



FN 15[®]
GUARDIAN[™]

**AUTOLOADING RIFLE
OWNER'S MANUAL**

Important operating instructions for:

FN 15® GUARDIAN™

If you have any questions or comments regarding your new firearm, please contact us.

FN Service Center
797 Old Clemson Rd
Columbia, SC 29229

(800) 635-1321
customerservice@fnamerica.com
www.fnamerica.com

Please use the space below to record information about your new firearm.

Model _____

Serial Number _____

Purchased From _____

Date of Purchase _____

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1. FOREWORD

ALWAYS KEEP THIS MANUAL WITH YOUR FIREARM. INCLUDE IT WITH THE FIREARM WHEN IT CHANGES OWNERSHIP OR WHEN IT IS LOANED OR PRESENTED TO ANOTHER PERSON.

***NOTICE!* THE MANUFACTURER AND/OR ITS LOCAL OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTORS ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCT MALFUNCTIONS, PHYSICAL INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE IN WHOLE OR IN PART FROM THE CRIMINAL OR NEGLIGENT USE OF THE PRODUCT, IMPROPER OR CARELESS HANDLING, RELOADED, HAND-LOADED OR REMANUFACTURED AMMUNITION, CUSTOMER ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF THE PRODUCT, OR OTHER INFLUENCES BEYOND THE MANUFACTURER'S DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE CONTROL.**

⚠ WARNING

ALL FIREARMS HAVE LETHAL POTENTIAL. READ THE BASIC SAFETY RULES CAREFULLY AND UNDERSTAND THEM FULLY BEFORE HANDLING THIS FIREARM.

In addition to the basic safety rules there are other safety rules pertaining to the loading, unloading, disassembly, assembly and use of this firearm located throughout this manual.

⚠ WARNING

READ THE ENTIRE MANUAL CAREFULLY BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM. MAKE SURE THAT ANY PERSON USING OR WHO HAS ACCESS TO THIS FIREARM READS AND UNDERSTANDS ALL OF THIS MANUAL BEFORE USE OR ACCESS.

⚠️WARNING

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW AND ABIDE BY FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS GOVERNING THE SALE, TRANSPORTATION AND USE OF FIREARMS IN YOUR AREA.

CALIFORNIA STATE WARNING, SAFETY AND WARRANTY NOTES ACCORDING TO STATE LAW, CALIFORNIA REQUIRES THAT FIREARMS MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS AND RETAILERS INCLUDE CONSPICUOUS, SPECIFIC WARNINGS WITH FIREARMS SOLD IN THAT STATE

⚠️WARNING

“Children are attracted to and can operate firearms that can cause severe injuries or death. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded when not in use. If you keep a loaded firearm where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison.”

⚠️ADVERTENCIA

“A los niños los atraen las armas de fuego y las pueden hacer funcionar. Ellos pueden causarse lesiones graves y la muerte. Evite que los niños tengan acceso a las armas de fuego guardándolas siempre con llave y descargadas cuando no las esté utilizando. Si usted tiene un arma de fuego cargada en un lugar en que un niño tiene acceso a ella y la usa indebidamente, le pueden dar una multa o enviarlo a la cárcel.”

2. BASIC SAFETY RULES



READ THIS MANUAL BEFORE HANDLING YOUR FIREARM.

FIREARMS CAN BE DANGEROUS AND CAN POTENTIALLY CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY, DAMAGE TO PROPERTY OR DEATH, IF HANDLED IMPROPERLY. THE FOLLOWING SAFETY RULES ARE IMPORTANT REMINDERS THAT AS A FIREARMS OWNER SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR CARELESS OR ABUSIVE HANDLING OF ANY FIREARM. HANDLE THIS FIREARM AND ALL OTHER FIREARMS WITH RESPECT FOR THEIR POWER AND POTENTIAL DANGER AT ALL TIMES.

- 1. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF YOUR FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, EVEN IF YOU ARE CERTAIN IT IS UNLOADED.**

Never point any firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot even if you are certain it is unloaded. Stay alert and be aware of all persons and property within the range of your ammunition.

- 2. NEVER RELY TOTALLY ON YOUR FIREARM'S MECHANICAL "SAFETY" DEVICES. LIKE ANY MECHANICAL DEVICE, A "SAFETY" CAN SOMETIMES FAIL; IT CAN BE JARRED OR INADVERTENTLY MANIPULATED INTO AN UNSAFE CONDITION.**

Remember, safe gun handling does not stop with your firearm's mechanical "safety" devices, it starts there. Always treat this firearm with the respect due a loaded, ready-to-fire firearm. The word "safety" describes a firearm's trigger block mechanism, sear block mechanism, hammer block mechanism or striker block mechanism. Mechanical "safeties" are designed to place your firearm in a safer status, and no guarantee can be made that the firearm will not fire even if the "safety" is in the on safe position. Mechanical "safeties" merely aid safe gun handling and are no

excuse for pointing your firearm's muzzle in an unsafe direction. Some firearms do not have a mechanical safety. Many target firearms, lever-action firearms and pistols do not have manual "safety" mechanisms. Therefore, it is critical to read and understand the owner's or operator's manual for every firearm that you use, which explains the safe operation of the firearm. While it is a good idea to "test" your firearm's mechanical "safety" periodically for proper function, never test the "safety" while your firearm is loaded or pointed in an unsafe direction. See Section 7 for instructions on the operation of this firearm's "safety" mechanisms.

3. KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER AT ALL TIMES UNTIL SHOOTING IS IMMINENT.

4. KEEP ALL FIREARMS UNLOADED DURING TRANSPORT, EVEN WHEN STORED IN A GUN CASE, SCABBARD OR OTHER CONTAINER.

For law enforcement, military personnel and authorized individuals, refer to the procedures of your organization or to the state and local laws and guidelines on carrying a loaded firearm.

5. BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND BACKSTOP.

Clearly identify your target and what is beyond. Know the range of your ammunition and where the bullet will land if the target is missed, or the bullet penetrates the target. Special care must be taken when shooting in low light conditions which make target identification and backstop conditions harder to assess. Never shoot at water or hard objects. Shooting at the surface of water or at rock or other hard surfaces increases the chance of ricochets or fragmentation of the bullet which can result in the bullet striking an unintended target.

6. WHENEVER YOU HANDLE ANY FIREARM, OR HAND IT TO SOMEONE, ALWAYS OPEN THE ACTION IMMEDIATELY AND VISUALLY CHECK THE FIREARM'S CHAMBER AND

MAGAZINE TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED.

Completely unload your firearm as described in Section 7. Make certain the firearm does not inadvertently contain any ammunition. Remember, merely removing the magazine does not mean the chamber is unloaded. Always keep the chamber empty and your fingers away from the trigger unless shooting is imminent.

7. STORE YOUR FIREARM AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY, WELL BEYOND THE REACH OF CHILDREN.

Store all firearms in secure, locked cases or a gun safe and store ammunition separately from your firearms. Keep your firearm unloaded when not in use. Take prudent safeguards to ensure your firearm does not become available to children, untrained, inexperienced or unauthorized people. At all times, comply with local and state laws concerning the possession and storage of firearms.

8. USE ONLY THE PROPER AMMUNITION FOR YOUR FIREARM.

Use only factory-loaded, new ammunition manufactured to SAAMI or CIP specifications. Be certain that each round you use is of the proper caliber or gauge and type for the particular firearm. The caliber of the FN 15® is located on the rear of the barrel or marked on the lower receiver. The use of reloaded or remanufactured ammunition can increase the likelihood of case head ruptures or other defects in the ammunition that can cause damage to your firearm and injury to yourself or others nearby.

9. PROPERLY MAINTAIN YOUR FIREARM, PRACTICE PERIODIC MAINTENANCE AND AVOID UNAUTHORIZED SERVICING.

Store and carry your firearm so debris does not accumulate in the working parts. Clean and oil your firearm following the instructions provided in this manual after each use to prevent corrosion damage or accumulation of debris. Make sure that no obstructions remain in the

barrel. Firing with an obstruction in the barrel can cause extensive damage to your firearm and serious injury to yourself and others.

⚠WARNING

DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTER THE TRIGGER, SAFETY OR OTHER PARTS OF THE FIRING MECHANISM OF THIS OR ANY OTHER FIREARM. FAILURE TO OBEY THIS WARNING MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOURSELF OR OTHERS.

Your firearm is a mechanical device and as such, is subject to wear and requires periodic inspection and service. FN firearms should be serviced by the FN Service Center or FN departmental armorer. FN cannot assume any responsibility for injuries suffered or damage caused by unauthorized servicing, alterations or modifications of FN firearms.

10. ALWAYS WEAR EYE AND HEARING PROTECTION WHEN SHOOTING.

Unprotected, repeated exposure to gunfire can cause hearing damage. Wear hearing protection (shooting earplugs or earmuffs) to guard against such damage.

Wear shooting glasses to protect your eyes from flying particles. Allow proper distance (also known as eye relief) between a scope and your eye when firing a scoped rifle or shotgun. Do not use unorthodox shooting methods that could cause the rearward travel of the slide or bolt of a firearm to contact your eyes, face or hands. Always keep a safe distance between the muzzle and ejection port of your firearm and any persons nearby, as muzzle blast, debris and ejecting shells could inflict serious injury. Always wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning your firearm to prevent the possibility of springs, spring-tensioned parts, solvents or other agents from contacting your eyes.

11. AVOID DROPPING FIREARMS OR SHOOTING FROM UNSTABLE POSITIONS.

Shooting from unstable positions is dangerous. Doing so increases the risk of falling or dropping the firearms. The following rules should always be observed.

Always make certain that your firearm is unloaded when climbing or navigating obstacles and ensure that the surface that you are firing the rifle from is safe and stable. Dropping a firearm from an elevated position increases the risk of damage or unintended discharge.

⚠WARNING

DROPPING OR JARRING A LOADED FIREARM CAN CAUSE AN UNINTENDED DISCHARGE. BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL DURING ANY SHOOTING ACTIVITY OR WHEN CARRYING A LOADED FIREARM TO AVOID DROPPING IT.

12. BE ALERT TO THE SIGNS OF AMMUNITION MALFUNCTION.

If when firing, a cartridge has a different sound or lighter recoil than normal, do not load another cartridge into the chamber. If your firearm fails to fire, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction for a minimum of 30 seconds.

Rotate the ejection area of the firearm away from you, carefully open the action and eject cartridge by pulling back on the charging handle.

If the primer is indented, the defective cartridge should be disposed of in a way that cannot cause harm. If the primer is not indented, your firearm should be examined by the FN Service Center or your departmental armorer and the cause of the malfunction corrected before further use. Inspect the barrel following the instructions in Section 17.

Beware of barrel obstructions, remove the bolt carrier assembly as detailed in Section 15 and inspect the barrel for obstructions before shooting. Mud, snow and an infinite variety of other objects may inadvertently lodge in a barrel bore. If an obstruction is seen, no matter

how small it may be, clean the bore with a cleaning rod and patch as described in Section 17 of this manual. It only takes a small obstruction to cause dangerously increased pressures that can damage your firearm and cause serious injury or death to yourself and others.

