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1,999,660

SAFE DEPOSIT ENVELOPE

Filed June 12, 1929.

*Fig. 1*

INDICATOR No. \_\_\_\_\_  
BOX No. \_\_\_\_\_

This Certifies That I  
Received This Envelope  
Sealed And That It  
Contained Two Keys  
For The Yale Sealed  
Key Lock.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Sealed by  
THE YALE & TOWNE MFG. CO.  
STAMFORD, CONN. U.S.A.  
(OVER)

*Fig. 2*

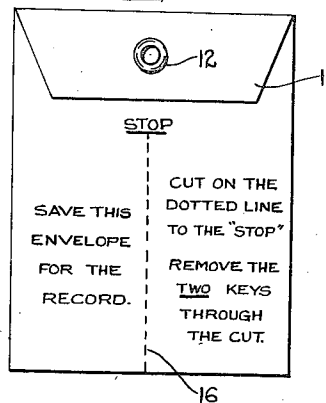


*Fig. 3*

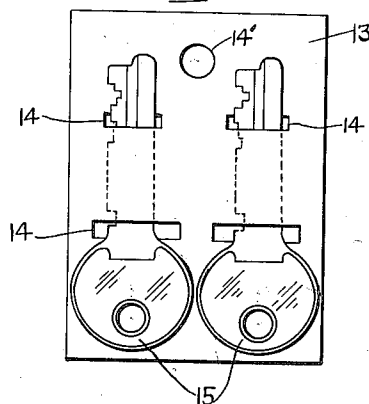
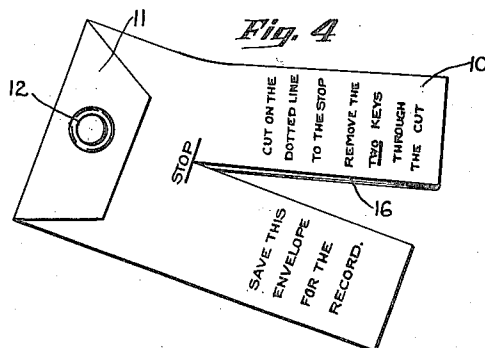


*Fig. 4*



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SAFE DEPOSIT ENVELOPE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 206—46)

This invention relates to safe deposit locks, more especially sealed envelopes adapted to contain keys for such safe deposit locks.

It has become customary in renting safe deposit space in banks, to give the renter of the space an envelope containing two keys which are sealed at the factory manufacturing those keys, and are adapted to fit a certain lock corresponding to the number contained on the envelope. The renter, before opening the envelope, is required to sign his name, specifying that the envelope was sealed when he received it, and that the keys had not been released from their holding device in the envelope.

These envelopes are then filed away to be used in case of any controversy in regard to the disappearance of any of the contents of the particular safe deposit box which has been rented. There have been many cases, where certain securities or other valuables contained in these boxes have mysteriously disappeared. In those cases, the owner or renter of the box, has usually sued the bank, and it has been the burden of the bank to prove that no one had access to any keys for the particular lock. A very strong link in this proof is the envelope showing that the keys had been sealed at the time the renter received them, thus demonstrating that no one could possibly have gotten into the envelope to take an impression of the keys or to duplicate the same. The envelope must, therefore, be retained in its initial form with no part destroyed or thrown away. Similarly, the various seals must be preserved to show that they were not tampered with.

The object of this invention is to devise an envelope wherein keys may be sealed in a very compact form, and where the envelope may be opened so that the keys may be removed without the severance of any portion of the envelope.

For a more detailed description of our invention, we refer to the drawing wherein Fig. 1 is a front view of our special envelope. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same envelope. Fig. 3 is a view of the insert showing the keys in position, while Fig. 4 shows the envelope cut along the datum line.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, reference numeral 10 indicates an envelope equipped with a flap 11 which is adapted to be sealed into closing position by the eyelet 12. A paper insert 13 is cut out at the points 14 for the retention of two keys 15, these keys being the keys corresponding to the box number indicated on the envelope. This insert is also

punched at 14' so that it may be sealed by the eyelet 12 simultaneously with the flap 11.

Referring now more particularly to Fig. 1 it will be seen that there is indicated a place for the signature of the renter of the box. On the back of the envelope, shown in Fig. 2, there is a datum line 16 with a "stop" point indicated thereon. It is intended that the renter of the box sign his name on the front of the envelope and that the envelope then be cut along the datum line to the point "stop". The keys may then be removed in the manner for which the envelope was designed, that is through the cut along the line 16 and with the envelope in the position of Fig. 4. Thus, while the envelope must be cut, no part is severed therefrom, all parts remaining integral as before.

