July 23, 1963 L. R. LERUDE 3,098,591

GUN CARRYING HARNESS

Filed March 20, 1961 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



FIG. 2

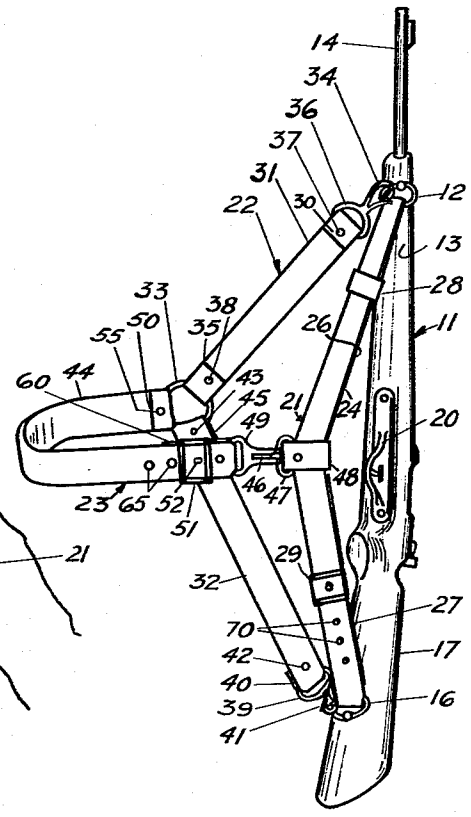


FIG. 1

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July 23, 1963 L. R. LERUDE 3,098,591

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Filed March 20, 1961 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

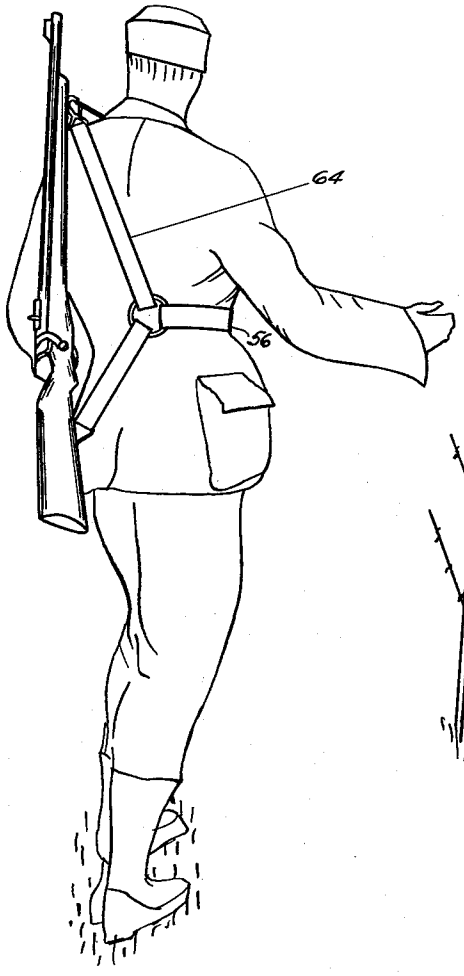


FIG. 4

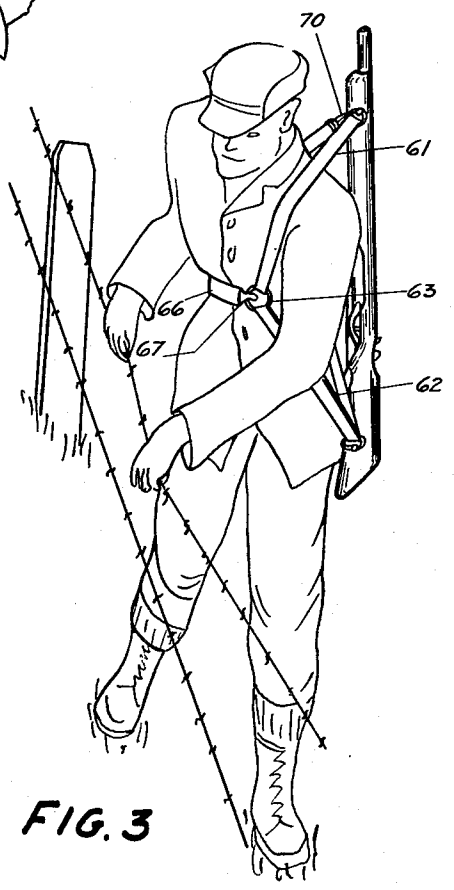


FIG. 3

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GUN CARRYING HARNESS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 224—1)

This invention relates to a harness for carrying a gun or similar elongated object.

