

[54] **ALTERNATING PRESSURE LOW AIR LOSS BED**

[75] Inventor: John H. Vrzalik, San Antonio, Tex.

[73] Assignee: Kinetic Concepts, Inc., San Antonio, Tex.

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 181,922, Apr. 15, 1988, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 57,965, Jun. 1, 1987, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 905,553, Sep. 9, 1986, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 784,875, Oct. 4, 1985, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 683,153, Dec. 17, 1984, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ A61G 7/06

[52] U.S. Cl. 5/453; 5/455

[58] Field of Search 5/61, 423, 449, 453-458, 5/469; 128/33

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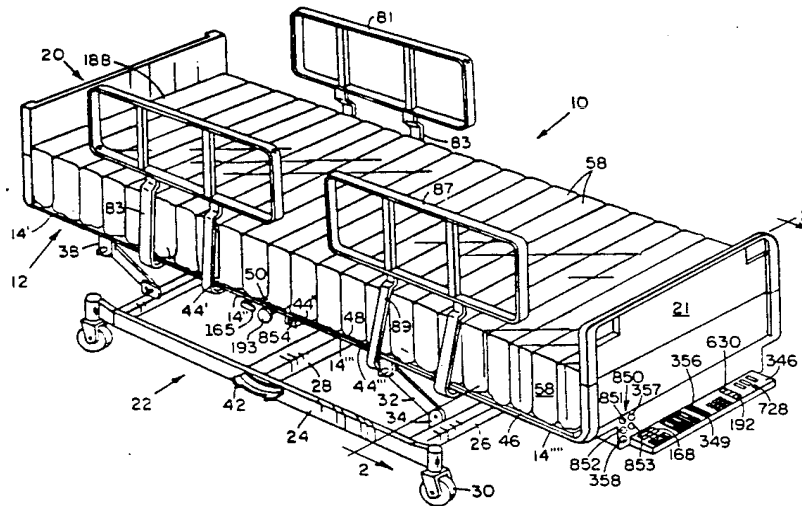
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Primary Examiner—Michael F. Trettel
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Cox & Smith Incorporated

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for therapeutically treating immobile patients is disclosed. A low air loss bed is provided having groups of transversely oriented air bags, each group corresponding to a different portion of the body of a patient supported thereon. Each group comprises first and second sets of air bags alternately positioned in an interdigitated fashion. Valves and circuitry are provided for maintaining a selectable baseline pressure in the air bags belonging to each group. The valves and circuitry is also capable of changing the pressures in each of the sets of air bags mounted to each section of the frame to selectable maximum and minimum values above and below the baseline pressure in a repetitive and cyclical fashion.

