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(54) Title: SHOULDER STOCK FOR A PERSONAL WEAPON AND A CATCH LEVER FOR A SHOULDER STOCK OF THIS TYPE

(57) [Abstract provided in English]

SHOULDER STOCK FOR A PERSONAL WEAPON AND A CATCH LEVER FOR A SHOULDER STOCK OF THIS TYPE

This invention relates to a shoulder stock for a handgun and a catch lever for such a shoulder stock.

The terms used here to describe relative position, such as "forward," "top," "left" and so forth are based on a properly positioned weapon in delivering a horizontal shot, with the direction of shooting being toward the front. The same thing also applies to the corresponding directional references ("toward the front," "toward the top," "to the left," and so forth).

Automatic guns or machine guns often have an extendable shoulder stock which is mounted on guide rods and can be secured by means of a catch mechanism. In U.S. Patent 3,570,162, for example, the shoulder stock is mounted on a rod which is guided in a pipe so that it can be displaced longitudinally. A retaining claw passes through the pipe wall and engages in a corresponding catch notch of the rod so that the shoulder stock can be secured in the inserted and extracted positions. U.S. Patent 4,383,384 also discloses an extendable shoulder stock, which is guided there by two parallel rods, one of which can be locked by a catch pin which engages in corresponding recesses in the rod.

In addition, U.S. Patent 3,137,958 describes an adjustable shoulder stock which is guided by two parallel extractable rods. The rods have catch notches with a catch body that is displaceable across the rods being engaged in them, thereby securing the position of the shoulder stock. U.S. Patent 5,367,812 discloses another adjusting mechanism, where the rods mounted on the shoulder stock can be extended by means of screw-on elements.

Finally, German Utility Model 88 07 539 U1 discloses a shoulder stock with a receiving pipe in which a supporting rod or a supporting pipe can be telescoped and locked in position. The locking is accomplished by locking screws which engage in the supporting rod or supporting pipe when in the desired position.

These known arrangements have the disadvantage that there is a certain play in the shoulder stock even in the locked state, which thus has a negative effect on the stability of the gun, which is necessary to deliver a well-aimed shot.

A much better solution has been found to be the shoulder stock known from German Patent 1,225,517 by the present applicant: it is mounted on slide rails which can be locked at the end of the gun casing by a locking element that is mounted so it can rotate. Therefore, locking projections of this element engage in corresponding recesses on the slide rail, preferably in such a way that they are put under tension in the radial direction to the axis of rotation of the locking element. Due to this tension, the shoulder stock in the locked state has an increased stability comparable to that of a one-piece rigid gun butt.

In a preferred embodiment of this shoulder stock, the locking element is designed as a ring-shaped base body and is mounted on a sleeve-shaped casing in the interior of the gun casing. The locking element is thus engaged with an operating ring which is used to operate the locking element; said operating ring is provided with an operating wing and is mounted outside the gun casing. This design is characterized by a great robustness and reliability and has proven successful in long-term use, e.g., in the case of the G3 gun of the Deutsche Bundeswehr [German military]. In particular, the shoulder stock is also capable of absorbing high forces, such as that required when firing shells or grenades, for example.

However, these advantages also include disadvantages. For example, this design is relatively heavy and takes up a lot of space due to the massive cylinder-shaped construction. It therefore

seems overdimensioned for certain applications, e.g., for light machine guns or other weapons that do not have such high stability requirements.

The object of this invention is to provide another shoulder stock which is even more expedient for the applications mentioned above.

It would be self-evident here to design the locking element of the shoulder stock of the present applicant as described above (German Patent 1,225,517) to be smaller and to make it lighter and more space-saving due to the altered proportions. Additional weight could be saved by using lighter materials.

However, the present invention proposes a different option: the locking element here has been improved upon so that it can be gripped directly by the hand from the outside and turned, in particular even when mounted in the interior of the gun casing. Intermediate elements such as the operating ring mentioned above are thus eliminated. The axis of rotation of the preferably is arranged essentially in the longitudinal direction of the handgun.

In particular, according to Claim 1, the present invention provides a shoulder stock which has the following features: at least one slide rail which is displaceable together with the shoulder stock relative to the gun casing, and at least one catch lever which is mounted to rotate essentially about the longitudinal axis of the handgun and can be operated manually directly over its outer periphery, with the slide rail being lockable by means of the catch lever in that the catch lever engages in a corresponding recess on the slide rail, thereby securing the shoulder stock in the respective position.

