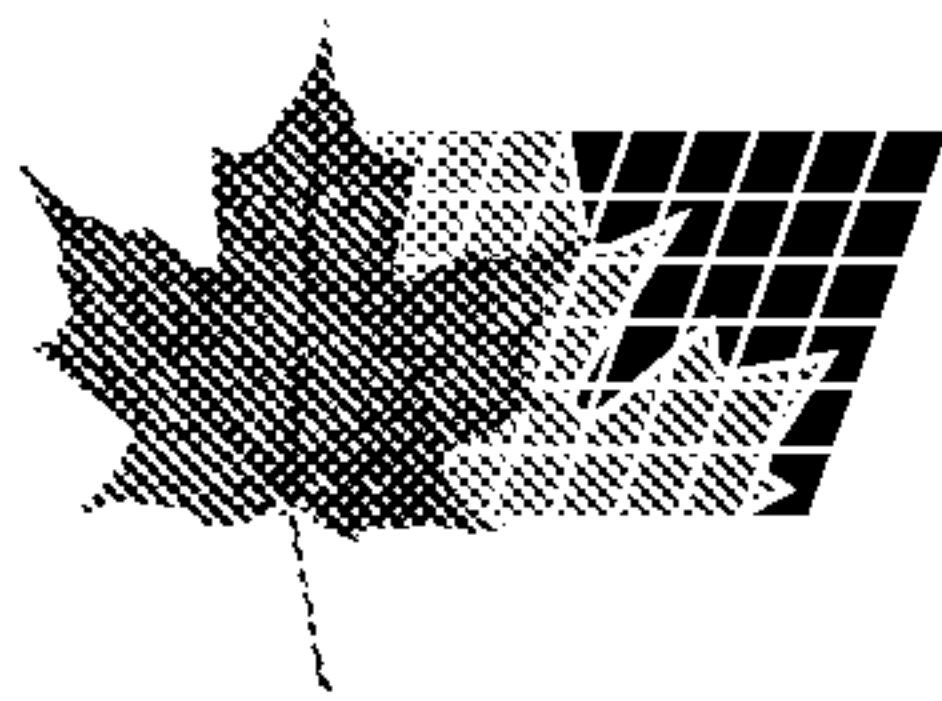




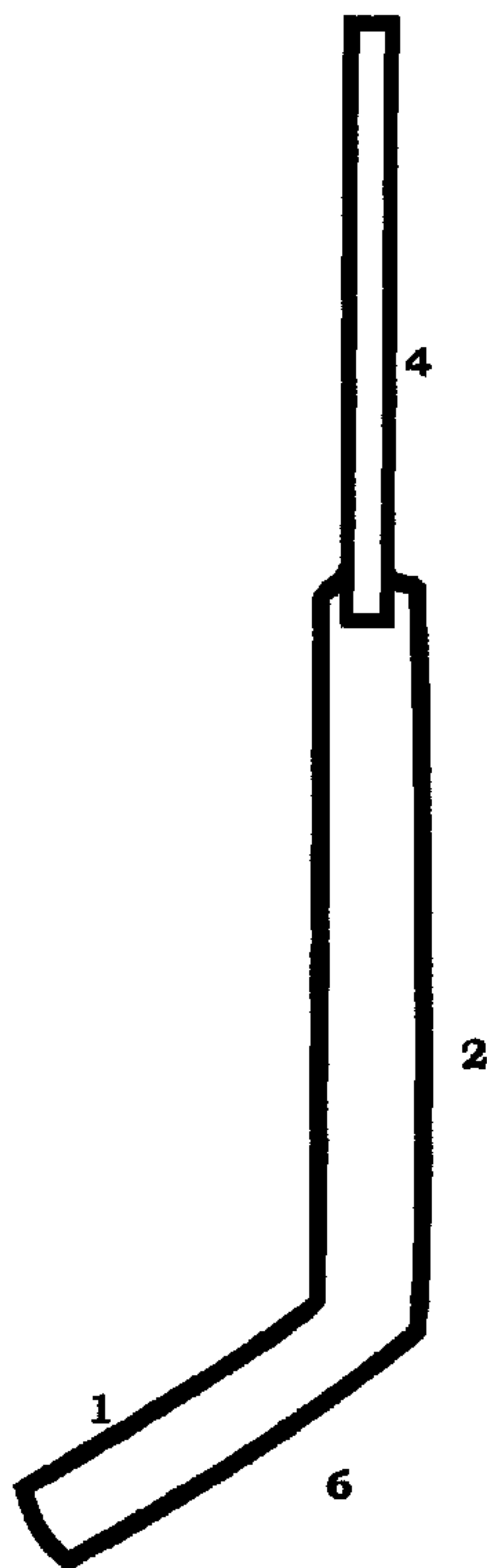
(72) MAYHEW, Kent, CA

(71) MAYHEW, Kent, CA

(51) Int.Cl.⁶ A63B 59/14

(54) **BATON DE HOCKEY POUR GARDIEN DE BUT : COURBURE
CONCAVE LE LONG DE L'AXE LONGITUDINAL DU BLOC
DU MANCHE**

(54) **GOALIE HOCKEY STICK : CONCAVE CURVATURE ALONG
THE LONGITUDINAL AXIS OF THE PADDLE**



(57) A goalie hockey stick including a shaft, a paddle and a blade. The paddle and blade are rigidly attached, to the shaft . The paddle is so designed that the paddle has a concave curvature along the paddle's longitudinal axis. The above said concave curvature of the paddle, may or may not be symmetrical, along the longitudinal axis of the above said paddle. Both the shaft and blade sections of the above said goalie hockey stick, may be straight or curved.

GOALIE HOCKEY STICK : Concave curvature along the longitudinal axis of the paddle

Inventor: Kent W. Mayhew

ABSTRACT

A goalie hockey stick including a shaft, a paddle and a blade. The paddle and blade are rigidly attached, to the shaft . The paddle is so designed that the paddle has a concave curvature along the paddle's longitudinal axis. The above said concave curvature of the paddle, may or may not be symmetrical, along the longitudinal axis of the above said paddle. Both the shaft and blade sections of the above said goalie hockey stick, may be straight or curved.

1) Goalie Hockey Stick with a Concave Curved Paddle

FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to a special curvature of a goalie hockey stick suitable for goalie's in the sport of hockey.

CLARIFICATION OF TERMINOLOGY USED IN THIS PATENT

Blade

As used herein the term "blade", shall refer to the section of the goalie hockey stick that sits flat on the ice when the goalie stick is held in the vertical position.

Paddle

