March 24, 1936. J. W. SHEFFIELD 2,034,839

AUTOMATIC TARGET

Filed Nov. 14, 1935 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

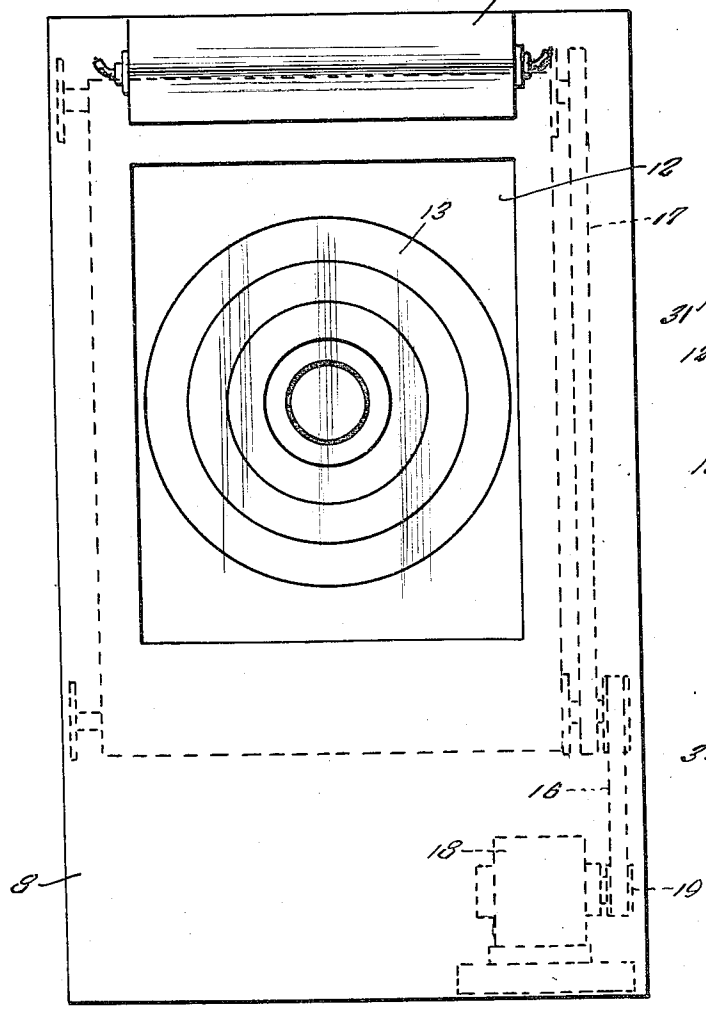
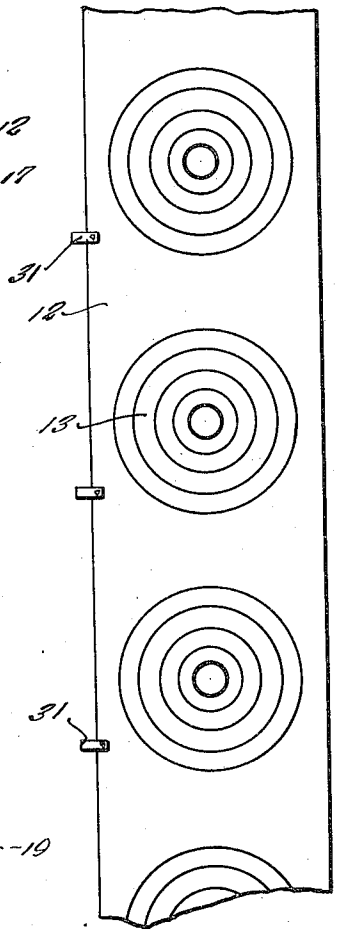


Fig. 2.



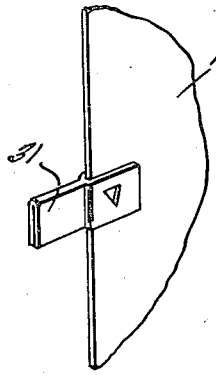


Fig. 6.

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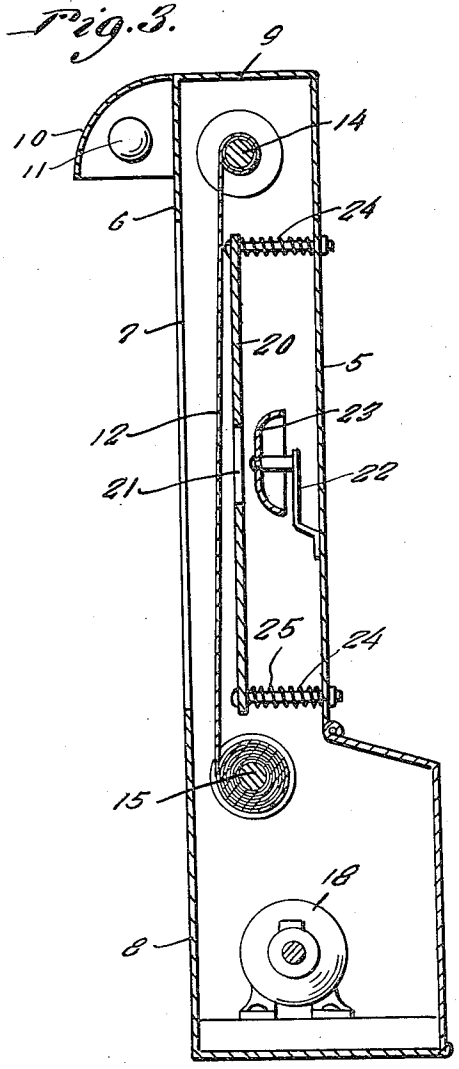
Attorney

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AUTOMATIC TARGET

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Fig. 3.