In addition, according to Claim 14, this invention provides a corresponding catch lever (11, 11') for engaging in one or more recesses in the minimum of one slide rail on such a shoulder stock.

The term "slide rail" as used here is understood in conjunction with the present invention to refer to any type of guide element suitable for connecting the shoulder stock displaceably to the gun casing. It is preferably a tubular or rod-shaped body having any desired cross-sectional shape which is displaceably mounted in a corresponding recess or indentation on the gun casing. Due to the displaceability of the slide rail within its guide in or on the gun casing, the shoulder stock mounted on it can be pushed in or pulled out.

"Manually operable" in this context means that the catch lever can be rotated by hand, preferably without the use of a tool, in such a way that the slide rail can thereby be locked to prevent its displacement or released to make it displaceable again. By locking the slide rail to prevent its displacement, the shoulder stock attached to it is secured in the respective position.

The catch lever can be operated according to this invention "by its outer periphery." The outer periphery refers to the axis of rotation of the catch lever and represents its periphery. It is not absolutely necessary for the catch lever to be grippable on its entire outer periphery for turning it, but instead preferably only on a portion of it intended for this purpose. The catch lever is operated "directly" by way of the outer periphery, i.e., it can be gripped directly and is in bonded connection to the part of the catch lever which engages in the recess in the slide rail.

According to this invention, the slide rail is locked to prevent its displacement in that the catch lever engages in a corresponding recess on the slide rail through its rotational movement. The axis of rotation of the catch lever extends essentially in the longitudinal direction of the handgun, so that the catch lever is mounted to rotate across the longitudinal direction of the gun. Depending on the geometry of the gun, however, it may also be advantageous to arrange the axis of rotation in a different direction.

In a preferred embodiment of the present invention (according to Claim 2), the catch lever is spring loaded in the direction of rotation intended for locking so that it is in contact with the slide rail under pressure. Handling of the shoulder stock is especially simple in this case because the catch lever need be only operated manually to release the lock, while locking the slide rail again takes place automatically, because due to the load of the spring, the catch lever engages automatically in a recess when it passes over it.

The catch lever and the recess in the slide rail may have any desired design. The deciding factor is that the catch lever is a counterpart to the recess suitable for locking the slide rail. The recess is preferably (according to Claim 3) designed so that it passes through the slide rail in the transverse direction of the handgun. This is especially advantageous for the case when the catch lever is mounted to rotate across the longitudinal direction of the gun, as described above. The catch lever can then engage in the recess so that it is in contact with the slide rail over its entire width. In an especially preferred embodiment (according to Claim 4), the catch lever is mounted in the radial direction to its axis of rotation so that its outer periphery extends beyond the end of the recess in this direction. The lengthened part of the outer periphery then projects laterally over the slide rail and presents a good basis for action for manual operation by the marksman. If necessary, the outer periphery may also be lengthened to the extent that it projects laterally out of the gun casing.

For the easiest possible operation of the catch lever, it is advantageous, regardless of the alignment of its axis of rotation, if the catch lever has a handle, such as a trough-like recess or a nose-shaped projection to be gripped by the marksman. Therefore, the outer periphery of the catch lever is preferably (according to Claim 5) to form such a handle in at least one area.

When the gun is not in use or is being transported, it is advantageous if the shoulder stock can be inserted as far as the end plate of the gun casing, preferably in such a way that it is in contact with it. This position is referred to here and below as the "resting position." To use the gun, the shoulder stock is pulled out of its resting position and into a position in which shooting is possible, with the weapon resting on the shoulder for taking aim (referred to below as the "use position"). With many guns, it is sufficient to provide for one resting position and one use position.

However, it may also be expedient to provide multiple use positions, e.g., to take into account different arm lengths of different marksmen. Then additional recesses will be provided on the slide rail at corresponding locations to secure the shoulder stock in the various use positions. The shoulder stock can thus be adjusted to different lengths.

The slide rail thus preferably has at least two recesses (according to Claim 6), such that the shoulder stock can be secured in one resting position and in at least one use position. The shoulder stock is especially preferably (according to Claim 7) spring loaded in its resting position, with the spring attempting to push the shoulder stock out of its resting position in the direction of the minimum of one use position. This causes the shoulder stock to move automatically out of its resting position as soon as the lock on the slide rail has been cancelled by appropriate operation of the catch lever. In this way, it is easier for the marksman to pull out the shoulder stock, because then he need not pull on the shoulder stock at the same time as he is operating the catch lever.

