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Introduction

The world wide success of its Automatic Hunting Shotgun inspired Benelli Armi S.p.A. to do further research in the field of automatic weapons and in particular handguns to once again offer its select clientele a pistol of exceptional performance. Years of careful study and patient research in ballistics as well as experience at the technical level in mechanical construction, have made possible the creation of a weapon of revolutionary design. Qualities of instant firing readiness, absolute safety, and exceptional recoil control and accuracy have been achieved. The end result is a weapon that combines the quality and performance of a match target pistol with the rugged dependability of a military, police and personal defense arm.

Functional Characteristics

— The weapon, one of the few in the 9 Para caliber range built today with a special breech locking mechanism allowing the use of a rigidly fixed barrel making it unique for its kind.

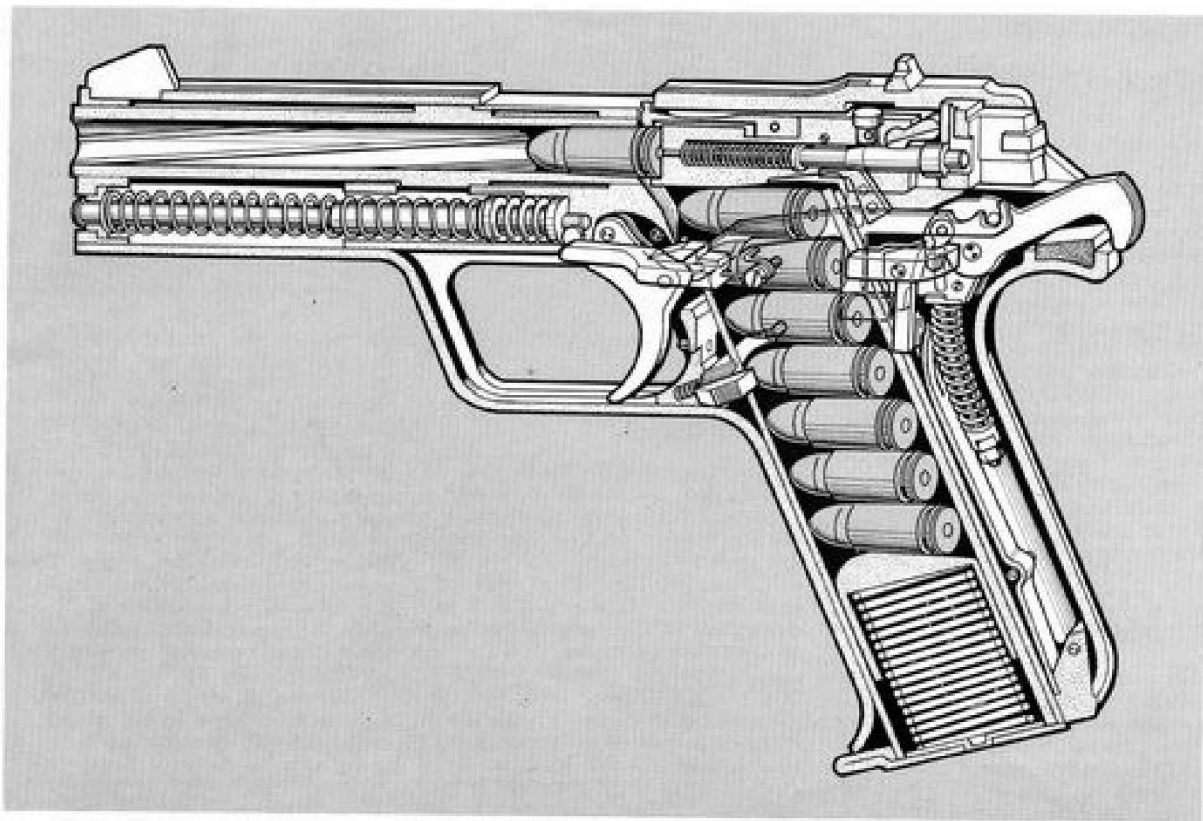
— The special double action system is carefully designed to be made with a minimum of robust parts, allowing a light double action pull with a short trigger travel.

— The pistol grip frame is made of stamped alloy steel plate with a special welding process which Benelli Armi is using for the first time in this sector.

— The magazine release lever, is conveniently located for the thumb making it easy to extract the magazine, without shifting your grip position, while holding the pistol on target.

The sleek, aggressive line of the weapon was studied in every detail to minimize recoil effects such as upward pitching and sideways torque (twisting) in rapid fire. The combined features of low barrel to hand location, natural pointing grip shape, slide buffer system and excellent trigger placement greatly enhance these handling qualities.

