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George et al.

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(54) **OVERBED TABLE FOR USE WITH A PATIENT SUPPORT**

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/849,580, filed on May 4, 2001, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/835,002, filed on Apr. 13, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,615,744.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/310,092, filed on Aug. 3, 2001, provisional application No. 60/251,950, filed on Dec. 7, 2000, provisional application No. 60/229,136, filed on Aug. 30, 2000, provisional application No. 60/202,283, filed on May 5, 2000.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A47B 37/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **108/50.01**; 108/49

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 108/50.01, 108/50.02, 3, 6, 5, 147.19, 49; 312/223.3, 312/223.6, 223.1, 223.2
See application file for complete search history.

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(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Bose McKinney & Evans LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An overbed table configured to support a table section above a patient support surface, such as a hospital bed. The overbed table includes a frame having a base and a substantially vertical support column for supporting the table section. In one illustrative embodiment, a display device is supported by the overbed table. In a further illustrative embodiment, a camera is supported by the overbed table.

49 Claims, 23 Drawing Sheets

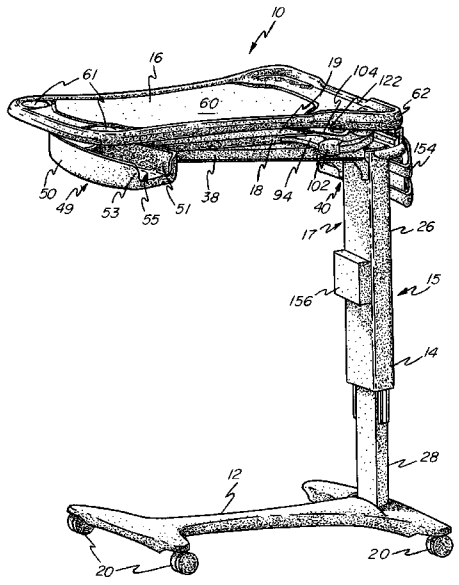

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FIG-1

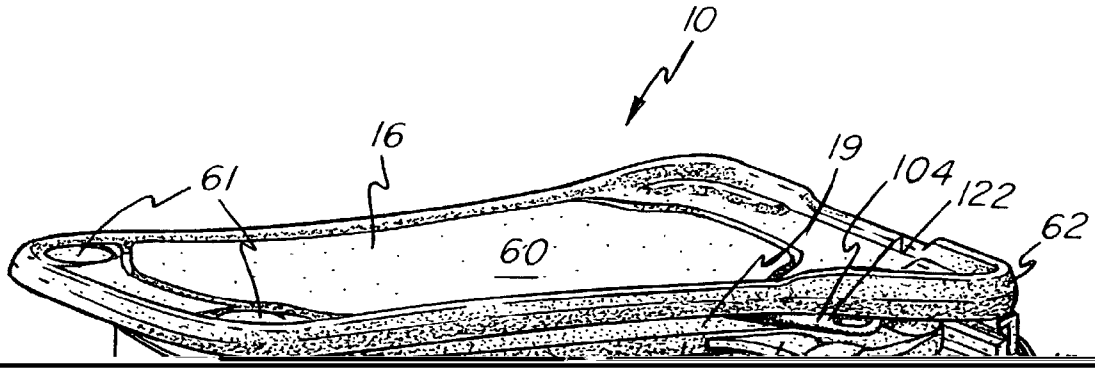
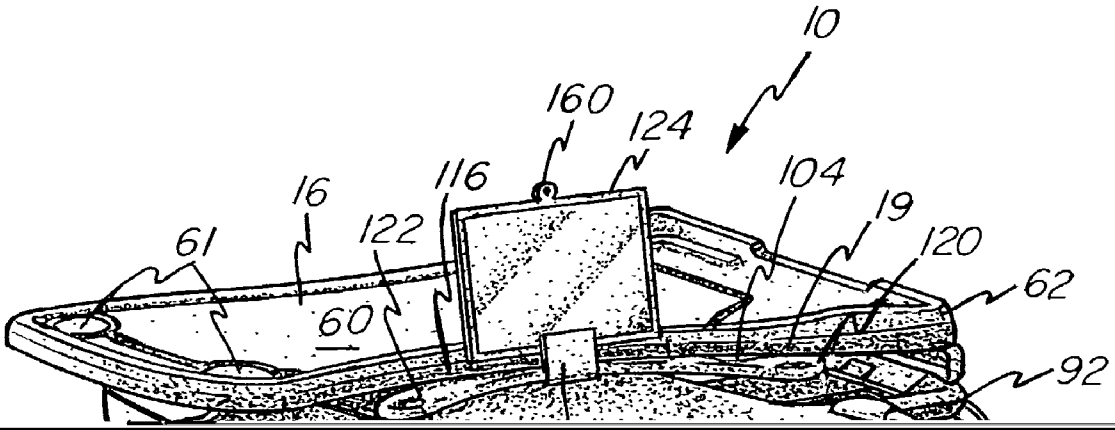


