# United States Patent [19]

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[11] **3,811,562**

[45] **May 21, 1974**


[54] **GUN CASE**


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[22] Filed: **Mar. 29, 1972**

[21] Appl. No.: **239,150**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **206/317,** 190/57, 206/523, 217/65, 220/20

[51] **Int. Cl.** ..... **B65d 85/54**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 190/40, 412, 53, 57; 206/3, 16 R, 46 FC; 220/20; 217/65



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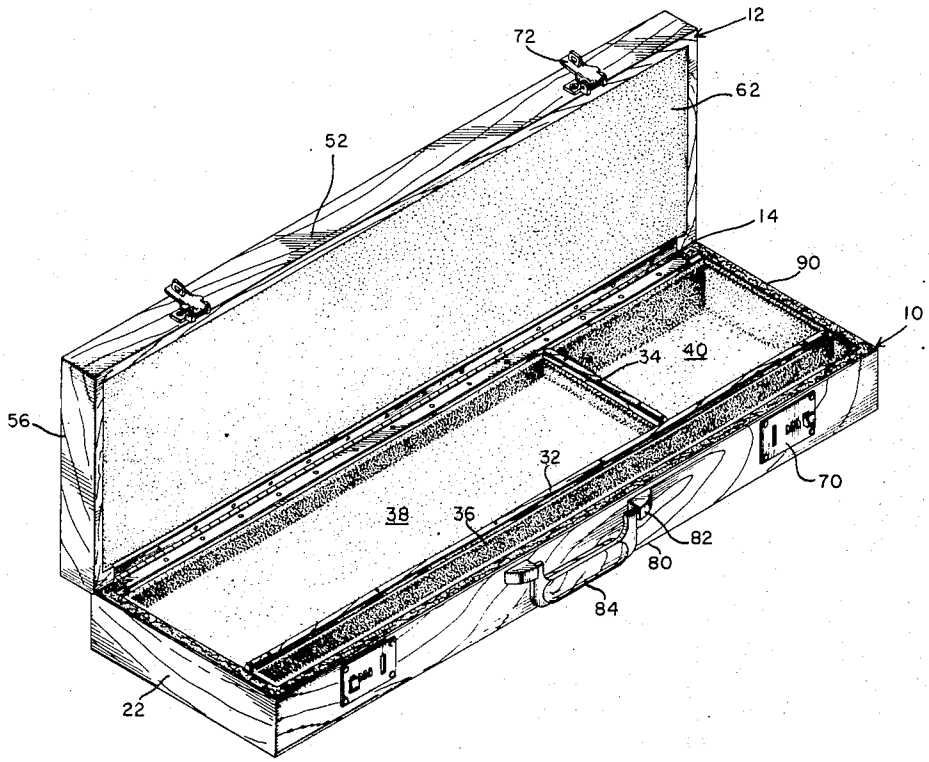
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A gun case having an elongated rectangular shape including a base and a cover hinged to the base, both parts being made from marine plywood with an external layer of sheet Formica material. The various side and end walls forming the cover and the base are glued together while the joints are also secured through mortise and tenon arrangements. The base is partitioned into a first elongated compartment extending between the ends thereof for receiving the barrel of a gun, a second elongated compartment wider than the first for receiving the stock of the gun, and a third compartment for receiving other parts such as trigger mechanism or shells, etc. Foam padding is provided on the inside of the cover and in the compartment which receives the stock for ensuring that the latter is properly held in the case against movement when the cover is closed. A cloth lining of acrylic pile covers the interior of the case, and a felt strip is placed on the edges of the base to engage the edge of the cover when closed. An aluminum handle is provided on the front side of the base and combination latch and lock mechanisms are provided for releasably securing the cover to the base.


