This invention relates to a bolster for a bed and, more particularly, to a bolster that may be easily moved from a storage position to a position on a bed in which it functions as a back rest to convert the bed into a sofa or the like and vice versa.

In motels, hotels, and small apartments in which a single room functions both as a living room and a bedroom, it is desirable to be able to convert the bed into a sofa or the like during the day and to utilize the bed for sleeping at night. Various types of structures have been suggested to meet this problem. One type of structure has been a convertible sofa. However, this type of sofa is expensive because of the mechanism involved in converting the sofa to a bed and vice versa. Additionally, a substantial amount of effort must be exerted to perform this conversion so that aged persons, for example, may not be able to expend the needed energy to perform the conversion.

Another manner of converting a bed to a seating construction is to use a bed, such as a Hollywood bed. In the Hollywood bed, there is no support structure above the mattress. With the Hollywood bed, a loose bolster may be placed on the bed when the bed is disposed adjacent a wall with the bolster resting against the wall to form a back so that the Hollywood bed is converted into a sofa or the like.

When using such an arrangement, the bolster must be stored when it is desired to use the bed for sleeping. Thus, appropriate storage provisions must be provided for loose bolster. Furthermore, the pillows that are used with the bed must be stored when the bed has been converted into a sofa or the like.

The present invention satisfactorily overcomes the storage problem of the loose bolster by attaching the bolster to a fixed member, which is secured either to the bed or to an adjacent table. The present invention also includes an embodiment in which the pillow may be stored when the bed is converted to a sofa or the like.

Instead of using a loose bolster arrangement to convert the bed to a sofa, a cabinet structure has been employed. However, this has required an expensive mechanism to move the bed between its two positions wherein the structure functions either as a bed or a sofa.

When the cabinet construction is employed in a motel or hotel, for example, the hotel or motel normally has its personnel convert the device into a bed. This eliminates any possible opportunity of the guest being injured when converting the device to a bed. However, the hotel or motel personnel may disturb the guest by doing this. Furthermore, the labor costs of the motel or hotel are increased where an employee must convert the cabinet structure into a bed.

The present invention overcomes the foregoing problems by eliminating the conversion mechanism of the cabinet structure. The bolster of the present invention may be easily moved from its position on the bed to its storage position and vice versa. Accordingly, it is not necessary for the hotel or motel to utilize an employee to perform the conversion. Thus, labor costs are reduced, and the guest is not inconvenienced by the employee of the hotel or motel seeking to convert the sofa into a bed.

An object of this invention is to provide a bolster to rapidly convert a single or double bed into a sofa or the like and vice versa.

Another object of this invention is to provide a bolster construction that may be readily used with existing beds.

Other objects, uses, and advantages of this invention are apparent upon a reading of this description, which proceeds with reference to the drawings forming part thereof and wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of one form of the bolster of the present invention in its position on the bed to form a sofa or the like.

FIGURE 2 is a perspective view of the structure of FIGURE 1 with the bolster in its storage position.

FIGURE 3 is an end elevational view of the structure of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 4 is an end elevational view of the structure of FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view of another form of the invention in which the bolster of the present invention is connected to an adjacent table with the bolster resting on the bed to form a sofa or the like.

FIGURE 6 is a perspective view of the structure of FIGURE 5 with the bolster in its storage position on the table.

FIGURE 7 is a perspective view of another modification of the present invention in which a bifurcated bolster construction is employed with the bolster disposed on the bed.

FIGURE 8 is a perspective view of the structure of FIGURE 7 with the bolster in its storage position.

FIGURE 9 is a perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention in which a storage compartment for a pillow is provided on the table and showing a bifurcated bolster disposed on the bed to form a sofa or the like.

FIGURE 10 is a perspective view of the structure of FIGURE 9 with the bifurcated bolster disposed on the table in its storage position.

FIGURE 11 is a perspective view of a portion of a bolster of the type used in FIGURES 1 to 6.

FIGURE 12 is a perspective view of the bifurcated bolster of FIGURES 7 and 8.

FIGURE 13 is a perspective view of another form of bifurcated bolster with the bolster disposed on the bed to form a sofa or the like.

FIGURE 14 is a perspective view of the structure of FIGURE 13 with the bolster being moved from its position on the bed towards its storage position.

FIGURE 15 is a perspective view of the structure of FIGURE 13 with the bolster in its storage position.

FIGURE 16 is a perspective view of another modification of the present invention in which another type of flexible connecting or hinge arrangement is employed.

