June 5, 1951

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2,555,348

UNIFORM CAP

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Fig. 1.

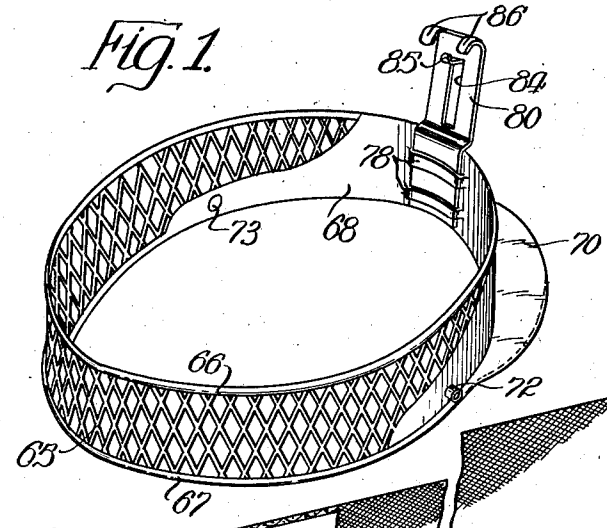


Fig. 2.

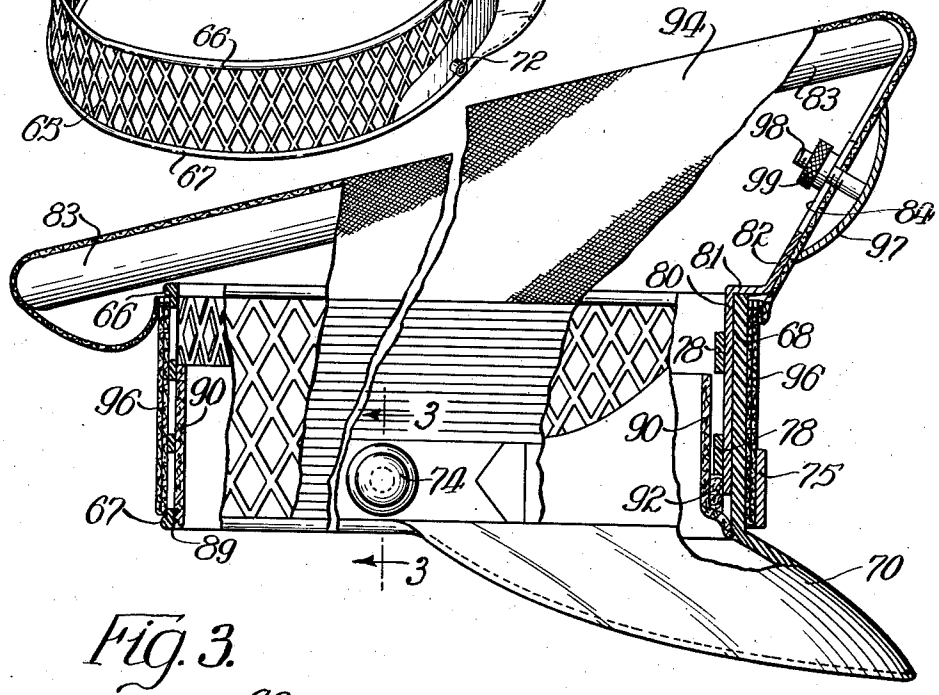
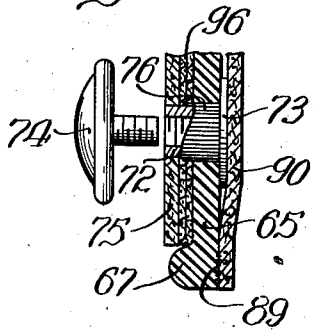


Fig. 3.



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UNIFORM CAP

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2—195)

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This invention relates to a uniform cap having a frame whereon may be fitted a removable cover. More particularly the present improvements are concerned with a frame which is molded from plastic material with special provision for ventilation, for the mounting of threaded sockets to which the ends of a strap may be secured, for support at the front of a grommet over which the cap cover is removably fitted, and for certain other features as will hereinafter be disclosed in detail. A cap having such a construction is advantageous in the respects that it is light, flexible, long-lived, requires fewer parts in its assembly, and otherwise is well suited to meet the requirements usually encountered in service.

A suggestive embodiment of this invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is a view in perspective of the cap frame per se;

Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section through the cap;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary detail in section, taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

The uniform cap here shown comprises a molded plastic frame in the form of a band 65 having outwardly extended beads 66 and 67 at its top and bottom and a visor 70 joined integrally therewith at the front. In this construction, however, the frame band 65 is of open character, here shown as of latticework pattern with many openings therethrough. Such a frame makes for decreased weight, greater flexibility, and enhanced ventilation. In the front of the open frame its openings are closed to provide a solid section, as at 68, through the region which starts just rearwardly of each socket 72 and extends toward and across the front of the frame and upwardly to its top. The purpose of the solid section for the band is twofold: (1) it provides a firm mounting for the two sockets 72 to which a strap 75 may be affixed for extension across the front of the cap; and (2) it provides material at the cap front from which a pair of bars 78 may be outstruck inwardly of the band to provide means for supporting a stay 80 in place.