**1 Claim, 5 Drawing Figures**



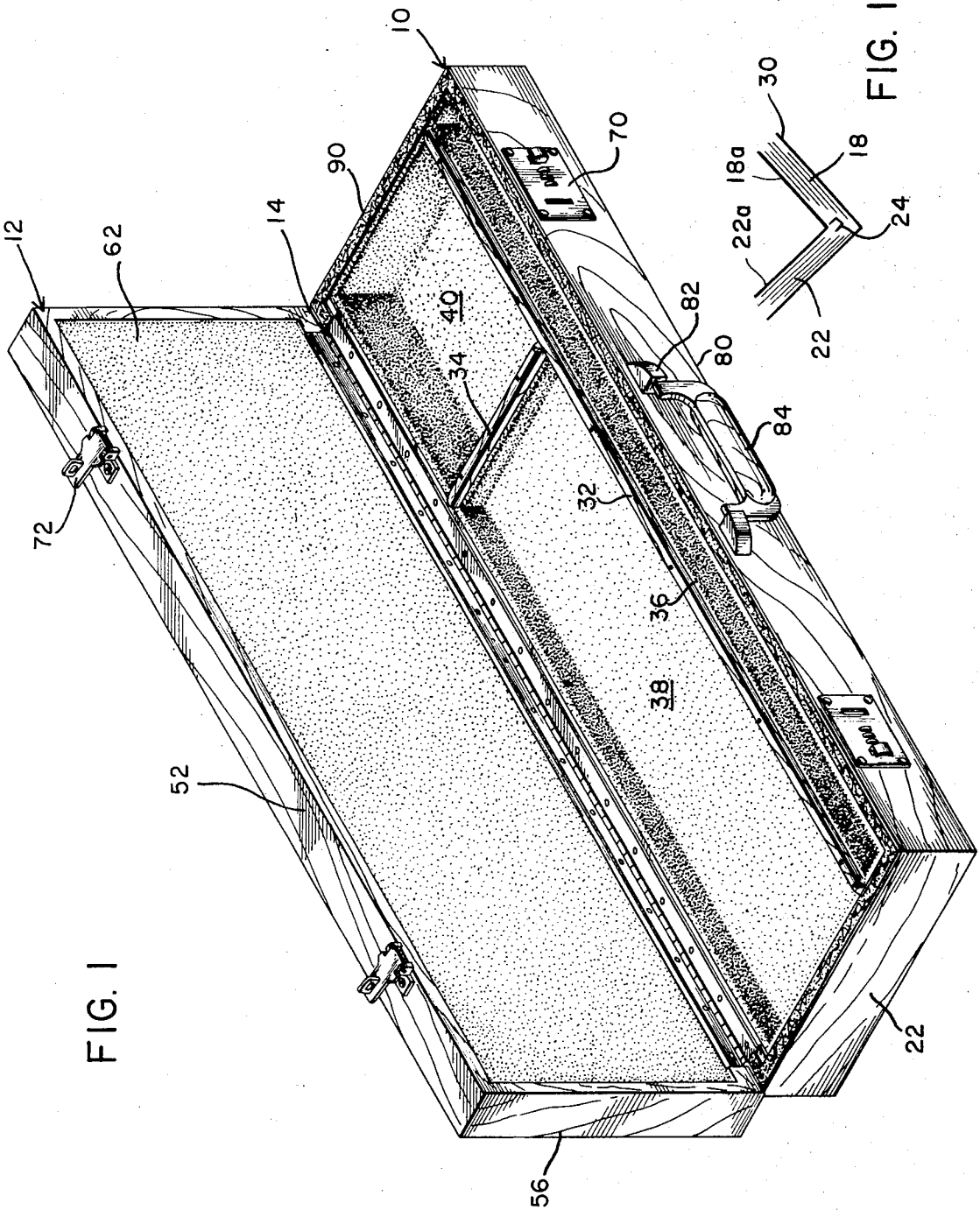



FIG. 1

FIG. 1A

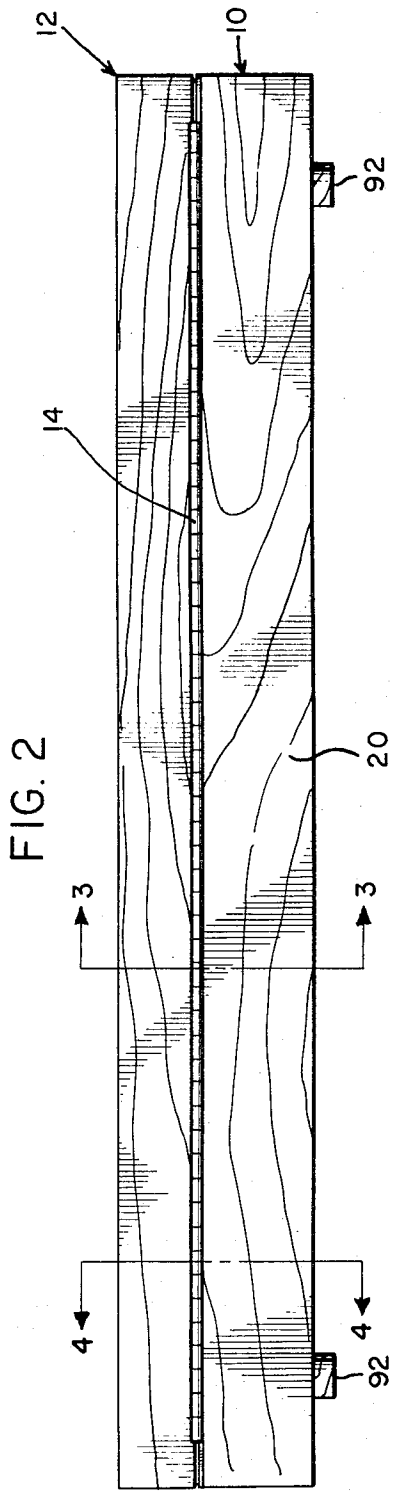



FIG. 2

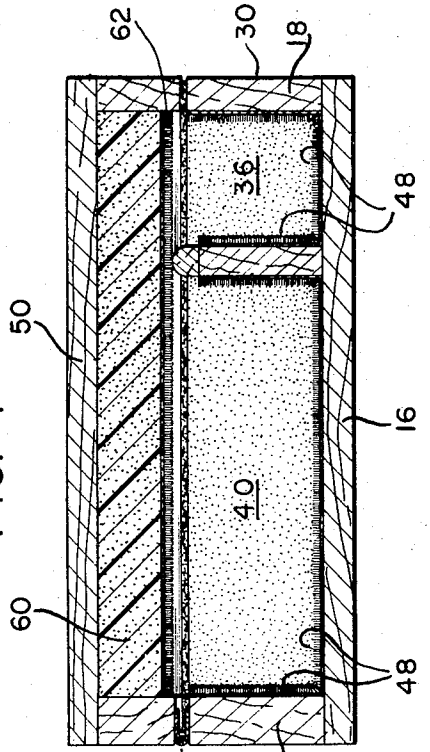



FIG. 4

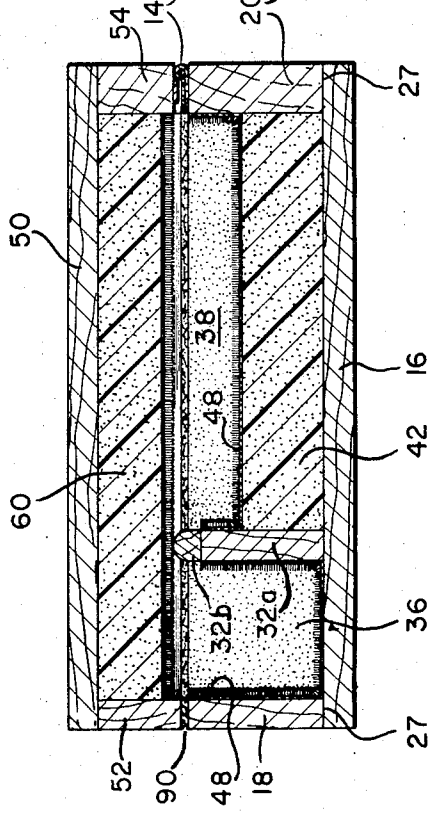



FIG. 3

# GUN CASE

## OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a novel hand case particularly suitable for storing and carrying articles such as guns.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a novel gun case having a compact and durable construction which will compactly contain a gun in a safe and secure manner for storage or transportation so as to preclude damage to any portions or surfaces thereof despite shocks that may be imparted to the case.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a gun case having a novel construction which is very strong and weather resistant and moreover will house a gun in a substantially air-tight manner. Included herein is the provision of such a gun case construction which may be manufactured to contain a highly pleasing aesthetic appearance.

A further object of the present invention is to provide such a gun case wherein the various parts of a gun may be easily inserted and subsequently removed for use and while furthermore having a balanced construction facilitating hand carrying.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A gun case constituting an embodiment of the invention includes an elongated rectangular base and cover each of which includes opposite parallel side and end walls; with the cover being hinged to the base for movement between open and closed positions through an elongated piano hinge. The walls of the base and cover are made from five-ply ⅜ of an inch marine plywood with 1/16th of an inch sheet Formica mounted to the outer surfaces thereof to form the external surface portions of the gun case. The walls of the cover and base are bonded to each other through a suitable glue or adhesive while the corner joints therebetween are further secured through morise and tenon members.

