



US010337827B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Holmes et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 10,337,827 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 2, 2019**

(54) **UPPER RECEIVER STRUT AND CLEANING ROD GUIDE**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **15/904,219**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 23, 2018**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
F41C 27/00 (2006.01)
F41A 31/02 (2006.01)
F41A 29/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC *F41C 27/00* (2013.01); *F41A 29/02* (2013.01); *F41A 31/02* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC F41C 27/00
USPC 42/108
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A strut tool including a hook portion for engaging an upper receiver assembly and a pivoting portion for engaging the takedown pin of a lower receiver assembly of a firearm that acts as a removable strut for holding the upper and lower receiver assemblies in a relatively aligned open angular position providing access to the inner bores and mechanisms of the firearm. The pivoting portion includes a bore accommodating the placement of the takedown pin in conjunction with the lower receiver assembly providing a pivotal connection permitting the angular alignment of the upper and lower receiver assemblies in an open and fixed position. The hook portion includes a takedown block engagement region that provides a means to accommodate the insertion and engagement of the takedown block present on the upper receiver assembly for the purpose of reversibly positioning and holding the strut tool in said relatively aligned position with respect to the lower receiver assembly. The hook portion optionally includes an upper channel with a longitudinal and semi-circular cutout region providing a guide slot for the relative positioning of cleaning and inspection tools with respect to the inner bore or breach of a rifle.

13 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

