

Patching Your Uniform

by John Wedeward

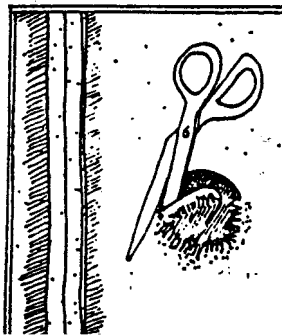


FIG. 1

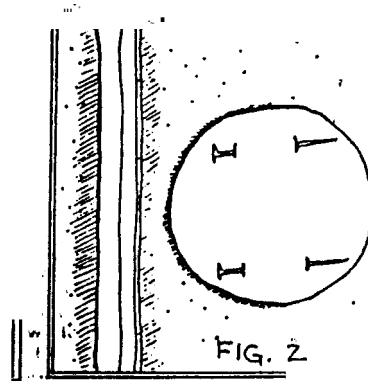


FIG. 2

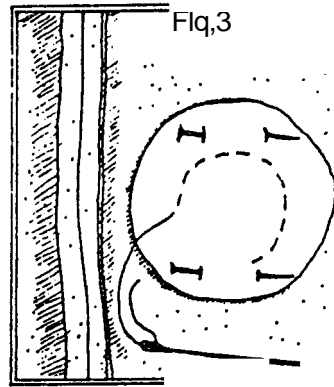


FIG. 3

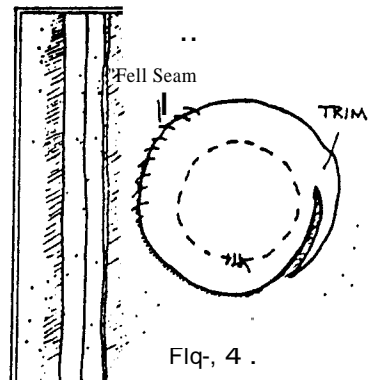


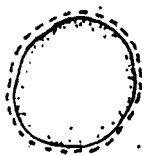
FIG. 4

When patching a hole in your uniform, remember that the proper way to do it is from the inside out: Not by stitching a patch over the hole from the outside.

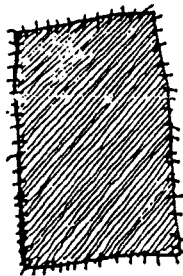
The first step is to turn the garment inside out and trim the inside edges of the hole (Fig 1). Next, find yourself a piece of fabric or similar material as close to the original as possible. Cut it to overlap the hole by at least 3/8" or more on all sides and pin in place. (Fig 2). Using a top stitch or backstitch, stitch around the hole staying as close to the edge of the hole as possible (Fig 3). Finish off your sewing with a few quick whip stitches and tie a knot. Trim the inside edge or fellseam it to the inside fabric, (Fig 4).

Take your time & be neat! Turn the garment inside out, Your finished patch should LOOK:

Like This



Not This



Remember, *you* are portraying soldiers or the U.S. Army, not Bushwhackers, scalawags or hillbillies. All NCO or Officer *may* not have been able to say much about how *you* slept, ate, or washed, but he sure had a lot to say about *your* appearance on the color line. When he presents soldiers for inspection to the higher authority, *you* can bet he *cares* about your appearance! Apart (from short lapses, there was no excuse *for* a soldier to appear shabby or look like a rag picker. **ALSO! POLISH YOUR BRASS!**