As used herein the term "paddle", shall refer to the section of the goalie hockey stick where the shaft is widened on a conventional goalie hockey stick. The above said widened section of the shaft extends from the blade's heel to the handgrip section of the shaft.

Shaft

As used herein the term "shaft", shall refer to the section of the goalie hockey stick that the goalie grips with his/her hands and extends down through the paddle .

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The application relates to a goalie hockey stick suitable for playing the position of goalie in the sport of hockey.

The governing bodies of various hockey leagues generally lay down rules that manufactures have to follow if the manufacturer desires their hockey sticks to be legal in the above said hockey leagues . An example being the National Hockey League ("NHL") . According to the "NHL" the length of the shaft of a goalie stick shall not exceed 58 inches and the length of the blade is limited to 15 1/2 inches. The blade cannot be more than 3 1/2 inches except at the heel where it can be 4 1/2 inches. The wider part of the shaft, herein referred to as the "paddle",

must not exceed 3 1/2 inches in width and the length of the paddle must not exceed 26 inches from the heel.

Several modifications to the traditional goalie stick have been proposed . For example in U.S. Pat. no. 5,456,463 (Dolan et al.), an ergonomic handgrip that is claimed to be more comfortable and functional. In U.S. Pat. no. 4,544,157 (Curtis), the shaft has a couple of bends which is designed to improve the goalie's ability to handle the puck. Both of the above stated U.S. patents address special problems associated with the goalie hockey sticks. By bending the shaft, both U.S. Pat. no. 5,456,463 and U.S. Pat. no. 4,544,157 have stopped the puck from sliding under the shaft when the paddle is placed flat on the ice. Both U.S. Pat. no 5,456,463 and U.S. Pat. no. 4,544,157 claim to have changed the shape of the shaft to provide a more comfortable feel for the goalie .