Starting from a simple design of the shoulder stock with a slide rail and a catch lever, the shoulder stock can be refined further, depending on the intended purpose. An arrangement with two slide rails, both of which can be locked by a single catch lever, has proven especially advantageous. Through this arrangement, it is readily possible to unlock the shoulder stock with one hand for displacing it. The axis of rotation of the catch lever is preferably (according to Claim 8) arranged between the two slide rails, preferably in the longitudinal direction of the gun,

with the catch lever being designed so that it is in contact with the top side of the first slide rail and at the same time is in contact with the bottom side of the second slide rail. For locking the two slide rails, the catch lever then engages in corresponding recesses on the top and bottom sides of the slide rails. In this crossed arrangement, the catch lever is preferably spring loaded, so that the slide rails are under tension toward one another and toward their guide in the gun casing. The stability of the shoulder stock is therefore greater, so that it is possible to deliver a well-aimed shot. In addition, the shoulder stock is then spring loaded on two sides, namely at the top and bottom. This reduces the risk that the shoulder stock might be knocked out of its locked position due to strikes or impacts, e.g., when the marksman is moving over impassable terrain.

In the crossed arrangement, the catch lever and/or the recesses are preferably (according to Claim 9) designed so that the slide rails are under tension in the radial direction to the axis of rotation of the catch lever when the catch lever engages in the recesses. This further increases the stability of the shoulder stock and can be achieved, for example, by the fact that the recesses have inclined faces against which the spring-loaded catch lever presses. Depending on whether the inclined faces are located on the inside or outside of the slide rails, they are then pressed in the direction toward one another or apart from one another.

As described previously, the shoulder stock according to this invention is turned manually by the marksman when he turns the catch lever so that it no longer engages in the corresponding recess(es) in the slide rail(s). The shoulder stock can then be shifted. If the stock holds the catch lever in its twisted position, it cannot engage in the next recess(es) (even if it is spring loaded). In this way, it may happen under some circumstances that the marksman unintentionally pulls the shoulder stock completely out of its guide in the gun casing. This may be prevented, for example, by an elevated shoulder on the end of the slide rail against which the catch lever strikes even in its twisted position. A spring-loaded safety element is provided as the preferred antidote here (according to Claim 10); it automatically engages in a recess in the slide rail which is provided for this purpose when the shoulder stock is pulled out. The shoulder stock is thus secured in its position in the same way or at least almost in the way as it is by the catch lever, and it cannot be pulled out further. If necessary, the safety element may be designed so that it engages in multiple recesses on one or more slide rails at the same time.

The safety element locks the displacement of the shoulder stock preferably in its outer use position, i.e., in the use position in which the shoulder stock is pulled out to the maximum extent. The marksman can then additionally secure the shoulder stock by means of the catch lever by turning it back into the engaged position or simply releasing the catch lever if it is spring-loaded. To simplify the renewed insertion of the shoulder stock as much as possible, it is advantageous if the safety element need not be released for this purpose. The safety element and/or the respective recess(es) are therefore preferably designed (according to Claim 11) so that insertion of the shoulder stock is not prevented by the safety element.

To make it possible to remove the shoulder stock without any great effort despite the safety element, the safety element can preferably (according to Claim 12) be released manually by the marksman in such a way that the lock on the slide rail is released. The shoulder stock can thus be removed easily by the marksman in case of need, e.g., if it interferes with the shooting process due to damage during battle. A tool is preferably needed to release the safety element so as to prevent unintentional removal of the shoulder stock.

For a compact design of the gun, it is advantageous if the catch lever and optionally also the safety element are accommodated in the interior of the gun casing. These are therefore preferably (according to Claim 13) as an integral part of the end plate of the gun casing.

The statements made above regarding the shoulder stock also apply accordingly for the catch lever according to this invention (according to Claim 14) and its advantageous embodiments

(according to Claim 15).

This invention will now be explained in further detail on the basis of embodiments. The accompanying schematic diagram shows:

Figure 1: an inclined side view from the left of a first embodiment of the shoulder stock or the safety element according to this invention;
Figure 2: a front view of section I-I from Figure 1;
Figure 3: a sectional partial view of a second embodiment of the shoulder stock according to this invention.

