

Schedule to the Statement of Grounds for amendment of GB 2,482,576

1. Weapon clearance appliance for clearance of ~~weapons, such as~~ underwater mines ~~or munitions~~ which have been sunk in waterways, under water by detonation of the weapon, wherein

the weapon clearance appliance has means for detachable connection to an unmanned underwater vehicle, with the volume of the weapon clearance appliance being chosen such that the buoyancy force which acts on the weapon clearance appliance under water compensates for the force of gravity acting on the weapon clearance appliance,

characterized in that the weapon clearance appliance has a holding apparatus comprising a nail-firing appliance for fixing the weapon clearance appliance to ~~or in the area of the weapon~~the body of a mine.

2. Weapon clearance appliance according to Claim 1,

characterized in that the mass distribution within the weapon clearance appliance is chosen such that no alignment moment occurs independently of the alignment of the weapon clearance appliance in the water.

3. Weapon clearance appliance according to Claim 1 or 2,

characterized in that the weapon clearance appliance has one or more clearance charges with a directional effect and a fuze for firing the clearance charge or charges.

4. Weapon clearance appliance according to Claim 3,

characterized in that the clearance charge is a shaped charge or the clearance charges are shaped charges.

5. Weapon clearance appliance according to one of the preceding claims,

characterized in that the weapon clearance appliance has a spoof device for simulating characteristics of a marine vessel or submarine.

6. Weapon clearance appliance according to Claim 5,

characterized in that the spoof device has means for production of marine-vessel noise or submarine noise, and/or means for production of a magnetic field.

7. Weapon clearance appliance according to one of Claims 3 to 6,

characterized by means for activation of the fuze and/or of the spoof device, wherein these means comprise:

-a radio buoy, which can be released from the weapon clearance appliance for reception of an activation signal via a radio link, and/or

-an electroacoustic transducer for reception of an activation signal via an acoustic channel, and/or

-a firing cable for reception of an activation signal via the firing cable, and/or

-a time fuze mechanism.

8. Weapon clearance appliance according to Claim 7, characterized in that the holding apparatus comprises:

~~-a nail firing appliance and/or~~

-an electromagnet and/or

-a reduced-pressure appliance and/or

-a clamping device for clamping the weapon or its parts and/or objects in the area of the weapon.

9. Weapon clearance appliance according to one of the preceding claims,

characterized by the means for detachable connection of the weapon clearance appliance to an unmanned underwater vehicle and the holding apparatus being designed such that, in order to fix the weapon clearance appliance to or in the area of the weapon when the holding apparatus is activated, the means for detachable connection are operated at the same time, thus releasing a mechanical connection between the weapon clearance appliance and the unmanned underwater vehicle.

10. Weapon clearance appliance according to Claim 9,

characterized in that the means for detachable connection and the holding apparatus comprise at least one common integral unit, which has the nail-firing appliance,

wherein the integral unit has a casing, a nail, a bolt, a cartridge, a cartridge-firing device and a holding element for an attachment means for attachment of the weapon clearance appliance to the unmanned underwater vehicle, with the holding element being connected to the bolt via a driver, with the nail, the bolt and the cartridge being aligned axially with respect to one another within the casing, with the cartridge driving the bolt against the nail when the cartridge-firing device is activated, such that the nail is driven to a final position in the casing and, at the same time, the holding element is moved from an initial position, in which it locks the attachment means, to a final position, in which the attachment means is released.

11. Weapon clearance appliance according to one of the preceding claims,

characterized in that the means for detachable connection are designed to hold the weapon clearance appliance on a supporting frame of the unmanned underwater vehicle.

12. Unmanned underwater vehicle having a weapon clearance appliance according one of Claims 1 to 11.

13. Method for clearance of ~~weapons, such as~~ underwater mines ~~or munitions~~ which have been sunk in waterways, under water by detonation of the weapon, with

a) a clearance charge and/or a spoof device for simulating characteristics of marine vessels or submarines being placed together with a weapon clearance appliance, which is fitted to an unmanned underwater vehicle, according to one of Claims 1 to 11 being ~~placed, in particular fitted or placed on it, adjacent to the weapon or in the area of the weapon~~fixed to the body of a mine,

b) the weapon clearance appliance at the same time ~~or subsequently~~ being released from the unmanned underwater vehicle,

c) the unmanned underwater vehicle being moved a distance from the weapon which is greater than or equal to a predetermined safe separation distance, and

d) the clearance charge and/or the spoof device being activated, in order to detonate the ~~weapon~~mine.