FIG - 2



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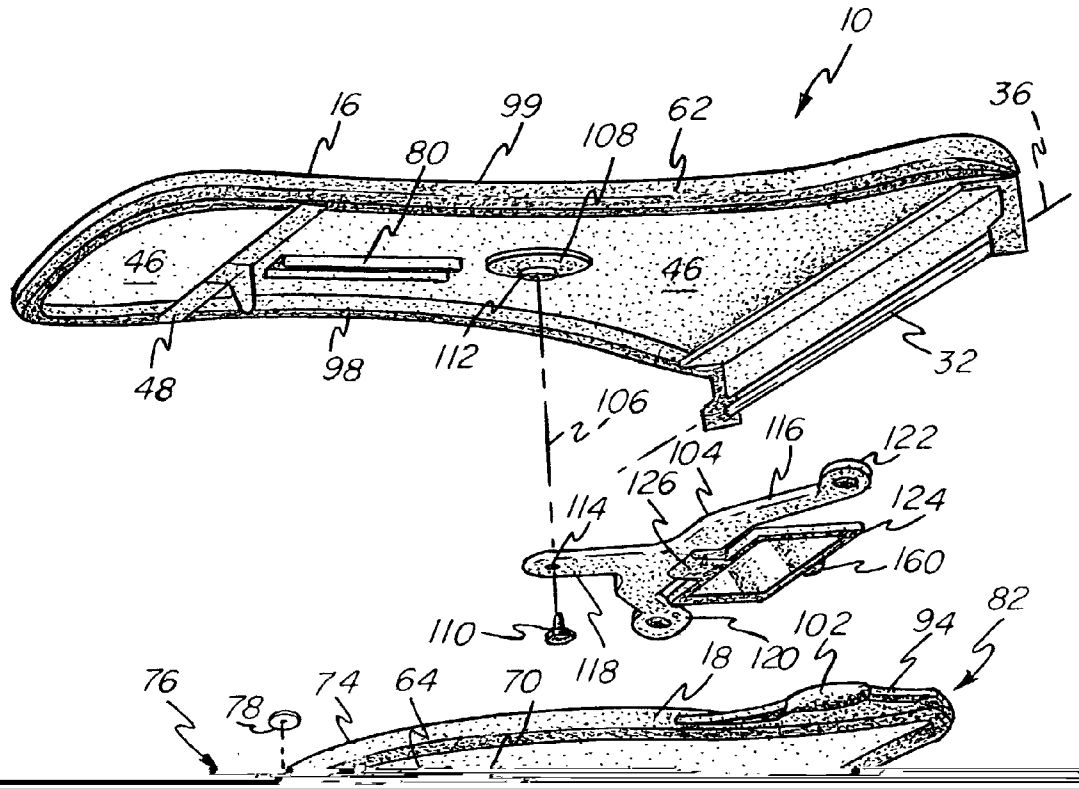
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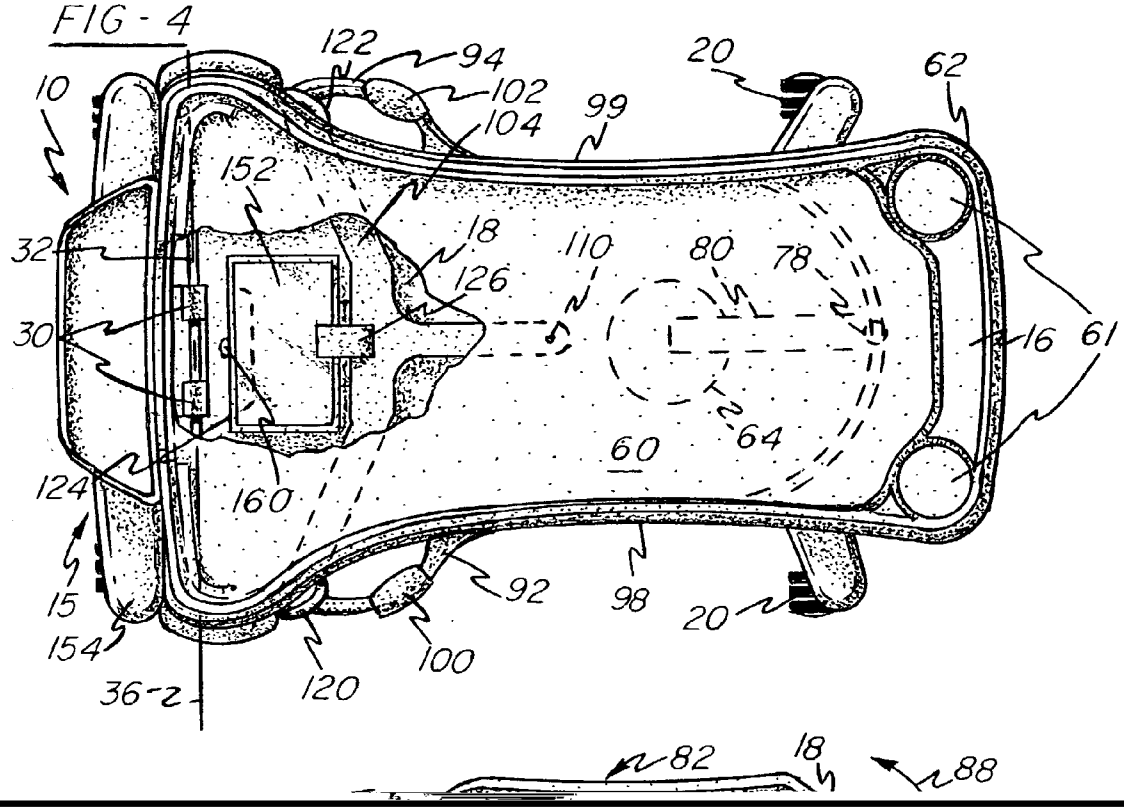
FIG - 4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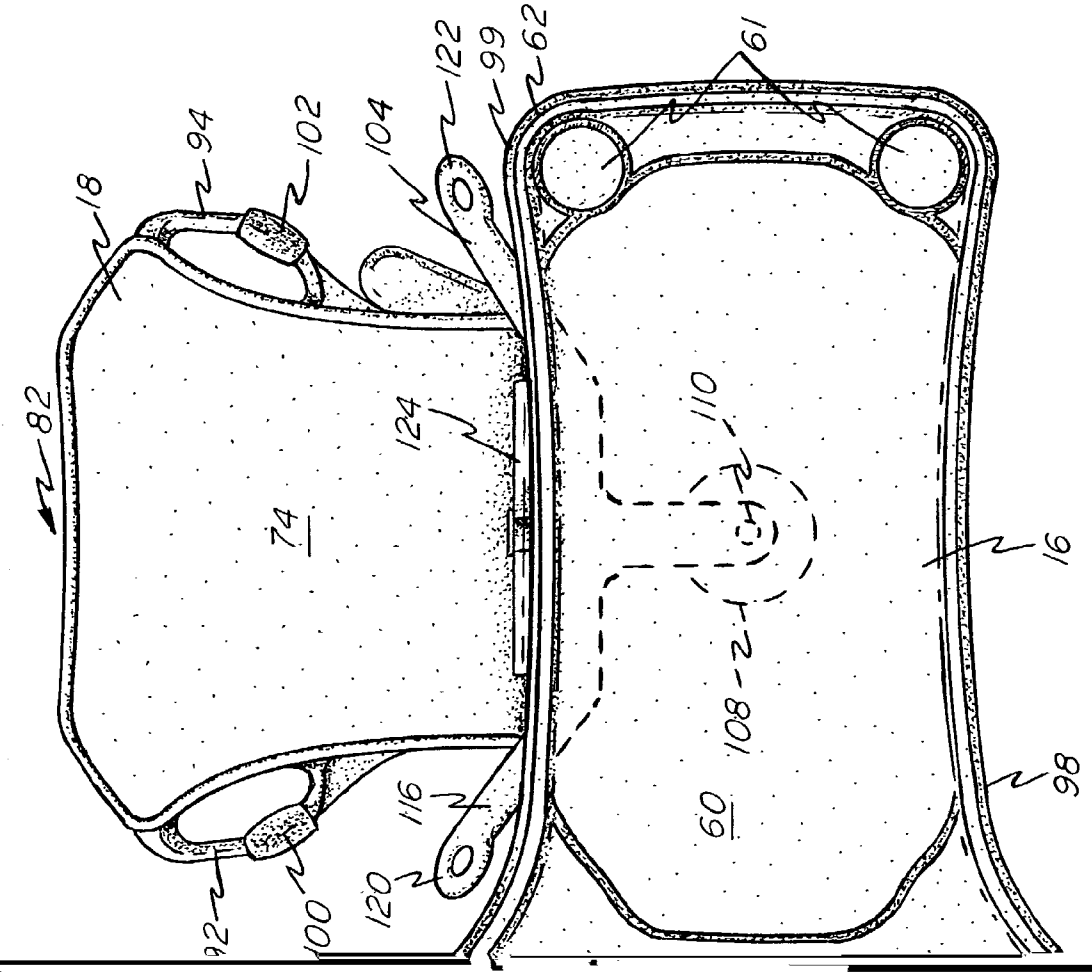
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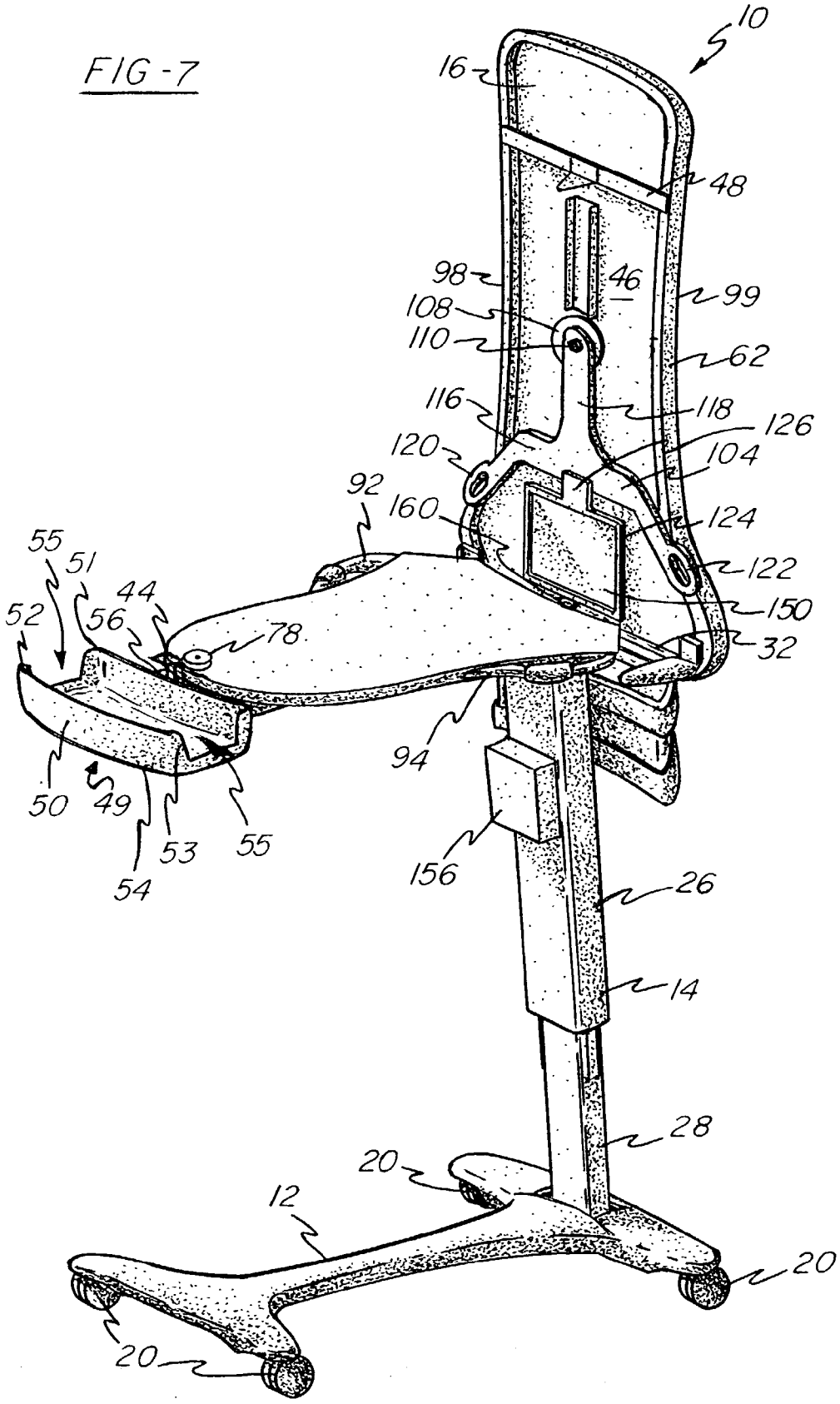
FIG -7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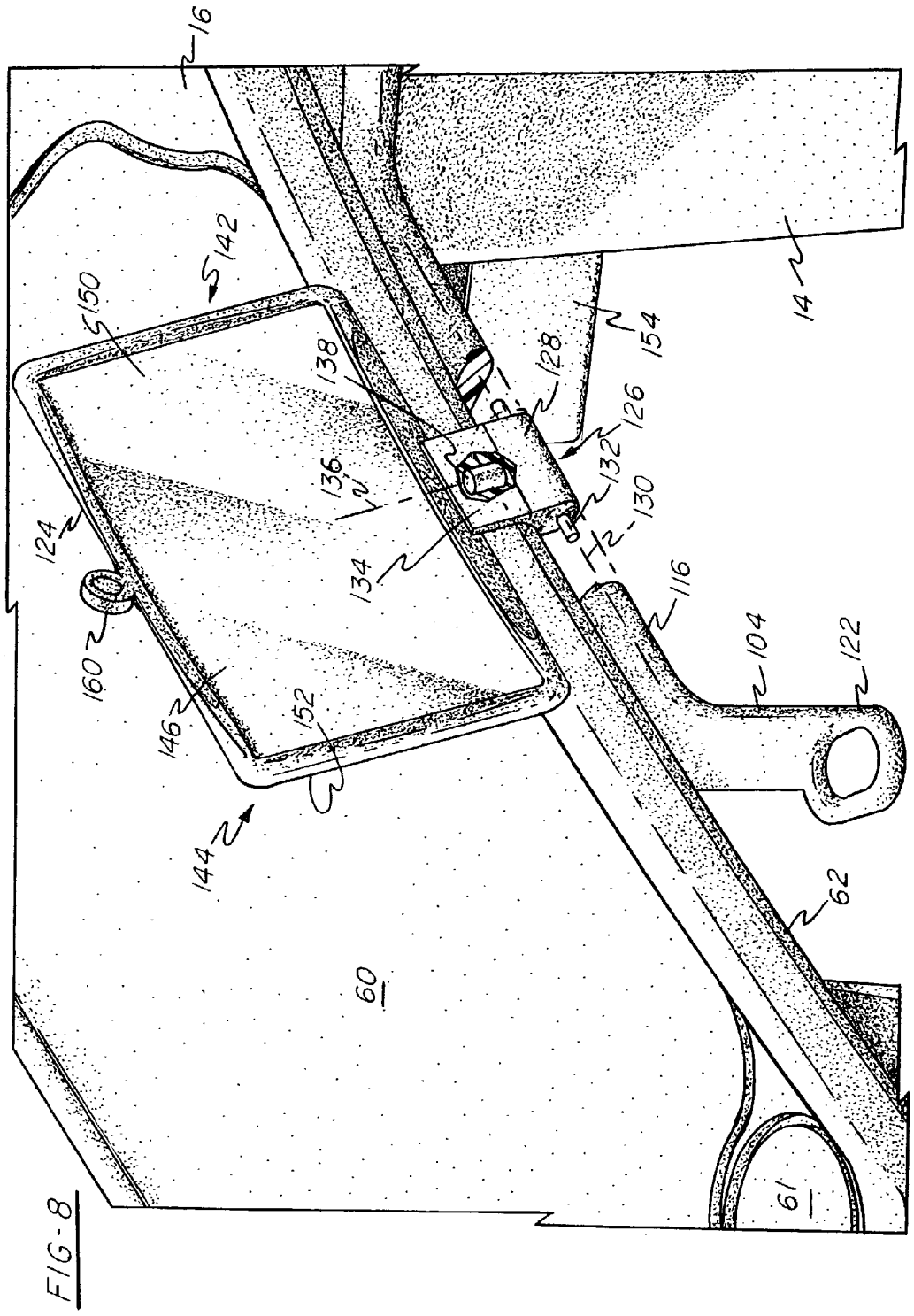
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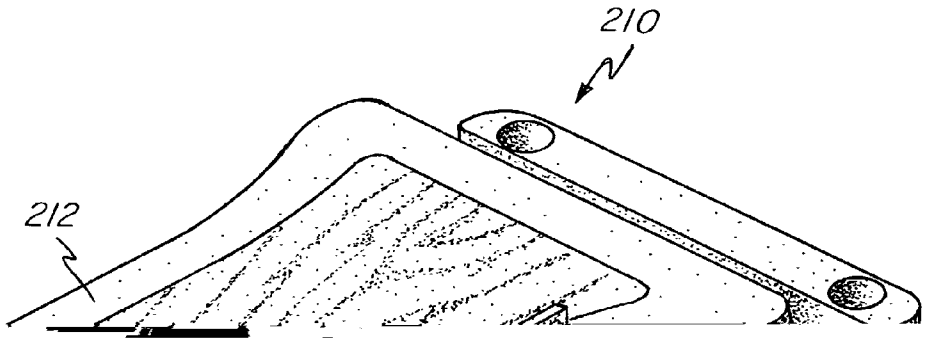
FIG-8

