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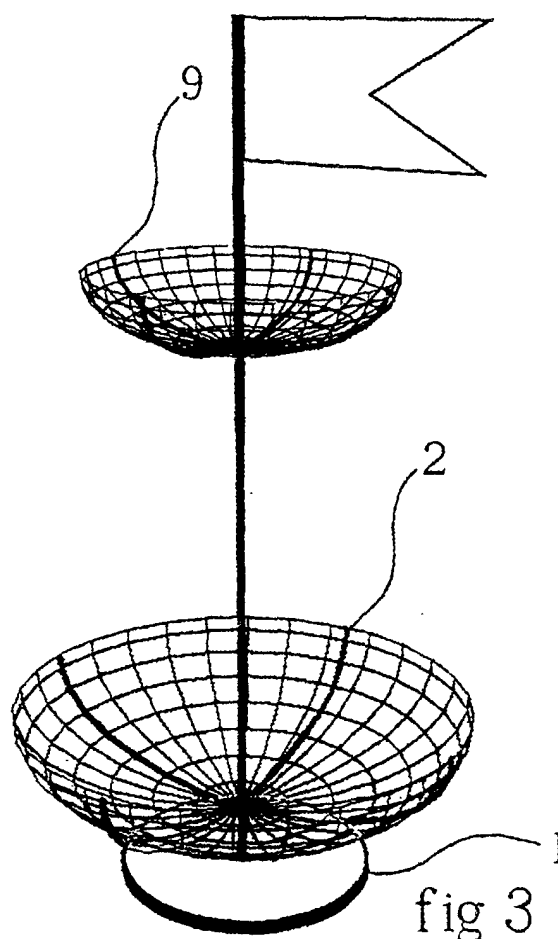
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EPC.

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(54) **Millenn golf**

(57) Millenn Golf is a recreational form of golf played indoors or outdoors in a yard, field, gymnasium or basketball court or other hard surface. Players use ordinary golf clubs to strike the ball (Nium Flyer) from a portable strip of synthetic turf, causing the Nium Flyer to fly toward a goal called the Netty Millenn in the fewest number of strikes until the Nium Flyer lands in and rests in the net of the target (Netty Millenn). Each player then removes the Nium Flyer places it on the synthetic turf and proceeds to repeat the game process completing the course as determined by the players and/or the game master. The object of the game is to complete the course in the fewest strokes as possible as in regular golf. The player with the fewest strokes, as in regular golf, is the winner. Millenn Golf is an economical, portable and flexible form of golf which can be enjoyed by people of differing ages in all types of weather, even indoors. Millenn Golf also has sporting and recreational challenges which are different than regular golf.



**Description**

**[0001]** The present invention relates to a recreational form of golf played in the yard, field, gymnasium, or basketball court whether indoors or outdoor and provides a portable golf game which can be used indoors and outdoors where no other traditional golf can be played. Millenn Golf is designed to be a more economical and challenging way of golfing than regular golf; yet it is complementary to regular golf and any derivatives thereof.

**[0002]** Several innovations for the game of golf have been devised. Although these innovations exist, they do not provide as suitable, economical and a challenging method of portable golf as the present invention. Millenn Golf is a flexible yet challenging indoor and outdoor game which may be played by people of differing ages with enjoyment, entertainment and variety without great expense.

**[0003]** It is the object of the present invention to provide a portable golf game to be used indoors and outdoors where traditional golf may not be played. It is designed to be a more economical, challenging and simpler form of golf; yet it is complementary to traditional golf and any derivatives thereof. In Millenn Golf, each player uses an ordinary golf club to strike the Nium Flyer from a portable strip of synthetic turf, causing the Nium Flyer to soar into the air towards or into the Netty Millenn. The goal is to strike the Nium Flyer as few times as possible with the golf club until the Nium Flyer lands into and rests in the Netty Millenn. Each player then removes the Nium Flyer from the Netty Millenn and proceeds to repeat the game process to any number of Netty Millenn in the course as determined by the players or game master for the day. The player with the fewest strokes, as in regular golf, is the winner. Alternatively, points may be used and assigned for successfully landing the Nium in the upper or lower Netty Millenn, depending upon the particular game chosen at that time by the players or game master. The course may consist of one or more Netty Millenn as deemed necessary and desirable by the players and/or the game master for the day.

**[0004]** The players may choose from anyone of four Nium Flyers in playing Millenn Golf. Unlike regular golf, where up to 14 clubs are available to be used with the same ball, the Millenn golfer uses only two clubs, a driver and/or a lofted iron, and may choose any one of the four Nium Flyers. There are two Velo Niums, the small size and the large size. The other two Nium Flyers are called Stealthy Nium and SC Nium. The players or the game master for the day decides which Nium Flyer is to be used for a particular game. Likewise, the players and/or the game master for the day decides the points given for the goal achieved before the start of any particular game being played. All participants must agree on the rules and points of the game in advance. The game master for the day is responsible for all rule making and decisions on rule contests and scoring disputes, if any. The players are responsible for their own correct scoring.

**[0005]** Velo Nium, small size, is a dimpled vinyl and/or plastic object in the shape of an American-type football. It is 78 millimeters (mm) in diameter and 104 mm long. It has plastic wing-fins inserted in the rear of the object around a plastic shaft/tube which is 3.6 mm in diameter and 78 mm in length. The small Velo Nium is lighter than the larger one and is suggested for use by children.

**[0006]** Velo Nium, large size, is a dimpled vinyl and/or plastic object in the shape of an American-type football. It is 126 mm in diameter and 168 mm in length. It has plastic wing-fins inserted in the rear of the object around a plastic shaft/tube. The total weight of this object is approximately 80 grams.

**[0007]** Stealthy Nium is a dimpled vinyl and/or plastic ball which is 42 mm in diameter. It has plastic wing-fins inserted into the ball around a plastic shaft/tube. The overall length of Stealth Nium is 110 mm, and the maximum width is 78 mm.

**[0008]** SC Nium is a dimpled vinyl and/or plastic ball which is 42 mm in diameter, with a total overall length of 110 mm. It is a one-piece injection-blow-molded object. SC Nium is unique, with a 3600 spinning solid wing-hub assembly, to which is attached the solid plastic wing. The wingspan diameter is 80 mm. SC Nium comes in many bright and pastel colors for multiplayer identification purposes.

**[0009]** The Netty Millenn is composed of an umbrella like frame with doubled fabric netting on the base of the inverted umbrella with a smaller upper net, topped by the Millenn Golf Flag, all of which constitute the goal of the people playing Millenn Golf.

**[0010]** The Netty Millenn may be deployed in either the single net or the double net format and may either be inserted into the metal spike which is driven into the ground, or it may be mounted on the 30 mm base plate for use on hard surfaces.

**[0011]** The players use either a driver or an ordinary lofted golf club in striking the Nium Flyer which rests on a strip of synthetic turf at the start of the stroke by the player. After the stroke is played, the player then carries the strip of synthetic turf to the location of the Nium Flyer, places the Nium Flyer on the synthetic turf and repeats the process until the Nium Flyer comes to rest in the netting of the Netty Millenn.

**[0012]** Millenn Golf can be played almost anywhere in all kinds of climates on just about any kind of surface. Millenn Golf is environmentally friendly, demanding, and leaving little or no damage to the area where it is played. In playing Millenn Golf, the players may use a strip of synthetic turf as a launching mat. The launching mat is 400 mm x 200 mm x 20 mm. The launching mat is green with white letters down the center to guide the stroke being played by the player to avoid damage to the surface upon which Millenn Golf is being played. The letters on the launch mat are as follows

in a line down the center of the green launch pad: E N V I R φ N M A T T L E N N. The launch mat also is lettered with a white Japanese katakana with the same name as in English letters. Millenn Golf is designed to be enjoyed by all ages across all cultures, all of which is environmentally friendly yet demanding.

5 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

**[0013]**

- 10 Figure 1 is a top view of the Netty Millenn with both upper and lower net in the fully opened position;
- Figure 2 a side view of the Netty Millenn with both upper and lower net in the open position;
- Figure 3 is a side perspective view of the Netty Millenn with the base plate assembly;
- 15 Figure 4 is an exploded version showing the parts of the Netty Millenn in the side view with the ground pointed spike and base plate alternatives;
- Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view of the connection between the spike and the lower frame tube on Netty Millenn;
- 20 Figure 6 is a cross-sectional view of the connection between the lower and the upper frame tubes of Netty Millenn;
- Figure 7 is a cross-sectional view of the connection of the lower frame tube with the base plate of Netty Millenn;
- 25 Figure 8 is a top view of the SC Nium Flyer;
- Figure 9 a side perspective view of the SC Nium Flyer;
- Figure 10 a side view of SC Nium Flyer;
- 30 Figure 11 a base view of SC Nium Flyer, looking from the base of the object toward the head inside the cone of the base of SC Nium Flyer;
- Figure 12 is a cross-sectional location of SC Nium Flyer top view;
- 35 Figure 13 is a cross-sectional view of the SC Nium Flyer head and tail section;
- Figure 14 is a perspective view of the tail section of SC Nium Flyer without the ball head;
- Figure 15 is a top view of Stealthy Nium Flyer with four wing-fins;
- 40 Figure 16 is a perspective view of the Stealthy Nium Flyer with four wing-fins;
- Figure 17 is a side view of Stealthy Nium Flyer with four wing-fins;
- 45 Figure 18 is a bottom view looking toward the head of Stealthy Nium Flyer with four wings;
- Figure 19 is a top view of Stealthy Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;
- 50 Figure 20 a perspective view of Stealthy Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;
- Figure 21 a side view of Stealthy Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;
- Figure 22 is another side view of Stealthy Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;
- 55 Figure 23 is a top view of Velo Nium Flyer with four wing-fins;
- Figure 24 is a perspective view of Velo Nium Flyer with four wing-fins;

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Figure 25 a side view of Velo Nium Flyer with four wing-fins;

Figure 26 a base view of Velo Nium Flyer with four wing-fins.

