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(54) **TOOL CARRYING CASE FOR CORDLESS POWER SAWS AND DRILLS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A storage and carrying case includes spaced end panels and a bottom panel all joined together by means of a fabric over layer and a fabric under layer which are stitched together by a binding which also connects to side panels to form an enclosure for tools or the like. A single binding may thus be utilized to join all of the flexible fabric materials which retain the semi-rigid or rigid panels forming the enclosure. The case further includes panels constructed to facilitate storage and carrying of cordless power tools.

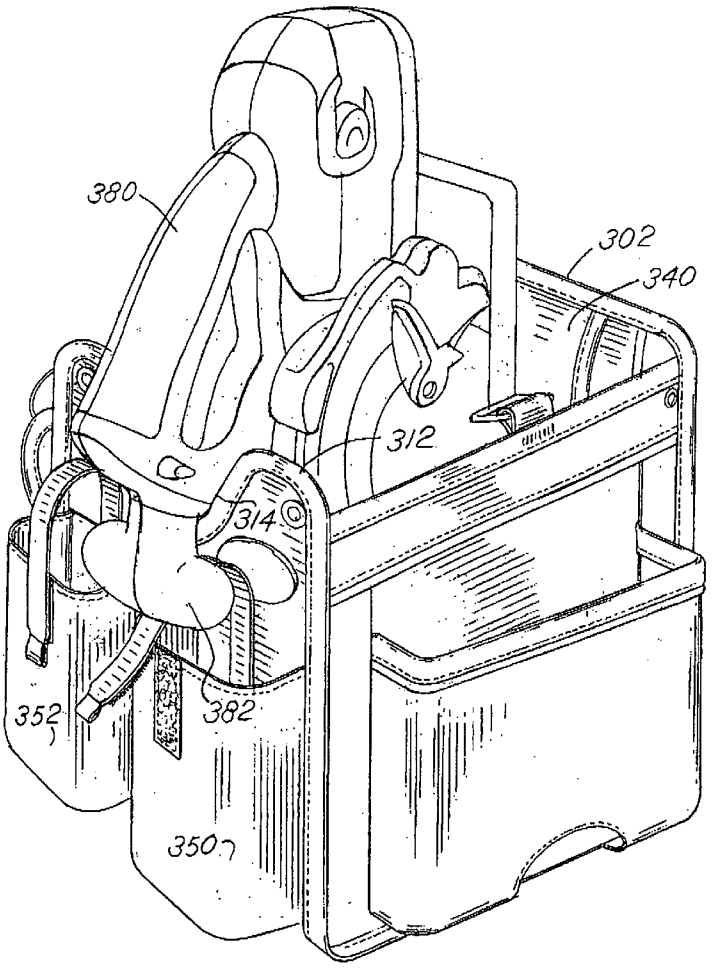


FIG. 1

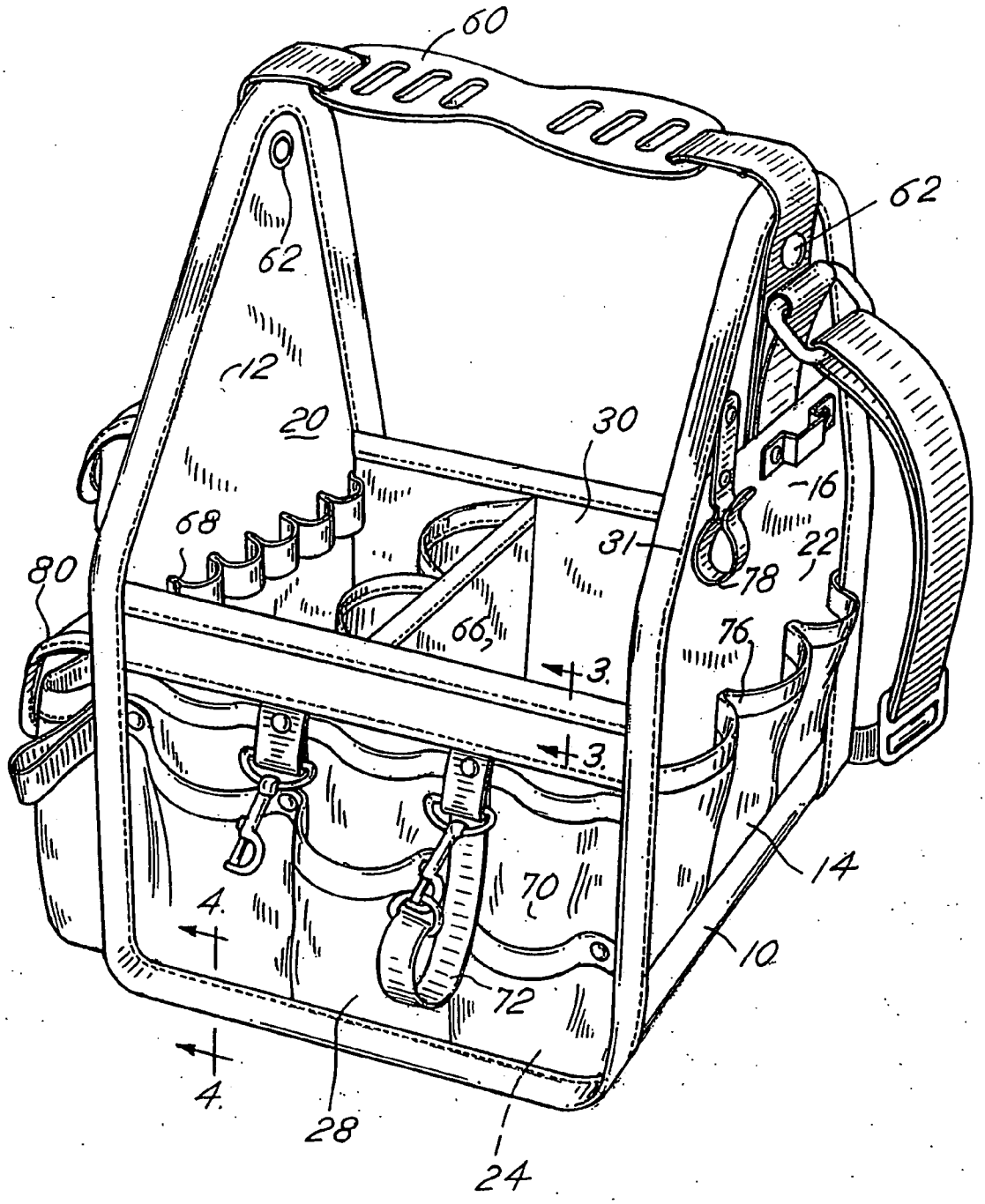
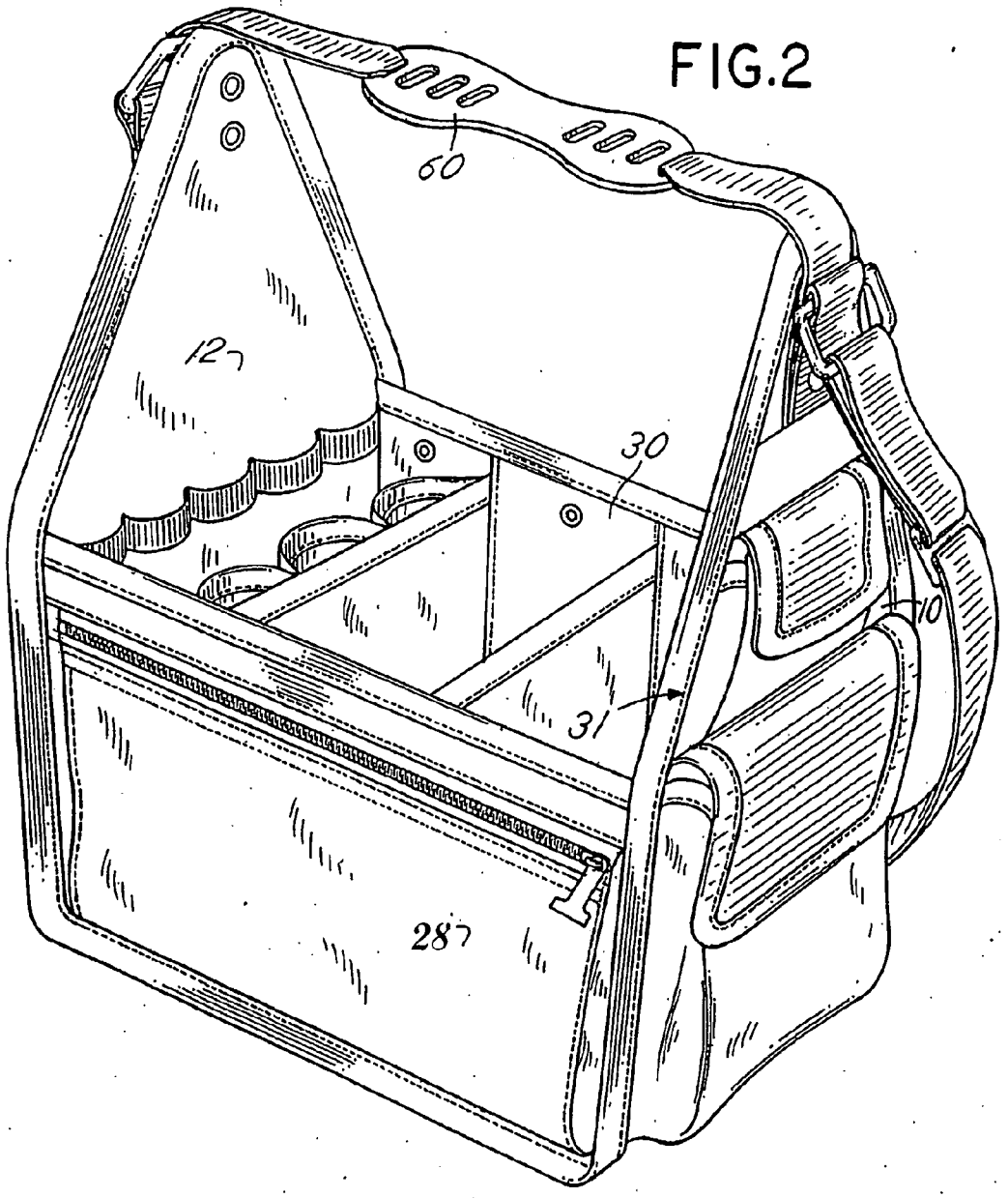


