

W. DE C. PRIDEAUX.
CONSTRUCTION OF LINKS FOR AMMUNITION BELTS FOR MACHINE GUNS.
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1,343,060.

Patented June 8, 1920.

Fig 1.

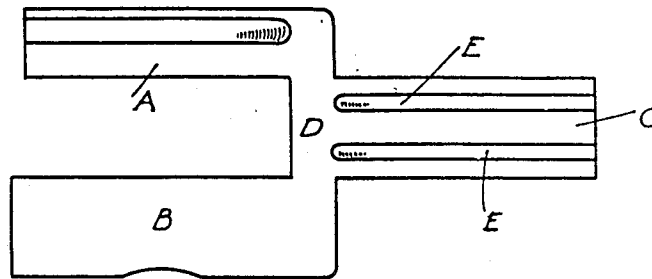


Fig 2

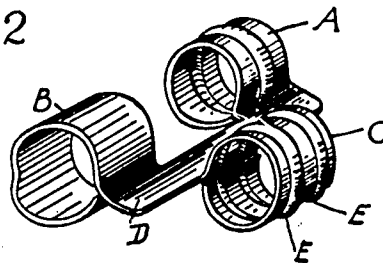
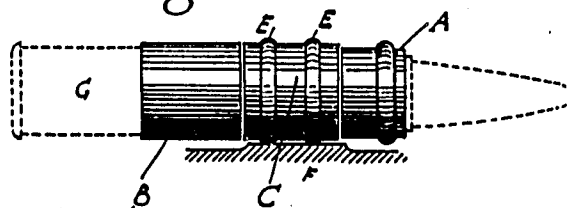


Fig 3



Witnesses:

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WILLIAM DE COURCY PRIDEAUX, OF WEYMOUTH, ENGLAND.

CONSTRUCTION OF LINKS FOR AMMUNITION-BELTS FOR MACHINE-GUNS.

1,343,060.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 8, 1920.

Application filed March 8, 1918. Serial No. 221,323.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DE COURCY PRIDEAUX, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Weymouth, Dorsetshire, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Construction of Links for Ammunition-Belts for Machine-Guns, of which the following is a specification.

10 This invention relates to that class of belt for machine guns and the like in which each link is formed from a base or bridge piece having on one side two clips and on the opposite side one clip which is positioned between the two clips of the next link, the cartridge passing within the three clips to act as a pintle and hold the two links together, so that each link can be disassembled from its neighboring link after the cartridge has been removed, the disassembled link falling or being ejected away clear of the gun.

Heretofore in construction of devices of this class the base or bridge piece of one link has a holed projecting arm passing under the center clip of the next link and engaging by its hole a pin or tooth on the base or bridge piece of the next link so as to obtain a firm union so long as the belt is stretched and inflexible and each link remaining united until they are free of the guide when they become disconnected owing to the shaking of the belt due to firing. In this previously well known construction the pins or teeth ride on the track in the feed block.

When employing a belt of the class wherein the pins or teeth ride on the track in the feed block, it has been found that owing to the weight of the bullets such belts will not ride perfectly straight through the feed block the noses of the bullets riding on a ledge of the feed block and creating friction whereas such cartridges should be perfectly level and free from any frictional contact with the feed block.

According to my invention this disadvantage is obviated by providing or forming the central clip with one or more enlargements, projections, corrugations or other devices whereby the outer diameter of the clip, in whole or in part is enlarged so that as the link rides over the projecting guide or track on the inside bottom of the

feed block, the central clip riding on the guide, the bullet ends of the cartridges will be lifted clear of the walls of the feed block and ride free without any contact with the feed block whatever.

My invention will be clearly understood from the annexed drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of a blank.

Fig. 2 a perspective view of the link, and

Fig. 3 a back view thereof with a cartridge in dotted lines in engagement therewith. As before stated the link is constructed from three clips A, B, C connected by a bridge piece D, two clips A, B on one side being at a distance apart while one clip C on the other side of the bridge piece D is positioned centrally so as to occupy a position between the two clips A, B of a neighboring link whereby the cartridge G, which will act as a pintle, can be passed through the three clips A, B, C which are in line.

My present invention consists in providing or forming the central clips C with one or more enlargements projections or corrugations E, E (in the drawings I have shown two) or other devices whereby the outer diameter of the clip in whole or in part is enlarged for the purpose described.

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In ammunition belts adapted to pass through the feed block of a machine gun, a link formed from a flat blank of sheet metal and comprising a bridge-piece connecting two clips at opposite ends thereof, said clips being bent into circular form and spaced apart, a single circularly bent clip at the center of the said bridge-piece at a point between the first-mentioned clips, the said single clip having enlargements extending therefrom for lifting the bullet end of the connecting cartridge clear of the walls of the feed block.

2. In ammunition belts for machine guns having a projecting guide in a feed block, a link formed from a flat sheet of metal and comprising a bridge-piece connecting two clips at opposite ends thereof, said clips being bent into circular form and spaced apart, a single circularly bent clip at the center of the said bridge-piece adapted to be inserted

between the two clips of the next succeeding link for engaging the connecting cartridge, the said single clip having enlargements extending therefrom for engaging the
5 projecting guide and thereby maintaining the bullet end of the connecting cartridge clear of the walls of the feed block.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM DE COURCY PRIDEAUX.

Witnesses:

RICHARD CORE GARDNER,
CHARLES ALFRED GROSSETETE.