This stay 80 is offset at 81 where it is forwardly extended over the top of the frame band with which it may engage, and then continues upwardly and forwardly at 82 to support at its top end a grommet 83 which, as herein shown, is in the form of a tube made desirably of rubber or other like material. The stay 80 in its upper region is provided with an elongated slot 84 from

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whose top end is inwardly extended an upwardly curved tongue 85 that lies below the grommet in supporting relation thereto and in cooperating relation with a pair of other tongues 86 which are downwardly curved from the upper end of the stay (Fig. 1). The grommet which is extended between these several tongues is engaged thereby to be sustained in the position shown in Fig. 2.

In this construction each socket 72 is shown as assembled with the frame band after the molding operation has been completed. For this purpose the socket is desirably provided with one or more splines 76 extending parallel with its axis and adapted, when forced through an opening provided in the band for its reception, to cut a groove which will lock the socket non-rotatably therein. A flange 73 at the end of the socket abuts the inner face of the band 65 to fix the distance of projection of the socket beyond the outer face of the frame. A socket of this character, when thus frictionally fitted within the frame, can be depended upon to remain in fixedly assembled relation therewith. Each socket is adapted to receive therein a screw having an ornamental head 74 to engage one end of the strap 75 which extends across the front of the cap in the usual manner.

As made clear from Fig. 3, it is possible to attach the sweat band 90 to the frame in the special manner there shown, as by an adhesive connection 89 where there is mutual engagement in the lower portion of each. At the front, where the sweat band is extended past the two bars 78, I may interpose a cushion pad 92 whereby to maintain the sweat band spaced rearwardly of the bars to prevent any pressure therefrom being transferred to the forehead of the wearer. The cover 94 is removably fitted over the frame 65 with its band 96 depending to surround the frame.

At the front an emblem 97 is secured in place as by passing its shank 98 through an opening in the cover and through the slot 84 in the stay, a nut 99 being then applied to the shank to complete the locking of the emblem in place.

The cap illustrated is distinctive in that its frame is produced from a plastic material with means integral therewith for restraining the cover band from vertical movement from its correct position when fitted around the frame; it is provided also with an arched visor which is integral with the frame to extend forwardly and downwardly therefrom at the front. Such a visor need not be covered with fabric or other material, since the material chosen for the frame-

visor-combination may be sufficiently attractive in appearance to be fully acceptable when fully exposed to the view. Furthermore the plastic frame herein described embodies the improved features of threaded sockets which are anchored immovably in place so that they cannot become lost; moreover such sockets require no separate handling when the strap is applied in place at the front of the cap. The inset bars at the front are integral with the frame to provide a mounting in which the stay may be removably placed, thereby dispensing with any separate holder for this purpose and with the assembly operation therefor. It will thus be observed that I have reduced considerably the number of parts which require assembly and handling, thereby reducing and simplifying the operations required in manufacture of the cap as well as the weight thereof.

I claim:

1. In a uniform cap, the combination of an endless frame of flexible plastic material having an openwork pattern except in its frontal portion where a solid section remains, a horizontal bar outset inwardly from the solid section of the frame in its frontal portion, an upwardly extended stay having its lower end portion fitted against the frame between its inner face and the bar and removably supported in place thereby, a grommet supported at the front by the stay at its upper end, and a cover having a band removably fitted to the frame and receiving the grommet at a point above said frame and being distended thereby.

2. In a uniform cap, the combination of an endless frame of flexible plastic material having an openwork pattern except in its front and adjacent side portions along the lower margin thereof where a continuously extending solid section remains, a stay upwardly extended from the frame at the front, means releasably securing the stay to the solid section of the frame at the front, a grommet supported at the front by the stay at its upper end, strap fasteners secured to the solid section of the frame upon opposite side portions thereof, and a cover having a band removably fitted to the frame exteriorly thereof to cover the stay, said cover receiving the grommet at a point above the frame and being distended thereby.

3. In a uniform cap, the combination of an endless frame of flexible plastic material having an openwork pattern except in its front and adjacent side portions along the lower margin thereof where a continuously extending solid section remains, strap fasteners secured to the solid section of the frame upon opposite side portions thereof, beads outstanding from the frame adjacent its upper and lower margins, a visor joined integrally to the frame along its front and adjacent side portions proximate to the lower margin thereof, a stay upwardly extended from the frame at the front to support a resilient grommet thereon, a cover having a band removably fitted to the frame exteriorly thereof and confined in place between the upper and lower beads of said frame to cover the stay, said cover receiving the grommet at a point above the frame and being distended thereby, a strap extended exteriorly along the front and adjacent side portions of the cap between the fasteners on the frame, and means traversing the strap at points oppositely of the fasteners for coaction therewith to secured the strap to the cap.

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