Sept. 11, 1962 S. A. LO VICO 3,052,895

BEACH BAG

Filed May 15, 1959 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

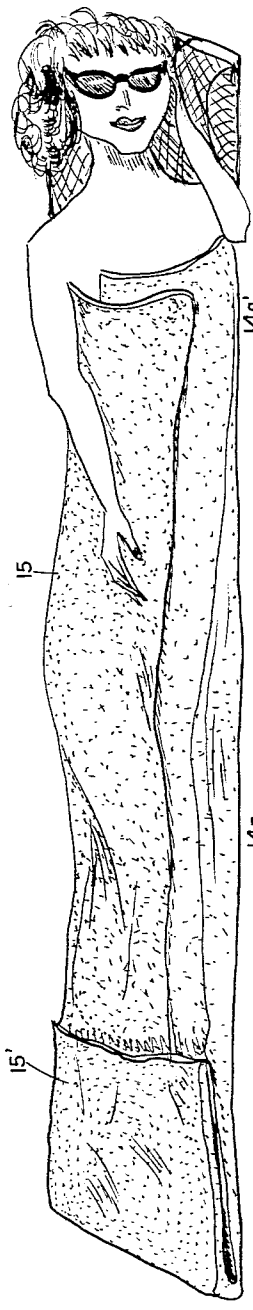


FIG. 1

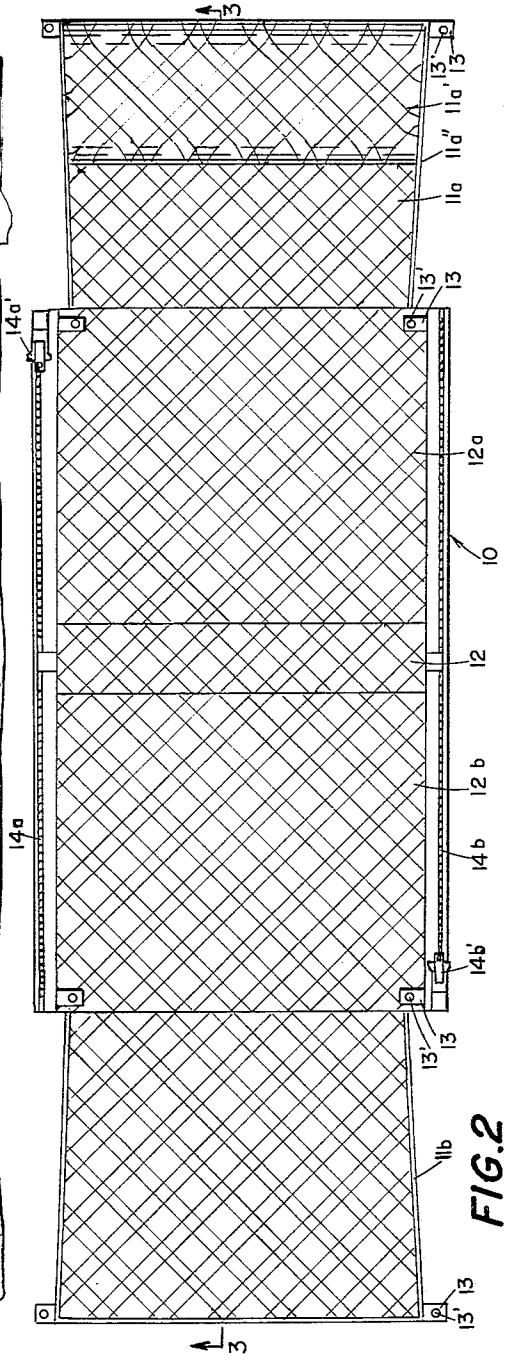


FIG. 2

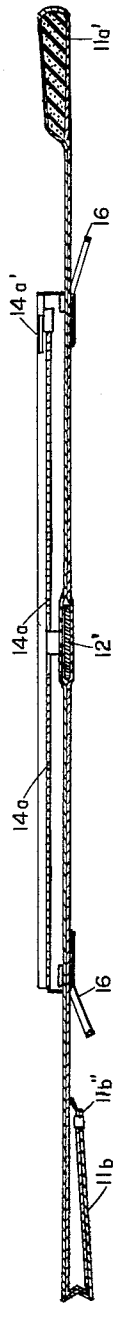


FIG. 3

INVENTOR:
Salvatore A. LoVico

BY

AGENT.

