

Collecting and Shooting the Military Surplus Rifle



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Tennessee Gun



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Photos and Instructions by: R. Ted Jeo



figure 1

1) Probably the most interesting thing about the Broomhandle is that there is only ONE screw in the entire pistol, and that one is the one that holds the grips on! Having said that, you can figure that the pistol is much more of a puzzle than any other mil surp that you will ever see.

As always, the first step in the disassembly process of a firearm is to make sure that it is UNLOADED and CLEAR of any ammunition. Always clear the weapon in a safe direction, just in case, you never know.



figure 2

2) Press the magazine release button.

3) Slide the cover towards the muzzle.



4) The base, magazine spring and follower will pop out.

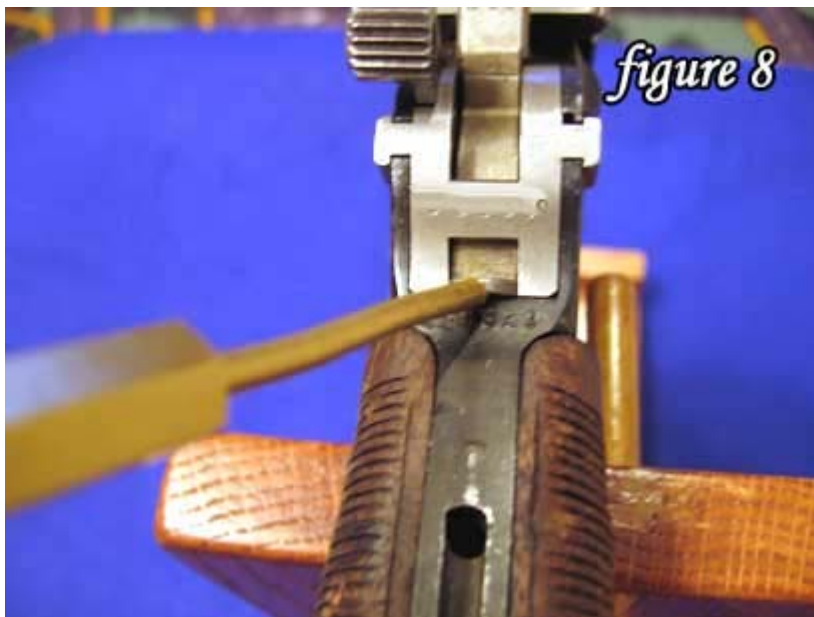


5) The base, magazine spring and follower removed from the pistol.



6) Remove the spring from the base by sliding it out of its slot in the base.

7) To remove the spring from the follower, carefully slide it out of the slot. Be careful not to bend or pull excessively on the spring.



8) This is the take down latch at the rear of the pistol.

9) Before you flip the latch up, you need to cock the hammer.



figure 9



figure 10

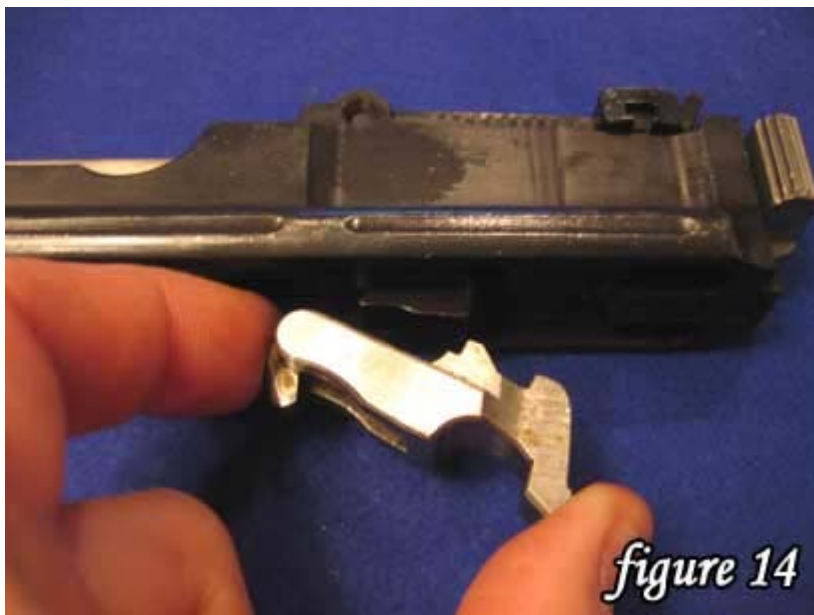
10) Once the latch is open, you can draw back the barrel, barrel extension and internals. They will just slide right out.

11) Top is the barrel/barrel extension section. The bottom is the comparatively simple trigger and magazine group.



12) The internal mechanism is held in place by "claws".

13) To remove the internal group from the rest of the barrel group, simply pull it straight down.



14) Remove the locking block from the barrel group by lifting up at the breech end and then lift it off of its retaining lug.

15) The firing pin is retained in the bolt by a locking mechanism at the rear of the bolt.



16) To release the firing pin, push the pin in.

17) Then rotate it $\frac{1}{4}$ of a turn to the clockwise.



18) The firing pin will “pop” out and then you can pull it the rest of the way out of the bolt.

NOTE: Some older models have a firing pin retainer that used a flat plate. The plate is dovetailed and can be released by pushing the firing pin inward to release the spring pressure on the plate and then slide the plate upward.

19) There is a small spring (retractor spring) at the end of the firing pin.



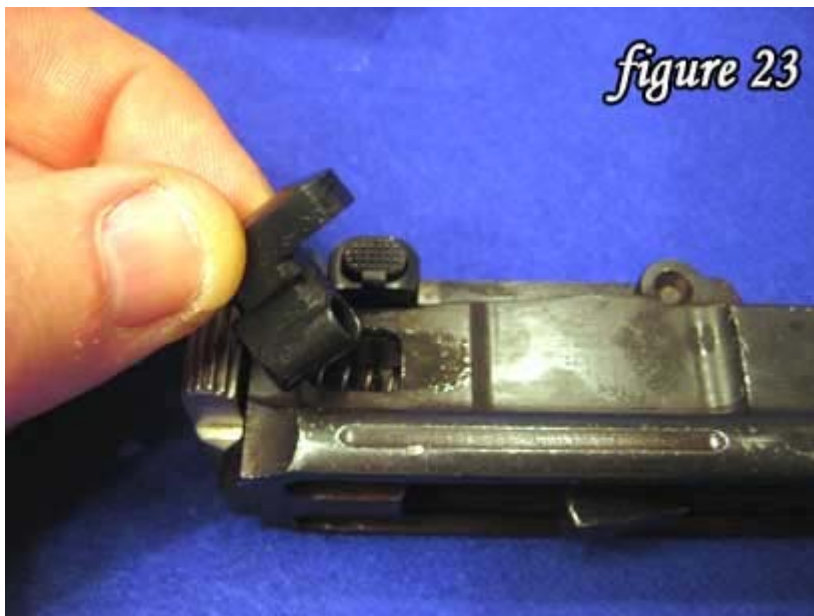
20) The bolt retainer is located on the right side and has its own opening cut in the barrel extension.

21) Push the bolt retainer forward toward the muzzle



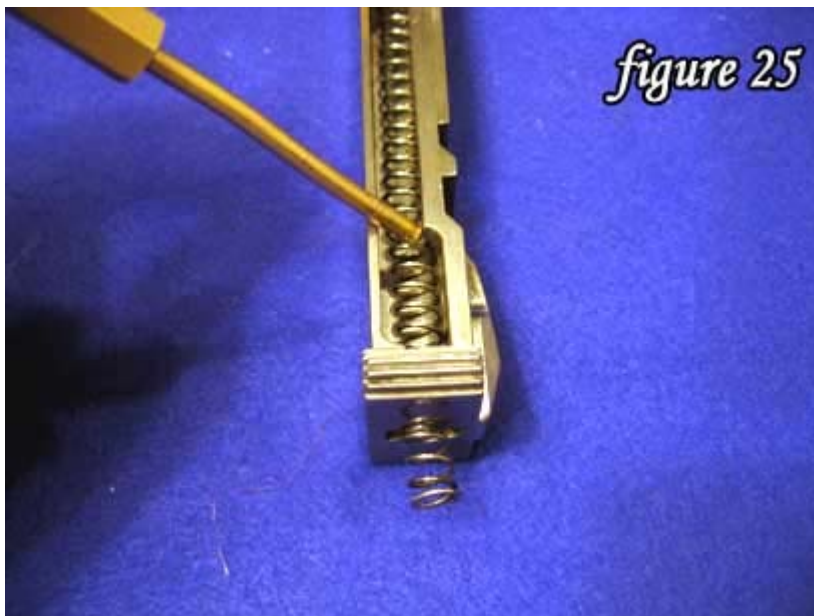
22) Figure 22 shows the bolt retainer released.

