F. K. KENNEDY, JR.

GUN SLING.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 19, 1919.

1,383,125.

Patented June 28, 1921.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

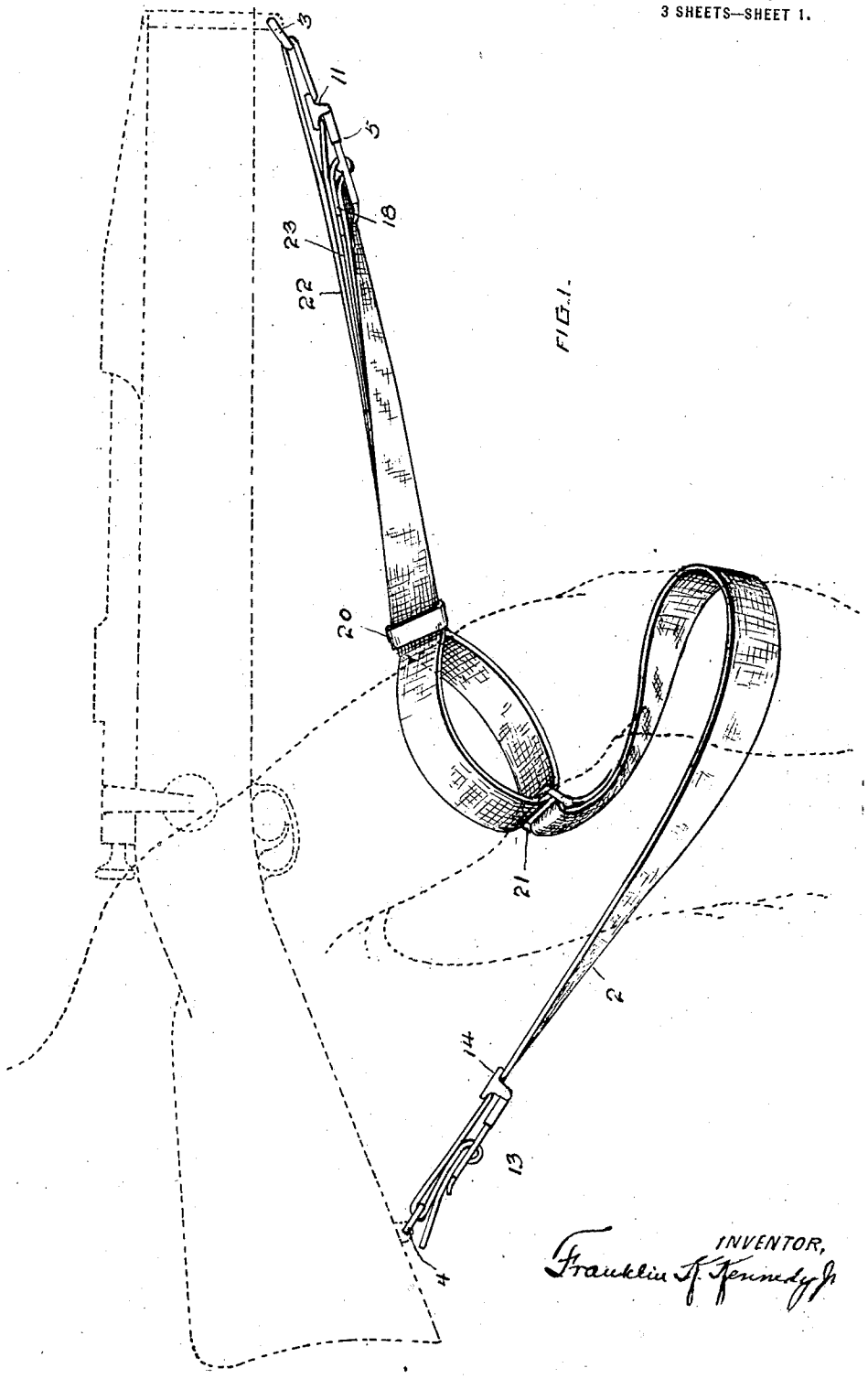


FIG. 1.

