

Dan Wesson Model 15-2

Similar/Identical Pattern Guns

The same basic assembly/disassembly steps for the Dan Wesson Model 15-2 also apply to the following guns.

Dan Wesson Model 8-2S

Dan Wesson Model 15 Gold

Dan Wesson Model 32

Dan Wesson Model 44

Dan Wesson Model 708

Dan Wesson Model 715

Dan Wesson Model 732

Dan Wesson Model 744

Dan Wesson Model 9-2

Dan Wesson Model 22

Dan Wesson Model 40

Dan Wesson Model 45

Dan Wesson Model 709

Dan Wesson Model 722

Dan Wesson Model 740

Dan Wesson Model 745

Dan Wesson Model 14-2S

Dan Wesson Model 22M

Dan Wesson Model 41

Dan Wesson Model 375

Dan Wesson Model 714

Dan Wesson Model 722M

Dan Wesson Model 741



Data: Dan Wesson Model 15-2

Origin: United States

Manufacturer: Dan Wesson Arms,
Monson, Massachusetts

Cartridge: 357 Magnum

Cylinder capacity: 6 rounds

Overall length: 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
(with 4-inch barrel)

Barrel lengths: 2 to 15 inches,
interchangeable

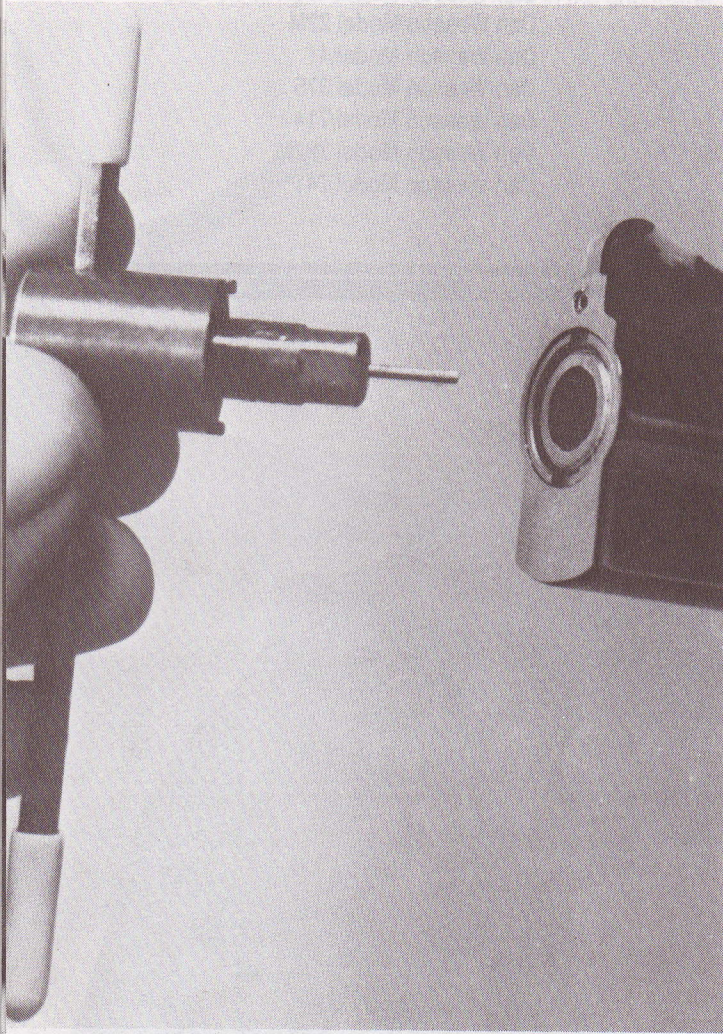
Weight: 36 ounces
(with 4-inch barrel)

The early Dan Wesson guns had an exposed barrel nut at the muzzle, and used a different wrench for removal. More recent models have the nut neatly recessed, and the wrench supplied with each gun is of much more substantial design. The gun shown here is a later version, the Model 15-2VH, with a heavy barrel shroud and vent rib. The excellent interchangeable barrel

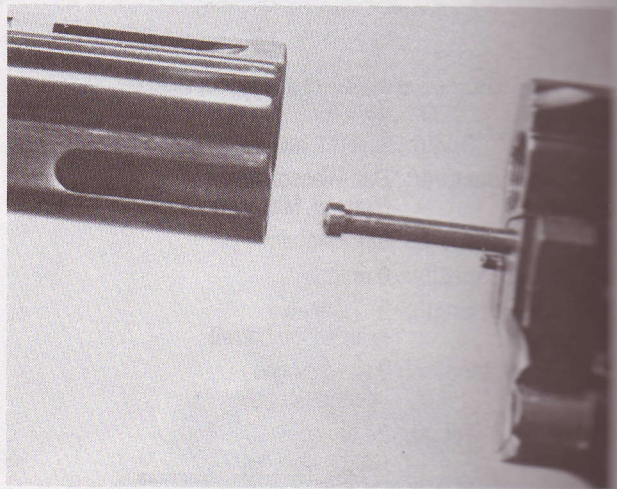
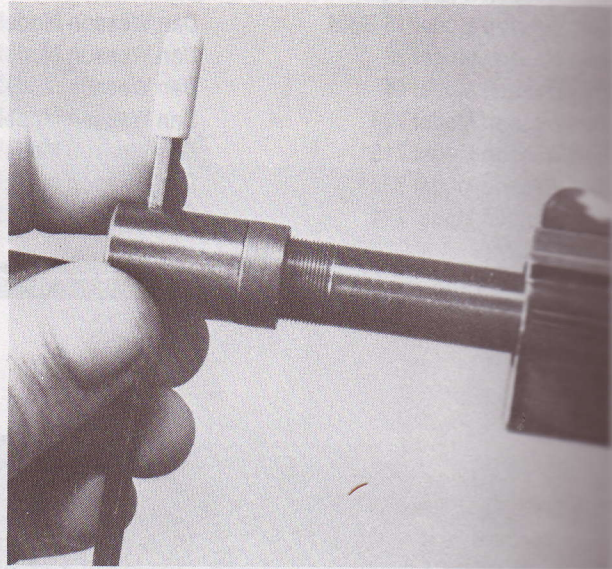
feature has made this a very popular gun. The system works perfectly, as long as care is taken to properly install the barrel. In addition to the main caliber/model designations listed in the cross-reference list, there is a very long list of Dan Wesson models, with each variation based on sights, barrel lengths, and other features. All are basically the same, mechanically.