Conventional goalie hockey sticks have tended to be made of wood, which may be laminated or solid in construction. Several new products are now readily used in the construction of goalie hockey sticks. These products may or may not be well suited for lamination.

Up until now goalie hockey sticks have tended to have paddles that are straight along their longitudinal axis. Due to the center of the paddle being thicker than the outside edge of the above said paddle, conventional goalie sticks generally have a concave curvature perpendicular and symmetrical to the paddle's longitudinal axis.

. It is the object of the present invention to provide a goalie hockey stick, that has a curvature along the paddle's longitudinal axis. The above said curvature, will be concave when viewing from front of the above said goalie stick. The above said concave curvature, will allow the goalie to more accurately direct the puck when stopping the above said puck, with the above said paddle.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a goalie stick that is easier to pick up off of the ice, than a conventional goalie hockey stick.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide a goalie hockey stick that allows the goalie to shoot the puck better.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

According to the present invention, a goalie hockey stick comprises a blade, a paddle and a shaft.

The paddle of the above said goalie stick has a concave curvature along the paddle's longitudinal axis.

The above said concave curvature, may or may not be symmetrical along the longitudinal axis of the above said paddle, of the above said goalie hockey stick. The above said paddle, may or may not have a concave curvature perpendicular to the above said paddle's longitudinal axis.

According to an aspect of the present invention, the concave paddle of the above said invention, will allow a goalie to have more control of a puck rebounding off of the concave paddle, than the above said goalie would have with a conventional goalie stick whose paddle is straight along the paddle's longitudinal axis.

According to another aspect of the above said invention, the concave curvature of the paddle of the above said invention, will allow a goalie to pick the above said invention up off of a flat surface, easier than the above said goalie could pick a conventional goalie stick up off of a flat surface.

According to another aspect of the above said invention, the concave curvature of the paddle of the above said invention, will allow the goalie to raise a puck easier.

The above and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description of preferred embodiment taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

To further the reader's understanding of the present invention, reference may be had to the accompanying drawings, namely FIG. 1, FIG. 2 A, FIG. 2B, FIG. 3 and FIG. 4.

FIG. 1 is a front view of the goalie hockey stick according to the present invention. Viewing from the front the present invention looks like a conventional goalie stick.

FIG. 2 A is a side view of the goalie stick according to the present invention. In the above said side view, the goalie stick according to the present invention is shooting a puck.

FIG. 2 B is a side view of the goalie stick according to the present invention. In the above said

side view, the goalie stick according to the present invention is laying on a flat surface.

FIG. 3 is an angular view of the goalie stick according to the present invention.

FIG. 4 is an angular view of a conventional goalie stick.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

By first describing the conventional goalie hockey stick 12, FIG.4, it is believed that a clearer understanding of the present invention will be obtained. A conventional goalie hockey stick, 12, comprises of a shaft 9, a paddle 10, and a blade 11. The paddle 10, is formed by either widening the the shaft 9, or by rigid attachment of a paddle 10, to a shaft 9. Generally, the blade 11, is rigidly attached to the shaft 9, in a conventional goalie hockey stick 12. It can be conceived that a goalie hockey stick 12, may have the blade 11, rigidly attached to the paddle 10, and have the shaft 9, rigidly attached to the paddle 10.

The paddle of a conventional goalie stick is straight along the paddle's longitudinal axis. Generally a conventional goalie stick has the longitudinal axis of the paddle coincident with the longitudinal axis of the shaft,. Conventional goalie sticks may or may not have the blade designed with a curvature along the blade's longitudinal axis.

The following is a description of the present invention. The goalie hockey stick 6, as shown in FIG. 3, is a hockey stick intended to be used by a goalie in the game of hockey. The goalie hockey stick 6 as shown in FIG. 3, has some features similar to those features found in more conventional goalie hockey sticks, FIG 4., including a shaft 4, a paddle 2, and a blade 1..

FIG 2A, FIG 2B and FIG 3 shows the concave curvature of the paddle along the paddle's longitudinal axis of the present invention. The above said concave curvature of the above said paddle may be symmetrical or assymetrical.

The present invention may or may not have the blade 1, designed with a curvature along the blade's longitudinal axis. The present invention may or may not, have longitudinal axis of the paddle coincident with the longitudinal axis of the shaft.

