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(11) **EP 0 976 376 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
21.06.2000 Bulletin 2000/25

(51) Int. Cl.⁷: **A61G 3/06**

(43) Date of publication A2:
02.02.2000 Bulletin 2000/05

(21) Application number: **99304943.6**

(22) Date of filing: **23.06.1999**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **29.07.1998 GB 9816374**

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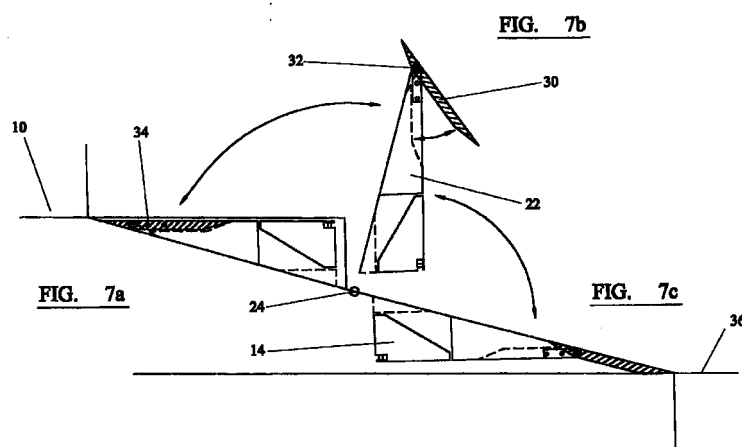
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(54) **Ramp step assembly**

(57) The invention relates to access apparatus which facilitates movement either by foot or by wheeled transport in and out of ambulances. The apparatus may also be used in hospitals, nursing homes or other permanent structures which are commonly used by able-bodied and wheel-chair users. The access apparatus comprises a combined step and ramp assembly move-

able between a first, closed configuration, a second, access configuration in which the step (14) is accessible to persons on foot, and a third, access configuration in which the ramp (22) is accessible to receive wheeled transport.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 4943

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) A61G B60P B60R B65G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 25 April 2000	Examiner Cametz, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**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. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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25-04-2000

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