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**Gupta et al.**

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(54) **MULTI-PURPOSE SELF-ERECTING  
STRUCTURE HAVING ADVANCED INSECT  
PROTECTION AND STORAGE  
CHARACTERISTICS**

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(\*) Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 206 days.

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **135/126; 135/128; 135/137; 135/905; 2/89**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **135/95, 125, 126, 135/123, 143, 116, 906, 905, 137, 128; 2/89**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The self-erecting structure has resilient lower and upper support loops which provide it with shape and support. Fabric covers the support loops, and is permanently affixed to the support loops. The fabric has a lower, waterproof portion and an upper insect protection portion. The fabric is preferably treated to provide it with insect repellent and insecticide properties. The support loops are made of flexible, resilient rods made of a material, such as a vinyl-ester and fiberglass combination having a diameter selected to enable the support loops to be folded into six loops, whereby the structure can be compactly stored in a rucksack. The method of folding the structure so that it can be stored in such a compact space is also disclosed.

**18 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**