Disassembly:

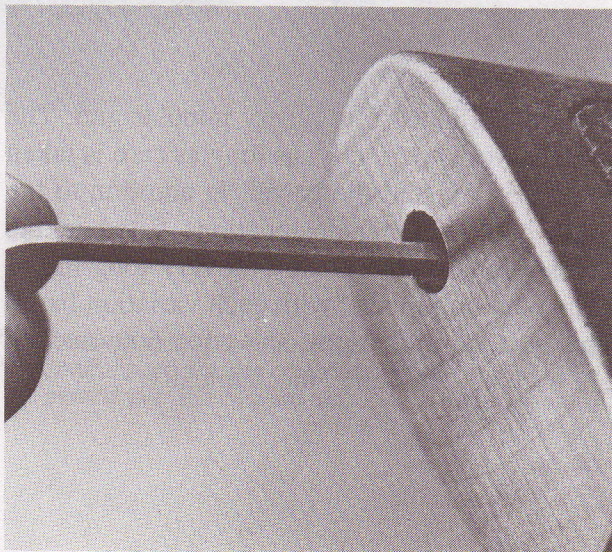
1. The special wrench supplied with each gun has a center guide post which enters the bore, and twin projections which fit into the opposed recesses in the barrel nut.



2. Fit the wrench into the muzzle, being sure the lugs are engaged with the recesses in the barrel nut. Unscrew the nut counterclockwise (front view) and remove it toward the front. In some cases, the barrel will unscrew rather than the nut, as shown, and both can be removed at this point.



3. Remove the barrel shroud from the front of the frame. If the barrel was not removed previously, as in the photo, then unscrew the barrel counterclockwise (front view) and remove it.



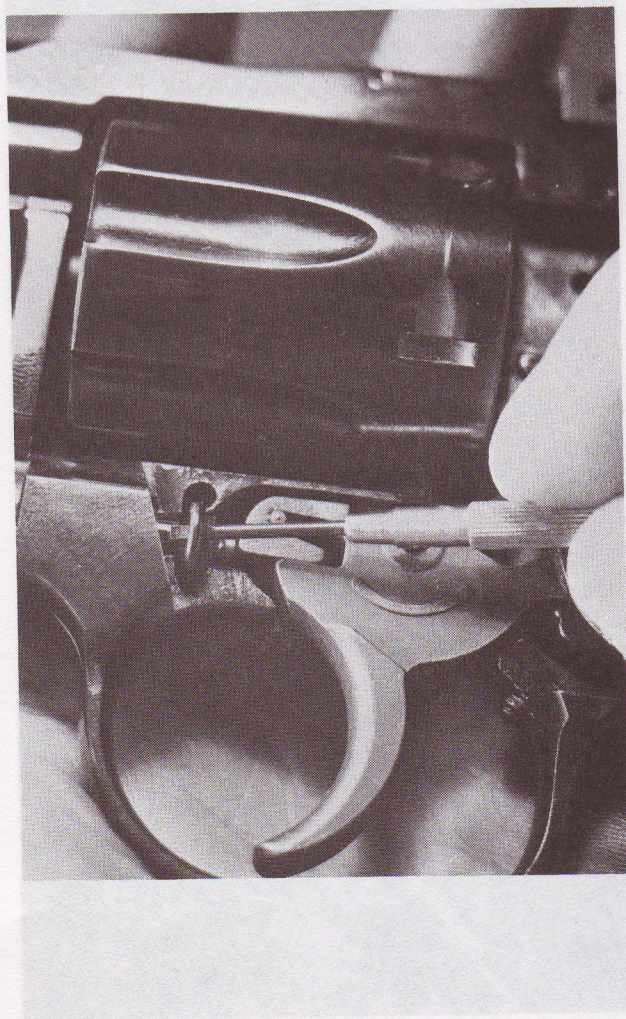
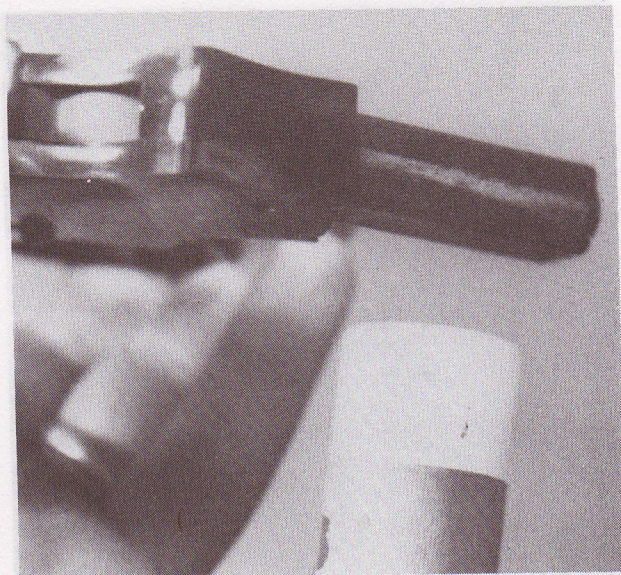
4. Use an Allen wrench to remove the grip retaining screw, accessible through the hole in the bottom of the grip piece, and remove the grip downward.

5. Use a smaller Allen wrench to remove the two sideplate screws on the left side.



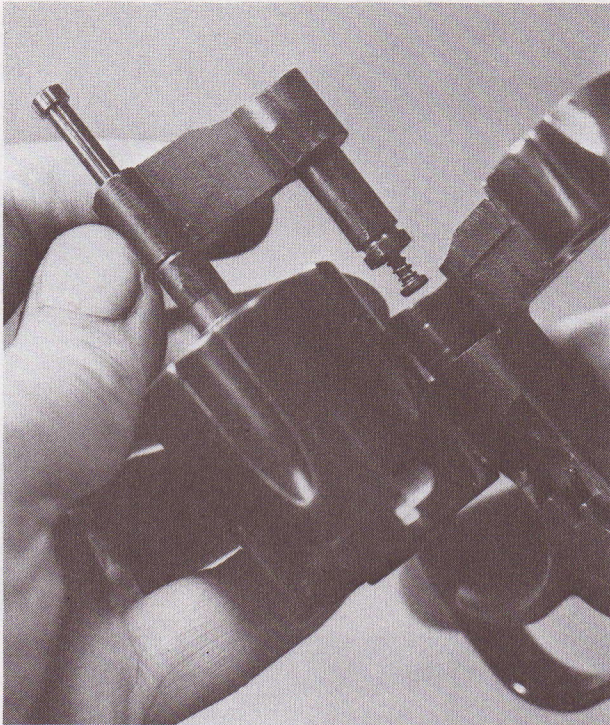
7. Use a small screwdriver to lift out and remove the U-shaped crane retainer toward the left.

