Jan. 12, 1960 R. T. WALKER 2,920,893

APPARATUS FOR IMPROVING MARKSMANSHIP

Filed Oct. 25, 1956

FIG. 1.

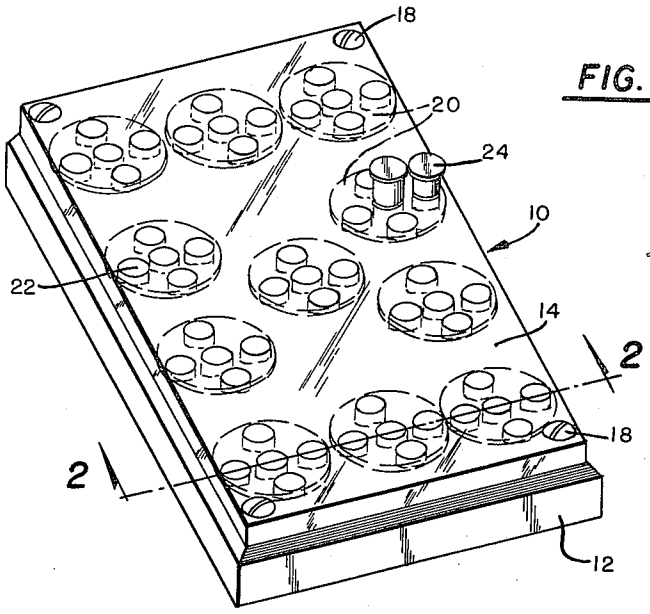



FIG. 2.

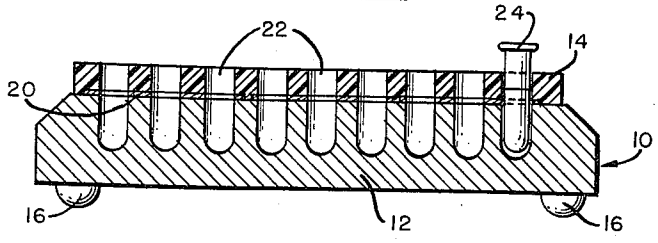



FIG. 4.

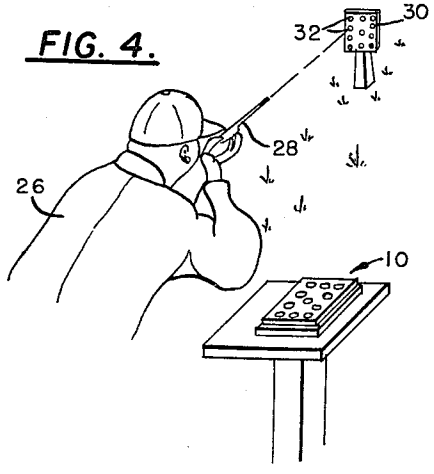
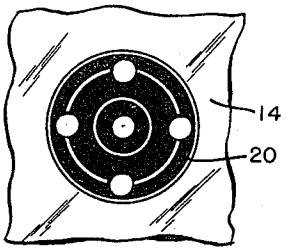



FIG. 3.




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# APPARATUS FOR IMPROVING MARKSMANSHIP

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4 Claims. (Cl. 273—101)

The present invention relates to the art of rifle marksmanship and more particularly to apparatus for and a method of aiding individuals engaged in this art, either in practice or in competitive rifle matches.

In competitive shooting, targets are posted, and the riflemen then take their positions on the firing line and fire a specified number of rounds into each bull's-eye of the targets. Standard targets for small bore competition have ten or eleven bull's-eyes, and each rifleman is normally required to place one or more shots in each bull's-eye. Placing more or less than the required number of shots in a bull's-eye brings a penalty.

Competitive shooting requires that the riflemen fire from four different positions of the body, namely, prone, sitting, kneeling, and standing. While a spotting telescope is frequently used in matches, the scope is usually convenient to use in the prone position only. Without the use of a scope, the bullet holes in a target are too small to be seen by the human eye at any range of 50 feet or more. As a result, in firing from such ranges, a rifleman must at all times keep in mind which bull's-eyes he has fired at in order to avoid excessive or insufficient shots at a particular bull's-eye and the consequent penalty. Many matches have been lost because a rifleman forgot which bull's-eyes he had fired at.

The present invention overcomes these deficiencies heretofore present in rifle matches and in rifle practice as well. The invention provides apparatus and a method whereby an accurate account of the number of shots fired at the target bull's-eyes is continuously maintained. Prior to the invention this has been extremely difficult to achieve.

Accordingly, it is a principal object of the invention to provide apparatus for and a method of aiding riflemen.

Another object of the invention is to provide a unique indicating cartridge block.

A further object of the invention is to provide apparatus including a unique relationship of target, cartridges, and cartridge block.

These and other objects of the invention will become more readily apparent upon consideration of the following detailed description of a preferred form of the invention taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing illustrating this form and wherein:

Figure 1 is perspective view of the novel cartridge block of the invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken along line 2—2 of Figure 1 in the direction of the arrows;

Figure 3 is a detail of a portion of the cartridge block; and

Figure 4 is an explanatory diagram illustrating the method of the invention and the combination of the components of the invention.

