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(71) Applicant: **PARAMOUNT BED COMPANY LIMITED**
Koto-ward, Tokyo (JP)

(72) Inventor: **Nanahara, Kenji**
Funabashi City, Chiba Pref. (JP)

(74) Representative: **Bryer, Kenneth Robert et al**
K.R. Bryer & Co.
7 Gay Street
Bath BA1 2PH (GB)

(54) **A side rail assembly for a bed or the like**

(57) A lifting side rail mechanism for a bed or the like comprises at least one side rail frame (112) having at least two side rail members (113,114) pivotally mounted at each end of respective support arms (108) pivotally connectable to a bed base (102) or other fixed support (103) such that the side rail frame (112) can be moved by rotation of the support arms (108) between a service position with the side rail members (113,114) of the side rail frame (112) spaced from one another and above the

plane of the bed base (102) and a lowered, stowed position, in which the upper side rail member is lowered to the same level as or below the plane of the bed base (102). The connections of the side rail members (113,114) to the support arms (108) are such that the separation of the side rail members (113,114) increases to a maximum as the support arms (108) are turned to move the side rail mechanism between the service and stowed positions and is less than this maximum in each of the service and stowed positions.

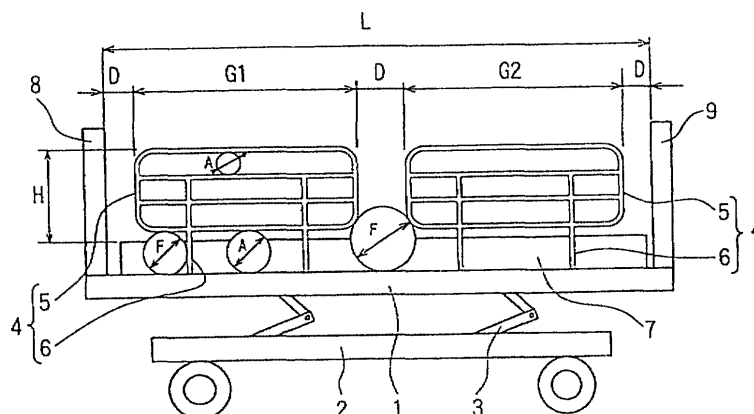


FIG 1



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) A61G A47C
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 19 April 2001	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			

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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. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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