Figure 1 shoes a shoulder stock 1 according to this invention of a machine gun, which is not shown further here, having two slide rails 3a and 3b which are mounted with their rear ends on a shoulder cap 5 which connects the two slide rails 3a, 3b to one another. The two slide rails 3a, 3b pass through suitably designed openings 7a and 7b in an end plate 9 of the gun casing. The slide rails 3a, 3b are mounted so they can be displaced in the longitudinal direction of the gun through the openings 7a, 7b as well as other guides (not shown) on the gun casing. A catch lever 11, which is integrated into the end plate 9, engages at the same time in recesses 13a and 13b in the slide rails 3a and 3b, so that they are locked to prevent displacement (to visualize engagement of the catch lever 11 in the recess 13b, the end plate 9 is shown in Figure 1 with a cutout at 14). The shoulder stock 1 is secured in this way in the use position shown here. In this position, the slide rails 3a, 3b project approx. 200 mm out of the end plate toward the rear. The front parts of the slide rails 3a, 3b which are then still mounted in the gun casing have a sufficient length (approx. 100 mm) to be securely supported in the gun casing. This imparts additional stability to the shoulder stock 1 in the use position. The slide rails 3a, 3b have additional recesses 23a and 23b on their rear ends, close to the shoulder cap 5, serving to secure the shoulder stock in the retracted position, i.e., in the resting position, in a similar manner.

Furthermore, a securing lever 15 integrated into the end plate 9 engages in a recess 25 on the slide rail 3b; its function is described in greater detail below.

Figure 2 shows a cross section along line I-I through the end plate 9. The catch lever 11 is mounted without play on a pin 17 so it can rotate, said pin being mounted on the end plate 9, with its central axis being the axis of rotation of the catch lever 11. The pin 17 is located exactly between the two slide rails 3a, 3b, so that the axis of rotation of the catch lever 11 is arranged concentrically with the slide rails 3a, 3b. The catch lever 11 has flat areas 11a and 11b with which it rests on the top side of the slide rail 3a or on the bottom side of slide rail 3b. The catch lever 11 is loaded by a spring 19 which is mounted with its one end in a blind hole 11c of the catch lever 11 and is supported at its other end against the end plate 9. Due to the force of the spring 19, a counterclockwise torque acts on the catch lever 11, so that the slide rails 3a and 3b are in turn pressed down and up, respectively, by the catch lever 11. The slide rails 3a, 3b are in this way put under tension toward one another and against their guides in the gun casing. The play in the slide rails 3a, 3b is thus reduced and the stability of the shoulder stock 1 is increased.

The recesses 13a and 13b as well as 23a and 23b are designed as grooves running across the longitudinal direction of the gun, passing through the respective slide rails 3a, 3b in their width. The slide rails 3a, 3b each have an essentially rectangular cross section which is curved slightly outward on the outer side. The shape enhances the torsional rigidity of the shoulder stock 1 and at the same time takes up little space in terms of width. The catch lever 11 with its flat areas 11a and 11b rests on the slide rails 3a, 3b over their entire width and is thus securely in contact with the slide rails 3a, 3b in their displacement. Therefore, no longitudinal grooves or the like for guiding the catch lever 11 are necessary on the slide rails 3a, 3b. Thus, the slide rails can be manufactured more easily and less expensively accordingly.

In the diagram shown here, the shoulder stock 1 is secured in the use position, as described above, in other words the catch lever 11 engages in the recesses 13a, 13b on the slide rails 3a, 3b. To release the lock, the catch lever 11 must be turned clockwise against the force of the spring 19 to remove it from recesses 13a and 13b. The slide rails 3a, 3b can then be pushed into the gun casing to insert the shoulder stock 1. If the catch lever 11 is released during the insertion of the shoulder stock 1, it rests on the on the top side of slide rail 3a or on the bottom side of slide rail 3b due to the force of the spring 19 until it automatically engages in the two recesses 23a, 23b with further insertion of the slide rails 3a, 3b. The shoulder stock 1 is then secured in its resting position in which the shoulder cap 5 is at a slight distance from the end plate 9.

