May 1, 1945. I. L. FREEDMAN 2,374,675

HEADGEAR

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Fig. 1

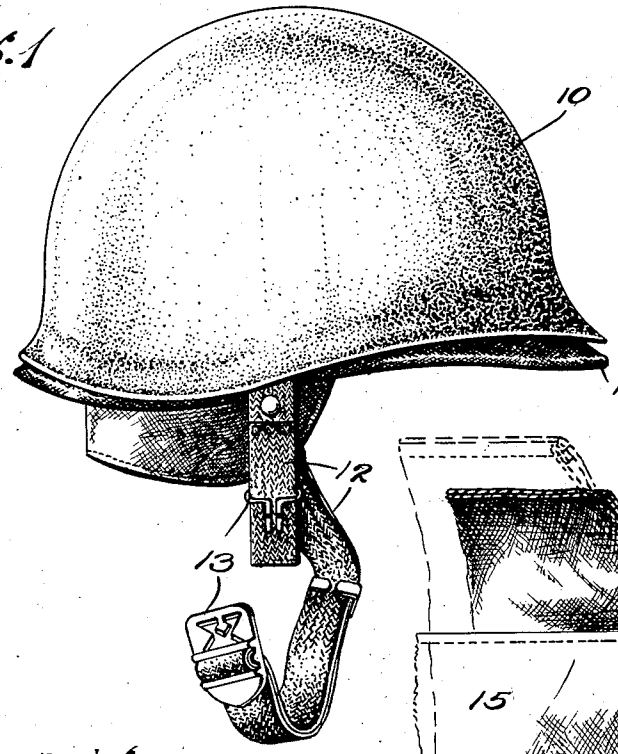

Fig. 3

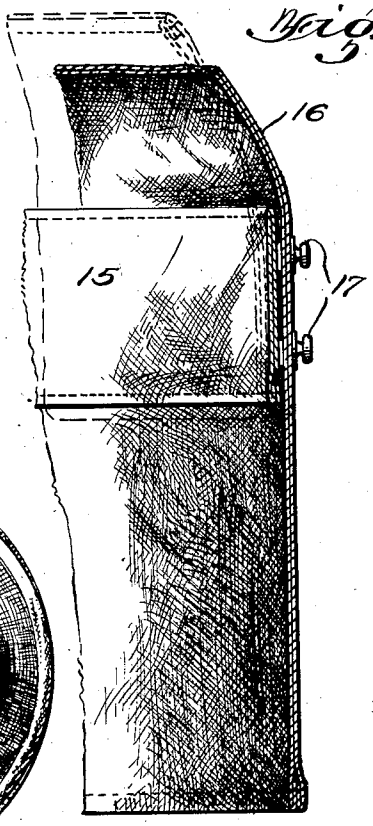

Fig. 2

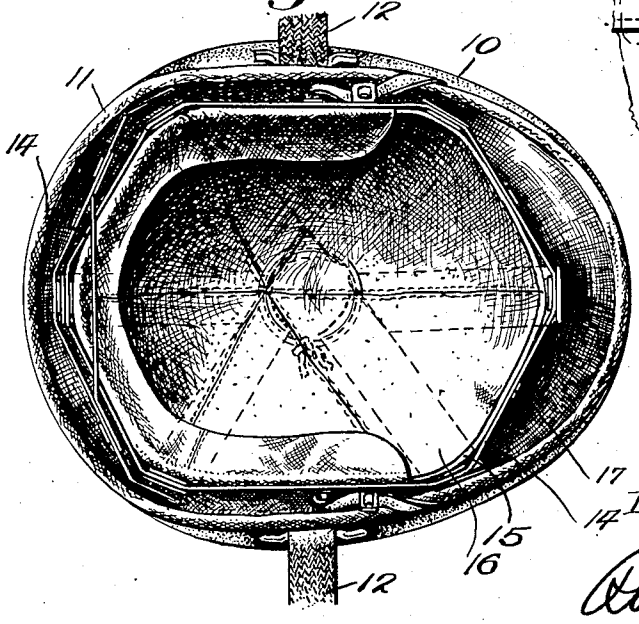

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Fig. 4

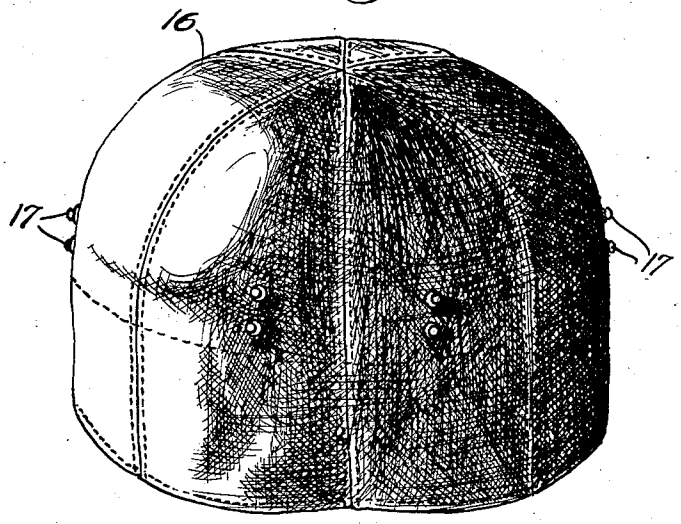
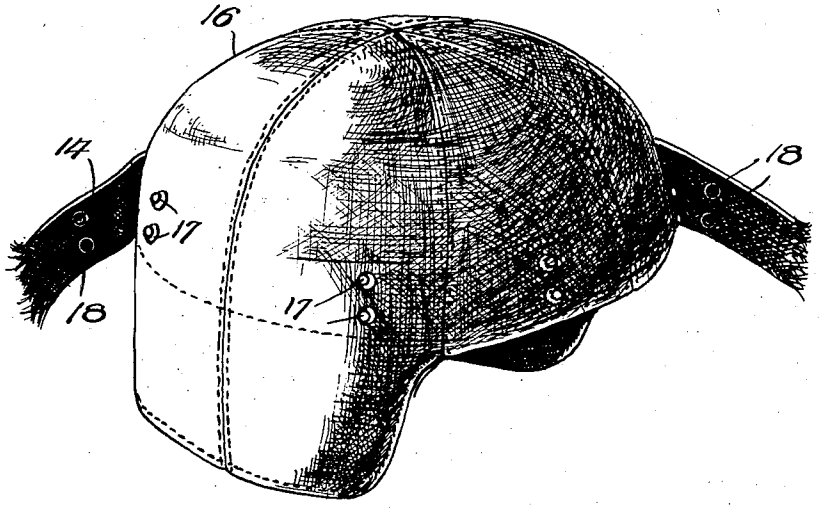


Fig. 5



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Patented May 1, 1945

2,374,675

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,374,675

HEADGEAR

Israel L. Freedman, Washington, D. C.

Application December 9, 1941, Serial No. 422,235

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—3)

(Granted under the act of March 3, 1883, as amended April 30, 1928; 370 O. G. 757)

The invention described herein, if patented, may be manufactured and used by or for the Government for governmental purposes, without the payment to me of any royalty thereon.

This invention relates to improvements in headgear, with particular reference to a detachable cap which is adapted to be worn in connection with a military helmet to combat the rigors of winter.

The cap is of a construction that will enable it to be quickly applied to the helmet when the weather necessitates its being worn and is adapted to be as quickly detached when its use is not necessary.

The object of the invention, therefore, is to provide a cap embodying the invention, having means associated therewith for securing the cap within the helmet.

The cap is so constructed as to completely fit within the confines of the helmet, except where it extends downward at the rear thereof, in order to protect the ears and the back of the neck of the wearer.

