

March 29, 1932.

J. R. DENKERT

1,851,352

PISTOL HOLSTER

Filed May 21, 1930

Fig. 1.

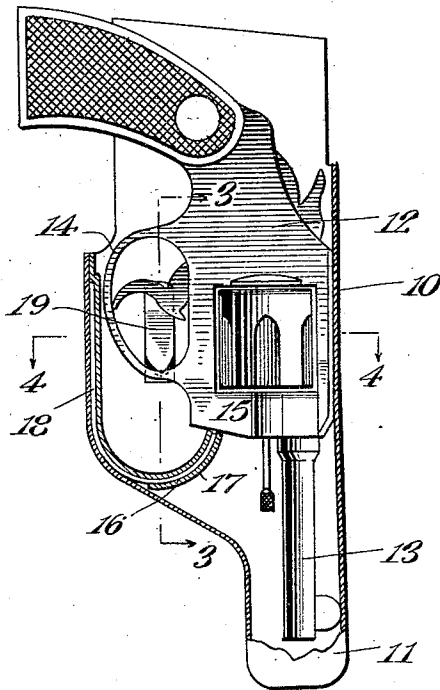


Fig. 2.

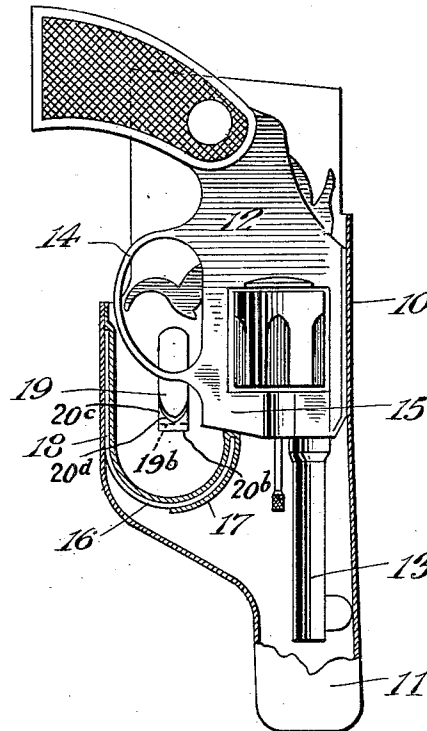


Fig. 3.

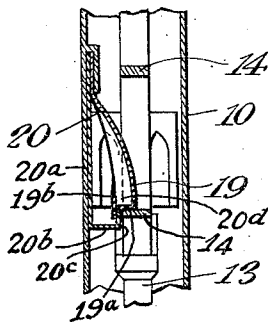
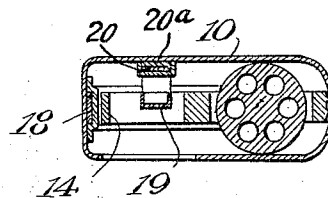


Fig. 4.



INVENTOR
James R. Denkert.
BY
Robert J. Hulsizer.
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JAMES R. DENKERT, OF JOHNSTOWN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO H & D FOLSOM ARMS CO., OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY

PISTOL HOLSTER

Application filed May 21, 1930. Serial No. 454,260.

This invention relates to holsters and has especial reference to pistol holsters.

An object of the invention is to provide a simple, and efficient holster wherein the pistol is automatically latched therein upon proper insertion as well as with means for assisting the hand in withdrawing the pistol so that withdrawal is easy and fast.

Further and more specific objects, features, and advantages will more clearly appear from the detailed description given below when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings which form part of the specification and which illustrate a present preferred form of the invention.

Broadly stated, the invention concerns a holster provided with means for latching a pistol therein upon insertion, and with means on the holster tending to eject the pistol from the holster when the latch is released. The ejector means is preferably within the holster and preferably is not strong enough to effect a complete ejection without the aid of the hand but does move the pistol far enough from the holster so that the withdrawal by the hand is greatly facilitated as to ease and speed of withdrawal. Preferably again the ejector means is a resilient device which is put under stress such as compression or tension by the pistol when the pistol is shoved into the holster and which stress is released through the pistol to eject or partly eject it when the latch holding the pistol within the holster is released.

The present preferred form of the invention is illustrated in the drawings, of which,

Fig. 1 is a vertical longitudinal section through the holster showing the pistol latched or locked therewithin;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the pistol as it is partly withdrawn from the holster by the action of the ejector;

Fig. 3 is a vertical cross section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; and,

Fig. 4 is a horizontal cross section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

The present preferred form of the invention illustrated in the drawings is adapted to receive a pistol having a main body 12 and a barrel 13, a trigger guard member 14, and

a front portion 15 acting as a shoulder for the purpose hereinafter explained.

