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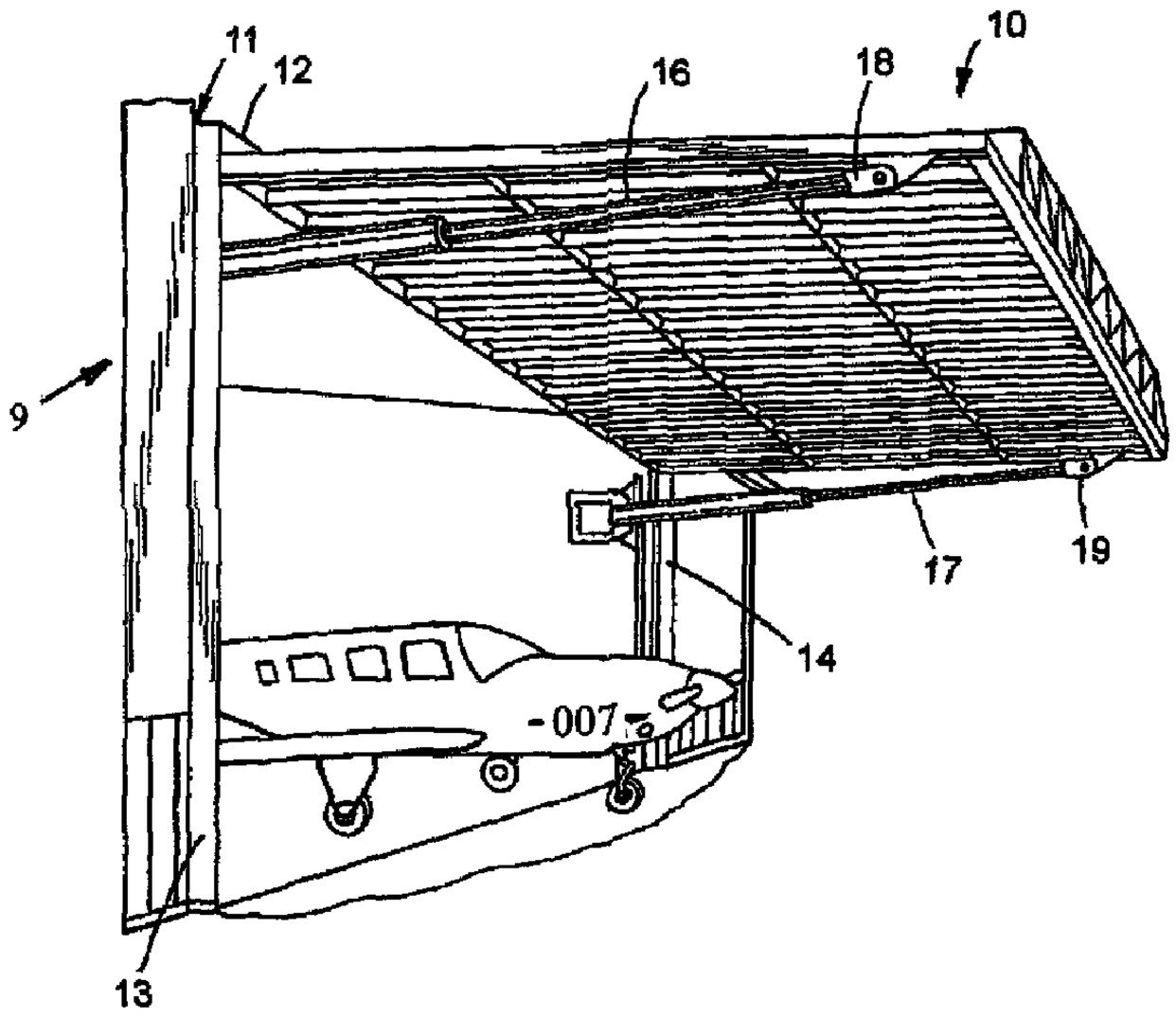
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(54) **Titre : ENSEMBLE DE CADRE ET DE PORTE ESCAMOTABLE AU PLAFOND**
(54) **Title: OVERHEAD DOOR AND FRAME ASSEMBLY**



(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**
A frame assembly supporting an overhead door has a horizontal header connected to upright columns or posts with splice assemblies. Fasteners mounted on the columns cooperate with retainers on the splice assemblies to position and connect the columns to the header. Hinge assemblies pivotally mount the door on the header for movement between open and closed positions.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A frame assembly supporting an overhead door has a horizontal header connected to upright columns or posts with splice assemblies. Fasteners mounted on the columns cooperate with retainers on the splice assemblies to position and connect the columns to the header. Hinge assemblies pivotally mount the door on the header for movement between open and closed positions.

OVERHEAD DOOR AND FRAME ASSEMBLY

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application has the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 61/998,361 filed June 26, 2014.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The overhead door frame assembly is in the art of a door for a structure having a doorway that is selectively opened and closed with a door mounted on a frame assembly. The door is a one-piece door mounted with hinges to a header of the frame assembly. Hydraulic cylinders operate to swing the door between an upright closed position to a generally horizontal open position allowing vehicles and equipment to be moved through the doorway into and out of the structure.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Buildings have large openings or doorways for accommodating trucks, tractors, airplanes and equipment to be moved into and out of the interior spaces in the buildings. Common types of conventional doors used to open and close the doorways are horizontally sliding doors and two piece center hinged doors known as bi-fold doors. An example of a bi-fold door is disclosed by M.L Schweiss in U.S. Patent No. 6,866,080. A plurality of hinges pivotally mount the bi-fold door to the header of the building whereby the entire weight of the bi-fold door is accommodated by the header of the building. These doors require a larger opening than is required to accommodate the open door. The overall vertical height of the doorway is comprised to compensate for the folded bi-fold door. Overhead doors are used to open and close doorways to maximize the useable space of the doorway of the structures. An example of a hydraulically operated overhead door is disclosed by D.J. Kerkvliet in U.S. Patent No. 6,883,273. The overhead doors are mounted with hinges on load bearing frames that are separate from the

building structures whereby the weight or load of the overhead doors is not subjected to the building headers or side jambs. The load bearing frames are known as free standing headers having header mainframes and upright legs. The legs are field welded on opposite ends of the headers. The legs must be straight, flush and flat with the headers to maintain the overhead doors in these designed open and closed positions. Welding fixtures and tooling are used to maintain the alignment of the legs relative to the headers during the field welding operation. The welding of the legs to the headers requires welding skills, supplies, labor and time. R. Peterson in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2011/0225895 discloses a door hinged to a frame secured to a building structure. The frame has a header connected to the upright posts. Connectors join the posts to the header. Fasteners such as bolts secure the connectors to the posts. Welds are also disclosed as securing the fasteners to the upright posts.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The invention is a frame assembly for supporting an overhead door operable to move between a generally upright closed position and a generally horizontal open position. The frame assembly has a horizontal open position. The frame assembly has a horizontal header supported by upright columns. Splice assemblies connect the columns to opposite ends of the header. The splice assemblies include cooperating retainers and fasteners that align the columns with the header and maintain the columns straight, flush and in the same upright plane of the header. A plurality of hinge assemblies pivotally connect a top member of the door to the header. Linear actuators such as hydraulic cylinders or motor driven screws connected to the door and columns operate to swing the door between an upright closed position and a generally horizontal open position. The frame assembly supports the weight of the door and absorbs the forces subjected to the door during the opening and closing of the door thereby eliminating most if not all weight and forces on the adjacent building structure. Each splice assembly has an upright body have a

wall and opposite edges. A plurality of upright ribs attached to the body are retained in a flat surface engagement with a column by adjustable fasteners connecting the column to the body. The fasteners include nuts secured to the body and bolts mounted on the column engageable with the nuts. In use, the bolts are turned to move the column into alignment with the header and secure the column to the splice assembly. A plurality of second adjustable fasteners comprise cooperating nuts and bolts. The bolts engage an edge of the body to hold the opposite edges of the body in engagement with the column concurrently with the engagement of the ribs with this column. The first and second adjustable fasteners retain the splice assembly in engagement with the perpendicular walls of the column. The hinge assemblies have sleeves rotatably mounted on non-rotatable pins. Door members secured to the sleeves are connected to the top member of a door frame. Header members mounted on pins adjacent the sleeves are secured to the header whereby the hinge assemblies support the door on the header of the frame assembly for movement of the door between open and closed positions.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

[0005] Figure 1 is a perspective view of a building equipped with an open overhead door mounted on a frame assembly;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a first embodiment of a closed overhead door mounted on the frame assembly;

Figure 3 is a front elevational view of the frame assembly of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the frame assembly of Figure 3 showing the frame assembly header separated from the upright side columns;

Figure 5 is an enlarged foreshortened sectional view taken along line 5-5 of Figure 4;

Figure 6 is front elevational view of a splice assembly of the frame assembly;

Figure 7 is a side elevational view of the right side of Figure 6;

Figure 8 is a rear elevational view of Figure 6;

Figure 9 is a sectional view taken along line 9-9 of Figure 6;

Figure 10 is a top plan view of Figure 6;

Figure 11 is a bottom plan view of Figure 6;

Figure 12 is an enlarged foreshortened front elevational view, partly sectioned, of the frame assembly of Figure 3;

Figure 13 is an enlarged sectional view taken along line 13-13 of Figure 3;

Figure 14 is an enlarged foreshortened sectional view taken along line 14-14 of Figure 3;

