Aug. 16, 1960 R. E. SALVERDA 2,948,978

TRIGGER GUARD WITH TRIGGER PROTECTOR

Filed Sept. 4, 1958

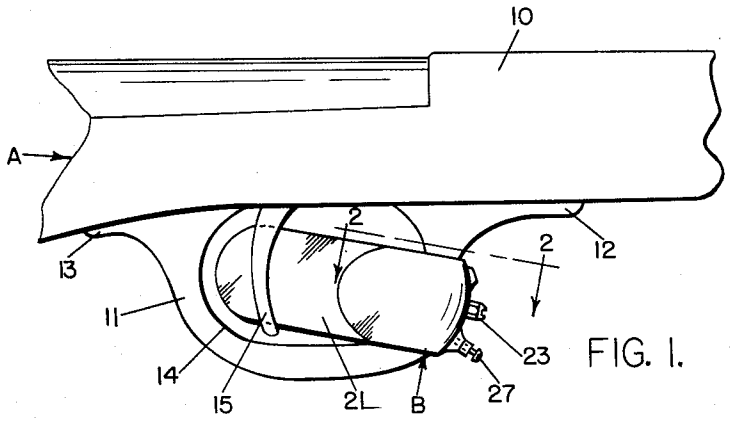


FIG. 1.

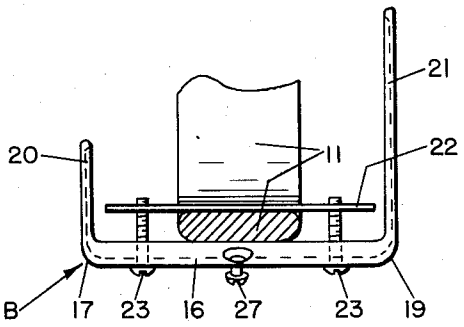


FIG. 2.

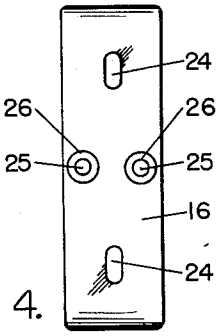


FIG. 4.

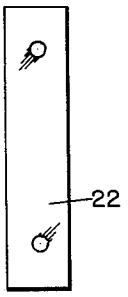


FIG. 5.

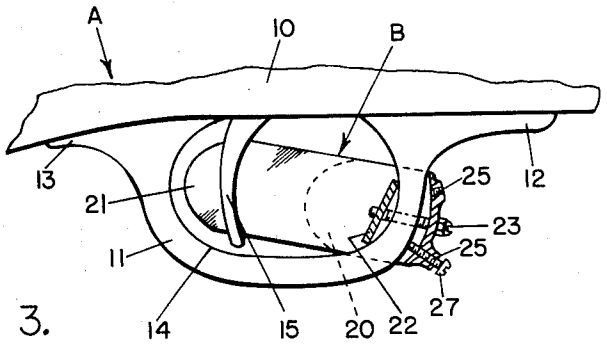


FIG. 3.

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TRIGGER GUARD WITH TRIGGER PROTECTOR

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3 Claims. (Cl. 42—1)

This invention relates to an improvement in trigger guards and deals particularly with an attachment to the trigger guard of a gun to prevent the accidental discharge of the gun.

Many accidents are caused each year by the accidental discharge of a gun when the trigger of the gun is engaged by some object during the handling of the gun. For example, many guns have been fired accidentally by a twig or tree branch as the gun is carried through the woods. It is an object of the present invention to minimize the danger of accidents of that type.

A feature of the present invention resides in the provision of a trigger protector which is designed to fit upon the trigger guard of a gun to prevent the gun from being accidentally discharged. The trigger protector includes a cross member which is secured at substantially right angles to the forward side of the trigger guard and is provided with rearwardly extending guard portions extending in parallel relation from opposite ends thereof. One of these guard members preferably extends substantially the full length of the trigger guard so as to make operation of the trigger from this side of the guard virtually impossible. The part of the protector extending rearwardly from the other end of the cross member is somewhat shorter to permit the finger to engage the trigger for the operation of the gun. Thus, while the trigger may be engaged by the finger, the trigger is protected against being struck by various objects moving rearwardly relative to the trigger guard and which therefore might otherwise engage the trigger.

A further feature of the present invention lies in the provision of a protector for a gun trigger guard which is adjustable in position to fit guns of various types and trigger guards of various shapes and which is also invertible so that the gun may be used either by a left handed person or a right handed person. Thus a single protector is capable of fitting virtually any gun, avoiding the necessity of providing individual shapes for individual makes of guns.

These and other objects and novel features of the present invention will be more clearly and fully set forth in the following specification and claims.

In the drawings forming a part of the specification:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a portion of a gun illustrating the trigger protector in position thereupon.

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view through the trigger guard showing the position of the protector thereupon.

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of a portion of a gun, showing the trigger protector in section to illustrate the construction thereof.