Referring to the drawings and particularly FIGURES 1 to 4, there is shown a single bed 10 of the Hollywood type in which there is no structure extending above a mattress 11. The bed 10 includes a frame 12 and legs extending downwardly therefrom to provide support therefor. Box springs 15, which support the mattress 11, are disposed on the frame 12 and supported thereby.

A bolster 16 is shown disposed on the mattress 11 in FIGURE 1 to transform the bed 10 into a sofa or the like. The bolster 16 is formed of a resilient material such as polyfoam and the resilient material is completely enclosed by a cover 17. When in the position of FIGURES 1 and 3, the dimensions of the bolster 16 are such that it is spaced from edge 18 of the bed 10 a sufficient distance to result in standing side 19 of the bolster 16 functioning as a back rest to transform the bed 10 into a sofa or the like.

The bolster 16 has a flexible tape or cover 20 attached thereto. The tape 20 has one end attached to the cover 17 of the bolster 16 adjacent edge 21 of the bolster 16 and its other end attached adjacent the lower edge of
the slanting side 19. Thus, the flexible tape 20 may encompass a portion of the bolster 16 defined by sides 22 and 23. As clearly shown in FIGURE 11, the flexible tape 20 has a greater length than the combined length of the sides 22 and 23 of the bolster 16. In FIGURE 12 a modified flexible tape is shown which terminates at the bottom edge and does not extend beneath bolster as that shown in FIGURE 11.

A support member 24, which includes a pair of parallel legs 25 and 26 and a connecting bar 27 joining the tops of the legs 25 and 26, is disposed adjacent one side of the bed 10. The bottoms of the legs 25 and 26 are positioned to the frame 12 of the bed 10 by suitable means such as brackets 28, for example.

Prior to attaching the support member 24 to the frame 12 of the bed 10, the bar 27 is positioned within the flexible tape 20 as shown in FIGURE 1; this is because of the length of the flexible tape 20 as compared with the length of the sides 22 and 23 of the bolster 16. Thereafter, the ends of the legs 25 and 26 are attached to the frame 12 of the bed 10.

With this arrangement, the bolster 16 is supported by a fixed support member when in its storage position of FIGURES 2 and 4. In the storage position of FIGURES 2 and 4, the connecting bar 27 is disposed adjacent the juncture of the sides 19 and 23 of the bolster 16. Accordingly, a flexible hinge arrangement is provided between the bolster 16 and the support member 24. This allows the bolster 16 to be easily rotated about the connecting bar 27, which functions as a fixed transverse axis, and moved from the position of FIGURES 1 and 3 to the position of FIGURES 2 and 4 and vice versa.

With the bolster 16 mounted on the support member 24, the bed 10 is rapidly converted into a sofa by moving the bolster 16 from the position of FIGURES 2 and 4 to the position of FIGURES 1 and 5. Likewise, conversion to the sleeping arrangement is easily accomplished by returning the bolster to the storage position of FIGURES 2 and 4.

Thus, the bed 10 does not have to be moved to transfer the bolster 16 from one position to the other. Furthermore, as is not necessary to have the bolster positioned adjacent a wall in order for the bolster 16 to remain positioned on the bed 10 wherein the bed is converted into a sofa or the like. The bolster 16 has sufficient weight so that it will be displaced from its position on the mattress 11 of the bed 10 when persons sitting on the bed 10 use the bolster 16 as a back rest. Furthermore, cross bar 27 may be constructed to rise above the mattress to a point where it provides additional support for the bolster.

Referring to FIGURES 5 and 6, there is shown another form of the invention in which the bolster 16 is connected to a table 29, which is disposed adjacent one side of the bed 10. The table 29 has a support member 30 attached thereto by suitable means such as by tabs 73 of FIGURE 6. The support member 30 includes a pair of parallel legs 31 and 32 and a connecting bar 33 at the tops of the legs 31 and 32. The connecting bar 33 extends within the flexible tape 26 of the bolster 16 in the same manner as the connecting bar 27 of the support member 24.

However, it should be observed that the amount of movement of the bolster 16 from the position of FIGURE 5 wherein it rests on the mattress 11 of the bed 10 to the position of FIGURE 6 wherein it rests on the top of the table is much less than the movement of the modification of FIGURES 1 to 4. This is because the table 29 is supporting the bolster 16 in its storage position rather than the support member 30 providing the support for the bolster 16 in its storage position as the support member 24 does of FIGURES 1 to 4.

