United States Patent [19]

Sammons

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[54] **TRAVEL ENVELOPE WITH BAGGAGE TICKET AND BAGGAGE CLAIM TICKET**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.**..... **229/72,** 40/6, 206/DIG. 29, 229/51 WB, 229/70, 229/74, 283/20

[51] **Int. Cl.**..... **B65d 27/08**

[58] **Field of Search**..... 229/70, 72, 74, 75, 73, 81, 229/80, 51 WB; 283/20; 40/6; 206/DIG. 18

[56] **References Cited**

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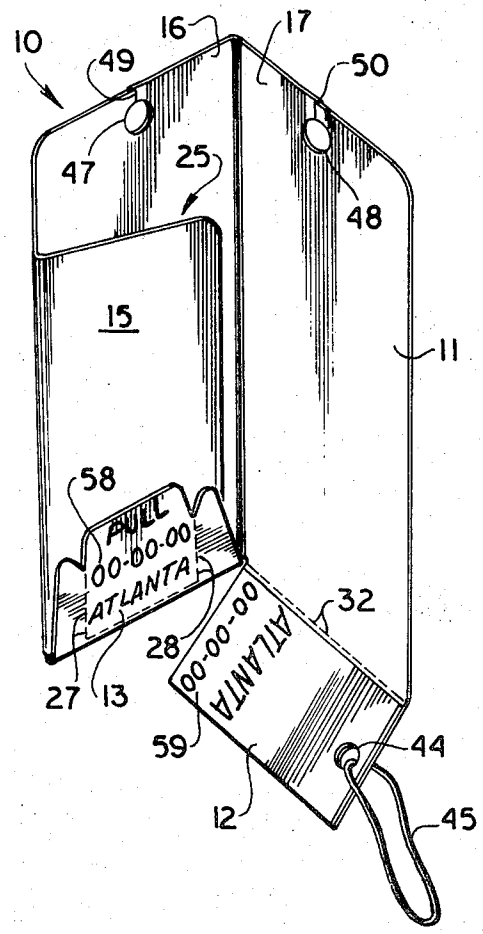
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Assistant Examiner—Stephen P. Garbe
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jones, Thomas & Askew

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A travel envelope for enclosing an airline ticket is disclosed which includes as an integral part thereof a baggage ticket which can be torn away therefrom and attached to the baggage of the traveler with a string. A baggage claim ticket is also detachably connected to the envelope. Duplicate indicia are applied to both the baggage ticket and baggage claim ticket for identifying purposes.

