Embodiments provide apparatus for care of an infant, the apparatus including a comfort support for returning legs of an infant to fully folded positions relative to the torso.
APPLICATION FOR CARE OF INFANT

Cross-reference to Related Applications

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part and claims the earliest priority date of co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/601,785 filed Nov. 2, 2009 and titled “Apparatus for Care of Infant”, the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference herein. The disclosure relates to apparatus for care of infants.

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

[0002] 1. Field of Invention

[0003] Newborns and infants (hereinafter “infants”) generally benefit from periods of sleep. In some aspects, apparatus for care of infants are deficient in promoting periods of sleep. Newborns and infants (hereinafter “infants”) generally benefit from periods of rest. In some aspects, apparatus for care of infants are deficient in promoting periods of rest. For the reasons stated above, and for other reasons stated below which will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon reading and understanding the specification, there is a need in the art for improved apparatus for care of infants.

[0004] 2. Brief Description of the Invention

[0005] The above-mentioned shortcomings, disadvantages and problems are addressed herein, which will be understood by reading and studying this specification. In one aspect, embodiments provide apparatus for care of an infant which promote uninterrupted periods of sleep. In one aspect, embodiments provide apparatus for care of an infant which promote relatively undisturbed sleep. In one aspect, embodiments provide apparatus for care of an infant which promote uninterrupted periods of rest. In one aspect, embodiments provide apparatus for care of an infant which promote relatively undisturbed rest.

[0006] Apparatus and methods of varying scope are described herein. In addition to the aspects and advantages described in this summary, further aspects and advantages will become apparent by reference to the drawings and by reading the detailed description that follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0007] FIG. 1 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to an embodiment, and an infant disposed therein with legs in a full fetal tuck position.

[0008] FIG. 2 is an enlarged partial front perspective view of apparatus shown generally in FIG. 1, with phantom lines illustrating obscured details of the infant legs in a full fetal tuck position inside the apparatus.

[0009] FIG. 3 is an enlarged partial front perspective view similar to FIG. 2, with phantom lines illustrating obscured details of the infant legs occupying a partial tuck position.

[0010] FIG. 4 is an enlarged partial front perspective view similar to FIG. 3, with phantom lines illustrating obscured details of the infant legs occupying a fully extended position.

[0011] FIG. 5 is a front perspective view of the apparatus shown generally in FIG. 1, showing the apparatus in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown).

[0012] FIG. 6 is a rear perspective view of the apparatus shown generally in FIG. 5, showing the apparatus in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown).

[0013] FIG. 7 is a rear perspective view similar to FIG. 6, showing a second embodiment of apparatus for care of an infant and adapted for use in cooperation with a bed apparatus (not shown in FIG. 7), the apparatus being in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown).

[0014] FIG. 8 is a front perspective view similar to FIG. 5, showing a third embodiment of apparatus for care of an infant and adapted for use with medical monitoring equipment, the apparatus being in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown).

[0015] FIG. 9 is a rear perspective view of the apparatus shown generally in FIG. 8, showing the apparatus in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown).

[0016] FIG. 10 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a fourth embodiment, an infant being disposed therein with legs in a full fetal tuck position.

[0017] FIG. 11 is a front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a fifth embodiment as shown generally in FIG. 1, with the apparatus having the infant disposed therein with legs in a full fetal tuck position, and the apparatus and infant therein being cradled in the arms of an attendant.

[0018] FIG. 12 is an elevated top perspective view similar to FIG. 1, showing apparatus for care of an infant according to a fifth embodiment.

[0019] FIG. 13 is an elevated top perspective view similar to FIG. 12, showing apparatus for care of an infant according to an embodiment.

[0020] FIG. 14 is a side elevation view taken generally along line 14-14 in FIG. 13, showing apparatus for care of an infant.

[0021] FIG. 15 is top elevation view taken generally along line 15-15 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus for care of an infant.

[0022] FIG. 16 is a first end elevation view taken generally along line 16-16 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus for care of an infant.

[0023] FIG. 17 is a bottom elevation view taken generally along line 17-17 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus for care of an infant.

[0024] FIG. 18 is a second end elevation view taken generally along line 18-18 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus for care of an infant.

[0025] FIG. 19 is an exploded perspective view similar to FIG. 12, showing further detail of apparatus for care of an infant according to an embodiment.

[0026] FIG. 20 is an elevated front perspective view of an infant as shown generally in FIG. 1, with legs of the infant occupying a full fetal tuck position.

[0027] FIG. 21 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a sixth embodiment, an infant being disposed therein with legs in a full fetal tuck position.

[0028] FIG. 22 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a sixth embodiment as shown in FIG. 21, in an open condition with the infant absent.

[0029] FIG. 23 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a sixth embodiment as shown in FIGS. 21-22, in a partially open position with an infant being partially enclosed therein.
FIG. 24 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a seventh embodiment, in an open condition with the infant absent.

FIG. 25 is an elevated rear perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 24, in an open, relaxed condition with the infant positioned off-center to reveal detail of the apparatus and with one arm of the infant partially inserted into an arm pouch.

FIG. 26 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 27, in an open, relaxed condition with the infant positioned at center with both arms inserted into respective arm pockets.

FIG. 27 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 26, in an open, relaxed condition with the infant disposed therein with legs in a full fetal tuck position.

FIG. 28 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus for care of an infant according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIGS. 23-26, an infant being disposed therein with legs in a full fetal tuck position.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In this detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings that form a part herof, and in which is shown by way of illustration specific embodiments which can be practiced. Sufficient detail is described to enable those of ordinary skill to practice the embodiments. It is to be understood that, by reference to the present disclosure, other embodiments can also be practiced by those of ordinary skill. It is to be understood that logical, mechanical and other changes can be made without departing from the scope of the embodiments and the disclosure. The following detailed description is, therefore, not to be taken in a limiting sense.

Newborns and infants (hereinafter “infants”) generally benefit from periods of sleep. It will be understood that, as used herein, the term “sleep” is intended to be construed broadly to refer, generally, to any state of rest or sleep, without respect to potential distinctions between states of consciousness. As used herein, the term “sleep” is intended to include, but is not limited to, any state of reduced consciousness in which a human rests. It will be understood that, as used herein, the term “sleep” can also include, but is not limited to, various waking states associated with rest, such as, for example, drowsing states of rest and partially waking states of rest. It will be understood that, as used herein, the term “sleep” can also include, but is not limited to, any state of rest or calm.

It is beneficial for various reasons to promote long periods of uninterrupted or continuous sleep. As used herein, “continuous” is intended to describe that an infant sleeps continuously, i.e., without waking, during a period. In other words, an infant is said to sleep “continuously” when a period of sleep is not interrupted by early waking and is not broken up into a plurality of shorter periods of sleep separated by alternating waking periods. It will be understood that the term “continuous sleep” can include a period of sustained deep sleep. It is also beneficial to promote relatively undisturbed sleep by infants. As used herein, “undisturbed” is intended to describe that during sleep or rest, an infant remains relatively quiet, motionless, at ease, and comfortable, and thus does not exhibit restlessness, excessive movement, discomfort, or startled actions in the absence of external stimuli. As described herein, “undisturbed” also refers to the characteristic that, absent external stimuli, an infant does not stir to an extent that interferes with ongoing sleep, move in an uncomfortable manner, or emit cries or other sounds of complaint. It will be understood that the term “undisturbed sleep” can include achievement of Q5 (Quality Sleep), REM sleep, Stage III or Stage IV sleep.

FIG. 1 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 100 for care of an infant according to an embodiment, and having an infant 2 disposed with legs 19 in a full fetal tuck position in apparatus 100, as will be further described. Referring now to FIG. 20, infant 2 will be described in detail. FIG. 20 is a front elevated perspective view of the infant 2 shown generally in FIG. 1, with legs 19 of the infant occupying a full fetal tuck position. Infant 2 has a torso 6. Torso 6 has a front 8 and a back 10. Back 10 is spaced from the front 8 in a general opposition thereto. Torso 6 includes an upper torso 12 and a lower torso 14. For purposes of this description and simplicity, upper torso 12 is defined to include also a neck, head and a pair of arms 13 of the infant 2. It will be appreciated that arms 13 can also be described as being independent of upper torso 12. Lower torso 14 adjoins the upper torso 12 and includes a pair of hips 16. Each hip 16 has in the interior thereof a hip socket (not shown). It will be understood that the pair of hips 16 are located adjacent each other in general opposition on respective sides of lower torso 14. Infant 2 has a generally identical pair of legs 19 joined to the lower torso 14 at the hips 16. Each leg 19 has an upper leg 24 and a lower leg 26. The leg 19 has a folding knee joint 28. The knee joint 28 is located intermediate the upper leg 24 and the lower leg 26. The lower leg 26 is supported by the knee joint 28 for folding motion relative to the upper leg 24 between a fully extended position (shown in FIG. 4) and a fully flexed position (illustrated in FIG. 20, FIG. 2 and FIG. 1). The lower leg 26 includes an ankle joint 30 spaced below the knee joint 28. Leg 19 includes a foot 32 which is joined to the lower leg 26 at the ankle joint 30. The foot 32 is supported by the ankle joint 30 for flexing motion of the foot 32 relative to the lower leg 26. The foot 32 is supported by the ankle joint 30 for flexing motion relative to the lower leg 26 between a fully extended position (not shown) and a fully flexed position illustrated in FIG. 4. The foot 32 has a foot sole 33 opposite the ankle joint 30. The upper leg 24 includes in the interior thereof a hip ball (not shown). The hip socket (not shown) of hip 16 captures the hip ball (not shown) to provide a flexible hip joint (not shown). The upper leg 24 is supported by the hip joint for flexing motion of the upper leg 24 relative to the lower torso 14 at hip 16. The upper leg 24 is supported by the hip joint for flexing motion relative to the lower torso 14 between a fully extended position (shown in FIG. 4), a partially flexed position shown in FIG. 3, and the fully flexed position (shown in FIG. 20, FIG. 2 and FIG. 1). Each of the legs 19 can be described as being in a “fully folded” position (shown in FIG. 20, FIG. 2 and FIG. 1) when the upper leg 24 thereof is flexed up at the hip joint 34 to occupy the fully flexed position relative to the lower torso 14, when the lower leg 26 is flexed up at the knee joint 28 to occupy the fully flexed position relative to the upper leg 24, and when the foot 32 is flexed up at the ankle joint 30 to occupy the fully flexed position relative to the lower leg 26. It will be understood that the fully flexed position can include positions which are characterized by full flexion of the upper legs 24 at the hip joint or hip 16.
[0039] It will be understood that the legs 19 of infant 2 occupy a “full fetal tuck” position best shown in FIG. 20 and FIG. 2 when both legs 19 simultaneously occupy “fully folded” positions. In the “full fetal tuck” position, in each leg 19 the upper leg 24 is flexed up at the hip 16 to occupy the fully flexed position relative to the lower torso 14, when the lower leg 26 is flexed up at the knee joint 28 to occupy the fully flexed position relative to the upper leg 24, and the foot 32 is flexed up at the left ankle joint 30 to occupy the fully flexed position relative to the lower leg 26. It will be understood that the legs 19 of infant 2 can occupy any of numerous “partial tuck” positions (an exemplary partial tuck position being shown in FIG. 3). The legs 19 simultaneously can occupy the same or different conditions which are partial tuck positions wherein one or more of the hip 16, knee joint 28, and ankle joint 30 occupy partially folded positions. It will be appreciated that the specific partial tuck position shown in FIG. 3 is only one among a range of potential combinations which are characterized as partial tuck positions. It will be understood that the partial tuck positions (such as shown in FIG. 3, for example) of the legs 19 are intermediate the “full fetal tuck” position (FIG. 1, FIG. 2 and FIG. 20) and the “fully extended” (shown in FIG. 4) position. In the “fully extended” position (not shown), it will be understood that each of the hip 16, knee joint 28 and ankle joint 30 occupy a “fully unfolded” position.

[0040] FIG. 1 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 100 for care of an infant 2 according to an embodiment, and having infant 2 disposed therein with legs (not shown in FIG. 1) in a full fetal tuck position. FIG. 2 is an enlarged partial front perspective view of the apparatus 100 shown generally in FIG. 1, with phantom lines illustrating obscured details of the infant legs 19 in a full fetal tuck position inside the apparatus 100. It will be understood that a primary support 50 supports at least a portion of apparatus 100, and thus torso 6 of infant 2, in a substantially stable condition. As can be observed in FIG. 1, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, primary support 50 is independent of apparatus 100. It will be appreciated that, in other embodiments, apparatus 100 can be formed or joined with primary support 50, such as by hook and loop fastener material as further described in this disclosure. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, primary support 50 is a suitable flat bed. Primary support 50 has a primary support surface 52 which acts through apparatus 100 and engages the back 10 of torso 6 in a manner that supports infant 2 in a substantially stable condition. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, primary support surface 52 extends in a generally horizontal plane. It will be appreciated that primary support surface 52 can extend in any other suitable plane. It will be appreciated that torso 6 of infant 2 can be supported in any stable position. For example, primary support 50 can include or can be defined by the arms, shoulder or chest of an attendant, such as a parent or attendant, cradling infant 2. FIG. 11 is a front perspective view of apparatus 100 for care of an infant according to a first embodiment as shown generally in FIG. 1, with the apparatus 100 having infant 2 disposed therein with legs 19 in a full fetal tuck position, and the apparatus 100 having infant 2 disposed therein being cradled together in the arms of an attendant. In other embodiments, primary support 50 can include or can be defined by any other suitable support which supports torso 6 of infant 2 in a substantially stable condition. It will be appreciated that torso 6 of infant 2 can occupy any of various resting positions at different angles other than a generally horizontal plane, depending upon the configuration of the primary support 50. For example, FIG. 12 is an elevated top perspective view similar to FIG. 1, showing, in combination, apparatus 100 having infant 2 disposed therein, and inclined support apparatus 700 for supporting both apparatus 100 and infant 2 disposed therein. It will be understood that inclined support apparatus 700 includes inclined primary support surface 708. It will be understood that the inclined primary support surface 708 is inclined relative to a horizontal plane at an inclined support angle 712. Inclined support apparatus 700 is further described elsewhere in this specification.

