Aug. 4, 1953 R. G. BROWN ET AL 2,647,667

GUN CARRIER

Filed April 26, 1950

FIG. 1.

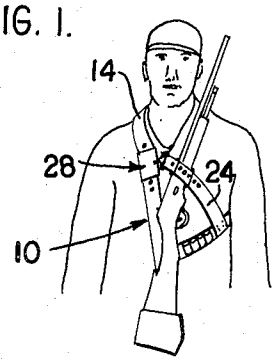


FIG. 2.

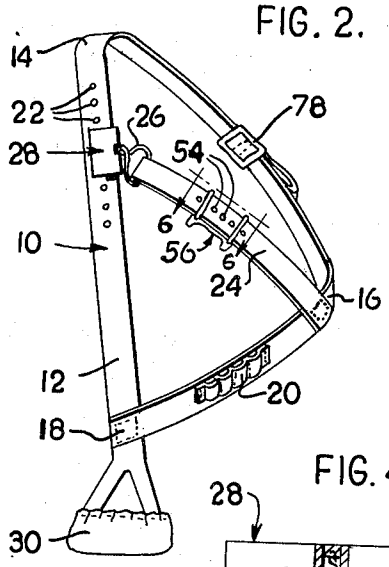


FIG. 3.

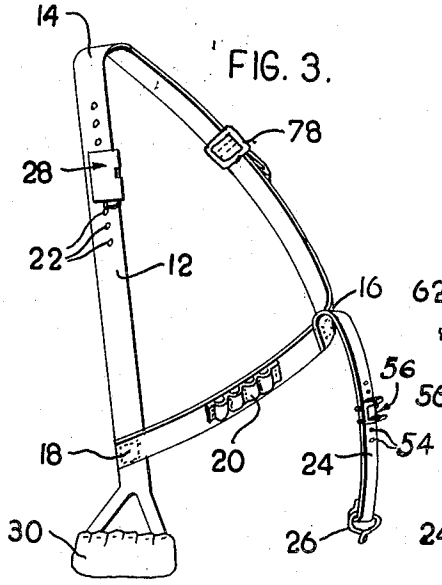


FIG. 4.

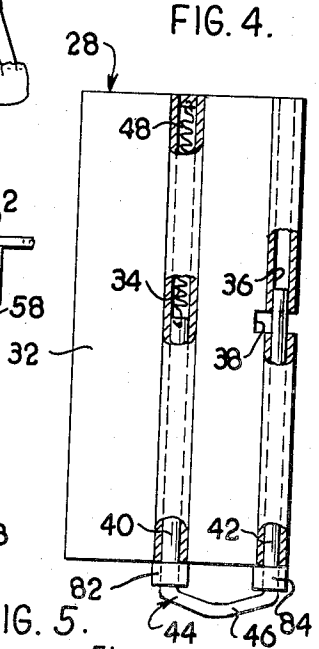


FIG. 6.

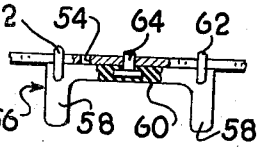


FIG. 7.

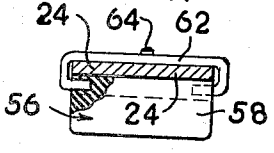


FIG. 8.

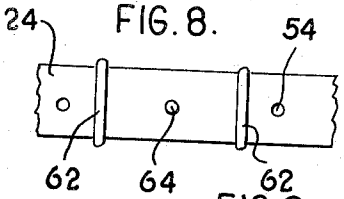


FIG. 5.

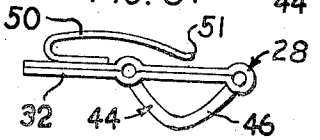
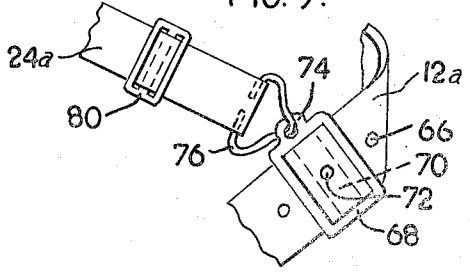


FIG. 9.



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GUN CARRIER

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Application April 26, 1950, Serial No. 158,294

2 Claims. (Cl. 224—2)

1

This invention relates to a gun carrier and more particularly to a carrier by which a shotgun or rifle, such as is commonly used by sportsmen, may be suspended from the shoulder of the user, thus leaving his hands free.

The primary object of the invention is to free the hands of a hunter from the necessity of supporting fire arms and so that the hands and arms may be free for use in separating underbrush and aid in climbing over rough country.

