

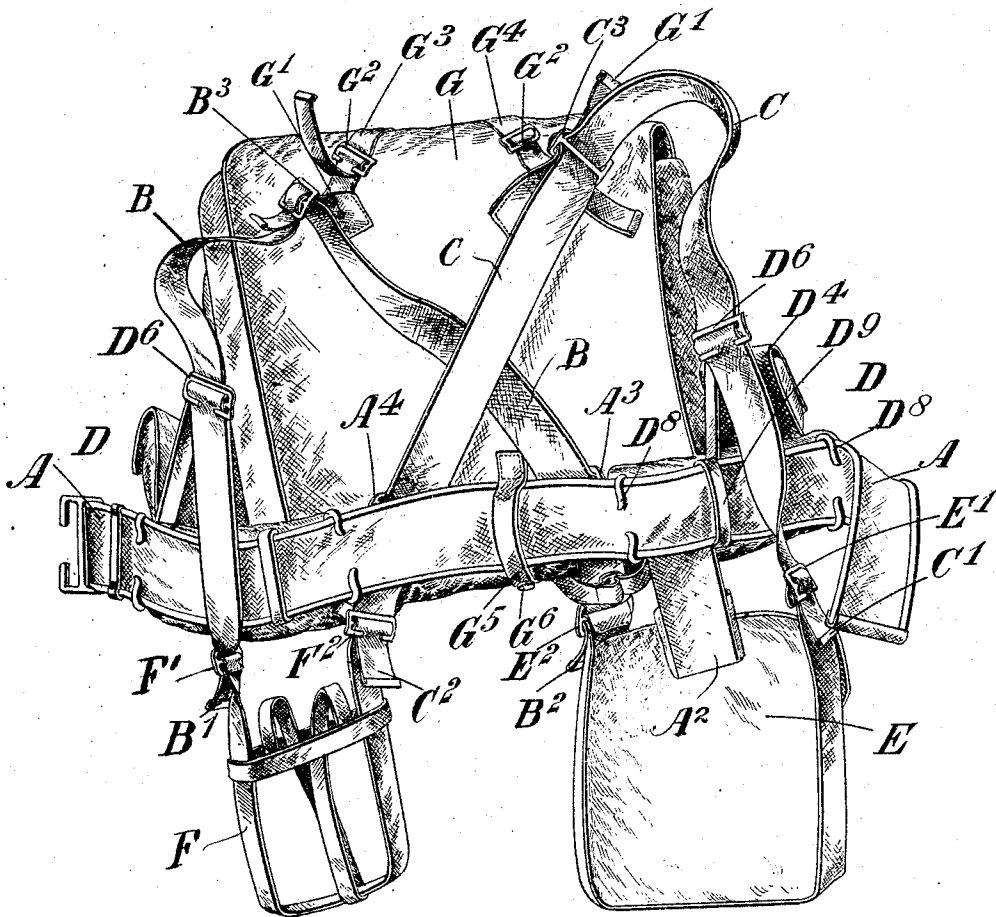
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PATENTED DEC. 31, 1907.

A. J. DAVEY.
MILITARY EQUIPMENT.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1907.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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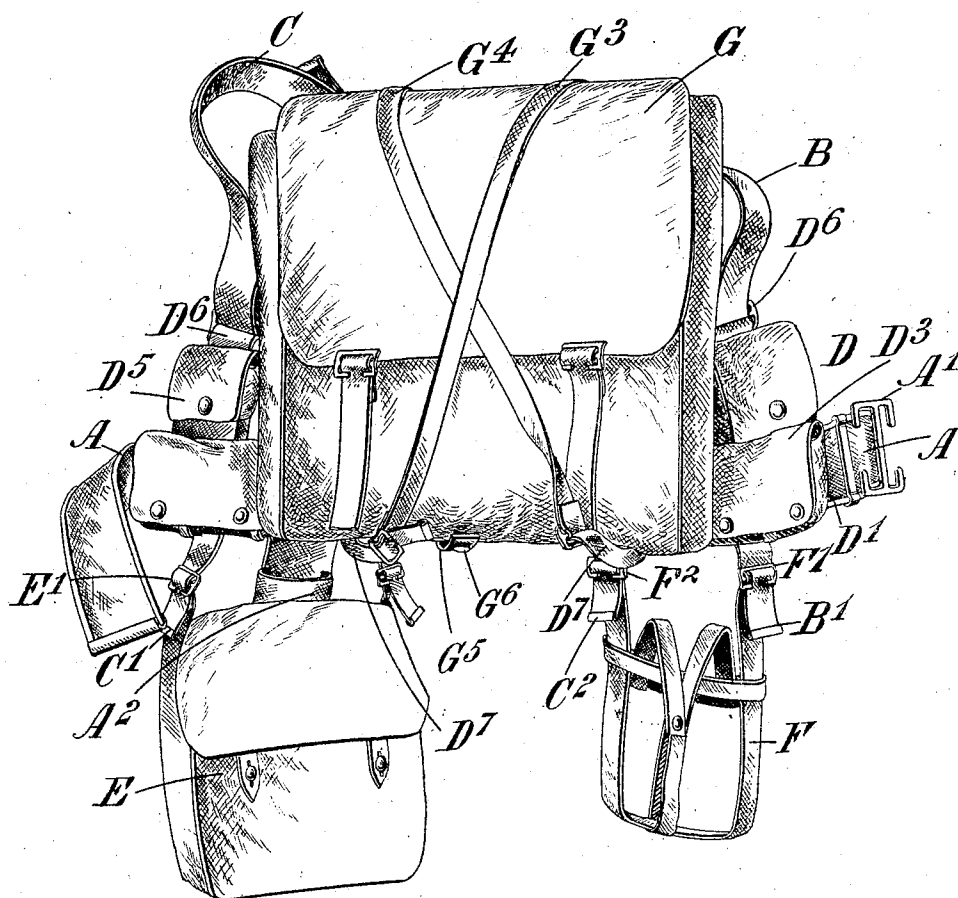
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.



