Oct. 19, 1948. E. G. COOPER 2,451,473

CHEEK PAD FOR FIREARMS

Filed Sept. 3, 1946

Fig. 1.

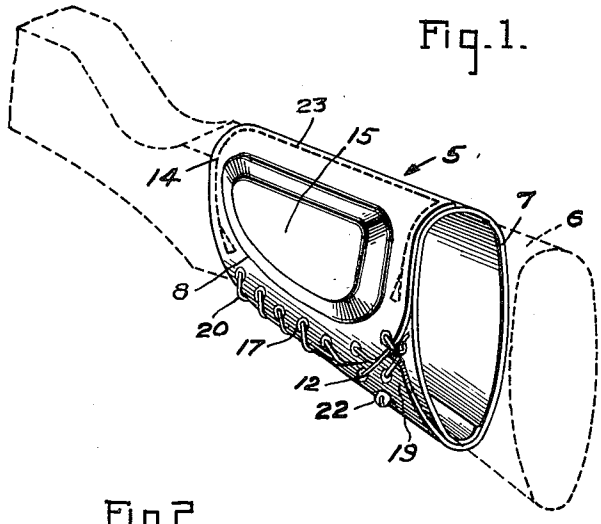


Fig. 2.

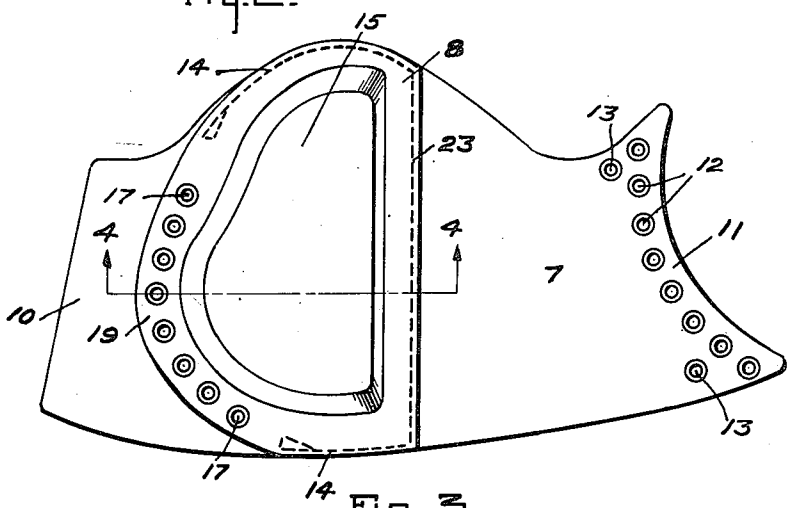
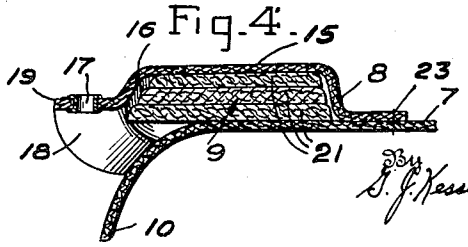


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



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Patented Oct. 19, 1948 2,451,473

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,451,473

CHEEK PAD FOR FIREARMS

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Application September 3, 1946, Serial No. 694,441

3 Claims. (Cl. 42—74)

(Granted under the act of March 3, 1883, as amended April 30, 1928; 370 O. G. 757)

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The invention described in the following specification and claims may be manufactured and used by or for the Government for governmental purposes without payment to me of any royalty thereon.

My invention relates to a new and improved cheek pad for attachment to the stock of a firearm, particularly a cheek pad to be secured on the stock of U. S. rifle, cal. .30 M1, for use by snipers.

I am, of course, aware that it is not new to attach a shock-absorbing pad to the stock of a firearm. I am not aware, however, of a pad of this character which has a base portion to encircle the gun stock and is securable thereon against movement in any direction, and which is provided with a pocket at one side to receive an adjustable laminated cushion, the said pocket being laced directly to the base to permit access to the cushion independently of the anchoring of the base to the firearm.

Heretofore, a cheek pad for firearms comprised a boot-like member fitting over the end of the stock, or a sleeve to encircle the stock wherein the respective ends of the sleeve were laced to each other, with wing-like projections extending rearwardly therefrom to be laced across the butt plate or inserted under it. Carrying the ends of the pad around the butt plate, or inserting them thereunder, made the rifle awkward to hold and threw it off balance; if they were not carried around the butt plate, the pad had a tendency to slip out of place, failing in its purpose and frequently injuring the person using the rifle. Where envelopes were provided on the cheek pad to receive cushioning pads, the envelope remained open to allow insertion or removal of the cushion, or the cushion was removable only from the inside after the entire pad had been removed from the gun stock.

A principal object of my invention is to provide a cheek pad for firearms which will be fixed upon the stock of a firearm without interfering with the butt plate, and which will have a fixed cheek rest carried by the base of the pad.

An important object of my invention is to provide a cheek pad for firearms which will have a base portion anchored to the gun independently of the pocket containing the cushion, and means both closing the pocket and securing the pad snugly to the butt so that the cushion may be inserted or removed without entirely removing the assembly from the gun.

A further object of my invention is to provide a cheek pad for firearms which will be fixed on the gun stock in such manner that it will not slip

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or move in any direction relative to the gun stock when the gun is fired.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a cheek pad for firearms in which the parts cooperate to form a compact assembly in no way interfering with the efficient operation of the gun.