Figure 27 a top view of Velo Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;

Figure 28 is a perspective view of Velo Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;

Figure 29 a side view of Velo Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;

Figure 30 is another side view of Velo Nium Flyer with three wing-fins;

Figure 31 is a perspective view of Netty Millenn fully assembled with the base plate assembly and the Millenn Golf flag with logo;

Figure 32 is a detail of Millenn Golf flag;

Figure 33 is a perspective view of the E N V I R Ø N M A T T L E N N mat with white English letters down the center;

Figure 34 is a top view of the E N V I R Ø N M A T T L E N N mat with white Japanese *katakana* down the center.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

**[0014]** This detailed description of Figures 1 through 34 refers to the figures by number in describing the physical objects used in playing Millenn Golf. In describing the figure numbers, the following reference numerals will be used herein and correspond to the figures:

|                                  |                                                |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1-Base plate assembly            | 31-Badminton-style fairing                     |
| 2-Lower net                      | 32-Openings in 31                              |
| 3-Flag                           | 33- Threads in 30                              |
| 4-Upper net                      | 34- Thick base of 31                           |
| 5-Upper frame tube               | 35-Screw/shoulder screw                        |
| 6-Lower frame tube               | 36-Tapered wall in 31                          |
| 7-Net rib                        | 37-Hole in 31                                  |
| 8-Pointed spike                  | 38-Spherical housing in 31                     |
| 9-Upper net rib                  | 39-Unitized ball                               |
| 10-Net rib mounting strip        | 40-Four wing-fin arrangement                   |
| 11-Pivot                         | 41-Center tube/rod                             |
| 12-Lower clamp                   | 42- Tube/rod end                               |
| 13-Upper clamp                   | 43-Three wing-fin arrangement                  |
| 14-Upper net rib mounting strip  | 44-Recess on wing-fin edge to expose more side |
| 15-Pivot                         | 45-Recessed edge in 43                         |
| 16-Lower frame tube shoulder     | 46-Upper portion of football-type head         |
| 17-Lower frame tube insert tube  | 47-Lower portion of football-type head         |
| 18-Pointed ground spike shoulder | 48-Wing-fin                                    |
| 19-Pointed spike tube            | 49-Center tube/rod                             |
| 20-Base plate                    | 50-Football-type head broadside                |
| 21-Base plate tube               | 51-Recess                                      |
| 22-Lower umbrella snap strap     | 52-Recessed edge of wing-fin                   |
| 23-Upper umbrella snap strap     | 53-Tube/rod end                                |
| 30-Ball                          |                                                |

**[0015]** Referring now to Figure 1 through Figure 3, these depict the general construction of the Netty Millenn with both upper and lower nets in the open position assembled on the shaft which is inserted into the base plate 1. The lower net 2 is substantially larger than the upper net 4. These nets are constructed of nylon netting material, assembled

around and attached to the metal ribs 7 and 9, which are in turn attached to the upper frame tube 5 and lower frame tube 6. In Figure 1 through Figure 3, the base plate assembly 1 is depicted. The flag 3 is then mounted in the top of upper frame tube 5 and above the upper net 4.

[0016] In Figure 4, again the Netty Millenn is depicted in a disassembled or exploded version with upper frame tube 5 and lower frame tube 6; upper net 4 and flag 3 are disconnected from lower frame tube 6 and base plate assembly 1. The pointed spike 8 is used when ordinary ground or turf is the location for Millenn Golf. The spine 8 is inserted into lower frame tube 6 in place of base plate assembly 1. Upper net 4 and net rib 7 are also shown.

[0017] Figure 5 depicts the cross-sectional detail of the lower frame tube 6, with the pointed spike assembly inserted into the base of lower frame tube 6 when pointed spike tube 19 is inserted inside the sleeve of lower frame tube 6. The assembly using spike 8 with the pointed ground spike shoulder 18 is securely fastened to lower frame tube 6 by the lower clamp 12. Lower net 2 is mounted in net rib mounting strip 10 and moves about pivot 11.

[0018] Figure 6 depicts a cross-sectional detail of the connection between upper frame tube 5 and lower frame tube 6, which are securely fastened by upper clamp 13. In this assembly detail, the lower frame tube shoulder 16 on the top of lower frame tube 6 prevents any further insertion of the lower frame tube insert tube 17 further into the base of upper frame tube 5. The upper net rib 9 is mounted in the upper net rib mounting strip 14 at pivot 15.

[0019] Figure 7 is a cross-sectional detail of the base plate assembly 1 as it attaches to the lower frame tube 6 by means of insertion of the base plate tube 21 into 6. Again, lower clamp 12 is used to securely fasten those two members together. Base plate tube 21 is threaded into base plate 20 to securely hold those two components together when the base plate assembly 1 is used in playing Millenn Golf. The net rib mounting strip 10 and pivot 11 are also located in this drawing, Figure 7, where the lower net 2 is attached for deployment.

[0020] Figure 8, Figure 9, Figure 10, Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, and Figure 14 all concern SC Nium Flyer. Ball 30 is mounted on the badminton-style fairing 31 which contains numerous openings 32. In Figure 11, the view from the base of the badminton-style fairing 31 shows the screw/shoulder screw 35 as it attaches ball 30 to badminton-style fairing 31.

Regarding the cross-section line across Figure 12, the threads 33 are bored into the ball 30. The screw/shoulder screw 35 is then screwed into threads 33 through 34, the thick base of 31. The tapered wall in 31 is identified by 36.

[0021] On Figure 14, the badminton-style fairing 31 is depicted with 37, hole in 31. The spherical housing in 31 is identified at 38, which is the location on which 30 rests in the fully assembled position once screw/shoulder screw 35 is screwed into 33, the threads in 30.

[0022] Figure 15, Figure 16, Figure 17, and Figure 18 concern the Stealthy Nium Flyer with a four wing-fin arrangement 40. The unitized ball 39 is mounted on the center tube/rod 41 on the opposite end of tube/rod end 42.

[0023] Figure 19, Figure 20, Figure 21, and Figure 22 depict the Stealthy Nium Flyer with the three wing-fin assembly 43 attached to the unitized ball 39. The recess on the wing-fin edge 44 exposes more of the side, and 45 is the recessed edge on wing-fin 43.

[0024] Figure 23, Figure 24, Figure 25, and Figure 26 depict the Velo Nium Flyer with upper portion of football head 46 and lower portion of football head 47. These FIGS. 23 -26 depict the Velo Nium Flyer in the four wing-fin assembly 48, which are attached to center tube/rod 49.

[0025] Figure 28, Figure 29, and Figure 30 depict upper football head 46 and lower portion 47 of Velo Nium Flyer with football broadside 50 resting on and mounted on center tube/rod 49. In this version of Velo Nium Flyer, a three wing-fin 52 assembly is used. The wing-fins are attached to the football broadside head 50 and are also attached at tube/rod end 53. Lower portion of football head 47 recesses at 51.

[0026] Figure 31 is the fully assembled Netty Millenn with the upper net 4 and lower net 2 in the collapsed position, with the upper net rib 9 and the lower net rib 7 in the folded or collapsed position. The upper net snap strap 23 is ready for closure, as is the lower net snap strap 22.

[0027] Figure 32 is the Millenn Golf flag which is either white, orange, or green.

[0028] Figure 33 is the E N V I R φ N M A T T L E N N strip of indoor-outdoor synthetic turf or carpet on which appears down the center line the word E N V I R φ M A T T L E N N in white letters on the synthetic turf mat used in Millenn Golf. The mat measures 400 mm x 200 mm x 20 mm.

[0029] Figure 34 is another drawing of E N V I R φ N M A T T L E N N with the Japanese *katakana* down the center line of the E N V I R φ N M A T T L E N N. Again, this mat is the Japanese version of E N V I R φ N M A T T L E N N using white letters down the center line of the synthetic turf mat used in playing Millenn Golf.

## RULES OF MILLENN GOLF

[0030] In Millenn Golf, each player uses an ordinary golf club to strike the Nium Flyer from a portable strip of synthetic turf, E N V I R φ N M A T T L E N N, causing the Nium Flyer to soar into the air toward or into the Netty Millenn in the fewest strikes of the Nium Flyer with the golf club as possible until the Nium Flyer lands into and rests in the Netty Millenn. Each player then removes the Nium Flyer from the Netty Millenn and proceeds to repeat the game process

to any number of Netty Millenn in the course as determined by the players or the game master for the day. The player with the fewest strokes, as in regular golf, is the winner of that particular match or event. Alternatively, points may be used and assigned for successfully landing the Nium Flyer in the upper or lower Netty Millenn, depending upon the particular game chosen at that time by the players or game master. The course may consist of one or more Netty

Millenn as desired and deemed necessary by the players and/or the game master for the day or that particular event. **[0031]** The players choose from anyone of four Nium Flyers in playing Millenn Golf. In Millenn Golf, the players use only two clubs, a driver and/or a lofted iron, to strike the Nium Flyer chosen for that particular game or portion of the course. The players use either a driver or an ordinary lofted golf club in striking the Nium Flyer which must rest on the E N V I R O N M A T T L E N N at the start of each stroke by the player. After the stroke is played, the player then carries the E N V I R O N M A T T L E N N to the location of the Nium Flyer, places the Nium Flyer on the synthetic turf, and repeats the process until the Nium Flyer comes to rest in the netting of the Netty Millenn.

**[0032]** The players or the game master decides which Nium Flyer is to be used for a particular game. The players or the game master decides the number of points given for the goal achieved before the game starts. All players must first agree on the rules, points, and scoring for that particular game before starting. If the players cannot agree, the game master decides the rules applicable and decides all scoring disputes and rule contests.

**[0033]** The players are responsible for their own correct scoring records. A player may be disqualified by the game master for incorrect scoring records.

