**Patent Claims**

1. An elongate cutting device (20), comprising at least one firing-pin holder (1), at least one locking element (2), at least one spring (6), at least one firing pin (7), a percussion cap (9), a propellant charge (13), a cutting element (14), a stop (15) and a shear pin (17), whereby the at least one locking element (2) ensures a connection between the firing-pin holder (1) and the firing pin (7) and axial movement of the firing pin holder (1) relative to the remainder of the device, frees the connection to enable opposing axial movement of the at least one firing pin (7).

2. The device (20) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a pyrotechnic delay element (11) is arranged between the percussion cap (9) and the propellant charge (13).

3. The device (20) as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the shear pin (17) is accommodated in a front casing (16).

4. The device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the cutting element (14) is a chisel.

5. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the at least one locking element is a ball that ensures a connection between the at least one firing-pin holder and the at least one firing pin.

6. The device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the connection is lost upon stressing of the

at least one spring, causing the release of the at least one locking element.

7. A munition having submunitions with a brake parachute and also having a cutting device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, for severing a mechanical connection between the brake parachute and the submunition, wherein the mechanical connection is located in an opening in front of the stop (15).

8. The munition as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that it is a munition for generating a decoy target.

9. A parachute system having a cutting device (20) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein a mechanical connection which is to be severed is located in an opening in front of the stop (15).

10. A vehicle having superstructures, and subassemblies, attached to a vehicle structure via mechanical connections and a cutting device (20) as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6, wherein at least one of the mechanical connections is to be severed and the at least one of the mechanical connections to be severed, is located in an opening in front of the stop (15).