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(54) **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ORTHOPEDIC FIXATION**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/981,927, filed on Oct. 17, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/863,174, filed on May 23, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,520,965.

A filament retaining washer for mounting about the shank of a bone screw deployed in a bone whereby to retain the filament to the bone, the filament retaining washer comprising a structure having a screw hole extending therethrough for receiving therein the shank of the bone screw deployed in the bone, whereby to secure the structure to the bone, the screw hole defining a first axis, and the structure having a filament hole extending therethrough for receiving a filament therein so as to retain the filament to the structure, the filament hole defining a second axis extending substantially perpendicular to the first axis.

