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(54) **AIR MATTRESS WITH PILLOW TOP**

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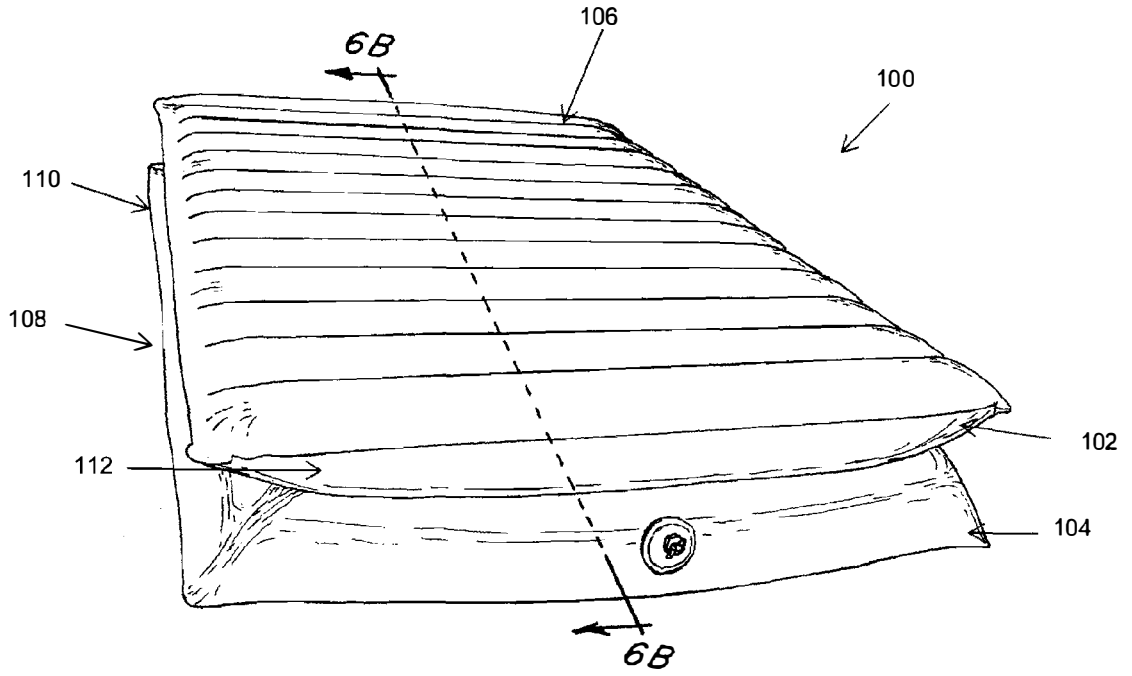
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An air mattress includes an inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body; and having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, said top and bottom being generally parallel to one another and being composed of at least two horizontal layers of vinyl, one layer of vinyl forming the top of the compartment and the second forming the bottom; at least one internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of the top and bottom of the inflatable compartment; and the sides being connected at least at a first location to and horizontally restrained by the internal, generally vertical wall and forming an indentation in the sides of the mattress. Alternately, the mattress profile is formed by a connection between the sides and at least one internal horizontal layer.