[0041] Returning to FIG. 20, it will be observed that when torso 6 of infant 2 is supported by primary support 50, absent infant 2 being confined in apparatus 100, arms 13 and legs 19 are independently movable relative to torso 6 due to muscular activity relating to these limbs. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that excessive independent movement of the arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 can cause the infant to experience a startling effect. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that in some circumstances excessive independent movement of the arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 can contribute to instability of torso 6 relative to primary support 50. It will be appreciated that excessive movement of arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 can wake infant 2 when sleeping. It will be understood that repeated excessive movement of arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 can repeatedly wake infant 2 when sleeping. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that excessive independent movement of the arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 which causes the infant to experience a startling effect can wake infant 2 when sleeping. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that repeated excessive independent movement of the arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 which causes the infant to repeatedly experience a startling effect can repeatedly wake infant 2 when sleeping. It will be appreciated that excessive movement of arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 can unseat or disturb infant 2 when sleeping or resting. It will be appreciated that repeated excessive movement of arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 can repeatedly unseat or disturb infant 2 when sleeping or resting. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that excessive independent movement of the arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 which causes the infant to experience a startling effect can unseat or disturb infant 2 when sleeping or resting. It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that repeated excessive independent movement of the arms 13 or legs 19 relative to torso 6 which causes the infant to repeatedly experience a startling effect can repeatedly unseat or disturb infant 2 when sleeping or resting.

[0042] FIG. 5 is a front perspective view of the apparatus shown generally in FIG. 1, showing the apparatus in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown in FIG. 5). As shown in FIG. 5, apparatus 100 includes an upper section 104 and a lower section 108. FIG. 6 is a rear perspective view of the apparatus shown generally in FIG. 5, showing the apparatus in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown in FIG. 6). As shown in FIG. 6 from a rear perspective, it is observed that apparatus 100 includes an upper section 104 and a lower section 108. Referring again to FIG. 5, the upper section 104 is substantially formed and defined by a first elastic fabric material 112. It will be understood that materials described herein are suitably breathable for use in contact with an infant 2. It will be understood that materials described herein are suitably flexible for use in contact with an infant 2. It will be understood
that fabric material as described herein can include any otherwise suitable woven or nonwoven material which is suitable for use with an infant 2. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 5, the lower section 108 is substantially formed and defined by a second elastic fabric material 116. It will be understood that, although different specific constructions are contemplated, in the particular embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5, the second elastic fabric material 116 includes and is formed of a plurality of layers 17 (shown in FIG. 2) of fabric materials, as further described elsewhere in this disclosure. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5, the upper section 104 and lower section 108 are joined in intimate fixed relationship in a suitable manner. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5, the upper section 104 and lower section 108 are joined in intimate fixed relationship by a fastener combination 118. In the specific embodiment illustrated, upper section 104 and lower section 108 are joined by a fastener combination 18 (shown in FIG. 6) which includes an elongated, substantially continuous stitched seam 120. In other embodiments (not shown), at least portions of both the upper section 104 and lower section 108 can be formed of and can include a single piece of common fabric material. In other embodiments (not shown), the upper section 104 and lower section 108 are joined together in fixed relationship by another suitable fastener combination 118 such as, for example, a zipper seam, a glue seam, a rigid material such as plastic material, by hook and loop fastening material such as Velcro®, a plurality of buttons and buttonholes, or by any other suitable fastener combinations.

[0043] Returning to FIG. 5, in the specific embodiment illustrated, the upper section 104 is substantially formed of first elastic fabric material 112. The first elastic fabric material 112 is a suitable material that can be stretched to bind the arms 13 snug against the torso 6 (see FIG. 1) and can be maintained in stretched condition by engagement of suitable first releasable fastener combinations 113. It will be understood that upper portion 104 can be configured in any suitable manner. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5, the upper portion 104 is substantially defined by the first elastic fabric material 112. Upper portion 104 includes a major upper fabric panel 214. Major upper fabric panel 214 is formed substantially of the first elastic fabric material 112. Major upper fabric panel 214 includes upper rear section 218. Upper rear section 218 is sized and oriented to receive and face back 10 of torso 6 when infant 2 is received in apparatus 100. It will be understood that infant 2 is positioned with the spine (not shown) generally aligned along longitudinal axis 219. Upper rear section 218 is oriented and sized to receive and face back 10 of torso 6 in substantially abutting relationship therewith. Major upper fabric panel 214 includes first wrap section 222. First wrap section 222 extends outwardly from upper rear section 218 in a first peripheral direction (relative to the longitudinal direction of longitudinal axis 219) corresponding to the right side of infant 2. Major upper fabric panel 214 includes second wrap section 226. Second wrap section 226 is spaced apart from first wrap section 222 by upper rear section 218. Second wrap section 226 extends outwardly from upper rear section 218 in a second peripheral direction corresponding to the left side of infant 2. Major upper fabric panel 214 has a substantially continuous primary outer edge 230. Primary outer edge 230 includes upper edge portion 232. Upper edge portion 232 is defined by cooperation of corresponding upper edge segments of upper rear section 218, first wrap section 222, and second wrap section 226. Upper edge portion 232 is generally oriented to define a neck area 234 (see FIG. 1) of apparatus 100 when infant 2 is received in apparatus 100. Again referring to FIG. 5, primary outer edge 230 includes a first lower edge portion 236 defined by first wrap section 222 and spaced from upper edge portion 232 in generally opposed relationship to upper edge portion 232. It is observed that first lower edge portion 236 joins upper edge portion 232 at a first transition section 237. First lower edge portion 236 extends between first transition section 237 and first terminus 231. Primary outer edge 230 includes a second lower edge portion 238 defined by second wrap section 226 and spaced from upper edge portion 232 in generally opposed relationship to the upper edge portion 232. It is observed that second lower edge portion 238 joins upper edge portion 232 at a second transition section 239. Second lower edge portion 238 extends between second transition section 239 and second terminus 241. It will be understood that upper rear section 218 of major upper fabric panel 214 is joined in fixed intimate relationship with corresponding lower rear section 242 of pouch 132 of lower portion 108. More particularly, major upper fabric panel 214 at upper rear section 218 is joined in intimate fixed relationship with corresponding lower rear section 242 of pouch 132 of lower portion 108 along substantially continuous stitched seam 120 (shown in FIG. 6). Referring to FIG. 6, stitched seam 120 extends between first terminus 239 and second terminus 241 in a generally circumferential direction to form an integral connection between upper rear section 218 and lower rear section 242 of apparatus 100. Cooperation of upper rear section 218 and lower rear section 242 thus provides a substantially continuous major rear fabric panel assembly which is a fabric member extending from upper edge portion 232 to bottom of pouch 132. Referring to FIG. 5, major upper fabric panel 214 has a major inner surface 246. Referring to FIG. 6, major upper fabric panel 214 has a major outer surface 248 disposed in opposed relationship to major inner surface 246. Referring to FIG. 5, major inner surface 246 is oriented to face and contact infant 2 (not shown in FIG. 5). Referring to FIG. 1, major outer surface 248 is oriented to face the external environment.

[0044] In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 6, stitched seam 120 extends in a circumferential direction between first terminus 239 and second terminus 241 and is located in the rear 131 of apparatus 100 at a location approximately in opposition to mouth portion 144 (see FIG. 5) of pouch 132 of swaddle 128. Referring to FIG. 6, upper portion 104 at stitched seam 120 thus is joined in fixed relationship to the secondary elastic fabric material 116 which defines pouch sidewall 136. Upper portion 104 extends toward the upper edge 232 from the stitched seam 120 and is defined by first elastic fabric material 112 which when wrapped about torso 6 (shown in FIG. 1) defines a conforming, elastic cocoon that engages and quietts arms 13 against torso 6.

[0045] Referring to FIG. 5, infant 2 (not shown) is placed on upper middle section 218 with back 8 on major inner surface 246 and the spine of infant 2 aligned generally along longitudinal axis 219, and with legs 19 inserted through mouth portion 144 into pouch 132. Pouch 132 is pulled up in the longitudinal direction generally toward upper edge 232 to fully fold the pair of legs 19 in the full fetal tuck position. The first wrap section 222 is wrapped across torso 6 by pulling first wrap section 222 at first transition 237 across front 8 of torso 6 and right arm 13 from right to left to draw right arm 13 snug against front 8 of torso 6. The second wrap section 226 is wrapped over first wrap section 222 and across torso 6 be
pulling second wrap section 226 at second transition 239 across front 8 of torso 6 and left arm 13 from left to right to
draw left arm 13 snug against first wrap section 222 on front 8 of torso 6.

[0046] Referring to FIG. 5, mouth portion 144 of pouch 132 is
configured to be opened by a attendant to insert legs 19 (see
FIG. 2) and lower torso 14 of infant 2 inside pouch 132 of
swaddle 128. The upper cocoon section 223 conforms tightly
to upper torso 12 to quiet the arms 13 in relationship to torso
6. The tight upper cocoon section 223 is defined by the upper
section 104 and quiet arms 13, in combination with the
swaddle 128 quieting legs 19, enables infant 2 to sleep con-
tinuously without waking and in a relatively undisturbed
manner without disruption for relatively long periods. The
tight upper cocoon section 313 quieting the arms 13, in
combination with swaddle 128 quieting legs 19, enables infant 2
when awake to rest in a relatively undisturbed manner.

[0047] It will be understood that top portion 104 and bot-
ton portion 108 each include elements of releasable fastener
combinations 312. It will be understood that, according to
embodiments, top portion 104 and bottom portion 108 can
include any suitable releasable fastener combinations 312. In
the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, top
portion 104 and bottom portion 108 each include elements of
releasable fastener combinations 312 which are landing areas
315. Each landing area 315 includes a suitable mating com-
ponent of a releasable fastener combination 312. It will be
understood that any suitable releasable fastener combination
312 can be used. In the particular embodiment illustrated in
FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, each releasable fastener combination 312
includes a suitable mating pair of releasable soft hook and
loop fastener components 318. It will be understood that, in
the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, each
releasable soft hook and loop fastener component 318 is
identified as either a male or hook landing area 320 or a
mating female or loop landing area 322. Respective of the
hook landing areas 320 and corresponding loop mounting areas
322 are configured for releasable mating engagement with
each other.

[0048] In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 and
FIG. 6, bottom portion 108 and top portion 104 include
respective components of primary releasable fastener com-
bination 328. More specifically, bottom portion 108 includes a
primary support female landing area 332 defined on pouch sidewall 136 adjacent mouth portion 144 of pouch 132, and
top portion 104 includes a spaced pair of primary support
male landing areas 334. In the specific embodiment illus-
trated in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, it will be understood that, in the
specific embodiment illustrated, the pair of primary support
male landing areas 334 are substantially identical and are
disposed in spaced relation to each other on respective flex-
able fabric flaps 336. Each of the fabric flaps 336 is joined in
intimate fixed relationship with upper rear section 218 above
mouth portion 144 of pouch 132. It will be understood that
primary support female landing area 332 is configured for
releasable mating engagement with the pair of primary sup-
port male landing areas 334 to provide primary support which
fastens or maintains mouth portion 144 of pouch 132 in a
fixed position relative to the legs 19 of infant 2 in the direc-
tion of longitudinal axis 219.

[0049] In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 and
FIG. 6, top portion 108 includes mating elements of a sec-
ondary releasable fastener combination 340. Secondary
releasable fastener combination 340 includes a spaced pair of
secondary support male landing areas 342 and a mating sec-
ondary support female landing area 344. The pair of second-
ary support male landing areas 342 (best shown in FIG. 8) are
disposed in opposition to the pair of primary support male
landing areas 334 and supported by respective of the fabric
flaps 336. Referring again to FIG. 5, secondary support
female landing area 344 is disposed in first wrap section 222.
More particularly, secondary support female landing area 344
is disposed on major inner surface 246 adjacent first lower
dge 236 of first wrap section 222. Secondary support female
landing area 344 is configured for releasable mating engage-
ment with the pair of secondary support male landing areas
342 to support the opposing primary support male landing
areas 334 in fixed positions relative to longitudinal axis 219,
and thus provides secondary support which contributes to
fastening or maintaining mouth portion 144 of pouch 132 in the
fixed position relative to legs 19 of infant 2 as established by
releasable engagement of primary releasable fastener
combination 328.

[0050] In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 and
FIG. 6, top portion 108 includes mating elements of a tertiary
releasable fastener combination 352. Tertiary releasable fas-
tener combination 352 includes a spaced pair of tertiary male
landing areas 354 and a mating tertiary female landing area
356. The pair of tertiary male landing areas 354 are disposed
on respective outer fabric ears 358 located at transition sec-
rion 239 of outer edge 230 of second wrap section 226 and
face in the same orientation as major inner surface 246. The
tertiary female landing area 356 is disposed on major outer
surface 248 of upper rear section 218. It will be understood
that with first wrap section 222 pulled around front 8 of torso
6, second wrap section 226 is pulled around front 8 of torso 6
and forms an overlapping layer over first wrap section 222.
When second wrap section 226 is pulled over first wrap
section 222, tertiary male landing areas 354 are joined in
releasable mating engagement with tertiary female landing
area 356 to securely close both second wrap section 226 and
first wrap section 222. It will be understood that pouch upper
dge 136 can be selectively positioned along longitudinal axis
219 to draw or fold the legs 19 into a full fetal tuck position,
and thereafter is retained in substantially the same location
along longitudinal axis 219 by cooperation of primary releas-
able fastener combination 328 and secondary releasable fast-
tener combination 340 to anchor pouch upper edge 138 rela-
tive to primary fabric panel 214 of top portion 108 and torso
6.

[0051] It will be understood that landing areas 315 are
formed of suitable soft mating hook (male) and loop (female)
releasable fastener components 318. Soft hook and loop fas-
tener components 318 are suitably soft to avoid irritating the
skin or otherwise agitating infant 2. One commercially avail-
able product suitable for use as a soft hook and loop fastener
component 318 is Soft and Flexible Velcro, available from
Textol Systems, Inc. of Carlstadt, N.J.

[0052] In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, the
second elastic fabric material 116 possesses relatively limited
elasticity and thus exhibits a relatively high resistance to
being stretched from an initial condition by application of
dislocation force. A relevant example of such a "dislocation
force" would be force applied to the second elastic fabric
material 116 by the soles 33 of the feet 32 upon muscular
activity which extends the legs 19 for the feet 32 to kick out
against or push out against the second elastic fabric material
116. Another relevant example of such a "dislocation force"
would be force applied to the second elastic fabric material 116 by the knees 28 and upper legs 24 upon muscular activity which forces the knees 28 and upper legs 24 to widen apart and thus to push out against the second elastic fabric material 116 in the sideways direction. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, the second elastic fabric material 116 also possesses a relatively great “return factor” or “return index” and, upon being stretched from an initial condition to a stretched condition, returns to the initial condition when dislocation force applied to the second elastic fabric material 116 by muscular activity of the legs 19 falls below a threshold value which is necessary to continue or maintain stretching or dislocation of the second elastic fabric material 116 from the initial condition. It will be understood that when the second elastic fabric material 116 returns to the initial condition from the stretched condition, the legs 19 are generally urged toward and substantially return to initial locations of legs 19.