To make it easier for the marksman to grip the catch lever 11, it is lengthened on the side of the slide rail 3a, in such a way that its outer periphery projects out of the end plate 9 of the gun casing in the form of a handle 11d on this side. The outer periphery thus extends beyond the outer ends of the recesses 13a and 13b (and the gun casing as well) at this point. The handle 11d has a trough-shaped recess and a grooved surface (see Figure 2), so that the catch lever 11 can be gripped easily there and operated by the marksman's finger.

Figure 2 shows that the handle 11d is bonded to the contact surfaces 11a, 11b, so these parts are integrated into one part, namely the catch lever 11. Consequently, no intermediate elements or the like are necessary. The design of the shoulder stock 1 is thus greatly simplified in comparison with the known solutions, thus saving on space and weight. Therefore, this invention is characterized by a very compact and lightweight design which makes it especially suitable for machine guns and light machine guns. Thus, the shoulder stock 1 illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 is intended for a machine gun whose total weight is approx. 1.5 kg.

The securing lever 15 is mounted without play on the pin 17 so it can rotate in a manner like that used with the catch lever 11, and it is under load by a spring 29 in the clockwise direction of rotation (see Figure 2). Due to the force of the spring 19, the securing lever 15 rests on the top side of the slide rail 3b and engages in the recess 25 in the position illustrated here. Recess 25 passes like a groove through the slide rail 3b in the transverse direction, running upward on its rear side in the form of an inclined face. Therefore, the securing lever 15 easily slides out of recess 25 without further manipulation when the slide rail 3b is inserted. This ensures that the securing lever 15 does not interfere with the insertion of the shoulder stock 1. The function of the securing lever 15 is that the marksman cannot unintentionally pull the shoulder stock 1 completely out due to this. This could happen if the marksman would hold the catch lever 11 upward under pressure while pulling the shoulder stock 1 out. Then the catch lever 11 cannot engage in the recesses 13a, 13b, so that the slide rails 3a, 3b could not slide completely out of their guides in the gun casing. In this case, the securing lever 15 prevents the shoulder stock 1 from being extracted completely in that it automatically engages in the recess 25 under the load of the spring 29. The slide rail 3b is then locked to prevent it from being displaced in the direction of extraction and the shoulder stock 1 is secured to prevent further extraction.

For the case when the marksman would like to intentionally remove the shoulder stock, he can release the lock by means of the securing lever 15. To do so, he must push the securing lever 15 upward, like the catch lever 11, against the force of the spring 29 to such an extent that it no longer engages in the recess 25. To be able to completely pull out the shoulder stock 1 to remove it, the marksman must also release the lock on the slide rail 3a by the catch lever 11 in the manner described above.

Unlike the catch lever 11, the securing lever 15 does not project out of the gun casing, so that the marksman cannot grip it by hand. Although the securing lever 15 is accessible from the outside through a slot-like opening 27 in the end plate 9, this opening 27 is too narrow to allow the marksman to reach in it with his fingers. This prevents accidental release of the securing lever 15. Nevertheless, it is easy to intentionally release the securing lever 15 because the marksman

can press it upward by using any pointed tool. The point of action for that is a notch-like recess 15a on the lower side of the securing lever 15.

Figure 3 shows a sectional diagram of a partial view of another shoulder stock 1' according to this invention in resting position. The shoulder stock 1' is secured in this position by a catch lever 11' which is rotatably mounted on a pin 17'. The design and functioning of this shoulder stock 1' correspond largely to that of shoulder stock 1 described above, except that individual parts have a different function (therefore, parts having the same function are provided with the same reference notation but with apostrophes added for the purpose of differentiating them).

The important difference between shoulder stocks 1 and 1' is that the shoulder cap 5' of the shoulder stock 1' has a blind hole 31 in which is mounted a spring 33 which is supported against a pin 35. The pin 35 which is displaceably mounted in the blind hole 31 has on its rear end a shoulder and it passes with its front end through an intermediate plate 37 which is mounted on the shoulder cap 5'. In the resting position of the shoulder stock 1' shown here, the spring 33 is compressed so that it exerts a force on the end plate 9' (or the shoulder cap 5') by way of the pin 35, said force tending to move the shoulder stock 1' downward (to the right in Figure 3) out of its resting position. If the safety on the shoulder stock 1' is lifted by operating the catch lever 11' (as is the case with the shoulder stock 1), the spring 33 presses the shoulder cap 5' downward over the pin 35. The shoulder stock 1' is thus automatically moved by the spring 33 out of its resting position in operation of the catch lever 11' and with its rear shoulder, it runs toward the intermediate plate 37 up to the pin 35. With the shoulder stock 1' shown here, this corresponds to a distance of approx. 2 mm.

