



US005568127A

# United States Patent [19]

[11] Patent Number: **5,568,127**

**Bang**

[45] Date of Patent: **Oct. 22, 1996**

[54] **DROWSINESS WARNING DEVICE AND NECK SUPPORT**

Primary Examiner—Glen Swann  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Kelly, Bauersfeld & Lowry

[75] Inventor: **Harry H. J. Bang**, Pacific Palisades, Calif.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

[73] Assignee: **Richard M. Bang**

A drowsiness warning device includes a band which is securable about a wearer's neck, and an alarm positioned by the band below the wearer's chin for producing a tactile and an aural warning as the chin contacts the alarm device. The band includes a central section formed with a vertically stiff plastic material which is capable of holding a lower elongated body of the alarm therein. An upper rounded dome section of the alarm extends above the central section. The band also includes a pair of straps having hook and loop tape fasteners, and intermediate sections between the straps and the central section lined with a fibrous material for wearer comfort. In one embodiment, the alarm includes a hollow elastomeric ball having a mechanical noisemaker disposed within an air inlet/outlet aperture for the ball. In another embodiment, the alarm includes an electrically actuated speaker connectable to a battery on depression of the upper rounded dome.

[21] Appl. No.: **549,281**

[22] Filed: **Oct. 27, 1995**

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... **G08B 21/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **340/575**; 116/1; 116/28 R; 116/67 R; 116/137 R; 340/576; 340/691

[58] Field of Search ..... 340/575, 576, 340/691; 116/137 R, 67 R, 28 R, 1

[56] **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

2,066,092	12/1936	Brown	116/67 R
2,842,628	7/1958	James	340/575
3,340,846	9/1967	Magiera	116/67 R
5,488,354	1/1996	Colvin	340/575

**19 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets**