The helmet shown in the drawings by way of illustration is provided with a removable sweat band. The present invention was developed to provide a cap to protect the head of the wearer that would have the sweat band incorporated in the structure, thereby eliminating the use of a large sweat band when a warm head covering is necessary and a small sweat band to conform to the wearer's head size when the warm cap is not necessary.

Another object of the invention, therefore, is to provide a cap that is removable from the helmet or is adapted to have the lower portion thereof folded within the helmet when not in use.

With the above and other objects and advantages in view, the invention consists of features of construction, arrangement and operation of parts which will appear in the specification and be finally pointed out in the claims.

While the preferred embodiment of the invention is shown, it will be understood that slight changes in form and minor details of construction may be effected without departing from the spirit of the invention, to be hereinafter more fully described in the specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein similar characters and references in the several figures indicate identical parts.

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a helmet showing the relationship between the helmet and the cap, embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of Fig. 1 showing the cap with the lower portion folded within the confines of the helmet.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section through the cap, showing the attaching means and the lower portion folded upwardly in dotted lines.

Fig. 4 is a rear perspective of the cap.

Fig. 5 is a front perspective of the cap in conjunction with the cradle of the helmet.

Referring more in detail to the drawings, there is shown a metal hat-shaped member **10**, having an inner lining **11** therein conforming entirely to the shape of the inside of the metal hat **10**.

In order that the helmet may be held in position on the wearer's head, straps **12** are secured at their upper ends to the interior of the helmet and are provided with fastening means **13**.

The lining **11** is provided with a cradle or suspension means **14** which is adapted to support the lining on the wearer's head and in order that the lining may rest firmly thereon the cradle is provided with a detachable sweat band. The cradle comprises a circumferential band somewhat larger than the largest head size desired and attached to the lining at intervals around the brim of the helmet, with straps extending from the band over the crown of the head to support the helmet on and spaced from the head. The detachable sweat band is secured at spaced intervals to the circumferential band of the cradle.

During the winter the metal helmet provides very little warmth and some sort of cap or hat has to be worn on the head for protection, but since the sweat band was made according to the wearer's head size it was difficult to provide a warm cap that could be used or worn between the sweat band and the head. Therefore, since the sweat band could not be eliminated for the reason that the helmet would not fit properly, the only solution seemed to reside in providing two sweat bands, but this procedure was not found to work satisfactorily.

The present invention, therefore, which incorporated the sweat band **15** on the interior surface of the cap **16** and provided male fasteners **17** on the exterior surface to be fastened into the female fasteners **18** of the cradle **14** was developed.

When the cap is not in use, to protect the head, it can be folded up within the hat as shown in Fig. 2.

In the past caps have been provided to use inside of helmets for the same purpose but none of the prior art has shown a sweat band incorporated in the cap so that the cap could be secured to the cradle or suspension means for the

helmet. It is thought, therefore, that the present invention shows a marked improvement over prior devices.

From the foregoing description it becomes evident that a cap has been provided that may easily be changed for warm or winter wear and one that is cheap and easy to manufacture.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. The combination in a helmet of a metal shell, an inner liner, suspension means and a cap, said liner conforming to and in contact with the inner surface of said shell, said suspension means comprising a cradle having a headband larger than maximum head size permanently secured to the liner and passing over the wearer's head and supporting the shell and liner in spaced relation to the head, and said cap comprising a warm head covering having a sweatband of any desired head size and being detachably secured to the headband of the suspension means.

2. In a helmet the combination of an outer shell, suspension means, and a warm cap, said suspension means comprising straps extending criss-cross over the wearer's head and a band permanently secured to said shell and loosely encircling the head at the normal sweatband position, and supporting said shell in spaced relation to the head, and said cap having an internal sweatband fitting the wearer's head closely, said suspension means and said cap being detachably connected in the region of the sweatband, whereby the helmet is fitted on the head by means of the cap sweatband.

ISRAEL L. FREEDMAN.