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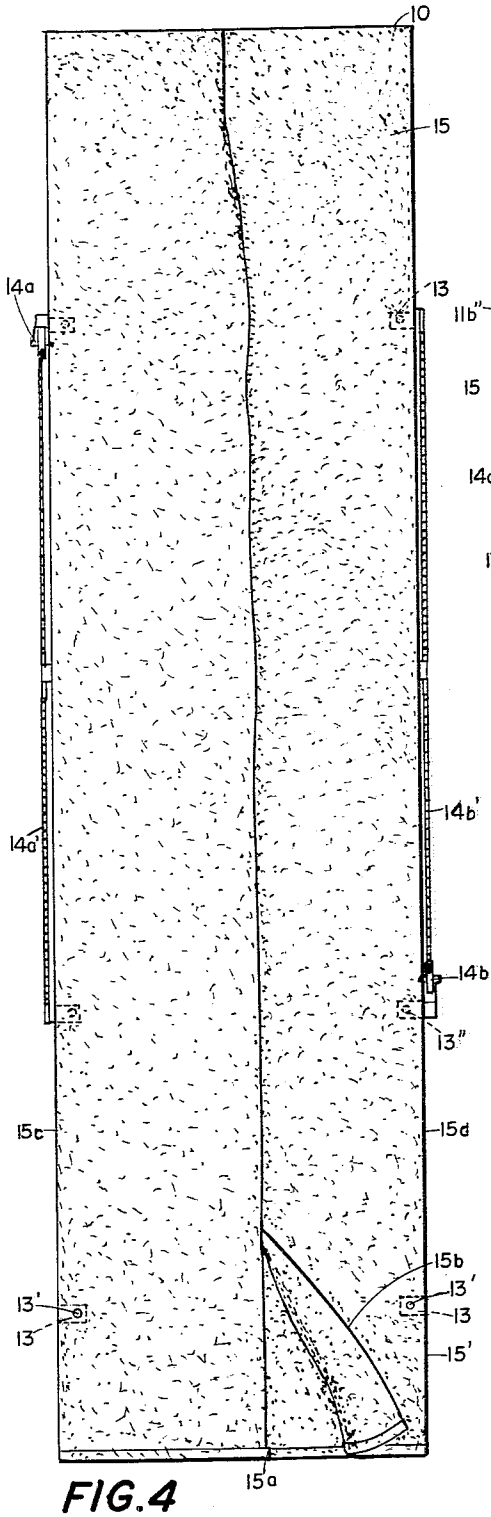