Figure 15 is a perspective view of a hinge assembly pivotally mounting the door to the frame assembly header;

Figure 16 is a perspective view of a second embodiment of a closed overhead door mounted on a frame assembly;

Figure 17 is a foreshortened front elevational view of the upper left section of the overhead door and frame assembly of Figure 16;

Figure 18 is an enlarged sectional view taken along line 18-18 of Figure 17;

Figure 19 is a perspective view of a center hinge assembly pivotally connecting the overhead door to the header of the frame assembly;

Figure 20 is a front elevational view of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 21 is a rear elevational view of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 22 is a side elevational view of the right side of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 23 is a side elevational view of the left side of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 24 is a top plan view of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 25 is a bottom plan view of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 26 is an exploded perspective view of the hinge assembly of Figure 19;

Figure 27 is a perspective view of a modification of the center hinge assembly;

Figure 28 is a top plan view of the hinge assembly of Figure 27;

Figure 29 is a bottom plan view of the hinge assembly of Figure 27;

Figure 30 is a side elevational view of the right side of the hinge assembly of Figure 27;

Figure 31 is a side elevational view of the left side of the hinge assembly of Figure 27;

Figure 32 is a front elevational view of the hinge assembly of Figure 27;

Figure 33 is a rear elevational view of the hinge assembly of Figure 27;

Figure 34 is a perspective view of an end hinge assembly;

Figure 35 is a front elevational view of the hinge assembly of Figure 34;

Figure 36 is a rear elevational view of the hinge assembly of Figure 34;

Figure 37 is a top plan view of Figure 34;

Figure 38 is a bottom plan view of Figure 34;

Figure 39 is a side elevational view of the left side of the hinge assembly of Figure 34;

Figure 40 is a sectional view taken along line 40-40 of Figure 37; and

Figure 41 is a side elevational view of the right side of Figure 37.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OVERHEAD DOOR AND FRAME ASSEMBLY

[0006] A building 9, shown in Figure 1, has a doorway or opening to allow a vehicle to move into and out of the interior of the building. Examples of building 9 include aviation hangers, automotive shops, farm shops, commercial buildings, warehouses and manufacturing plants. An overhead door 10 mounted on a frame assembly 11 is movable between an upright closed position and a horizontal open position. Frame assembly 11 has a horizontal header 12 attached to upright columns or legs 13 and 14. Header 12 and columns 13 and 14 are steel tubular members. Door 10 is moved between open and closed positions with linear actuators, such as hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 or electric motor operated screws. Spherical bearing assemblies

18 and 19 connect the rod ends of hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 to lower side members 29 and 33 of door 10. The dead ends of hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 are pivotally connected to cylindrical supports 21 and 22 secured to columns 13 and 14 of frame assembly11. A hydraulic fluid pump (not shown) operatively connected to opposite ends of hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 functions to control the flow of hydraulic fluid to and from hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 whereby hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 selectively move door 10 to its open and closed positions. An example of a hydraulic fluid system for a hydraulically operated overhead door with hydraulic cylinders is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,883,273. A linear actuator having a motor operated screw is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,742,303.

[0007] As shown in Figure 2, door 10 has a rectangular frame 23 supporting sheathing 24 and trim. Frame 23 comprises tubular steel horizontal members 26, 27 and 28 secured with welds to tubular steel upright members 29, 30, 31, 23 and 33. Sheathing 24 is attached to members 26 to 33 with fasteners or an adhesive. A plurality of hinge assemblies 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 pivotally mount door frame 23 to header 12 of frame assembly 11 for movement about a horizontal axis 39. Horizontal axis 39 established by hinge assemblies 34 to 38 is laterally of the outside surface of header 12 and parallel to the length of header 12. Hinge assemblies 34 to 38 uniformly distribute the weight of door 10 on header 12 and maintain door 10 level during its opening and closing movements.

[0008] Proceeding to Figures 4 and 5, frame assembly 11 has splice assemblies 40 and 41 attached to opposite ends of header 12. Splice assemblies 40 and 41 telescope into the open upper ends of columns 13 and 14. A plurality of bolts 57 and 64 secure columns 13 and 14 to splice assemblies 40 and 41.

[0009] Splice assembly 40 has a body 42 comprising a flat member having an upper end extended into header 12. Body 42 extends downward from the end of header 12. A first pair of

outside ribs or flanges 43 are secured to the outside of body 42. A second pair of inside ribs or flanges 44 and 45 are secured to the inside of body 42. Ribs 43, 44 and 45 are secured with welds to body 42. A horizontal plate 46 joined to the upper ends of ribs 43 to 45 and located in engagement with and secured to the bottom of header 12 retains splice assembly 40 in a downward 90 degree relationship with respect to header 12.

[0010] Splice assembly 41, shown in Figures 5 to 11, has a body 47 having an upper end extended into header 12. A first pair of ribs or flanges 48 and 49 are secured to the outside surface of body 47. A second pair of ribs or flanges 51 and 52 are secured to the outside surface of body 47. Ribs 48, 49, 51 and 51 reinforce opposite sides of body 47 and space body 47 from the side walls of column 14. The inside surface of body 47 has hexagonal cavities accommodating retainers or nuts 54, 55 and 56. Welds secure nuts 54, 55, and 56 to body 47. Other types of threaded members can be secured to body 47 for accommodating bolts 57, 58 and 59. Body 42 has a plurality of retainers or nuts 50 similar to nuts 54, 55 and 56. A horizontal plate 53 secured to the upper ends of ribs 48, 49, 51 and 52 and located in engagement with and secured to the bottom of header 12 retains splice assembly 41 in a downward 90 degree relationship with respect to header 12.

[0011] Splice assembly 40 is secured to column 13 with bolts 67, 68 and 82. Nuts 68, 81 and 83 mounted on body 42 accommodate bolts 67, 68 and 82 extended through holes in column 13. Bolts 67, 69 and 82 are turned tight to retain ribs 44 and 45 in engagement with the inside of wall 13A of column 13. The outer wall 13C of column 13 and the adjacent end of header 12 is located in vertical alignment with the second outer end of header 12. Column wall 13C has an outer surface located in the same or common vertical plane as the second end of header 12. A bolt 84 threaded through a nut 85 secured to column 13 engages a side of body 42. Bolt 84 is turned tight to hold body 42 in firm contact with the inside of column wall 13B. A plurality of

bolts contact body 42 to prevent column13 from moving forward and rearward relative to splice assembly 40.

[0012] Returning to Figure 2, a plurality of hinges assemblies 34 to 38 pivotally mount door 10 on header 12. Hinge assemblies 34 to 38 have a common horizontal axis 39 allowing hydraulic cylinders 16 and 19 to swing door 10 from an upright closed position to a generally horizontal open position. The open horizontal position of door 10 is shown in Figure 1. Hinge assemblies 34 to 38 are identical in structure and function. The following description of hinge assembly 35 is applicable to hinge assemblies 34 and 36 to 38 and additional hinge assemblies used to pivotally mount door 10 on header 12.

[0013] Proceeding to Figures 12 and 14, columns 13 and 14 are inserted into splice assemblies 40 and 41 secured to opposite ends of header 12. A plurality of bolts 57, 58 and 59 extended through holes in column 14 are threaded into nuts 54, 55 and 56. Bolts 57, 58 and 59 are turned tight to secure column 14 to splice assembly 41 and move inner wall 14A of column 14 into firm engagement with ribs 48 and 49. Outer wall 14C of column 14 is located in vertical alignment with the first outer end of header 12. The outer surface of wall 14C of column 14 is located in the same or common vertical plane as the first end of header 12. The first end of header 12 and column 14 are located in close relationship with the adjacent surface of building wall 70.

[0014] As shown in Figure 13, bolts 61, 63 and 65 threaded through nuts 62, 64 and 66 engage a side of body 47. Nuts 62, 64 and 66 are secured by welds adjacent holes in column 14. Bolts 61, 63 and 65 are turned to force body 47 into surface engagement with the inside of wall 14B of column 14. The outside surface of wall 14B of column 14 is vertically aligned with the outside front surface of header 12. The outside surface of wall 14B of column 14 and the outside front surface of header 12 are located in the same or common vertical plane.

[0015] Splice assembly 41 secured to column 14 with bolts 57, 58 and 59 and 62, 63 and 65 retains column 14 in a vertical position relative to header 12. Column 14 is prevented from moving laterally and vertically relative to header 12. Bolts 57, 58 and 59 and 61, 63 and 65 also permit adjustment of column 14 in two directions relative to the end of header 12.

[0016] Hinge assembly 35, shown in Figure 15, has a tubular member or sleeve 72 secured to an arm 73. Arm 73 extends across the top of header 12. Welds secure arms 73 to header 12. Left and right angle supports 74 and 76 located adjacent opposite ends of sleeve 72 accommodate a pin 77. Pin 77 extended horizontally through sleeve 72 pivotally mounts sleeve 72 and arm 73 on pin 77. Supports 74 and 76 are welded to the horizontal top door frame member 26. A square head 78 secured to an end of pin 77 prevents rotation of pin 77 relative to supports 74 and 76. Head 78 and cotter key 80 on opposite ends of pin 77 limit axial movement of pin 77 relative to supports 74 and 76. Grease zerks 86 mounted on sleeve 72 are used to apply grease to the inside cylindrical surface of sleeve 72.