FIG - 9



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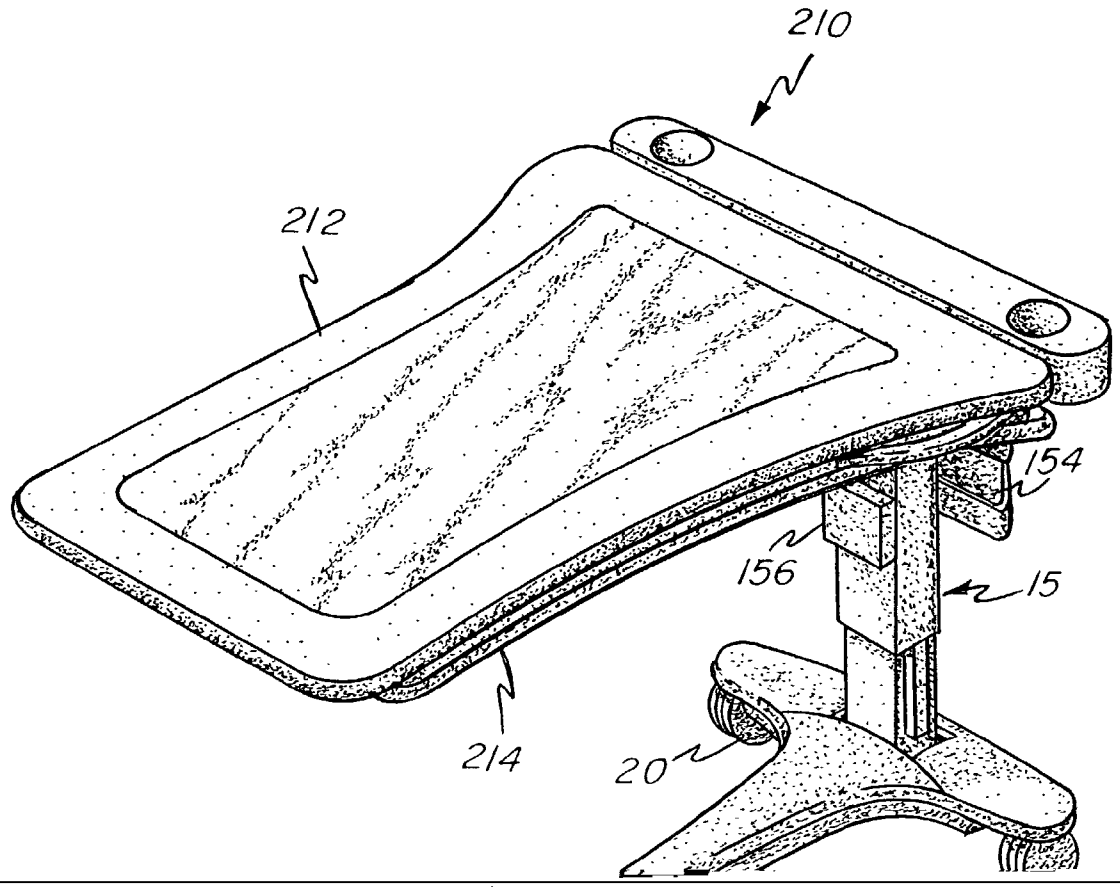

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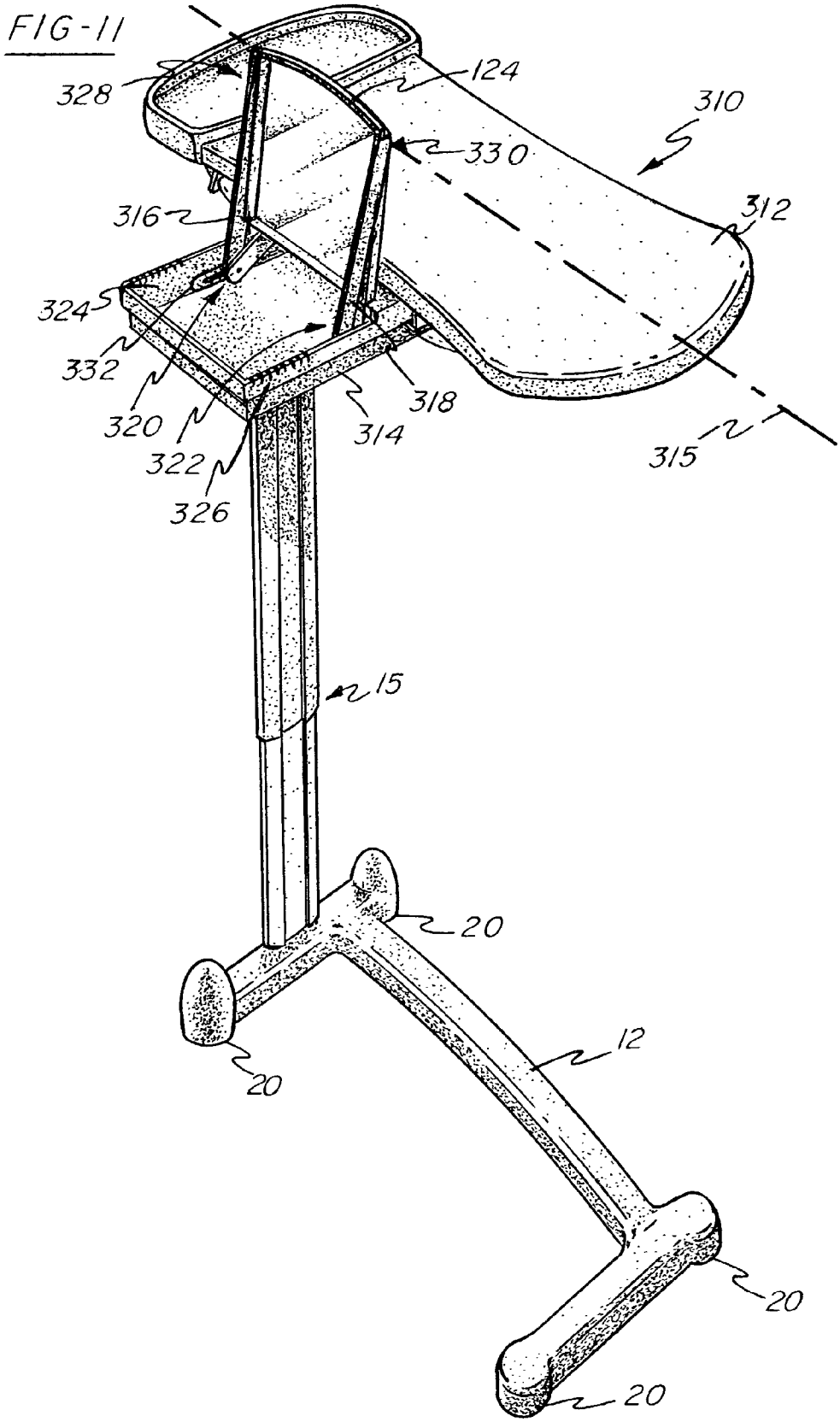
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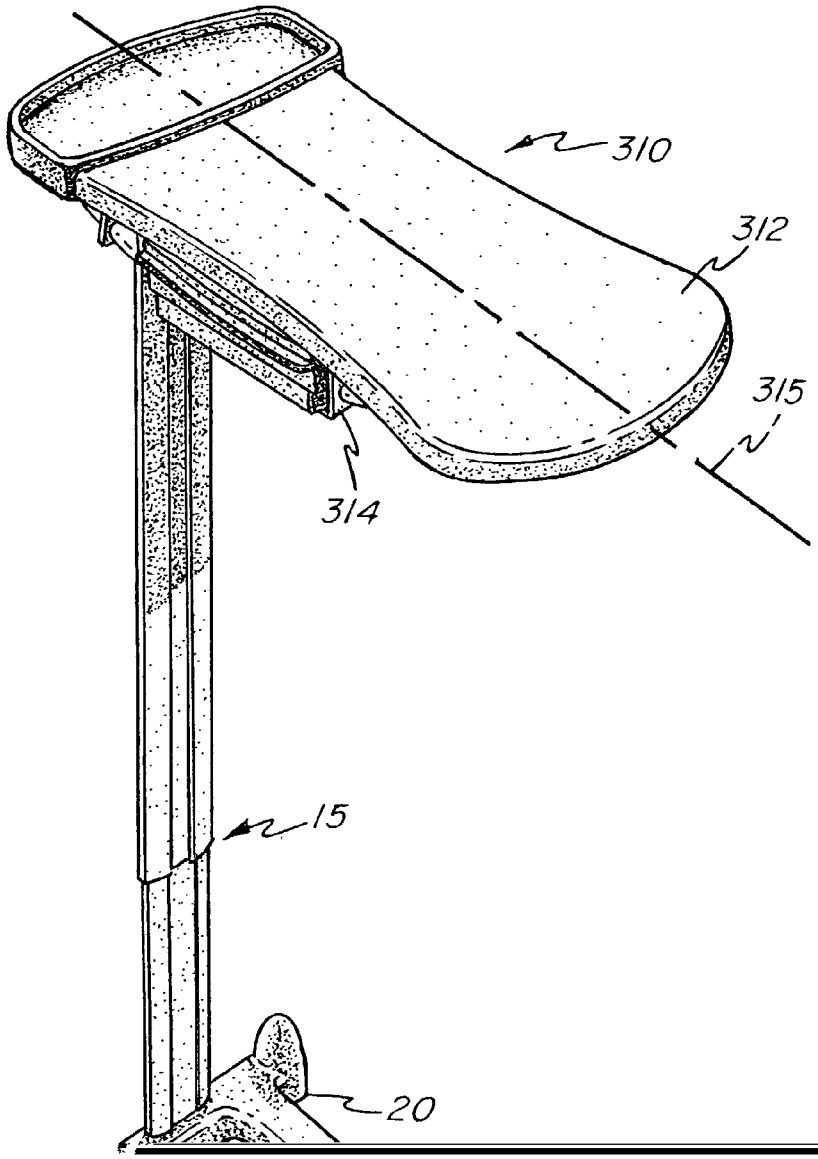