INVENTOR,

Franklin K. Kennedy Jr.

F. K. KENNEDY, JR.

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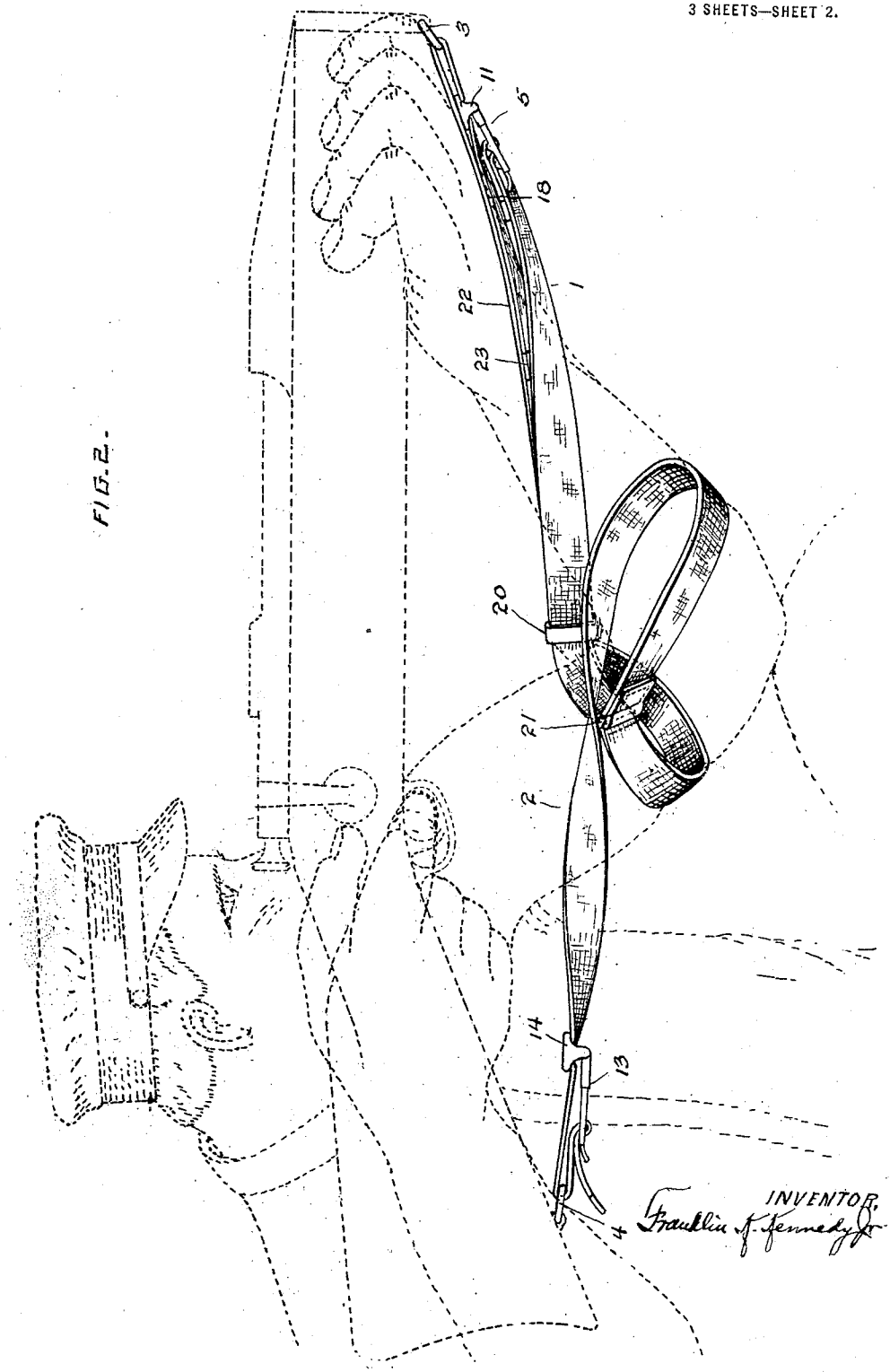
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 2.