13. MAKE SURE OF ADEQUATE VENTILATION IN THE AREA THAT YOU DISCHARGE A FIREARM.

Exposure to lead and other toxic chemicals can occur from discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms or handling ammunition. Lead is a substance that has been known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injury. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure to ammunition or after cleaning a firearm.

14. BE DEFENSIVE AND ON GUARD AGAINST UNSAFE GUN HANDLING AROUND YOU AND OTHERS.

Don't be timid when it comes to gun safety. If you observe other shooters violating any of these safety precautions, politely suggest safer handling practices.

15. BE CERTAIN YOUR FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE CLEANING.

Many gun accidents occur when a firearm is being cleaned so special care should be taken to ensure your firearm is unloaded before disassembly, cleaning and reassembly. Keep ammunition and other flammable or dangerous objects away from the cleaning location. Never test the mechanical safety function of any firearm with live ammunition.

16. TEACH AND SUPERVISE FIREARMS SAFETY TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD, ESPECIALLY TO CHILDREN AND NON-SHOOTERS.

Closely supervise newcomers to the shooting sports. Encourage enrollment in firearm and shooting safety courses.

17. NEVER DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR TAKE JUDGEMENT/REFLEX IMPAIRING MEDICATION OR

DRUGS BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING. CONSULT YOUR PHYSICIAN FOR PERSONALIZED MEDICAL ADVICE.

Your vision, motor skills and judgment could be dangerously impaired, making your gun handling unsafe to you and to others.

18. READ AND HEED ALL WARNINGS IN THIS OWNER'S MANUAL, ON AMMUNITION BOXES AND WITH ALL ACCESSORIES THAT YOU INSTALL ON YOUR FIREARM.

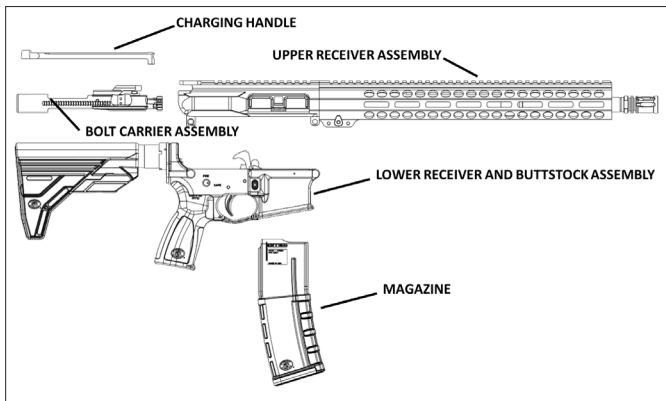
It is your responsibility to secure the most up-to-date information on the safe handling procedures for your FN firearm. FN assumes no liability for incidents which occur when unsafe or improper rifle accessories or ammunition combinations are used.

NOTICE! FN RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICING A FIREARM WHICH HAS BEEN MODIFIED BY REMOVAL OF METAL FROM THE BARREL OR SLIDE, MODIFICATIONS OF THE FIRING MECHANISM AND/OR OTHER PARTS, AND WILL, IN SUCH A CASE, ALWAYS RECOMMEND RESTORING THE FIREARM TO ITS ORIGINAL SPECIFICATIONS. PARTS AND LABOR REQUIRED FOR SUCH A RESTORATION ARE PAYABLE BY THE OWNER OF THE FIREARM. DO NOT REMOVE ANY PARTS OR COMPONENTS REQUIRED BY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW.

3. DESCRIPTION

The FN 15 is a direct gas impingement-operated, semi-automatic repeating firearm based on the proven design of the M16 series of firearms successfully used by the U.S. Military for decades. It will prove to be easy to use, very accurate and extremely reliable. This information applies to the basic operation of the FN 15 firearm, regardless of the specific model you may have purchased. Where there are differences, these differences are explained or are included in a separate addendum included with your FN 15.

FIGURE 1



Magazine – Consists of polymer construction that holds cartridges for feeding and provides a guide to position cartridges for stripping. The magazine has a 30-round capacity.

Lower Receiver and Buttstock Assembly (serialized item) - Consists of a forged aluminum construction that contains the trigger assembly, safety lever, pistol grip, bolt catch/release and magazine release. The lower receiver is equipped with a 6-position adjustable buttstock.

Bolt Carrier Assembly - Consists of the bolt assembly, bolt carrier with gas key, cam pin, firing pin retaining pin and firing pin.

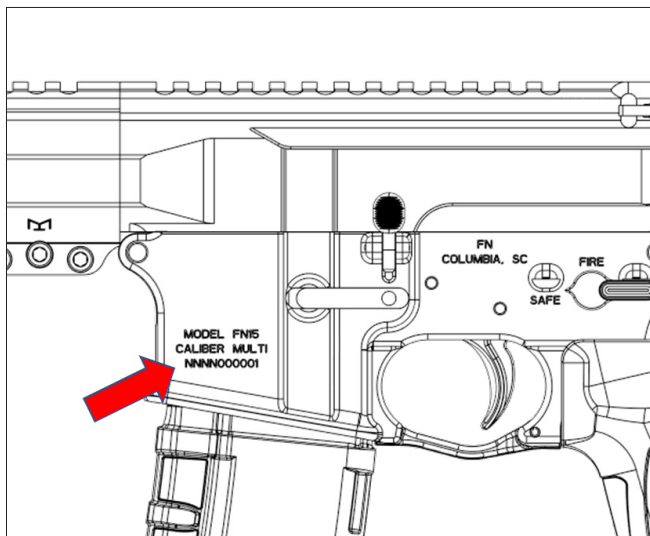
Upper Receiver Assembly - Consists of a forged aluminum construction that contains a MIL-STD 1913 picatinny top rail, barrel assembly and free float handguard.

Charging Handle - The charging handle, when manipulated, results in the bolt carrier assembly being pulled to the rear and putting the hammer into the “cocked” position

4. SERIAL NUMBER

The serial number is located on the left side of the lower receiver, on the outside of the magazine well. Record the serial number at the front of this Owner's Manual and in another secure location for future reference.

FIGURE 2



5. NOMENCLATURE

In conventional firearm terminology, the position and movement of parts are described as they occur with the firearm horizontal and in normal firing position, i.e., the muzzle is forward or in front; the buttstock is rearward or to the rear; the trigger is downward or underneath; the sights are upward or on top. For general parts nomenclature, refer to Figure 3 and 4.

FIGURE 3

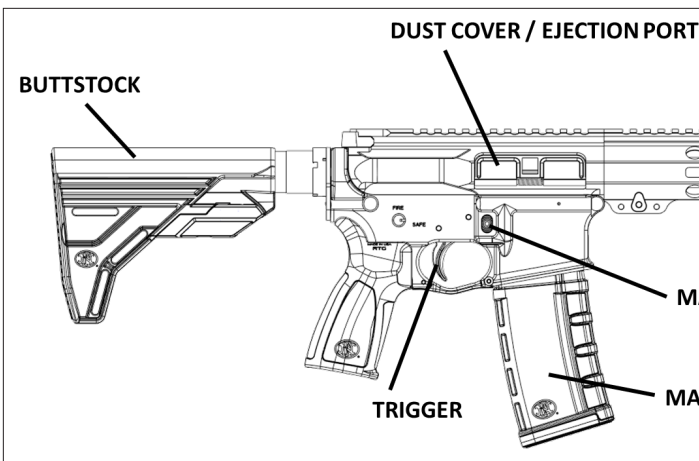
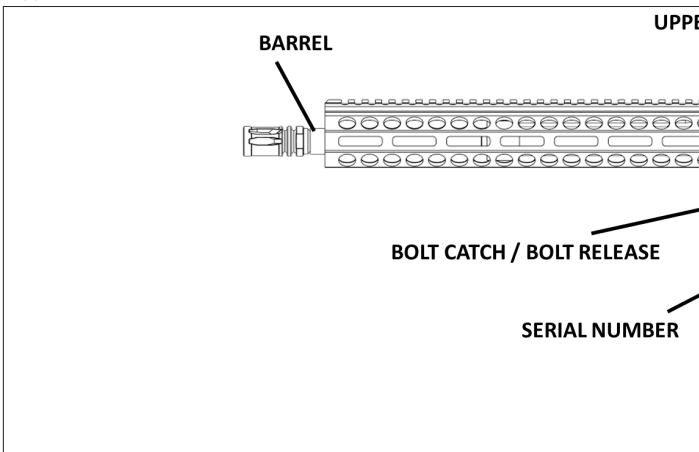
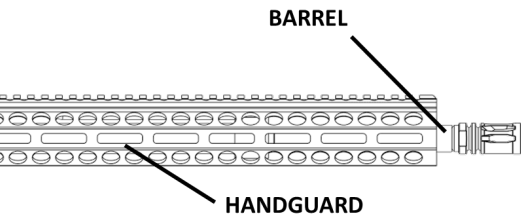


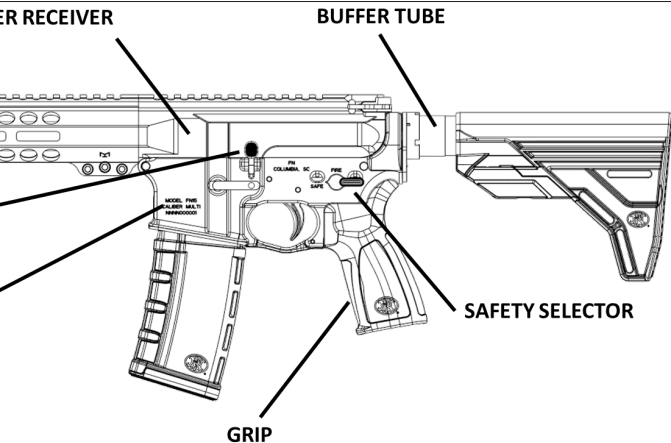
FIGURE 4





MAGAZINE RELEASE BUTTON

MAGAZINE



6. INITIAL CLEANING



WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN ASSEMBLING AND DISASSEMBLING YOUR FIREARM TO PREVENT SPRINGS, SPRING-LOADED PARTS, SOLVENTS AND OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

Various exposed metal parts of this firearm have been coated at the factory with a rust preventative compound. This compound is not an ideal lubricant. Before using the firearm, clean the anti-rust compound from the inside of the barrel, receiver, bolt carrier assembly and the action/chamber areas with gun bore cleaner or CLP (cleaner, lubricant, protectant) as explained in Section 16.

If your firearm is to be stored, it is acceptable to leave the rust preventative compound on the firearm and keep it in its original packaging. Never fire the firearm upon purchase without cleaning it first. If the firearm contains hardened grease or other substances that you cannot remove, have the firearm checked by a gunsmith.

7. OPERATION

Fully understanding the cycle of operation for the FN 15 will greatly reduce downtime should the firearm not function properly.

(1) **FEEDING** begins as the bolt carrier group returns forward and the front of the bolt contacts the magazine's next round. Once a round is pushed far enough forward, the case rim will clear the magazine feed lips and will move toward the chamber.

(2) **CHAMBERING** starts as the projectile's tip clears the barrel extension and enters the chamber.