23) Once the bolt retainer is released, it can be lifted out of its opening.



24) The bolt can now be removed from the barrel extension.

25) The recoil spring can be removed by pushing it out of the rear opening of the bolt.



26) The extractor is a thin piece of metal that is very easily broken if forced or bent too harshly in an effort to remove it.

27) Use a flat tip and very gently flip and lever the extractor from its groove. The extractor will slide out of its slot.



figure 27

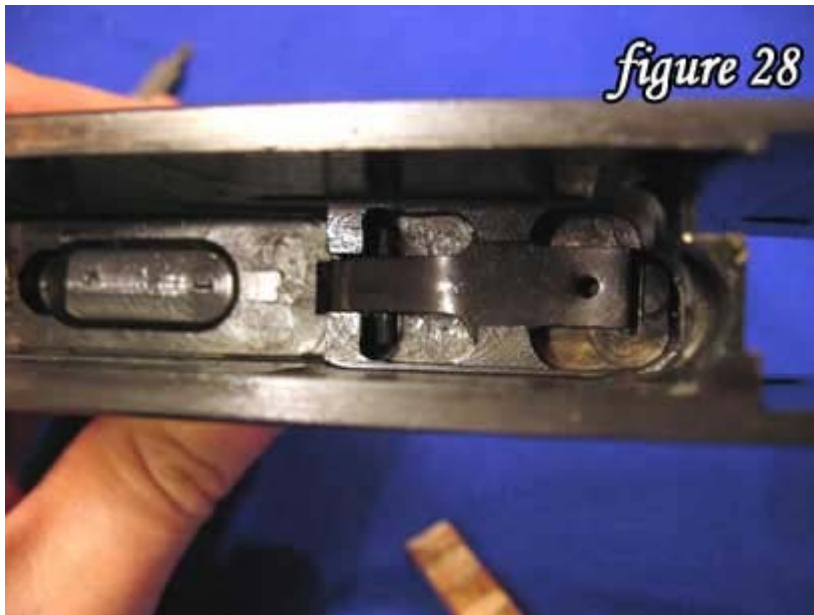
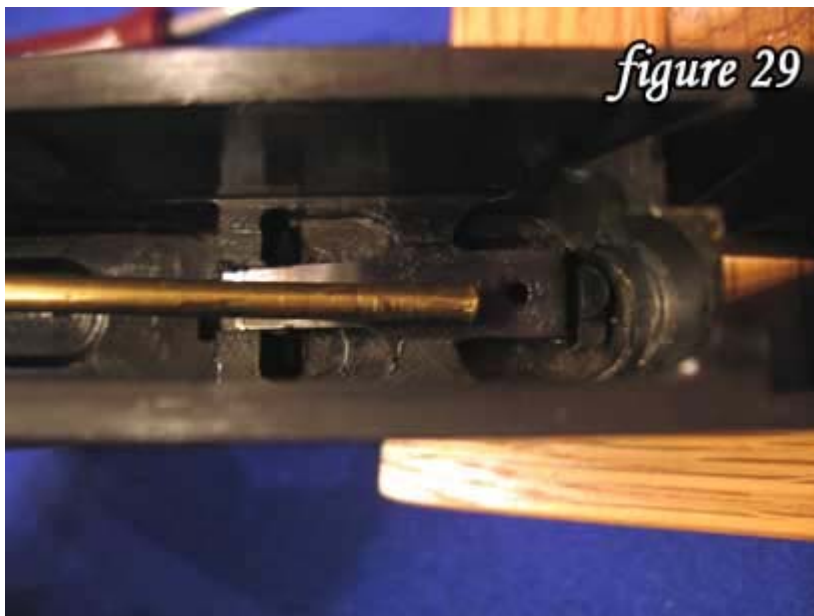


figure 28

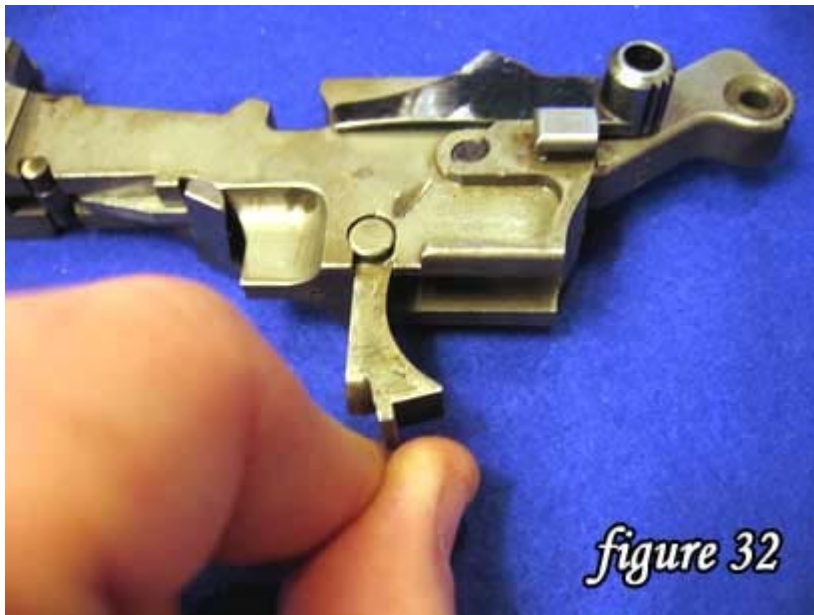
28) Figure 28 shows the flat spring (trigger spring) that operates the trigger and magazine base release. The spring has a lip that fits into a "notch" on the release mechanism.

29) Figure 29 shows the small hole in the flat spring where you will need to insert a sort of hook to lift and slide the spring out. The spring will slide out of its slot in the direction of the grip.



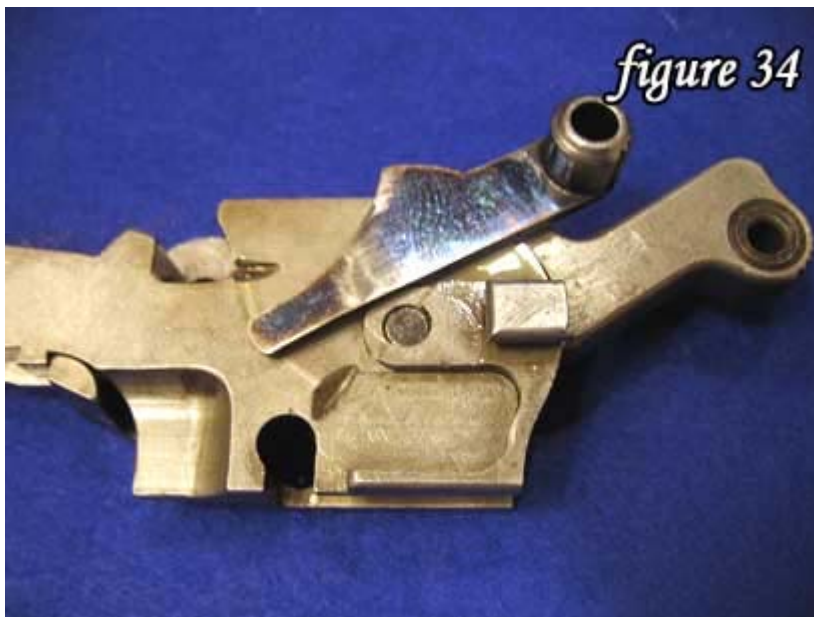
30) You can see the spring in figure 30, upside down, with the lip and hole.

