

A S T R A "Cub" Pistol

MODEL - 2000

CALIBER .22 SHORT



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THE ASTRA «CUB» PISTOL (MODEL 2.000)
CALIBER .22 SHORT

The Astra «Cub», Model 2000, utilizing caliber .22 Short ammunition, was built with regard to the same principles, both mechanical and ballistic, on which the function of all models of Astra pistols is based. In its design this pistol was destined for use in plinking or personal defense. Inherent in this pistol are the best conditions for this utilization and, what is more, it is sturdy, perfectly adjusted and mechanically precise. This is characteristic of all the arms produced by Astra—Unceta y Compañía, S. A., which for 45 years has been dedicated exclusively to the manufacture of firearms which are universally accepted. This guarantees the perfection of the «Cub» pistol, since it assures that past experiences were fully referred to before the pistol was placed on sale.

The Astra «Cub» is a firearm of semi-automatic type with magazine. It has an exterior hammer, by which the pistol can be easily cocked with a simple motion of the thumb. The total weight of the pistol is carefully distributed to assure perfect balance, and the shape of the grip and the position of the trigger both contribute to natural «pointing» and ease in firing.

SAFETY FEATURES

1.—The pistol is provided with a thumb safety (Figure 1) so located that it is easily reached by the thumb when the pistol is held in the right hand, making it simple to change the safety lever from «safe» to «fire». This safety acts on the trigger which remains locked to all movement when the body of the safety is opposed to the mass of the trigger, thus preventing movement of the trigger. When the thumb safety is turned to fire position (Figure 2) the safety bar no longer blocks the trigger, allowing movement of the trigger for firing (Figure 3).

2.—The pistol also has a magazine safety, which guarantees additional safety of the arm when a live round is in the chamber, thus permitting firing of the cartridge only when the magazine is replaced. In effect, (Figure 4), the magazine, when in place, maintains the piece «a» in such a position that no part of it obstructs the trigger. However, when the magazine is removed (Figure 5), the piece «a», through the action of its self-contained spring, engages a notch in the trigger, thus preventing any movement of the trigger and discharge of the gun. Because of the contact between the sear and the hammer, the pistol, when loaded and with the hammer cocked, cannot be discharged involuntarily. The pistol in this way is secure and safe and even if the hammer accidentally releases while cocking there is little risk that the pistol will fire. To fire the pistol it is necessary that the trigger actually be pulled, requiring voluntary action to do so. In effect, when the hammer is cocked (Figure 6), it is drawn back on its axis from position I to position II, at the same time, the sear, mov-



FIGURE 1

The thumb safety is within easy reach of the thumb of the right hand which holds the pistol.



FIGURES 2 & 3

The trigger cannot be moved as long as the solid bulk of the safety bar bears against the trigger. It can be moved only when the relieved portion of the safety bar faces the trigger.



FIGURE 4

The magazine completely inserted in the pistol maintains the magazine safety (a) in a position that does not obstruct free movement of the trigger.

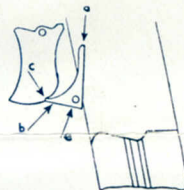


FIGURE 5

With the magazine removed the magazine safety (a) rotates on its axis by means of its spring, engaging the trigger and preventing trigger movement.

ing also on its axis, is displaced and comes to rest in the notches or teeth of the hammer. Once in position II the hammer remains immovable, so placed that the point of the sear is engaged below the second tooth or notch of the hammer, thus impeding its advance. Only when the shooter, pressing on the trigger, causes the trigger bar to bear against the sear, moving it to position III, the hammer is then launched forward against the firing pin. If, when the hammer is in the motion between position I and position II, it should slip from under the thumb of the shooter, it would come to rest on the first tooth against the sear (half cock notch), position IV, thereby rendering it safe.