43 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets



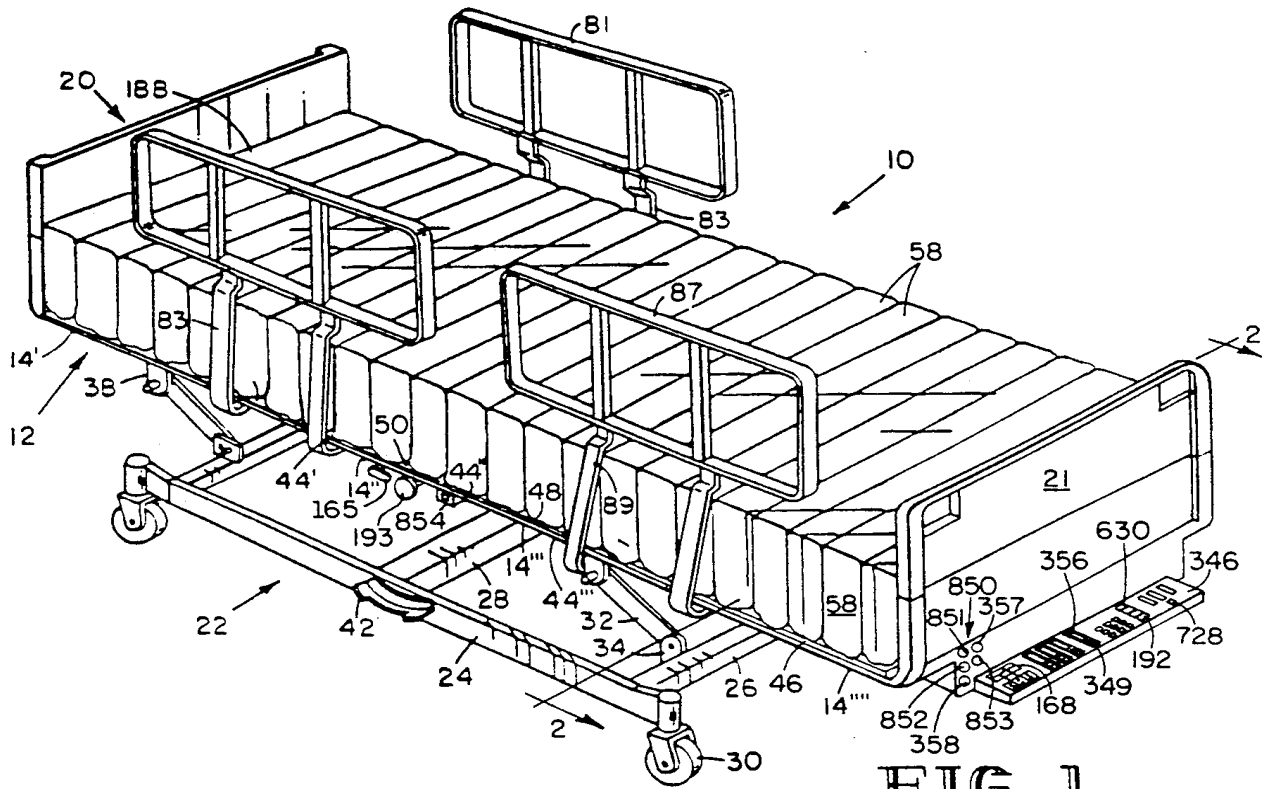


FIG. 1