## Claims

### 1. Equipment for use in a portable golf game, comprising:

an upstanding support having upper and lower ends;  
a lower dish-shaped net having upper and lower end portions and an opening formed in said upper end portion;  
said lower dish-shaped net being mounted on said support; and  
an upper dish-shaped net having upper and lower end portions and an opening formed in said upper end portion; said upper dish-shaped net being mounted on said support above said lower dish-shaped net; said opening of said upper dish-shaped net having a diameter different than the diameter of the opening in said lower dish-shaped net;  
said upper and lower dish-shaped nets being selectively collapsible with respect to said upstanding support.

2. The equipment of claim 14 wherein said upper dish-shaped net has a smaller diameter than said lower dish-shaped net.

3. The equipment of claim 14 wherein said upper and lower dish-shaped nets are removably mounted on said upstanding support.

4. The equipment of claim 14 further comprising a ball having upper and lower sections.

5. The equipment of claim 17 wherein said sections of said ball are semi-hemispherical.

6. The equipment of claim 17 wherein said upper section of said ball is generally parabolic-shaped.

7. The equipment of claim 17 wherein said ball is provided with a plurality of vane members extending outwardly from the lower section of said ball.

8. The equipment of claim 20 wherein said vane members have a generally triangular shape.

9. The equipment of claim 21 wherein each of said vane members includes an inner edge having upper and lower ends, a lower edge having inner and outer ends, and an outer edge extending upwardly and inwardly from said outer end of said lower edge toward said lower section.

10. The equipment of claim 22 wherein said vane members are operatively connected to one another adjacent their inner edges.

11. The equipment of claim 22 wherein said ball is further provided with an elongated rod having first and second ends and side portions; said first end of said rod being operatively connected to said lower section and the inner edges

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of said vane members being operatively connected to the side portions of said rod.

**12.** The equipment of claim 17 wherein said ball has an outer surface having a plurality of depressions formed therein.

5 **13.** The equipment of claim 14 further comprising a golf club.

**14.** The equipment of claim 26 wherein said golf club is a lofting iron.

10 **15.** The equipment of claim 26 wherein said golf club is a driver

**16.** The equipment of claim 14 further comprising a portable mat adapted for supporting a ball thereon in a starting position.

15 **17.** The equipment of claim 29 wherein said portable mat is at least partially comprised of artificial turf.

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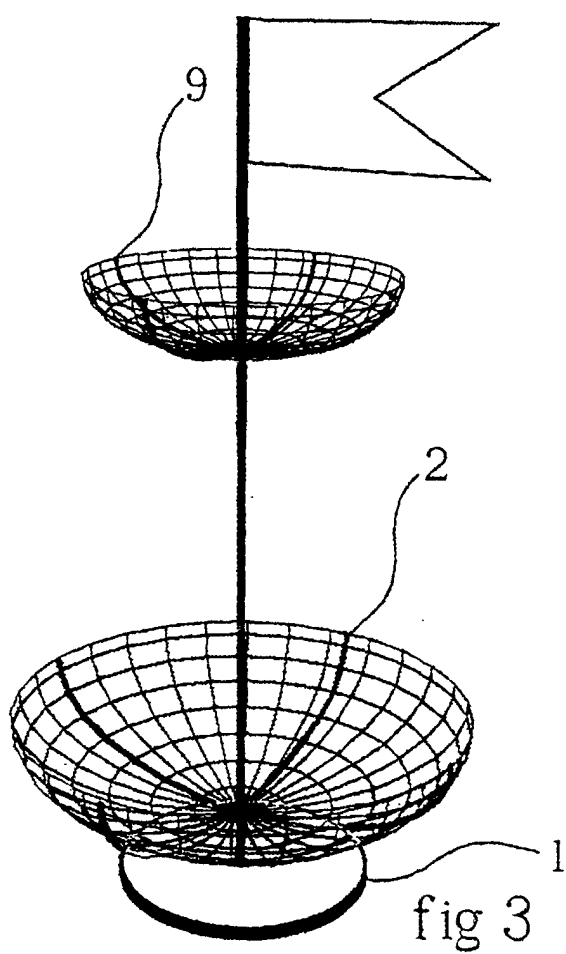
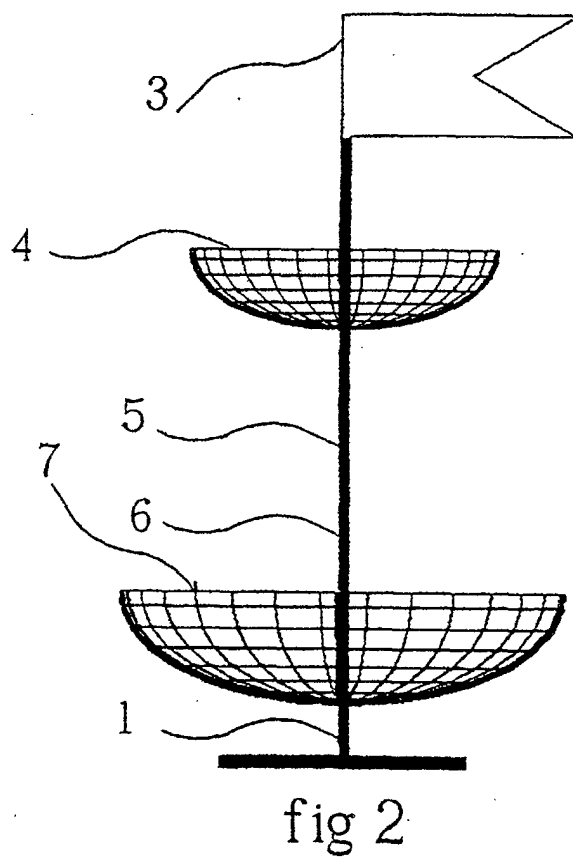
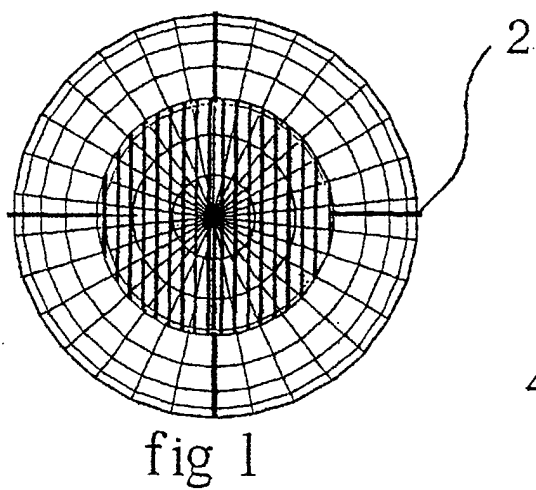
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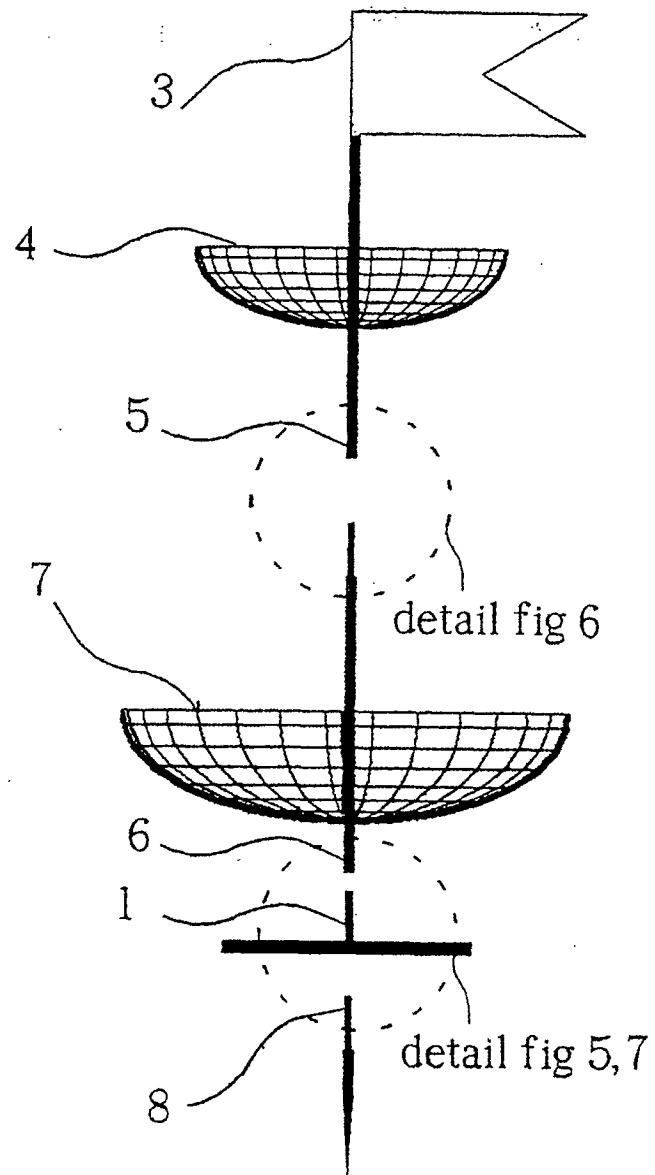
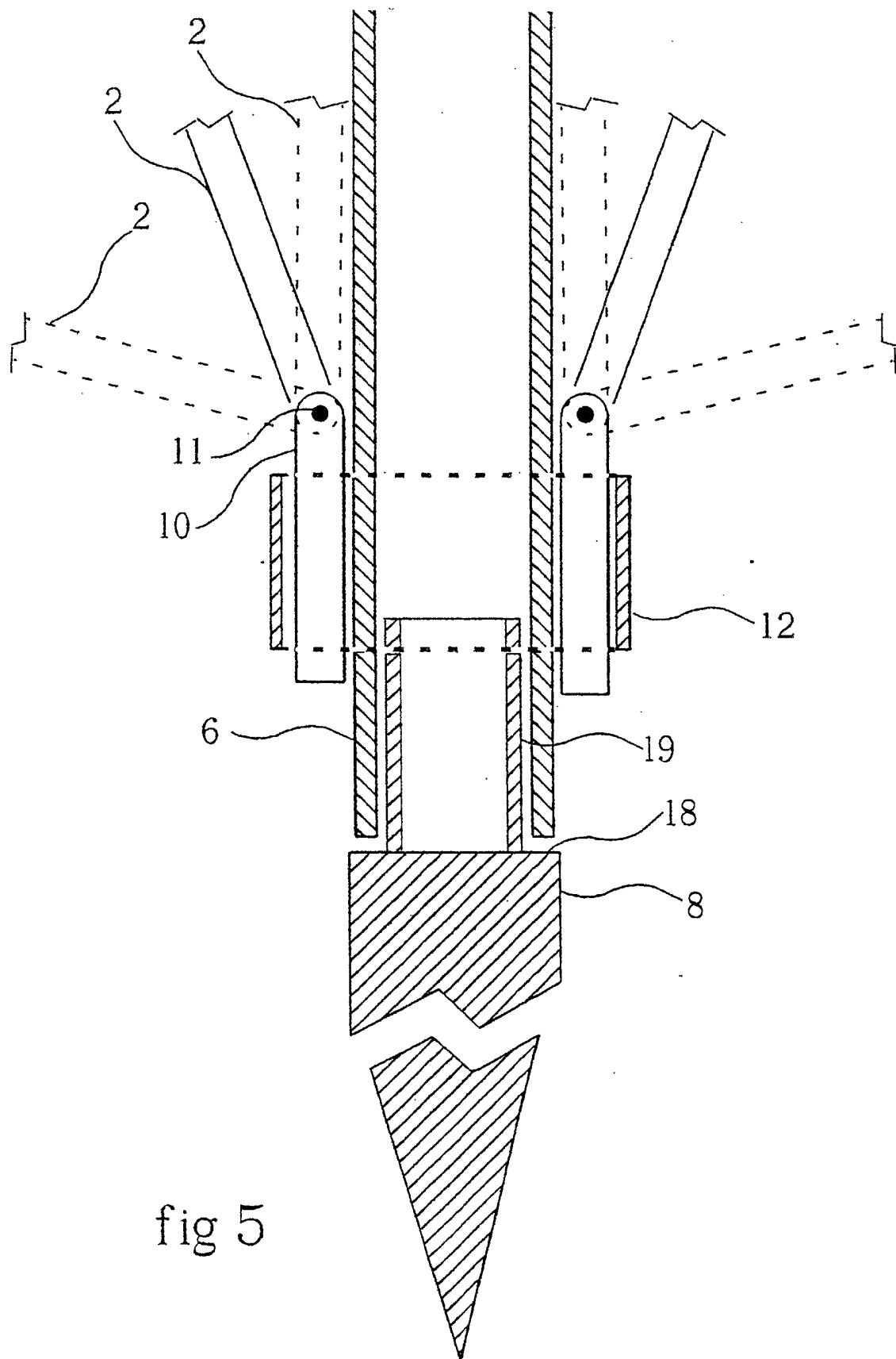


