

SUPERSEDED BY
AMENDED SPECIFICATION.

N^o 22,158



A.D. 1903

Date of Application, 14th Oct., 1903

Complete Specification Left, 30th July, 1904—Accepted, 22nd Sept., 1904

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

“Improvements in or relating to Military Accoutrements”.

We, WILLIAM LINDSEY, Gentleman, of 191, Bay State Road, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., temporarily residing at Hyde Park Hotel, Albert Gate, in the County of London, and GEORGE NUGENT BANKES, Student-at-Law, of the Inner Temple, temporarily residing at 24, Chester Terrace, Eaton Square, in the County of London, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

The present invention relates to improvements in military accoutrements, the object being to provide an infantry equipment which will be convenient and comfortable and from which the various parts may be readily removed.

10 Hitherto it has been customary to carry a valise great-coat and mess-tin suspended from the back by means of braces which having their rear ends attached to a waist belt behind, are crossed at the centre of the back and carried over the shoulders to be again attached to the waist-belt and ammunition pouches in front of the body. The weight being thus unevenly distributed
15 between front and back and there being no means provided for retaining the braces in position over the shoulders, there is a tendency for the whole equipment to slip backwards which can only be counteracted by buckling the belt so tightly over the abdomen as to restrict the breathing. In addition to this the haversack and water bottle are carried on separate slings which
20 crossing each other on the chest over the region of the diaphragm also impede the breathing. Further the position of the greatcoat as at present carried on the back of the loins is such as to promote excess of perspiration in that region and so entail a risk of the wearer taking chill in the kidneys when the equipment is removed.

25 According to this invention a waist-belt is supported from the shoulders by braces passing directly and without crossing from front to back and connected only by a cross strap or tie behind the shoulders. In order to keep the braces correctly in position and ensure the proper proportion of the weight to be carried being thrown on to the shoulders, each brace is stiffened from a point
30 three to four inches behind the shoulder to a point six to eight inches in front of the same with a thin strip of metal or other suitable material of sufficient pliability to be fitted to any shape of shoulder, these stiffened parts of the two braces together with the cross strap or tie above mentioned forming a light, strong and easily adjustable yoke. If desired the stiffened portions
35 of the braces may be padded. An important advantage of this stiffened yoke lies in the fact that when the equipment has been taken off the braces stand out and present themselves at once to the arms so that the equipment can be slung on to the shoulders without delay and without assistance. At the same time the pliability of the stiffening material allows of the braces being
40 laid out flat for packing when not in use.

The braces are passed round the belt at front and back and the ends fastened to the standing parts by simple hooks and eyelet holes or the like

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Improvements in or relating to Military Accoutrements.

in such manner as to make fixed D connections in the belt unnecessary, thus giving perfect adjustability and also allowing of such slight changes in the disposition of the weight as may bring additional relief to the wearer on a long march. As an alternative to the above method of attaching the braces to the belt sliding D connections may be placed on the belt through which the ends of the 5 braces may be passed and brought back on themselves as before described, thus producing the same advantageous results.

One feature of the invention consists in so attaching the various accoutrements to the belt and braces that each can be readily removed without taking the rest of the equipment off the body. 10

The cartridge carrier or pouch (of which there may conveniently be one on either side of the front of the belt) is attached to the belt by C-shaped connections at the ends and by intermediate plain suspension hooks so that when the belt is open the pouch may be quickly unhooked without removal of the rest of the equipment from the body. 15

According to the present improvements the usual suspensions of water-bottle, valise and haversack are done away with and new "haversack pockets" are substituted therefor. These are conveniently each provided with two compartments for the conveyance of the water bottle, rations and such articles of clothing *etc.* as are at present carried in the valise. Further these "haversack 20 pockets" are suspended directly from the belt by means of simple hooks passed through eyelet-holes in the lower edge of the belt, or through D's attached to the lower edge of or sliding on the belt, or in such other manner that they can be released without removing the rest of the equipment from the body. These pockets are arranged so that they rest on the haunches and 25 there is consequently no backward and forward rubbing between them and the wearer's clothes. For light marching, when only one "haversack pocket" is needed the water-bottle may be removed from its pocket and hung from the belt on the opposite side by a short sling with which it is provided for that purpose. 30

The great coat, folded flat or rolled and fastened together with its own slings so as to be easily detachable without necessarily unfolding or unrolling it, is suspended from the braces at the back of the shoulders in the place at present occupied by the valise. The mess-tin is fastened by its own strap at the back or on top of the great-coat, or when the great-coat is worn can 35 be attached to the cross-piece of the yoke.

The belt, braces, great-coat slings cartridge-carrier or pouches, "haversack pockets" and any auxiliary parts can be made of woven material, leather, or the like.

It will be seen that the accoutrements arranged in accordance with this 40 invention are readily detachable and in convenient position. The equipment so disposes the weight carried that the whole of it is equally partitioned between the shoulders and hips. There is thus no backward drag, and no pressure on the chest, abdomen, or small of the back. The weight is so balanced that when the belt is loose or even unfastened the equipment whether 45 loaded, partially loaded, or unloaded does not shift. It is possible to put it on and off by simply fastening or unfastening one buckle and the wearer can readjust the equipment while it is on his body.

It is possible for the wearer to lie on the ground and fire his rifle without the equipment interfering in any way with his movements, and the braces 50 and accoutrements attached thereto are held in position by the cross tie at the back.

Dated this 14th day of October 1903.

BOULT, WADE & KILBURN,
Agents for the Applicant.

Improvements in or relating to Military Accoutrements.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

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10 The present invention relates to improvements in military accoutrements, the object being to provide an infantry equipment which will be convenient and comfortable and from which the various parts may be readily removed.

