March 27, 1951 W. F. OHLEMEYER 2,546,774

FIREARM HOLSTER

Filed Jan. 27, 1950

Fig. 1.

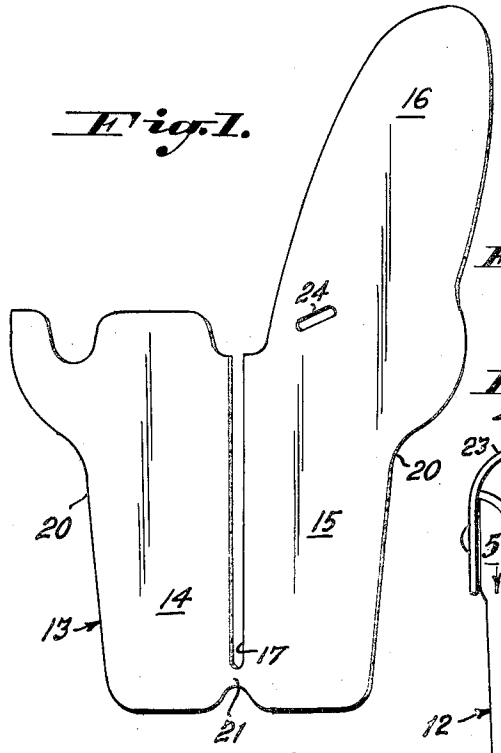


Fig. 2.

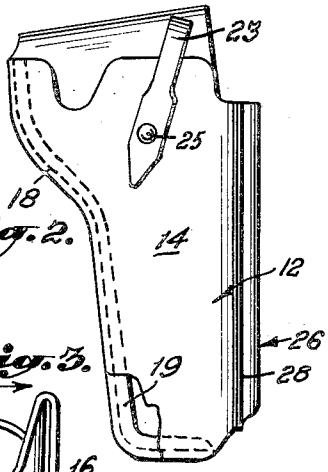


Fig. 3.

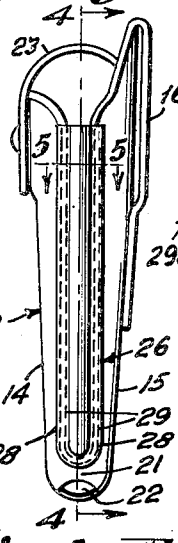


Fig. 9.

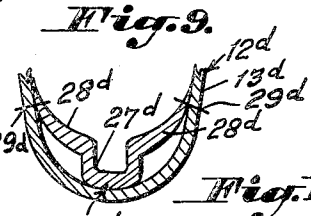


Fig. 10.

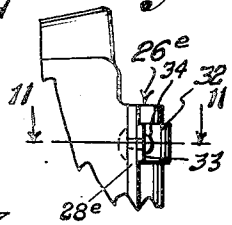


Fig. 4.

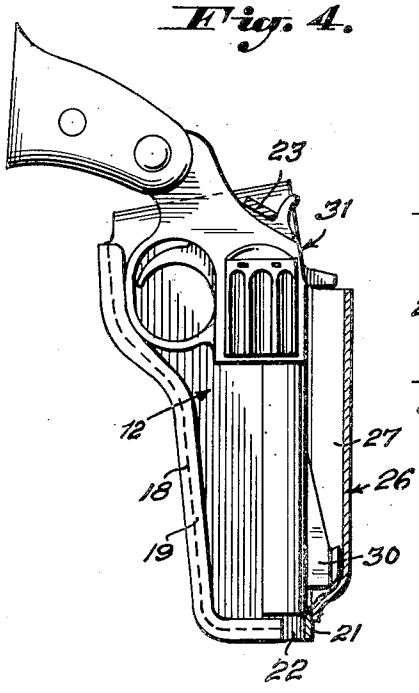


Fig. 5.



Fig. 7.

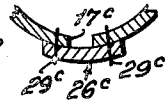


Fig. 11.

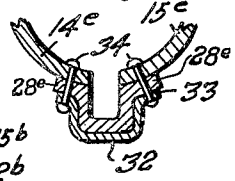
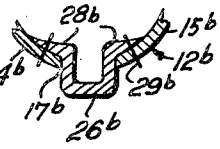


Fig. 6.



Fig. 8.



Inventor

Walter F. Ohlemeyer

By John N. Randolph

Attorney

Patented Mar. 27, 1951

2,546,774

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,546,774

FIREARM HOLSTER

Walter F. Ohlemeyer, El Paso, Tex.

Application January 27, 1950, Serial No. 140,857

3 Claims. (Cl. 224—2)

1

This invention relates to a novel construction of firearm holster particularly adapted for revolvers and pistols and having a front sight receiving channel or groove whereby the front sight is maintained out of contact with the holster to permit a revolver or pistol to be more readily applied to or removed from a holster and to prevent the front sight from tearing or cutting the holster material.

