Feb. 25, 1969 D. A. LONG ET AL 3,429,065

LUGGAGE TAG

Filed April 7, 1967

FIG. 1.

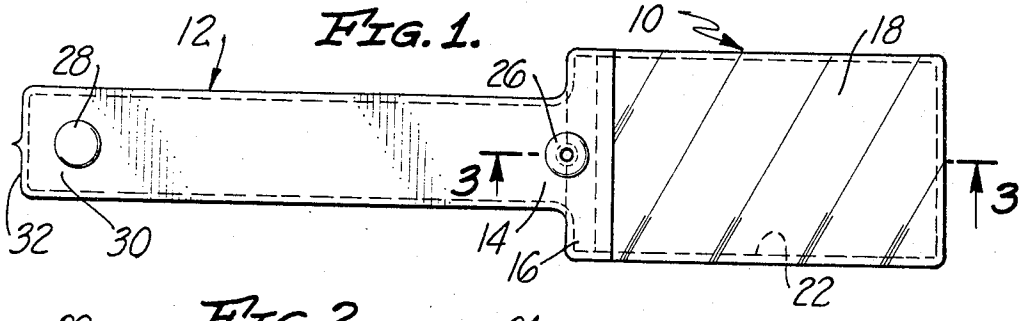


FIG. 2.

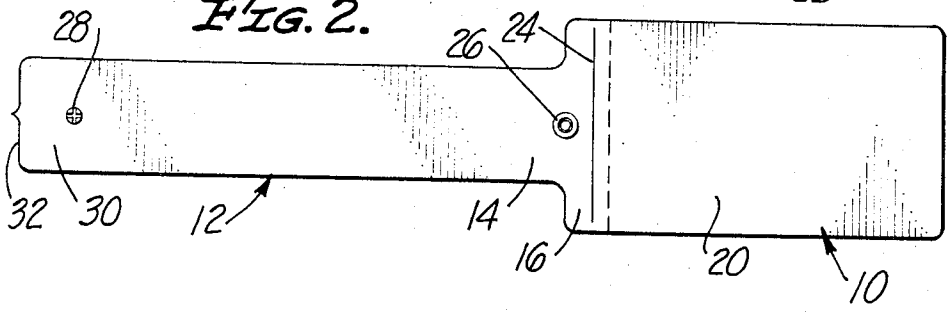


FIG. 3.

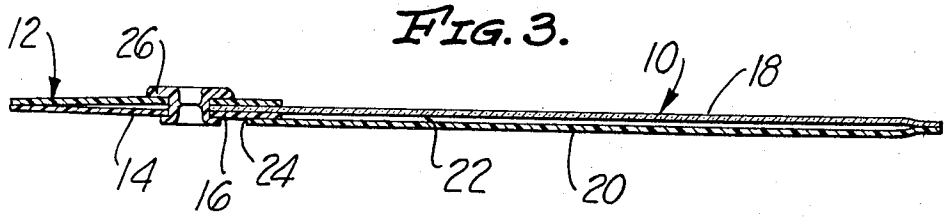


FIG. 5.

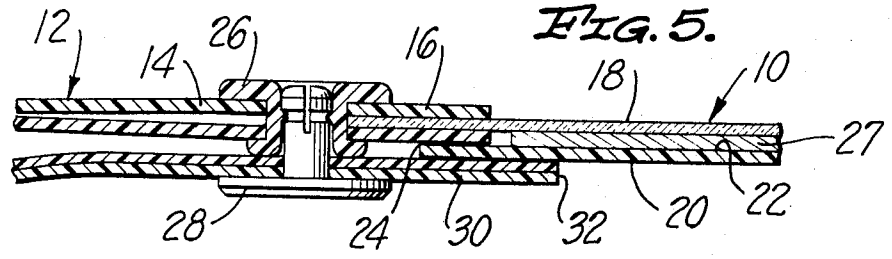
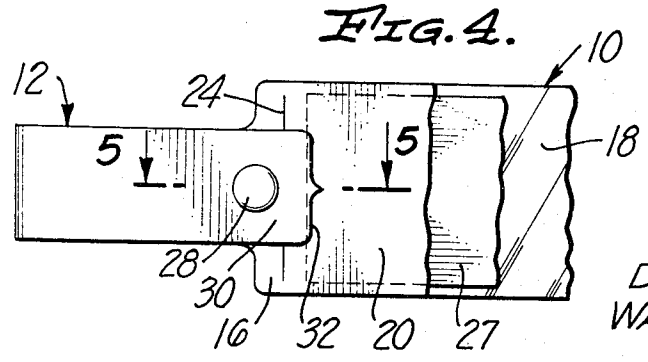


FIG. 4.