6. Hold the gun as shown and tap the grip extension with a nylon mallet until the sideplate falls into the hand.

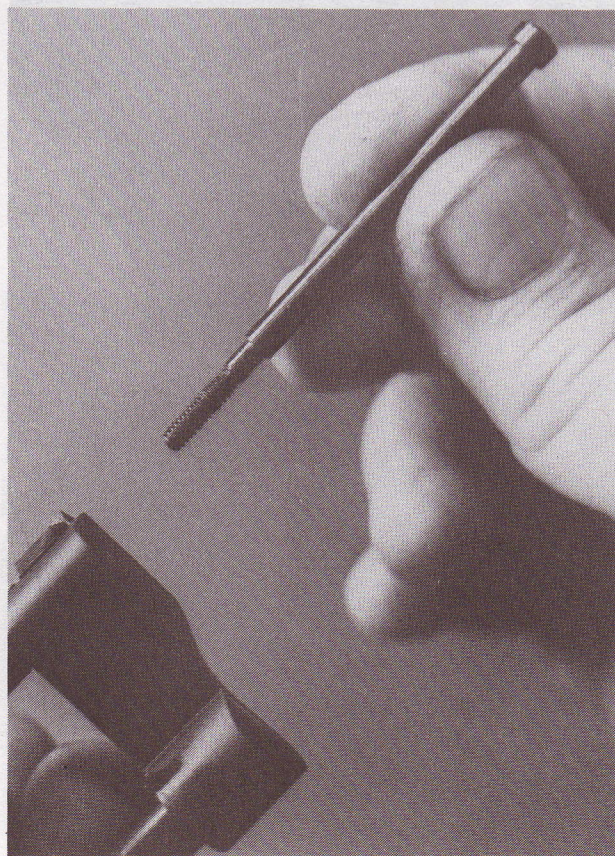
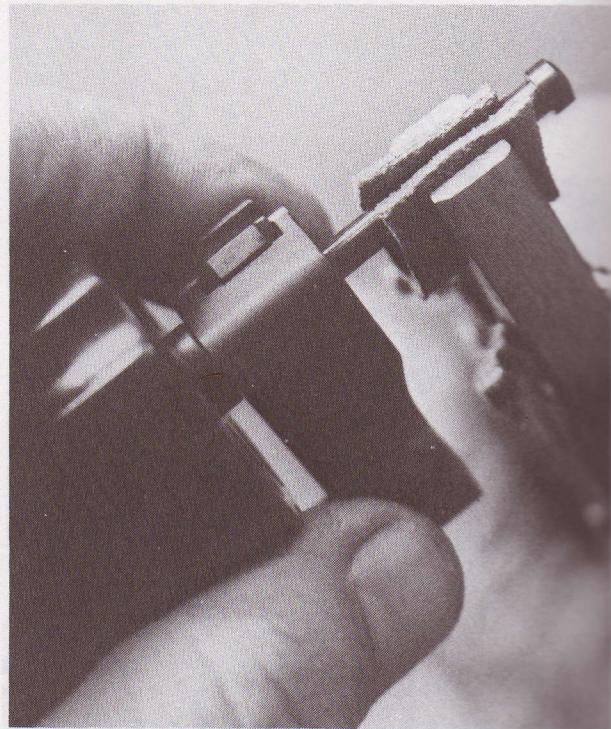


Disassembly

8. Move the crane forward out of the frame, and remove the crane and cylinder assembly toward the left. Remove the cylinder stop plunger and its spring from the rear of the crane pivot shaft.

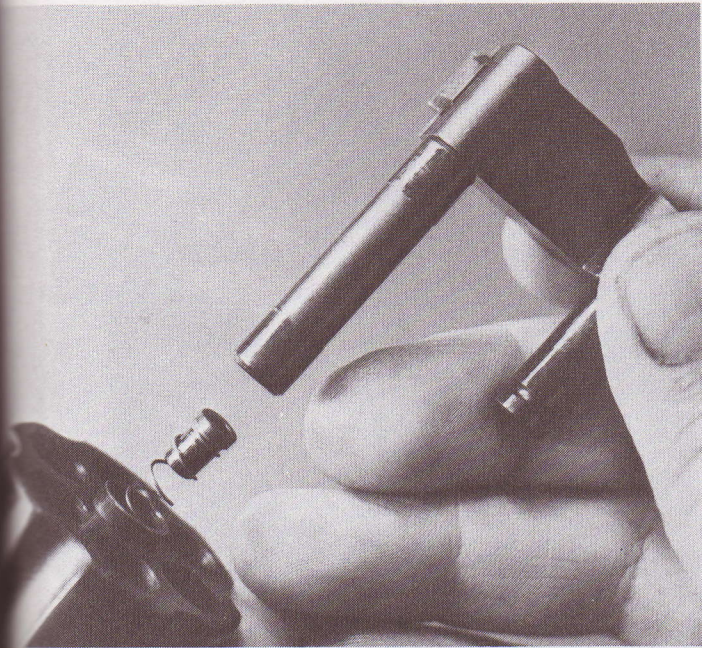


9. Grip the ejector rod with leather-padded smooth-jawed pliers, and unscrew the ejector rod counterclockwise (front view).

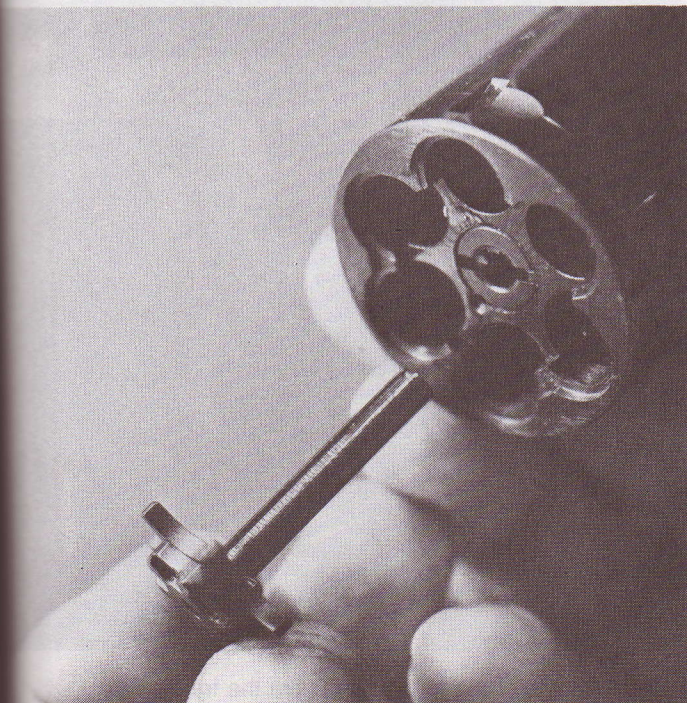
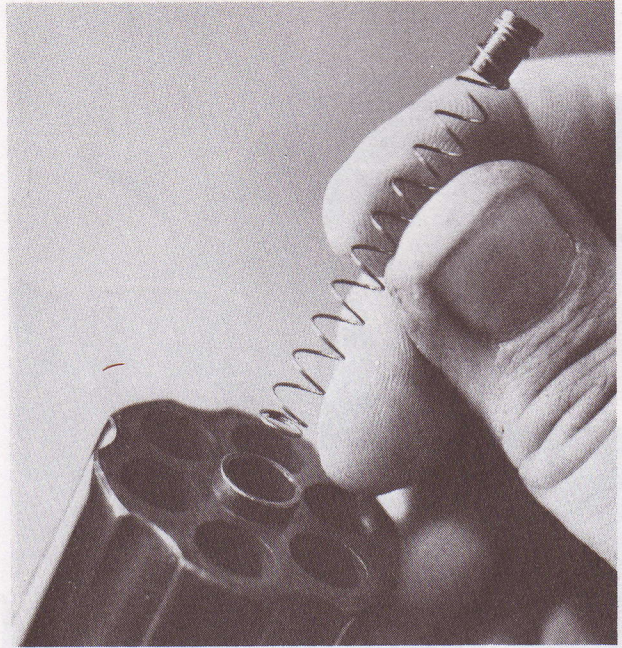