FIG.4

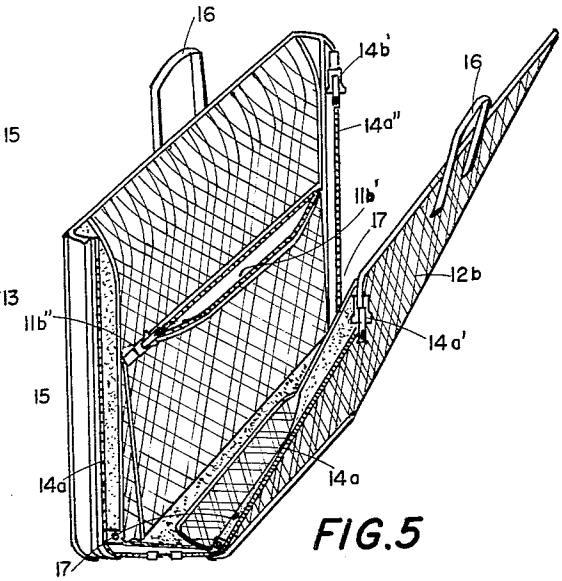


FIG.5

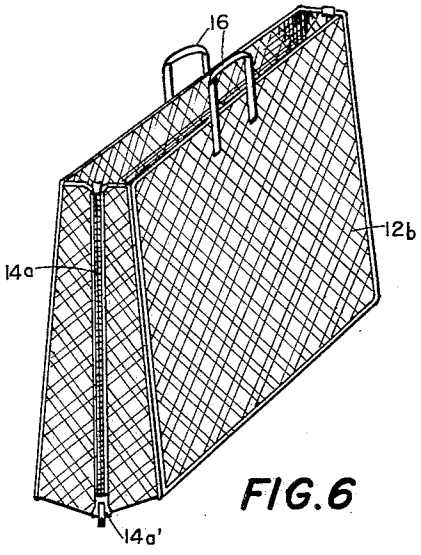


FIG.6

INVENTOR:
Salvatore A. LoVico

BY

Karl F. Ross
AGENT

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3,052,895

BEACH BAG

Salvatore A. Lo Vico, 194—21 111th Road, Queens, N.Y.

Filed May 15, 1959, Ser. No. 813,457
1 Claim. (Cl. 5—344)

My present invention relates to a folding bag for beach use of the type designed to transport therein the usual water-absorbent apparel such as bathing suits, towels and robes.

It is known that utility bags for seaside use have been produced which commonly are adapted to be opened from a folded carrying position into a full-length extended position and thus to be lain upon prone by their users when sun-bathing or resting between water-plunge periods. Additionally, a variety of special pockets or compartments may be seen provided in the conventional bag for the purpose of storing the wet and sand-soiled articles of beach wear, these spaces being intended to effect an isolation of the so humidified portions of the bag from the exterior areas and other parts thereof which it is desired to keep dry and clean.

While many such beach bags are capable of obtaining a certain degree of wet/dry separation, this is true only inconsistently and in a relative sense since the portions desired to be kept dry (e.g. those used to store food) are not positively or easily separable, if at all, from the wet-table terry cloth or blanket upon which a person may lie and from other so-called "wet-storage" spaces, hence they are unavoidably exposed at least partially to the wetting effect of, for axample, the water drippings from the body of an after-dip recliner or the seepage from adjacent pockets containing wet towels or the like. Another complaint heard against the conventional bag is that the storage of the used wetted beach wear in the variously located pockets tends to make the bag bulgy and cumbersome to handle and confers upon it a certain misshapen appearance giving too easy notice that its carrier is indeed returning from a day at the beach.

In avoiding the above difficulties, it is one of the objects of my invention to provide a compact folding bag for beach use adapted for the wet storage of a large sheet member such as a robe or a blanket, as well as other apparel, with simultaneous dry storage of other articles effectively separated from such apparel.

A further object of the invention is to provide a structural combination allowing for quick and positive replaceable detachment of an element thereof, e.g. a sheet designed for use as a robe or recumbent support, from other elements of the combination.

Still another object is to provide a beach bag designed so that its overall dimensional shape and appearance will remain substantially unaffected by the moist or dry condition of one of its elements.

An important feature of my invention is the provision of a bag formed from four hingedly interconnected portions of sheet material, with the two outer portions adapted to be folded inside the inner portions and with closure means such as slide fasteners adapted to secure the two inner portions together along their edges, these two inner portions defining with their adjacent outer portions an elongated flattened compartment accommodating a removable lining preferably in the form of an absorbent sheet. A second compartment, effectively isolated from the first one, is formed between the folded-over outer portions. According to a further feature, either or both outer portion may be provided with a pocket affording additional, completely closed storage space. Another feature resides in the formation of part of one outer portion as a cushion or head rest.

Other objects, advantages and features of my invention will become apparent from the following description

given with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the detached lining of my improved bag in use by a recumbent person;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the foldable bag portions in their extended position, without the lining of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a plan view similar to that of FIG. 2 but illustrating the lining of FIG. 1 secured to and forming part of the folding-bag combination;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the bag in its folded position but unlocked and partially open; and

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the bag in its folded and locked position suitable for carrying.

