

April 1970

Brief 70-10254

NASA TECH BRIEF



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Inflatable Stretcher to Transport Patients

Emergency transportation of seriously burned or disabled patients is facilitated by the use of an inflatable plastic bag inside of a relatively strong, inflexible outer bag. When the bag is inflated the patient is completely immobilized and cushioned from external shock such that special support bunks are unnecessary when loaded on board aircraft, helicopters, or trucks.

The outer, non-elastic, high-pressure bag and the inner, elastic, low-pressure bag share the same zipper in the front. An opening is provided for the face, which may be covered by the outer bag perhaps with a transparent insert. Air for breathing, temperature controls and communications may be provided by appropriate plug-in connections. The high-pressure outer bag supports the system against local loads, including external straps. When not in use, the device may be deflated to facilitate transportation.

This innovation may be of interest to the medical profession, both military and civilian, with special emphasis upon patient transportation.

Note:

The following documentation may be obtained from:

The Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific
and Technical Information
Springfield, Virginia 22151
Single document price \$3.00
(or microfiche \$0.65)

Reference: NASA-CR-61069 (X65-11515),
Pilot Compartment Airbag Restraint
Program

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

Source: Dr. Carl C. Clark, Carl Bleech Schmidt,
and Fay T. Gordon, Jr. of
Martin Company
under contract to
NASA Headquarters
(HQN-10179)

Category 05

19193 H 351 A 214