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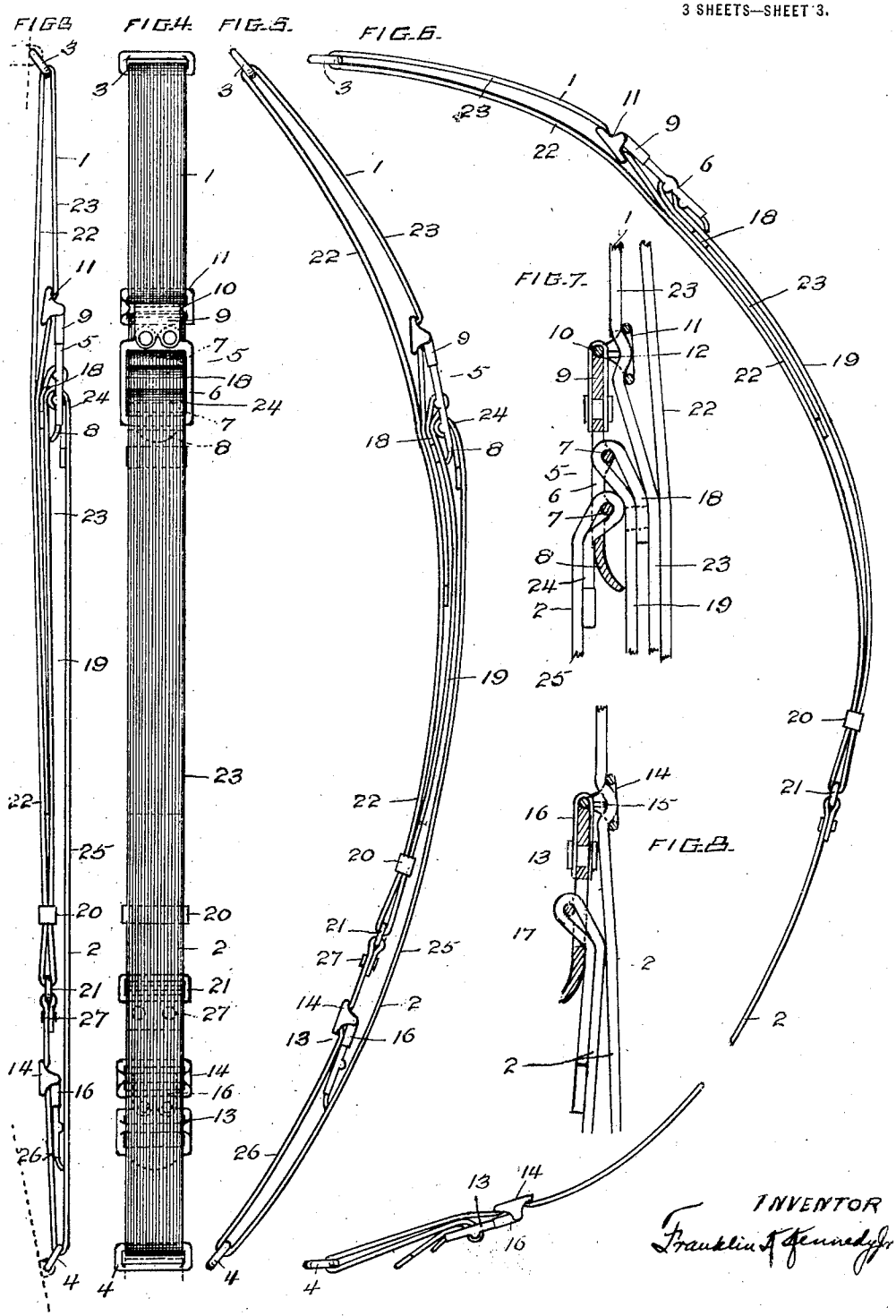
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANKLIN K. KENNEDY, JR., OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

GUN-SLING.

1,383,125. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 28, 1921.

Application filed September 19, 1919. Serial No. 325,013.