Briefly stated, the invention contemplates the provision of a unique cartridge block in conjunction with a target, cartridges to be fired at the target, and a rifle for firing the cartridges. There is a novel relationship between the construction of the cartridge block and the form of the target at which the cartridges held in the



block are to be fired so that a record of the bull's-eyes fired at is maintained constantly.

Referring to the drawing, the cartridge block of the invention, generally designated **10**, comprises, in its preferred form, a base portion **12** and a face portion **14**. The base portion may be formed of wood, plastic, or other suitable material and may be supported on a plurality of small feet **16** formed of rubber or the like. The face portion may be constituted by a sheet of transparent plastic material, such as Lucite, and may be attached to the base portion as by a plurality of wood screws **18**.

On one side of the cartridge block, preferably between the base portion **12** and the transparent face portion **14**, are located a plurality of bull's-eyes **20** (see Fig. 3). The bull's-eyes may be formed of separate sheet material adhesively attached to the cartridge block or may be directly printed or painted on the cartridge block. Through each of the bull's-eyes is formed at least one hole **22** which passes into the material of the cartridge block. The holes may be drilled or molded in the block. In the form shown, each bull's-eye has five holes associated with it, but as will be apparent hereinafter, different numbers of holes may be employed. Each hole is arranged and dimensioned so as to receive a cartridge **24** therein and hold the same in an upright position with a portion of the cartridge exposed above the cartridge block so that the cartridges may be grasped and removed from the block.

Referring to Figure 4, it will be observed that the cartridge block **10**, in use, is placed beside a rifleman **26** who fires his rifle **28** at a distant target **30**. The target displays a plurality of bull's-eyes **32**, and it is important to note that the spacial arrangement of the bull's-eyes **32** of the target **30** is identical to the spacial arrangement of the bull's-eyes **20** of the cartridge block **10**. Standard targets are produced in several different bull's-eye patterns, and in the preferred form of the invention, a different cartridge block will be employed for each of the pattern types.

In practicing the invention, the rifleman selects the cartridge block having a bull's-eye pattern corresponding exactly to the bull's-eye pattern of the target in use. He then places the required number of cartridges in the holes at each of the cartridge block bull's-eyes corresponding to the target bull's-eyes at which rounds of ammunition are to be fired. In most cases, a single round is inserted in each of the bull's-eyes of the cartridge block, but where more than one round is to be fired at particular target bull's-eyes, the number of rounds placed in the corresponding cartridge block bull's-eyes is increased accordingly. When the cartridge block has been filled to the extent desired, the rifleman is ready to begin firing. In a rifle match, at the command "commence firing" (or in rifle practice, at will) the rifleman proceeds to take a round from a bull's-eye of the cartridge block, places the same in the chamber of his rifle, and fires at the corresponding bull's-eye of the target. The cartridges are removed from the block and fired individually, and the rifleman at any moment can glance at his cartridge block and determine which bull's-eyes have been fired at, from the number of cartridges left in the corresponding bull's-eyes of the cartridge block. If the cartridges are removed from the cartridge block bull's-eyes in sequence, there can be no possibility of accidentally firing at the wrong bull's-eye.

While a preferred form of the invention has been shown and described, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that changes in this embodiment of the invention may be made without departing from the principles of the invention, the scope of which is defined in the appended claims. Accordingly, the foregoing embodiment is to be taken as illustrative, rather than restrictive

of the invention, and those modifications which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are included therein.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination in a marksmanship range, a target located on said range at a target area, said target having a plurality of bull's-eyes delineated thereon and arranged so as to form a predetermined pattern, said range having an area spaced from said target area and constituting a shooting position, a projectile holding block adjacent said shooting position and having a plurality of separate zones delineated on one side of said block and located in correspondence with said target bull's-eyes to form a pattern substantially the same as the pattern of said target, each of said zones being adapted to receive and hold in position to be grasped by the user of the range a projectile to be projected at the corresponding target bull's-eye, whereby the projectiles remaining at the zones will indicate the target bull's-eyes at which projectiles are to be projected.

2. In combination in a marksmanship range, a target located on said range at a target area, said target having a plurality of bull's-eyes delineated thereon and arranged so as to form a predetermined pattern, said range having an area spaced from said target area and constituting a shooting position, a cartridge holding block adjacent said shooting position and having a plurality of separate zones delineated on one side of said block and located in correspondence with said target bull's-eyes to form a pattern substantially the same as the pattern of said target, said



block having at least one hole in its surface at each of said zones, said holes being adapted to receive and hold in position to be grasped by the user of the range a cartridge to be fired at the corresponding target bull's-eye, whereby the cartridges remaining at the zones will indicate the target bull's-eyes at which rounds are to be fired.

3. A rifle marksmanship aid device comprising a block, a plurality of simulated bull's-eyes spaced on one side of said block, said block having a plurality of holes in its surface at each of said bull's-eyes, each of said holes being dimensioned to receive therein and hold upright a cartridge with a portion of the cartridge extending above said surface, whereby the cartridges may be grasped and removed from said block, each of said bull's-eyes having an area much greater than the cross sectional area of each of said holes and being formed to contrast with the remainder of said block side.

4. The device of claim 3, said block having a base portion and a transparent face portion, said block bull's-eyes being arranged between said portions.

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