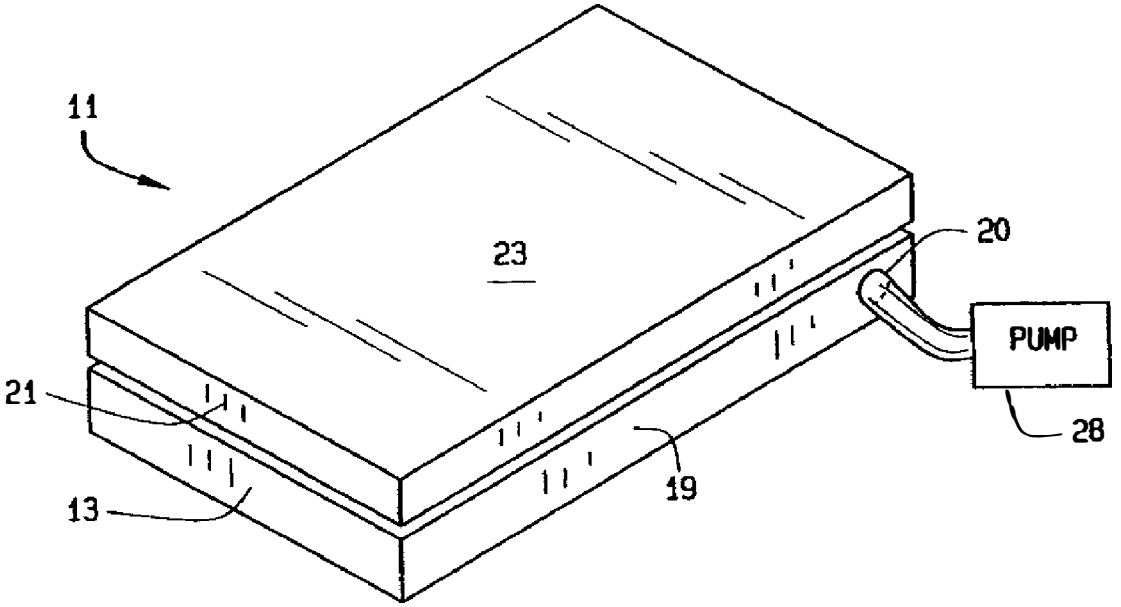


FIG. 1

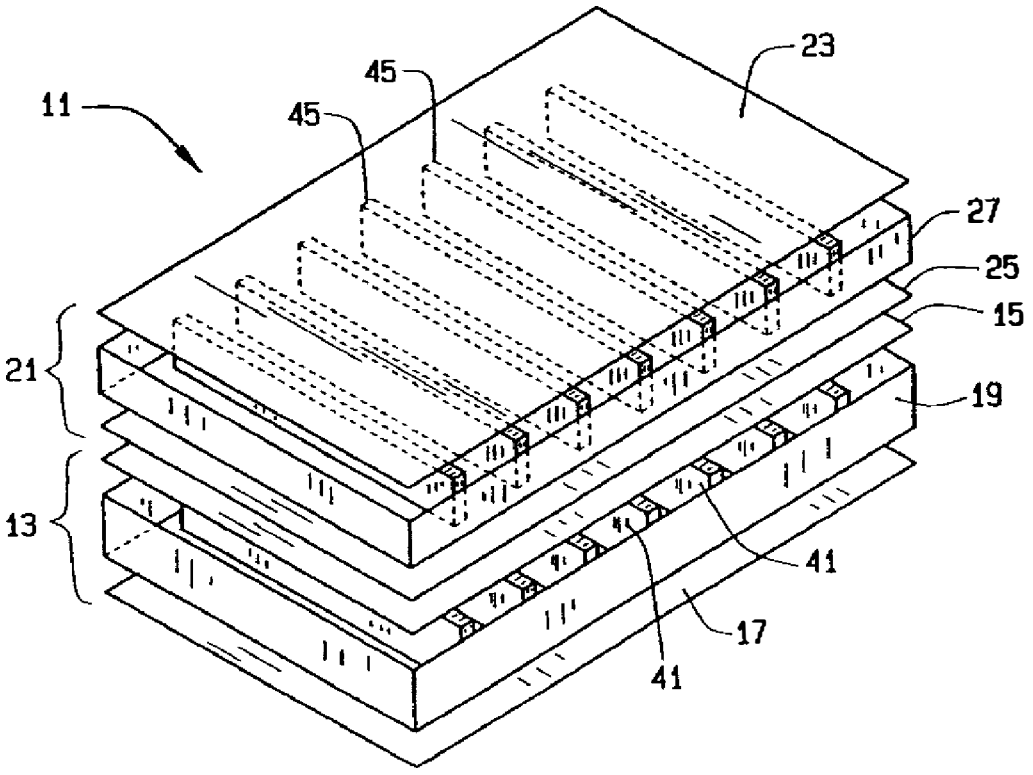


FIG. 2

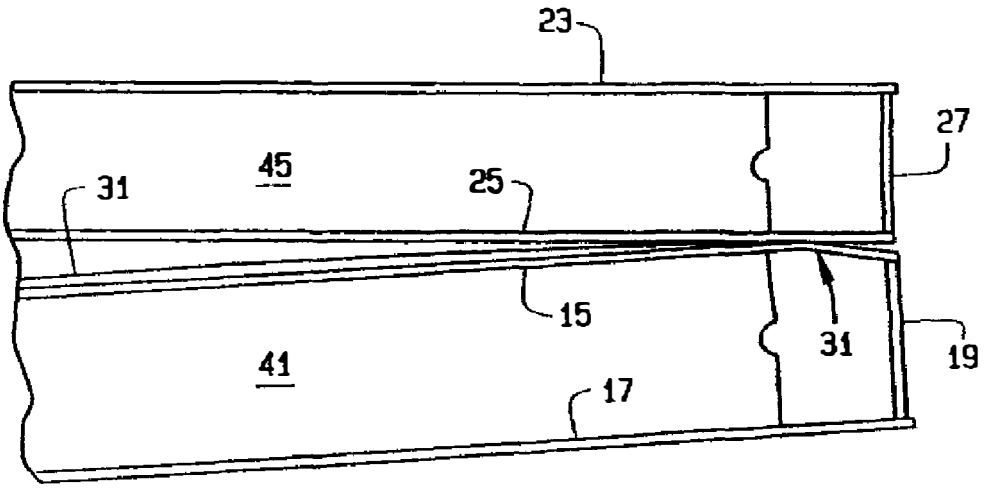


FIG. 3

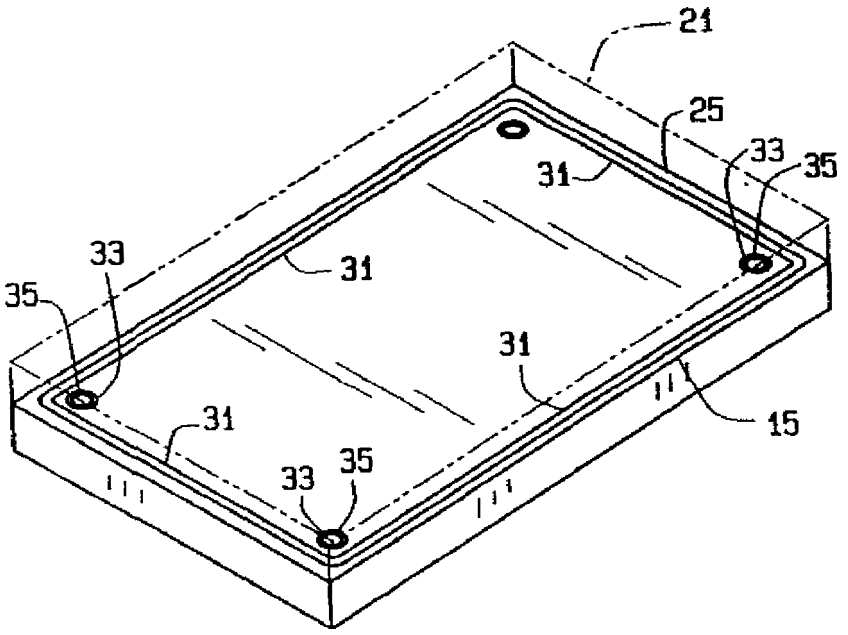


FIG. 4

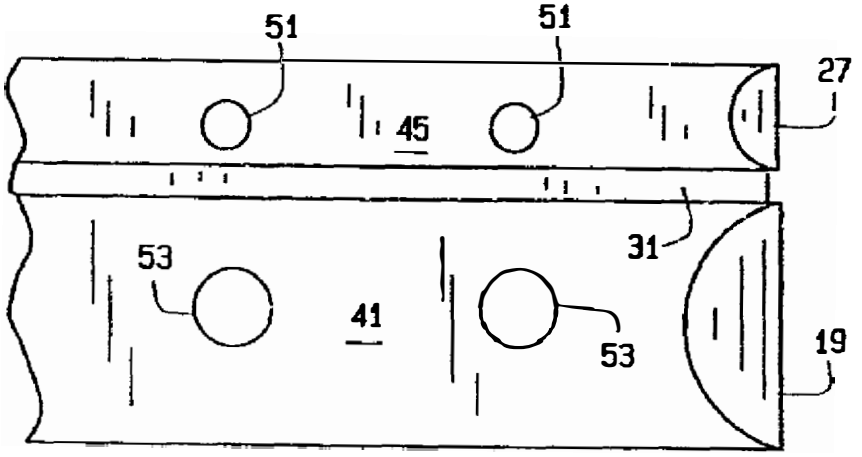


FIG. 5A

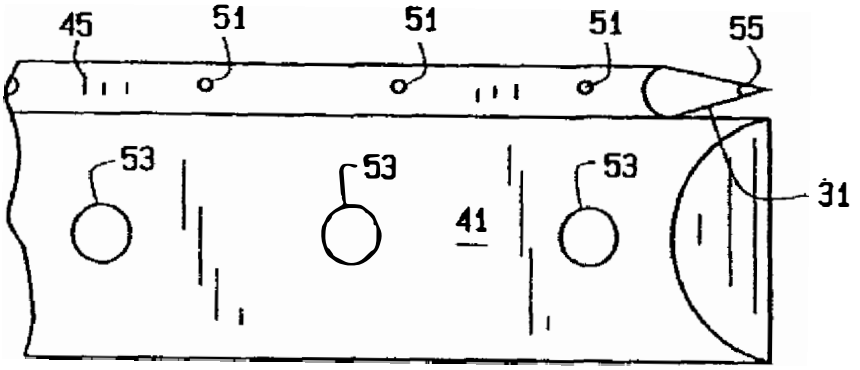


FIG. 5B

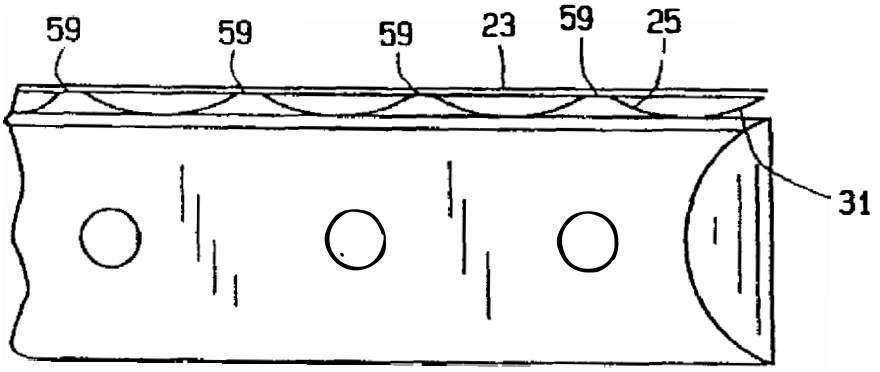


FIG. 5C

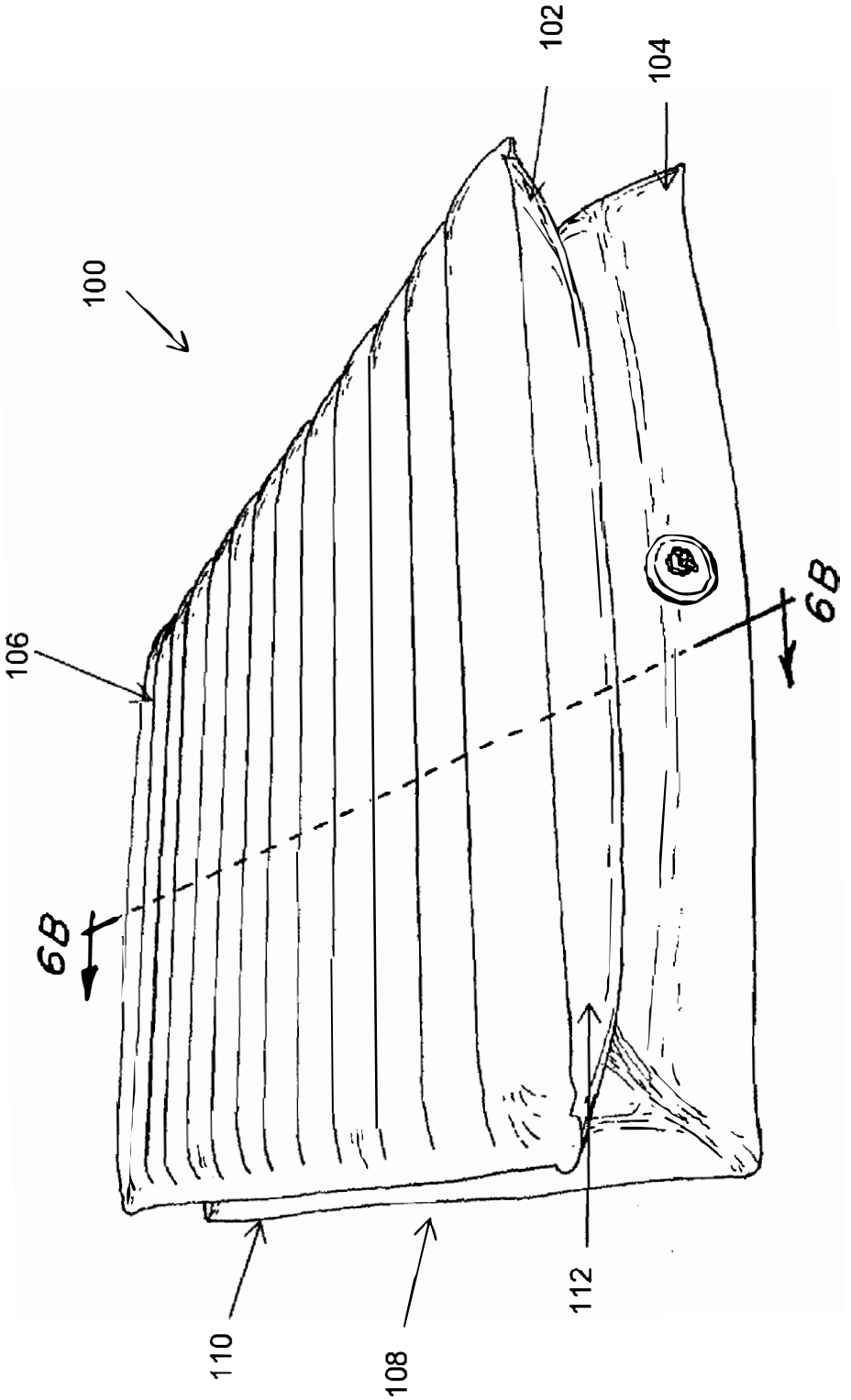


Fig. 6A

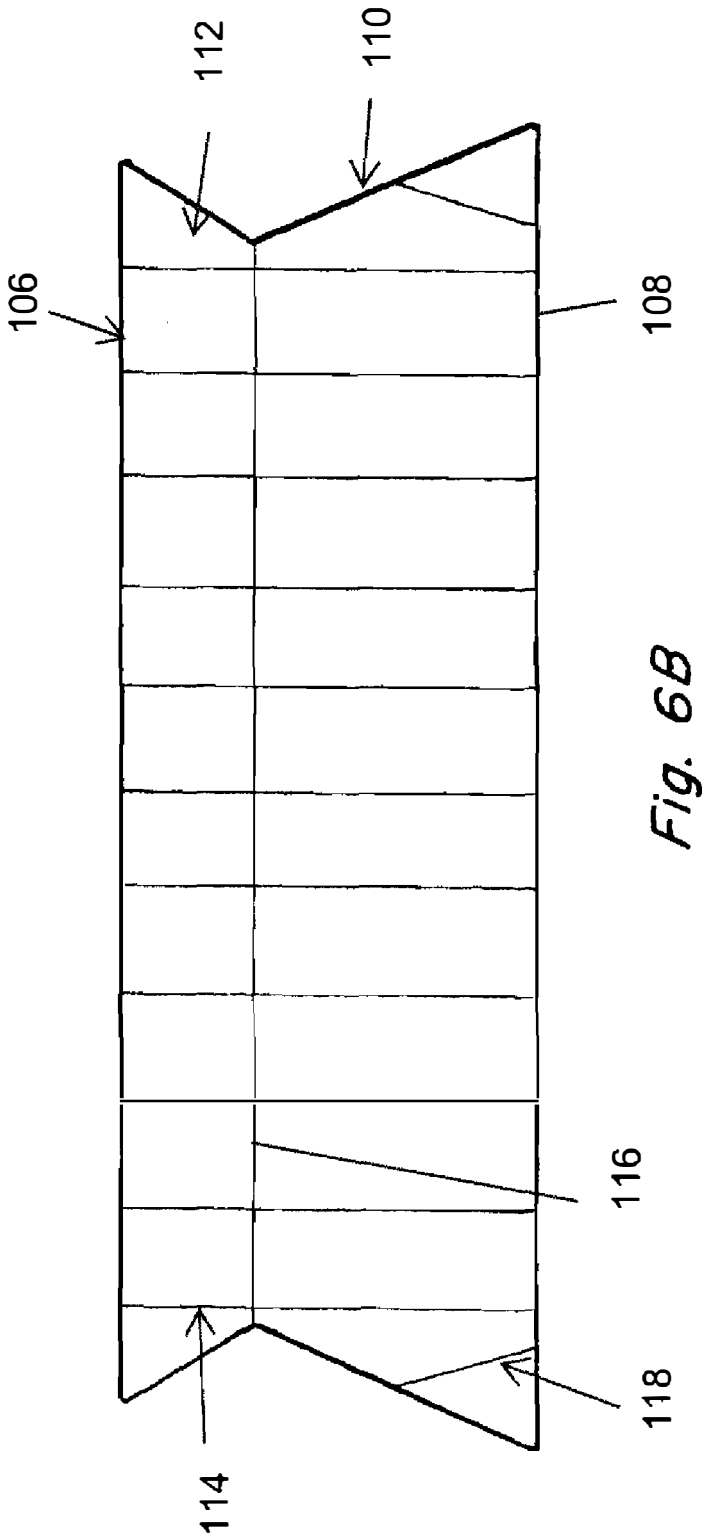


Fig. 6B

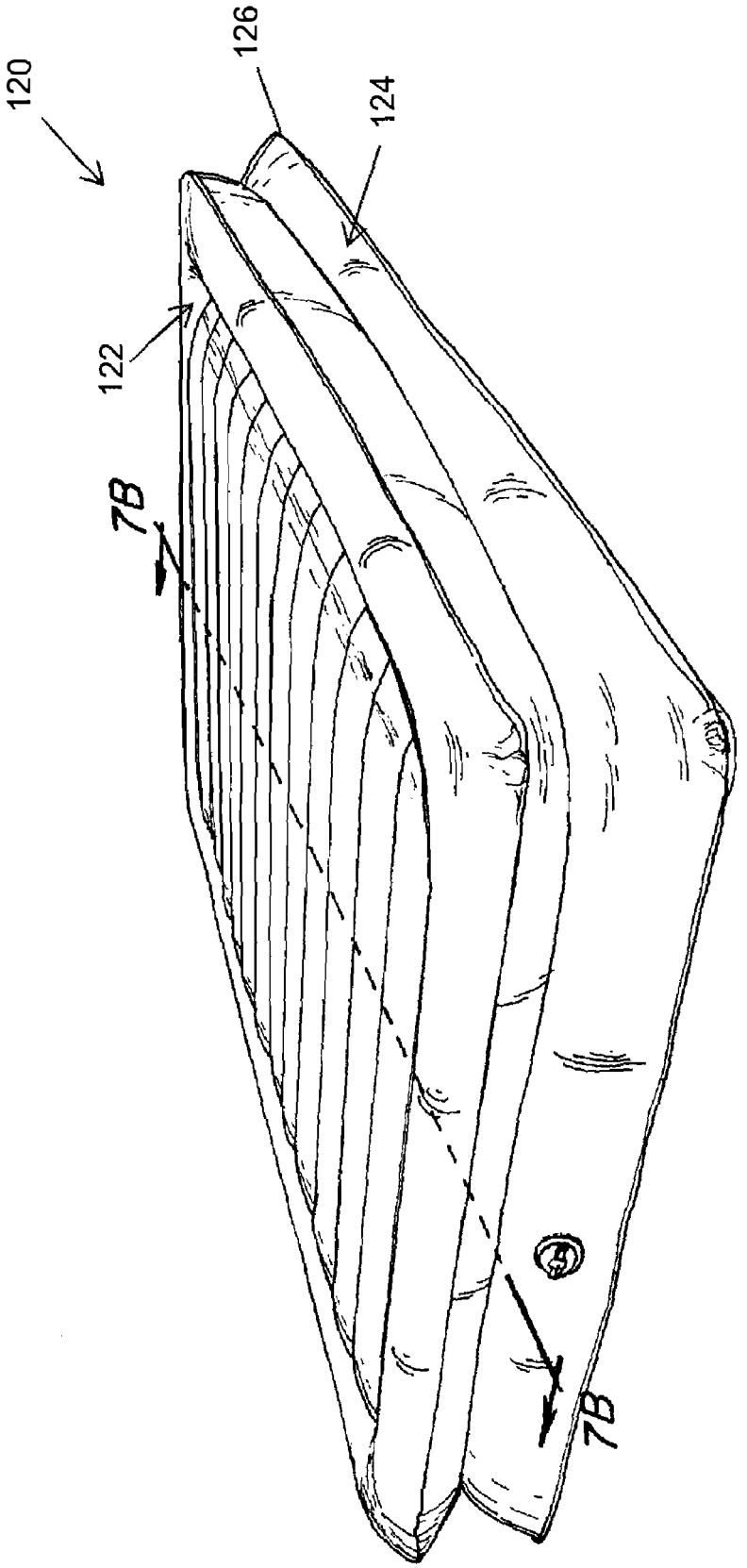


Fig. 7A

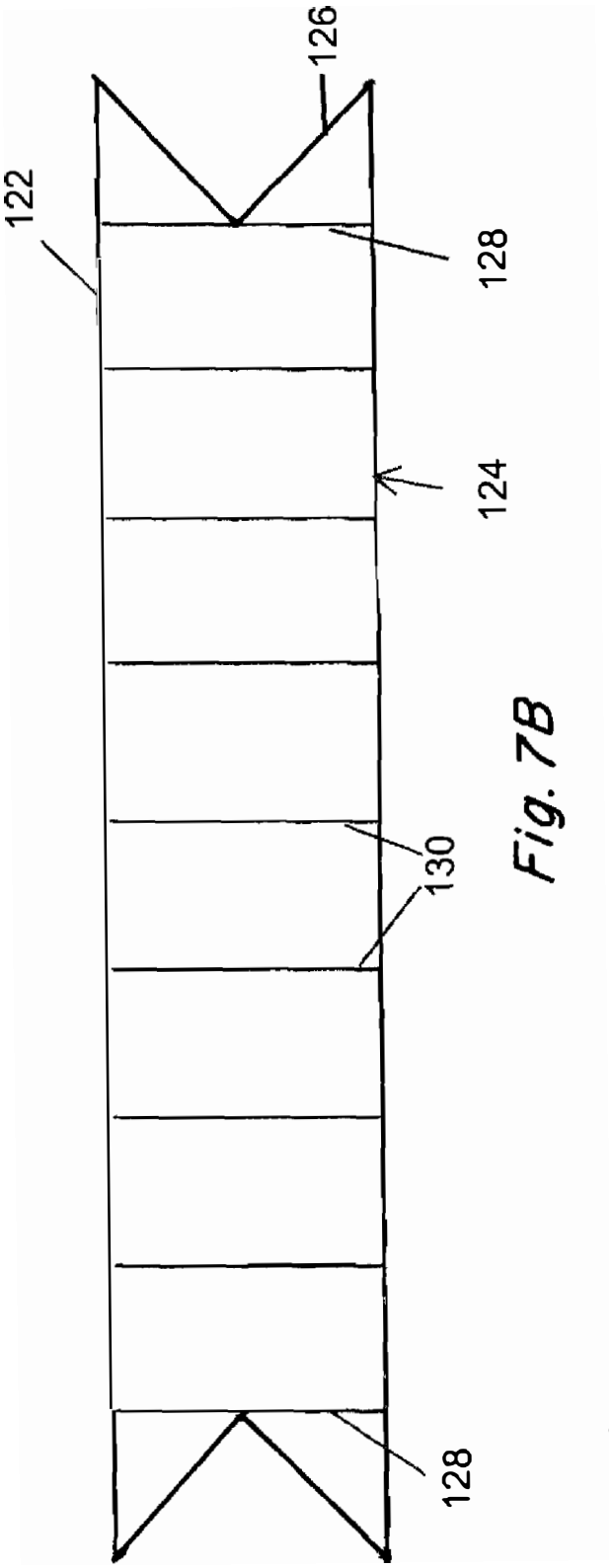


Fig. 7B

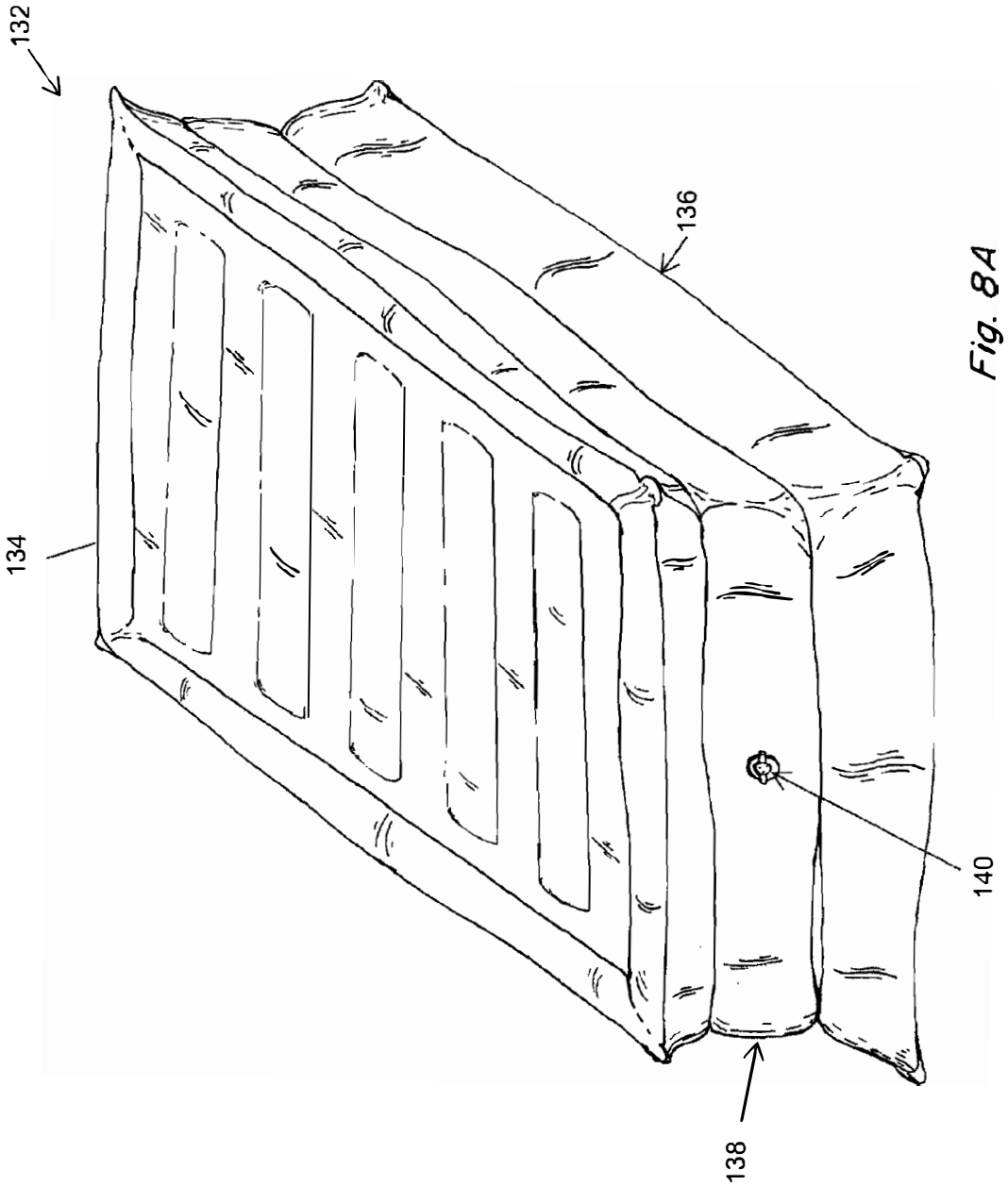


Fig. 8A

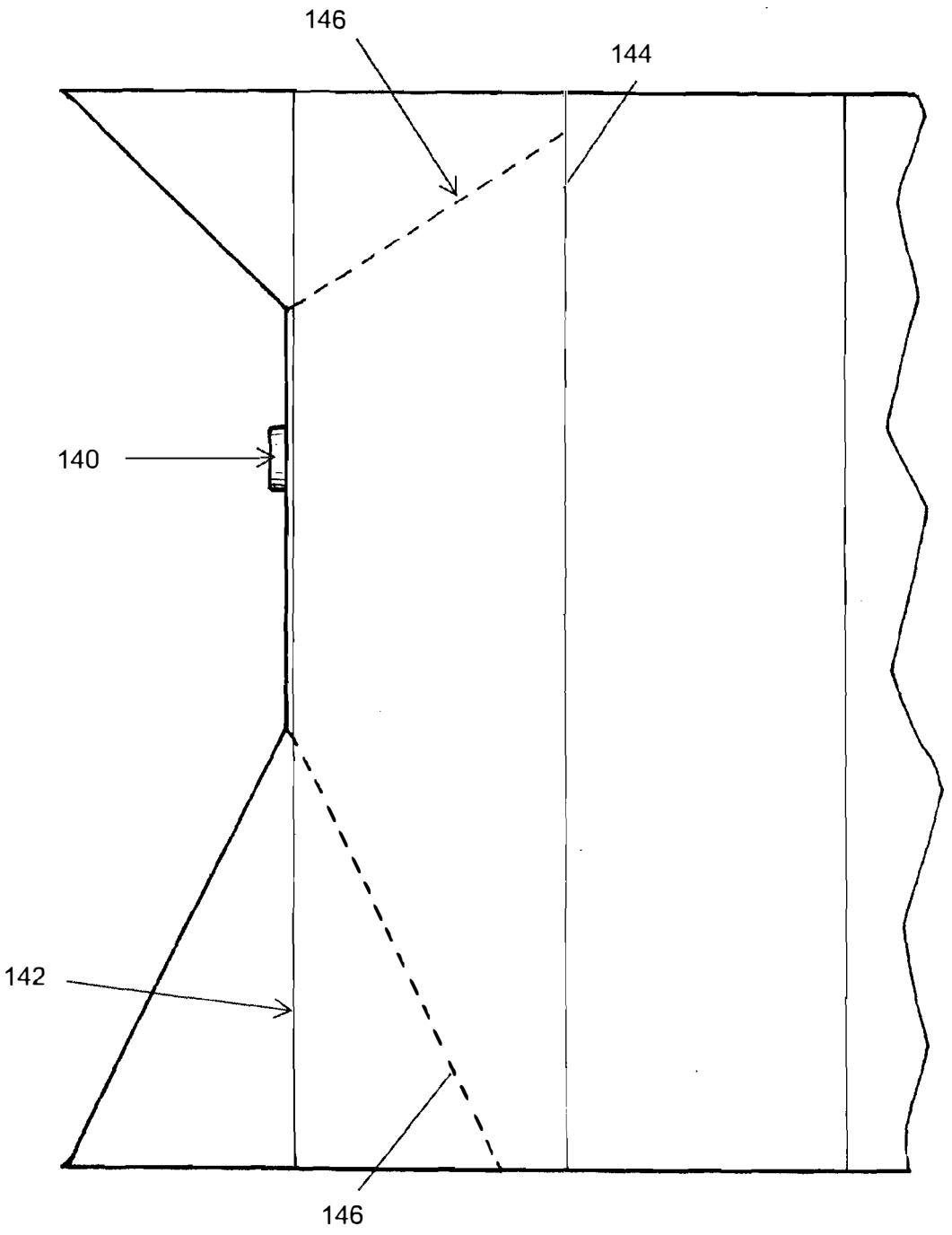


Fig. 8B

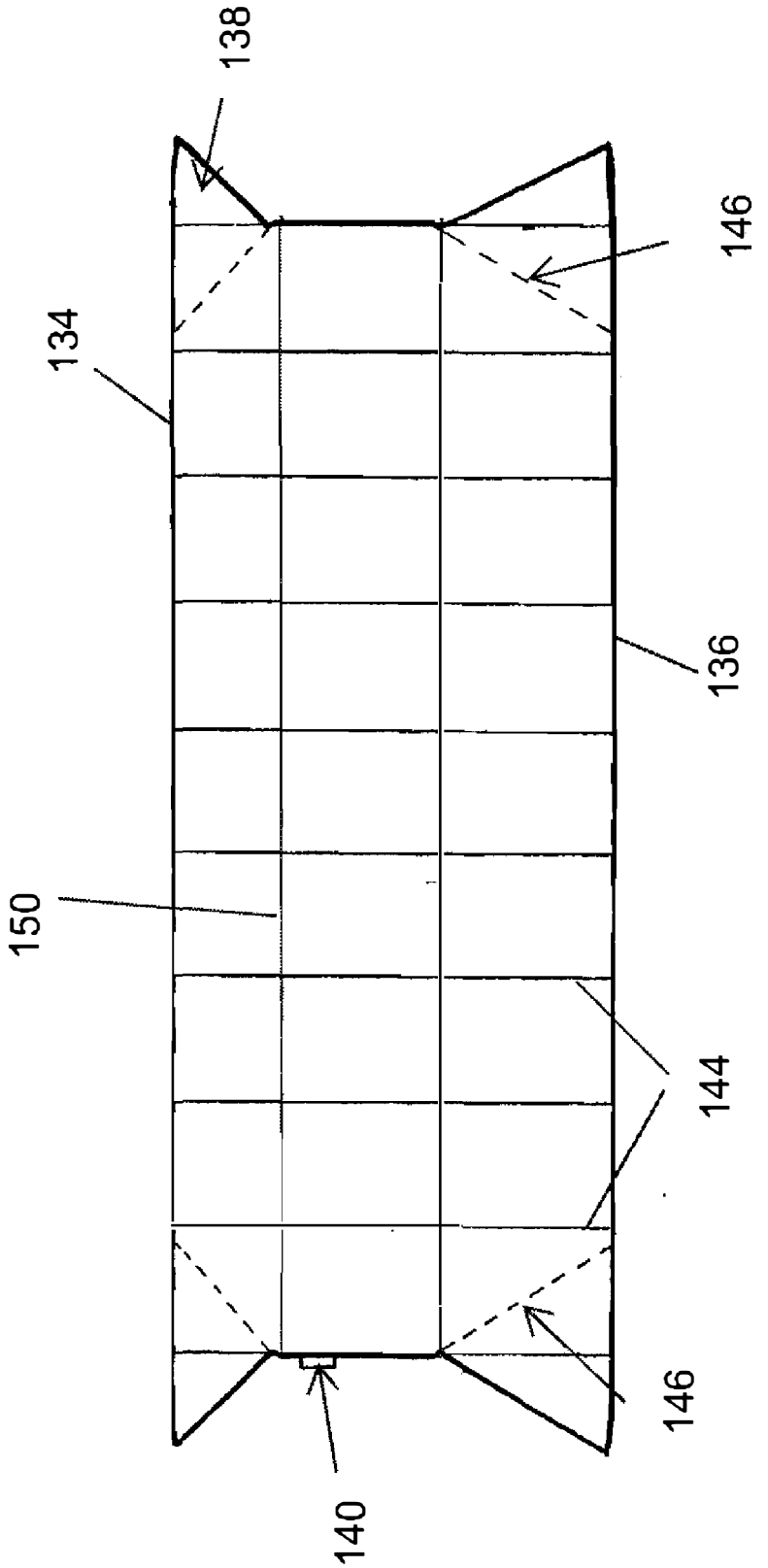


Fig. 8C

AIR MATTRESS WITH PILLOW TOP

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the priority of application Ser. No. 11/563,351, filed Nov. 27, 2006, which is a continuation of application Ser. No. 10/032,872, filed Dec. 26, 2001, which is, in turn, a continuation of application Ser. No. 09/821,932, filed Mar. 30, 2001.

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

[0002] Not applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] This invention relates generally to air mattresses and more particularly to an air mattress with an second inflatable layer on top to provide a "pillow top" appearance and feel to the mattress.

[0004] The standard air mattress also could be improved in appearance and feel. The single vinyl top sheet of these mattresses is rather typically plain and flat in appearance, even with a pattern embossed thereon. Conventional mattresses, on the other hand, traditionally have a tufted or quilted appearance which people find attractive.

[0005] Moreover, conventional mattresses often have a different feel to the user than that achieved with conventional air mattresses. Such mattresses could be more acceptable with a better feel.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] Among the various features of the present invention may be noted the provision of an air mattress in which the comfort is improved.

