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(54) **Wind-resistant beach towel having pockets**

(57) The invention relates to a wind-resistant beach towel (1) which comprises lateral pockets (4) for storing items. The pockets may have a water-repellent lining for the protection of the items therein. The headrest pocket (2) is used for fitting the towel (1) on a deckchair, so that the towel is not entrained by the wind. For safety reasons, the pockets may have a zipper (3), buttons, a rubber element or Velcro elements to secure. In an alternative embodiment of the invention, the pockets are removable as desired by the user.

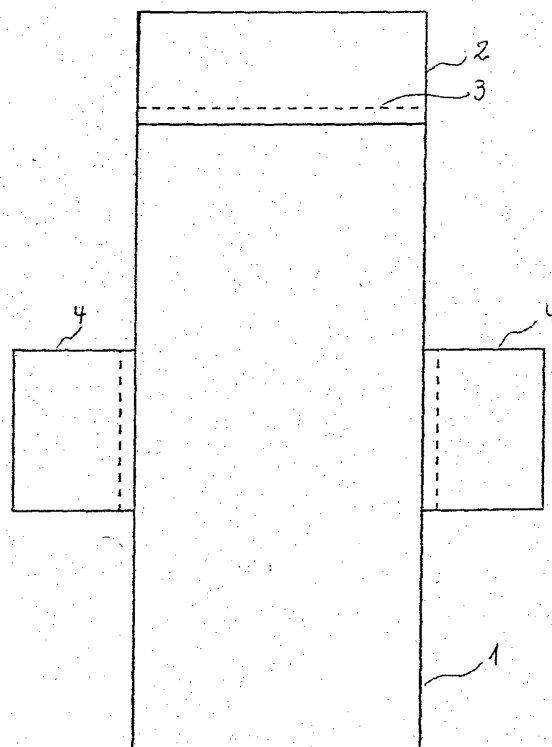


Figure 1

Description

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to the field of fabrics, and in particular to a wind-resistant beach towel with pockets, which allows the user to employ it even under strong winds. It also has pockets in which the user may store items with increased safety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The wind-resistant beach towel with pockets disclosed in the present invention has not been disclosed in the previous art.

[0003] Beach towels constitute a necessary accessory for all bathers. Greece, as well as many other countries having coastal areas receive annually, but mainly during summer, millions of tourists intending to enjoy sea and sun. The beautiful beaches, the clear waters, and the history of many such countries attract millions of people from all around the world. Given that the majority of them arrive for a few days and with a few luggage, they are frequently obliged to purchase items or accessories, which they do not need in their countries but which are necessary during their presence in the country. Thus, at every coastal area of the country there are many stores, where a tourist may find towels, bathing suits, thongs, rackets, balls, arm bands, mattresses, sunscreens, etc. The problem lies in the fact that tourists frequently purchase only the necessary items when at the beach, but do not have a bag to carry them. The residents of coastal areas face a similar problem, who frequently go swimming and cannot carry their items, such as keys, mobile phones, wallets, and thus are forced to keep them within a rolled towel, as a protection against theft by people wandering at the beaches. The problems are severe for the bathers due to meltemi in the Greek islands, i.e. winds during August, mainly in the Aegean Sea. Thus, it is not uncommon to have a blowing wind entraining towels, newspapers, hats, umbrellas, or even bags, forcing the bathers to run to catch them, but frequently losing them. Furthermore, even when a bather stretches his towel on the deckchair of a swimming pool or a beach, he is frequently forced to find various solutions so that the towel is retained on the deckchair and is not displaced each time he moves or a wind blows. The recent years, many bathers employ special clamps to retain the towel on the deckchair. As it is obvious, apart from their purchase cost, practical problems emerge, since the number of items which the bather must carry at the beach is increased, while many times these are broken or left at the beach, forcing the bather to purchase other and eventually create a collection of the specific items.

[0004] These and other problems of the state of the art are solved by the present invention.