10. Remove the ejector rod from the front of the crane.

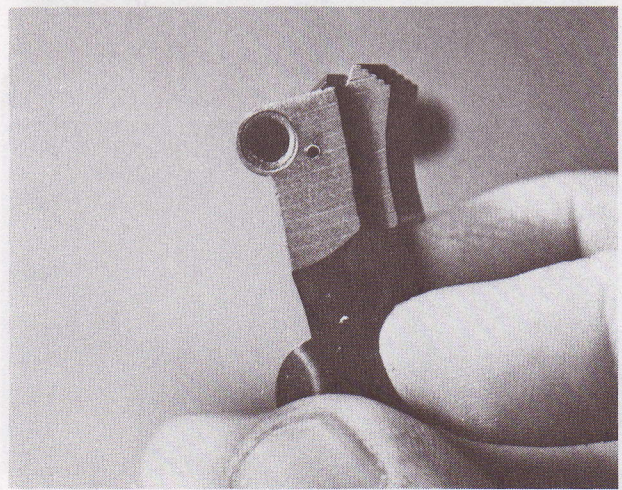
11. Remove the crane from the front of the cylinder.



12. Remove the ejector spring and its bushing from the front of the cylinder.

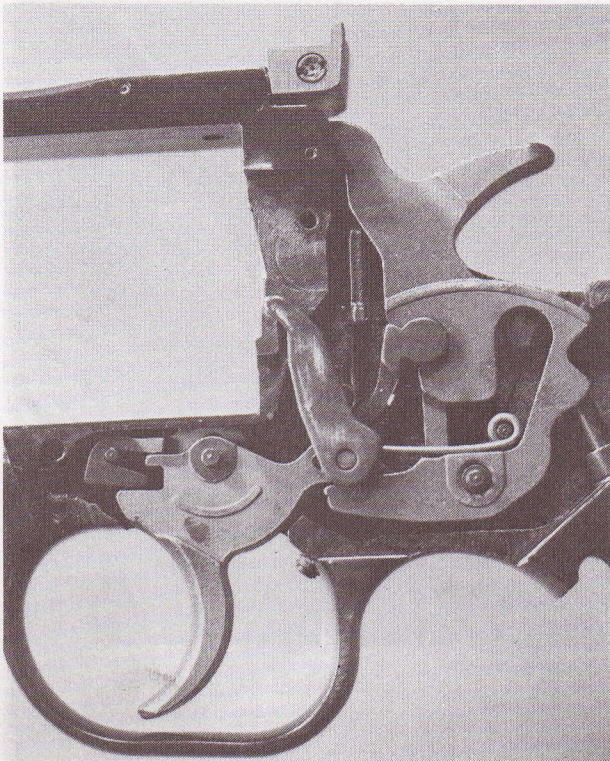


13. Remove the ejector/ratchet from the rear of the cylinder.

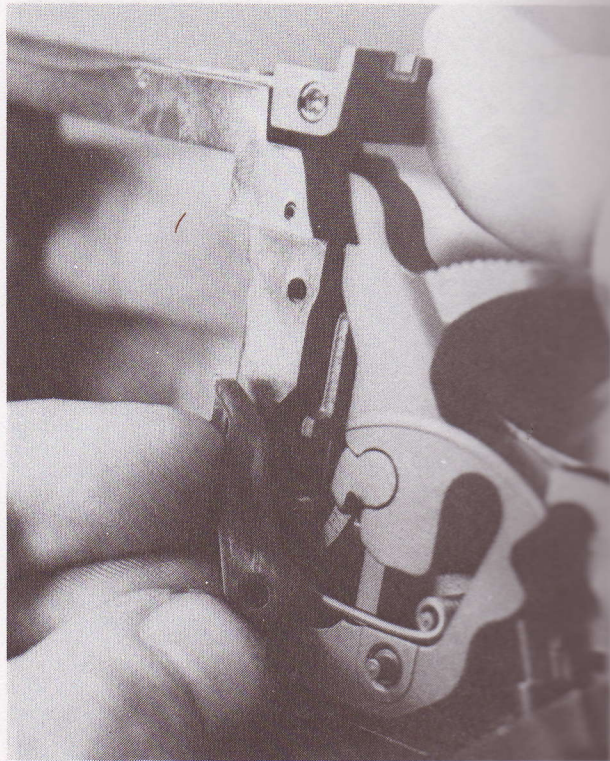


14. Drifting out the small roll pin in the crane will release the crane latch and its spring for removal upward. Use a roll pin punch to avoid deformation of the pin.

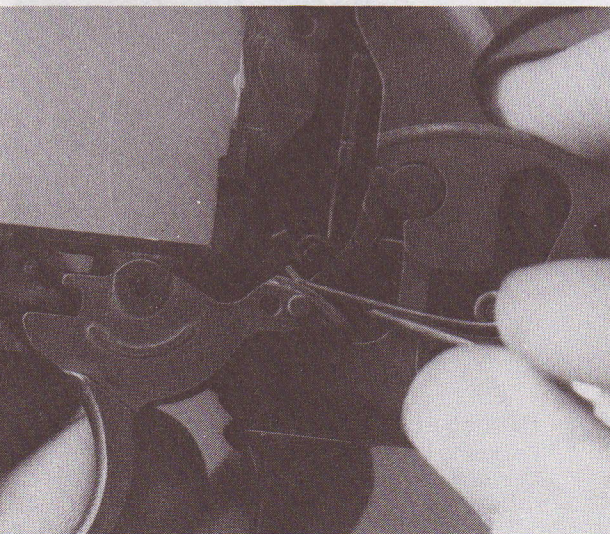
15. The internal parts are shown in proper order, before disassembly.



16. Move the cylinder hand off its post on the trigger, toward the left, and turn it as shown to disengage the spring tip from the groove in the back of the hand. Remove the cylinder hand toward the left.



17. Use a small tool to lift the forward arm of the trigger spring from its ledge on the trigger, and remove the trigger toward the left.