FIG.2



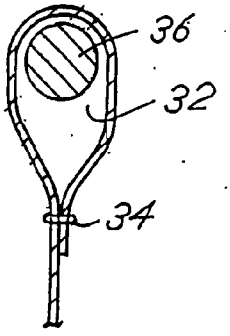


FIG.3

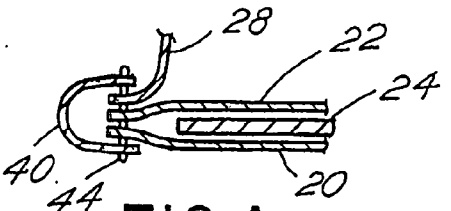


FIG.4

FIG. 5

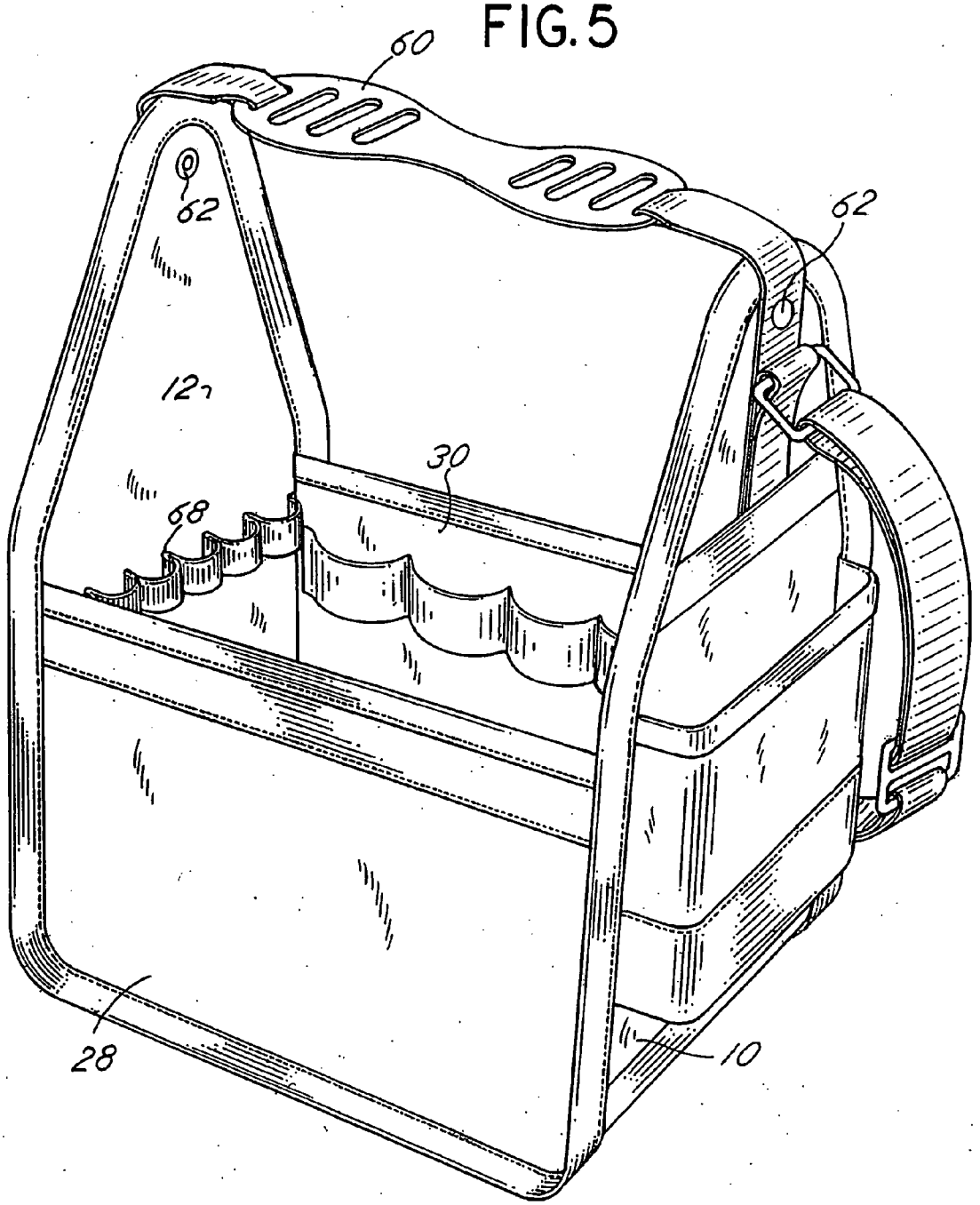


FIG.6

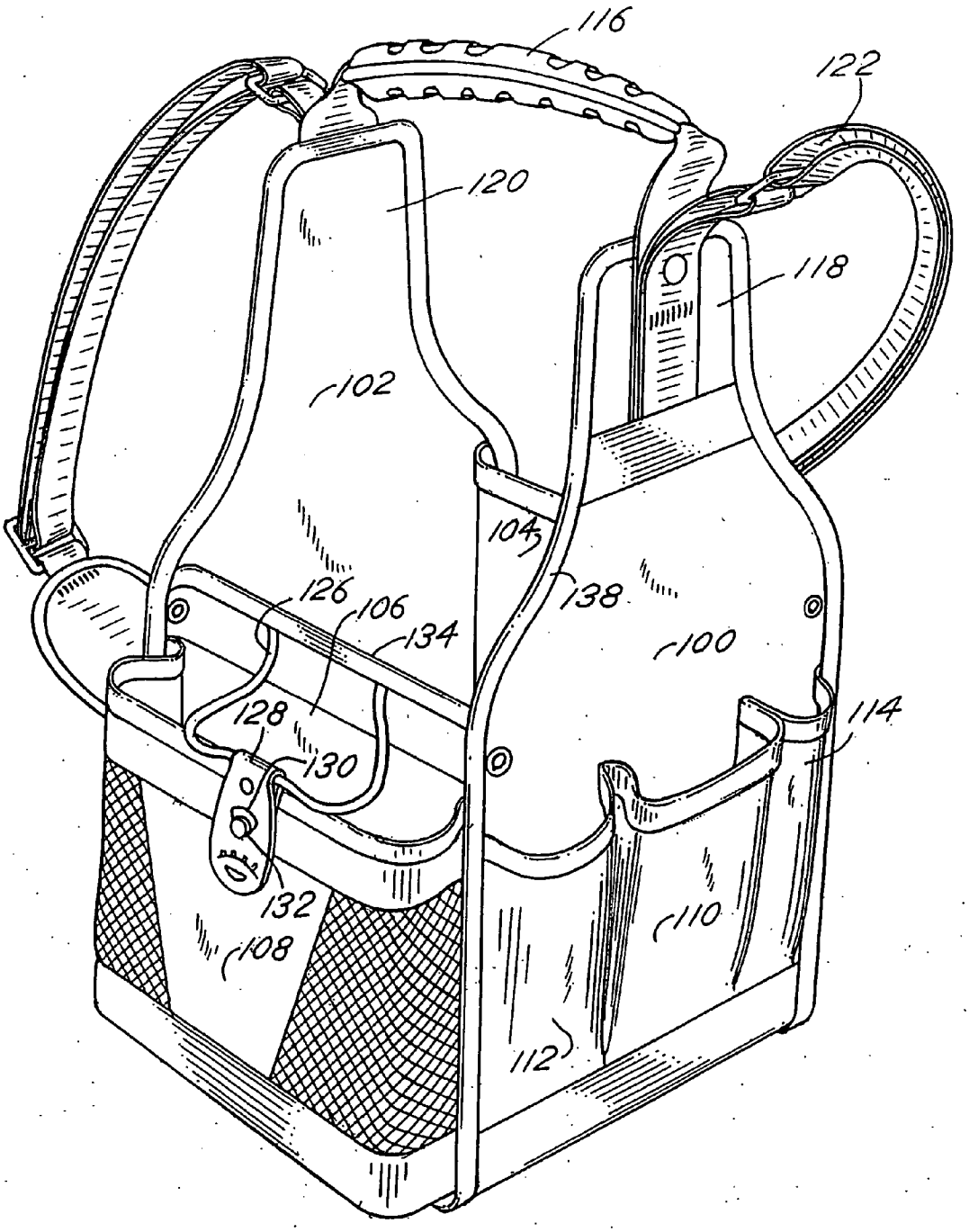