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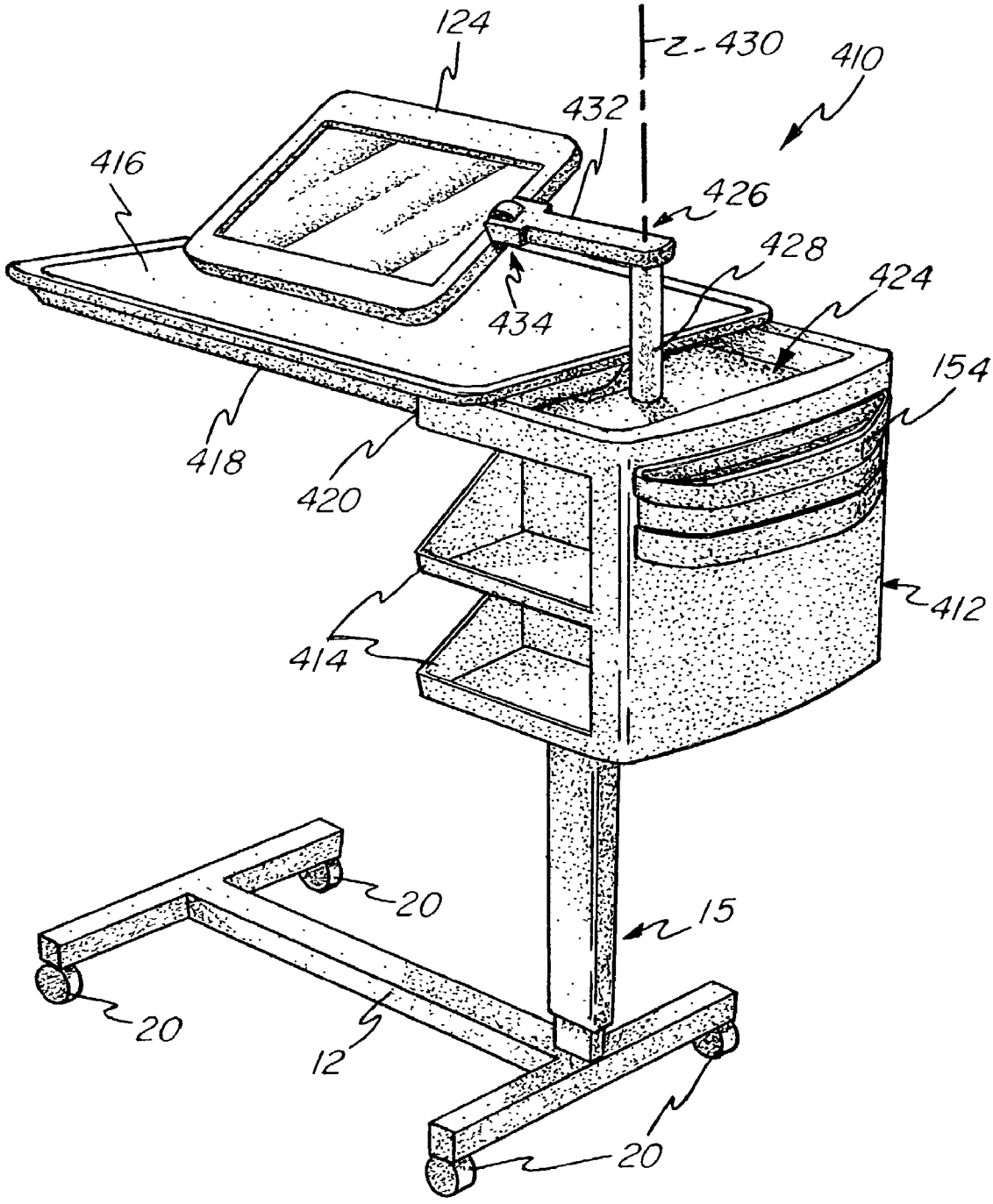
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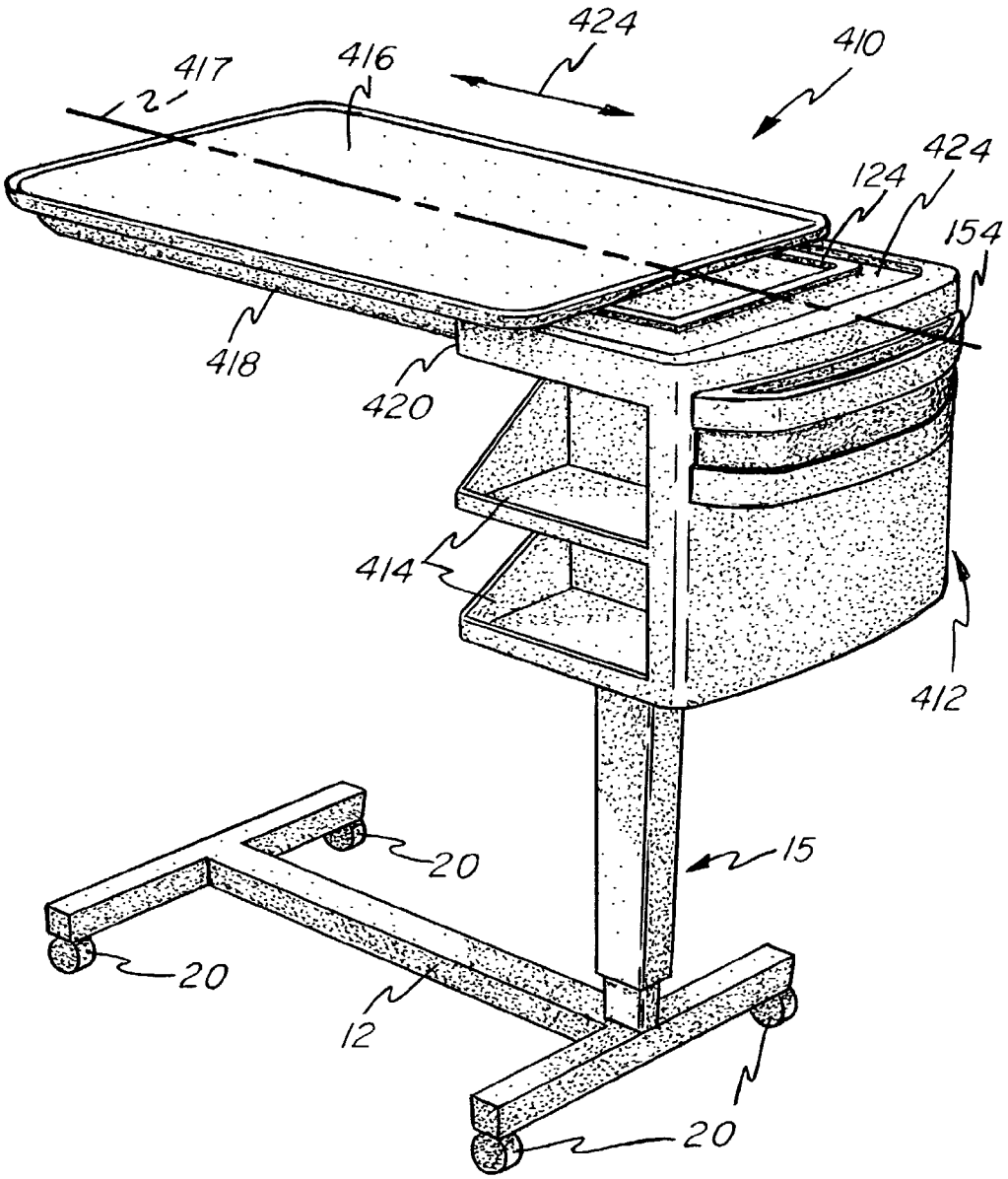

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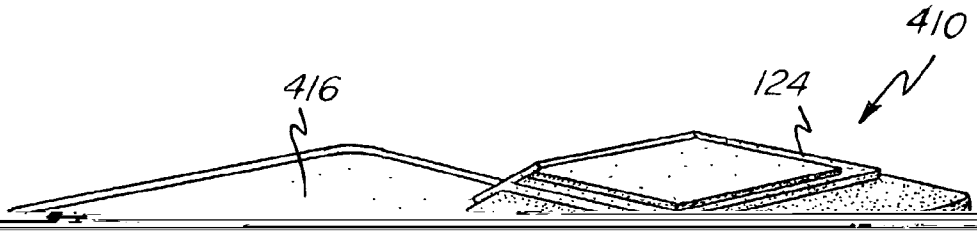

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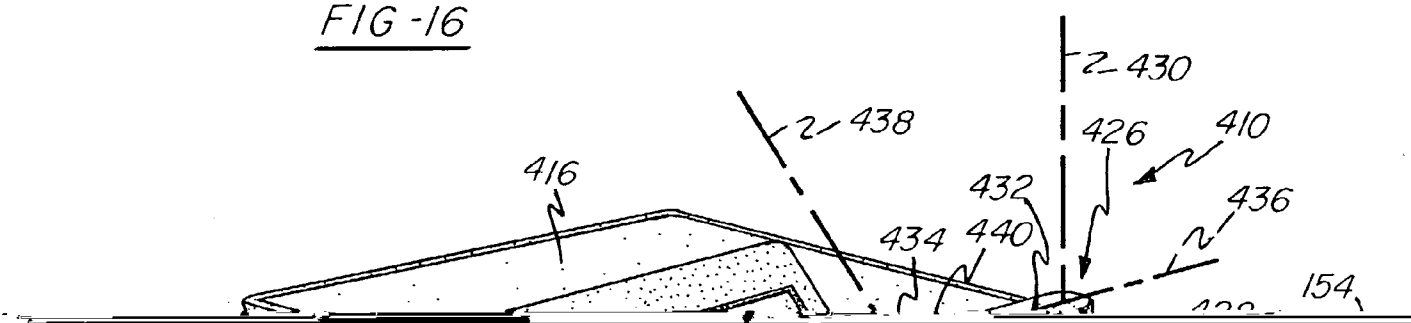

