Jan. 2, 1962 J. MEDIN 3,015,115

BUOYANT DEVICE

Filed April 26, 1960

FIG. 1

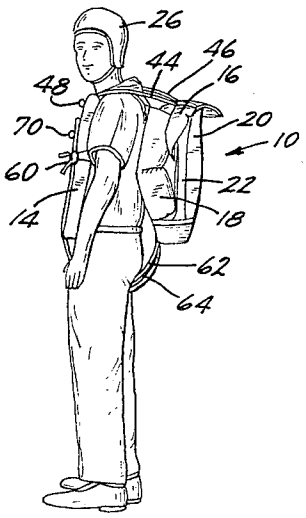


FIG. 2

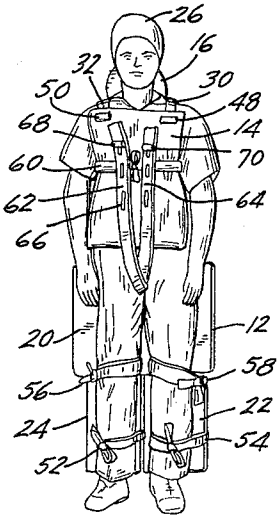


FIG. 3

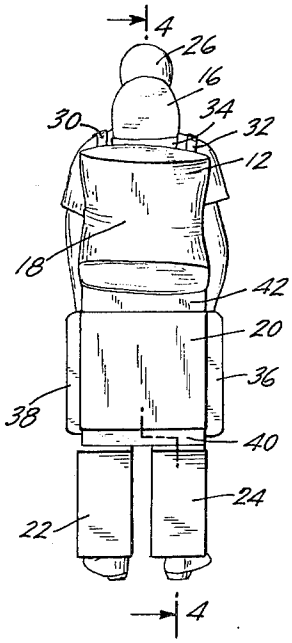
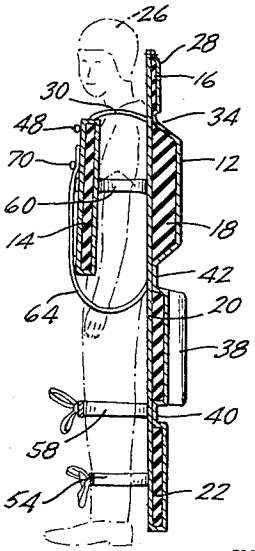


FIG. 4



INVENTOR.
JOSE MEDIN

BY

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office

3,015,115

Patented Jan. 2, 1962

3,015,115

BUOYANT DEVICE

Jose Medin, 1511 Westchester Ave., Bronx 72, N.Y.

Filed Apr. 26, 1960, Ser. No. 24,759

3 Claims. (Cl. 9—333)

This invention relates to a water buoyant device and has for its principal object the provision of a novel device which may be used in case of emergency or for pleasure; in the first instance the device constituting a life saving means and in the latter instance constituting a portable float.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a water buoyant device wherein the wearer will be sustained afloat in a body of water and will thereby be prevented from drowning.

Still another object of the invention is the provision of a water buoyant device wherein the same is designed as a life preserver when worn and which will allow freedom of movement of the arms of the wearer.

Still another object of the invention is the provision of a water buoyant device which will support an injured man without requiring cooperation from him.

An additional object is to provide a device of the character described which will be simple and inexpensive in manufacture, easy to apply and adjust, positive in action, and efficient and durable in service.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of elements and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction herein set forth, and the scope of the application which will be indicated in the claims hereinto appended.

The invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a view in side elevation of the preferred embodiment of the device of the invention, showing the same in a folded condition;

FIG. 2 is a view in front elevation of the device of FIG. 1, showing the same in condition for immediate use;

FIG. 3 is a rear view of the view of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 4 is a partially sectioned view along the line of 4—4 of FIG. 3.

Referring now to the drawing and particularly FIG. 1, the device of the invention comprises a foldable continuous buoyant device 10, which is adapted to be worn by a human being. As shown in FIG. 1, the buoyant device 10 is worn in the folded position until it is desired to enter the buoyant medium. As shown more clearly in FIGS. 2–4, the device 10 of the invention consists of a flexible fabric 12, suitably rubber or plastic, having six separate floats affixed thereto and preferably therein, suitably of foam rubber. When placed upon the wearer's body a float 14 is adjacent the chest of the wearer and the remaining floats are adjacent the back sides of the wearer. Namely, float 16 is adjacent the wearer's neck and head, float 18 the wearer's back, float 20 the wearer's lower back and thighs, and floats 22 and 24 the wearer's lower legs. Optionally, a separate cap 26, shaped from buoyant material may also be worn to add buoyancy to the wearer's head. The float 16 is preferably incorporated in the continuous fabric 12 in a section 28 located between the float 14 and the float 18. The float 16 is smaller than the section 28 and the fabric 12 is cut out in this portion 28 on three sides along the edge of the float 16 and the strips remaining in the fabric section 28 form straps 30 and 32. When the device 10 is put on, the

wearer's head is inserted through the continuous fabric 12 at this point and the float 16 pivots out of the way on fabric section 34. In the preferred embodiment, the float 20 is provided with stabilizing fins 36 and 38, to aid in maintaining the wearer on an even keel in the water.

A comparison between FIGS. 1 and 4 illustrates how easily the device 10 of the invention may be folded. The lower leg floats 22 and 24 are folded over on fabric section 40 and between the stabilizing fins 36 and 38 and against float 20. Float 16 is folded on fabric section 34 onto float 18, and the float unit 20, 22 and 24 is folded on fabric section 42 onto the float 18. The device 10 once in the folded position is held thusly by straps 44 and 46 which extend from the inside bottom of float 20 and which terminate in eyelets which hook onto toggles 48 and 50 on float 14. It is merely necessary to slip the straps 44 and 46 off the toggles 48 and 50 and the device 10 will open and fall into place. Preferably the device 10 is then securely held in place by straps 52, 54, 56 and 58 which are tied around the wearer's legs. Strap 60 is attached to float 18 and is tied around the wearer's chest. In addition to the above, the device is held in place by the straps 62, 64 which extend from the inside of float 18 and are provided with a series of eyelets 66 which slip onto toggles 68, 70 which are secured to float 14. By slipping the proper eyelets 66 onto the toggles 68, 70 the device may be adjusted to the proper size for various wearers.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the device without departing from the scope of the invention, and therefore the invention is not limited to what is shown in the drawing and described in the specification but only as indicated in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A foldable buoyant device for a human being consisting of a continuous flexible fabric having at least six separate floats of buoyant material secured thereto in such relation that one of said floats is adjacent the back of each of the lower legs of said human so that each of said lower legs is free to move independently of one another, one of said floats is adjacent the lower back and thighs of said human, one of said floats is adjacent the back of said human, one of said floats is adjacent the neck and the back of the head of said human, and the last of said floats is adjacent the chest of said human; said neck float being secured to a pivotable partially cut out section of said continuous fabric so that an aperture is present for the wearer's head; and means for tying said continuous device to the body of said human being.

2. The foldable buoyant device of claim 1 wherein said floats are incorporated within said fabric.

3. The foldable buoyant device of claim 2 wherein stabilizing fins form a part of the lower back float.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,182,841	Edmonds	May 9, 1916
1,366,345	Bailey	Jan. 25, 1921
1,758,289	Loy	May 13, 1930
2,021,713	Borino	Nov. 19, 1935
2,871,491	Van Vorst	Feb. 3, 1959

FOREIGN PATENTS

1,967	Great Britain	1915
599,997	Great Britain	Mar. 25, 1948