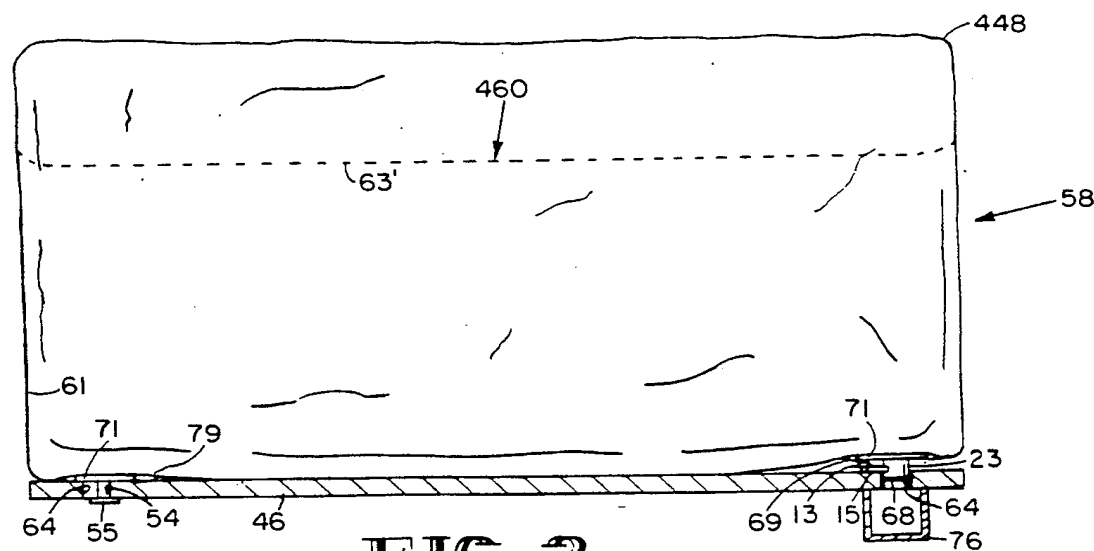


FIG. 2

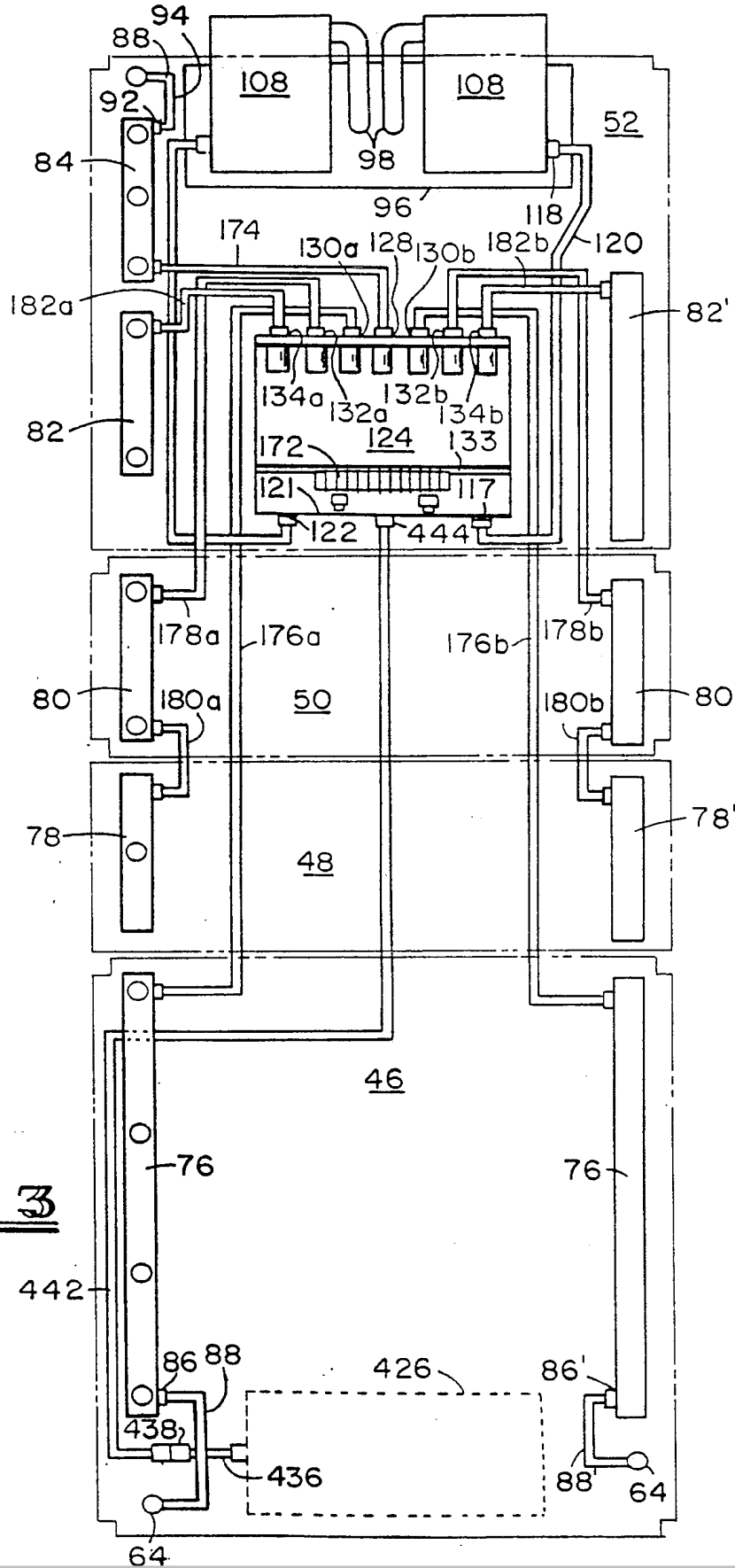


FIG. 3

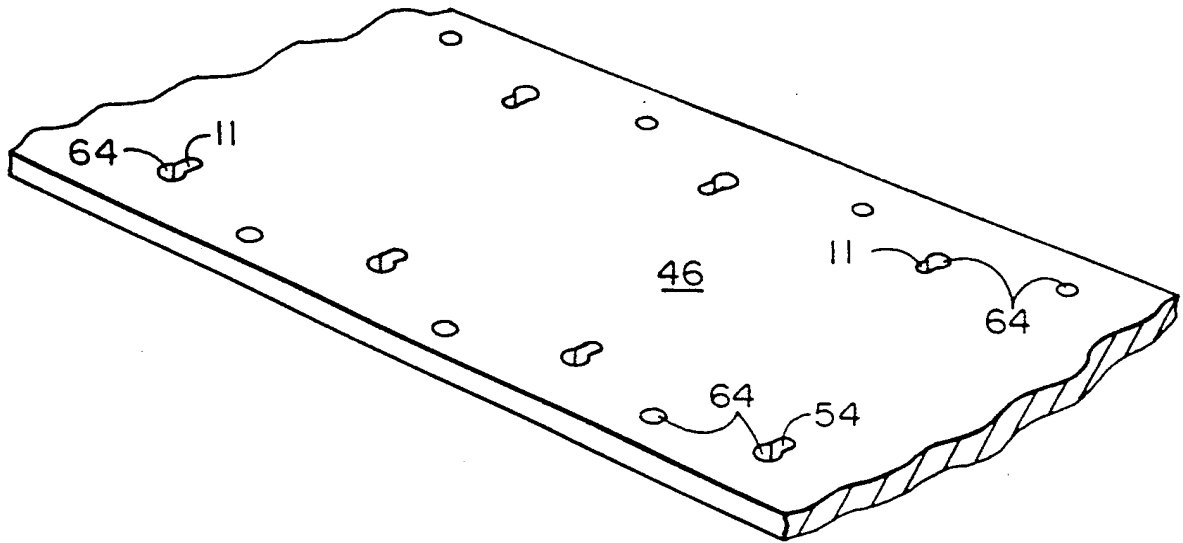