The interior of the base is divided into three compartments, one compartment being elongated and extending between the opposite ends thereof for receiving the barrel of a gun, the second compartment being elongated and extending parallel to the first compartment but being wider and terminating short of one end of the case for receiving the stock of the gun, and the third compartment being situated between the second compartment and said one end of the case to one side of the first compartment for receiving other parts such as a trigger mechanism or shells, etc. The depth of the first and third compartments extends substantially throughout the depth of the base, however, the depth of the second compartment which receives the gun stock is much less, as there is a rectangular foam pad inserted therein. A rectangular foam pad is also secured on the inside of the cover so that when closed, the gun stock case will be snugly engaged by overlying portions of the foam pads to ensure proper positioning of the parts against movement in the case. The internal surfaces of the cover and base are covered by a cloth lining such as an acrylic pile, and a felt strip is attached to the edge of the base to render the interior of the case airtight as well as to soften any shock of closing the cover on the base.

The case is carried and manipulated through a handle made from aluminum plate with finished wood strips mounted opposite sides thereof; the handle being mounted to the front wall of the base. A pair of combination latch and lock mechanisms are provided on the front wall of the base and cover to releasably secure the cover on the base in closed position. Additionally the bottom wall of the base is provided with small projections to enable the case to be placed on a surface but slightly raised therefrom in a horizontal plane.



## DRAWINGS

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following more detailed description taken in conjunction with the attached drawings in which:

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a gun case embodying the invention shown with its cover in open position;

FIG. **1***a* is an enlarged detailed view of a joint formed in the gun case;

FIG. **2** is a rear elevational view of the gun case;

FIG. **3** is a cross sectional view taken generally along lines **3**—**3** of FIG. **2**; and

FIG. **4** is a cross sectional view taken generally along lines **4**—**4** of FIG. **2.**

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring now to the drawings in detail there is shown in FIG. **1** for illustration purposes only, a gun case embodying the present invention and basically including a base generally designated **10,** a cover generally designated **12** attached to the base for pivotal movement between open and closed positions by means of an elongated piano hinge **14** extending substantially throughout the longitudinal dimensions of the base cover. As shown in the drawings, base **10** has an elongated generally rectangular box-like configuration including a rectangular bottom panel wall **16** with opposite and parallel side walls **18** and **20** and end walls **22** perpendicularly upstanding from the base to define a space for receiving articles.

In accordance with one of the features of the present invention the base walls are made from marine plywood preferably five-ply ⅜ of an inch marine plywood. The upstanding walls **18, 20, 22** are secured to the base by means of a suitable adhesive such as Weldwood glue manufactured by U. S. Plywood Corporation. Additionally the corner joints formed between sidewalls **18** and the end walls **22** are formed with mortises and tenons as illustrated in FIG. **1***a*. In the preferred embodiment the innermost ply or layer of the walls are formed with a tenon to be received in an associated mortise in the adjoining wall. Thus in forming the joint between end wall **22** and sidewall **18** of the base shown in FIG. **1**a, the innermost layer **22***a* of end wall **22** is formed with a tenon **24** received in a mortise formed transversely in the innermost layer **18***a* of sidewall **18.** The joints are further secured through the use of an adhesive such as Resinol adhesive made by U. S. Plywood Corporation. In accordance with another feature of the invention, the outer surface of the gun case is formed by a sheet of hard laminate material preferably that marketed under the trademark Formica. Thus each of the walls of the base has bonded to the outer surface thereof sheets of Formica designated **30** in the drawings. The Formica sheets are preferably approximately 1/16th of an inch in thickness and may contain a suitable design such as a wood grain as illustrated in the drawings. Additionally, it is preferred that a wax finish

be applied to the Formica sheets **30** to enhance the appearance as well as to preserve the surface thereof.

The cover **12** also has a generally rectangular shape corresponding to the shape of base **10**, the cover including a flat horizontal rectangular top wall **50** with depending sidewalls **52, 54** and an end wall **56** as shown in the drawings. The walls of cover **12** are formed from the same marine plywood material as the base with the same mortise and tenon joints and Formica covering described above. In the shown embodiment, the depth of the cover sidewall **54** is less than that of the base, however, the over-all outside cross dimensions of the cover are generally the same as the base so that when the cover is in closed position the surfaces of the cover walls lie generally in the same planes as the surfaces of the base walls as shown in the drawings.

As shown in FIG. **1**, base **10** is subdivided by partitions **32, 34** to form three compartments **36, 38, 40.** Partition **32** extends between opposite end walls **22** of base **10** and includes a lower portion **32***a* shown in FIG. **3** which may be also made from the same marine plywood as the walls of the base; and an upper portion **32***b* secured such as through brads to the lower portion **32***a*. Upper portion **32***b* is made from a suitable wood preferably with a stained finish and moreover is smoothly rounded as shown to avoid sharp edges and to enhance its appearance. Partition **32** is spaced from the front wall **18** of the base **10** and parallel thereto to define the elongated compartment **36** for receiving the barrel of a gun.

