

J. F. O'MALLEY.
TRIPOD FOR MACHINE GUNS.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 21, 1921.

1,407,567.

Patented Feb. 21, 1922.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

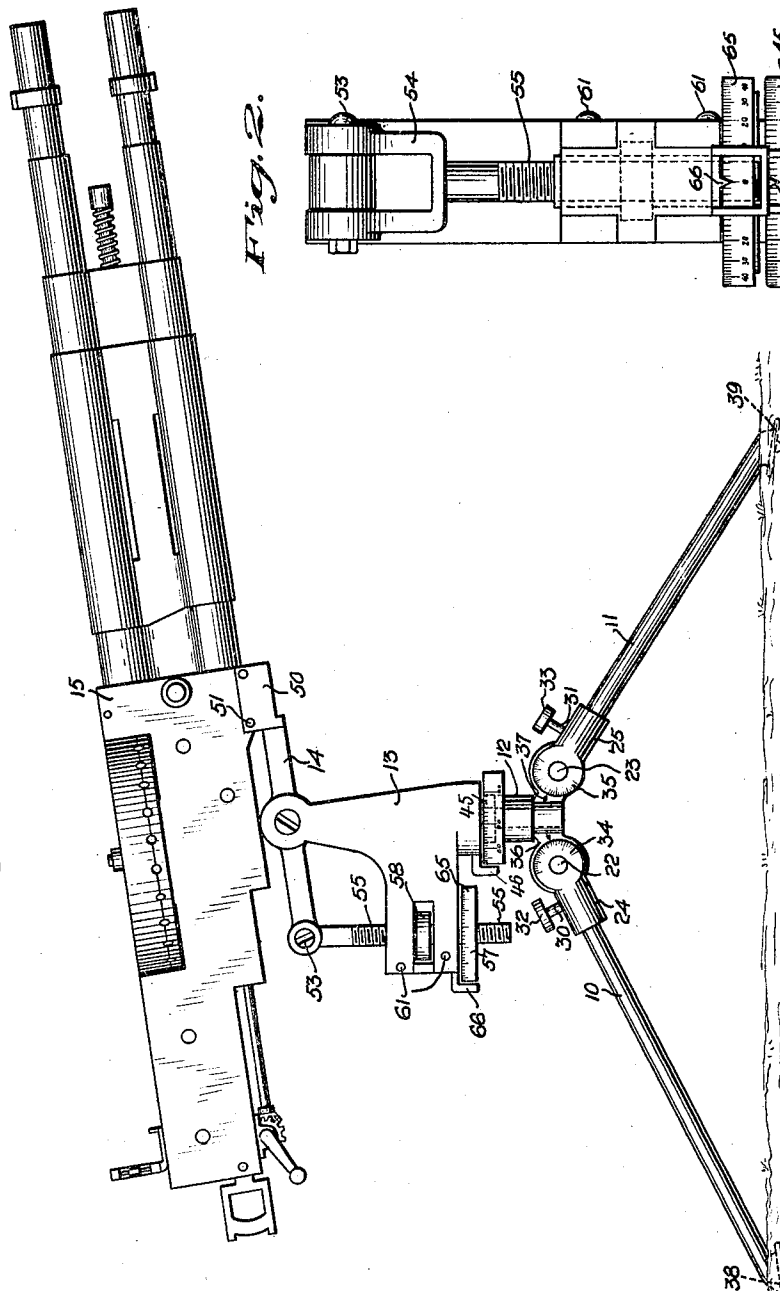
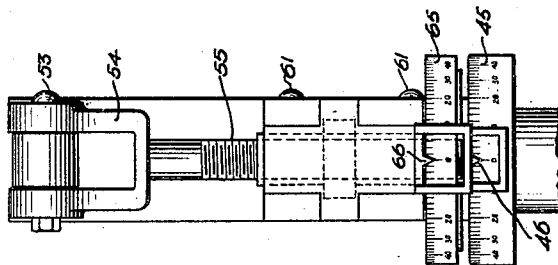