When a goalie is in his (or her) proper goaltending stance, the concave curvature of the present invention's paddle will give the above said goalie, a parabolic surface that can be placed

in the path of a puck being shot at the above said goalie's net. It is readily apparent to those skilled in geometry that a parabolic surface can allow you to focus the direction that objects will deflect off of the above said parabolic surface.

It will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art of invention that the above-described embodiment provides a goalie hockey stick 6 ,FIG3, where the above said goalie hockey stick 6, will allow a goalie to more accurately direct the puck when stopping the above said puck with the the paddle 2, of the above said goalie hockey stick 6.

Another advantage of the present goalkeepers stick is that due to the paddle's curvature along the longitudinal axis of the above said goalie stick 6, the above said goalie hockey stick 6, cannot lie flat against a flat surface 3, as shown in FIG 2B. It will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art of invention when a goalie drops the above said goalie stick 6, on the ice or any other flat surface 3, the above said goalie stick 6, will be easier to pick up off of the ice or any other flat surface 3, than a conventional goalie hockey stick 12.

Another advantage of the present goalie hockey stick 6, is the above said goalie hockey stick will improve the goalie's shooting capability. Due to the high lie of goalie hockey sticks as compared to a forward's hockey stick, the goalie often shoots off of the heel of the goalie hockey stick. It will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art of invention, that the present invention's curvature along the paddle's longitudinal axis will cause the heel of the above said goalie hockey stick 6, to angle under a puck 7, as shown in FIG 2A . The ability of the present invention to angle under a puck 7, when a goalie is shooting the above said puck 7, will allow the above said goalie raise the above said puck 7, easier than the above said goalie could raise the puck 7 with a conventional goalie hockey stick.

~~What is claimed is:~~

~~1. A goalie hockey stick comprising: a blade, a paddle and a shaft rigidly attached. The paddle section of the above said goalie hockey stick is curved along it's longitudinal axis. The curvature along the longitudinal axis of the above said paddle, will allow a goalie to more accurately focus the direction a puck will rebound off of the paddle, of the above said goalie.~~

GOALIE HOCKEY STICK : Concave curvature along the longitudinal axis of the paddle

Inventor: Kent W. Mayhew

Field of search273/67 A , 67 C, 67 Da

273/67 DB, 67 DC, 67 R, 81.3, 80 C

D21/210-216

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4,544,157 10/1985 Curtis 273/67

5,456,463 10/1995 Dolan et al. 273/67

D. 263,329 3/1982 Clayton D21/210

ABSTRACT

~~A goalie hockey stick including a shaft, a paddle and a blade. The paddle and blade are rigidly attached, to the shaft. The paddle is so designed that the paddle has a concave curvature along the paddle's longitudinal axis. The above said concave curvature of the paddle, may or may not be symmetrical, along the longitudinal axis of the above said paddle. Both the shaft and blade sections of the above said goalie hockey stick, may be straight or curved.~~

GOALIE HOCKEY STICK : Concave curvature along the longitudinal axis of the paddle

Inventor: Kent W. Mayhew

What is claimed is:

1. A goalie hockey stick comprising: a blade, a paddle and a shaft rigidly attached . The paddle section of the above said goalie hockey stick is curved along it's longitudinal axis. The curvature along the longitudinal axis of the above said paddle, will allow a goalie to more accurately focus the direction a puck will rebound off of the paddle, of the above said goalie hockey stick.

2. A goalie hockey stick of claim 1, in which the curvature of the longitudinal axis of the paddles prevents the above said goalie hockey stick, from laying flat against a flat surface. The above said goalie hockey stick, would be much easier for a goalie to pick up off of any flat surface than a conventional goalie stick.

3. A goalie hockey stick of claim 1, in which the curvature of the longitudinal axis of the paddle will cause heel of the above said goalie hockey stick, to angle under and lift a puck when a goalie shoots the above said puck with the above said goalie hockey stick.