INVENTORS
DONALD A. LONG,
WALTER W. MOSHER, JR.
BY
MAHONEY & HORNBAKER
ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 3,429,065 Patented Feb. 25, 1969

3,429,065

LUGGAGE TAG

Donald A. Long, 936 Uclan Drive, Burbank, Calif. 91504, and Walter W. Mosher, Jr., 738 Fairmount, Burbank, Calif. 91501

Filed Apr. 7, 1967, Ser. No. 629,144
U.S. Cl. 40—21 7 Claims
Int. Cl. G09f 3/16, 3/18

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An identification pocket member is formed with an access slot through one side for the insertion of identification material into a pocket formed therein. One end of a strap for fastening the tag to luggage is secured to the pocket member free of the access slot, said strap being looped and having a free end releasably secured to the pocket member normally extending across and obstructing the access slot to retain the identification material in the pocket.

This invention relates to a luggage tag for attaching identification to luggage, and more particularly, to a luggage tag of the type having a pocket into which identification material may be inserted, said tag being engaged with the luggage through some configuration of strap formed thereon.

Various prior forms of luggage tage have been provided, most of which include some form of identification pocket member into which identification material may be inserted to indicate ownership of the luggage to which the tag is attached. Furthermore, many of such luggage tags have included looped straps connected to the identification pocket member adapted for engagement through a handle of the luggage in order to retain the tag thereon. Still further, some means of access into the pocket of the identification pocket member must be provided in order that the identification material may be inserted therein, said access means frequently being a slot formed at one end of the pocket member and through which the identification material may be inserted into the pocket.

One of the major problems in providing luggage tags of the foregoing type has been how to provide an access slot for the pocket of the identification pocket member through which identification material may be easily inserted into said pocket, while still properly retaining the identification material within said pocket during the usual transportation and use of the luggage. If the insertion slot is relatively large and freely accessible, the identification material may be easily inserted therethrough, but at the same time, will be subject to being easily dislodged accidentally from said pocket. On the other hand, if the access slot is formed relatively small in order to guard against accidental dislodgement of the identification material from the pocket, it is extremely difficult to originally insert the identification material into said pocket.

It is, therefore, an object of our invention to provide a luggage tag having a relatively large access slot formed therein for the insertion of identification material into the pocket thereof, yet once said tag is secured to the luggage, it is virtually impossible for the identification material to become accidentially dislodged from said pocket. The luggage tag of the present invention includes an identification pocket member having a strap thereon connected in such a manner that prior to attachment of the luggage tag to the luggage, the access slot for the identification pocket member is freely accessible and identification material may be easily inserted therethrough into said pocket. Upon the mounting of said luggage tag on the luggage, however, the strap during such mounting is attached to the identification pocket member in such a

manner so as to completely obstruct said access slot, making it virtually impossible for the identification material to become dislodged from said pocket.

It is a further object of our invention to provide a luggage tag of the foregoing character wherein the operation of attaching the tag to the luggage by the securement of a free end of the luggage tag strap to the tag simultaneously positions said strap free end overlying and obstructing the access slot for the luggage tag pocket, thereby preventing dislodgment of identification material from said tag pocket once the tag is mounted on the luggage. Only a single fastener is thereby required for performing such dual function. As a result, not only is the luggage tag of the present invention functionally efficient, but also relatively economical to provide.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following specification and the accompanying drawing which is for the purpose of illustration only, and in which:

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of an embodiment of the luggage tag showing said tag ready for the insertion of identification material in the pocket thereof and prior to engagement of the tag with a piece of luggage;

FIG. 2 is a bottom plan view of the luggage tag of FIG. 1 and in the same condition as in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged, fragmentary, sectional view taken along the broken line 3—3 in FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a bottom plan view similar to FIG. 2, but with the luggage tag strap looped in luggage engaging form, with the free end of the strap fastened to the pocket member thereof and obstructing the access slot of said pocket member; and

FIG. 5 is an enlarged, fragmentary, sectional view taken along the broken line 5—5 in FIG. 4.

Referring to the drawing, the embodiment of the luggage tag of the present invention includes an identification pocket member, generally indicated at **10**, and a fastening strap, generally indicated at **12**, both said pocket member and strap being longitudinally elongated, with a secured strap end **14** preferably being formed integral with a part of said pocket member and extending from one end **16** of said pocket member. Both the pocket member **10** and fastening strap **12** are preferably formed of heat sealed plastic materials, such as vinyl, the pocket member necessarily being of double thickness and the strap likewise preferably being of double thickness. The pocket member **10**, therefore, includes the opposite sides, a top side **18** being transparent and the bottom side **20** being free of transparency, forming an identification material pocket **22** therebetween.