Hitherto it has been customary to carry a valise great-coat and mess-tin suspended from the back by means of braces which having their rear ends attached to a waist belt behind, are crossed at the centre of the back and carried over the shoulders to be again attached to the waist-belt and ammunition 15 pouches in front of the body. The weight being thus unevenly distributed between front and back and there being no means provided for retaining the braces in position over the shoulders, there is a tendency for the whole equipment to slip backwards which can only be counteracted by buckling the belt so tightly over the abdomen as to restrict the breathing. In addition 20 to this the haversack and water bottle are carried on separate slings which crossing each other on the chest over the region of the diaphragm also impede the breathing. Further the position of the greatcoat as at present carried on the back of the loins is such as to promote excess of perspiration in that 25 region and so entail a risk of the wearer taking chill in the kidneys when the equipment is removed.

According to this invention a waist-belt is supported from the shoulders by braces passing directly and without crossing from front to back and connected only by a cross strap or tie behind the shoulders. In order to keep the 30 braces correctly in position and ensure the proper proportion of the height to be carried being thrown on to the shoulders, each brace is stiffened from a point some distance behind the shoulder to a point some distance in front of the same with a thin strip of metal or other suitable material of sufficient pliability to be fitted to any shape of shoulder, these stiffened parts of the 35 two braces together with the cross strap or tie above mentioned forming a light, strong and easily adjustable yoke. If desired the stiffened portions of the braces may be padded. An important advantage of this stiffened yoke lies in the fact that when the equipment has been taken off the braces stand out and present themselves at once to the arms so that the equipment can 40 be slung on to the shoulders without delay and without assistance. At the same time the pliability of the stiffening material allows of the braces being laid out flat for packing when not in use.

The braces are passed round the belt at front and back and the ends fastened to the standing parts by simple hooks and eyelet holes or the like 45 in such manner as to make fixed D connections in the belt unnecessary, thus giving perfect adjustability and also allowing of such slight changes in the disposition of the weight as may bring additional relief to the wearer on a long march. As an alternative to the above method of attaching the braces to the belt sliding D connections may be placed on the belt to which the ends of the

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braces may be suitably connected, thus producing the same advantageous results.

One feature of the invention consists in so attaching the various accoutrements to the belt and braces that each can be readily removed without taking the rest of the equipment off the body.

The cartridge carrier or pouch (of which there may conveniently be one on either side of the front of the belt) is attached to the belt by C-shaped connections at the ends and by intermediate connections so that when the belt is open the pouch may be quickly dis-connected without removal of the rest of the equipment from the body.

According to the present improvements the usual suspensions of water-bottle, valise and haversack are done away with and new "haversack pockets" are substituted. These are conveniently each provided with two compartments for the conveyance of the water bottle, rations and such articles of clothing *etc.* as are at present carried in the valise. Further these "haversack pockets" are suspended directly from the belt by means of simple hooks passed through eyelet-holes in the lower edge of the belt, or through D's attached to the lower edge of or sliding on the belt, or in such other manner that they can be released without removing the rest of the equipment from the body. These pockets are arranged so that they rest on the haunches and there is consequently no backward and forward rubbing between them and the wearer's clothes. For light marching, when only one "haversack pocket" is needed the water-bottle may be removed from its pocket and hung from the belt on the opposite side by a short sling with which it is provided for that purpose.

The great coat, folded flat or rolled and fastened together with its own slings so as to be easily detachable without necessarily unfolding or unrolling it, is suspended from the braces at the back of the shoulders in the place at present occupied by the valise. The mess-tin is fastened by its own strap at the back or on top of the great-coat, or when the great-coat is worn can be attached to the cross-piece of the yoke.

The belt, braces, great-coat slings cartridge-carrier or pouches, "haversack pockets" and any auxiliary parts can be made of woven material leather, or the like.

In the accompanying drawings,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a belt and shoulder straps according to this invention.

Figure 2 is a perspective back view of the cartridge carrier.

Figure 3 is a perspective front view of the same.

Figure 4 is a perspective back view of a haversack pocket with a sling rove round the pocket.

Figure 5 is a perspective front view of the same with the sling opened out for use.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the complete equipment in use.

Like letters indicate like parts throughout the drawings.

Referring to Figures 1 and 6, a waist-belt A is supported from the shoulders by braces B passing directly and without crossing from front to back and connected by a cross strap or tie C behind the shoulders. In order to keep the braces correctly in position and to ensure the proper portion of the weight to be carried being thrown on the shoulders, each brace is stiffened at B¹ through about seventeen to eighteen inches of its length from a point about seven to eight inches behind the point where it crosses the shoulder to a point about ten to eleven inches in front of the same with a thin strip of metal or other suitable material of sufficient pliability to be fitted to any shape of shoulder; these stiffened parts B¹ of the two braces together with the cross tie forming together a light but strong yoke. An important advantage of this stiffened yoke lies in the fact that when the equipment is taken

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off, the braces stand out and present themselves at once to the arms so that the equipment can be slung on to the shoulders without delay and without assistance. At the same time the pliability of the stiffening material allows of the braces being laid out flat for packing when not in use. In order to

5 ensure the maximum of comfort the braces may consist as shown of the central section B¹ about two inches wide and stiffened as above described and two end sections B² about one inch wide.

The ends of the braces are passed through the shanks of wire hooks B³ and brought back on to their own standing parts to which they are connected

10 by means of clip buckles B⁴, which, sliding as required on the standing parts of the braces, allow of ready and easy adjustment. The hooks B³ which are bent in on themselves so as not to be too easily detached from their hold are attached at the back to fixed D connections A¹ and at the front

15 to sliding D connections A² on the waist-belt A, the whole being thus perfectly adjustable, and the sliding D connections allowing of such changes in the disposition of the weight as may bring additional relief to the wearer on a long march. An alternative method of attaching the braces to the belt is by passing the ends round the belt and bringing them back to be fastened to their own standing parts by simple hooks and eyelet holes.

