April 6, 1965 F. FREUND 3,176,315

COMBINATION BEACH ROBE AND BLANKET

Filed Nov. 30, 1962

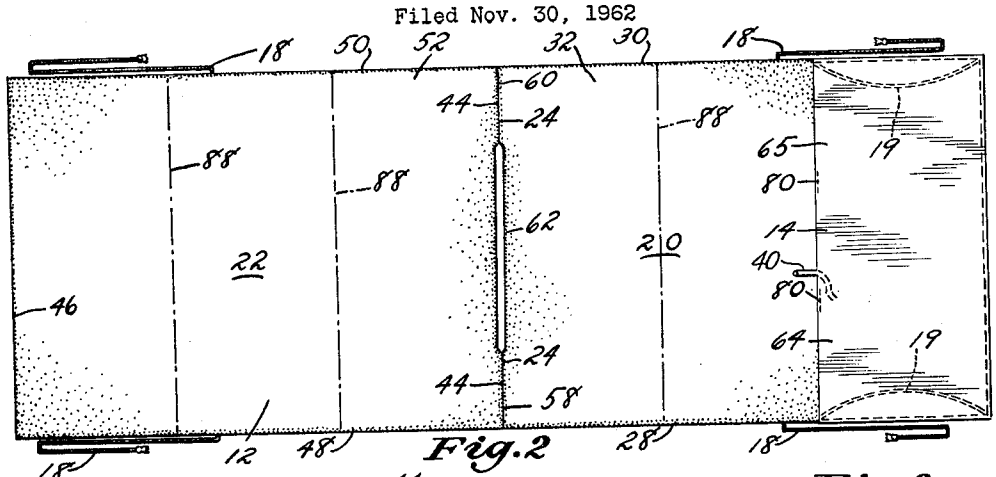


Fig.2

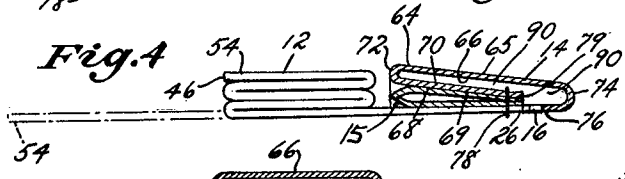


Fig.4

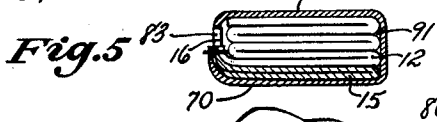


Fig.5

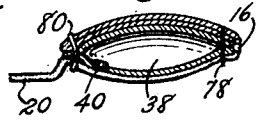


Fig.6

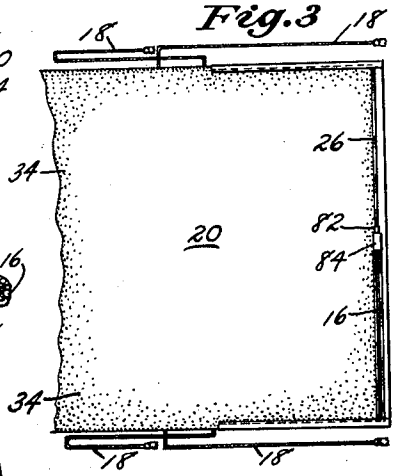


Fig.3

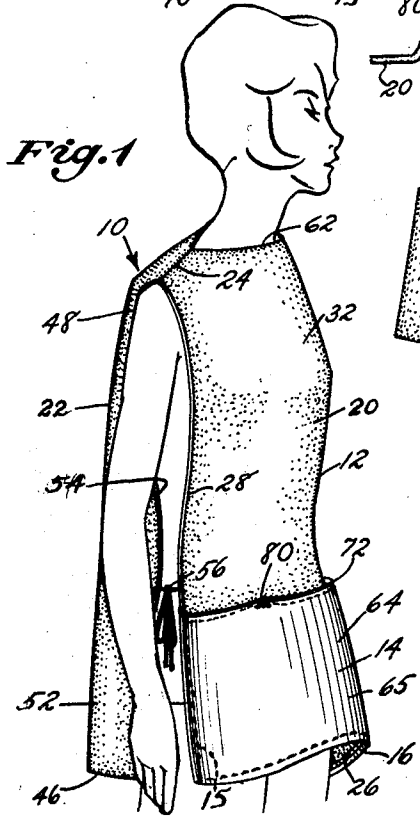


Fig.1

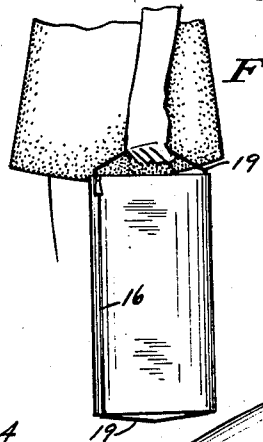


Fig.8

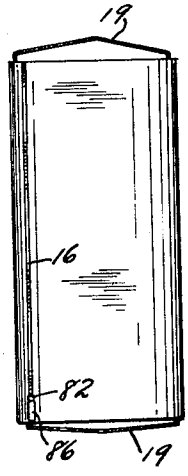


Fig.7

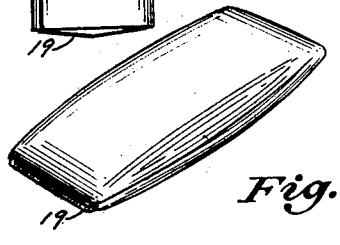


Fig.9

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3,176,315

COMBINATION BEACH ROBE AND BLANKET

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2—69)

This invention relates generally to a novel garment, and more particularly to an improved construction thereof which enables this article to perform a number of non-clothing functions.

In connection with certain sports, particularly waterside and beach use, a number of different articles are usually necessary or required. Not only this, but it is also necessary to contain and transport them.

It is therefore among the principal objects of the present invention to provide combination garment structure which will be highly useful for beach wear and the like, and will also combine a number of functions.

Another object herein lies in the provision of structure of the class described which will provide to the user a garment, a towel, a portion having a pocket for holding other beach or similar items, a beach pad, a beach bag, and a pillow or cushion.

Another object herein lies in the provision of a combination garment of the character described which is easy and convenient to use and store.

A feature of the invention lies in a simplified construction thereof wherein the same may be manufactured in large scale at relatively low cost so as to have a consequent wide distribution and use.

These objects, and other incidental ends and advantages, will more fully appear in the progress of this disclosure and be pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view showing a preferred embodiment of the invention, as worn.

FIGURE 2 is a plan view with the outer side of the garment or outer surface of the garment disposed upwardly.

