

# FIREARMS INDUSTRY CONSULTING GROUP

A Division of Civil Rights Defense Firm, P.C.

Joshua Prince

Adam Kraut

Jorge Pereira

Phone: 888-202-9297

Fax: 610-400-8439



March 30, 2018

Stephanie M. Boucher  
Disclosure Division  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
99 New York Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20226

RE: Firearms Policy Foundation (FPF) and Firearms Industry Consulting Group (FICG) vs. U.S.  
Department of Justice - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives - Bump Stock  
Rulemaking  
Docket Number: ATF-2018-0001  
**EXPEDITED Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request**

**VIA EMAIL: FOIAMail@ATF.gov**

Dear Stephanie Boucher,

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S. Code § 552 (hereinafter "FOIA"), I submit the following request for documents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (hereinafter "ATF"). If the requested documents are not available from ATF, I respectfully request that you forward this request to the appropriate agency that maintains the requested records or advise me of the identity of any such agency.

Status of Requester: I am attorney and scholar of firearms laws and related issues. I have been published by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute in a number of publications for attorneys on firearms law issues and maintain an active blog on firearms law issues at <http://blog.princelaw.com/category/firearms-law/>. As a result, I ask that you classify this request as made by a freelance journalist and I have been previously found, on numerous occasions, to be a freelance journalist for purposes of FOIA by ATF, FBI and DDTTC. In the alternative, I am requesting a fee waiver. This waiver is applicable under the Freedom of Information Act of 1986. It specifies, "[a] fee waiver or reduction can only be granted if the information furnished to the requester is likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations or

activities of the government and not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." As this request is in relation to issues of public importance that will significantly assist the public in understanding the ATF's position in relation to its current rulemaking regarding bump stocks (ATF 2017R-22, RIN 1140-AA52, Fed. Register No. 2018-06292 - <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ATF-2018-0002-0001>), a fee waiver is appropriate. Although Firearms Industry Consulting Group ("FICG") has been retained by Firearms Policy Foundation ("FPF"), a 501(c)3 non-profit public benefit organization, in relation to this rulemaking, as both FPF and FICG intend to publicly post all documents received in response to this FOIA, any response will be provided to the public and is for the benefit of the public.

While I believe that my purposes fall directly within the standard set forth for a freelance journalist or, alternatively, for a "Fee Waiver," if you find that my purposes do not, I will agree to pay the appropriate fees up to \$100.00. If you estimate that the cost will exceed \$100.00, please advise me the estimated costs exceeding \$100, and I will make a decision on whether to proceed. Nonetheless, even with my agreement to pay, I retain the right to appeal any decision based on the fee waiver; and if successful, the return of any money, which was inappropriately paid, in relation to this FOIA.

Expedited Request: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552, I am requesting expedited review of this FOIA, as ATF has entered into rulemaking relative to the requested documents (ATF 2017R-22, RIN 1140-AA52, Fed. Register No. 2018-06292 - <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ATF-2018-0002-0001>), for which individuals, including myself, only have until June 27, 2018 to respond. As ATF has failed to include the requested documents in the docket and the absence of the requested documents would deny the public - including FPF, FICG, and myself - due process and the ability to formulate legal arguments and meaningful opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process, this request is proper for expedited review and processing. If the requested documents are not provided promptly, there will be an inadequate opportunity to review them and formulate meaningful comments before the deadline of June 27, 2018. Consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(E)(ii), I am requesting, as required, that a determination be made within 10 days.

Subject Matter of Request: This is a request for all ATF determinations relative to devices referred to as "bump stocks" and "bump-fire stocks" by ATF in its proposed rulemaking (ATF 2017R-22, RIN 1140-AA52, Fed. Register No. 2018-06292 - <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ATF-2018-0002-0001>), as well as, all ATF Form 9310.3A "Correspondence Approval and Clearance" forms relative to each determination, and any versions or drafts of the determinations, which were different than the final determination. The use of the word "determinations" shall be understood to mean any correspondence, whether in electronic or paper form, by ATF to any person, which shall include any individual, Member of Congress, corporation, limited liability company, and partnership, regarding the lawfulness or unlawfulness of any bump stock or bump-fire stock device, whether a sample device was submitted or not to ATF. A copy of two such known determinations are attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Temporal Scope of Request: Please limit your search for responsive documents to the period January 1, 2000 to the present.

Request for "Vaughn Index": In the event all or any part of an otherwise responsive document is withheld subject to a claim that one or more FOIA exemptions apply, please provide an index identifying the document or part thereof, by author(s), addressee(s), date, subject matter, and the

specific exemption asserted as a basis for failing to produce the complete document. If a document is withheld only in part, please mark the redacted document to indicate the deletion.

Waiver of Inspection: If search and copying costs are not estimated to exceed \$100.00, please send a copy of the documents to me at the address referenced below.

Request for Timely Action: As mandated by FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i), I request your reply within twenty business days. The requested documents relate to a matter of current public concern so that time is of the essence. In the event you have any questions concerning this request, please contact me as soon as possible. I would be pleased to clarify any perceived ambiguity informally or to discuss ways to narrow my request so as to ensure a timely response.

Contact Information: Please direct all communications to me at:

Joshua Prince  
646 Lenape Rd  
Bechtelsville, PA 19505  
888-202-9297 ext 81114  
[joshua@CivilRightsDefenseFirm.com](mailto:joshua@CivilRightsDefenseFirm.com)

Certification: I certify everything in this request, including request for expedited review and processing to true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,  
Firearms Industry Consulting Group

  
Joshua G. Prince  
[joshua@civilrightsdefensefirm.com](mailto:joshua@civilrightsdefensefirm.com)

jgp/web  
Matter no. 10377

75796



## U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

ALM Stock

NOT in/own

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050:(b) (6)  
3311/2011-502

MAY 25 2011

(b) (6)

Historic Arms, LLC  
1486 Cherry Road  
Franklin, Georgia 30217

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence, which was submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). You have submitted this item, consisting of a Chinese, Type 56 (SKS) rifle and a stock of your own manufacture, with a request for classification under the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As you know, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term "machinegun" as follows:

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person."*

Further, ATF Ruling 2006-2 describes a device that is designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic weapon and classifies it as follows:

*Held, a device (consisting of a block replacing the original manufacturer's V-Block of a Ruger 10/22 rifle with two attached rods approximately 1/4 inch in diameter and approximately 6 inches in length; a second block, approximately 3 inches long, 1 1/4 inches wide, and 1/4 inch high, machined to allow the two guide rods of the first block to pass through; the second block supporting the guide rods and attached to the stock; using 1/4 inch rods; metal washers; rubber and metal bushings; two collars with set screws; one coiled spring; C-clamps; a split ring; the*

-2-

(b) (6)

*two blocks assembled together with the composite stock) that is designed to attach to a firearm and, when activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiates an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, is a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), and the ...[Gun Control Act: GCA]... 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).*

The submitted device (also see enclosed photos) incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A metal block which secures the SKS trigger mechanism to the remainder of the weapon (a function formerly accomplished by the weapons factory stock). A metal rod is attached and protrudes from the rear section of this metal block. This rod rides within a bushing inletted into the rear portion of your "ALM" stock.
- A second metal block which has been machined to allow the three guide rods located in the front portion of your stock to pass through it. This component serves as a support for the front portion of the SKS rifle and as an attachment to the modified stock.
- A forward hand guard/gripping surface which is attached to the bottom portion of the second metal block noted above.
- Lack of any operating springs, bands, or other devices which would permit automatic firing.

Your ALM stock is designed to allow the SKS rifle mounted within it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents the device from operating automatically as described in ATF Ruling 2006-2. When operated, forward pressure must be applied to the above noted forward hand-guard/gripping surface with the support hand, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trigger can be pulled by the firing hand. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the hand guard with the support hand, the rifle can be fired in a conventional semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

The FTB live-fire testing of the submitted device indicates that if, as a shot is fired and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the hand guard/gripping surface with the shooter's support hand, the SKS rifle assembly will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the shooter's stationary firing-hand trigger finger, allowing a subsequent shot to be fired. In this manner, the shooter pulls the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, each shot being fired by a single function of the trigger.

✱ Since your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, FTB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the GCA, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

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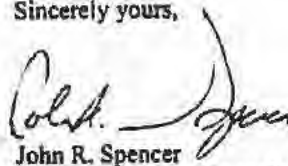
(b) (6)

Please note that this classification is based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design features or characteristics will void this classification. Moreover, we caution that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically as described in Ruling 2006-2 will result in the manufacture of a machinegun as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b).

Please provide our Branch with a FedEx account number so that we may return this item to you.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

Sincerely yours,



John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

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(b) (6)

View of the three forward guide rods:

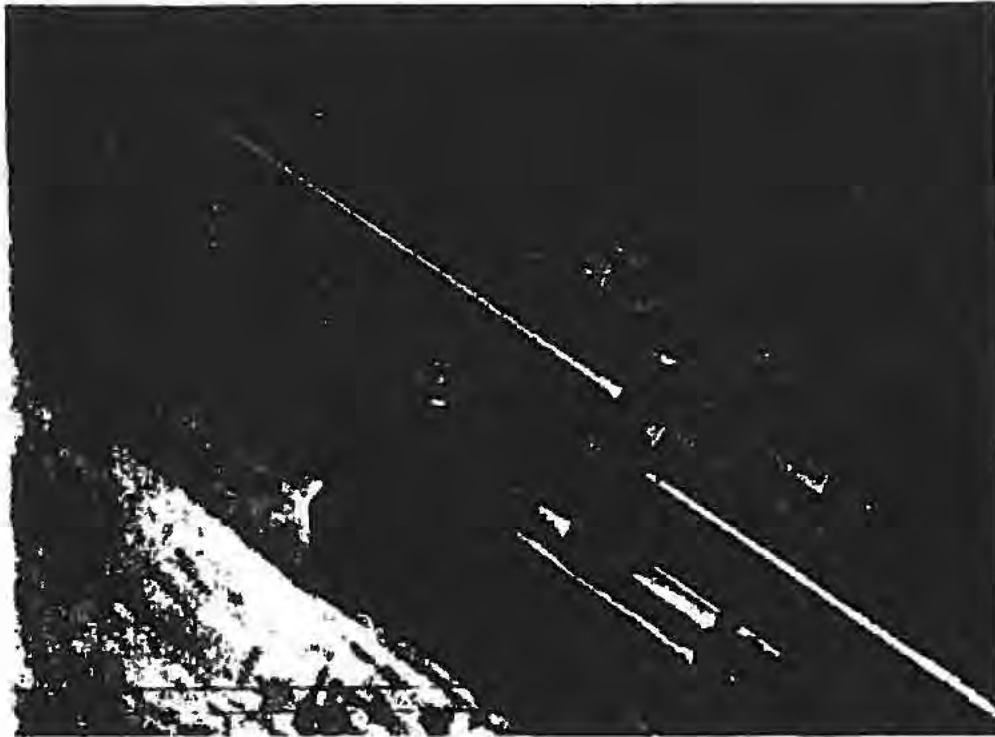


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(b) (6)

Metal block which secures SKS rifle and rides over the guide rails pictured above:

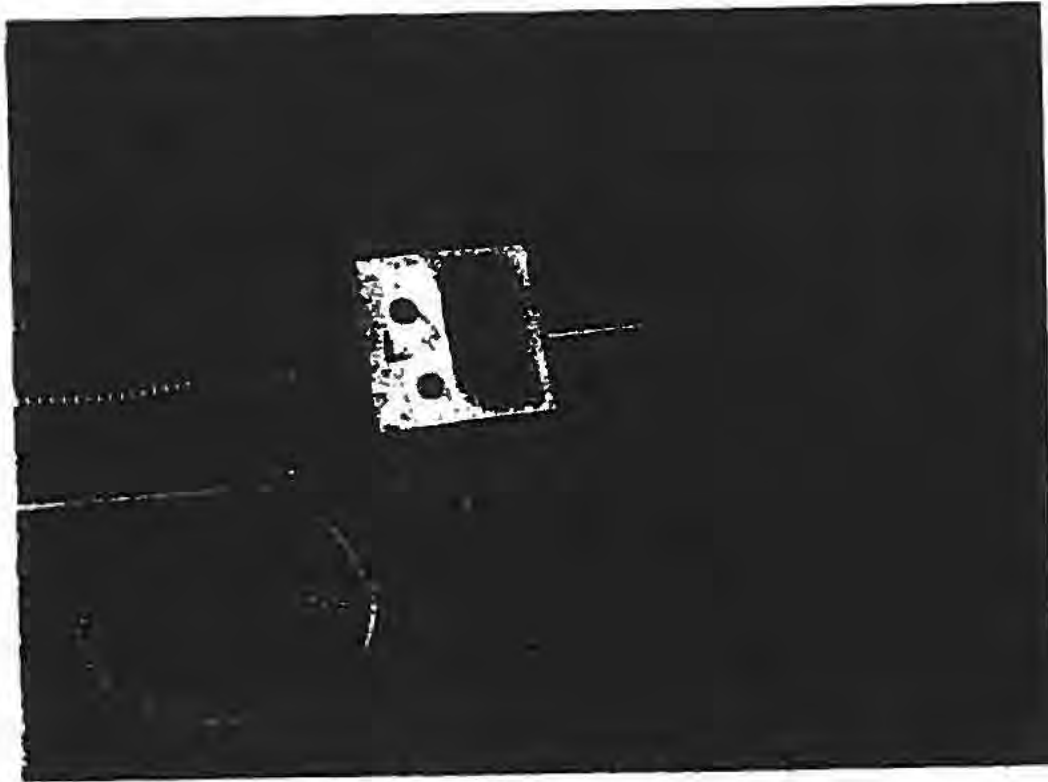


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(b) (6)

Metal block which secures trigger mechanism and metal rod which rides in bushing located in rear portion of the ALM stock:



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(b) (6)





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Machine Gun

Washington, DC 20226  
www.atf.gov903050 (b) (6)  
3311/2011-624

(b) (6)

NOV 23 2011

Historic Arms, LLC  
1486 Cherry Road  
Franklin, Georgia 30217

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), with an accompanying sample "ASFS Stock" and magazine, requesting an evaluation in accordance 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3) and 26 U.S.C. 5845(a). As explained below, the evaluation of your submitted ASFS Stock (photo enclosed) finds that it is a combination of parts designed and intended to convert a firearm into a machinegun.

The examination conducted by FTB noted that the stock consisted of a large main outer shell, a rear shoulder pad, a right-side dust cover, two vertical grip assemblies, guide-rail mounting blocks, guide rails, and a retractable trigger cross-pin. The main shell and dust cover encase the firearm (a semiautomatic WASR-10 type) and guide-rail mounting blocks. The shell also incorporates an extension which covers the encased firearm's trigger and provides attachment for the retractable trigger cross-pin. The mounting blocks are attached to the interior of the main shell, and the guide rails are attached, connecting the encased firearm to the outer shell at both the rear and near the firearm's midpoint. One vertical grip is attached to the bottom of the main shell at the shell's forward end, and the other vertical grip is attached to the bottom of the forward end of the firearm's barrel. When assembled onto the firearm, the cross pin engages the enclosed WASR-10 trigger, and the forward vertical grip becomes the *trigger* used to initiate the firing sequence.

The firing sequence is initiated by the shooter pushing forward on the forward-most vertical grip while the shooter's other hand maintains control of the device by holding the rearmost vertical grip. The application of forward pressure forced the encased firearm to move forward against the cross pin; the weapon fired, the recoiling energy pushed the encased firearm rearward inside the stock, the trigger reset and the continuous forward pressure of the shooter drove the encased firearm back onto the cross pin so that the weapon again fired. The firing sequence continued until pressure was removed or the ammunition source was exhausted.

During the test firing, when a magazine of five rounds was inserted, the device fired all five rounds automatically without manual reloading by a single function of the trigger. Additionally, after loading a second magazine with two rounds, the device fired automatically when the device was simply tilted forward at an angle.

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-2-

(b) (6)

against the cross pin and initiated the firing sequence, causing both rounds to be fired without manual reloading by a single function of the triggering mechanism.

A noted difference between this submission and your previously submitted ALM Stock, which was not classified as a "firearm," is the length of the area shrouding the trigger and the addition of a cross pin designed to engage an encased firearm's trigger. Thus configured, the ASFS Stock is designed to convert the recoiling forces generated from the action of an explosive to maintain a sequence of events which will continue automatically until the trigger is no longer activated or the ammunition is depleted.

As you know the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a)(6), defines the term "firearm" to include *...a machinegun...*. Further, § 5845(b) defines a "machinegun" in part as: *...any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun....* Since the Historic Arms, ASFS stock was found to convert a semiautomatic firearm to fire automatically, more than one shot without manual reloading by the single function of the trigger, *we determined the ASFS stock to be a "machinegun" as defined.*

Because your sample is a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA and you are a licensed special occupational tax-payer, you have by close of business the next business day following receipt of this letter to register your device. As soon as FTB has received verification that the submitted ASFS stock is registered, we will return it to you. Since the device is not yet serialized, you must immediately upon its return apply the assigned serial number clearly and conspicuously and in accordance with the size and depth requirements found in 27 CFR 479.102. To preclude the susceptibility to obliteration, alteration, or removal, we recommend you apply the serial number markings to an externally visible portion of the largest single component of the device.

To facilitate return of your submission after registration is complete, please provide FTB with a prepaid shipping label from FedEx, UPS, or other such appropriate carrier.

As always, we remain available for future written inquiries concerning this or other matters.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

(b) (6)

Since your sample is a "machinegun" as defined and you are a licensed special occupational tax-payer, you will have by the close of business (COB) on the next business day after receipt of this letter to submit an ATF Form 2 registering your device. When you have provided FTB with confirmation of the registration, we will return your sample. Please note, as the device is not presently serialized, we will return it minus the trigger cross pin (which will be shipped separately).

In addition, you will have by COB on the next business day after our return of the ASFS Stock to apply a serial number. Since ATF has consistently specified that the largest component is the portion of the device upon which required markings must be placed when a combination device has to be serialized, all of your markings must be applied to the largest single component of the assembled device to ensure compliance with 27 CFR 479.102.

As always, we remain available for future inquiries concerning this or other matters.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

*Could not find the signed p 2*

	Initiator	Reviewer	Reviewer	Reviewer	Reviewer	Reviewer	Reviewer
Name	903050	903050	903050	903050			
Date							

75918

m/gun

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2011-624-mm1c

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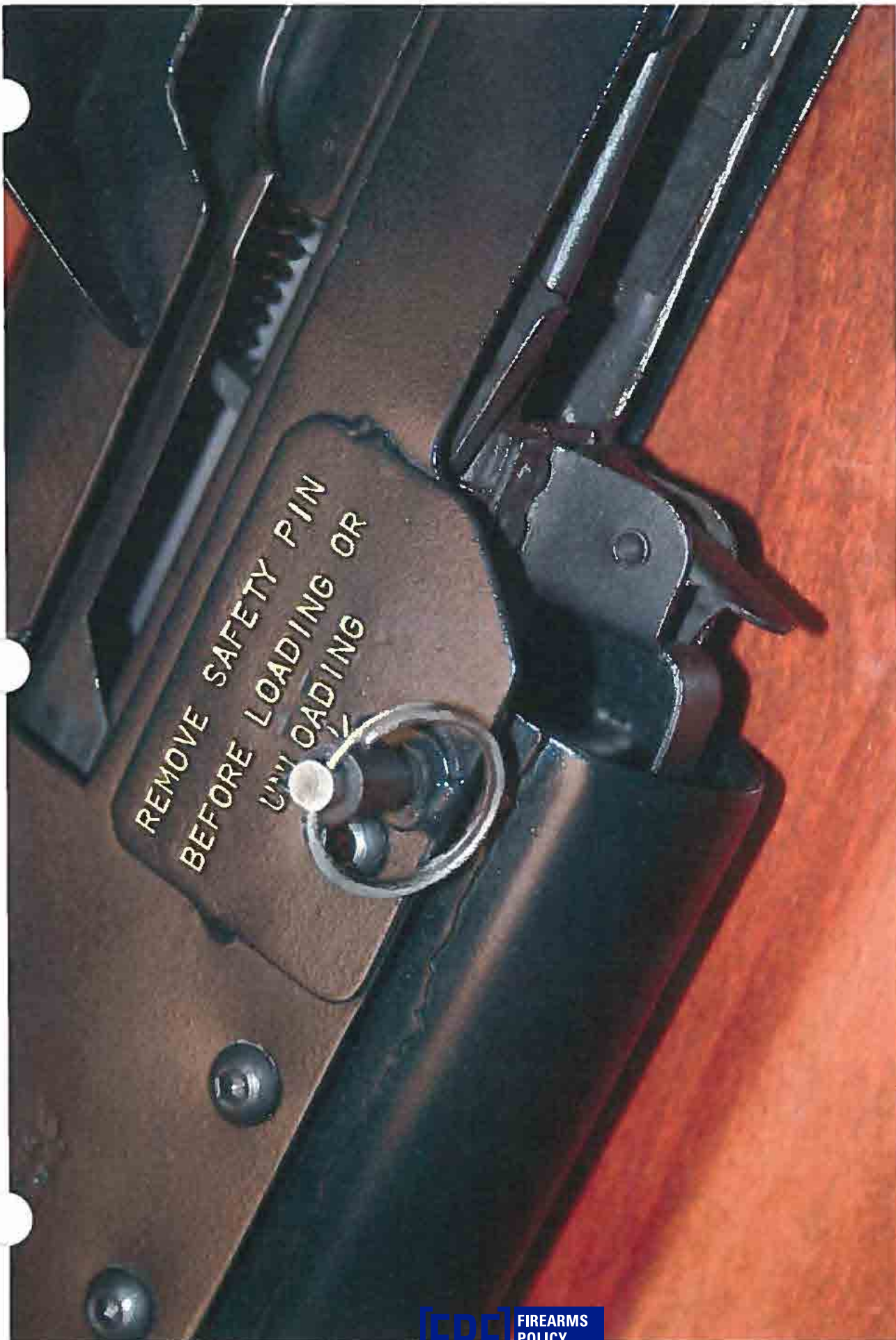


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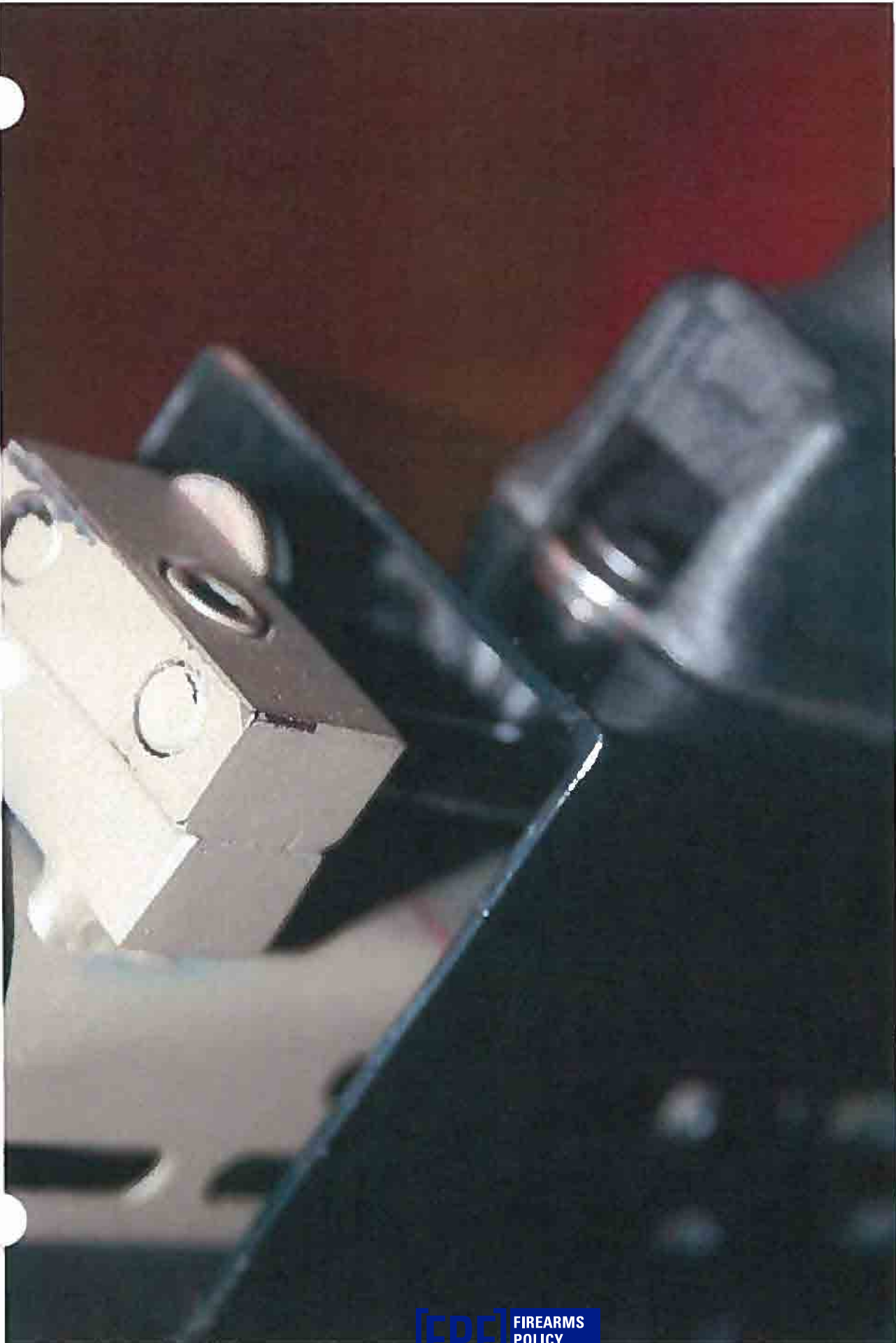
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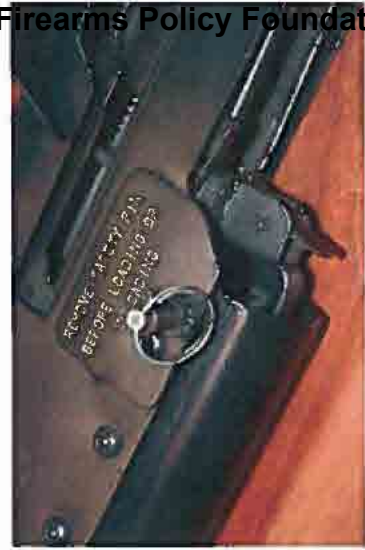


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ASFS Stock – MACHINEGUN.