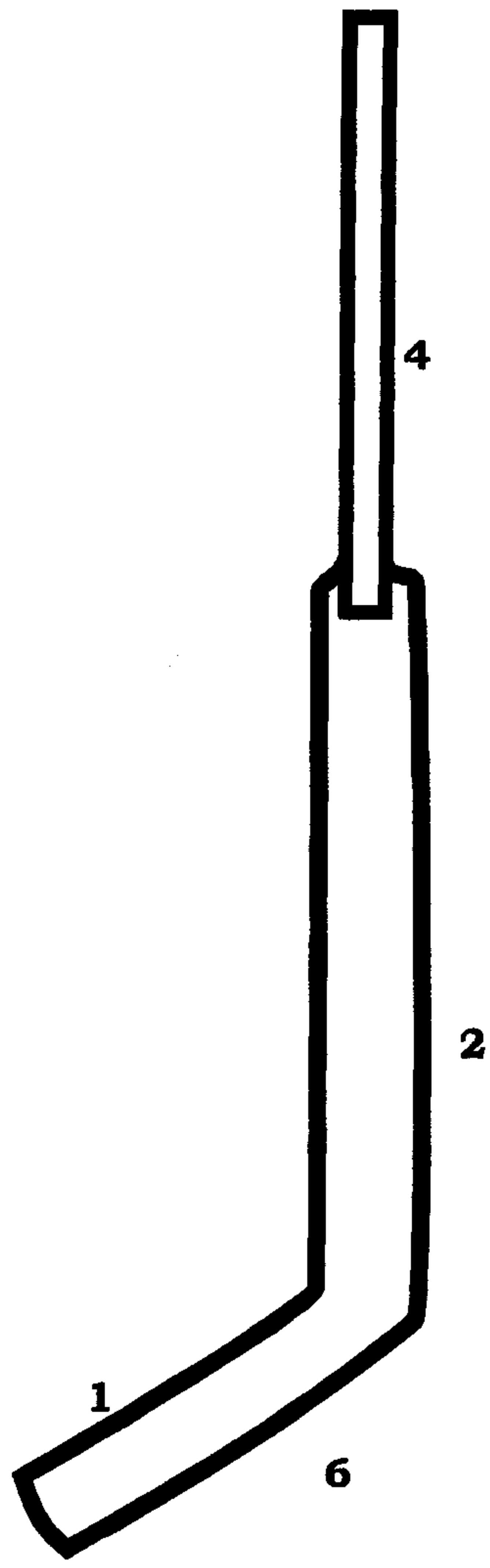


FIG 1