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

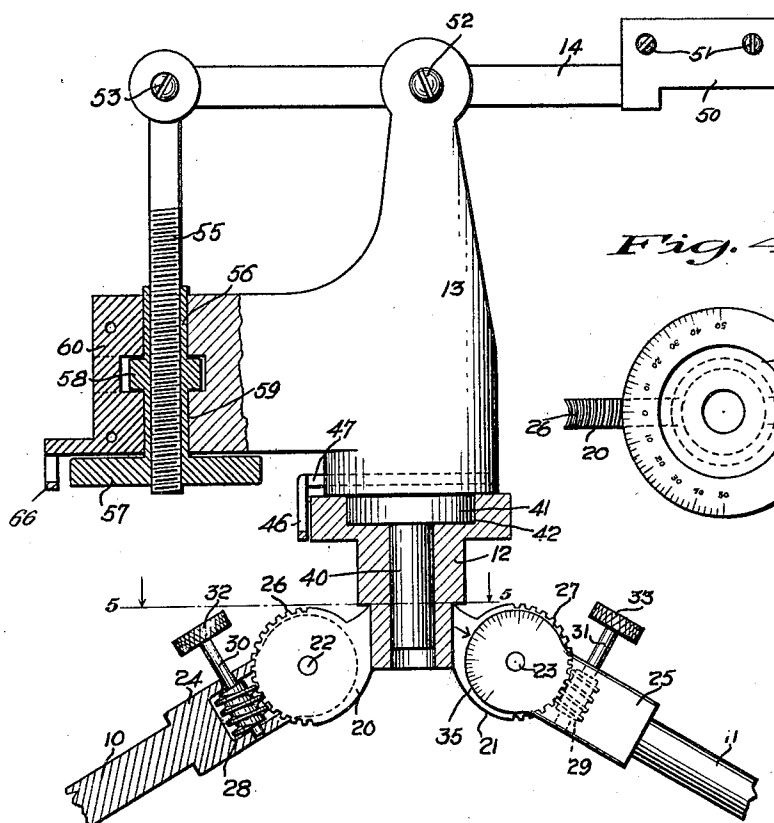


Fig. 4.

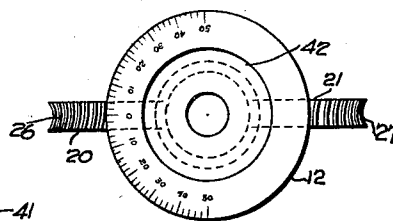
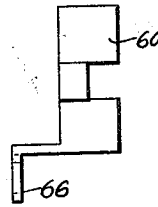
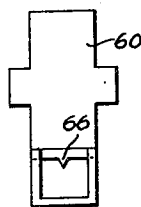
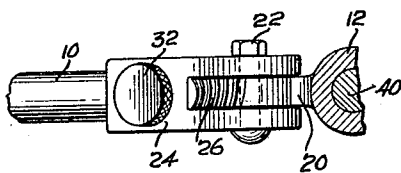


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.



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JOHN FRANCIS O'MALLEY, OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK.

TRIPOD FOR MACHINE GUNS.

1,407,567.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 21, 1922.

Application filed January 21, 1921. Serial No. 438,944.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN FRANCIS O'MALLEY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Mount Vernon, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Tripod for Machine Guns, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to machine guns, such, for instance, as shown and described in the Letters Patent of the United States, No. 1,366,210, granted to me on January 18, 1921.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved tripod for machine guns arranged to enable the gunner to sight the gun quickly and accurately and to hold the same securely in adjusted position during firing.

Another object is to permit of firmly setting up the tripod on uneven, soft, or rocky ground.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as hereinafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved tripod supporting machine gun;

Figure 2 is an enlarged front elevation of a portion of the improved tripod;

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional side elevation of the tripod with parts shown in elevation;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the tripod base;

Figure 5 is a sectional plan view of a portion of the tripod on the line 5-5 of Figure 3;

Figure 6 is a face view of the combined pointer and hub cap on the tripod body; and

Figure 7 is a side elevation of the same.

The tripod in its general construction comprises a single leg 10, a double leg 11, a tripod base 12, a tripod body 13 mounted to turn on the base 12 and carrying a balance bar 14 on which the machine gun 15 of any approved construction is secured. The tripod base 12 is provided on opposite sides with lugs 20 and 21 carrying pivots 22, 23, on which are mounted to swing forks 24 and 25 on the upper ends of the legs 10 and 11. The

lugs 20 and 21 are provided on their peripheral faces with worm teeth 26 and 27 in mesh with worms 28 and 29 secured or formed on shafts 30 and 31 journaled in the forks 24 and 25. The upper ends of the shafts 30 and 31 are provided with suitable knobs or handles 32 and 33 to permit of conveniently turning the shafts 30 and 31 and hence the worm wheels 28 and 29 to swing the legs 10 and 11 up or down on their pivots 22 and 23 according to the direction in which the knobs or handles 32 and 33 are turned. It is understood that by the arrangement described, the legs 10 and 11 can be independently adjusted one of the other to permit of accurately setting up the tripod in the desired position. The side faces of the forks 24 and 25 are preferably provided with disk graduations 34 and 35 on which indicate pointers 36 and 37 formed on the lugs 20 and 21 thus enabling the gunner to accurately adjust the legs 10 and 11 to a predetermined position prior to engaging the ends of the legs 10 and 11 with the ground. The legs 10 and 11 are provided at their ends with suitably pointed plates 38 and 39 to obtain a firm hold on the ground.