When it is desired to use the present invention with a double bed 34 rather than the single bed 10, a bifurcated bolster 35 is employed as shown in FIGURES 7 and 8.

The bifurcated bolster 35 is preferably made of the same material as the bolster 16. The bolster 46 includes a first portion 36 and a second portion 37 secured together by connection 38, which is part of the cover for the bolster 35, so that there may be pivotal movement of 180° between the second portion 37 and the first portion 36 when the bolster 35 is moved from the position of FIGURE 7 to the position of FIGURE 8.

The bolster 35 has a flexible tape or cover 39, which is similar to the tape 20. The tape 39 may encompass sides 34 and 41 of the first portion 36 of the bolster 35 as shown in FIGURE 12. The tape 39 has a greater length than the sides 34 and 41. A support member 42 has the same shape as the support member 24 of FIGURES 1 to 4. It is attached to the frame of the double bed 34 in the same manner as the support member 24 is attached to the single bed 10. The support member 42 includes a connecting bar 43 extending within the flexible tape 39 and cooperating therewith.

When the bifurcated bolster 35 is disposed on the bed 34 in the position of FIGURE 7 wherein it converts the bed to a sofa or the like, the connecting bar 43 is disposed between the flexible tape 39 and the side 34 of the first portion 36 of the bolster 35. When it is desired to remove the bolster 35 from the bed 34, the first portion 36 is pivoted about the connecting bar 43, which forms a fixed transverse axis, and then moved downwardly with respect thereto until the position of FIGURE 8 is reached. The second portion 37 is pivoted 180° with respect to the first portion 36 around the connection 38 whereby the second portion 37 is disposed beside the first portion 36 as shown in FIGURE 8.

Accordingly, the bolster 35 is easily movable from the position on the bed 34 to its storage position and vice versa. It is not necessary to dispose the bed 34 near a wall in order for it to be transformed into a sofa. Furthermore, it is not necessary to move the bed 34 to return the bolster 35 to its storage position. As shown in FIGURE 8, the connecting bar 43 of the support member 42 is disposed adjacent the end of the side 41, which is remote from the side 40 of the first portion 36 of the bolster 35, when the bolster 35 is in its storage position.

Referring to FIGURES 9 and 10, there is shown a single bed 44, which is similar to the bed 10. A table 45 is positioned adjacent one end of the bed 44.

The table 45 has a compartment 46 formed on top at one end thereof. The compartment has an opening 47 (see FIGURE 10) in its end adjacent the bed 44. A pillow may be stored within the compartment 46 when the bed 44 is converted for use as a sofa.

A bifurcated bolster 48, which includes a first portion 49 and a second portion 50, is shown on the bed 44 in FIGURE 9 wherein it transforms the bed into a sofa or the like. The bolster 48 is preferably formed of the same material as the bolster 16.

The first portion 49 and the second portion 50 are joined by a connection 51, which is part of the cover for the bolster 48. The connection 51 allows pivotal movement of approximately 180° between the second portion 50 and the first portion 49.

A flexible tape 52 may encompass sides 53 and 54 of the first portion 49 of the bolster 48. The flexible tape 52 is longer than the sides 53 and 54 of the first portion 49 of the bolster 48 in the same manner as the flexible tapes 20 and 39.

A connecting bar 55 of a support member 56, which is attached to the top of the compartment 46 at the side thereof adjacent the bed 44, extends between the flexible tape 52 and the side 53 of the first portion 49 of the bolster 48 when the bolster 48 is in the position of FIGURE 9.

When the bolster 48 is removed from the bed 44, it pivots about the connecting bar 55, which functions as a fixed transverse axis, until the side 53 is resting on the top of the compartment 46. At this time, the connecting
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5 bar 55 is disposed between the flexible tape 52 and the side 54 of the first portion 49 of the bolster 48 as shown in FIGURE 10. When moving the bolster 48 from the position of FIGURE 9 to the position of FIGURE 10, the second portion 50 is pivoted 180° about the connection 51 until the second portion 50 of the bolster 48 is in the position of FIGURE 10.

The top of the compartment 46 has a rail 57 (see FIGURE 9) extending therefrom on the side opposite from the head of the bolster 48. FIGURE 10 shows functions to position the bolster 48 on top of the compartment 46.

When the bolster 48 is disposed on the bed 44, the opening 47 in the compartment 46 is closed. Thus, the pillow from the single bed 44 is readily stored out of sight when the bed 44 is converted into a sofa or the like. When the bolster 48 is moved to its storage position of FIGURE 10, the pillow in the compartment 46 may be readily removed through the opening 47.