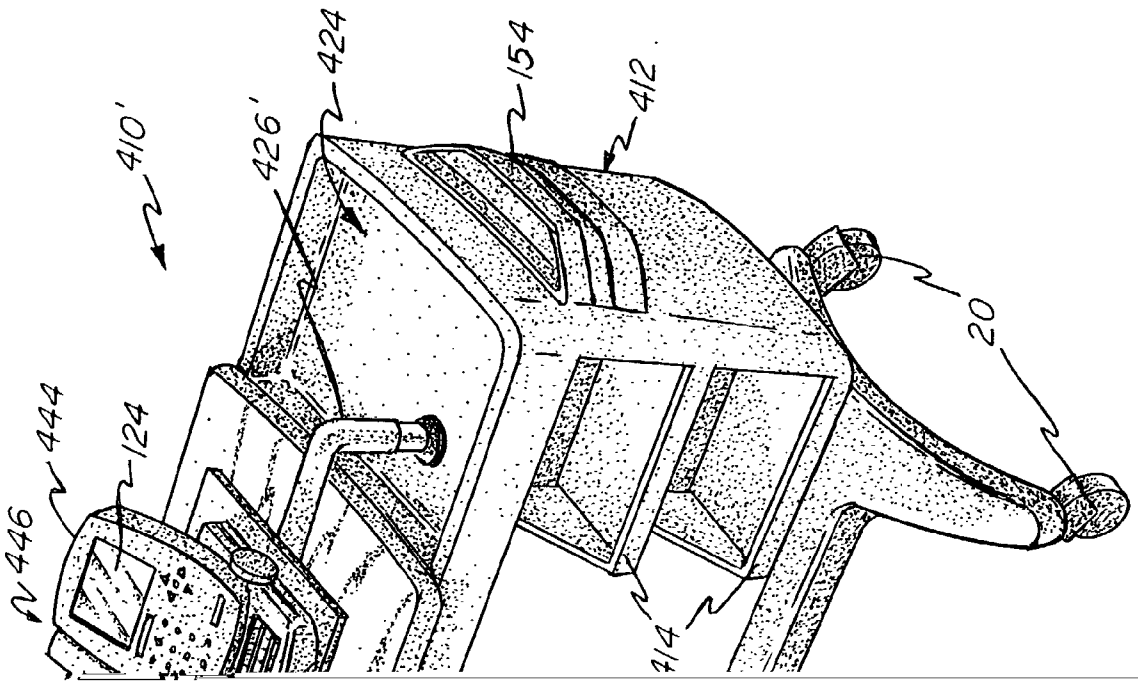
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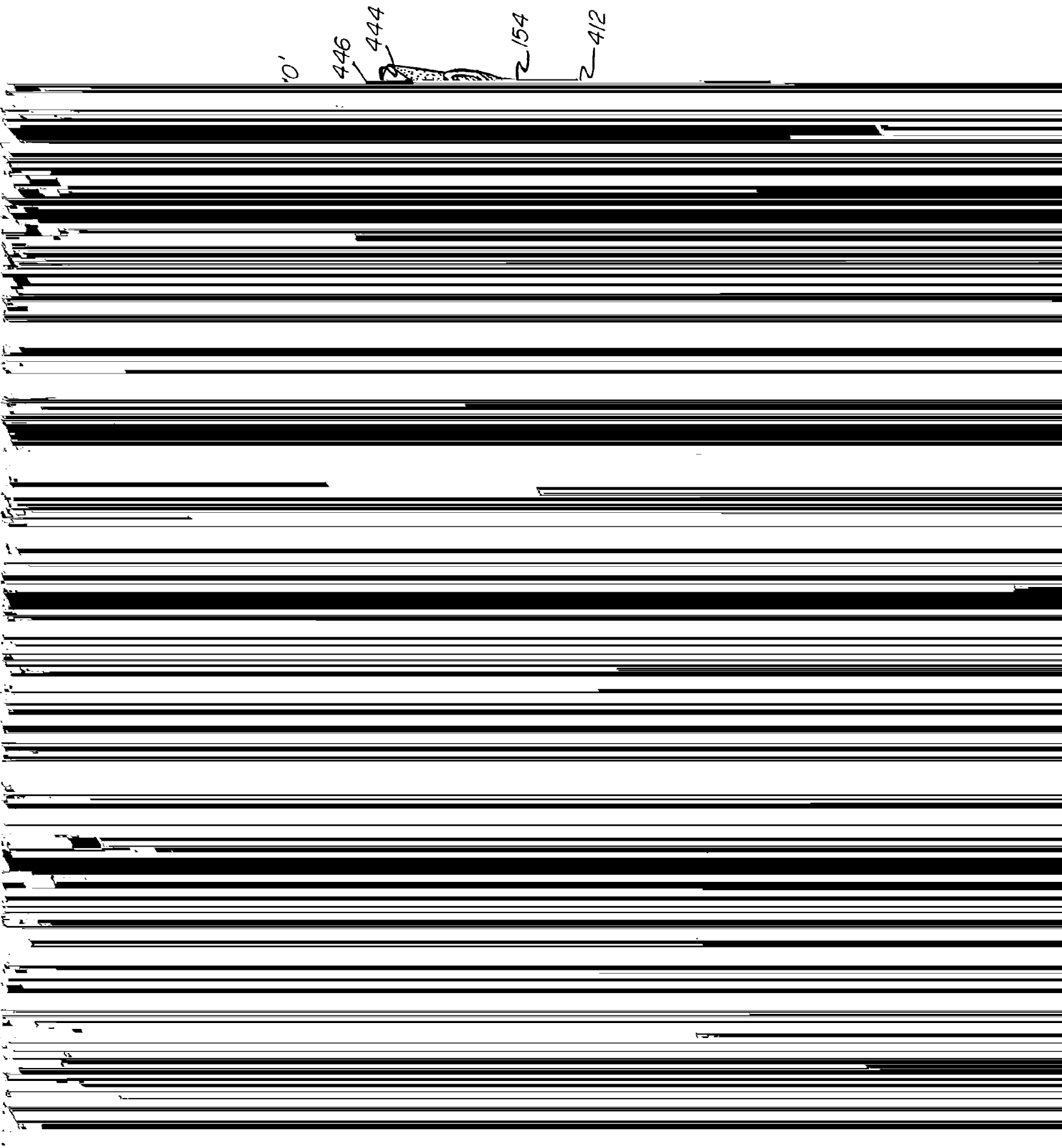
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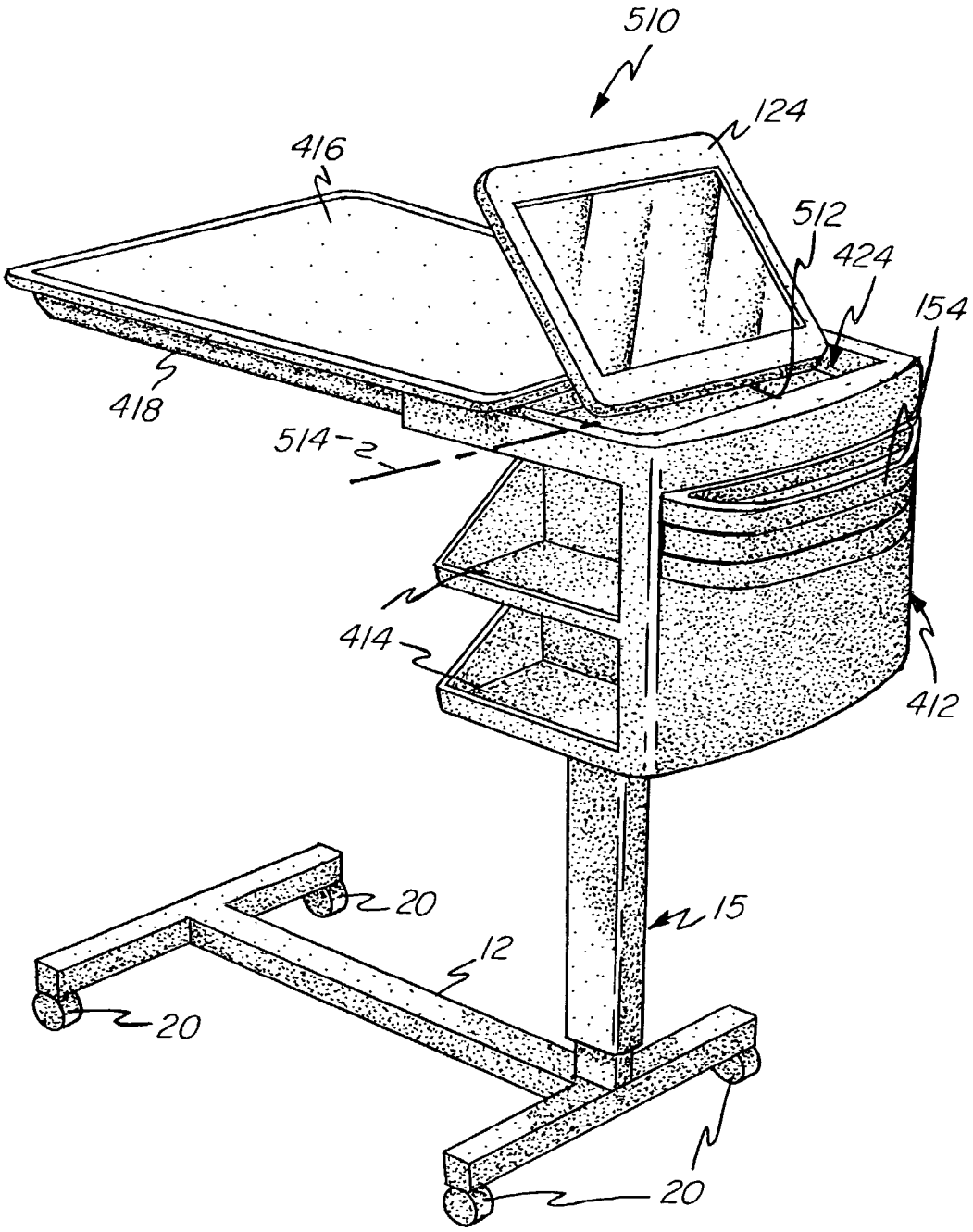

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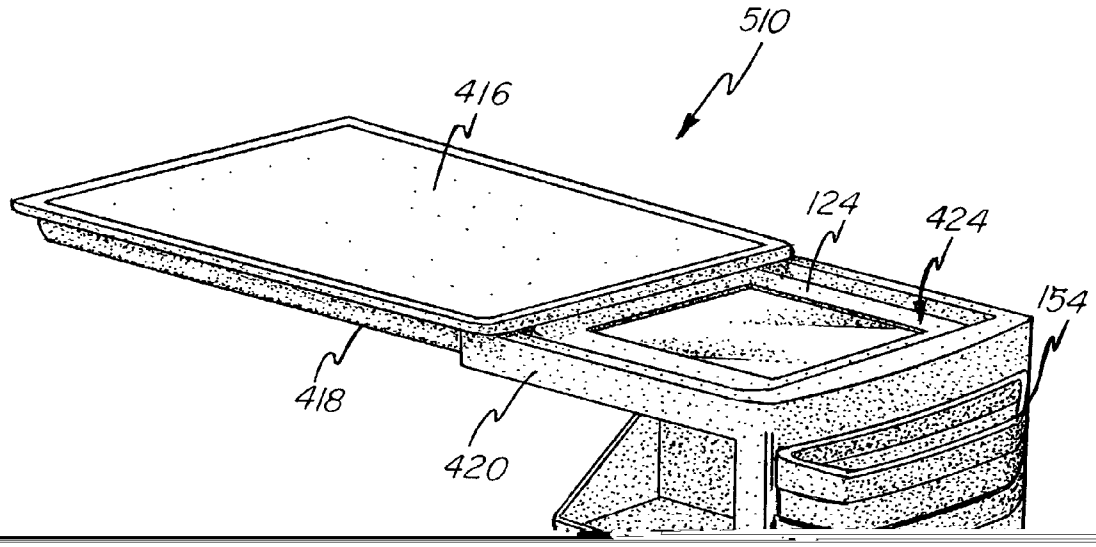