31) By simply tipping the receiver, the trigger and magazine plunger will drop out.



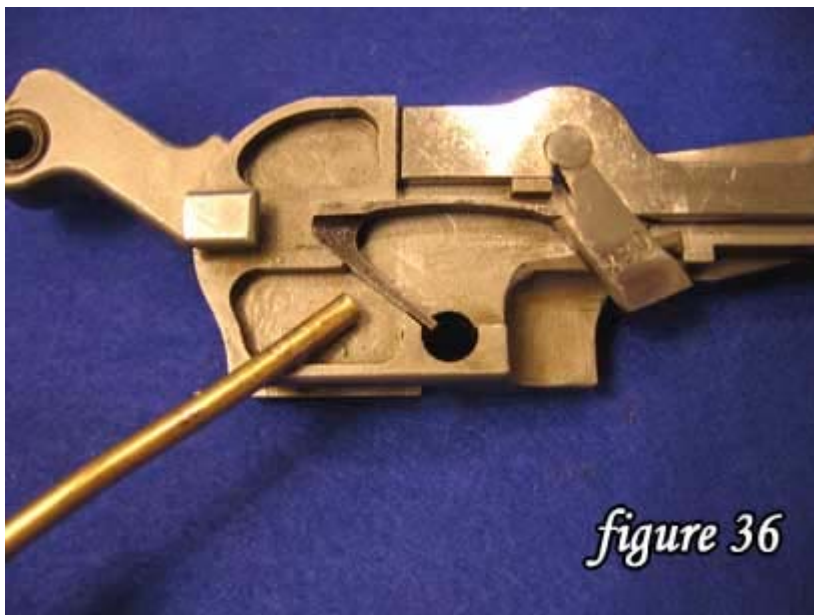
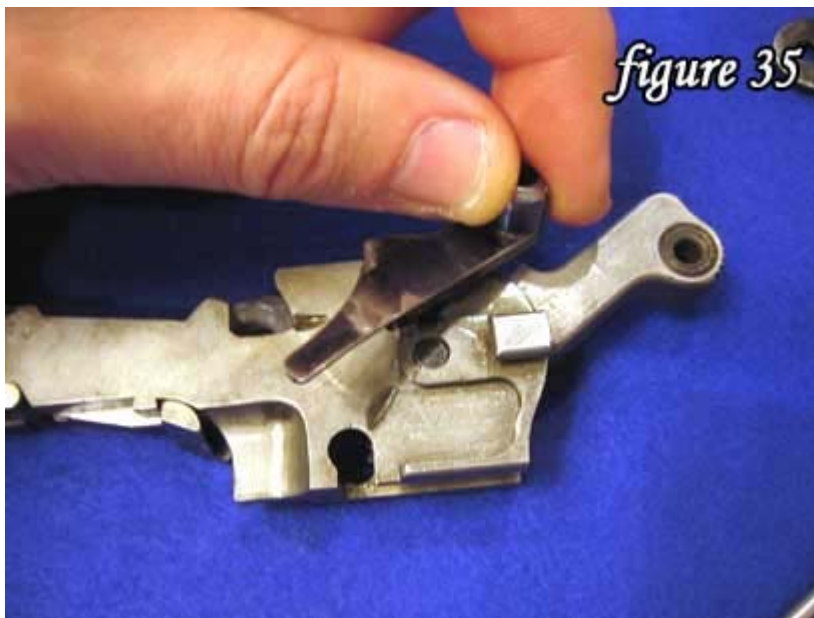
32) To remove the takedown latch from the internals group, rotate it downward and lift it out. You will note from this point on that each piece is precisely machined to fit together, much like a working puzzle.

33) In figure 33 you can see the one of the two notches machined for the safety.



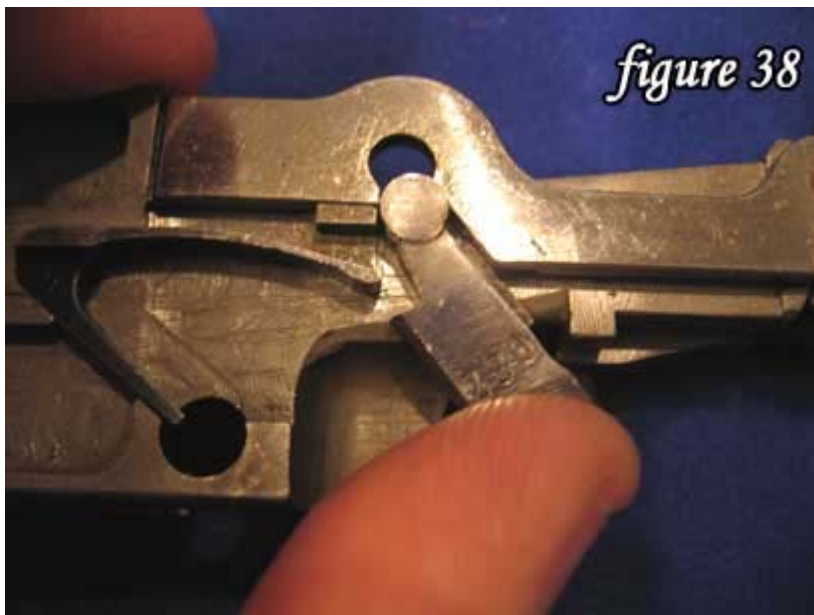
34) Depress the hammer slightly and rotate the safety so that it is $\frac{1}{2}$ way between the two notches, as in the bottom view.

35) Lift the safety upward and remove it. You may have to pull slightly back on the hammer to release the safety.



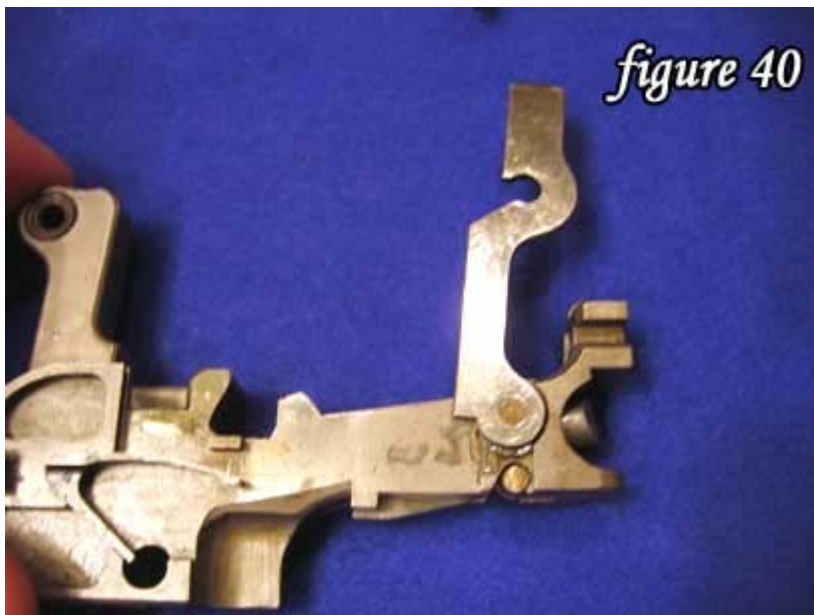
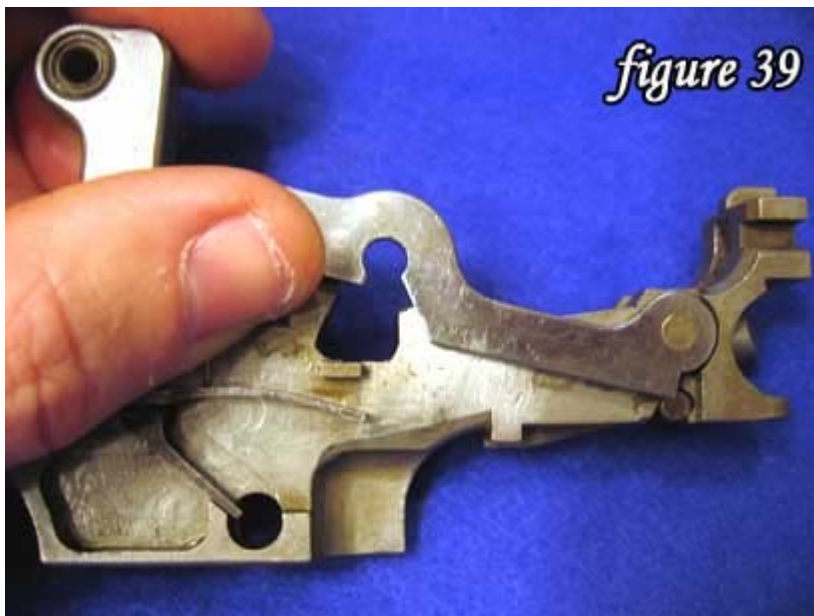
36) Figure 36 shows the hammer spring.