116
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FIG. 7

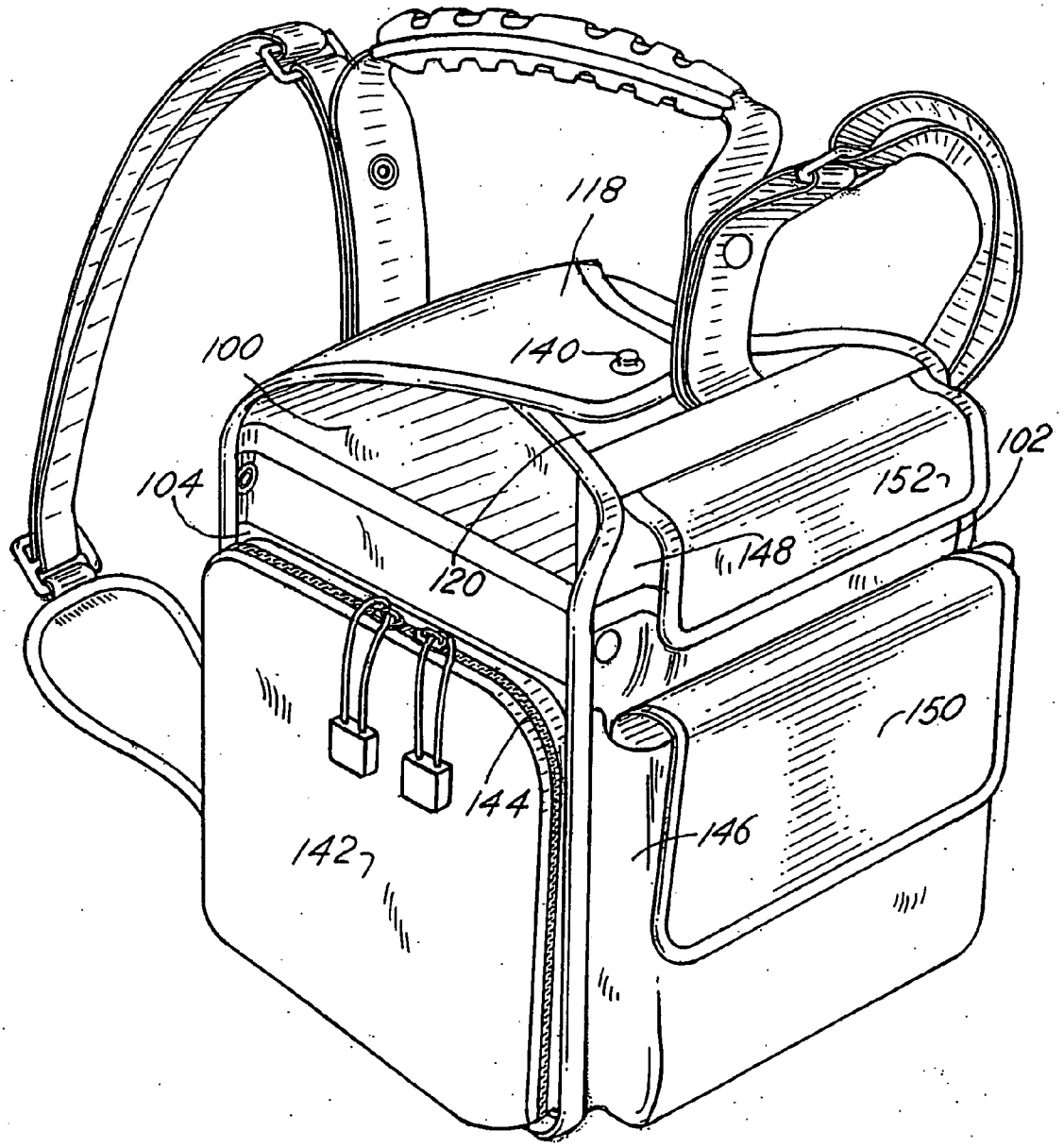


FIG.8

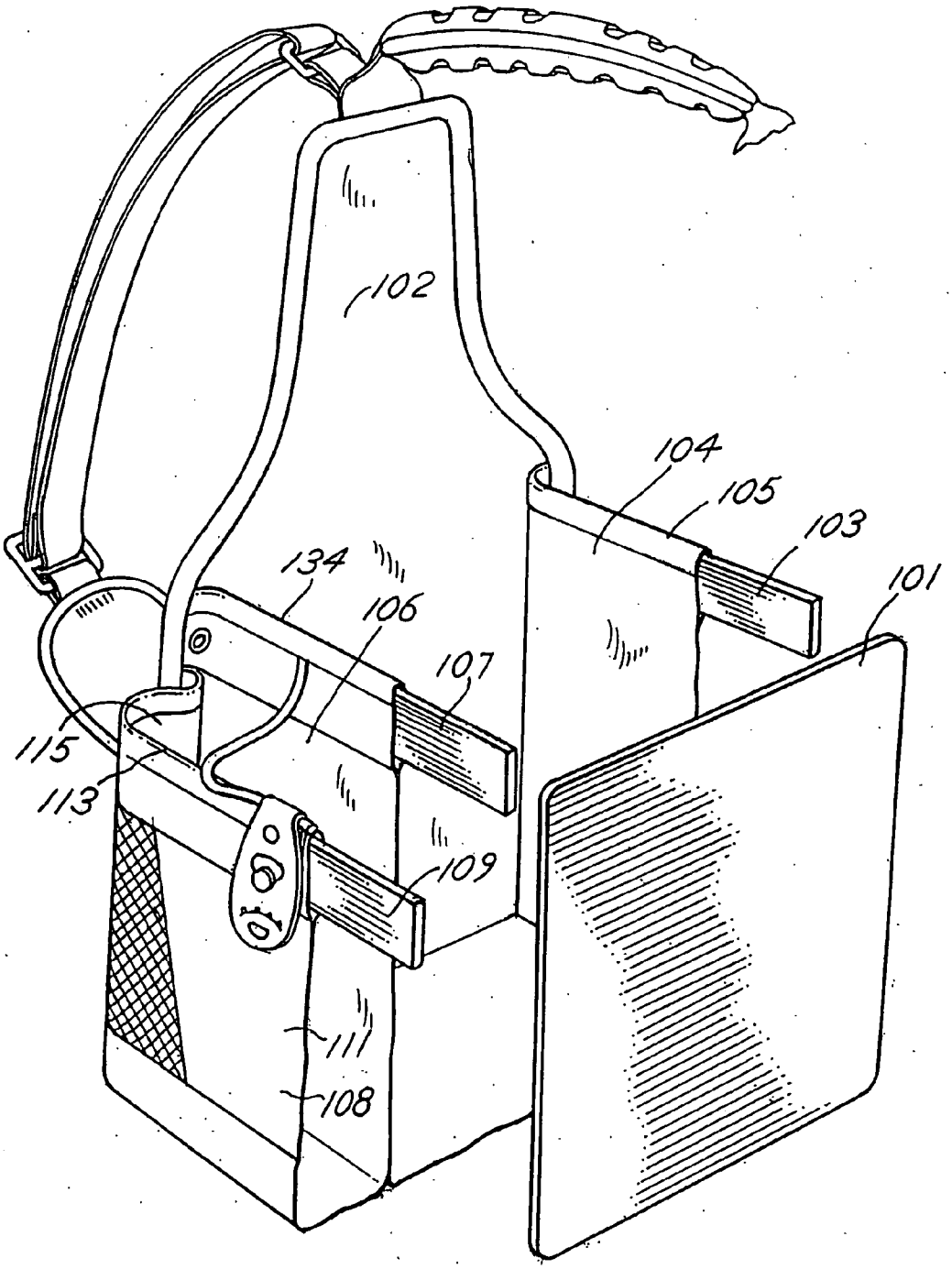
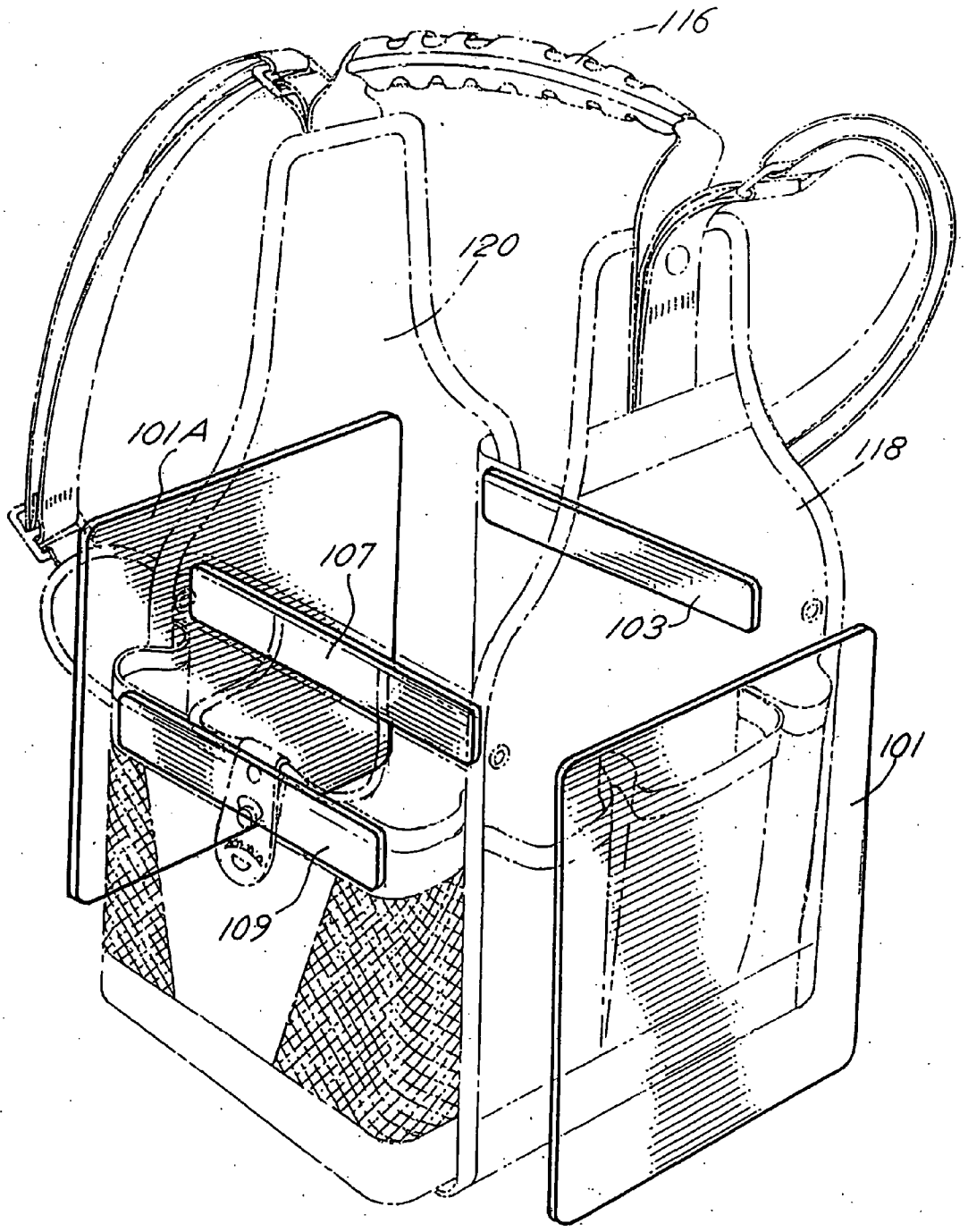