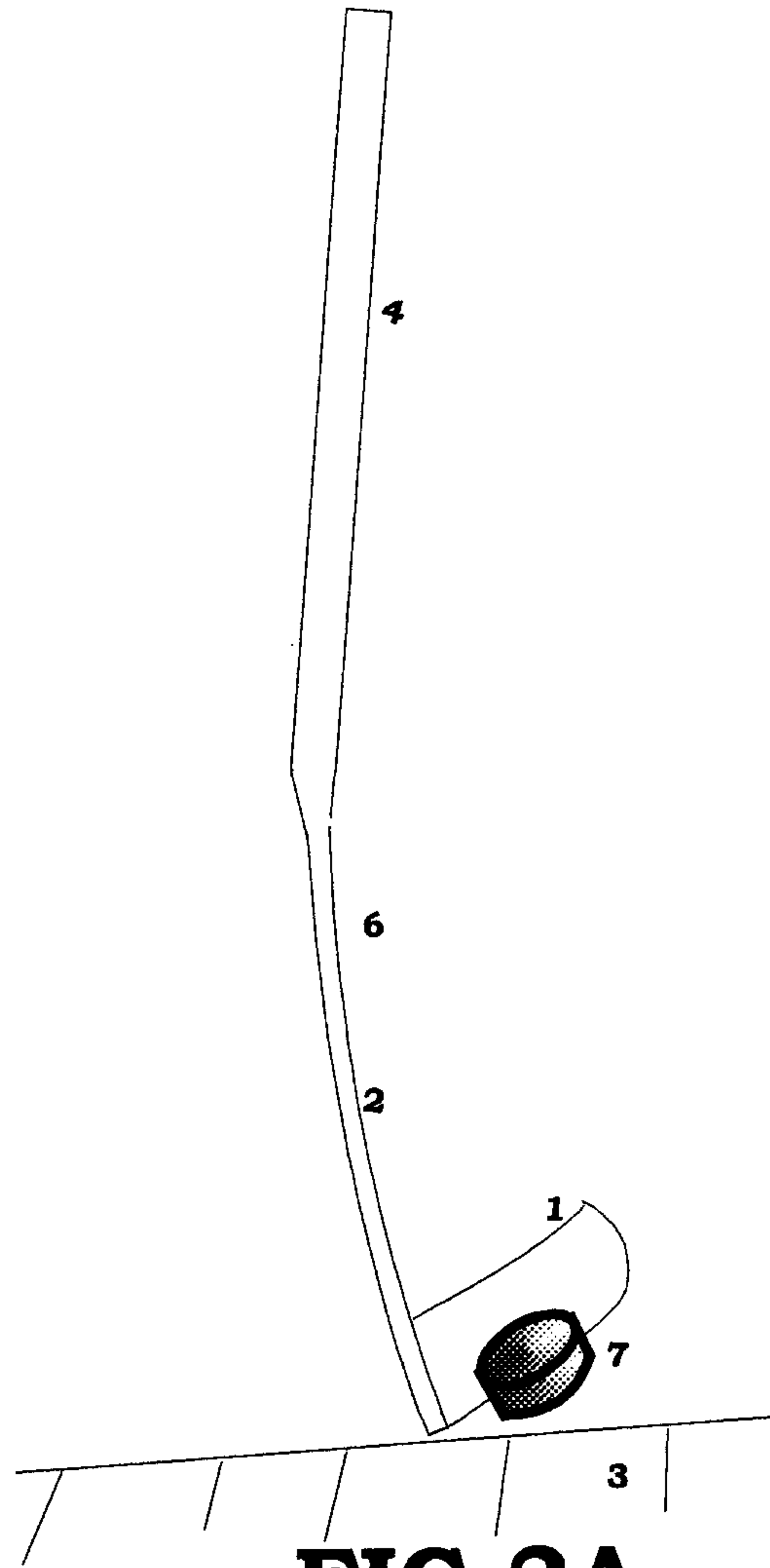


FIG 2A

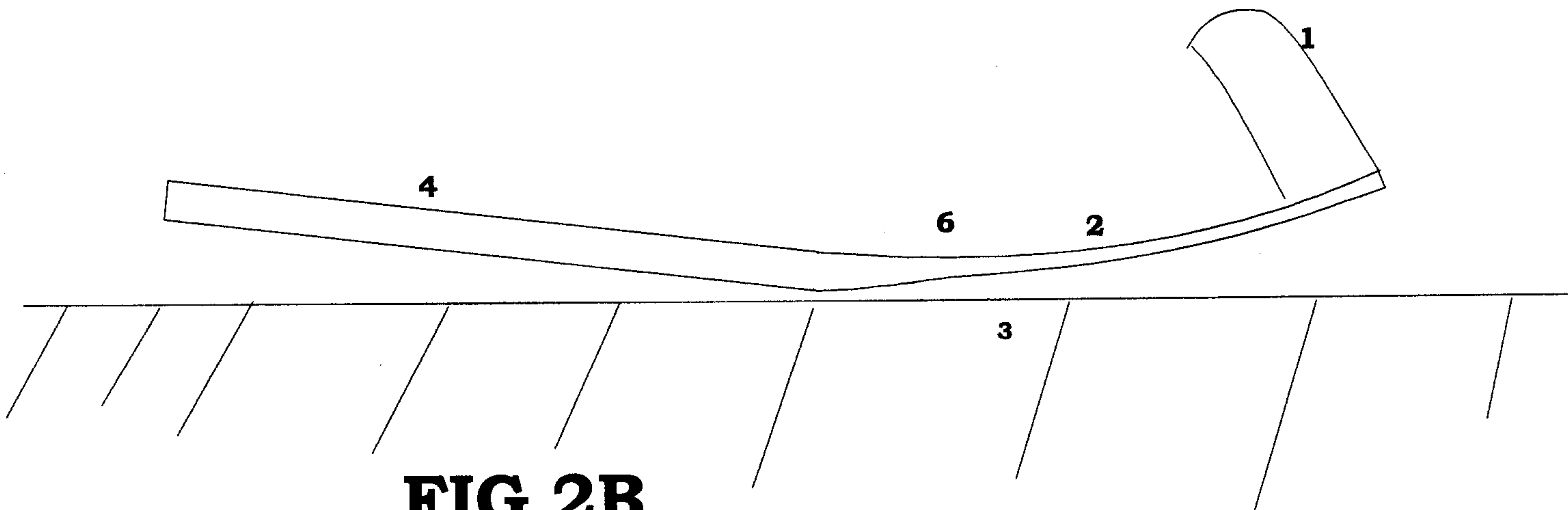


