United States Patent [19]

Scialdone

[11] **3,797,715**

[45] **Mar. 19, 1974**

[54] **NOVEL HOLSTER AND HARNESS**

[76] Inventor: **Sebastian R. Scialdone,** 14 Winston Pl., Yonkers, N.Y. 10701

[22] Filed: **Feb. 23, 1972**

[21] Appl. No.: **228,570**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **224/2 B,** 224/5 BC

[51] **Int. Cl.** **F41c 9/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 224/2 B, 5 BC, 5 P, 1 R, 224/2 D

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

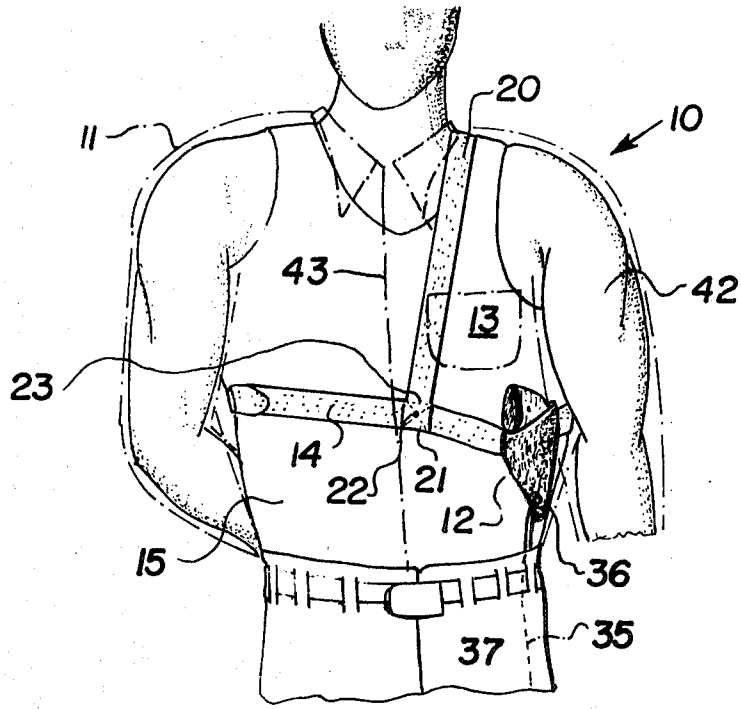
1,601,963	10/1926	Arth	224/2 B
2,381,547	8/1945	Leininger	224/1 R
2,676,737	4/1954	Zirbel	224/5 P
2,504,369	4/1950	Adair	224/2 B
2,443,397	6/1948	Myres	224/2 B
1,917,844	7/1933	Keith	224/2 B
2,819,830	1/1958	Murray	224/2 B
2,109,232	2/1938	Hoyt	224/2 B
3,252,638	5/1966	Rolston et al	224/2

Primary Examiner—Gerald M. Forlenza
Assistant Examiner—Kenneth Noland
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—M. Arthur Auslander

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A concealable holster and harness may be worn under a shirt comfortably concealing a weapon in a holster which is easily accessible and avoids normal discomforts of continual wearing of a harness, holster and a weapon.

