March 19, 1963 H. L. BAGBY 3,081,923

GUN CARRIER

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FIG. 1

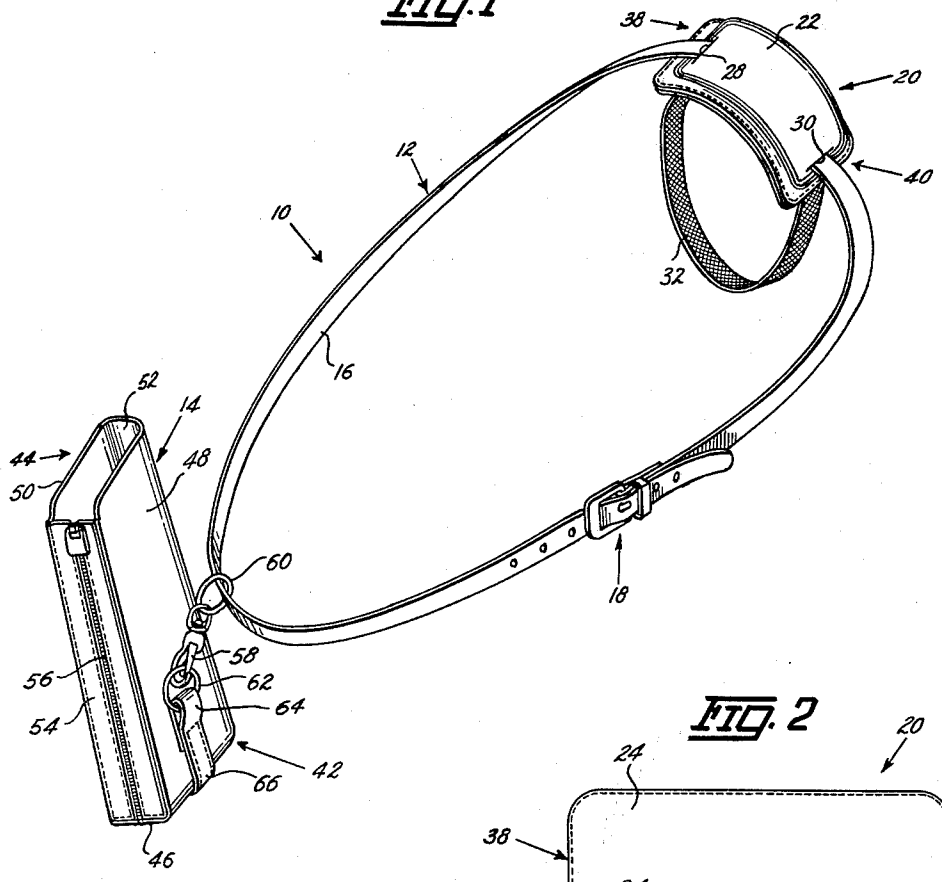


FIG. 2

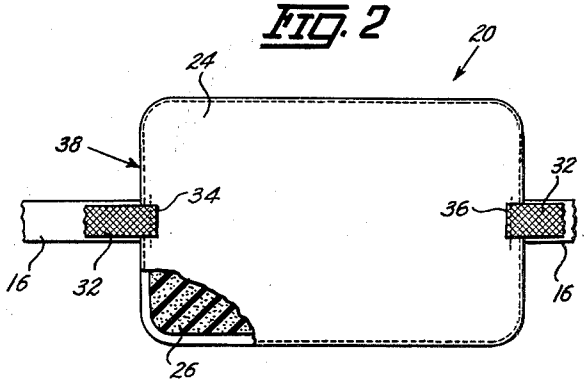
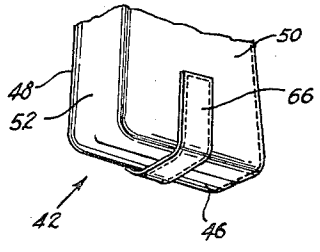


FIG. 3



INVENTOR.
HENRY L. BAGBY

BY Morton S. Adler

ATTORNEY.