[0053] An exemplary chain of events will be described for the legs 19 and the second elastic fabric material 116. First, the legs 19 initially occupy the “full felt tuck” position with the second elastic fabric material 116 occupies an initial low stretch condition which is snug against the soles 33 of both feet 32 and otherwise generally snug against the sides of the legs 19. Second, when the legs 19 are initially urged by muscular action from the “full felt tuck” position towards a partially folded position and thus apply dislocation forces to the second elastic fabric material 116, the second elastic fabric material 116 exhibits limited stretchiness and resists being stretched and thus applies opposing resistance forces to the legs 19 through the feet 32 until the dislocation forces exceed the limited stretchiness factor and thus cause the second elastic fabric material 116 to be stretched or dislocated to a stretched condition corresponding to a partially folded position of the legs 19. Third, when muscular forces on the legs 19 are reduced and thus cause dislocation forces generated by the muscles and legs 19 to fall below the resistance forces inherent in the second elastic fabric material 116 when in the stretched condition, the differential resistance forces cause the legs 19 and feet 32 to be urged back to the initial “full felt tuck” positions as the second elastic fabric material 116 returns from the stretched condition to the initial stretch condition.

[0054] It will be understood that, where lower section 108 is positioned about legs 19 and lower torso 14 with the legs 19 each occupying an initial position, the lower section 108 is selectively positionable relative to infant 2 such that the second elastic fabric material 116 in the initial stretch condition is snug against the feet 32 of each leg 19. It will be understood that the “initial position” can be, for example, the “full felt tuck” position wherein both legs 19 simultaneously occupy the “fully folded” position, or any position wherein the legs 19 occupy any combination of “partially folded” positions. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 4, the lower section 108 is selectively positionable relative to infant 2 such that the second elastic fabric material 116 in the initial stretch condition is sufficiently snug against the feet 32 of each leg 19 to generate a resistance force against the feet 32 when muscular action urges the legs 19 to move or unfold from the initial position and thus generate dislocation forces against the second elastic fabric material 116 of lower section 108. If the muscular action is sufficiently strong to cause any portion of the legs 19 to move or unfold from the initial position despite application of the resistance force against the feet 32 and any other portions of the legs 19, then the second elastic fabric material 116 continues to apply resistance forces against the feet 32 and against any other portions of the legs 19 in contact therewith to cause the feet 32 and legs 19 to move and fold back to the initial position. More particularly, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 4, the lower section 108 is selectively positionable relative to infant 2 such that the second elastic fabric material 116 in the initial stretch condition is sufficiently snug against the feet 32 of each leg 19 to generate a resistance force against the feet 32 which comforts the infant 2 by opposing muscular action which can urge the legs 19 to move or unfold from the initial position. The lower section 108 including the second elastic fabric material 116 thus defines a comfort support 124. Comfort support 124 is selectively positionable relative to infant 2 such that the second elastic fabric material 116 in the initial stretch condition is sufficiently snug against the feet 32 of each leg 19 to generate resistance force against the feet 32 which comforts and quiet the infant 2 by opposing muscular action which can urge the legs 19 to move or unfold from the initial position and, should the legs 19 move away from the initial position to a second or dislocated position, the comfort support 124 comforts the infant 2 by returning the legs 19 to the initial position. The comfort support 124 thus quets the legs 19 of infant 2 by generating resistance forces against the soles 33 of feet 32 and legs 19, the resistance forces urging the feet 32 and legs 19 back to the full felt tuck position. It will be understood that, when the initial position is the full felt tuck position, the comfort support 124 thus quiets the legs 19 of infant 2 by generating resistance forces against the soles 33 of feet 32 and legs 19, the resistance forces urging the feet 32 and legs 19 back to the full felt tuck position. It will be understood that, when the initial position is a partially folded position, the comfort support 124 thus quiets the legs 19 of infant 2 by generating resistance forces against the soles 33 of feet 32 and legs 19, the resistance forces urging the feet 32 and legs 19 back to the partially folded position. It will be understood that, according to embodiments, it is not necessary for the legs 19 and feet 32 to be returned to the specific initial position initially occupied in order for the comfort support 124 to provide comfort forces which are sufficient to comfort and quiet the legs 19 and infant 2.

[0055] Referring to FIG. 2, it will be understood that lower section 108 including second elastic fabric material 116 can be formed in any configuration which causes the second elastic fabric material 116 in the initial stretch condition to be sufficiently snug against any portions of the feet 32 of the legs 19 to cause the second elastic fabric material 116 to exert resistance forces against the feet 32 when either leg 19 is urged by muscular action to attempt to move away from the initial “fully folded” (identified as the “full felt tuck” position when both legs 19 occupy a “fully folded” position) towards any of the numerous possible combinations of “partially folded” positions (shown generally in FIG. 3) and “fully extended” positions (shown generally in FIG. 4) of the legs 19. It will be understood that at any instant each leg 19 can occupy a position different from the other, i.e., one leg can be in a “fully folded” position and the other can be in a “partially folded” position, for example. As shown in FIG. 1, the lower section 108 defines a swaddle 128. Referring to FIG. 3, swaddle 128 defines a pouch 132. Pouch 132 has a generally continuous pouch sidewall 136. Pouch sidewall 136 is formed of the second elastic fabric material 116. Pouch sidewall 136 includes a pouch front wall section 137 which defines a continuous pouch upper edge 138. Pouch upper edge 138 extends
generally in a circumferential direction between first terminus 239 and second terminus 241 and is substantially perpendicular to longitudinal axis 219. Pouch sidewall 136 defines and includes a continuous pouch rear wall section 139. Pouch rear wall section 139 is opposite from pouch front wall section 137 and is integrally joined therewith to form pouch 132, except at pouch upper edge 138. Pouch upper edge 138 is disposed in opposition to pouch rear wall section 139. Cooperation of pouch upper edge 138 and rear wall section 139 defines open mouth portion 144. Pouch sidewall 136 defines a continuous, enclosed pouch bottom portion 140. Pouch bottom portion 140 is spaced from pouch upper edge 138 and mouth portion 144 of pouch 132. Mouth portion 144 opens to accommodate the lower torso 14 and legs 19. [0056] Referring again to FIG. 5, pouch sidewall 136 and pouch 132 are formed and defined by second elastic fabric material 116. It will be understood that second elastic fabric material 116 has properties, as described elsewhere in this specification, providing comfort by providing resistance force opposing extension of legs 19 and return force to return legs 19 from the fully extended position (shown in FIG. 4) and partial tuck position (shown in FIG. 3) to the full fetal tuck position (shown in FIG. 1). It will be understood that, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5, second elastic fabric material 116 provides and defines comfort support 124. It will be understood that second elastic fabric material 116 can be of any construction suitable to provide the necessary properties. Construction of the second elastic fabric material 116 in the particular embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 will be described. Second elastic fabric material 116 forming pouch sidewall 136 includes two discrete material layers 117 throughout pouch 132 and includes a third discrete material layer of resistance material 143 in comfort support area 141. The discrete material layers are aligned face to face in a sandwich construction. Comfort support area 141 is indicated by dashed lines on pouch front wall section 137 in FIG. 5 and on pouch rear wall section 139 in FIG. 6, the dashed lines generally indicating a continuous stitched seam (not shown). The stitched seam joins the third discrete layer of resistance material 143 between an outermost layer 147 and an innermost layer (not shown). In the specific embodiment illustrated, the outermost layer 147 and innermost layer (not shown) are identical and are formed of 90/10 cotton-lycra blend jersey stretch knit fabric having a nominal weight of 6.5 oz. A commercially available product suitable to form outermost layer 147 and the identical innermost layer is 90/10 cotton-lycra blend jersey stretch knit fabric having a nominal weight of 6.5 oz. available from Lucy’s Fashion Fabrics and Trims in Anna, Tex. In the specific embodiment illustrated, the resistance material 143 is formed of lightweight, ventilated neoprene material. A suitably commercially available product suitable to form resistance material 143 is 1.5 mm perforated neoprene, grade 1, available from Foamorder.com in San Francisco, Calif. It will be understood that comfort support area 141 is continuous and extends around pouch bottom 140 between pouch front wall section 137 and pouch rear wall section 139. It will also be understood that, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 5 and FIG. 6, the distinction between pouch bottom 140, pouch front wall section 137 and pouch rear wall section 139 in comfort support area 141 is arbitrary, being provided here for ease of description, and that readily discernable boundaries are not visible in the pouch 132 from an external perspective. [0057] Pouch 132 and top portion 104 include adjustable locating structure 148. Adjustable locating structure 148 is selectively and adjustably engageable to permit the second elastic fabric material 116 in the initial stretch condition to be positioned or located in the longitudinal direction indicated by longitudinal axis 219 to be sufficiently snug against portions of feet 32 of legs 19 to cause the second elastic fabric material 116 to exert resistance forces against the feet 32 when either leg 19 is urged by muscular action to attempt to move away from the initial position, the initial position being either the “fully folded” position or any of the numerous possible combinations of “partially folded” positions. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 5, the adjustable locating structure 148 includes the primary releasable fastener combination 328 and a secondary releasable fastener combination 340, which are described in detail elsewhere in this specification. It will be understood that adjustable locating structure 148 includes primary support female landing area 332 defined on pouch sidewall 136 adjacent and immediately below pouch upper edge 138 of pouch front section 136. In other embodiments (not shown), adjustable locating structure 148 can include any suitable releasable fastening combination that enables the pouch upper edge 138 to be selectively positioned in the longitudinal direction to locate the pouch bottom portion 140 snug against the feet 32 in the initial condition. It will be understood that adjustable locating structure 148 includes the pair of primary support male landing areas 334 on top portion 104. The pair of primary support male landing areas 334 are selectively releasably engageable with the primary support female landing area 332 to selectively support and fix the pouch upper edge 138 in a location or position located along the longitudinal axis 219 suitable to draw up and locate the pouch bottom portion 140 snug against the feet 32 to fold the legs 19 in the full fetal tuck position, which is the typical initial condition of legs 19. [0058] Referring to FIG. 5, it will be understood that adjustable locating structure 148 includes the pair of secondary support male landing areas 342 of top portion 104, which are located in immediate opposed relationship and face in the opposite direction relative to the pair of primary support male landing areas 334. It will be understood that adjustable locating structure 148 includes the secondary support female landing area 344 of first wrap section 222 of top portion 104. The secondary support female landing area 344 is selectively releasable engageable with the pair of secondary support male landing areas 342 to selectively support and fix the primary releasable fastener combination 328, and thus the pouch upper edge 138, in an established location or position located along the longitudinal axis 219, where the established location of pouch upper edge 138 has been established by selective releasable engagement of the primary releasable fastener combination 328 to draw up and locate the pouch bottom portion 140 snug against the feet 32 to fold the legs 19 in the full fetal tuck position. It is to be understood that the pair of primary support male landing areas 334, the opposing pair of secondary support male landing areas 342, and the secondary support female landing area 344 are located relative to longitudinal axis 219 at positions generally above and between pouch upper edge 138 and upper edge 230 of top portion 104, such that releasable mating engagement of the primary releasable fastener combination 328 simultaneous with releasable mating engagement of the secondary releasable fastener combination 340 provides supporting force which is sufficient to maintain the pouch 132, pouch upper
edge 138 and pouch bottom portion 140 in a substantially fixed position or location throughout numerous repeating cycles of extension and folding of legs 19 between the full fetal tuck position, partial tuck positions, and the fully extended position.

[0059] Referring to FIG. 2, according to embodiments, the comfort support 124 is adapted to support each of the legs 19 relative to the lower torso 14 in a respective initial position or full fetal tuck position. In the initial positions of the legs 19 each of the upper legs 24 occupies an initial folded position relative to the lower torso 14. In the initial folded position, each of the upper legs 24 is flexed at the hip joint 34 relative to the lower torso 14. In the initial position of the legs 19 each of the feet 32 occupies a respective initial foot location relative to the torso 6. The comfort support 124 is selectively configurable relative to the infant 2 in an initial location (shown in FIG. 2). The initial comfort location of the comfort support 124 corresponds to the initial positions of the legs 19. The comfort support 124 in the initial location engages each of the feet 32 when the feet 32 occupy the initial foot locations (shown in FIG. 2). When engaging the feet 232, the comfort support 124 applies against the feet 32 respective resistance forces, the resistance forces urging the feet 32 to occupy the initial foot locations such that the upper legs 24 are urged to occupy the initial folded positions. The comfort support 124 is engageable by the feet 32 for the feet 32 to apply displacement forces against the comfort support 124. The displacement forces are caused by muscular activity of the legs, and the displacement forces urge the comfort support to be displaced from the initial comfort location. Referring to FIG. 5, apparatus 100 includes adjustable locating structure 148. Adjustable locating structure 148 is selectively configurable by a attendant to cooperate with the comfort support 124 to substantially retain the comfort support 124 in the initial location and to return the comfort support 124 back to the initial location when displaced from the initial location by dislocation forces generated by muscular action of the legs 19. It will be understood that the adjustable locating structure 148 cooperates with the comfort support 124 to substantially retain the comfort support 124 in the initial location when the comfort support 124 is repeatedly subjected to displacement forces. At least one of the adjustable locating structure 148 and the comfort support 124 is selectively configurable by an attendant to free the comfort support 124 from supporting legs 19 and to permit unconstrained movement of legs 19. The comfort support 124 when free is movable relative to the infant 2 and when free can be readily displaced from an initial location when the comfort support 124 is repeatedly subjected to displacement forces imparted by legs 19. During a subsequent comfort period, the comfort support 124 is substantially retained in an initial location by mating engagement of the primary releasable fastener combination 328 and secondary releasable fastener combination 340 of the adjustable locating structure 148. The comfort period endures until ended by a attendant freeing the comfort support 124 for substantial movement relative to the infant 2 and away from the initial location by releasing the primary releasable fastener combination 328 and secondary releasable fastener combination 340 of the adjustable locating structure 148.