fig 4



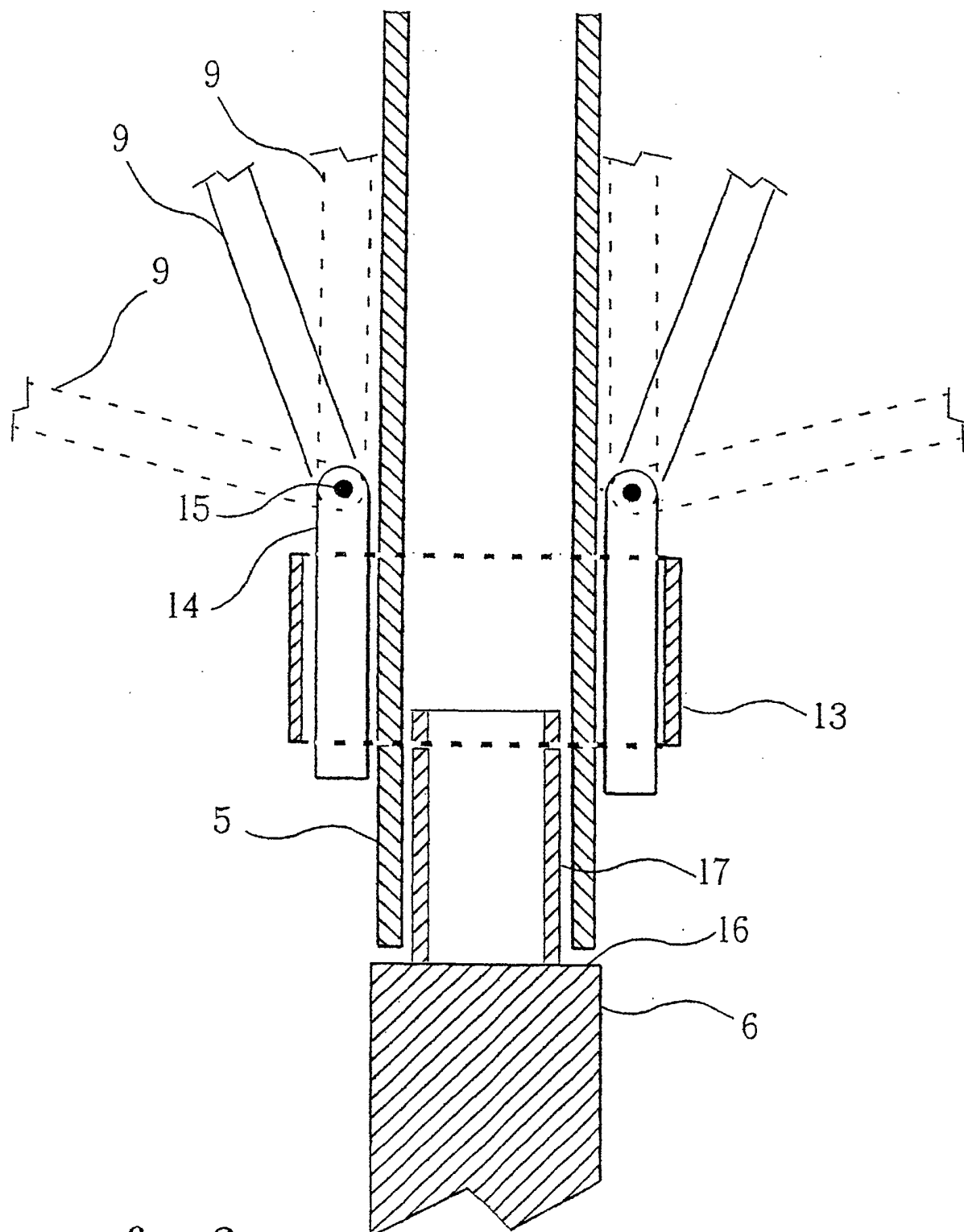
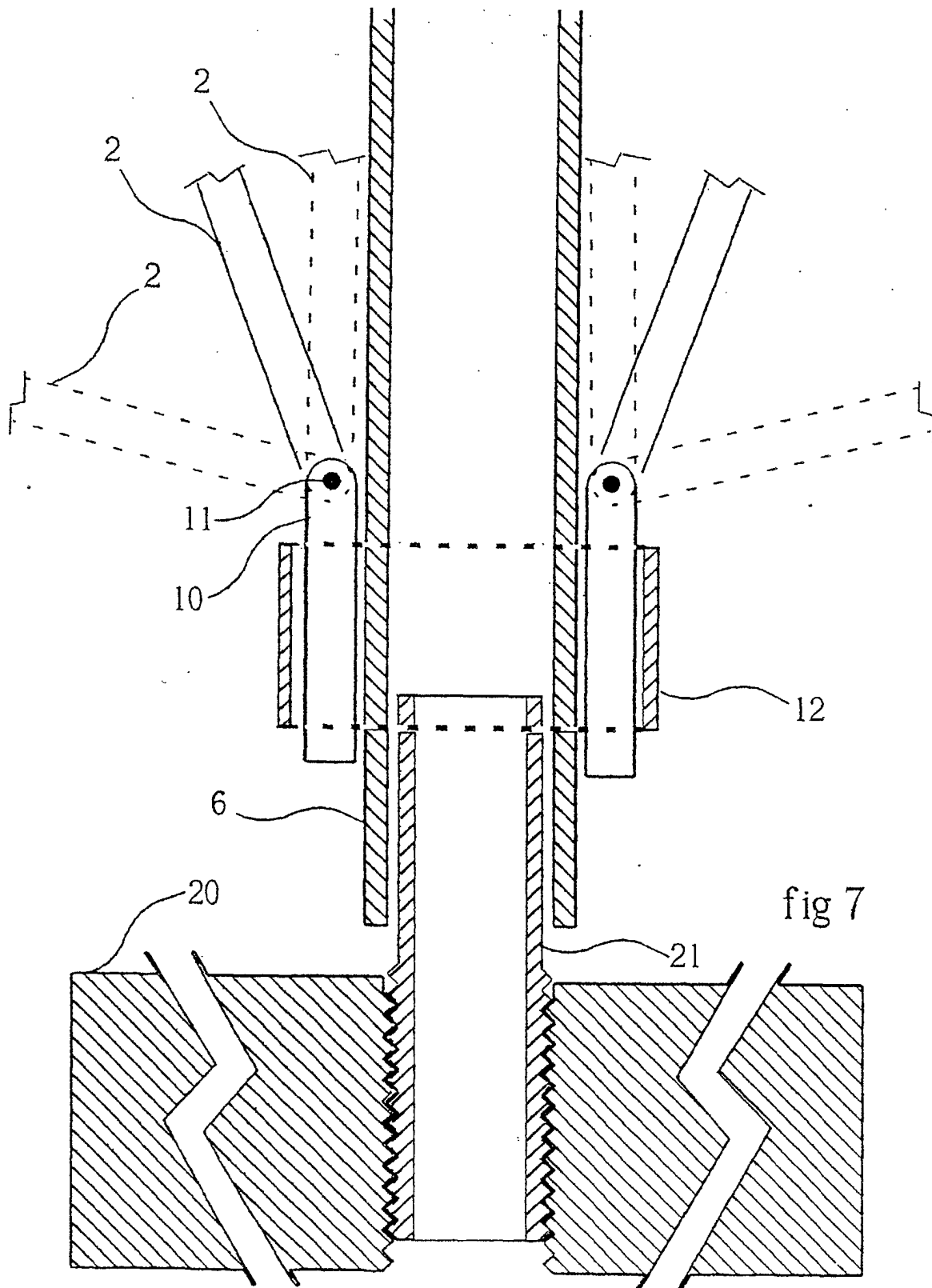