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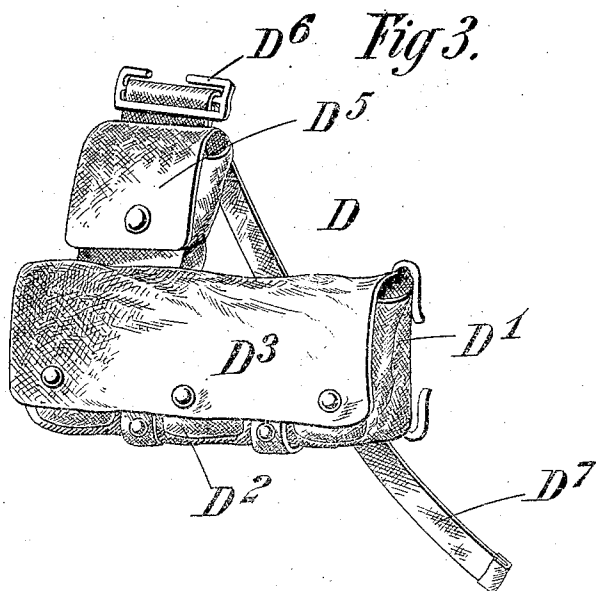
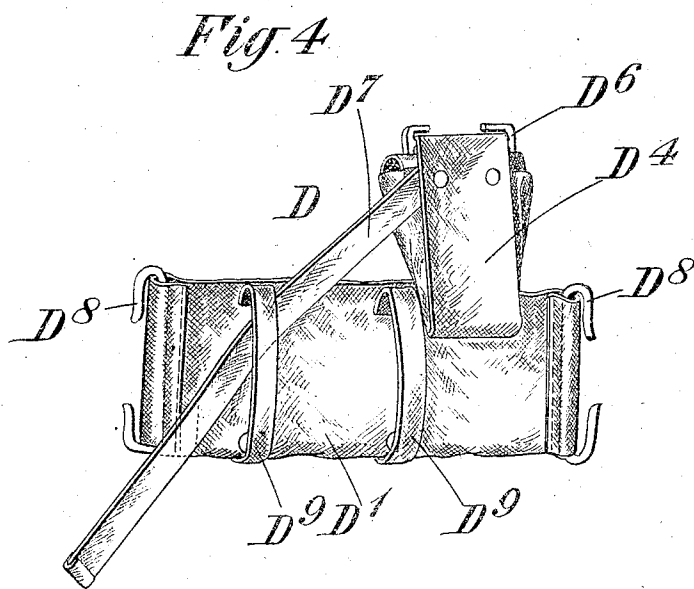
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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

No. 874,945.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 31, 1907.

Application filed January 28, 1907. Serial No. 354,582.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR JEX DAVEY, a subject of the King of England, residing at Westminster, London, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Military Equipments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to military equipments and the like and has for its object to construct an equipment which may be adjusted into different forms and will be comfortable to the wearer.

The present invention relates to that type of military equipment which comprises a belt and cartridge carriers, braces or shoulder straps for the belt and attachments for the water bottle, haversack and knap sack, entrenching tool or other articles.