An object of the invention is the provision of a novel gun harness that carries the gun in a fixed vertical position on the user with the barrel pointing upward thereby assuring the optimum in safety precautions.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel gun harness for carrying a gun in such a manner that the hands of the gun user are free at all times.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel harness for carrying a gun that is simple to construct, that is easy to use and that is positive in its action.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a harness for carrying a gun that is compact, that is easy to assemble and disassemble, that requires a minimum of maintenance, and that requires a minimum of skill to use.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel harness for carrying the gun that is easy to produce, that has a minimum of parts and that is inexpensive to produce.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel harness for carrying a gun that may utilize portions of a conventional gun sling.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel harness that is readily adaptable by persons of different sizes and shapes.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become more apparent upon reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIGURE 1 shows the harness attached to a conventional gun.

FIGURE 2 shows a hunter utilizing the harness to carry a gun.

FIGURE 3 is a front view showing a modified form of the invention.

FIGURE 4 is a back view of the embodiment shown in FIGURE 3.

Referring now to the drawings, the invention is shown embodied in a harness for carrying a gun 11 on a user's back in such a manner that the gun 11 is positively held in position yet permits free use of the user's hands and arms. While the harness in this embodiment of the invention is shown as being adapted for use with the gun 11, it is to be understood that the harness may also be used to carry other elongated objects. The gun 11 in this instance is a conventional rifle 11 having a gun sling swivel or eyelet 12 mounted on a forearm 13 adjacent the end of the barrel 14 and a gun sling swivel or eyelet 16 mounted on the stock 17 below the trigger guard 20 and adjacent the butt of the stock. As shown, the swivels 12 and 16 are shaped to receive a strap having a generally elongated rectangular cross-section. The harness as shown in FIGURE 1 is connected to the gun 11 and shows the various components in a general position they would assume on a user's body. The harness includes a gun sling 21 adapted to be interconnected with the gun sling swivels 12 and 16, strap means 22 arranged to have an intermediate portion extend across the back of the user and belt means 23 interconnected with the strap means 22 and arranged to pass around the user's waist on the side away from the gun and be releasably interconnected with the gun sling 21 at the front of the user.

The gun sling 21 in this instance is of conventional construction and comprises a leather strap having a central portion 24, an end portion 26 threaded through the swivel 12 and in side by side relation to the central portion 24 and an end portion 27 threaded through the swivel 16 and in side by side relation to the central portion 24 and the end 26. A slide 28 encircles the central portion 24 and the end portion 26 and 27 adjacent the swivel 12 and a slide buckle 29 of conventional construction encircles the central portion 24 and the end portion 27 adjacent the swivel 16. The slide buckle 29 is formed with a central prong shaped to pass through aligned holes in the end portion 27 and the central portion 24 of the strap. The slide buckle 29 and the end portion 26 and 27 and the central portion 24 are arranged so that the length of the sling may be adjusted as desired by moving the end portion 27 relative to the central portion 24. The slide buckle 29 is, of course, adjusted accordingly. When the sling is used to carry the gun 11, the length of the sling is such that with the gun in a vertical position on the user's back, as shown in FIGURE 2, the sling 21 passes from a position adjacent the back of the user down over the front of the user's shoulder to a position near his hip or waist.

The strap means 22 in this instance is formed by a strap 31, a strap 32 and a ring 33. The strap 31 at its upper end is interconnected with a snap 34. To effect this, the extreme end 30 of the strap 31 is threaded through a ring 36 of the strap 34 and is folded back on the strap proper. A rivet 37 extending through the strap 31 at the end 30 of the strap 31 securely holds the strap and snap 34 together. The other end 35 of the strap 31 is threaded through the ring 33 and is folded back on the strap proper. A rivet 38 extending through the strap proper and the end 35 portion holds the strap 31 and ring 33 in assembled relation. The snap 34 is shaped to fasten to the sling swivel 12. The strap 32 connected at its upper end with the ring 33 is interconnected with a snap 41 at its lower end. The lower end 40 of the strap is threaded through a ring 39 of the snap 41 and is folded back on the strap 32 proper. A rivet 42 extending through the end 40 and the strap 32 holds the strap 33 and snap 41 in assembled relation. The upper end 45 of the strap 32 is threaded through the ring 33 and folded back on the strap 32. A rivet 43 extending through the end 45 and the strap holds the strap 32 and the ring 33 in assembled relation. The straps 31 and 32 may be formed from ribbon like leather strap. The strap 31 is of sufficient length so that it extends from a position adjacent the gun barrel diagonally downward across the user's back to position the ring 33 on the back of the user at a position adjacent the user's side away from that on which the gun 11 is positioned. The strap 32 is of sufficient length so that it extends from a position adjacent the gun stock upwardly across the hip and lower back of the user to the ring 33.