[0007] Another feature is the provision of such an air mattress with an improved appearance.

[0008] A third feature is the provision of such an air mattress with increased versatility.

[0009] Other objects and features will be in part apparent and in part pointed out hereinafter.

[0010] Briefly, in its broadest aspect an air mattress of the present invention includes an inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body; and having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, said top and bottom being generally parallel to one another and being composed of at least two horizontal layers of vinyl, one layer of vinyl forming the top of the compartment and the second forming the bottom; at least one internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of the top and bottom of the inflatable compartment; and the sides being connected at least at a first location to and horizontally restrained by the internal, generally vertical wall and forming an indentation in the sides of the mattress.

[0011] In an alternate embodiment, the air mattress includes a first inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body; the first inflatable compartment having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, with the top and bottom being generally parallel to one another; at least a first internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of said top and bottom of the first inflatable compartment; a second inflatable compartment disposed on the top of the first inflatable compartment and secured thereto, said second inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body; the second inflatable compartment having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, the top and bottom being generally parallel to one another; wherein said top and the non-vertical sides of the first inflatable compartment are connected to said bottom and said non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment at least at a first location along a periphery of the top of said first inflatable compartment and the bottom of the second inflatable compartment; and wherein the non-vertical sides of the first inflatable compartment and the non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment are arranged at an angle of less than 180° relative to one another, thereby forming an indentation in the air mattress.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0012] FIG. **1** is a perspective view illustrating the air mattress of the present invention;

[0013] FIG. **2** is an exploded perspective view of the air mattress of FIG. **1**;

[0014] FIG. **3** is a partial sectional view, with parts broken away for clarity, of the air mattress of FIG. **1**;

[0015] FIG. **4** is a perspective view of a portion of the air mattress of the present invention, showing the seal between the top and bottom compartments of the air mattress;

[0016] FIGS. **5**A-**5**C show variations in the pillow top of the present invention;

[0017] FIG. **6**A illustrates another embodiment of an air mattress according to the present invention;

[0018] FIG. **6**B is a partial sectional view of the mattress of FIG. **6**A;

[0019] FIG. **7**A illustrates another embodiment of an air mattress according to the present invention;

[0020] FIG. **7**B is a partial sectional view of the mattress of FIG. **7**A;

[0021] FIG. **8**A illustrates another embodiment of an air mattress according to the present invention;

[0022] FIG. **8**B is a partial sectional view of the mattress of FIG. **7**A; and

[0023] FIG. **8**C is a partial sectional view of a mattress incorporating a variation on the structure of the mattress of FIG. **7**A.