6 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures



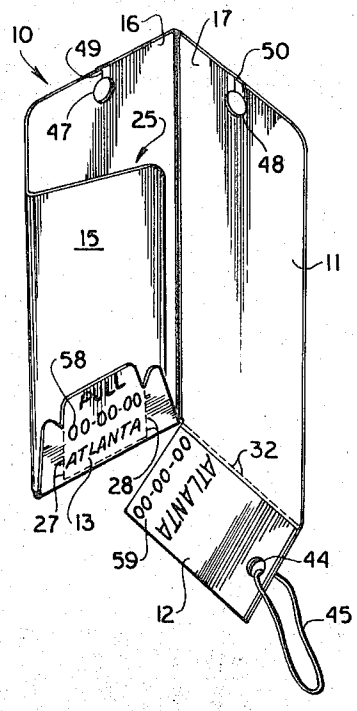


FIG 1

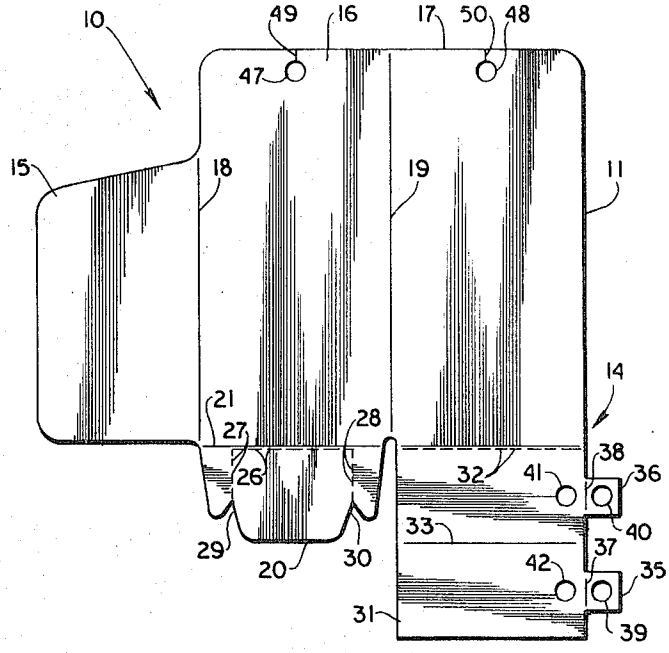


FIG 2

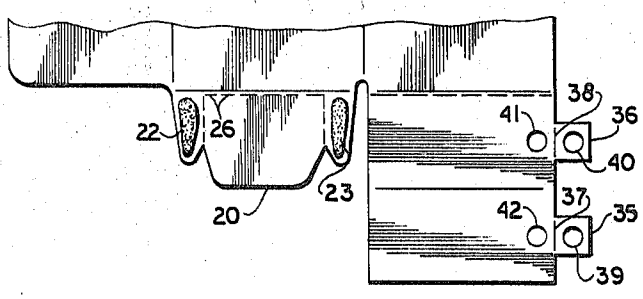


FIG 3

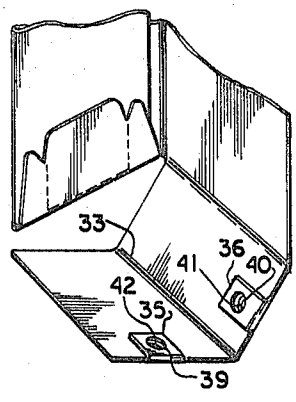


FIG 4

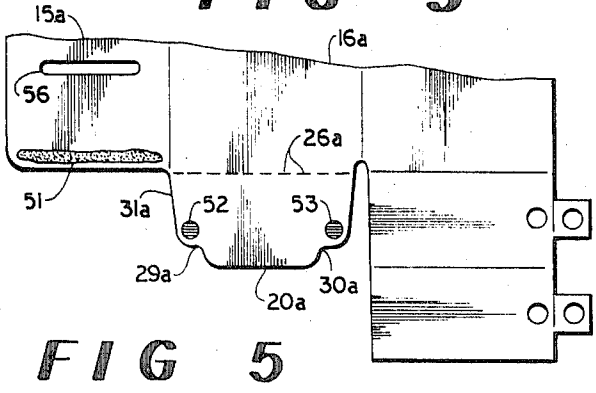


FIG 5

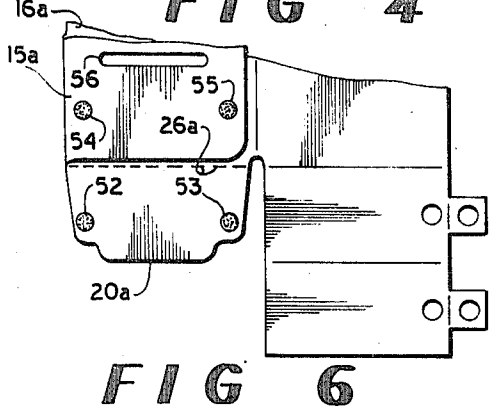


FIG 6

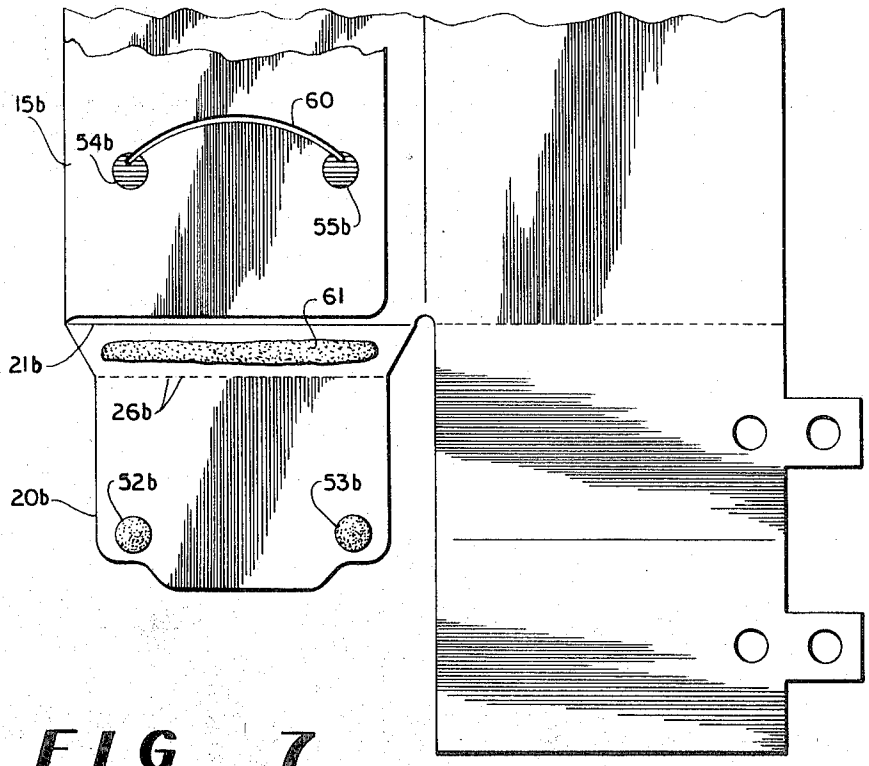


FIG 7

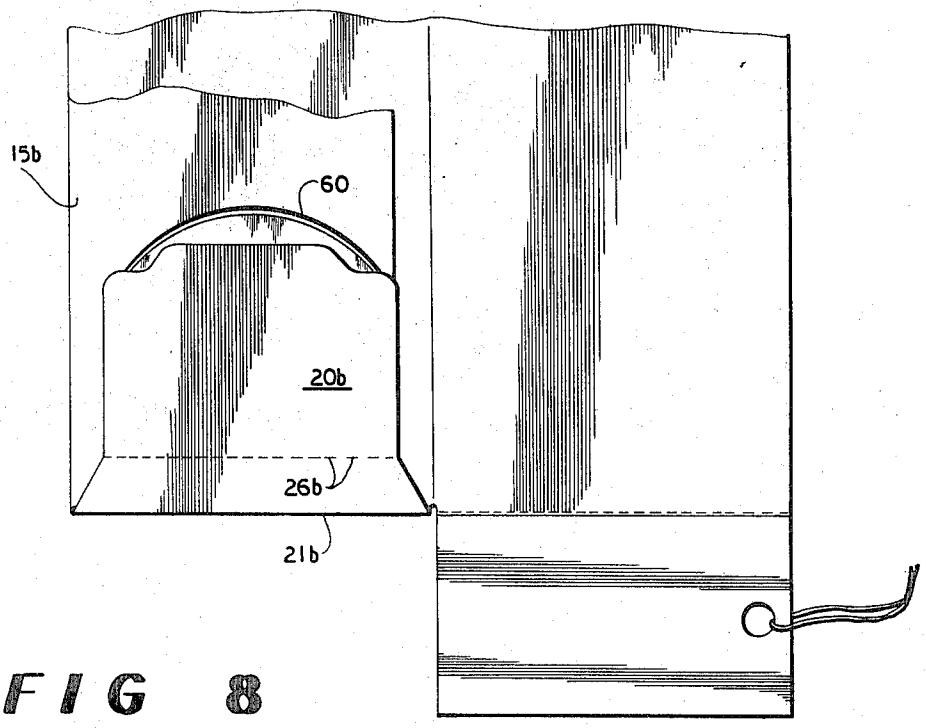


FIG 8

TRAVEL ENVELOPE WITH BAGGAGE TICKET AND BAGGAGE CLAIM TICKET

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Most airlines provide a ticket envelope with each travel ticket sold to its passengers, and the travel ticket is usually inserted in a pocket of the envelope. The envelope pocket is open along two adjacent edges so as to facilitate the insertion and retrieval of the travel ticket from the envelope.

If the airline passenger carries luggage, etc. which is to be handled separately and carried in the baggage compartment on the aircraft, the passenger usually delivers the luggage to an airline representative, usually at the ticket purchasing counter, and the airline representative attaches a baggage ticket to each piece of luggage and provides the passenger with baggage claim tickets which are usually stubs torn away from the baggage tickets. The stubs or baggage claim tickets are usually inserted in or stapled to the ticket envelope. The airline representative must therefore handle the airline ticket, the ticket envelope, the baggage ticket, and the stub or baggage claim ticket when processing a single passenger with a single piece of luggage. The separate manufacture of the baggage tickets and their stubs and the separate handling of these items with the other items necessary for processing each passenger is expensive and burdensome to the airline.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Briefly described, the present invention comprises a travel envelope for airlines, etc., where the baggage ticket and baggage claim ticket for the baggage of the passenger are provided as an integral part of the ticket envelope. The envelope assembly, including the baggage ticket and claim ticket, is formed from a single continuous sheet of material, and serrations divide the baggage ticket and claim ticket from the envelope so that the tickets can be readily detached from the envelope without damaging the envelope. The tickets have duplicate numbers and other indicia applied thereto for identification purposes, and a string threaded through a hole in the baggage ticket can be tied to luggage, etc. in the conventional manner to attach the baggage ticket to the luggage.