Another object is to suspend the gun from the shoulder of the user in such a position that it may be instantly brought into firing position with but a minimum amount of effort on the part of the user.

A further object is to enable the gun to be supported diagonally across the torso of the user with the barrel pointed upwardly and away from the person of the user so as to contribute to the safety of the user and others.

The above and other objects may be attained by employing this invention which embodies among its features a flexible sling strap adapted to extend across one shoulder of the wearer and to encircle his torso below his opposite shoulder, a gun butt supporting pocket carried by the sling strap below the portion thereof which overlies the shoulder of the wearer, a flexible cross strap fixed to the sling strap below the shoulder of the wearer beneath which the sling strap extends, a latch carried by the sling strap near the portion thereof which overlies the shoulder of the wearer, and a keeper carried by the cross strap for engaging the latch and holding the cross strap diagonally across the torso of the wearer so that the cross strap can be made to overlie the barrel of a gun supported in the pocket to hold said gun diagonally across the torso of the wearer.

Other features include a gun barrel clip mounted on the cross strap for longitudinal adjustment thereon, means for adjusting the latch longitudinally on the sling strap, and shell pockets carried by the sling strap between its junction with the cross strap and the gun butt pocket.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front view in elevation of a gun carrier embodying the features of this invention, showing it on the person of a user with a gun supported therein;

Figure 2 is a front view of the gun carrier removed from the person of the wearer and illustrating it in gun supporting position;

2

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 showing the cross strap released for disengaging the gun;

Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional view through the latch;

Figure 5 is an end view of the latch;

Figure 6 is a fragmentary plan view taken substantially along the line 6—6 of Figure 2 showing the gun clip in detail;

Figure 7 is an end view of the gun clip illustrated in Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a front face of the gun clip and cross strap showing the manner in which the clip is held in proper position on the cross strap; and

Figure 9 is an enlarged detail view illustrating a modified form of coupling the cross strap to the sling strap by which adjustment of the cross strap relative to the sling strap may be accomplished.

Referring to the drawings in detail a gun carrier designated generally 10 comprises a sling strap 12 which is looped across the shoulder of the wearer as at 14 and carried downwardly in a diagonal direction across his back to a point 16 beneath the opposite shoulder. This strap continues around the front of the wearer and is connected as at 18 to the sling strap near its lower end beneath the shoulder over which it passes. The portion of the sling strap 12 which lies between the portion 16 and its junction 18 is provided with a longitudinal series of loops 20 which form pockets for the reception of ammunition such as shotgun shells. Formed in the sling strap in the portion thereof which lies across the chest of the user immediately below the shoulder over which the sling strap passes is a longitudinal row or spaced openings 22, the purpose of which will be more fully hereinafter described.

Stitched or otherwise secured to the sling strap 12 near the portion 16 thereof is a cross strap 24 which extends upwardly diagonally across the chest of the wearer when the device is in gun supporting position. This cross strap is provided at the end opposite that coupled to the sling strap 12 with a keeper 26 which cooperates with a latch designated generally 28 to be more fully hereinafter described.

Suspended from the lower end of the strap 12 below the portion 14 which passes over the shoul-

der of the wearer is a gun butt receiving pocket 30 in which the butt of the rifle or gun supported by the carrier is received.

The latch 28 previously referred to comprises a substantially rectangular body 32 having formed therein longitudinally extending spaced parallel bores 34 and 36. As illustrated, the bore 36 is positioned adjacent one longitudinal side edge of the body 32, and formed in the body intermediate its ends and intersecting the bore 36 is a notch 38 for the reception of the keeper 26 previously referred to. Mounted for longitudinal sliding movement in the bores 34 and 36 are the legs respectively 40 and 42 of a substantially U-shaped bolt designated generally 44. This bolt is provided at its bight portion with an angularly offset finger member 46 by which it may be easily moved when it is desired to release the keeper 26. As illustrated the leg 42 of the bolt extends into the bore 36 and intersects the notch 38 so that when the keeper is in the notch and the bolt is projected, the keeper will be retained therein. In order to so project the leg 42 of the bolt 44, a retractile coil spring 48 is fitted within the bore 34 and coupled at one end to the leg 40 of the bolt, while the opposite end of the spring is connected to the body 32 and hence the leg 42 of the bolt will be yieldingly held in projected position. The body 32 is provided on its rear side with a pair of longitudinally spaced spring clips 50 which embrace the sling strap 12, and these clips are so spaced from one another that when the end 51 of one clip overlies an opening 22, the end 51 of the other clip 50 will overlie another opening 22. In this manner the latch 28 is held in the desired position on the sling strap 12. It will thus be seen that the angle at which the cross strap 24 crosses the chest of the wearer may be varied to suit various requirements.