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75918 – (2011-624-MMK) - NOV 23, 2011 –



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS  
CORRESPONDENCE APPROVAL AND CLEARANCE

"Would be" m/6700

MAR 28 2003

903050 (b) (6)  
3311/2003-131

(b) (6)

Post Office Box 327  
Wilkeson, Washington 98396

Dear (b) (6)

This is in response to your letter of November 15, 2002, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). In your letter you ask about the classification of a certain firearm stock of your design.

As defined in Title 26, United States Code (U.S.C), Chapter 53, § 5845(b), of the National Firearms Act (NFA), the term "machinegun" means any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person. Title 18, U.S.C., Chapter 44, § 922(o) makes it unlawful for any person to possess, transfer or manufacture a machinegun that was not registered in accordance with the provisions of the NFA prior to May 19, 1986. Therefore, it is unlawful for anyone to possess an NFA firearm that is not registered in accordance with the provisions of the NFA.

CODE	INITIATOR	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER
SURNAME		(b) (6)					
DATE		3/27/03					

ATF F 9310.3A (7-97) (Formerly ATF F 1325.6A, which may still be in use)

[FPF] FIREARMS  
POLICY  
FOUNDATION

U.S. Government Printing Office: 2002 — 491-811/53563

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS  
CORRESPONDENCE APPROVAL AND CLEARANCE

(b) (6)

You advise in your letter that the subject stock is designed to accept a Ruger 10/22 type semiautomatic rifle and is intended to facilitate an accelerated rate of fire. You also provide some limited drawings and technical information regarding the proposed stock.

Based on the information that you provided and our research, it is obvious that the stock design utilizes a supplemental trigger incorporated within the stock that mechanically extends to the trigger of the installed weapon. This results in the trigger incorporated within the stock effectively replacing and subsequently becoming the trigger of the weapon and the trigger of the weapon clearly becomes nothing more than part of the searing mechanism. With a weapon installed in the subject stock and the stock's trigger pulled and held in its most rearward position, the weapon would discharge. Due to the floating/recoiling function of the weapon inside the stock and as a result of the design of the stock's trigger, the weapon would continue to fire automatically more than one shot by a single function of the trigger as long as the shooter held the trigger back. It is our opinion that any stock manufactured to operate in such a manner would be a combination of parts designed and intended for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun. Therefore, the subject stock would constitute a "machinegun" as that term is defined in the second paragraph of this letter and would be subject to all the controls and provisions of the NFA.

CODE	INITIATOR	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER
SURNAME							
DATE							

ATF F 9310.3A (7-97) (Formerly ATF F 1326.6A, which may still be in use)

[FPF] FIREARMS  
POLICY  
FOUNDATION

U.S. Government Printing Office: 2002 — 491-611/53553

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS  
CORRESPONDENCE APPROVAL AND CLEARANCE

Mr. Terry Schwartz

We trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your inquiry. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Curtis H.A. Bartlett  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

	INITIATOR	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER	REVIEWER
CODE							
SURNAME							
DATE							

ATF F 9310.3A (7-97) (Formerly ATF F 1325.6A, which may still be in use)



\*U.S. Government Printing Office: 2002 — 491-B11/52553



Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

NOT M/OWN

Marlinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050(b) (6)  
3311/2012-196

(b) (6)

APR 02 2012

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your correspondence to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), requesting FTB to evaluate an accompanying stock and determine if its design would violate any Federal statutes.

As background information, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. Section 5845(b), defines "machinegun" as—

*"...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person."*

The FTB evaluation confirmed that you have submitted a plastic shoulder stock designed to function on an AR-15 type rifle (see enclosed photos). For your stock to function in the manner intended, it has to be attached to an AR-15 type platform that is assembled with a collapsible-stock receiver extension. Along with the shoulder stock, you have submitted what you have identified as a "receiver module." This module is a plastic block approximately 1-5/16 inches high, about 1-3/8 inches long, and approximately 7/8-inch wide. Additionally, there are two extensions, one on each side, that are designed to travel in the two slots configured on the shoulder stock. The receiver module replaces the AR-15 pistol grip.

Further, the submitted custom shoulder stock incorporates a pistol grip. This grip section has a cavity for the receiver module to move forward and backward. Additionally, two slots have been cut for the receiver module extensions to travel in. The upper section of the shoulder stock is designed to encapsulate the collapsible receiver extension. Further, the custom stock is

**(b) (6)**

designed with a "lock pin." When the handle on the lock pin is facing in the 3- to 9-o'clock positions, the stock is fixed and will not move; and when the handle on the lock pin is facing in the 12- to 6-o'clock positions, the stock is movable.

The FTB live-fire testing of the submitted device indicates that if, as a shot is fired, an intermediate amount of pressure is applied to the fore-end with the support hand, the shoulder stock device will recoil sufficiently rearward to allow the trigger to mechanically reset. Continued intermediate pressure applied to the fore-end will then push the receiver assembly forward until the trigger re-contacts the shooter's stationary firing hand finger, allowing a subsequent shot to be fired. In this manner, the shooter pulls the firearm forward to fire each shot, the firing of each shot being accomplished by a single trigger function. Further, each subsequent shot depends on the shooter applying the appropriate amount of forward pressure to the fore-end and timing it to contact the trigger finger on the firing hand, while maintaining constant pressure on the trigger itself.

Since your device is incapable of initiating an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, FTB finds that it is **not** a machinegun as defined under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

Please be advised that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design features or characteristics will void this classification. Further, we caution that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically as described will result in the manufacture of a machinegun as defined in the NFA, 5845(b).

To facilitate the return of your sample, to include the module, please provide FTB with the appropriate FedEx or similar account information within 60 days of receipt of this letter. If their return is not necessary, please fax FTB at 304-616-4301 with authorization to destroy them on your behalf.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

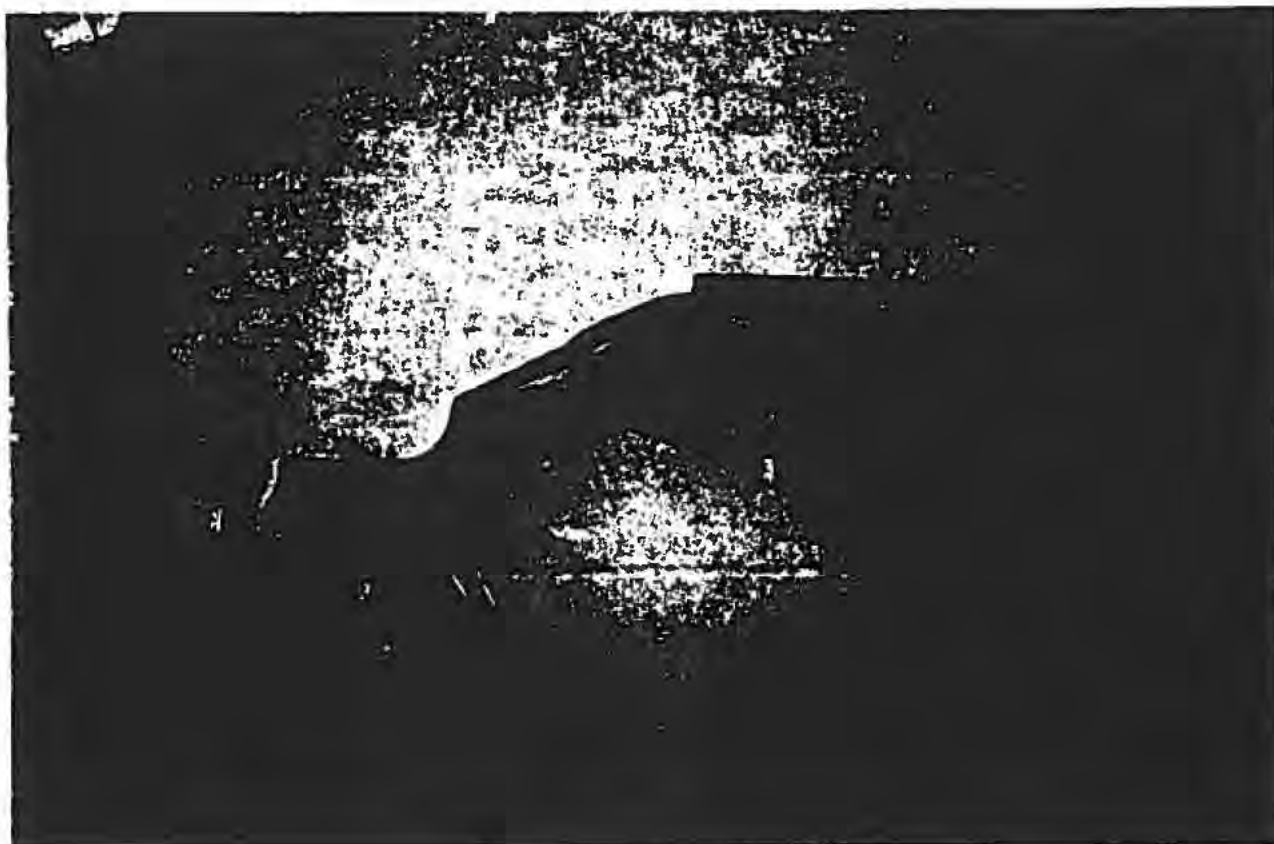
Sincerely yours,

  
John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

(b) (6)

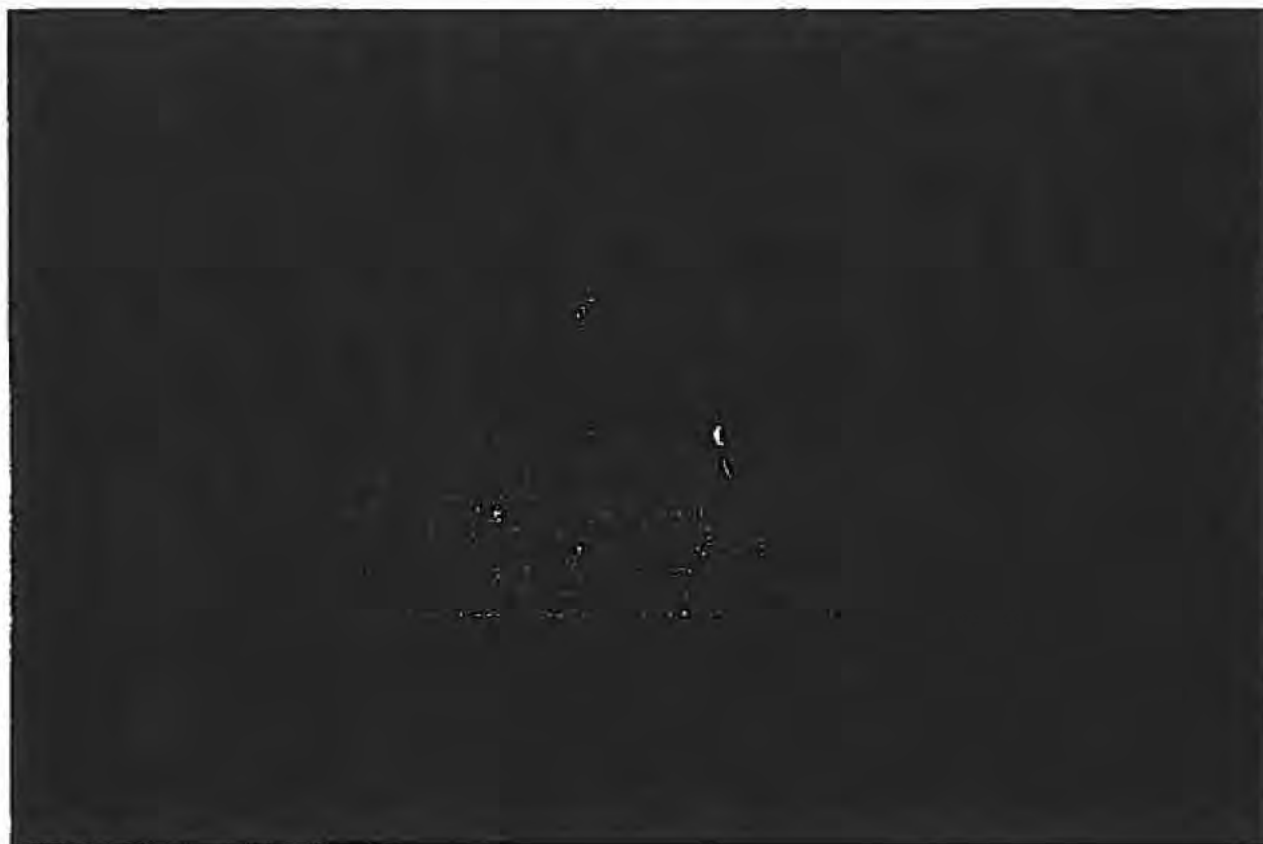
Custom Alternative Stock for AR-15 type rifle



76715

(b) (6)

Custom Stock Installed on AR-15 type Rifle



10113

2012-2102



(b) (6)

5129L

16 115

2012-196

(b) (6)

51492



16115

76715 – APR 2, 2012 – Bump Fire Stock & Receiver Module – NOT A MACHINEGUN

(b) (6)





## U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosivesnot m/gun

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050(b) (6)

3311/2007-415

APR 20 2012

(b) (6)

Dea (b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence, which was submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The sample, consisting of a mounting device designed for use with a semiautomatic Browning 1919-pattern type firearm, was furnished to FTB with a request for classification under Federal firearms laws.

As you know, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term "machinegun" as—

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

Further, ATF Ruling 2006-2 describes a device that is designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic weapon and classifies it as follows:

*Held, a device (consisting of a block replacing the original manufacturer's V-Block of a Ruger 10/22 rifle with two attached rods approximately ¼ inch in diameter and approximately 6 inches in length; a second block, approximately 3 inches long, 1 ¾ inches wide, and ¼ inch high, machined to allow the two guide rods of the first block to pass through; the second block supporting the guide rods and attached to the stock; using ¼ inch rods; metal washers; rubber and metal bushings; two collars with set screws; one coiled spring; C-clamps; a split ring; the*

**(b) (6)**

*two blocks assembled together with the composite stock) that is designed to attach to a firearm and, when activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiates an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, is a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), and the ...[Gun Control Act: GCA]... 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).*

The submitted device (also see enclosure) incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A steel mount or cradle which accepts a Browning 1919 type firearm and is designed to be utilized with a standard, M2-type pintle and tripod.
- Two steel pins which secure the firearm to the cradle.
- Four roller assemblies, also secured by the above-mentioned steel pins, which allow the firearm to move laterally within the cradle.
- A trigger bar or trip lever which, when pulled, raises a trip which fires the firearm mounted in the cradle.
- A mount or cradle lacking any operating springs, bands, or other devices which would permit automatic firing.

With respect to your mount/cradle, FTB confirmed that it is designed to allow the Browning 1919 type semiautomatic firearm mounted to it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically as described in ATF Ruling 2006-2. When operated, forward pressure must be applied by the non-firing hand to the rear portion of the 1919-type firearm mounted in your device, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trip can contact the trigger of the weapon. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the firearm with the non-firing hand, the firearm can be fired in a conventional, semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

The FTB examination of the submitted device indicates that if, as a shot is fired and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the rear section of the firearm by the shooter's non-firing hand, the Browning, 1919 semiautomatic firearm will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the trip, which is being held in an elevated position by the trigger bar/trip lever manipulated by the shooter's firing hand; this "re-contact" allows a subsequent shot to be fired. In this manner, the shooter pushes the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, each firing utilizing a single function of the trigger. Letting go of the receiver or trigger bar/trip lever will halt this process.

\* Since your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, FTB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the GCA, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

-3-

(b) (6)

We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design, features, or characteristics will void this classification. Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically as described in Ruling 2006-2 will result in the manufacture of a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b).

Please provide our Branch with a FedEx account number so that we may return your device.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

Sincerely yours,

  
John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

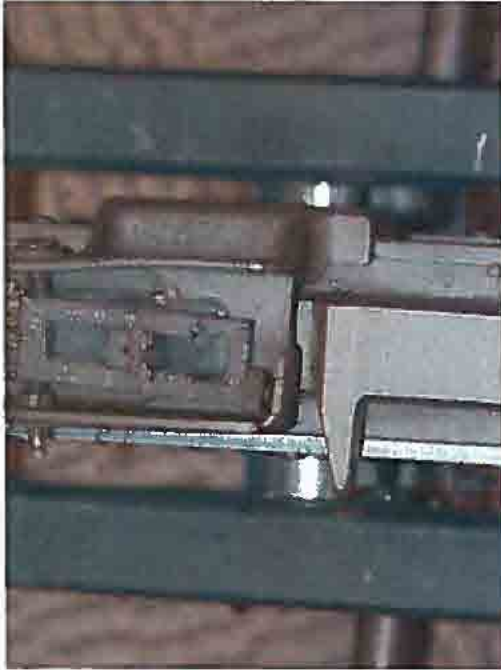
Enclosure

959/01

— 1919 semi-auto “bump fire” device.

(b) (6)

9961 – 2007-415 – APR 20, 2012 –





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

71571

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050(b) (6)  
3311/2007-415

APR 20 2012

(b) (6)

Dea(b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence, which was submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The sample, consisting of a mounting device designed for use with a semiautomatic Browning 1919-pattern type firearm, was furnished to FTB with a request for classification under Federal firearms laws.

As you know, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term "machinegun" as—

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

Further, **ATF Ruling 2006-2** describes a device that is designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic weapon and classifies it as follows:

*Held, a device (consisting of a block replacing the original manufacturer's V-Block of a Ruger 10/22 rifle with two attached rods approximately ¼ inch in diameter and approximately 6 inches in length; a second block, approximately 3 inches long, 1 ¾ inches wide, and ¾ inch high, machined to allow the two guide rods of the first block to pass through; the second block supporting the guide rods and attached to the stock; using ¼ inch rods; metal washers; rubber and metal bushings; two collars with set screws; one coiled spring; C-clamps; a split ring; the*

**(b) (6)**

71571

*two blocks assembled together with the composite stock) that is designed to attach to a firearm and, when activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiates an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, is a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), and the ...[Gun Control Act: GCA]... 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).*

The submitted device (also see enclosure) incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A steel mount or cradle which accepts a Browning 1919 type firearm and is designed to be utilized with a standard, M2-type pintle and tripod.
- Two steel pins which secure the firearm to the cradle.
- Four roller assemblies, also secured by the above-mentioned steel pins, which allow the firearm to move laterally within the cradle.
- A trigger bar or trip lever which, when pulled, raises a trip which fires the firearm mounted in the cradle.
- A mount or cradle lacking any operating springs, bands, or other devices which would permit automatic firing.

With respect to your mount/cradle, FTB confirmed that it is designed to allow the Browning 1919 type semiautomatic firearm mounted to it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically as described in ATF Ruling 2006-2. When operated, forward pressure must be applied by the non-firing hand to the rear portion of the 1919-type firearm mounted in your device, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trip can contact the trigger of the weapon. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the firearm with the non-firing hand, the firearm can be fired in a conventional, semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

The FTB examination of the submitted device indicates that if, as a shot is fired and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the rear section of the firearm by the shooter's non-firing hand, the Browning, 1919 semiautomatic firearm will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the trip, which is being held in an elevated position by the trigger bar/trip lever manipulated by the shooter's firing hand; this "re-contact" allows a subsequent shot to be fired. In this manner, the shooter pushes the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, each firing utilizing a single function of the trigger. Letting go of the receiver or trigger bar/trip lever will halt this process.

Since your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, FTB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the GCA, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

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We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design, features, or characteristics will void this classification. Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically as described in Ruling 2006-2 will result in the manufacture of a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b).

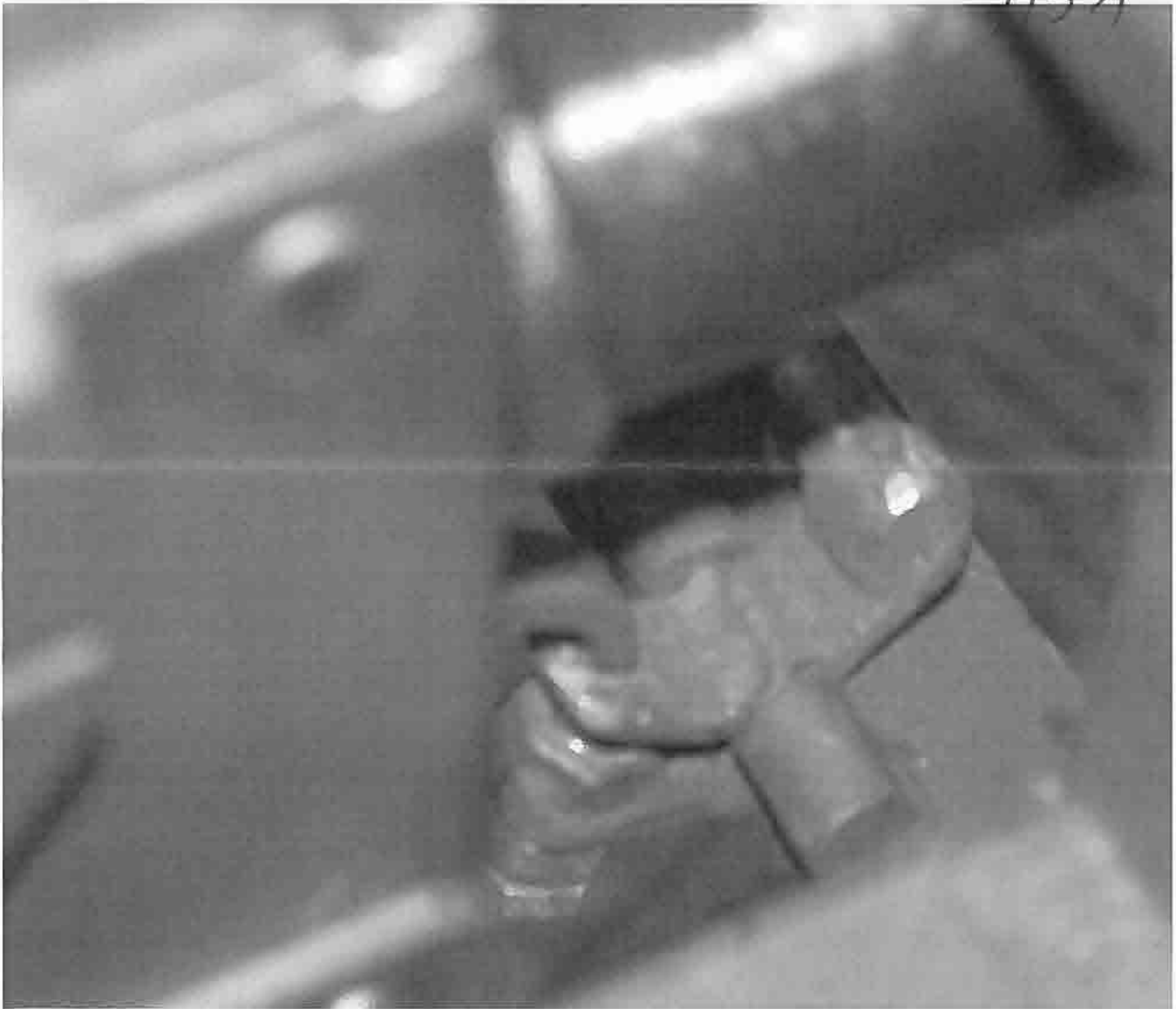
Please provide our Branch with a FedEx account number so that we may return your device.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