[0060] According to embodiments, the adjustable locating structure 148 is selectively configurable by an attendant to be engaged in an anchoring relationship with at least one of the following: the torso 6, the primary support 50, and secondary structure 51 which is independent of infant 2 and primary support 50. The adjustable positioning or adjustable locating structure 148 when engaged in the anchoring relationship is anchored in a substantially fixed relationship with the at least one of the following: the torso 6, the primary support 50, and the secondary structure 51. Upon being anchored in the substantially fixed relationship, the adjustable positioning structure 148 is selectively configurable by an attendant to cooperate with the comfort support 124 to substantially anchor the comfort support 124 in the initial location when the comfort support 124 is repeatedly subjected to displacement forces. The adjustable positioning structure 148 includes anchoring structure 210. Anchoring structure 210 is configured to cooperate in an anchoring relationship with an anchor 215 (shown in FIG. 1). Anchor 215 is defined by and includes at least one of the following: torso 6, primary support 50, and secondary structure 51 (shown in FIG. 12). Returning to FIG. 1, it will be understood that anchor 215 is an object independent of the legs 19. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1, the anchor 215 includes torso 6, as will be further described. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 12, anchor 215 includes torso 6 and secondary structure 51. Returning to FIG. 1, it will be understood that anchoring structure 210 is engaged in a substantially fixed relationship with anchor 215. Before the substantially fixed relationship is established with anchor 215, anchoring structure 210 is selectively positionable relative to the anchor 215 to fix the pouch bottom portion 140 defining comfort support 124 in the initial location by establishing slight tension in the second elastic fabric material 116 in relation to the anchor 215 and feet 32, the tension causing the second elastic fabric material 116 to be snug against the feet 32 in the initial foot positions corresponding to the full fetal tuck position. Cooperation of the anchoring structure 210 and anchor 215 thus allows the comfort support 140 defined by the layer of resistance material 143 in comfort support area 141 of second elastic fabric material 116, including the pouch bottom portion 140, to generate resistance forces against feet 32 and thus against legs 19. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 4, anchoring structure 210 includes the entirety of top portion 104, which is configured to be tightly engaged in substantially fixed relationship with torso 6. It will be understood that torso 6 thus functions as anchor 215 in the specific embodiment illustrated. In embodiments, the anchoring structure 210 is configured to engage in substantially fixed relationship an anchor 215, where the anchor 215 includes at least one of torso 6 (shown in FIG. 1), primary support 50 (shown in FIG. 1) and secondary structure 51 (shown in FIG. 12). It will be understood that anchoring structure 210 includes top portion 104 when wrapped to form a tight cocoon about torso 6, the primary releasable fastener combination 328, and the secondary releasable fastener combination 340, which cooperate to engage anchor 215 or torso 6. It will be understood that any suitable anchoring structure 210 can engage anchor 215. In embodiments (not shown), cooperation of the anchoring structure 210 with anchor 215 enables the comfort support 140 defined by the layer of resistance material 143 in comfort support area 141 of the second elastic fabric material 116 at the pouch bottom portion 140 to generate resistance forces against feet 32 and thus against legs 19. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 1, anchoring structure 210 is configured to engage in substantially fixed relationship the anchor 215, which is defined by torso 6. In embodiments (not shown), anchoring structure 210 can include the following: a tie, a fastener, hook and loop fasten-
ing material, a button and buttonhole, a snap-fit button, a zipper, a hook, a strap, a buckle, a carabiner, an eyelet, a clip, or a pin.  

[0061] It will be understood that lower portion 108 including swaddle 128 having the second elastic fabric material 116 defining pouch 132 substantially retains the legs 19 in the initial positions by engagement of the swaddle bottom portion 140 with the feet 32 in the initial foot locations. The pouch sidewall 136 defined by the second elastic fabric material 116 is disposed to apply supplemental confining forces against at least one of the following: the ankles 30, the lower legs 26, the knees 28, the upper legs 24, and the hips 16. The supplemental confining forces tend to urge the legs 19 to conform to the full fetal tuck position and to remain in the initial or full fetal tuck position for the purpose of quieting the legs 19 of infant 2. It will be understood that with the legs 19 occupying the initial full fetal tuck position, the second elastic fabric material 116 defines the swaddle 128 in tight relationship with the legs 19 and is temporarily deformable to accommodate momentary displacement of the legs 19 from the initial positions. The swaddle 128 quieting the legs 2 enables infant 2 to sleep continuously without waking and in a relatively undisturbed manner without disruption for relatively long periods. The swaddle 128 also enables infant 2 when awake to rest in a relatively undisturbed manner. Different overall sizes of swaddle 128 and pouch 132 are desired to fit different sizes of infants. For example, premature babies as small as about 3 pounds will require a considerably smaller apparatus 100 providing different amounts of comfort forces than, for example, infants weighing about 20 pounds several months after birth. For example, it is observed that pouch 132 in an initial condition can have a suitable volume of about 1200 to about 1300 cubic centimeters to contain the legs 19 and lower abdomen 14 of an infant weighing about 20 lbs. It will be observed that pouch 132 can be of any suitable volume.  

[0062] FIG. 7 illustrates apparatus 500 according to an embodiment. Apparatus 500 is generally identical to apparatus 100, except as otherwise described in this paragraph or as illustrated in FIG. 7. Apparatus 500 at rear section 131 includes external releasable female landing area 504. External releasable female landing area 504 is selectively engageable in releasable mating engagement with an external releasable male landing area 808 (shown in FIG. 13) of a bed system 800 to prevent infant 2 from moving away from an initial location (shown in FIG. 12) on bed system 800.  

[0063] FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 illustrate apparatus 600 according to an embodiment. Apparatus 600 is generally identical to apparatus 100, except as otherwise described in this paragraph or as illustrated in FIG. 8 and FIG. 9. FIG. 8 is a front perspective view similar to FIG. 5, showing an embodiment which is apparatus 600 for care of an infant and adapted for use with medical monitoring equipment (not shown), the apparatus 600 being in a flat, unfolded condition and ready to receive an infant (not shown). FIG. 9 is a rear perspective view of the apparatus shown generally in FIG. 8. It is observed that apparatus 600 includes a plurality of open equipment ports 602. Each equipment port 602 is sized and positioned to permit monitoring equipment (not shown) to extend through apparatus 600 for contacting the infant (not shown).  

[0064] FIG. 10 illustrates apparatus 700 for care of an infant according to an embodiment. Apparatus 700 is generally identical to apparatus 100, except as otherwise described in this paragraph or as illustrated in FIG. 10. FIG. 10 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 700 for care of an infant according to an embodiment, and having an infant 2 disposed therein with legs 19 in a full fetal tuck position. Except as otherwise described in this paragraph or shown in FIG. 10, apparatus 700 is identical to apparatus 100. Apparatus 700 has an upper portion 704 having a pair of sleeves 708 for accommodating the arms 13 of infant 2. It will be understood that first wrap section 722 is identical to first wrap section 222 of apparatus 100, except that first wrap section 722 includes a respective first sleeve 724 in proximity to upper edge 726, the first sleeve 724 being configured to receive the respective right arm 713. It will be understood that second wrap section 726 is identical to second wrap section 226 of apparatus 100, except that second wrap section 722 includes a respective second sleeve 728 in proximity to upper edge 726, the second sleeve 728 being configured to receive the respective left arm 715. Upper edge 726 defines a neck area 730 intermediate first sleeve 724 and second sleeve 728. It will be understood that first sleeve 724 and second sleeve 728 permit movement of the arms relative to the torso to allow the infant 2 to move the arms, such as by reaching out.  

[0065] FIG. 12, FIG. 13, FIG. 14, FIG. 15, FIG. 16, FIG. 17, FIG. 18 and FIG. 19 illustrate apparatus 800 for care of an infant according to an embodiment. FIG. 12 is an elevated top perspective view similar to FIG. 1, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant according to an embodiment, wherein apparatus 800 for care of an infant includes apparatus for supporting an infant according to an embodiment. In FIG. 12, apparatus 800 for care of an infant according to an embodiment is shown in combination with apparatus 500 for care of an infant according to an embodiment. It will be understood that, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 12, apparatus 500 for care of an infant is similar to the embodiment previously shown in FIG. 7. FIG. 13 is an elevated top perspective view similar to FIG. 12, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant, wherein apparatus 800 includes apparatus for supporting an infant according to an embodiment. FIG. 14 is a side elevation view taken generally along line 14-14 in FIG. 13, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant. FIG. 15 is top elevation view taken generally along line 15-15 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant. FIG. 16 is a first end elevation view taken generally along line 16-16 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant. FIG. 17 is a bottom elevation view taken generally along line 17-17 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant. FIG. 18 is a second end elevation view taken generally along line 18-18 in FIG. 14, showing apparatus 800 for care of an infant. FIG. 19 is an exploded perspective view similar to FIG. 12, showing further detail of apparatus 800 for care of an infant according to an embodiment.  

[0066] Referring to FIG. 12, apparatus 800 for care of an infant includes apparatus for supporting an infant which is a bed system 802. Bed system 802 for supporting an infant includes primary inclined support member 802. Primary inclined support member 802 is formed of a wedge-shaped piece of cellular foam material (not shown) providing suitable support for infant 2 laying thereupon in a supine position. It will be observed that infant 2 in the supine position is supported and maintained in an inclined position or orientation, with the head elevated above the feet. It will be understood that maintaining infant 2 in an inclined orientation when laying on its back in a supine position promotes uninterrupted periods of undisturbed sleep and rest. It will be understood that maintaining infant 2 in an inclined orientation with head
elevated above feet provides health benefits. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 12, cellular foam material is foam material conforming to applicable standards for use in infant bedding. For example, in the particular embodiment shown, cellular foam material conforms to standards for infant bedding materials established by appropriate authorities or bodies. One commercially available product which is suitable cellular foam material is Foam #E1844 I.t. Blue from Dann Foam Company of Houston, Tex. Primary inclined support member 802 includes a removable primary fitted fabric liner 804 which closely fits and encloses the wedge-shaped piece of cellular foam material. One commercially available product which is suitable fabric liner is Baby-Dry material available from Vitex Fabrics Inc. of New York, N.Y. Primary inclined support member 802 has an inclined upper surface 806. Inclined upper surface 806 has a bed longitudinal axis 807. Primary inclined support member 802 has a bottom surface 808 which extends in a generally horizontal orientation to rest upon a fixed support (not shown) such as a flat bed mattress in a crib. Bottom surface 808 is disposed in an opposing orientation relative to inclined upper surface 806. In the specific embodiment shown, an incline angle 809 of about 30 degrees to about 35 degrees is defined between inclined upper surface 806 and horizontal bottom surface 808. It will be understood that any suitable incline angle 809 between about 5 degrees and about 45 degrees can be defined by primary inclined support member 802. Primary fitted fabric liner 804 at inclined upper surface 806 includes components of releasable fastener combinations 810. More particularly, primary fitted fabric liner 804 at inclined upper surface 806 includes a plurality of primary releasable fastener female landing areas 812 (shown in FIG. 19) which are suitable for releasable mating engagement with respective releasable fastener male landing areas (shown in FIG. 19) of respective selectively positionable female mating components 814. It will be understood that primary inclined support member 802 has a lower end 815 and an elevated upper end 817, such that inclined upper surface 806 is inclined between lower end 815 and upper end 817. Inclined upper surface 806 defines an infant bay 834 for receiving infant 2 (not shown in FIG. 19). Infant bay 834 is an inclined, generally rectangular area bisected by bed longitudinal axis 807. Infant bay 834 is defined between a spaced pair of tertiary rest members 840. Infant bay 834 is located between a secondary rest member 820 and upper end 817, such that secondary rest member 820 is located below infant bay 834 along the inclined upper surface 806.

[0067] Bed system 800 includes secondary rest member 820. Secondary rest member 820 is a minor wedge-shaped member and is suitably formed of the same type of cellular foam material (not shown) as primary inclined support member 802, where the cellular foam material is enclosed in a respective secondary fitted fabric liner 822. Secondary rest member 820 defines a secondary rest surface 824 extending generally perpendicular to inclined upper surface 806 of primary inclined support member 802. Secondary rest member 820 includes a secondary bottom surface 828 which substantially abuts inclined upper surface 806 in face to face relationship therewith. Secondary bottom surface 828 includes a secondary releasable fastener male landing area 830 (shown in FIG. 19) suitable for releasable mating engagement with a respective primary releasable fastener female landing area 812 (shown in FIG. 13) of the primary inclined support member 802, where the primary releasable fastener female landing area 812 occupies a primary rest position 832 on inclined upper surface 806. Primary rest position 832 is located between an infant bay 834 (shown in FIG. 13) and lower end 815 of inclined upper surface 806. It will be understood that secondary rest member 820 is selectively positionable to provide support in the direction of the incline to prevent infant 2 from sliding down inclined upper surface 806 in the direction of the bed longitudinal axis 806. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIG. 13, secondary rest surface 824 has a rest surface releasable male landing area 825 (shown in FIG. 12) disposed thereon for releasable mating engagement with external releasable female landing area 504 of apparatus 500 (external releasable female landing area 504 shown in FIG. 7). Referring to FIG. 12, it will be understood that secondary rest surface 824 prevents apparatus 500 from sliding down towards lower end 815 from infant bay 834. It will be understood that in an alternative configuration, apparatus 100 can be used with primary inclined support member 802 and secondary rest member 820 without having external releasable female landing area 504. It will be understood that from time to time secondary rest member 820 is selectively positionable relative to bed longitudinal axis 807 to support infant 2 when positioned in infant bay 834, by positioning secondary rest surface 824 to abut buttocks of the infant 2 in a desired location along the bed longitudinal axis 807, and attaching the secondary releasable fastener male landing area 830 (FIG. 19) in releasable mating engagement with the pair of primary releasable fastener female landing areas 812 (FIG. 13) of the primary inclined support member 802, as may vary during growth of infant 2.

[0068] Bed system 800 includes a pair of tertiary side rest members 840 located adjacent infant 2 on inclined upper surface 806. Each of the tertiary side rest members 840 is substantially identical. In the specific embodiment illustrated, tertiary side rest member 840 is a minor elongated, wedge-shaped member and is suitably formed of the same type of cellular foam material (not shown) as primary inclined support member 802, where the cellular foam material is enclosed in a respective secondary fitted fabric liner 842. In the specific embodiment illustrated, each elongated wedge-shaped member has a height of about three (3) inches and an overall length of about twelve (12) inches. It will be understood that different specific dimensions and shapes are contemplated. For example, each tertiary side rest member 840 can have the shape of an elongated block (not shown). Tertiary side rest member 840 defines a tertiary rest surface 844 extending upward from inclined upper surface 806 of primary inclined support member 802. Tertiary rest member 840 includes a tertiary bottom surface 848 which substantially abuts inclined upper surface 806 in face to face relationship therewith. Tertiary bottom surface 848 includes a tertiary releasable fastener male landing area 850 (shown in FIG. 19) suitable for releasable mating engagement with a respective tertiary releasable fastener female landing area 852 of the primary inclined support member 802, where the tertiary releasable fastener female landing area 852 occupies a tertiary rest position 854 on inclined upper surface 806. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 19, it will be understood that the tertiary releasable fastener female landing area 852 is contiguous with the primary releasable fastener female landing area 812. In other embodiments, these can be non-contiguous. Tertiary side rest position 854 is located between infant bay 834 and a respective outer edge 856 of inclined upper surface 806. It will be understood that the pair of
tertiary side rest members 840 are selectively positionable to provide side to side stability to prevent infant 2 from rolling onto its side, and also to prevent infant 2 from accidentally rolling off outer edge 858. It will be understood that the pair of tertiary side rest members 840 can be selectively positioned in the direction of the bed longitudinal axis 807 to cooperate with secondary rest member 820 to prevent an infant 2 of any size from rolling off either side 858. It will be understood that embodiments of bed system 800 are adjustable to support infant 2 in an inclined position (shown in FIG. 12) during sleep and rest. It will be understood that embodiments of bed system 800, that are apparatus for support of an infant, used in combination with embodiments of apparatus (100, 500, etc.) for care of an infant promote periods of continuous sleep in an undisturbed state by an infant 2.