37) In order to remove the disconnecter, you will need to depress the flat spring at the point indicated. The disconnecter has a rounded head that comes out of the sear, but it also has “wings” on its sides that prevent lateral movement. The action to get it out is a combination of lifting upwards and sliding it out from the sear.



38) In figure 38 the disconnecter has been removed. You can see the rounded head and the "wings" on either side of the part.

39) To remove the sear, you may need to pull the hammer slightly backward. Then rotate the sear so that it clears the notches machined in the internals frame.



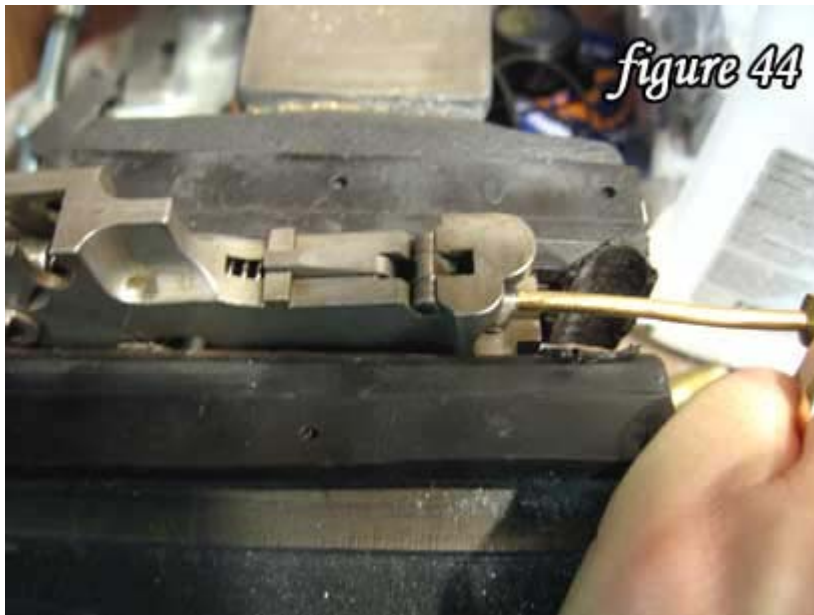
40) The sear rotates to 90 degrees and then it will clear the pivot point.

41) Again, this part has the "wings" machined into it to keep the part well aligned and tight in the action.



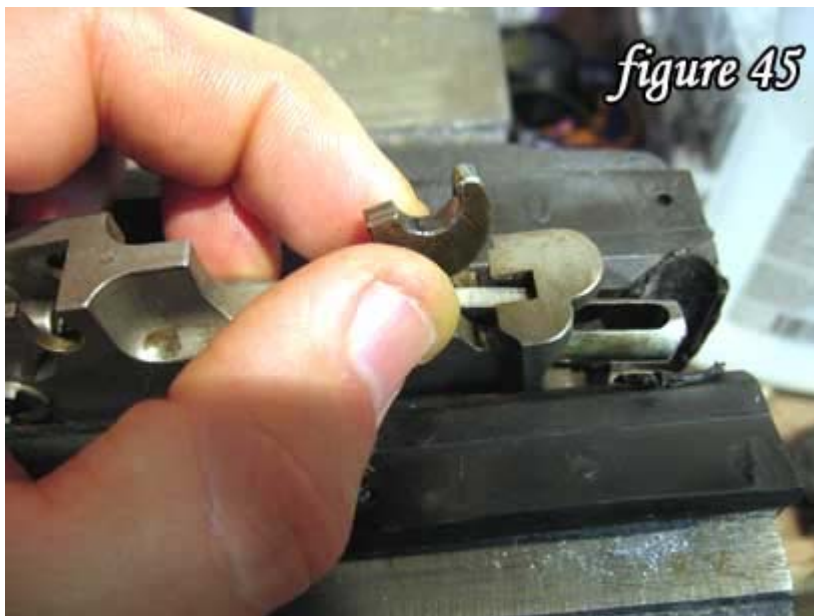
42) The next step requires that the part be placed in a padded vise. Figure 42 shows the plunger.

43) The plunger in figure 42 will be depressed and the coupling figure 43 will drop out.



44) Push in the mainspring plunger inward.

45) Once the spring has cleared and release the tension on the coupler, you can lift it out.



46) The mainspring can then be removed easily by sliding it out of the internals frame.

47) Lift the hammer spring out of the internals frame.



figure 47



figure 48

48) Then the hammer can be removed.

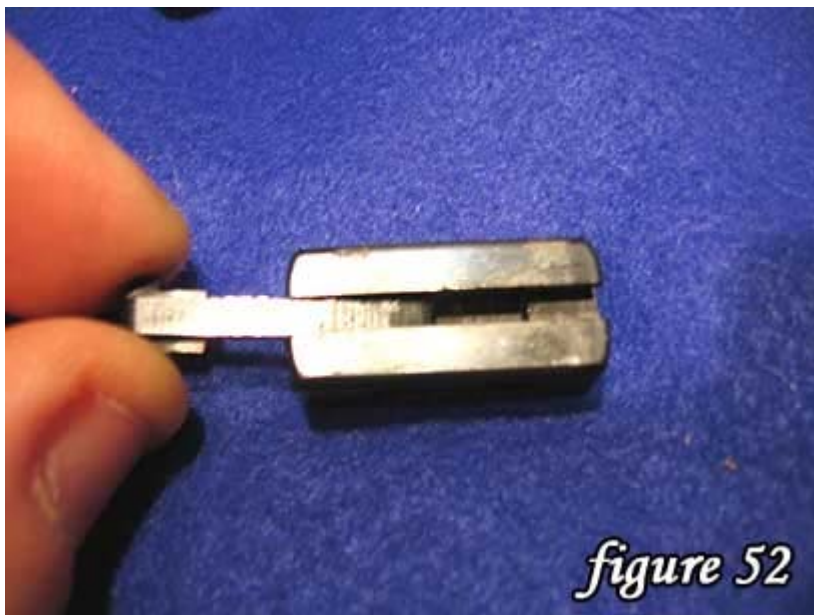
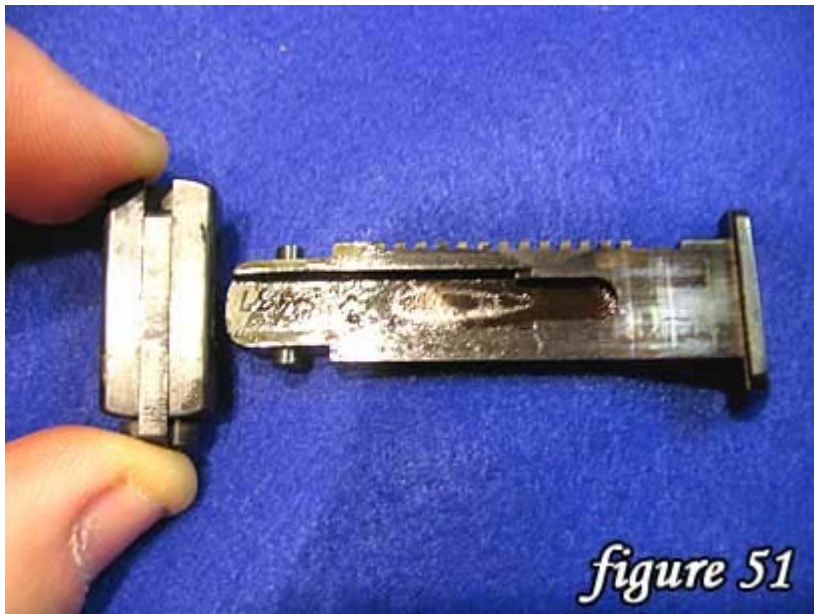
49) The easiest way to get the rear sight off was to place the pistol in a padded vise.