[0024] Similar reference characters indicate similar parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0025] Turning to the drawings and more specifically to FIGS. **1** and **2**, an air mattress **11** of the present invention includes a first inflatable compartment **13** having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body.

Compartment **13** is composed of a first vinyl sheet **15** forming a top of the compartment, a second vinyl sheet **17** forming a bottom of the compartment, and a vinyl strip **19** forming the sides of the compartment. Preferably the first inflatable compartment **13** may be inflated by means of a standard inflate, or inflate/deflate, valve **20** disposed at a convenient location in the wall of compartment **13**.

[**0026**] Air mattress **11** also includes a second inflatable compartment **21** disposed on the top of the first inflatable compartment **13** and secured thereto at least along a portion of the first inflatable compartment (as is shown in FIGS. **3** and **4**). Second compartment **21** extends generally the length and width of the top **15** of the first compartment **13** and is of a size, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body. The second compartment **21** is composed of a first vinyl layer **23** forming the top of the second compartment, a second vinyl layer **25** forming the bottom of the second compartment, and a vinyl strip **27** forming the sides of the second compartment. The second compartment is inflatable to give the top of the air mattress a soft, pillow-like appearance and feel. It is preferred that the top of second compartment **21** include a soft, non-vinyl fabric or surface secured thereto.

[**0027**] FIG. **1** also shows an optional pump **28** that may be used to inflate or inflate/deflate the compartments. The pump may be attached permanently to valve **20**, if desired, or may be attached temporarily to the valve by the user.