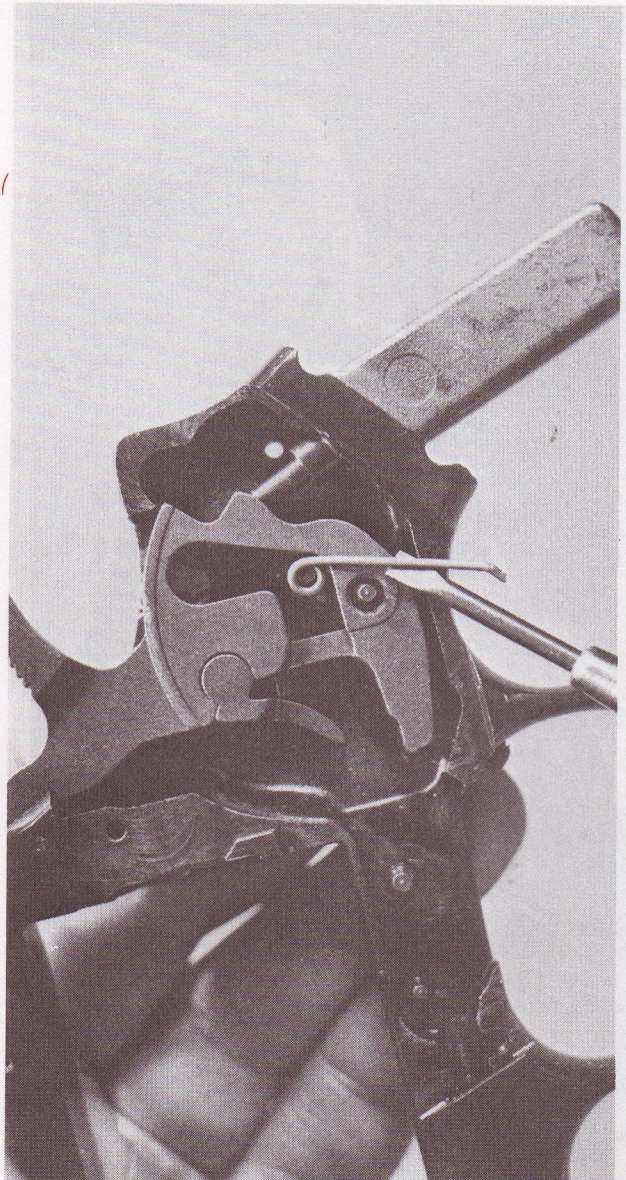
18. Removal of the trigger will leave the transfer bar and its attached spring lying in the frame recess in the front of the hammer. Remove the transfer bar toward the left.



19. Tip the cylinder stop down out of its slot in the frame, and remove it toward the left.

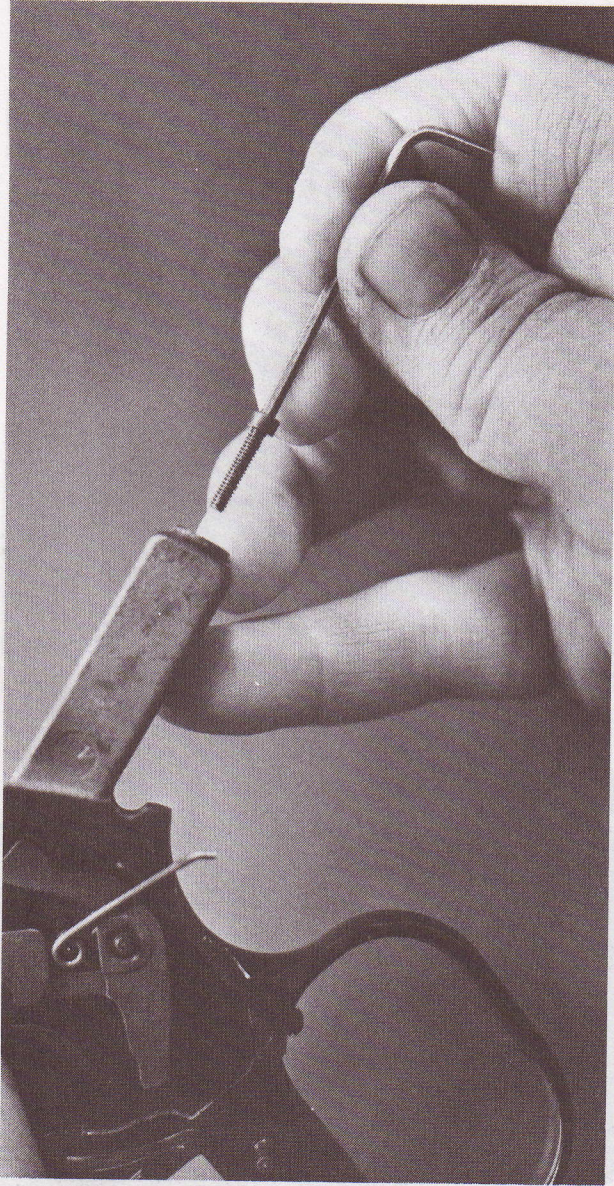


20. Lift the forward arm of the trigger spring off its shelf on the hammer and allow it to turn downward, relieving its tension.

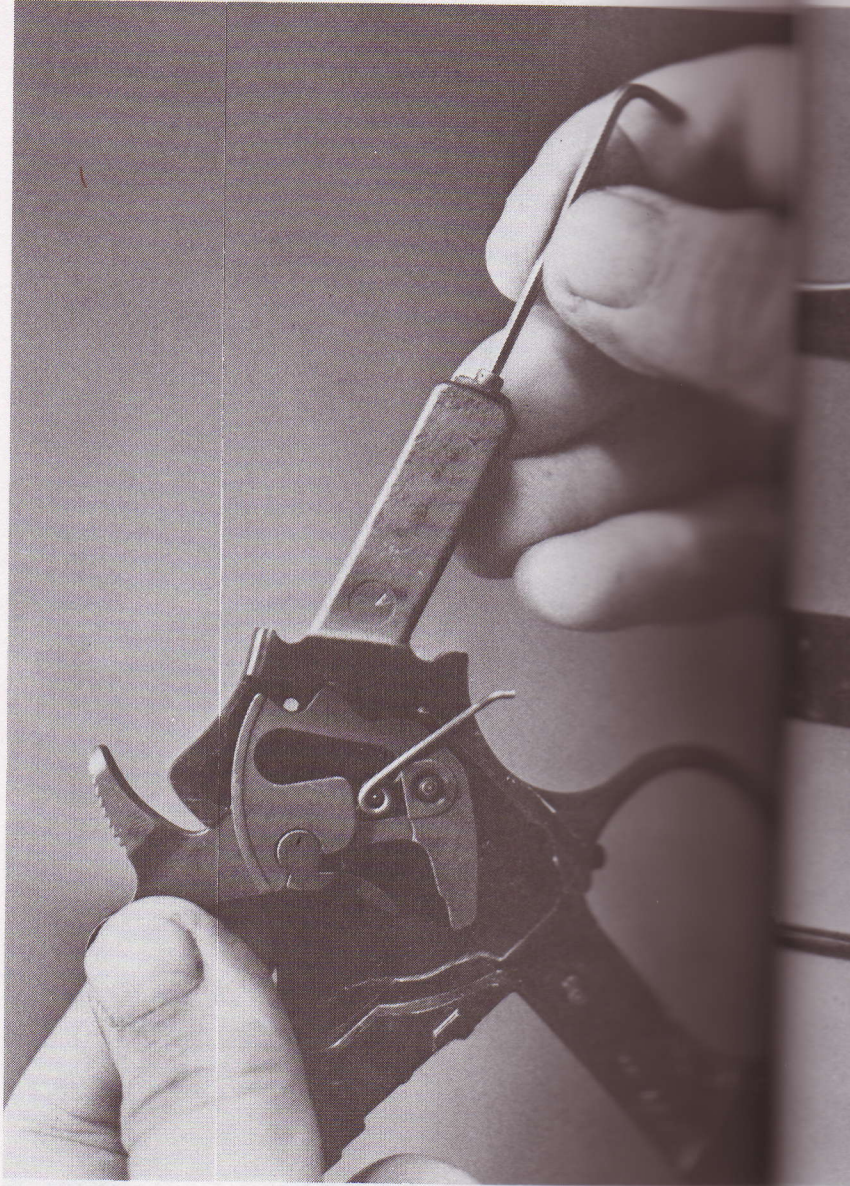


25. Tapping out the screw on the inside, just below the firing pin, will release the cylinder stop ball and its spring for removal toward the rear.