14 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures



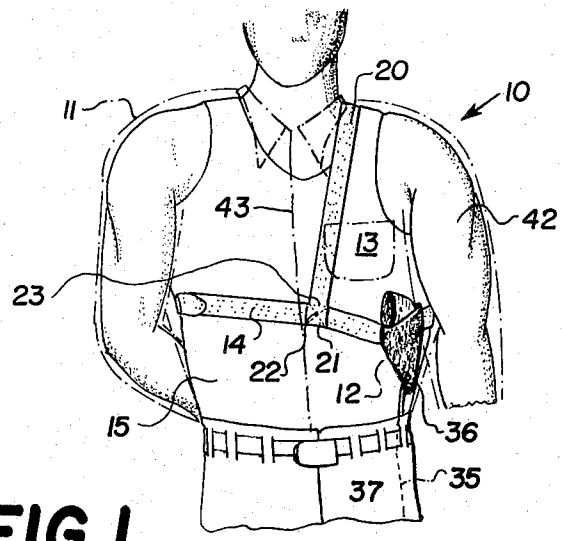


FIG. 1

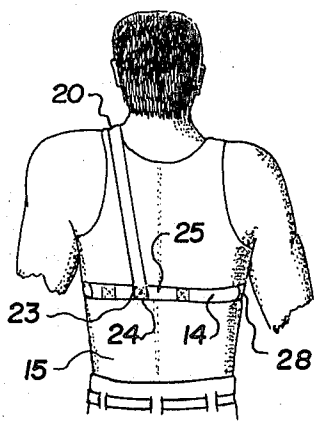


FIG. 2

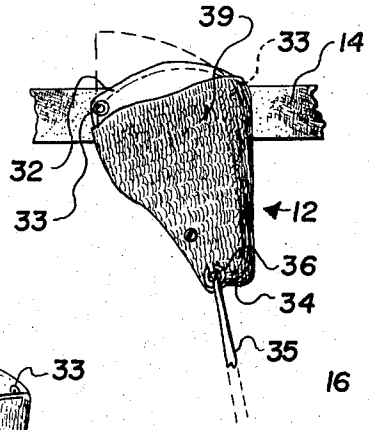


FIG. 3

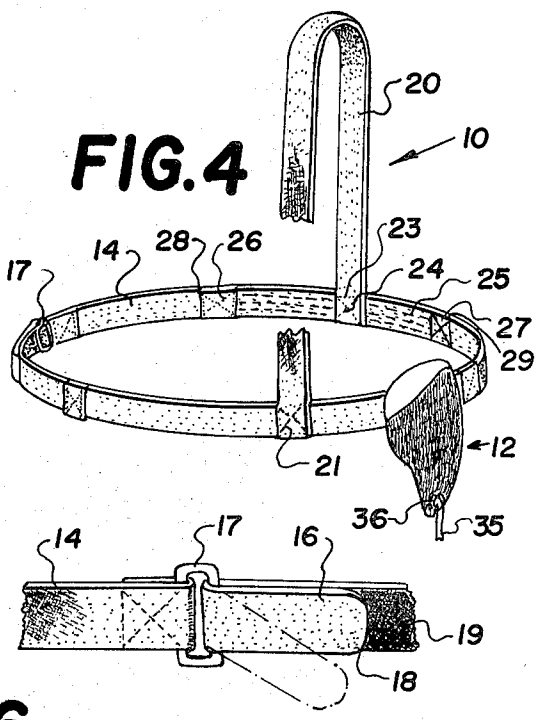


FIG. 4

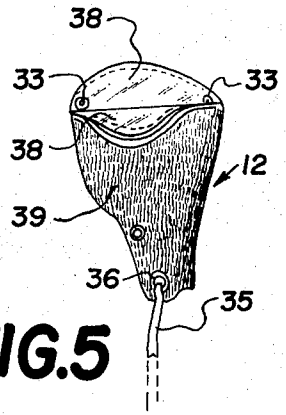


FIG. 5

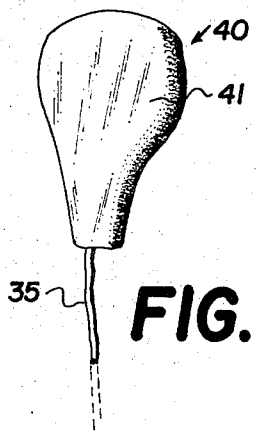


FIG. 6

FIG. 7

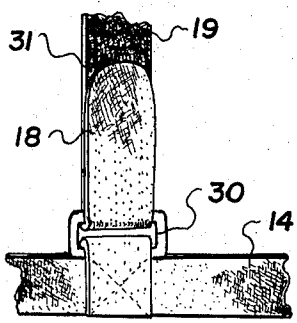


FIG. 8

NOVEL HOLSTER AND HARNESS

The present invention relates to a novel holster and harness, particularly effective for concealment of a weapon with ready accessibility of the weapon.

In the past holsters and harnesses have been provided for ready accessibility of a weapon. The holster and harness has no purpose without a weapon and a weapon may not be of any use if it is not readily accessible.

In many instances, such as in civilian clothed security personnel or civilian carrying of weapons, there is a further important provision which must be made, that being concealment.

Holsters and harnesses of the past, concealed or visible, have often been bulky, uncomfortable to wear, expensive to produce and may be difficult to conceal.

According to the present invention, a holster and harness is provided which may readily conceal a weapon, one which permits ready accessibility and comfort of wearing with a weapon over a prolong period of time.