(3) **LOCKING** occurs as the bolt carrier's continued forward momentum causes the extractor to move over the case rim; the bolt cam pin rotates in the bolt carrier's cam pin slot, forcing the bolt locking lugs to rotate in the barrel extension.

(4) FIRING begins by pulling the trigger. With firearm in “fire” mode, pulling the trigger will cause the disconnecter to disengage the trigger’s front sear, allowing the hammer to fall. The hammer will strike the firing pin, which, in turn, strikes the primer’s discharging powder. As the bullet passes the barrel’s gas port, expanding gases travel through the gas port and into the gas tube. Gases impart energy onto the bolt carrier’s gas key, initializing its movement to the rear. Movement of bolt carrier starts the next phase.

(5) UNLOCKING occurs as the bolt carrier moves rearward. The bolt cam pin starts to rotate in the cam slot on top of the bolt carrier, turning the bolt until the locking lugs are clear to move to the rear, free of the barrel extension.

(6) EXTRACTING occurs when the bolt carrier pulls the bolt rearward and the extractor pulls the case from chamber.

(7) EJECTING occurs when the front of the case clears the front edge of the ejection port while the ejector pushes on the left side of the case head. This action and continued movement of bolt carrier to the rear causes the casing to strike the brass deflector and then clear the firearm.

(8) COCKING occurs when the bolt carrier moves to the rear far enough to contact the hammer and push it down and to the rear until fully compressed. As the bolt carrier moves all the way to the rear, the buffer spring is fully compressed. This action forces the bolt carrier forward. Cocking starts while ejection is occurring. The rearward motion of the bolt carrier pushes the hammer in the cocked position. As the trigger is held to the rear, the hammer is immediately engaged by the disconnecter and remains in the cocked position. When the trigger is released, the disconnecter releases the rear tooth of the hammer and immediately engages the trigger’s front sear. Pulling the trigger again releases the hammer from the trigger’s front sear and allows hammer to strike the firing pin.

The cycle of operation is continuous until (1) stopped by the user, (2) the magazine is empty, or (3) the user incurs a stoppage or malfunction at which time the user should begin troubleshooting procedures.

7.1 OPERATION OF THE SAFETY SELECTOR LEVER

⚠WARNING

ALWAYS KEEP THE SAFETY SELECTOR LEVER IN THE “SAFE” POSITION UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER.

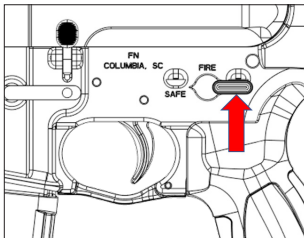
The Safety Selector Lever has two positions: SAFE and FIRE and is located above and behind the trigger. This location allows the selector lever to be easily manipulated with the thumb of the right hand, or the index finger of the left hand for left-handed shooters.

7.2 SAFETY SELECTOR LEVER POSITIONS

SAFE - When the selector lever is in the “SAFE” position, the firearm is in a safe condition; rearward movement of the trigger is completely blocked.

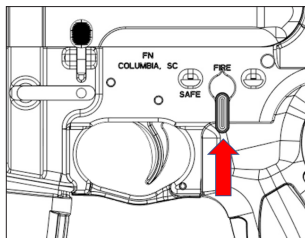
Safe position should be set when a cocked rifle is not operational or when it should be loaded or transported without any risk. In this position, the trigger’s rear lug is in contact with selector cam’s solid portion, which

FIGURE 5



Safety shown in the on-safe position.

FIGURE 6



Safety selector in the off-safe position (fire).

locks the trigger and prevents firing.

FIRE - When the selector lever is in the “FIRE” position, the trigger can be pulled to fire the rifle if ammunition has been loaded into the chamber. In this position, the trigger’s rear lug is aligned with the selector cam’s undercut, allowing the trigger to move each time the operator pulls it. As a result, the rifle will fire one shot each time the trigger is pulled.

7.3 OPERATION OF THE BOLT RELEASE AND BOLT LOCK

WARNING

WHEN USING THE BOLT RELEASE, ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER. UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT, ALWAYS REMOVE THE MAGAZINE FROM THE FIREARM BEFORE CLOSING THE BOLT TO PREVENT INADVERTENTLY LOADING A CARTRIDGE FROM THE MAGAZINE INTO THE CHAMBER.

WARNING

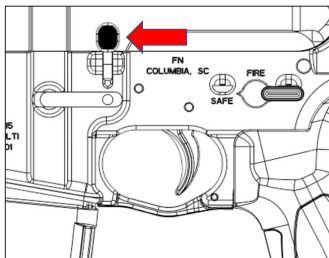
MAKE SURE YOUR FINGERS ARE SAFELY AWAY FROM THE EJECTION PORT AT ALL TIMES WHEN THE BOLT IS LOCKED OPEN AND WHEN THE BOLT IS RELEASED TO AVOID PINCHING THEM WHEN THE BOLT CLOSSES.

The bolt release is located on the left side of the lower receiver, just above and in front of the trigger. It automatically engages after the last cartridge in the magazine has been fired and locks the bolt to the rearmost, open position.

To release the bolt, press inward on the top of the bolt release paddle. This will allow the bolt to return to the forward position.

The bolt release can also be activated using the charging handle by pulling the charging handle all the way to the rear, which will disengage the bolt release. Depending on the condition of the firearm, the charging handle can be released, allowing the recoil spring force to close the bolt;

FIGURE 7



Location of the bolt release.

inward on the bottom portion of the bolt release with the left hand. Once the bolt carrier is held to the rear by the bolt release, push the charging handle forward, back into the upper receiver, leaving the bolt locked open.

7.4 LOAD MAGAZINE ASSEMBLY

Magazine Description - The standard magazine is 30-round capacity and may be loaded with any amount up to that capacity. The magazine follower has raised portions generally resembling the outline of a cartridge. Cartridges are loaded into the magazine with bullet tips pointing in the same direction as the follower's raised portion; ensure rear of cartridge is oriented to rear of magazine.

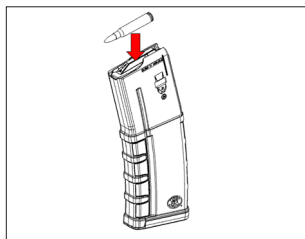
Loading the magazine with individual rounds:

1. Push each cartridge straight down through feed lips and to rear until seated.

or, while maintaining control of the charging handle, the bolt carrier can be slowly closed. When using the controlled closing method, ensure the bolt goes completely into battery and the charging handle latches.

The bolt release can also be used to lock the bolt carrier in the rearward position. To lock the bolt in the open or rearward position, activate the charging handle latch and pull the charging handle all the way to the rear with the right hand and press

FIGURE 9



Press each cartridge straight down into the magazine and to the rear.

2. Repeat until the desired number of rounds is loaded. Do not exceed 30 rounds.

NOTE! TO ENSURE THE BASE OF THE ROUNDS ARE PROPERLY SEATED TOWARDS THE REAR OF THE MAGAZINE, LIGHTLY TAP REAR END OF THE MAGAZINE BODY OVER THE PALM OF YOUR HAND.

8. AMMUNITION

FN specifically disclaims responsibility for any damage or injury occurring with, or as a result of, the use of faulty, non-standard, remanufactured, hand-loaded or reloaded ammunition, or cartridges other than those for which the firearm was originally chambered. Serious damage, injury or death could result from the use of incorrect ammunition, from firing against a bore obstruction or from propellant overloads. Use of improper ammunition, such as listed previously will void all applicable warranties. Use only commercially manufactured ammunition made in accordance with SAAMI (Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute) or CIP (Commission internationale permanente pour l'épreuve des armes à feu portatives "Permanent International Commission for the Proof of Small Arms") standards. Be certain that the ammunition is the appropriate caliber and loading for the firearm and is clean, dry and in good condition. The caliber of your FN rifle is marked in a visible location.

CAUTION: CAREFULLY INSPECT EACH CARTRIDGE BEFORE IT IS LOADED IN THE MAGAZINE. BE CERTAIN THE CARTRIDGE CASE IS NOT SPLIT OR DEFORMED AND THAT THE CARTRIDGES DO NOT POSSESS ANY OTHER DENTS OR DEFECTS.

For best results, use new factory-manufactured ammunition from a reputable manufacturer. Primers, powder, cartridge cases and bullets can deteriorate with time and cause damage to the firearm or injury to the shooter or others.

The FN 15 is chambered in 5.56x45mm NATO. Please use only ammunition which the firearm is chambered for. If you have concerns about the compatibility of a particular ammunition type with your FN firearm, contact FN Customer Service.

CAUTION: STORE ALL CARTRIDGES OF DIFFERENT CALIBERS IN SEPARATE AND WELL-MARKED CONTAINERS. NEVER STORE CARTRIDGES OF MIXED CALIBERS IN A COMMON CONTAINER OR IN YOUR POCKETS.

9. LOADING AND UNLOADING THE FIREARM

The FN 15 can be loaded with the bolt locked open or closed.

9.1 LOADING THE FIREARM – BOLT OPEN

To load the firearm when the bolt carrier is locked to the rear (caused by firing the last round in the magazine or manually locking it to the rear).

1. Make sure the safety selector lever is in the “SAFE” position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Insert a loaded magazine into the magazine well until it locks in place.
3. Tap upward on magazine, then pull downward on magazine, to ensure magazine is properly seated and locked into position.
4. Release the bolt carrier by pressing the top of the bolt release or by pulling the charging handle all the way to the rear and releasing it.

9.2 LOADING THE FIREARM – BOLT CLOSED

To load the firearm when the bolt is closed.

1. Make sure the safety selector lever is in the “SAFE” position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Insert a loaded magazine into the magazine well until it locks in place. Note, if the magazine is full to capacity it may be difficult to seat.
3. Tap upward on magazine, then pull downward on magazine, to ensure

magazine is properly seated and locked into position.

4. Chamber a round by pulling the charging handle all the way to the rear and releasing it.

CAUTION: WHEN LOADING THE FIREARM DO NOT USE THE CHARGING HANDLE TO SLOW THE BOLT CARRIER. THIS COULD CAUSE A FEEDING ISSUE OR KEEP THE BOLT FROM GOING INTO BATTERY.

9.3 UNLOADING THE FIREARM AND SAFETY CHECK

⚠ WARNING

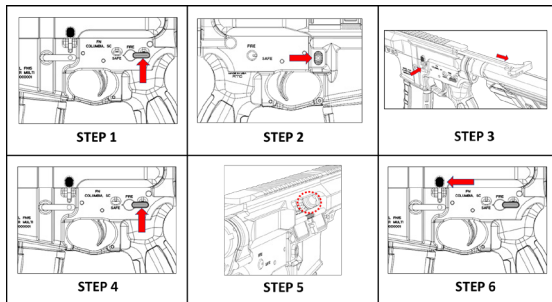
TO BE CONSIDERED SAFE BEFORE DISASSEMBLY, CLEANING, INSPECTING, TRANSPORTING, OR STORING, YOUR FIREARM MUST BE UNLOADED AND CLEARED.