[0017] A second embodiment of an overhead door 100 and a frame assembly 101, shown in Figure 16, illustrates door 100 pivotally connected to frame assembly 101 with a plurality of hinge assemblies 102, 103, 104, 106 and 107. Linear actuators 120 operatively connected to opposite sides of door 100 and frame 101 are used to move door 100 to open and closed positions. Linear actuators 120 are hydraulic cylinders, such as hydraulic cylinders 16 and 17 shown in Figure 1. Linear actuators 120 can be an electric motor operated screw for moving linear members to open and close door 100.

[0018] Door 100 has a rectangular frame 108 comprising horizontal top and bottom members 109 and 111. Upright end members 112 and 113 and upright middle members 114, 115, 116, 117 and 118 extend between and are secured to top and bottom members 109 and 111. Horizontal middle members 119 located adjacent upright members 112 and 113 reinforce upright

members 112 and 113. Members 109 and 111 to 119 are tubular metal bars, such as steel or aluminum tubular bars. Other materials can be used for the tubular members of door frame 108. Sheathing 121 is attached to the outside of door frame 108 with fasteners or an adhesive.

[0019] Frame assembly 101 has upright legs or columns 122 and 123 and a horizontal header 124. Columns 122 and 123 and header 124 are tubular metal members. Splice assemblies 125, shown in Figure 17, join the upper ends of columns 122 and 123 to opposite ends of header 124. Each splice assembly 125 has the structure of splice assembly 41 shown in Figures 5 to 11. The lateral, forward and rearward locations of columns 122 and 123 relative to the ends of header 124 can be adjusted by each splice assembly 125.

[0020] As shown in Figures 19 to 26, hinge assembly 102 has a cylindrical sleeve 126 supporting a grease zerk 127 adapted to direct a lubricant, such as grease, to the inside cylindrical wall 128 of sleeve 126. Sleeve 126 is rotatably mounted on a pin 158. The lubricant facilitates rotation of sleeve 126 on pin 158. A pair of laterally spaced first or door members 129 and 130 secured to sleeve 126 are attached to top member 109 of door frame 108 whereby sleeve 126 rotates on pin 158 when door 100 is moved between open and closed positions. Member 129 has a head 132 with an opening 133 accommodating sleeve 126. Head 132 is secured with welds to sleeve 126. A neck 134 attaches head 132 to a body 136. A recess or pocket 137 is located between head 132 and body 136. Top member 109 of door frame 108 is located in pocket 137. A weld secures head 132, neck 134 and body 136 to top member 109 of door frame 108. Member 130 has a head 138 with an opening 139 accommodating sleeve 126. A neck 141 secures head 138 to a body 142. A recess or pocket 143 is located between head 138 and body 142. Necks 134 and 143 are connected with a bar 131. Welds secure head 138 to sleeve 126. Members 129 and 130 are generally parallel upright members. Grease zerk 127 located between heads 132 and 138 projects downward when door 100 is in the open position thereby allowing

lubrication of sleeve 126 from a floor or ground position. Bodies 136 and 142 extend downward adjacent opposite sides of upright member 115 of door frame 108 and located hinge assembly 102 in vertical or upright alignment with member 115. Welds secure bodies 136 and 42 to upright members 115 thereby reinforcing the attachment of upright member 115 to top member 109 and reinforce the attachment of hinge assembly 102 to door frame 108.

[0021] Header members 144 and 145 located adjacent opposite ends of sleeve 126 are secured to header 124 of frame assembly 101. Header member 144 has a body 146 with an opening 147 accommodating pin 158. Body 146 has an upright wall 148 extended to a horizontal arm 149 joined to body 146. Arm 149 has a horizontal bottom wall 157. Walls 148 and 151 engage header 124 and are secured with welds to header 124. Header member 145 has a body with an opening 153 accommodating pin 158. Body 152 has an upright front wall 154 extended to a horizontal arm 156 joined to body 152. Arm 156 has a horizontal bottom wall 157. Walls 154 and 157 located in engagement with header 124 are secured with welds to header 124. Header members 144 and 145 support sleeve 126 and pin 158 laterally in a horizontal position in front of header 124. A spacer bar 110 is part of door frame 108 between top member 109 and header 124. Pin 158 is retained in a non-rotatable position by header member 144. As shown in Figures 19, 20 and 22, a tab 159 is secured to one end of pin 158. The bottom of tab 159 has an ear 161 extended below the bottom of body 152. Ear 161 engages the bottom of body 152 to prevent rotation of tab 159 and pin 158. A retainer 162, such as a cotter pin, on the end of pin 158 opposite tab 159 limits axial movement of pin 158 on sleeve 126.

[0022] As shown in Figures 16, 17 and 19, top member 109 of door frame 108 extends horizontally through pockets 137 and 143. Heads 132 and 138, necks 134 and 141 and bodies 136 and 142 are secured with welds to member 109 of door frame 108.

[0023] An alternative embodiment of hinge assembly 202, shown in Figures 27 to 33, pivotally mounts door 100 on header 124 of frame assembly 101 for movement between the open and closed positions. Hinge assembly 202 has a cylindrical sleeve 206. A grease zerk 207 secured to a middle section of sleeve 206 is used to direct a lubricant, such as grease, to the inside cylindrical wall of sleeve 206. The lubricant facilitates rotation of sleeve 206 on a pin 243 extended through sleeve 206. A pair of laterally spaced first or door members 208 and 209 secured to sleeve 206 are attached to top member 109 of door frame 108 whereby sleeve 206 rotates on pin 243 when door 100 is moved between open and closed positions. Member 208 has a head 212 with an opening 213 accommodating sleeve 206. Head 212 is secured with a weld to sleeve 206. A neck 214 secures head 212 with an opening 213 accommodating sleeve 206. Head 212 is secured with a weld to sleeve 206. A neck 214 secures head 212 to a body 216 spaced from head 212 with a recess or pocket 217. As shown in Figure 27, top member 109 of door frame 108 is located in pocket 217. A weld secures head 213, neck 214 and body 216 to top member 109 of door frame 108. Member 209 has a head 218 with an opening 219 accommodating sleeve 206. A weld secures head 218 to sleeve 206. A neck 221 secures head 218 to a body 222. A bar 211 extended between and secured to necks 214 and 221 maintains the lateral space between members 208 and 209 and reinforces members 208 and 209. Top member 109 of door frame 108 is located in a recess or pocket 223 between head 218 and body 222. A weld secures head 216, neck 221 and body 222 to top member 109 of door frame 108. Bodies 216 and 222 extend downward adjacent to opposite sides of upright member 115 of door frame 108 and locate hinge assembly 202 in upright vertical alignment with member 115. Bodies 216 and 222 secured with welds to upright member 115 reinforce the attachment of upright member 115 to top member 109 and reinforce the attachment of hinge assembly 102 to door frame 108.

[0024] A pair of laterally spaced header members 224 and 236 support sleeve 206 and pin 243 in a horizontal position in front of header 124. Header member 224 has an opening 226 accommodating pin 243 adjacent an end of sleeve 206 and an upright wall 227 having a recess 228. A first cross bar 229 located in recess 228 is secured with a weld to member 224. The upper portion of member 224 has an arm 231 located in engagement with and secured to the top of header 124. Arm 231 has a bottom surface 232 with a recess 233. A second cross bar 234 located in recess 228 is secured with a weld to arm 231. Header member 236 has the same structure and function as header member 224. Member 236 has an upright wall 237 with a recess 238. Cross bar 229 located in recess 238 is welded to member 236. The upper portion of member 236 has an arm 239 with a bottom surface 241 having a recess 242. Second cross bar 234 located in recess 242 is secured with a weld to arm 239. Cross bars 229 and 234 maintain the lateral distance between and reinforce members 224 and 236. Members 224 and 236 and cross bars 229 and 234 secured with welds to header 124 support hinge assembly 202 on header 124.

[0025] Pin 243 is retained in a horizontal non-rotatable position with a tab 244 connected to an end of pin 243. Tab 244 has an ear 246, shown in Figures 27, 29, 32 and 33, located adjacent a portion of the bottom wall of member 236 for preventing turning of tab 224 and rotation of pin 243 relative to member 224 and 236. Sleeve 206 and door members 208 and 209 rotate on pin 243 during movement of door 100 between open and closed positions.

[0026] Hinge assemblies 103 and 104 have the same structures and functions as hinge assembly 202. Hinge assembly 202 can be used to replace hinge assemblies 103 and 104.

[0027] End hinge assembly 106, shown in Figures 35 to 41, has a series or number of hinge units 302, 303, 304 and 305 pivotally mounting an end of door frame 108 to header 124. Cross bars 306 and 307 join adjacent the hinge units, maintain the lateral spaces between the hinge

units and reinforce the hinge units. Hinge unit 302 has a sleeve 317 rotatably mounted on a pin 308. Door members 312 and 313 have heads 314 and 316 secured to sleeve 317 and pockets 318 and 319 for accommodating top member 109 of door frame 108. Door members 312 and 313 have lower portions or bodies located adjacent opposite sides of upright member 112 of door frame 108. Welds secure door members 312 and 313 to upright member 112 thereby reinforcing door member 312 and 313 and the connection of upright member 112 to top member 109. Header members 321 and 322 mounted on pin 308 adjacent opposite ends of sleeve 317 are secured with welds to header 124.

[0028] Hinge unit 304 has the same structures and functions as hinge unit 302. Hinge unit 304 has a sleeve 337 rotatably mounted on pin 308. Door members 334 and 336 secured to sleeve 337 have recesses or pockets 338 and 339 for accommodating top member 109 of door frame 108.

