

No. 658,498.

Patented Sept. 25, 1900.

W. F. COSTON.
COMPARTMENT BOX.

(Application filed May 23, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

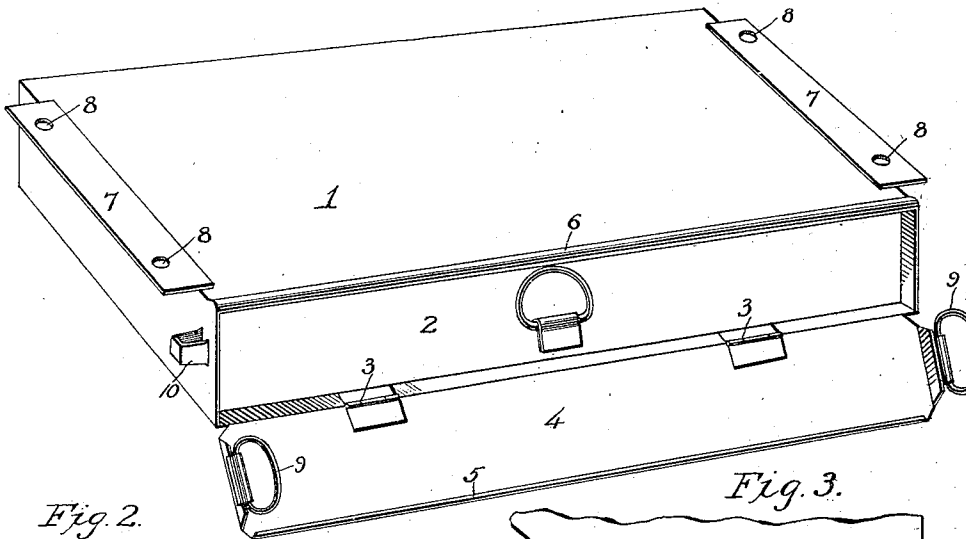


Fig. 2.

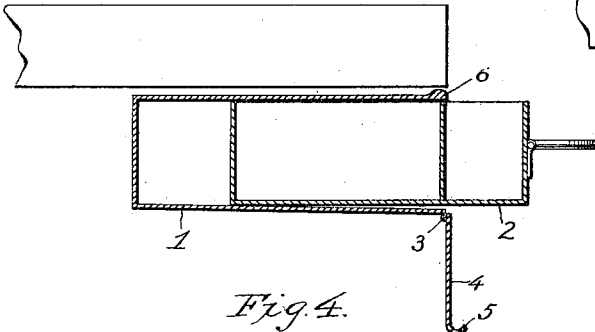


Fig. 3.

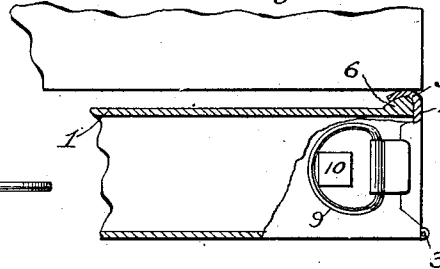
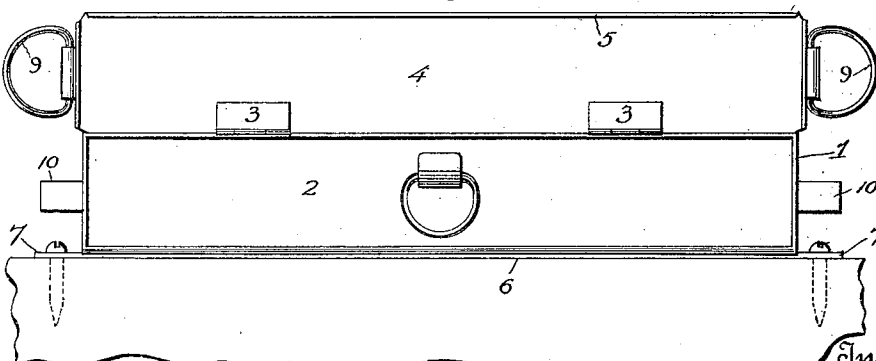


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMPARTMENT-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 658,498, dated September 25, 1900.

Application filed May 23, 1900. Serial No. 17,659. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM FRANKLIN COSTON, of New York, county of New York, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Compartment-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to a compartment-box designed more particularly for the storage of signals on life boats or rafts, &c.; and it comprises a casing of peculiar form adapted to be firmly fastened in position and containing a sliding tray in which the signals or other objects may be placed.

The invention consists also in the details of construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved box. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section through the box and the seat of a boat to which the box is attached. Fig. 3 is a sectional view, on an enlarged scale, through the forward portion of the box and the seat of the boat. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional elevation showing the box reversed in the position it occupies when attached to the raft.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a metallic casing of general rectangular form open at its front, and 2 represents a sliding tray mounted in the casing and adapted to receive the signals or other objects to be carried. The opening in the casing is widest from top to bottom at its front, so that the tray will slide easily therein and be prevented from jamming by the weight of the contents. At its front the casing has hinged to its front edge, as at 3, a door 4, adapted to be swung across the opening in the casing and close the same, and the edge of the door is formed with a bent lip 5, which when the door is closed embraces a bead 6 on the edge of the casing, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. At opposite ends on one side the casing is formed projecting tongues 7, provided with holes 8 to receive fastening devices by which the casing is firmly secured in place on the boat or raft.

In Fig. 2 the casing is shown as applied to the under side of a seat in a boat, and the

bead 6 serves when the casing is secured, as shown, to prevent any water which may run down along the front edge of the seat from finding its way into the interior of the casing. In such cases the water flows beneath the seat into the space between the casing and the under side of the seat, and the raised bead prevents it from flowing again forward, but directs it sidewise to the ends of the casing, where it escapes.

In Fig. 4 the casing is shown as being secured in a reversed position—on the top of a raft, for instance—and the same means—namely, the tongues 7—are used here to firmly secure it in place. In order, however, that the tray may present its open side uppermost, I so form it that it may be reversed side for side in the casing, and when the latter is reversed in position, as shown, the tray is also reversed within the casing.

Any suitable means may be employed for holding the door closed; but I prefer to apply to each end of the door rings 9, adapted when the door is closed to engage over lugs 10 on the ends of the casing.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that my box is of extreme simplicity and affords a practically-tight compartment in which the signals may be stored.

The device is of such form that it may be quickly applied in reverse positions according to the emergencies of the case, and in any position the tray is easy of access and may be conveniently and quickly withdrawn to permit access to its contents.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a compartment-box the combination with a rectangular casing open at its front and provided at its top edge with a bead, of tongues attached to said casing and projecting beyond the ends of the same flush or substantially so with its side and serving as a means for securing the casing in place in reverse positions, a sliding tray mounted in said casing and reversible therein side for side, a door adapted to close the front of the casing and a lip on the edge of the door adapted to engage over the bead.

2. The combination with a seat, of a cas-

ing secured to the underside of the same and
open at its forward end and provided at its
top edge with a bead extending at the under
side of the seat, a tray mounted in said cas-
5 ing, a door adapted to close the front of the
casing, and a lip on the door arranged to en-
gage over the bead when the door is closed.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my
hand, this 10th day of May, 1900, in the pres-
ence of two attesting witnesses.

WM. FRANKLIN COSTON.

Witnesses:

HARRY H. HOLLANDER,
F. S. ELMORE.