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F. D'ANTONIO

2,411,987

IDENTIFICATION BUTTON

Filed Nov. 3, 1942

Fig. 1.

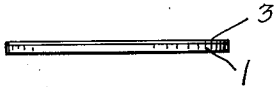


Fig. 3.

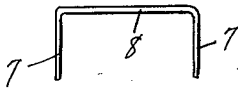


Fig. 4.

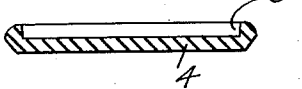


Fig. 6.

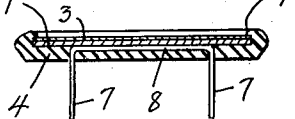


Fig. 8.

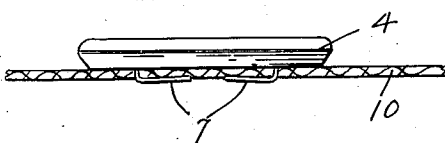


Fig. 2.

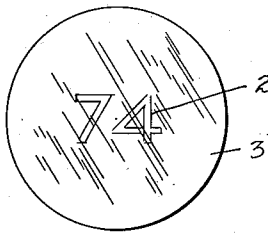


Fig. 5.

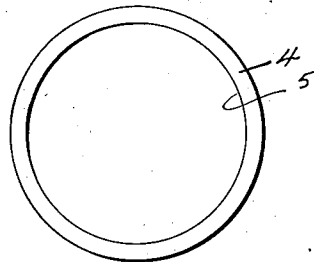
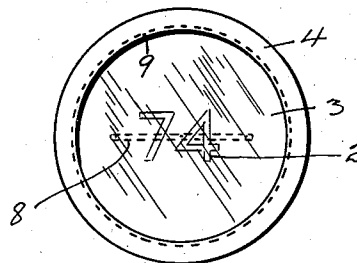


Fig. 7.



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IDENTIFICATION BUTTON

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Application November 3, 1942, Serial No. 464,352

1 Claim. (Cl. 40—1.5)

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This invention relates to an identification button, badge, or the like, of the type to be fastened to a garment of a wearer, such as the coat, shirt or hat.

Some of the objects of this invention is an improved identification button that is economical to make, light in weight, pleasing in appearance, easy to securely attach to a garment and to detach therefrom without injury to such garment, and in which button the only metal required is a small, staple-like piece, such as of relatively fine wire.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the specification annexed hereto.

Heretofore, the majority of the identification buttons consist of a metal disk over one side of which is secured a paper-like disk carrying the desired indicia or insignia. The paper-like disk is secured to the metal disk by crimping, and an annular channel is formed along the edges of the metal disk at the side of the latter opposite the side covered by the paper-like insignia carrying disk. In this channel is sprung a generally annular wire terminating in a straight end portion extending diametrically across the rear side of the disk, which end portion constitutes the pin for insertion through the garment of a wearer in any desired location.

It will be seen that identification buttons of this type are mainly composed of metal and are relatively complicated and expensive to make. The metal disk is, of course, subject to detrimental corrosion in the presence of moisture unless made of prohibitively costly metal, and is purely used to support the paper-like disk, being fully covered by the paper-like disk. Also the pin portion may accidentally be detached from the metal disk and the latter lost.

Other types of identification buttons, or the like, have been made, such as the collar-button type, which requires a button hole for securement to a garment, and the type that is formed with a bendable strip of metal adapted to bend over the lapel of a coat, or the like. These latter types are outside the scope of this invention in that their manner of use is entirely different from the button of this application.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is an edge elevational view of the preferred disk in the button of this invention that carries the identifying insignia thereon.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the disk of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an elevational view of the means for attaching the button to a garment, which means is shown separate from the button.

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Fig. 4 is a sectional view through the disk that forms the body of the button before the disk of Fig. 1 and the staple-like device of Fig. 3 is assembled therewith.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the disk of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view of the disk through a button when assembled and ready for attaching to a garment.

Fig. 7 is a plan view of the button of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is an edge view of the button of Fig. 7 shown attached to a garment, the portion of the latter that carries the button being shown in section.

In detail, the insignia or indicia carrying element in this invention preferably comprises a disk 1 (Fig. 1) of paper or cardboard on which are printed the desired insignia 2 (Fig. 2), and the printed side of which disk is covered by a thin transparent protective cover sheet 3 of the same shape as disk 1, and which cover sheet may be of thin Celluloid or a layer of cellulose material, or the like, sprayed on the printed surface of disk 1. Such disks with a protective covering are not new, being generally employed in conventional buttons.