Referring to FIGURES 13 to 15, there is shown a double bed 58, which is similar to the double bed 34. The double bed 58 has a bifurcated bolster 59 positioned on top thereof in FIGURE 13 whereby the bed functions as a sofa. The bolster 59 is preferably formed of the same material as the bolster 16.

The bifurcated bolster 59 includes a first portion 60 and a second portion 61 with the portions being secured to each other along a connection 62, which is part of the cover for the bolster 59, for pivotal movement of 180° between the second portion 61 and the first portion 60.

A flexible tape 63 encompasses three sides 64, 65, and 66 of the bolster 59. The length of the flexible tape 63 is greater than the sum of the lengths of the sides 64, 65, and 66 of the first portion 60 of the bolster 59.

A support member 67 is attached to the frame of the bed 58 and has a connecting bar 68 disposed between the flexible tape 63 and the first portion 60 of the bolster 59. When the bolster 59 is disposed on the bed 58 as shown in FIGURE 13 wherein the bed functions as a sofa, the connecting bar 68, which functions as a fixed transverse axis, is disposed between the flexible tape 63 and the side 64 of the first portion 60 of the bolster 59.

In order to remove the bolster 59 from the top of the bed 58 so that the bed may be used for sleeping, the bolster 59 is raised upwardly slightly so that the connecting bar 68 is disposed between the side 65 of the first portion 60 and the flexible tape 63. The bolster 59 is then moved in the direction of the arrow 69 in FIGURE 14 to position the connection 62 between the side 65 of the first portion 60 of the bolster 59 and the flexible tape 63 adjacent the intersection of the sides 65 and 66.

The bolster 59 is then moved downwardly in the direction of arrow 70 in FIGURE 15 so that the connecting bar 68 of the support 67 is positioned along the side 66 adjacent the end, which is remote from the side 65. At the same time, the second portion 61 of the bolster 59 is pivoted 180° about the connection 62 until the second portion 61 rests on top of the first portion 60 as shown in FIGURE 15.

In this arrangement, the bifurcated bolster 59 permits ready use of a double or single bed such as the bed 59 as a sofa while utilizing the minimum amount of space for storage. The storage space is determined by the width of the first portion 60 rather than the widths of both of the portions 60 and 61 of the bifurcated bolster 59.

Referring to FIGURE 16, there is shown another form of hinge connection for a bolster 71. The bolster 71 is preferably formed of the same material as the bolster 16 and cooperates with a bed in the same manner as previously described. Furthermore, the bolster 71 could be a bifurcated type when used with a double bed instead of using a flexible tape, which encircles a portion of the bolster, the bolster 71 is attached to a support member 72 by a flexible tab 73. Thus, a flexible hinge arrangement is still employed. However, it is not necessary to have a separate tape to allow movement of the bolster from its position on a bed to its storage position and vice versa. The tab 73 permits as much rotation as required.

It should be understood that the bolsters may be disposed either at the end of a bed or the side of the bed. The only difference is that the dimensions of the bolster have to be different when the bolster is disposed at the end of the bed because of the greater length of the bed, 10

This difference in the dimensions of the bolster when used on the end of the bed and the side of the bed is clearly shown when comparing the bolster 35 of FIGURES 7 and 8 with the bolster 48 of FIGURES 9 and 10. The particular location of the bolster on the side or end of the bed may be determined by the position of the bed within the room.

While the flexible tape has been shown as extending the entire width of the sides of the bolster which the tape may encompass, it should be understood that it is only necessary for the flexible tape to have sufficient width to provide support for the bolster in its storage position. While the beds have been shown as Hollywood beds, it should be understood that the present invention could be readily used with any type of bed having an open side or end.

An advantage of this invention is that it eliminates the expensive mechanism, which is required when a cabinet construction is used to convert a Hollywood bed to a sofa. Another advantage of this invention is that it eliminates the storage problem, which is created when a loose bolster is employed. A further advantage of this invention is that it is not necessary to move the bed to move the bolster from its storage position to the bed and vice versa.