Use the Safety Check procedures outlined below to unload the firearm

Carry out the following procedures to unload the FN 15 and ensure the firearm can be manipulated, stored and/or transported without any risk.

1. Ensure the firearm is on “SAFE” and pointed in a safe direction.
2. Remove the magazine by depressing the magazine release.

FIGURE 10



3. Lock the bolt carrier group to the rear by pulling the charging handle and depressing the bolt catch.
4. Verify again that the firearm is on “SAFE.”
5. Visually and physically inspect the chamber to ensure it is empty.
6. Press bolt catch and watch bolt close on an empty chamber.

10. BUTTSTOCK ADJUSTMENT

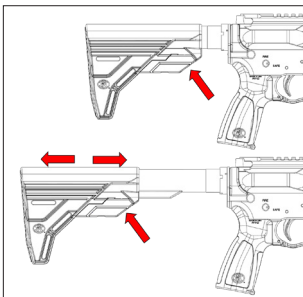
Collapsible Buttstock

The FN 15 carbine collapsible buttstock features a locking system that allows the length of pull to be adjusted as well as collapsed for more compact carry. It can be adjusted to six positions.

To adjust the FN buttstock:

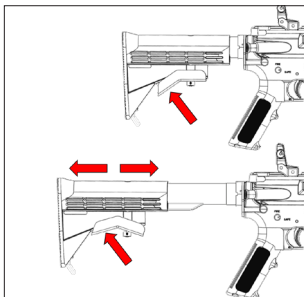
1. Make sure the Safety Selector Lever is in the “SAFE” position, the firearm is unloaded, and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Push the buttstock latch in.
3. Move the buttstock rearward or forward to the desired length.

FIGURE 11



Adjusting FN stock.

FIGURE 12



Adjusting Mil-Spec buttstock.

4. Release the latch and ensure the buttstock is securely locked into position.

11. INSTALLING ACCESSORIES

WARNING

BEFORE INSTALLING ANY ACCESSORIES, SIGHTS, LASERS OR OTHER DEVICES ON THE FIREARM, PLACE THE SELECTOR LEVER IN THE “SAFE” POSITION, EJECT THE MAGAZINE, LOCK THE BOLT OPEN AND MAKE CERTAIN THE CHAMBER IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

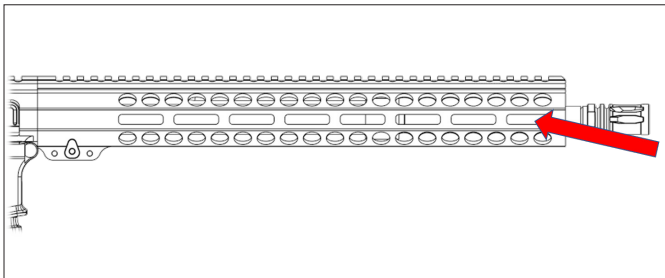
WARNING

DO NOT MOUNT ANY SIGHT, LASER, OR OTHER DEVICE WHICH INTERFERES WITH NORMAL OPERATION OF THE CARBINE OR EXTENDS BEYOND OR IN FRONT OF THE MUZZLE. ENSURE ANY SIGHT OR DEVICE ATTACHED TO THIS RAIL SYSTEM IS FIRMLY MOUNTED.

11.1 M-LOK ACCESSORY INSTALLATION

Refer to the manufacturer's installation instructions when attaching M-LOK accessories to your handguard.

FIGURE 13



M-LOK handguard.

11.2 OPERATION AND INSTALLATION OF BACK UP IRON SIGHTS (BUIS)

The FN 15 firearm may come with one of a variety of front and rear sight options. Some of the sights come preinstalled, while others are packaged separately and require installation. Depending on which model purchased, your FN 15 may have one of the following sight options below or may be detailed in a separate addendum that is supplied with your firearm.

BEFORE INSTALLING SIGHTS, PLACE THE SELECTOR LEVER IN THE “SAFE” POSITION, EJECT THE MAGAZINE, LOCK THE BOLT OPEN AND MAKE CERTAIN THE CHAMBER IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

11.2.1 FOLDING FRONT AND REAR SIGHT INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL

The backup iron sight (BUI) is provided as a primary sighting system or backup sighting system if an optic is also being used. The BUI will fold down when not in use and can be quickly deployed when needed.

1. The rear BUI must be mounted in the rearmost slot and the front BUI must be mounted in most forward slot on the upper receiver for the range adjustments and zeroing procedures to be correct. Using the locking bar and the recoil screw, align the recoil screw in the rearmost slot with the range scale facing rearward.
2. Loosen the recoil screw.
3. Make sure the BUI is flat on the receiver rail with the angled edge under the upper receiver rail.
4. Using a 3mm hex wrench tighten the recoil screw until the BUI does not slide forward or rearward by hand force, then tighten an additional 1/4 turn using a 2-inch-long hex wrench or torque to 3Nm/26in-lbs using a torque wrench. Do not over tighten.
5. To remove the BUI, loosen recoil screw enough for the locking nut to clear the rail and lift off the receiver rail

11.2.2 DEPLOYMENT OF THE FRONT AND REAR SIGHT

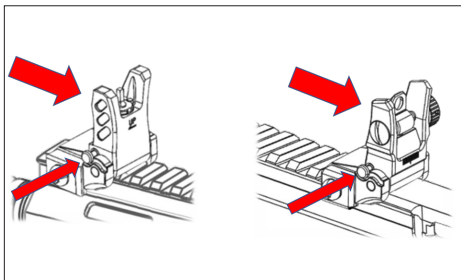
The BUI is designed to fold down and out of the way of an optic. To fold down, push the locking pin in towards the sight, hold and fold the sight down. To deploy the sight, pull up on the sight until it locks into place.

11.2.3 REAR SIGHT APERTURE

The rear sight has two sight apertures that flip up and down.

- The large aperture is used for short range (0 – 200 meter), low light conditions, or when a larger field of view is required.
- The small aperture is used for zeroing and for normal firing

FIGURE 14



Deploying front and rear sights.

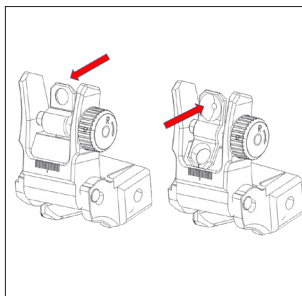
conditions. When this aperture is up, the windage index line is visible and corresponds with the windage index lines on the back of the rear sight housing.

Adjusting the aperture from small to large is accomplished by flipping down the small aperture until it locks into place.

11.2.4 SIGHT ADJUSTMENT AND ZEROING

The FN 15 firearm may come with a variety of front and rear sights depending on the specific model. The design of the sights provided by FN are based on U.S. Military sights used on the M4/M16 Firearm system and, regardless of which sights come with your FN 15, the basics of zeroing will be the same. The sights are calibrated for 5.56mm NATO 62-grain M-855 ball ammunition; preset distance markings may not be accurate with the use of other ammunition.

FIGURE 15



Rear sight aperture.

11.2.5 BASICS OF ZEROING IRON SIGHTS

1. Elevation adjustments to the firearm are made by adjusting the front sight post only.
2. The front sight is marked with an arrow and “UP.” When moving the post in the direction of the arrow, the bullet impact will change (move up) on the target. To move the bullet impact down, move the front sight post in the opposite direction.
3. Windage adjustments to the firearm are made by rotating the rear sight windage knob.
4. The windage knob is marked with an arrow and “R” or “RIGHT.” When rotating the knob in the direction of the arrow, the bullet impact will move to the right on the target. To move the bullet impact to the left, turn the knob in the opposite direction.

11.2.6 FOLDING SIGHTS

The rear sight windage knob is engraved with an arrow showing the direction of impact change. When adjustments are made, the rear sight will move inside the housing and the setting can be recorded from the index lines on the housing when the small aperture is up.

The front sight post can be adjusted for elevation using a standard M16/M4 front sight tool, a small punch or the tip of a projectile by depressing the front sight plunger and rotating the post in the necessary direction. Each click of front sight adjustment is equal to approximately 1.5 MOA.

11.2.7 ZEROING PROCEDURE

These instructions are based on 25-meter zeroing procedure and yields

a 25-meter and 300-meter zero when M-855 Ball ammo is used.

Aperture Setting - Flip the rear sight so the small aperture is up and the windage index line is visible.

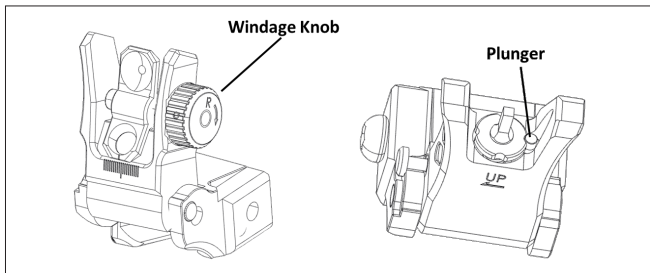
Windage Adjustment - The windage knob is adjusted as needed to obtain zero. Rotating the windage knob clockwise moves the impact to the right; rotating the knob counterclockwise moves the impact to the left. Each click of windage adjustment is equal to approximately .75 MOA for guns with 14.5-inch sight radius.

Elevation Adjustment - Elevation adjustment is made using the front post adjustment knob. Adjust the front sight post as needed to obtain zero. Each click of front sight adjustment is equal to approximately 1.5 MOA.

NOTE - Once zero is obtained, it is recommended that the front sight not be used for elevation corrections due to changes in distance.

11.2.8 SIGHT ADJUSTMENT CHANGES FOR ZEROING

FIGURE 16



Windage and Elevation adjustments.

Front Sight Post Height Adjustment	
Distance	Change in impact (per click)
25 meters	1.2cm (1/2")
100 meters	4.8cm (1-7/8")
200 meters	9.6cm (3-3/4")
Rear Sight Windage Adjustment	
Distance	Change in impact (per click)
25 meters	0.5cm (3/16")
100 meters	1.9cm (3/4")
200 meters	4.8cm (1-1/2")
300 meters	5.7cm (2-1/4")
400 meters	7.6cm (3")
500 meters	9.5cm (3-3/4")
600 meters	11.4cm (4-1/2")

12. FIRING

WARNING

NEVER CHAMBER A CARTRIDGE OR MOVE THE SAFETY SELECTOR LEVER FROM THE "SAFE" POSITION UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

1. Load the magazine and firearm as described in section 7.
2. When ready to fire, move the safety selector lever into the "FIRE" position, take aim and squeeze the trigger.

3. After a cartridge has been fired, the bolt carrier automatically moves rearward, ejecting the empty case, then returns forward, chambering a cartridge from the magazine. Note: the charging handle does not move during the firing sequence.

Because fired casings are ejected to the right side, bystanders should not stand to the right of the shooter.

4. This operation is repeated each time you pull the trigger until the last cartridge from the magazine has been fired. If shooting is no longer imminent, immediately place the safety selector lever in the “SAFE” position. See “Unloading” in 9.0 for more information.
5. After the last cartridge in the magazine is fired, the bolt will lock in the rearward position. If you wish to continue shooting, you can reload the firearm by removing the empty magazine and loading the firearm as described above.