— The pistol can be taken apart (field stripped) in just a few seconds without the help of any special tools for a quick cleaning of the essential parts.



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Operating description of the delayed blow-back Locking System

The pistol consists of three main assemblies working in conjunction with each other to lock and unlock the weapon:

1. The grip frame and sub frame (with barrel and locking recess for bolt) which are assembled to function as a single unit.
2. The slide with its combination firing pin retaining plate and bolt locking support.
3. The breech bolt and its attached toggle lever.

When the pistol is loaded and ready to fire the recoil spring unit holds the slide fully forward on the frame. In this position the locking support in the rear of the slide, pushing against the toggle lever attached to the breech bolt, has driven the bolt forward and caused the toggle lever to cam the rear of the bolt into its locking recess in the sub frame. At the instant of firing the bolt and frame are locked together. The slide remains inert and has not yet begun to move on its guides relative to the frame. In this high pressure phase the bolt attempts to move backwards to unlock and push the slide to the rear by the toggle lever.

This motion is opposed by the inertia of the slide which also continues to exert a strong downward coming action against the bolt through the toggle lever. By the time the bolt has overcome the slide and toggle lever resistance the pressure has dropped to a safe minimum limit. The toggle lever, no longer supported by the slide, rotates allowing the bolt to disengage the frame recess and unlock. The bolt is then blown to the rear along with the slide by the residual gas pressure. Case extraction, ejection, cocking and reloading follow the conventional method. Because of the unique action of this pistol, factory ammunition with a muzzle velocity of more than 1320 feet per second (400 meters per second) can be used in complete confidence.

How the double action works

Fig. 1 Pistol loaded, safety off, hammer uncocked (down), ready to fire double action. In this position the safety can be engaged in the safe position. Moving the manual safety lever upwards by hand brings its attached sear block plate to the outlined position (see arrow).

Fig. 2 Pistol loaded, safety off (down), hammer in double action phase. In this position the hammer is about to be released by the push bar from the double action release pin and sear to strike the firing pin (see arrow).

Fig. 3 Pistol loaded, safety off (down), hammer has fallen in double action phase. In this position the hammer has already struck the firing pin (to discharge the cartridge) after being released from the hammer and sear push bar.

Finger pressure has brought the trigger to the end of its travel. Fig. 4 Pistol loaded, safety off (down), hammer cocked, ready to fire single action. Firing condition after first double action shot. To fire, pull the trigger which forces the push bar to the rear by its trigger pivot until it disengages the single action sear (see arrow) to release the hammer. In this position the safety can be engaged (upwards) as shown in Figure 1, if you do not wish to fire immediately.