[**0028**] As can be seen more clearly in FIGS. **3** and **4**, the first and second compartments are secured together along, but spaced inwardly from, the perimeter. This is shown most clearly in FIG. **4** where the perimeter seal is labeled **31**. For example, the perimeter seal **31** may be recessed approximately one inch from the edge of the mattress. This seal connects the top vinyl layer **15** of the first compartment to the bottom vinyl layer **25** of the second compartment. In addition, the compartments are sealed together (at seals **33**) adjacent a plurality of holes **35** that provide fluid communication channel connecting the first and second compartments. Of course, if desired, the first and second compartments should also be secured together at other places. The seals may be formed using any known sealing method.

[**0029**] It is preferred that the compartments have a single inflation/deflation valve **20**, and that (in the embodiment shown in FIG. **1**) the inflation air for the second compartment flow initially into the first compartment. Of course, the single inflation/deflation valve could be disposed in a wall of the second compartment instead, in which case inflating air flow would be from the second compartment to the first.

[**0030**] As can be seen in FIGS. **2** and **3**, the vinyl layers of the first compartment are held together along the perimeter by vinyl strip **19** and internally by a plurality of spaced ribs **41**. Ribs **41** are preferably formed of vinyl, extend transversely across the compartment, and are sealed to the vinyl layers of the first compartment along their length. The ribs are preferably notched on each end as shown in FIG. **3** and terminate short of seal **31**. This provides for air flow around the ribs and permits the portions of the compartments outboard of the seal **31** to flex relatively independently of each other.