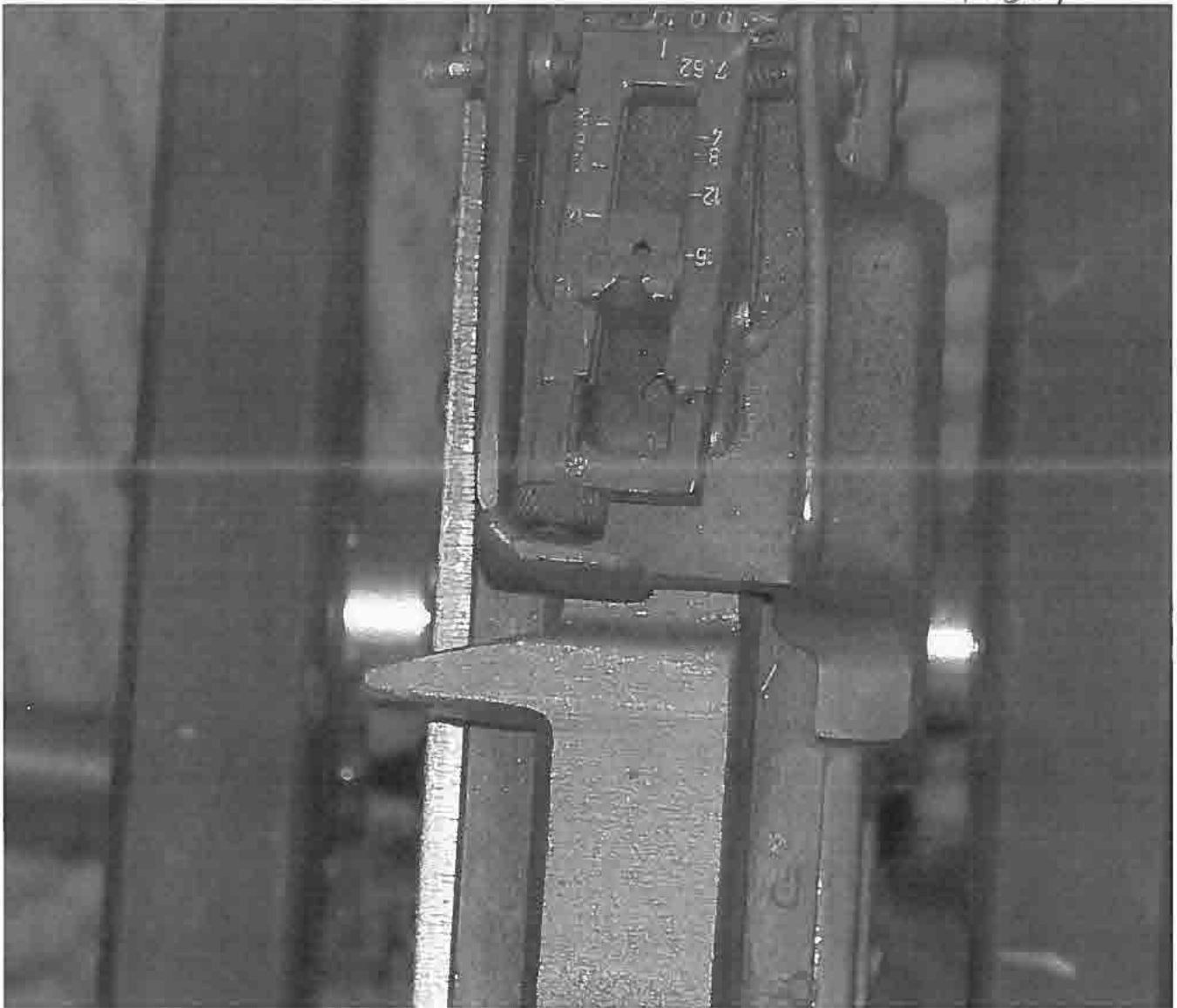
Sincerely yours,

  
John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

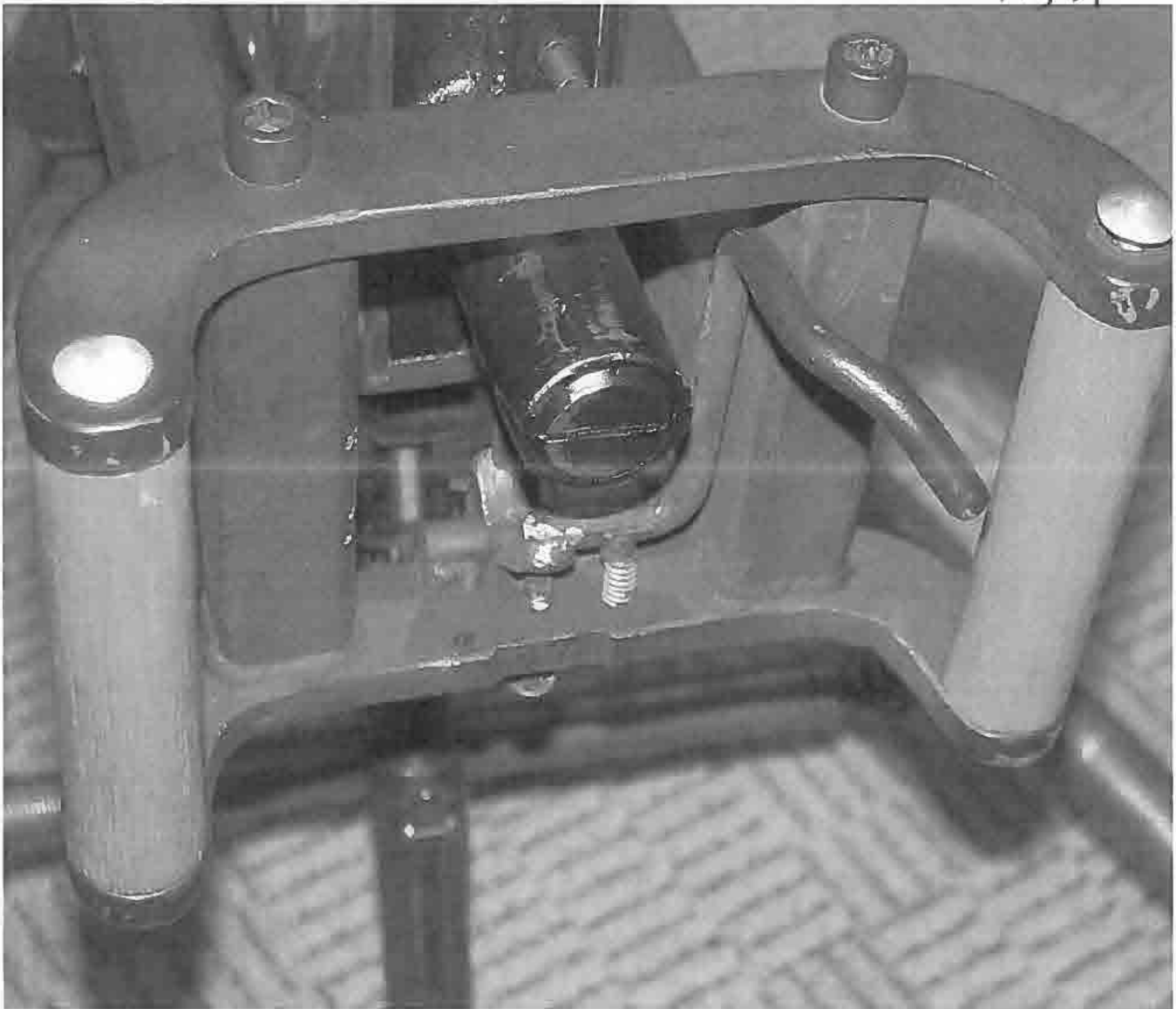
Enclosure



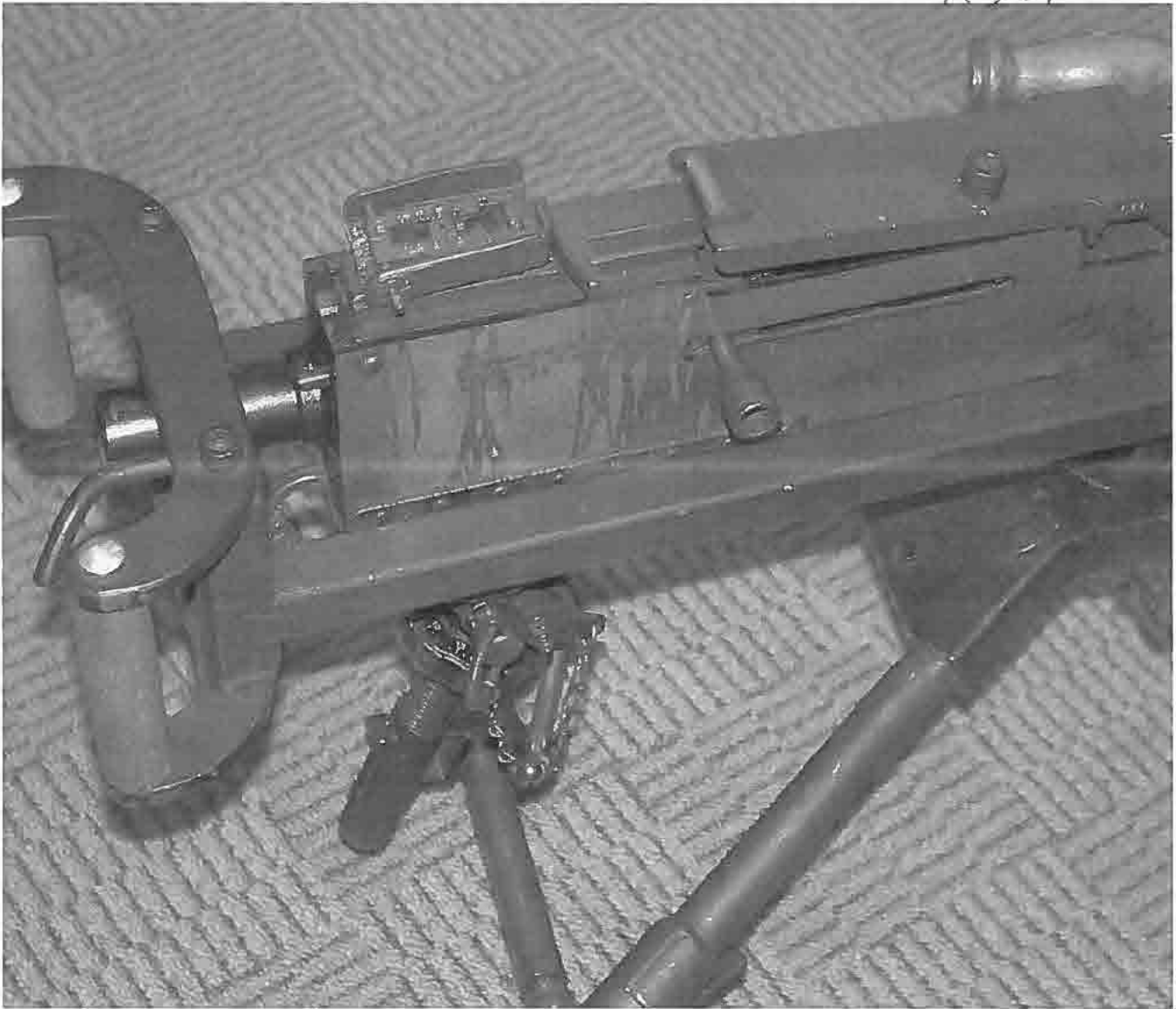
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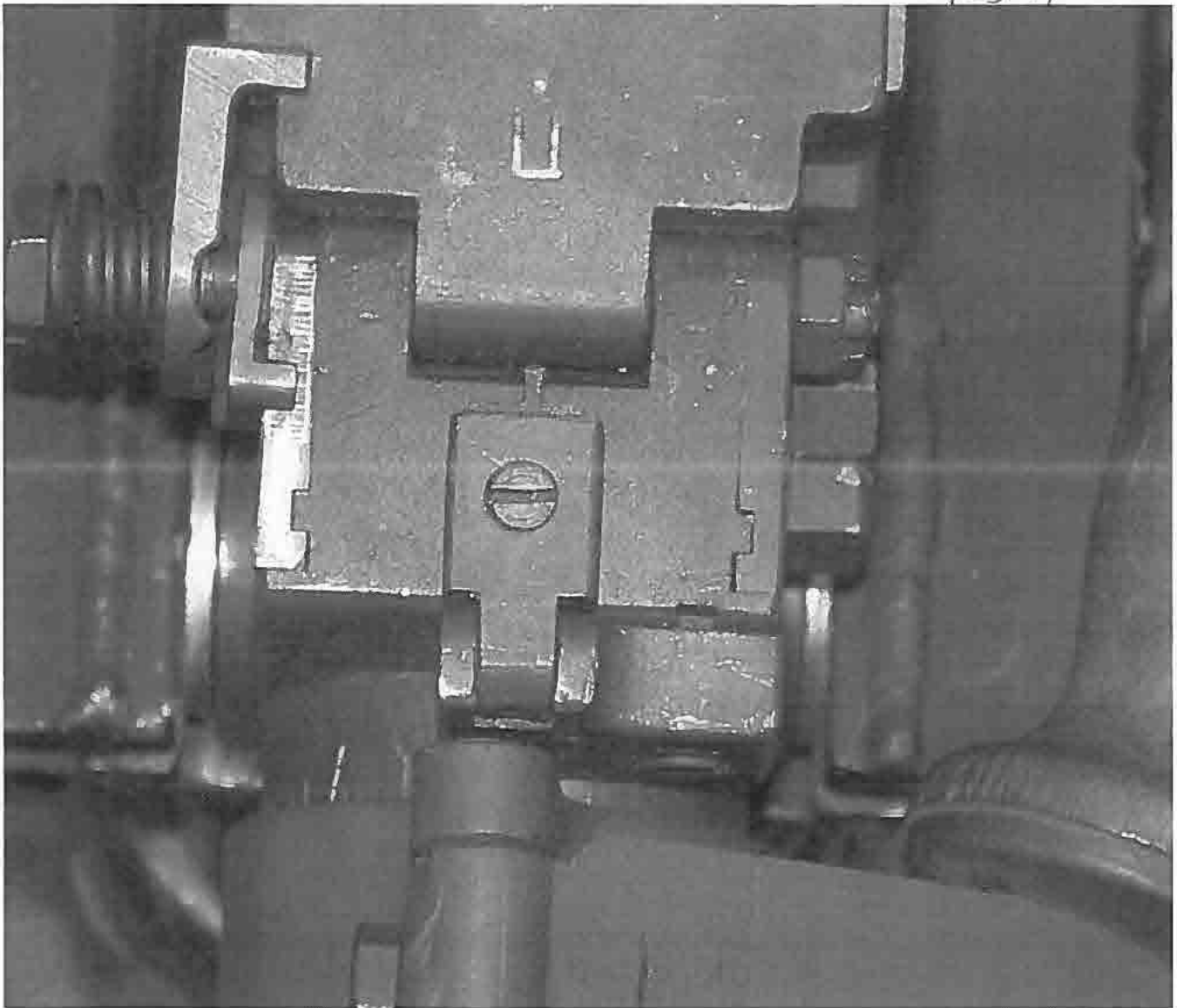
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U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

*Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch*

Martinsburg, W.V.

www.atf.gov

NOV 18 2016

907010 (b) (6)  
3311/302683

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), which accompanied your submitted sample of one "Action-Grip" device. Specifically, you requested an evaluation and classification of the sample as it pertains to the Gun Control Act (GCA) of 1968, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3) and National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a)(5).

As background, the amended Gun Control Act of 1968, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "**firearm**" to include *any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and] ...the frame or receiver of any such weapon....*

Also, with respect to the definitions of "**handgun**" and "**pistol**" under Federal statutes and regulations, you may be aware that the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(29), defines "**handgun**" to mean, in part: *...a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand....*

Additionally, 27 CFR § 479.11, a regulation implementing the NFA, defines "**pistol**" as *...a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand, and having (a) a chamber(s) as an integral part(s) of, or permanently aligned with, the bore(s); and (b) a short stock designed to be gripped by one hand and at an angle to and extending below the line of the bore(s).*

Further, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a), defines the term "**firearm**" to include *...(5) any other weapon, as defined in subsection (e)....*

-2-

(b) (6)

Finally, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(e), defines "*any other weapon*" as:

*...any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, a pistol or revolver having a barrel with a smooth bore designed or redesigned to fire a fixed shotgun shell, weapons with combination shotgun and rifle barrels 12 inches or more, less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire. Such term shall not include a pistol or a revolver having a rifled bore, or rifled bores, or weapons designed, made, or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of firing fixed ammunition.*

FTISB has found that the submitted sample, in and of itself, is not a "firearm" as defined in 18 U.S.C § 921 (a)(3).

FTISB test fired the device with a Glock 34 by pushing the pistol forward and holding the Action-Grip in place the pistol fired by bump-fire. However, as the Action-Grip has a handle that is designed to be gripped by one hand, attaching it to a pistol would create a weapon that is designed to be gripped by two hands. This would only be lawful if the combined length of the pistol with the Action-Grip attached was 26 inches or longer. Therefore, attaching the Action-Grip to a pistol whose overall length with the Action-Grip attached is less than 26 inches would result in the firearm being classified as an "any other weapon" (AOW) as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(e).



-3-

(b) (6)


Individuals desiring to manufacture a firearm subject to NFA provisions (machineguns excepted) must first submit and secure approval of an ATF Form 1, *Application to Make and Register a Firearm*, and pay the applicable \$200 making tax. To reiterate, the making of an AOW by an individual, prior to receiving approval from the NFA Branch, would be unlawful.

We caution that these findings are based on the sample as submitted. If the design, dimensions, configuration, method of operation, or materials used are changed, our determinations would be subject to review.

To facilitate return of the submitted sample, please provide FTISB with an appropriate FedEx or similar shipping label within 60 days.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

Sincerely yours,



Michael R. Curtis

Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

\* NO Examination or Classification  
given.

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

907010 (b) (6)  
3311/303021

MAR 17 2015

(b) (6)

Dea (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), regarding the legal status of installing a spring between a manual "bump fire stock" and the rear of the buffer tube/receiver extension of an AR-15 type firearm installed in the stock.

You indicate that as the bump fire stock now functions, pressure is required to be manually applied to the front of the rifle for it to function properly and state that "as configured" your hand could slip off the front of the rifle past the muzzle and possibly cause injury.

For your reference in this matter, the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23), defines the term "machinegun" to have the meaning given such term in section 5845(b) of the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C. 5845(b)).

Also, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a)(6), defines "firearm" to include a *machinegun*....

Finally, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines "machinegun" as: *any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

(b) (6)

Based on our analysis of your proposed project and consideration of the Federal definitions just cited, we should inform you that the combination of a "bump fire stock" which incorporates a "return spring" and a suitable firearm or such a return spring equipped bump fire stock alone could be subject to regulation under both the provisions of the GCA and NFA as a machinegun. Our office notes that previously examined devices which incorporated similar operating principles have been so classified.

Finally, our branch would not be able to offer an official classification of your proposed device without examining a functioning prototype similar in both design and materials to the device that is intended for installation on AR-15 type firearms.

Should you wish to submit a sample for evaluation, it may be sent to:

Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch  
244 Needy Road  
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your request.

Sincerely yours,



George Rogers  
Acting Chief, Firearms Technology Branch



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

NOT in/over

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050(b) (6)  
3311/2012-079

(b) (6)

JUL 13 2012

Phoenix Technology, Ltd.  
210 Progress Dr.  
Burgaw, North Carolina 28425

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence, which was submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The sample, consisting of a replacement "bump fire" type stock designed for use with a semiautomatic AK-pattern type rifle, was furnished to FTB with a request for classification under Federal firearms laws. (As received, the left-side wall of this stock was cracked.)

As you know, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term "machinegun" as—

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

Further, ATF Ruling 2006-2 describes a device that is designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic weapon and classifies it as follows:

*Held, a device (consisting of a block replacing the original manufacturer's V-Block of a Ruger 10/22 rifle with two attached rods approximately ¼ inch in diameter and approximately 6 inches in length; a second block, approximately 3 inches long, 1 ½ inches wide, and ¼ inch high, machined to allow the two guide rods of the first block to pass through; the second block supporting the guide rods and attached to the stock; using ¼ inch rods; metal washers; rubber and metal bushings; two collars with set screws; one coiled spring; C-clamps; a split ring; the*

**(b) (6)**

*two blocks assembled together with the composite stock) that is designed to attach to a firearm and, when activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiates an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, is a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), and the ...[Gun Control Act: GCA]... 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).*

The submitted device (also see enclosure) incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A plastic block which is designed to be inserted into the rear section of a stamped AK-type receiver and secures the "burst stock" to the remainder of the weapon utilizing the factory tang of the AKM rifle. This block is attached to a pistol-like assembly which reciprocates within a hollow metal buffer-style tube attached to the rear section of your stock.
- A collapsible AR-15 style shoulder stock.
- An attached pistol grip assembly.
- Two screws used to secure your stock to the AKM rifle.
- The stock's lack of any operating springs, bands, or other devices which would permit automatic firing.

Your stock is designed to allow the AKM-type semiautomatic rifle mounted to it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically as described in ATF Ruling 2006-2. When operated, forward pressure must be applied to the forward handguard/fore-end of the AKM rifle mounted to your stock with the support hand, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trigger can be pulled by the firing hand. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the handguard with the support hand, the rifle can be fired in a conventional semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

The FTB examination of the submitted device indicates that if, as a shot is fired and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the handguard/gripping surface with the shooter's support hand, the AKM rifle assembly will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the shooter's stationary firing-hand trigger finger, allowing a subsequent shot to be fired. In this manner, the shooter pulls the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, each shot being fired by a single function of the trigger.

Since your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, **FTB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the GCA, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).**

-3-

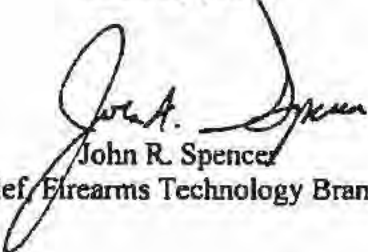
(b) (6)

We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design features or characteristics will void this classification. Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically as described in Ruling 2006-2 will result in the manufacture of a machinegun as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b).

Please provide our Branch with a FedEx account number so that we may return this item.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

Sincerely yours,

  
John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure



Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

*Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch*

Martinsburg, WV

[www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov)

APR 06 2017

907010 (b) (6)  
3311/304009

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence, and sample AR15-type "Bump Fire Stock" to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), in which you ask for a review of your sample device and if it would be regulated by the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) or the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As background to our evaluation, the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "firearm" to include *any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and] ...the frame or receiver of any such weapon....*

Further, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines "machinegun" to mean—  
*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

Your bump fire grip device consists of the following:

One AR-style pistol grip that is attached to and adjustable buttstock by a flat metal bar bent to contour to the buttstock. The pistol grip has two plastic pieces attached by small screws, one is the extension for resting your finger on while firing and the other is a shield to prevent the pistol grip from pinching the grip fingers of the firing hand.

(b) (6)

Your stock is designed to allow an AR-type semiautomatic rifle mounted to it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically. When operated, forward pressure must be applied with the support hand to the forward handguard/fore-end of the AR-type rifle mounted to your stock, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trigger can be pulled by the firing hand. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the handguard with the support hand, the rifle can be fired in a conventional, semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

The FTISB examination of the submitted device indicates that if as a shot is fired—and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the handguard/gripping surface with the shooter's support hand—the AR-type rifle assembly will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the shooter's stationary firing-hand trigger finger. Re-contacting allows the firing of a subsequent shot. In this manner, the shooter pulls the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, each succeeding shot firing with a single trigger function.

Since your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, FTISB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), or the amended GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23).

We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design features or characteristics will void this classification. Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically will result in the manufacture of a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA, 5845(b).



Submitted device

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(b) (6)



Your device will be returned to you via your provided UPS shipping label.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing is responsive to your request.

Sincerely yours,

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

Michael R. Curtis

Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch

304609

304609 – APR 6, 2017 –  
(b) (6) / Bump Fire Stock – NOT A MACHINEGUN





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

76693

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050(b) (6)

3311/2012-174

JAN 12 2012

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your correspondence, dated November 9, 2011, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). Your letter was forwarded to the ATF Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Martinsburg, West Virginia, for reply. In your letter, you ask that ATF (re)classify the SSAR-15 slide-fire stock as a machinegun, and also inquire regarding the position of ATF on the second amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Concerning the second amendment, ATF is the primary agency responsible for enforcing the Federal firearms laws, which are not intended to conflict with this amendment. Our mission is to prevent terrorism, reduce violent crime, and protect the public. With respect to firearms, ATF works to take armed, violent offenders off the streets and to ensure criminals and other prohibited persons do not possess firearms. Further, the stated purpose of the Gun Control Act (GCA) is as follows:

**PURPOSE**

*Sec. 101. The Congress hereby declares that the purpose of this title is to provide support to Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials in their fight against crime and violence, and it is not the purpose of this title to place any undue or unnecessary Federal restrictions or burdens on law-abiding citizens with respect to the acquisition, possession, or use of firearms appropriate to the purpose of hunting, trapshooting, target shooting, personal protection, or any other lawful activity, and that this title is not intended to discourage or eliminate the private ownership or use of firearms by law abiding citizens for lawful purposes, or provide for the imposition by Federal regulations of any procedures or requirements other than those reasonably necessary to implement and effectuate the provisions of this title.*

With regard to the status of the SSAR-15 slide-fire stock, we can inform you that the original FTB evaluation of this device confirmed that the slide-fire stock attaches to the rear of an AR-15 type rifle which has been fitted with a sliding shoulder-stock type buffer-tube assembly. The stock has no automatically functioning mechanical parts or springs and performs no automatic mechanical function when installed. In order to use the installed device, the shooter must apply

76693

(b) (6)

constant forward pressure with the non-shooting hand and constant rearward pressure with the shooting hand. Accordingly, we found that the slide-fire stock is a firearm part and is not regulated as a firearm under GCA or the National Firearms Act.