In the base 12 is mounted to turn a shaft 40 depending from a collar 41 integral with the under side of the tripod body 13, the collar being seated in a seat 42 formed in the upper end of the base 12. By the arrangement described the tripod body 13 can be conveniently turned in the base 12 at the same time a firm seat for the tripod body 13 is provided on the base 12. In order to indicate the position of the tripod body 13 on the base 12 the peripheral face of the upper portion of the base 12 is provided with a graduation 45 indicating degrees and on which indicates a pointer 46 having a shank 47 secured in the lower portion of the tripod body 13.

The balance bar 14 is provided at its forward end with a seat 50 on which the machine gun 15 is secured by suitable screws 51 or other fastening devices, and the said balance bar 14 is mounted to swing on a pivot 52 held on the upper end of the tripod body 13. The rear end of the balance bar 14 is connected by a pivot 53 with the upper fork end 54 of a screw rod 55, on which screws the hub 56 of a wheel 57 under the control of the gunner. The hub 56 is provided with a collar 58 and is journaled in a suitable bearing 59 formed on the

tripod body 13 and having a cap 60 remov-
ably fastened in position by screws, bolts
or other fastening devices 61. It will be
noticed that on removing the cap 60 the
5 hub 56 screwing on the screw rod 55 can be
readily placed in position in the bearing 59
or removed therefrom whenever it is de-
sired to do so for repairs or other purposes.
The peripheral face of the wheel 57 is pro-
10 vided with a graduation 65 on which indi-
cates a pointer 66 attached to or forming
part of the cap 60. It is understood that
on the gunner turning the wheel 57 the
screw rod 55 is moved up or down accord-
15 ing to the direction in which the wheel 57
is turned, and this up and down movement
given to the screw rod 55 causes the balance
bar 14 to swing correspondingly thus ele-
vating or lowering the machine gun 15 to
20 enable the gunner to obtain correct sight to
a distant object to be fired on. It is under-
stood that in addition to the up and down
swinging movement given to the machine
gun 15 the latter can be turned bodily with
25 the tripod body 13 journaled on the tripod
base 12.

By having the two graduations 45 and 65
operating in conjunction with the pointers
46 and 66 the gunner is enabled to position
30 accurately the machine gun relative to a
distant object to be fired on.

Having thus described my invention, I
claim as new and desire to secure by Let-
ters Patent:—

35 1. A tripod for a machine gun, compris-
ing a base, legs pivoted to the base, inde-
pendent means for swinging each leg on its
pivot, a tripod body mounted to turn on
the said base, a balance bar fulcrumed on
40 the said tripod body and adapted to support
at one end the machine gun, and an adjust-
ing device mounted on the said tripod body

and connected with the other end of the said
balance bar.

2. In a tripod for machine guns, a tripod 45
base provided with pivots, legs mounted
to swing on the said pivots, and independ-
ent gearings connecting the legs with the
said tripod base to impart independent
50 swinging motion to the legs relative to the
tripod base.

3. In a tripod for machine guns, a tripod
base provided with lugs having fixed worms
and pivots disposed centrally relatively to
the worms, legs mounted to swing on the 55
said pivots, and worm wheels mounted to
turn on the legs and engaging the corre-
sponding worms.

4. In a tripod for machine guns, a tripod
base provided with fixed lugs having worm 60
teeth at their peripheral faces, pivots cen-
trally held on the said lugs, legs mounted
to swing on the said pivots, worm wheels in
mesh with the said worm teeth on the lugs,
shafts journaled on the said legs and car- 65
rying the said worm wheels, and manually
controlled means for turning the said shafts.

5. In a tripod for a machine gun, a tripod
base, legs pivotally connected with the said
base, a tripod body provided with a depend- 70
ing shaft journaled in the said tripod base,
a scale and a pointer therefor, one being on
the base and the other on the body to indi-
cate the turning movement of the body on
the base, a balance bar pivoted on the said 75
tripod body and on one end of which bar
the machine gun is mounted, a screw rod
pivotally connected with the other end of
the said balance bar, a wheel having a hub
journaled in the said tripod body and 80
screwing on the said screw rod, and a scale
and pointer therefor, one being on the said
wheel and the other on the tripod body.

JOHN FRANCIS O'MALLEY.