[**0031**] Similarly, second compartment **21** includes a plurality of ribs **45** that serve the same functions for the second compartment that ribs **41** serve for the first compartment. It is preferred that first compartment **13** be somewhat taller, when inflated, than second compartment **21**. For this reason, ribs **41** are preferably taller than ribs **45**. For example, ribs **41** can be approximately four inches in height, while ribs **45** would be approximately three includes in height. Other dimensions could of course be used.

[**0032**] The construction of air mattress **11** as shown in the drawings leaves the first and second compartments substantially free to move with respect to each other except at their periphery. Specifically, sealing the compartments together substantially only along the exterior portion allows the inner portions of the compartments to move substantially with respect to one another, thereby improving the feel of the mattress. Similarly, the fact that the primary seal **31** is recessed from the periphery of the two compartments permits limited relative movement of the second compartment with respect to the first compartment along the edge of the mattress.

[**0033**] Turning to FIGS. **5**A-**5**C, there are shown certain variations in the pillow top of the present invention. FIG. **5**A illustrates in simplified form the construction of FIG. **3**, with the addition of a plurality of holes **51** and **53** through ribs **45** and **41** respectively. This holes provide increased airflow back and forth in the two compartments. It should be appreciated that the second compartment in this construction has two seams and forms a gusset.

[**0034**] FIG. **5**B illustrates a similar construction in which the top (second) compartment is constructed with a seam **55** in its vertical wall. This construction provides a more two-dimensional pillow top appearance (as opposed to the three-dimensional effect of the construction of FIG. **5**A). Similarly, FIG. **5**C illustrates another two-dimensional-type construction in which the top layer **23** of second compartment **21** and the bottom layer **25** of that compartment are joined together by discontinuous seals **59**. For example, each seal could be a circle, or could run for only a few inches or so. Air in the second compartment in this construction flows around the seals **59**. This construction provides a pleasing, tufted appearance to the pillow top of the mattress.

[**0035**] FIGS. **6**A and **6**B illustrate an air mattress **100** utilizing a slightly different construction. The mattress **100** includes top **102** and bottom **104** compartments. The compartments are formed from a top layer **106** and bottom layer **108**, sides **110**, **112**, and an intermediate boundary **116**. Sides **110**, **112** may be formed from a single piece or separate pieces. Further, the intermediate boundary **116** may comprise a single layer forming the top of the second **104** compartment and the bottom of the first **102** compartment or separate layers. A seam joins the intermediate boundary **116** to the sides **110**, **112**, as shown in FIG. **6**B. The intermediate boundary **116** is provided with length and width dimensions that are preferably less than the corresponding dimensions of both the top **106** and bottom **108** layers. This arrangement results in the sides **110**, **112** having an angular orientation relative to vertical and creating an indentation in the sides of the mattress, which enhances the pillowtop appearance of the mattress. The seam joining the intermediate boundary **116** and the sides **110**, **112**, is shown in FIGS. **6**A and **6**B as being somewhat above the approximate midpoint of the mattress's height. However, alternate embodiments in which this joining point is located at or below the midpoint of the

mattress are also contemplated as being within the scope of the present invention. In another embodiment, the bottom layer **108** has a height and width somewhat greater than that of the top layer **106** to create a support base that minimizes possible tipping of the mattress when a user lies or sits near an edge of the mattress. The intermediate boundary **116** may be provided with vents to allow air to flow between the top **102** and bottom **104** compartments.

[**0036**] FIG. **6**B illustrates the additional internal structures that may be used with this embodiment. These additional structures are not essential to the mattress but do provide additional stability. These internal structures may include a series of ribs **114** or cylinders connecting the top layer **106** to the intermediate boundary **116** and the intermediate boundary **116** to the bottom layer **108**. Secondary support beams **118** that connect the sides **110** to the bottom layer **108** may also be utilized. Those of skill in the art will recognize that there are numerous additional internal support structures that may be utilized in combination with the basic structure of this mattress as described above.

[**0037**] FIG. **7**A illustrates a mattress having a similar profile to that of the mattress of FIG. **6**A. As with the previous embodiment, the mattress **120** of FIG. **7**A has a profile that includes slightly angular sides **126** forming an indentation around the mattress between the top **122** and bottom layers **124**. However, the mattress of FIG. **7**A is a single compartment or chamber design that does not have an intermediate boundary. Thus, this embodiment provides the appearance of a pillowtop mattress at a lower cost. As shown in the cross-sectional view of FIG. **7**B, a continuous beam **128** extends generally around the complete perimeter of the mattress and connects the mattress's top **122** and bottom **124** layers. This beam **128** is also joined by a seam to the sides **126**. The beam is connected to each of the top and bottom layers at a point recessed from the edges of those layers. This arrangement causes the connection of the beam **128** and the sides **126** to pull the sides **126** slightly inward, thereby creating the slightly angled walls and indentation previously mentioned without the use of an intermediate horizontal layer. The bottom layer **124** may be provided with a height and width somewhat greater than that of the top layer **122** to create a support base that minimizes possible tipping of the mattress when a user lies or sits near an edge of the mattress. As with the previous embodiment, various additional internal support structures are possible to provide additional stability to the mattress. In the embodiment shown in FIGS. **7**A and **7**B, a series of internal vertical walls **130** formed into rounded rectangles connects the top **122** and bottom **124** layers.

[**0038**] FIGS. **8**A-**8**C illustrate a variation on the above embodiments in the mattress **132** has a different profile in which the sides **138** of the mattress generally include three sections, two slightly angular sections and a generally vertical middle section, created by the internal structure of the mattress. The generally vertical middle section of the sides provides an advantageous mounting location for a valve **140** for the mattress. As with the previous embodiments, the bottom layer **136** of the mattress may be provided with a height and width somewhat greater than that of the top layer **134** to create a support base that minimizes possible tipping of the mattress when a user lies or sits near an edge of the mattress.

[**0039**] FIG. **8**B shows a cross-sectional view of one arrangement associated with this embodiment that is similar to the internal structure of the mattress shown in FIGS. **7**A and **7**B. The mattress includes a continuous beam **142** that extends generally around the complete perimeter of the mattress and connects the mattress's top **134** and bottom **136** layers. This beam **142** is joined by two seams to the sides **138**. The beam is connected to each of the top and bottom layers at a point recessed from the edges of those layers. This arrangement causes the connection of the beam **142** and the sides **138** to pull the sides **138** slightly inward at two positions, thereby creating the slightly angled sections and generally vertical middle section. A series of walls **144** connecting the top **134** and bottom **136** layers may also be incorporated for additional stability. However, once again, numerous internal support structures known to those of skill in the art are suitable for use with the basic structure described. In addition, to walls **144**, secondary support beams **146** connecting the continuous beam **142** and the top **134** and bottom **136** layers (or the outer most walls **144**) may be used to minimize "bowing out" of the sides **138** of the mattress.

[**0040**] FIG. **8**C illustrates a variation of the embodiment having three compartments or chambers formed from at least four horizontal layers, including the top **134**, bottom **136**, and intermediate **148**, **150** layers. The intermediate layers **148**, **150** are preferably provided with heights and widths that are somewhat less than the corresponding dimensions of the top **134** and bottom **136** layers. The intermediate layers **148**, **150** are connected at slightly spaced apart points to the sides **138** of the mattress to create a profile similar to the previously described mattress. The intermediate layers may be provided with vents or passages to allow the flow of air between adjacent chambers.

[**0041**] It should be appreciated that the air mattress of the present invention may be constructed in various sizes and shapes. It may be packaged and sold or stored in a bag, if desired.

[**0042**] In view of the above it will be seen that the various objects and features of the invention are achieved and other advantageous results obtained. The examples contained herein are merely illustrative and are not intended in a limiting sense.

