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(54) Title: STRUCTURAL PROTECTIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD ✓ (57) Abstract A barrier to penetration by a foreign object (12) includes a rigid housing (10) and a mechanism, enclosed within the housing (10), for mechanically trapping the foreign object (12), for example by exerting a lateral compressive force on the foreign object (12). The mechanism may include one or more longitudinally compressed elements (24, 20, 56) such as elastomeric blocks (24) or springs (20, 56), and a folded up strip of shape memory material (22) that straightens when heated.		