March 23, 1954 H. LEV 2,672,616

UNIFORM CAP

Original Filed Jan. 19, 1949

Fig. 1.

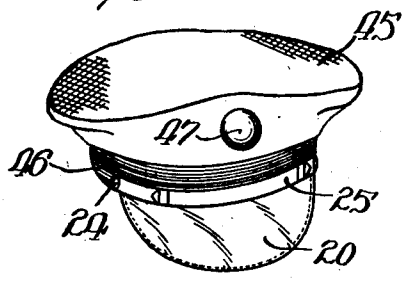


Fig. 2.

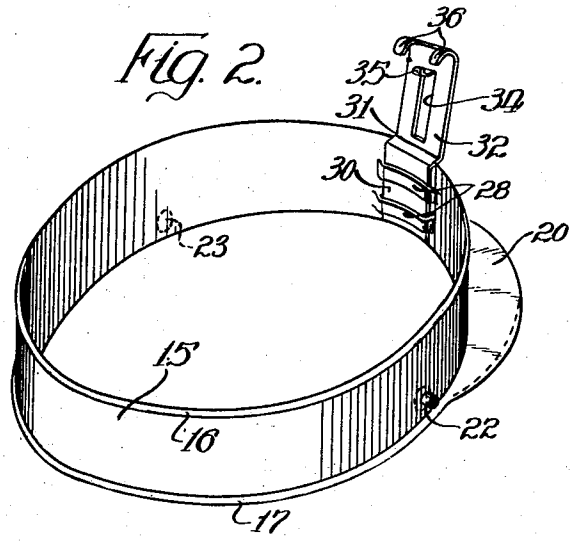


Fig. 4.

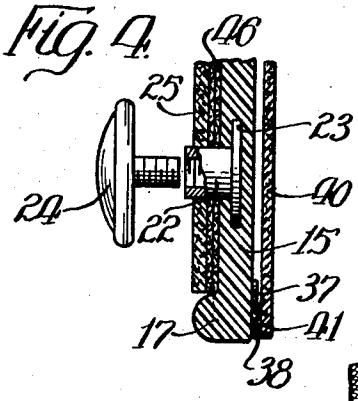


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,672,616

UNIFORM CAP

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Continuation of abandoned application Serial No. 185,620, September 19, 1950, which is a division of application Serial No. 71,749, January 19, 1949. This application October 1, 1952, Serial No. 312,437

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 the mounting of threaded sockets to which the ends of a strap may be secured, for attachment at the front of a removable stay which supports 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.

This application is a continuation of my application Serial No. 185,620 filed September 19, 1950, now abandoned, in turn a division of my application Serial No. 71,749, filed January 19, 1949, now Patent No. 2,555,348.

A uniform cap embodying the improvements of this invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a uniform cap which embodies my present improved features of construction;

Figure 2 is a view in perspective of the cap frame per se;

Figure 3 is a central longitudinal section through the cap; and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary detail in section, taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

The cap illustrated is conventional in that it comprises a flexible frame in the form of an endless band 15 having outstanding beads 16 and 17 extending along its upper and lower edges. According to the present invention, this frame is molded from some suitable plastic material having properties which are specially adapted for its intended purpose. Among these is lightness, flexibility, and resilience to a considerable degree. A visor 20 formed integrally with the band is provided at the front, being arched and inclined downwardly in accordance with usual practice. The lower bead 17 is shown as terminating at spaced points where it joins with the visor (see Fig. 2).

The frame band carries at each side a fitting in the form of a socket 22 which is desirably threaded internally and provided at its inner end with a flange 23. In the process of forming the frame, the plastic material is molded around the socket flange so as to permanently anchor the socket fixedly in place. Each socket extends

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outwardly from the frame so as to receive therein a screw having an ornamental head 24 to engage one end of a chin strap 25 which normally extends across the front of the cap immediately above the visor (see Fig. 1). A socket of this character provides a simple and effective fastener for one end of a strap which is customarily carried at the cap front.