FIG 2B

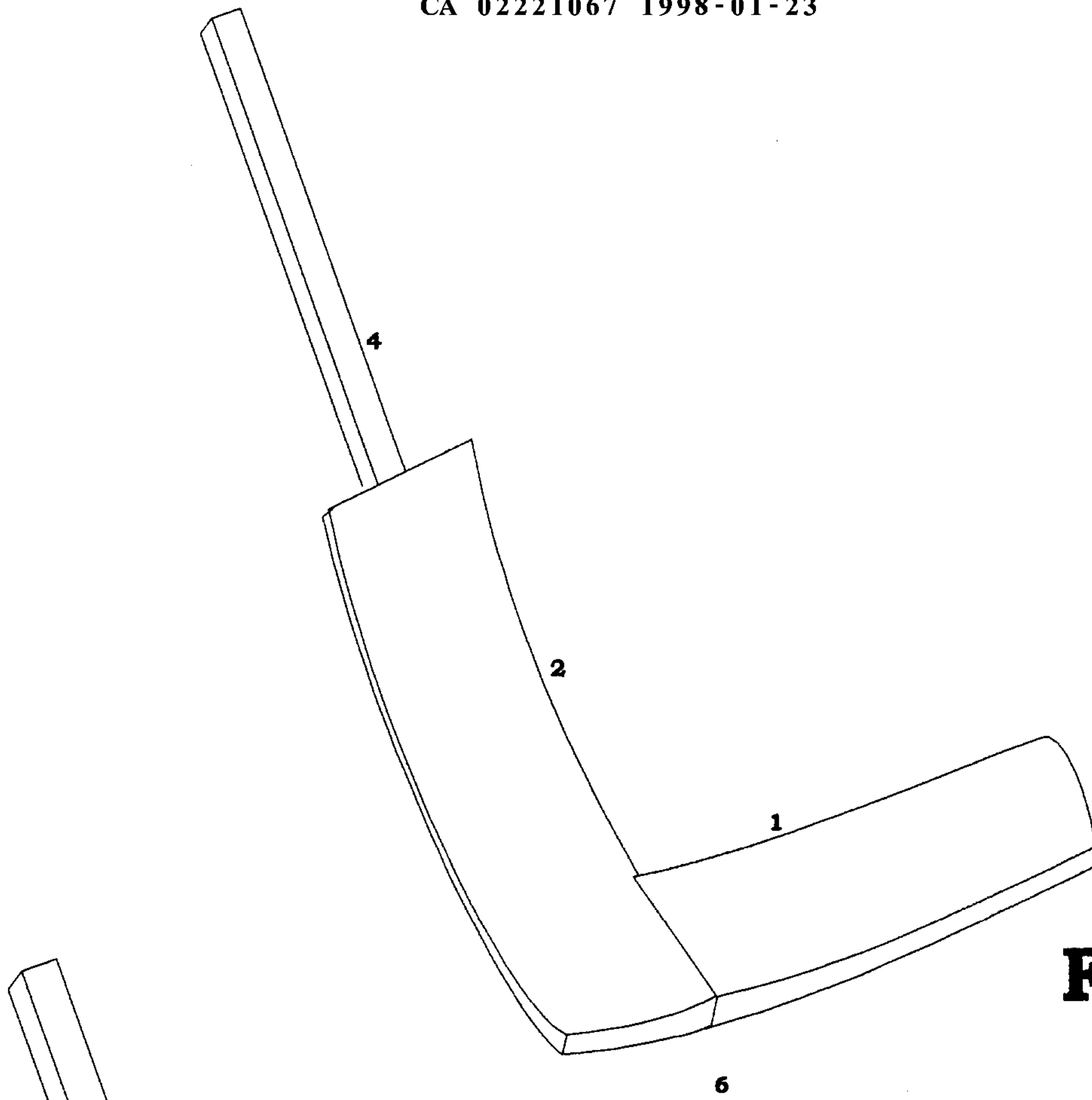