20 An important feature of the invention consists in the attachment of the various accoutrements to the belt and braces so that each can be readily removed without taking the rest of the equipment off the body.

Referring to Figures 2 and 3, the two cartridge carriers D, each of which is divided into four pockets D¹ and with separate flaps D² or one common

25 flap with fifteen cartridges either single or in clips to each pocket, are attached to the belt A so as to rest over the hips, by a C-shaped connection D³ at the ends and intermediate straps D⁴ passing from the upper part of the back of the carrier round the belt and fastening by eyelet holes D⁵ to studs D⁶ in the lower part of the front of the carrier, so that when the belt is open the

30 carriers may be normally disconnected without removal of the rest of the equipment from the body.

As an alternative to the C-shaped hooks at the ends of the carriers straps similar to the intermediate straps above described may be substituted and instead of these intermediate straps if desired simple hooks may be employed.

35 Referring to Figures 4 and 5, according to the present improvements the usual suspensions of water bottle, valise, and haversack are done away with and new haversack pockets E are substituted each provided with two compartments. These haversack pockets are suspended directly from the belt A by means of simple hooks E¹ passed through eyelets A³ in the lower edge of the

40 belt or through D connections attached to the lower edge of or sliding on the belt, or such other manner that they can be detached without disturbing the rest of the equipment, and are arranged so that they rest on the haunches and there is consequently no back and forward rubbing between them and the wearer's clothes. In ordinary use only one of the haversack pockets E is suspended

45 from the belt on the left or bayonet side, a water bottle F being suspended on the right side by a short sling F¹ passing round the belt, or by a similar arrangement of hooks and eyelet holes to that used for the haversack pockets; but in cases where both haversack pockets are required the water bottle is carried in one of the haversack pockets. The haversack pocket to be ordinarily

50 used as above described, is provided with a sling E² by which, when the rest of the equipment is not in use, it can be suspended from the opposite shoulder; or when the belt is worn without the braces, the weight of the haversack pocket can be divided between the belt and the opposite shoulder. When not in use this sling is rove round the outside of the haversack pocket, loops E³ being

55 provided at the back of the haversack for the purpose. The suspensary hooks E¹ of the left haversack pocket are attached somewhat lower than those of the

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other one to allow room for the bayonet to hang from the belt between the haversack pocket and the wearer's thigh.

The great-coat is folded flat and held together by its own slings G the loose ends of which are passed round it and through the clip buckles G¹ at the other ends. The loose ends are next passed through two D connections B⁵ placed on the yoke just below the shoulders and carried through other D connections B⁶ at the rear extremities of the yoke, then pulled tight and secured by a second set of clip buckles G² attached to the slings where they pass round the lower edge of the coat pack. The cross tie G³ of the slings comes between the coat and the body. The mess-tin is fastened by its own strap either at the back or on the top of the great-coat or to the belt at the back of the loins, the strap in the latter case either passing through a fixed D connection in the belt or simply round the belt and back to its own buckle.

The belt, braces, great-coat straps, cartridge carriers, haversack pockets and any auxiliary parts can be made of woven material, leather or any suitable substance.

It will be seen that the accoutrements arranged in accordance with this invention are readily detachable and in convenient position. The equipment so disposes the weight carried that the whole of it is equally partitioned between the shoulders and hips. There is thus no backward drag, and no pressure on the chest, abdomen, or small of the back. The weight is so balanced that when the belt is loose or even unfastened the equipment whether loaded, partially loaded, or unloaded does not shift. It is possible to put it on and off by simply fastening or unfastening one buckle and the wearer can readjust the equipment while it is on his body.

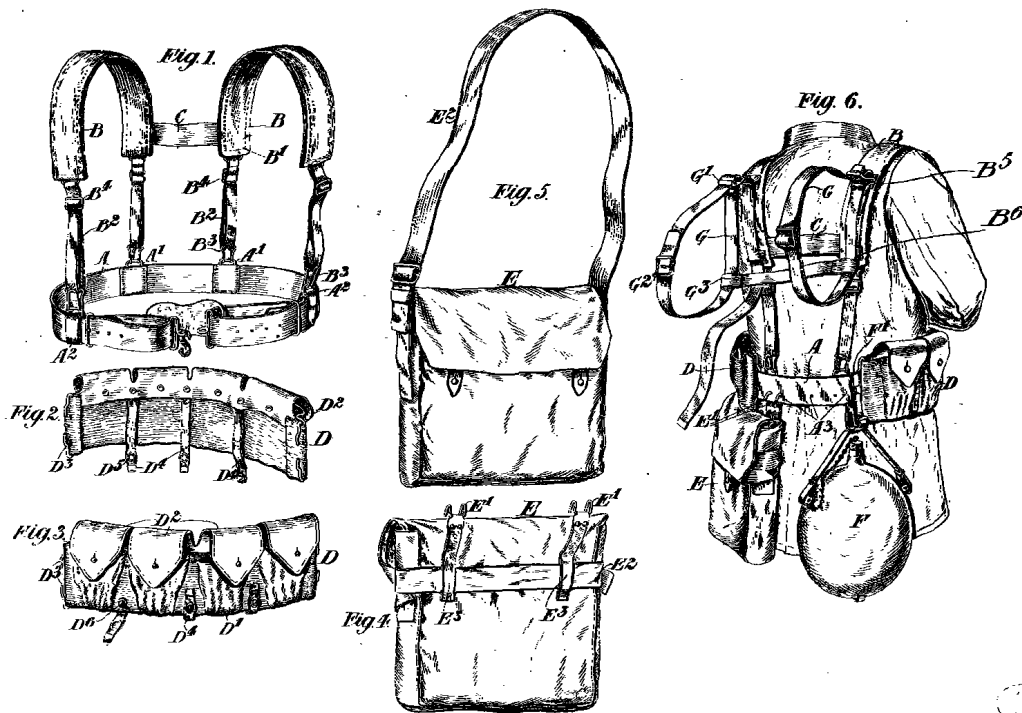
It is possible for the wearer to lie on the ground and fire his rifle without the equipment interfering in any way with his movements, and the braces and accoutrements attached thereto are held in position by the yoke and the cross tie at the back.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed we declare that what we claim is:—