Use a wooden dowel to push down on the front of the sight and then pulled straight back. The key is that you have to clear the trunnions on the sides of the rear sight.



50) Remove the flat spring by sliding it out.

51) You can remove the adjustment bar by sliding it down the sight and then off.



52) Remove the catch can be removed by sliding it out one side of the bar.

53) The tiny catch spring comes out of the hole in the side of the bar.

This completes the disassembly of the C96 pistol.

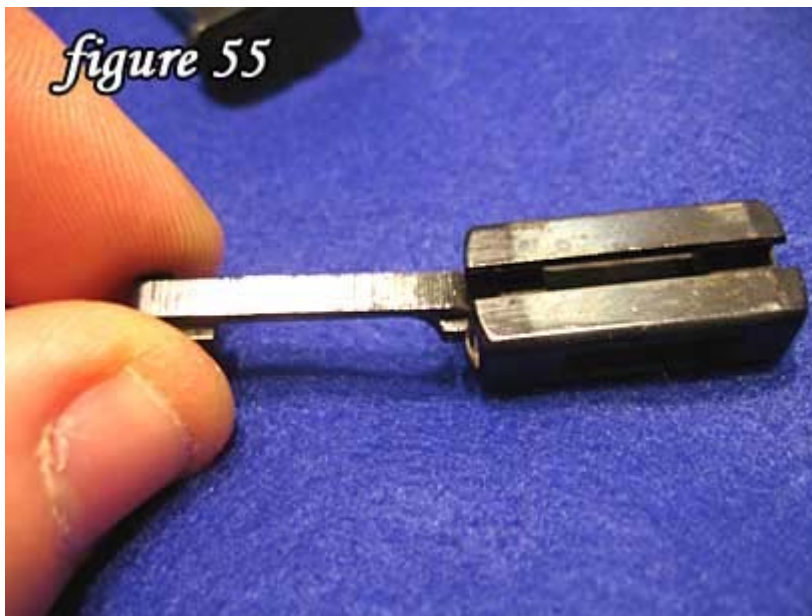


Reassembly Instructions



54) Insert the catch spring into the hole on the side of the adjustment bar.

55) Align the “wings” on the latch so that it will slide into the adjustment bar.



56) Slide the wings into the adjustment bar the same side where the spring is located.

57) Slide the adjustment bar onto the rear sight. You will need to squeeze the adjustment bar to get it to slide on. Note which way the bar goes onto the rear sight.



58) Slide the flat spring into its slot on the rear sight.

59) Pushing down on the front part of the rear sight, push forward on the sight so that the trunnions get seated into their slots.



60) Figure 60 shows the internals frame, hammer and hammer spring.

61) Place the hammer into the frame and line up the holes.



62) Insert the hammer spring into the internals frame locking the hammer into the frame.

63) Next you will need the mainspring and its associated parts, which are the mainspring plunger and the coupling plunger.

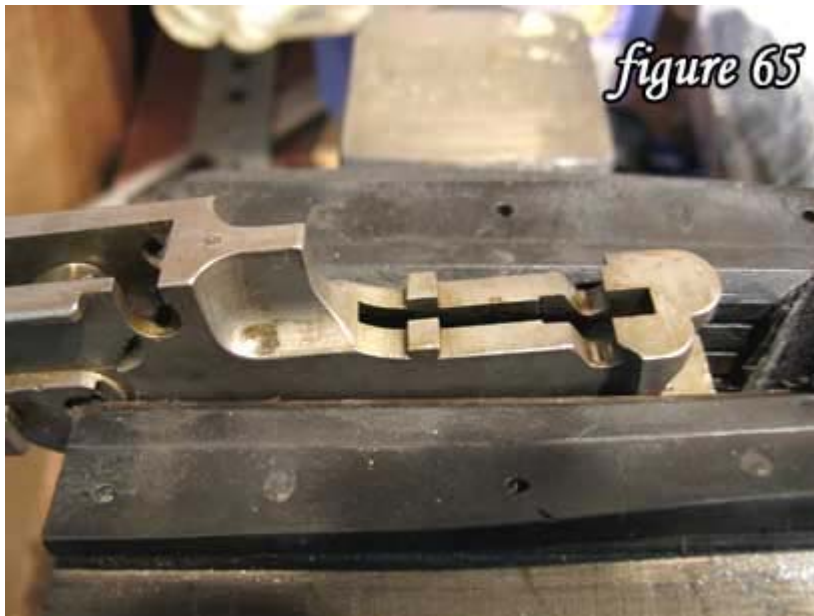


Of particular note is the coupling (top of photo hook looking). It is **EXTREMELY** important that the coupling be inserted the correct direction into the frame. It **CAN** be inserted backwards and the rest of the pistol can be put together and you won't notice until you attempt to fire it and the pistol will not only not function, but will lock up completely. If you run into this problem, an article was found on the [C96 forum](#) that can walk you through how to fix the problem.



64) This is the correct orientation of the coupling to the frame.

65) Place the internals frame into a padded vise for the easiest way to insert the main spring and coupling.



66) Insert the mainspring with its plunger and the coupling plunger installed. Push the coupling plunger into the frame using a punch until you are able to insert and lock into place the coupling.

67) This is the correct view of the coupling. If the coupling is not sitting flush, do not proceed until you have it seated correctly.



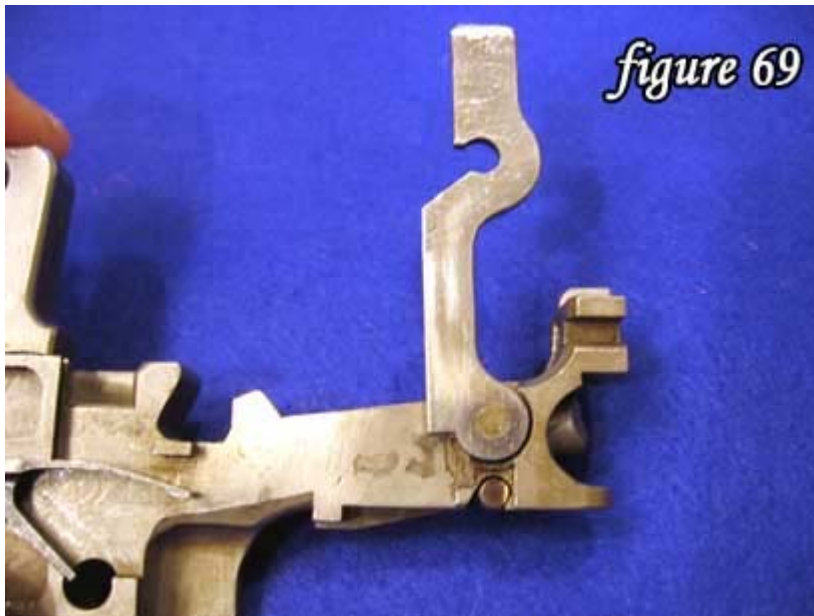
figure 67



figure 68

68) Figure 68 shows the sear at the top of the photo.

69) Place the sear onto its rotation lug making sure that it seats flush to the frame. Again, this part has "wings" that fit into slots milled into the frame.



70) Note that there is a notch cut into the frame for where the sear seats.

71) Rotate the sear down so that it locks into place. You may have to pull the hammer a bit back to allow the sear to clear.



72) The disconnector is inserted such that the hammer spring bears on it. At the same time, the rounded head fits into the sear and the milled wings on the disconnector slide into the sear as well to negate any horizontal play.

73) Push the spring upwards and then insert the disconnector.