Thus, it is an object of the present invention to provide a travel envelope for a passenger ticket and which has detachably connected thereto a baggage ticket and a baggage claim ticket.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an expedient and inexpensive means of identifying passenger luggage.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent upon reading the following specification, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the travel envelope assembly, showing the envelope in its opened position and exposing the inside surfaces of the envelope.

FIG. 2 is an illustration of an unfolded envelope blank.

FIG. 3 is a partial showing of the envelope, showing the bottom portion of the envelope after glue has been applied to the edge portions of the extension which includes the baggage claim ticket.

FIG. 4 is a partial perspective view of the envelope, showing the manner in which the reinforcing tabs of the baggage ticket are folded with respect to the layers of material which form the baggage ticket.

FIG. 5 is a partial view of the travel envelope, similar to FIG. 3, but showing a modified form of the invention.

FIG. 6 is a partial illustration of the modified form of the travel envelope, showing one panel folded over the middle panel.

FIG. 7 is a partial view of the travel envelope, similar to FIG. 6 but showing a second modified form of the invention.

FIG. 8 is a partial illustration of the second modified form of the travel envelope, showing the baggage claim ticket and baggage ticket folded closed and ready for use.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now in more detail to the drawing, in which like numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views, FIG. 1 shows travel envelope assembly **10** which comprises a main portion or envelope **11**, baggage ticket **12**, and baggage claim ticket **13**. As is illustrated in FIG. 2, the entire envelope assembly **10** is fabricated from a single continuous sheet of material or blank **14**. The envelope portion of the assembly includes a short left panel **15**, middle panel **16** and right panel **17**. Panels **15**, **16**, and **17** are formed by two parallel fold lines **18** and **19** which extend along the length of the blank **14**. Left panel **15** is shorter than both the middle panel **16** and right panel **17**, and left panel **15** is folded at fold line **18** over into a close folded relationship with respect to middle panel **16**, as shown in FIG. **1**.

Middle panel **16** includes an extension **20** which extends from the bottom edge of the middle panel and is divided from the middle panel by fold line **21**. As is illustrated in FIG. **1**, extension **20** is folded over left panel **15**, and spots of glue **22** and **23** at the edges of extension **20** hold extension **20** and left panel **15** in their folded over positions so that a pocket **25** is formed with two adjacent closed edges at fold lines **18** and **21** and with the remaining two edges left open. Perforations **26** are formed along fold line **21**, and perforations **27** and **28** intersect perforations **26** inwardly between the glue spots **22** and **23** and extend toward the outer edge of extension **20** to define baggage claim ticket **13**. Notches **29** and **30** are formed in the outer edge of extension **20** at the ends of serrations **27** and **28**.

Right side panel **17** includes extension **31** at its lower end. Extension **31** is divided from right panel **17** by perforations **32**, and extension **31** includes a fold line **33** intermediate its ends which is parallel to perforations **32**. Tabs **35** and **36** are equally spaced on opposite sides of fold line **33** and protrude from one edge of extension **31** and are divided from the main portion of extension **31** by fold lines **37** and **38**. Holes **39** and **40** are centrally formed in tabs **35** and **36** and holes **41** and **42** are formed in extension **31** at equally spaced distances on the opposite side of fold lines **37** and **38** from holes **39** and **40**. As is illustrated in FIG. **4**, extension **31** is folded along fold line **33** while tabs **35** and **36** are folded along their fold lines **37** and **38** between the layers of extension **31**. When the extension is folded in this manner with glue applied to its facing surfaces, the baggage ticket **12** is formed. The holes **39**, **40**, **41** and **42** register with each other so that the baggage ticket is

formed with a hole **44** through which string **45** is threaded.

Holes **47** and **48** are formed in middle panel **16** and side panel **17** adjacent their upper edges, and cuts **49** and **50** intersect holes **47** and **48** and extend to the edge of the panels. Holes **47** and **48** are aligned with each other when the envelope assembly is folded closed.