Modern revolvers and pistols are factory equipped with undercut and square cut types of front sights which have a pronounced tendency to cut and tear the leather or other holster material especially when being withdrawn from a holster and which retards the withdrawal of the weapon from the holster, results in a part of the holster material adhering to the front sight, requiring cleaning of the front sight before firing, and which quickly destroys the utility of a holster by cutting or tearing through the holster material and destroying the lining of soft leather lined holsters.

Accordingly, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide a holster for use with firearms equipped with such front sights and which is provided with a sight receiving channel by which the front sight is held out of contact with the holster material so that withdrawal of the weapon from the holster is not retarded and to prevent the front sight tearing or cutting any part of the holster material including the sight receiving channel.

Various other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawing illustrating preferred embodiments thereof, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank used in constructing one form of holster in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view, partly broken away illustrating the completed holster and looking toward the outer side thereof;

Figure 3 is an edge elevational view of the same looking from right to left of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a substantially central sectional view thereof, partly in elevation, taken along a plane as indicated by the line 4—4 of Figure 3 and showing a revolver applied to the holster;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary cross sectional view taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 5—5 of Figure 3;

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 5 but illustrating another shape of sight channel;

Figures 7, 8 and 9 are views similar to Figures 5 and 6 but illustrating three other forms of sight channels;

2

Figure 10 is a fragmentary side elevational view of the upper forward portion of the holster and illustrating another means of fastening the sight channel, and

Figure 11 is a cross sectional view taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 11—11 of Figure 10.

Referring more specifically to the drawing, Figures 2, 3 and 4 illustrate one form of revolver or pistol holster, designated generally 12 and which constitutes one conventional type or pattern of holster; however, as the description proceeds it will be readily apparent that the sight channel, hereinafter to be described, may be readily incorporated in other types of holsters including flap back, flap top, shoulder, pouch, spring, swivel, pocket, inside pants, quick draw, belt, automobile and clip holsters, either lined or unlined for right or left-hand use.

The holster 12 is partially formed from a blank as illustrated in Figure 1 and which is designated generally 13. The blank 13 includes a section 14 constituting the outer wall of the holster, a section 15 constituting the inner wall thereof and an extension 16 of the upper edge of the section 15 and which forms a belt receiving loop. The blank 13 is provided with an elongated slot 17 between the wall portions 14 and 15 which extends from adjacent the lower end of the blank and which opens outwardly of a portion of the upper edge thereof.

The blank 13 is folded along a medial line of the slot 17 and the outer edges of the portions 14 and 15 are secured together in any suitable manner, preferably by stitching, as seen at 18 in Figures 2 and 4. A relatively thick welt 19 is interposed between the stitched edges of the holster sides 14 and 15 and is secured therein by the stitching 18 passing also through the welt 19. As seen in Figure 4, the welt 19 is shaped to follow the contour of the complementary edges 20 of the holster sides 14 and 15 and has its lower end extending to a point adjacent the blank portion 21, which is disposed below the slot 17 and which connects the holster sides 14 and 15. Said blank portion 21 combines with the adjacent, lower end of the welt 19 to provide a restricted opening 22 at the bottom of the holster and which is smaller in diameter than the barrel of a revolver or pistol to be received in the holster. However, it will be understood that the welt 19 may be omitted if desired. The flap portion 16 is folded outwardly and back upon the inner holster side

15, as illustrated in Figure 3 and is suitably secured thereto to provide the usual belt loop, as illustrated. The holster 12 may be provided with a conventional retaining strap 23 which is suitably anchored at one end to the outer side of the inner holster side 15 and which extends through an opening 24 of the holster blank thence across the open top of the holster and which is secured at its opposite, free end to the outer side of the other, outer holster side 14 by a conventional snap fastening 25. All of the parts previously described may be varied without affecting the construction, operation and use of the holster front sight receiving channel, hereinafter to be described and comprising the invention.

In the embodiment as illustrated in Figures 2 to 5, the holster front sight receiving channel, designated generally 26 and which is preferably but not necessarily formed of the same material as the blank 13 but of a greater thickness to give it greater rigidity, is mounted on the outer side of the forward edge of the holster. Said front sight receiving member 26 is provided with a relatively deep inwardly opening groove or channel 27 of approximately the same width as the slot 17 and which registers therewith. Said sight receiving member 26 is provided with laterally projecting integral flanges 28 extending along its side edges and which engage portions of the outer sides of the holster sides 14 and 15, adjacent the slot 17. The flanges 28 are secured to said holster sides preferably by stitching as seen at 29 but may be otherwise secured thereto as by rivets or other fastenings or by being bonded thereto by any suitable bonding or adhesive medium. The front sight receiving channel member 26 is sufficiently rigid to retain its shape as illustrated and is of a sufficient depth so that a revolver or pistol front sight 30 will be loosely disposed therein when the firearm thereof is disposed within the holster 12. In Figure 4, a conventional type of revolver 31 is shown applied to the holster 12 and with its front sight 30 loosely contained within the groove 27 of the channel member 26. It will be readily apparent that the front sight 30 will slide longitudinally through the channel member as the revolver 31 is applied to or removed from the holster and accordingly will be held by engagement of the barrel of the revolver with the forward part of the holster sides 14 and 15, out of engagement completely with the holster or with the channel member 26, which constitutes a part thereof. The front sight 30 as illustrated in Figure 4 is of the undercut type at its rear end and it will be readily apparent that this forms a sharp point which would otherwise readily cut or tear a holster of conventional shape and likewise obstruct the withdrawal of the revolver therefrom.