If your firearm is to be put away and stored, do not reload the firearm or magazine. The chamber and magazine must remain empty when storing your firearm.

⚠ WARNING

DURING EXTENDED SHOOTING SESSIONS OR RAPID FIRING, THE BARREL AND FRONT SIGHT ASSEMBLY CAN BECOME EXTREMELY HOT. AVOID CONTACT WITH THESE PARTS DURING SHOOTING OR WEAR GLOVES TO PREVENT BURNING YOUR HANDS. DO NOT FIRE THE FN 15 WITHOUT THE HANDGUARDS IN PLACE. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.

13. TROUBLESHOOTING PROCEDURES

WARNING

IF A NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE IN SOUND OR RECOIL IS EXPERIENCED, STOP FIRING. EITHER CONDITION COULD INDICATE INCOMPLETE POWDER BURN AND/OR PROJECTILE STUCK IN THE BORE. RETRACT THE BOLT SLOWLY AND REMOVE THE FIRED CARTRIDGE CASE. CLEAR THE FIREARM AND CHECK FOR UNBURNED POWDER GRAINS OR PROJECTILE LODGED IN BORE. REMOVE UNBURNED POWDER OR BULLET FROM BORE BEFORE RESUMING FIRING. IF A BULLET IS STUCK IN THE BORE, TAKE THE FIREARM TO A GUNSMITH OR QUALIFIED ARMORER.

13.1 STOPPAGES AND MALFUNCTIONS

- A stoppage is failure of a semi-automatic or an automatic firearm to complete its cycle of operation. The user can apply immediate or remedial action to clear stoppages. Some stoppages that cannot be cleared by immediate or remedial actions could require repair to correct the problem.
- A malfunction is caused by procedural or mechanical failure of the rifle, magazine or ammunition. Function checks and preventative maintenance checks identify potential problems before they become malfunctions. Repeated malfunctions can indicate a firearm requires cleaning and lubrication or inspection by the FN Service Center or departmental armorer.
- Should you incur a stoppage or malfunction, the recommended first action to get firearm back into service is referred to as an immediate action.

13.2 IMMEDIATE ACTION

Immediate action involves quickly applying possible correction to overcome a stoppage based on initial observation or indicators but without determining actual cause. To apply immediate action, perform the following steps:

1. TAP - Aggressively TAP the bottom of the magazine to ensure it is properly seated and magazine follower is not jammed.
2. RACK - RACK the charging handle fully to rear and check the chamber (observe for ejection of live or expended cartridge). If a round is not present in the chamber or partially fed from the magazine, release the charging handle (do not ride it forward) allowing bolt to go forward under spring tension.
3. ASSESS - ASSESS the situation and attempt to reengage the target as necessary.

Apply immediate action only one time for any given stoppage. If the firearm still fails to fire, do not apply immediate action again. Inspect the firearm to determine the cause of the stoppage or malfunction and take the appropriate remedial action.

13.3 REMEDIAL ACTION

WARNING

IF FIREARM STOPS FIRING WITH A LIVE ROUND IN THE CHAMBER OF A HOT BARREL, REMOVE THE MAGAZINE AND ROUND AS FAST AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, IF THE ROUND CANNOT BE REMOVED WITHIN 10 SECONDS, REMOVE THE MAGAZINE AND WAIT 15 MINUTES WITH FIREARM POINTING IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO DO SO CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY DUE TO POTENTIAL OF THE ROUND COOKING OFF. REGARDLESS, KEEP YOUR FACE AWAY FROM THE EJECTION PORT WHILE CLEARING A HOT CHAMBER.

Remedial action is a continuing effort to determine the cause for a stoppage or malfunction and attempt to clear the stoppage once it has been identified. To apply remedial action, perform following steps:

1. Attempt to place the firearm on safe.
2. LOCK - Pull and LOCK the charging handle to the rear.
3. REMOVE - REMOVE the magazine from the firearm.
4. WORK – WORK the firearm's action and clear any obstructions from the chamber area.
5. LOOK - LOOK through the ejection port to visually inspect the firearm for any obvious broken parts or obstructions.
6. RELOAD - RELOAD the firearm with a new magazine.
7. Attempt to reengage the target as necessary.

Should remedial action fail to get the firearm to fire, the firearm should undergo thorough cleaning, inspection and lubrication.

If the firearm still fails to fire after thoroughly cleaning, inspecting and lubricating, there has likely been a part failure and the FN Service Center or departmental armorer should further inspect the firearm.

13.4 MALFUNCTIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- The table below lists common malfunctions that may occur during the operation or maintenance of the rifle or its components. Perform function checks and corrective action in the order listed.
- This manual does not list all malfunctions that may occur, nor all tests and inspections and corrective actions. If a malfunction is not corrected by listed corrective actions, please contact the FN Service Center or your departmental armorer.
- Ammunition. Ammunition issues can cause problems with firearm systems. If you experience similar problems across multiple firearms, please inspect your ammunition. If your ammunition is found to be faulty,

dispose of it in accordance with local ordinances.

- Magazine. Inspect magazines for large dents to the body, spring tension or damage to the feed lips. Use a new or different magazine.
- Firearm. Inspect for issues with the firearm, first identify where the problem originates in regard to the cycle of operation.
- Should problems occur with the firearm, use the following guidelines to identify the source and corrective action necessary. Eliminate the following areas in order to prevent wasting time:

13.4.1 FAILURE TO FEED, CHAMBER OR LOCK

Malfunctions can occur when loading a firearm or during the cycle of operation. Once a magazine has been loaded into rifle, forward movement of the bolt carrier group could lack enough force (generated by expansion of the buffer spring) to feed, chamber and lock the first round. While firing, the cycle of operation is interrupted by failure to strip the round from the magazine, to chamber the round and to lock it.

Failure to fire a cartridge. Failure of the cartridge to fire despite the fact that a round has been chambered, the trigger was pulled and the sear has released the hammer. This occurs when the firing pin fails to strike the primer with enough force or when the ammunition is bad.

Failure to extract and eject. Failure to extract occurs when the cartridge case remains in rifle chamber. When the bolt and bolt carrier recoil fully to the rear, a cartridge case is remains in the chamber. Then, another round is forced into base of the cartridge case as the bolt returns in the next feed cycle. This malfunction is one of the hardest to clear.

Failure to extract is considered an extremely serious malfunction, requiring use of tools to clear. Should the malfunction fail to be cleared, a live round could remain in the chamber and be accidentally discharged. If a second live round were to feed into the primer of the chambered round, the rifle could experience catastrophic failure and

cause personal injury.

Severity of a failure to extract malfunction determines the corrective action procedures. If the bolt has moved rearward far enough so that it strips a live round from magazine in its forward motion:

- Bolt and carrier must be physically held to the rear.
- Magazine and all loose rounds must first be removed before clearing the stoppage.
- Ensure the bolt and carrier are physically held to the rear and keep your face away from muzzle; tapping the butt of firearm on a hard surface usually causes the cartridge to fall out of the chamber.
- However, if the cartridge case is ruptured, it can be seized. When this occurs, a cleaning rod can be inserted into chamber from the muzzle end.
- Tapping the cleaning rod against the inside of fired cartridge case will clear cartridge from chamber.
- When cleaning and inspecting, the extractor and chamber reveal no defects but failure to extract persists, it is possible that the chamber surface is damaged, and the barrel must be replaced.

13.4.2 FAILURE TO EJECT

Failure to eject a cartridge is an element in the firearm's cycle of functioning, regardless of the mode of fire. This malfunction occurs when a cartridge is not ejected through the ejection port and either remains partly in the chamber or becomes jammed in the upper receiver as the bolt closes. When the user initially clears the rifle, the cartridge could strike the inside surface of the receiver and bounce back into path of the bolt.

13.4.3 OTHER MALFUNCTIONS

Most probable malfunctions that can occur are as follows:

- Failure of bolt to remain in the rearward position after last the round in magazine is fired. Check for bad magazines or short recoil.
- Failure of bolt to lock in the rearward position when bolt release has been engaged. Check the bolt release; replace as required.
- Failure of the magazine to lock into the rifle. Check the magazine and magazine catch for damage. Contact the FN Service Center or departmental armorer to adjust the catch; replace as required.
- Failure of any part of the moving parts assembly to function. Check for incorrect assembly of components. Correctly clean and assemble the moving parts assembly or replace damaged parts.
- Failure of ammunition to feed from the magazine. Check for a damaged magazine. Damaged magazines could cause repeated feeding failures and should be replaced.

13.4.4 MALFUNCTIONS AND CORRESPONDING CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

MALFUNCTION	TEST OR INSPECTION	CORRECTIVE ACTION
Failure to feed, chamber, lock	Excess dirt or debris in and around moving parts assembly	Disassemble, clean, inspect and reassemble.
	Defective magazine (dented or bulged)	Replace Magazine.
	Magazine improperly loaded	Inspect, unload, and reload ammunition into magazine.
	Defective round	Unload magazine, remove round and load magazine.
	Debris in chamber area	Clean chamber area.
	Debris in and around bolt lugs and chamber area	Clean bolt lugs and chamber area.
	Short recoil	Pull charging handle rearwards to engage bolt carrier
Failure to fire	Light indentation on primer of round	Inspect ammunition.
	Defective firing pin	Inspect bolt carrier group. Paying close attention to firing pin tip.
Failure to extract	Short recoil	Inspect chamber area and remove fired cartridge case.
	Damaged extractor or weak/broken extractor spring	Inspect extractor.
	Weak or broken buffer spring	Inspect buffer spring for wear or damage.
	Restricted movement of bolt carrier group	Disassemble, clean, inspect and reassemble.
	Excessively dirty firearm	Disassemble, clean, inspect and reassemble.
Failure to eject	Damaged extractor or weak/broken extractor spring	Inspect extractor.
	Excessively dirty firearm, Damaged ejector/ ejector spring	Disassemble, clean, inspect and reassemble.

14. DISASSEMBLY

WARNING

BEFORE PERFORMING THIS DISASSEMBLY PROCEDURE, PLACE THE SAFETY SELECTOR LEVER IN THE “SAFE” POSITION, EJECT THE MAGAZINE, LOCK THE BOLT OPEN AND MAKE CERTAIN THE CHAMBER IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

WARNING

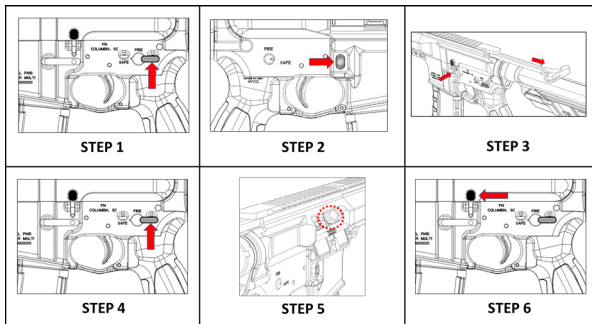
WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN DISASSEMBLING AND CLEANING YOUR FIREARM TO PREVENT SPRINGS, SPRING-LOADED PARTS, SOLVENTS AND OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

CAUTION: THIS FIREARM IS A SPECIALIZED, FINELY FITTED MECHANISM. YOU MAY DAMAGE IT BEYOND REPAIR OR LOSE SMALL PARTS BY ATTEMPTING TO DISASSEMBLE THE INNER MECHANICAL ASSEMBLIES. IF FURTHER DISASSEMBLY FOR SERVICE OR CLEANING BEYOND WHAT IS DESCRIBED HERE IS REQUIRED, SEND IT TO THE FN SERVICE CENTER IN COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

CAUTION: THE FOLLOWING DISASSEMBLY PROCEDURES ARE DESIGNED TO BE PERFORMED WITH FINGER PRESSURE ONLY AND NO TOOLS ARE TO BE USED. IF YOU CANNOT COMPLETE THE DISASSEMBLY PROCEDURES DESCRIBED WITHOUT THE USE OF TOOLS, STOP, AND CONTACT THE FN SERVICE CENTER IN COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

14.1 SAFETY CHECK

FIGURE 17



Safety Check.

