

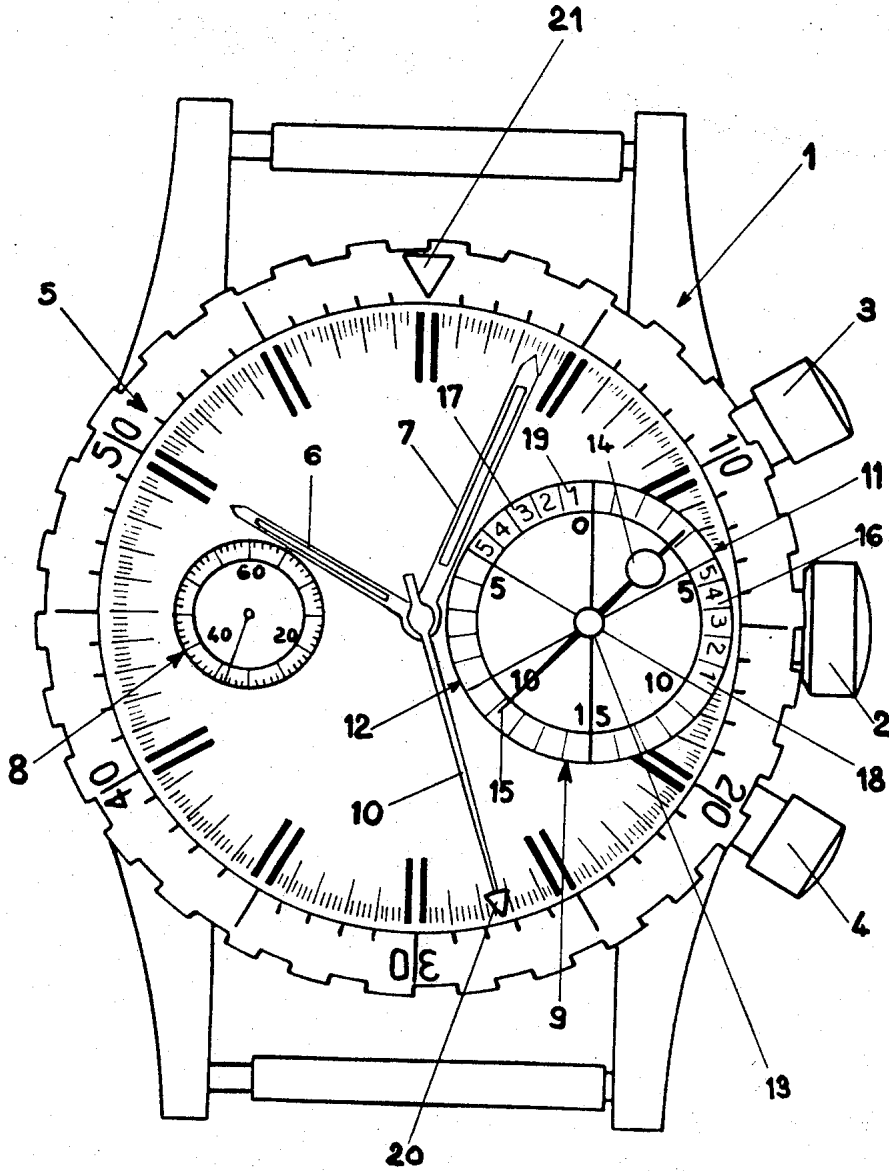
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WATCH FOR YACHTING AND UNDERWATER USE

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WATCH FOR YACHTING AND
UNDERWATER USE

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3 Claims 10

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This disclosure is concerned with a chronometer watch 15
intended particularly for yachting purposes and having
a main scale indicating hours and minutes, coaxial hour,
minute and sweep second hands cooperating with the
scale; a bezel marked with a sixty second scale and
rotatable about the main scale, the bezel having an index 20
settable with the second hand; a minute scale graduated
in 30 minutes and comprising two zones of 180°, one
of the zones having three five minutes scales graduated
thereon, two of the scales being coloured differently and
the other zone having three differently coloured five 25
minute scales; one of the zones further being marked
off to provide count-down indications from the sixth to
the tenth minute and the other, from the eleventh to the
fifteen minute; a two-ended band cooperating with the
30 minute scale and a chronometric system for controlling
the sweep second hand and the two-ended hand.

Already known are chronometers intended for partic- 35
ular uses, in particular for sports events or for partic-
ular professions such as aviation, diving and the like.
These chronometers generally comprise a classical move-
ment to which is added sometimes a special counter or a
rotating bezel. In most cases, these timepieces are adapted
to the profession of their user by means of a simple mod-
ification of the dial.