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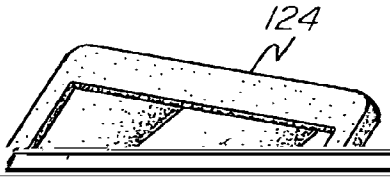

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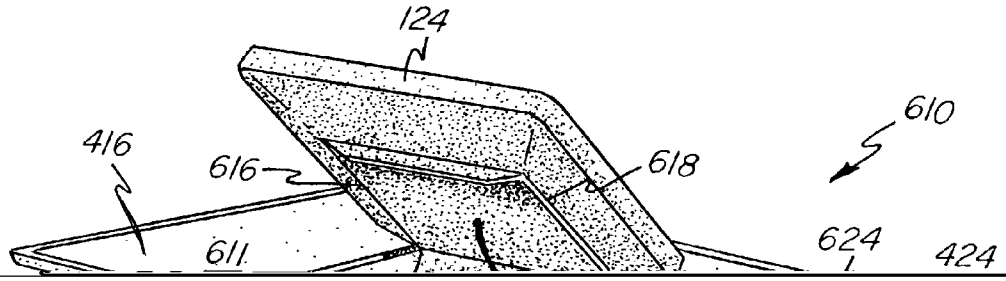

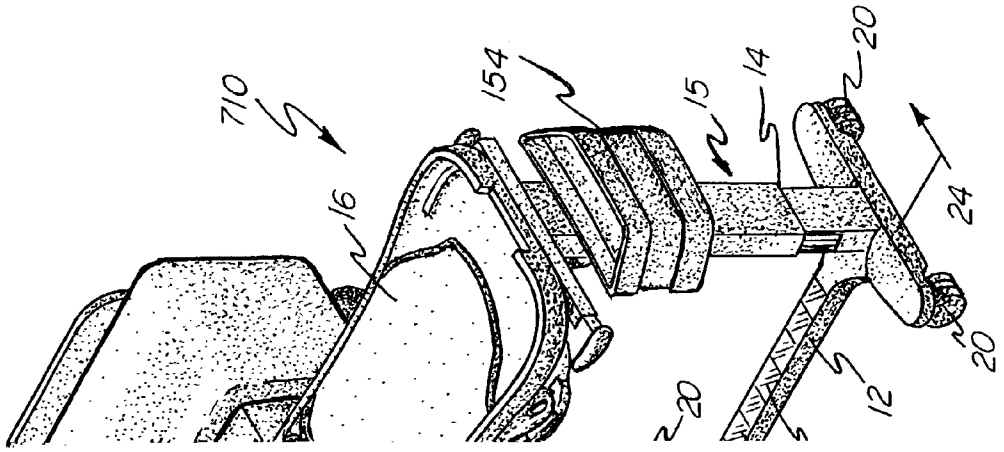
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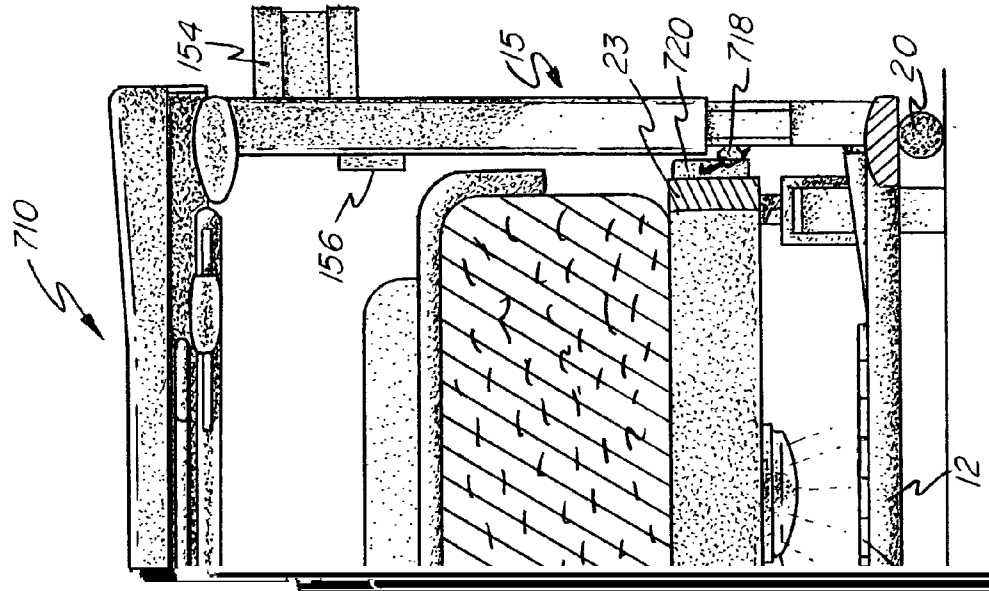
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OVERBED TABLE FOR USE WITH A PATIENT SUPPORT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/849,580, filed May 4, 2001, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/202,283, filed May 5, 2000, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/229,136, filed Aug. 30, 2000, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/835,002, filed Apr. 13, 2001, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/251,950, filed Dec. 7, 2000, and further claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/310,092, filed Aug. 3, 2001, the disclosures of which are expressly incorporated by reference herein.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to overbed tables of the type extending above a patient support surface. More particularly, the invention relates to an overbed table incorporating a display device and/or a camera configured to be used by a patient supported on a hospital bed or by a caregiver located adjacent to the bed.

The present invention provides an overbed table of the type cantilevered over a patient support, such as a hospital bed, and configured to support materials utilized by a patient.

According to an illustrative embodiment of the invention, an overbed table includes a frame coupled to first and second table sections, wherein the second table section is supported in vertically spaced relation to the first table section. A support is positioned in vertical spaced relation to the first table section and is configured to move relative to the first table section within a substantially horizontal plane. A display screen is coupled to the support and is configured to move between a substantially horizontal storage position and a substantially vertical use position.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, at least one of the first table section and the second table section is configured to move in a substantially horizontal plane with respect to the other of the second table section and the first table section. Illustratively, the second table section is coupled to the first table section and the frame such that movement of the second table section results in sliding movement of the first table section.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the support comprises an arm having first and second handles, wherein the display screen is supported intermediate the first and second handles.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the support is pivotably connected to the first table section.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the display screen is coupled to the support for pivoting movement about a substantially horizontal first axis and for pivoting movement about a second axis extending substantially perpendicular to the first axis.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the display screen is located intermediate the first and second table sections in the storage position and extends above the first table section in the use position.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the display screen comprises one of a flat panel monitor and a reflective mirror.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a camera is supported proximate the display screen.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the first table section is supported by the frame for movement between a generally vertical position and a generally horizontal position.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the second table section is releasably coupled to the first table section and the frame permits movement of the first table section between a generally vertical position and a generally horizontal position independently of the second table section.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the first table section is supported by the frame by an inner member provided on one of the frame and the first table section and an outer member provided on the other of the frame and the first table section, the inner member extending rotatably and slidably through the outer member to permit sliding movement and pivoting movement of the first table section with respect to the frame.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a rest is supported by one of the frame and the first table section, the rest configured to support the first table section in the generally horizontal position.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the frame includes a telescoping support column having an outer column portion and an inner column portion, the telescoping support column supporting the first and second table sections, and a base coupled to the telescoping support column.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the second table section is coupled to the first table section by a first pivotal coupling between the first and second table sections.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the first pivotal coupling includes a first bearing provided on one of the first and second table sections and a bearing race provided on the other of the first and second table sections, the first bearing engaging the bearing race to permit pivoting of the second table section about a first axis with respect to the first table section. The second table section is illustratively coupled to the frame by a second pivotal coupling between the second table section and the frame.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the second pivotal coupling includes a trunnion provided on one of the frame and the second table section and a recess provided on the other of the frame and the second table section for receiving the trunnion to permit pivoting of the second table section about a second axis with respect to the first table section, the second axis being spaced from the first axis.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the display screen is coupled to the first table section by a third pivotal coupling connected to the first table section.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a processor is provided in communication with the display screen.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a connector is supported by the frame and is configured to operably connect with a bed frame for placing the display screen in communication with a processor.

According to a further embodiment of the invention, an overbed table includes a frame having a vertically extending support column, a table section supported by the frame and configured to cantilever over a patient support surface

including opposing head and foot ends, and a camera supported by the frame and directed toward the head end of the patient support.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a display screen is supported by the frame and includes a viewable surface directed toward the head end of the patient support surface. The camera is illustratively supported by the display screen.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a support is configured to move relative to the table section within a substantially horizontal plane, the display screen being coupled to the support and configured to move between a substantially horizontal storage position and a substantially vertical use position.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a processor is supported by the frame and is in communication with the camera.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a connector is supported by the frame and is configured to operably connect with a bed frame for placing the camera in communication with a remote processor.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, at least one solar cell is supported by the frame and is operably connected to the camera, wherein the at least one solar cell is alignable with a light source connected to the patient support surface.

According to a further illustrative embodiment of the invention, an overbed table includes a frame having a vertically extending support column, and a table section supported by the frame and configured to cantilever over a patient support surface including opposing head and foot ends, and a display device supported by the frame and coupled to a power source. The display device includes first and second sides, and a viewable surface supported by the first side and directed toward the head end of the patient support.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a camera is supported by the frame and is directed toward the head end of the patient support surface. The camera is provided in communication with the display device, thereby defining an electronic mirror.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the camera is supported by the display device.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a support is configured to move relative to the table section within a substantially horizontal plane, the display device being coupled to the support and configured to move between a substantially horizontal storage position and a substantially vertical use position.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a processor is supported by the frame and is in communication with the display device.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a connector is supported by the frame and is configured to operably connect to a bed frame for placing the display device in communication with a remote processor.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, at least one solar cell is supported by the frame and is operably connected to the display device, wherein the at least one solar cell is alignable with a light source connected to the patient support surface.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a reflective mirror is supported by the second side of the display device.

According to another illustrative embodiment of the invention, an overbed table includes a table section having upper and lower surfaces, the table section being configured to cantilever over a patient support surface. The overbed table further includes a support positioned in vertical spaced relation to the table section, at least one of the table section and the support being configured to move relative to the other of the support and the table section, and a monitor coupled to the support and in communication with a power source.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the monitor is coupled to the support for movement between a storage position below the lower surface of the first table section and a use position extending above the upper surface of the first table section.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the support comprises an arm pivotally supported below the lower surface of the table section for pivoting movement about a substantially vertical axis.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a coupler connects the monitor and the arm, the coupler supporting the monitor for a first pivoting movement about a substantially horizontal axis and for a second pivoting movement about a second axis substantially perpendicular to the first axis.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a keyboard is coupled to the support.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the support comprises a tray slidably supported below the table section and defining a storage compartment, the monitor being supported by the tray for pivoting movement about a substantially horizontal axis. The monitor is illustratively configured to fold into the storage compartment beneath the table section.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the monitor is supported by an arm configured to move vertically relative to the table section. The arm illustratively includes a vertical portion, a horizontal portion pivotally connected to the vertical portion, and a coupler connecting the monitor to the horizontal portion. The coupler supports the monitor for a first pivoting movement about a first axis and for a second pivoting movement about a second axis disposed substantially perpendicular to the first axis.