FIG. 9



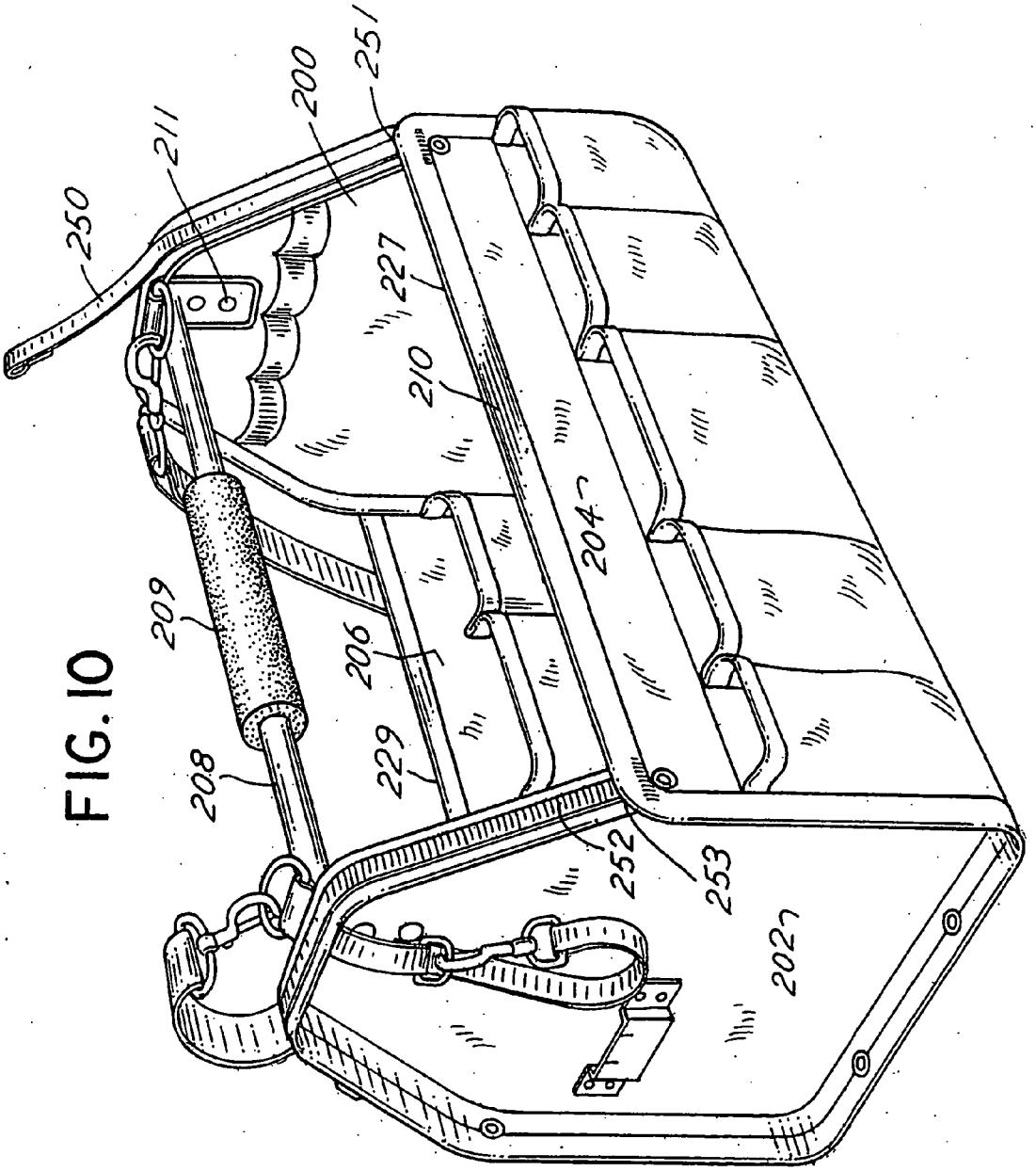


FIG. 10

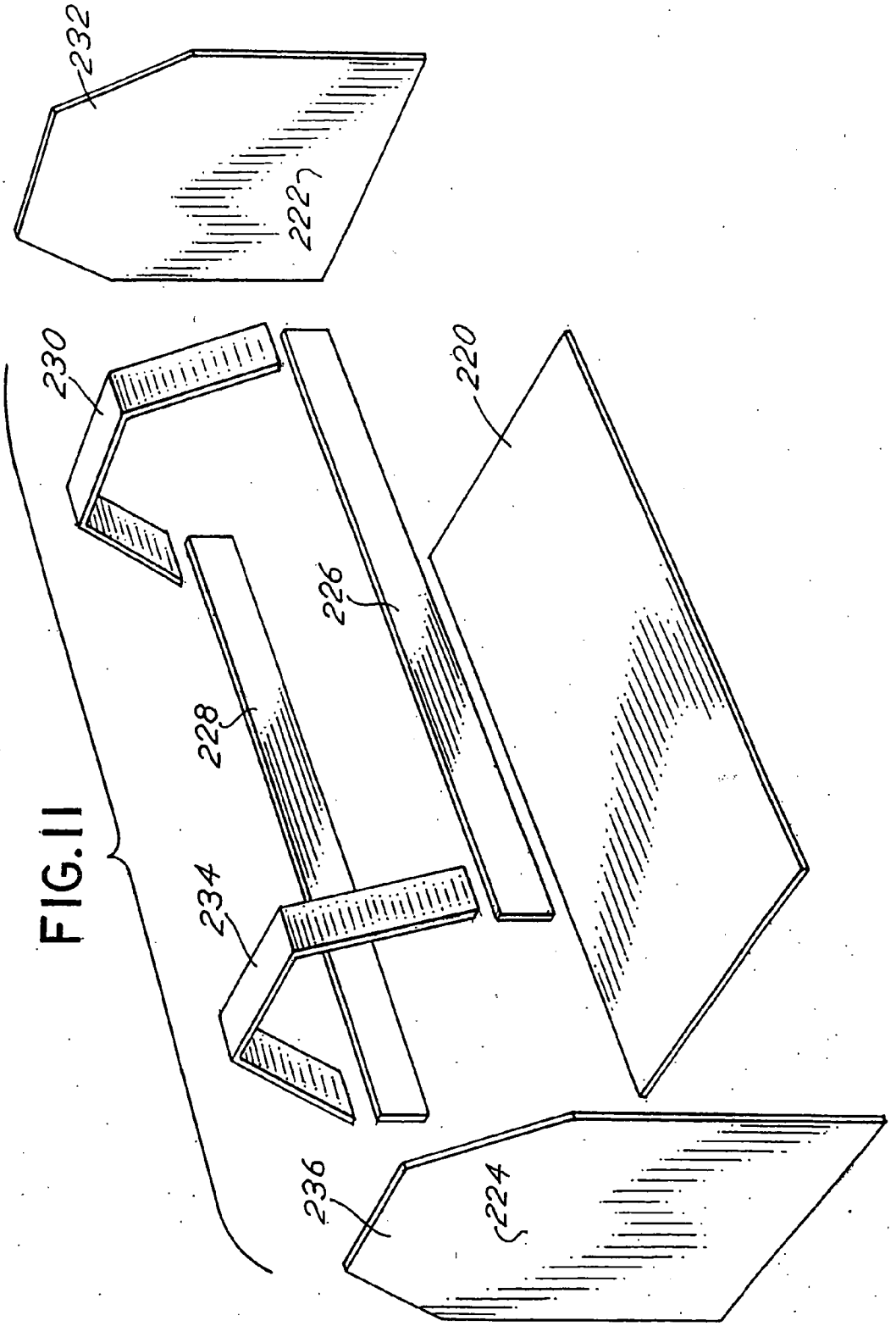


FIG. 11

FIG.12

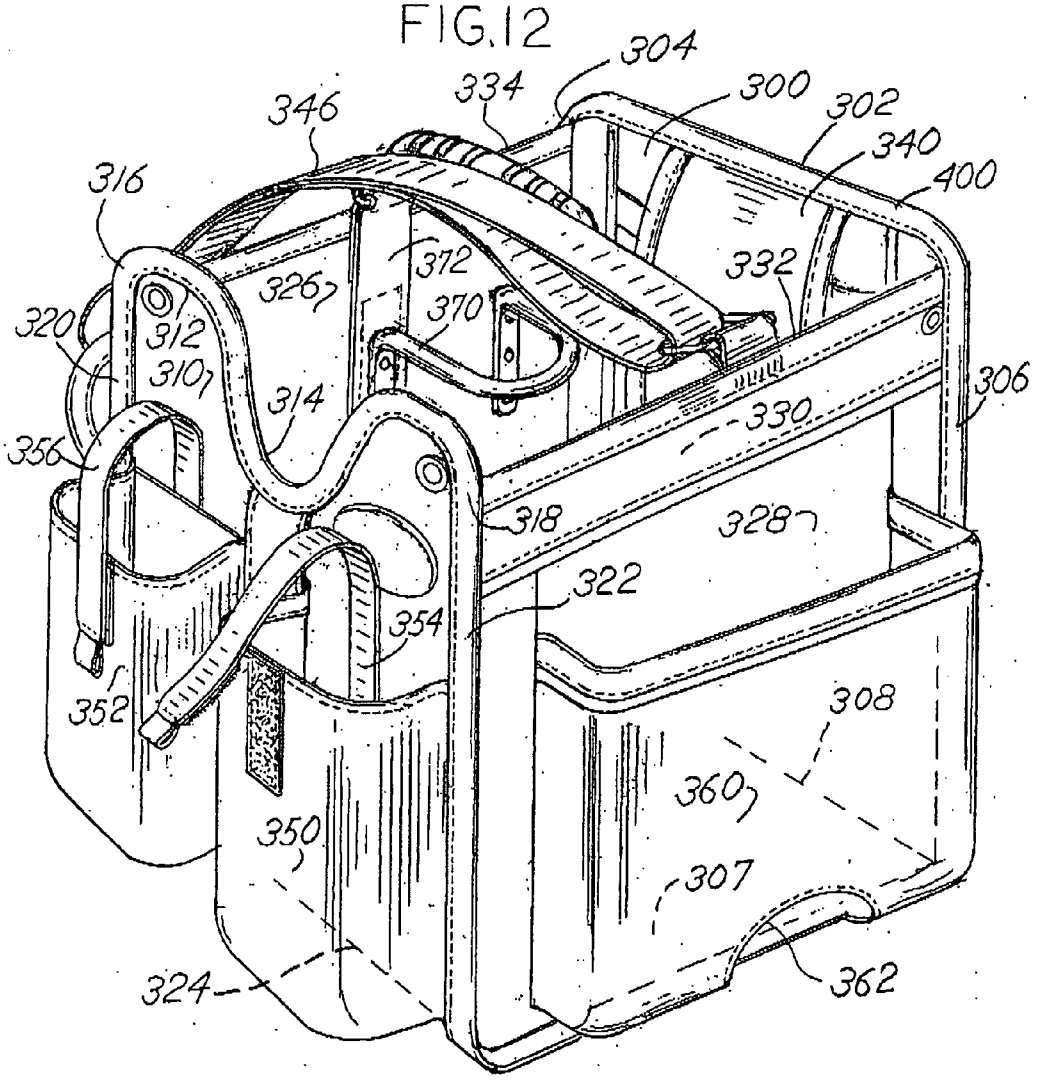

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FIG.13

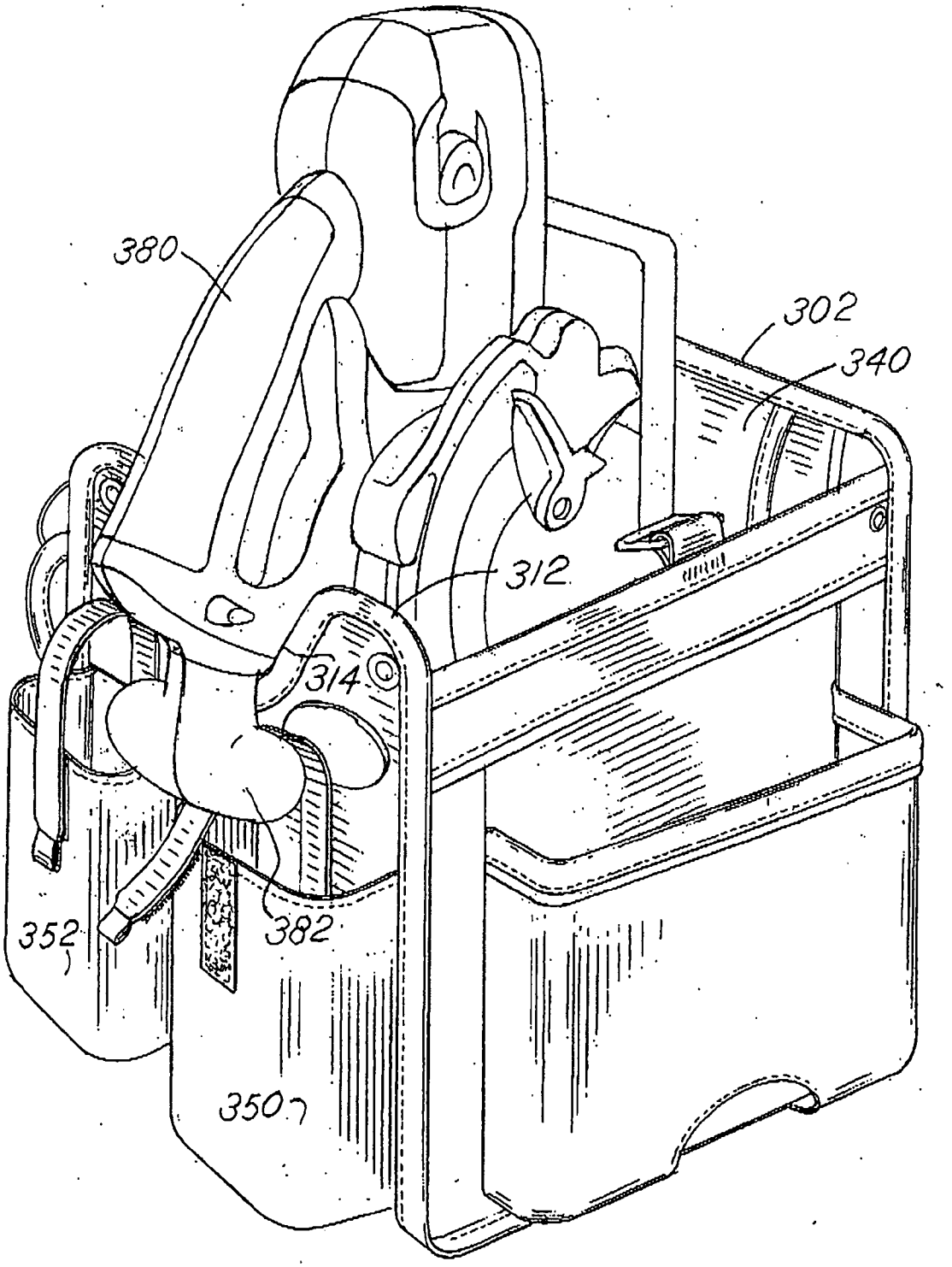
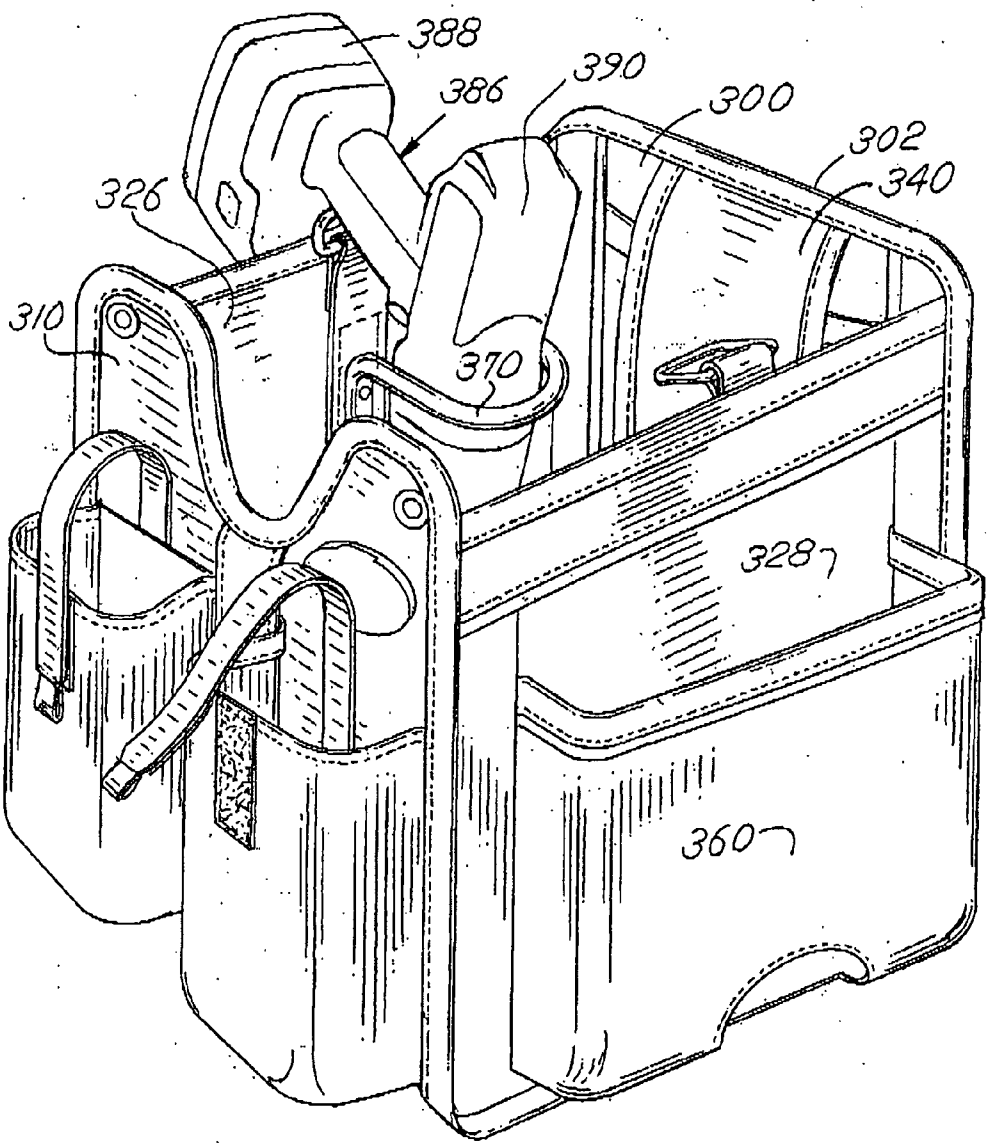


FIG. 14



TOOL CARRYING CASE FOR CORDLESS POWER SAWS AND DRILLS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This is a continuation in part application of continuation application Ser. No. 11/340,261, filed Jan. 26, 2006, which is a continuation application of Ser. No. 10/982,319, filed Nov. 11, 2004, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,991,104, and Ser. No. 10/393,125, filed Mar. 20, 2003, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,823,992, which is based on provisional application Ser. No. 60/365,966 filed Mar. 20, 2002, all of which are entitled "Tool Carrying and Storage Case" and for all of which priority is claimed and all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] In a principal aspect, the present invention relates to a storage case for carrying tools and other items.

