

ELECTRONIC SIMULATION DEVICE FOR WEAPON

INTRODUCTION

The invention is part of a device for electronic simulation of live fire ammunition
5 upon firing a weapon.

BACKGROUND

Blank ammunition is used in substantial amounts globally. Blank ammunition is a
disposable consumer product which may be left in the nature after use. As it is
10 made of plastic and metal, the decomposition process will be very long-lasting and
therefore adversely impact the environment. Also, considerable amounts of
environmentally harmful waste are produced by the use of powder charge.

Blank ammunition has limitations concerning where it can be used, as fouling will
15 leave marks and pollute the environment where it is used. Examples of use are
indoor training in buildings, airplanes, or other civil installations where training is
necessary. The use of blank ammunition involves a safety risk as particles are
shot out of the barrel and heat could cause personal injury or damage objects in
the vicinity of the weapon. Additionally, the use of blank ammunition may cause
20 hearing impairment as the noise level is very high.

Blank ammunition also causes wear and tear of the weapon. Sediments in the
barrel increase the need for cleaning the weapon. Blank ammunition has a
tendency to jam in bolts and often ruins exercise drills and other training.
25 Additionally, the purchase cost of blank ammunition is high.

Prior art solutions exist for the artificial simulation of weapon usage by means of
artificial simulation weapons such as replica training weapons, toy guns, gas-
based weapons, and soft-guns, for example. However, weapon simulation using
30 such weapons does not give the operator any realistic simulation of weapon
handling.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides a solution to the above problems.

The invention relates to a device for simulation of mechanical functions of a weapon. According to an aspect, there is provided a device for simulation of mechanical functions of a real weapon, comprising a bolt simulator for simulating the mechanical movements of the weapon bolt and a reload simulator for simulating the function of a reload handle of the real weapon. The device is adapted to be arranged on a real weapon to simulate the mechanical functions of a real weapon.

The weapon bolt simulator may be adapted to be mounted as a bolt inside the real weapon. The reload handle simulator may be adapted for activation of the weapon bolt simulator to a first position ready for firing the weapon. The weapon bolt simulator may further be adapted for activation of a hammer of the real weapon. The weapon bolt simulator may include a weapon hammer detector for detecting the movement of the weapon hammer. The weapon hammer detector may be adapted upon firing of a shot, for activation of simulated movements and functions as performed by a real bolt. The weapon bolt simulator may further be adapted for resetting the real hammer of the weapon to a cocked position to simulate the function of a real bolt. The weapon bolt simulator may be adapted to be arranged in a forward position ready to carry out a new bolt sequence. The weapon bolt simulator may further include a burst activator device for simulating a burst mode. The device may include a reload handle detector adapted to be activated by the hammer.

The device may include an electronic sound generator. A contact unit may provide an electric connection between the weapon bolt simulator and an electronic magazine. The electronic magazine may include batteries, electronics, and an electronic sound generator. The electronic magazine may be adapted to be mountable in a magazine well of the real weapon. The weapon hammer detector may be arranged on the contact unit. The device may comprise a muzzle flash simulator for simulating the muzzle flash through the barrel of the weapon. The muzzle flash simulator may further include a light reflecting arrangement arranged

on the muzzle of the weapon, with the light reflecting arrangement co-operating with a light source arranged on the weapon.

5 The invention also provides a device for simulation of mechanical functions of a weapon, the device is adapted to be fastened on the real weapon, the device comprising a muzzle flash simulator for simulating the muzzle flash through the barrel of the weapon. The muzzle flash simulator may further include a light reflecting arrangement arranged on the muzzle of the weapon. The light reflecting arrangement may co-operate with a light source disposed on the weapon.

10

The device may further comprise a muzzle flash simulator simulating the muzzle flash through the barrel of the weapon. A trigger detector may detect the movement of the weapon hammer upon firing of a shot. The device may further be provided with a reload handle simulator simulating the function of a reload handle
15 of a weapon.

The weapon bolt simulator may be mounted on and demounted from a real weapon.

20 To simulate live ammunition it is in addition to gunshot sound important to simulate the mechanical functions of the weapon in order to achieve a normal standard procedure of weapon handling. The present invention ensures a realistic simulation of the normal standard procedure of weapon handling and a realistic simulation of the mechanical functions of the weapon. The present invention is
25 mounted in a real weapon, and the trigger and the hammer of the real weapon are used. The weapon is the operator's personal weapon which is also used for firing live ammunition.