[0029] A pair of header members 343 and 346 mounted on pin 308 adjacent opposite ends of sleeve 337 secured with welds to header 124 support hinge unit 304 on header 124. Header members 343 and 346 having arms 344 and 347 with recesses accommodating cross bars 306 and 307 are secured with welds to header 124. Hinge unit 303 located between hinge units 302 and 304 has a sleeve 331 rotatably mounted on pin 308. Door members 328 and 329 joined to sleeve 331 have recesses or pockets 332 and 333 for accommodating top member 109 of door frame 108. Door members 328 and 329 are secured with welds to top member 109 of door frame 108. Hinge unit 305 has the same structures and functions as hinge unit 303. Hinge unit 305 has a sleeve 351 rotatably mounted on pin 308. Door members 348 and 349 secured with welds to sleeve 351 have recesses or pockets 352 and 353 for accommodating top member 109 of door frame 108. Door members 348 and 349 are also secured with welds to top member 109 of door frame 108. An end member 354 has a body 356 mounted on pin 308 adjacent hinge unit 305 and

an arm 357. Body 356 and arm 357, as shown in Figure 18, are secured with welds to header 124. A tab 309 secured to an end of pin 308 has an ear 311 located below body 356. Ear 311 engages the bottom wall of body 356 to prevent turning of tab 309 and rotation of pin 308. The non-rotating pin 308 rotatably supports sleeves 317, 331, 337 and 351 for rotation about a generally horizontal axis. Tab 309 and fastener 310, shown as a cotter pin, retain pin 308 in assembled relation with sleeves 317, 331, 337 and 351 and header members 321, 322, 343, 346 and 354.

[0030] Hinge assembly 107 has the same structures and functions as hinge assembly 106. Hinge assemblies 106 and 107 support opposite ends of door 100 on header 124 of frame assembly 101.

[0031] The foregoing drawing and description of the frame assembly for an overhead door is one embodiment of the invention. Persons skilled in the art of overhead doors can make changes and modifications in structures and materials of the door, frame assembly and hinge assemblies without departing from the door, frame assembly and hinge assemblies defined in the claims.

CLAIMS

1. A combined door and frame assembly comprising:

a door,

a frame assembly for supporting the door for movement between open and closed positions, said frame assembly including

a generally horizontal header, said header having opposite first and second ends,

first and second upright columns having upper tubular ends located adjacent the opposite ends of the header,

a first splice assembly secured to the first end of the header, said first splice assembly being located in telescopic relationship with the upper tubular end of the first upright column,

first fasteners securing the first splice assembly to the upper tubular end of the first upright column,

a second splice assembly secured to the second end of the header, said second splice assembly being located in telescopic relationship with the upper tubular end of the second upright column,

second fasteners securing the second splice assembly to the upper tubular end of the second upright column,

a plurality of hinge assemblies pivotally connecting the door to the header for pivotal movement of the door between the open and closed positions, and

linear actuators operatively connected to the first and second upright columns and door operable to move the door relative to the frame assembly to open and closed positions.

2. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 1 wherein:

the first and second splice assemblies each include

an upright body having opposite side walls,

upright ribs secured to the side walls of the body,

each of the first and second fasteners including

at least one nut secured to a side wall of the body, and

a threaded bolt cooperating with the nut securing the body and upright ribs to an upright column.

3. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 1 wherein:

the first and second splice assemblies include

a generally flat upright body having opposite upright side walls,

a pair of upright ribs secured to the opposite side walls,

each of the first and second fasteners including

a plurality of nuts secured to a side wall of the body, said nuts being vertically spaced on the side wall of the body, and

a plurality of threaded bolts cooperating with the plurality of nuts securing the body and upright ribs to an upright column.

4. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 1 wherein:

the first and second splice assemblies include

an upright body having a wall and a first edge and a second edge on opposite sides of the body, said first and second edges being generally perpendicular to said wall of the body,

upright ribs secured to the body engageable with an upright column,

a plurality of first retainers attached to the wall of the body adjacent the ribs,

a plurality of first fasteners engageable with the column cooperating with the first retainers to hold the ribs in engagement with the column thereby connecting the header member to the column,

a plurality of second retainers secured to the column,

a plurality of second fasteners having ends engageable with the first edge of the body and cooperating with the second retainers to hold the second edge of the body in engagement with the column concurrently with the engagement of the ribs with the column.

5. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 1 wherein:

the plurality of first retainers are nuts having threaded openings, said nuts being secured to said body adjacent to said ribs, and

said first fasteners comprising bolts extended through holes in the column and threaded into the threaded openings of the nuts whereby the bolts cooperate with the nuts to hold the ribs in engagement with the column and connect the header to the column.

6. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 4 wherein:

the plurality of second retainers are nuts having threaded openings, and

said second fasteners comprising blots threaded into the threaded opening of the nuts, said bolts having said ends engageable with the first edge of the body.

7. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 1 wherein:

each of the hinge assemblies include

a tubular sleeve,

at least one door member securing the sleeve to the door,

a pin extended through said sleeve,

at least one header member mounted on the pin adjacent the sleeve secured to the header of the frame assembly, and

a tab secured to the pin and engageable with the header member to prevent rotation of the pin whereby the sleeve rotates on the pin during movement of the door between open and closed positions.

8. The combined door and frame assembly of Claim 1 wherein:

each of the hinge assemblies include

a tubular sleeve having opposite ends,

a pair of door members securing the sleeve to the door,

a pin extended through the sleeve,

a pair of header members mounted on the pin adjacent the opposite ends of the sleeve secured to the header of the frame assembly, and

a tab secured to the pin, said tab having a lip engageable with one header member to prevent rotation of the pin whereby the sleeve rotates on the pin during movement of the door between open and closed positions.

9. A frame assembly comprising:

a generally horizontal first member having opposite first and second ends,

a second member located adjacent the first end of the first member,

a third member located adjacent the second end of the first member,

a first splice assembly connecting the second member to the first end of the first member,

a second splice assembly connecting the third member to the second end of the first member,

said first and second splice assemblies each including

a body secured to an end of the first member,

said body having a wall,

at least one rib secured to and extended away from said wall of the body,

at least one retainer secured to the wall adjacent to said rib, and

a fastener cooperating with the retainer to hold the rib in engagement with the second member thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

10. The frame assembly of Claim 9 wherein:

the at least one retainer is a nut having a threaded opening,

said wall of the body having a recess accommodating the nut,

attaching structure securing the nut to the body, and

said fastener comprising a bolt threaded into the threaded opening of the nut thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

11. The frame assembly of Claim 9 wherein:

the body includes a first edge and a second edge on opposite portions of the body, said first and second edges each being generally perpendicular to said wall of the body,

at least one second retainer having a threaded opening adapted to be secured to the second member, and

a second fastener having a threaded portion located in the threaded opening of the at least one second retainer and an end engageable with the first edge of the body to hold the second edge of the body in engagement with second member concurrently with the engagement of the rib with the second member.

12. The frame assembly of Claim 11 wherein:

the at least one second retainer is a nut having the threaded opening,

attaching structure for securing the nut to the second member,

said second fasteners comprising a second bolt threaded into the threaded opening of the nut, said bolt having said end engageable with the first edge of the body.

13. The frame assembly of Claim 9 wherein:

each splice assembly includes

a plurality of ribs secured to and extended away from said wall of the body, and

a plurality of said retainers and fasteners cooperating to hold the ribs in engagement with the second member thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

14. A splice assembly for connecting a first member to a second member comprising:

a body adapted to be secured to the first member,

said body having a wall,

at least one rib secured to and extended laterally away from said wall of the body,

at least one retainer having a threaded opening secured to said wall adjacent to the rib, and

a fastener having a threaded portion located in the threaded opening of the retainer adapted to hold the rib in engagement with the second member thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

15. The splice assembly of Claim 14 wherein:

the at least one retainer is a nut having the threaded opening,

said wall of the body having a recess accommodating the nut,

attaching structure securing the nut to the body, and

said fastener comprising a bolt threaded into the threaded opening of the nut thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

16. The splice assembly of Claim 14 wherein:

the body includes a first edge and a second edge on opposite portions of the body, said first and second edges each being generally perpendicular to said wall of the body,

at least one second retainer having a threaded opening adapted to be secured to the second member, and

a second fastener having a threaded portion located in the threaded opening of the at least one second retainer and an end engageable with the first end of the body to hold the second edge of the body in engagement with the second member concurrently with the engagement of the rib with the second member.

17. The splice assembly of Claim 16 wherein:

the at least one second retainer is a nut having the threaded opening,

attaching structure for securing the nut to the second member,

said second fastener comprising a second bolt threaded into the threaded opening of the nut, said bolt having said end engageable with first edge of the body.

18. A splice assembly for connecting a first member to a second member comprising:

a body having a wall,

first attaching structure for securing the body to the first member,

a pair of ribs secured to and extended laterally away from the body adapted to engage the second member,

a plurality of retainers,

second attaching structure securing the retainers to the wall of the body adjacent to the ribs, and

a plurality of fasteners engageable with the second member cooperating with the retainers adapted to hold the ribs in engagement with the second member thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

19. The splice assembly of Claim 18 wherein:

the plurality of retainers are nuts having threaded openings,

said wall of the body having a plurality of recesses accommodating the nuts,

said second attaching structure securing the nuts to the body,

said fasteners comprising bolts threaded into the threaded openings of the nuts thereby connecting the first member to the second member.

