

5th European Handcuff Convention

October 3 - 4, 2014 Münster, Germany



handcuffconvention2014@gmail.com A Busch-Holst-Pensaert presentation

The Berliner handcuffs

Some basic facts...

- Denotes a basic construction, not a maker
- Named by Houdini
- The key release both bows simultaneously
- Double bit key (usually)
- No known makers except from Mühlenfeld
- A great number of different shapes
- Only one known patent, dated in 1891
- Often named by the shape of the lock house.



Mühlenfeld Berliner





The only known patent,
issued in October 3, 1891.

EMANUEL PECHNIK IN GROSS-PETERWITZ (OESTERREICH).

Schließseisen für Häftlinge.

Fig. 2.

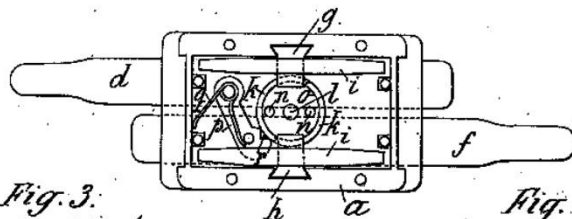


Fig. 3.

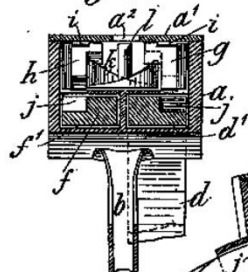
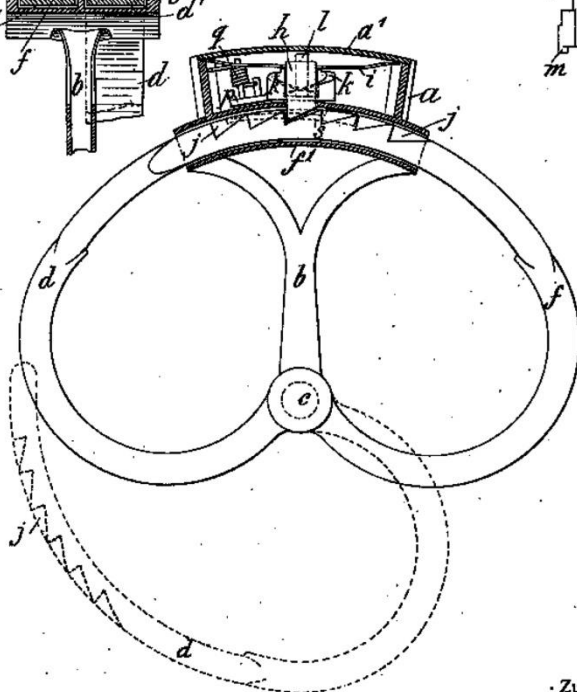


Fig. 4.



Fig. 1.



Zu der Patentschrift

№ 62419.



PATENTSCHRIFT

— № 62419 —

KLASSE 68: SCHLOSSEREI.

AUSGEGEBEN DEN 20. MAI 1892.

EMANUEL PECHNIK IN GROSS-PETERWITZ (OESTERREICH).

Schließseisen für Häftlinge.

Patentirt im Deutschen Reiche vom 3. October 1891 ab.

Early Berliner

- Bows are not protruding the lock house
- Only three lock positions
- The hinge is flush and covered with a cap.
- More "hand crafted" than later specimen.

















Articulated bows, probably
a prototype.