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FIG. 4

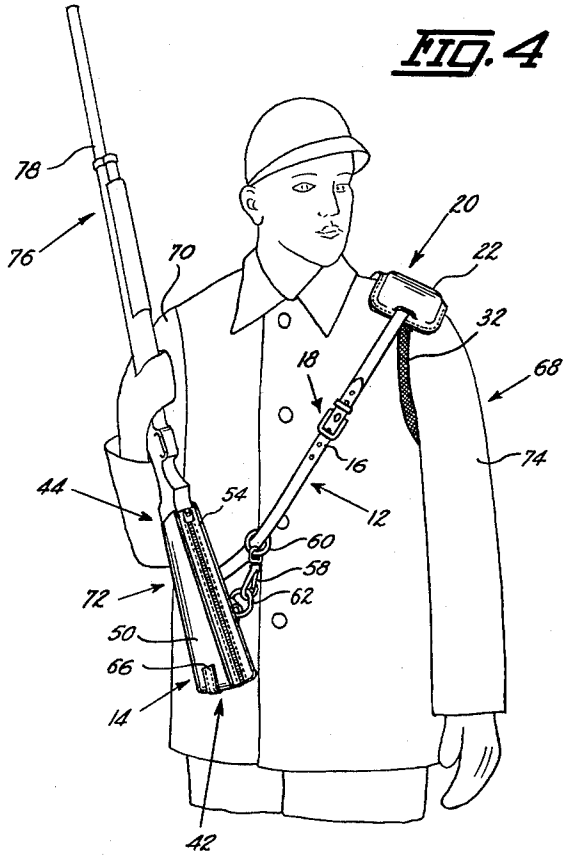
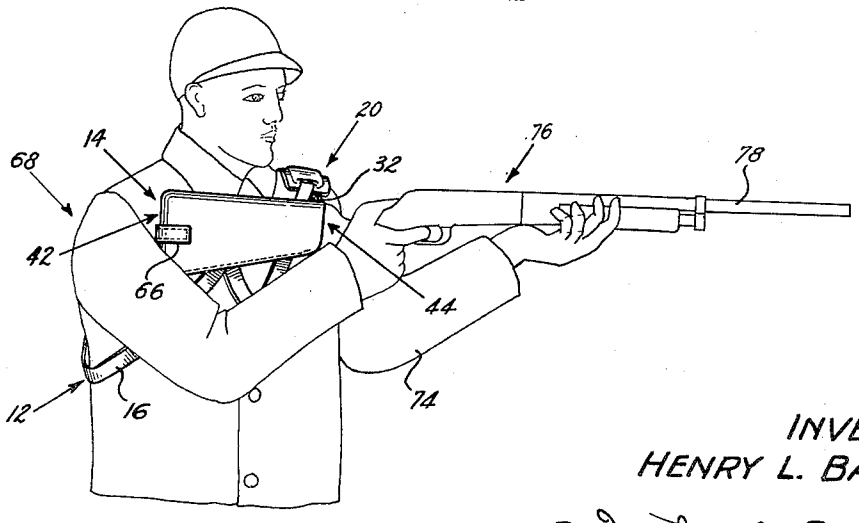


FIG. 5



INVENTOR.
HENRY L. BAGBY

BY Morton S. Adler

ATTORNEY.

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GUN CARRIER

Henry L. Bagby, 1351 E. 18th St., Des Moines, Iowa

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3 Claims. (Cl. 224—1)

This invention relates to a gun carrying device and is more particularly adapted for use by hunters for carrying a rifle or shotgun.

Hunters will frequently carry their rifle or shotgun for long periods of time and often over long distances while searching or waiting for game at which to shoot, and from experience I have found that this can become quite tiring.

Accordingly, therefore, one of the important objects contemplated by this invention is the provision of a shoulder supported gun carrier designed to support the butt end of the rifle or shotgun whereby the weight of the firearm is carried by the shoulder of the user and the barrel of the gun can be cradled in either arm.

A further object inhering herein is the provision of a gun carrier as characterized wherein the rifle or shotgun can be easily and quickly moved to firing position and fired without removing it from the carrier.

Another object of this invention is to provide a shoulder engaging strap, and a supporting case that is removably attachable to a rifle or shotgun butt and removable and slidable relative to the shoulder strap.

Further objects and the more obvious advantages of the invention will be mentioned or else appear plainly from the description which follows.

This invention consists of novel parts and combination of parts to be hereinafter described whereby the objects set forth are attained, as pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of this invention,

FIG. 2 is a bottom view of the shoulder pad shown in FIG. 1,

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary perspective bottom view of the opposite side of the gun case shown in FIG. 1,

FIG. 4 illustrates the device of FIG. 1 being worn and a gun supported thereby when not in use, and

FIG. 5 illustrates a gun in firing position while still engaged with this gun carrier.

Referring to the drawings, my gun carrier designated generally by the numeral **10** includes a shoulder strap portion **12** and a gun carrier portion **14**. The shoulder strap portion **12** comprises an elongated strap or belt **16** adjustable as to length by a buckle means **18** of any suitable type. A shoulder pad **20**, substantially wider than strap **12**, is slidably arranged thereon and while any type of pad may be used to ease the pull on the wearer's shoulder as will later appear, I have preferably stitched a top **22** and bottom **24** pad covering together over a resilient cushion material such as sponge or foam rubber or the like **26**. Spaced slits **28** and **30** in top **22** permit strap **12** to pass through pad **20** intermediate cover **22** and cushion **26**. A second strap **32**, shorter than strap **12** and preferably of elastic material, depends from the pad **20** relative to the bottom side **24** and for this purpose is attached at respective ends **34** and **36** to respective opposite ends **38** and **40** of pad **20** as shown in FIG. 2.