As can be seen from Fig. 3, the keys fit very snugly in the insert 13 and the envelope itself confines the keys so that there is very little relative movement possible between the keys and the insert. This is done so that the envelope cannot be cut surreptitiously upon an edge or even through part of the datum line and the keys removed. Moreover, due to the fact that the insert and its keys are so closely contained within the envelope, and that movement of the keys relatively to the same is limited, it is necessary to cut entirely through the envelope and the insert and to place the envelope in the position shown in Fig. 4 before the keys can be removed.

We have thus obtained an envelope which will allow for the removal of the keys without destruction of the seal or any portion of the envelope so that the same may be retained integrally for purposes of evidence. Furthermore, our invention does not allow of surreptitious removal of the keys and leaves a perfectly receipted piece of evidence showing that the keys were originally sealed within the envelope and that the envelope was uncut when the renter signed. This last fact is further proved by the portion of the envelope which must be cut in order to remove the keys.

While we have shown and described one particular modification, it should be understood that other forms may be devised within the scope of the appended claims.

1. A package comprising a sealed envelope of severable material, an insert within said envelope of such size as to have only a limited movement relatively to the envelope, said insert being provided with means for restraining movement of a key relatively thereto, a starting cutting point

at the edge of said envelope, a stop mark also located on said envelope and in such position that when one side only of the envelope is severed from said starting point to said stop mark, the aforesaid insert restraining means and envelope function to hold the key in such position that it cannot be removed through the limited length of the line of severance without mutilation of the envelope, but when both sides of said envelope are severed between the aforesaid two points, the restraining means permits the key to be removed through the line of severance without mutilation of the envelope.

2. A package comprising a sealed envelope of severable material, an insert within said envelope having means for restraining movement of a key relatively thereto, said envelope being so related to said insert and key, that said insert and key are maintained against substantial movement relatively to said envelope, a starting cutting point on one side of said envelope, and a stop mark also located on said face of the envelope in such position that when one side only of the envelope is severed from said stop mark to said starting point on the envelope, said envelope and restraining means function to hold the key so that it cannot be removed through the line of severance without mutilation of the envelope, but when both sides of said envelope are severed between said two points the restraining means permit the key to be removed through the said line of severance without mutilation of the envelope.

3. A package comprising a sealed envelope of severable material, an insert within said envelope having means for restraining movement of a key relatively thereto, said envelope being so related to said insert and key, that said insert and key are maintained against substantial movement relatively to said envelope, a starting cutting point on the envelope, and a stop mark located on one face of the envelope in such position that when one side only of the envelope is severed from said stop mark to said starting point on the envelope, said envelope and restraining means function to hold the key so that it cannot be removed through the line of severance without mutilation of the envelope, but when both sides of said envelope are severed between said two points the restraining means permit the key to be removed through the said line of severance without mutilation of the envelope, and indicia on said envelope requiring the signature of the recipient thereof, the cutting line being positioned to pass through said signature.

4. A package comprising a sealed envelope of severable material, an insert within said envelope having means for restraining movement of a key relatively thereto, said envelope being so related

to said insert and key, that said insert and key are maintained against substantial movement relatively to said envelope, a beginning point on said envelope, and a stop mark located on one face of the envelope in such position that when the envelope is severed from said stop mark to said beginning point on the envelope and through both sides of said envelope, the key may be easily removed, and indicia on said envelope requiring the signature of the recipient thereof, the cutting line being positioned to pass through said signature.

5. A package comprising a sealed envelope of severable material, an insert within said envelope having means for restraining movement of a key relatively thereto, said envelope being of the type which is to be cut in a predetermined manner to extract the key and then to be filed away as proof that it was uncut except in the predetermined manner, a datum line on one face of said envelope indicating just where a cut is to be made in order to remove the key, said datum line, key, and envelope being of such relative shape and size that said key cannot be withdrawn through a cut in the envelope made merely on one side thereof and along said datum line, said datum line, key and envelope being of such relative size, however, that if said envelope is cut on opposite sides along the path of said datum line, the key will be removable from the envelope without further mutilation thereof.

6. A package comprising a sealed envelope of severable material, an insert within said envelope having means for restraining movement of a key relatively thereto, said envelope being of the type which is to be cut in a predetermined manner to extract the key and then to be filed away as proof that it was uncut except in the predetermined manner, a datum line on one face of said envelope indicating just where a cut is to be made in order to remove the key, said datum line, key and envelope being of such relative shape and size that said key cannot be withdrawn through a cut in the envelope made merely on one side thereof and along said datum line, said datum line, key and envelope being of such relative size, however, that if said envelope is cut on opposite sides along the path of said datum line, the key will be removable from the envelope without further mutilation thereof, and indicia on the side of the envelope opposite said datum line requiring the signature of the recipient of the keys, the cutting line as required by said datum line being adapted to pass through said indicia so that if said envelope has previously been cut on both sides the signer will readily discover the cut.

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