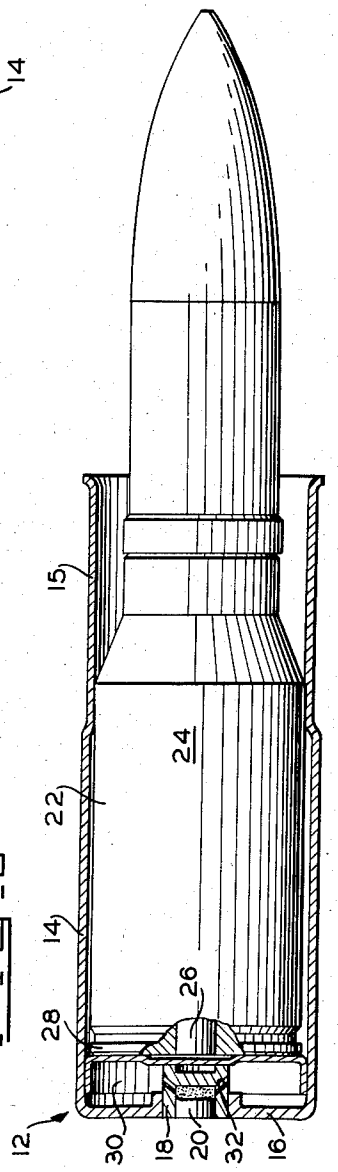


Fig. 2

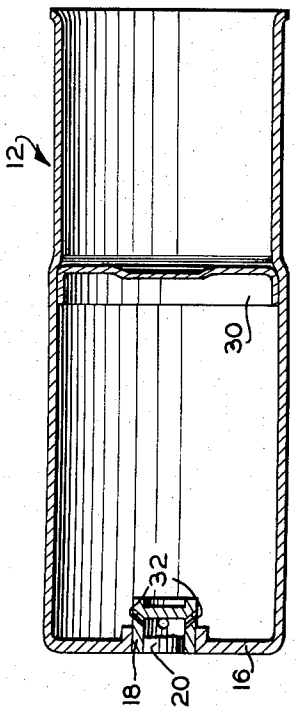


Fig. 3

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CARTRIDGE RAM LINK

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2 Claims. (Cl. 89—35)

Our invention pertains to links for ammunition belts including primers for percussive ramming and more particularly to such links provided with pistons for engagement with the cartridges.

In links for percussive ramming found in present use, the cartridge primer is exposed to the ignition of the link primer with consequent danger of premature discharge of the cartridges.

An object of our invention, therefore, is to provide percussive links disposed to ram cartridges therefrom and to protect the primers of the cartridge from the ignition of the link primers.

Another object of our invention is to provide such links with pistons for engageably moving the cartridges from the links.

A further object of our invention is to provide such links with a cup disposed to inclose the primers thereof and to distribute the force produced by the ignition of the link primers over the area of the piston.

Other aims and objects of our invention will appear from the following description.

In carrying out our invention a link for inclosing cartridges with primers in a cartridge belt is provided with a cylindrical body for inclosing the cases of the cartridges and such body includes a closed end which is provided with a cup for inclosing an ignitable primer.

Pistons disposed between the cartridges and the closed ends are retained in the links after propelling the cartridges therefrom by reduced diameter sections of the links.

The cups for inclosing the link primers are provided with radial passages for distribution of the gases from the ignition over the head area of the piston.

For a more complete understanding, reference is directed to the following description and the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a cartridge belt incorporating our invention with the ram link connections shown generally;

Fig. 2 is a view along line 2—2 of Fig. 1 with a cartridge disposed in the link; and

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 after ramming.

Accordingly, links **12** connected in an ammunition belt, as shown generally at **13**, are provided with cylindrical bodies **14**, closed ends **16** secured thereto, and cups **18** secured to ends **16** to inclose primers **20** for percussive ramming of cartridges **24** from the links. Bodies **14** are provided with forward portions **15** of reduced diameter to releasably grip cases **22** of cartridges **24**. Cases **22** include bases **28** with cartridge primers **26** disposed therein.

Pistons **30** are slidingly disposed in bodies **14** between closed ends **16** and cartridges **24** to shield cartridge primers **26** from the force of the gases produced when link primers **20** are ignited.

Cups **18** are provided with radial ports **32** to direct gases from the ignition over a substantial portion of the exposed area of pistons **30** to distribute the force of the ignition over the surfaces of bases **28**.

Pistons **30** are disposed in bodies **14** for forward operation to ram the cartridges from the links responsive to the ignition, and portions **15** are disposed to block the passage of the pistons from the bodies.

Although a particular embodiment of the invention has been described in detail herein, it is evident that many variations may be devised within the spirit and scope thereof and the following claims are intended to include such variations.

We claim:

1. A belt link for carrying a cartridge, said link comprising a cylindrical body provided with an open front end, a closed rear end and a forward section of reduced diameter for releasably gripping the cartridge, a primer ignitably disposed in said rear end, and a piston slidably disposed in said body between said rear end and said reduced diameter section for engagement with the cartridge to transfer the forces produced by said primer when ignited to the cartridge for propulsion thereof from said body.

2. A link as in claim 1 with said closed rear end including a cup portion disposed for inclosing the primer and provided with radial ports for passage of gases from the ignition therethrough to distribute the forces of the gases over the surrounding area of said piston.

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