Illustrated in FIGS. 21-23 is apparatus 860 for care of an infant according to a sixth embodiment. FIG. 21 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 860 for care of an infant according to the sixth embodiment, showing an infant 2 disposed therein with legs 19 in a full fetal tuck position. FIG. 22 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 860 for care of an infant according to the sixth embodiment as shown in FIG. 21, in an open condition with the infant absent. FIG. 23 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 860 for care of an infant 2 according to a sixth embodiment as shown in FIGS. 21-22, in a partially open position with an infant 2 being partially enclosed therein. It will be understood by one of ordinary skill that apparatus 860 is substantially identical to apparatus 100 except as otherwise described or illustrated.

Referred to FIG. 20, infant 2 has a torso 6. Torso 6 includes upper torso 12 and lower torso 14. Lower torso 14 includes hips 16. Hips 16 include right hip 861 and left hip 862. Upper torso 12 includes shoulders 863. Shoulders 863 include right shoulder 864 and left shoulder 865. Infant 2 has a right arm 866 supported by the upper torso 12 at right shoulder 864. Infant 2 has a left arm 867 supported by the upper torso 12 at left shoulder 865. Each of the right arm 866 and left arm 867 arm has a respective inner side 868 facing the torso 6. Each of the right arm 866 and left arm 867 arm has a respective outer side 869 disposed in opposition to the inner side 868 thereof.

Referred to FIGS. 21-23, in the specific embodiment illustrated therein, apparatus 860 is embodied in a garment 870 formed of flexible fabric material 871. Garment 870 embodying apparatus 860 for care of infant 2 includes a swaddle 872. According to an embodiment shown in FIG. 21, swaddle 872 includes a leg pouch 873 configured to receive legs 19 of infant 2. In the specific embodiment shown in FIG. 21, the leg pouch 873 is formed of multi-way elastic, stretchable flexible fabric material 874 which is breathable. In one specific embodiment, swaddle 872 including leg pouch 873 is formed of three-way elastic, stretchable flexible fabric material 875 which is breathable. According to a specific exemplary embodiment shown in FIG. 21, three-way elastic, stretchable flexible fabric material 875 is breathable and organic 876. One of ordinary skill will understand that suitable flexible fabric material 871 can have different properties.

Apparatus 860 includes a comfort support 876 associated with the leg pouch 873. Comfort support 876 functions as described in detail elsewhere in this disclosure for apparatus 100. Comfort support 876 is configured to return legs 19 of the infant 2 to a fully folded position relative to the torso 6. Comfort support 876 is capable of occupying an initial comfort position corresponding to a fully folded position of the legs 19. Comfort support 876 is movable to the initial comfort position to a fully extended position corresponding to an extended position of the legs 19. One of ordinary skill will understand that, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 21-23, comfort support 876 is formed in integral relation with flexible fabric material 871 which defines leg pouch 873. One of ordinary skill will understand that, in the specific embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 21-23, comfort support 876 can be formed of select material in one or more layers, such as certain stretchable three-way elastic flexible fabric material 874,875, having elasticity properties sufficient for comfort support 876 to return legs from the extended to fully folded positions, when in use, with a leg pouch 873 having specific geometry and the leg pouch 873 being formed of specific material. In the specific embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 21-23, comfort support 876 is formed of a single layer of select stretchable three-way elastic flexible fabric material 874,875 having elasticity properties sufficient for comfort support 876 to return legs from the extended to fully folded positions when in use, and leg pouch 873 is formed of the same, continuous single layer of select stretchable three-way elastic flexible fabric material 874,875, for ease of fabrication of swaddle 872 including both leg pouch 873 and comfort support 876. One of ordinary skill will understand that suitable stretchable three-way elastic flexible fabric material 874,875 must be selected in a suitable number of layers to provide elasticity properties sufficient for comfort support 876 to return legs from the extended to fully folded positions when in use, and that selection of flexible fabric material 871 to form leg pouch 873 is independent of selection of the preceding.

Apparatus 860 includes anchoring structure 877 configured to substantially return the comfort support 876 to an initial comfort position during a series of extension or displacement cycles wherein muscular activity causes the legs 19 to repeatedly extend and bend. One of ordinary skill will understand that, during displacement cycles, displacement forces are applied against the comfort support 876 when legs 19 of the infant 2 are extended to an extended position from a fully folded position by muscular activity. The anchoring structure 877 is engaged with the torso 6 in an anchoring relationship. In the anchoring relationship, the anchoring structure 877 is retained in a substantially fixed position relative to torso 6. Apparatus 860 includes a second releasable fastener combination 878. Second releasable fastener combination 878 includes a second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 879. The second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 879 includes a second landing area 880 located on at least one of a right flap 881 and left flap 882. The second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 879 when selectively engaged with the second mating landing area 880 defines a portion of the anchoring structure 877. According to a specific embodiment shown in FIGS. 21-23, the anchoring structure 877 includes a first anchoring portion 883 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support 876 and the leg pouch 873 to retain the comfort support 876 in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure 877. Anchoring structure 877 includes a second anchoring portion 884 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap 881 and the left flap 882 to retain the first anchoring portion 883 in a fixed position relative to at least one of the right flap 881 and left flap 882. In the specific embodiment shown in FIGS.
21-23, the first anchoring portion 883 includes a first anchoring releasable fastener combination 885 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support 876 and the leg pouch 873 to retain the comfort support 876 in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure 877. The second anchoring portion 884 includes a second anchoring releasable fastener combination 886 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap 881 and the left flap 882 to retain the first anchoring portion 883 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap 881 and the left flap 882. More particularly, in the specific embodiment shown in FIGS. 21-23, the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 885 includes a respective first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 887 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support 876 and the leg pouch 873 to retain the comfort support 876 in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure 877. The second anchoring releasable fastener combination 886 is configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap 881 and the left flap 882 to retain the first anchoring portion 887 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap 881 and left flap 882. In the specific embodiment illustrated, the anchoring structure 877 includes a pair of spaced belt members 888 proximate the lower torso 14 and having a respective element of the first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 887 of the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 885 supported thereupon, the at least one belt member having a respective element of second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 879 of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination 886 supported thereupon in opposition to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 885. In the illustrated embodiment, the at least one of the right flap 881 and left flap 882 includes a respective element of the second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 879 of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination 887 supported thereupon for releasable engagement with the at least one belt member 888 in opposed relation to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 885 to retain the first anchoring portion 883 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap 881 and the left flap 882. One of ordinary skill will understand that retaining the first anchoring portion 883 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap 881 and the left flap 882 in turn causes the second anchoring portion 884 to be retained in a fixed position relative to the same and torso 6. Torso 6 functions as anchor as described in detail elsewhere in this disclosure in reference to apparatus 100.

[0074] Apparatus 860 includes a back panel 890 disposed to lay against the back 10 of infant 2 when legs 19 of the infant 2 are received in the leg pouch 873 with the back 10 of infant 2 resting on back panel 890. Back panel 890 is formed of flexible fabric material 871. Back panel 890 has a continuous rear neckline 891 spaced apart from the leg pouch 873 and proximate the neck 892 of infant 2. The rear neckline 891 has a rear neckline midpoint 893. The back panel 890 has a back panel longitudinal axis 894 that divides the back panel 890. The back panel longitudinal axis 894 extending from the rear neckline midpoint 893 to the leg pouch 873. Back panel 890 has a back panel right half 895 located on a right side of the back panel longitudinal axis 894. Back panel 890 has a back panel left half 896 located on a left side of the back panel longitudinal axis 894.

[0075] Apparatus 860 includes a right flap 900 extending from the back panel right half 895 in substantially continuous relationship therewith. The right flap 900 includes a right outer panel 901 formed of flexible fabric material 871. Right outer panel 901 has a right outer panel proximal portion 902 joined to the back panel right half 895 in substantially continuous relationship therewith. The right outer panel 901 has a right outer panel distal portion 903 spaced outward in a right direction from the right outer panel proximal portion 902 and back panel 890. The right outer panel 901 has a substantially continuous right outer edge 904. The right outer edge 904 adjoins the back panel 890 at a right outer edge upper terminus 905. The right outer edge upper terminus 905 is proximate the rear neckline 891. The right outer edge 904 adjoins the back panel 890 at the right outer edge proximate the rear neckline 891. Opposite the right outer edge upper terminus 905, the right outer edge 904 terminates at a right outer edge lower terminus 906. Right outer edge lower terminus 906 is proximate the lower torso 14. The right outer edge 904 extends and runs outwardly from the rear neckline 891 to the right outer panel distal portion 903. From the right outer panel distal portion 903, the right outer edge 904 returns to the right outer edge lower terminus 906. The right outer panel 901 has a continuous right primary outer surface 907 facing outward or forward relative to torso 6. Right outer panel 904 has a continuous right primary inner surface 908 disposed in opposition to the right primary outer surface 907. The right primary inner surface 908 is disposed against the torso 6. Right flap 900 includes an open right arm hole 909 located in the right outer panel 901 in a location proximate the right shoulder 864. The right arm hole 909 is dimensioned to receive the right arm 866 of infant 2 extending therethrough from inside to outside the right outer panel 901. Right flap 900 includes an open right arm sleeve 910 joined to the right outer panel 901 at right arm hole 909. Right arm sleeve 910 is dimensioned to receive the right arm 866 of infant 2 extending therethrough from the right arm hole 909. Cooperation of right arm hole 909 and right arm sleeve 910 permits right arm 866 of infant 2 to extending therethrough from inside to outside the right outer panel 901.

[0076] Apparatus 860 includes a left flap 920 extending from the back panel left half 896 in substantially continuous relationship therewith. The left flap 920 includes a left outer panel 921 formed of flexible fabric material 871. Left outer panel 921 has a left outer panel proximal portion 922 joined to the back panel left half 896 in substantially continuous relationship therewith. The left outer panel 921 has a left outer panel distal portion 923 spaced outward in a left direction from the left outer panel proximal portion 922 and back panel 890. The left outer panel 921 has a substantially continuous left outer edge 924. The left outer edge 924 adjoins the back panel 890 at a left outer edge upper terminus 925. The left outer edge upper terminus 925 is proximate the rear neckline 891. The left outer edge 924 adjoins the back panel 890 at the left outer edge upper terminus 925. Opposite the left outer edge upper terminus 925, the left outer edge 924 terminates at a left outer edge lower terminus 926. Left outer edge lower terminus 926 is proximate the lower torso 14. The left outer edge 924 extends and runs outwardly from the rear neckline 891 to the left outer panel distal portion 923. From the left outer panel distal portion 923, the left outer edge 924 returns to the left outer edge lower terminus 926. The left outer panel 921 has a continuous left primary outer surface 927 facing outward or forward relative to torso 6. Left outer panel 924
has a continuous left primary inner surface 928 disposed in opposition to the left primary outer surface 927. The left primary inner surface 928 is disposed against the torso 6. Left flap 900 includes an open left arm hole 929 located in the left outer panel 921 in a location proximate the left shoulder 865. The left arm hole 929 is dimensioned to receive the left arm 867 of infant 2 extending there-through from inside to outside the left outer panel 921. Left flap 920 includes an open left arm sleeve 930 joined to the left outer panel 921 at left arm hole 929. Left arm sleeve 930 is dimensioned to receive the left arm 867 of infant 2 extending there-through from inside to outside the left outer panel 921.

[0079] Apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 includes a first releasable fastener combination 931 configured to releasably secure at least one of the right flap 900 and left flap 920 in a respective folded over position. One of ordinary skill will understand that, in the folded over position, the at least one of the right flap 900 and left flap 920 is folded over the torso 6 to a side opposite the at least one of the right flap 900 and left flap 920. More particularly, apparatus 860 for care of an infant 2 includes the first releasable fastener combination 931 including a first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 932. The first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 932 includes a first landing area 933 located across the torso 6 opposite from the at least one of the right flap 900 and left flap 920. The first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 932 includes a first mating land area 934 located on the at least one of the right flap 900 and left flap 920 in mating relationship with the first landing area 933 when the at least one of the right flap 900 and left flap 920 occupies the respective folded over position.

[0078] Illustrated in FIGS. 24-28 is apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment. Apparatus 940 is substantially identical to apparatus 860 and apparatus 100, except as otherwise described herein or as shown in FIGS. 24-28, and the descriptions of apparatus 860 and apparatus 100 set forth elsewhere in this disclosure are incorporated herein in this part by reference. FIG. 24 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment, in an open condition with the infant absent. FIG. 25 is an elevated rear perspective view of apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 24, in an open condition with the infant absent. FIG. 26 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 24, in an open condition with the infant 2 position off-center to reveal detail of the apparatus and with one arm 13 of the infant 2 partially inserted into a respective arm pocket. FIG. 27 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 26, in an open, relaxed condition with the infant 2 positioned at center with both arms 13 inserted into respective arm pockets. FIG. 28 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 26, in an open, relaxed condition with the infant 2 positioned at center with both arms 13 inserted into respective arm pockets. FIG. 29 is an elevated front perspective view of apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 according to a seventh embodiment as shown in FIG. 28, an infant 2 being disposed therein with legs 19 in a full fetal tuck position.

[0079] Referring to FIG. 23, apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 is embodied in a garment 941 formed of flexible fabric material 871. Apparatus 940 embodied in garment 941 includes swaddle 942. Swaddle 942 includes leg pouch 943 configured to receive legs 19 of infant 2. Leg pouch 943 is formed of stretchable multiway elastic flexible fabric material 944, which in the specific embodiment shown in FIGS. 24-28 is stretchable three-way elastic flexible fabric material 945, as elsewhere described herein.