The folding bag shown in the drawing comprises a lining **15** (FIG. 1) of absorbent fabric, such as terry cloth, and an envelope **10** (FIG. 2) of suitable water-repellent plastic or other flexible sheet material. The bag envelope **10** is made up of four distinct, substantially coextensive principal portions including an outer pair **11***a*, **11***b* and an inner pair **12***a*, **12***b*. The inner pair of principal portions **12***a*, **12***b* are linked together by a smaller intermediate portion **12**, especially reinforced by a cardboard **12′** so as to serve as the supporting bottom (FIG. 3) of the bag **10** in the latter's folded position (FIG. 5 or 6). The end portion **11***a*, representing one extremity of the unfolded bag, encloses a head rest **11***a′* formed, for example, by a foam-rubber cushion (see also FIG. 3) filling substantially the terminal half of portion **11***a* and separated by a sewn seam **11***a″* from its other half. The opposite end portion **11***b*, at the other extremity of the spread-out envelope **10**, is formed with an insulated pocket **11***b′* closable by a slide fastener **11***b″* which is located on the reverse side of envelope portion **11***b* so as to be readily accessible when the bag is closed, see FIG. 5.

In FIG. 4 I have shown the lining **15** removably mounted onto the internal surface area of envelope **10** by flexible lugs **13** spacedly disposed at peripheral locations on each side of the bag's length (see also FIG. 2), these lugs each having a male snap fastener **13′** mating with a female fastener **13″** provided correspondingly along the longitudinal fold lines **15***c*, **15***d* of the lining. The cloth **15** is openable from the center fold line to a width approximately double that of portion **12***a* or **12***b* and projects lengthwise beyond portion **11***b* for the distance represented by a cloth extension **15′**. Thus, in FIG. 1 a recumbent person may illustratively be seen utilizing to good effect the extra width and length dimensions for wrap-around and foot-overlapping comfort while resting.

As clearly seen in FIG. 3, the sheet forming the envelope **10** consists of two layers which are separated at two locations to accommodate the cushion **11***a′* and the stiffener **12′**.

The laid-out lining **15** secured to the bag envelope **10** as shown in FIG. 4 becomes, in the folded position of the bag in FIG. 5, a storage compartment for wet apparel tucked under the folds **15***a*, **15***b*. With the apparel thus stowed and the bag folded to the stage of FIG. 5, laterally positioned slide fasteners **14***a* and **14***b* entrain their slides **14***a′*, **14***b′*, respectively, and with a downward fastening movement draw shut each side of the now erect bag (FIG. 6) which may then be carried by the twin handle **16**. The portions **12***a*, **12***b* then define a central dry-storage compartment **17** effectively separated by the flaps **11***a*, **11***b* from a wet-storage compartment **18** which holds the lining **15** and the pieces of wet apparel (not shown) enveloped thereby.

It has been seen by the foregoing that I have provided a beach bag with a versatility and efficiency of employment hitherto unobtained in the art as far as I am aware.

Thus, the lining **15** may be readily separated from bag envelope **10** by a reversal of the mounting procedure described above and used as a robe, towel or reclining sheet, in this manner avoiding the possibility of wetting or sand-flecking such food items as may then conveniently be disposed on and around the bag area. Upon quickly reattaching the cloth **15**, its extensive length may advantageously be converted into a major compartment for storing wet beach apparel which, with only a casual flattening to avoid bulges, can be tucked under the cloth folds **15***a* and **15***b* which will absorb their moisture so as to prevent the wetting of any articles carried in central compartment **17** between portions **12***a*, **12***b*. This method of storing even a considerable quantity of wet articles without resorting to the use of pockets enables the compactness and neat appearance of the portable structure of FIG. 6 to be well preserved. Pocket **11***b'*, it will be noted, can be used as a dry container for food and, if so desired, another such dry compartment (not shown) can be easily provided on the half which is separated by the seam **11***a''* from head-rest half **11***a'* of bag portion **11***a*. This and other modifications, as will be readily apparent to persons skilled in the art, are intended to be embraced within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

A bag comprising a continuous, elongated strip of sheet material adapted to be folded to form an envelope, and a lining detachably secured to said strip along the periphery thereof, said strip consisting of a plurality of

longitudinally adjoining, hingedly interconnected portions including an inner pair and an outer pair of said portions, each of said portions being foldable about an edge of an adjacent one of said portions in a direction transverse to the major extension of said strip, said inner pair of portions being provided on opposite longitudinal edges with mating closure means for joining said inner pair of portions together along said edges with said outer pair of portions folded therebetween, said lining having a width exceeding the width of said strip and being foldable longitudinally to a width less than that of said strip whereby said lining may be removably contained within the space between said inner and said outer pairs of portions.

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