FIG 3

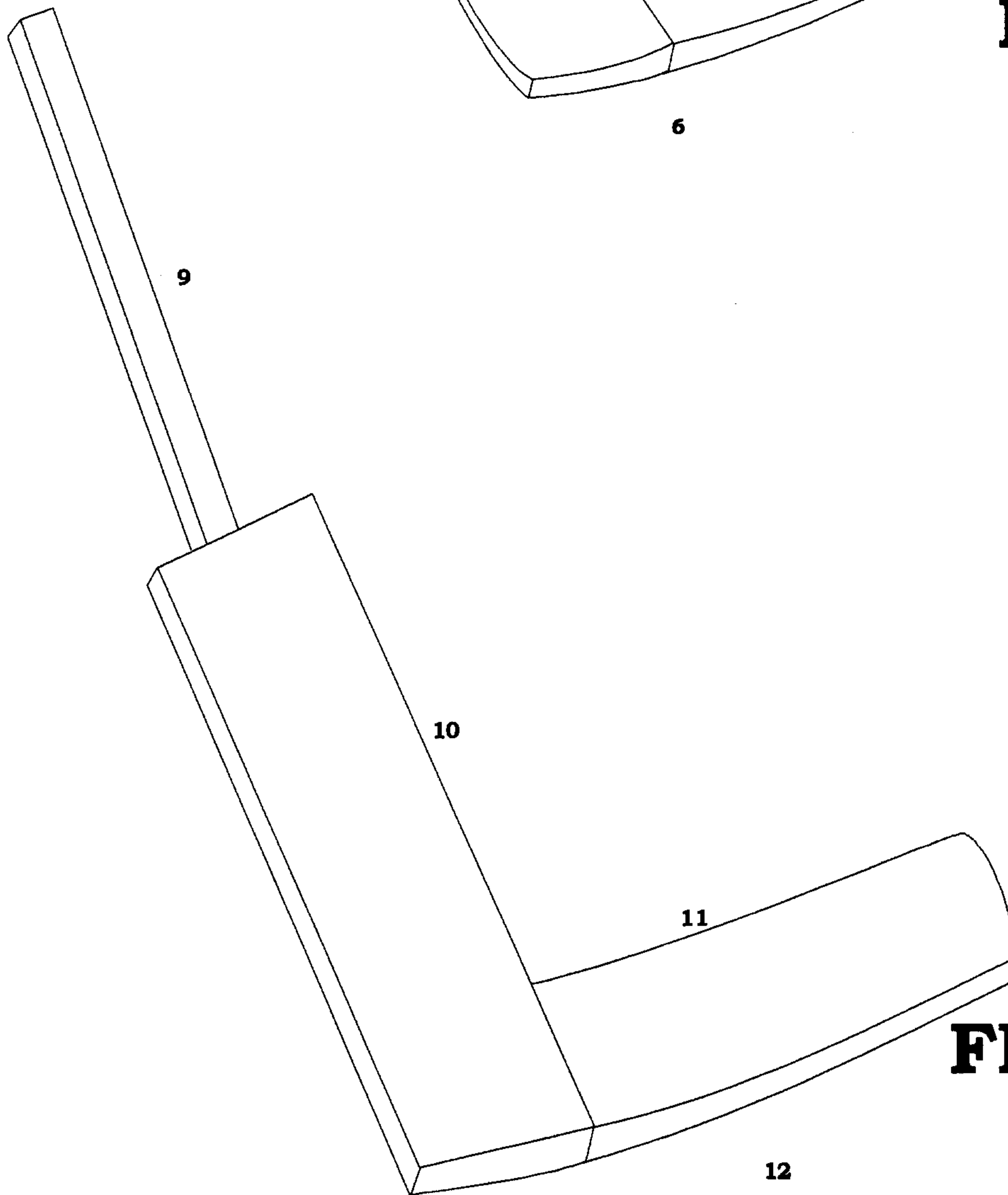


FIG 4