Carry out the following procedures to ensure the FN 15 can be manipulated, stored and/or transported without any risk.

1. Ensure the firearm is on “SAFE” and pointed in a safe direction.
2. Remove the magazine by depressing the magazine release.
3. Lock the bolt carrier group to the rear by pulling the charging handle to the rear and pressing the bolt catch.
4. Verify the firearm is on “SAFE.”
5. Visually and physically inspect the chamber, ensuring it is empty.
6. Press the bolt catch and watch bolt close on an empty chamber.

14.2 DISASSEMBLY

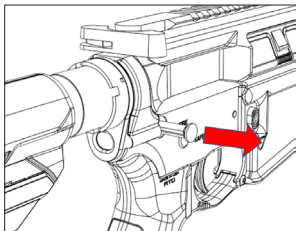
⚠ WARNING

DO NOT TRY TO REMOVE THE TAKEDOWN PIN ON THE LOWER RECEIVER. THE TAKEDOWN PIN IS RETAINED IN THE LOWER RECEIVER BY THE TAKEDOWN PIN DETENT.

Point the firearm in a safe direction. Release lower receiver. From the left side of firearm, push in on the takedown pin; pull out from the right until the lower receiver is released from the upper receiver. Allow the upper receiver to rotate downwards onto the pivot pin. Extra care should be taken when separating the upper and lower receivers. Because of the mounting device on the rail, there is minimal clearance between the rail and the lower receiver. The rail may come in contact with the lower receiver causing damage to the rail, the lower receiver and potentially pinching your hand.

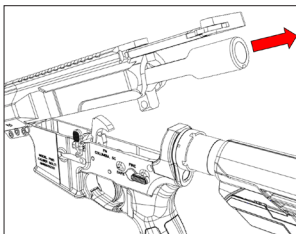
Remove the bolt carrier group from the upper receiver by depressing the charging handle latch and withdrawing it rearward from the upper receiver. (Figure 18 and 19)

FIGURE 18



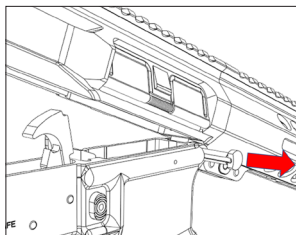
Push out rear pin.

FIGURE 19



Remove bolt carrier group.

FIGURE 20



Remove the upper receiver from lower receiver.

Remove the upper receiver from the lower receiver by pressing the pivot pin on left side of the firearm and pulling out from the right until the two halves (upper and lower receiver) separate. (Figure 20)

⚠ WARNING

DO NOT TRY TO REMOVE PIVOT PIN ON LOWER RECEIVER. PIVOT PIN IS RETAINED IN LOWER RECEIVER BY PIVOT PIN DETENT.

⚠ WARNING

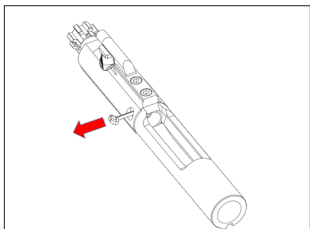
IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO COMPLETELY DISASSEMBLE THE REMAINDER OF MOVING PARTS ASSEMBLY FOR HASTY APPLICATION OF LUBRICANT. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CONSIDER ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS PRIOR TO DISASSEMBLING ENTIRE MOVING PARTS ASSEMBLY.

14.2.1 DETAILED DISASSEMBLY OF THE BOLT CARRIER GROUP

Remove the firing pin retaining pin by pulling it out of the left side of the bolt carrier. (Figure 21)

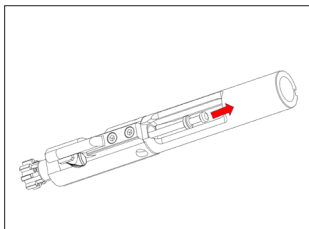
Remove the firing pin by pulling it out of the rear of the bolt. (Figure 22)

FIGURE 21



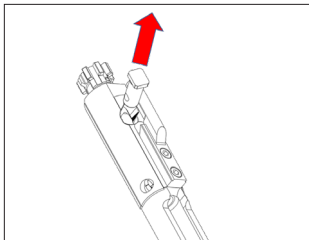
Remove retaining pin.

FIGURE 22



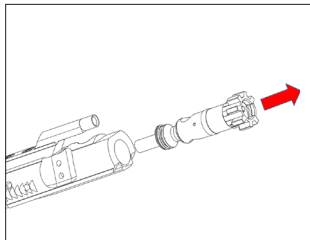
Remove firing pin.

FIGURE 23



Rotate cam pin and remove.

FIGURE 24



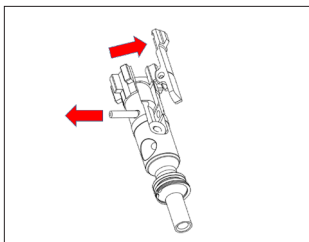
Remove bolt.

Rotate the bolt cam pin 90 degrees and then pull it out of the bolt carrier. (Figure 23)

Remove the bolt out of the front of the bolt carrier. (Figure 24)

Use the firing pin to push the extractor pin out of the bolt assembly, taking care not to lose the extractor pin. The extractor assembly can now be removed from the bolt assembly. (Figure 25)

FIGURE 25

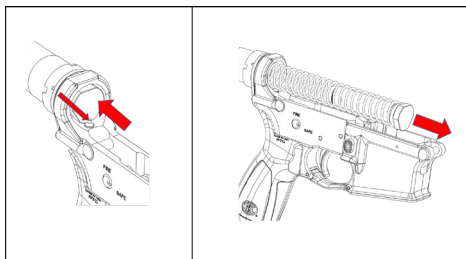


Rotate cam pin and remove.

CAUTION: IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED TO DISASSEMBLE THE BOLT ASSEMBLY OR BOLT CARRIER GROUP BEYOND THIS POINT FOR NORMAL CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE.

14.2.2 REMOVE THE BUFFER AND BUFFER SPRING FROM THE LOWER RECEIVER

FIGURE 26



Remove buffer assembly.

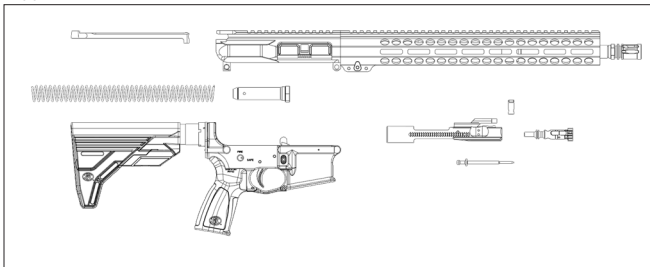
Ensure the hammer is cocked. Slightly press rearward on the buffer assembly to relieve the spring tension. While doing so, press down on the buffer retainer to release the buffer and action spring from the lower receiver. (Figure 26)

⚠ WARNING

ALL SPRING-LOADED ASSEMBLIES ARE UNDER SPRING TENSION; UNINTENTIONAL RELEASE WILL RESULT IN FLYING PARTS AND POSSIBLE INJURY.

The firearm is now fieldstripped for cleaning and maintenance.

FIGURE 27



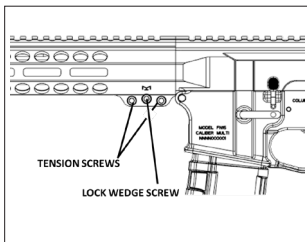
14.2.3 REMOVE THE HANDGUARD FROM THE UPPER RECEIVER

CAUTION: UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS, REMOVAL OF THE HANDGUARD IS NOT NECESSARY FOR MAINTENANCE.

Remove the locking wedge by loosening the center socket head cap screw with a 5/32" hex wrench or hex head driver. Do not completely remove the screw, loosen it until the socket head is just clear of the side of the handguard. Do not remove the wrench. Using a small hammer, lightly tap on the end of the hex wrench to loosen the locking wedge.

Completely remove the locking wedge and screw. Remove the remaining socket head cap screws with the same 5/32" hex wrench or hex head driver. The handguard can now be removed from the upper receiver by pulling away from the upper receiver until it is completely free of the barrel. (Figure 30)

FIGURE 28



Loosen and remove handguard tension screws.

FIGURE 29

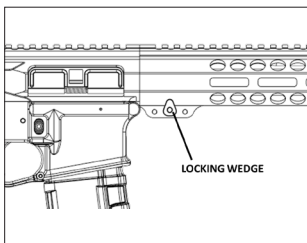
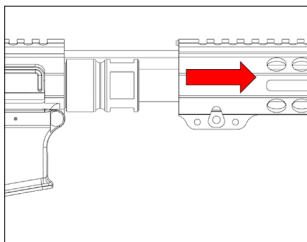


FIGURE 30



Slide handguard off of the barrel.

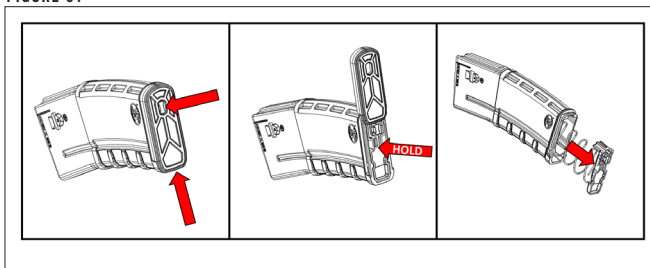
⚠ WARNING

ALL SPRING-LOADED ASSEMBLIES ARE UNDER SPRING TENSION; UNINTENTIONAL RELEASE WILL RESULT IN FLYING PARTS AND POSSIBLE INJURY.

14.2.4 DISASSEMBLY OF THE 30-ROUND MAGAZINE

1. Using a cleaning rod or screwdriver, push on the tab on floor plate releasing it from the magazine body.
2. Ease the floorplate toward the rear of the magazine, maintaining tension on the floorplate lock your thumb. Remove the floorplate from the magazine body.
3. Remove the spring by pulling it slowly until the follower is removed completely from the magazine body.

FIGURE 31



15. ASSEMBLY

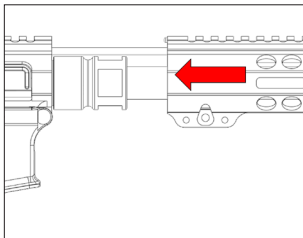
NOTE! IF THE HANDGUARD WAS REMOVED FOR MAINTENANCE, INSTALL THE HANDGUARD FIRST.