Figure 4 is an end view of the protector removed from the gun.

Figure 5 is a view of the clamping plate used in conjunction with the trigger guard.

Figures 1 and 3 of the drawings illustrate a small part of a gun A of conventional form, these views showing a part of the gun stock **10** to which the trigger guard **11** is secured. The trigger guard comprises merely a loop

shaped structure having a forward end **12** and a rear end **13** which underlie the gun stock **10** and are secured thereto. A generally oval shaped aperture **14** is defined by the loop shaped guard **11**. The trigger **15** of the gun A extends downwardly into this oval shaped aperture **14** and is protected by the trigger guard **11**.

While the trigger guard **11** is designed to protect the trigger **15** from accidental engagement, guns are often discharged by outside objects which brush against the side of the trigger guard and project into the guard sufficiently to engage the trigger and actuate the same. For example, guns are often accidentally discharged by branches of bushes or trees which brush against the side of the gun and swing into the trigger guard aperture **14** with sufficient force to actuate the trigger **15**. It is accidents of this type which the trigger protector, which I illustrate in general by the letter B, is designed to prevent.

The protector B includes a cross member **16** which is bent at opposite ends as indicated at **17** and **19** to provide generally parallel rearwardly projecting arms **20** and **21**. The arm **20** is relatively short as compared with the arm **21** and exposes enough of the guard aperture **14** to enable the trigger **15** to be engaged by the finger. The arm B is of sufficient length to extend past the normal position of the trigger **15** and accordingly to effectively block one side of the trigger aperture **14** so that any object brushing against the side of the gun could not readily enter the trigger guard aperture.

While the trigger protectors may be made of flat material, preferably they are curved to some extent to enhance the appearance of the protectors and also to increase the strength thereof. As indicated in the drawings, the outer surfaces of the cross member **16** as well as the arms **20** and **21** are convex in form and the inner surfaces are concave. This shape of cross member also helps to adapt the cross member to the forward surface of the trigger guard which is normally also convex in elevation.

A clamping plate **22** is designed to extend parallel to the cross member **16** and in spaced relation thereto. This clamping plate **22** is of a length which is greater than the width of the trigger guard **11** and is designed to extend on the opposite side of the trigger guard loop from the cross member **16**, the clamping plate extending through the trigger aperture **14**. Clamping bolts **23** extend through the cross member **16** and are threaded into the clamping plate so that the two parts may be drawn together. Obviously, nuts may be used in place of threading the clamping plate. Transversely elongated slots **24** are provided in the cross member **16** to accommodate the clamping screws **23** to permit some lateral adjustment of the clamping screws or bolts relative to the guard protector.

Converging apertures **25** are arranged in vertically spaced relation through the center of the cross member **16**. In preferred form, the outer surface of the cross member **16** is provided with vertically spaced bosses **26** through which the internally threaded apertures **25** extend, the apertures being generally normal to the portion of the convex surface of the cross member through which they extend. A set screw such as **27** may be inserted through one or both of these apertures, the set screw **27** usually extending through one aperture near one edge of the cross member while the other edge of the cross member **16** engages the outer surface of the trigger guard. The bolts **27** engage against the trigger guard as is best illustrated in Figure 3 of the drawings for the purpose of adjusting the angularity of the protector B relative to the trigger guard. Not only do the two apertures **25** permit adjustment of either edge of the guard, but permit the guard to be inverted and properly adjusted for either a right handed person or a left handed person. Obviously, the trigger protector may be entirely removed when not in use.

In accordance with the patent statutes, I have described the principles of construction and operation of my improvement in trigger guards, and while I have endeavored to set forth the best embodiment thereof, I desire to have it understood that changes may be made within the scope of the following claims without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

1. A trigger protector for use in conjunction with a trigger guard of loop shaped form, the protector including a body having a cross member designed to extend transversely of the trigger guard at the forward end thereof and arms at opposite ends of said cross member designed to extend rearwardly on opposite sides of said trigger guard, an elongated clamping plate extending through the trigger guard and of lesser length than the distance between said arms for securing said cross member to the forward end of the trigger guard, a clamping bolt on each side of said guard engaging both said cross member and said plate for retaining said plate in a substantially parallel relationship with said cross member while drawing said plate toward said cross member for the purpose of securing same, and one of said arms being relatively long to prevent insertion of a finger into the trigger guard from one side thereof, and the other of said arms being relatively shorter to permit insertion of a finger into the trigger arm to engage the trigger therein.

2. The construction described in claim 1 and including a set screw extending through the center of the cross member near one edge thereof engageable against the trigger guard to adjust the angle of the protector relative to the trigger guard.

3. The construction described in claim 1 and in which the cross member includes a pair of internally threaded apertures centrally of the cross member and near opposite edges thereof, the axes of said threaded apertures converging in the direction of said clamping plate, and including a set screw in one of said apertures engageable against the trigger guard to adjust the angular relation of said protector relative to said trigger guard.

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