20. The splice assembly of Claim 18 wherein:

the body includes a first edge and a second edge on opposite portions of the body, said first and second edges each being generally perpendicular to said wall of the body,

a plurality of second retainers,

third attaching structure for securing the plurality of second retainers to the second member, and

a plurality of second fasteners having ends engageable with the first edge of the body and cooperating with the second retainers to hold the second edge of the body in engagement with the second member concurrently with the engagement of the ribs with the second member.

21. The splice assembly of Claim 20 wherein:

the plurality of second retainers are nuts having threaded openings, and

said second fasteners comprising second bolts threaded into the threaded openings of the nuts, said bolts having said ends engageable with the first edge of the body.

22. A hinge assembly for pivotally connecting a first structure to a second structure comprising:

a tubular sleeve,

at least one first member secured to the sleeve adapted to connect the sleeve to the first structure,

a pin extended through the tubular sleeve,

at least one second member mounted on the pin adapted to be connected to the second structure, and

a tab secured to the pin engageable with the second member to prevent rotation of the pin whereby the sleeve rotates on the pin during movement of the first member.

23. The hinge assembly of Claim 22 wherein:

the tubular sleeve has opposite ends,

the at least one first member comprising a pair of first members secured to the sleeve for connecting the sleeve to the first structure,

the at least one second member comprising a pair of second members mounted on the pin adjacent the opposite ends of the pin for connecting the pin to the second structure, and

said tab having a lip engageable with one of the second members to prevent rotation of the pin whereby the sleeve rotates on the pin during movement of the first members.