As is illustrated in FIGS. **5** and **6**, an alternate form of the envelope assembly can be provided wherein left panel **15***a* has glue **51** applied thereto along its bottom edge so that when left panel **15***a* is folded over middle panel **16***a*, the glue **51** holds these panels in their folded positions. In addition, ink spots **52** and **53** are applied to extension **31***a* at its corners, while inkspots **54** and **55** are applied to the outside surface of left panel **15***a*. Inkspots **52–55** are spaced so that when extension **20***a* is folded over left panel **15***a*, the inkspots **53** and **55** will abut each other while inkspots **52** and **54** will abut each other. Spots of glue are applied to each of the inkspots **52–55**, and the inkspots inhibit the material from which the envelope assembly is fabricated from absorbing all of the glue so that a portion of each glue spot sets up on the surfaces of the extension **20***a* and left panel **15***a*. Thus, when extension **20***a* is folded over left panel **15***a*, the glue spots on inkspots **52–55** will abut each other and tend to hold the extension in its folded position. When the extension is pried away from the envelope, the glue spots will part so that the extension will not be damaged. In this form of the invention, the entire extension **20***a* comprises the baggage claim ticket, and the perforations **26***a* extend along the fold line between the extension **20***a* and the middle panel **16***a* and the entire extension can be removed from the envelope. When the extension or baggage claim ticket **20***a* is removed from the envelope by tearing along perforations **26***a*, the pocket of the envelope will remain intact since the glue spot **51** along the inside surface of left panel **15***a* will hold the left panel to the middle panel **16***a*. In order to provide an additional pocket feature to the assembly, elongated slot **56** is formed in left panel **15***a*. Any short papers, stubs, etc., which might fit through slot **56** can be inserted therein and carried with the envelope without hazard of dropping these papers when the baggage claim ticket **20***a* is torn away from the envelope. Also, as long as the baggage claim ticket **20***a* remains connected to the envelope by means of its glue spots, the baggage claim ticket will form an additional pocket structure and stubs, papers, etc. can be inserted down into the pocket.

Duplicate indicia **58** and **59** are applied to baggage claim ticket **13** and baggage ticket **12**. The indicia usually will include a series of numbers and various word designations such as a destination city and airline identification. In addition, baggage claim instructions and other information can be included on either or both of the tickets. While the numbers applied to both tickets on a single envelope will be identical, the numbers applied to other envelopes will be in series so that the baggage to which a baggage ticket is connected can be identified by the envelope holder upon referring to the numbers on his baggage claim ticket.

As is illustrated in FIGS. **7** and **8**, a second modified form of the travel envelope can be provided wherein left panel **15***b* has a crescent-shaped slot **60** cut therethrough. A line of glue **61** is applied to extension **20***b* adjacent its fold line **21***b*, and perforations **26***b* are spaced away from fold line **21***b* on extension **20***b*. The line of glue **61** is located between perforations **26***b* and fold line **21***b*. Inkspots **52***b* and **53***b* are applied to the inside surface of extension **20***b*, while inkspots **54***b* and **55***b* are applied to the outside surface of left panel **15***b*. Glue is applied on the surface of inkspots **52***b–55b*. The spacing of the inkspots and superposed glue spots is such that when extension **20***b* is folded along its fold line **21***b* in the manner illustrated in FIG. **8**, the inkspots will register with each other and their superposed spots of glue will hold the extension **20***b* folded over left panel **15***b*. In addition, the line of glue **61** will hold the portion of extension **20***b* between fold line **21***b* and perforations **26***b* to the bottom edge of left panel **15***b*.

In this form of the invention, the portion of the extension **20***b* above the perforations **26***b* (FIG. **8**) will form the baggage claim ticket, and the traveler will insert his finger between left panel **15***b* and the baggage claim ticket and pull the baggage claim ticket until its glue spots separate from the glue spots of left panel **15***b*, and then the traveler will tear the baggage claim ticket from the envelope assembly along perforations **26***b*. The line of glue **61** (FIG. **7**) holds left panel **15***b* in its closed or folded over position after the baggage claim ticket has been separated from the envelope assembly.

The crescent-shaped slot **60** forms a pocket opening for receiving small stubs, etc., before or after the baggage claim ticket is removed from the envelope assembly. The crescent shape of the slot **60** provides easy sliding access to the pocket opening.