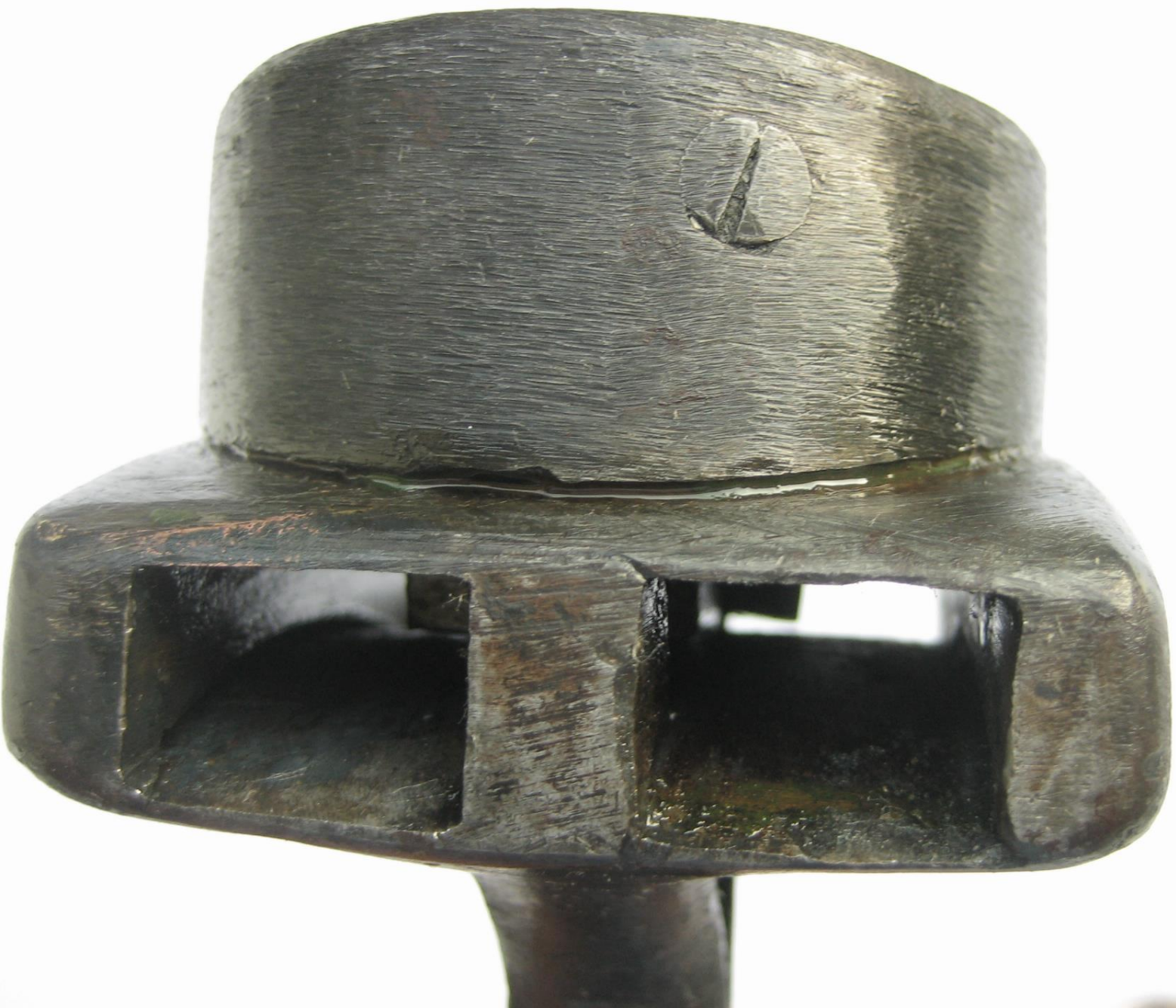
Later Berliner

- The bows are protruding the lock house.
- Visible hinge pin.
- 4 – 5 lock positions.

Round top















A lock construction with round discs
and leaf springs



Rectangular top



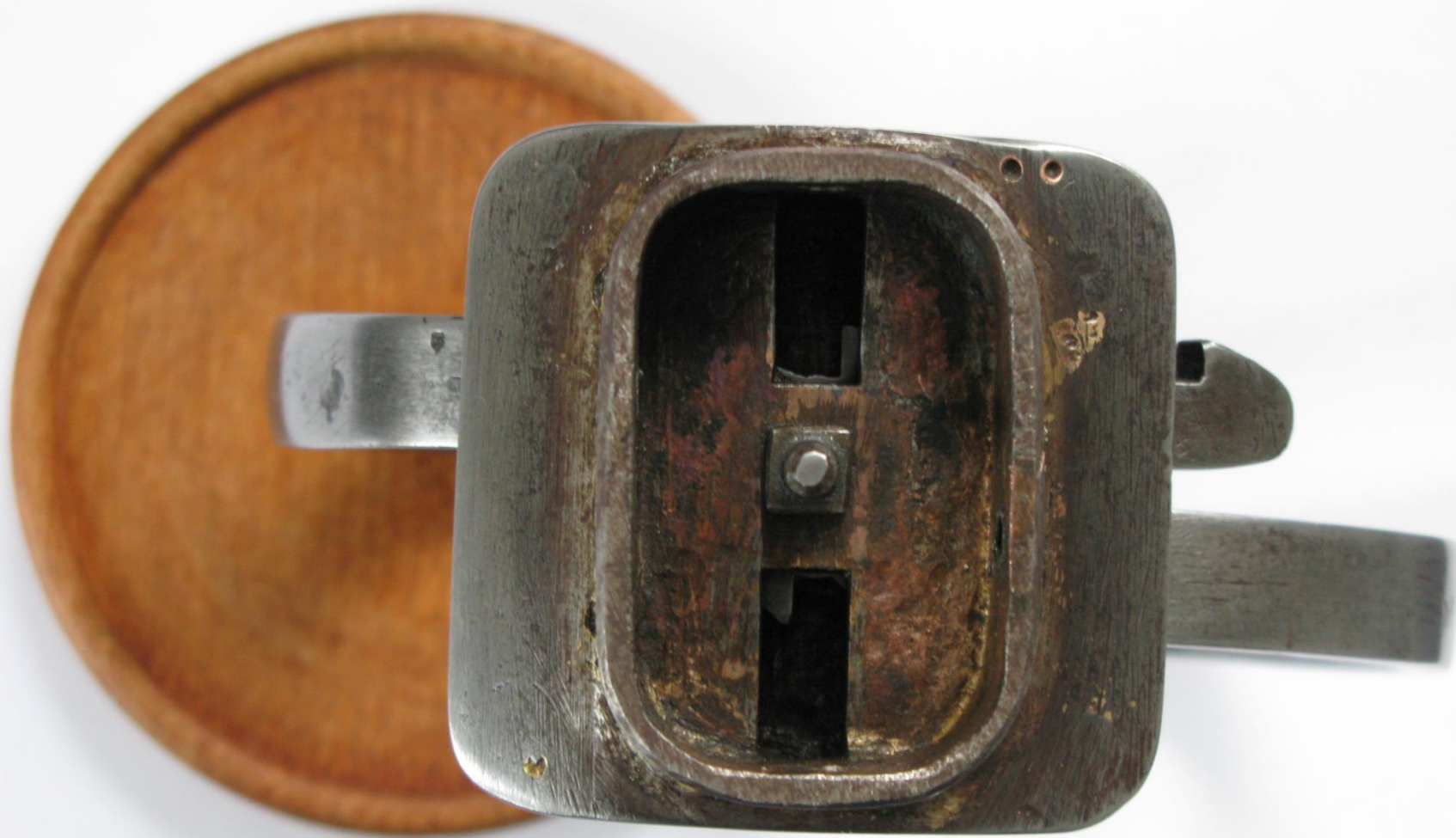




A lock construction with rectangular discs and coil springs



















Altered Berliner used in East Germany





Double hinged...





Oval top





Half a Berliner, half a figure of 8.
Probably a prototype from the past.









Thanks for listening!

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