Jan. 17, 1967 P. S. SOPRANI 3,298,478

CASING FOR PORTABLE APPARATUS, IN PARTICULAR FOR PORTABLE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Filed Dec. 2, 1964 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

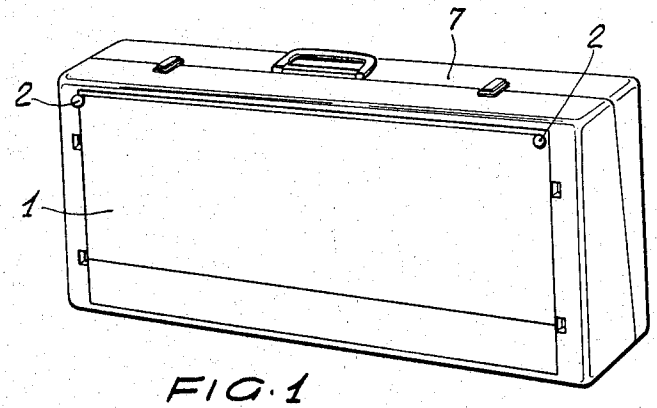


FIG. 1

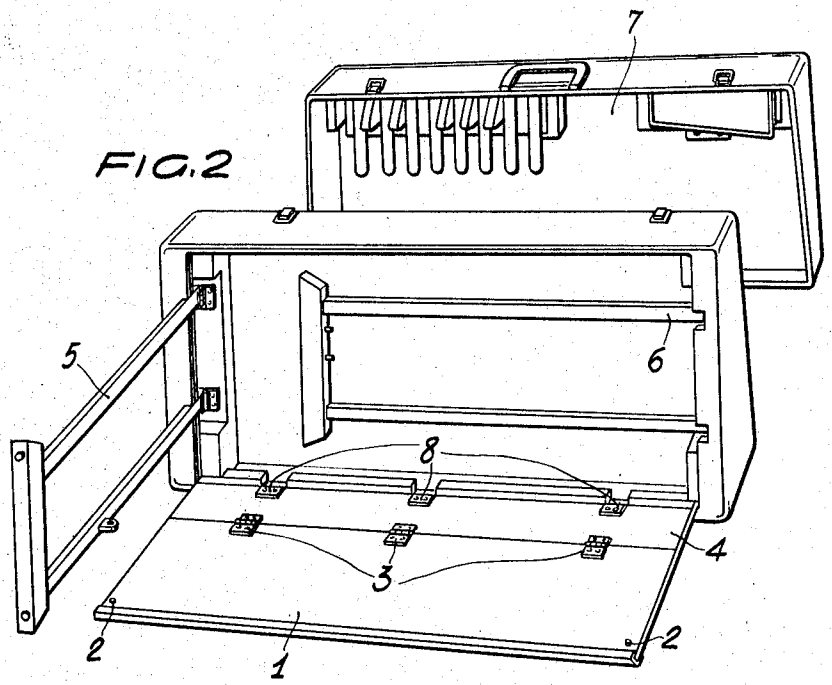


FIG. 2

INVENTOR

PAOLO SETTIMIO SOPRANI

BY McGlew and Toren

ATTORNEYS

Jan. 17, 1967 P. S. SOPRANI 3,298,478

CASING FOR PORTABLE APPARATUS, IN PARTICULAR FOR PORTABLE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Filed Dec. 2, 1964 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