According to this invention a belt is provided with cartridge carriers which can be adjusted in position on the belt and detached therefrom when desired, these carriers being in the form of a set of pockets adapted preferably to contain cartridges in clips and having flap covers. Sling members which constitute the braces are connected to the belt behind and to an upward extension of the cartridge carriers in front and thus through them to the front portions of the belt. The ends of these sling members extend below the belt and are adapted to form attachments for the haversack and water bottle. The sling members are crossed over the back but free of each other and the arrangement is such that one end of one sling member is attached to the back part of the haversack say on the left side and after crossing the right shoulder is attached to the front side of the water bottle while the rear end of the other sling member is attached to the hinder side of the water bottle on the right and after crossing the left shoulder is connected to the front edge of the haversack on the left. These sling members thus also constitute braces and by reason of their cross connection to the weights to be carried enable the equipment to adjust itself on the body of the wearer and balance these weights in a convenient and comfortable manner. The knapsack is attached to the shoulder portions of the sling members by tabs or short straps secured to the knapsack and engaging with buckles on the sling members. A steadying strap is conveniently provided near the lower edge of the knapsack and encircles the belt.

Further in order to securely hold the knapsack in place and provide a balancing connection between the weights two straps running from the top of the knapsack cross over the back and are connected to the back lower edges of the cartridge carriers. These straps may however be dispensed with if desired.

The various portions of the equipment are conveniently made in woven fabric though other materials may be employed for the whole or parts of it if found desirable. The buckles employed are preferably of a known type somewhat resembling slides and without tongues so that no perforation of the straps is necessary.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of the complete equipment with the belt open and viewed from the inside showing the surfaces which rest on the body of the wearer. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the equipment from the rear with the belt open and the exterior aspect of the several parts displayed. Fig. 3 is a view of the outer side of one of the cartridge carriers. Fig. 4 is a view of the inner face of one of these carriers.

The belt A carries at one end a buckle A' of the type shown having fingers which engage the edges of the belt and thus avoid perforating the latter as would be necessary with a tongue. The bayonet frog A² is conveniently permanently attached to the belt by sewing. At suitable points on the back portion of the belt and at its upper edge are attached two buckles A³, A⁴ with which engage respectively straps B C which constitute sling members and also serve as braces. These sling members B C cross each other at the back but are free of each other being respectively connected to other parts of the equipment as hereinafter described.

Two cartridge carriers D are provided respectively for the right and left side of the belt. These cartridge carriers conveniently comprise a backing D' with two or more conveniently three pockets D² woven along the face and adapted to contain cartridges in clips; a flap D³ to cover over all the pockets being provided and fastened down by suitable means. An upward extension D¹ of the backing carries one or more similar pockets D² also provided with a flap. A buckle D⁴ is permanently connected to the upper end of the extension piece D¹ and a narrow strap D⁵ runs diagonally from the upper part of

this extension D⁴ to the lower rearmost corner of the backing D', to which it is attached by sewing or the like the free end of this strap being used in the manner to be hereinafter described. At either end of the backing piece D' are mounted C shaped members D⁸ the fingers of which are adapted to engage the edges of the belt and take a hold thereon as a means of attachment. As an additional means of connecting the cartridge carriers to the belt, straps D⁹ are attached to the upper edges of the backing D' and after encircling the belt have their ends connected again to the front side of the backing D' between the pockets by spring clips or in some other convenient way.

The carriers are mounted on the belt so as to lie on either side of the wearer in the way shown in the drawings the arrangement being such that this carrier can readily be detached from the belt and adjusted thereon as desired.

Turning now again to the sling members B C the forward ends of these crossing the shoulder are attached to the buckles D⁶ of the cartridge carriers and thus through them to the front portions of the belt. The strap C thus starting from the buckle A⁴ on the right hand side of the back of the belt crosses over the left shoulder and passes down to the buckle D⁶ on the cartridge carrier on the left side. The strap B starting from the buckle A³ on the left side of the back portion of the belt crosses the right shoulder and engages with the buckle D⁶ of the right cartridge carrier. The front end C' of the strap C extends down below and within the belt and is connected to a buckle E' carried at one upper edge of the haversack E. To a buckle E² carried on the back upper edge of the haversack E is connected the rear end B² of the strap B. This haversack is conveniently arranged on the left side of the wearer. Similarly on the right side of the wearer the front end B' of the strap B is connected to a buckle F' attached to the front upper side of a water bottle holder strap F. This is provided with a buckle F² at its rear upper edge with which engages the back end C² of the strap C.