As illustrated in the drawings, the cross strap 24 is provided intermediate its ends with a longitudinal row or spaced openings 54, and mounted for adjustment on the cross strap in the vicinity of the row of openings 54 is a gun barrel clip designated generally 56. This comprises a substantially U-shaped body 58, the legs of which extend outwardly and form a cradle 60 which partially embraces the barrel of a gun supported in the device. Carried by the body 58 adjacent opposite ends thereof are loops 62 which receive the cross strap 24, and carried by the body intermediate the ends thereof and extending forwardly therefrom is a pin 64 which is adapted to be received in one of the openings 54, adjustably to hold the gun barrel supporting clip in proper position on the cross strap 24.

In the modified form of the invention illustrated in Figure 8, the sling strap 12*a* is provided in that portion which lies beneath the shoulder of the wearer opposite that across which the sling strap extends with a longitudinal row of spaced openings 66, and mounted on the strap 12*a* is a buckle 68 carrying a cross bar 70 which is provided intermediate its ends with an outstanding pin 72 for entrance into one of the openings 66, in order to hold the buckle in proper adjusted position on the strap 12*a*. Carried at one end of the buckle 68 is an eye 74 for the reception of a suitable loop 76 carried by one end of the cross strap 24*a*. It will thus be seen that the cross strap 24*a* is adjustably coupled to the sling strap 12*a* beneath the shoulder of the wearer opposite that over which the sling strap passes.

In use with the sling strap in position on the body of the wearer, the portion 14 thereof will overlie one shoulder of the wearer while the portion 16 thereof will lie beneath the opposite shoulder. A gun butt may then be placed in the pocket 30 and upon placing the gun diagonally across the chest of the wearer and coupling the keeper 26 to the latch 28, it will be evident that the gun clip 56 will engage opposite sides of the gun barrel and hold it against the chest of the wearer so that it extends diagonally across his torso. When it is desired to release the gun for use, pressure is exerted on the thumb piece 46 to move the bolt 44 against the effort of the spring 48 and thus withdraw the leg 42 of the bolt from engagement with the keeper 26. Such action will free the cross strap 24 which will fall away from the chest of the wearer and thus move the gun barrel clip 56 out of engagement with the gun barrel so that the gun butt may be moved to firing position without requiring its disengagement from the pocket 30. Obviously the gun may be returned to its initial position and held in place by reengaging the keeper 26 with the latch 28. It is evident that by altering the position of the latch on the sling strap 12, or altering the position of the gun barrel clip 56 on the cross strap 24 the position at which the gun lies across the chest of the wearer may be varied to suit his desires. Likewise adjusting the connection of the cross strap to the suspension strap as suggested in Figure 9, still further adjustment of the position of the gun barrel and gun may be attained.

Obviously if so desired the sling strap 12 may be provided in the portion thereof which crosses the back of the wearer with any suitable length adjusting means such as a buckle 78 and likewise the cross strap 24*a* may be equipped with suitable length adjusting means such as a buckle 80. In its preferred form the latch 28 is equipped with suitable silencing means which may take the form of tubular rubber bumpers 82 and 84 which encircle the legs 40 and 42 of the U-bolt 44 between the body 32 of the latch 28 and the bight portion 46 of the bolt 44.

While in the foregoing there has been shown and described the preferred form of this invention, it is to be understood that minor changes in the details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

We claim:

1. In a gun carrier, a strap trained over one shoulder of a wearer and having its front end portion depending diagonally across the front of the torso to a point adjacent the center of the waist line and its rear end portion extending diagonally downward across the back and encircled about the body below the other shoulder to a point of securement to the front end portion above its free end, a second strap having one end connecting with the front end portion of the first strap immediately below the said one shoulder and extending diagonally downward to a point of securement to the rear end portion adjacent the point of its emergence from beneath the said other shoulder, a pocket at the free end of the front end portion to seat the butt of a gun, and means carried intermediate the ends of the second strap to engage about the gun above the trigger mechanism thereof, whereby the barrel of the gun extends diagonally upward and projects above the said other shoulder.

2. The invention as defined in claim 1, with means for adjusting the length of the first strap

and other means for adjustably connecting the said one end of the second strap to the front end portion of the first strap at a distance above the point of connection of the said rear end portion with the latter portion, and a series of cartridge loops mounted on the rear end portion of the first strap between the point of securement of the second strap therewith and that of its connection with the front end portion of the first strap.

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