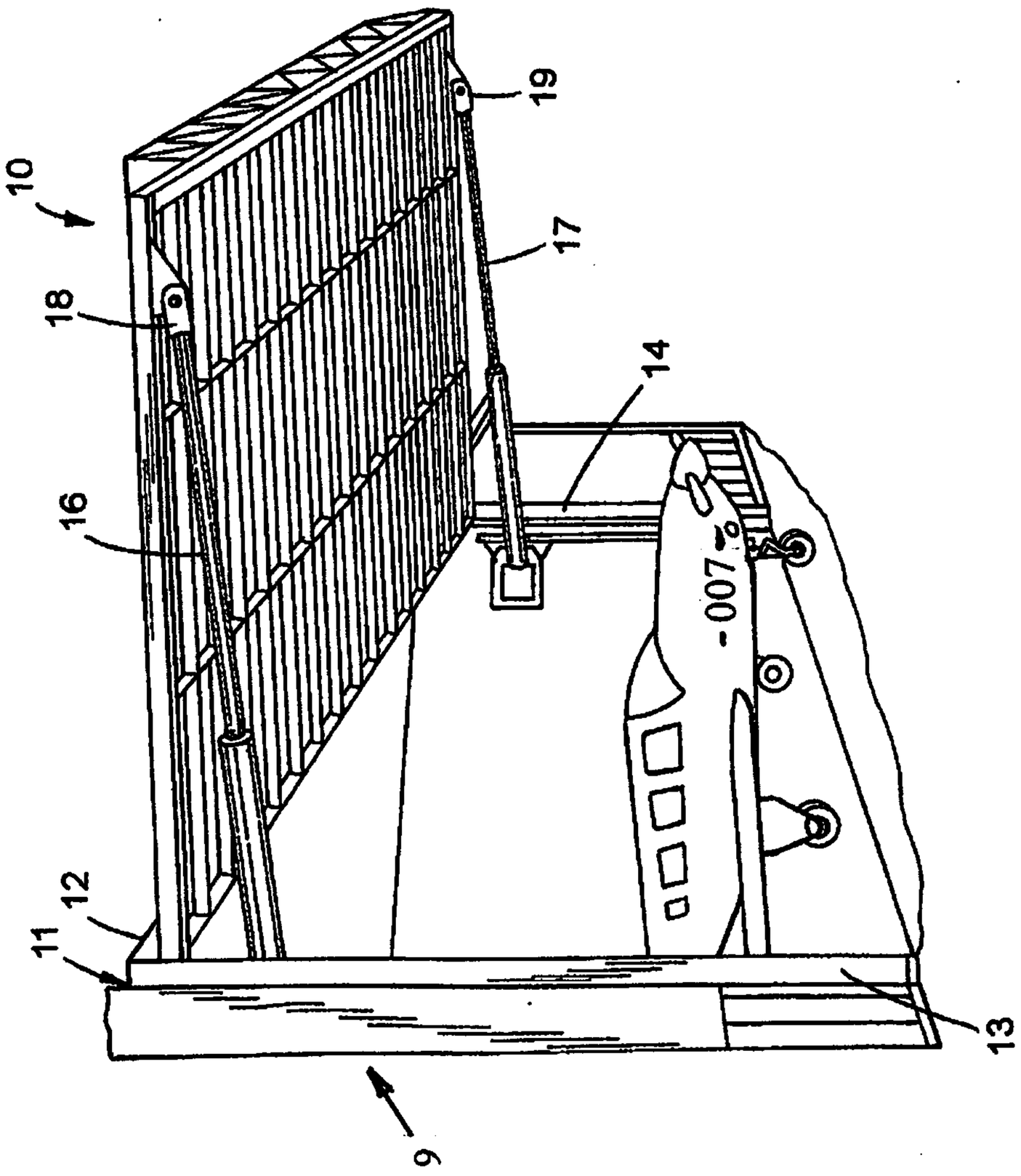


FIG.1

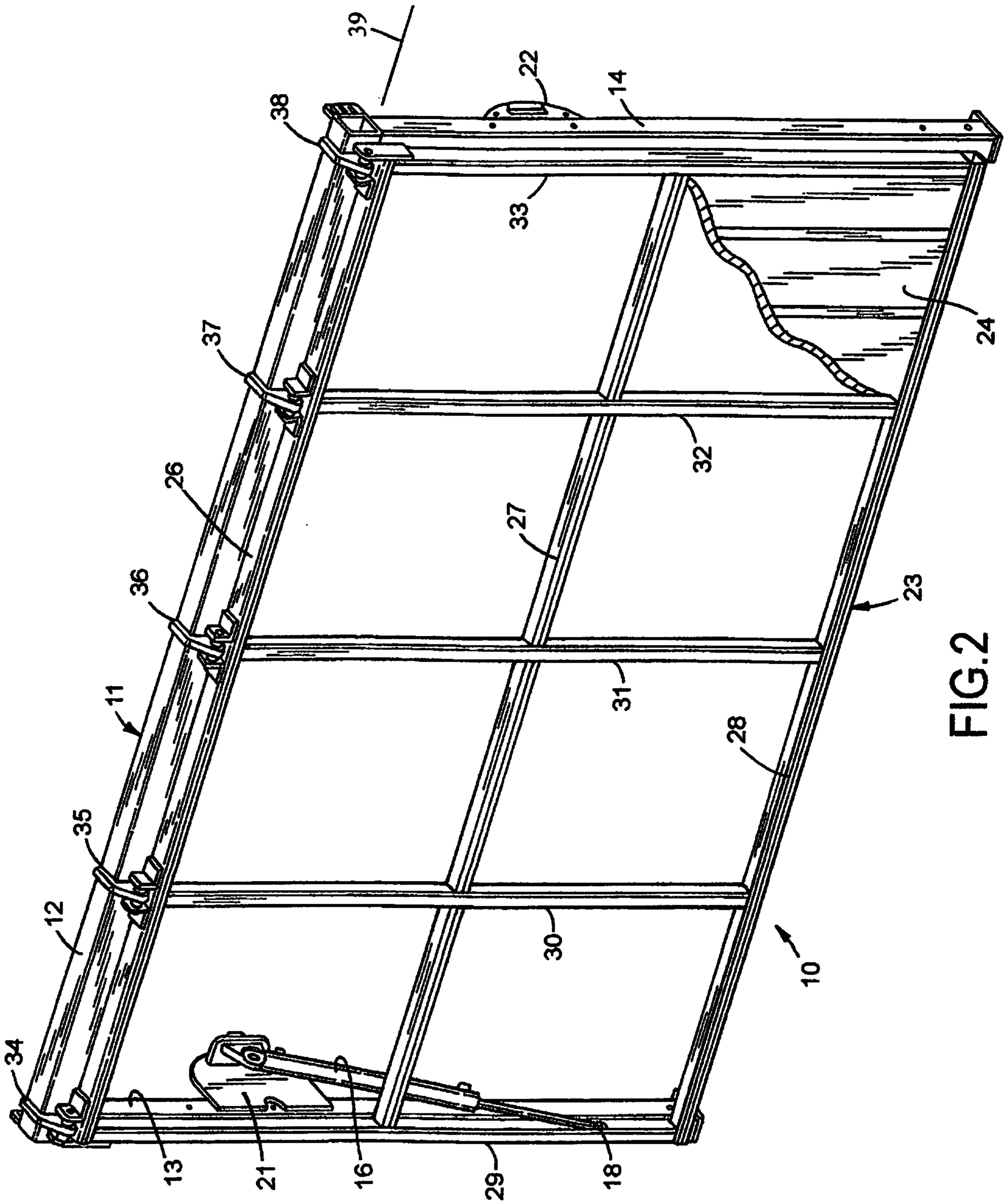

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FIG.2

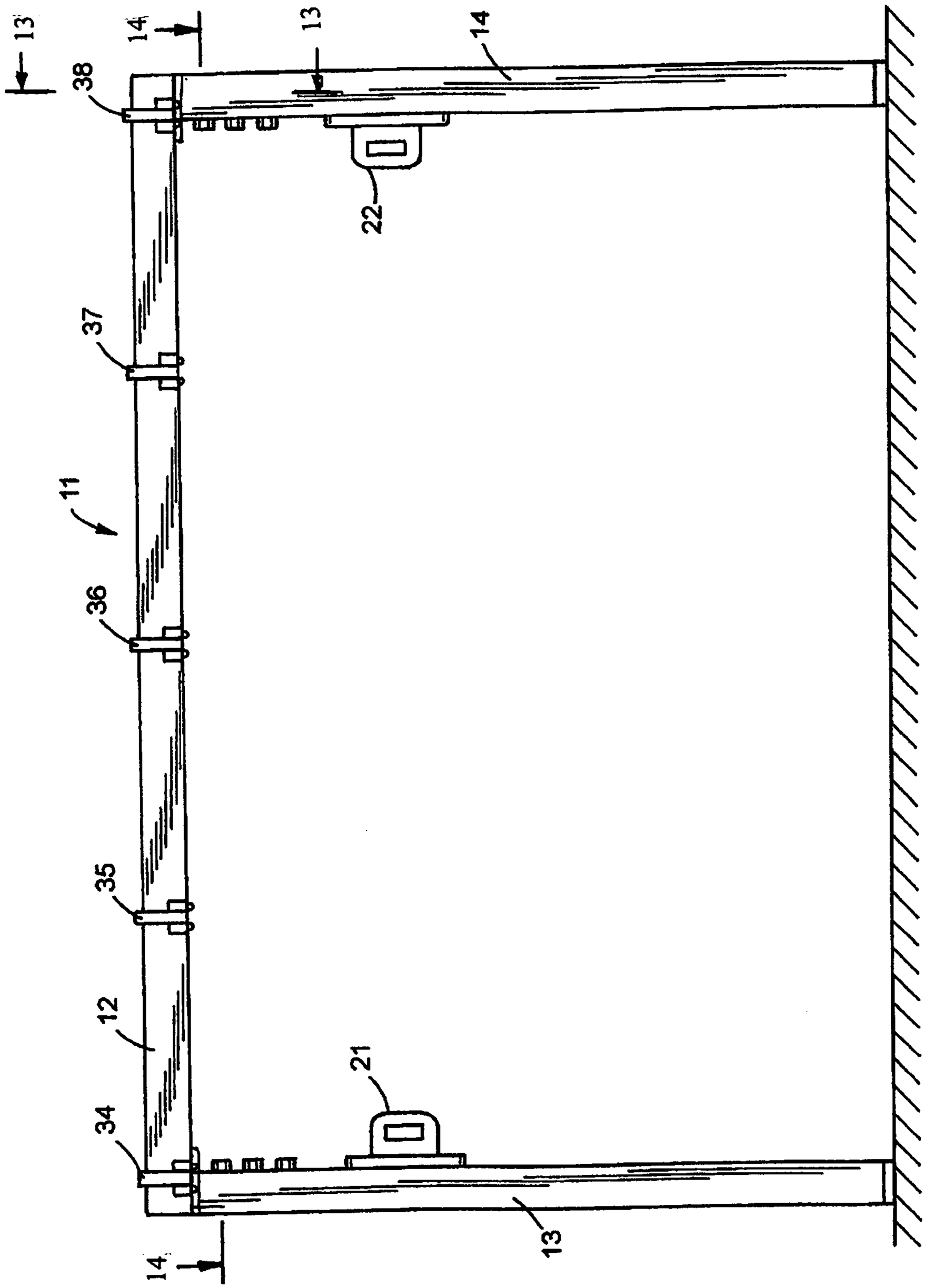


FIG.3

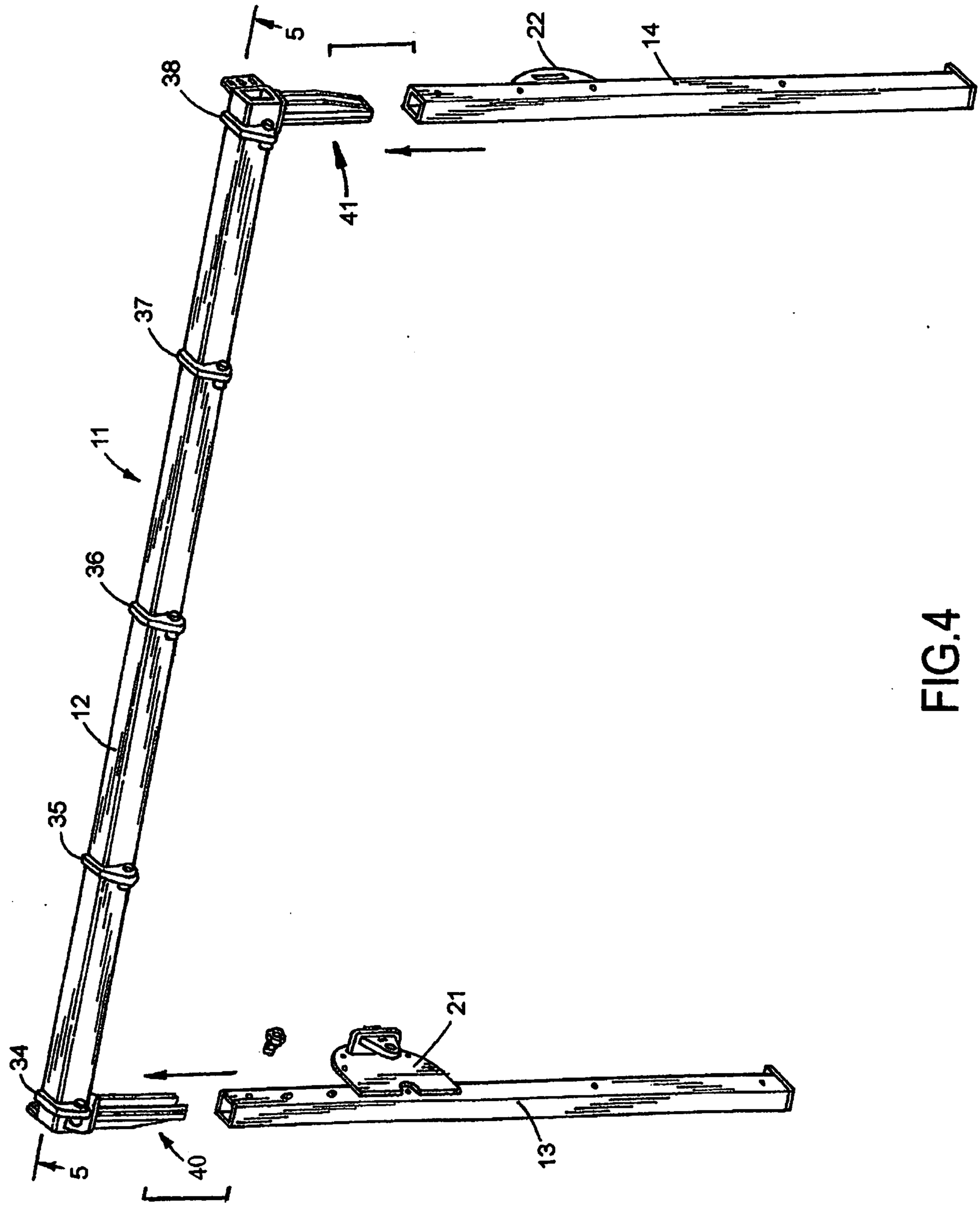


FIG.4