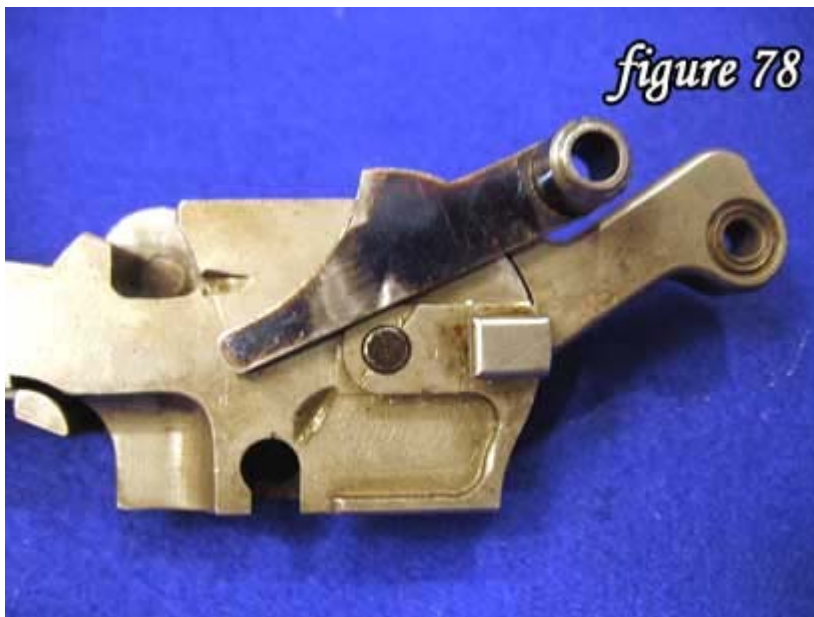
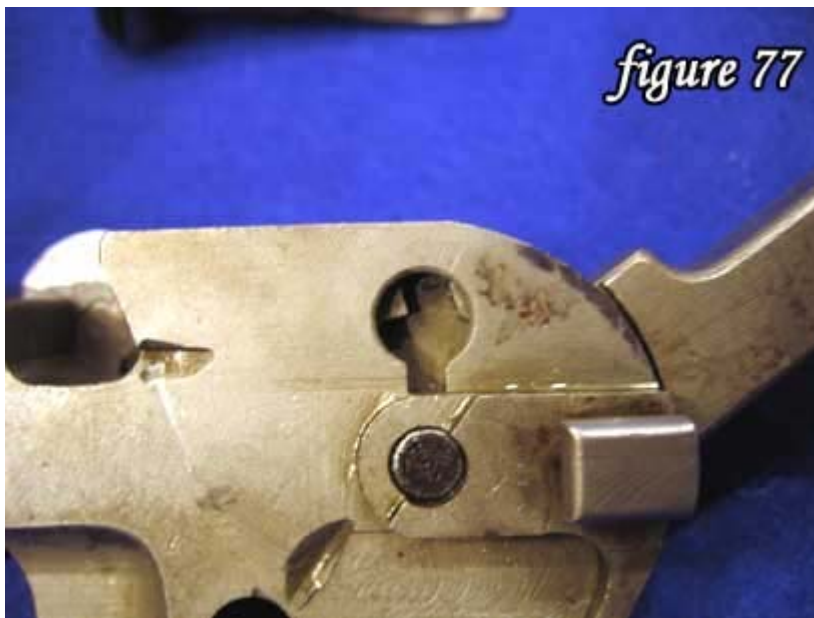
74) Note how the spring locks the disconnecter into place.

75) The safety will need to be installed with the hammer cocked.



76) The safety has a tab on it that mates into a corresponding notch in the internals frame.

77) Figure 77 shows the corresponding notch in the internals frame.



78) Place the safety lever so that it is between the two notches on the internal frame. I found that pulling the hammer slightly backwards as you push the lever down into the frame makes it snap right into place.

79) Turn the safety lever to the top notch location. (off)



figure 79



figure 80

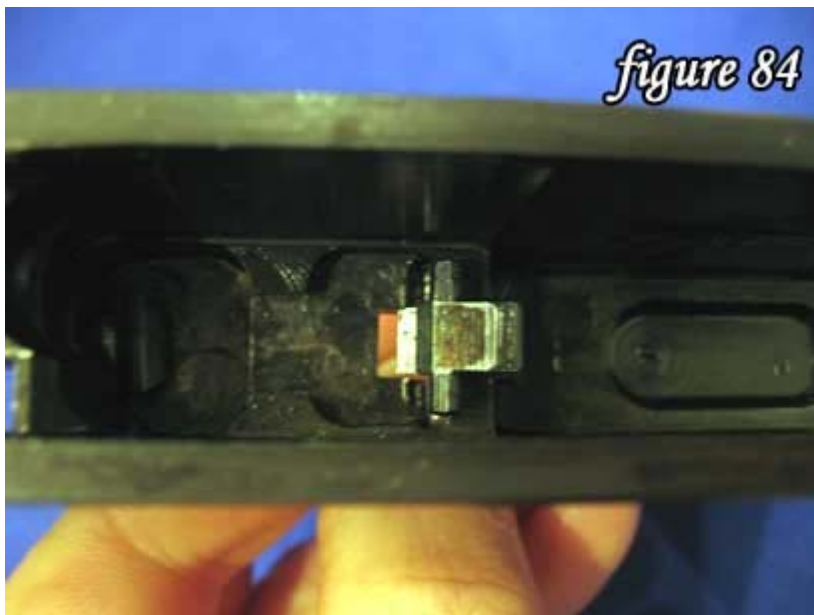
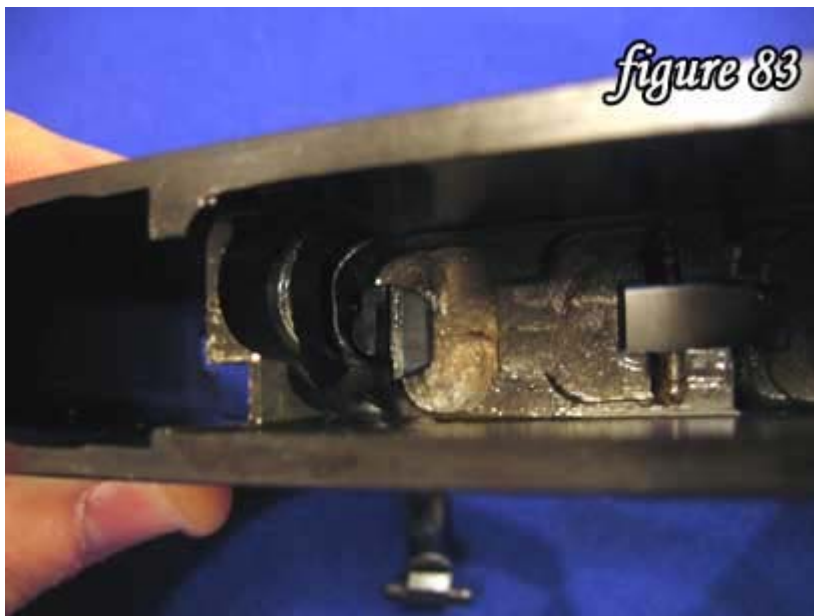
80) The last item placed into the frame is the take down lever.

81) There are only three parts that go into the trigger group. Care has to be taken that the trigger flat spring fits into the correct notches of the magazine base release.



82) The magazine place release has a notch cut into it. The orientation of the notch is as shown in regards to the frame. Drop it into place through the frame and make sure it faces as it is shown above.

83) Figure 83 shows the magazine release in place and oriented correctly.



84) Figure 84 shows the trigger being dropped into place.

85) The flat spring is inserted under the tabs milled into the frame from the butt end of the pistol. Note where the hole in the spring is.



86) Using a hooked device, pull the spring into place, lifting it and locking it into the notch milled in the magazine plate release.

87) Place the extractor into the bolt.



