

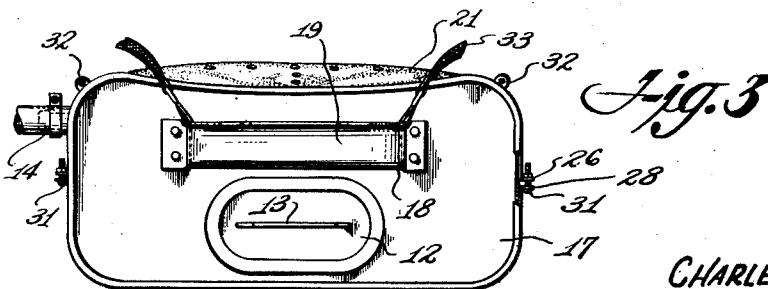
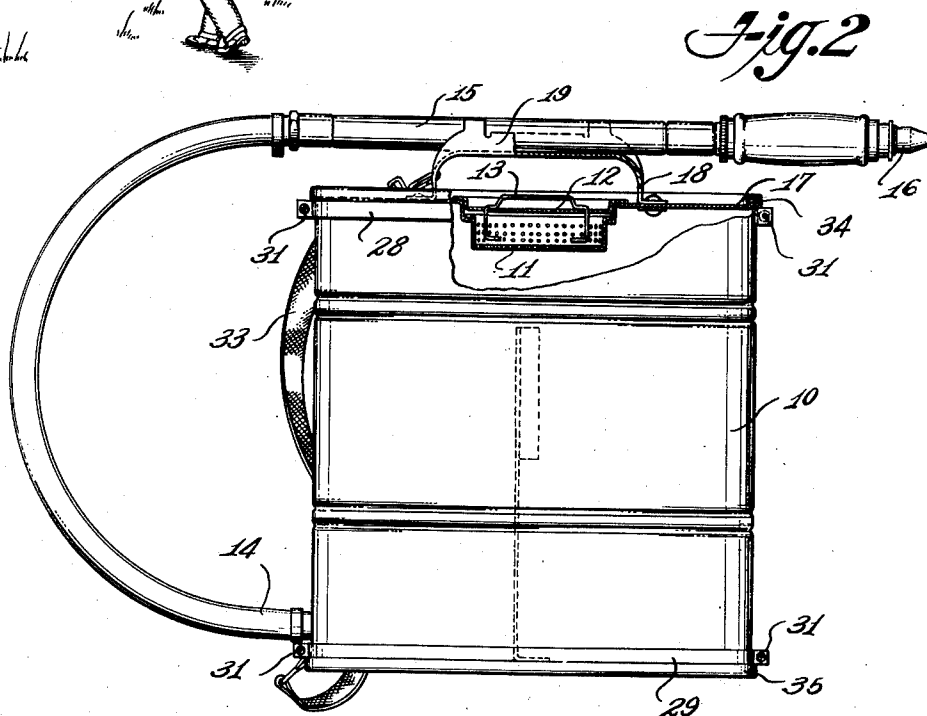
Aug. 12, 1952

C. K. HUTHSING
FIRE EXTINGUISHER CARRIER

2,606,701

Filed Jan. 30, 1950

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

Fig. 4

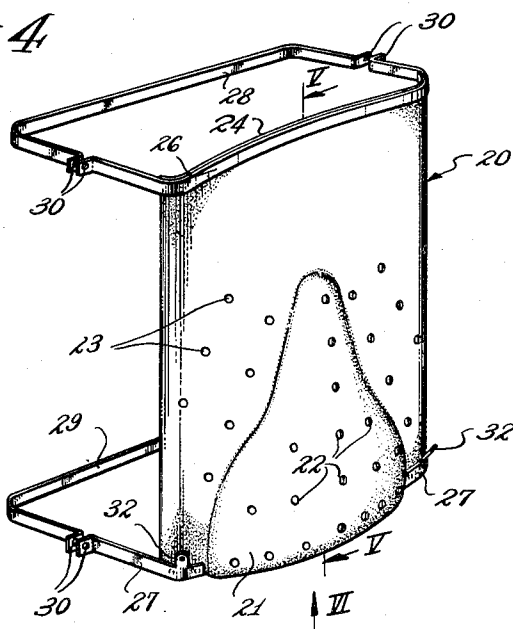


Fig. 5

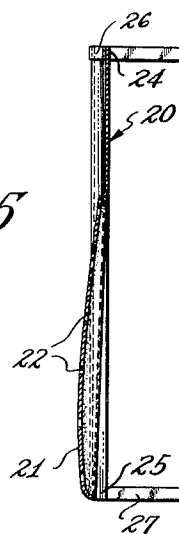
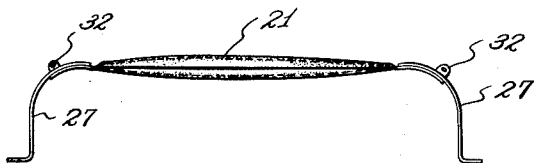


Fig. 6



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FIRE EXTINGUISHER CARRIER

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2 Claims. (Cl. 224-5)

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This invention relates to an improved body shield for a fire extinguisher tank of the type hung on the person by a harness and frequently used for fighting brush fires.

Portable tanks and hand pumps for fighting brush fires or the like have been used for a considerable time. They are often supported by means of a shoulder harness so that the tank containing water or other fire extinguishing fluid rests against the back of the user. The heat from the fire causes the user's back to perspire freely with the result that discomfort and painful chafing frequently occur.