According to yet another illustrative embodiment of the invention, an overbed table includes a frame, a housing coupled to the frame and defining a storage compartment, and a table section coupled to the housing. The table section is supported for movement between first and second positions, the first position substantially covering the storage compartment and the second position providing access to the storage compartment. A display screen is coupled to a power source and is removably supported within the storage compartment.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, the display screen is supported by an arm including a vertical portion. The arm illustratively includes a horizontal portion coupled to the vertical portion, and a coupler connects the display screen to the horizontal portion. The coupler supports the display screen for a first pivoting movement about a first axis and for a second pivoting movement about a second axis disposed substantially perpendicular to the first axis.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a collapsible stand is coupled to the display screen for supporting the display screen on an upper surface of the table section.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, the display screen comprises a flat panel monitor.

Illustratively according to the embodiment, a processor is in communication with the display screen.

Further illustratively according to the embodiment, a connector is supported by the frame and is configured to

operably connect with a bed frame for placing the display screen in communication with a remote processor.

Additional features of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon consideration of the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The detailed description particularly refers to the accompanying figures in which:

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of an illustrative embodiment overbed table of the present invention, illustrating the second table section and the display support in closed or storage positions;

FIG. **2** is a perspective view similar to FIG. **1**, illustrating the second table section and the display support in open or use positions;

FIG. **3** is a partially exploded perspective view of the overbed table of FIG. **1**;

FIG. **4** is a top plan view, with a partial cut-away, of the overbed table of FIG. **1**;

FIG. **5** is a top plan view similar to FIG. **4**, illustrating the second table section in an open or use position and the display support in a closed or storage position;

FIG. **6** is a top plan view similar to FIG. **4**, illustrating the second table section and the display support in open or use positions;

FIG. **7** is a perspective view of the overbed table of FIG. **1** illustrating the first table section in an upright or cleaning position;

FIG. **8** is a detailed perspective view of the overbed table, with a partial cut-away of the display coupler;

position within a storage compartment and positioned in a use mode of operation extending above the first table section;

FIG. **20** is a perspective view similar to FIG. **19**, illustrating the display screen in a storage position below the first table section;

FIG. **21** is a front perspective view of a further illustrative embodiment overbed table of the present invention, illustrating a display screen configured to be removably supported within a storage compartment below the table section in a storage position and supported on the table section in a use position;

FIG. **22** is a perspective view of the display screen similar to that of FIG. **21** with the display screen rotated 180° about a vertical axis;

FIG. **23** is a perspective view of a further illustrative embodiment overbed table of the present invention, illustrating a docking connector and a solar power device supported by the base of the frame of the overbed table; and

FIG. **24** is a cross-sectional view illustrating the interaction of the overbed table of FIG. **23** when fully docked to a hospital bed.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring initially to FIGS. **1**–**3**, an overbed table **10** according to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention includes a base **12** and a telescoping support column **14**. The base **12** and the telescoping support column **14** combine to form a frame **15** which supports first and second table sections **16** and **18**. In the following description, the first table section **16** may also be referred to as an upper table, and the second table section may also be referred to as a food tray. The first and second table sections

the first table section **16** to slide linearly away from the second table section **18** and to rotate between a generally upright vertical position and a horizontal table position.

Adjacent its upper end **17**, the support column **14**, as illustrated best in FIGS. **1** and **3**, is also provided with a beam **38** which forms a portion of the frame **15**. A proximal end **40** of the beam **38** is mounted to the support column **14** and an opposite distal or remote end **42** extends from the

table section **16** in a generally opposite direction as represented by arrow **86** (FIG. **5**). Pivotal movement of end **82** of second table section **18** toward outer support column **14** of frame **15** in the direction of arrow **88** results in sliding movement of the first table section **16** in a direction generally toward the second table section **18** as represented by arrow **90**.

Similarly, sliding movement of the first table section **16**

support column **14** in a direction generally parallel to the base **12**. As such, it may be appreciated that the first table section **16** is supported in a manner such that it cantilevers out from the support column **14**. The remote end **42** of the beam **38** is provided with a rest **44** which limits the downward pivoting of the first table section **16** as the rod or tube **32** pivots within sleeve **30**. An underside or lower surface **46** of the first table section **16** may include a bearing surface **48** which slides on the rest **44** to reduce wear on the lower surface **46** of the table section **16**. A conventional latch (not shown) may be provided to releasably secure the table section **16** to the beam **38**.

Referring now to FIGS. **1**–**3** and **7**, a storage tray or bin **49** is illustratively supported by the remote end **42** of the

away from the second table section **18** in the direction of arrow **86** results in pivotal movement of the end **82** of the second table section **18** generally away from the support column **14** in the direction of arrow **84**. Sliding movement of first table section **16** toward the support column **14** in the direction of arrow **90** results in pivotal movement of the end **72** of the second table section **18** toward the support column **14** and the first table section **16** in the direction of arrow **88**.

Generally, it will be understood that horizontal movement in one plane of one table section **16**, **18** results in similar horizontal movement in an adjacent, substantially parallel plane of the other table section **16**, **18**. In a storage position, as illustrated in FIG. **4**, the second table section **18** is positioned below the first table section **16**. In the use

beam **38**. The storage bin **49** includes a pair of side walls **50** and **51** and a pair of end walls **52** and **53** connected to a bottom wall **54**. The end walls **52** and **53** have notches **55** formed therein to facilitate access to the storage bin **49** when the first table section **16** is positioned thereabove. A mounting tab **56** is connected to the side wall **51** and is secured to the remote end **42** of the beam **38** through a conventional fastener, such as a bolt **57** threadably received by a nut **58**.

An upper surface **60** of the first table section **16** may include a plurality of recesses **61** adapted to receive and secure conventional objects that may be used by a person supported on the bed **21** or by a caregiver located adjacent to the bed **21**, such as cups and plates (not shown). Additionally a bumper **62** may be secured around a peripheral edge of the first table section **16** in order to protect surfaces which may come in contact with the overbed table **10**. The bumper **62** is preferably formed from a resilient material, such as an elastomer or thermoplastic.

position, as illustrated in FIGS. **5** and **6**, the second table section **18** is moved at least partially out from under the first table section **16**.

The second table section **18** illustratively includes a pair of handles **92** and **94** positioned proximate opposing longitudinal side edges **96** and **97** thereof to facilitate pivoting movement of the second table section **18** about the pivot post **68**. The handles **92** and **94** are configured to extend outwardly from beneath opposing side edges **98** and **99** of the first table section **16**. Each handle **92** and **94** may include a gripping portion **100** and **102** to be utilized by a patient in deploying the second table section **18** from the storage position (FIG. **4**) to the use position (FIG. **5**). The gripping portions **100** and **102** are illustratively formed from a high friction resilient material such as an elastomer.

With reference to FIGS. **2**–**4** and **6**–**8**, a support arm **104** is supported within the open region **19** in vertically spaced relation to both the first and second table sections **16** and **18**.

couples the first body portion **128** to the U-shaped portion **116** of the arm **104**. A second body portion **134** is supported by the first body portion **128** for pivoting movement about a second pivot axis **136** disposed substantially perpendicular to the first pivot axis **130**. A second pin **138** couples the second body portion **134** to the first body portion **128**. In turn, the display device **124** is fixed to the second body portion **134**.

The display device **124** includes first and second sides **142** and **144**, with the first side **142** supporting a viewable surface **146** and configured to face toward a head end **148** of the bed **21** (FIG. **23**). The display device **124** illustratively comprises a conventional computer monitor wherein the viewable surface **146** comprises an electronic display **150** (FIG. **8**). A conventional mirror **152** may be supported by the second side **144** of the display device **124** (FIG. **4**). As may be appreciated, the user may alternatively use the electronic display **150** and the mirror **152** by simply rotating the display device **124** about the second pivot axis **136** by moving the second body portion **134** around the second pin **138**. In an illustrated embodiment, the display device **124** comprises a flat panel monitor and the electronic display **150** comprises a high resolution liquid crystal display. The viewable surface **146** of the display device **124** may be defined by other conventional screens including, but not limited to, a television screen, or a projection screen, or a conventional mirror. If the display **150** comprises a projection screen, then images may be projected from a remote location onto the viewable surface **146**. More particularly, a conventional projector (not shown) may be supported by a structure (such as a ceiling) remote from the overbed table **10** and is configured to project information onto the viewable surface **146**.

A processor **154** is supported by the frame **15** and most preferably is fixed proximate the upper end **17** of the support column **14**. The processor **154** is in communication with the display device **124** through conventional transmission means, which may include wires or wireless transmitter and receiver (not shown). A power source in the form of a battery **156** may likewise be secured proximate an upper end **17** of the support column **14** and is in communication with the display device **124**. It should be appreciated that both the processor **154** and the battery **156** may be located remote from the overbed table **10** wherein communication means are provided in order for the display device **124** to interact with the processor **154** and the battery **156**, such as detailed below.

A camera **160**, such as a video or digital still image camera, is illustratively supported by the display device **124**. The camera **160** is in communication with the processor **154** and may have power supplied by the battery **156**. In one illustrative embodiment, the camera **160** provides images to the processor **154** which are then transmitted to the electronic display **150**. As such, the electronic display **150**, the processor **154**, and the camera **160** define an electronic mirror. In other words, the patient facing the camera **160** will see his or her image electronically generated in the electronic display **150**.

A further illustrative embodiment of an overbed table **210** is shown in FIGS. **9** and **10**. The overbed table **210** illustratively includes a first table section **212** positioned in vertical spaced relation above a second table section **214**. The first table section **212** is supported for sliding movement and the second table section **214** is supported for pivoting movement relative to the first table section **212** in the manner described above with respect to the first table section **16** and the second table section **18** of the illustrative embodiment overbed table **10**.

A recess **216** extends downwardly from an upper surface **218** of the second table section **214**. The display device **124** is supported by the second table section **214** illustratively through a hinge **220** for pivoting movement about a substantially horizontal pivot axis **222**. The display device **124** is adapted to pivot about the pivot axis **222** defined by the hinge **220** between a substantially upright use position (FIG. **9**) and a substantially horizontal storage position (FIG. **10**). In the storage position, the display device **124** is received within the recess **216** such that the rear or second side **144** of the display device **124** is substantially flush with the upper surface **218** of the second table section **214**. In the embodiment of FIGS. **9** and **10**, no separate support arm is required for the display device **124**.