At its front the frame band is also formed with a pair of inwardly offset bars 28 spaced apart in parallel relation and extending horizontally as best shown in Fig. 2. Each bar is relatively short, perhaps a little over an inch, and its spacing from the band body is sufficient to receive therebetween the lower end of a stay 30, which is thereby secured vertically in place. This stay is offset at 31 where it is forwardly extended over the top of the frame band with which it may engage, and then continues upwardly and forwardly at 32 to support at its top end a grommet 33 which, as herein shown, is in the form of a roll made desirably of rubber or other like material. The stay in its upper region is provided with an elongated slot 34 from whose top end is inwardly extended an upwardly curved tongue 35 that lies below the grommet in supporting relation thereto and in cooperating relation with a pair of other tongues 36 which are downwardly curved from the upper end of the stay (see Fig. 2). The grommet which is extended between these several tongues is engaged thereby to be sustained in the position shown.

Certain problems are encountered in the use of any plastic frame, since it does not readily receive therethrough threads applied in a sewing operation for affixing a sweat band in place. In the present cap I meet this problem by providing, according to Fig. 3, a tape 37 of fabric or the like which is adhesively fastened to the inside of the frame band 15 adjacent its bottom edge, this tape being reversely bent at 38 and then extended upwardly to the outside of a sweat band 40 which is extended around the frame interiorly thereof. The tape may readily be sewn to the sweat band as at 41. At the front, where the sweat band is extended past the two bars 28, I may interpose a cushion pad 42 whereby to maintain the sweat band spaced rearwardly of the bars to prevent any pressure therefrom being transmitted to the forehead of the wearer.

A cap of this general description is adapted to receive a cover having a tip 45 which is fitted over the grommet 33 to be distended thereby, the cover including a band 46 which fits around the

frame 15. The band 46 of the cover is adapted to be fitted between the beads 16 and 17 of the frame, thereby to be centered correctly in place and restrained from vertical movement either way. At the front an emblem 47 is secured in place as by passing its shank 48 through an opening in the cover and through the slot 34 in the stay, a nut 49 being then applied to the shank to complete the locking of the emblem in place.

As shown, this cap embodies the improved features of threaded strap-holding sockets having flanges around which the cap frame is molded so as to permanently secure the sockets thereto. 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. The frame is continuous throughout its front portion, and its front face remains smooth so that the cover band 46 which engages therewith is maintained smooth at every point.

While I have shown and described certain embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that it is capable of many modifications. Changes, therefore, in the construction and arrangement may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a uniform cap of the type having a strap extended across the front portion thereof, an endless frame molded from flexible plastic having at opposite sides thereof a socket fitting, the inner end of each socket fitting having an enlarged flange embedded in said frame during molding, said socket fittings being internally threaded, said strap having openings in its ends engageable over said socket fittings, and members complementary to said fittings engageable therewith for retaining said strap in position.

2. In a uniform cap of the type having a strap extended across the front portion thereof, an imperforate endless frame molded from flexible plastic having at opposite sides thereof a socket fitting, the inner end of each socket fitting having an enlarged flange embedded in said frame during molding, said socket fittings being internally threaded, said strap having openings in its ends engageable over said socket fittings, and members complementary to said fittings engageable therewith for retaining said strap in position, said endless frame having at its front at least one bar integrally formed therewith at the inside surface thereof and in spaced relation therewith, and a separately formed, removable grommet-supporting stay having its lower end received within the opening defined by said bar and the inside surface of said frame and maintained from angular displacement therein.

3. In a uniform cap of the type having a strap extended across the front portion thereof, a relatively rigid frame having opposite side portions, at least said opposite side portions being of molded plastic and a socket fitting in each of said side portions, the inner end of each socket having a portion embedded in each of said plastic side portions during molding to be permanently attached thereto, said strap having openings in its ends engageable over said socket fittings, and members complementary to said fittings removably fastenable thereto for retaining said strap in position.

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