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary bottom plan view with the embodiment partially folded.

FIGURE 4 is an elevational view, partly in section, showing the device in one stage of being folded for storing.

FIGURE 5 is an elevational view corresponding to FIGURE 4, but showing the parts in closed or stored condition.

FIGURE 6 is an elevational view, partly in section, corresponding to FIGURE 4, but showing the inflatable means distended.

FIGURE 7 is an elevational view showing the structure of FIGURE 5.

FIGURE 8 is an elevational view showing the structure of FIGURE 7 slightly reduced and carried by a user.

FIGURE 9 is a view in perspective showing the structure of FIGURE 8 in condition for use as a pillow.

In accordance with the invention, the device, generally indicated by reference character **10**, comprises broadly: a main body **12**; pocket and cover means **14**; inflatable means **15**; closure means **16**; and connecting means **18**.

The main body **12** is preferably composed of a front panel **20** and a rear panel **22**. The panels **20** and **22** are preferably substantially equal in size and configuration, and composed of a suitable flexible planar material. Since the panels **20** and **22** are used for drying as well as for other purposes, they are preferably composed of a highly absorbent textile material such as toweling or terry cloth. The front panel **20** has a top edge **24**, a bottom edge **26**, and side edges **28** and **30**. It has a front surface **32** and a rear surface **34**. The rear panel **22** has a top edge **44**, a bottom edge **46**, and side edges **48** and **50**. Rear panel **22** has an outer rear surface **52** and an inner rear surface **54**.

Connected to the side edges **28**, **30**, **48**, **50**, are a plurality of ties **56** which are the connecting means **18** previously referred to.

The top edge **24** of the front panel **20**, and the top edge **44** of the rear panel **22**, are interconnected in a suitable manner, as by stitching, at the areas **58** and **60**. The area of disconnection provides an elongated neck opening **62**, through which the head of the wearer may be passed when the garment is donned.

