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The Director

of the United States Patent and Trademark Office has received an application for a patent for a new and useful invention. The title and description of the invention are enclosed. The requirements of law have been complied with, and it has been determined that a patent on the invention shall be granted under the law.

Therefore, this United States

Patent

grants to the person(s) having title to this patent the right to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the United States of America or importing the invention into the United States of America, and if the invention is a process, of the right to exclude others from using, offering for sale or selling throughout the United States of America, products made by that process, for the term set forth in 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2) or (c)(1), subject to the payment of maintenance fees as provided by 35 U.S.C. 41(b). See the Maintenance Fee Notice on the inside of the cover.

John A. Span

DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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Varanasi et al.

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(54) **ARTICLE HANDLING SYSTEM**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An article handling system for a naval surface warfare vessel/ship comprises a lower frame and an upper frame interconnected by a plurality of scissor lift linkages. A plurality of drive units are configured to translate an article mounted article bed in an upward and a downward, a forward and a rearward, and a tilting translational degrees of freedom. Each of said drive units are configured to switch said article handling system from a retracted position to an extended operating position. The article handling system may be controlled manually or by a control unit or a handheld controller.

15 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