In the interest of refraining from placing any undue or unnecessary Federal restrictions or burdens on law-abiding citizens with respect to the acquisition, possession, or use of firearms appropriate to the purpose of hunting, trapshooting, target shooting, personal protection, or any other lawful activity, and in the absence of any information that a reclassification of the device in question would prevent terrorism, reduce violent crime, and protect the public, we currently find no reason to revise our classification.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive.

Sincerely yours,



John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

306032

Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch

Martinsburg, WV

www.atf.gov

JAN 19 2018

907010 (b) (6)  
3311/306032

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), which accompanied your submitted sample of an AR-type firearm mounted in a "device" incorporating a spade grip. Specifically, you requested an examination and classification of this sample with regard to the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) and the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As background, the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "firearm" to include "...any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and]...the frame or receiver of any such weapon..."

The GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23), defines the term "machinegun" as...

*"The term "machinegun" has the meaning given such term in section 5845(b) of the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C. 5845(b))."*

Further, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a), defines the term "firearm" to include ... (6) a machinegun.

Additionally, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines "machinegun" to mean:

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

(b) (6)

306032

The physical characteristics and identity of the submitted sample are provided below, along with a description of the markings:



- No buttstock.
- Cut-down pistol grip.
- Fires from the closed-bolt position.
- Magazine-fed.
- Fired utilizing spade grip assembly.

Markings:

Left side of magazine well:

-   
HEBRON, KY
- AM-15
- MULTI CAL
- 16099132

On top of barrel:

- 5.56 NATO
- 1:7 H-BAR
- PSA

The selector markings on the left side of the receiver:

- SAFE
- SEMI

30x030

**(b) (6)**

Your submitted "device" is a mount for a modified AR-type firearm which can be used with a tripod, bipod, shooting rest or barricade. The "device" was submitted to FTISB with a tripod mount and a traverse and elevation (T&E) mechanism. The "device" allows the use of spade grips, redesigning the weapon to fire by using the buffer tube as the trigger in place of the traditional AR-type trigger.

The device incorporates an AR-type rifle which has been modified in the following ways:

- Gas port on the barrel has been enlarged to 0.078 inches.
- Pistol grip cut down to allow room for attachment of T&E mechanism.
- Side charging bolt carrier and upper assembly installed.
- Ambidextrous sling mount installed to attach "safety springs."
- Buttstock removed and rubber cap installed onto back of buffer tube.

The "device" has a pair of rollers (see attached photographs), the first in front of the trigger and the second below the trigger guard. The first roller engages the traditional trigger of the AR-type firearm when a user fires the weapon by pushing forward on the buffer tube. The second roller simply holds the AR-type firearm in line, allowing it to roll back and forth during the firing sequence.

Additionally, the "device" incorporates a pair of "safety springs," connected from the installed dual sling mount to the spade grip attachment. These springs *attempt* to prevent the AR-type firearm from slamming forward into the traditional trigger when the weapon is charged using the side-cocking bolt carrier. However, several unintentional discharges occurred when chambering the weapon while the selector was not in the safe position. With the springs disconnected, unintentional weapon discharges occurred consistently each time the weapon was charged and the selector not in safe position.

You stated that the springs do not affect the operation of the "device" in any way, they only act as a safety mechanism. The FTISB examination found this to be a correct statement, as the "device" was tested with and without the springs attached, and operated in the identical manner.

The "device" incorporates a redesign of how a traditional AR-type firearm operates. The traditional AR-type trigger is engaged by the roller installed in front of it, while the device utilizes the buffer tube as its trigger. Therefore, when examining the device for "machinegun" function, it is this redesigned trigger that must be examined.

In your correspondence, you state:

*"To fire the device, grab the spade grips with both hands, and press on the rubber pad (which is affixed to the buffer tube) with one or both thumbs. You can press and release for a single shot, or repeatedly press forward for multiple shots."*

306032

(b) (6)

FTISB found that by pushing forward on the buffer tube (which functions as the trigger in this case), the weapon would fire multiple shots for as long as pressure was applied, that is, as long as the shooter does not release pressure. In this case, the user is not resetting the trigger through "bump-fire," but is in fact firing more than one shot by a single function of the trigger, in that a single constant, steady push results in the firing of more than one round. Additionally, the device functions automatically in that shooter performs no other action to reset the trigger – the device uses the recoil of the firearm for this purpose. Therefore, the "device" is a "*combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun.*"

Consequently, the submitted device is a "**machinegun**" as defined in the NFA. It is also a "**firearm**" as defined in the NFA, and is subject to all NFA provisions.

Further, since May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1986, the GCA 18 U.S.C. § 922(o) permits only properly licensed manufacturers and importers to register new machineguns; private, unlicensed individuals may not do so.

An unregistered machinegun is a contraband firearm, and possession of such a weapon is unlawful. Since the submitted firearm is not registered in accordance with the provisions of the NFA, it cannot be returned to you.

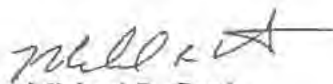
Instead, FTISB is obliged to request forfeiture of the unregistered "device" you have submitted. If you believe that our determination is in error, you have the opportunity to file a claim. You also have the opportunity, alternatively, to abandon the item to ATF.

To facilitate the return of the AR-type firearm, tripod, and T&E mechanism, please provide FTISB with an appropriate FedEx or similar return shipping label. For your convenience, this can be emailed to [fire\\_tech@atf.gov](mailto:fire_tech@atf.gov) and should reference #306032. Please provide the return shipping label within 60 days of receipt of this letter or the samples will be considered abandoned and disposed of in accordance with the needs of the Federal Government.

We trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your request. If we can be of any further assistance, you may contact us at any time.

Sincerely yours,

*AK*



Michael R. Curtis

Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch

Enclosures



Submitted "device"

306032



306032

Submitted "device"



Submitted “device”

306032



306030

Submitted “device”



Trigger  
of the  
"device"

306032

Spade grip assembly



Side-charging bolt carrier and upper assembly

306032



Roller in  
front of  
traditional  
trigger

Redesigned fire control system

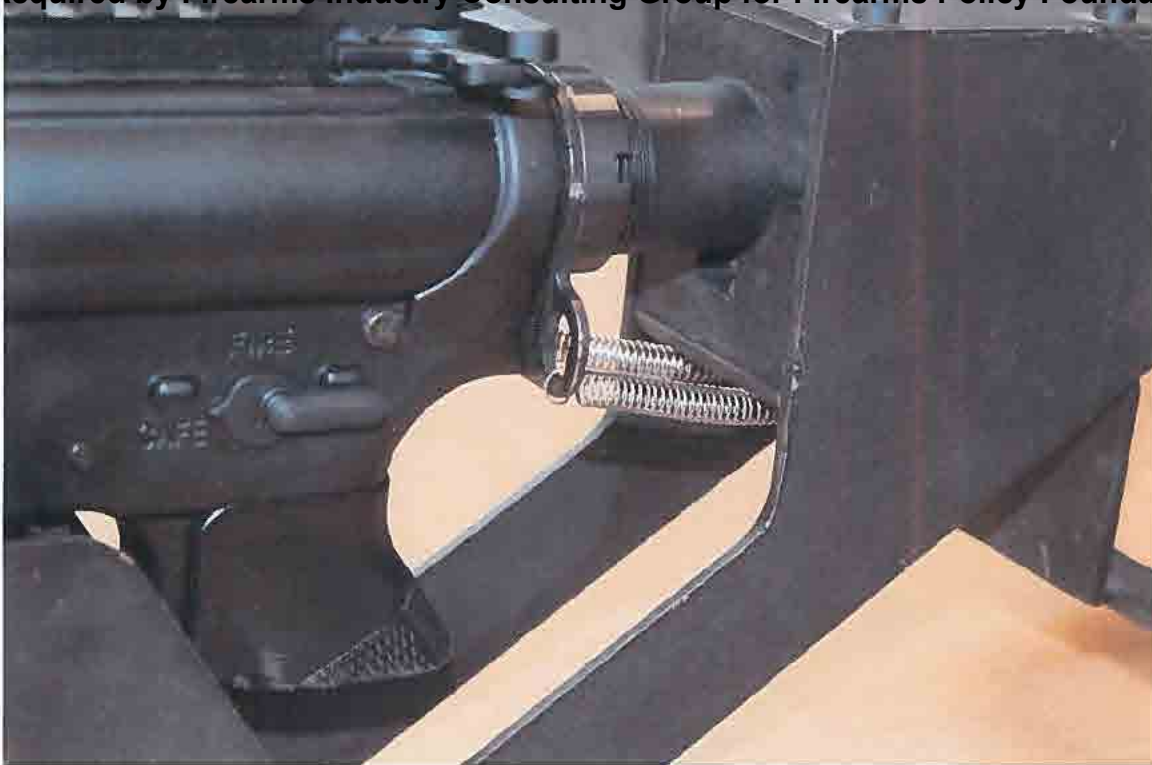
306032



Roller in  
front of  
traditional  
trigger

Redesigned fire control system

306032



"Safety springs"

306032



“Safety springs”

306032



Disassembled "device" components

306032



Placement of two rollers

306032



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

OCT 06 2005

903050(b) (6)  
3311/2005-616

www.atf.gov

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your letter dated August 12, 2005, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Chicago Field Division, regarding the manufacture, use, and licensing of a "bump fire device" that you describe as "similar to the hellfire device..." Your letter was referred to the ATF Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Martinsburg, WV, for reply.

Before FTB can provide a proper assessment of this device, our Branch would need more detailed drawings, along with an accurate description of how the device mounts and operates on a firearm. Additionally, your submission of the actual item to FTB would enable us to make a complete determination with respect to its status under Federal firearms laws.

To ensure proper delivery and return of your device, please send it via FedEx or similar carrier to FTB at the following address:

ATF  
Firearms Technology Branch  
244 Needy Road  
Martinsburg, WV 25401

We thank you for your inquiry, regret the delay in our reply, but trust it has been responsive.

Sincerely yours,

Sterling Nixon  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

501673



## U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

\*Make a note  
on Volume I  
index with  
this one. It's  
technically a  
'stock'.

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

JUN 24 2014

903050(b) (6)  
3311/301673

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your letter, with accompanying illustrations, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), regarding the legal status of your project. As indicated, you want to make a device that is described as a recreational shooting aid to allow a pistol to be "bump fired." This device consists of metal tubing that incorporates a vertical surface intended to rest against the shooter's shoulder, a vertical forward gripping surface, and a horizontal tube that extends sideways from the component; this tube will slide through the pistol's trigger guard without being attached to the pistol. Overall, you want a response from our Branch providing a definite answer as to the legality of this device under Federal law.

For your reference in this matter, the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "firearm" to include *any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and]...the frame or receiver of any such weapon....*

Also, with respect to the definitions of "handgun" and "pistol" under Federal statutes and regulations, you may be aware that the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(29), defines "handgun" to mean, in part: *...a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand....*

(b) (6)

Page 2

Additionally, 27 CFR § 478.11, a regulation implementing the GCA, defines "pistol" as:

*...a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand, and having (a) a chamber(s) as an integral part(s) of, or permanently aligned with, the bore(s); and (b) a short stock designed to be gripped by one hand and at an angle to and extending below the line of the bore(s).*

Please note also that the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(7), defines the term "rifle" to include *a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder....*

Finally, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a)(3), defines "firearm" to include *a rifle having a barrel or barrels of less than 16 inches in length....*

Based on our analysis of your project and consideration of the Federal definitions just cited, we should inform you that the installation of this device on a pistol could prove problematic. ATF has long held that a handgun together with a "gun rest" which is not designed to fit a particular gun, but may be attached to a handgun by means of a friction clamp, could result in the making of a short-barreled rifle.

Further, while a shoulder stock which has no means of attaching to a handgun—except when an individual physically holds the two together—may not be considered part of a short-barreled rifle in and of itself, as soon as an individual actually uses such a stock as the shoulder stock for a handgun, the combination of shoulder stock and handgun would be an NFA weapon. In this scenario, the weapon would be subject to all NFA controls.

While you state that this device "*will never be attached, temporarily or permanently*" to a pistol, FTB cannot classify this device without inspecting a physical sample. Should you wish to submit a sample, the device and classification request should be sent to—

Chief, Firearms Technology Branch  
244 Needy Road  
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

We thank you for your inquiry and are ready to examine an actual sample of your device.

Sincerely yours,

  
Earl Griffith  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

301627



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

903050 (b) (6)  
3311/301627

AUG 24 2014

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6),

This is in response to your correspondence to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), which was forwarded to the ATF Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Martinsburg, West Virginia, for response. In your correspondence, you inquire about the legality of a bump fire device commonly referred to as a bump stick.

The, National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. Section 5845(b), defines "machinegun" as—

*"...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person."*

In your correspondence, you ask if a dimensional piece of lumber that has a dowel or cylindrical shaped pipe inserted horizontally (protruding through both sides) can be manufactured, used and distributed for profit. The above described device is designed to aid in the rapid firing of a semi-automatic firearm. You state that the device works in the following manner:

The shooter will place the dimensional piece of wood in his/her shoulder; next, the shooter will grasp one side of the horizontal rod with their non- firing hand and then insert the semi-automatic firearm's trigger guard over the opposite side of the dowel rod.

(b) (6)

Page 2

By placing forward pressure on the semi-automatic firearm until the trigger contacts the dowel rod causing the firearm to discharge. Next, the firearm recoils sufficiently rearward to allow the trigger to mechanically reset. Continued forward intermediate pressure applied to the firearm will then push the firearm forward until the trigger re-contacts the dowel rod and allowing a subsequent shot to be fired. *In this manner, the shooter pushes the firearm forward to fire each shot so that the action of firing is accomplished by a single trigger function.* Further, each subsequent shot depends on the shooter applying the appropriate amount of forward pressure to the firearm and timing it to contact the dowel rod mounted on the dimensional piece of wood.

Any device that is operated manually and incapable of initiating an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, would not meet the definition of machinegun as defined in NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the GCA, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

In conclusion, please understand that FTB cannot render a classification without performing a physical examination that confirms the devices actual mode of operation.

We trust the foregoing has been responsive to your request.

Sincerely yours,

  
Carl Griffith  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

302478



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

903050: (b) (6)  
3311/302478

APR 28 2015

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence, and sample AR-15 type "Bump Fire Grip Device" to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), in which you pose questions regarding the legality of installing this device on an semiautomatic AR-15 type firearm and inquire if your sample device would be regulated by the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) or the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As background to your inquiry, we should point out that the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(29), defines "handgun" to include a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand...

Additionally, 27 CFR § 478.11, a regulation implementing the GCA, defines "pistol" as ...a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand, and having (a) a chamber(s) as an integral part(s) of, or permanently aligned with, the bore(s); and (b) a short stock designed to be gripped by one hand and at an angle to and extending below the line of the bore(s)....

Also, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(7), defines "rifle" as:

*a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.*

Further, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a) (5), defines "firearm" to mean:

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...any other weapon, as defined in subsection (e);

Finally, "Any other weapon (AOW)" is defined under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(e), as—

*...any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, a pistol or revolver having a smooth bore designed or redesigned to fire a fixed shotgun shell, weapons with combination shotgun and rifle barrels 12 inches or more, less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and shall include any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire. Such term shall not include a pistol or revolver having a rifled bore, or rifled bores, or weapons designed, made, or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of firing fixed ammunition.*

You explain that your device works in the following manner:

"To bump fire a rifle with this device you simply put your finger on the rest on the plastic slide grip and pull forward on the rifle hand guard with 1-3 pounds more pressure than the weight of the trigger on the rifle. To fire single shots simply bypass the finger rest and just squeeze the trigger as you would firing a standard semiautomatic rifle."

Your bump fire grip device consists of the following:

One non-ferrous metal block. The metal block is machined to fit an AR type receiver pistol grip attachment point and has holes for the selector detent spring and pistol grip screw. It further has a hole tapped 12 X 28 inch to allow for the attachment of the moveable pistol grip.

These statutes define "handgun" and "pistol" respectively to include "a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand....", and "...a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand". We must caution you if your "Bump fire Grip Device" is installed on an AR-15 type pistol, the resulting firearm would no longer be designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand and as such would no longer meet the definition of a "handgun" or "pistol".

In summary, your "Bump Fire Grip Device" in and of itself, would not be subject to regulation under federal law. However, if your "Bump Fire Grip Device" were to be installed on or possessed in conjunction with a compatible AR-15 type pistol, the resulting firearm or combination could be classified as an Any Other Weapon (AOW) under the NFA. Should an individual wish to manufacture an NFA firearm upon receipt of an approved ATF Form 1 (5320.1), it would be required to be marked in accordance with Title 26, U.S.C., Chapter 53, section 5842. Finally, the installation of your "Bump Fire Grip Device" on or possession with an AR-15 type rifle would not be a violation of Federal law similarly to the "Slide Fire Device" AR-15 rifle stock.

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Page 3

Your device will be returned to you via your provided UPS shipping label. We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing has been responsive to your concerns.

Sincerely yours,



George Rogers  
Acting Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch

Enclosure:

Bair Bump Fire Grip Device (side view)

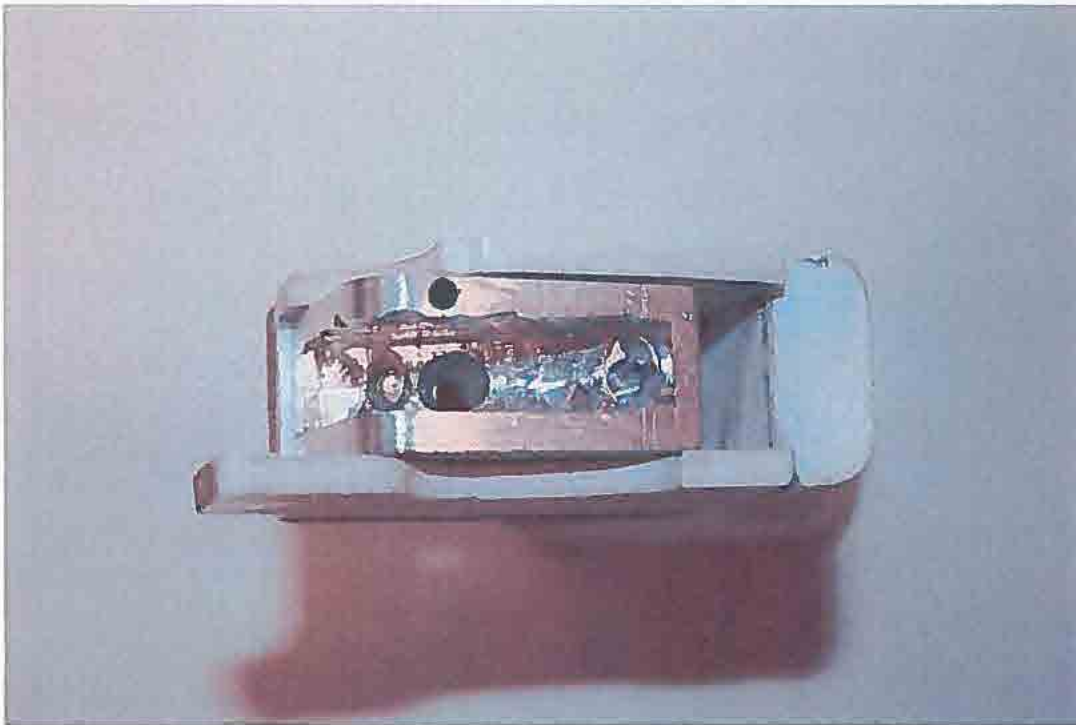


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Page 4

Top View



Bottom View





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

machine gun

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

www.atf.gov

903050 (b) (6)  
3311/2007-328

OCT 19 2009

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reply to your correspondence to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), requesting classification of a device you have submitted. You refer to this device as an "AW-SIM." Our Branch had previously evaluated a non-functioning prototype of this device and, based upon a theory of its operation, rendered a determination that the item was not a machinegun (refer to #3311/2005-517). Subsequently, ATF issued Ruling 2006-2 and notified you of a potential change to the classification of your submission. We urged you not to transfer the item or a similar device until ATF had an opportunity to re-examine your submission (refer to #3311/2007-261). We apologize for the delay in responding to your inquiry.

The AW-SIM is a mechanical device that is made to accept a semiautomatic version of an M1919 (or copy) firearm (hereinafter, "M1919"). You have also indicated that this device will be made to accept semiautomatic variants of the AK47. The AW-SIM's purpose is to allow the M1919 or other adaptable firearms to fire more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

As background, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a), defines "firearm" to include "(6) a machinegun"; in turn, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines a "machinegun" as follows:

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

In Ruling 2006-2, ATF classified a device that utilized several conversion parts added to a Ruger® 10/22 receiver. After the addition of parts, a single pull of the trigger initiated an automatic firing cycle that continued until the finger was released, the firearm malfunctioned, or the ammunition supply was exhausted. Therefore, the device was classified as a machinegun

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under the National Firearms Act, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b) and the Gun Control Act of 1968, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23).

Our re-examination of a functioning AW-SIM indicates that the device is an accessory that is designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire for an M1919 or other adaptable, semiautomatic firearms. Your submitted AW-SIM is for the M1919. The AW-SIM device, which is patented, consists of the following components and features:

- Cradle assembly, approximately 18 inches in length x 4 inches in width.
- There are two 1-inch square steel sections running parallel to each other. These rods are connected by weld at either ends
- The rear of the device is flat with an elliptically-shaped hole approximately 1-1/2 inches in diameter. It has two wooden handles on each side.
- There is an upper and lower section of the rear attachment connected by Allen head screws. Mounted to this section is a spring-loaded "trigger" with a hook on the end. The hook connects the device to the trigger of a host weapon.
- On top of the two 1-inch square rods is a square, metal block with an approximately 1/2-inch hole drilled through it. The purpose of this section is to mount the device and the firearm to the traversing and elevation (T&E) mechanism.
- Between the rear section (which is the handle) and the mounting block, are two springs approximately 2-3/4 inches in length with metal rods through the length. These metal rods are attached to a 1-inch square aluminum block with an approximate 1/4-inch hole drilled through it.
- The front section that connects the two parallel bars together has a mounting hole for attachment to an M1919 pintle assembly.

Included with the device are three accessories: (1) a sleeve, approximately 3/8-inch long, with an approximately 1/4-inch hole through the center with aluminum retaining bushings; (2) a metal rod approximately 1/2 inch in diameter x 4-3/8 inches in length; and (3) a metal rod approximately 1/4 inch diameter x 6 inches in length. For additional, descriptive information, please refer to the enclosed photos.

The firearm is mounted inside of the cradle assembly in the following manner:

- The 3/8-inch sleeve goes through the mounting holes for the T&E mechanism on the bottom plate of the host M1919 firearm.
- The 1/2-inch diameter rod is inserted into the front of the receiver and replaces the pintle mounting bolt.
- The firearm is then inserted into the cradle.
- When the firearm is inserted into the cradle, the 1/4 inch rod is inserted through the cradle into the sleeve in the T&E mounting holes.
- There are cutouts inside the parallel bars. The cutouts slide over the 1/2-inch rod that is mounted in the pintle mounting holes.

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When the M1919 is fired, the cradle permits the entire M1919 firearm (the receiver and all its firing components) to recoil a short distance within the cradle assembly. Downward pressure on the AW-SIM trigger, which works on a pivot, pulls the trigger of the host firearm. This causes the weapon to discharge and, as the firearm moves rearward in the cradle assembly, the M1919 trigger is reset. Energy from the action spring subsequently drives the firearm forward into its normal firing position and, in turn, causes the AW-SIM "trigger" to automatically pull the trigger of the M1919. As the M1919 travels forward, the "trigger" for the AW-SIM is still held forward and, as the firearm reaches its forward point of travel, the M1919 trigger is automatically pulled, keeping the firing sequence active until either the finger is released, the weapon malfunctions, or the ammunition supply is exhausted.

For testing purposes, FTB personnel installed a semiautomatic M1919 firearm from the National Firearms Collection into the AW-SIM cradle assembly. Live-fire testing of the device confirmed that finger pressure applied to the AW-SIM "trigger" initiates a firing cycle, which continues until the trigger is released, the weapon malfunctions, or the ammunition supply is exhausted.

Based on this evaluation, provisions of Federal law cited herein, and ATF Ruling 2006-2, FTB concludes that the AW-SIM device, being a combination of parts designed and intended for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, is a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA at 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b) and the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23).

Since the firearm is a machinegun it is subject to regulation and restriction of manufacture, transportation, delivery, receipt, transfer and/or possession under the NFA, GCA, and applicable regulations. Most notably, 18 U.S.C. § 922(o), and 27 CFR § 479.105 provide restrictions on the transfer or possession of a machinegun manufactured after May 19, 1986. In order for FTB to return this item, you must provide documentation that authorizes you to manufacture and/or possess the firearm. For instance, you may possess the proper Federal firearms license (FFL) from the ATF National Licensing Center, Martinsburg, West Virginia, and make an appropriate Special Occupational Tax (SOT) payment to the NFA Branch also located in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

If you already have the proper FFL and SOT, you must comply with regulations related to the documentation of manufactured firearms such as, among other things, filing an ATF Form 2 within close of the next business day and identification under 27 CFR §§ 478.92 and 479.102. Since you were not aware of the firearm's classification, ATF will authorize you to submit the Form 2 by close of the next business day following your receipt of this classification. Alternatively, you may file an ATF Form 1 and otherwise comply with the NFA, GCA and applicable regulations under Parts 478 and 479 of Title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations by evidencing that the manufacture, transportation, delivery, receipt, transfer and/or possession of the firearm would not be in violation of local, State or Federal law.