What is claimed is:

1. An air mattress comprising:

an inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body;

said inflatable compartment having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, said top and bottom being generally parallel to one another;

said inflatable compartment being composed of at least two horizontal layers of vinyl, one layer of vinyl forming the top of the compartment and the second forming the bottom;

at least one internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of said top and bottom of said inflatable compartment; and

said sides being connected at least at a first location to and horizontally restrained by said internal, generally vertical wall, a portion of said sides being pulled inwardly

by said connection with said internal, generally vertical wall thereby forming an indentation in said sides between said top and bottom.

2. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said internal, generally vertical wall is arranged in a cylindrical pattern between said top and bottom.

3. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said internal, generally vertical wall is arranged in an oval pattern between said top and bottom.

4. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, further comprising at least a second internal, generally vertical wall and wherein said internal, generally vertical walls are arranged in a linear pattern between said top and bottom and are parallel to one another.

5. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said sides are further connected at least at a second location to said internal, generally vertical wall.

6. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, said bottom of said inflatable compartment having at least one horizontal dimension greater than a corresponding horizontal dimension of said top.

7. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, said bottom of said inflatable compartment having a greater width and a greater length than said top.

8. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one of said top, bottom, and sides is formed from a different color material than the remaining pieces.

9. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of said top, bottom, and sides further comprises a flocked material.

10. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of said top, bottom, and sides further comprises a fabric material.

11. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of said top, bottom, and sides further comprises a non-vinyl material laminated thereto.

12. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one location of connection between said sides and said internal, generally vertical wall occurs at a point higher than the midpoint of said internal, generally vertical wall.

13. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one location of connection between said sides and said internal, generally vertical wall occurs at a point lower than the midpoint of said internal, generally vertical wall.

14. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one location of connection between said sides and said internal, generally vertical wall occurs at about the midpoint of said internal, generally vertical wall.

15. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an air pump associated with said air mattress.

16. The air mattress as set forth in claim 15 wherein said air pump is mounted to said air mattress.

17. The air mattress as set forth in claim 15, wherein said air pump is removably connectable to said air mattress.

18. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a carrying bag associated with said air mattress.

19. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, further comprising at least one internal, non-vertical support beam connected to said sides and at least one of said top and bottom of said inflatable compartment.

20. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said sides are further comprised of at least two pieces of material.

21. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least two pieces of material are positioned in a vertical relationship relative to one another.

22. The air mattress as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an air pump mounted in said indention, said air pump have an external depth less than a depth of said indention.

23. An air mattress comprising:

a first inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body,

said first inflatable compartment having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, said top and bottom being generally parallel to one another;

at least a first internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of said top and bottom of said first inflatable compartment;

a second inflatable compartment disposed on the top of said first inflatable compartment and secured thereto, said second inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body;

said second inflatable compartment having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, said top and bottom being generally parallel to one another;

wherein said top and said non-vertical sides of said first inflatable compartment are connected to said bottom and said non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment at least at a first location along a periphery of said top of said first inflatable compartment and said bottom of said second inflatable compartment; and

wherein said non-vertical sides of said first inflatable compartment and said non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment are arranged at an angle of less than 180° relative to one another, thereby forming an indentation in said air mattress between said bottom of said first inflatable compartment and said top of said second inflatable compartment.

24. The air mattress of claim 23, wherein said first inflatable compartment is composed of at least two horizontal layers of vinyl, one layer of vinyl forming the top of said first inflatable compartment and the second forming said bottom of said first inflatable compartment; and

wherein said second inflatable compartment is composed of at least two additional horizontal layers of vinyl distinct from the two layers of vinyl composing said first inflatable compartment.

25. The air mattress of claim 23, wherein said first inflatable compartment is composed of at least two horizontal layers of vinyl, the first layer of vinyl forming the top of said first inflatable compartment and the second forming said bottom of said first inflatable compartment; and

wherein said second inflatable compartment is composed of at least one additional horizontal layer of vinyl, said additional layer of horizontal layer of vinyl forming said top of said second inflatable compartment, said first horizontal layer of vinyl forming said bottom of said second inflatable compartment as well as forming said top of said first inflatable compartment.

26. The air mattress of claim 23, wherein said top of said first inflatable compartment and said bottom of said second

inflatable compartment have at least one of a length and a width that is less than a corresponding dimension of said bottom of said first inflatable compartment and said top of said second inflatable compartment.

27. The air mattress of claim 26, wherein at least one of said length and said width of said top of said first inflatable compartment and said bottom of said second inflatable compartment is at least two inches less than said corresponding dimension of said bottom of said first inflatable compartment and said top of said second inflatable compartment.

28. The air mattress of claim 23, wherein said indentation is at least two inches in depth.

29. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein said first internal, generally vertical wall is arranged in a cylindrical pattern between said top and bottom of said first inflatable compartment.

30. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein said first internal, generally vertical wall is arranged in an oval pattern between said top and bottom of said first inflatable compartment.

31. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising at least a second internal, generally vertical wall between said top and bottom of said first inflatable compartment and wherein said internal, generally vertical walls are arranged in a linear pattern and are parallel to one another.

32. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising at least a second internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of said top and bottom of said second inflatable compartment.

33. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, said bottom of said first inflatable compartment having at least one horizontal dimension greater than a corresponding horizontal dimension of said top of said second inflatable compartment.

34. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, said bottom of said first inflatable compartment having a greater width and a greater length than said top of said second inflatable compartment.

35. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein said at least one of said top, bottom, and sides of said first and second inflatable compartments is formed from a different color material than the remaining pieces.

36. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein at least one of said top, bottom, and sides of said first and second inflatable compartments further comprises a flocked material.

37. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein at least one of said top, bottom, and sides of said first and second inflatable compartments further comprises a non-vinyl material laminated thereto.

38. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein said non-vertical sides of said first inflatable compartment have a height greater than a height of said non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment.

39. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein said non-vertical sides of said first inflatable compartment have a height less than a height of said non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment.

40. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, wherein said non-vertical sides of said first inflatable compartment have a height approximately equal to a height of said non-vertical sides of said second inflatable compartment.

41. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising an air pump associated with said air mattress.

42. The air mattress as set forth in claim 41 wherein said air pump is mounted to said air mattress.

43. The air mattress as set forth in claim 41, wherein said air pump is removably connectable to said air mattress.

44. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising a carrying bag associated with said air mattress.

45. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising at least one internal, non-vertical support beam connected to said sides of and at least one of said top and bottom of said first inflatable compartment.

46. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising at least one internal, non-vertical support beam connected to said sides of and at least one of said top and bottom of said second inflatable compartment.

47. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising an air pump mounted in said indention, said air pump have an external depth less than a depth of said indention.

48. The air mattress as set forth in claim 23, further comprising air flow passages between said first and second inflatable compartments

49. An air mattress comprising:

an inflatable compartment having a length and width, when inflated, sufficient to support a human body;

said inflatable compartment having a top, bottom, and non-vertical sides, said top and bottom being generally parallel to one another;

said inflatable compartment being composed of at least two horizontal layers of vinyl, one layer of vinyl forming the top of the compartment and the second forming the bottom;

at least one internal, generally vertical wall connected to and restraining the relative vertical movement of said top and bottom of said inflatable compartment; and

an internal, generally horizontal wall located between said top and said bottom, said internal, generally horizontal wall connected at least at a first location to and horizontally restraining said sides, a portion of said sides being pulled inwardly by said connection with said internal, generally horizontal wall thereby forming an indentation in said sides between said top and bottom.

50. The air mattress of claim 49, wherein said indentation is at least two inches in depth.

51. The air mattress of claim 49, wherein said internal, generally horizontal wall has at least at least one of a length and a width that is less than a corresponding dimension of said top and bottom of said inflatable compartment.

52. The air mattress of claim 51, wherein at least one of said length and said width of said internal, generally horizontal wall is at least two inches less than said corresponding dimension of said top and said bottom of said inflatable compartment.

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