1. In accoutrements the combination with braces of a stiff yoke such as B¹ to concentrate the proper proportion of the weight on the shoulders substantially as described.
2. In accoutrements the combination with a shoulder strap of a padded pliable yoke part substantially as described.
3. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt of braces forming a yoke such as B B¹ C and passing directly and without crossing from front to back so as to leave the chest free substantially as described.
4. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt of a cartridge carrier such as D attached to the belt by end connections and by intermediate fastenings so as to be removable when the belt is open substantially as described.
5. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt of a haversack pocket such as E hooked to the belt so as to be removable when the belt is open substantially as described.
6. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt and shoulder straps such as B of a great-coat attachment such as G¹ arranged to hold the folded coat on the shoulders substantially as described.
7. The complete accoutrements substantially as described or illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 30th day of July 1904.

BOULT, WADE & KILBURN,
Agents for the Applicants.



[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]

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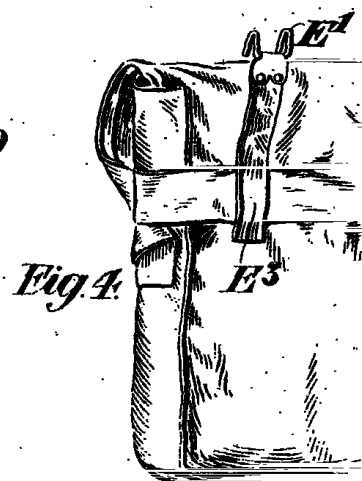
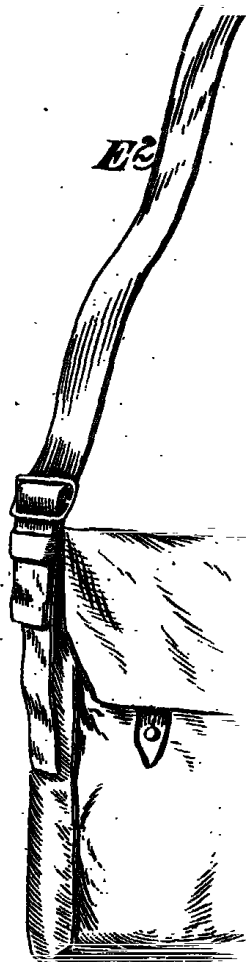
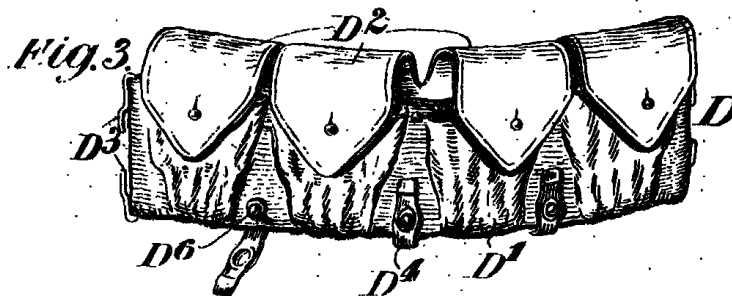
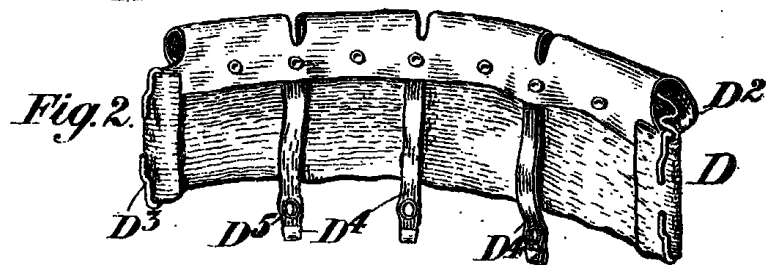
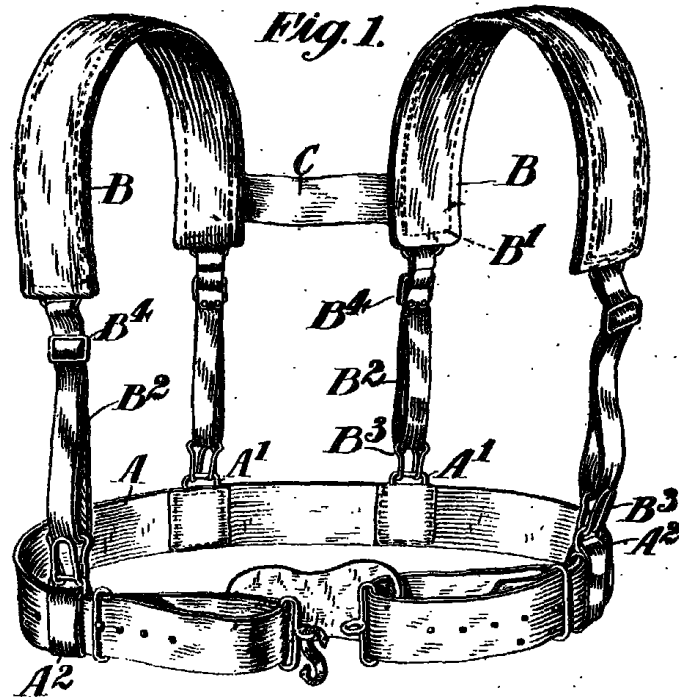
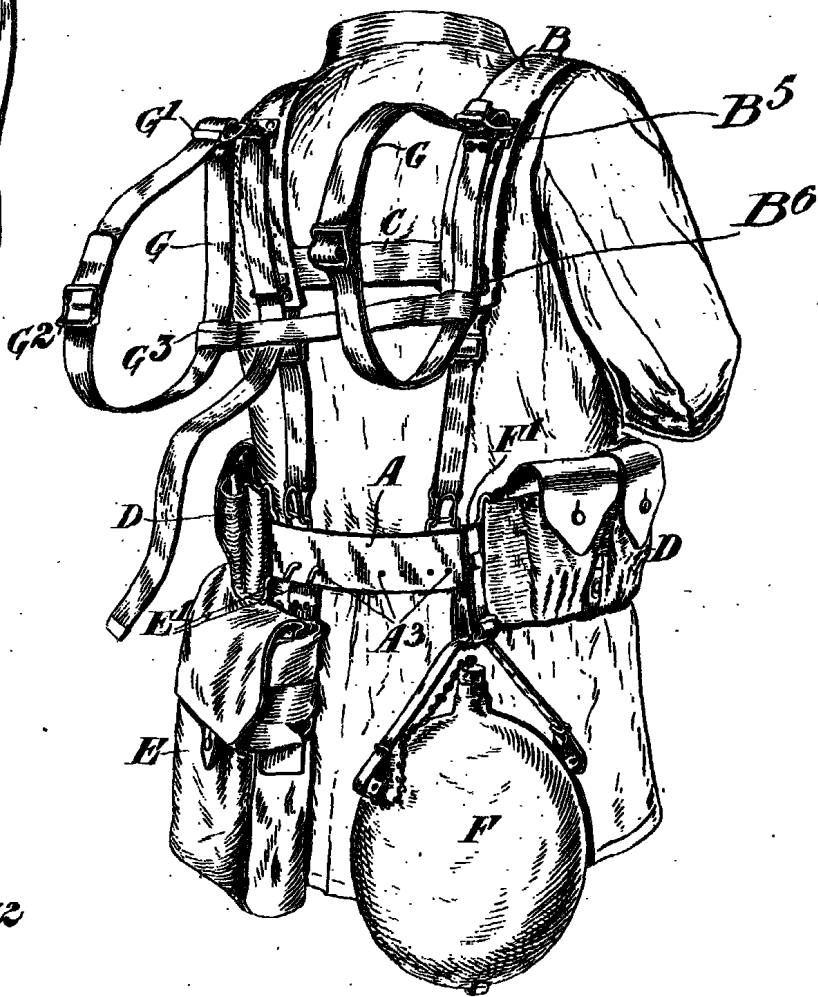
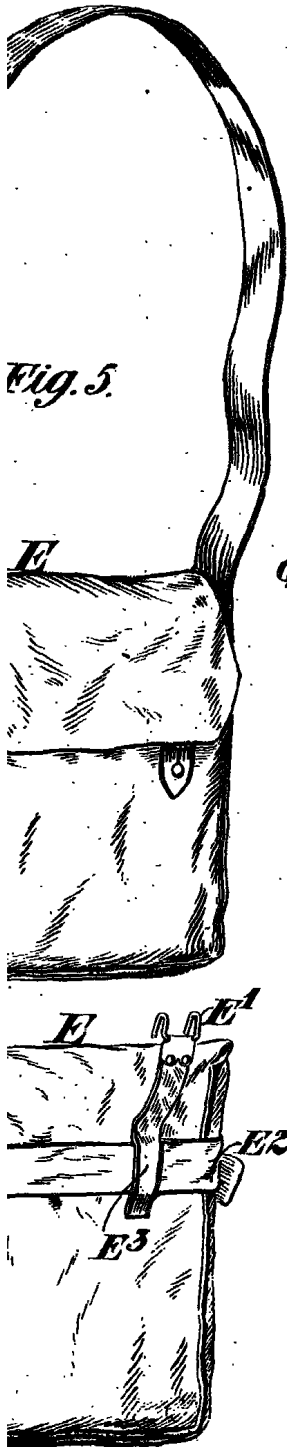


Fig. 6.



[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]