An access slot **24** extending substantially the complete lateral extent of the pocket member **10** is formed through the bottom side **20** thereof longitudinally adjacent said one end **16**, said access slot providing access into the pocket **22** for the insertion of identification material therethrough and into said pocket. A female fastener half **26** is secured through the tab longitudinally outward of and free of interference with the pocket member access slot **24** and the pocket **22**, preferably at the point of joinder between the pocket member **10** and the fastening strap **12**. Thus, with the fastening strap **12** extending longitudinally and coplanar of the pocket member **10**, as shown in FIG. 2, identification material, such as the usual business card **27** (FIGS. 4 and 5), may be inserted through the access slot **24** and into the pocket **22**, with the identification on said identification material being exposed through the transparent top side **18** of said pocket member.

A male fastener half **28** is mounted spaced longitudinally inwardly from free end **30** of the fastening strap **12**, providing an extremity **32** of said strap free end extending outwardly of said male fastener half and be-

ing of importance to the principles of the present invention. Both the female and male fastener halves **26** and **28** are preferably formed of plastic and constitute a snap fastener of the type which, when the female and male halves thereof are engaged, forms a permanent fastening. According to the principles of the present invention, therefore, the fastening strap **12** may be engaged through the handle of a piece of luggage (not shown) and the strap free end **30** looped back to longitudinally overlap and overlie the bottom side **20** of the pocket member **10** engaging the male fastener half **28** with the female fastener half **26** to retain said fastening strap in said looped position, as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5.

In such looped position of the fastening strap **12**, it will be particularly noted that the strap free end **30** overlies and extends longitudinally inwardly across the pocket member access slot **24**, with the extremity **32** of said strap free end being spaced longitudinally inwardly of said access slot. Thus, in such looped and fastened condition of the fastening strap **12**, the strap free end **30** overlies and normally obstructs the access slot **24** of the pocket **22**, as clearly shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, thereby preventing accidental dislodgement of identification material from the pocket through the access slot. It is possible, due to the flexibility of the plastic material forming the fastening strap **12** to tightly bend or flex the strap free end **30** longitudinally outwardly in such looped condition to free obstruction of the access slot **24** thereby, but such would require intentional tight bending of the fastening strap free end and could not be caused accidentally.

We have provided, therefore, according to the principles of the present invention, a luggage tag which is relatively simple in construction and economical to provide, yet which has many obvious advantages over the prior luggage tag constructions. Not only is the access slot **24** for the identification material pocket **22** of the tag pocket member **10** freely accessible for the insertion of identification material therein, but once the tag is secured to luggage by engagement of the snap fastener thereof, the fastening strap **12** inherently closes said access slot **24** blocking such slot against accidental dislodgement of the identification material from the pocket **22**. Thus, proper retainment of the identification material by the luggage tag of the present invention is always assured.

We claim:

1. In a luggage tag, the combination of: an identification pocket member, access slot means formed through one side of said pocket member communicating into a pocket thereof for the insertion of identification material therethrough and into said pocket; and a strap having a free end, means connecting a portion of said strap spaced from said strap free end to said pocket member free of said access slot means, means connecting said strap free end overlying said pocket member side and extending across said access slot means normally obstructing said access slot means.

2. A luggage tag a defined in claim **1** in which said means connecting said strap free end extending across said slot means includes a selectively engageable snap fastener.

3. A luggage tag as defined in claim **1** in which said pocket member includes a transparent side opposite said one side through which said access slot means is formed; and in which said access slot means is formed adjacent one end of said pocket member.

4. In a luggage tag, the combination of: an identification pocket member having a transparent side and an opposite side, a pocket formed in said pocket member between said sides extending the major portion of the length thereof, access slot means formed through said opposite side of said pocket member and communicating into said pocket for the insertion of identification material therethrough and into said pocket; and a strap having an end secured to said pocket member outward of said pocket and access slot means, said strap member being looped and connected to said pocket member outward of said pocket and access slot means with a free end overlying said pocket member opposite side, said strap free end overlying and extending across said pocket member access slot means normally obstructing said access slot means.

5. A luggage tag as defined in claim **4** in which said strap end secured to said pocket member is integral with a part of said pocket member.

6. A luggage tag is defined in claim **4** in which there is a selectively engageable snap fastener connecting said strap to said pocket member with said free end overlying said pocket member opposite side.

7. A luggage tag as defined in claim **4** in which said strap end secured to said pocket member is integral with a part of said pocket member; and in which there is a selectively engageable snap fastener connecting said strap to said pocket member with said free end overlying said pocket member opposite side.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

2,655,747	10/1953	Duskin	40—21
2,811,797	11/1957	Teetor	40—21 X
3,352,040	11/1967	Javkin	40—21

EUGENE R. CAPOZIO, *Primary Examiner.*

W. J. CONTRERAS, *Assistant Examiner.*

U.S. Cl. X.R.

40—17