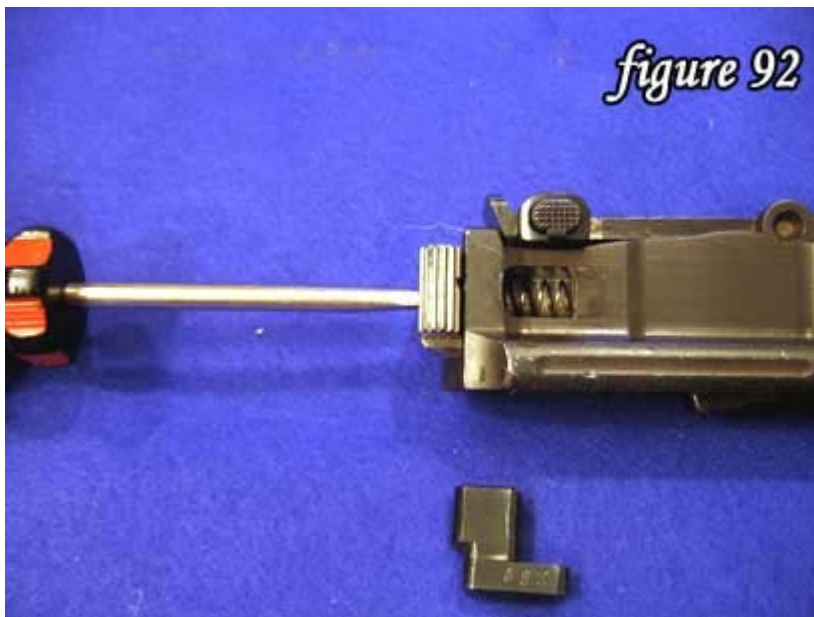
88) Using a block of wood, you can exert some downward and outward pressure that lifts the extractor enough to clear the front of the bolt and snap it into place. Do this carefully as the extractor can easily break.

89) The extractor will seat flush to the bolt.



90) Insert the recoil spring into the bolt body.

91) Slide the bolt into the barrel extension.



92) Using something like a screw driver, compress the spring in the bolt. The goal is to compress it enough to insert the bolt stop (recoil spring abutment). The orientation of the bolt stop is shown in figure 92.

93) Figure 93 shows the bolt stop first inserted and the bottom shows it completely installed.

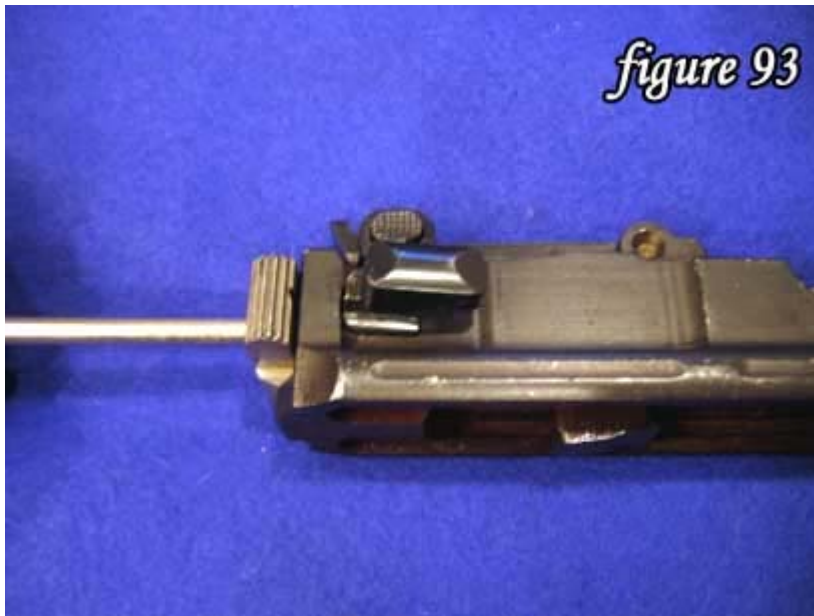


figure 93



figure 94

94) Note how the bolt stop seats flush up against the back of the barrel extension.

95) The firing pin has the retractor spring installed on it.



96) Insert the firing pin to the rear of the bolt. Note the orientation of the notch.

97) Insert a screwdriver, push the firing pin inwards until you can rotate it $\frac{1}{4}$ of a turn counter clockwise.



figure 97

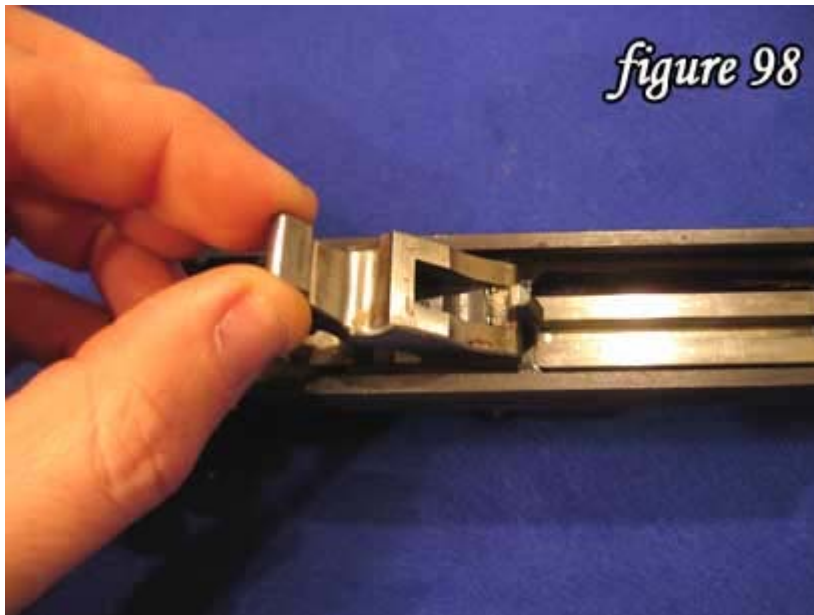


figure 98

98) Place the locking block into the barrel extension.

99) Correctly seated, the locking block will seat nice and flush.