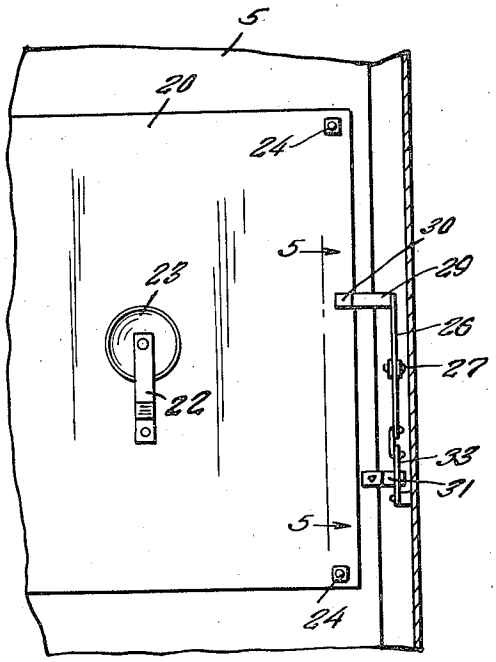


Fig. 4.

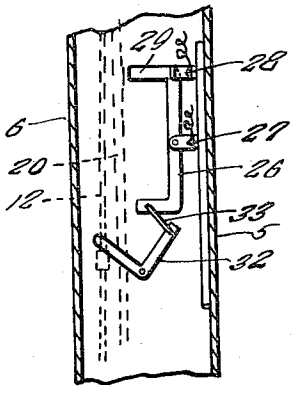


Fig. 5.

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Patented Mar. 24, 1936

2,034,839

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,034,839

AUTOMATIC TARGET

John W. Sheffield, Bluefield, W. Va.

Application November 14, 1935, Serial No. 49,855

1 Claim. (Cl. 124—15)

This invention appertains to new and useful improvements in targets for use on rifle ranges, the principal object being to provide a target which will be substantially automatic in operation, requiring no manual changing thereof, to the end that hazards incident to such employment will be eliminated.

Another important object of the invention is to provide an automatic target wherein an off bull's eye shot will cause the target to change over to a fresh one.

Other important objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following specification.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 represents a front elevational view of the target.

Figure 2 represents a fragmentary plan view of the target strip.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view through the target.

Figure 4 represents a fragmentary vertical sectional view through the target taken substantially about midway between the upper and lower ends thereof.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken substantially on line 5—5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the target strip.

Referring to the drawings wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that the target consists of a casing made up of the back wall 5, the front wall 6 having the target strip exposing openings 7 therein, as well as the lower box construction 8 upon which the casing is located and the top wall 9 forwardly from which extends the hood 10 in which is located a suitable lamp 11 for illuminating the target strip 12. This target strip 12 is provided with a plurality of longitudinally spaced markings 13 thereon defining targets. This strip is wound from the upper roll 14 to the lower roll 15, the lower roll being provided with a pair of pulleys at one end thereof, over one of which is trained the motor belt 16 and while between the other pulley and a pulley on the roll 14 another belt is provided and denoted by numeral 17. Mounted within the box 8 is the electric motor 18 having the pulley 19 on its armature shaft with which the belt 16 coacts for actuating the roll 15.

Behind the target 12 is the plate 20 having the central opening 21 therein and behind this opening 21 and supported by a bracket 22 on the back wall 5 is the bell 23.

The corners of the plate 20 are apertured to receive the pins 24 and on these pins are coiled compressible springs 25 for normally urging the plate 20 forwardly to the position substantially shown in Figure 3.

A switch structure is shown in Figure 5 consisting of the knife blade 26 rockably supported as at 27 on the back wall 5. Numeral 28 represents a contact with which the blade 26 is engageable and numeral 29 represents an arm extending from the blade 26 at its contacting end and this is provided with a lateral finger 30 for disposition just behind the plate 20 but normally in close spaced relation with respect thereto, so that when a bullet hits the plate 20 the plate will actuate the blade 26 so as to close a circuit with the motor 18 so that the target strip will be moved. When bull's eye shots are made the bell 23 simply rings and there is no actuation of the target strip 12.

To stop the motor 18, lugs 31 are provided at equal spaced intervals along one edge of the target strip 12 and these move in the path of one end of the bell crank 32 which is connected by link 33 to the opposite end of the switch blade 26. Thus, when a fresh target is brought into position in front of the plate 20 the lug 31 adjacent the bell crank 32 will ride against the bell crank and result in the rocking of the knife blade 26 so as to break the electrical circuit with the motor 18.

While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size, materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A target of the character described comprising a casing having an opening in the front thereof, a yieldably mounted plate in the casing having a central opening, a bell mounted in the casing behind the opening in the plate, a movable target strip disposed across the said plate, a motor for actuating the said target strip, switch means associated with the plate for starting the motor, and means on the target strip engageable with the said switch for de-energizing the said motor.

JOHN W. SHEFFIELD.