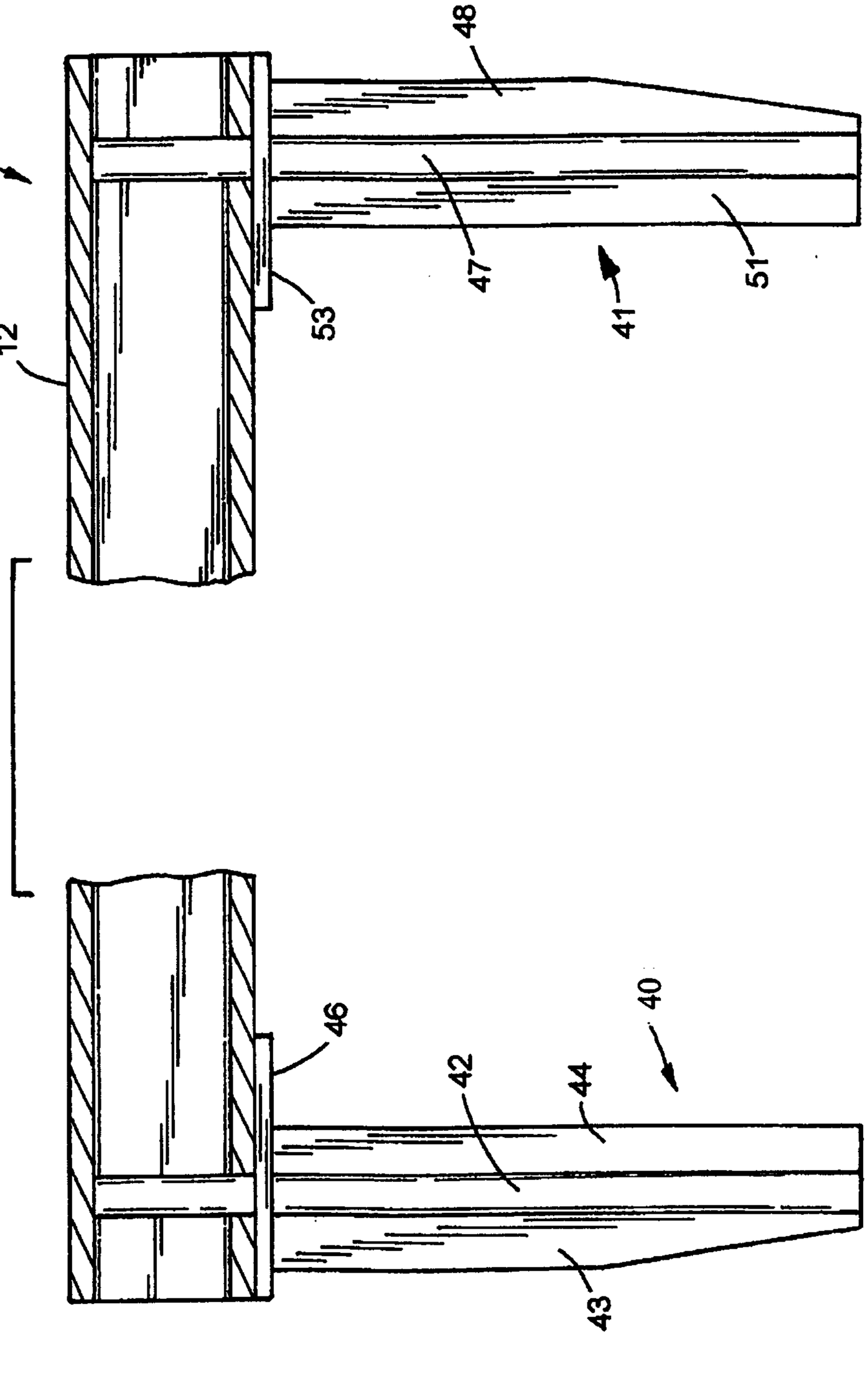


FIG.5

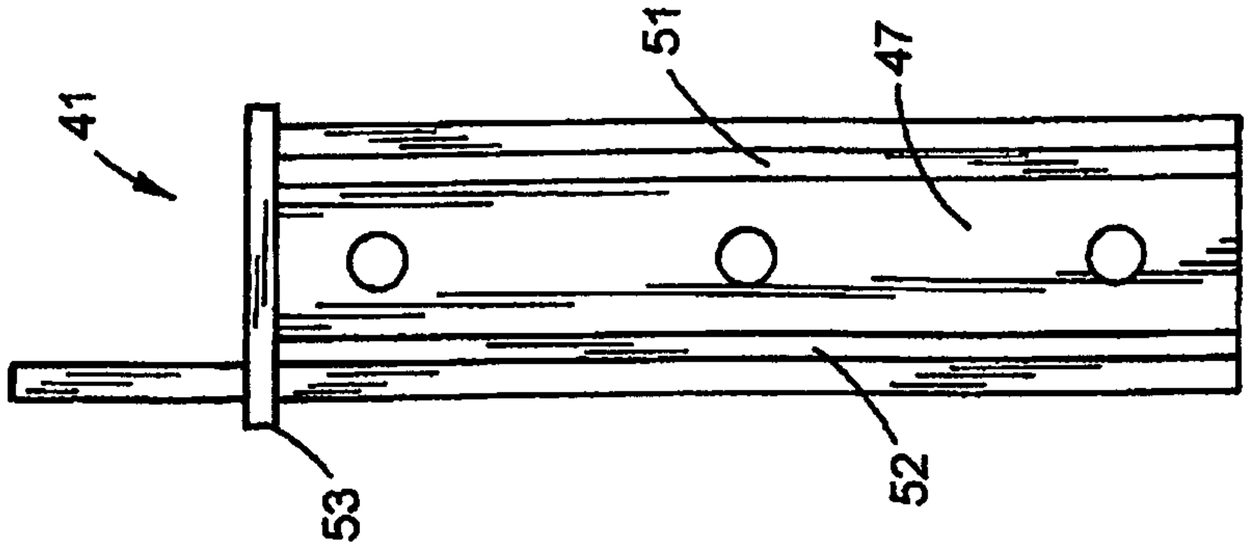


FIG.8

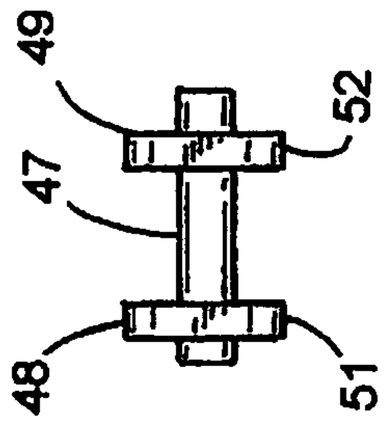


FIG.11

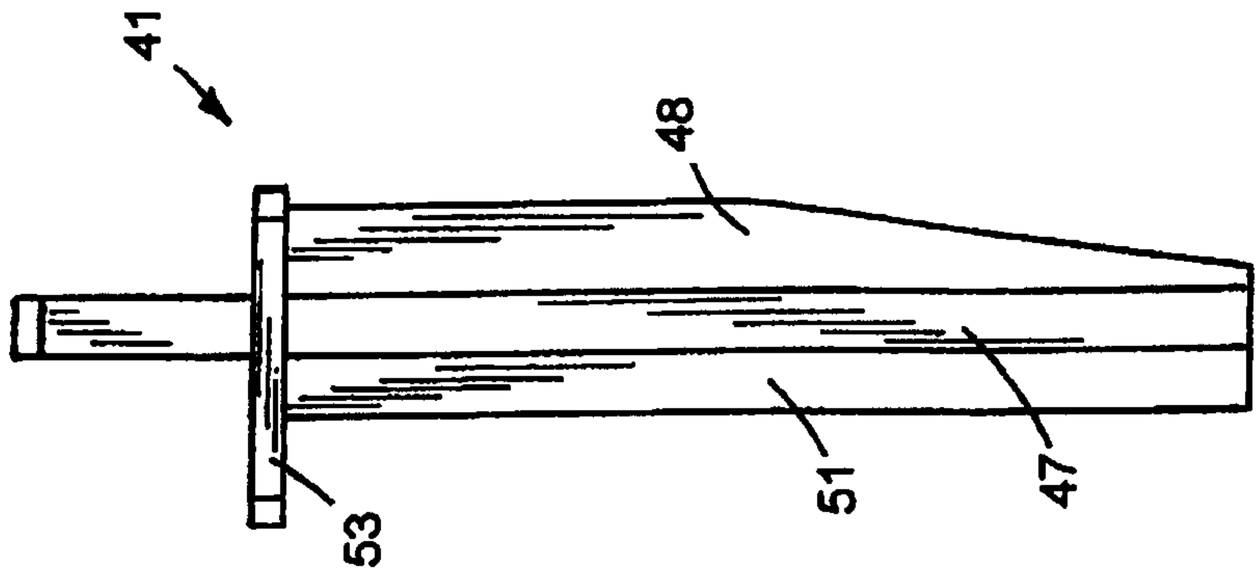


FIG.7

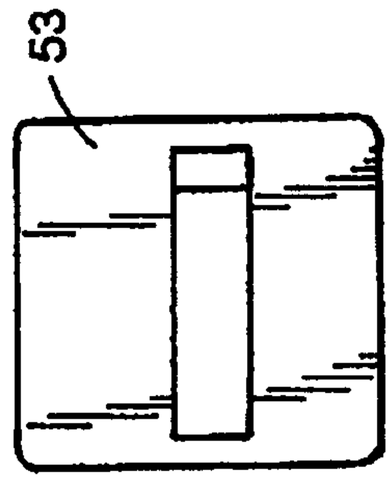


FIG.10

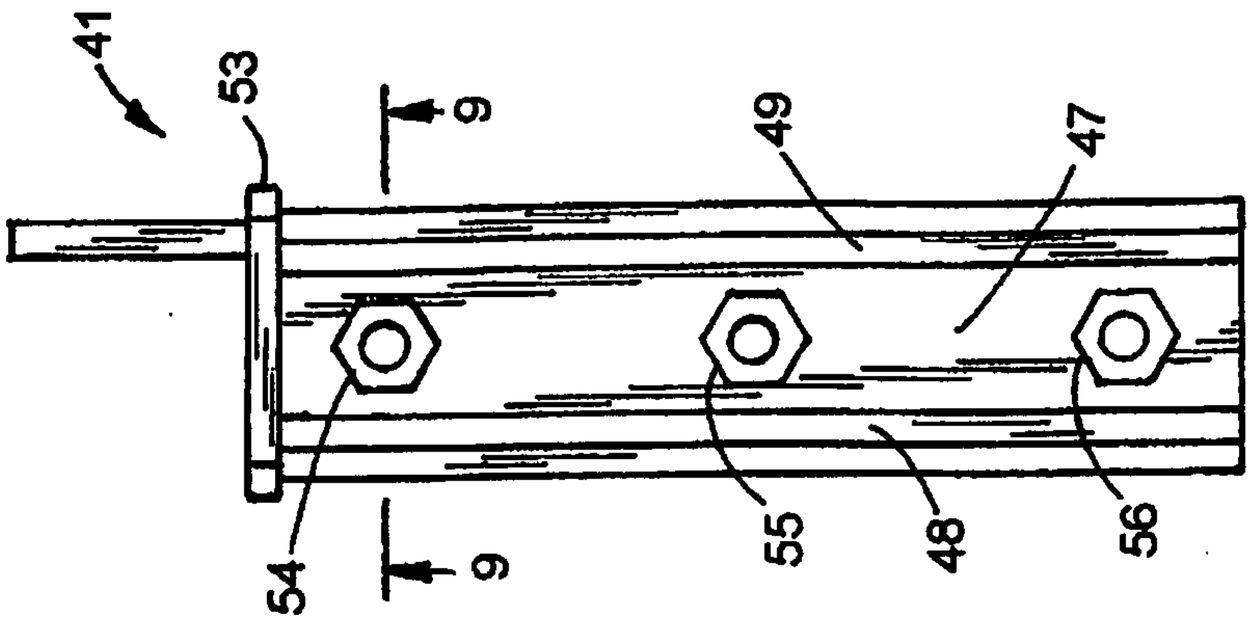