(FILED UNDER THE ACT OF MARCH 3, 1883, 22 STAT. L., 625.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN KNIGHT KENNEDY, Jr., lieut. Ord. Dept., U. S. A., a citizen of the United States, stationed at Washington, D. C., have invented an Improvement in Gun-Slings, of which the following is a specification.

The invention described herein may be used by the Government, or any of its officers or employees in prosecution of work for the Government, or by any other person in the United States, without payment of any royalty thereon.

This invention relates to an improved gun sling for use in connection with firearms, such as rifles.

The object is to provide a simple, durable and inexpensive sling, preferably of the woven type, wherein is used a minimum amount of metal so located as to prevent contact thereof with, or damage to, the user's clothing.

A further object is to provide a sling, susceptible of adjustments, characterized by the fact that the adjustments may be made by one hand, only, of the user.

These and other objects will appear in the following description and be finally pointed out in the appended claims.

Similar numerals indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a view of the improved sling, in the position it assumes in the initial stage of adjustment thereof with respect to the user's left arm, which arm and the rifle are shown in dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the sling, in the position it assumes as finally adjusted for the firing position;

Fig. 3 is an edge view of the improved sling, in its shortened adjustment;

Fig. 4 is a face view of the sling as shown in Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is an edge view of the sling in its lengthened adjustment;

Fig. 6 is a similar view showing the sling in one of its extreme, long adjustments;

Fig. 7 is an enlarged detail section through the double bar buckle, and

Fig. 8 is a section through the single bar buckle.

As shown by the drawings, the three principal adjustments of the sling are:

The shortest adjustment thereof for drill purposes (see Figs. 3 and 4); the adjustment thereof for throwing the sling over one shoulder or over the head to bring the strap diagonally across the chest in marching, (see Fig. 5); and the firing position adjustment thereof, as in rifle practice (see Figs. 1, 2 and 6.)

In the last mentioned position of the parts, the sling is looped about the left arm in such manner that, when the rifle is brought up against the rifleman's shoulder, the left arm will be held in the firing position, the rifle held in place on said arm, and the butt of the gun held firmly against the right shoulder.

When the sling is used in the firing position, the rifle is held in such manner that no flexibility or movement of the left arm, which is the principal supporting arm, is possible, and the rifle is, therefore, supported by the steadiness of the rifleman's body and by any object on which the elbow of the user is placed. It has been demonstrated that the use of this form of sling, in the manner described, in target practice, improved the average in accuracy 25% to 30%.

Referring, now, in detail to the drawings: 1 designates the buckle part of the sling, 2 the loop part connected to the buckle part by a link 21, 3 the upper sling swivel connecting the buckle part with the muzzle end of the gun, and 4 the lower sling swivel connecting the shoulder-rest portion of the gun with the loop part 2.

Carried by the strap 1 is a double bar buckle 5, having the side portions 6, connected by bars 7, and a lateral tongue 8. The buckle 5 is secured to a buckle clip 9 mounted on the cross arm 10 of a buckle body 11, and provided with a lip 12 adapted to clamp the strap in the buckle body.

Carried by the loop part 2 of the sling is a single bar buckle 13 secured to a buckle-clip 16 carrying a buckle body 14, in which the strap 2 is secured by the lip 15 of the

clip 16. The buckle 13 is provided with a single cross-bar 17.

One end of the buckle part 1 of the sling is looped around one of the bars 7 of the double bar buckle, as shown at 18, and the strap thence extends, as shown at 19, to and through slip collar 20, thence through the link 21, at which point the strap is doubled upon itself, and extends, as shown at 22, through the slip collar 20, thence through the upper sling swivel 3, and thence down, as at 23, through the buckle body 11 and between portions 19 and 22 of the buckle part.

One end of the loop part 2, shown at 24, is looped around the remaining bar 7 of the double bar buckle, and extends, as at 25, through the lower sling swivel 4, at which point the strap is doubled upon itself, and thence, as shown at 26, through the buckle body 14 of the single buckle to the link 21, through which its end is reeved and doubled over, to form a loop, and secured by rivets 27.