15.1 HANDGUARD INSTALLATION

Install the handguard onto the upper receiver by sliding it over the barrel and barrel nut. Align the anti-rotation pin with the corresponding hole in the upper receiver. Force the handguard the rest of the way over the barrel nut until the handguard is against the upper receiver. Use a rubber hammer if necessary.

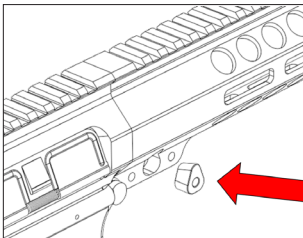
Install the locking wedge insert (small side inward) and thread the center socket head cap screw into the locking wedge with a 5/32" hex wrench or hex head driver, torque to 32-inch pounds, do not over tighten. Install the two remaining socket head cap screws with a 5/32" hex wrench or hex head driver, torque to 20-inch pounds, do not over tighten.

FIGURE 32



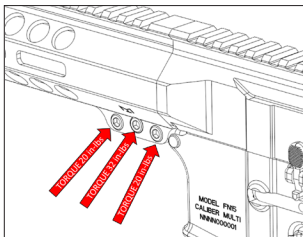
Align anti-rotation pin.

FIGURE 33



Install locking cam.

FIGURE 34

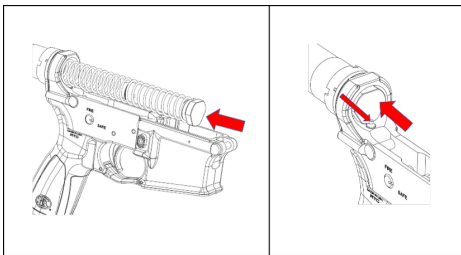


Tighten to appropriate torque values.

15.2 INSTALL THE BUFFER AND BUFFER SPRING

Ensure the hammer is in the cocked position. Install the buffer into the buffer spring. Insert the opposite end of the buffer and buffer spring into the buffer tube located in the lower receiver. Fully insert the buffer and buffer spring into the buffer tube until the buffer retainer locks them into place. (Figure 35)

FIGURE 35



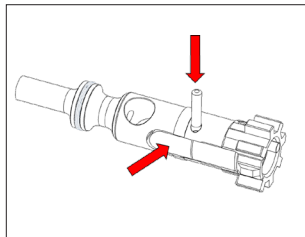
Insert buffer assembly.

15.3 REASSEMBLE THE BOLT AND BOLT CARRIER

Install the extractor into the bolt by setting it in place and pressing the extractor pin in place until flush on both ends. (Figure 36)

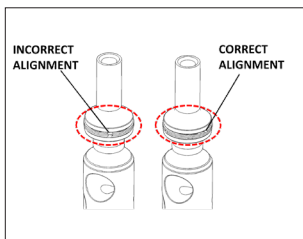
Ensure the gaps in the three gas rings of the bolt do not align and insert the rear end of the bolt into the front of the bolt carrier until it stops. (Figure 37 and 38)

FIGURE 36



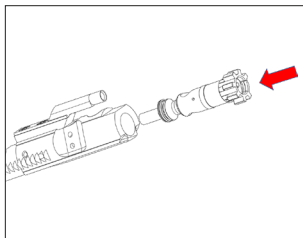
Install extractor.

FIGURE 37



Gas ring gaps.

FIGURE 38



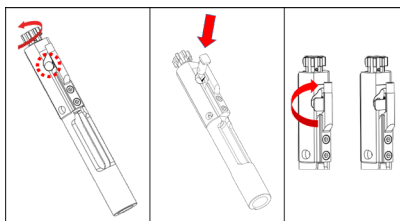
Install bolt.

Rotate the bolt in the bolt carrier until the bolt cam pin hole aligns with the bolt cam pin slot. Insert the cam pin into the cam pin hole located inside the bolt. If the cam pin does not fit, rotate the bolt 180 degrees inside the bolt carrier.

Once the cam pin is installed, rotate the cam pin 90 degrees in the cam pin hole. (Figure 39)

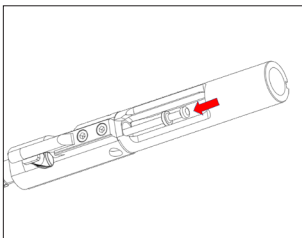
Insert the firing pin into the back of the bolt carrier and into the bolt. Insert the firing pin retaining pin into the bolt carrier. It should sit flush with the outside diameter of the bolt carrier and hold the firing pin in place. (Figure 40 and 41)

FIGURE 39



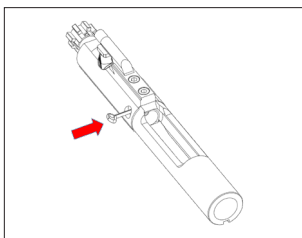
Insert cam, pin rotate 90 degrees.

FIGURE 40



Insert firing pin.

FIGURE 41



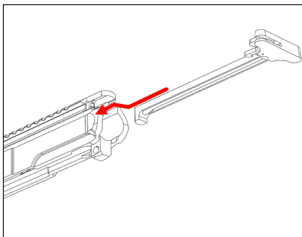
Insert retaining pin.

15.4 INSTALLING THE BOLT CARRIER GROUP INTO THE UPPER RECEIVER

Install the charging handle into the rear opening of the upper receiver. The charging handle has two guides that will fall into a keyway inside the upper receiver. Do not fully insert the charging handle at this time. (Figure 42)

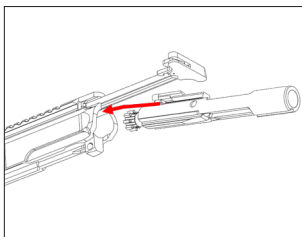
Ensure the bolt is fully extended in the bolt carrier and the cam pin sits underneath the gas key. Align the gas key with the inside of the charging handle. Insert the bolt carrier into the upper receiver. The bolt carrier should easily go fully forward, and the rear of the bolt carrier should be

FIGURE 42



Install charging handle.

FIGURE 43

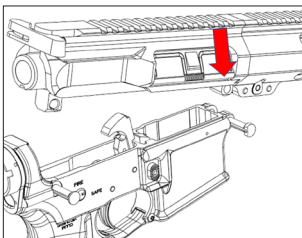


Install bolt carrier group.

flush with the back of the upper receiver. Push the charging handle all the way forward into its locked position. (Figure 43)

15.5 REASSEMBLE THE UPPER AND LOWER RECEIVERS

FIGURE 44



Reassemble upper and lower.

Ensure the front pivot pin is pulled out to the right, in the disassembly position. Align the front lower receiver pin and the front upper receiver pin hole; press the front pivot pin to the left until fully seated.

Rotate the upper and lower receivers together until the rear take down pin aligns with the rear pin hole. Press the pin to the left to secure both halves into place. (Figure 44)

15.6 FUNCTION CHECK

Carry out the following procedure to ensure the firearm has been properly reassembled.

1. Remove the magazine and ensure the firearm is clear and safe.
2. Point the firearm in safe direction.
3. Cycle firearm by pulling the charging handle and place the selector lever on "SAFE."
4. Attempt to pull the trigger; the hammer should not fall.
5. Place the selector lever on "FIRE."
6. Pull and hold the trigger to the rear; the hammer should fall. Do not release the trigger.
7. Cycle the firearm again by using the charging handle.

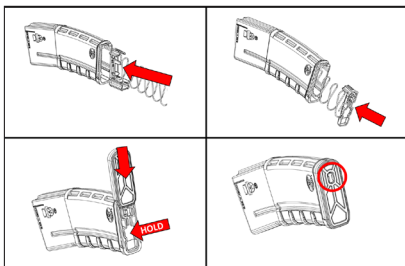
8. Slowly release the trigger; an audible click should be heard.
9. Pull and hold the trigger to rear; the hammer should fall.
10. Cycle the firearm one more time and place the selector on "SAFE."

15.7 REASSEMBLE THE 30-ROUND MAGAZINE ASSEMBLY

ALL SPRING-LOADED ASSEMBLIES ARE UNDER SPRING TENSION. UNINTENTIONAL RELEASE WILL RESULT IN FLYING PARTS AND POSSIBLE INJURY.

1. Insert the follower and spring into the body ensuring the follower is oriented in the proper direction.
2. Slowly work the follower and spring into the body until the floor plate lock is inside the magazine body.
3. Maintain pressure on the floor plate lock and ease the floorplate back into position.
4. Fully seat the floorplate into body until the tab on the floorplate lock goes into the cutout on the floorplate and locks the floorplate into the body.

FIGURE 45



Install follower and spring.

16. INSPECTION, CLEANING AND LUBRICATION

16.1 INSPECTION GUIDE

Prior to, during and after use, users should inspect the firearm and its components for any irregularities that may cause problems during operation. If any of the below potential deficiencies are noted, users should correct them immediately.

- Damaged or missing parts.
- Improper assembly or function.
- Restricted movement of any type, where applicable.
- Uncustomary looseness of barrel extension screws or parts.
- Parts exhibiting signs of cracks, burrs, dents or obvious signs of damage or stress.
- Lack of presence of tactile clicks in controls, where applicable.
- General overall cleanliness.
- Lack of proper lubrication.
- Presence of corrosion or degradation of surface finish.

Inspection Guide for Lower Receiver

- A. Inspect buffer for cracks or damage.
- B. Inspect buffer spring for kinks.
- C. Inspect buttstock for broken buttplate or cracks.
- D. Inspect for bent or broken selector lever.
- E. Inspect rifle grips for cracks or damage.
- F. Inspect for broken or bent trigger.
- G. Visually inspect the inside parts of the lower receiver for broken or missing parts.

FIGURE 46

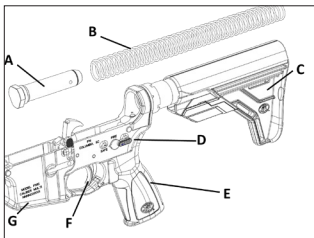
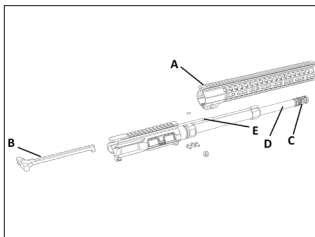


FIGURE 47



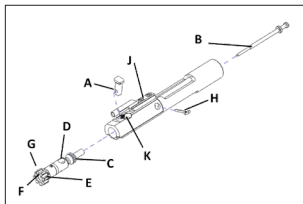
Inspection Guide for Upper Receiver and Barrel Assembly

- A. Inspect handguards for cracks or large dents.
- B. Inspect charging handle for cracks, bends or breaks.
- C. Inspect compensator for looseness.
- D. Inspect barrel for straightness.
- E. Inspect gas tube for bends or retention to barrel.