[0005] It is an object of the present invention to provide a wind-resistant beach towel which may be applied as a

lining on the upper side of a deckchair, so that it is not entrained by winds and which allows the user to sit, lie and move the deckchair, without worrying whether the towel will be displaced from its position.

[0006] It constitutes a further object of the present invention to provide a wind-resistant beach towel, which comprises lateral pockets, which may close or not, and in which the user may store the items he carries when at sea. For this reason, the pockets are lined with water-repellent material to protect the items against water and moisture from the user's body.

[0007] A further object of the present invention is to provide a wind-resistant beach towel having pockets which can be removed as desired by the user, allowing him to use it as a common towel.

[0008] It constitutes a further object of the present invention to provide a towel which may have a rope on its rear side, which can connect the two lateral pockets and allows the user to pass it over the lower side of the deckchair, so that the towel is better applied thereon.

[0009] These and further objects, features and advantages of the invention will be understood by the following detailed description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0010] The invention will be apparent to the skilled in the art with reference to the accompanying figures which is shown in an exemplary, non-limiting manner.

[0011] Figure 1 shows in plan view the wind-resistant beach towel with the pockets, as it is mounted on a deckchair.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0012] Referring now to the accompanying figure, exemplary applications of the wind-resistant beach towel with pockets are described.

[0013] As shown in figure 1, the depicted wind-resistant beach towel with pockets has the form of a conventional towel, as these are used during summer at the sea or at swimming pools. The towel (1) of the preferred embodiment is made of, for example, cotton material, so that it better absorbs water when the user wipes himself, however any other suitable material may be used as desired. The towel (1) has at its upper side a headrest pocket (2), which is a continuation of the towel and which may close by a zipper (3) at its lower part. In this way, when the zipper (3) is open, and given that the headrest pocket (1) has the form of an "envelope", being sutured at the sides and on top, the user who desired to line on a deckchair may fit the towel (1) over the deckchair to stretch it along the length of the deckchair. In this way, it is ensured that the towel (1) is not displaced, when strong winds blow or when the user moves lying on the deckchair. The headrest pocket (2), exemplarily but not limited to, comprises an internal water-repellent lining, so that water or

moisture does not penetrate it and the user may store items if he wants to. Furthermore, if desired the user may use a blown pillow, or another towel, or any other suitable object, so that his head is raised when he lying.

[0014] Also, at the two lateral sides of the towel (1), attached lateral pockets (4) are mounted, one at each side, without their number being limited to that, which are exclusively used for storing small items, such as keys, a mobile phone, a water bottle, a sunscreen oil, a book, a newspaper etc. Obviously, due to storage of electronic objects, the provision of a water-repellent lining in the interior of the lateral pockets (4) is appropriate for protection reasons, without being necessary for the manufacturing of the towel (1). The lateral pockets (4) are sutured on the towel (1) and may be closed either with a zipper, buttons, Velcro, or rubber element, or in any other suitable way, or they may be left open so that direct access to the stored items is allowed.

[0015] In an alternative embodiment of the invention, the headrest pocket (2), as well as the lateral pockets (4) are removable and the user uses them as desired, depending on the conditions.

[0016] In a further embodiment of the invention, the headrest pocket (2) comprises rubber, so that the user may stretch it across its width as required in order to be fitted over deckchairs of larger width.

[0017] In a further alternative embodiment of the invention, the two lateral pockets (4) may be connected between them by a rope or a rubber element, or any other suitable means from the lower side of the towel (1), allowing the user to pass the rope from the rear side of the deckchair and to ensure that the towel (1) will be better kept in position. Exemplarily it is mentioned that the rope may be sutured on the lower side of the towel (1), or may be removable, so that the user may use it as desired.

[0018] In an alternative embodiment of the invention, the headrest pocket (2) is not permanently sutured on the sides but has Velcro elements on the rear side and along the towel, by which the user may fold the upper part as desired to form a headrest pocket (2) of respective size.