If you or other interested persons are unable to comply with the law this firearm cannot be returned since its possession would be unlawful. You, and any other person with an interest in

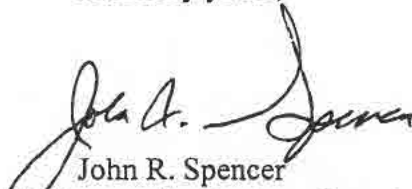
(b) (6)

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the firearm, may abandon all interest in the firearm to ATF. Alternatively, ATF may initiate forfeiture proceedings against the firearm pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 5872. You should immediately, but no later than 30 calendar days from the date of receipt of this classification, provide written proof of compliance with the law or notice ATF in writing of your intent to abandon all interest in the firearm.

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive.

Sincerely yours,

  
John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

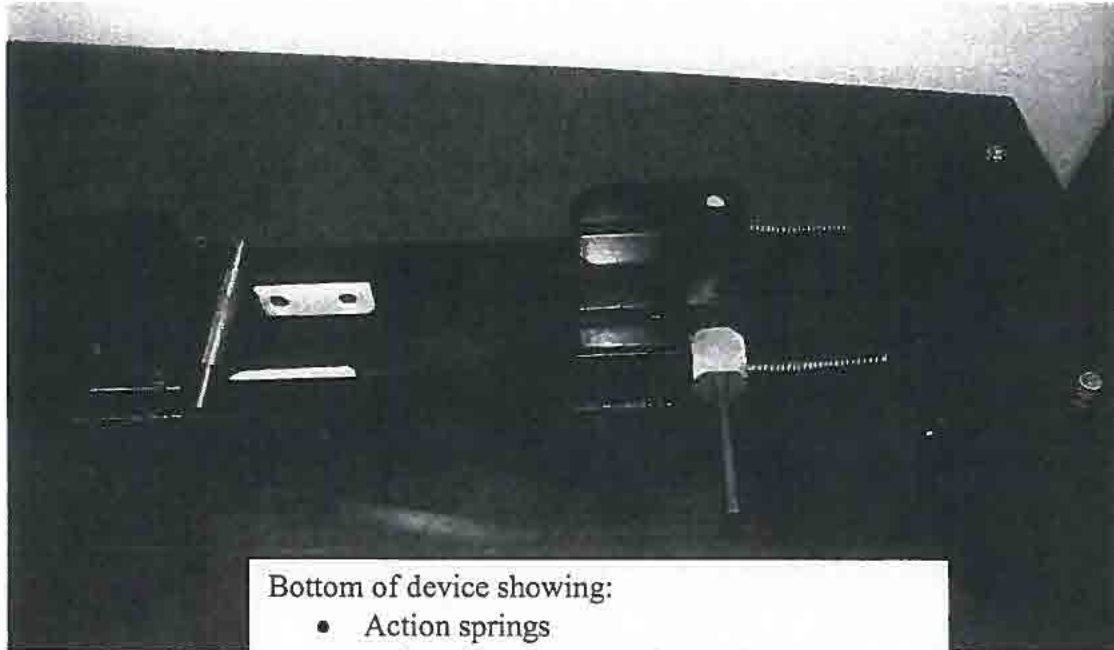
Enclosures



Rear of AW-SIM showing trigger spade

71484

(b) (6)



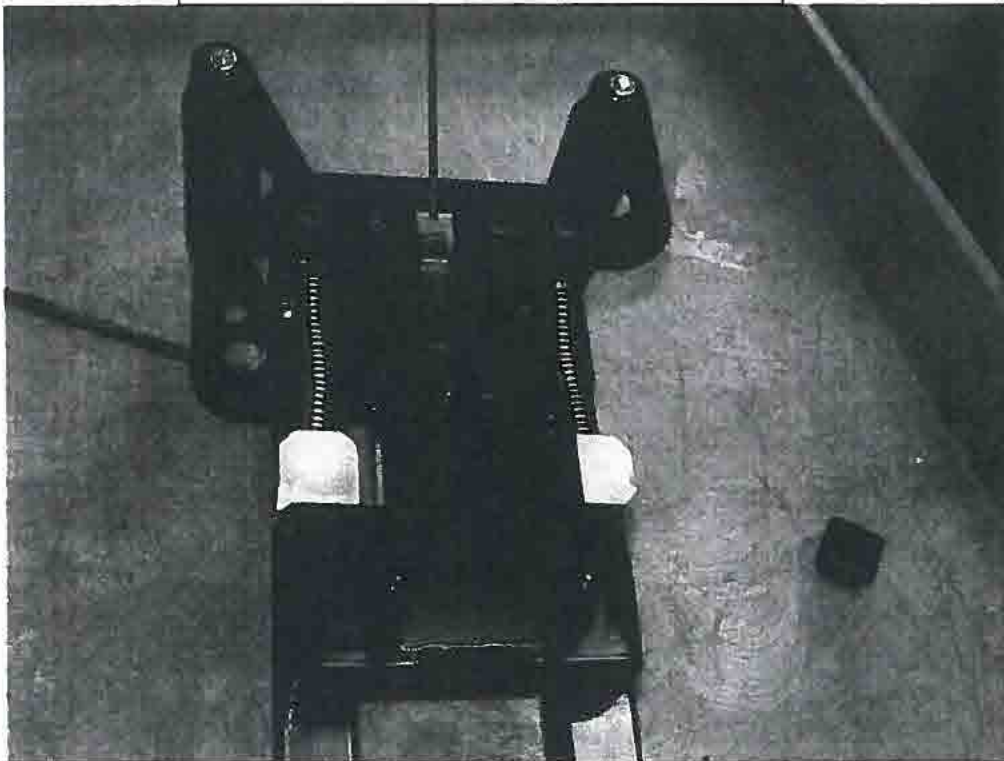
Bottom of device showing:

- Action springs
- $\frac{1}{4}$  inch rod through action spring blocks
- $\frac{1}{2}$  inch diameter mounting rod

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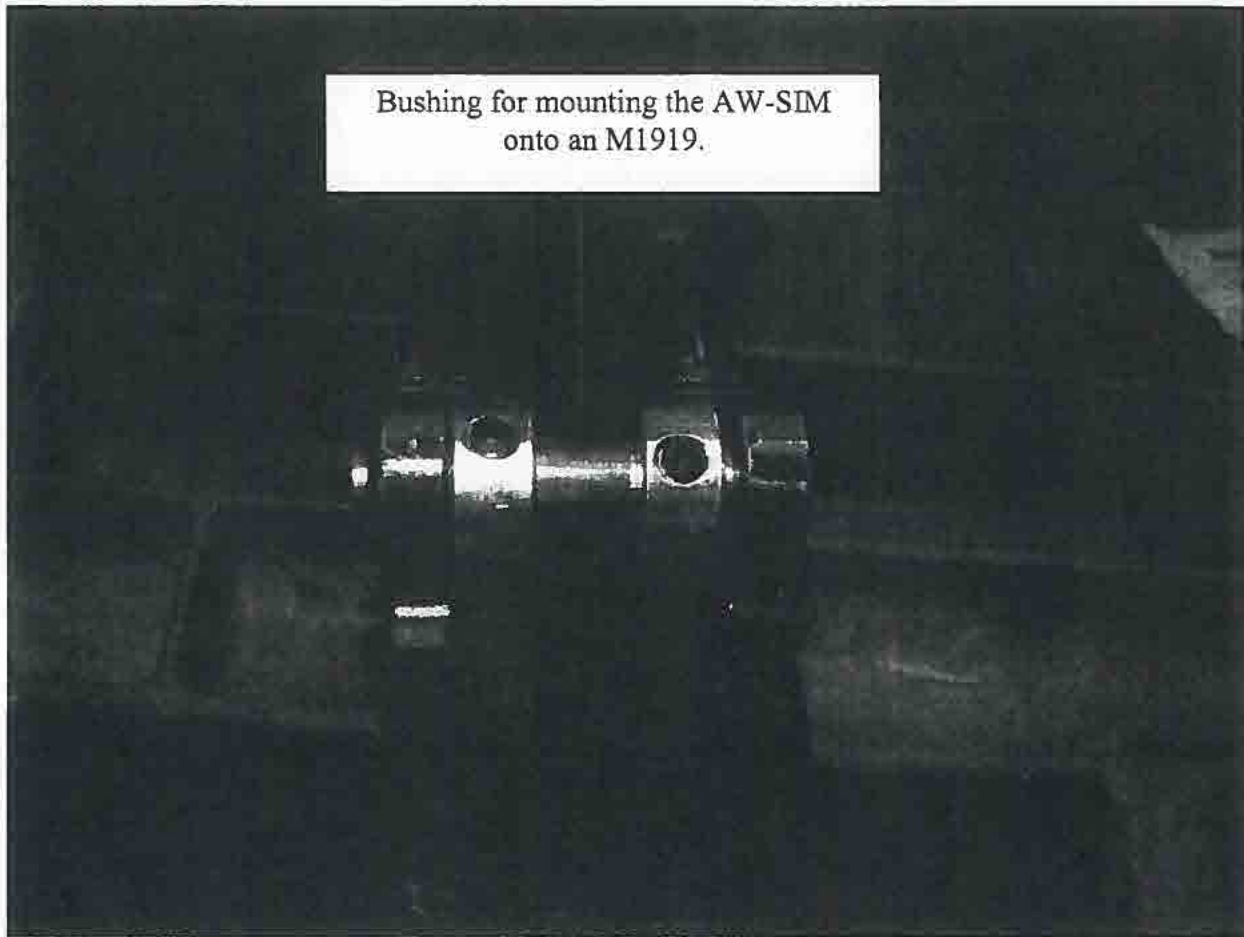
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Bottom of AW-SIM showing the hook that connects the trigger of the M1919 to the AW-SIM.



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71484





Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25401 903050 (b) (6)  
www.atf.gov 3311/2007-615

JUN 25 2007

(b) (6)

Post Office Box 2878  
Pinellas Park, Florida 33780

Dea (b) (6)

On February 6, 2004 you wrote to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB) of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) inquiring about the legality of a small section of string intended for use as a means for increasing the cycling rate of a semiautomatic rifle. We responded on September 30, 2004. In that letter we stated:

In 1996, FTB examined and classified a 14-inch long shoestring with a loop at each end. The string was attached to the cocking handle of a semiautomatic rifle and was looped around the trigger and attached to the shooter's finger. The device caused the weapon to fire repeatedly until finger pressure was released from the string. Because this item was designed and intended to convert a semiautomatic rifle into a machinegun, FTB determined that it was a **machinegun** as defined in 26 U.S.C. 5845(b). (Emphasis in original).

Upon further review, we have determined that the string by itself is not a machinegun, whether or not there are loops tied on the ends. However, when the string is added to a semiautomatic firearm as you proposed in order to increase the cycling rate of that rifle, the result is a firearm that fires automatically and consequently would be classified as a machinegun. To the extent that prior ATF classification letters are inconsistent with this letter, they are hereby overruled.

We hope that this clarifies our position. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Richard Vasquez  
Acting Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

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U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

SEP 8 2004

www.atf.gov

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(b) (6)

3311/2004-379

(b) (6)

Post Office Box 2878  
Pinellas Park, FL 33780

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your letter of February 6, 2004, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), in which you inquired about the legality of a small section of string intended for use as a means for increasing the cycling rate of a semiautomatic rifle.

As you may be aware, the National Firearms Act, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines "machinegun" to include the following:

...any weapon that shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. This term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person [bolding added].

In 1996, FTB examined and classified a 14-inch long shoestring with a loop at each end. The string was attached to the cocking handle of a semiautomatic rifle and was looped around the trigger and attached to the shooter's finger. The device caused the weapon to fire repeatedly until finger pressure was released from the string. Because this item was designed and intended to convert a semiautomatic rifle into a machinegun, FTB determined that it was a machinegun as defined in 26 U.S.C. 5845(b).

We thank you for your inquiry, regret the delay in response, and trust the foregoing has been responsive.

Sincerely yours,

Sterling Nixon  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

SEP 16 2004

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903050(b) (6)

3311/2004-272

www.atf.gov

(b) (6)

P.O. Box 5765  
Clearwater, FL 33758-3623

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence, including accompanying illustrations and other items, and firearm sample submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). In your inquiry, you requested an evaluation of the design of this new firearm prior to manufacturing it. Specifically, you asked FTB to determine whether this firearm would be classified as a machinegun.

The sample you submitted is an AR 15 clone featuring a new design for the firing mechanism. This design would enable the firing mechanism to operate in the following manner as soon as the trigger is pulled:

- The hammer falls, firing a shot.
- The hammer is recoiled when the bolt comes to the rear.
- When the bolt travels forward, it contacts the cam (new design: see illustration).
- The forward pressure of the bolt against the cam forces the trigger forward.
- The continuous steady pressure on the trigger from the trigger pull causes the trigger to travel rearward and releases the cocked hammer, enabling firing to continue.
- The weapon ceases firing when the firing finger is physically removed from the trigger. (If the steady pressure of the trigger pull is not released, the weapon will continue to fire until the magazine is empty or a malfunction occurs.)

As defined in the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. Section 5845(b), the term "machinegun" designates, in part, "... any weapon which will or is designed or can be readily restored to fire more than one shot automatically without manual reloading by the single function of the trigger."

Based on a careful review of your sample and plans, including the illustrations, FTB has determined that the submitted firearm is a "machinegun," being capable of firing automatically with a single function of the trigger. Our Branch reached this finding because it is evident

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that from the moment of the application of trigger pressure--and as long as rearward pressure is applied to the trigger--the firearm continues to fire until the firing finger is removed; this firing takes place regardless of the cam's pushing the trigger forward.

With regard to the ATF Form 2 (Notice of Firearms Manufactured or Imported) that was submitted with your sample mechanism, FTB has forwarded it to ATF's NFA Branch.

Also, we are enclosing a copy of a photograph you submitted with your correspondence.

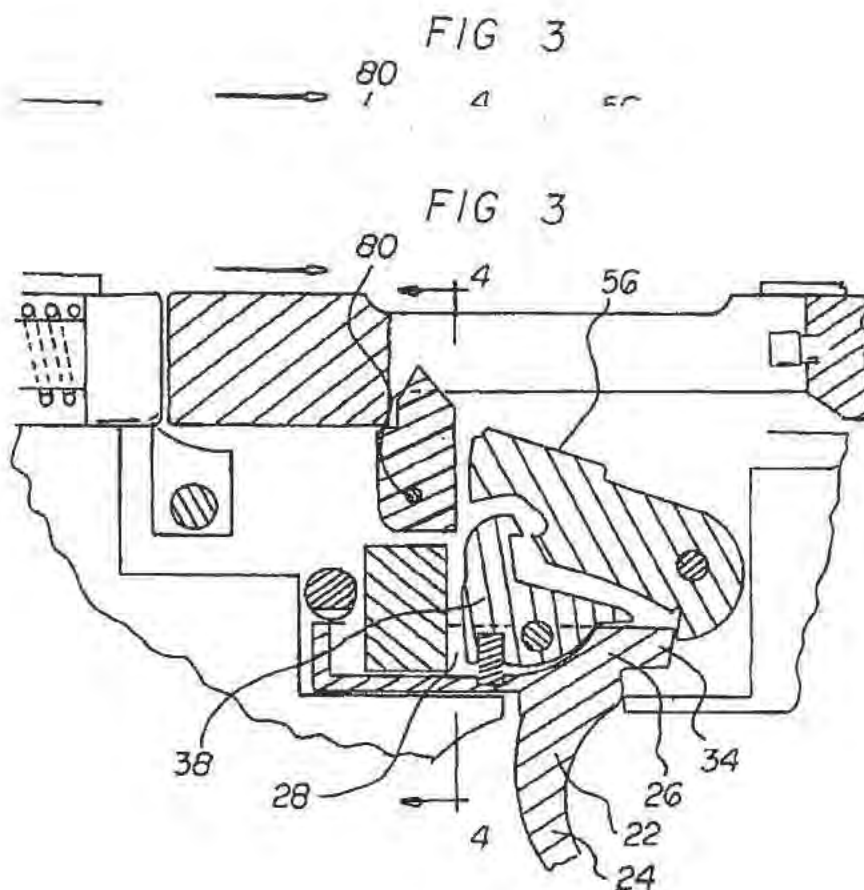
We trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your inquiry. If you have further questions concerning this matter, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

  
Sterling Nixon  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

71771



Figures 1, 2, and 3 (attached) illustrate the following points in the firing sequence in the new firearm:

Fig. 1 Trigger has been pulled for the first time, the hammer has fallen, but the recoil cycle has not yet begun.

Fig. 2 Bolt carrier has moved nearly fully rearward, actuating the cam, and forcing the trigger to the un-pulled position.

Fig. 3 Bolt carrier has just reached battery and has rotated the cam in the reverse direction thereby removing the impediment to the trigger and allowing the operator to once again pull the trigger.



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives71417  
10# 111-4  
71417Martinsburg, WV 25401  
www.atf.gov903050 (b) (6)  
3311/2007-261

JAN 16 2007

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

Previously, you submitted a design and prototype to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), for classification. We responded on August 23, 2005, stating that the prototype that you submitted was not a machinegun as defined in 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b).

On December 13, 2006, ATF issued Ruling 2006-2, a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. In light of this new ruling, the classification that we issued on August 23, 2005, may no longer be valid. We are therefore requesting that you resubmit your device for a further evaluation. As this device may be reclassified as a machinegun, we urge you not to transfer this or any similar devices before we have had an opportunity to reexamine it.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Vasquez  
Deputy Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

Enclosure

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**18 U.S.C. 922(o): Transfer or possession of machinegun**

**26 U.S.C. 5845(b): Definition of machinegun**

**18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23): Definition of machinegun**

*The definition of machinegun in the National Firearms Act and the Gun Control Act includes a part or parts that are designed and intended for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun. This language includes a device that, when activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiates an automatic firing cycle that continues until the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted.*

#### **ATF Rul. 2006-2**

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) has been asked by several members of the firearms industry to classify devices that are exclusively designed to increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm. These devices, when attached to a firearm, result in the firearm discharging more than one shot with a single function of the trigger. ATF has been asked whether these devices fall within the definition of machinegun under the National Firearms Act (NFA) and Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA). As explained herein, these devices, once activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiate an automatic firing cycle which continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted. Accordingly, these devices are properly classified as a part "designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun" and therefore machineguns under the NFA and GCA.

The National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. Chapter 53, defines the term "firearm" to include a machinegun. Section 5845(b) of the NFA defines "machinegun" as "any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person." The Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. Chapter 44, defines machinegun identically to the NFA. 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23). Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 922(o), machineguns manufactured on or after May 19, 1986, may only be

transferred to or possessed by Federal, State, and local government agencies for official use.

ATF has examined several firearms accessory devices that are designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire for semiautomatic firearms. One such device consists of the following components: two metal blocks; the first block replaces the original manufacturer's V-Block of a Ruger 10/22 rifle and has attached two rods approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter and approximately 6 inches in length; the second block, approximately 3 inches long,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high, has been machined to allow the two guide rods of the first block to pass through. The second block supports the guide rods and attaches to the stock. Using  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch rods, metal washers, rubber and metal bushings, two collars with set screws, one coiled spring, C-clamps, and a split ring, the two blocks are assembled together with the composite stock. As attached to the firearm, the device permits the entire firearm (receiver and all its firing components) to recoil a short distance within the stock when fired. A shooter pulls the trigger which causes the firearm to discharge. As the firearm moves rearward in the composite stock, the shooter's trigger finger contacts the stock. The trigger mechanically resets, and the device, which has a coiled spring located forward of the firearm receiver, is compressed. Energy from this spring subsequently drives the firearm forward into its normal firing position and, in turn, causes the trigger to contact the shooter's trigger finger. Provided the shooter maintains finger pressure against the stock, the weapon will fire repeatedly until the ammunition is exhausted or the finger is removed. The assembled device is advertised to fire approximately 650 rounds per minute. Live-fire testing of this device demonstrated that a single pull of the trigger initiates an automatic firing cycle which continues until the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted.

As noted above, a part or parts designed and intended to convert a weapon into a machinegun, *i.e.*, a weapon that will shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger, is a machinegun under the NFA and GCA. ATF has determined that the device constitutes a machinegun under the NFA and GCA. This determination is consistent with the legislative history of the National Firearms Act in which the drafters equated "single function of the trigger" with "single pull of the trigger." *See, e.g., National Firearms Act: Hearings Before the Comm. on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, Second Session on H.R. 9066, 73<sup>rd</sup> Cong., at 40 (1934).* Accordingly, conversion parts that, when installed in a semiautomatic rifle, result in a weapon that shoots more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single pull of the trigger, are a machinegun as defined in the National Firearms Act and the Gun Control Act.

*Held*, a device (consisting of a block replacing the original manufacturer's V-Block of a Ruger 10/22 rifle with two attached rods approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter and approximately 6 inches in length; a second block, approximately 3 inches long,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch high, machined to allow the two guide rods of the first block to pass through; the second block supporting the guide rods and attached to the stock; using  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch rods; metal washers; rubber and metal bushings; two collars with set screws; one coiled spring; C-clamps; a split ring; the two blocks assembled together with the

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composite stock) that is designed to attach to a firearm and, when activated by a single pull of the trigger, initiates an automatic firing cycle that continues until either the finger is released or the ammunition supply is exhausted, is a machinegun under the National Firearms Act, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), and the Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

*Held further*, manufacture and distribution of any device described in this ruling must comply with all provisions of the NFA and the GCA, including 18 U.S.C. 922(o).

To the extent that previous ATF rulings are inconsistent with this determination, they are hereby overruled.

Date approved: December 13, 2006

Michael J. Sullivan  
Director



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

73457

90305(b) (6)

Martinsburg, West Virginia 25405

3111/2009-588

www.atf.gov

OCT 13 2009

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in which you asked about the legality of "bump-firing" a firearm. Your letter was forwarded to the ATF Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Martinsburg, West Virginia, for reply.

For your information, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines a "machinegun" as follows:

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

Additionally, we should point out that "bump-fire" is a vernacular term used in contemporary firearms culture and is not defined in either the Gun Control Act of 1968 or the NFA. For present purposes, FTB will regard the term as meaning rapid manual trigger manipulation to simulate automatic fire. As long as you must consciously pull the trigger for each shot of the "bump-fire" operation, you are simply firing a semiautomatic weapon in a rapid manner and are not violating any Federal firearms laws or regulations.

Regarding the installation of various aftermarket parts; modifying fire-control components; installing Tac, Hellfire, or Hellstorm triggers; or attaching rubber bands to triggers to facilitate easier "bump-fire" operations, we caution that any modifications which permit a weapon to fire automatically more than one shot with a single function of the trigger could result in that weapon being defined as a "machinegun" as noted in § 5845(b). Possession of an unregistered machinegun is a violation of Federal law.

(b) (6)

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We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your concerns.

Sincerely yours,

  
John R. Spencer  
Chief, Firearms Technology Branch



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

not m/gun

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

90701 (b) (6)  
3311/304581

SEP 23 2016

(b) (6)

De (b) (6)

This is in reference to your correspondence, with enclosed samples, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB). In your letter, you asked for a classification of a "Bump Fire Assistance Device" as depicted in the accompanying photos. Specifically, you requested a determination if the devices would be regulated by the provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) or the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As you may be aware, the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "firearm" to include: *any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and] ...the frame or receiver of any such weapon....*

Also, 27 CFR § 478.11, a regulation implementing the GCA, defines "pistol" as; *...a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand,...*

Also, 18 U.S.C. § 921 (a)(7), defines a "rifle" as; *a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned, made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled barrel for each single pull of the trigger.*

The NFA defines "firearm" to include... (5) *any other weapon, as defined in subsection (e), ...[and] (6) a machinegun...* (See Title 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a)(5) and (6).)

