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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
[SG/SG]; 50 Nanyang Avenue, Singapore 639798 (SG).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **FUSS, Franz Konstantin** [AT/SG]; 105e Nanyang Heights #07-09, Singapore 639672 (SG). **TAN, Ming Adin** [SG/SG]; Blk 115 Rivervale Walk, #05-29, Singapore 540115 (SG).

(74) Agent: **ALBAN TAY MAHTANI & DE SILVA**; 39 Robinson Road #07-01, Robinson Point, Singapore 068911 (SG).

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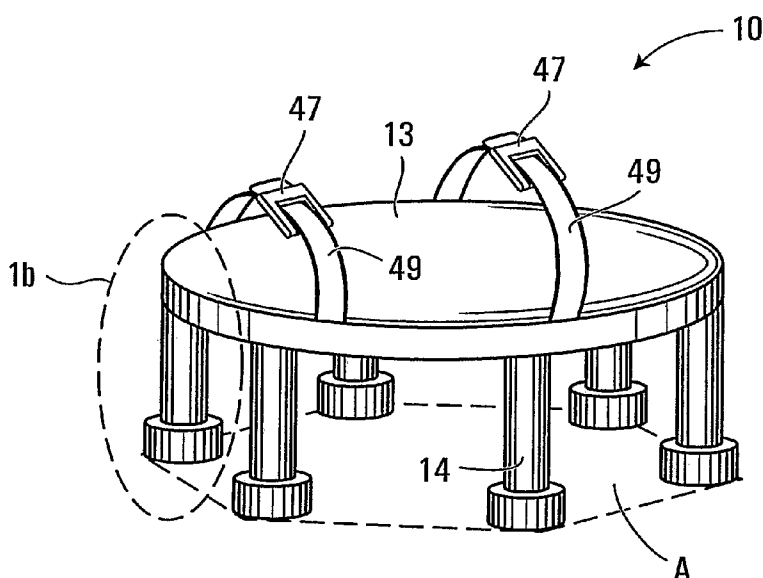
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(54) Title: LANDMINE AVOIDANCE AND PROTECTION DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A mine avoidance device (10) has a frame (13) adapted to be secured to a source of a load and at least three support legs (14) each extending from the frame (13). Each leg (14) has a releasable joint (12) between the leg (14) and the frame (13). At least one detector (19) is operable to provide a detection capability for each support leg (14) operable to detect a characteristic of a mine (11) when at least a portion of the support leg (14) is located proximate to the mine (11). An actuator (45) operable to provide an actuation capability at the joint (12) of each leg (14), to constrain the joint (12) to allow a load to be transmitted from the frame (13), through the joint (12) and the support to the terrain. The actuator (45) can also release the joint (12) such that a load can not be transmitted from the frame (13) through the joint (12).

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