21. Move the hammer all the way to the rear and insert the rear sideplate screw, the longer one, into the grip screw hole at the lower end of the grip extension on the frame, turning it into a threaded hole in the end of the hammer strut (mainspring guide).



22. When turned all the way in, the screw will capture the hammer strut, detaining the hammer spring.

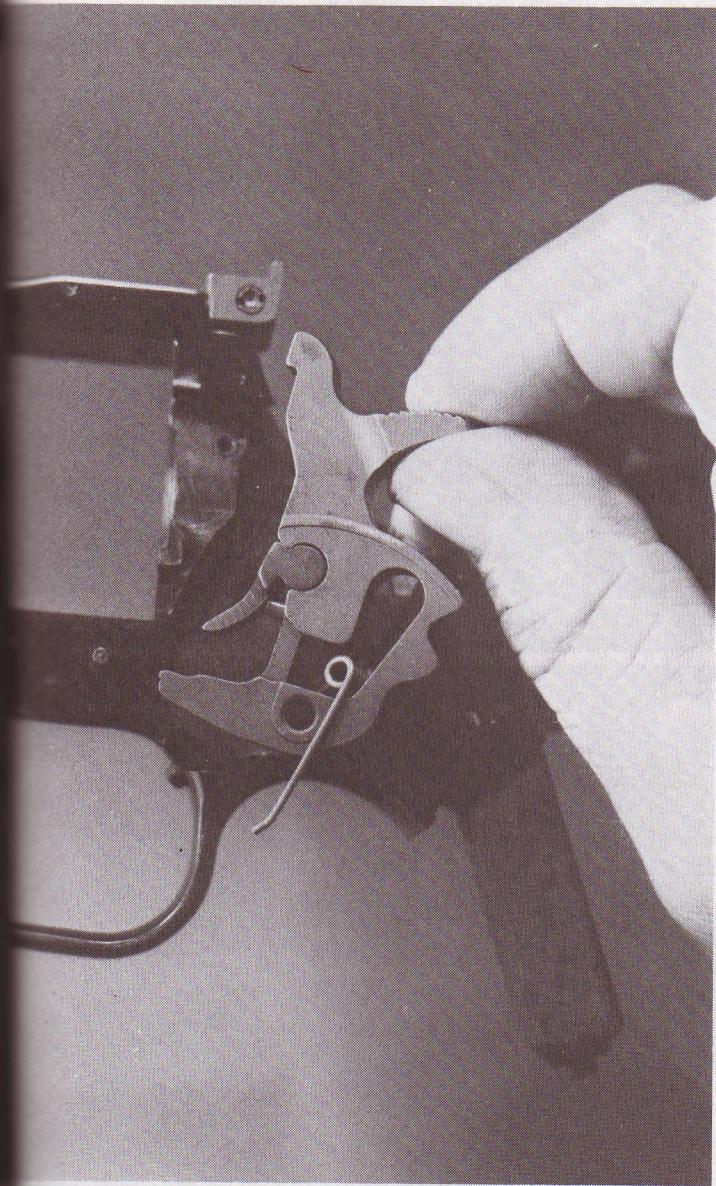


17. Use a small tool to lift the forward end of the trigger and pry down its lip on the trigger, and remove the trigger toward the left.

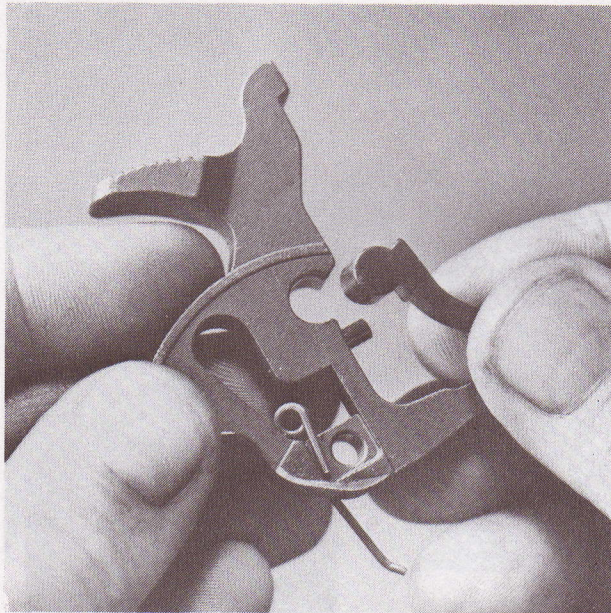
18. Remove the trigger and its attached spring from the front of the hammer. Remove the trigger toward the left.

Reassembly Tips:

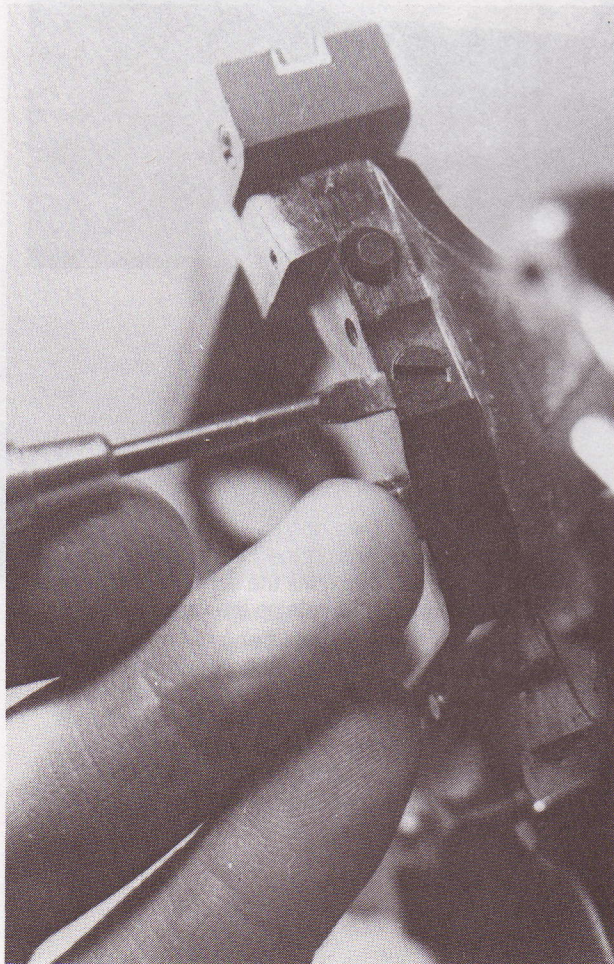
23. The hammer is now easily removed toward the left. If the hammer strut and spring are to be removed, use a tool to exert pressure against the upper collar of the strut while removing the screw. **Caution:** *The compressed hammer spring is powerful. Release the tension slowly, and ease out the strut and spring.*