30 The operator reloads before the first shot. The weapon bolt simulator simulates the movements and reaction of a real weapon bolt during reloading. The operator recognizes the reaction of the weapon bolt simulator and may then unsecure and prepare to fire his real weapon.

When a real weapon fitted with the simulation device of the invention is fired, the weapon bolt simulator carries out the same movements as a real bolt would do and has as its main purpose to reset the hammer of the weapon to a cocked position so that the operator is able to fire a new shot. This mechanical function of the weapon bolt simulator is performed in a similar manner as a real bolt.

When a new magazine is inserted, the bolt release («bolt release» button) of a real weapon is pressed in to make the weapon ready for a new shot. The weapon bolt simulator of the invention simulates the movements and reaction of a real bolt when the bolt release is activated. The bolt release activates a bolt release detector on the magazine that starts the weapon bolt simulator. The operator recognizes the reaction of the weapon bolt simulator and may then unsecure and prepare to fire his real weapon.

The invention may be manufactured from components that do not contain environmentally unfriendly substances. As the shot is simulated by way of electronic and mechanical means, it will not produce any form of exhaust during use. It can be reset and reloaded and will be reusable many times. The invention may be recycled as a normal electric article at the end of its useful life.

The electronic blank ammunition according to the invention produces no waste products that leaves marks or pollutes the environment. This makes training in facilities for which no solutions were previously available more realistic. Moreover, the invention produces no waste products that are exposed in high speed or that produces heat and therefore involves no risk for humans or objects. The invention may have an adjustable sound level, so that the risk of hearing impairment is reduced. The invention neither leaves any marks in the weapon nor involves any risk of jamming, and will hence be more reliable in use. Additionally, the electronic blank ammunition can be used many times, making the product a far more inexpensive solution in terms of purchase costs.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Exemplary embodiments of the invention will now be described with reference to the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 shows a real weapon in a normal condition;

Fig. 2 shows an electronic simulation device according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 3 shows a real reload handle, a real trigger, and a real bolt for the real weapon of Fig. 1;

5 Fig. 4 shows a front assembly and a rear assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention for the electronic simulation device of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 5 shows an embodiment of the simulation device according to the present invention.

10 DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Fig. 1 shows a weapon 5 of the type AR15 in a normal condition. The weapon includes:

1: Upper receiver

2: Reload handle

15 3: Lower receiver

24: Magazine

6: Buttstock

7: Muzzle brake

14: Hammer (Fig. 2)

20 15: Trigger

27: Bolt release

Fig. 3 shows a real reload handle, a real trigger, and a real bolt for the weapon of Fig. 1.

25 2: Reload handle: Pulled back in order to carry bolt 23 backwards into the buttstock 6 to enter a first shot into the chamber of the weapon 5.

15: Trigger: Pressed in to fire a shot and releases the hammer 14.

23: Bolt: Detonates powder in the cartridge on movement of the hammer 14, and then pushes down hammer 14 to a position ready for the next shot.

30 24: Magazine: Container for live rounds.

31: Burst flip. When activated, shots are fired in burst mode when trigger 15 is pressed and held in.

33: Burst activator: Located on the bolt 23 of a real weapon. When the bolt is pulled forward, the burst activator will press burst flip 31 forward.

When shooting is started, a reload is performed. This is accomplished by pulling
5 reload handle **2** and bolt **23** backwards into buttstock **6** so that a first shot can be fetched from the magazine **24**. This shot is pushed into the chamber of the weapon when bolt **23** advances to the forward position as reload handle **2** is released. The weapon is now ready to be fired.

10 The firing of a shot is accomplished by depressing trigger 15, which releases hammer **14**. Hammer **14** then hits bolt **23**, which in turn detonates the powder charge in the cartridge. A shot is fired and a flame from the explosion is shown in the muzzle flash brake. The energy of the explosion pushes bolt **23** back into buttstock **6** and compresses the buttstock buffer **19**. Hammer **14** is pressed down
15 by bolt **23** to the same position as before the shot was fired. A new cartridge is lifted from magazine **24** and pushed into the chamber. This is caused by the buttstock buffer **19**, which presses bolt **23** to its forward position. The weapon is once again ready to be fired.

