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BRIDGEPORT, CONN. SEPTEMBER 14, 1978

> TO: J. W. BROOKS

FROM: W. L. ERICSON
SUBJECT: THREE POSITION SAFETY: RELEASABLE BOLT LOCK

An extensive search has been made for patents relevant to the = prototype threemposition safety show in the "C" series photos you supplied us (stamped April 3, 1978 by your Photo Lab). No patents which could raise any infringement risks were found. The following are of interest with respect to the patentability of this design:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1,318,423 \text { - Hilliams - } \\
& 2,824,402 \text { - Fischer - } \\
& 2,869,269 \text { - Couture - } \\
& 3,138,888 \text { - Brewer - }
\end{aligned}
$$

The Williams, Fischer, Couture and Brever patents show various foms of three-position safeties having altemate "safe" positions in which the bolt is locked and released, However, it appears to the that none of these is so closely related to your prototype as to foreclose us from obtaining patent protection for it, in the event it is selected for use.

Williams uses a safety bar $N$ which is slidable transversely of the bolt $C$, and has ribs 0 that interfere with ribs $P$ on the firing pin Fin two "safe" positions, but are cut away at $Q$ to define a "fixe" position. In one of the safe positions, the bolt $C$ and its handle $D$ are locked by the projection into a recess $U$ of a springloaded detent $S$ (see Fig. 9); but this detent retracts into a notch $T_{2}$ in the safety bar in its remaining two positions.

Fischer has a bolt lock button 12,13 engageable with a notch 14 in the bolt 2 of a Mauser action (Fig, 4); this button carries an interlock pin 26 which is engaged by a safety leven 23 in its "fire" position 23A, to unlock the bolt. In an intermediate "safe" position 23B, the firing pin 4 is locked by a safety pin 19 (see gig. 5), and the button 13 can be manually operated to either lock ox unlock the bolt. In a second "safe" position, shown in solid line at 23 in Fig. 4 , the button 13 is held in the locking position by a notch 28 .

