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(54) Title: MODULAR CAMERA HAVING REUSABLE COMPONENTS

(57) Abstract: A single camera includes two main components a large lens assembly, and a rear film cassette cartridge. The lens assembly essentially includes all of the components of the camera, except for the film, and the battery, and may be easily snapped onto a film cassette cartridge. Upon forced removal, the lens assembly is designed to survive, while the film cassette cartridge is destroyed, preventing the user from reloading the film. The lens assemblies may include any of a variety of features and effects, including drop-down filters and modifiers, flashes, sound effects, and selectively distorting lenses. Pre-loaded film backs may be supplied to retail stores and film-processing centers allowing returned cameras to be refurbished at the local-retail level, instead of collecting and shipping spend units back to the factory to be overhauled, repackaged, and re-distributed. According to another embodiment, the camera includes a pneumatic shutter release and a dark-slide panel that ensures a light-tight installation of the film cassette.



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