It has been shown in the case of yachtsmen that a
specially designed timepiece would be necessary to syn-
chronize with the time shift set by the race commissioners,
this shift having to be of a great precision in particular
at the start.

As a matter of fact, for regattas, the ideal is to cross the
departure line with a maximum speed within the sound
of the cannon shot announcing the real departure, as per-
mitted by the rules. If the boat crosses the line even a
fraction of a second before the shot, the same is dis-
qualified unless it comes back again to cross the line. The
result is a considerable loss of time and often a handicap
which cannot victoriously be overcome.

To this effect, the invention seeks to remedy these draw-
backs and to provide a portable, water-tight timepiece
which is highly precise and which can be in perfect agree-
ment with the official instruments of the commissioners.

The invention is concerned with a chronometer watch 60
characterised in that it comprises a means permitting the
correction of the zero point of the chronometric center
seconds hand and a minute counter divided into two zones
which can be used instantaneously owing to a two-ended
hand.

The invention will be better understood by reference to
the following description made by way of non-limiting

example and to the accompanying drawing the single fig-
ure of which is a detailed top plan view of the dial of the
watch of the invention.

The watch comprises a chronometric movement in a
casing 1 which is perfectly water-tight and comprises a
winding stem 2, two pushbuttons, 3 and 4 respectively,
and a turning bezel 5 for zero correction.

The movement comprises, in addition to the two hands
6 and 7 and the small center seconds hand 8, a minutes
counter 9 cooperating with a central hand 10 every 1/5th
of a second.

Furthermore, the minute counter, marked with a thirty
minutes scale, largely expanded, comprises two zones
of 180°.

Zone 11 on the side of crown 2 has three five minute
scales, two of which are coloured differently so as to
check twice the five minutes granted at the beginning of
the regattas, according to the international system, zone
12 opposite to the preceding one comprises three five
minute portions of different colours representing three
times the five minutes generally granted upon departure
of regattas in certain countries. The use of either zones
11 and 12 can be effected equally by virtue of the two-
headed or two-ended hand 13.

The two heads 14 and 15, which have a different shape,
refer respectively to zones 11 and 12.

The marking of dial 9 is such that it provides for
count-down means 16 and 17 respectively from the sixth
to the tenth minute on the side of the crown and from
the eleventh to the fifteenth minute on the opposite side,
representing, in the two cases, the last five minutes before
departure.

In the two cases, the last minute, 18 and 19 respectively,
before departure is highlighted by a coloration which
warns the user to refer to hand 10 which terminates in
a triangular point 20 for the count down to 1/5th of a
second relative to the triangular index 21 of the rotating
bezel 5.

At the first gun shot calling the contestants, these must
immediately start the chronometer system by bearing on
push-button 3, thereby starting hands 10 and 13. In-
evitably, surprise causes a time lag in the placing into
operation of the chronometric system and when the sec-
ond shot, five minutes after the first, is heard, indicating
the last five minutes before departure, it suffices to turn
bezel 5 in order to bring the index 21 in front of the
position occupied by extremity 20 of hand 10 at the
moment of said shot. Index 21 indicates then exactly the
actual zero for the last five minutes.

There is thus obtained a chronometer watch permitting
the exact determination of the official instant of departure
for regattas, for international rules as well as for partic-
ular regulations of certain countries.

What is claimed is:

1. In a chronometer watch intended particularly for
yachting purposes; a main scale indicating hours and
minutes, coaxial hour, minute and sweep second hands
cooperating with said main scale; a bezel marked with
a sixty second scale and rotatable about said main scale,
said bezel having an index settable with said sweep sec-
ond hand for zero correction, a second minute scale
graduated in 30 minutes and comprising two zones each
of 180°; each of said two zones having three five minute
scales graduated thereon; two of said scales in one of said
two zones being colored differently and the other zone
having three differently colored five minute scales; one

3

of said two zones having indicia to provide count-down indications from the sixth to the tenth minute and the other zone from the eleventh to the fifteenth minute; a two-ended hand cooperating with said 30 minute scale and means for setting said sweep second hand and said two-ended hand.

2. Watch according to claim 1, wherein said sweep second hand has a triangular point and said index of said bezel is in the form of an inverted triangle.

3. Watch according to claim 1, wherein the last minute on each of said zones is highlighted by coloration alerting the user to look at said sweep second hand.

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