Another object of my invention is to provide a cheek pad for firearms which is efficient in operation, simple in construction, and inexpensive to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will become apparent to one skilled in the art throughout the following specification, and accompanying drawings, forming part of the specification, wherein like numerals are used to designate like parts throughout the specification and drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the cheek pad of my invention secured on the stock of a firearm, the firearm being indicated in dash lines.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the cheek pad, showing the method of securing the cushion pocket on the base,

Figure 3 is an end elevation of the cheek pad, and,

Figure 4 is a partial longitudinal section, taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 3, the base being shown bent downward to illustrate the manner of inserting and removing the cushion.

Referring now to the drawings, the numeral 5 designates generally the cheek pad of my invention, shown secured on the stock 6 of a firearm. The cheek pad 5 comprises a base portion 7, a pocket member 8, and a laminated cushion 9 shown positioned within the pocket.

The base portion 7 is made from a single piece of flexible material, such as leather or polyvinol chloride, and is cut in such shape, as shown in Figure 2, that it will conform closely to the contour of the stock of the gun when mounted thereon adjacent the comb and pistol grip thereof. One end 10 is formed with a straight edge, while the other end 11 is cut to provide a concave edge. The said base portion 7 is long enough to permit base portion 7 to encircle the stock with the end 10 passing thereunder and the ends 10 and 11 overlapping each other at the bottom of the stock.

A plurality of equally spaced eyelets 12 are provided in the end 11 adjacent and parallel to the concave edge thereof, and two similar eyelets 13 are provided inwardly of the circumferentially disposed eyelets 12 and adjacent the upper and lower edges, respectively, of the said base portion

7, for a purpose which will hereinafter be pointed out.

The pocket member 8 is formed of a single piece of the same material as the base portion, and is attached to the said base portion 7 by stitching 14, the said member being so positioned on the said base that the transverse stitching 23 will be substantially aligned with the longitudinal axis of the stock when the cheek pad is assembled thereon. The mid-section of said member 8 is pressed out to form a protuberance 15 providing a cavity 16 therein to house the cushion 9. The free end 19 of said pocket member 8, between the respective ends of stitching 14, is cut to provide a convex edge complementary to the concave edge of end 11, and a row of equally spaced eyelets 17, equal in number to the eyelets 12, are provided therein adjacent and parallel to said convex edge, positioned so that the said eyelets 12 and eyelets 17 will form two parallel rows of oppositely disposed eyelets to receive a lacing 20 when the complementary concave and convex edges are brought to oppose each other after the cheek pad is mounted on the stock 6. A circumferential slot 18 is thus formed between the end 19 of said pocket member 8 and the adjacent surface of base portion 7 through which access may be had from the outside to the cavity 16, the said slot 18 being expansible to permit insertion or withdrawal of the cushion 9 by lifting the free end 19 which forms a closure for the said slot 18 when said free end 19 is in laced engagement with the base portion 7.

The cushion 9, may be made of a single thickness of felt or other material suitable for absorbing the shock of the recoil of the gun, is preferably made up of a plurality of shaped pad segments 21 of shock-absorbing material, adapted to conform, when assembled, to the interior configuration of said pocket. Segmental construction of the cushion permits removal of one or more segments for adjustments to suit the individual user, and to replace damaged or worn segments.

In operation, the cheek pad is placed upon the stock of the firearm in the position indicated, with the respective ends of base portions 7 overlapping, as shown in Figure 1, and the said cheek pad is manually adjusted until it is tight upon the stock with the transverse stitching 23 substantially aligned with the longitudinal axis of the stock. For convenience and ease in adjusting, the cushion 9 may be removed while the cheek pad is being adjusted and replaced in the pocket after the pad is secured upon the stock. This, however, is not necessary, and is a matter of choice.

After the cheek pad has been adjusted on the stock, it is anchored thereon by means of screws 22, for example, two #7 ½" button-head brass wood screws, through the eyelets 13 provided for this purpose. The cheek pad is thus secured upon

the stock against longitudinal or circumferential translative movement relative thereto. The end 11 of the said base portion 7 and the pocket member 8, with cushion 9 inserted therein, are laced together by means of the lacing 20, thus fitting the pad snugly on the stock and securing the said cushion in the pocket formed therebetween. Access may be had to said pocket without the necessity of entirely removing the cheek pad from the stock. Thus, lacing the pocket member to the base portion in this manner serves to accomplish a double purpose.

I have heretofore described a preferred embodiment of my invention, but it is to be understood that various changes in the shape, size, material, or arrangement of any of the parts of my invention may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A cheek pad for use with a gun stock, comprising a flexible base member shaped to snugly embrace a gun stock, means for securing said base member to said gun stock against longitudinally or circumferentially translative movement relative thereto, a flexible pocket member attached to the outside of said base member to form a pocket therebetween having an opening accessible from the outside, an adjustable cushion formed of a plurality of resilient slabs carried inside the pocket and separately insertable and removable through said opening, and unitary fastening means for both closing said opening and holding said flexible base member in snug engagement with said stock.

2. The invention as recited in claim 1 wherein said pocket member is formed to provide a projecting flap on the edge near the opening thereof.

3. The invention cited in claim 2 wherein said fastening means comprises a lacing member and lacing eyelets on said base member and on the projecting flap of said pocket member respectively, whereby said lacing member serves to both adjust the cheek pad to the stock and the pocket member to its resilient cushions.

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