Inspection Guide for Bolt Carrier Group

- A. Inspect bolt cam pin for cracking or chipping.
- B. Inspect firing pin for bends, cracks or sharp or blunted tip.
- C. Inspect bolt for missing or broken gas rings.
- D. Inspect the bolt cam pin area for cracking or chipping.
- E. Inspect locking lugs for cracking or chipping.
- F. Inspect bolt face for excessive pitting.

FIGURE 48



- G. Inspect extractor assembly for missing extractor spring assembly with insert and for chipped or broken edge.
- H. Inspect firing pin retaining pin to determine if bent or badly worn.
- J. Inspect bolt carrier for loose bolt carrier key.
- K. Inspect for cracking or chipping in cam pin hole area.

16.2 CLEANING GUIDE

▲WARNING

WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN DISASSEMBLING AND CLEANING YOUR FIREARM TO PREVENT SPRINGS, SPRING-LOADED PARTS, SOLVENTS AND OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

▲WARNING

KEEP ALL AMMUNITION AWAY FROM THE CLEANING AREA. NEVER TEST THE MECHANICAL FUNCTION OF YOUR FIREARM WITH LIVE AMMUNITION.

CLEANING PROCEDURES

1. Unload, clear and place the firearm on safe; perform a safety check.
2. Fieldstrip the firearm.
3. Inspect the chamber and bore for powder fouling. A normal amount of powder residue can be expected and is not serious. It can usually be removed with a patch and commercially available gun bore cleaners or CLP (cleaner, lubricant and protectant) that conforms to MIL-L-63460.
 - 3.1. Attach the cleaning rods together.
 - 3.2. Point the muzzle down. Hold the receiver in one hand while inserting the male end of rod into the chamber. Let the rod fall straight through the bore, about 2 to 3 inches should be sticking out

of the muzzle.

3.3. Attach the handle adapter, and handle to the end of cleaning rod sticking out of muzzle and attach the appropriate caliber bore brush to female end sticking out of the chamber. DO NOT reverse direction while in the bore.

3.4. Apply gun bore cleaner to the bore brush and pull the bore brush through the bore out of the muzzle end. Remove the handle. Let the rod fall straight through the bore from the chamber end again and reattach the handle. Repeat the process until the bore shows minimal signs of debris.

3.5. Replace the bore brush with the rod patch eyelet (patch holder) and 1/2 clean patch. Pull it through the bore, out of the muzzle end.

3.6. After one pull, take off the handle and repeat the process. Replace the dirty patch with a clean patch and continue pulling through the bore (out of the muzzle end) until the patch shows minimal signs of debris.

3.7. Install the chamber brush on the cleaning rod and attach it to the T-handle rod. Insert the additional rod through the hole in the T-handle rod. Apply gun bore cleaner to the chamber brush and insert it into the chamber and locking lugs. Clean by pushing and rotating the cleaning rod clockwise.

CAUTION: DO NOT USE A STAINLESS-STEEL BORE BRUSH TO CLEAN THE BORE.

4. After all fouling has been removed, the chamber and bore should be wiped dry. When the bore is dry, pass a patch that is lightly lubricated with CLP through it for preservation.

5. Inspect the barrel and chamber to be certain no patches have inadvertently been left in them. Remove any that remain.

6. Use a small brush or rag to remove dirt and foreign matter from the inside of the upper and lower receivers and other parts of the action.

FIGURE 49

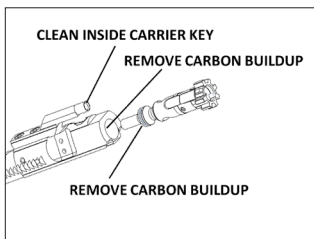
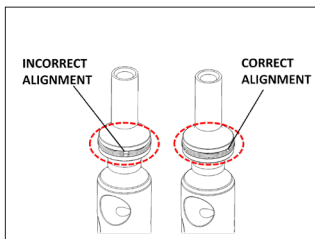


FIGURE 50



Lightly lubricate all moving parts with a high-quality lubricating gun oil or CLP.

7. Use a cleaning brush and gun bore cleaner to scrub the fouling from the bolt and bolt carrier. It may be necessary to use a bronze brush to remove carbon buildup from the tail of the bolt and interior of the bolt carrier. Use a pipe cleaner to clean inside the carrier key. It should pass through to the inside of the bolt carrier. The tail of the bolt and interior of the bolt carrier are not to be lubricated; wipe them dry after they have been cleaned.

8. Inspect the three gas rings on the tail of the bolt. Wipe them clean with a brush or patch. Ensure their gaps are not lined up.

CAUTION: DO NOT APPLY LUBRICANT TO THE GAS RINGS ON THE BOLT OR THE INTERIOR OF THE BOLT CARRIER. THESE COMPONENTS ARE NOT TO BE LUBRICATED IN ANY WAY. USING LUBRICATION IN THE GAS SYSTEM MAY DAMAGE THE FIREARM AND CAUSE MALFUNCTIONS.

9. Wipe all exposed metal surfaces with a lightly oiled cloth making certain that all fingerprints are removed.

10. Use a plastic bristled cleaning brush to clean any dirt or debris from the polymer stock parts and handguards. If the polymer parts

become excessively dirty, clean warm water may be used to rinse them off. Use a soft cloth to wipe them dry and clean. Use a pipe cleaner to clean the small port in the rear of the buffer tube on the buttstock assembly.

11. Do not use bronze or steel brushes to clean anodized aluminum parts as damage to the finish may result.

12. Use compressed air or polymer-safe aerosol gun cleaner to clean the trigger assembly. Do not attempt to disassemble the trigger mechanism for cleaning. Apply a few drops of lubricating gun oil or CLP to the moving parts.

CAUTION: DO NOT APPLY EXCESSIVE LUBRICANT TO ANY PART OF THE FIREARM. EXCESSIVE LUBRICATION COULD INTERFERE WITH THE FUNCTION OF YOUR FIREARM.

16.3 LUBRICATION GUIDE

Lubricants

High-Quality Lubricating Gun Oil or CLP – Cleaner, Lubricant and Preservative per MIL-L-63460

CAUTION: DO NOT LUBRICATE BORE AND CHAMBER FOR NORMAL USE.

General Guidelines for using Lubrication Guide

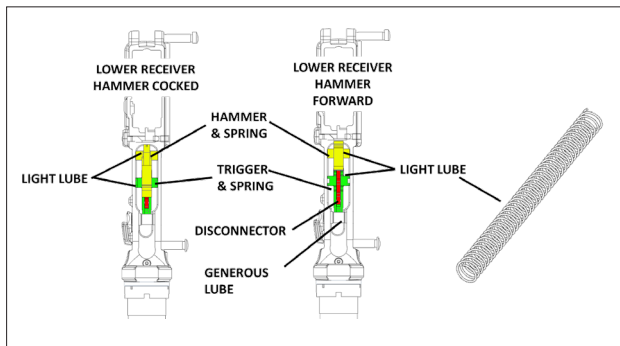
Wherever the term CLP, or the words lube or lubricant are cited in this manual, it is to be interpreted to mean that CLP or a High-Quality Gun Oil be used.

Lubrication Points on the Lower Receiver

- Light lubrication on the hammer and hammer spring.
- Generous lubrication on the safety lever detent.

- Light lubrication on the trigger/disconnector area.
- Light lubrication on the buffer spring.
- Lightly lubricate joints at length of pull (LOP) adjustment area as well as the LOP buttstock latch and QD sling attachment points. To prevent debris from accumulating, use compressed air to blow out (if possible) or brush clean with a nylon cleaning brush after lubrication

FIGURE 51



Bolt Carrier Assembly

NOTE! IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO COMPLETELY DISASSEMBLE ENTIRE BOLT CARRIER GROUP FOR HASTY APPLICATION OF LUBRICANT. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CONSIDER ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS PRIOR TO DISASSEMBLING ENTIRE BOLT CARRIER GROUP.

Bolt Carrier Assembly

- Generous lubrication on the extractor and ejector. Manipulate each part to work in lubrication and ensure functionality.
- Generous lubrication on the bolt body.

- Generous lubrication on the bolt cam pin and bolt cam pin slot.
- Generous lubrication on the bolt carrier contact surfaces and bottom of the bolt carrier.
- Generous lubrication on the bolt carrier body.

FIGURE 52

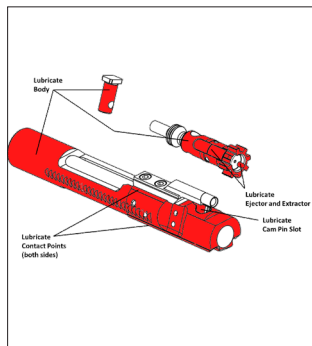
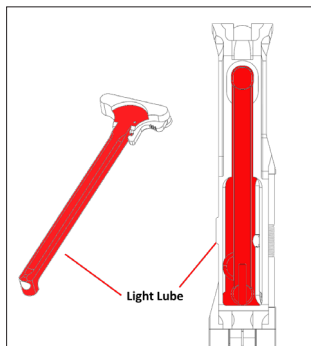


FIGURE 53



NOTE! IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO LUBRICATE EXTERIOR ALUMINUM SURFACES.

- Generous lubrication on all receiver guide rails and bolt carrier riding surfaces.
- Light lubrication in the charging handle.

17. SERVICE POLICY

FN products are serviced by the FN Service Center in Columbia, South Carolina. To discuss any product repair requirements or if you have any questions about this owner's manual or other FN products, contact:

FN Service Center

797 Old Clemson Road

Columbia, SC 29229

Phone (800) 635-1321

Or visit us online at www.fnamerica.com

IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPERATING YOUR FN FIREARM, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT FN CUSTOMER SERVICE AT (800) 635-1321 BEFORE USING THE FIREARM.

All specifications subject to change without notice.

18. WARRANTY, SERVICE AND TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

For technical questions about service or your firearm, or if your FN product should require service or repair, contact the FN Service Center in Columbia, South Carolina. Law enforcement and military users should contact their department or unit armorer.

FN Service Center

797 Old Clemson Road

Columbia, SC 29229

Phone (800)-635-1321

When returning your FN firearm for servicing you must do the following:

1. Be sure it is completely unloaded.
2. Remove the scope, optics and accessories. Do NOT remove any parts or

components required by local, state or federal law.

3. Package it securely in a cardboard container.

4. Enclose the service/repair form available at www.fnamerica.com or a letter that clearly describes the trouble experienced, the ammunition used and the repairs desired. Also include your name, e-mail address (if possible) and a daytime phone number where you can be reached.

5. If convenient, send a copy of the service/repair form or letter to us separately.

6. Never return ammunition with your firearm. It is against postal and most commerce regulations.

19. CHARACTERISTICS, CAPABILITIES AND FEATURES

Description	FN 15 GUARDIAN
SKU/Product Number	36-100740
Caliber	5.56X45mm
Barrel Length	16"
Twist Rate	1:7
Barrel Material	4150 Chrome-Moly-Vanadium Steel MIL-B-11595 Button Rifled
Muzzle Device	A2 compensator
Sight Radius	20"
Handguard	Free Float, 15"
Weight (unloaded)	6.6 lbs.
Length	32.1" Stock Collapsed, 35.5" Stock Extended
Height	7.1"
Trigger Pull	4.75 – 7.5lbs, single stage



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