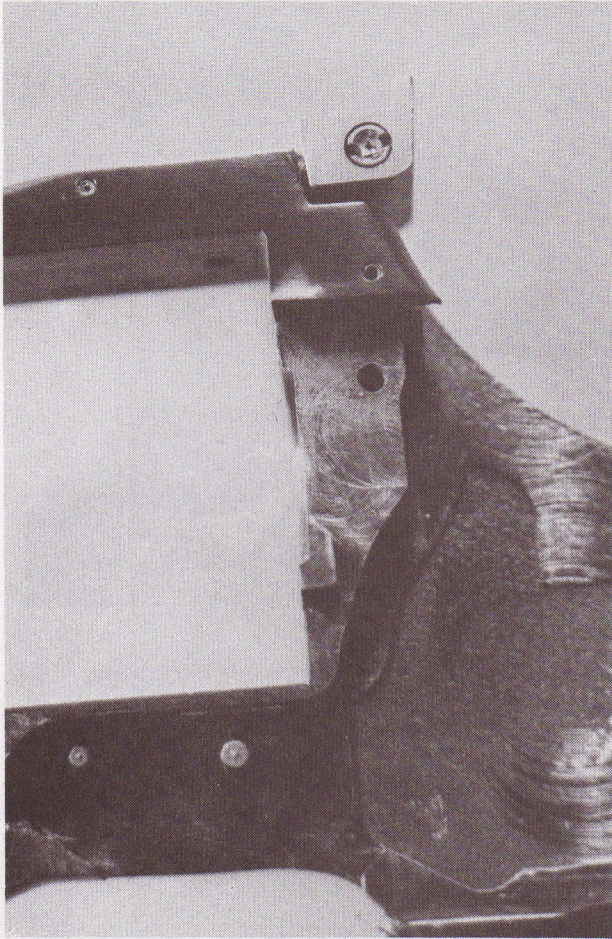
24. The double-action lever can be moved out of the hammer toward either side, and the plunger and spring removed from the front of the hammer. The trigger spring is easily unhooked from its position in the center opening of the hammer.



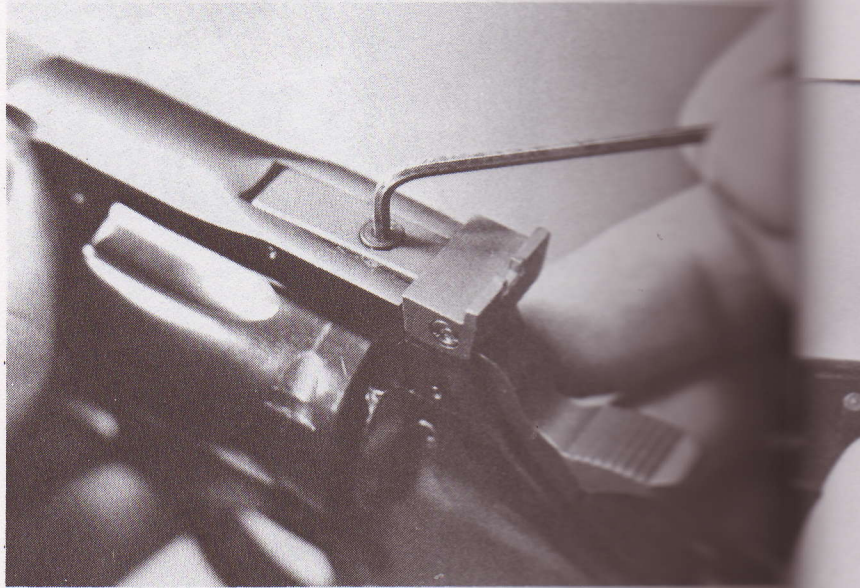
25. Taking out the screw on the inside, just below the firing pin, will release the cylinder aligning ball and its spring for removal toward the rear.



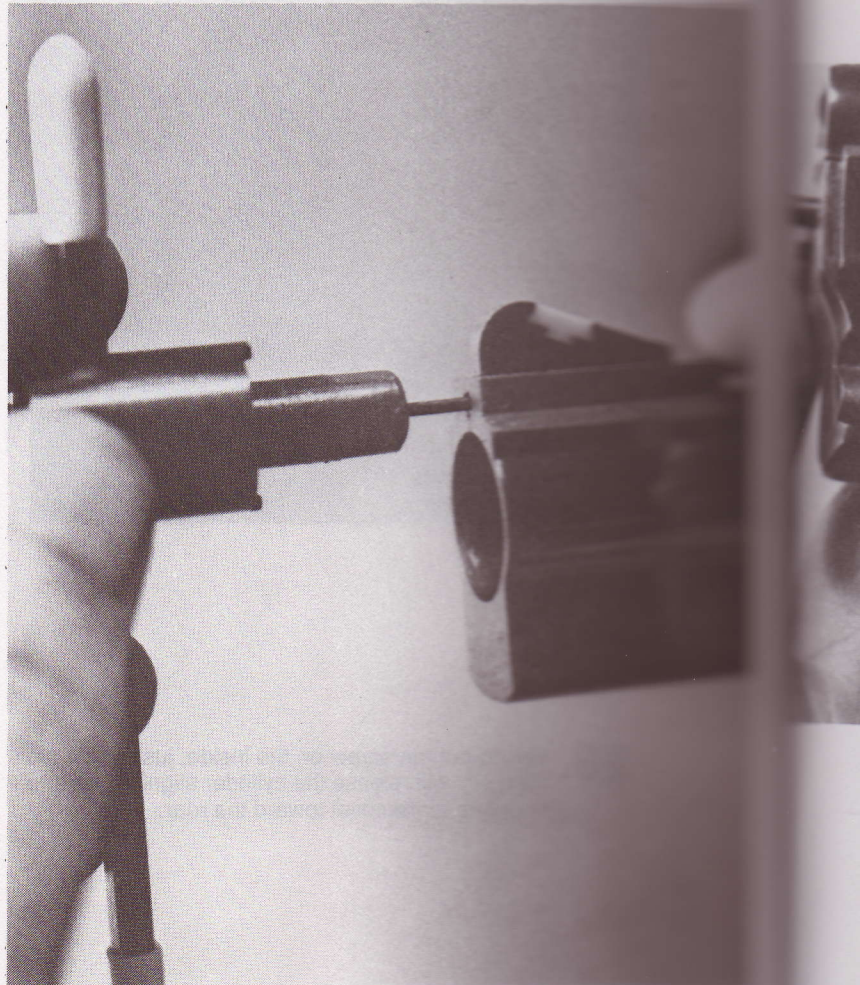
- 26.** Drifting out the small roll pin at the upper rear of the frame will release the firing pin and its spring for removal toward the rear. Drifting out the roll pin at the top of the frame, above the cylinder opening, will partially free the rear sight.



