

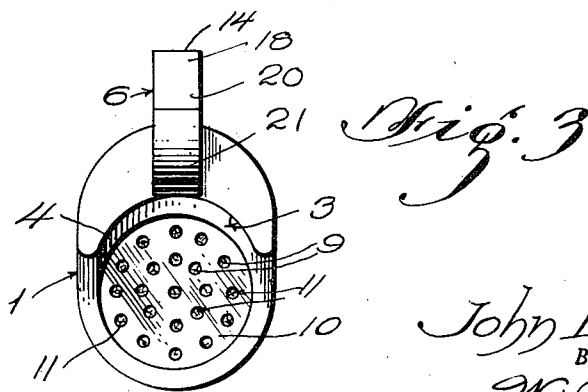
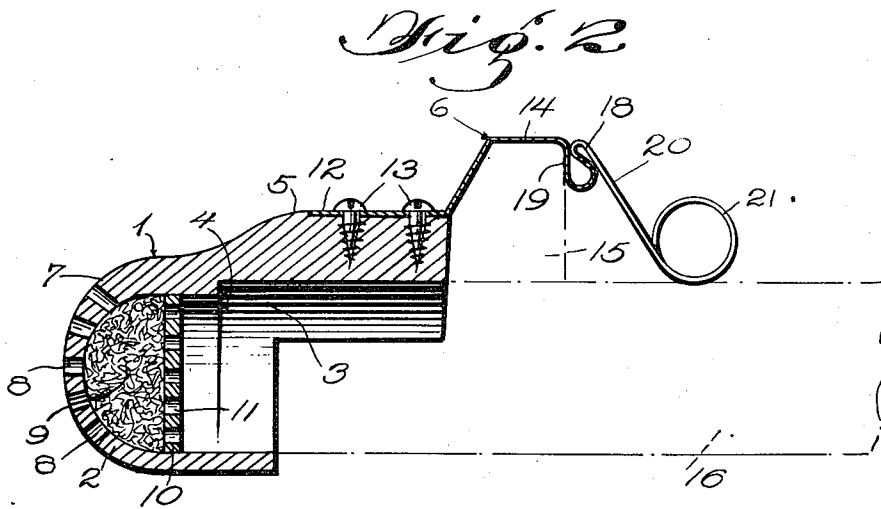
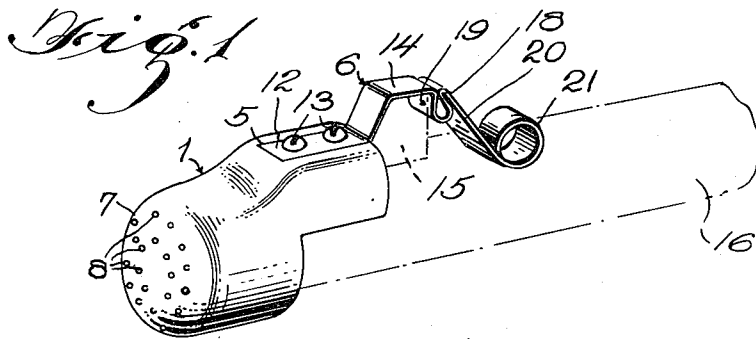
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MUZZLE COVER FOR FIREARMS

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MUZZLE COVER FOR FIREARMS

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This invention described herein, if patented, may be manufactured and used by or for the Governmental for governmental purposes, without the payment to me of any royalty thereon.

This invention relates to a device for use as a cover for the muzzle of a fire-arm and more particularly to such a device for application to the muzzle of a rifle or like weapon for excluding moisture and dirt from the bore thereof.

It is well known that fire-arms become very easily rusted or corroded and this is particularly true of the surface of the bore in such a weapon by reason of the presence thereon of corrosive substances produced by the firing of the weapon, upon contact therewith of moisture laden air when the bore of the weapon is left open at the muzzle.

Much difficulty is also encountered in keeping the bores of such weapons free from dirt and dust and at all times in clean and efficient operating condition.

In an effort to keep such weapons in the best condition objects such as wads of cotton, pieces of cloth, plugs of wood and the like are often inserted into the muzzle thereof in order to exclude dirt. Such objects, while effective to prevent the entrance of dirt into the bore, also close the same against the free circulation of air, resulting in condensation of accumulated moisture on the surface of the metal, causing rapid rusting thereof.

It is an object of the invention to provide a muzzle cover of simple and durable character, capable of excluding moisture from the bore of a fire-arm, thereby preventing undesirable rusting or corroding of the same.

A further object of the invention is to provide a muzzle cover having means for securely holding the same in place over the muzzle of a fire-arm so that it will not be easily jarred or knocked off, but can be quickly removed when necessary for firing the weapon, or cleaning and inspecting the same.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a device of the kind described, having an attaching means which makes use of the front sight structure upon the muzzle of the weapon.

The above and other objects of the invention are accomplished by providing a muzzle cover in the nature of a cap of relatively impervious material adapted to be secured over the muzzle of the weapon and having perforations therein and an inclosed body of filtering material, whereby air is permitted to pass in and out of the bore

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of the weapon through the muzzle, but in so doing dirt and moisture is removed therefrom.

The invention will be understood from the following description of the same taken with the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the muzzle cover in position on the muzzle of a weapon;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged horizontal sectional view of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged rear-end view of the muzzle cover removed from the weapon.