[0080] Apparatus 940 includes comfort support 946 associated with the leg pouch 943. Comfort support 946 is as elsewhere described herein respective comfort supports for apparatus 100 and apparatus 860, and will not be further described here. The comfort support 876 is configured to return legs 19 of the infant 2 to a fully folded position relative to the torso 6. The comfort support 946 is capable of occupying an initial comfort position corresponding to a fully folded position of the legs 19. The comfort support 946 is movable relative to the initial comfort position to a fully extended position. The fully extended position corresponding to an extended position of the legs 19.

[0081] Apparatus 940 includes anchoring structure 947 configured to substantially return the comfort support 946 to an initial comfort position during a series of displacement cycles. During displacement cycles, displacement forces are applied against the comfort support 946 when legs 19 of the infant 2 are extended to an extended position from a fully folded position by muscular activity. The anchoring structure 947 is engaged with the torso 6 in an anchoring relationship. In the anchoring relationship, the anchoring structure 947 is retained in a substantially fixed position relative to the torso 6. Anchoring structure 947 is as elsewhere described herein respective anchoring structures for apparatus 100 and apparatus 860, and will not be further described here.

[0082] Apparatus 940 includes back panel 960 disposed to lay against the back 10 of infant 2 when legs 19 of the infant 2 are received in the leg pouch 943 with the back 10 of the infant 2 resting on the back panel 960. The back panel 960 is formed of flexible fabric material 871. Back panel 960 has a continuous rear neckline 961 spaced apart from the leg pouch 943. Rear neckline 961 is proximate the neck 962 of the infant 2. The rear neckline 891 has a rear neckline midpoint 963. Back panel 960 has a back panel longitudinal axis 964 extending from the rear neckline midpoint 964 to the leg pouch 943 and divides back panel 960 into a back panel right half 965 located on a right side of the back panel longitudinal axis 964 and a back panel left half 966 located on a left side of the back panel longitudinal axis 964.

[0083] Apparatus 940 includes right arm containing structure 967 configured to receive the right arm 866 of the infant 2. The right arm containing structure 967 includes a right outer panel 971 formed of flexible fabric material 871. Right outer panel 971 has a right outer panel proximal portion 972 joined with the back panel right half 965 in substantially continuous relationship therewith. Right outer panel 971 has a right outer panel distal portion 973 spaced outward in a right direction from the right outer panel proximal portion 972 and back panel 960. The right outer panel 971 has a substantially continuous right outer edge 974. The right outer edge 974 adjoins the back panel 960 at a right outer edge upper terminus 975 proximate the rear neckline 961. The right outer edge 974 adjoins the back panel 960 at the right outer edge upper
The right outer edge 974 terminating at a right outer edge lower terminus 976. The right outer edge lower terminus 976 is proximate a right hip 861 of the infant 2. The right outer edge 974 extends outwards from the rear neckline 961 to the right outer panel distal portion 973. From the right outer panel distal portion 973, the right outer edge 974 returns to the right outer edge lower terminus 976. The right outer panel 971 has a continuous right primary outer surface 977. The right outer panel 971 has a continuous right primary inner surface 978 disposed in opposition to the right primary outer surface 977.

The right arm containing structure 967 includes a right inner panel formed of flexible fabric material 871. The right inner panel 967 is disposed in substantially parallel relation to the right outer panel 971. The right inner panel 967 is joined with the right outer panel 971 proximate the right outer edge 974 along a substantially continuous right arm pocket seam 980. The right arm pocket seam 980 terminates at a right arm pocket upper terminus 981. In the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 24-28, the right arm pocket upper terminus 981 is proximate the right outer edge upper terminus 975. The right arm pocket seam 980 terminates at a right arm pocket lower terminus 982. The right arm pocket lower terminus 982 is proximate the right outer edge lower terminus 976. The right inner panel 979 has a free continuous right inner terminal edge 983. The right inner terminal edge 983 extends from the right arm pocket upper terminus 981 to the right arm pocket lower terminus 982. Cooperation of the right inner terminal edge 983 with the right primary inner surface 978 defines an open right arm pocket mouth 984 there between. Right arm pocket mouth 984 extends from the right arm pocket upper terminus 981 to the right arm pocket lower terminus 982. The right arm pocket 985 is defined between the right arm pocket seam 980, the right inner terminal edge 983 at right arm pocket mouth 984, the right outer panel 971 and right inner panel 979. Right arm pocket 985 is configured to receive the right arm 866 of the infant 2 therein with the inner side 868 of right arm 866 disposed against the right inner panel 979. With the right arm 866 bent inwardly toward the torso 6 at the right shoulder 864 a portion of the right inner panel 979 is disposed intermediate the right arm 866 and torso 6 with the right inner terminal edge 983 located intermediate the right shoulder 864 and right hand 986. The right inner panel 979 being so disposed functions to prevent the right hand 986 from contacting and scratching the torso 6 when the right arm containing structure 967 is folded over across the torso 6 to the side opposite. The right inner terminal edge 983 being so located prevents the right arm 866 from being withdrawn from the right arm pocket 985 when the right arm containing structure 967 is folded over across the torso 6 to the side opposite.

[0085] Apparatus 940 includes left arm containing structure 987 configured to receive the left arm 867 of the infant 2. The left arm containing structure 987 is substantially a mirror image of the right arm containing structure 967. Left arm containing structure 987 includes left outer panel 953 having left outer edge 954, left inner panel 988 having left inner terminal edge 989, and left arm seam pocket 955 extending substantially along left outer edge 954. An open left arm pocket mouth 956 is defined between left inner terminal edge 989 and left outer panel 953. Left arm pocket seam 990 is defined between left outer panel 953, left inner panel 988, left inner terminal edge 989 and left arm pocket seam 955. The left arm 867 is inserted into left arm pocket 990. With the left arm 867 bent inwardly toward the torso 6 at the left shoulder 865 a portion of the respective left inner panel 988 is disposed intermediate the left arm 867 and torso 6 with the left inner terminal edge 989 located intermediate the left shoulder 865 and left. The left inner panel 988 being so disposed functions to prevent the left hand from contacting and scratching the torso 6 when the left arm containing structure 987 is folded over across the torso 6 to the side opposite. The left inner terminal edge 989 being so located prevents the left arm 867 from being withdrawn from the left arm pocket 990 when the left arm containing structure 987 is folded over across the torso 6 to the side opposite.

[0086] Apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 includes a first releasable fastener combination 991 configured to releasably secure at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 in a respective folded over position, in the folded over position the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 being folded across the torso 6 to a side opposite. Apparatus 940 includes the first releasable fastener combination 991 configured to releasably secure at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 in a respective primary relaxed folded over position, in the primary relaxed folded over position the at least one of the right arm pocket 985 and the left arm pocket 990 being sufficiently relaxed to permit movement of the respective right arm 866 or left arm 867 within respective of the right arm pocket 9845 and left arm pocket 990. Apparatus 940 includes the first releasable fastener combination 991 configured to indirectly releasably secure the other of the right arm containing structure 967 and left arm containing structure 987 in a respective relaxed folded over position by releasably securing the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 in the respective relaxed folded over position in an overlapping relationship with the other of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987. More particularly, according to an embodiment shown in FIGS. 24-28, apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 includes the first releasable fastener combination 991 including a first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 992. The first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 992 includes a first landing area 993 located across the torso 6 opposite from the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987. The first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 992 includes a first mating landing area 994 located on the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 in mating relationship with the first landing area 993 when the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 is folded across the torso 6 to a relaxed folded over position.

[0087] According to the embodiment shown in FIGS. 24-28, apparatus 960 for care of an infant 2 includes a second releasable fastener combination 995 including a second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 996. The second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 996 includes a second landing area 997 located on at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987. The second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 996 when selectively engaged with the second mating landing area 997 defining a portion of the anchoring structure 947.
Apparatus 940 for care of an infant 2 includes anchoring structure 947. Anchoring structure 947 includes a first anchoring portion 997 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support 946 and the leg pouch 943 to retain the comfort support 946 in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure 947. The anchoring structure 947 includes second anchoring portion configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 to retain the first anchoring portion 998 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987. The first anchoring portion 998, more particularly, includes a first anchoring releasable fastener combination 948 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support 946 and the leg pouch 943 to retain the comfort support 946 in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure 947. The second anchoring portion 999 includes a second anchoring releasable fastener combination 949 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 to retain the first anchoring portion 998 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987. The first anchoring releasable fastener combination 948 includes a respective first mating hook and loop fastener combination 950 configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support 946 and the leg pouch 943 to retain the comfort support 946 in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure 947. The second anchoring releasable fastener combination 949 is configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 to retain the first anchoring portion 998 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987. Anchoring structure 947 includes at least one belt member 951 proximate the lower torso 14. In the specific embodiment shown in FIGS. 24-28, anchoring structure 947 includes two belt members 951 proximate the lower torso 14. Each of the at least one belt members 951 has a respective element of a first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination 950 of the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 948 supported thereupon. Each of the at least one belt members 951 having a respective element of a second mating hook and loop fastener combination 996 of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination 949 supported thereupon in opposition to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 948. The at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987 includes a respective element of a second mating hook and loop fastener combination 996 of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination 949 supported thereupon for releasable engagement with the at least one belt member 951 in opposition to relation to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination 948 to retain the first anchoring portion 998 in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right arm containing structure 967 and the left arm containing structure 987.

According to embodiments, apparatus for care of an infant are described. According to embodiments, apparatus for support of an infant are described. Although specific embodiments are illustrated and described herein, it will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art that any arrangement which is calculated to achieve the same purpose may be substituted for the specific embodiments shown. This application is intended to cover any adaptations or variations. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that implementations can be made for other embodiments that provide the required function. In particular, one of skill in the art will readily appreciate that names of apparatus are not intended to limit embodiments. Furthermore, additional apparatus can be added to the components, functions can be rearranged among the components, and new components corresponding to future enhancements and physical devices used in embodiments can be introduced, without departing from the scope of embodiments. The terminology used in this application is meant to include all environments and alternate technologies which provide the same functionality as described herein.

1. Apparatus for care of an infant, the infant having a torso, at least a portion of the torso being engaged by a primary support, the primary support being independent of the infant, the primary support supporting the torso, the torso having a front, the torso having a back, the back being spaced from the front in general opposition thereto, the torso including an upper torso, the upper torso including a neck, a head and a pair of arms, the torso including a lower torso adjoining the upper torso, the lower torso including a pair of hips, the infant having a pair of legs joined to the lower torso at the hips, each leg having an upper leg, each hip cooperating with a respective upper leg at a respective flexible hip joint, the upper leg being supported by the hip joint for flexing motion of the upper leg relative to the lower torso between a fully extended position and a fully folded position, each leg having a lower leg, each leg having a folding knee joint, the knee joint being located intermediate the upper leg and the lower leg, the lower leg being supported by the knee joint for folding motion relative to the upper leg between a fully extended position and a fully folded position, the lower leg including an ankle joint spaced below the knee joint, each leg including a foot, the foot being supported by the ankle joint for flexing motion of the foot relative to the lower leg, the apparatus comprising:

- a comfort support adapted to support each of the legs relative to the lower torso in a respective initial position, in the initial positions of the legs each of the upper legs occupying an initial folded position relative to the lower torso, in the initial folded position each of the upper legs being flexed at the hip joint relative to the lower torso, in the initial positions of the legs each of the feet occupying a respective initial foot location relative to the torso, said comfort support being selectively configurable relative to the infant in an initial comfort location, the initial comfort location of the comfort support corresponding to the initial positions of the legs, said comfort support in the initial comfort location engaging each of the feet when the feet occupy the initial foot locations, when engaging the feet said comfort support applying against the feet respective resistance forces, the resistance forces urging the feet to occupy the initial foot locations such that the upper legs are urged to occupy the initial folded positions, said comfort support being engageable by the feet for the feet to apply displacement forces against said comfort support, the displacement forces being caused by muscular activity of the legs, the displacement forces urging said comfort support to be displaced from the initial comfort location; and
- adjustable positioning structure, said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable by an attendant to cooperate with said comfort support to substan-
fully retain said comfort support in the initial comfort location when said comfort support is repeatedly subjected to the displacement forces, at least one of said adjustable positioning structure and said comfort support being selectively configurable by an attendant to free said comfort support for substantial movement relative to the infant, said comfort support when free being movable relative to the infant to be displaced from the initial comfort location when said comfort support is repeatedly subjected to the displacement forces.

2. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 1 and further comprising:

said comfort support being substantially retained in the initial comfort location during a comfort period, the comfort support being selectively releasable from retention by an attendant, the comfort support when released being substantially moveable away from the initial comfort location by displacement forces.

3. Apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising:

said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable by an attendant to be engaged in an anchoring relationship with the torso, said adjustable positioning structure when engaged in an anchoring relationship with the torso also being releasably engageable with said comfort support to locate the comfort support in the initial comfort location, said adjustable positioning structure when engaged with said comfort support to locate the comfort support in the initial comfort location substantially retaining the comfort support in the initial comfort location during a comfort period.

4. Apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising:

said comfort support including a pouch,

said adjustable positioning structure being selectable configurable to initially position said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant.

5. Apparatus according to claim 4 and further comprising:

said pouch having a substantially closed pouch bottom,

said pouch having an upper edge, said upper edge defining an open mouth in opposition to the pouch bottom, the open mouth being dimensioned to receive legs of an infant occupying a full fetal tuck position;

said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to locate one of said pouch bottom and said pouch upper edge in an initial comfort position relative to the longitudinal axis, said adjustable positioning structure being said releasably engageable to substantially retain the one of said pouch bottom and said pouch upper edge in the initial comfort location until released.

6. Apparatus according to claim 5 and further comprising:

a primary releasable fastener combination having a primary releasable female landing area fixed to said pouch, said primary releasable fastener combination having a first male landing area fixed to an anchoring structure, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the primary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant when the primary releasable female landing area is mating engaged with the primary releasable male landing area, when engaged with the primary releasable female landing area the primary releasable male landing area substantially retaining said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant.

7. Apparatus according to claim 6 and further comprising:

a secondary releasable fastener combination having a secondary releasable female landing area fixed to the anchoring structure, said secondary releasable fastener combination having a secondary male landing area being in a fixed structural relationship with the primary releasable male landing area, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the secondary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said primary releasable fastener combination in an initial comfort position.

8. Apparatus according to claim 6 and further comprising:

the anchoring structure including a top portion formed of first fabric material tightly engaging the torso such that the primary releasable male landing area occupies a substantially fixed location relative to the longitudinal axis.