Figure 6 illustrates a channel member 26*a* which differs from the channel member 26 only in that it is provided with a shallower groove 27*a*. Figure 8 illustrates another form of channel member 26*b* which is employed with a holster 12*b* having a wider slot 17*b* through which said channel member 26*b* extends so that its flanges 28*b* are disposed on the inner side of portions of the holster sides 14*b* and 15*b* and secured thereto in the same manner as by stitching 29*b*. Figure 7 illustrates another form of sight receiving member designated 26*c* for use with very low front sights and which constitutes a strip of arcuate cross section wherein the groove is omitted and which is secured by stitching 29*c* to the outer side of the forward edge of the holster 12*c* so that the longitudinal intermediate portion of the strip 26*c* combines with the holster slot 17*c* to provide the sight receiving channel or groove.

Figure 9 illustrates another form of sight receiving channel member 26*d* which is disposed completely within the holster blank 12*d* and which blank 13*d* differs from the blank 13 in that the slot 17 is omitted. The sight receiving channel member 26*d* has a groove 27*d* of sufficient depth to loosely accommodate the front sight 30. The flanges 28*d* are made wider and are tapered toward their outer edges and transversely bowed to conform readily to the curvature of the sides of the holster 12*d* and are secured as by stitching at 29*d* to the holster sides adjacent the restricted or feathered outer edges of said flanges 28*d*.

Figures 10 and 11 illustrate a slightly different construction including a sight receiving channel 26*e* which corresponds to the channel 26 but which instead of being secured by stitching is provided with reinforcing strap members 32 which are shaped to fit around the outer side of the channel member 26*e*. The flanges 28*e* of the channel member 26*e* and the flanges 33 of the reinforcing strap members 32 are secured to the holster sides 14*e* and 15*e*, preferably by rivets 34. Any number of the strap members 32 may be provided or a single reinforcing member 32 may be provided of a length substantially corresponding to the length of the channel member 26*e* and which is of the cross sectional shape as illustrated in Figure 11.

Various other modifications and changes are contemplated and may obviously be resorted to, without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as hereinafter defined by the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A firearm holster provided with a front sight receiving channel extending from adjacent the holster bottom and opening outwardly of the open top of the holster, said channel being of a width and depth from adjacent the holster bottom to the open upper end of the channel to loosely receive the front sight of a firearm contained within the holster and being formed from a separate channel-shaped member secured to portions of the holster and combining therewith to form a part of the completed holster, said channel member being secured to the outer side of one longitudinal edge of the holster, and said holster having a slot extending from adjacent its bottom and opening outwardly of its open upper end and disposed in communication with the channel of said channel member and constituting a part of said sight receiving channel.

2. A firearm holster provided with a front sight receiving channel extending from adjacent the holster bottom and opening outwardly of the open top of the holster, said channel being of a width and depth from adjacent the holster bottom to the open upper end of the channel to loosely receive the front sight of a firearm contained within the holster and being formed from a separate channel-shaped member secured to portions of the holster and combining therewith to form a part of the completed holster, said holster having a longitudinally extending slot through which a portion of the channel member extends.

3. A firearm holster provided with a front sight receiving channel extending from adjacent the holster bottom and opening outwardly of

the open top of the holster, said channel being of a width and depth from adjacent the holster bottom to the open upper end of the channel to loosely receive the front sight of a firearm contained within the holster and being formed from a separate channel-shaped member secured to portions of the holster and combining therewith to form a part of the completed holster, said channel member being secured to the outer side of one longitudinal edge of the holster, and said holster having a slot extending from adjacent its bottom and opening outwardly of its open upper end and disposed in communication with the channel of said channel member and constituting a part of said sight receiving channel,

said channel member having laterally projecting flanges secured to holster portions disposed on either side of said slot.

WALTER F. OHLEMEYER.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
43,275	Tileston	June 21, 1864
1,930,203	Jewett	Oct. 10, 1933
2,001,321	Berns	May 14, 1935
2,455,635	Witte	Dec. 7, 1948