Although such novel feature or features believed to be characteristic of the invention are pointed out in the claims, the invention and manner in which it may be carried out may be further understood by reference to the description following and the accompanying drawings.

FIG. **1** is a front elevation showing the holster and harness of the present invention being worn with a weapon.

FIG. **2** is a rear view of FIG. **1.**

FIG. **3** is a detail of a holster mounted on a harness.

FIG. **4** is a detail isometric of the holster and harness of the present invention.

FIG. **5** is a detail of the front of a holster of the present invention.

FIG. **6** is a detail of the back of the holster of the present invention.

FIG. **7** is a detail of the girth web closure of the present invention.

FIG. **8** is a detail of the shoulder strap of the present invention.

Referring now to the figures in greater detail, where like reference numbers denote like parts in the various figures.

In FIG. **1** the holster and harness **10** is shown as worn under a shirt **11** (in phantom). The holster **12** is supported forward of the side and arm, below the breast and below the breast pocket **13** (in phantom) of the shirt **11.**

The holster **12** is mounted on the circumferential web **14** which normally engirdles the torso **15.** The web **14** is preferably closed about the torso **15** by engaging its end **16** through a link **17** and folding the end **16** over itself to a proper size for the torso **15,** then closing the end **16** against itself.

The end **16** has along its length a male portion **18** and female portion **19** of the fastening material known by the trade mark Velcro. The Velcro has a male fastening portion **18** comprising plastic barbs and a female portion comprising a matted plastic. The two portions, when pressed together, firmly, hold each other.

As in the present invention, the size of the web **14** may be adjusted to comfort and the web closed about the link **17** with the male portion **18** and female portion **19** grasping firmly.

The shoulder web **20** is attached to the front of the circumferential web **14** as shown in FIG. **1,** where it may be held by stitching **21** and a rivet **22,** or both. The back of the shoulder web **20,** as shown in FIG. **2** may be likewise held by stitching **23** and/or a rivet **24.**

It is preferable to have the back portion of the shoulder web **20** joined intermediate of an elastic portion **25** which may be jointed by a stitching **26, 27,** spacing apart edges **28, 29** of the circumferential web **14.**

As shown in FIG. **8,** the shoulder web **20** may optionally be adjusted over a link **30** with a web end **31,** having along its length a male portion **18** and a female portion **19** of Velcro as heretofore described.

In FIG. **3,** the holster **12** is shown attached to the circumferential webbing **14.** The holster **12** is preferably angled slightly rearward and held to the web **14** by stitching **32** and rivets **33.** The holster **12** may have an opening **34** for the barrel of a gun to protrude through. A thong **35** preferably is attached to a grommet **36** and dangles so that it may be engaged under the belt **37** of the wearer to keep the holster **12** from free movement.

As shown in FIG. **5,** the inside surface **38** of the holster **12** is smooth and slick so that there is no impediment nor friction between the weapon and the inside surface **38.**

The outside surface **39,** facing away from the wearer's body, is preferably an unfinished simple leather soft suede which tends to be supple and also restrains unnecessary movement by friction between the outside surface **39** and shirt **11.**

As shown in FIG. **6,** the inside surface **40,** facing toward the wearer's body, is covered by a soft spongy rubber-like material **41,** preferably having very small pores.

In use, the holster and harness **10** of the present invention is put on by passing the arm **42** through the loop formed by the shoulder web **20** and the circumferential web **14.** The web **14** is tightened to be firm against the torso **15** by pulling the web end **16** through the link **17,** then closing the web **14** by joining the male and female portions **18, 19** of the Velcro fastener.

The circumferential web **14** is preferably a strong cloth tape, although it could be a leather strap. The advantage of the tape is its light weight and natural "give." By the same token, the circumferential web **14** closure could be a buckle, but such closure would tend to be bulky and expensive. Especially for concealment, minimum bulk is preferable.

The attachment of the shoulder web **20** to the elastic portion **25** provides a comfortable adjustment of the holster and harness **10** of the present invention so that there is no discomfort in normal breathing, nor undue movement of the holster and harness **10** of the present invention. The elastic **25** has give circumferentially and over the shoulder.

As shown in FIG. **3,** the holster **12** is at an angle along the circumferential web **14.** The angle coincides with the natural angle that a hand would approach a weapon in the holster **12** as it passes through the shirt **11** to the weapon.