The knapsack G has two short straps G' on its upper side which serves to connect the knapsack to the straps B and C buckles B³ C³ being provided for this purpose and situated at a point in the straps B C such that they will lie approximately on the shoulders of the wearer. These buckles can be slid into the desired positions on the straps B and C to fit the wearer of the equipment. The knapsack is also provided on its upper side with two buckles G² with which engage the ends of two straps G³ G⁴ which are led over the back of the knapsack across each other and each terminate in buckles which serve to connect the free ends of the straps D' which extend from the rear portions of the cartridge carriers D.

Thus the strap G³ passing from the upper right side of the knapsack crosses over to the left lower side and is connected to the strap D' of the left hand cartridge carrier while the strap G⁴ crosses from the left hand upper side of the knapsack over to the right hand lower side and is there connected to the strap D' of the right hand cartridge carrier. To give additional steadiness to the knapsack a short strap G⁵ is attached to its back just above the part that should lie above the waist belt. This strap G⁵ encircles the waist belt and is attached by a clip fastening G⁶ or in some other convenient way to the underside of the knapsack.

It will be seen from the above description that in the first place the cross connected sling straps B and C enable the whole equipment to adjust itself on the wearer and the parts to balance each other in such a way as to give more comfort. Further the attachment for the knapsack is on the one hand exceedingly simple being mainly by the short straps G' to the shoulder buckles B³ C³ of the sling members B C. Further by providing the knapsack with the crossing straps G³ G⁴ and connecting these to the cartridge carriers a balancing effect between these cartridge carriers and the knapsack is obtained when combined with the cross connected sling members so that there is a freedom of movement between the various parts of the equipment which naturally allows freedom of movement to the wearer and enables the weights carried to adjust themselves to varying circumstances.

The equipment is so constructed that in addition to all the several parts being easily detachable from the rest different combinations can be made to meet varying requirements. Thus starting from the equipment as a whole with the knapsack attached as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the accompanying drawings first the knapsack may be removed leading the belt with the cartridge carriers and the slings serving as braces for the belt and supports for the haversack and water bottle. Then if desired the haversack and water bottle may be detached from the sling members B C which then serve as braces or shoulder supports for the cartridge carriers on the belt, these cartridge carriers being if necessary supplemented by other cartridge carriers of similar type attached to the belt in some convenient way. Further the sling members and cartridge carriers may be removed from the belt leaving the latter so that it may be worn with or without the bayonet for undress purposes. Yet again the sling members B and C can be used with the haversack and water bottle without the belt, other cartridge carriers in bandoleer or like form if necessary being provided for use under such circumstances.

Additional cartridge carriers may of course

be used with the equipment as a whole if necessary these carriers being either in bandoleer form or in the form of detachable pockets mounted on the belt.

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

1. In a military equipment, the combination of a belt, cartridge carriers detachably connected to the belt, sling members, a
10 haversack and a support for a water bottle or other articles to which the ends of the sling members are respectively cross connected, and means for connecting the sling members to the belt at the back and to the
15 cartridge carriers in the front as set forth.

2. In a military equipment, the combination of a belt, cartridge carriers detachably connected to the belt, sling members, a
20 haversack and a support for a water bottle or other articles to which the ends of the sling members are respectively cross connected, means for connecting the sling members to the belt at the back and to the cartridge carriers in the front, a knapsack and means for
25 attaching it to the sling members as set forth.

3. In a military equipment, the combination of a belt, cartridge carriers detachably connected to the belt, sling members, a
30 haversack and a support for a water bottle or other articles to which the ends of the sling members are respectively cross connected, means for connecting the sling members to the belt at the back and to the cartridge carriers in the front, a knapsack, means
35 for attaching it to the sling members, and steadying straps crossing the knapsack and connected at their upper ends to the knap-

sack and at their lower ends to the rear lower edges of the cartridge carriers as set forth. 40

4. In a military equipment, the combination of a belt, cartridge carriers connected with the belt, independent sling members connected with the belt at the back and with
45 said cartridge carriers at the front, the connections between said sling members and the belt and cartridge carriers being at points in the length of the sling members distant from the ends thereof, and the ends of the sling
50 members extending below the belt towards the front and back of the sides of the wearer, substantially as and for the purpose described.

5. In a military equipment, the combination of a belt, cartridge carriers connected
55 with the belt, sling members crossing each other freely at the back and detachably connected with the belt at the back and connected with the cartridge carriers at the front, the points of connection between said
60 sling members and the belt and cartridge carriers being at points distant from the ends of the sling members and both ends of each sling member extending below the belt, whereby each sling member is adapted to be
65 directly connected with two articles arranged substantially opposite each other with relation to the belt.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of
70 two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR JEX DAVEY.

Witnesses:

MAURICE STRODE,
ALBERT A. LETHERN.