Partition **34** which has the same construction as partition **32** extends transversely of the base between an intermediate portion of partition **32** and the back wall **20** of the base as shown in FIG. **1** to form a second elongated compartment **38** for receiving the stock of a gun, and third compartment **40** for receiving other parts such as a trigger mechanism, shells, etc. As shown in FIGS. **3** and **4**, the depth of compartments **36, 40** extends from the top of partitions **32, 34** to the bottom wall **16** of base **12.** However, the depth of compartment **38** is much less since a rectangular pad preferably made from a polyurethane foam illustrated as **42** in the drawings is suitably attached to the bottom portion of subcompartment **38** in accordance with another feature of the invention. The interior surfaces of base **10** are covered by a lining preferably an acrylic pile **48** which extends over all of the interior surfaces of the base with the exception of the upper rounded wooden portions of partitions **32, 34.**

A similar foam pad **60** is secured on the inside of cover **12** where it extends completely throughout the space defined by cover walls **50, 52, 54, 56.** Foam pad **60** also extends substantially throughout the depth of cover end walls **52, 54, 56** as shown in FIGS. **3** and **4.** In this manner when the gun stock is placed in compartment **38** and the cover **12** closed, foam pads **42, 60** will tightly engage the opposite portions of the stock to secure the same in position against movement. Additionally as in the base, the interior of the surface of cover **12** is lined with an acrylic pile **62** which extends and completely covers pad **60.**

In order to releasably secure the cover to the base in enclosed position, combination latch and lock mechanisms **70, 72** are provided on the front walls **18, 52** of the base cover, respectively, as shown in FIG. **1.** Latch and lock mechanisms **70, 72** may be standard commercial mechanisms preferably including combination locks and themselves form no part of the present invention.

The gun case is hand carried through means of a handle including a generally U-shaped plate **80** preferably made from aluminum having its opposite ends pivotally mounted in lugs **82** also formed from aluminum and secured to the front wall **18** of the base. Additionally, finished wood strips **84** are bonded to the opposite sides of handle plate **80** as shown in FIG. **1.**

In order to render the interior of the gun case airtight when cover **12** is in closed position, a seal is provided about the upper edge of the side and end walls of the base. In the preferred embodiment, the seal is provided by felt strips **90** which are ⅛ of an inch in thickness and secured such as by bonding to the upper edge surfaces of the side and end walls of base **10.** Additionally, in order to allow the gun case to be placed on a surface but slightly raised therefrom in a horizontal position, four wooden feet **92** shown as cylindrical in shape are secured.

In one commercial form of the gun case of the present invention, the barrel compartment **36** is approximately 29 inches in length, 2 inches in width, and 2 inches in depth while the stock compartment **38** is approximately 21 inches in length, 5½ inches in width and ¾ of an inch in depth. Compartment **40** in this embodiment, is approximately eight inches in length and 5½ inches in width with a depth of approximately two inches.

What is claimed is:

**1.** As a product of manufacture, a hand case for carrying articles such as guns, the case comprising: a base having upstanding opposite side walls and end walls defining a compartment for receiving a gun said base including a flat bottom wall having a plurality of projections extending externally thereof for positioning the case spaced from a surface in a horizontal plane, a cover for closing the compartment, said base, walls and cover defining a generally rectangular configuration, hinge means hinging the cover to the base for movement between open and closed positions opening and closing the compartment, the base, cover and side and end walls all being made from five ply marine plywood with a sheet of hard laminate Formica material bonded to the outer surfaces thereof to form the outer surfaces of the case, said side and end walls having mortise and tenon joints on the innermost ply of the plywood walls interconnecting the same at each of the corners thereof, partition means in the compartment defining a first elongated sub-compartment extending between the opposite end walls for receiving a barrel of a gun, a second sub-compartment extending parallel to the first compartment for receiving the stock of a gun, said second compartment having in the bottom thereof a resilient and flexible foam pad extending substantially throughout, and a third subcompartment between one end of said second sub-compartment and the end of said case and to one side of said first sub-compartment, said cover having a foam pad secured throughout the underside thereof to overlie the foam pad in said second compartment, a layer of acrylic pile material overlying the internal portions of said compartment and cover including said partition means and said foam pads, an aluminum plate handle with finished wood strips attached to the opposite sides of said plate on one of said side wall opposite the side wall containing the hinge means, a strip of felt material attached to the upper edges of said one side wall and the opposite end walls to establish a seal with the cover when the latter is closed, and latch means on said one side wall which contains the handle for releasably securing said cover to said base.

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