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F. L. LEE.
PNEUMATIC LOAD CARRIER.
FILED SEPT. 7, 1920.

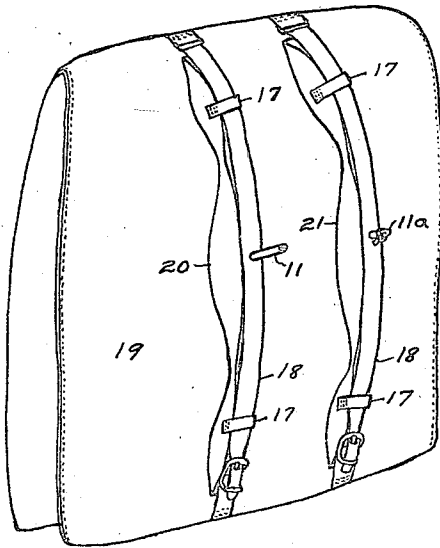


Fig 1

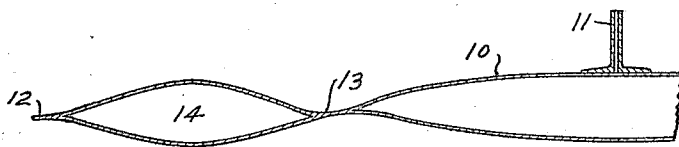


Fig 3

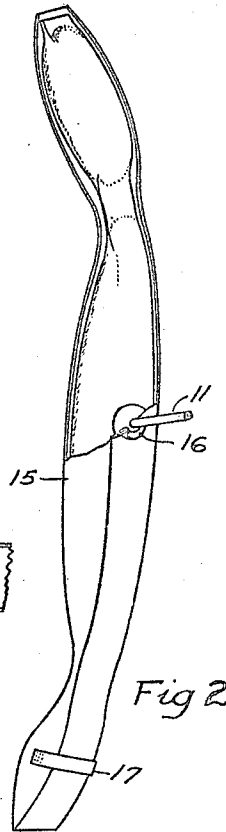


Fig 2

Frederick L. Lee INVENTOR.
BY
L. L. Westfall ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK L. LEE, OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

PNEUMATIC LOAD CARRIER.

Application filed September 7, 1920. Serial No. 408,519.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that FREDERICK L. LEE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, has invented new and useful Improvements in Pneumatic Load Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention pertains to pneumatic load carriers and has for its object to provide an air cushion for loads to be carried by man, such as a knap-sack carried by a soldier and generally for any load to be carried and be supported by the shoulders.

Generally speaking a pneumatic tube is enclosed by a suitable covering and then secured to the under side of the strap that ordinarily sustains the load whereby the pneumatic tube comes in contact with the person of the carrier instead of the strap and occupies a space between the person and the strap.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention I have made an application of the same to a knap-sack and the details of the construction will be hereinafter given and illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which Figure 1 is an assembled view of the invention shown attached to the straps of the knap-sack.

Figure 2 is a view of the invention detached with a portion of the covering broken away.

Figure 3 is a broken-away sectional view of the pneumatic tube.

In a detail description in which like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views an elongated rubber tube 10 is provided with a small tubular connection 11. About midway between the ends of the tube 10 and the small tube 11 the walls of the tube 11 are vulcanized together as at

13 forming air chambers 14 which contain merely the amount of air that would ordinarily be forced therein by bringing the walls of the tube together when the tube 11 is inflated sufficient to hold the tube in an expanded position, whereby the chambers 14 would be formed about as shown in Figure 3.

The construction shown in Figure 3 is then enclosed in a suitable covering, preferably water proof, such as an oiled cloth 15 in which is mounted an eyelet 16. Latch straps 17 are then placed transversely on the covering 15 through which the straps 18 of the knap-sack 19 are inserted so that the assembled mechanism 20 occupies a position beneath the straps 18. The small tubes 11 will then occupy a position on the man's body, where the knap-sack is taken on, on his front near the collar bone. The carrier will then inflate the tube 10 through the small tube 11 from the lungs, to the desired pressure and then fold and tie the tube 11 as indicated at 11^a Figure 1.

The shape of the tube 10 may be varied to suit the character of the load carried.

What is claimed is:—

A pneumatic load carrier comprising a rubber tube with means for filling and retaining the air near the center thereof, said tube having its walls vulcanized together about midway between the ends of the tube and the center thereof, a covering for said tube and means for connecting the assembled mechanism beneath the carrying straps of the load to be carried.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in the presence of a witness.

FREDERICK L. LEE.

Witness:

L. L. WESTFALL.