A supply of travel envelope assemblies **10** usually will be maintained at a ticket purchasing counter of an airline, etc., and when a passenger ticket has been prepared and sold by the airline representative, an envelope will be pulled from a nail extending through holes **47** and **48** and the passenger ticket will be inserted in the pocket **25** of the envelope assembly. If the passenger has luggage to be checked with the airline for separate transportation in the storage compartment of tne aircraft, the ticket agent will detach the baggage ticket **12** from the envelope assembly **10** and connect the baggage ticket by means of string **45** to the baggage. No handling of a claim check is required. When the passenger arrives at his destination, he can claim his baggage by detaching his baggage claim ticket **13** from his envelope assembly and comparing the numbers and other indicia on his baggage claim ticket with the baggage tickets of the luggage at the baggage claim area. Thus, the baggage claim ticket is not individually handled by either the ticket agent or the passenger until the passenger is ready to claim his luggage.

In the event the passenger does not check any luggage, the baggage ticket **12** can remain attached to the evnelope assembly and merely folded up along the perforations **32**, if desired, so as to be folded inside the envelope. Also, the airline representative at the ticket purchasing counter can merely tear off the baggage ticket if he desires.

In the event that the passenger has more than one article of baggage, additional baggage tickets and stubs can be provided by the airline representative by tearing off baggage tickets and baggage claims tickets from other unused travel envelope assemblies, connecting the baggage tickets individually to each additional piece of baggage, and inserting the baggage claim tickets in the pocket of the envelope assembly.

While this invention has been described in detail with particular reference to preferred embodiments thereof,

it will be understood that variations and modifications can be effected within the spirit and scope of the invention as described hereinbefore and as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. An envelope assembly formed from a single continuous sheet of material folded twice along its length to form three panels including a left side panel, a middle panel and a right side panel, said left side panel being folded to overlie said middle panel, an extension on one end of said middle panel, said extension being folded over said left side panel and fixed thereto, said extension including perforations whereby a selected portion of said extension can be separated from said extension, said selected portion constituting a baggage claim ticket, a baggage ticket on one end of said right side panel, said baggage ticket being attached to said right side panel through a perforated line, and duplicate indicia applied to both said baggage ticket and said baggage claim ticket.

2. The envelope assembly of claim 1 and wherein said baggage ticket is formed by at least two layers of said sheet material and defines a hole therein, and further including a string member strung through the hole of said baggage ticket for attaching the baggage ticket to baggage or the like.

3. The envelope assembly of claim 1 and wherein said baggage ticket comprises a first layer of said material attached at one of its edges to said right side panel, a second layer of said material folded over said first layer of material, a tab extending from mutual edges of both the first and second layers of material of said baggage ticket and folded inwardly between the layers of material, aligned holes defined in each of said first and second layers of material and in said tabs, and a string threaded through the holes.

4. The envelope assembly of claim 1 and wherein said extension is glued at its side edges to said left side panel and perforations are formed along each side edge inwardly of its glued area, with the side edge perforations intersecting perforations formed along the line of attachment between said middle panel and said extension, and notches formed at the edge opposite from the line of attachment between said middle panel and said extension, said notches being formed at the ends of said side edge perforations.

5. The envelope assembly of claim 1 and wherein said baggage claim ticket and said one side panel both include spaced apart printed areas and spots of glue applied to the printed areas, said printed areas inhibiting the material of the envelope from absorbing all of the glue, whereby the glue spots of the baggage claim ticket are attached to the glue spots of said one panel and said baggage claim ticket can be pulled apart from said one panel and the glue spots will separate substantially without damaging the baggage claim ticket.

6. An envelope assembly formed from a single continuous sheet of material folded twice along its length to form three panels, the middle panel comprising an extension at one of its edges folded over along a fold line and glued to a side panel and holding the side panel in its folded position with respect to said middle panel, said extension including a baggage claim ticket, and a baggage ticket connected to the other side panel with a line of perforations formed between said other panel and said baggage ticket whereby said baggage ticket can be torn away from said envelope assembly, said baggage ticket comprising a first layer of said material connected to said other side panel, a first tab on said first layer of material, said first layer of said material having a first hole therein, said first tab having a second hole therein, said first tab being folded to overlie said first layer of said material, and said first hole and said second hole being in registration with each other, a second layer of said material joined along a fold line to said first layer of said material and having a third hole therein, a second tab on said second layer of said material having a fourth hole therein, said second tab being folded to overlie said second layer of said material and said third hole and said fourth hole being in registration with each other, said second layer of said material being folded to overlie said first layer of said material with said first tab and said second tab therebetween, and said first hole, said second hole, said third hole and said fourth hole in registration with one another.

* * * * *