March 21, 1933. K. J. GIRDWOOD 1,901,957

REVOLVING PARACHUTE

Filed July 16, 1932

Fig. 1.

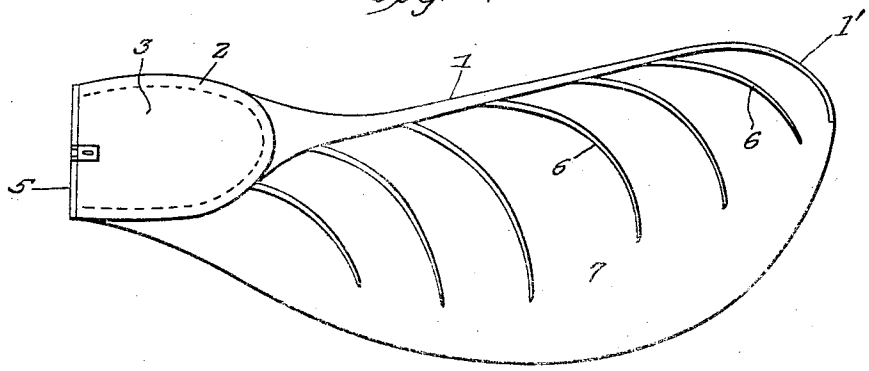


Fig. 2.

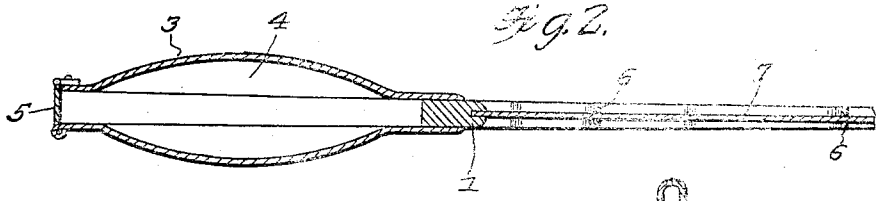
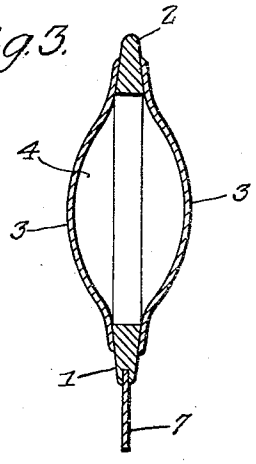


Fig. 3.



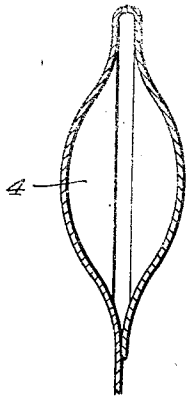


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

KENNET J. GIRDWOOD, OF MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA

REVOLVING PARACHUTE

Application filed July 16, 1932. Serial No. 622,954.

This invention relates to a device which I term a revolving parachute, for delivering mail or the like from aeroplanes or other aircrafts, the general object of the invention being to make the device somewhat in the form of a single propeller blade and so constructed that it will revolve or rotate as it passes through the air so that its descent will be checked and articles placed therein will not be damaged when the device comes to the ground.

This invention also consists in certain other features of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, to be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawing wherein like characters denote like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which:—

Figure 1 is a side view of the device.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary longitudinal sectional view.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view through that part of the device provided with the compartment.

Fig. 4 is a similar view but showing a slight modification.

In the drawing, the numeral 1 designates an elongated substantially straight frame or member having the base 2 of yoke construction so that when the plates 3 are attached to the sides thereof, a compartment 4 will be formed to receive articles such as mail or the like, the lower end of this compartment being closed by a door 5.

The top of the member 1 is curved as shown at 1′ and likewise the ribs 6 are curved and each has one end solidly united to one edge of member 1. The blade forming part 7 is firmly united to member 1 from the curved part 1′ to the yoke end 2 and to the ribs 6.

When the device descends through the air the curved ribs cause a friction and this together with the proper center of gravity of the whole device causes it to revolve or rotate to such an extent that it will come to ground without damage to itself or to the articles within the chamber or compartment 4. It will be seen that the device somewhat resembles a seed pod of certain trees.

While the drawing shows the ribs on both sides of the blade forming member, they may, if desired, be placed on but one side and any number of ribs may be used and, of course, the device can be made from any suitable material or various materials as desired. When made of sheet metal the parts would be simply pressed from thin sheet.

Figs. 2 and 3 show the side parts of the member having plates 3 of any suitable material fastened to the sides of yoke 2 forming the chamber or compartment 4, while Fig. 4 shows the entire member formed with metal portions which are welded or otherwise fastened together. The device somewhat resembles a blade of a propeller and is formed so as to give the device a rotary movement as it descends through the air. It will of course be understood that the chamber 4 can be divided into several compartments instead of the one.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be made in the construction, and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts, provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:—

1. A parachute of the class described comprising a body somewhat in the form of a single propeller blade and composed of a stem forming member having an enlarged base part, a blade member having one edge fixed to the stem forming member and formed of a sheet of material, curved ribs fastened at one face of the blade member and each having one end firmly united with the stem forming member, said ribs being exposed and acting to stiffen the member and together with the proper center of gravity of the device gives the device a rotating movement as it descends through the air and a chamber formed in the base of the stem.

2. A parachute of the class described com-

prising a body made somewhat in the form of a single propeller blade and including a stem forming member, a blade forming member formed of a sheet of material and having one edge fastened to an edge of the stem member at the longitudinal center of said edge of the stem member, exposed curved ribs fastened in spaced relation to each face of the blade member and each having one end fastened to said edge of the stem member and a chamber formed in the base of the stem member.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

KENNET J. GIRDWOOD.