[0003] Gardeners, tradesmen, workmen and the like often carry and transport their tools and/or equipment in an open top carrying case. An open top carrying case enables quick access to the contents of the case. Such a case also facilitates carrying of multiple tools and items necessary for performance of work. Desirable features of a carrying case are that it be rugged, flexible, yet have a certain degree of structural integrity so that the tools or items carried in the case will be protected and will not deform the case due to their weight. Additionally, a carrying case for tools should be capable of including special storage pockets and other features for separating and transporting tools. Also, handles or carrying straps are desirable features for a carrying case or tool tote.

[0004] Gardeners, carpenters, tradesmen and other workmen often desire to carry cordless tools at a work site. A cordless rotary power saw or a cordless drill or other cordless tools or implements are typical. Carrying such tools along with extra batteries, saw blades and other accessories is often a challenge and may be a cumbersome exercise. Thus, there are numerous situations where a tote or carrying case for such tools is highly desirable.

[0005] With these objectives in mind, the embodiments of the present invention provide extremely cost effective, yet especially rugged and aesthetically pleasing designs for a tool carrying case.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] Briefly, embodiments of the present invention comprise a storage case which includes generally congruently shaped, relatively rigid or semi-rigid, spaced and opposed end panels connected by a relatively rigid bottom panel. Flexible fabric, spaced opposite side panels extend between the opposite side edges of the end panels. The rigid or semi-rigid end and bottom panels are typically covered on both sides with a fabric or flexible material, and in one embodiment a single continuous binding is stitched to join substantially all of the fabric material covering the end and bottom panels thereby enhancing the assembly procedure for the storage case and providing a desirable visual impression. The end panels may each have a generally rectangular shape with one end panel notched to facilitate storage and carriage of a cordless power saw. The flexible or partially reinforced side panels optionally include a rigid stiffening bar or rod member sewn or captured in a passage extending between the end panels to thereby provide additional rigidity or structural integrity to the carrying case. The side panels may be trapezoidally configured. A protective flap may be included on the inside of the tote or case to retain and protect rotary saw blades, for example. A metal or plastic loop may be incorporated or attached to the inside of a sidewall for receipt of a cordless drill.

[0007] The end panels may be comprised of a rigid or semi-rigid material covered by fabric.

[0008] Thus, it is an object of the invention to provide a storage case for carrying tools and other items, particularly cordless power tools.

[0009] It is a further object of the invention to provide an open top storage case having a carry strap extending between two generally congruent, shaped side panels.

[0010] A further object of the invention is to provide a storage case which has an aesthetically pleasing appearance to thereby enhance the marketability of the carrying case.

[0011] Yet another object of the invention is to provide a carrying case for tools and the like which is economical, easy to manufacture, constructed of rugged materials and which is highly utilitarian.

[0012] Another object of the invention is to provide a storage and carrying case which includes generally rigid, spaced, end panels and generally flexible, but reinforced, front and back panels sewn together by a use of a single, continuous binding strip which forms a continuous loop about the periphery of the storage case.

[0013] These and other objects, advantages and features of the invention will be set forth in the detailed description which follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

[0014] In the detailed description which follows, reference will be made to the drawing comprised of the following figures depicting numerous embodiments. The particular embodiment included and encompassed by the claims are depicted in **FIGS. 12-14** and the remaining figures depict alternative embodiments addressed principally by claims in related applications referenced herein. However, because many of the features of the embodiments are common, a description of the various preferred embodiments is maintained.

[0015] **FIG. 1** is an isometric view of a first embodiment of the storage and carrying case of the invention;

[0016] **FIG. 2** is an isometric view of an alternative embodiment of the storage and carrying case of the invention;

[0017] **FIG. 3** is a cross sectional view of a portion of the front panel of **FIG. 1** taken along the line **3—3** illustrating the means for stiffening a portion of the front panel which connects opposite end panels;

[0018] **FIG. 4** is a cross sectional view of the binding construction of the carrying case taken along the line **4—4** in **FIG. 1**;

[0019] **FIG. 5** is an isometric view of a third embodiment of the invention especially useful for carrying and storage of garden tools;

[0020] **FIG. 6** is an isometric view of a fourth alternate embodiment wherein the upper ends of the end panels are foldable;

[0021] **FIG. 7** is an isometric view of the embodiment of **FIG. 6** wherein the end panels are folded and fastened together to at least partially enclose the case;

[0022] **FIG. 8** is an exploded, cut away isometric view of the component parts of the case of **FIG. 6**;

[0023] **FIG. 9** is an exploded isometric view similar to **FIG. 8** depicting the construction of the embodiment of **FIG. 6**;

[0024] **FIG. 10** is an isometric view of a fifth alternative embodiment;

[0025] **FIG. 11** is an exploded isometric view of the rigid panel members incorporated in the embodiment of **FIG. 10**;

[0026] **FIG. 12** an isometric view of an alternative embodiment of the invention especially useful for the purpose of carrying cordless tools, such as a cordless power saw and/or a cordless drill;

[0027] **FIG. 13** is an isometric view similar to **FIG. 12** depicting the placement of a cordless power saw within the carrying case of **FIG. 12**; and

[0028] **FIG. 14** is an isometric view of the carrying case of **FIG. 12**, wherein a cordless drill is positioned in the carrying case.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0029] The tool storage and carrying case of the invention is depicted in first and second embodiments in **FIGS. 1 and 2**, respectively, and a third embodiment in **FIG. 5**. The first embodiment of **FIG. 1** is physically smaller than the second embodiment of **FIG. 2**. The methodology of assembly of the cases of **FIGS. 1, 2** and **5** is substantially the same and the configuration of the various carrying cases is substantially the same. Another embodiment is depicted in **FIG. 5**. Additional embodiments are depicted in **FIGS. 6-14**.

[0030] Referring therefore to **FIG. 1**, as well as **FIGS. 3 and 5**, the carrying case of the invention includes a first end panel **10** and a second, spaced end panel **12**. The panels **10** and **12** are congruent or, in other words, substantially identical in size, shape and configuration. The first and second panels **10** and **12** include a lower generally rectangular section **14** and an upper triangular or trapezoidal section **16**. The triangular section **16** has a generally isosceles triangular or truncated triangular shape. The first panel **10** is comprised of an interior generally semi-rigid or rigid member, for example, a polyethylene board or sheet. The first panel **10** further includes an inner and outer fabric or material covering **20** and **22**. The second end panel **12** has a similar construction.

[0031] The case further includes a generally rigid bottom panel **24** which is also comprised of a rigid board or semi-rigid board or panel member **24** covered by outer layers of fabric **20**, **22** in a manner substantially the same as the construction and coverage of end panels **10** and **12**. In the preferred embodiment, the fabric **22** covering the outer surface of the end panels **10** and **12** is a continuous sheet of fabric of material which fits over the end panel **10**, the bottom panel **24** and the second end panel **12**. The interior sheet of fabric **20** likewise is a continuous sheet fitted over the end panel **10**, the bottom panel **24** and the second end panel **12**.

[0032] The carrying case further includes a front side fabric panel **28** and a back side fabric panel or side **30**. The front panel **28** and the back panel **30** are each comprised of flexible material such as canvas, plastic or the like. The fabric utilized to make the case is thus typically a canvas material, a fabric material or flexible plastic material and is substantially the same fabric material for all panels **28**, **30** and material covering **20**, **22**. However, it is possible to mix the types of fabric used to make the carrying case panels and covering.

[0033] The front panel **28** optionally includes a passageway such as passageway **32**, extending between the end panels **10** and **12**. The passageway **32** is formed by sewing over a top flap of the fabric forming the front panel **28** along a seam **34** as depicted in cross section in **FIG. 3**. A reinforcing element or rod **36** may then be fitted into the channel or passageway **32** that extends between the end panels **10** and **12** thereby providing an enhanced stiffening and form retention function for the carrying case. The reinforcing rod **36** thus extends the entire length of the channel **32** between the end panels **10** and **12** in the preferred embodiment.

[0034] An important aspect of the invention is the utilization of a single closed loop binding **40** in **FIG. 4** which serves to join all of the flexible fabric component panels or parts **20**, **22**, **28** of the carrying case. Thus, referring to **FIG. 4**, by way of example, a binding **40** is folded over and stretched to provide a means to join the front panel **28**, the first inside fabric layer **22** and the second outside fabric layer **20** which are fitted over the rigid bottom panel **24** at the bottom of the case. A single stitch **44** then joins the binding **40** and fabric layers **28**, **22** and **20**. In other words, the binding **40** folds over the edges of the layers of fabric **28**, **22**, and **20** and connects them one to the other by means of a single seam **41**. This provides an enhanced visual appearance and further provides a means for joining multiple layers together to thereby simplify the construction of the carrying case.