fig 6



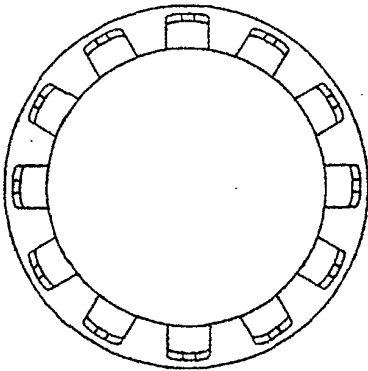


fig. 8

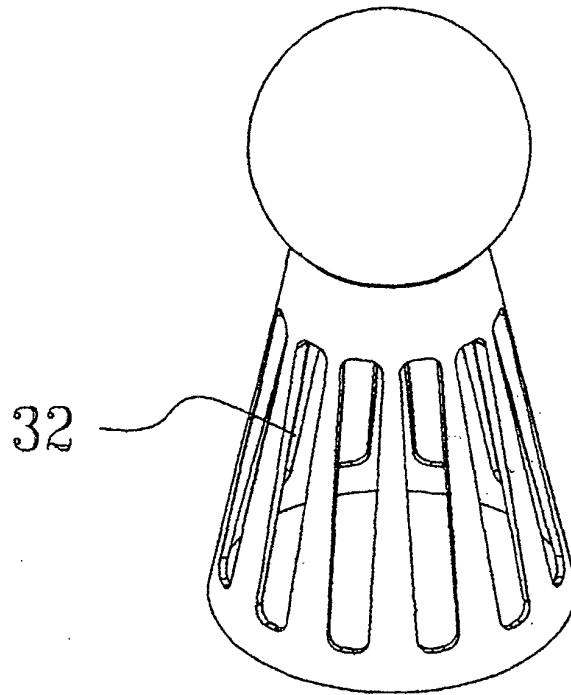


fig. 9

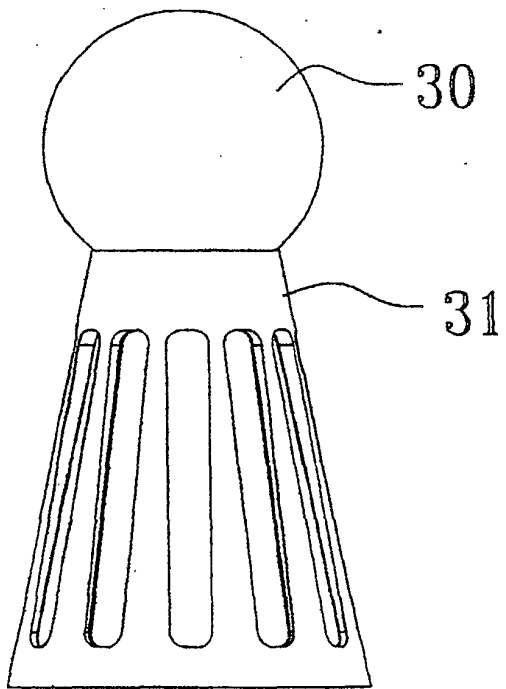


fig. 10

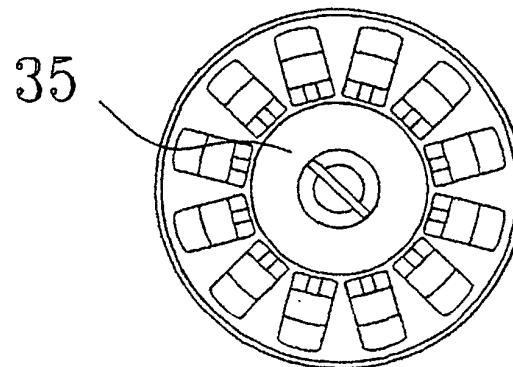
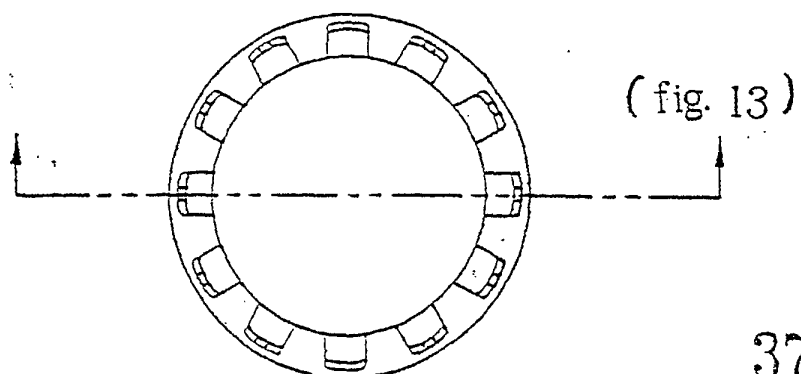


fig. 11



(fig. 13)

fig. 12

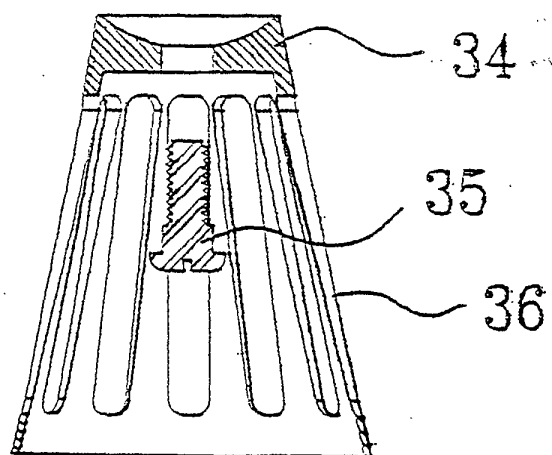
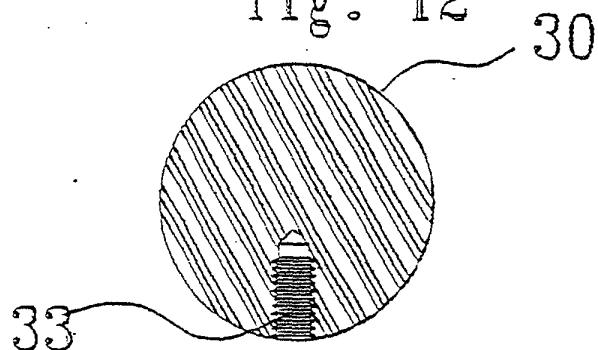


