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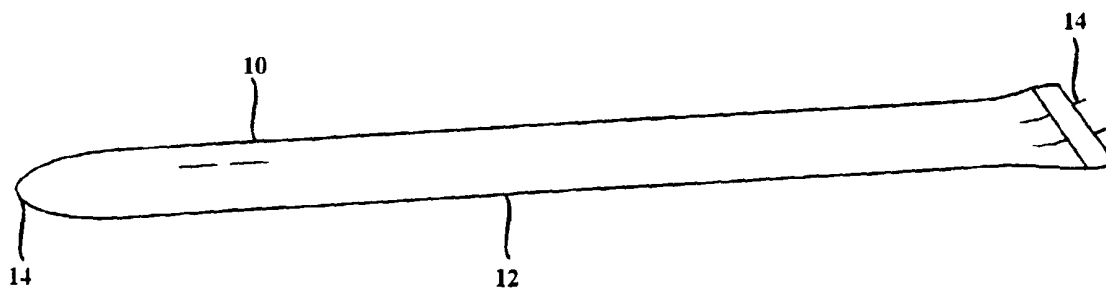
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(54) **Amusement device**

(57) An inflatable noise maker (10) has a substantially cylindrical hollow member (12), made of a flexible, substantially non-stretchable material. The member (12) is sealable at both ends (14) and houses a column of gas. The gas is at a pressure such that, when the

member (12) is transversely folded, the gas reaches a pressure above atmospheric pressure, thereby tensioning both distal ends (14) of the folded member (12) such that the distal ends (14) of the noise maker (19) vibrate at at least one audible frequency when struck.

**FIG. 1**





European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                              |
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| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                              |
| Place of search<br><b>THE HAGUE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Date of completion of the search<br><b>18 May 1999</b> | Examiner<br><b>Lorne, B</b>                  |
| <p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/> Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/> A : technological background<br/> O : non-written disclosure<br/> P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/> E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/> D : document cited in the application<br/> L : document cited for other reasons<br/> &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                        |                                              |

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
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