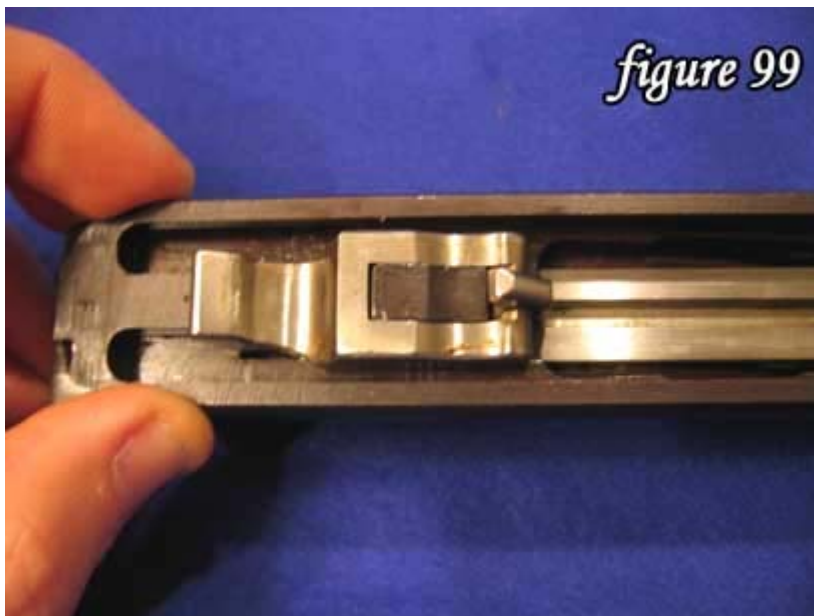


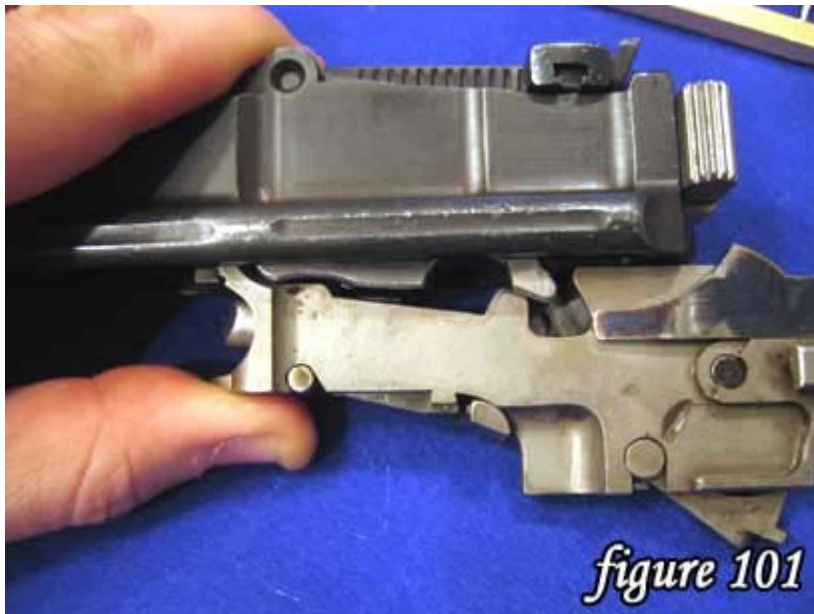
figure 99



figure 100

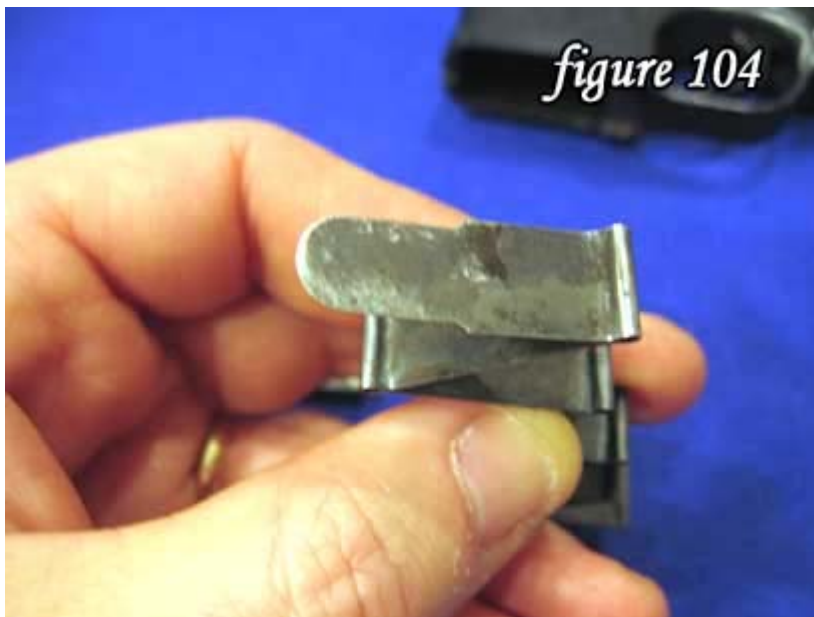
100) This is perhaps the hardest part of the assembly. Align the parts so that the hook of the locking block is forward of the coupling on the internal frame.

101) Then press together on the forward part of the internal frame (note where thumb is).



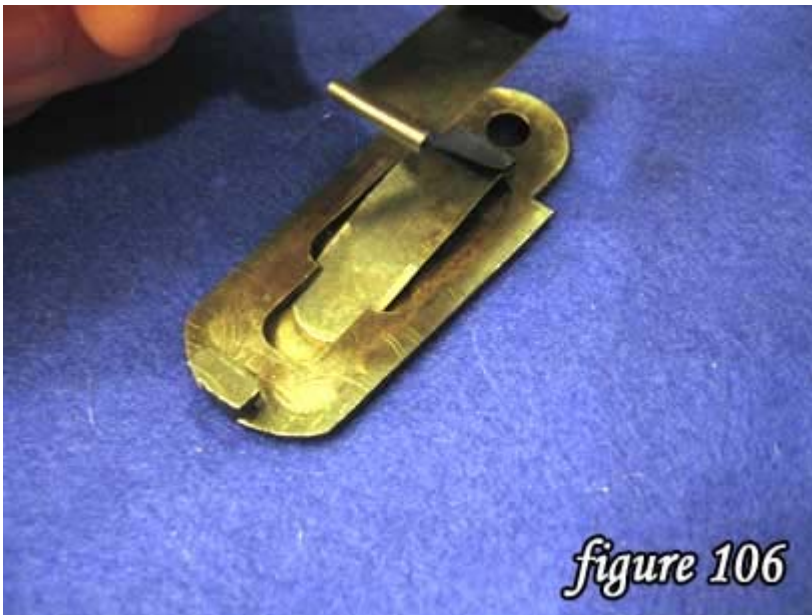
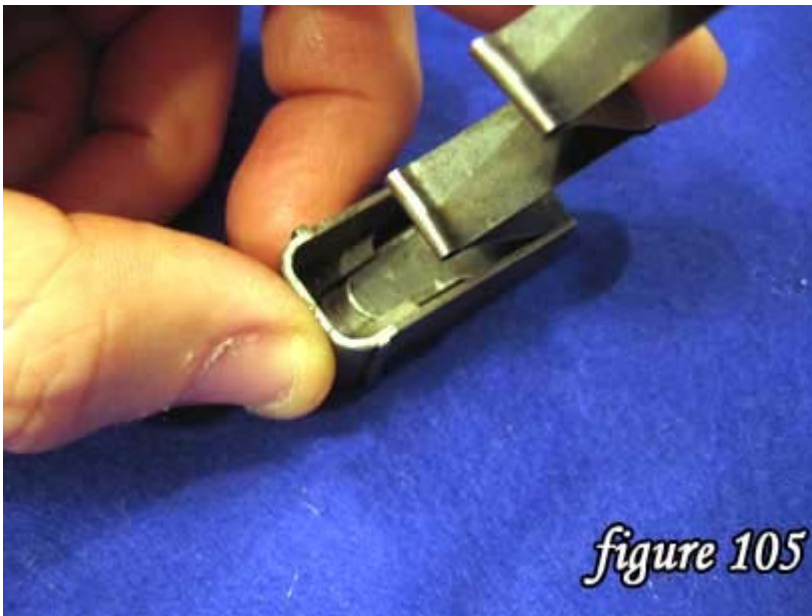
102) The barrel extension (with internals) simply slides back into the lower frame.

103) Make sure that the takedown lever locks into place and is in the downward position.



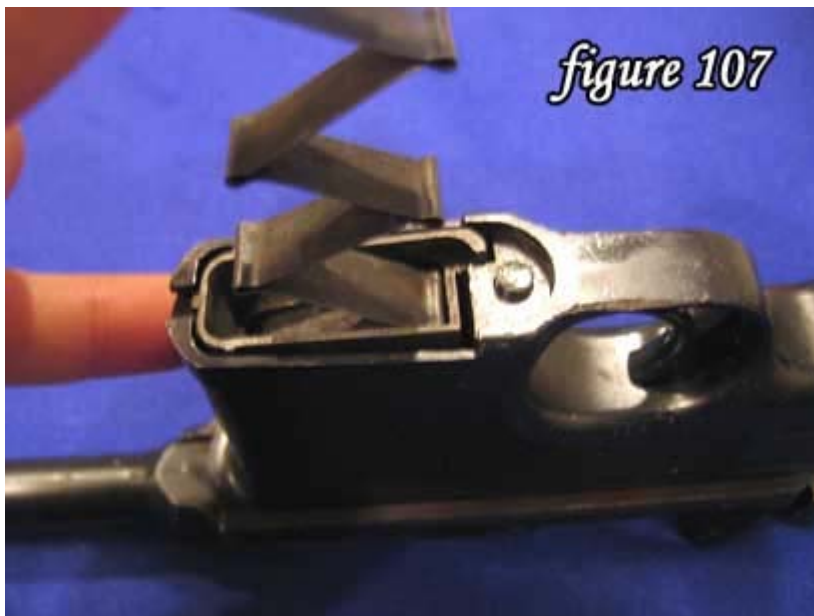
104) On the magazine spring, one end is slightly tapered.

105) Insert the tapered end of the spring into the follower and slide it forward to lock it into place.



106) Insert the other end of the spring into the magazine base and slide it forward to lock it into place.

107) Insert the follower into the frame so that the notch (seen at top right) of the follower fits into the frame.



108) Push down and compress the spring to the point where you can slide the base into its locked position.

109) You have completed the reassembly of the C96 pistol.



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