

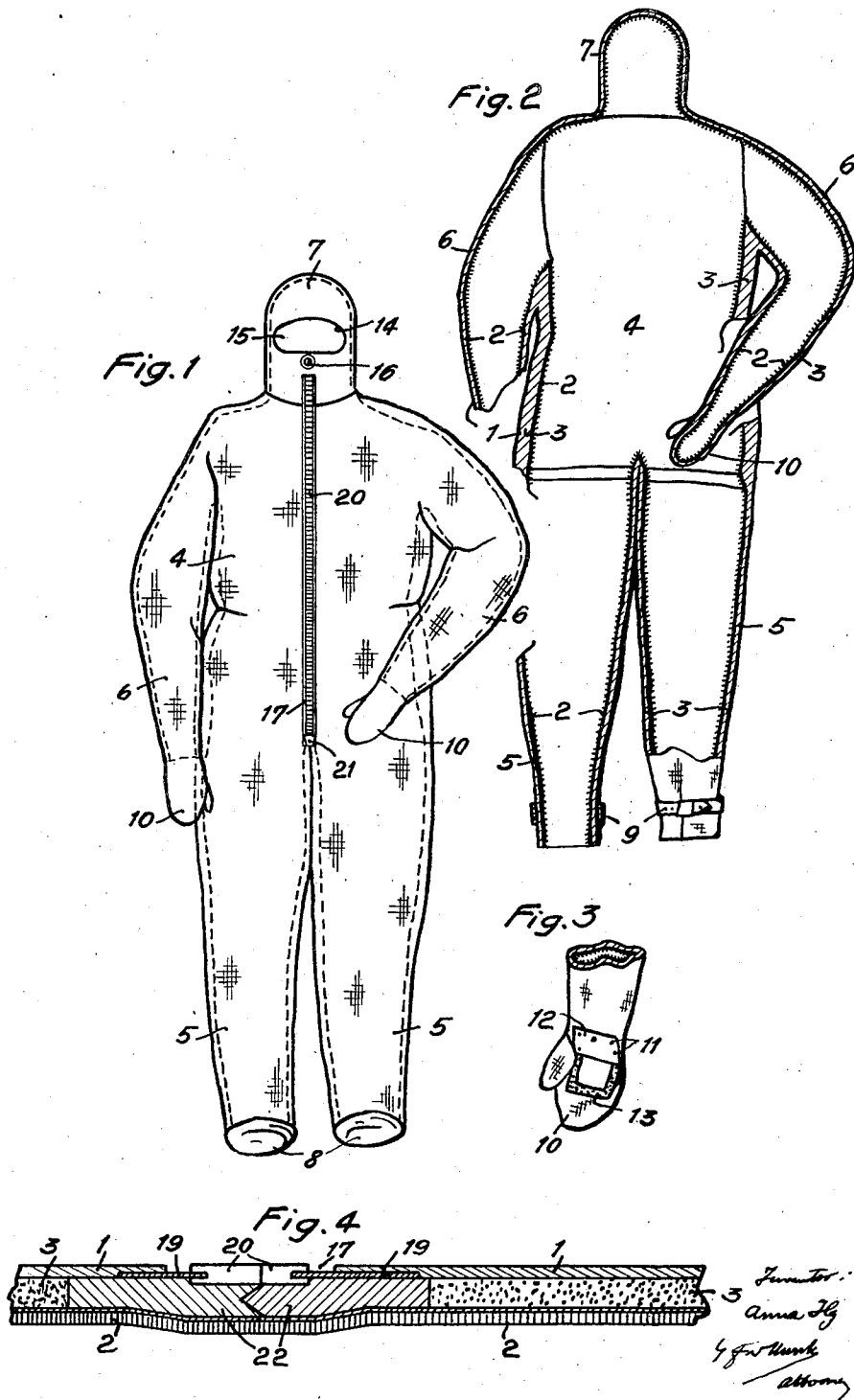
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LIFE SAVING SUIT, SPECIALLY FOR AIRMEN, MARINERS, AND THE LIKE

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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LIFE-SAVING SUIT, SPECIALLY FOR AIRMEN, MARINERS, AND THE LIKE

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This invention relates to a life-saving suit for airmen and mariners by means of which persons are able to keep floating for a very long time, access of water being prevented and the body being kept warm.

According to the invention the whole suit is made in one piece of water-proof material lined with floatable material such as cork. In the upper portion of the suit a vertical slot is arranged adapted to be watertightly closed.

An embodiment of the invention is illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which:—

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of the life-saving suit.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section of Fig. 2 partly in elevation.

Fig. 3 shows the glove portion open.

Fig. 4 shows on larger scale the fastening device in section.

The suit 1 is made of water-proof impregnated material having a lining 2 of fur or wool. Between the fabric of the suit and the lining a lining 3 is inserted consisting of floatable material such as cork, this intermediate lining 3 being thicker in the portion of the suit designed to cover the upper part of the body than in the trousers 5, sleeves 6 and head cover 7. The parts 4, 5, 6 and 7 are made in one piece. The cork is ground for instance to lumps of the size of a pebble-stone so that the intermediate lining can be easily bent and the suit is flexible. The intermediate lining might also be composed of superposed thin layers.

The trousers legs 5 form each, as shown in Fig. 1, a shoe 8 at the lower end, or, as shown in Fig. 2, each trousers leg may be tightly tied near the lower end by means of a strap 9 to watertightly close the suit at the lower end. The sleeves 6 end each in a glove 10. In the palm of each glove 10 a flap 12 is provided, adapted to be buttoned and pressed strongly against a frame 13 of cork. When the flap 12 has been unbuttoned, the fingers can be slipped through the opening, if this should be necessary to carry out certain work.

The head cover 7 has the shape of a helmet, and a transverse opening 14 is provided at

the height of the eyes, said opening being closed by a plate 15 of transparent material such as celluloid.

In the head cover 7 an air valve 16 is arranged, which is not shown as it may be of any known type comprising for instance a valve body adapted to close automatically as soon as water pressure acts upon it from the outer side. The body part of the suit has in the front side a vertical slot 17 extending from the head cover to the waist so that the suit can be easily put on and taken off. On each edge of the slot 17 a strip 19 of fabric is provided, each strip carrying one half of a fastener, the two parts adapted to be engaged the one with the other or disengaged by means of a slide 21, so that the suit can be easily closed and opened. Packing strips 22 are arranged under the strips 19, the sides of said packing strips facing one another being constructed so that they are adapted to engage the one with the other to pack watertightly in outward direction when the fastening device 20 is closed.

The cork lining does possess sufficient buoyancy to keep a person in the water in upright position for a very long time and it further helps, together with the fur lining, to keep the body warm. The life saving suit is very useful not only for airmen and mariners but also for steamer passengers.

I claim:—

A life-saving suit for shipwrecked persons made of one piece of waterproof material with cork lining having an aperture for putting on extending from the chest portion over the neck to the head portion, and comprising gloves forming the ends of the sleeves and having each an opening in the palm, a frame of packing material such as cork on the edges of said opening, and a flap adapted to be buttoned on the glove to watertightly close said opening.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ANNA ILG.