United States Patent [19]

Tidd

[11] **3,799,415**

[45] **Mar. 26, 1974**

[54] **SLUICE PACK**

[75] Inventor: **Donald M. Tidd,** Vallejo, Calif.

[73] Assignee: **The Raymond Lee Organization, Inc.,** New York, N.Y. ; a part interest

[22] Filed: **July 12, 1972**

[21] Appl. No.: **271,028**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **224/25 A,** 224/9, 209/506

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A45f 4/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 224/25 A, 9, 8 R, 8 A; 209/447, 506, 18

[56] **References Cited**

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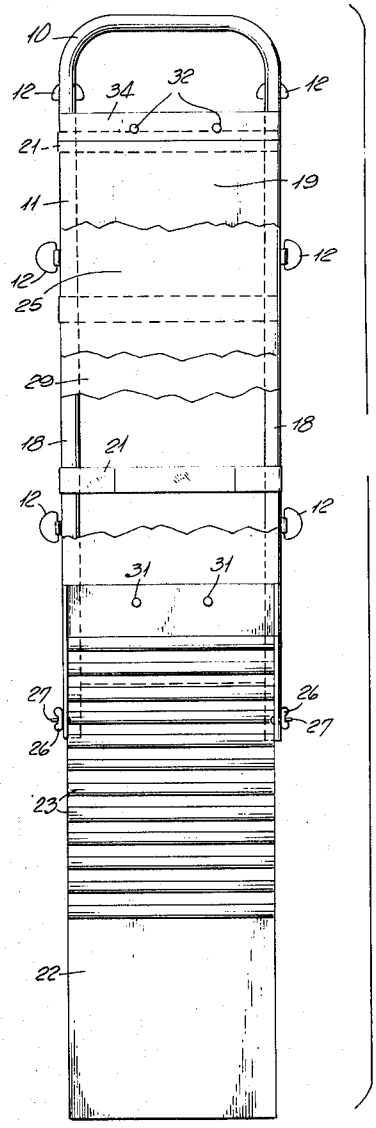
Primary Examiner—Robert G. Sheridan
Assistant Examiner—Jerold M. Forsberg
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Howard I. Podell

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A combination back pack and sluice box, which is equipped with straps for fastening to the back, and when removed, slides apart so as to be in the shape of a sluice box used for placer mining.

The basic frame of the device is a U-shaped section of tubing to which webbing, a screen and mat tray and a riffle tray are fastened, together with D rings to which the fastening straps may be attached.