When adjusting the sling, it may be tightened or shortened by pulling down on the innermost fold 22 of the buckle part 1 and up on fold 25 of the loop part 2, the terms "down" and "up" being used as if the rifle carrying the sling were held vertically.

For slinging the gun over the shoulder, the sling is loosened (see Fig. 5) by pulling down on the loop part, which will loosen the sling in most cases a sufficient distance. Further lengthening, however, may be obtained by moving the double bar buckle 5 in relation to its body 11 to release the strap from beneath the lip 12, thus permiting the adjustment of the buckel toward the free end of the buckle part, which will add considerable length to the sling.

When the sling is to be used in firing, as shown in Fig. 2, the sling is adjusted as in Fig. 6. The end 24 of loop part 2 is removed from the double bar buckle and secured to the single bar buckle by passing its end around the cross bar 17 and back between the buckle tongue and the strap, as shown in detail in Fig. 8.

When arranged as last described, the sling is very much lengthened, and is capable of adjustment by the movement of the buckle body 14 on the sling, or by the end of the sling in the buckle.

In the firing position, the sling is first adjusted, as shown in Fig. 6, slip collar 20 is moved away from the link 21, thereby providing an arm-encircling loop in the sling, through which the left arm may be inserted and the loop adjusted above the elbow, the slip collar being moved toward the arm to clamp the sling firmly on the arm (see Fig. 1) with the link 21 and loop part 2, extending from the arm-encircling loop as shown.

The hand and fore-arm is then passed inside of the loop member 2, in such manner that when the hand is brought up to the gun a loop will be formed around the arm below the elbow.

Before gripping the gun, the hand is passed out to the left of the forward or buckle part 1, and back beneath the gun into position to reach the gripping position, with the hand and wrist between the sling and the gun.

In said firing position a triangle is formed with the upper-arm and fore-arm as two of the sides of the angle, and the gun as the third side, and the parts are firmly held, thus producing, when the elbow is placed on the ground, or other surface, a rest as firm and steady as a tripod, with the additional benefits gained of firmly locking the gun in place against the right shoulder when the right hand is brought up to the trigger.

It has been found in practice that, when the sling is properly adjusted and the hands are both in firing positions, the entire body above the waist must be moved in traversing the gun. The gun and the body are so firmly clamped together that the gun cannot kick, the only recoil being of the whole body, which will not be felt.

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

1. A gun sling having a looped buckle part, an adjusting buckle on the buckle part, and a loop member mounted at one end in the loop in the buckle part and securable, at its other end, to the buckle.

2. A gun sling having a buckle part, provided with a loop, and a loop part secured at one end to the loop of the buckle part, and a buckle adjustably mounted on the buckle part and having secured thereto the ends of the buckle part, one end of the loop part being securable to the buckle.

3. A gun sling having a looped buckle part, a slip collar slidable on the buckle part, a loop part, and a double buckle having one end of the buckle part secured thereto, and the other end of the buckle part adjustably secured thereto, one end of the loop part being adjustably securable thereto.

4. The combination with a gun sling including a buckle part and a loop part connected to the buckle part, of a buckle on the buckle part for adjustment thereof and formed for detachable connection with an end of the loop part.

5. The combination with a gun sling including a buckle part and a loop part connected thereto, of a buckle on the buckle part for adjustment thereof and formed for

detachable connection with an end of the loop part and a buckle adjustable on the loop part for detachable connection with the end of the loop part.

6. A gun sling, including a buckle, a buckle part composed of a strip of webbing having one end permanently connected to the buckle, said web situated to the rear of the buckle and folded upon itself to form a loop the other end of the web passed through the buckle from front to rear and positioned between the folds of the loop, a loop part connected at one end to the loop of the buckle part, a buckle adjustable on the loop part, the loop part folded upon itself to form a loop and its other end detachably connected to the buckle of the buckle part whereby the end may be detached and detachably connected to the buckle of the loop part.

FRANKLIN K. KENNEDY, JR.