Additionally, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines "machinegun" to include; *Any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger."*

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(b) (6)

Further, the NFA 26 U.S.C. § 5845 (e), defines "any other weapon" as; *any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, a pistol or revolver having a barrel with a smooth bore designed or redesigned to fire a fixed shotgun shell, weapons with combination shotgun and rifle barrels 12 inches or more, less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and shall include any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire. Such term shall not include a pistol or revolver having a rifled bore, or rifled bores, or weapons designed, made, or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of firing fixed ammunition.*

Finally, the NFA, § 5842, "Identification of firearms," states: (a) *Identification of firearms other than destructive devices. - Each manufacturer and importer and anyone making a firearm shall identify each firearm, other than a destructive device, manufactured, imported, or made by a serial number which may not be readily removed, obliterated, or altered, the name of the manufacturer, importer, or maker, and such other identification as the ...[Attorney General] ... may by regulations prescribe. (b) Firearms without serial number. - Any person who possesses a firearm, other than a destructive device, which does not bear the serial number and other information required by subsection (a) of this section shall identify the firearm with a serial number assigned by the ...[Attorney General] ... and any other information the...[latter] ... may by regulations prescribe.*

The FTISB evaluation revealed that the submitted components, depicted below, incorporate the following physical characteristics:

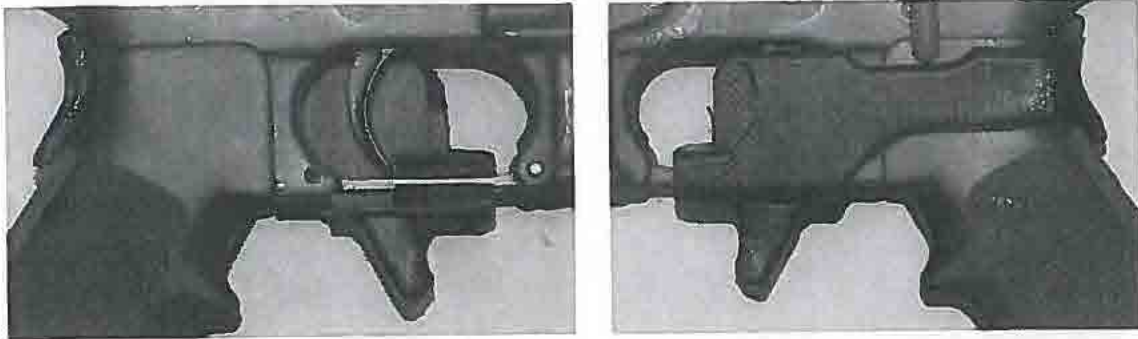
**Submission 1:** A one-piece, three-dimensionally printed device which is designed to clip onto the trigger guard of an AR-15 type rifle.



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-3-

(b) (6)



**Submission 2:** A two-piece, three-dimensionally printed, device which is designed to pin on to the trigger guard of a rifle with a curved trigger guard such as a Ruger 10-22.



You explain that your device works by putting forward pressure on the forend of the rifle while maintaining pressure on the trigger.

We caution that if your "Bump Fire Assistance Device" is installed on a pistol, the resulting firearm would no longer be designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand and as such would no longer meet the definition of a "handgun" or "pistol."

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(b) (6)

In summary, your "Bump Fire Assistance Device," in and of itself, would not be subject to regulation under federal law. However, if your "Bump Fire Assistance Device" were to be installed on, or possessed in conjunction with, a compatible type pistol, the resulting firearm or combination could be classified as an Any Other Weapon (AOW) under the NFA.

Should an individual wish to manufacture an NFA firearm upon receipt of an approved ATF Form 1 (5320.1), it would be required to be marked in accordance with Title 26, U.S.C., Chapter 53, section 5842.

Finally, the installation of your "Bump Fire Assistance Device" on, or possession of it with, a compatible rifle would not be in violation of Federal Law.

We should remind you that the information found in correspondence from FTISB is intended only for use by the addressed individual or company with regard to a specific scenario(s) or item(s) described within that correspondence.

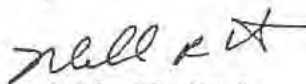
We recommend you communicate to the purchasers of the subject accessories to ensure a firearm assembled utilizing these devices does not violate any State laws or local ordinances where they reside.

We caution that these findings are based on the samples as submitted. If the design, dimensions, configuration, method of operation, or materials used were changed, our determination would be subject to review.

The submitted samples will be returned to you under separate cover.

We trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your request for an evaluation. If we can be of any further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,



Michael R. Curtis

Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch



## U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and ExplosivesMartinsburg, WV 25405  
www.atf.gov

JUN 29 2015

907010 (b) (6)  
3311/303195

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence, which was submitted to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), for classification under Federal firearms laws. The sample—which is marked “Chuckbuster”—consists of a replacement “bump-fire” type grip assembly designed for use with a semiautomatic AR- type rifle.

As you know, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term “**machinegun**” as—

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

The submitted device (see enclosed photos) incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A plastic, three-piece housing AR-type, replacement grip assembly; that is designed to be installed on an AR-type firearm.
- A “plastic insert” containing a series of grooves to allow linear movement of the “two-piece housing”; which is assembled by three screws; while it is installed to the receiver of an AR-type firearm.

(b) (6)

Page 2

- Lack of any operating springs, bands, or other parts which would permit automatic firing.

Your grip is designed to allow the AR-type semiautomatic rifle mounted to it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically. When operated, forward pressure must be applied with the support hand to the forward handguard/fore-end of the AR-type rifle mounted to your grip, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trigger can be pulled by the firing hand.

If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the handguard with the support hand, the rifle can be fired in a conventional manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

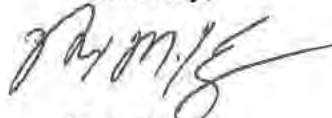
The FTISB examination of the submitted device indicates that once a shot is fired—and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the handguard/gripping surface with the shooter's support hand—the AR-type rifle assembly moves forward until the trigger re-contacts the shooter's stationary firing-hand trigger finger. This re-contacting allows the firing of a subsequent shot. In this manner, the shooter pulls the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, each succeeding shot firing with a single trigger function.

FTISB has determined your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, when assembled to an AR-type rifle; therefore it is not a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the amended Gun Control Act of 1968, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23).

We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design features or characteristics or assembled to firearms other than described will void this classification. Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically will result in the manufacture of a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA, 5845(b).

We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

Sincerely,



Max Kingery

Acting Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch

Enclosure

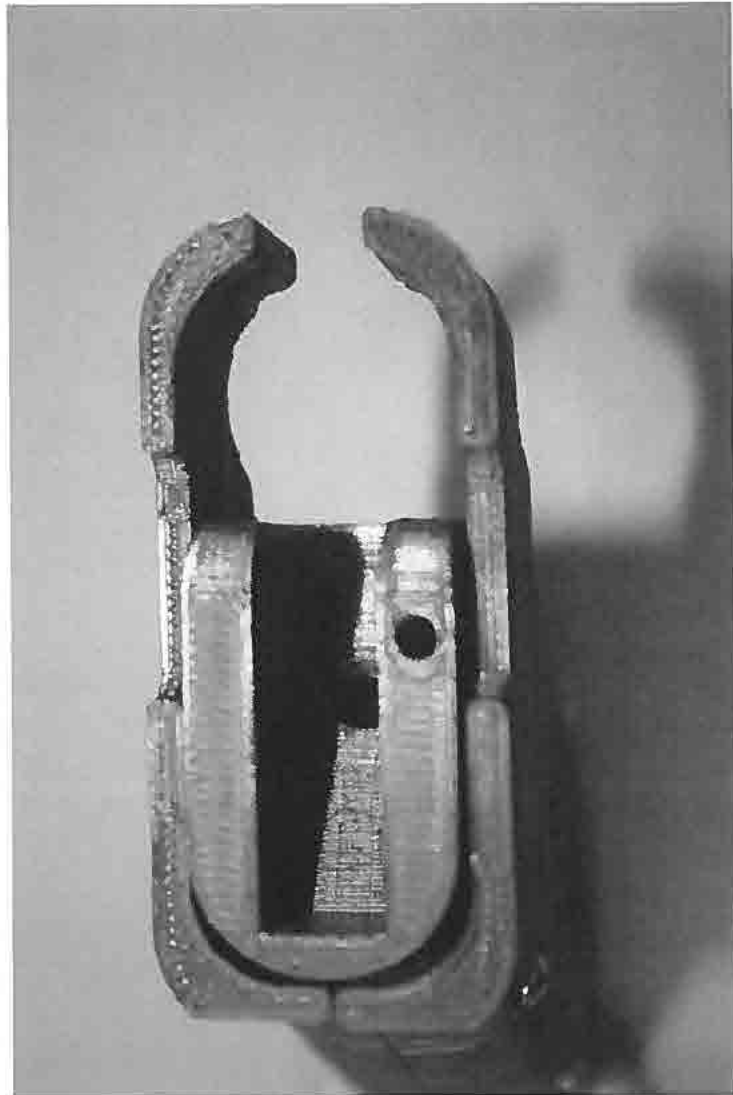
“Chuckbuster” Grip Assembly Submitted by  
[REDACTED] on February 18, 2015

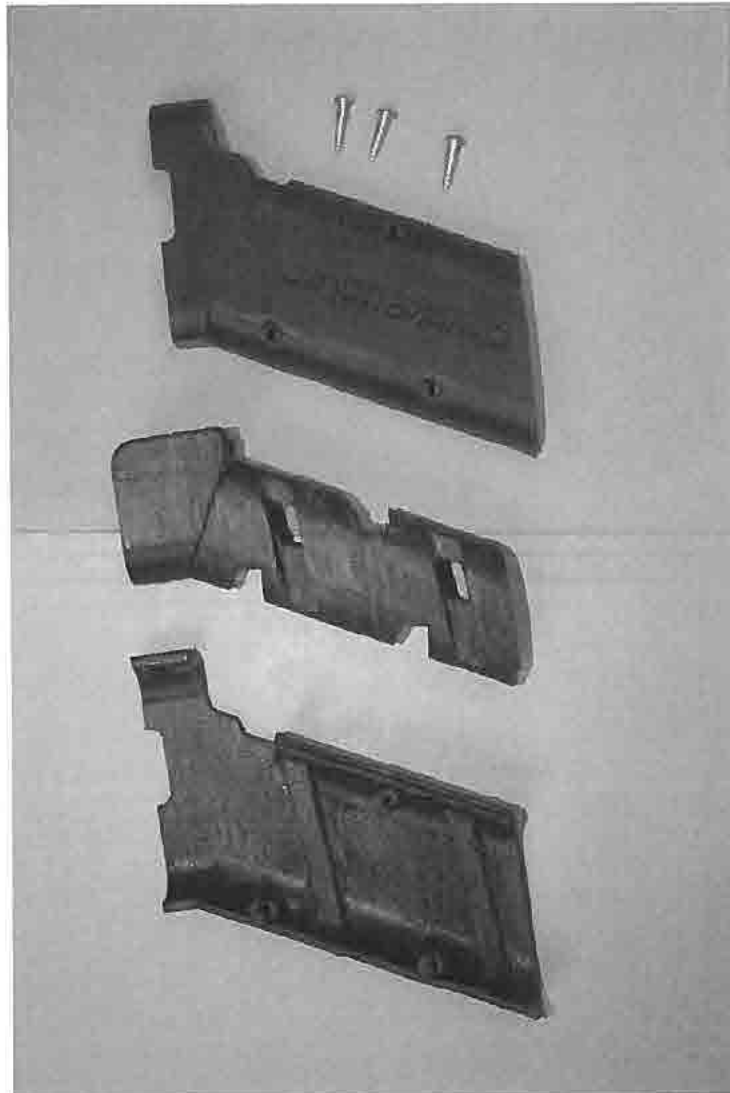
(b) (6)















Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

*Assistant Director*

Washington, DC 20226  
www.atf.gov

JUL 13 2012

The Honorable William M. Thornberry  
Member of Congress  
905 South Fillmore Street, Suite 520  
Amarillo, Texas 79101

Dear Congressman Thornberry:

This is in response to your letter dated May 14, 2012, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) on behalf of your constituent (b) (6). Your letter states that (b) (6) wishes to know the basis for ATF's classification of a device known as a "bump fire stock." Additionally, he holds the view that the device causes a weapon to shoot automatically and thus should be regulated as a machinegun. We apologize for the delay in our response.

The Gun Control Act (GCA) of 1968, 18 U.S.C. Chapter 44, prohibits the transfer and possession of any machinegun, with exceptions for law enforcement and the military. The term "machinegun" is defined in the GCA as in Section 5845(b) of the National Firearms Act (NFA).

Additionally, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. Chapter 53, defines the term "firearm" to include a "machinegun" and defines the term "machinegun" as: "... any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person."

"Bump fire" is not a specific brand or model name of device, but is a general term encompassing a method of operating a firearm and a number of devices intended to facilitate this method of operation. This method of operation allows a user to actuate the trigger of a semiautomatic firearm at an increased speed, so that the firearm seems to replicate the rate of fire associated with a machinegun.

-2-

The Honorable William M. Thornberry

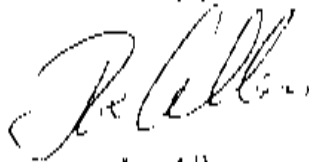
As indicated in the statutes above, a machinegun is regulated by both the GCA and the NFA. In order to be a machinegun, a weapon or device must be one of the following: 1) a weapon that shoots automatically, i.e., a weapon that shoots more than one shot without manual reloading by a single function of the trigger; 2) a weapon that is designed to shoot automatically; 3) the frame or receiver of any weapon described in item 1; 4) a part or parts designed to convert a weapon to shoot automatically; or 5) a combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled.

"Bump stocks" or other bump firing devices would be regulated as machineguns only if they are a part or parts designed to convert a weapon to shoot automatically. Devices that merely assist the user in increasing their rate of fire would generally not be regulated as machineguns. However, devices that require only a single pull of the trigger to initiate an automatic firing sequence would generally be regulated as machineguns. ATF cannot classify a particular device without obtaining a sample and conducting testing. Samples and requests for classification should be submitted to:

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Firearms Technology Branch  
244 Needy Road  
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

We hope this information proves helpful in responding to your constituent. Please let me know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,



Joe Allen  
Acting Assistant Director  
Public and Governmental Affairs



Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

*Assistant Director*

Washington, DC 20226

www.atf.gov

APR 16 2013

The Honorable Ed Perlmutter  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Perlmutter:

This is in response to your letter dated March 5, 2013, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to rescind a previous evaluation letter and to classify all bump-fire stocks (to include specifically the Slide Fire Solutions stock) as machineguns.

As you have indicated, machineguns are defined in the National Firearms Title Act, 26 United States Code Chapter 53 Section 5845(b). The definition has four distinct parts. The first, as you point out, states that a machinegun is "any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a *single function of the trigger*." The remaining portions of the definition go on to state that: "[t]he term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts *designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun*, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person."

In the course of examining a number of bump-fire stocks, ATF found that none of these devices could shoot nor did they constitute firearm frames or receivers; therefore, the first portion of the machinegun definition can not apply. Those bump-fire stocks which were found to convert a weapon to shoot automatically were classified as machineguns and regulated accordingly—most notably, the Akins Accelerator. Other bump-fire stocks (such as the SlideFire Solutions stock) that ATF determined to be unable to convert a weapon to shoot automatically were not classified as machineguns.

Reviewing findings with respect to the Akins and Slide Solutions, ATF, in Ruling 2006-2, found that the Akins Accelerator incorporated a mechanism to automatically reset and activate the fire-control components of a firearm following the single input of a user. Thus, the Akins Accelerator acted to convert a semiautomatic firearm to shoot automatically. Conversely, the Slide Fire Solutions stock requires continuous multiple inputs by the user for each successive

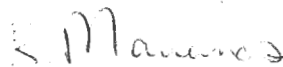
The Honorable Ed Perlmutter

shot. Similarly, other devices exist, such as the HellFire Trigger, which attach to and act upon the trigger of a firearm and also work to increase the rate or volume of fire of the firearm. Like the Slide Fire Solutions stock, the HellFire Trigger does not provide an automatic action—requiring instead continuous multiple inputs by the user for each successive shot.

Public safety is always a primary concern of ATF. We remain committed to the security of our Nation and the fight against violent crime. However, bump-fire stocks that do not fall within any of the classifications for firearm contained in Federal law may only be classified as firearms components. Stocks of this type are not subject to the provisions of Federal firearms statutes. Therefore, ATF does not have the authority to restrict their lawful possession, use, or transfer.

We hope this information proves helpful in responding to your constituent. Please let me know if we may be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,



Richard W. Marianos  
Assistant Director  
Public and Governmental Affairs



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

JAN 14 2014

903050 (b) (6)  
3311/301592

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence, which was submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), for a new classification under Federal firearms laws. The sample—which you call “the Hailstorm”—consists of a replacement “bump-fire” type stock designed for use with a semiautomatic AR-15 type rifle.

As you know, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term “**machinegun**” as—

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

The submitted device (see enclosed photos) has the following features or characteristics:

- A plastic, adjustable AR-type buttstock “anchor tube” that is designed to be installed onto the buffer tube of an AR-type firearm and, also, to house the “stabilizer bar.”
- A “stock adjusting screw” to prevent linear movement of the “anchor tube” while it is installed to the buffer tube.
- Lack of any operating springs, bands, or other parts which would permit automatic firing.

(b) (6)

Page 2

Your stock is designed to allow the AR-type semiautomatic rifle mounted to it to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically. When operated, forward pressure must be applied with the support hand to the forward handguard/fore-end of the AR-type rifle mounted to your stock, bringing the receiver assembly forward to a point where the trigger can be pulled by the firing hand. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the handguard with the support hand, the rifle can be fired in a conventional, semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the receiver assembly is eliminated.

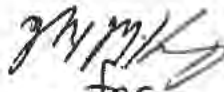
The FTB examination of your current device indicates that if a shot is fired—and a sufficient amount of pressure is simultaneously applied to the handguard/gripping surface with the shooter's support hand—the AR-type rifle assembly will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the shooter's stationary firing-hand trigger finger. Re-contacting allows the firing of a subsequent shot. In this manner, the shooter pulls the receiver assembly forward to fire each shot, and each succeeding shot fires with a single trigger function.

Since this sample does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, FTB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the amended Gun Control Act of 1968, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23).

We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. Any changes to its design features or characteristics will void this classification. Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically will result in the manufacture of a "machinegun" as defined in the NFA, 5845(b).

We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request. Your sample will be returned via the accompanying U.S. Postal Service label and postage.

Sincerely yours,



for  
Earl Griffith

Chief, Firearms Technology Branch



(b) (6)  
"Hailstorm" Stock submitted by  
[REDACTED]  
12/6/2013

# **“Hailstorm” stock Assembled to an AR-type Firearm**





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

903050 (b) (6)  
3311/302077

APR 20 2015

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to your correspondence, along with sample AR-15 pistol-type "Bump Grip," to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), posing questions regarding the legality of installing this device on an AR-15 type pistol; further, you inquire if your device (photos, page 2) would be subject to the provisions of the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) or the National Firearms Act (NFA).

As background to your inquiry, we should point out that the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(29), defines "**handgun**" to include a firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand....

Additionally, 27 CFR § 478.11, a regulation implementing the GCA, defines "**pistol**" as a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand, and having (a) a chamber(s) as an integral part(s) of, or permanently aligned with, the bore(s); and (b) a short stock designed to be gripped by one hand and at an angle to and extending below the line of the bore(s)....

Also, the GCA, § 921(a)(7), defines "**rifle**" as follows:

*...a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.*

(b) (6)

Page 2

Further, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a)(5), defines “firearm” to include—

*...any other weapon, as defined in subsection (e);*

Finally, “Any other weapon (AOW)” is defined under the NFA, § 5845(e), as—

*...any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, a pistol or revolver having a smooth bore designed or redesigned to fire a fixed shotgun shell, weapons with combination shotgun and rifle barrels 12 inches or more, less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and shall include any such weapon which may be readily restored to fire. Such term shall not include a pistol or revolver having a rifled bore, or rifled bores, or weapons designed, made, or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of firing fixed ammunition.*

The FTB evaluation found the following operational instructions included with the device:

1. Hold AR-15 pistol normally.
2. Rest trigger finger securely on finger rest of Bump Grip.
3. With left hand, apply light, forward pressure to barrel guard.
4. *Forward momentum will move pistol until the trigger finger contacts the trigger.*
5. *The pistol will fire and cycle next round of ammunition.*
6. *Continue to apply light, forward pressure to barrel guard to repeat firing sequence.*



You indicate that a letter from FTB (dated June 7, 2010) addressed a similar evaluation request on behalf of the *SlideFire* stock device for AR-15 type rifles. As you recount, FTB determined that that device was an unregulated firearms part; accordingly, you are requesting a similar determination regarding your device, which is designed and intended to be installed on a pistol rather than a rifle. While you are correct that FTB has evaluated devices designed and intended to be installed on AR-15 type rifles that operate on principles similar to your device—and determined that they are not subject to Federal controls—the installation of your “Bump Grip” onto an AR-15 type pistol proves to be problematic when both 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(29) and 27 CFR § 478.11 are considered.

(b) (6)

Page 3

These statutes define “**handgun**” and “**pistol**” respectively to include “a *firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand...*” and “...*a weapon originally designed, made, and intended to fire a projectile (bullet) from one or more barrels when held in one hand.*” However, your submitted instructions indicate that your “*Bump Grip*,” when installed on an AR-15 type pistol, is designed and intended to utilize both hands for firing. Consequently, when your “*Bump Grip*” is installed on an AR-15 type pistol, the resulting firearm would no longer be designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand and, as such, would no longer meet the definition of a “handgun” or “pistol.”

In summary, your “*Bump Grip*,” in and of itself, would not be subject to regulation under Federal law. However, if this grip were to be installed on or possessed in conjunction with a compatible AR-15 type pistol, the resulting firearm or combination could be classified as an AOW under the NFA. Should an individual wish to manufacture an NFA firearm upon receipt of an approved ATF Form 1 (5320.1), he or she would be required to mark it in accordance with 26 U.S.C. 5842. Finally, the installation of your “*Bump Grip*” on (or its possession with) an AR-15 type rifle would not be a violation of Federal law as had been noted in our determination regarding the “*SlideFire*” AR-15 rifle stock cited in your correspondence.

Your device will be returned via the U.S. postage stamps you provided (value, \$5.20). We thank you for your inquiry and trust the foregoing has been responsive to your concerns. You may contact us at any time if you have any additional questions concerning the matters reviewed in this letter.

Sincerely yours,



George Rogers

Acting Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

903050: (b) (6)  
3311/302192

JUL 31 2014

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This is in reference to your sample, as well as accompanying correspondence and DVD, which was submitted to the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The sample, consisting of a device which hosts a semiautomatic AR-type firearm; and allows the subject firearm to "bump fire", was furnished to FTB with a request for classification under Federal firearms laws.

As you know, the National Firearms Act (NFA), 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines the term "machinegun" as—

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

The submitted device (see enclosure photographs) incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A non-ferrous metal frame; measuring approximately 22-1/2 inches in length, approximately 5 inches in width and approximately 2 inches in height.
- A piece of polymer, measuring approximately 6 inches square and approximately 1 inch thick; attached to the rear of the BAM Simulator frame by two bolts; which has a hole configured to accept an AR-type buffer tube assembly.

- A piece of polymer, measuring approximately 6 inches long, approximately 4 inches in width and 2 inches in height incorporating a linearly centrally located dovetailed groove which is designed to accept a compatible Weaver-type rail attachment.
- The submitted item is devoid of any operating springs, bands, or other devices which would permit automatic firing.

Your item is designed to allow the AR-type semiautomatic rifle mounted to it; to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion. The absence of an accelerator spring or similar component in the submitted device prevents it from operating automatically.

When operated, forward pressure must be applied to the rear of the buffer tube, bringing the host firearm forward to a point where the trigger can be actuated by a steel cross-bolt. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the rear of the subject buffer tube, the firearm can be fired in a conventional semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the firearm is eliminated.

The FTB examination of the submitted device indicates that if, as a shot is fired and a sufficient amount of pressure is applied to the rear of the buffer tube; the AR rifle assembly will come forward until the trigger re-contacts the steel cross-bolt, allowing a subsequent shot to be fired. In this manner, the shooter pushes the firearm forward to fire each shot, each shot being fired by a single actuation of the trigger.

Since your device does not initiate an automatic firing cycle by a single function of the trigger, FTB finds that it is NOT a machinegun under the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b), or the GCA, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(23).

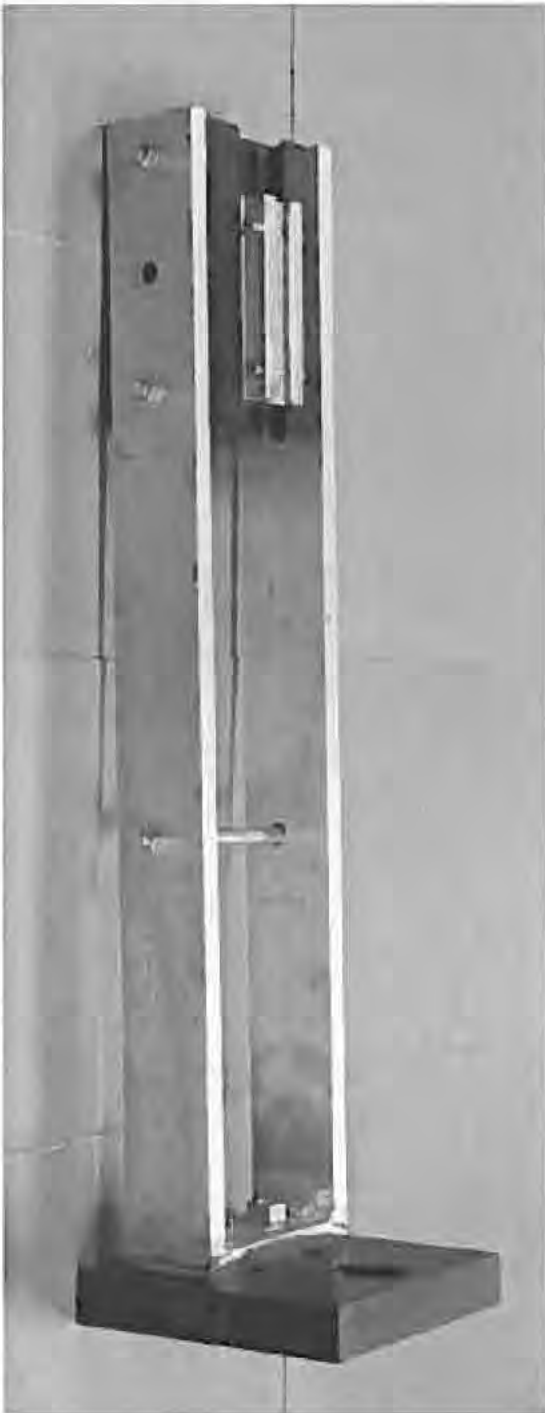
We caution that our findings are based on the item as submitted. **Any changes to its design features or characteristics will void this classification.** Moreover, we should point out that the addition of an accelerator spring or any other non-manual source of energy which allows this device to operate automatically; will result in the manufacture of a machinegun as defined in the NFA, 26 U.S.C. 5845(b).