[0035] As depicted in the Figures and starting, by way of example at seam **31**, the single binding **40** extends around the periphery of the triangular section of the first end panel **10** joining fabric covers **20**, **22**; then joins the side edge of back panel **30** and covering **20**, **22** of end panel **10**; then along the bottom edge connecting the back panel **30** and the covering **20**, **22** of bottom panel **24**; then along the junction of the back panel **30** with the covering **20**, **22** of the second end panel **12**. The binding **40** continues to connect coverings **20**, **22** over the isosceles section **16** of the panel **12** and then continues to join the covering **20**, **22** of second end panel **12** to the front panel **28**. The binding **40** then continues along the bottom edge connecting coverings **20**, **22** of the bottom panel **24** and end panel **28**. Finally, binding **40** connects coverings **20**, **22** and edge of panel **28** up to seam **31**. In the manner described, a single binding **40** is useful for connect-

ing all of the component parts forming the carrying case. The fabric which forms the front panel **28** and back panel **30** and which also forms the through passage or channel **32** may be captured by the binding **40** to thereby fix or retain the stiffening member **36** in position to give the carrying case appropriate form and shape.

[**0036**] As shown in **FIGS. 1, 2** and **5**, the carrying case further includes a carrying strap **60**. The strap **60** has its opposite ends attached, for example, by a rivet **62** to the second end panel **12**. A similar connection is provided for the strap **60** to the first end panel **10**.

[**0037**] Numerous optional elements may be incorporated into the carrying case. For example, an internal intermediate wall **66** may be sewn between the front panel **28** and the back panel **30**. Loops **68** may be sewn to the fabric covering for the second end panel **12**. The front panel **28** may include a series of loops or pockets such as pocket **70** and tool carrying loop **72**. Similarly, pockets **76** may be incorporated in the end panel **10**. Special tool holders such as tool holder **78** may be fastened to the first end panel **10** or to the second end panel **12**. Pockets such as pocket **80** may be incorporated on the outside of the end panel, such as end panel **12**. The described construction thus enables a design of great flexibility. For example, as shown in **FIG. 2**, a zippered pocket **82** may be incorporated in a front panel **28** of a large carrying case.

[**0038**] Another aspect of the invention that may be varied relates to the shape of end panels, for example, end panel **10**. The embodiments depicted as described heretofore have included a generally rectangular lower section and a generally triangular upper section. Preferably, the triangular upper section has been in the form of an isosceles triangle or a truncated isosceles triangle. The configuration can also be generally trapezoidal. Thus, various configurations of the upper section of an end panel may be adopted or utilized and considered to be within the scope of the invention. Consequently, when using the language, "triangular", to describe the upper end portion of an end panel, for example, end panel **10**, the use generally encompasses functionally and by definition triangular shaped, truncated triangular shapes, trapezoidal shapes and other such shapes that are generally of narrowing upper dimension relative to the lower section of the end panel.

[**0039**] Referring next to **FIGS. 6-9**, there is illustrated a further embodiment of the invention wherein the end panels are fabricated and configured from a material which enables those end panels to be folded one over the other and fastened together to thereby facilitate retention of tools or other items within the bag case or container. Thus, in general, the embodiment of **FIGS. 6-9** includes a first end panel **100** and a generally congruent or similarly shaped second end panel **102** spaced from the first end panel **100**. The end panel **100** is joined to the end panel **102** by means of a back side panel **104** and a front side panel **106**. An auxiliary pouch or pocket **108** is formed on the outside of the front side panel **106**. Auxiliary pouches **110**, **112** and **114** are provided on the outside of the first end panel **100**. A carry handle **116** connects upper ends **118** and **120** of first end panel **100** and second end panel **102**. A carry strap or shoulder strap **122** connects between upper end **118** of first panel **100** and upper end **120** of second panel **102**.

[**0040**] A closure assembly, comprised of an elastic cord **126** attached to a tab **128** with an opening **130**, is provided for engagement with a projecting stud **132** on the outside of the pouch **108**. The elastic cord **126** is attached to the upper end or upper margin **134** of the front side panel **106**. The notch **130** is a keyhole opening or notch so that the notch **130** may easily fit over the headed stud **132** and provide a retention feature to maintain the locking assembly or closure assembly described engaged so as to retain an item within the pouch **108**.

[**0041**] It will be noted that a binding **140** connects fabric layers as described hereinafter which encapsulate or enclose rigid and semi-rigid panels in the first end panel **100** and second end panel **102** as well as the bottom panel. That is, the binding **140** is attached to the assembly of the component parts of the embodiment of **FIGS. 6-9** in the same manner as the binding utilized with respect to the embodiments heretofore described. In this manner, a single binding **140** serves to provide an aesthetically pleasing, yet highly functional, means for attaching and assembling the component parts of the bag or case.

[**0042**] The bag or case of **FIGS. 6-9** has a feature, perhaps illustrated more clearly in **FIG. 7**, wherein the upper end **118** of end panel **100** may be folded over and joined with the upper end **120** of panel **102** which is also folded over. The upper ends **118** and **120** of the panels **100** and **102** thus may be attached together by a fastener **140** to enclose the contents of the bag or case. Note that **FIG. 7** illustrates the opposite end in isometric view of the case of **FIG. 6**. Thus, as illustrated, additional pouches, such as pouch **142** with a zipper fastener or closure **144**, may be provided on a backside panel **104**. End panel **102** may include pouches **146** and **148** each with its own flap **150** and **152**, respectively. Thus, the versatility of the construction of bags of the nature named and described is clearly apparent.

[**0043**] To achieve the functional characteristics of the case, reference is made to **FIGS. 8 and 9**. As depicted, for example, in **FIG. 8**, the first end panel **100** includes a semi-rigid or rigid polyethylene board **101** encapsulated between layers of fabric. Similarly, a reinforcing element, for example, a rigid or semi-rigid polyethylene slat **103** is sewn into the back panel **104** at or adjacent the upper margin **105** thereof. In a similar fashion, a rigid or semi-rigid slat **107** is sewn in the front panel **106** again adjacent the upper margin **134** thereof. The slats or reinforcing elements **103** and **107** extend generally totally between the first side panel **100** and second side panel **102** to enhance the structural integrity of the case or carrier.

[**0044**] The pouch **108** may also include a reinforcing element formed from a rigid or semi-rigid member **109** sewn into the front panel **111** along top margin **113** of pouch **108**. The reinforcing element **109** extends across the front panel **111** of pouch **108**, but does not extend into a side panel **115** of the pouch **108**.

[**0045**] This arrangement is depicted in greater detail in **FIG. 9**. Note that with the embodiment of **FIGS. 8 and 9** the upper ends or sections **118**, **120** of the panels **100** and **102** may or may not include a reinforcing member. If the upper ends **118** and **120** include a reinforcing member, the reinforcing member is a more flexible polyethylene board, for example, so as to enable the folding of the upper ends **118** and **120** in the manner previously described. It has been found that the elimination of a reinforcing board in the upper ends **118** and **120** is possible assuming that the fabric

material forming the covering of the boards or reinforcing elements **101** and its companion element **101**A in **FIG. 9** are adequately heavy, for example, a heavy canvas or plastic fabric material. Further, the handle **116** tends to space or separate the outer top or upper ends **118** and **120** inasmuch as the handle **116** is comprised of a molded rubber material which is flexible yet tends to elastically maintain the shape depicted in the figures thereby spreading the upper ends **118** and **120** unless those upper ends are manually flexed and joined together by the fastening mechanism **140** depicted in **FIG. 7**.

[**0046**] **FIGS. 10 and 11** illustrate another embodiment which is especially useful for carrying tools and which includes reinforcing elements maintained between layers of fabric so as to replicate the configuration of a carpenter's tool box. Referring to the figures, the tool box, bag or case of **FIGS. 10 and 11** includes a first end panel **200** and a congruently shaped, spaced, second end panel **202**. The end panels **200** and **202** are joined by a front side panel **204** and a back side panel **206**. A rigid tubular metal bar handle **208** connects between the lateral or first end panel **200** and the lateral or the second end panel **202**. All of the described panels are fabric covered, preferably by two layers of fabric which are sewn together and retained along their edges by a binding **210**. Within the layers or between the layers of fabric forming each of the panels, are reinforcing elements, typically polyethylene board reinforcing elements having a desired configuration or shape. **FIG. 11** illustrates the combination of reinforcing elements utilized in the bag construction of **FIG. 10**. Thus, there is included a bottom generally rigid reinforcing board **220**, a first lateral side panel reinforcing board **222**, a second opposite end lateral side reinforcing board **224**, and a front side reinforcing bar or slat **226** as well as a back side reinforcing bar or slat **228**. There is also included bridging elements, and more particularly a first bridging element **230** which fits over the truncated or generally triangular end portion **232** of the first end panel **222**. A second bridging element **234** is provided to fit over the truncated or generally triangular shaped end **236** of the second end panel **224**. All of the reinforcing elements depicted in **FIG. 11** are sewn into or encapsulated between layers of fabric which are sewn together so as to form the tool bag depicted in **FIG. 10** having various pouches, straps and the like which enable or facilitate carrying of the bag. The location of the elements or reinforcing elements or members is as previously described. For example, the slats **226** and **228** which extend substantially between the end panels **222** and **224** are located at upper margins **227** and **229** of the front panel **204** and back panel **206**, respectively. Thus, it can be seen that the binding techniques, as well as the assembly techniques associated with the tool bag of **FIGS. 10 and 11**, is substantially similar to or the same as previously described with respect to the other embodiments of the invention.

[**0047**] Other features of the embodiment of **FIGS. 10 and 11** include an elastomeric or rubber handle member **209** which fits over the tubular metal handle **208** that is fastened at its opposite ends, for example, by rivets **211** to panel **222**. A strap **250** is attached to the end panel **200** and fits along the top edge of the end panel **200**. A similar strap **252** is attached to the opposite end panel **202**. The straps **250** and **252** are affixed to the upper ends of the panels **200** and **202** by means of a hook and eye fastener construction (Velcro-type fasteners). Each strap **250** and **252** is sewn at one end **251** and **253** to the bag, and more particularly to the front panel juncture of the bag with the side panels. Thus, the strap may be utilized to retain a carpenter's level, for example, by attaching the strap over the level and against the top edge of the side panels **200** and **202**.