20 The invention is a unit intended for being mounted in a real weapon **5** in order to simulate the mechanical functions of the weapon using electronic and mechanical means. The device for simulating the mechanical functions of a weapon **5** comprises a weapon bolt simulator **16** simulating the mechanical movement of the bolt **23** of the weapon **5**. The weapon bolt simulator 16 is adapted to be arranged
25 as a bolt inside the real weapon. The weapon bolt simulator may include a hammer detector 20 for detecting the movement of hammer 14. The weapon bolt simulator may include a burst activator device 30 for simulating burst shooting (burst mode). A muzzle flash simulator **8/22** simulates the muzzle flash through the barrel **7** of the weapon **5**. A hammer detector **20** detects movement of hammer
30 **14** when a shot is fired. A reload simulator **10** simulating the function of a reload handle **2** of a weapon **5**. An electronic sound generator. A contact unit **12** for providing electronic connections between the electronic components of the unit

and to a magazine **4** containing batteries, electronics, and the electronic sound generator.

In the explanation that follows, the invention is shown on a weapon of type AR15,
5 but the invention is intended to be adaptable to any type of weapon.

The simulation unit is mounted inside the weapon **5**. This requires initially removal of the real weapon parts of the weapon. First, the weapon **5** is broken so that the bolt **23**, reload handle **2**, and buffer **19** of the weapon **5** can be removed.

10 The simulation device may then be mounted into the real weapon.

A front assembly **25** is mounted in bolt chamber **23**. A rear assembly is mounted in buttstock **6** in the position of buffer **19**. A contact unit **12** is mounted between the upper receiver **1** and lower receiver **3**. An electronic magazine is inserted in the magazine well of the weapon. (The electronic magazine may be similar to that of
15 WO2011/043673, owned by the same applicant as the present invention.) The weapon is unbroken and is ready for use.

Fig. 2 shows an electronic simulation device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

20 **4**: Electronic magazine containing control electronics of the system, batteries, a display, and a sound generator.

8: Muzzle flash simulator: Contains a light emitter that transmits a ray of light through the barrel of the weapon **5** to indicate that a shot has been fired.

Simulating the muzzle flash through barrel **7** of weapon **5**. The muzzle flash
25 simulator may include a light reflecting arrangement **22** mounted to the muzzle of the weapon **5**. The light reflecting arrangement co-operates with the light source **8** mounted on the weapon.

9: Circuit board. An electronic circuit board for applying a voltage pulse to the front **13** and rear **11** electromagnets also contains a reload handle detector **21**.

30 **10**: Reload simulator: Simulates the reload handle **2** of the weapon **5** by being pulled back to simulate the first reload.

11: Rear electromagnet: Pulls back bolt simulator **16** into the buttstock **6** of the real weapon to simulate the movement of the real bolt **23**. When the rear electro-

magnet pulls back bolt simulator 16, weapon bolt simulator 16 resets the real hammer 14 of the weapon to the cocked position in order to simulate the function of a real bolt 23.

12: Contact unit: Connects the electronic magazine 4 electronically to the front 13 and rear 11 electromagnets, muzzle flash simulator 8, and reload handle detector 21. The contact unit includes a hammer detector 20.

13: Front electromagnet. Pulls back bolt simulator 16 to the forward position in order to simulate the movement of the real bolt 23. In the forward position, the weapon bolt simulator is ready to carry out a new bolt movement sequence.

10 14: Hammer: Released by the trigger 15 of the real weapon, and activates a hammer detector 20.

15: Trigger: Pressed in to fire a shot and release hammer 14.

16: Bolt simulator: Simulates the real bolt 23 of the weapon during movement. The movement is caused by a voltage pulse applied to the front 13 and rear 11 electromagnets. The weapon bolt simulator presses down hammer 14.

17: Upper electronic contacts: Electronic spring pins for electronically connecting contact unit 12 and weapon bolt simulator 16.

18: Lower electronic contacts: Electronic spring pins for electronically connecting the contact unit 12 and electronic magazine 4.

20 In the embodiment of Fig. 2, the upper and lower electronic contacts 17 and 18 are located on the top side and underside of the contact unit 12, respectively.

19: Buffer: Pushes bolt 23 to the forward position after a shot has been fired.

20: Hammer detector: The hammer detector is located on contact unit 12. The hammer detector may be a micro switch that is activated when reload simulator 10 is fully retracted. Activates the electronic magazine 4 to simulate reload action.

21: Reload handle detector: Micro switch that is activated when hammer 14 is released by trigger 15. Activates the electronic magazine 4 to simulate a fired shot.

22: Muzzle flash reflector: Scatters a ray of light from the muzzle flash simulator 8 to more clearly indicate the muzzle flash when a shot is fired.

28: The bolt release detector is located on the electronic magazine 4. The bolt release detector is activated when bolt release 27 of the real weapon 5 is depressed.