fig. 13

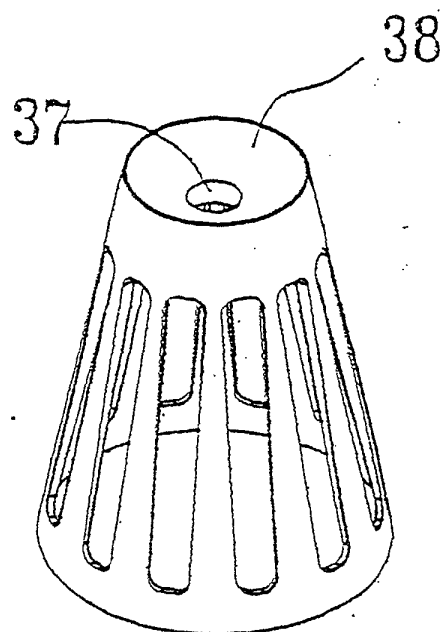


fig. 14

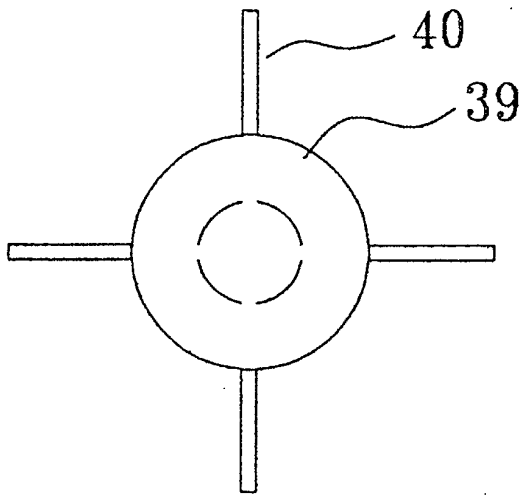


fig. 15

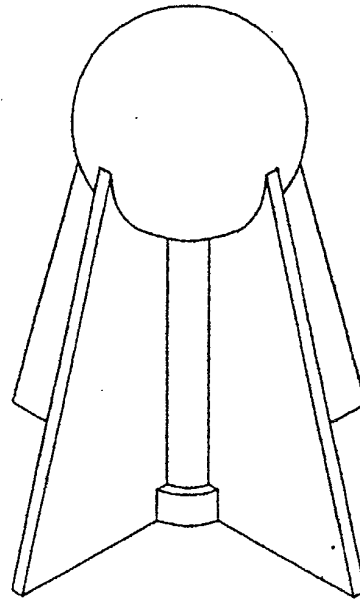


fig. 16

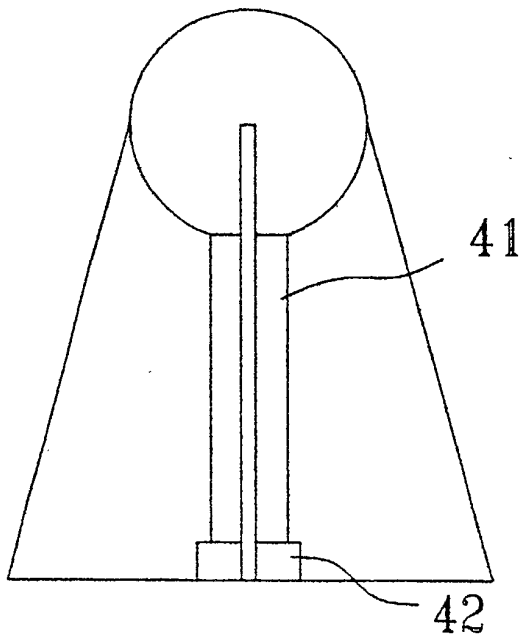


fig. 17

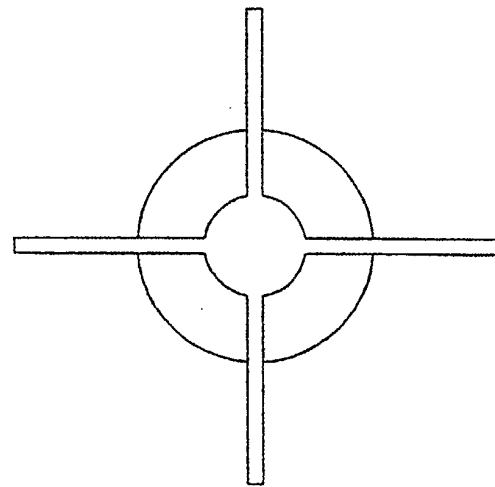


fig. 18

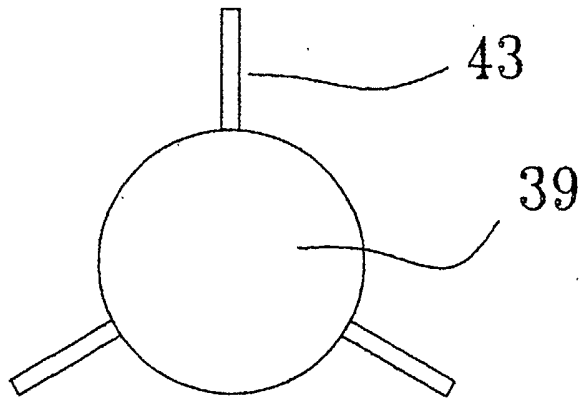


fig. 19

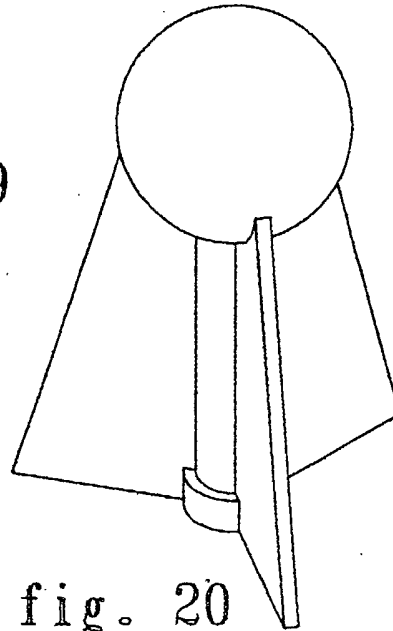


fig. 20

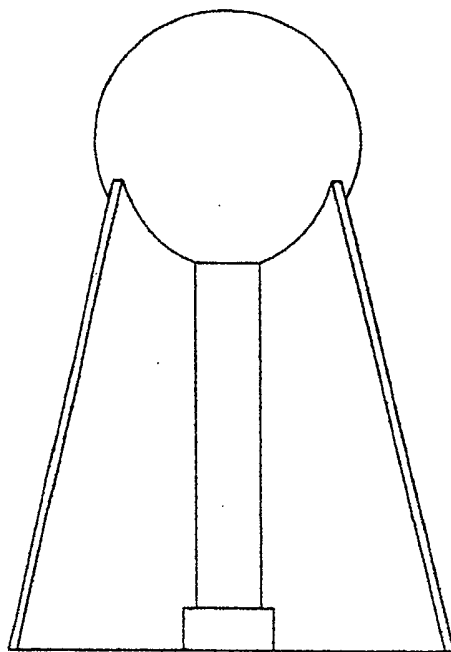


fig. 21

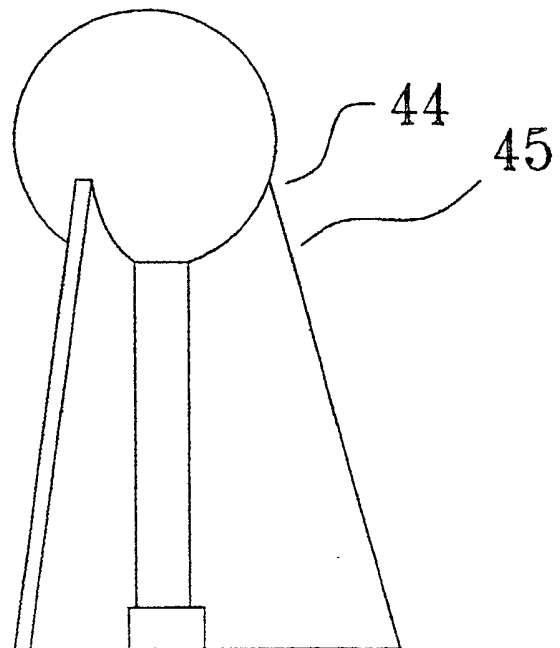