[**0048**] The embodiment of **FIGS. 12-14** is especially useful for the carrying of cordless power tools, such as a cordless power saw or a cordless drill. Referring to those figures, the case, or tote, incorporates a first end panel **300** which includes generally straight line top edge **302**, a downwardly depending first generally vertical side edge **304** and an opposite spaced lateral side edge **306**. A lower side edge **308** completes the outline of the first end panel **300**. In one preferred embodiment, the end panel **300** is generally rectangular. It is comprised of a reinforcing board, as previously described, with a fabric layer on the outer side thereof and a fabric layer on the inner side thereof stitched or joined together in the manner described previously with respect to the other embodiments disclosed.

[**0049**] A second end panel **310** is spaced from and generally parallel to the first end panel **300**. The second end panel **310** includes a top edge or top side **312**, with a notch **314**, intermediate the opposite sides **316** and **318** of the top edge **312**. The second end panel **310** is further defined by a first depending lateral side edge **320** and a generally parallel, spaced, second side edge **322**, joined along a bottom edge **324** to form the outline of the second end panel **310**. The second end panel **310** is constructed in a manner similar to the construction of the first end panel **300**. That is, a semi-rigid or rigid board member such as a polyethylene board, is sandwiched between fabric layers, again as depicted in the prior embodiments disclosed. It is to be noted that the lateral side edges **304** and **306** of the first end panel are elongated relative to the lateral side edges **320** and **322** of the second end panel **310**. Thus, first end panel **300** is larger than second end panel **310**.

[**0050**] A first side panel **326** has a generally flexible side panel construction and connects the first side edges **304**, **320** of the first and second end panels **300** and **310**. Thus, the first side panel **326** extends between a first side edge **304** and a second side edge **320**.

[**0051**] A second side panel **328** joins the second sides or side edges **322** and **306** of the second end panel **310** and first end panel **300**. The first side panel **326** and second side panel **328** are preferably generally congruent and preferably generally comprised of a flexible fabric material with a reinforcing rod member, such as reinforcing member **330** sewn into the fabric forming the panel **328** and extending between the second lateral side edges **322** and **306**. This provides some rigidity to the carrying case and provides form for the carrying case, similar to the prior embodiments described.

[**0052**] The lateral side edges **304** and **306** being longer than the lateral side edges **320** and **322** result in an inclined side or top edge **332** and **334** of the second side panel **328** and first side panel **326** respectively as the side edges **332** and **334** extend from the second end panel **310** upwardly to the first end panel **300**. The side panels **326** and **328** are thus somewhat truncated or trapezoidal and when joined with the end panels **300** and **310**, provide an open top construction which is designed to more inclusively hold cordless power tools. The construction provides ease of accessibility while at the same time retains the tools snuggly in a stored position, as will be seen by reference to **FIGS. 13 and 14**.

[0053] In a preferred embodiment, the first end panel **300** includes a fold down interior flap **340** which is generally affixed to the inside of the first end panel **300** along the top edge **302** thereof and which folds downwardly into the inside or interior of the case enclosure. The flap **340** may include Velcro fasteners (hook and loop type fasteners) or other types of fasteners to retain the flap in a closed position. The flap **340** is designed to fold over tool components, such as saw blades which are fitted or placed under the flap **340** adjacent the first end panel **300**. The increased size of the first end panel **300** relative to the second end panel **310** further results in the inclined construction previously described with respect to the sidewalls **326** and **328** and is sized to encompass the saw blades.

[0054] A support strap **346** connects the first side wall **326** to the second side wall **328**. The support strap **346** is preferably centrally located between the end panels **300** and **310** to provide for balance when carrying tools.

[0055] The second end panel **310**, in the embodiment disclosed, includes a first open topped pocket **350** which is positioned adjacent the notch **314** but not underneath the notch **314**. A second open top pocket **352** is also provided on the opposite side of the notch **314** from the pocket **350**. A retention strap **354** is affixed to the end panel **310** and includes a hook and loop fastener connection attachable to the outside of the pocket **350**. A similar strand or strap **356** is provided for the pocket **352**. The pockets **350** and **352** are especially useful for the storage of extra batteries that can be used with cordless power tools that are carried by the case having the design of **FIGS. 12-14**.

[0056] The lateral side wall **328**, and in particular, the second lateral side wall **328**, includes a generally rectangular pocket **360** affixed to the outside thereof. The rectangular pocket **360** includes a notch **362** formed along the bottom edge thereof. The notch **362** will enable a user of the carrying case to manually manipulate items upwardly within the pocket **360** to facilitate their removal. For example, a plastic storage box may be retained within the pocket **360** and manually moved from that pocket **360** by being accessed through the notch **362**.

[0057] As a further feature of the embodiment of **FIGS. 12-14**, a metal loop **370** is attached or riveted to the inside of the first lateral side wall **326**. The loop **370** may be affixed to the fabric forming the first lateral side wall **326**. Alternatively, reinforcing strips which are rigid, semi-rigid or flexible, such as strip **372** may be incorporated inside wall **326** to facilitate maintaining the orientation and the attachment of the tool support ring **370**.

[0058] **FIG. 13** illustrates the manner in which a power saw, namely a cordless power saw **380** is maintained within the carrying case. That is, the saw **380** typically includes a handle which includes a manual knob **382** to facilitate maneuverability of the saw. That handle will typically fit through the notch **314** and help balance the saw **380** within the enclosure defined by the carrying case. Of course the flap **340** will be positioned to store extra blades associated with the saw.

[0059] **FIG. 14** depicts the manner in which a cordless drill **386** is maintained by the carrying case of the embodiment described. Specifically a drill **386** including a battery pack **388** for the drill **386**, may be positioned over the side wall, such as the lateral side wall **326**. The head of the drill **386**, namely the head **390**, will fit through the metal retention loop **370** to hold the drill **386** tightly within the carrying case. It is possible to include both of the tools depicted in **FIGS. 13 and 14** within the carrying case by manipulation of the tools and adjustment thereof in their respective positions. Of course, other tools may be stored within the various side panels or walls of the carrying case.

[0060] The use of a closed loop binding is also exemplified of the embodiment of **FIGS. 12-14**. Thus, fabric covered first end panel **300**, which is spaced from the second end panel **310** in combination with the other panels **326**, **328** includes a binding **400** which forms a generally continuous closed loop along the top edge **302** of the end panel **300** and downwardly along one side edge **304**. Next, the binding extends along a side edge of the bottom panel **307** and first side panel **326** and then joins and connects to a side edge **320** of the second end panel **310**, extends upwardly along the side edge **320** thereof over the top edge **312**, including notch **314** of the second end panel **310**, downwardly along the second side edge **322** thereof and along the bottom panel **307** and second side panel **328** and upwardly along the lateral side edge **306** of the first end panel **300** where it is joined to the binding along the top edge **302** of the first end panel **300**. This closed loop arrangement provides an aesthetic and appealing construction. It may be combined with other binding associated with the end panels **300** and **310** and bottom and side panels **307**, **326**, **328**. Alternatively, a continuous binding can be incorporated with the side panels **326**, **328** along the top and side edges thereof, as well as along the bottom edge of the first and second end panels **300** and **310**, respectively.

[0061] Numerous modifications may be made to the construction without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. However, the use of binding **40** in a closed loop configuration as described enables such variations. Thus, the invention is to be limited only by the following claims and equivalents thereof.

What is claimed is:

1. A case for carrying a cordless rotary saw or cordless drill comprising, in combination:

A planar, fabric covered first end panel including a generally straight topside, a generally straight bottom side, which is generally parallel to the top side, a first lateral side connecting the top side to the bottom side, and a second lateral side spaced from the first lateral side and connecting the top side and the bottom side;

a fabric covered second end panel spaced from and generally parallel to the first end panel, said second end panel including a topside with a notch intermediate the opposite ends of the top side, a bottom side spaced from the notched top side, a first lateral side connecting the bottom side and top side and a second lateral side spaced from the first lateral side and connecting the top side and the bottom side;

a generally flexible first side fabric panel connecting the first sides of the first end panel and second end panel, said first side panel including at least one reinforcing member between the first and second end panels and a bottom side;

a generally flexible second fabric side panel connecting the second sides of the first end panel and second end panel, said second side panel including at least one reinforcing member between the first end panel and second end panel and a bottom side;

a fabric covered bottom side panel joined to the first end panel, second end panel, first side panel and second side panel to form an enclosure with an open topside; and

a binding for the fabric of said panels forming a generally continuous closed loop along the first end panel topside and first lateral side, the first side panel bottom side, the second end panel first lateral side, top side and second lateral side, the second flexible panel bottom side and the first end panel second side.

2. The case of claim 1 further including at least one storage pocket on the outside of at least one of said sides.

3. The case of claim 1 further including a first storage packet with an open top side affixed to the outside of the second end panel and aligned to one side of the notch.

4. The case of claim 3 including a retention strap having a first end attached to the second end panel and a second end attachable to the pocket to retain material in said pocket.

5. The case of claim 3 including a second pocket with an open top side affixed to the outside of the second end panel and aligned on the opposite side of the notch from the first pocket.

6. The case of claim 1 including a storage pocket on the outside of one of said side panels, said storage pocket including a bottom side with a notch opening.

7. The case of claim 1 wherein each lateral side panel includes a top side inclined upwardly from the second end panel to the first end panel.

8. The case of claim 1 further including a flexible flap attached to the inside of the first end panel adjacent to the inside of the first end panel adjacent the top side thereof and foldable downwardly over the first end panel.

9. The case of claim 1 further including:

A generally rigid tool support ring affixed to the inside of one of said side panels.

10. The case of claim 1 further including a carry strap connecting the first and second sidewalls.

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