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AMENDED SPECIFICATION.

Reprinted as amended in accordance with the decision of the Chief Examiner dated the 19th day of March 1908.

(The Amendments are shown in erased and italic type).

N^o 22,158*



A.D. 1903

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Complete Specification Left, 30th July, 1904—Accepted, 22nd Sept., 1904

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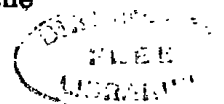
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The present invention relates to improvements in military accoutrements, the object being to provide an infantry equipment which will be convenient and comfortable and from which the various parts may be readily removed.

Hitherto it has been customary to carry a valise great-coat and mess-tin suspended from the back by means of braces which having their rear ends attached to a waist belt behind are crossed at the centre of the back and carried over the shoulders to be again attached to the waist-belt and ammunition pouches in front of the body. The weight being thus unevenly distributed between front and back and there being no means provided for retaining the braces in position over the shoulders, there is a tendency for the whole equipment to slip backwards which can only be counteracted by buckling the belt so tightly over the abdomen as to restrict the breathing. In addition to this the haversack and water bottle are carried on separate slings which crossing each other on the chest over the region of the diaphragm also impede the breathing. Further the position of the greatcoat as at present carried on the back of the loins is such as to promote excess of perspiration in that region and so entail a risk of the wearer taking chill in the kidneys when the equipment is removed.