2 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures



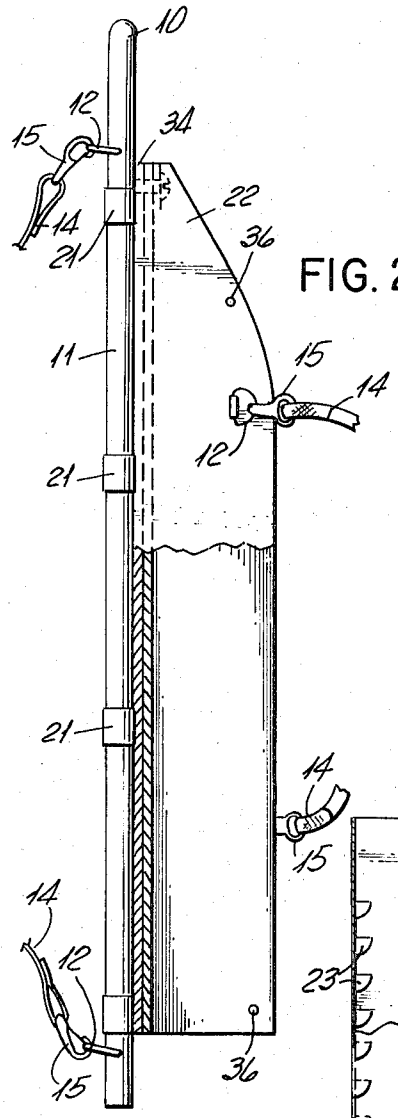


FIG. 2

FIG. 3

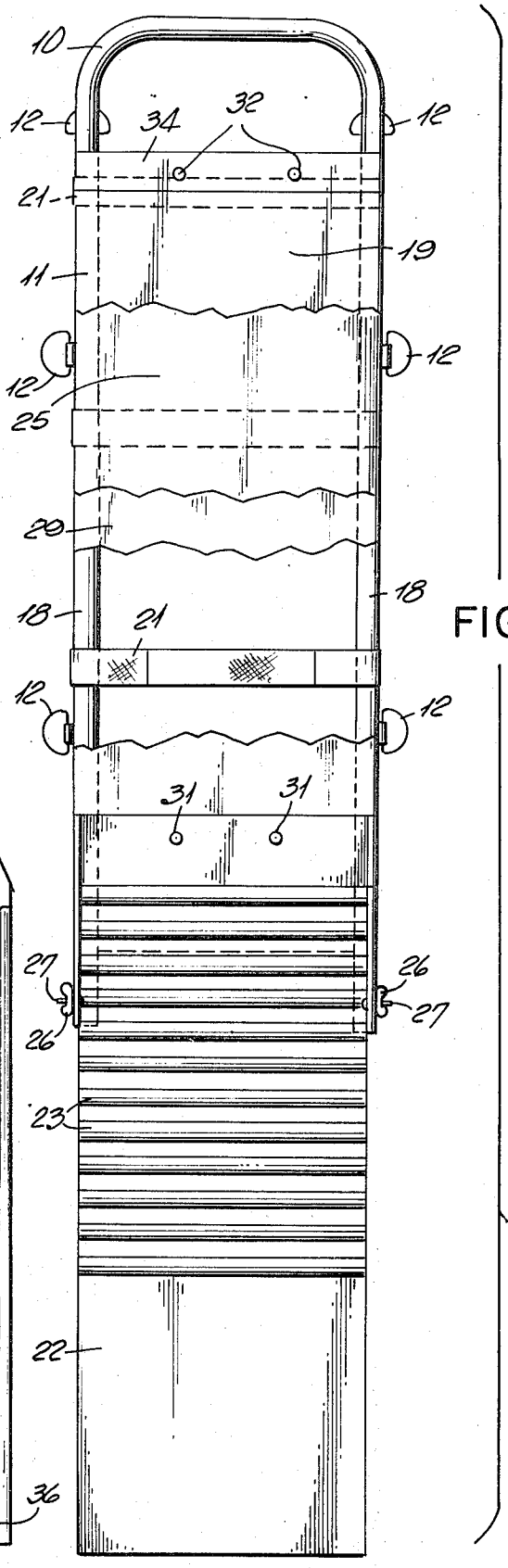


FIG. 1

SLUICE PACK

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:

This invention relates to a combination back pack and sluice box for placer mining purposes.

An advantage of this device is that all of the equipment necessary for a weekend placer mining trip may be mounted and carried in the form of a back pack, including accessory tools, food supply, sleeping bag as well as the sluice box itself.

The basic frame of the device is in the form of a U-shaped section of tubing, with webbing, a screen and mat tray, and a riffle tray being fastened to the adjoining parallel sides of the frame. D rings are also fastened to the frame for attachment to carrying straps.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING:

The objects and features of the invention may be understood with reference to the following detailed description of an illustrative embodiment of the invention, taken together with the accompanying drawing in which:

FIG. **1** is a plan view of the device with the riffle shown in the extended condition for placer mining use;

FIG. **2** is a side view of the device in the retracted position for use as a knapsack; and

FIG. **3** is a side view of the riffles and tray.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT:

Turning now descriptively to the drawing, in which similar reference characters denote similar elements throughout the several views, FIGS. **1–3** illustrate the device **10** which is mounted about U-shaped tubular frame **11.** For carrying as a back pack, straps **14** are fastened by buckles **15** to D rings **12** that are fastened to the frame **10** and to the screen and riffle tray **22.**

Sections of back rest webbing **21** are fastened between the parallel legs **18** of the frame **11,** as in a section of wire screen **19.** The riffle tray **22** is fastened to the frame in the extended position through holes **36** of the riffle tray **22** as shown in FIG. **1** using wing nuts **26** and screws **27** which are anchored in the legs **18** of the end of the frame **11.** In the retracted position, as shown in FIG. **2,** the riffle tray **22** is fastened by wing nuts **26** to screws **27** anchored in holes **31** of the riffle tray and

holes **32** of the mat and screen holder **34** which fastens the wire screen **19,** the gold dust mat **25** and the screen and mat tray **29** to the legs **18** of the frame **11.** The riffle tray is covered with hardwood ¼ inch diameter round riffles **23.**

Since obvious changes may be made in the specific embodiment of the invention described herein, it is indicated that all matter contained herein is intended as illustrative and not as limiting in scope.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A back pack which is convertible for use as a placer miner's sluice box that is mounted on a frame which is fitted with means for fastening a pair of shoulder straps and including a section of wire screen, a gold dust mat, a screen and mat tray, and a sluice box and riffle tray,

said frame being formed of two parallel members that are joined together in spaced relation to each other, with the frame members joined together along their length by back rest webbing for support when worn as a back pack, said frame members serving as the fastening means for the section of wire screen, the gold dust mat, the screen and mat tray and the sluice box and riffle tray fastened between the frame members,

said sluice box and riffle tray being fitted with a first set of holes, for bolting in a retracted position to the device, said sluice box and riffle tray mounting adjacent to the wire screen, gold dust mat and the screen and mat tray in the retracted position; with said riffle tray fitted with a second set of holes for bolting in an extended position to the frame members of the device such that the sluice box and riffle tray is mounted in the extended position, to extend longitudinally beyond the frame members,

said frame members being fitted with releasable means for joining of a pair of shoulder straps to the frame members, whereby

the pack frame and sluice box function as a back pack in the retracted position, with the unit serving, in the extended position, as a placer mining sluice box and riffle tray.

2. The combination as cited in claim **1** is which the bottom interior surface of the sluice box and riffle tray is faced with round rods.

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