FIG. 4

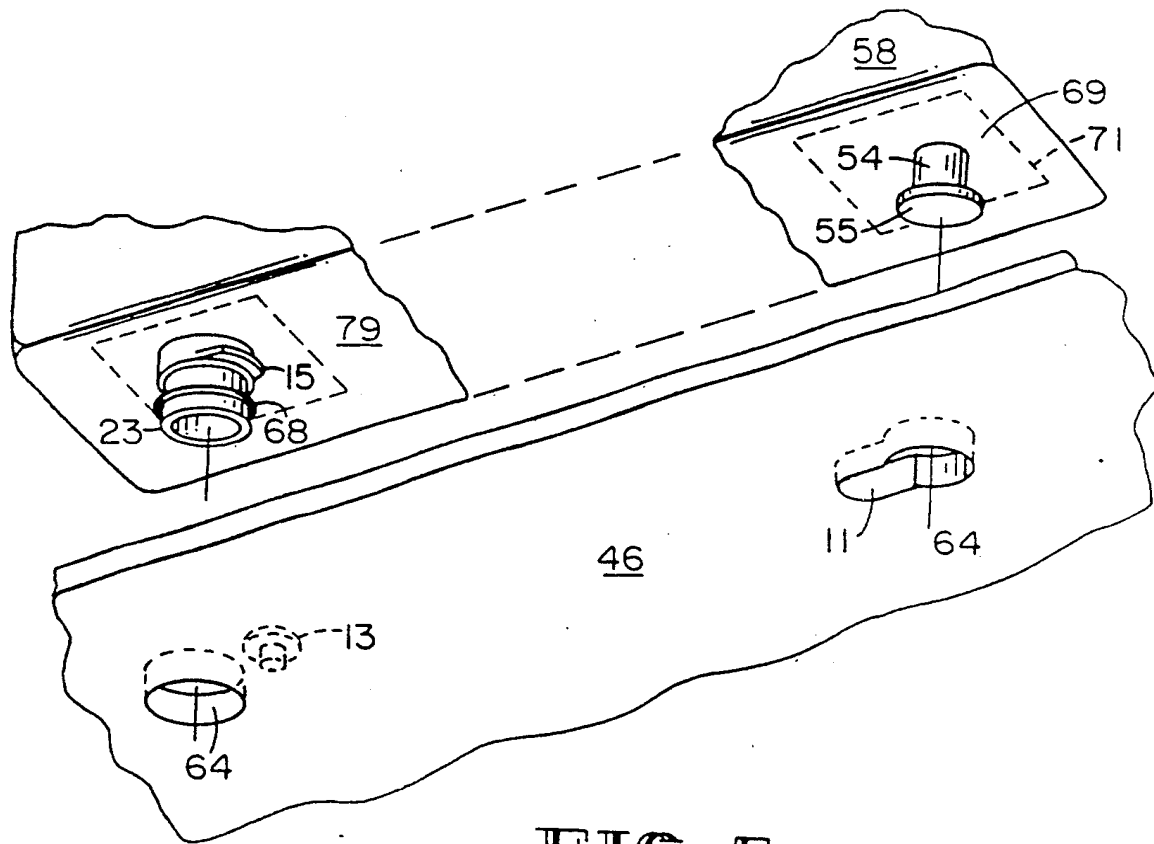


FIG. 5

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