For purposes of exemplification, particular embodiments of the invention have been shown and described according to the best present understanding thereof. However, it will be apparent that changes and modifications in the arrangement and construction of the parts thereof may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In combination, a bed, a resilient bolster, a flexible tape encompassing at least a portion of said bolster, said flexible tape being longer than the encompassed portion of said bolster whereby said flexible tape is loose with respect to the encompassed portion of said bolster, and said fixed support means disposed within said flexible tape and cooperating therewith to permit movement of said bolster from a position on said bed to a storage position and vice versa, said bolster having sufficient size when resting on said bed to form a back for one sitting on said bed whereby said fixed means functions as a sofa or the like.

2. In combination, a bed, a resilient bolster, a flexible tape encompassing at least a portion of said bolster, said flexible tape being longer than the encompassed portion of said bolster whereby said flexible tape is loose with respect to the encompassed portion of said bolster, and said support means fixed to said bed, said support means including a member disposed substantially parallel to the plane of the top of said bed, said member disposed within said flexible tape and cooperating therewith to permit movement of said bolster from a position on said bed to a storage position and vice versa, said bolster having sufficient size when resting on said bed to form a back for one sitting on said bed whereby said bolster functions as a sofa or the like.

3. In combination, a bed, a resilient bolster, a table disposed adjacent said bed, a flexible tape encompassing at least a portion of said bolster, said flexible tape being longer than the encompassed portion of said bolster whereby said flexible tape is loose with respect to the encompassed portion of said bolster, and said table having a fixed member attached thereto and disposed within said flexible tape, said fixed member cooperating with said flexible tape to permit movement of said bolster from a position on said bed to a storage position on said table and vice versa, said bolster having sufficient width when
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resting on said bed to form a back for one sitting on said bed whereby said bed functions as a sofa, said bolster being dimensioned to be fully supported on said table in its storage position.

4. In combination, a bed, a resilient bolster, said bolster comprising a first portion and a second portion, means connecting said first portion and said second portion to each other to allow pivotal movement of approximately 180° between said first portion and said second portion, a flexible tape encompassing at least a part of said first portion of said bolster, said flexible tape being longer than the encompassed part of said first portion of said bolster whereby said flexible tape is loose with respect to the encompassed part of said first portion of said bolster, fixed support means disposed within said flexible tape, said flexible tape being movable relative to said fixed support means to permit movement of said bolster from a position in which said first portion and said second portion of said bolster are disposed on said bed to a storage position and vice versa, said first portion of said bolster being disposed closer to the periphery of said bed than said second portion of said bolster when said bolster is disposed on said bed, said bolster having sufficient size when resting on said bed to form a back for one sitting on said bed whereby said bed functions as a sofa or the like.

5. The combination according to claim 3 in which said second portion of said bolster is disposed further from said bed than said first portion of said bolster in the storage position.

6. The combination according to claim 3 in which said second portion of said bolster is disposed above said first portion of said bolster in the storage position.

7. In combination, a bed, a resilient bolster, fixed support means, and a flexible tab having one end secured to said bolster and the other end secured to said fixed support means to form a flexible hinge to permit movement of said bolster from a position on said bed to a storage position and vice versa, said bolster having sufficient size when resting on said bed to form a back for one sitting on said bed whereby said bed functions as a sofa or the like.

8. In combination, a bed, a resilient bolster, said bolster comprising a first portion and a second portion, means connecting said first portion and said second portion to each other to allow pivotal movement of 180° between said first portion and said second portion, a flexible tape encompassing at least a part of said first portion of said bolster, said flexible tape being longer than the encompassed part of said first portion of said bolster whereby said flexible tape is loose with respect to the encompassed part of said first portion of said bolster, a table disposed adjacent said bed, said table having a fixed member attached thereto and disposed within said flexible tape, said fixed member cooperating with said flexible tape to permit movement of said bolster from a position in which said first portion and said second portion of said bolster are disposed on said bed to a storage position and vice versa, said first portion of said bolster being disposed closer to the periphery of said bed than said second portion of said bolster when said bolster is disposed on said bed, said bolster having sufficient size when resting on said bed to form a back for one sitting on said bed whereby said bed functions as a sofa or the like, said first portion and said second portion of said bolster being dimensioned to be fully supported on said table in the storage position.

9. The combination according to claim 7 in which said table has an enclosed compartment formed on top thereof with said compartment having an end open adjacent said bed to receive a pillow or the like, said fixed member being supported on top of said compartment adjacent said open end whereby said first portion of said bolster closes said open end of said compartment when said bolster is disposed on said bed, and said bolster rests on top of said compartment in its storage position.

10. The combination according to claim 8 in which said compartment has a second fixed member on its top adjacent the edge remote from said bed to retain said bolster in the storage position.

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