Some fire extinguishers of the type mentioned above are originally constructed with back shields which afford ventilation between the back of the tank and the wearer, the shield being spaced from the wall of the tank and perforated.

It is a general object of the invention to provide a body shield for maintaining the fire extinguisher tank in spaced relation to the body of the user so that circulation of air between the tank and the user is permitted, and wherein the body shield is constructed as a separate unit which can be quickly and conveniently mounted on a fire extinguisher tank.

Another object of the invention is to provide a body shield which can be readily mounted upon a fire extinguisher tank of conventional construction and not originally intended to be provided with such a shield.

A further object of the invention is to provide a body shield with a spaced ventilated panel with attachment means in the form of a laterally disposed loop which is adaptable for use with tanks of different shapes and/or sizes.

The above and other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the views, and, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a fire extinguisher mounted on the back of the user and in actual use;

Fig. 2 is a rear elevational view of the extinguisher with portions broken away to show structural details;

Fig. 3 is a plan view with the harness and a portion of the top edge of the tank broken away;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the shield unit;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged section taken on the line V-V of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of the shield.

In Fig. 2 there is shown an extinguisher includ-

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ing a water tank 10 having a screened inlet 11 for filling and a removable closure 12 provided with a bail 13. Connected to the bottom of the tank 10 is a flexible hose 14 having a conventional reciprocating pump assembly 15 connected thereto. On the outer end of the pump assembly 15 is a nozzle 16. The pump and nozzle assemblies 15 and 16 are of conventional construction well known in the art and their details are not essential to the present invention.

Extending above the top 17 of the tank 10 is a bail 18 whose upper horizontal portion 19 is trough shaped, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3, to provide a support for the pump 15 when the apparatus is carried by hand and not in use.

Referring to Figs. 4, 5 and 6, there is shown a body shield panel 20 which may be formed from sheet metal, pressed fiber or a suitable plastic. The shield panel 20 is provided with an outwardly bulged portion 21 to fit the small of the back and which is provided with a plurality of ventilating apertures 22. Similar ventilating apertures 23 are formed in the shield panel 20.

As shown in Fig. 5, the upper and lower edges of the shield panel 20 are offset laterally inwardly as indicated at 24 and 25. Secured to each of these inwardly offset edges are tank embracing loop sections 26 and 27. These loop sections extend across their respective offset portions 24 and 25 and thence inwardly in spaced relation to each other and relative to the inner side of the panel 20. Cooperating with the loop sections 26 and 27 are tie members or loop sections 28 and 29 which are roughly of U shape. The adjacent ends of the pairs of loop sections just referred to are bent outwardly as shown clearly in Figs. 3 and 4, and provided with apertures 30 to receive nutted tie bolts 31. The lower loop section 27 has small outwardly bent apertured ears 32 which serve as means for anchoring shoulder harness straps 33 by means of which the device is supported on the body of the user.

The body shield 20 with its loop sections 26 through 29 can be very readily attached to a tank such as the fire extinguisher tank 10. The tank encircling loops are preferably made in two sections as shown and described, but, of course, they could conceivably be split at only one place and slipped around the tank and still effectively satisfy the requirement of convenient mountability. When the strap sections are tightened around the tank they can conveniently lie within the upper and lower tank beads 34 and 35 so that the tank cannot slip through the loops unless the

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sections of the loops are opened or loosened to a considerable extent.

The fact that the upper and lower edges 24 and 25 of the shield 20 are offset laterally inwardly from the main portion of the shield panel keeps the major portion of said panel in spaced relation to the wall of the tank of the extinguisher, and the apertures 22 provide sufficient ventilation to eliminate any considerable amount of discomfort to the user of the apparatus. The separately mountable body shield has been shown and described in connection with a tank which is roughly rectangular in horizontal section.

It should be noted that the bulge 21 in the shield 20 is roughly pear-shaped to fit the small area of the back and across the rear kidney portion of the back. This shape has been found to add to the comfort of the user and to lessen back fatigue.

It is preferred that the straps or loop sections 26 through 29 and primarily the sections 28 and 29 be somewhat ductile so that they can be readily adaptable to water tanks which may vary in shape and/or size. It is entirely possible to clamp the device shown in Figs. 4 through 6 to a tank which is oval or rectangular in horizontal section and still secure it firmly. Further, the tank need not have a concave outer side as illustrated, but may be flat.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the various parts without departing from the scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. In a ventilated body shield for an operator-carried fire extinguisher, a panel having an out-

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ward bulge with apertures therein, said panel having an inwardly offset portion, laterally spaced arms extending inwardly from said inwardly offset portions, and a tie member spanning the ends of said arms remote from said panel and having an end adjustably connected to the end of at least one of said arms, said tie member forming a loop with said arms, and said adjustably connected end of said tie member constituting means for constricting said loop.

2. In a ventilated body shield for an operator-carried fire extinguisher tank, a body contacting member comprising a panel of sheet metal having an apertured and outwardly bulged major area, a tank engaging portion offset from the outwardly bulged portion and in the opposite direction from the bulge, whereby the bulged area will be held in spaced relation to a tank contacted by the tank engaging portion, and a loop-like shield attachment element extending from the tank engaging portion in the opposite direction from said bulged panel area to encircle part of an extinguisher tank.

CHARLES K. HUTHSING.

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