According to this invention a waist-belt is supported from the shoulders by braces passing directly and without crossing from front to back and connected only by a cross strap or tie behind the shoulders. In order to keep the braces correctly in position and ensure the proper proportion of the weight to be carried being thrown on to the shoulders each brace is stiffened from a point three to four inches behind the shoulder to a point six to eight inches in front of the same with a thin strip of metal or other suitable material of sufficient pliability to be fitted to any shape of shoulder, these stiffened parts of the two braces together with the cross strap or tie above mentioned forming a light, strong and easily adjustable yoke. If desired the stiffened portions of the braces may be padded. An important advantage of this stiffened yoke lies in the fact that when the equipment has been taken off the braces stand out and present themselves at once to the arms so that the equipment can be slung on to the

[Price 8d.]



Lindsey and Bankes' Improvements in or relating to Military Accoutrements.

shoulders without delay and without assistance. At the same time the pliability of the stiffening material allows of the braces being laid out flat for packing when not in use.

The braces are passed round the belt at front and back and the ends fastened to the standing parts by simple hooks and eyelet holes or the like in such manner as to make fixed D connections in the belt unnecessary, thus giving perfect adjustability and also allowing of such slight changes in the disposition of the weight as may bring additional relief to the wearer on a long march. As an alternative to the above method of attaching the braces to the belt sliding D connections may be placed on the belt through which the ends of the braces may be passed and brought back on themselves as before described, thus producing the same advantageous results.

One feature of the invention consists in so attaching the various accoutrements to the belt and braces that each can be readily removed without taking the rest of the equipment off the body.

The cartridge carrier or pouch (of which there may conveniently be one on either side of the front of the belt) is attached to the belt by C-shaped connections at the ends and by intermediate plain suspension hooks so that when the belt is open the pouch may be quickly unhooked without removal of the rest of the equipment from the body.

According to the present improvements the usual suspensions of water-bottle, valise and haversack are done away with and new "haversack pockets" are substituted therefor. These are conveniently each provided with two compartments for the conveyance of the water bottle, rations and such articles of clothing *etc.* as are at present carried in the valise. Further these "haversack pockets" are suspended directly from the belt by means of simple hooks passed through eyelet-holes in the lower edge of the belt, or through D's attached to the lower edge of or sliding on the belt, or in such other manner that they can be released without removing the rest of the equipment from the body. These pockets are arranged so that they rest on the haunches and there is consequently no backward and forward rubbing between them and the wearer's clothes. For light marching, when only one "haversack pocket" is needed the water-bottle may be removed from its pocket and hung from the belt on the opposite side by a short sling with which it is provided for that purpose.

The great coat, folded flat or rolled and fastened together with its own slings so as to be easily detachable without necessarily unfolding or unrolling it, is suspended from the braces at the back of the shoulders in the place at present occupied by the valise. The mess-tin is fastened by its own strap at the back or on top of the great-coat, or when the great-coat is worn can be attached to the cross-piece of the yoke.

The belt, braces, great-coat slings cartridge-carrier or pouches, "haversack pockets" and any auxiliary parts can be made of woven material, leather, or the like.

It will be seen that the accoutrements arranged in accordance with this invention are readily detachable and in convenient position. The equipment so disposed the weight carried that the whole of it is equally partitioned between the shoulders and hips. There is thus no backward drag, and no pressure on the chest, abdomen, or small of the back. The weight is so balanced that when the belt is loose or even unfastened the equipment whether loaded, partially loaded, or unloaded does not shift. It is possible to put it on and off by simply fastening or unfastening one buckle and the wearer can readjust the equipment while it is on his body.

It is possible for the wearer to lie on the ground and fire his rifle without the equipment interfering in any way with his movements, and the braces and accoutrements attached thereto are held in position by the cross tie at the back.

Dated this 14th day of October 1903.

BOULT, WADE & KILBURN.
Agents for the Applicants.

Lindsey and Bankes' Improvements in or relating to Military Accoutrements.

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According to this invention a waist-belt is supported from the shoulders by braces passing directly and without crossing from front to back and connected only by a cross strap or tie behind the shoulders. In order to keep the braces correctly in position and ensure the proper proportion of the weight to be carried being thrown on to the shoulders, each brace is stiffened from a point some distance behind the shoulder to a point some distance in front of the same with a thin strip of metal or other suitable material of sufficient pliability to be fitted to any shape of shoulder, these stiffened parts of the two braces together with the cross strap or tie above mentioned forming a light, strong and easily adjustable yoke. If desired the stiffened portions of the braces may be padded. An important advantage of this stiffened yoke lies in the fact that when the equipment has been taken off the braces stand out and present themselves at once to the arms so that the equipment can be slung on to the shoulders without delay and without assistance. At the same time the pliability of the stiffening material allows of the braces being laid out flat for packing when not in use.

The braces are passed round the belt at front and back and the ends fastened to the standing parts by simple hooks and eyelet holes or the like in such manner as to make fixed D connections in the belt unnecessary, thus giving perfect adjustability and also allowing of such slight changes in the disposition of the weight as may bring additional relief to the wearer on a long march. As an alternative to the above method of attaching the braces to the belt sliding D connections may be placed on the belt to which the ends of the braces may be suitably connected, thus producing the same advantageous results.

One feature of the invention consists in so attaching the various accoutrements to the belt and braces that each can be readily removed without taking the rest of the equipment off the body.