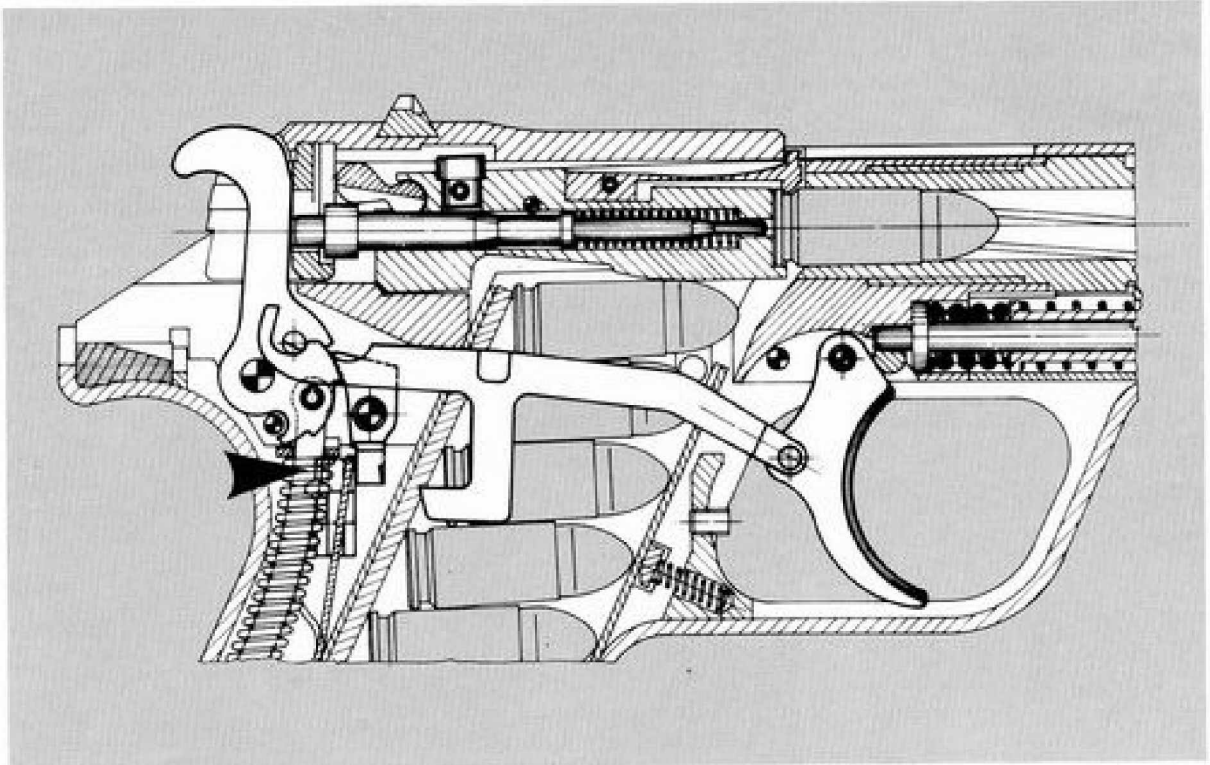


Fig. 1

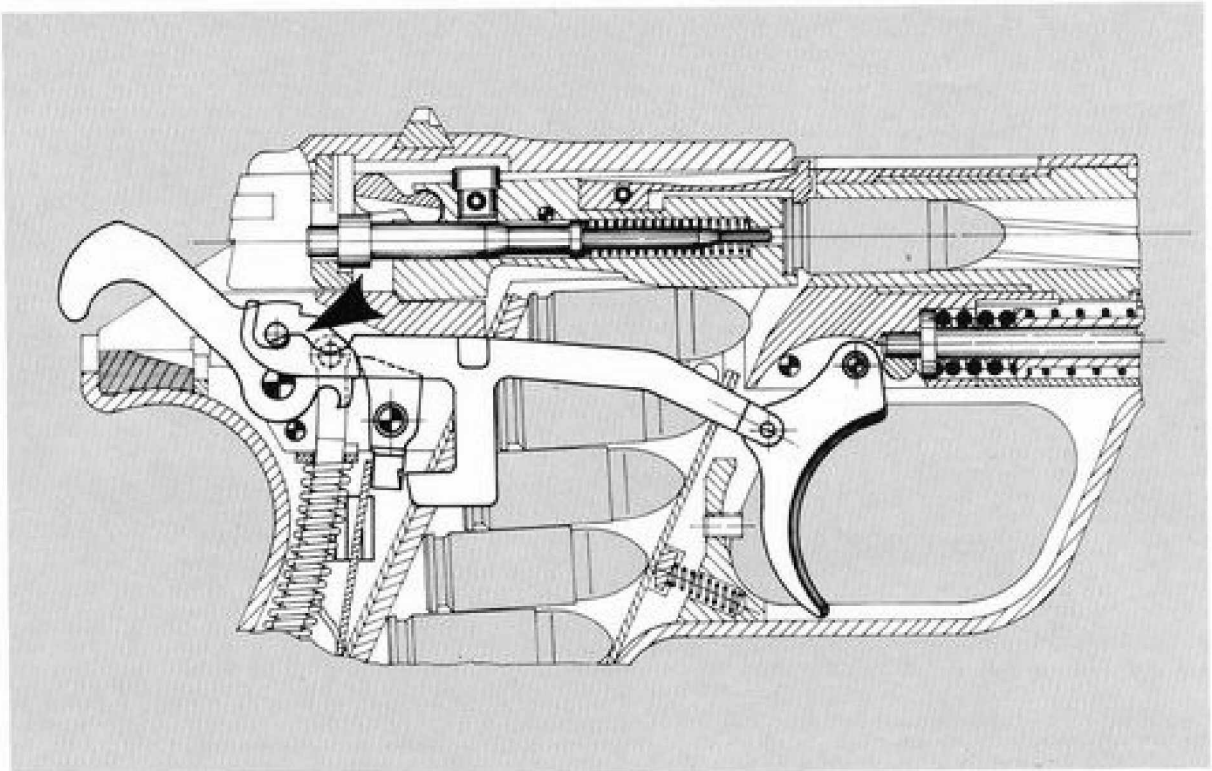


Fig. 2