It is preferable that the shirt **11** has a button or two open, providing an opening **43** for ready entry of the hand toward the weapon. The opening is usually concealed by an overlying tie.

The spongy rubber backing **41** of the holster **12** and the thin leather from which the holster **12** is preferably made tends to cause the holster **12** with a weapon to

conform closely to the shape of the torso **15.** The sponge **41** also serves as a soft resilient intermediate between the torso **15** and the holster and harness **10** to avoid discomfort or chafing.

As a practical matter, as shown in FIG. **8,** the holster and harness **10** may have an adjustable shoulder web **20.** Thus for use, the holster and harness **10** does not have to be custom fitted for each user.

An additional advantage of having the shoulder web **20** adjustable is that the holster and harness **10** can also be removed without removal of the shirt **11** by releasing the shoulder web **20** and circumferential web **14,** then drawing the holster and harness **10** out from the front of the shirt **11.**

It should be noted that the concealment of the present invention is effected by maintaining the harness and holster **10** with a weapon beneath the breast and forward of the armpit.

Thus, there is no discomfort caused by the arm **42** having to be spaced away from the torso **15** because of the holster and harness **10** with the bulk of its weapon and barrel. The position of the arm **42** is also a natural one when the holster and harness **10** of the present invention is worn.

While slings, straps and harnesses have been used in the past, the simplicity of the present invention allows a minimum of webbing to provide a maximum of support with a maximum of concealment and ease of access. Further, the adjustments which in harnesses of the past might have to be made with loops or buckles, are all naturally built into the webbing and closures. It should be noted that the holster and harness **10** of the present invention would not be very effective were the barrel of the weapon to rest below the belt line since the barrel would interfere with free movement of the body and the user when sealed and might show a bulge.

Mounting the holster **12** under the breast and on the circumferential web **14** raises the bottom of the holster **12** so that a large variety of weapons may be held with various size barrels and yet not be too large to interfere with effective use of the holster and harness **10** of the present invention. The grasping of the thong **35** under the belt restrains undue movement of the holster and harness **10** of the present invention.

The circumferential web **14** and shoulder web **20** might well be made of strong cloth tape.

The terms and expressions which are employed are used as terms of description; it is recognized, though, that various modifications are possible.

Having thus described certain forms of the invention in some detail, what is claimed is:

1. A concealable harness of light weight and with give and holster combination comprising a torso circumferential substantially cloth web, closure means for said torso circumferential substantially cloth web, a single substantially cloth shoulder web passing over the shoulder of the same side as the holster is carried, said shoulder web jointed to said torso circumferential web on the front portion of said torso circumferential web and at the back portion of the torso circumferential web, the points of attachment of the shoulder web to the torso web being closer to the front and back center of the body than to the holster, said shoulder web supporting said torso web beneath the wearer's breast closer to the wearer's breast than th wearer's belt, a supple holster, the upper portion of said holster affixed to said torso circumferential web so that the holster is located on the side and slightly forward of the wearer's armpit on the torso circumferential web and above the waistline.

2. The invention of claim **1** wherein said holster is at an angle toward a hand reaching for a weapon in said holster.

3. The invention of claim **1** wherein the said portion of said holster facing toward the wearer's body is covered by a soft spongy foam.

4. The invention of claim **3** wherein said foam is rubber.

5. The invention of claim **1** wherein the inside portion of said holster is slick.

6. The invention of claim **1** wherein the outside portion of said holster is unfinished soft leather.

7. The invention of claim **1** wherein said holster includes a thong extending from its bottom portion.

8. The invention of claim **1** wherein said torso circumferential web includes a closure.

9. The invention of claim **8** wherein said closure includes a linkage to an end including male and female matachable surfaces adapted to close said web.

10. The invention of claim **1** wherein said torso circumferential web includes an elastic portion.

11. The invention of claim **10** wherein one end of said shoulder is affixed to said elastic portion.

12. The invention of claim **1** wherein said shoulder web includes a linkage to said torso circumferential web including male and female matchable surfaces adapted to close said web attached to said torso circumferential web.

13. The invention of claim **1** wherein said torso circumferential web is made of cloth tape.

14. The invention of claim **1** wherein said shoulder web is made of cloth tape.

* * * * *