The carrier **14** is in effect an elongated case substantially rectangular in cross section, but tapered so that it is widest at the bottom end **42** and progressively smaller toward the top end **44**. Case **14** is defined by a closed bottom **46**, spaced side members **48** and **50**, a closed back **52** integral with sides **48** and **50** and an openable front **54**. The top end **44** is open as shown in FIG. 1. The front **54** is shown as openable and closeable by means of a zipper **56**, but it will be understood

that any suitable form of closure at this point will serve the purpose herein disclosed.

Case **14** is designed to be easily attachable to and removable from strap **12** and to be slidable relative to such strap and for this purpose a swivel snap **58** slidable on strap **12** by means of a ring **60** is removably engageable with a ring **62** carried in a loop **64** on a strap **66** attached to case **12** near or at the bottom thereof on side **48**.

In using this carrier **10**, pad **20** will lay upon one shoulder of the wearer **68** (FIG. 4) with strap **12** extending diagonally across the chest and back and passing under the wearer's arm, **70** on his opposite side relative to pad **20** and at a point approximately at his waist line **72** as shown. The wearer's other arm **74** is passed through the loop formed by the elastic strap **32** so that such strap yieldingly embraces the armpit below pad **20**. Strap **12** can be adjusted by buckle **18** to suit the convenience and size of the wearer **68** and thus may be used over heavy outer garments if required.

Case **14** is designed to conform substantially to the shape of and to fit snugly over the butt end of a rifle or shotgun **76** and for this purpose when the front **54** is opened, the butt of gun **76** can be easily placed therein. When front **54** is closed, the top **44** is sufficiently smaller than the bottom end **42** so that case **14** can neither slip off nor be pulled off of the butt for obvious reasons. Case **14** is then attached to strap **12** as described and as shown in FIG. 1 and the barrel **78** of the gun **76** can be cradled in the wearer's hand or arm as shown or in either hand or arm since the means of attaching case **14** to strap **12** affords a maximum of maneuverability. Thus arranged, it will be appreciated that the weight of the gun **76** is carried on the wearer's shoulder whereby it becomes considerably more comfortable to handle over long periods of time.

The slidability of case **14** on strap **12** permits the gun **76** to be moved to firing position (FIG. 5) without removal from the case so that this carrier **10** in no way impedes the prompt use of the gun. The length of case **14** is such that it does not interfere with the position of the hands in firing and the detachability of case **14** from strap **12** permits the hunter to relieve himself of the gun at times without requiring the removal of the strap **12** and pad **20**.

It is submitted that the invention shown and described is aptly suited to achieve the purposes intended and is characterized by a combination of highly useful and mutually cooperating elements that combine their respective and proportionate functions in accomplishing the objects sought to be obtained.

It will be understood that the phraseology employed herein is for the purpose of description and not for limitation and that modifications and changes in the construction and arrangement of this invention can be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit and purpose thereof. It is thus intended to cover by the claims, any modified forms of structure or mechanical equivalents which may be reasonably included within their scope.

I claim:

1. In a gun carrier, an endless strap adapted to be worn by a person so as to lay over one shoulder and extend diagonally across his back and chest to a lower point at his side and approximately at his waist line, a slide member on said strap slidable thereon across the chest of a person between the waist line and shoulder, and a case contoured to the shape of and removably attached to the butt portion of a rifle or shotgun and removably attached to said strap and slidable relative thereto with said slide member.

2. In a gun carrier, an endless strap adapted to be

worn by a person so as to lay over one shoulder and extend diagonally across his back and chest to a lower point at his side and approximately at his waist line, a case contoured to the shape of and removably attached to the butt portion of a rifle or shotgun and removably attached to said strap and normally disposed for carrying at said lower point, and said case also being slidable relative to said strap from the waist line position to substantially a mid chest position whereby said rifle or shotgun carried by said case can be placed in firing position and fired by the person wearing said carrier without removing the rifle or shotgun therefrom.

3. In a gun carrier, an endless strap adapted to be worn by a person so as to lay over one shoulder and extend diagonally across his back and chest to a lower point at his side and approximately at his waist line, a pad slidable on said strap and adapted to lay on the shoulder of the person wearing said strap, an elastic loop forming strap attached to said pad and adapted to encircle the armpit of the wearer, a case contoured to the shape of and removably attached to the butt portion of a rifle or shotgun and removably attached to said strap and normally disposed for carrying at said lower point, and said case also being slidable relative to said strap from the waist line position to substantially a mid chest position whereby a gun carried by said case can be placed in firing position and fired by the person wearing said carrier without removing the gun therefrom.

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