The belt means 23 comprises a strap 44 shaped to pass from the back of the user around his waist and across the front of the user and snap 46 adapted to be releasably interconnected with the gun sling 21. At the back of the user, the end 50 of the strap 44 is threaded through the ring 33 and folded back on the strap 44. A rivet 55 extends through the end 50 and the strap 44 holds the strap 44 and ring 33 in assembled relation. The snap 46 is adapted to fasten on to a ring 47 mounted on a slide 48 disposed on the gun sling 21. As shown, the slide 48 is formed from leather snugly encircling the sling 21 and is interconnected with the ring to provide a fixed mounting for the ring. The end 60 of the belt 44 is threaded through a ring 49 of the snap 46 and is folded back on the strap 44. A buckle 51 encircles the belt 44 and the end 60 and holds the components in assembled relation. The buckle 51 is provided with a prong 52 adapted to extend through aligned holes 65 in the strap 44 and the end 60. This construction permits the length of the belt to be adjusted to the size of the user. The snap 46 may be of any conventional construction; however, I have found that a

Hubbard snap is exceptionally satisfactory, the reason for this being that the Hubbard snap permits ready fastening and unfastening while at the same time being rugged and positive in its action.

FIGURES 3 and 4 show a modified form of the invention. In this embodiment of the invention the gun sling 70 is formed by two parts 61 and 62 interconnected at an intermediate portion by a ring 63. The other parts of the harness are as described and shown herein before and include a strap means 64, a belt 66 and a snap 67. This construction operates in exactly the same way as the other embodiment.

The use of the harness shown in FIGURES 1 and 2 is readily apparent from the drawing but may be briefly summarized as follows:

The gun sling 21 is placed on the gun 11 in a conventional manner and adjusted so that the user's arm and shoulder may pass between the sling 21 and the gun 11 when the gun is mounted in a vertical position on the back of the user as shown.

The snap 34 is fastened to the swivel 12 and snap 41 is fastened to the swivel 16. The length of the belt 23 is adjusted to the user. The gun is then put in a vertical position on the back of the user, the arm and shoulder of the user being threaded between the gun 11 and the sling 21. The straps 31 and 32 are pulled across the back of the user, the belt 23 is pulled around the waist and across the front of the user. The snap 46 is then fastened to the ring 47. It is to be observed that when properly adjusted, the weight of the gun is distributed to various parts of the user's body.

To remove the harness it is only necessary to unfasten the snap 46 from the ring 47. The gun can then be readily removed from the back of the user.

While I have shown that the length of sling 21 and belt 23 may be adjusted, it is to be understood that the straps 31 and 32 may also be constructed so that their length may be adjusted. Also, it is to be understood that any suitable materials may be used in making the various components of the harness. It is to be understood that while

I have employed rivets throughout for purposes of illustration, it is also contemplated that where desired, the folded back end portions may be sewn in position or held in position by lacing or any other suitable means.

It is apparent that this harness has many advantages and can be widely used. For example, in horseback riding the gun can be carried on the user's back when he is getting on and off a horse. This permits the user maximum use of both hands at a time when he needs them most. It is also excellent for deer hunters or duck hunters who need both hands in carrying back game. In cold weather this harness permits a user to put both hands in his pockets to keep them warm. It is to be observed, also, that at all times the barrel of the gun is pointing upwardly thereby assuring an optimum of safety precautions. This harness is also advantageous as the gun is positively held in position and does not jostle about to chafe the user's back and shoulder.

I claim:

In combination a gun and harness, said gun having upper and lower swivels, an adjustable sling attached at its ends to the upper and lower swivels, a slide on said sling, said harness comprising a first strap means having first and second sections, each of said sections being slightly longer than one-half the length of said sling, a securing means, one end of said first section being connected to said upper swivel and one end of said second section being connected to said lower swivel, said other ends of said first and second sections being connected to said securing means, an adjustable waist strap, said waist strap being secured at one end to said securing means and at its other end to said slide on said sling.

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