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(54) APPARATUS FOR STORING AND TRANSPORTING PROJECTILES, PARTICULARLY FIN-STABILISED SHELLS FOR MORTARS

(71) We, OY TAMPELLA AB, a Finnish Company, of Tampere, Finland, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

The invention relates to an apparatus for storage and transport of projectiles, particularly of fin-stabilised shells for mortars.

Box-like containers or frameworks are already known to be used for the storage and transport of projectiles; these are subdivided by longitudinal and transverse walls or other partitions into compartments, into which the projectiles, for example grenades, can be pushed. The whole unit can be provided with a lid. Generally boxes are involved, in which the grenades or the like are stored in a vertical position. Longitudinally-extended boxes or the like are also known, in which the grenades are arranged to lie in a horizontal position.

The object of the invention is to provide an apparatus for storing and transporting particularly fin-stabilised shells for mortars, in which the shells are arranged in an easily-visible and convenient way, and which is also capable of being carried by only one man.

According to the invention there is provided an apparatus for storing and transporting projectiles particularly fin-stabilised shells for mortars, comprising a plate and a row of spaced apart members attached to the plate and defining pairs of openings, each pair of openings being defined by an opening in one member and a substantially co-axial but smaller opening in the adjacent member, and the members being so arranged that the common axis of each pair of openings is at an acute angle to the

plate and is also at an acute angle to the common axis of the adjacent pairs of openings.

By means of such a design there is obtained a framework for storing and transporting grenades, in which grenades — seen from above — can be stored in a staggered fashion relative to one another. The grenades are slightly spread relative to one another, so that they may be easily, well and securely grasped by the tail end. This advantage is supplemented by the fact that the projectiles which are in a vertical plane relative to the holder plate, are each arranged a certain vertical distance lower than their predecessor. The framework according to the invention can be fixed in position on a vertical wall, or it can be designed as a portable framework.

The apparatus may comprise an enclosure of flexible material for enclosing the members and projectiles when carried thereby. The plate may be designed in the manner of a support panel of a rucksack, easily portable by one person.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 shows a schematic side view of a storage and transport apparatus for projectiles, according to the invention — and Fig. 2 is a rear view of the apparatus shown in Fig. 1, the cover being omitted.

The illustrated apparatus for storing and transporting projectiles has a holder plate 1, on which holder rings 2 and plate portions 5 are fixed with the common axes of the rings 2 and openings 3 in the plate portions 5 at acute angles to the plane of plate 1. Holder rings 2 are so designed that they can surround the largest diameter of the projec-

tile 4 to be set in the rings, whereas holder openings 3 in plate portions 5 have a smaller diameter, and can surround the forward tapered part of the projectile. Each pair of openings consisting of an opening defined by a holder ring 2 and the opening 3 in the associated plate portion 5 is offset, seen in a vertical plane, from an adjacent pair in a row by the distance between the ring 2 and the plate portion 5 defining the openings of one pair. In the illustration, three pairs of opening are provided in a staggered fashion from the top downwards. The pairs of openings lying respectively offset one stage lower, are suitably arranged with their common axes at an increased acute angle downwards relative to the acute angle of the common axes of the pairs of openings in the holder ring 2 and the plate portion 5 fixed directly on plate 1. This results in further compartment spreading for the grenades which are inserted. Accordingly, angled points 4 are located in the framework. This offset arrangement of the pairs of openings can be provided in various adjacent arrangements, as is apparent from Fig. 2. In the framework shown, nine grenades can be stored in a corresponding staggered arrangement relative to one another.

The openings can be provided in various ways. Holder rings 2 are sleeve-pieces, whereas openings 3 are provided in plate portions 5. The whole framework can be surrounded by a cover 7. This advantageously consists of flexible material, e.g. sailcloth. Plate 1 is suitably designed in the manner of a rucksack carrier plate. Cover 7 can be designed so as to be openable and closable at an optional point.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. Apparatus for storing and transporting projectiles particularly fin-stabilised shells for mortars, comprising a plate and a row of spaced apart members attached to the plate and defining pairs of openings, each pair of openings being defined by an opening in one member and a substantially co-axial but smaller opening in the adjacent member, and the members being so arranged that the common axis of each pair of openings is at an acute angle to the plane of the plate and is also at an acute angle to the common axis of the adjacent pairs of openings.

2. Apparatus according to claim 1, comprising an enclosure of flexible material for enclosing the members and projectiles when carried thereby.

3. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the plate is designed in the manner of a support panel of a rucksack.

4. Apparatus according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the members defining the openings having the larger diameter comprise rings.

5. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein the members defining the openings having the smaller diameter comprise plates.

6. Apparatus for storing and transporting projectiles, particularly fin-stabilised shells for mortars, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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2. Apparatus according to claim 1, comprising an enclosure of flexible material for enclosing the members and projectiles when carried thereby.

3. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the plate is designed in the manner of a support panel of a rucksack.

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