This automatic movement of the shoulder stock 1' out of its resting position has the advantage that the marksman need not pull the shoulder cap 5' downward at the same time when releasing the catch lever 11'. One-handed operation of the shoulder stock 1' is thus readily possible in this way. In addition, this prevents the marksman from making operation of the catch lever 11' more difficult for himself due to excessive pulling on the shoulder cap 5'.

PATENT CLAIMS

1. A shoulder stock (1, 1') for a hand gun, having:
– at least one slide rail (3a, 3b) which is displaceable together with the shoulder stock (1, 1') relative to the gun casing,
– at least one catch lever (11, 11') which is mounted so it can rotate essentially about the longitudinal axis of the handgun and can be operated manually directly over its outer periphery (11d), where
– the slide rail (3a, 3b) can be locked by means of the catch lever (11, 11') in that the latter engages in a corresponding recess (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) on the slide rail (3a, 3b), thereby securing the shoulder stock (1, 1') in the respective position.

2. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to Claim 1, wherein the catch lever (11, 11') is loaded by a spring (19) such that it is in contact with the slide rail (3a, 3b) and automatically engages in the recess (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) on the slide rail (3a, 3b).

3. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the recess (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) passes through the slide rail (3a, 3b) in the transverse direction of the handgun.

4. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the catch lever (11, 11') is lengthened in the radial direction to its axis of rotation such that it extends beyond of the recess (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) with its outer periphery (11d) in this direction.

5. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the catch lever (11, 11') has a handle on its outer periphery (11d).

6. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the slide rail (3a, 3b) has at least two recesses (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) which are arranged in such a way that the shoulder stock (1, 1') can be secured in one resting position and in at least one use position.

7. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to Claim 6, having a spring (33) which exerts a force onto the shoulder stock (1, 1') in the resting position of the shoulder stock (1, 1'), tending to push the shoulder stock (1, 1') out of its resting position in the direction of the minimum of one use position.

8. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, having two slide rails (3a, 3b) and the catch lever (11, 11'), whereby the axis of rotation of the catch lever (11, 11') is arranged between the two slide rails (3a, 3b) and the catch lever (11, 11') is designed so that it is in contact with the on the top side of the first slide rail (3a) and the bottom side of the second slide rail (3b) and engages in corresponding recess (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b).

9. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to Claim 8, wherein the catch lever (11, 11') and/or the recesses (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) are designed so that the slide rails are put under tension in the radial direction to the axis of rotation when the catch lever (11, 11') engages in the recesses (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b).

10. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by a spring-loaded safety element (15) which automatically engages in at least one corresponding recess (25) on the slide rail(s) (3a, 3b) when the shoulder stock (1, 1') is pulled out, such that the shoulder stock (1, 1') is secured to prevent it from being pulled out any further.

11. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to Claim 10, wherein the safety element (15) and/or the respective recess(es) (25) are designed so that the safety element (15) does not prevent the

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shoulder stock (1, 1') from being pushed in.

12. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to Claim 10 or 11, wherein the safety element (15) can be released manually such that the shoulder stock (1, 1') can be pulled out further and preferably can be removed.

13. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the catch lever (11, 11') and/or the safety element (15) is designed as an integral component of the end plate (9, 9') of the gun casing.

14. A catch lever (11, 11') for engaging in one or more recesses (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b) of the minimum of one slide rail (3a, 3b) of a shoulder stock (1, 1') for a handgun, whereby
– the catch lever (11, 11') is mounted so it can rotate essentially about the longitudinal axis of the handgun and can be operated manually directly over its outer periphery (11d), where
– the shoulder stock (1, 1') can be displaced together with the slide rail (3a, 3b) relative to the gun casing,
– the slide rail (3a, 3b) can be locked by the engagement of the catch lever (11, 11') in the recess(es) (13a, 13b, 23a, 23b), thereby securing the shoulder stock (1, 1') in the respective position.

15. The shoulder stock (1, 1') according to Claim 14 having the features of at least one of Claims 2 through 5, 8, 9 and 13.

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