Dec. 6, 1949 E. D. CUNNINGHAM, JR 2,490,032

BALL WOUND METHOD FOR LAYING WIRE

Filed May 24, 1944

FIG. 1.

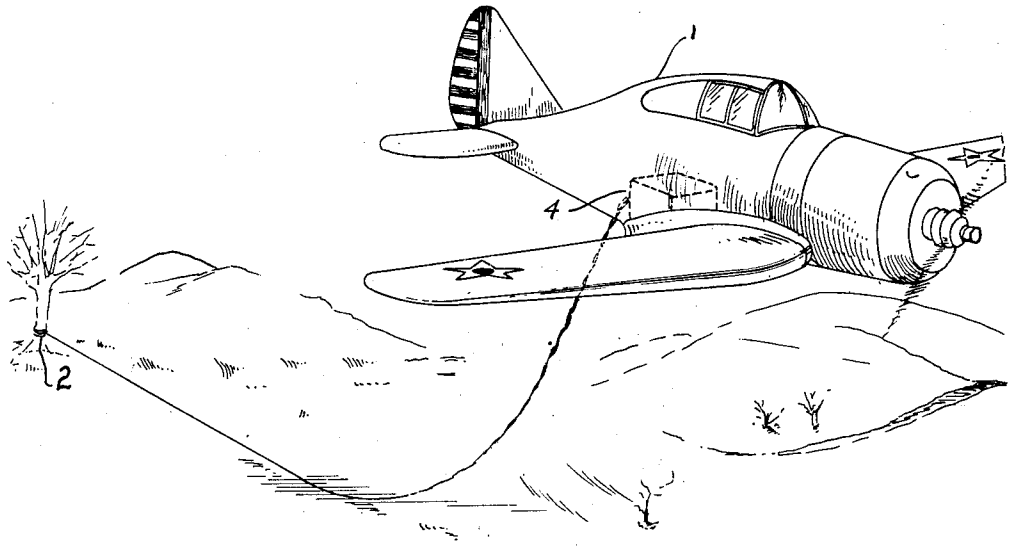
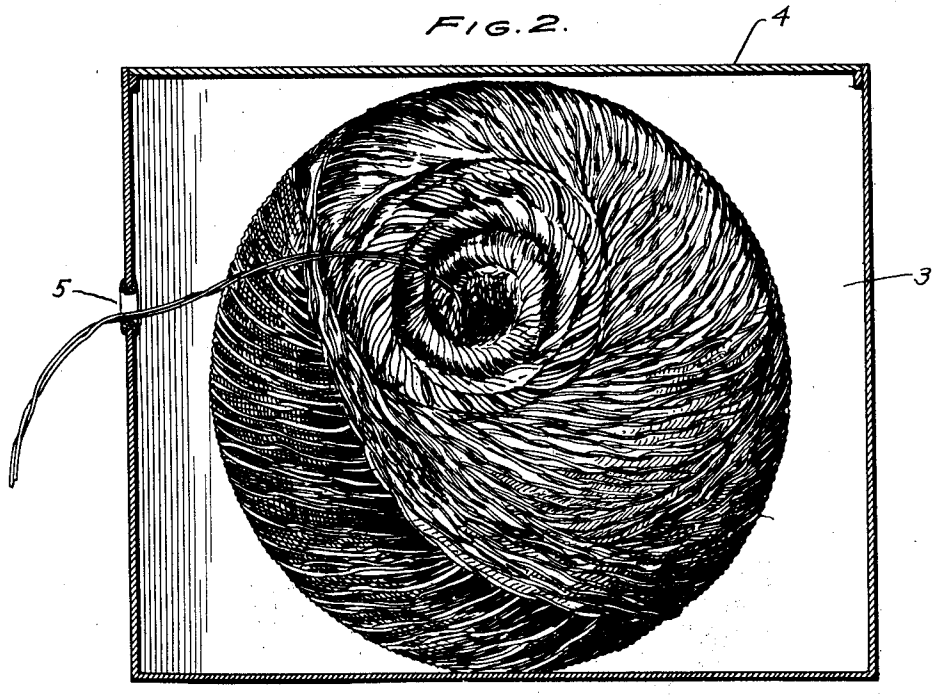



FIG. 2.




INVENTOR
EDMUND D. CUNNINGHAM, JR
By William D. Hall,
ATTORNEY

Patented Dec. 6, 1949

2,490,032

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,490,032

## BALL WOUND METHOD FOR LAYING WIRE

Edmund D. Cunningham, Jr., Worcester, Mass.

Application May 24, 1944, Serial No. 537,168

4 Claims. (Cl. 175—376)

(Granted under the act of March 3, 1883, as amended April 30, 1928; 370 O. G. 757)

1

The invention described herein may be manufactured and used by or for the Government for governmental purposes, without the payment to me of any royalty thereon.

This invention relates to improvements in devices and methods for laying wire.

In the mountains it has been found impossible to lay wire in deep snow by means of vehicles, animals, skiers or snowshoers because of the weight of the wire, reel and reel holder. The snow is often so deep that even a skier has difficulty, and with a breast reel it is practically impossible to lay wire.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide an arrangement and method of laying wire without requiring the use of reels and reel holders.

A further object is the provision of a method enabling the laying of wire by means of an airplane, skiers, animals, over terrain of any type.

These and other objects are attained by the novel arrangements and methods hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a view showing the laying of wire by means of an airplane.

Fig. 2 is an elevational view, partly in section showing a wound ball of wire positioned in a box.

In accordance with the invention, the wire is wound in to a ball 3 (see Fig. 2), in the manner in which cord and rope are wound, the wire being paid out from the center of the ball without causing rotation of the ball. The ball 3 is placed in a box 4 or other container having an aperture 5 through which the wire passes. With this arrangement no reel or reel holder is required.

In Fig. 1 is shown wire being laid from an airplane 1. The ball of wire is carried in a container in the airplane, one end of the wire being secured to a stake or other article on the ground at 2. With a plane traveling at 60 miles per hour, it has been possible to lay five miles of wire in five minutes. Obviously, the wire can be laid satisfactorily from the airplane regardless of the nature of the terrain.

2

Similarly, the wire can be laid from land vehicles, from the backs of animals or by skiers and snow shoers.

From the above description it will be seen that there has been provided a simple and effective method and arrangement for laying wire over terrain of any kind, without requiring the use of reels and reel holders.

The invention having been described, what is claimed is:

1. The method of laying wire comprising winding wire into a ball having a central opening extending through the exterior thereof, mounting the ball on an airplane, and paying out the wire from the center of the ball through the opening outside the plane while the plane is in flight.

2. The method of laying wire on the ground, comprising winding wire into a ball, mounting said ball in an airplane and paying out wire from the center of said wound ball while said airplane is in flight.

3. The method of laying wire on the ground from a plane in flight from a ball of wire having a central opening having one end of the wire therein, comprising paying out the wire from that end outside the plane.

4. The method of laying wire on the ground comprising winding wire so as to form a ball having an opening therein communicating with its exterior, freely mounting the ball on a plane, and paying the wire outside the plane through the opening starting at the inner end of the wire while the plane is in flight.

EDMUND D. CUNNINGHAM, JR.

### REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

| Number | Name | Date |
|---|---|---|
| Re. 9,605 | Palmer | Mar. 15, 1881 |
| 1,017,745 | Glerum | Feb. 20, 1912 |
| 1,541,683 | Buehler | June 9, 1925 |
| 2,203,435 | Kempe | June 4, 1940 |