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The According to this invention a cartridge carrier or pouch (of which there may conveniently be one on either side of the front of the belt) is attached to the belt by C-shaped connections at the ends and by intermediate connections so that when the belt is open the pouch cartridge carrier may be quickly dis-connected without removal of the rest of the equipment from the body.

According to the present improvements the usual suspensions of water bottle, valise and haversack are done away with and new "haversack pockets" are substituted. These are conveniently each provided with two compartments for the conveyance of the water bottle, rations and such articles of clothing etc. as are at present carried in the valise. Further these "haversack pockets" are suspended directly from the belt by means of simple hooks passed through eyelet holes in the lower edge of the belt, or through D's attached to the lower edge of or slung on the belt, or in such other manner that they can be released without removing the rest of the equipment from the body. These pockets are arranged so that they rest on the haunches and there is consequently no backward and forward rubbing between them and the wearer's clothes. For light marching, when only one "haversack pocket" is needed the water bottle may be removed from its pocket and hung from the belt on the opposite side by a short sling with which it is provided for that purpose.

The great coat, folded flat or rolled and fastened together with its own slings so as to be easily detachable without necessarily unfolding or unrolling it, is suspended from the braces at the back of the shoulders in the place at present occupied by the valise. The mess tin is fastened by its own strap at the back or on top of the great coat, or when the great coat is worn can be attached to the cross piece of the yoke.

The belt, braces, great coat slings and cartridge carriers or pouches, "haversack pockets" and any auxiliary parts can be made of woven material leather, or the like.

In the accompanying drawings,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a belt and shoulder straps according to this invention;

Figure 2 1 is a perspective back view of the cartridge carrier.

Figure 3 2 is a perspective front view of the same, and

Figure 4 is a perspective back view of a haversack pocket with a sling rove round the pocket.

Figure 5 is a perspective front view of the same with the sling opened out for use.

Figure 6 3 is a perspective view of the a complete equipment in use.

Like letters indicate like parts throughout the drawings.

Referring to Figures 3 1 and 6, a waist-belt A is supported from the shoulders by braces B passing directly and without crossing from front to back and connected by a cross strap or tie C behind the shoulders. In order to keep the braces correctly in position and to ensure the proper portion of the weight to be carried being thrown on the shoulders, each brace is stiffened at B¹ through about seventeen to eighteen inches of its length from a point about seven to eight inches behind the point where it crosses the shoulder to a point about ten to eleven inches in front of the same with a thin strip of metal or other suitable material of sufficient pliability to be fitted to any shape of shoulder; these stiffened parts B¹ of the two braces together with the cross tie forming together a light but strong yoke. An important advantage of this stiffened yoke lies in the fact that when the equipment is taken off, the braces stand out and present themselves at once to the arms so that the equipment can be slung on to the shoulders without delay and without assistance. At the same time the pliability of the stiffening material allows of the braces being laid out flat for packing when not in use. In order to ensure the maximum of comfort the braces may consist as shown of the central section B¹ about two inches wide and stiffened as above described and two end sections B² about one inch wide.

The ends of the braces are passed through the shanks of wire hooks B³ and brought back on to their own standing parts to which they are connected by means of clip buckles B⁴, which, sliding as required on the standing parts of the braces, allow of ready and easy adjustment. The hooks B³ which are bent in on themselves so as not to be too

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easily detached from their hold are attached at the back to fixed D connections A¹ and at the front to sliding D connections A² on the waist belt A, the whole being thus perfectly adjustable, and the sliding D connections allowing of such changes in the disposition of the weight as may bring additional relief to the wearer on a long march.

5. An alternative method of attaching the braces to the belt is by passing the ends round the belt and bringing them back to be fastened to their own standing parts by simple hooks and eyelet holes.

10. An important feature of the *this* invention consists in the attachment of the *cartridge carriers* various accoutrements to the belt and braces so that each can be readily removed without taking the rest of the equipment off the body.

- Referring to Figures 1 2 and 2 3, the two cartridge carriers D, each of which is divided into four pockets D¹ and with separate flaps D² or one common flap with fifteen cartridges either single or in clips to each pocket, are attached to the belt A so as to rest over the hips, by a C-shaped connection D³ at the ends and intermediate straps D⁴ passing from the upper part of the back of the carrier round the belt and fastening by eyelet holes D⁵ to studs D⁶ in the lower part of the front of the carrier, so that when the belt is open the carriers may be normally disconnected without removal of the rest of the equipment from the body.

- As an alternative to the C-shaped hooks at the ends of the carriers straps similar to the intermediate straps above described may be substituted and instead of these intermedate straps if desired simple hooks may be employed.

- Referring to Figures 4 and 5, according to the present improvements the *The* usual suspensions of water bottle, valise, and haversack are done away with and new haversack pockets E are substituted each provided with two compartments. These haversack pockets are suspended directly from the belt A by means of simple hooks E¹ passed through eyelets A² in the lower edge of the belt, or through D connections attached to the lower edge of or sliding on the belt, or such other manner that they can be detached without disturbing the rest of the equipment, and are arranged so that they rest on the haunches and there is consequently no back and forward rubbing between them and the wearer's clothes. In ordinary use only one of the haversack pockets E is suspended from the belt on the left or bayonet side, a water bottle F being suspended on the right side by a short sling F¹ passing round the belt, or by a similar arrangement of hooks and eyelet holes to that used for the haversack pockets; but in cases where both haversack pockets are required the water bottle is carried in one of the haversack pockets. The haversack pocket to be ordinarily used as above described, is provided with a sling E² by which, when the rest of the equipment is not in use, it can be suspended from the opposite shoulder; or when the belt is worn without the braces, the weight of the haversack pocket can be divided between the belt and the opposite shoulder. When not in use this sling is reeved round the outside of the haversack pocket, loops E³ being provided at the back of the haversack for the purpose. The suspensary hooks E¹ of the left haversack pocket are attached somewhat lower than those of the other one to allow room for the bayonet to hang from the belt between the haversack pocket and the wearer's thigh.