9. Apparatus for care of an infant, the infant having a torso, at least a portion of the torso being engaged by a primary support, the primary support being independent of the infant, the primary support supporting the torso, the torso having a front, the torso having a back, the back being spaced from the front in general opposition thereeto, the torso including an upper torso, the upper torso including a neck, a head and a pair of arms, the torso including a lower torso adjoining the upper torso, the lower torso including a pair of hips, the infant having a pair of legs joined to the lower torso at the hips, each leg having an upper leg, each hip cooperating with a respective upper leg at a respective flexible hip joint, the upper leg being supported by the hip joint for flexing motion of the upper leg relative to the lower torso between a fully extended position and a fully flexed position, each leg having a lower leg, each leg having a folding knee joint, the knee joint being located intermediate the upper leg and the lower leg, the lower leg being supported by the knee joint for folding motion relative to the upper leg between a fully extended position and a fully folded position, the lower leg including an ankle joint spaced below the knee joint, each leg including a foot, the foot being supported by the ankle joint for flexion motion of the foot relative to the lower leg, the apparatus comprising:

a pouch configured to enclose both legs in the fully folded position, the pouch defining a comfort support adapted to support each of the legs relative to the lower torso in the fully folded position, in the fully folded position each of the upper legs being fully flexed at the hip, in the fully folded position each of the feet occupying a respective initial foot location, said comfort support being selectively configurable relative to the infant in an initial comfort location, in the initial comfort location the comfort support said comfort support applying against the feet respective resistance forces urging the legs to occupy fully folded positions, said comfort support
being engageable by the feet to apply displacement forces against said comfort support, the displacement forces being caused by muscular activity of the legs, the displacement forces tending to urge said comfort support to be displaced from the initial comfort location; adjustable positioning structure, said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to initially position said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant, said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to cooperate with said comfort support to substantially retain said comfort support in the initial comfort location when said comfort support is repeatedly subjected to the displacement forces, at least one of said adjustable positioning structure and said comfort support being selectively configurable to free said comfort support for substantial movement relative to the infant, said comfort support being movable to be displaced relative to the longitudinal axis by repeated displacement forces; said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to be engaged in an anchoring relationship with the torso, said adjustable positioning structure when engaged in an anchoring relationship with the torso also being releasably engageable with said comfort support to locate the comfort support in the initial comfort location, said adjustable positioning structure when engaged with said comfort support to locate the comfort support in the initial comfort location substantially retaining the comfort support in the initial comfort location during a comfort period; said pouch having a substantially closed pouch bottom, said pouch having an upper edge, said upper edge defining an open mouth at an opposing end to the pouch bottom, the open mouth being dimensioned to receive legs of an infant occupying a full tuck position; and said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to locate said pouch bottom in an initial comfort position relative to the longitudinal axis, said adjustable positioning structure being releasably engageable to substantially retain the said pouch bottom in the initial comfort location.

10. Apparatus according to claim 6 and further comprising: said comfort support being substantially retained in the initial comfort location during a comfort period, the comfort support being selectively releasable from retention by an attendant, the comfort support when released being substantially moveable away from the initial comfort location by displacement forces.

11. Apparatus according to claim 9 and further comprising: said adjustable positioning structure including a primary releasable fastener combination having a primary releasable female landing area fixed to said pouch, said primary releasable fastener combination having a first male landing area fixed to an anchoring structure, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the primary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant when the primary releasable female landing area is mating engaged with the primary releasable male landing area, when engaged with the primary releasable female landing area the primary releasable male landing area substantially retaining said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant.

12. Apparatus according to claim 11 and further comprising: said adjustable positioning structure including a secondary releasable fastener combination having a secondary releasable female landing area fixed to the anchoring structure, said secondary releasable fastener combination having a secondary male landing area being in a fixed structural relationship with the primary releasable male landing area, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the secondary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said primary releasable fastener combination in an primary fastener initial location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant when the secondary releasable female landing area is in mating engagement with the secondary releasable male landing area, when engaged with the secondary releasable female landing area the secondary releasable male landing area substantially retaining said primary releasable male landing area in a primary fastener initial location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant, the primary fastener initial location corresponding to the initial comfort position.

13. Apparatus according to claim 11 and further comprising: the anchoring structure including a top portion formed of first fabric material and configured for tight engagement with the torso, such that the primary releasable male landing area occupies a substantially fixed location relative to the longitudinal axis when the top portion is tightly engaged with the torso.

14. Apparatus for care of an infant, the infant having a torso, the torso having a longitudinal axis, at least a portion of the torso being engaged by a primary support, the primary support being independent of the infant, the primary support supporting the torso, the torso having a front, the torso having a back, the back being spaced from the front in general opposition thereto, the torso including an upper torso, the upper torso including a neck, a head and a pair of arms, the torso including a lower torso adjoining the upper torso, the lower torso including a pair of hips, the infant having a pair of legs joined to the lower torso at the hips, each leg having an upper leg, each leg cooperating with a respective upper leg at a respective flexible hip joint, the upper leg being supported by the hip joint for flexing motion of the upper leg relative to the lower torso between a fully extended position and a fully folded position, each leg having a lower leg, each leg having a folding knee joint, the knee joint being located intermediate the upper leg and the lower leg, the lower leg being supported by the knee joint for folding motion relative to the upper leg between a fully extended position and a fully folded position, the lower leg including an ankle joint spaced below the knee joint, each leg including a foot, the foot being supported by the ankle joint for flexing motion of the foot relative to the lower leg, the apparatus comprising: anchoring structure including a top portion formed of first fabric material and configured for tight engagement with the torso, the top portion occupying a substantially fixed location relative to the longitudinal axis when the top portion is tightly engaged with the torso; a pouch configured to enclose both legs in the fully folded position, said pouch having a substantially closed pouch
bottom, said pouch having an upper edge, said upper edge defining an open mouth in opposition to the pouch bottom, the open mouth being dimensioned to receive legs of an infant occupying a full fetal tuck position, the pouch bottom defining a comfort support adapted to support each of the legs relative to the lower torso in the fully folded position, in the fully folded position each of the upper legs being fully flexed at the hip, in the fully folded position each of the feet occupying a respective initial foot location, said comfort support being selectively configurable relative to the infant in an initial comfort location, in the initial comfort location the comfort support said comfort support applying against the feet respective resistance forces urging the legs to occupy fully folded positions, said comfort support being engageable by the feet to apply displacement forces against said comfort support, the displacement forces being caused by muscular activity of the legs, the displacement forces tending to urge said comfort support to be displaced from the initial comfort location; adjustable positioning structure, said adjustable positioning structure being selective configurable to initially position said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant, said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to cooperate with said comfort support to substantially retain said comfort support in the initial comfort location when said comfort support is repeatedly subjected to the displacement forces, at least one of said adjustable positioning structure and said comfort support being selectively configurable to free said comfort support for substantial movement relative to the infant, said comfort support when free being movable to be displaced relative to the longitudinal axis by repeated displacement forces; said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to be engaged in an anchoring relationship with the anchoring structure, said adjustable positioning structure when engaged in an anchoring relationship with the torso also being releasably engageable with said comfort support to locate the comfort support in the initial comfort location, said adjustable positioning structure when engaged with said comfort support to locate the comfort support in the initial comfort location substantially retaining the comfort support in the initial comfort location during a comfort period; and said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to locate said pouch bottom in an initial comfort position relative to the longitudinal axis, said adjustable positioning structure being releasably engageable to substantially retain the said pouch bottom in the initial comfort location.

15. Apparatus according to claim 14 and further comprising:
the comfort support being selectively releasable from retention by an attendant, the comfort support when released being substantially moveable away from the initial comfort location by displacement forces.

16. Apparatus according to claim 14 and further comprising:
said adjustable positioning structure including a primary releasable fastener combination joined to said pouch, said primary releasable fastener combination being joined to the anchoring structure, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the primary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant when the primary releasable fastener combination is mating engaged.

17. Apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising:
said adjustable positioning structure including a primary releasable fastener combination having a primary releasable female landing area fixed to said pouch, said primary releasable fastener combination having a first male landing area fixed to an anchoring structure, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the primary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant when the primary releasable female landing area is mating engaged with the primary releasable male landing area, when engaged with the primary releasable female landing area the primary releasable male landing area substantially retaining said pouch in an initial comfort location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant.

18. Apparatus according to claim 17 and further comprising:
said adjustable positioning structure including a secondary releasable fastener combination having a secondary releasable female landing area fixed to the anchoring structure, said secondary releasable fastener combination having a secondary male landing area being in a fixed structural relationship with the primary releasable male landing area, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in a manner supporting the secondary releasable fastener combination relative to the longitudinal axis to substantially support said primary releasable fastener combination in an primary fastener initial location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant when the secondary releasable female landing area is mating engagement with the secondary releasable male landing area, when engaged with the secondary releasable female landing area the secondary releasable male landing area substantially retaining said primary releasable male landing area in a primary fastener initial location relative to a longitudinal axis of the infant, the primary fastener initial location corresponding to the initial comfort position.

19. Apparatus according to claim 16 and further comprising:
said primary releasable fastener combination including at least one of the following:
a tie, a fastener, hook and loop material, a button, a zipper, a hook, a strap, a buckle, a carabiner, an eyelite, a clip, and a pin.

20. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 14 and further comprising
a swaddle defining the pouch, the pouch having an open interior configured to receive the legs, said swaddle having a swaddle bottom, with the legs in the fully folded positions, said swaddle bottom being selectively positionable in the initial comfort location, the initial comfort location of the swaddle bottom corresponding to the fully folded positions of the legs, said swaddle bottom in the initial comfort location applying against the feet resistance forces, the resistance forces urging the feet to
occupy the initial foot locations such that the legs are urged to occupy the fully folded positions, said swaddle bottom being engageable by the feet for the feet to apply displacement forces against said swaddle bottom, the displacement forces being caused by muscular activity of the legs, the displacement forces tending to urge said swaddle bottom to be displaced from the initial comfort location;
said adjustable positioning structure being selectively configurable to cooperate with said swaddle to substantially retain said swaddle bottom in the initial comfort location when said swaddle bottom is repeatedly subjected to the displacement forces.

21. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 20 and further comprising:
first elastic fabric material joined in fixed relationship with the second elastic fabric material at an upper portion of said swaddle, said swaddle upper portion being defined opposite said swaddle bottom, said swaddle upper portion being located generally adjacent the lower torso, said first elastic fabric material defining at least one conforming section, said at least one conforming section being defined to conform to said torso to quiet the arms in relationship to the torso.

22. Apparatus for care of an infant, said apparatus comprising:
an upper cocoon section defined by a first elastic fabric material, said upper cocoon section being defined in conforming relationship with a torso of an infant to establish a tight relationship between said upper cocoon section and the torso to quiet arms of the infant against the torso;
a lower pouch defined by a second elastic fabric material, said lower pouch having a pouch bottom portion, said pouch bottom portion being locatable in an initial pouch bottom position relative to feet of the infant to engage the feet in initial foot locations, the initial foot locations being associated with fully folded positions of the legs relative to the torso, said pouch bottom portion being supported to return to the initial pouch bottom position when dislocated due to repeated applications of dislocation forces by the feet, said pouch bottom portion generating resistance forces against the feet to return the feet to the initial foot locations to return the legs to the fully folded positions relative to the torso, said pouch bottom portion generating the resistance forces against the feet until a time when the pouch bottom portion is freed, when the pouch bottom is freed the pouch bottom being susceptible to dislocation movement away from the initial pouch bottom position without returning to the initial pouch bottom position upon exposure to repeated application of dislocation forces by the feet.

23. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 22, and further comprising:
locating structure intermediate said pouch bottom portion and said upper portion, said locating structure including a fastener configured to engage at least one of said upper portion and said lower portion, said locating structure being configured for an attendant to selectively locate the pouch bottom portion against the feet in the initial foot locations.

24. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 22, and further comprising:
anchoring structure configured to anchor the pouch bottom portion in relation to the hip joint such that said pouch bottom portion is returned to the initial pouch bottom position when dislocated by repeated application of dislocation forces by the feet.

25. Apparatus for care of an infant, the infant having a torso, the infant having a head attached to the torso, the infant having legs attached to the torso in spaced relationship to the head, the torso having a spine, the torso having a longitudinal axis extending in the direction of the spine, the torso having a back, the apparatus comprising:
a primary support member defining an inclined upper surface, the inclined upper surface being configured to support the back of the infant when the infant occupies a supine position;
the inclined support surface including an infant bay dimensioned to receive the infant in the supine position; and
a secondary rest member positionable adjacent to the infant bay to prevent the infant from sliding down the inclined upper surface, the secondary rest member having a rest surface extending upward relative to the inclined upper surface to engage a rump area of the infant when the legs of the infant occupy a full fetal tuck position, the secondary rest member being releasably engageable with the primary support member for selectively positioning the rest surface relative to the infant bay.

26. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 25 and further comprising:
a spaced pair of tertiary rest members located on opposite sides of the torso to prevent side to side displacement of the infant from the infant bay, each of the tertiary rest members having a tertiary rest surface extending upward relative to the inclined upper surface to engage a respective side of the torso, each of the tertiary rest members being releasably engageable with the primary support member for selectively positioning the tertiary rest surfaces relative to the infant bay.

27. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 25 and further comprising:
the secondary rest member and the tertiary rest members each including a respective landing area of first component of a releasable mating hook and loop fastener combination, the inclined upper surface including a plurality of landing areas of a second component of a releasable mating hook and loop fastener component for selectively positioning the secondary rest member and the tertiary rest members relative to the infant bay.

28. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 25 and further comprising:
the secondary rest member including a respective landing area of first component of a releasable mating hook and loop fastener combination for mating engagement with a landing area of a second component of a releasable mating hook and loop fastener, the landing area of the second component of a releasable mating hook and loop fastener component being joined to an exterior of apparatus including a swaddle.
anchoring structure configured to substantially return the comfort support to an initial comfort position during repeating displacement cycles, during each displacement cycle displacement forces being applied against the comfort support when legs of the infant are extended to the torso to an extended position from the fully folded position by muscular activity, the anchoring structure engaging the torso in an anchoring relationship.