fig. 22

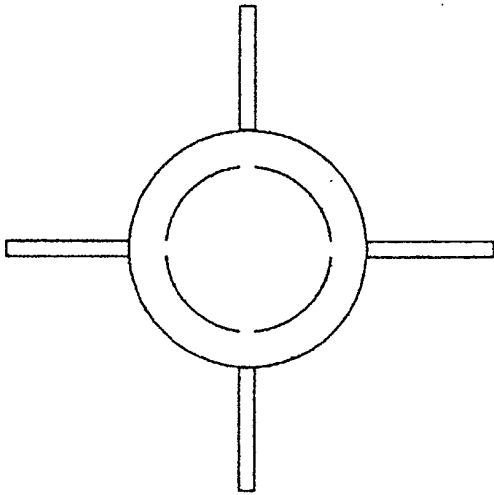


fig. 23

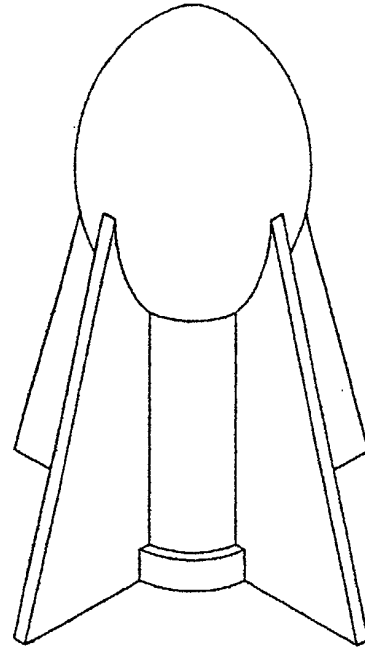


fig. 24

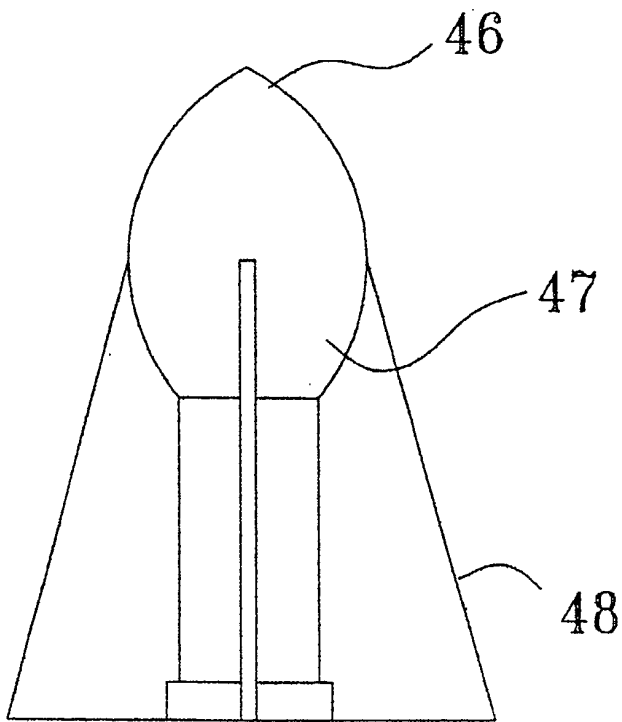


fig. 25

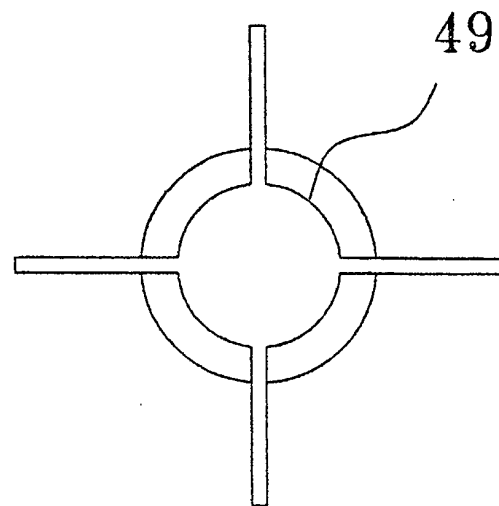


fig. 26

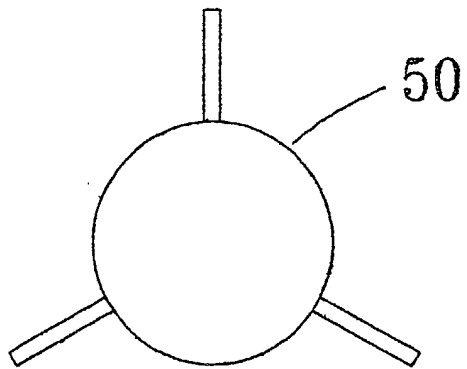


fig. 27

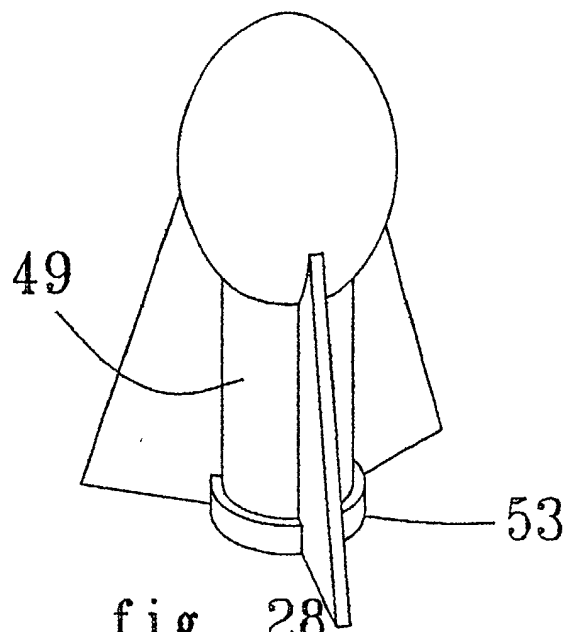


fig. 28

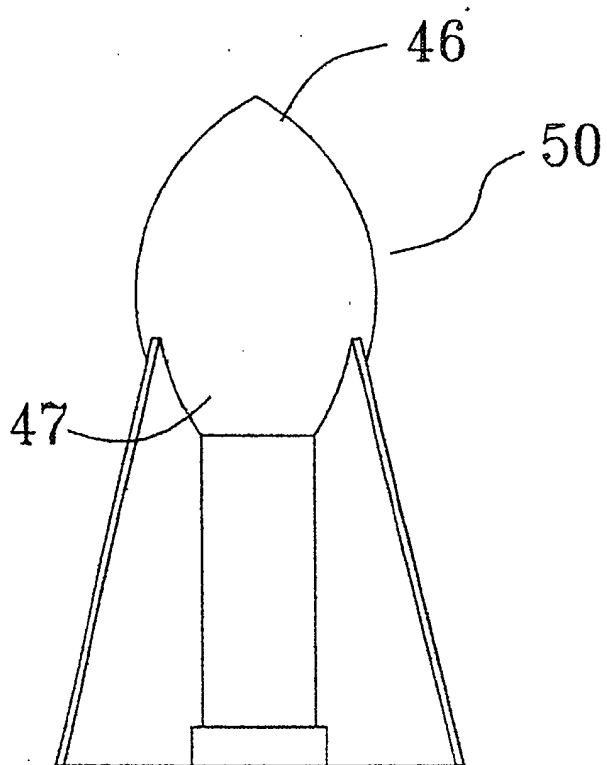


fig. 29

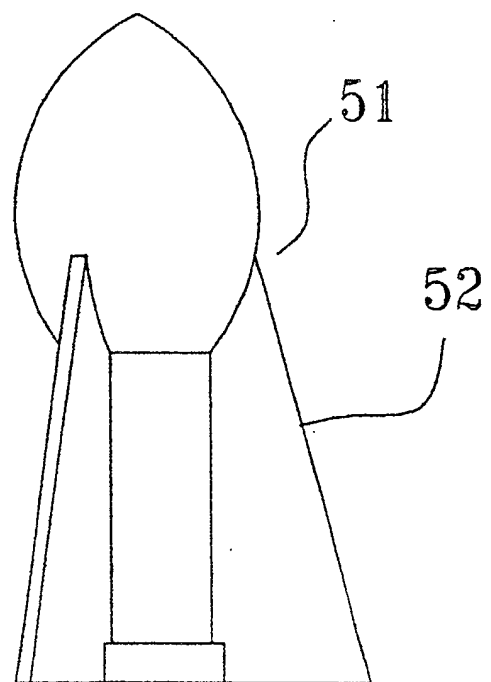
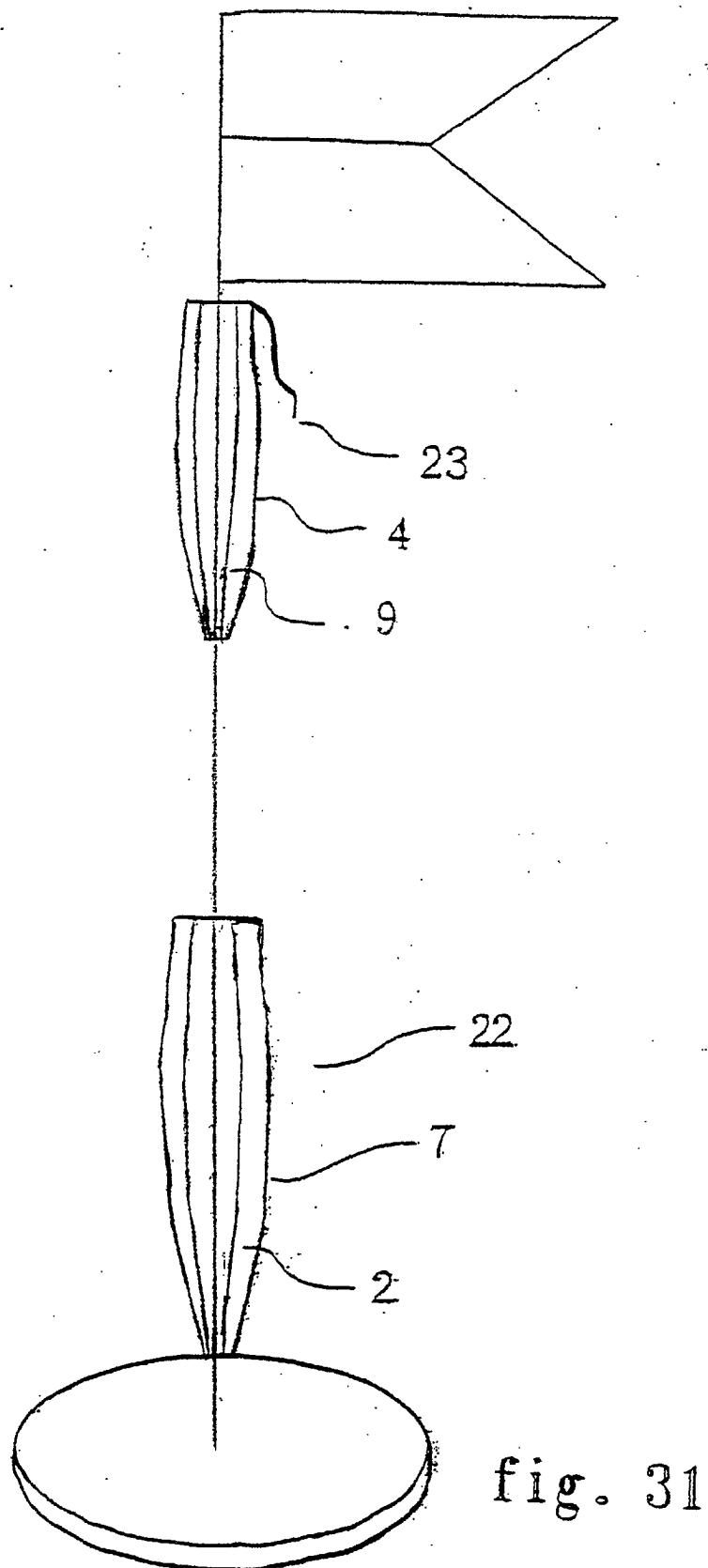