The holster has a main portion 10 and a snout or nose 11 to receive the barrel of the pistol. In the holster there is disposed an ejector device 16 which in one form may be a spring element curved so that its end bears on the pistol adjacent the portion 15. As the pistol is introduced into the holster this ejector element is engaged before the pistol is fully inserted, and is pushed back by the further movement of the pistol into the holster so that the ejector element is in a state of stress. As the pistol is fully introduced into the holster then the trigger guard 14 is engaged as shown by the spring latch element 19. This element 19 is in the form of a flat spring plate 20 the end of which 19 is disposed normally in a position to lie back of a portion of the trigger guard to act as a latch for said guard. The end 19 of the spring trigger guard plate 20 is formed with a shoulder 19a which abuts the trigger guard as shown in Fig. 3. The lower end of this shoulder is provided with a stop plate extension 19b which is adapted to lie under a horizontal portion 20c bent rearward from a vertical element 20b preferably integrally formed on the end of a flat plate 20a fastened to the leather of the holster. Preferably the elements 20a, 20b, and 20c constitute a single piece of metal properly bent into shape and the elements 20, 19, and 19a represent one single spring plate properly formed, as shown.

The forward portion of the element 20c is cut away as shown by 20d in Fig. 2 to permit of the downward movement of the guard element 19 so that it can be pressed down by the finger to clear the trigger guard 14.

The ejector member or spring 16 preferably extends in the form of a flat spring 18 along the adjacent inner face of the holster and is preferably covered with leather as at 17 to protect the spring, make a more ornamental appearance, and also protect the metal of the pistol from wear.

The normal position of the ejector spring 16 when it is not engaged by the pistol fully inserted into the holster is shown in Fig. 2

and the position of the ejector element 16 when in a condition of stress by reason of the engagement with and displacement from normal by the pistol is shown in Fig. 1. It is therefore seen that when the pistol is fully inserted into the holster, the pistol is under the influence of the spring element 16 which is always tending to eject the pistol from the holster. The latch 19 however is so positioned that when the pistol is properly and sufficiently introduced into the holster the trigger guard or some other part of the pistol will be engaged thereby to hold the pistol in the holster.

However, the instant that the finger is pressed against the latch 19 to release it from engagement with the trigger guard 14 then the ejector element such as the spring 16 will immediately move the pistol to the position shown in Fig. 2 where it will be in a much better position to be grasped and withdrawn by the hand. This movement is a sort of snap movement, in other words a rather quick one unless resisted by the hand. It will be observed that the spring element such as 16 moves in a plane parallel to the plane of movement of the pistol in and out of the holster whereas the latch member 19 moves in a plane or direction at right angles to the direction of movement of the pistol.

The operation of the device first calls for the introduction of the pistol into the holster. As it is entering the holster, the shoulder in front of the portion 15 of the body of the pistol encounters the end of the ejector element and starts to push it back and thus place it in a state of either tension or compression as the case may be. This continues until the trigger guard of the pistol has been moved far enough into the holster so that the latch element 19 can spring up back of a portion of the guard element as shown in Fig. 1 and latch it in the holster. The latch element 19 is a sloping contact face which is encountered and shoved aside by the trigger guard until the final position of the pistol in the holster is achieved. When this position is reached then the pistol is securely held in the holster.

In order to remove the pistol from this holster it is necessary to insert the forefinger into the holster enough to engage the top face of the latch 19 so as to depress this latch element and release it from in back of the trigger guard 14. At the instant that this release is complete, the ejector element which is under stress will act to move the pistol partly out of the holster. As the forefinger is introduced into the holster, the other fingers and the thumb of the hand are naturally in a position to grasp the grip of the pistol and withdraw it. This snap movement immediately upon release of the latch 19 enables the pistol to be more easily and quickly withdrawn since the hand is in position to quickly grasp the pistol naturally.

The spring element 16 is not strong enough to throw the pistol out of the holster but is strong enough to move it positively a desired distance upon release of the latch 19. It is further clear that the ejector may be any other sort of device which will engage the pistol as it is introduced and eject or partly eject it when the latch is released. The ejector member may be disposed in other parts of the holster inside or outside of the same. The latch member may be of other form than that shown. The invention is to provide an ejector member combined with a latch member so that the pistol is held firmly in position within the holster when properly disposed therein and is immediately moved or partly ejected from the holster as soon as the latch member is released.

This invention is an improvement on the invention shown and described and claimed in Patent No. 1,113,530, dated October 13, 1914, entitled Gun-holsters.

While the invention has been described in detail and with respect to a present preferred form thereof, it is not to be limited to such details and forms since many changes and modifications may be made and the invention embodied in other forms and modifications without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention in its broadest aspects. Hence it is desired to cover any and all forms and modifications of the invention which may come within the language or scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed, is,

In combination with a holster for pistols, which have a body portion, a trigger guard, and a barrel, which comprises a spring latch plate movable at right angles to the direction of movement of the pistol as it is inserted, said latch engaging with the trigger guard to hold the pistol in the holster, a spring-plate fixed within the holster along the wall thereof adjacent the trigger guard and having a curved free end bent in a smooth curve to place the end of said plate in position to engage with the forward face of the body of the pistol and to be put under tension by said engagement when the pistol is inserted, said curved spring member tending to move the pistol at least partly out of the holster when the latch element is released from the trigger guard.

Signed at Johnstown, in the county of Fulton and State of New York, this 19th day of May, 1930.

JAMES R. DENKERT.