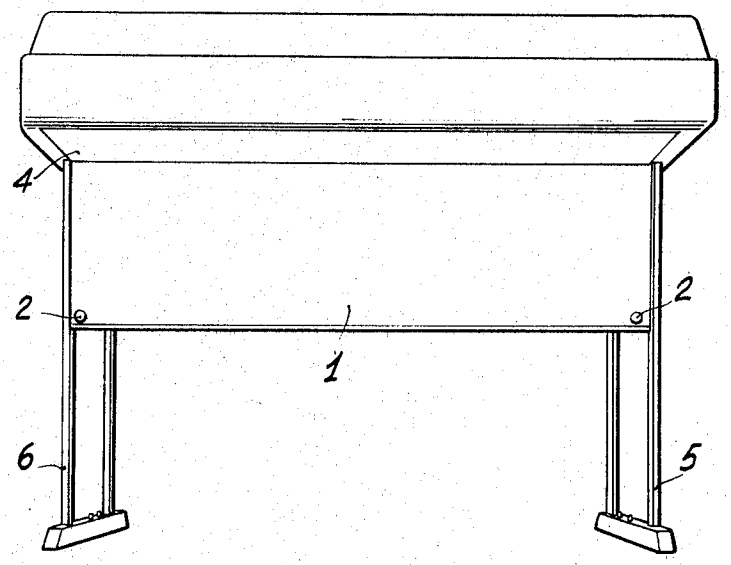


FIG. 3

INVENTOR

PAOLO SETTIMIO SOPRANI

BY McGlew and Toren

ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office

3,298,478

Patented Jan. 17, 1967

3,298,478

CASING FOR PORTABLE APPARATUS, IN PARTICULAR FOR PORTABLE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Paolo Settimio Soprani, Ancona Via Bainaizza 2, Ancona, Italy

Filed Dec. 2, 1964, Ser. No. 415,348
Claims priority, application Italy, Feb. 7, 1964, 103,632/64
2 Claims. (Cl. 190—11)

Subject of the present invention is a container or casing suitable for the transportation of portable apparatus, and in particular suitable for the transportation of portable musical instruments, provided with a particular supporting structure and a particular locking system for securing said structure in the operating position of the contained apparatus.

It is the object of the present invention to make extremely easy the operation required for passing from the transportation position to the operating position of the apparatus. In particular, through the use of the present invention, such a passage occurs without any disassembling or assembling operation.

A container used for a musical instrument, and provided with the features being the subject of the present invention, is described in the attached drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 shows, in a perspective view, the container subject of the present invention, in the transportation position.

FIGURE 2 represents, in a perspective view, the container according to FIGURE 1, during the operation for passing from the transportation stage to the operating position.

FIGURE 3 represents, in a perspective view, the container of the preceding figures in the operating position.

Referring in particular to the FIGURE 1, showing the container in its closed position, that is in the transportation position, **1** is a panel that can be turned over, serving, in the operating position, for securing the supporting legs, while **2** indicates screws for securing the swingable panel respectively to the container, in its transportation position, and to the legs, in the operating position; **7** refers to a removable cover lid.

FIGURE 2 shows the container with its upper lid **7** removed, and its lower plane (**1–4**) open; in FIGURE 2 there are shown with **1** the swingable panel already illustrated in FIGURE 1, and now in a position swung by 90° in respect to its preceding position; with **3** the hinges between the panel **1** and the panel **4**; this last one being a panel that can be turned over to allow the extraction of the supporting legs, its rotation occurring through the hinges **8**. With **5** and **6** there are shown the supporting legs that can be extracted from the bottom of the container, by a 90° rotation relative to the container itself.

In FIGURE 3, showing the container set up for use, there can be seen that the swingable panel **1** is secured, by means of the screws **2**, to the legs **5** and **6**, thus giving stability to the device in its position ready for use. The panel **4**, that is swung during the mounting operation to allow the extraction of the legs, takes up, in its position ready for use, a position identical with the one that is its characteristic position in the transporting stage.

The advantages deriving from the arrangement in question can be stated as follows:

(1) All the parts of the supporting structure are anchored to the container, thus requiring no assembling operations.

(2) The supporting structure folds down entirely within the container.

(3) The passage from the transportation position to that ready for use, is made exceptionally easy, requiring no disassembling or assembling operation.

(4) The supporting structure has a very satisfactory stability notwithstanding its limited bulk, thanks to the use of the swingable panel as a locking element for the supporting legs.

What is claimed is:

1. Container or casing suitable for the transportation of portable apparatus, and in particular for the transportation of portable musical instruments, said container having a panel hinged to a bottom peripheral edge thereof, said panel in one position forming the bottom of said container and being pivotable to an open position, supporting legs within said container and hinged thereto for movement into depending operative position after said panel has been pivoted to open position, said panel including means for fastening said panel to said supporting legs to lock said supporting legs in operative position and for alternatively locking said panel in said one position.

2. A container according to claim **1**, wherein said panel comprises inner and outer panel elements hinged together, said inner element being hinged to said container and adapted to lie substantially perpendicular to said outer panel and said supporting legs in said one position when said outer element is substantially parallel to said legs in an open position.

References Cited by the Examiner

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,329,080	1/1920	Gunchick	190—11
1,428,092	9/1922	Honma	190—11
1,468,665	9/1923	Kimball	190—12

JOSEPH R. LECLAIR, *Primary Examiner.*

D. F. NORTON, *Assistant Examiner.*