[0019] It should be noted that the description of the invention was made with reference to exemplary, non-limiting embodiments. Thus, any variation or modification as regards the shape, dimensions, form, material and construction or assembly components used, as long as they do not constitute new inventive step and do not contribute to the technical advancement of the already known art, are considered as encompassed in the scope of the present invention as summarized in the following claims.

Claims

1. A wind-resistant beach towel with pockets **characterized in that** it comprises a headrest pocket (2) and lateral pockets (4), which are closed with a zipper

(3), the headrest pocket (2) allowing fitting of the towel over a deckchair, and the lateral pockets (4) allowing storage of items.

2. A wind-resistant beach towel with pockets according to claim 1 **characterized in that** the headrest pocket (2) and the lateral pockets (4) are removable as desired.
3. A wind-resistant beach towel with pockets according to claim 1 **characterized in that** the headrest pocket (2) has a rubber element which allows the towel to be stretched across its width as necessary so that it better fits on deckchairs of larger width.

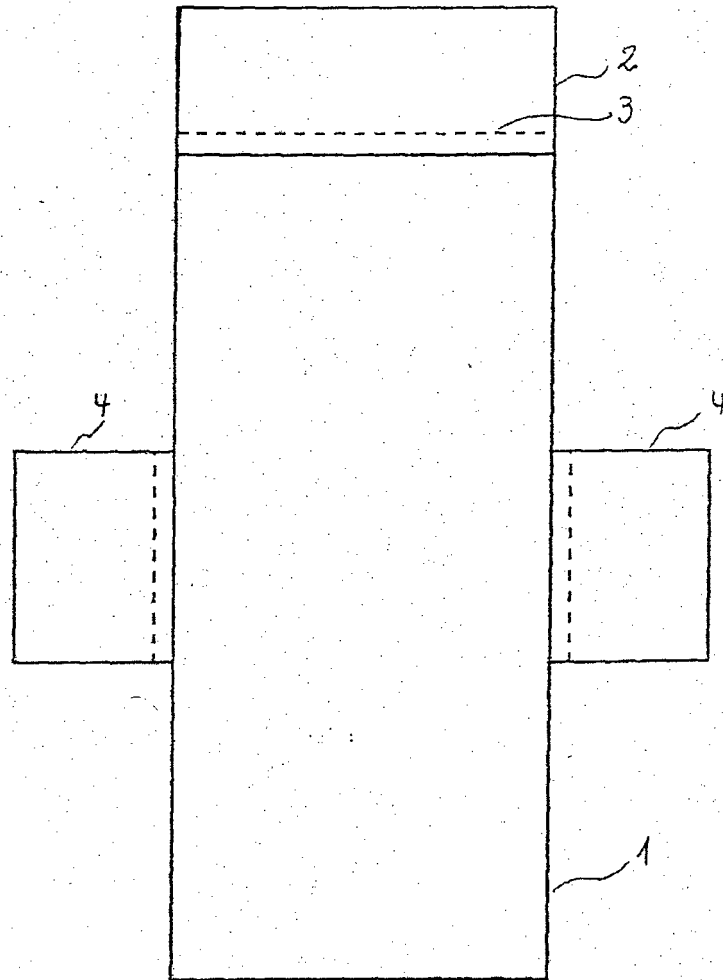


Figure 1



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 14 38 6018

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 6 192 536 B1 (CONNORS) 27 February 2001 (2001-02-27)	1	INV. A47G9/06
Y	* claims 8, 10; figures 1, 2 *	2	
Y	----- WO 97/36524 A1 (GRZESZCZAK ET AL.) 9 October 1997 (1997-10-09) * claim 2; figures 11, 12, 20-23 *	2	
X	----- US 7 076 816 B1 (NIELSEN ET AL.) 18 July 2006 (2006-07-18) * column 2, lines 8, 45-60; figures *	1,3	
X	----- DE 298 09 420 U1 (STEENBLOCK ET AL.) 23 September 1999 (1999-09-23) * the whole document *	1	

			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A47G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		30 January 2015	Beugeling, Leo
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 14 38 6018

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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30-01-2015

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82