The body portion of the button of this invention comprises a disk 4 (Fig. 4) formed on one side with a shallow recess 5. The linear contour of the sides of said recess corresponds to the shape of the disk 1, so that the latter may be fitted into the recess, while the depth of the recess in disk 4 is slightly greater than the thickness of disk 1 and its protective covering 3.

This disk 4 is preferably a molded plastic of the thermoplastic type, such as cellulose acetate and cellulose acetate butyrate, widely sold under the trade name of "Tenite," and which disk may be made by compression or injection molding. Some of the phenolics, acrylics, lignins, ureas, etc., appear to be satisfactory provided the molded disk is sufficiently tough and resilient to sustain the force of driving a staple or metal pin there-through, as will be later described, and which material will frictionally grip such staple or pin with sufficient force to resist slippage relative to the disk 4 upon normal use of the button in attaching to and withdrawing the same from a garment.

"Tenite" comes in the form of powder or crystals and is thermoplastic, in that it is flowable to desired form in a die and may be molded by compression or injection methods, the latter being faster, but requiring more expensive equipment. This plastic is provided for forming objects of different degrees of resiliency and hard-

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ness, such as in soft, medium and hard classifications, of which the medium class is found to be particularly suitable in that disks formed therefrom are relatively rigid, yet having sufficient flexibility and resiliency to resist breakage and to closely grip the attaching staple.

The element (Fig. 3) preferably comprises a fine wire staple, the legs 7 of which are driven through the base of recess 5 from the open side of the recess so that the head 8 of said staple extends across the central axis of the disk 4 and is partially imbedded in the base of said recess as best indicated in Fig. 6.

When the staple is in the position indicated in Fig. 6, the material of the disk 4 tightly grips the legs 7 with sufficient frictional resistance to slippage of the legs relative to said disk axially of the legs to prevent such slippage when the exposed legs are thrust through the desired portion of the garment of a wearer, and said wire is sufficiently rigid to enable them to be thrust through such garment without accidental undesirable distortion thereof, but is also sufficiently thin to pass through said garment without necessarily sharpening the ends of the legs.

After the staple is in the disk 4 as described above, the insignia carrying disk 1 is placed in recess 5 and then the material of disk 4 along the edge of the recess outwardly of disk 1 is crimped over the marginal portions of the disk 1, including the moisture proof covering 3 of the latter, as indicated at 9, and the identification button is ready for use.

In use, the operator merely thrusts legs 7 through the fabric or garment 10 (Fig. 8), and then bends the legs toward each other to tightly clamp the disk 4 against the side of the garment opposite legs 7, and to detach the button, the legs are bent oppositely outwardly to about the position indicated in Fig. 6, and the button is readily withdrawn and is ready for reattaching to another garment.

While the button illustrated herein is circular, it may be of any desired polygonal shape, or elliptical.

The use of a composition material, such as "Tenite," or others, makes possible the use of any desired color for identification purposes, such as red, yellow, green, white, etc., and which colors are solid throughout the body of the disk and, therefore, any attempt to change the same would

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be easily detected. This is important where it is found desirable to use color for classification of the wearer in addition to any sub-classification by the insignia on disk 1, since the marginal portion of the disk 4 outwardly of disk 1 is exposed.

The identification button hereinbefore described is not corrosive, and the small amount of the metal staple that is exposed (being merely the legs) makes possible the use of a non-corrosive metal where desired at a mere fraction of the cost of the material that would be required to make a button of metal or in which there is considerably more metal than is disclosed.

While the majority of buttons made for identification purposes are smaller than is shown in the drawing, it is obvious that the buttons may be of any desired size.

This invention is not to be confused with tickets used for price tags and the like in which staples are employed, inasmuch as these tickets have practically the entire staples exposed and no provision is made for an identification disk, such as disk 1, that not only cooperates with the pin to cover the latter, but that also cooperates with the main body disk 4 for holding the staple in place should the staple become slightly loosened after repeated use or abuse thereof.

Having described my invention, I claim:

An identification button, or the like, comprising a disk-like body of relatively resilient plastic material formed with a shallow recess in one side thereof, a relatively thin disk bearing identifying insignia thereon secured in said recess; a pin carried by the bottom of said recess, said pin having a pair of spaced legs extending through said bottom and projecting a substantial distance from the side of said bottom opposite said recess and having a head connecting said legs and disposed between said disk and said bottom and against the latter, the resiliency of the plastic material of said bottom being such as to urge it into tight frictional engagement with said legs, and a portion of said body around the sides of said recess being crimped over the marginal portions of said disk for securing said disk against said head whereby said crimped portion and the said material frictionally engaging said legs will cooperate to secure said pin against movement axially of said legs relative to said bottom.

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