- 27.** After removal of the cross-pin, backing out the elevation screw will release the rear sight for removal. Take care not to lose the two small coil springs on the underside of the sight.

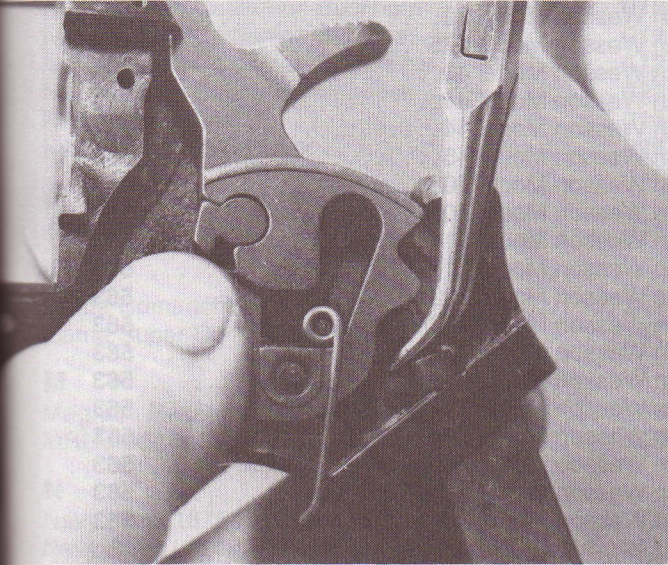


- 28.** The small projection on the barrel removal tool is an Allen wrench which fits the screw at the front of the barrel shroud that retains the front sight.

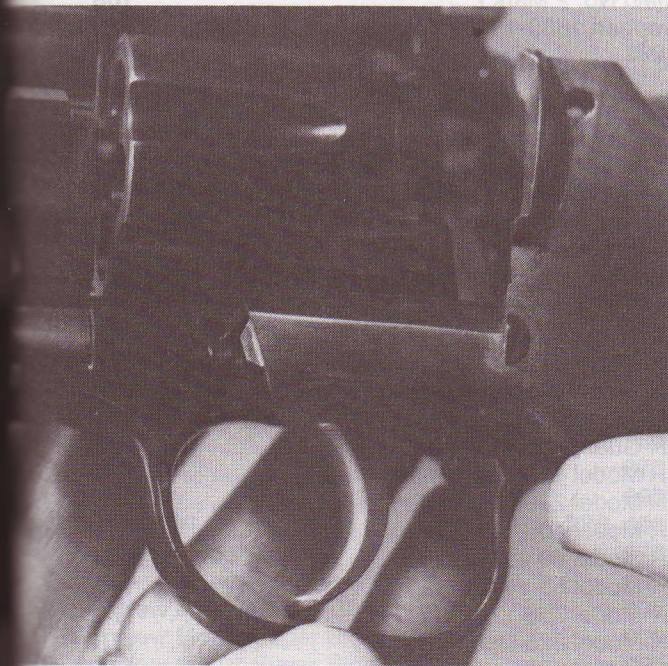
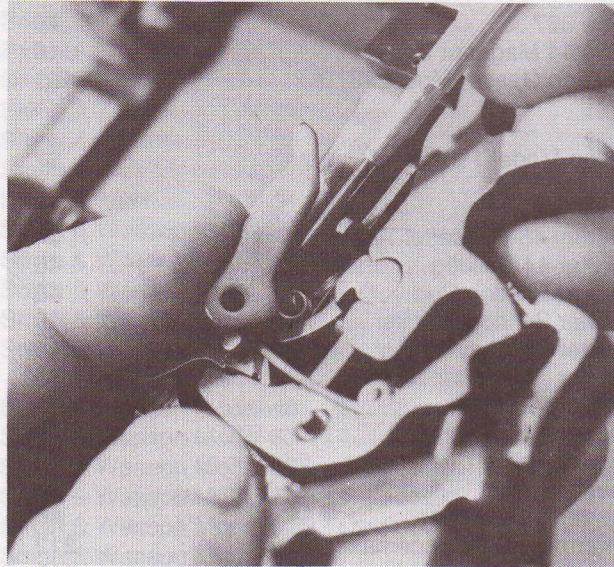


Reassembly Tips:

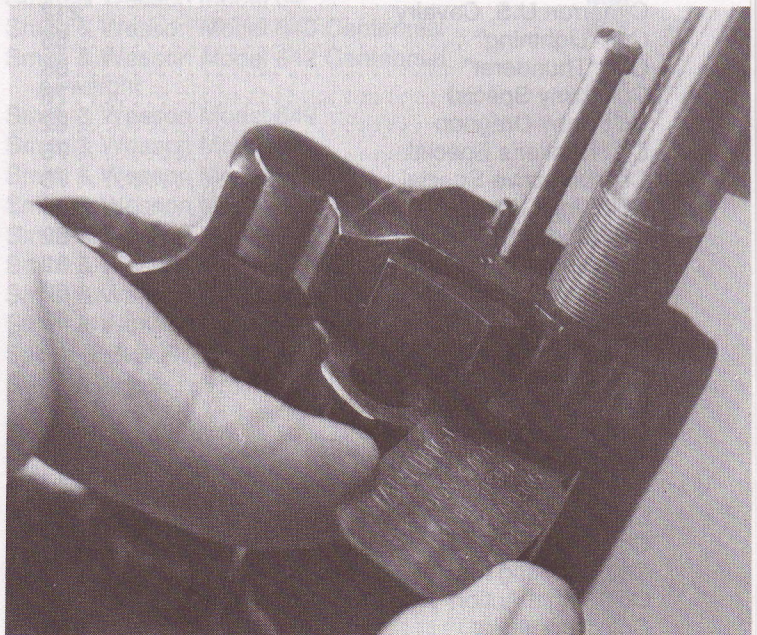
1. When replacing the hammer spring and its guide, grip the guide with pliers as shown, and force it down into its well in the frame. During this operation, it would be advisable to clamp the grip extension in a padded vise, and take care that the pliers don't slip. If you can hold it down, the hammer can be slipped back in, as shown. If not, use the sideplate screw to hold it down, as described earlier. (See steps 21 and 22.)



2. When replacing the cylinder hand, be sure the angled tip of the hand spring is engaged in the groove at the back of the hand, then move the hand downward and toward the right, onto its post on the trigger.



3. When replacing the sideplate, remember that the lip at its front edge must be put in first, then the rear of the plate moved inward.



4. When replacing the barrel, remember that the end with the longer threaded section goes toward the rear. Insert the gauge supplied with the gun between the rear face of the barrel and the front of the cylinder, and turn the barrel until it is snug, but don't over-tighten it. Leave the gauge in place while installing the barrel shroud. If the original gauge is not with the gun, any .006-inch leaf (feeler) gauge will work.