30. Apparatus for care of an infant, the infant having a torso, the infant having a pair of legs supported by the torso for folding movement relative to the torso, the infant having a right arm supported by the torso at a right shoulder, the infant having a left arm supported by the torso at a left shoulder, each arm having an inner side facing the torso, each arm having an outer side disposed in opposition to the inner side thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a leg pouch configured to receive legs of the infant, the leg pouch formed of flexible fabric material;
a comfort support associated with the leg pouch, the comfort support configured to return legs of the infant to a fully folded position relative to the torso, the comfort support being capable of occupying an initial comfort position, the initial comfort position corresponding to a fully folded position of the legs, the comfort support being movable relative to the initial comfort position to a fully extended position, the fully extended position corresponding to an extended position of the legs;
anchor structure configured to substantially return the comfort support to an initial comfort position during a series of displacement cycles, during displacement cycles displacement forces being applied against the comfort support when legs of the infant are extended to an extended position from a fully folded position by muscular activity, the anchoring structure being engaged with the torso in an anchoring relationship, in the anchoring relationship the anchoring structure being retained in a substantially fixed position relative to the torso;

a back panel disposed to lay against the back of the infant when legs of the infant are received in the leg pouch with the back of the infant resting on the back panel, the back panel being formed of flexible fabric material, the back panel having a continuous rear neckline spaced apart from the leg pouch, the rear neckline being proximate the neck of the infant, the rear neckline having a rear neckline midpoint, the back panel having a back panel longitudinal axis, the back panel being divided by the back panel longitudinal axis extending from the rear neckline midpoint to the leg pouch, the back panel having a back panel right half located on a right side of the back panel longitudinal axis, the back panel having a back panel left half located on a left side of the back panel longitudinal axis;

right arm containing structure configured to receive the right arm of the infant, the right arm containing structure including a right outer panel formed of flexible fabric material, the right outer panel having a right outer panel proximal portion joined to the back panel right half in substantially continuous relationship therewith, the right outer panel having a right outer panel distal portion spaced outward in a right direction from the right outer panel proximal portion, the right outer panel having a substantially continuous right outer edge, the right outer edge adjoining the back panel at a right outer edge upper terminus, the right outer edge upper terminus being proximate the rear neckline, the right outer edge adjoining the back panel at the right upper terminus, the right outer edge terminating at a right outer edge lower terminus, the right outer edge lower terminus being proximate a right hip of the infant, the right outer edge extending outwardly from the rear neckline to the right outer panel distal portion, from the right outer panel distal portion the right outer edge returning to the right outer edge lower terminus, the right outer panel having a substantially continuous right primary outer surface, the right outer panel having a continuous right primary inner surface disposed in opposition to the right primary outer surface;

duplication of the right arm containing structure including a right inner panel formed of flexible fabric material, the right inner panel being disposed in substantially parallel relation to the right outer panel, the right inner panel being joined with the right outer panel proximate the right outer edge along a substantially continuous right arm pocket seam, the right arm pocket seam terminating at a right arm pocket upper terminus, the right arm pocket upper terminus being proximate the right outer edge upper terminus, the right arm pocket upper terminus being proximate the right outer edge upper terminus, the right arm pocket upper terminus being proximate the right outer edge upper terminus, the right inner panel having a continuous right inner terminal edge, the right inner terminal edge extending from the right arm pocket upper terminus to the right arm pocket lower terminus, cooperation of the right inner terminal edge with the right primary inner surface defining an open right arm pocket mouth extending from the right arm pocket upper terminus to the right arm pocket lower terminus, the right arm pocket being configured to receive the right arm of the infant inserted therein with the right arm inner side disposed against the right inner panel;

left arm containing structure configured to receive the left arm of the infant, the left arm containing structure including a left outer panel formed of flexible fabric material, the left outer panel having a left outer panel proximal portion joined to the back panel left half in substantially continuous relationship therewith, the left outer panel having a left outer panel distal portion spaced outward in a left direction from the left outer panel proximal portion, the left outer panel having a substantially continuous left outer edge, the left outer edge adjoining the back panel at a left outer edge upper terminus, the left outer edge upper terminus being proximate the rear neckline, the left outer edge adjoining the back panel at the left upper terminus, the left outer edge terminating at a left outer edge lower terminus, the left outer edge lower terminus being proximate a left hip of the infant, the left outer edge extending outwardly from the rear neckline to the left outer panel distal portion, from the left outer panel distal portion the left outer edge returning to the left outer edge lower terminus, the left outer panel having a continuous left primary outer surface, the left outer panel having a continuous left primary inner surface disposed in opposition to the left primary outer surface;

the left arm containing structure including a left inner panel formed of flexible fabric material, the left inner panel being disposed in substantially parallel relation to the left outer panel, the left inner panel being joined with the
left outer panel proximate the left outer edge along a substantially continuous left arm pocket seam, the left arm pocket seam terminating at a left arm pocket upper terminus, the left arm pocket upper terminus being proximate the left outer edge upper terminus, the left arm pocket seam terminating at a left arm pocket lower terminus, the left arm pocket lower terminus being proximate the left outer edge lower terminus, the left inner panel having a continuous left inner terminal edge, the left inner terminal edge extending from the left arm pocket upper terminus to the left arm pocket lower terminus, cooperation of the left inner terminal edge with the left primary inner surface defining an open left arm pocket mouth extending from the left arm pocket upper terminus to the left arm pocket lower terminus, the left arm pocket being configured to receive the left arm of the infant inserted therein with the left arm inner side disposed against the left inner panel; wherein with the right arm bent inwardly toward the torso at the shoulder joint a portion of the right inner panel being disposed intermediate the right arm and torso with the right inner terminal edge intermediate the right shoulde and right hand, so as to prevent the right hand from contacting the torso, wherein with the left arm bent inwardly toward the torso at the shoulder joint a portion of the left inner panel being disposed intermediate the left arm and torso with the left inner terminal edge intermediate the left shoulder and left hand, so as to prevent the left hand from contacting the torso.

31. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 30 and further comprising:

- a first releasable fastener combination configured to releasably secure at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure in a respective folded over position, in the folded over position the at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure being folded across the torso to a side opposite.

32. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 31 and further comprising:

the first releasable fastener combination configured to releasably secure at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure in a respective primary relaxed folded over position, in the primary relaxed folded over position the at least one of the right arm pocket and the left arm pocket being sufficiently relaxed to permit movement of the respective right arm or left arm within respective of the right arm pocket and left arm pocket.

33. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 32 and further comprising:

the first releasable fastener combination configured to indirectly releasably secure the other of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure in a respective folded over position by releasably securing the at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure in the respective relaxed folded over position in an overlapping relationship with the other of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure.

34. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 33 and further comprising:

- the first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination including a first landing area located across the torso opposite from the at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure, the first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination including a first landing area located on the at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure in mating relationship with the first landing area when the at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure is folded across the torso to a relaxed folded over position.

35. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 34 and further comprising:

- a second releasable fastener combination including a second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination, the second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination including a second landing area located on at least one of the right arm containing structure and the left arm containing structure, the second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination when selectively engaged with the second mating landing area defining a portion of the anchoring structure.

36. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 30 and further comprising:

- the comfort support including multi-directionally stretchable flexible fabric material disposed to engage the feet, at least a portion of the leg pouch including the multi-directionally stretchable flexible material.

37. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 30 and further comprising:

the apparatus being embodied in a garment configured to receive the infant.

38. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 37 and further comprising:

the garment including a swaddle, the swaddle including the leg pouch, the swaddle including the comfort support.

39. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 38 and further comprising:

the anchoring structure including a first anchoring portion configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support and the leg pouch to retain the comfort support in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure, the anchoring structure including a second anchoring portion configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap and the left flap to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.

40. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 39 and further comprising:

the first anchoring portion including a first anchoring releasable fastener combination configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support and the leg pouch to retain the comfort support in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure, the second anchoring portion including a second anchoring releasable fastener combination configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap and the left flap to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.

41. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 40 and further comprising:
the first anchoring releasable fastener combination including a respective mating hook and loop fastener combination configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support and the leg pouch to retain the comfort support in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure, the second anchoring releasable fastener combination configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap and the left flap to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.

42. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 41 and further comprising:

the anchoring structure including at least one belt member proximate the lower torso, the at least one belt member having a respective element of a mating hook and loop fastener combination of the first anchoring releasable fastener combination supported thereupon, the at least one belt member having a respective element of a mating hook and loop fastener combination of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination supported thereupon in opposition to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination, the at least one of the right flap and the left flap including a respective element of a mating hook and loop fastener combination of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.

43. Apparatus for care of an infant, the infant having a torso, the infant having a pair of legs supported by the torso at respective hips for folding movement relative to the torso, the infant having a lower torso area proximate the hips, the infant having a right arm supported by the torso at a right shoulder, the infant having a left arm supported by the torso at a left shoulder, each arm having an inner side facing the torso, each arm having an outer side disposed in opposition to the inner side thereof; said apparatus comprising:

a leg pouch configured to receive legs of the infant, the leg pouch formed of flexible fabric material;

a comfort support associated with the leg pouch, the comfort support configured to return legs of the infant to a fully folded position relative to the torso, the comfort support being capable of occupying an initial comfort position, the initial comfort position corresponding to a fully folded position of the legs, the comfort support being movable relative to the initial comfort position to a fully extended position, the fully extended position corresponding to an extended position of the legs;

anchoring structure configured to substantially return the comfort support to an initial comfort position during a series of displacement cycles, during displacement cycles displacement forces being applied against the comfort support when legs of the infant are extended to an extended position from a fully folded position by muscular activity, the anchoring structure being engaged with the torso in an anchoring relationship, in the anchoring relationship the anchoring structure being retained in a substantially fixed position relative to the torso;

a back panel disposed to lay against the back of the infant when legs of the infant are received in the leg pouch with the back of the infant resting on the back panel, the back panel being formed of flexible fabric material, the back panel having a continuous rear neckline spaced apart from the leg pouch, the rear neckline being proximate the neck of the infant, the rear neckline having a rear neckline midpoint, the back panel having a back panel longitudinal axis, the back panel being divided by the back panel longitudinal axis extending from the rear neckline midpoint to the leg pouch, the back panel having a back panel right half located on a right side of the back panel longitudinal axis, the back panel having a back panel left half located on a left side of the back panel longitudinal axis;

a right flap, the right flap including a right outer panel formed of flexible fabric material, the right outer panel having a right outer panel proximal portion joined to the back panel right half in substantially continuous relationship therewith, the right outer panel having a right outer panel distal portion spaced outward in a right direction from the right outer panel proximal portion, the right outer panel having a substantially continuous right outer edge, the right outer edge adjoining the back panel at a right outer edge upper terminus, the right outer edge upper terminus being proximate the rear neckline, the right outer edge adjoining the back panel at the right upper terminus, the right outer edge terminating at a right outer edge lower terminus, the right outer edge lower terminus being proximate the lower torso, the right outer edge extending outwardly from near the neckline to the right outer panel distal portion, from the right outer panel distal portion the right outer edge returning to the right outer edge lower terminus, the right outer panel having a continuous right primary outer surface, the right outer panel having a continuous right primary inner surface disposed in opposition to the right primary outer surface, the right primary inner surface being disposed against the torso;

the right flap including an open right arm hole located in the right outer panel in a location proximate the right shoulder, the right arm hole dimensioned to receive the right arm extending therethrough to from inside to outside the right outer panel;

a left flap, the left flap including a left outer panel formed of flexible fabric material, the left outer panel having a left outer panel proximal portion joined to the back panel left half in substantially continuous relationship therewith, the left outer panel having a left outer panel distal portion spaced outward in a left direction from the left outer panel proximal portion, the left outer panel having a substantially continuous left outer edge, the left outer edge adjoining the back panel at a left outer edge upper terminus, the left outer edge upper terminus being proximate the rear neckline, the left outer edge adjoining the back panel at the left upper terminus, the left outer edge terminating at a left outer edge lower terminus, the left outer edge lower terminus being proximate the lower torso, the left outer edge extending outwardly from near the neckline to the left outer panel distal portion, from the left outer panel distal portion the left outer edge returning to the left outer edge lower terminus, the left outer panel having a continuous left primary outer surface, the left outer panel having a continuous left primary inner surface disposed in opposition to the left primary outer surface, the left primary inner surface being disposed against the torso; and
the left flap including an open left arm hole located in the left outer panel in a location proximate the left shoulder, the left arm hole dimensioned to receive the left arm extending therethrough to from inside to outside the left outer panel.

44. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 43 and further comprising:

- a first releasable fastener combination configured to releasably secure at least one of the right flap and left flap in a respective folded over position, in the folded over position the at least one of the right flap and left flap arm being folded over the torso to a side opposite.

45. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 44 and further comprising:

- the first releasable fastener combination configured to indirectly releasably secure the other of the right flap and left flap arm in a respective folded over position by releasably securing the at least one of the right flap and left flap arm in the respective folded over position in an overlapping relationship with the other of the right flap and left flap.

46. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 45 and further comprising:

- the first releasable fastener combination including a first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination, the first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination including a first landing area located across the torso opposite from the at least one of the right flap and left flap, the first mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination including a first mating landing area located on the at least one of the right flap and left flap in mating relationship with the first landing area when the at least one of the right flap and left flap occupies the respective folded over position.

47. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 46 and further comprising:

- a second releasable fastener combination including a second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination, the second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination including a second landing area located on at least one of the right flap and left flap, the second mating hook and loop releasable fastener combination when selectively engaged with the second mating landing area defining a portion of the anchoring structure.

48. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 47 and further comprising:

- the comfort support including multi-directionally stretchable flexible fabric material disposed to engage the feet, at least a portion of the leg pouch including the multi-directionally stretchable flexible fabric material.

49. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 43 and further comprising:

- the apparatus being embodied in a garment configured to receive the infant.

50. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 49 and further comprising:

- the garment including a swaddle, the swaddle including the leg pouch, the swaddle including the comfort support.

51. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 50 and further comprising:

- the anchoring structure including a first anchoring portion configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support and the leg pouch to retain the comfort support in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure, the anchoring structure including a second anchoring portion configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap and the left flap to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.

52. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 51 and further comprising:

- the first anchoring releasable fastener combination including a respective mating hook and loop fastener combination configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the comfort support and the leg pouch to retain the comfort support in a fixed position relative to the anchoring structure, the second anchoring releasable fastener combination configured for releasable engagement with at least one of the right flap and the left flap to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.

53. Apparatus for care of an infant according to claim 52 and further comprising:

- the anchoring structure including at least one belt member proximate the lower torso, the at least one belt member having a respective element of a mating hook and loop fastener combination of the first anchoring releasable fastener combination supported thereupon, the at least one belt member having a respective element of a mating hook and loop fastener combination of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination supported thereupon in opposition to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination, the at least one of the right flap and the left flap including a respective element of a mating hook and loop fastener combination of the second anchoring releasable fastener combination supported thereupon for releasable engagement with the at least one belt member in opposition relation to the first anchoring releasable fastener combination to retain the first anchoring portion in a fixed position relative to the at least one of the right flap and the left flap.