Turning now to FIGS. **11** and **12**, a further embodiment overbed table **310** including a frame **15** supporting a first table section **312**. A storage tray **314** is supported in vertical spaced relation below the first table section **312** and is configured to move within a substantially horizontal plane in a direction generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis **315** of the first table section **312**. The display device **124** is coupled to first and second spaced apart arms **316** and **318** which provide for pivoting movement of the display device **124** from an open or use position where the display device **124** is extending upwardly out of the storage tray **314** (FIG. **11**) to a closed or storage position where the display device **124** is received within the storage tray **314** below the horizontal plane defined by the first table section **312** (FIG. **12**). As illustrated in FIG. **11**, first ends **320** and **322** of the arms **316** and **318** are pivotally connected to longitudinally extending side walls **324** and **326** of the storage tray **314**, while opposing second ends **328** and **330** of the arms **316** and **318** are pivotally connected to an upper portion of the display device **124**. The first ends **320** and **322** of the arms **316** and **318** may be slidably received with channels **332** extending within the side walls **324** and **326** to facilitate folding of the display device **124** into the storage tray **314**.

In operation, the display device **124** may be moved between an open position (FIG. **11**) and a closed position (FIG. **12**) by folding the arms **320** and **322** downwardly into the storage tray **314** such that the display device **124** is nested intermediate the side walls **324** and **326**. The storage tray **314** may then be slidably moved in a direction toward the first table section **312** and into the storage position where the storage tray **314** is located in vertically spaced relation immediately below the first table section **312**.

Referring now to FIGS. **13**–**16**, a further embodiment of the overbed table **410** of the present invention is illustrated as including a frame **15** supporting a storage unit **412**. The storage unit **412** may include a plurality of shelves **414** for use by the patient or a caregiver. It should be appreciated that the shelves **414** may be enclosed by doors (not shown), or replaced with sliding drawers or removable bins (not shown).

A first or upper table section **416** is slidably supported by the storage unit **412** for movement substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis **417** of the first table section **416** (FIG. **14**). Moreover, the first table section **416** may include a first or inner guide member **418** supported by the first table section **416**, and a second or outer guide member **420** supported by the storage unit **412**. As such, the table section **416** may be moved back and forth within a substantially horizontal plane in the direction of double headed arrow **422** to provide access to a storage recess **424** defined by the

storage unit **412**. The display device **124** is supported within the storage recess **424** when in a storage position (FIG. **14**). The display device **124** is supported by an arm **426** configured to move vertically relative to the table section **416**. The arm **426** includes a vertical portion **428** supported by the storage unit **412** and pivotable about a substantially vertical axis **430**. A horizontal portion **432** is pivotally connected to the vertical portion **428** and a coupler **434** connects the display device **124** to the horizontal portion **432**. The coupler **434** supports the display device **124** for a first pivoting movement about a first axis **436** and for second pivoting movement about a second axis **438** which is disposed substantially perpendicular to the first axis **436** (FIG. **16**).

Referring further to FIG. **16**, the coupler **434** includes a first member **440** rotatable about the first axis **436** and a second member **442** rotatable about the second axis **438**. The

Another embodiment of the present invention is illustrated in FIGS. **23** and **24**. The base **12** of the overbed table **710** includes a first docking connector **712** which mates with a second docking connector **714** coupled to the frame **22** of the bed **21** below the mattress **24**. The first docking connector **712** coupled with second docking connector **714** may be utilized to supply electrical power to the display device **124** and to transmit information or signals thereto in a conventional manner. In a further embodiment, a retractable cord **718** is utilized to supply power to the display device **124**. More particularly, the retractable cord **718** is receivable within a housing **720** supported by the bed frame **22**. In a further embodiment, the overbed table **710** includes a plurality of upwardly-facing solar cells **722** supported on the base **12**. The solar cells **722** are utilized to power components such as the display device **124** supported on the overbed table **710**. The battery **156** may be charged through

6. The overbed table of claim 5, wherein said arm includes first and second handles, and said display screen is supported intermediate said first and second handles.

7. The overbed table of claim 4, wherein said support is pivotably connected to said first table section.

8. The overbed table of claim 4, wherein said display screen is coupled to said support for pivoting movement about a substantially horizontal first axis.

9. The overbed table of claim 8, wherein said display screen is coupled to said support for pivoting movement about a second axis extending substantially perpendicular to said first axis.

10. The overbed table of claim 1, wherein said display screen is located intermediate said first and second table sections in said storage position and extends above said first table section in said use position.

11. The overbed table of claim 1, wherein said display screen comprises a flat panel monitor.

12. The overbed table of claim 1, wherein said display screen comprises a reflective mirror.

13. The overbed table of claim 1, further comprising a camera supported proximate said display screen.

14. The overbed table of claim 1, wherein said first table section is supported by said frame for movement between a generally vertical position and a generally horizontal position.

15. The overbed table of claim 14, wherein said second table section is releasably coupled to said first table section and said frame permits movement of said first table section between a generally vertical position and a generally horizontal position independently of said second table section.

16. The overbed table of claim 15, wherein said first table section is supported by said frame by an inner member provided on one of said frame and said first table section and an outer member provided on the other of said frame and said first table section, said inner member extending rotatably and slidably through said outer member to permit sliding movement and pivoting movement of said first table section with respect to said frame.

17. The overbed table of claim 14, further comprising a rest supported by one of said frame and said first table section, said rest configured to support said first table section in said generally horizontal position.

18. The overbed table of claim 1, wherein said frame includes a telescoping support column including an outer column portion and an inner column portion, the telescoping support column supporting said first and second table sections, and a base coupled to the telescoping support column.

19. The overbed table of claim 1, wherein said second table section is coupled to said first table section by a first pivotal coupling between said first and second table sections.

20. The overbed table of claim 19, wherein said first pivotal coupling includes a first bearing provided on one of said first and second table sections and a bearing race provided on said other of said first and second table sections, said first bearing engaging said bearing race to permit pivoting of said second table section about a first axis with respect to said first table section.

21. The overbed table of claim 1, further comprising a processor in communication with said display screen.

22. The overbed table of claim 1, further comprising a connector supported by said frame and configured to operably connect with a bed frame for placing the display screen in communication with a processor.

23. The overbed table of claim 1 further comprising a camera supported by said frame and configured to be directed toward the head end of a patient support surface.

24. The overbed table of claim 23, wherein said display screen includes a viewable surface configured to be directed toward the head end of the patient support surface.

25. The overbed table of claim 24, wherein said camera is supported by said display screen.

26. The overbed table of claim 24, further comprising a support configured to move relative to one of said first table section and said second table section within a substantially horizontal plane, said display screen being coupled to said support and configured to move between a storage position and a use position.

27. The overbed table of claim 23, further comprising a processor supported by said frame and in communication with said camera.

28. The overbed table of claim 23, further comprising a connector supported by said frame and configured to operably connect with a bed frame for placing the camera in communication with a remote processor.

29. The overbed table of claim 23, further comprising at least one solar cell supported by said frame and operably connected to said camera.

30. The overbed table of claim 29, wherein said at least one solar cell is alignable with a light source connected to the patient support surface.

31. The overbed table of claim 1 wherein said display screen comprises a display device supported by said frame and coupled to a power source, said display device including first and second sides, and a viewable surface supported by said first side and configured to be directed toward a head end of a patient support surface.

32. The overbed table of claim 31, further comprising a camera supported by said frame and configured to be directed toward the head end of the patient support.

33. The overbed table of claim 32, wherein said camera is in communication with said display device to define an electronic mirror.

34. The overbed table of claim 32, wherein said camera is supported by said display device.

35. The overbed table of claim 31, further comprising a support configured to move relative to one of said first table section and second table section within a substantially horizontal plane, said display screen device being coupled to said support and configured to move between a storage position and a use position.

36. The overbed table of claim 31, further comprising a processor supported by said frame and in communication with said display device.

37. The overbed table of claim 31, further comprising a connector supported by said frame and configured to operably connect with a bed frame for placing the display device in communication with a remote processor.

38. The overbed table of claim 31, further comprising at least one solar cell supported by said frame and operably connected to said display device.

39. The overbed table of claim 38, wherein said at least one solar cell is alignable with a light source connected to the patient support surface.

40. The overbed table of claim 31, further comprising a reflective mirror supported by said second side of said display device.

41. The overbed table of claim 4, wherein said support is coupled to said at least one of said first table section and second table section through said support.

42. An overbed table comprising:
a frame;
a first table section coupled to said frame;
a second table section coupled to said frame in vertical spaced relation to said first table section, at least one of said first table section and said second table section configured to move in a substantially horizontal plane with respect to the other of said second table section and said first table section, said second table section coupled to said first table section such that movement of said second table section results in sliding movement of said first table section; and
a display screen coupled to at least one of said first table section and said second table section and configured to move between a storage position and a use position.

43. An overbed table comprising:
a frame;
a first table section coupled to said frame;
a second table section coupled to said frame in vertical spaced relation to said first table section;
a support positioned in vertical spaced relation to said first table section, said support configured to move relative to said first table section within a substantially horizontal plane; and
a display screen coupled to at least one of said first table section and said second table section and configured to move between a storage position and a use position, said display screen coupled to said support for pivoting movement about a substantially horizontal first axis and about a second axis extending substantially perpendicular to said first axis.

44. An overbed table comprising:
a frame;
a first table section coupled to said frame;
a second table section coupled to said frame in vertical spaced relation to said first table section, wherein said first table section is supported by said frame for movement between a generally vertical position and a generally horizontal position, said second table section releasably coupled to said first table section and said frame permits movement of said first table section between a generally vertical position and a generally horizontal position independently of said second table section, wherein said first table section is supported by said frame by an inner member provided on one of said frame and said first table section and an outer member provided on the other of said frame and said first table section, said inner member extending rotatably and slidably through said outer member to permit sliding movement and pivoting movement of said first table section with respect to said frame; and
a display screen coupled to at least one of said first table section and said second table section and configured to move between a storage position and a use position.

45. An overbed table comprising:
a frame;
a first table section coupled to said frame;
a second table section coupled to said frame in vertical spaced relation to said first table section, said second table section coupled to said first table section by a first pivotal coupling between said first and second table sections, wherein said first pivotal coupling includes a first bearing provided on one of said first and second table sections and a bearing race provided on said other of said first and second table sections, said first bearing engaging said bearing race to permit pivoting of said second table section about a first axis with respect to said first table section; and
a display screen coupled to at least one of said first table section and said second table section and configured to move between a storage position and a use position.

46. The overbed table of claim 45, wherein said second table section is coupled to said frame by a second pivotal coupling between said second table section and said frame.

47. The overbed table of claim 46, wherein said second pivotal coupling includes a trunnion provided on one of said frame and said second table section and a recess provided on the other of said frame and said second table section for receiving said trunnion to permit pivoting of said second table section about a second axis with respect to said first table section, said second axis being spaced from said first axis.

48. The overbed table of claim 47, wherein said display screen is coupled to said first table section by a third pivotal coupling connected to said first table section.

49. An overbed table comprising:
a frame;
a first table section coupled to said frame;
a second table section coupled to said frame in vertical spaced relation to said first table section; and
a display screen coupled to at least one of said first table section and said second table section and configured to move between a storage position and a use position wherein said display screen is located between said first table section and said second table section in said storage position.

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