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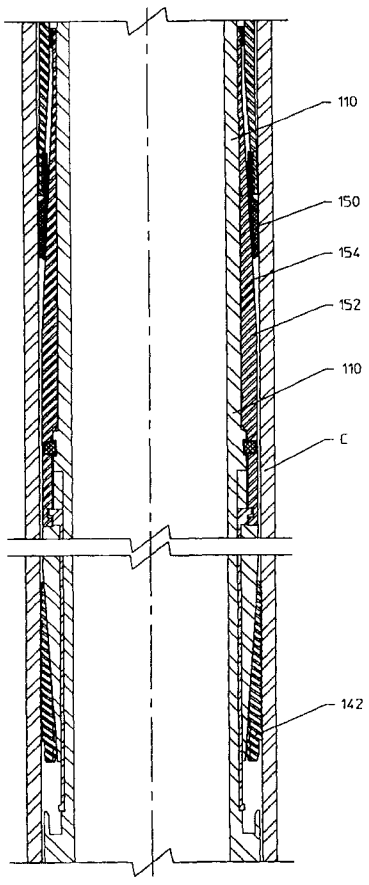
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(54) Title: LINE HANGER, RUNNING TOOL AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A liner hanger running tool (120) includes improvements to the running tool release mechanism, the packoff bushing, and the packer setting assembly. A method is provided for reliably releasing a running tool from a liner hanger (110), for allowing stabbing of the running tool packoff bushing (10) into the top of the liner hanger, and for reliably setting the radial set packer element. The port closure member (212) is movable with a tubular body from a port isolation position to an open port position. The tool includes an annular seal assembly and a substantially conical wedge ring having an outer surface configured to radially expand the annular seal assembly. A ball (240) is lowered into a diverter and thus guided into a pocket (286) in one side thereof to permit passage of a pump down plug (180) into a lower wiper plug (181). A slip assembly carried about a liner for lowering into a wellbore includes a C-ring (64), which expands to cause its teeth to engage with the wellbore. A plug holder (10) sub temporarily supports a liner wiper plug, so that a pump down plug may land in the liner wiper plug and be supported from a generally tubular body of the plug holder sub.

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