29: Actuating means for hammer 14: Provided on the underside of weapon bolt simulator 16 to cause it to press down the hammer. In the embodiment of Fig. 2, the actuating means for the hammer is formed as a downwardly projecting sloping edge.

5 30: Burst activator: Corresponds to the function of the burst activator wing **33** of the bolt 23 on a real weapon. When the weapon bolt simulator is pulled forward, the burst activator device will press the burst flip 31 of the real weapon 5 forward. In Fig. 4, the burst activator device is formed as a downwardly projecting edge.

10 Fig. 4 shows an embodiment comprising a front assembly and a rear assembly for the electronic simulation device of Fig. 2.

25: The front assembly may comprise: muzzle flash simulator 8, circuit board 9, reload handle simulator 10, front electromagnet 13, reload handle detector 21, and bolt simulator 16.

15 26: The rear assembly may comprise a rear electromagnet 11 with connections.

Fig. 5 shows an embodiment of the simulation device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

20 8: Muzzle flash simulator: Contains a light emitter that emits a ray of light through the barrel of the weapon 5 to indicate that a shot has been fired.

9: Circuit board: An electronic circuit board to apply a voltage pulse to the front 13 and rear 11 electromagnets. Also includes a reload handle detector 21.

21: Reload handle detector: Micro switch activated when hammer 14 is activated by the trigger 15. Activates the electronic magazine 4 to simulate a fired shot.

25 11: Rear electromagnet: Pulls the weapon bolt simulator 16 backwards into the buttstock 6 to simulate the movement of the real bolt 23.

12: Contact unit: Connects the electronic magazine 4 electronically to the front 13 and rear 11 electromagnets, muzzle flash simulator 8, and reload handle detector 21. Also contains hammer detector 20.

30 13: Front electromagnet: Pulls the weapon bolt simulator 16 back to the forward position to simulate the movement of the real bolt 23.

17: Upper electronic contacts: Electronic spring pins for the electronic interconnection.

18: Lower electronic contacts: Electronic spring pins for the electronic interconnection.

20: Hammer detector: Micro switch activated when reload simulator handle 10 is fully retracted. Activates the electronic magazine 4 to simulate reloading of the real weapon.

Simulating reloading:

To simulate reloading a reload simulator **10** has been made that is pulled back in the same manner as the original reload handle **2**. When reload simulator **10** is fully retracted, it will activate reload handle detector **21** located below reload simulator **10**. Reload handle detector **21** connects to the electronic magazine **4** via contact unit **12**. To simulate that the weapon has been activated and is ready to be fired, simulation of the function of the real bolt **23** is started. The simulation of bolt **23** is accomplished in that a voltage pulse is transmitted from the electronic magazine **4** through contact unit **12** and to the rear electromagnet **11** of the weapon bolt simulator. This causes weapon bolt simulator **16** to be pulled backwards into buttstock **6**. Weapon bolt simulator **16** is designed in such a manner that when weapon bolt simulator **16** is pulled backwards into the buttstock, in the same manner as bolt **23**, the weapon bolt simulator hits the hammer **14** and the hammer **14** is pressed down so that it is moved to a cocked position. Weapon bolt simulator **16** is then pulled back to the forward position in that a voltage pulse is sent through the contact unit **12** to the front electromagnet **13**.

The weapon's hammer is now located in a cocked position and the weapon is ready to be fired.

Simulating a fired shot in single shot mode:

Simulation of a real shot is accomplished by depressing trigger **15**. The trigger releases the hammer **14** in the same manner as when normal ammunition is fired. The movement of hammer **14** activates the electronic hammer detector **20**, which in turn, through contact unit **12**, activates the electronics of the electronic magazine **4** to activate a fired shot. The electronics of magazine **4** plays an audio file and simultaneously transfers a voltage pulse through the contact unit to muzzle flash simulator **8**. Muzzle flash simulator **8** includes a light source that transmits a

ray of light through the barrel to muzzle flash reflector **22** mounted on muzzle
brake **7** in order to simulate a muzzle flash. At the same time, the electronics of
the electronic magazine **4** also apply a voltage pulse to the rear electromagnet **11**
through contact unit **12**, so that the weapon bolt simulator **16** is pulled backwards
5 into buttstock **6**. The weapon bolt simulator is designed so as to, in the same
manner as bolt **23**, press down hammer **14** to the position it had before a shot was
fired. The electronics of the magazine **4** then applies, through contact unit **12**, a
voltage pulse to the front electromagnet **13**. This causes the weapon bolt simulator
16 to be pulled back to the forward position and the weapon is again ready to be
10 fired.