We thank you for your inquiry and trust that the foregoing has been responsive to your evaluation request.

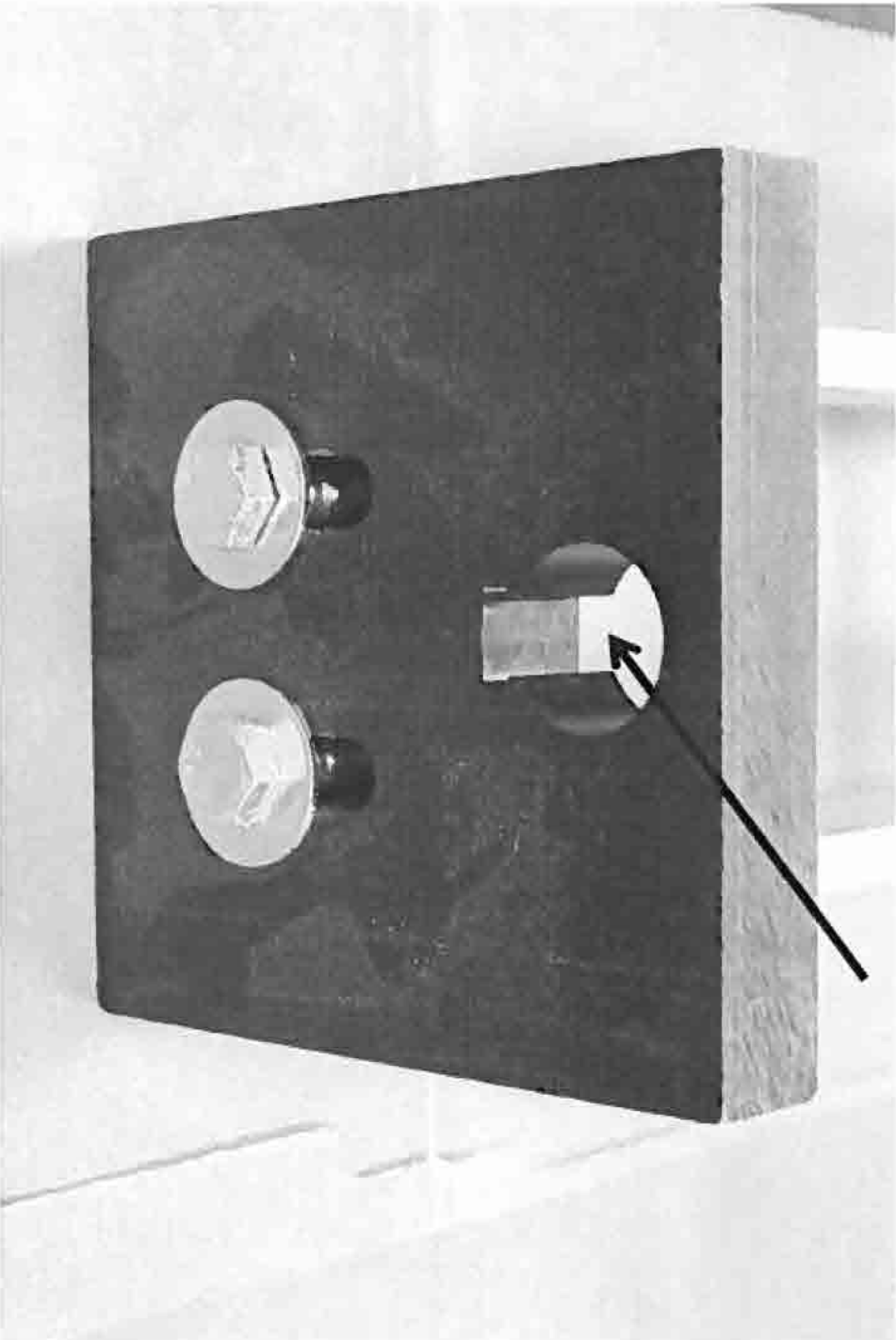
Sincerely yours,

  
 Earl Griffith  
 Chief, Firearms Technology Branch

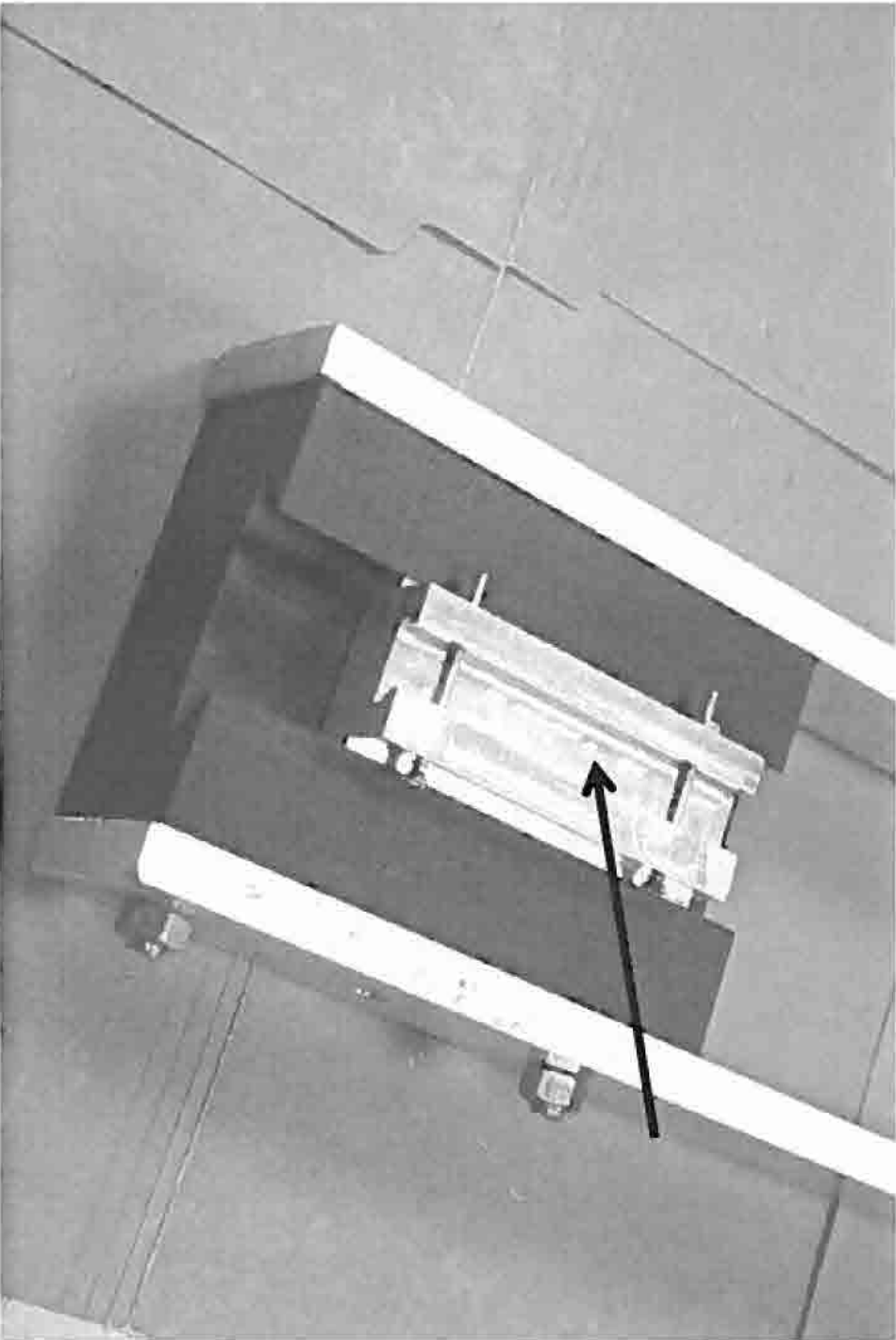
# BAMS Simulator, Submitted 4/28/14 by (b) (6)



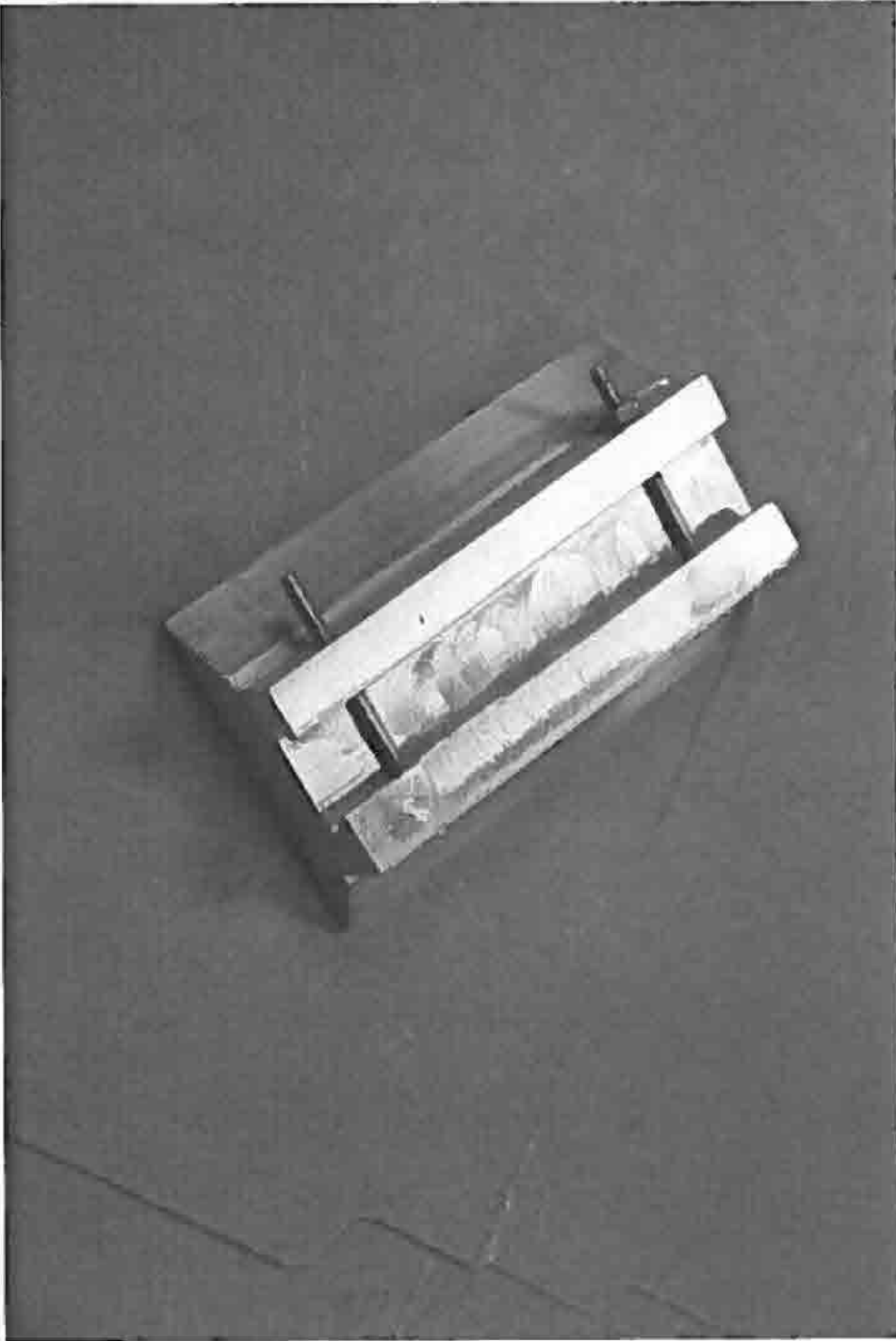
# Rear Portion Which Houses the AR-Type Buffer Tube



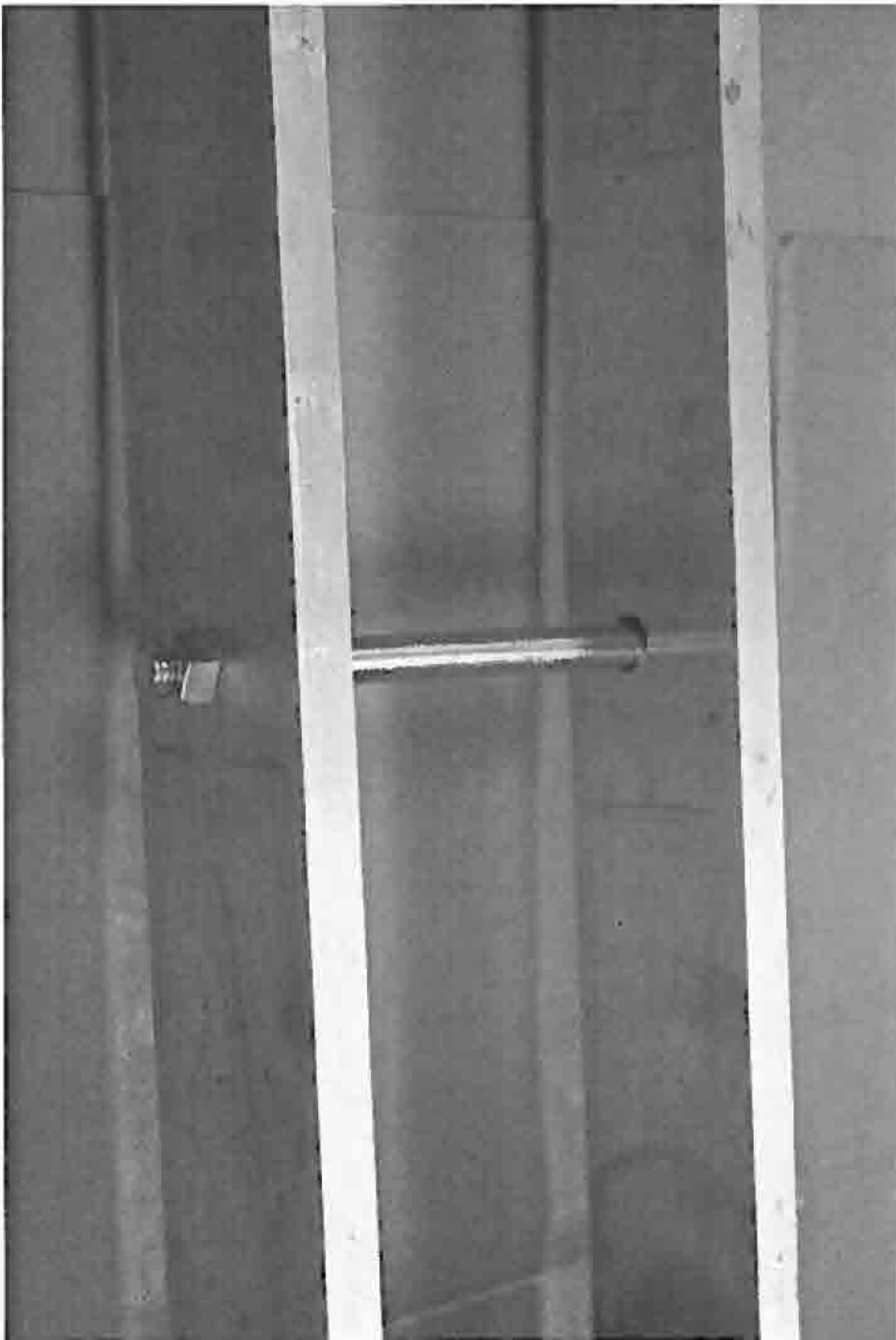
# Reciprocating Weaver Style Attachment Installed in Dovetailed Groove



# Weaver Style Attachment



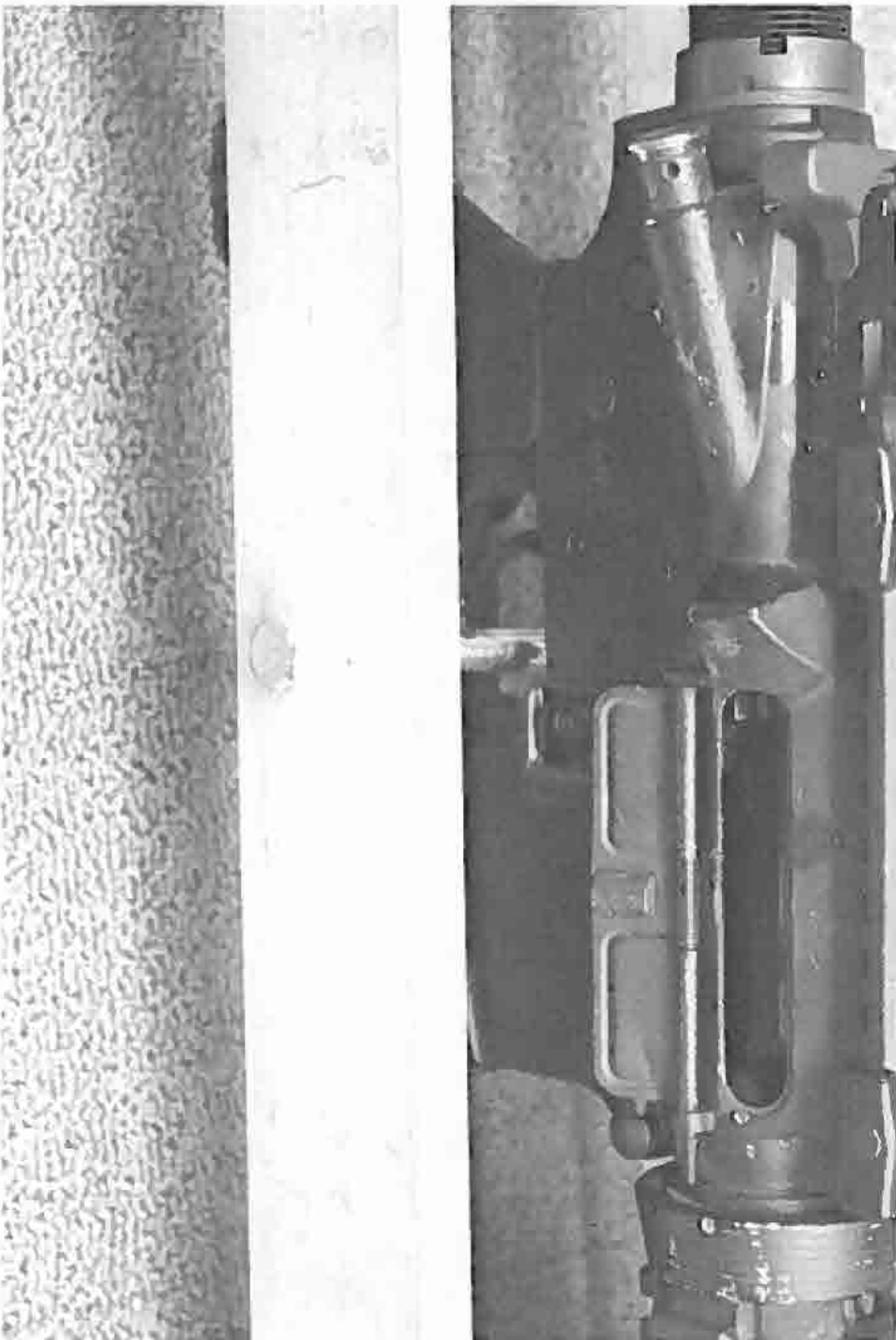
# BAMS Simulator Cross-Bolt



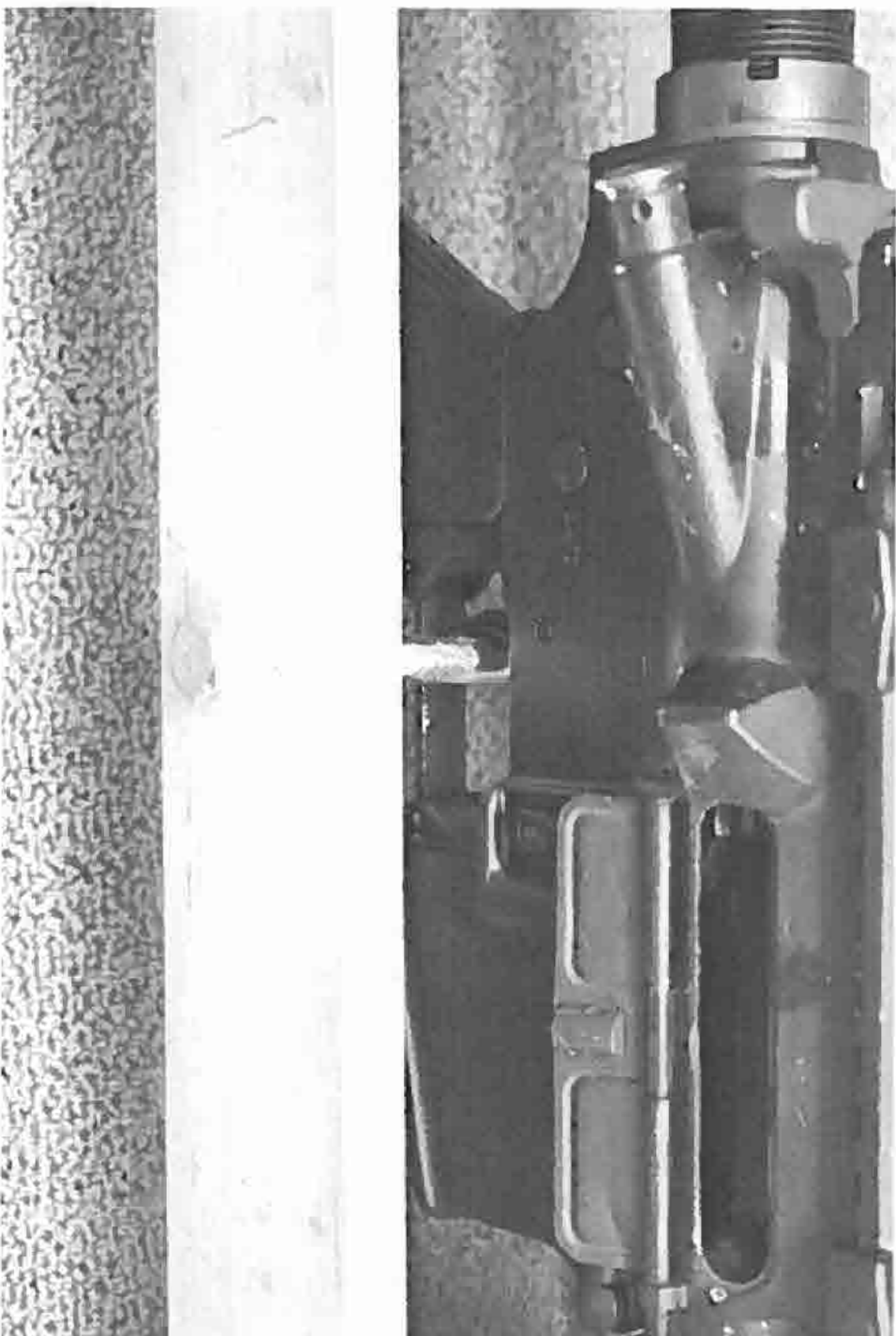
# BAMS Simulator with NFC AR-Type Firearm Installed



# NFC Firearm in Pre-Fire Location



# NFC Firearm Making Contact With Cross-Bolt; With Pressure Applied to the Rear of Buffer Tube





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

*Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch*

Marlborough, WV

www.atf.gov

JAN 12 2018

907010: (b) (6)  
3311/302192a

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6)

This refers to correspondence from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB) (FTB letter #302192), which described your submitted sample of a device designed to accept an AR-type firearm. Specifically, this letter is address the BAM Simulator and its' classification with regard to the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) and the National Firearms Act (NFA).

It has come to the attention of FTISB, based on evaluations of devices submitted to our office as "bump-fire" devices that certain devices while marketed as "bump-fire devices" are in fact parts or combinations of parts designed to convert weapons into machineguns and thus "machineguns as defined in the National Firearms At of 1934. As a result, a review of findings and conclusions of your previously submitted BAMS Simulator was performed.

As background, the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "**firearm**" to include "...any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and]...the frame or receiver of any such weapon..."

The GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(23), defines the term "**machinegun**" as...

*"The term "machinegun" has the meaning given such term in section 5845(b) of the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C. 5845(b))."*

Further, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(a), defines the term "**firearm**" to include ... (6) a machinegun.