The pocket and cover means **14** includes a front wall **64** having a first surface **65** and a second surface **66**; and a rear wall **68** with a first surface **69** and a second surface **70** (FIGURE 4). The front wall **64** is preferably unitary with the rear wall **68**, being connected thereto by a top fold **72**. The lowermost portion of the front wall **64** reverses itself through a bight **74**. The free edge of the front wall **64** (see reference character **76** on FIGURE 4) is connected to one portion of the closure means **16**; while the free edge **79** of the rear wall **68** is connected to the bottom edge **26** and the other portion of the closure means **16**, by stitches **78**.

The inflatable means **15** is preferably in the form of an airtight bladder **38** with a suitable valve **40** having an inflating tube extending therefrom, the non-inflatable borders of which are engaged by the stitches **78** and **80**. The bladder **38** may be of any desired width up to the width of means **14**.

The structure described forms a top opening pocket, best seen in FIGURE 1, the opening thereto being defined by the fold **72**. In order to support the bladder **38**, to increase utility and prevent gaping, the fold **72** is connected to the main body element **12** at a plurality of points by the stitching **80**.

The closure means **16** is preferably in the form of an elongated slide fastener having a slider **82** and a first tab **84** and a second tab **86**.

With the device **10** as shown in FIGURE 2, the same may be placed upon the earth or sand and used in place of a blanket or pad to lie upon. In this condition, the pocket and cover means **14** will appear in section as shown in FIGURE 4. The enclosed chamber **90** may be used to contain other auxiliary articles to protect them from accidental loss. Items such as cigarettes, matches, bathing hats, spectacles, sunglasses, handkerchiefs, and the like, may be disposed therein.

When a pillow is desired, air is blown in through valve **40** to distend the bladder **38** so that the parts may take the position and arrangement indicated in FIGURE 6.

When it is desired to don the device, the bladder **38** is deflated and the device **10** is passed over the user's head and the connecting means **18** are tied at the side, as indicated by reference character **56** on FIGURE 1. The upwardly opening pocket defined by the fold **72** is now available for additional articles, which will stay therein by the action of gravity. The garment thus produced may be used to protect the wearer, provide warmth, or drying.

After such use, the garment may be removed and may be returned to the position shown in FIGURE 2. To compact and store the same, the edge **46** is preferably grasped, and the main body element **12** may be folded through a series of folds generally at the dot-dash lines **88**, as well as the line or area **60**. The parts will now take the position indicated by the full lines on FIGURE 4.

Following this, the first tab **84** is pulled to the open position of the closure means **16**, and any contents in the chamber **90** are temporarily removed. The front wall

64 and the rear wall 68 are now turned completely inside out, and pulled over the previously folded and compacted main body element 12. A new chamber 91 is formed within which the main body element 12 is completely enclosed. The slide fastener 83 now being reversed, the second tab 86 is pulled to a closed position (FIGURE 5). The handle means 19 have now become exposed as seen in FIGURE 7. Since the device 10 now acts as a container, prior to the last-mentioned closing of the slide fastener, the articles which had been previously temporarily removed may be placed therein for transporting. The device 10 now forms a convenient and attractive beach bag, as seen in FIGURE 7.

Since the folded-up main body element 12 is now contained within the chamber 91, it forms a kind of filling or stuffing for the pocket and cover means 14, so that the device may be used as a pillow or cushion, as shown in FIGURE 9.

I wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art to which the present invention relates.

I claim:

Combination garment construction comprising: a generally rectangular body element composed of flexible planar absorbent material including a pair of oppositely disposed side edges and a pair of oppositely disposed end edges, connecting means disposed along said side edges at points adjacent said end edges, there being a medially disposed transversely extending neck opening extending

through the plane of said body element, pocket and cover means connected to said main body element at one end thereof of size and configuration sufficient to receive and contain said main body element in folded condition, selectively inflatable means disposed within and secured to said pocket and cover means, and selectively exposable handle means disposed on an inner surface of said pocket and cover means; whereby upon the unfolding of said rectangular body element from said pocket and cover means, said inflatable means may be inflated to form a cushion covered by said pocket and cover means, and upon the deflation of said inflatable means, said body element may be folded and said pocket and cover means turned inside out to enclose said body means and expose said handle means.

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