- The great-coat is folded flat and held together by its own slings G the loose ends of which are passed round it and through the clip buckles G¹ at the other ends. The loose ends are next passed through two D connections B³ placed on the yoke just below the shoulders and carried through other D connections B⁶ at the rear extremities of the yoke, then pulled tight and secured by a second set of clip buckles G² attached to the slings where they pass round the lower edge of the coat pack. The cross tie G³ of the slings comes between the coat and the body. The mess tin is fastened by its own strap either at the back or on the top of the great-coat or to the belt at the back of the loins, the strap in the latter case either passing through a fixed D connection in the belt or simply round the belt and back to its own buckle.

- The belt, braces, great-coat straps, cartridge carriers, haversack pockets and any auxiliary parts can be made of woven material, leather or any suitable substance,

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It will be seen that the accoutrements arranged in accordance with this invention are readily detachable and in convenient position. The equipment so disposes the weight carried that the whole of it is equally partitioned between the shoulders and hips. There is thus no backward drag, and no pressure on the chest, abdomen, or small of the back. The weight is so balanced that when the belt is loose or even 5 unfastened the equipment whether loaded, partially loaded, or unloaded does not shift. It is possible to put it on and off by simply fastening or unfastening one buckle and the wearer can readjust the equipment while it is on his body.

It is possible for the wearer to lie on the ground and fire his rifle without the equipment interfering in any way with his movements, and the braces and accoutrements attached thereto are held in position by the yoke and the cross tie at the back. 10

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed we declare that what we claim is:— 15

1. In accoutrements the combination with braces of a stiff yoke such as B¹ to concentrate the proper proportion of the weight on the shoulders substantially as described.

2. In accoutrements the combination with a shoulder strap of a padded pliable yoke part substantially as described. 20

3. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt of braces forming a yoke such as B, B¹, C and passing directly and without crossing from front to back so as to leave the chest free substantially as described.

4. In accoutrements the combination with a waste belt of a cartridge carrier such as D attached to the belt by end connections and by intermediate fastenings so as to be removable when the belt is open substantially as described: and illustrated in the accompanying drawings. 25

5. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt of a haversack pocket such as E hooked to the belt so as to be removable when the belt is open substantially as described. 30

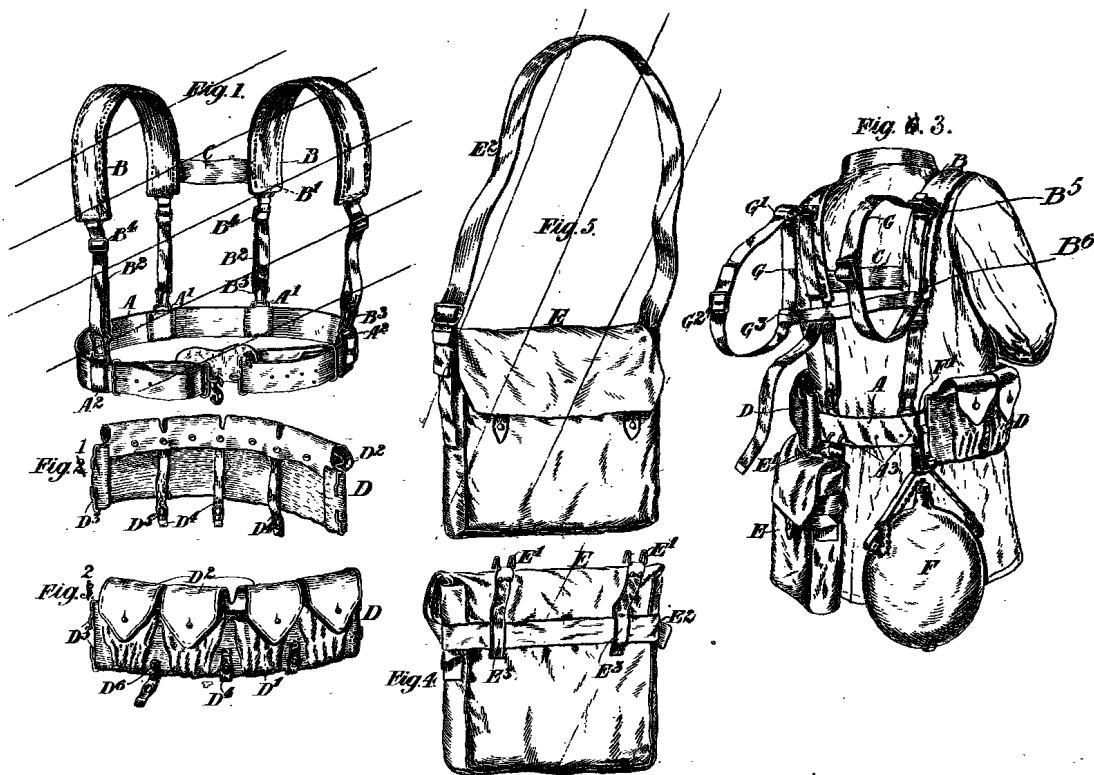
6. In accoutrements the combination with a waist belt and shoulder straps such as B of a great coat attachment such as G¹ arranged to hold the folded coat on the shoulders substantially as described.

7. The complete accoutrements substantially as described or illustrated in the accompanying drawings. 35

Dated this 30th day of July 1904.

BOULT WADE & KILBURN,
Agents for the Applicants.

[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]



[This Drawing is a full-size reproduction of the Original.]