**(b) (6)**

Additionally, the NFA, 26 U.S.C. § 5845(b), defines "machinegun" to mean:

*...any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun, and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.*

The BAMS Simulator device incorporates the following features or characteristics:

- A non-ferrous metal frame; measuring approximately 22-1/2 inches in length, approximately 5 inches in width and approximately 2 inches in height.
- A piece of polymer, measuring approximately 6 inches square and approximately 1 inch thick; attached to the rear of the BAM Simulator frame by two bolts; which has a hole configured to accept an AR-type buffer tube assembly.
- A piece of polymer, measuring approximately 6 inches long, approximately 4 inches in width and 2 inches in height incorporating a linearly centrally located dovetailed groove which is designed to accept a compatible Weaver-type rail attachment.
- The submitted item is devoid of any operating springs, bands, or other devices which would permit automatic firing.

Your item is designed to allow the AR-type semiautomatic rifle mounted to it and to reciprocate back and forth in a linear motion utilizing a push by the shooter and a recoil by the firearm as opposing forces. To operate, forward pressure must be applied to the rear of the buffer tube, pushing the host firearm forward to a point where the traditional AR-type trigger can be actuated by a steel cross-bolt. If sufficient forward pressure is not applied to the rear of the subject buffer tube, the firearm can be fired in a conventional semiautomatic manner since the reciprocation of the firearm is eliminated.

The FTISB examination of the submitted device indicates that if, after a shot is fired a sufficient amount of pressure is maintained on the rear of the buffer tube; the AR-type rifle assembly will again come forward until the traditional AR-type trigger re-contacts the steel cross-bolt, allowing a subsequent shot to be fired.

The "device" incorporates a redesign of how a traditional AR-type firearm operates. The device incorporates a traditional AR-type trigger and is engaged by the cross-bolt installed in front of it, while the device utilizes the buffer tube as its trigger. Federal courts have held that a trigger is "a mechanism used to initiate a firing sequence". *U.S. v. Fleischi*, 305 F. 3d 643 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002). Therefore, the part commonly called a "trigger" may not be the actual trigger when a firearm is incorporated into another device. As a result, when examining the device for "machinegun" function, it is this redesigned trigger that must be examined.

**(b) (6)**

FTISB personnel determined that a host AR-type firearm is designed to fire by pushing forward on the buffer tube (which therefore functions as the trigger in this case). The weapon would fire multiple shots for as long as pressure was applied, that is, as long as the shooter does not release pressure.

In this case, the user is not resetting the trigger through "bump-fire," as concluded in FTB letter #302192, but is in fact firing more than one shot by a single function of the trigger, in that a single push results in the firing of more than one round. Additionally, the device functions automatically in that shooter input *does not* reset the trigger as in traditional bump-fire devices. Instead, the device itself allows automatic functioning in which the shooter is required only to engage the trigger. Therefore, the BAMS Simulator is a "*combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun.*"

Consequently, the previously evaluated **BAMS Simulator** device is a "**machinegun**" as defined in the NFA. It is also a "**firearm**" as defined in the GCA, and is subject to all its provisions. Further, since May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1986, the GCA permits only properly licensed manufacturers and importers to register new machineguns; private, unlicensed individuals may not do so.

An un-registered machinegun is a contraband firearm, and possession of such a weapon is unlawful. Since the submitted firearm is not registered in accordance with the provisions of the NFA, it is contraband and unlawful for you to possess.

Please be aware, FTISB is obliged to request the forfeiture or abandonment of the un-registered "BAMS Simulator" to your local ATF office. If you believe that our determination is in error, you have the opportunity to file a claim. As the findings of this letter is not consistent with previous findings regarding the subject device, FTB letter #302192 is here by rescinded.

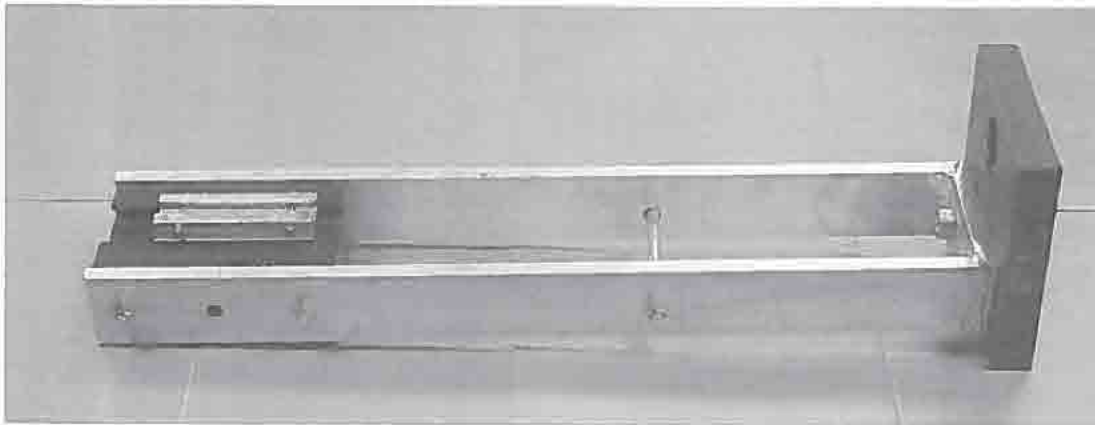
We trust that the foregoing has been responsive. If we can be of any further assistance, you may contact us at any time.

Sincerely yours,

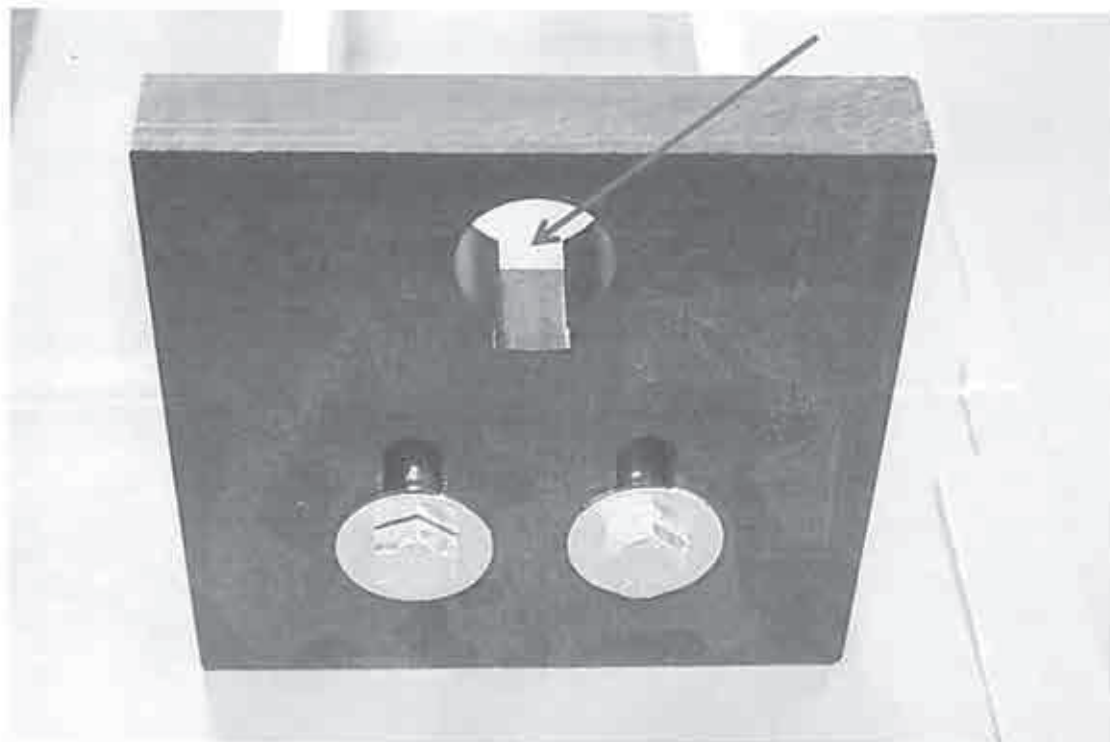


Michael R. Curtis  
Chief, Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch

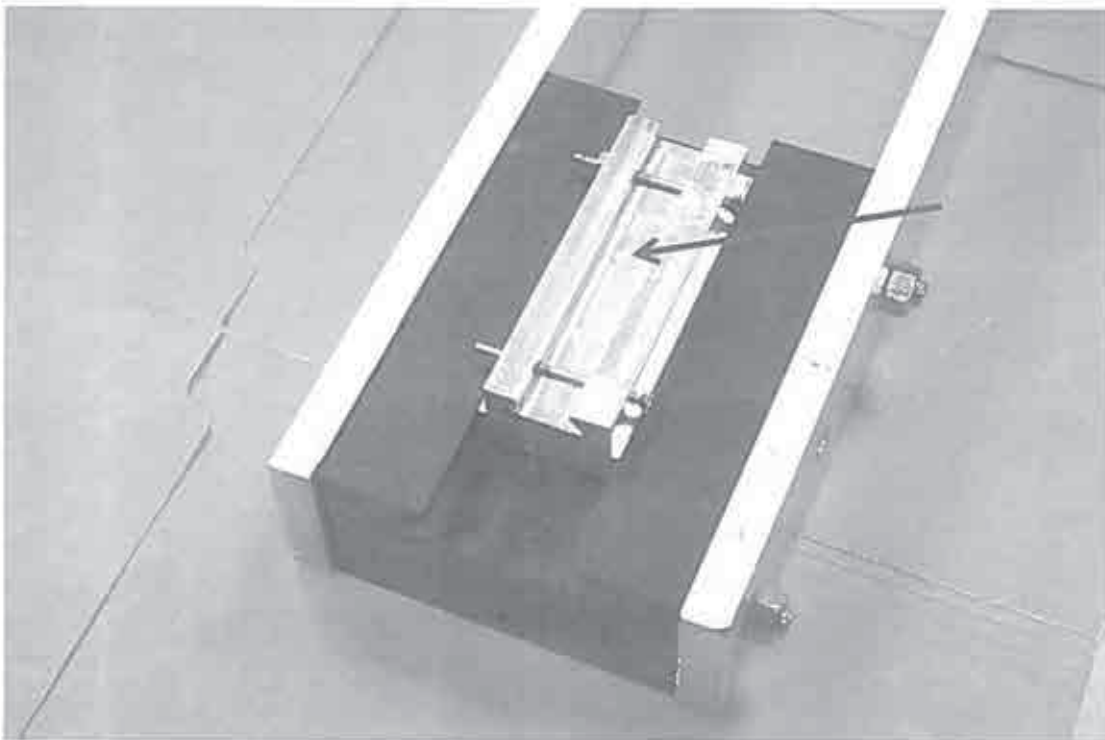
# BAMS Simulator, Submitted 4/28/14 by (b) (6)



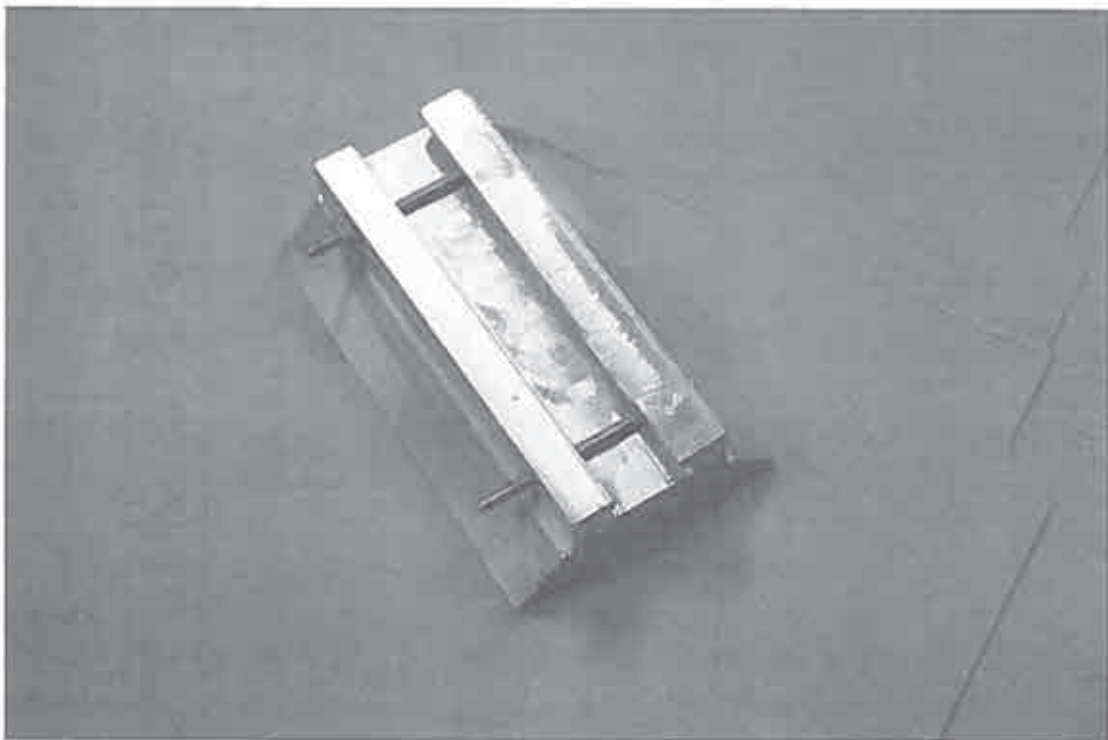
## Rear Portion Which Houses the AR-Type Buffer Tube



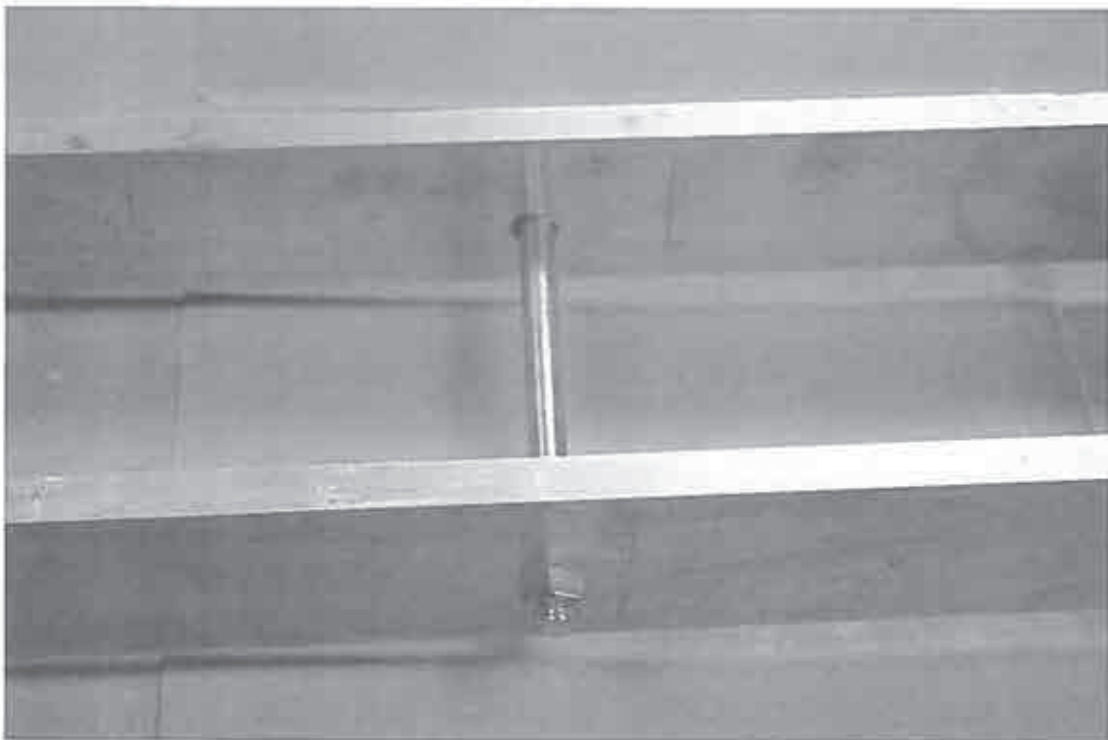
## Reciprocating Weaver Style Attachment Installed in Dovetailed Groove



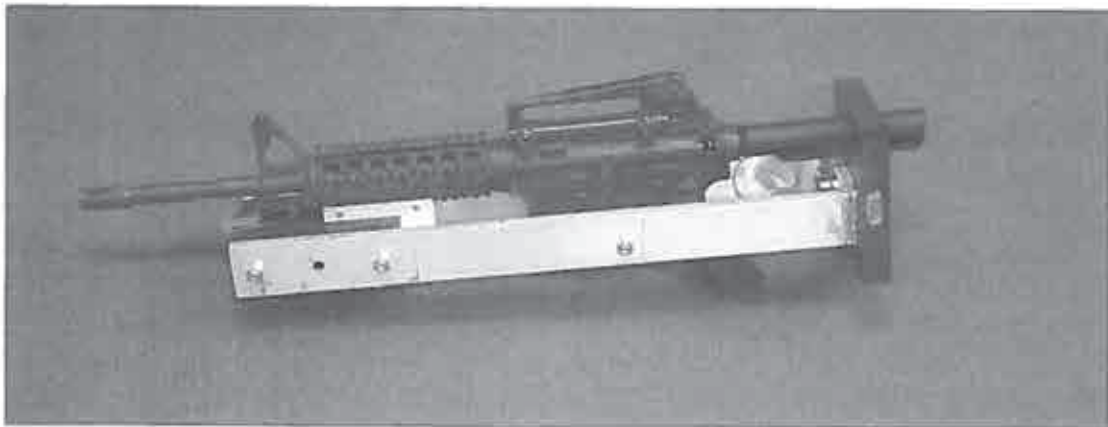
# Weaver Style Attachment



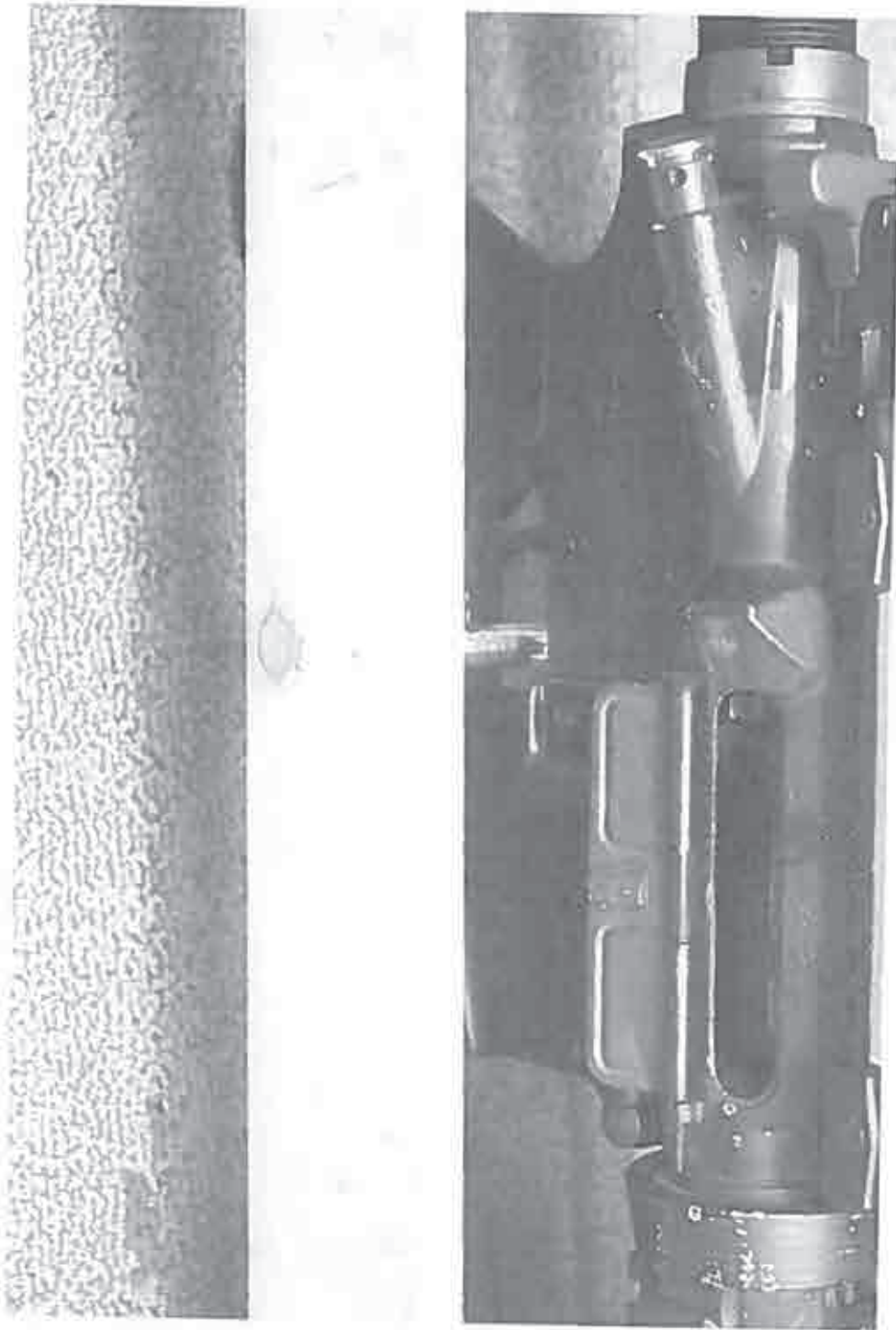
## BAMS Simulator Cross-Bolt



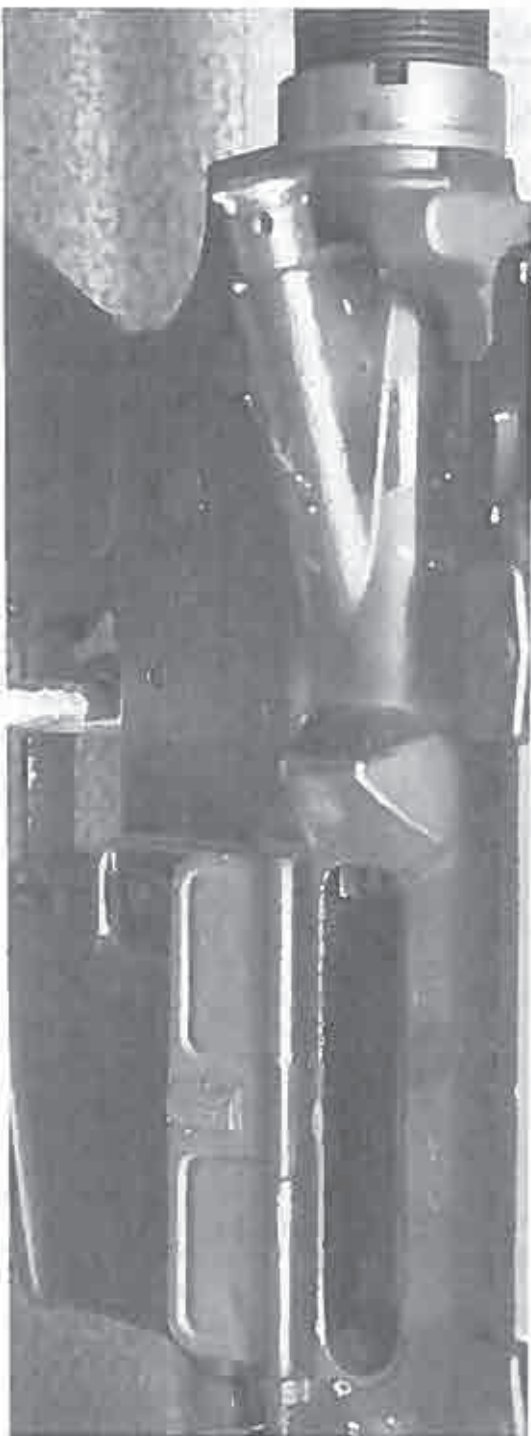
## BAMS Simulator with NFC AR-Type Firearm Installed



# NFC Firearm in Pre-Fire Location



# NFC Firearm Making Contact With Cross-Bolt; With Pressure Applied to the Rear of Buffer Tube





U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Assistant Director

Washington, DC 20226

The Honorable Robert B. Aderholt  
Member of Congress  
600 Broad Street  
107 Federal Building  
Gadsden, Alabama 35901

NOV 21 2011

Dear Congressman Aderholt:

This is in response to your letter dated October 24, 2011, to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), on behalf of your constituent (b) (6). (b) (6) expressed his concern that the newly manufactured Slide Fire Solutions plastic stock (SSAR-15) that attaches onto the buffer-tube assembly of an AR-type semiautomatic rifle should be unlawful to manufacture and possess.

The National Firearms Act (NFA) of 1934, Title 26, United States Code 5845(b), defines "machinegun" as: "any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term shall also include the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machine gun, and any combination of parts from which a machine gun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person."

The Slide Fire Solutions stock attaches to the rear of an AR-15 type rifle which has been fitted with a buffer-tube assembly of the sliding shoulder-stock variety. The stock has no automatically functioning mechanical parts or springs and performs no automatic mechanical function when installed. In order to use the installed device, the shooter must apply constant forward pressure with the non-shooting hand and constant rearward pressure with the shooting hand. The trigger resets after each round is fired and thus does not meet the definition of machinegun provided above. Accordingly, this stock is classified as a "bump-stock", its status is that of a firearm part not subject to regulation under Federal firearms laws including NFA provisions.

We hope this information proves helpful in responding to your constituent. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory K. Gant  
Assistant Director  
Public and Governmental Affairs