July 17, 1923. 1,461,963

J. BIENECK

TRENCH DEFENSE

Filed Jan. 24, 1923

FIG. 1

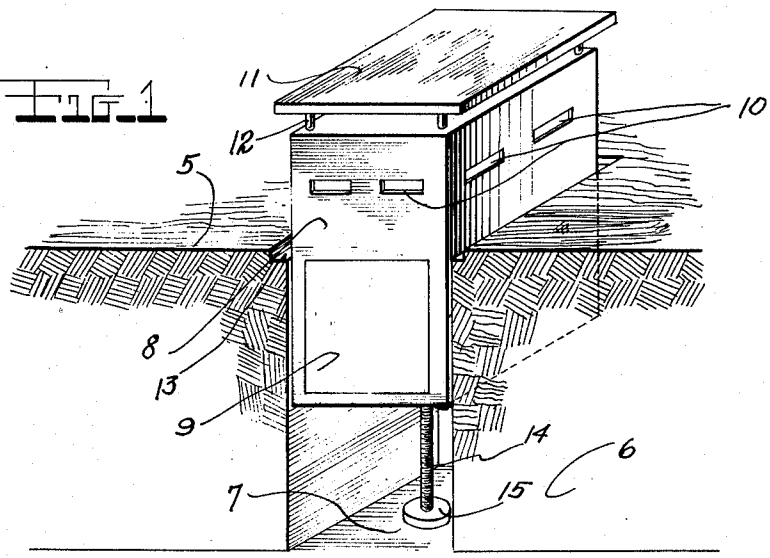
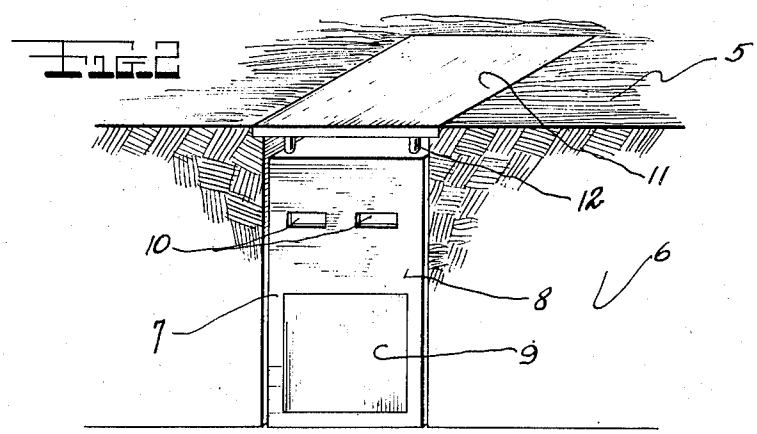


FIG. 2



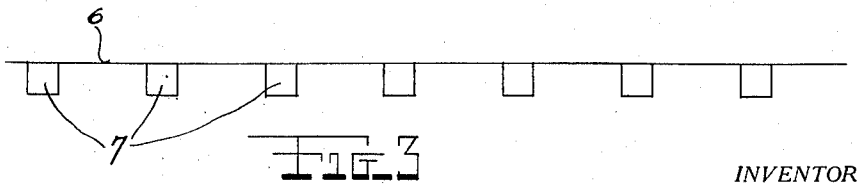


FIG. 3

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Patented July 17, 1923. 1,461,963

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH BIENECK, OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

TRENCH DEFENSE.

Application filed January 24, 1923. Serial No. 614,525.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH BIENECK, a citizen of United States, residing at San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trench Defenses, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in trench devices as used in warfare and has as one of its objects to provide a disappearing strong house or fort that may be entered from an open trench and which affords security to its occupants.

A further purpose is to provide a structure that can be raised or lowered and when in a lowered position, covered with soil or otherwise concealed so as to be indistinguishable.

These objects are attained by the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereafter described and shown in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing an embodiment of the invention in a raised or operative position.

Figure 2 is a similar view of the same in a lowered or hidden position.

Figure 3 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the spaced arrangement of the recesses relative to the trenches.

In the drawing, the numeral 5 designates generally the level of the soil in which is dug a trench 6 and leading laterally therefrom are recesses 7.

Loosely contained in these recesses are rectangular structures 8 preferably made of armor plate, provided with an opening normally closed by a door 9, the same providing means of access from and to the trench 6.

In the upper part of the structure 8 are a plurality of loop holes 10 through which rifles may be projected and a view of the vicinity obtained when the structure is elevated, these openings also providing for ventilation.

A supplementary cover 11 is provided, the same consisting of a heavy sheet or plate of armor, exceeding the dimensions of the top plate of the structure and having fixed in its under surface a plurality of support pins 12 adapted to make contact with the roof of the structure, the edges of the cover 11 extending into grooves 13 formed in the soil so that when the entire structure is in a lowered position as to be level with the soil.

This arrangement presents a secure retreat for soldiers, from which they can conduct warfare and as the top plate can be covered with dirt when the structure is lowered is not readily observed by the enemy.

These structures are adapted to be raised or lowered, relative to the bottom of the trenches, by their occupants, the same actuating elevating mechanisms, as for example, the screw 14, set in a nut in the bottom of the structure and impinging on a plate 15, as shown, but it is to be understood that other devices for achieving the same results may be substituted.

In Figure 3, the general arrangement is shown, in which the recesses 7 are indicated as spaced at intervals along the trench 6.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a military trench having lateral recesses, armored structures disposed in the recesses at spaced intervals, said structure being adapted to protect its inmates, loop-holes in said structure, means for ingress and egress thereto, means for raising and lowering said structure, and a supplementary flat roof thereover adapted to be disposed level with the soil.

2. In a military trench having lateral recesses, an armored housing vertically movable in the recesses, means for elevating said housing, an opening from the trench to said housing, loop holes in the side and end walls of said housing near the top thereof, a flat plate over said housing, said plate being normally level with the ground surface and adapted to be covered with soil, and post connections between said plate and the roof of said housing.

In witness whereof I have affixed my signature.

JOSEPH BIENECK.