In the drawings 1 is the body of the muzzle cover which may be made of any suitable material such as wood, metal, or plastics, the latter material being preferred because of its relative lightness, ease of working, and cheapness. The body 1 is formed with a hollow head or cup 2, and a groove 3 rearwardly thereof and opening into the cup. The groove 3 terminates at its forward end in an arcuate internal shoulder 4 for a purpose to be later explained. The upper part of the body 1 rearwardly of the head or cup 2, may be somewhat raised above the front end thereof forming an elevated portion 5 to which is secured one end of a spring clip structure 6 adapted to secure the muzzle cover in place on the muzzle of the weapon. The front end 7 of the body 1 is rounded and provided with perforations 8 extending through the body into the cup 2. Moisture absorbent or reactive filtering material of a porous nature, such as fine steel wool 9, is positioned inside the cup 2 and may be held therein by means of a plate 10 inserted behind the material and having perforations 11 therein so that air can pass through the head or cup, through the perforations 8, material 9 and perforations 11.

The spring clip structure 6 may be secured in any suitable manner to the body of the muzzle cover, as by embedding the end 12 thereof in the material of the elevated portion 5, or by means of the screws 13 passing through holes in the end 12 into the portion 5. The spring clip 6 has an upwardly offset portion 14 adapted to extend freely above and over the front sight blade indicated at 15 of a weapon 16 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. At the rear extremity of the upwardly offset portion 14 a downwardly bent loop 18 is provided to give the structure greater resiliency. The forward portion 19 of the loop 18 bears against the rear edge of the sight blade 15 to assist in maintaining the muzzle cover securely in position. Rearwardly of the loop 18 there is a portion 20 offset so as to slope downwardly in the direction of the longitudinal axis

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of hollow body 1 and ending in a ring 21 bearing against the barrel rearwardly of the sight blade, by which ring 21 the cover may be lifted off the muzzle of the weapon.

It will be seen that in placing the muzzle cover in position on the muzzle of the weapon 16, the wall of the groove 3 is engaged with the end of the muzzle, and as the cover is moved back over the muzzle the ring 21 of spring clip 6 engages the sight blade 15. When the end of the muzzle comes into contact with the internal shoulder 4 the spring clip 6 will snap into the position shown in Fig. 2, with the portion 19 of the loop 18 bearing on the rear edge of the sight blade 15, thus accurately holding the cover in place.

When in place the cover 1 completely covers the muzzle, and air entering therein must first find its way through the perforations 8, porous material 9, and perforations 11 whereby moisture and dirt are effectively filtered from the same, thus preventing rusting of the surface of the bore of the weapon and accumulation of dirt therein. It will also be apparent that should the muzzle end of the weapon come into contact with foreign material such as soil or mud, which may often be the case under combat conditions, the muzzle cover thereon will prevent the entrance of such material into the bore of the weapon, and will not be easily knocked off by shaking or jarring.

To remove the cover it is simply necessary to grasp the ring 21 of the spring clip 6 and pull upwardly thereon, when the clip will be removed from the sight blade and the cover will then slip off the end of the muzzle.

It will thus be apparent that the invention provides a muzzle cover of simple design and rugged construction, capable of being quickly positioned on the weapon or removed therefrom, and affording a maximum of protection of the bore of the weapon against dirt and moisture without sealing the same against the entrance of air.

Having thus clearly shown and described the invention, what is claimed and desired to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. Muzzle cover for a fire-arm with barrel, comprising a hollow body having a perforated end, a cylindrical side wall having an inner circumference equal to the outer circumference of the muzzle end of said barrel, a perforated circular plate in said cylindrical body spaced from said perforated end, the circumference of said plate exceeding the circumference of the bore of said fire-arm, a filtering medium confined in said body between said perforated end and said perforated plate, and resilient means on said body for releasably retaining said muzzle cover on said barrel and centering said filtering medium over said muzzle.

2. Muzzle cover for a fire-arm with barrel and front sight structure, comprising a hollow body having a perforated end, a cylindrical side wall having an inner circumference equal to the outer circumference of the muzzle end of said barrel, a perforated circular plate in said cylindrical body spaced from said perforated end, the circumference of said plate exceeding the circumference of the bore of said fire-arm, a filtering medium confined in said body between said perforated end and said perforated plate, and re-

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silient means on said body for releasably retaining said muzzle cover on said barrel and centering said filtering medium over said muzzle, said means comprising a spring rearwardly extending from said body and embracing said front sight structure and frictionally engaging said barrel behind said front sight structure.

3. Muzzle cover for a fire-arm with barrel and front sight structure, comprising a hollow body having a perforated end, a cylindrical side wall having an inner circumference equal to the outer circumference of the muzzle end of said barrel, a perforated circular plate in said cylindrical body spaced from said perforated end, the circumference of said plate exceeding the circumference of the bore of said fire-arm, a filtering medium confined in said body between said perforated end and said perforated plate, and resilient means on said body for releasably retaining said muzzle cover on said barrel and centering said filtering medium over said muzzle, said means comprising a spring rearwardly extending from said body and embracing said front sight structure and terminating in a manually graspable ring frictionally engaging said barrel behind said front sight structure.

4. Muzzle cover for a fire-arm with barrel and front sight structure, comprising a hollow body having a perforated end, a cylindrical side wall having an inner circumference equal to the outer circumference of the muzzle end of said barrel, a perforated circular plate in said cylindrical body spaced from said perforated end, the circumference of said plate exceeding the circumference of the bore of said fire-arm, a filtering medium confined in said body between said perforated end and said perforated plate, and resilient means on said body for releasably retaining said muzzle cover on said barrel and centering said filtering medium over said muzzle, said means comprising a spring rearwardly extending from said body and offset upwardly to embrace said front sight structure and then downwardly to frictionally engage said barrel behind said front sight structure and having a manually graspable terminal portion for quick release of said muzzle cover.

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