fig. 30



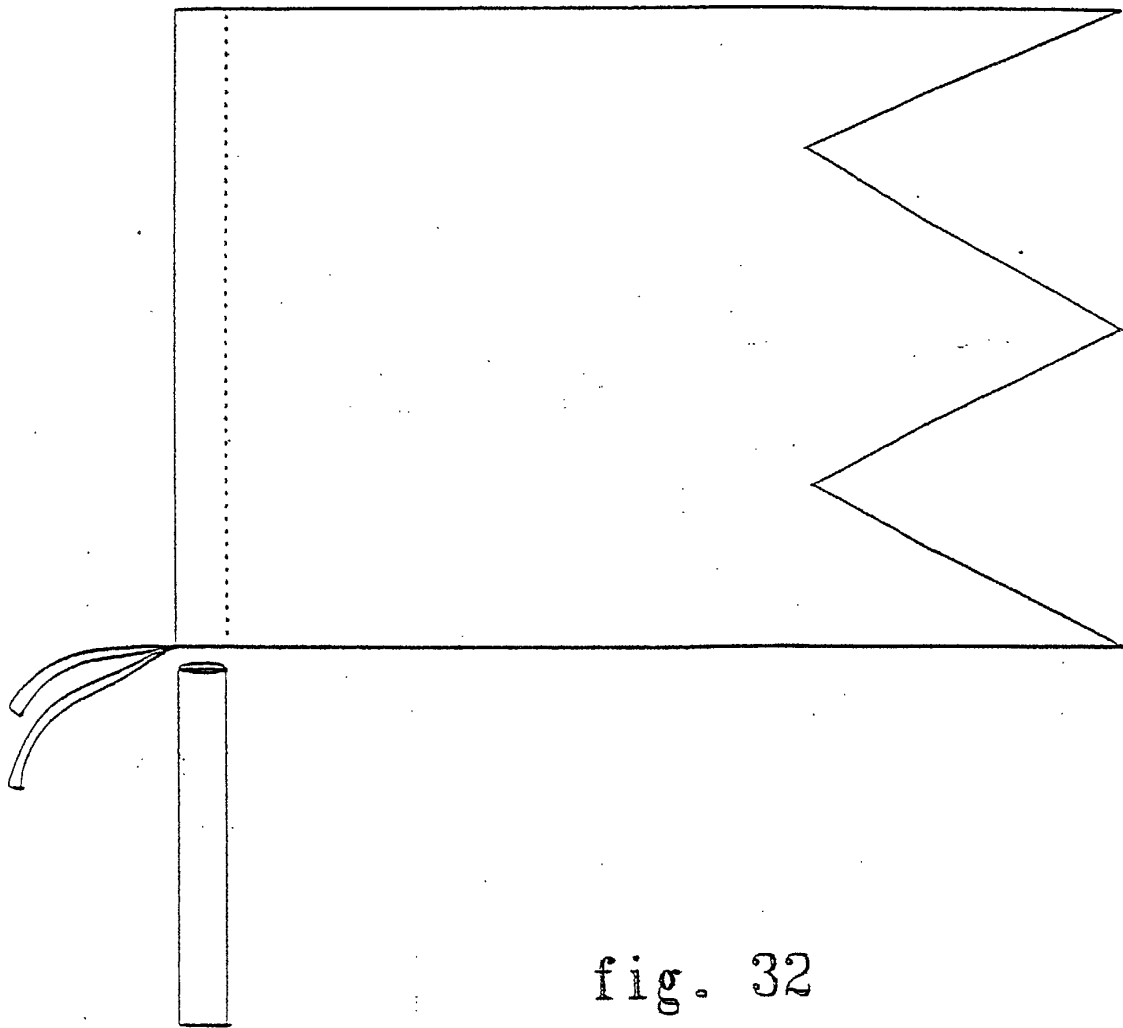


fig. 32

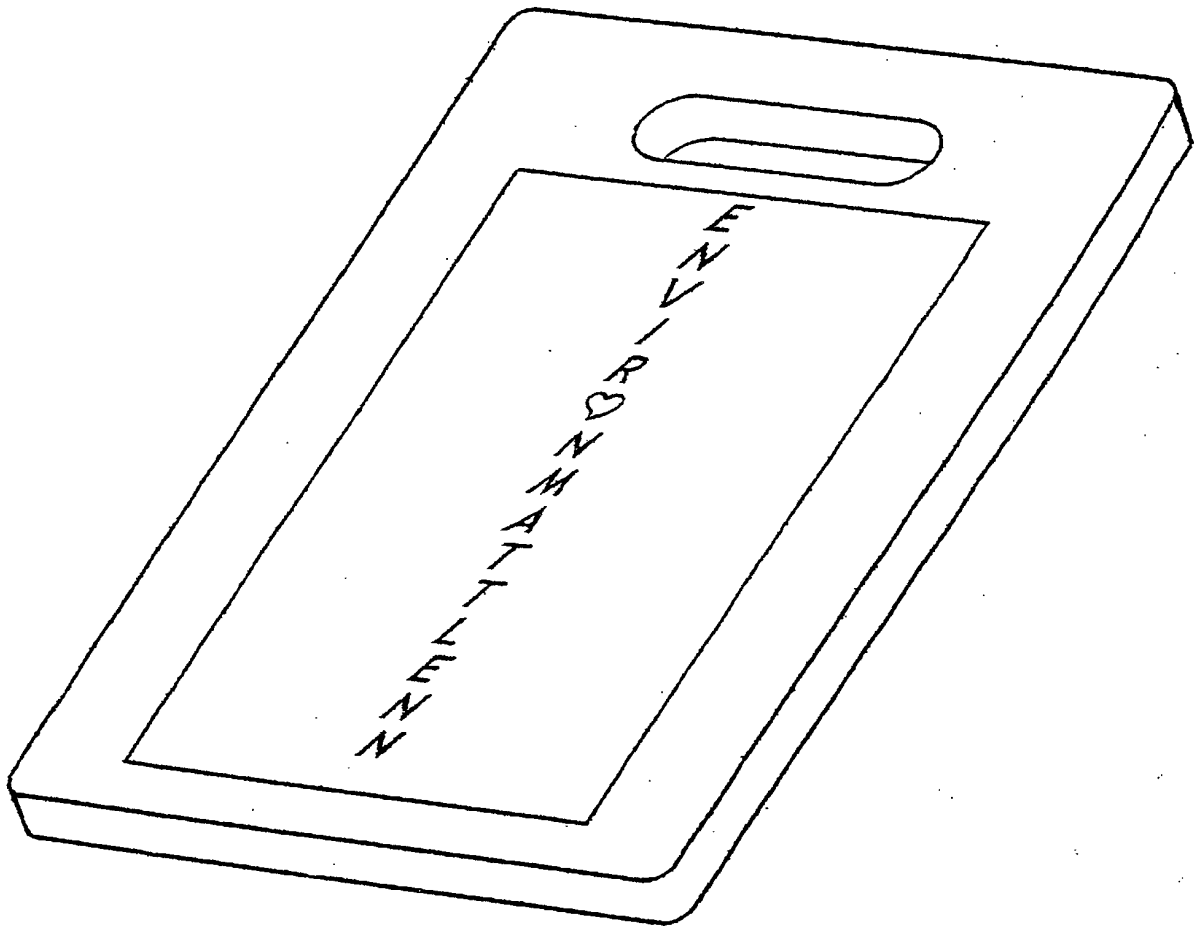


fig. 33

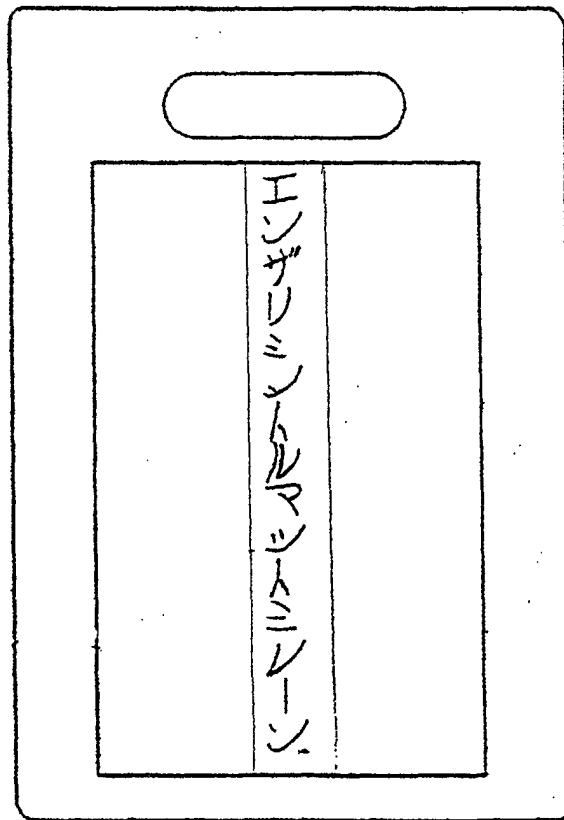


fig. 34



European Patent  
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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 02 01 9236

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                 |                                                  |                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages                                   | Relevant to claim                                | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)                               |
| X                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 1 211 379 A (A. T. MAISCH)<br>* page 1, line 9 - line 88 *<br>* page 2, line 9 - line 22; figures *          | 1-3                                              | A63B63/00<br>A63B69/36<br>A63B57/00<br>A63B67/00<br>A63B43/00<br>A63B67/18 |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 611 504 A (H. D. PERKY)<br>* page 1, line 38 - line 71; figures *                                            | 1-3                                              |                                                                            |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 2 224 962 A (EMERY HINES)<br>17 December 1940 (1940-12-17)<br>* page 1, line 19 - page 2, line 29; figures * | 1-3                                              |                                                                            |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 6 083 114 A (BAILEY JAMES P)<br>4 July 2000 (2000-07-04)                                                     |                                                  |                                                                            |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | US 5 540 428 A (JOSEPH JOHN G)<br>30 July 1996 (1996-07-30)                                                     |                                                  |                                                                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                 |                                                  | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                 |                                                  | A63B                                                                       |
| <del>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</del>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                 |                                                  |                                                                            |
| Place of search<br>Munich                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                 | Date of completion of the search<br>26 June 2003 | Examiner<br>Squeri, M                                                      |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS<br>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A : technological background<br>O : non-written disclosure<br>P : intermediate document<br>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D : document cited in the application<br>L : document cited for other reasons<br>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document |                                                                                                                 |                                                  |                                                                            |

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



European Patent  
Office

Application Number

EP 02 01 9236

### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-3



European Patent  
Office

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B

Application Number

EP 02 01 9236

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-3

An equipment according to claim 1 having an upstanding support and an upper and a lower dish-shaped net having different diameters, having a defined relation between the diameters of the upper and the lower dish-shaped net where the upper and the lower dish-shaped net are selectively collapsible with respect to the support is known from document US-A-1211379.

Claims 2-3 relate to the upper and the lower dish-shaped net.

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2. claims: 1,4-12

Claims 4-12 define the features of a ball.

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3. claims: 1,13-15

Claims 13-15 relate to a golf club.

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4. claims: 1,16-17

Claims 16 and 17 relate to a portable mat.

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 01 9236

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

26-06-2003

| Patent document<br>cited in search report | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) | Publication<br>date |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| US 1211379                                | A                   | NONE                       |                     |
| US 611504                                 | A                   | NONE                       |                     |
| US 2224962                                | A                   | 17-12-1940                 | NONE                |
| US 6083114                                | A                   | 04-07-2000                 | NONE                |
| US 5540428                                | A                   | 30-07-1996                 | NONE                |

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82