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(54) Title: ELECTRICALLY CONTROLLED TRIPPING MECHANISM

(57) Abstract

A detent mechanism comprising a support member having a fixed seating member comprising opposite sides; a first spring for exerting a first spring force, disposed between one side of the fixed seating member and a first sliding member, further comprising a second spring member exerting a second spring force less than said first spring force, disposed between the other side of said fixed seating member and a second sliding member, whereby the forces of the springs are directed to operate on said first and second sliding members in opposite directions. A push button can apply an external force to the first sliding member to move it from a first position relative to the fixed seating member to a second position against the action of said first spring force. A detent mechanism connects the first and second sliding members when the first sliding member is in its second position and the second slidable member is in a first position. When the members are subsequently not acted on by said push button, the first sliding member returns towards its first position and the second sliding member is constrained by the detent mechanism to move with the first sliding member to a second position, the resultant force on both said slidable members in the direction of the first spring force being the difference between the first spring force and the second spring force.

