UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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AEROPLANE FLOAT SIGNAL

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This invention relates to a floating signal for aeroplanes and the like, the general object of the invention being to provide means for indicating the spot in a body of water where an aeroplane or the like has sunk, with means for normally holding the signal in a compartment formed in a part of the fuselage and means for automatically releasing the spring door of the compartment when the plane drops into a body of water so that the signal will float from the compartment and rise to the surface.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a view showing the signal in use marking the spot where an aeroplane has sunk into a body of water.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view through part of the fuselage of the plane showing the parts of the invention therein.

Fig. 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view thru Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view thru the lock cylinder.

Fig. 6 is a view of the cap for said cylinder.

Fig. 7 is a view of a roll of blotting paper for normally holding the spring bolt in projected position.

In these drawings, the numeral 1 indicates a casing which forms a small compartment in the fuselage of the plane and which is located on one side thereof, and the fuselage is formed with an opening 2 which communicates with the compartment, and this opening is closed by a door which is provided with the spring hinge 4, the spring of which normally holds the door in open position.

A cylinder 5 is suitably supported in the fuselage adjacent the casing 1, and a bolt 6 is located in the cylinder with a part project-
of course float the buoy out of the casing, and the buoy would rise to the surface, pulling the cable 18 from the spool in the casing 20 and the weight 16 will cause the flag staff to assume a vertical position as shown in Fig. 1, so as to mark the spot where the sunken plane rests.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. Means for marking the spot where a craft has sunk in a body of water comprising a casing attached to the craft, a door for normally closing the casing, spring means for normally holding the door in open position, a bolt for holding the door in closed position, a cylinder in which the bolt is located with the bolt projecting from one end of the cylinder, a spring for retracting the bolt, a member formed of absorbent material placed in the cylinder for normally holding the bolt projected, said cylinder having perforations therein for the admission of water to the member, a buoy located in the casing and a flexible member connecting the buoy with the craft.

2. Means for marking the spot where a craft has sunk into a body of water comprising a casing carried by the body of the craft and opening out thru a wall thereof, a door for closing the casing, spring means for normally holding the door in open position, a buoy in the casing, a casing within the craft and having a spool rotatably arranged therein, a cable wound on the spool and passing into the casing first mentioned and attached to the buoy, a cylinder located in the craft adjacent the door, a bolt passing through one end of the cylinder for engaging a keeper member on the door for holding the door in closed position, a head on the inner end of the bolt, a spring located between the head and a part of the cylinder for retracting the bolt, a roll of blotting paper located in the cylinder between the head and one end of the cylinder for holding the bolt projected, said cylinder having perforations therein.

3. Means for marking the position of a sunken craft in a body of water comprising a casing located in the body of the craft and opening through one wall thereof, a door for closing the casing, a spring for holding the door in open position, a cylinder arranged adjacent the casing, a bolt passing through one end of the cylinder and engaging a keeper member on the door for holding the door in closed position, a perforated cap closing the other end of the cylinder, a head on the inner end of the bolt, a spring located between the head and the lower end of the cylinder for holding the bolt retracted, a roll of blotting paper located in the cylinder between the head and the perforated cap for holding the bolt projected, a buoy in the casing, a cable connecting the buoy with a part of the body of the craft, and a pivoted and weighted flag carrying staff carried by the buoy.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

PHILLIP A. KUHN.