Simulating a fired shot in burst mode:

When a shot is fired when the weapon is in burst mode, hammer **14** is released
when trigger **15** is depressed on the first shot, similarly to when a shot is fired in
15 single mode as explained above. Hammer detector **20** then initiates the same
internal activation sequence in the simulation device as for single shot mode as
explained above. However, if trigger **15** is kept depressed when the weapon is in
burst mode, subsequent shots are activated automatically by weapon bolt
simulator **16**. The weapon bolt simulator **16** is formed with a downwardly projecting
20 edge (wing) **30** that interacts with the burst flip **31** of the real weapon **5**. This
downwardly projecting edge can be referred to as a burst activator device **30**.
When the weapon bolt simulator **16** is pulled forward, the downwardly projecting
edge **30** will press burst flip **31** of the real weapon **5** forwardly so that the hammer
14 is released. This sequence is repeated until the trigger **15** is no longer
25 depressed.

The invention, together with the electronic magazine **4**, can be used for the
electronic simulation of live ammunition. The invention eliminates the use of blank
ammunition. The shot or explosion is replaced by electronics and mechanics
30 instead of gunpowder. The invention will be a replacement or supplement in
applications where currently blank ammunition is used.

It should be noted that the embodiments described above are only exemplary embodiments, and that a person skilled in the art will be able to devise a variety of other modifications and variants of the invention within the scope of the invention, as defined in the appended claims.

C L A I M S

1. A device for simulation of mechanical functions of a real weapon (5), wherein the device is adapted to be arranged on the real weapon, the device
5 comprising a bolt simulator (16) for simulating the mechanical movement of the weapon bolt (23).
2. The device of claim 1, further comprising a reload simulator (10) for simulating the function of a reload handle (2) of the real weapon (5).
10
3. The device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the weapon bolt simulator (16) is adapted to be mounted as a bolt inside the real weapon.
4. The device of claim 2, wherein the reload handle (10) is further adapted for
15 activation of the weapon bolt simulator to a first position ready for firing the weapon.
5. The device of one of the previous claims 1-4, wherein the weapon bolt simulator (16) is further adapted for activation of a hammer (14) of the real weapon
20 (5).
6. The device of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the weapon bolt simulator (16) further comprises a hammer detector (20) for detecting the movement of the
25 hammer (14).
7. The device of any one of claims 1- 6, wherein the weapon bolt simulator (16) is further adapted for resetting of the real hammer of the weapon to a cocked position to simulate the function of a real bolt (23).
8. The device of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the weapon bolt simulator (16)
30 is further adapted to be arranged in a forward position ready to carry out a new bolt movement sequence.

9. The device of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the weapon bolt simulator (16) further comprises a burst activator device (30) for simulating a burst mode.

10. The device of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the hammer detector (20) is adapted upon firing of a shot for activation of simulated movements and functions performed by a real bolt.

11. The device of any one of claims 1-10, further comprising a reload handle detector (21) adapted to be activated by the hammer (14).

12. The device of any one of claims 1-11, further comprising an electronic sound generator.

13. The device of any one of claims 1-12, further comprising a contact unit (12) for providing electronic connection between the weapon bolt simulator and an electronic magazine (4).

14. The device of claim 13, wherein the electronic magazine (4) comprises batteries, electronics, and an electronic sound generator, the electronic magazine is adapted to be arrangeable in a magazine well of the real weapon.

15. The device of claim 13 or 14, wherein the hammer detector (20) is located on the contact unit (12).

16. The device of any one of claims 1-11, further comprising a muzzle flash simulator (8, 22) for simulating the muzzle flash through the barrel (7) of the weapon (5).

17. The device of claim 16, wherein the muzzle flash simulator further comprises a light reflecting arrangement (22) arranged on the barrel of the weapon (5), the light reflecting arrangement co-operating with a light source (8) arranged on the weapon.

18. A device for simulating the mechanical functions of a weapon (5), the device being adapted to be fastened to the real weapon, the device comprising a muzzle flash simulator (8,22) for simulating the muzzle flash through the barrel (7) of the weapon (5).

5

19. The device of claim 18, wherein the muzzle flash simulator further comprises a light reflecting arrangement (22) arranged on the muzzle of the weapon (5).

10

20. The device of claim 19, wherein the light reflecting arrangement (22) co-operates with a light source (8) arranged on the weapon.