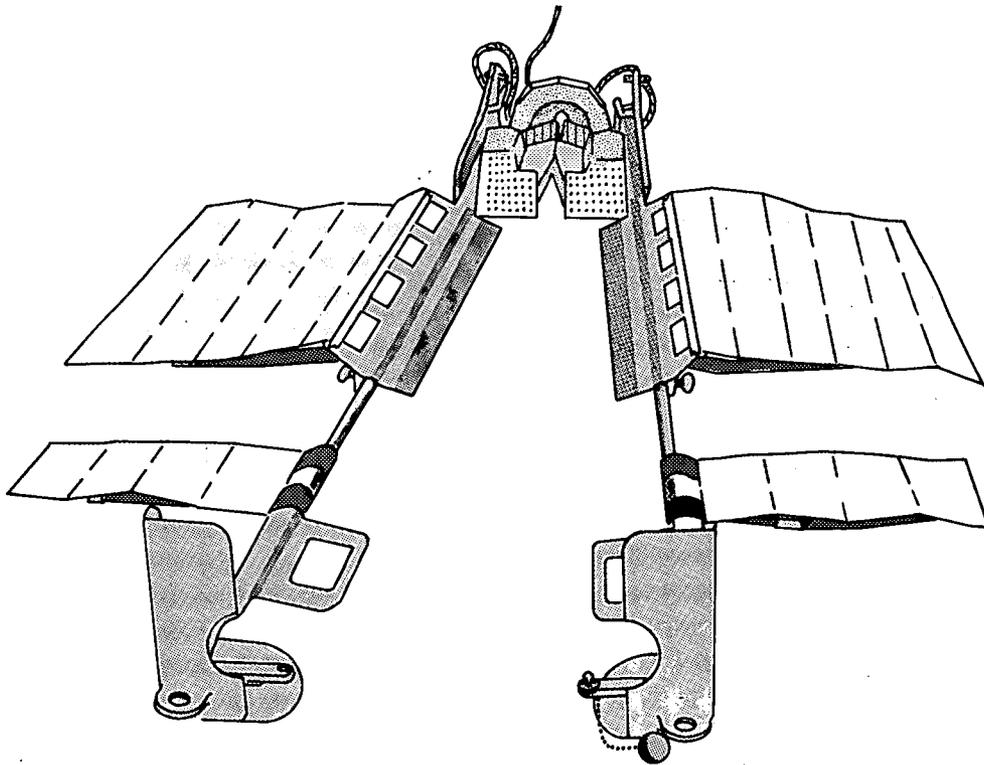


NASA TECH BRIEF



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Orthopedic Stretcher with Average-Sized Person Can Pass Through 18-inch Opening



The problem:

To design a stretcher for vertical lifting and carrying that will pass through an opening 18 inches in diameter, while containing a person of average height and weight.

The solution:

A modified Robinson stretcher, as shown, for use in vertical lifting and carrying.

How it's done:

The stretcher is constructed of strong but light-weight material and weighs about 20 pounds. The overall dimension of the stretcher permits it to pass through an opening of 18 inches in diameter while containing a person of average height and weight.

The design includes a "scissors" effect for easy manipulation of the patient on and off the stretcher, and a variable linear adjustment to accommodate

(continued overleaf)

individuals of different heights and to apply traction to the neck, back, and lower extremities.

Notes:

1. The stretcher has been tested. A subject 6 feet tall and weighing 200 pounds was lowered and raised out of an 18-inch diameter opening in a tank.
2. Inquiries concerning this invention may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Marshall Space Flight Center
Huntsville, Alabama 35812
Reference: B66-10573

Patent status:

Inquiries about obtaining rights for the commercial use of this invention may be made to NASA, Code GP, Washington, D.C. 20546.

Source: F. X. Lothschuetz
of the Mason-Rust Co.
under contract to
Marshall Space Flight Center
(M-FS-811)