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(71) Applicant: BAE SYSTEMS PLC [GB/GB]; 6 Carlton Gardens, London SW1Y 5AD (GB).

(72) Inventors: DAWSON, Keith; Weapons Systems & Support, MEO Building, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 1AF (GB). HERBERT, Frederick; Weapons Systems & Support, MEO Building, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 1AF (GB). WEBB, Michael John; Weapons Systems & Support, MEO Building, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 1AF (GB).

(74) Agent: BAE SYSTEMS PLC; Group IP Department, PO Box 87, Farnborough Aerospace Centre, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6YU (GB).

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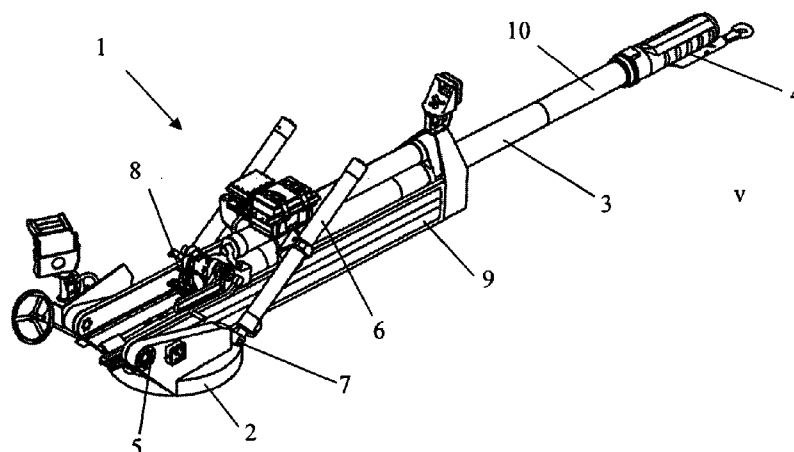


Figure 1

(57) Abstract: A howitzer suitable for deployment on a ground plane, the howitzer comprising an ordnance for firing a projectile. The ordnance comprising a barrel defining a barrel axis and having a muzzle towards the front end of the howitzer and a breech assembly at the back end of the barrel; and a cradle for holding the ordnance at a traverse and an elevation; two trunnion pins located on said cradle, which co-locate with receiving trunnion bearings on a saddle, wherein in a first position said breech is located forward of said trunnion, in a second position, at the end of the recoil stroke, said breech is retracted substantially behind said trunnion, wherein said recoil stroke is variable depending on the selection of the elevation.