FIG.6

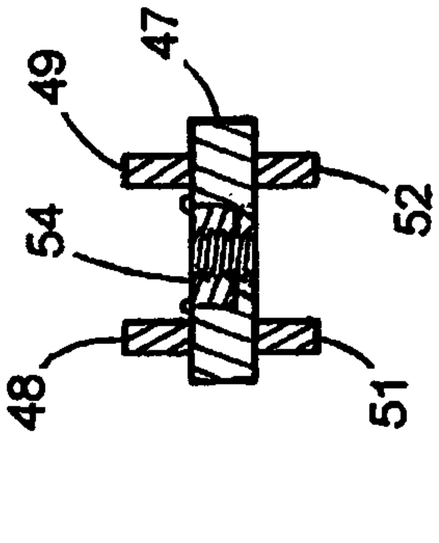


FIG.9

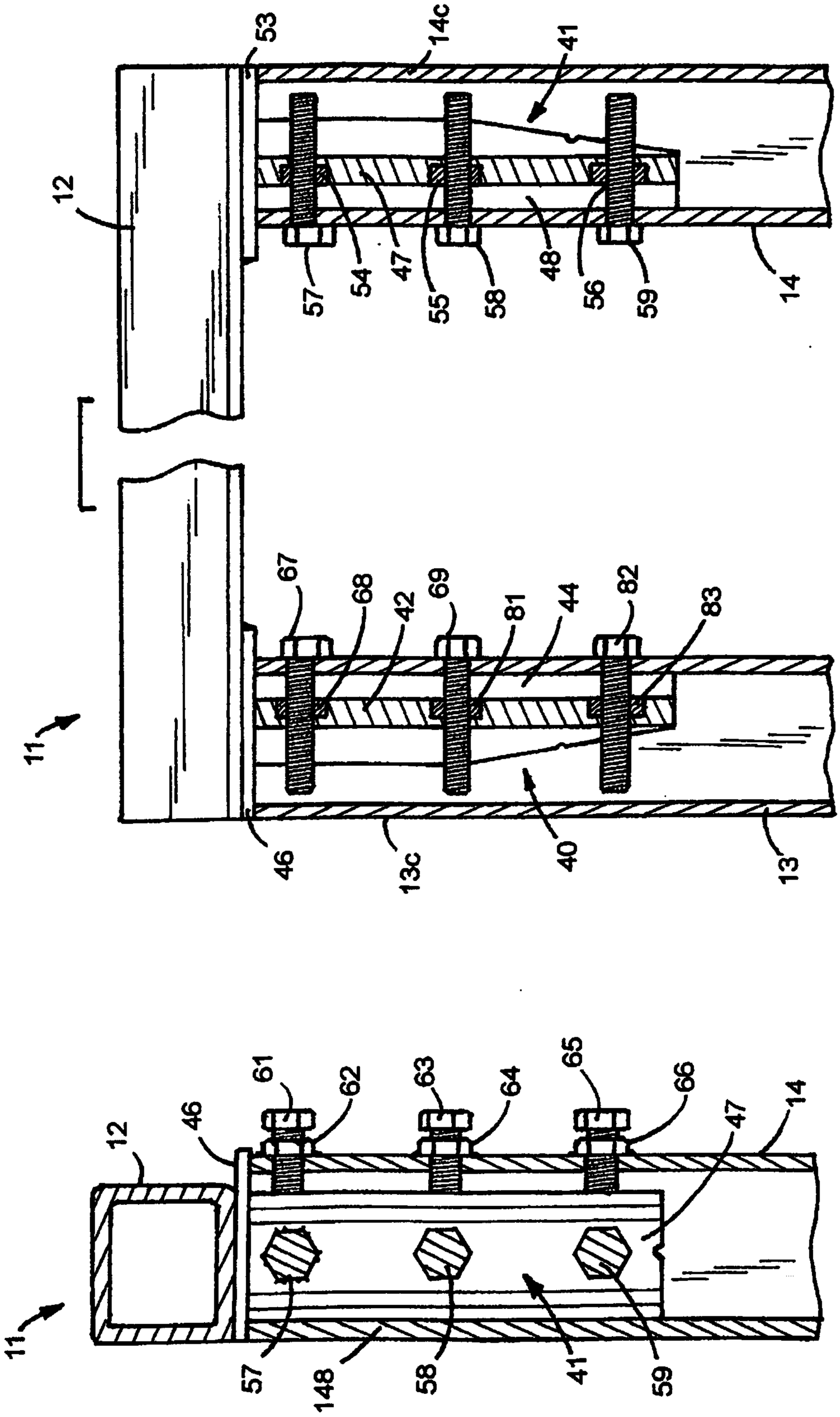

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FIG.12

FIG.13

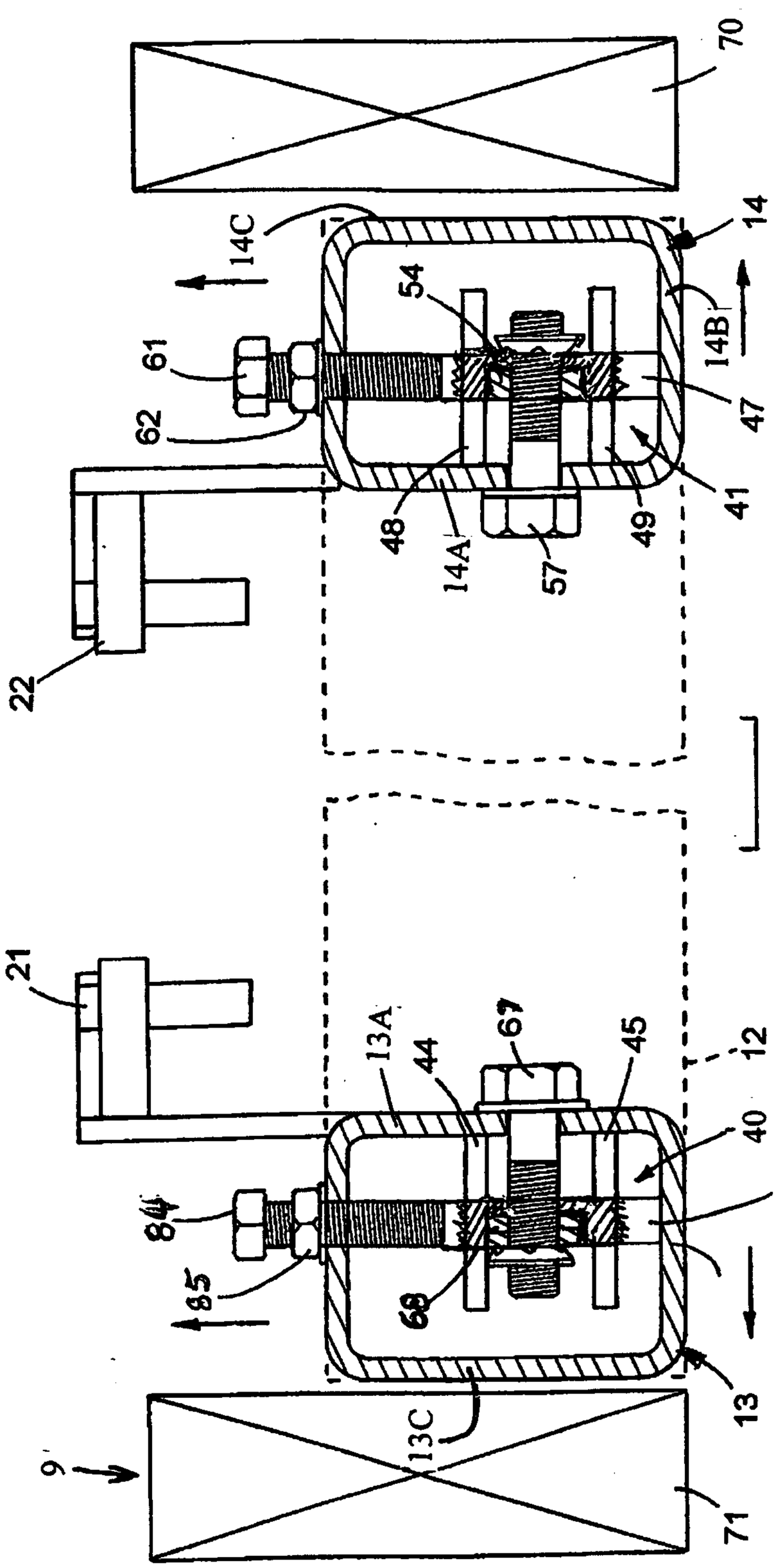

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FIG.14

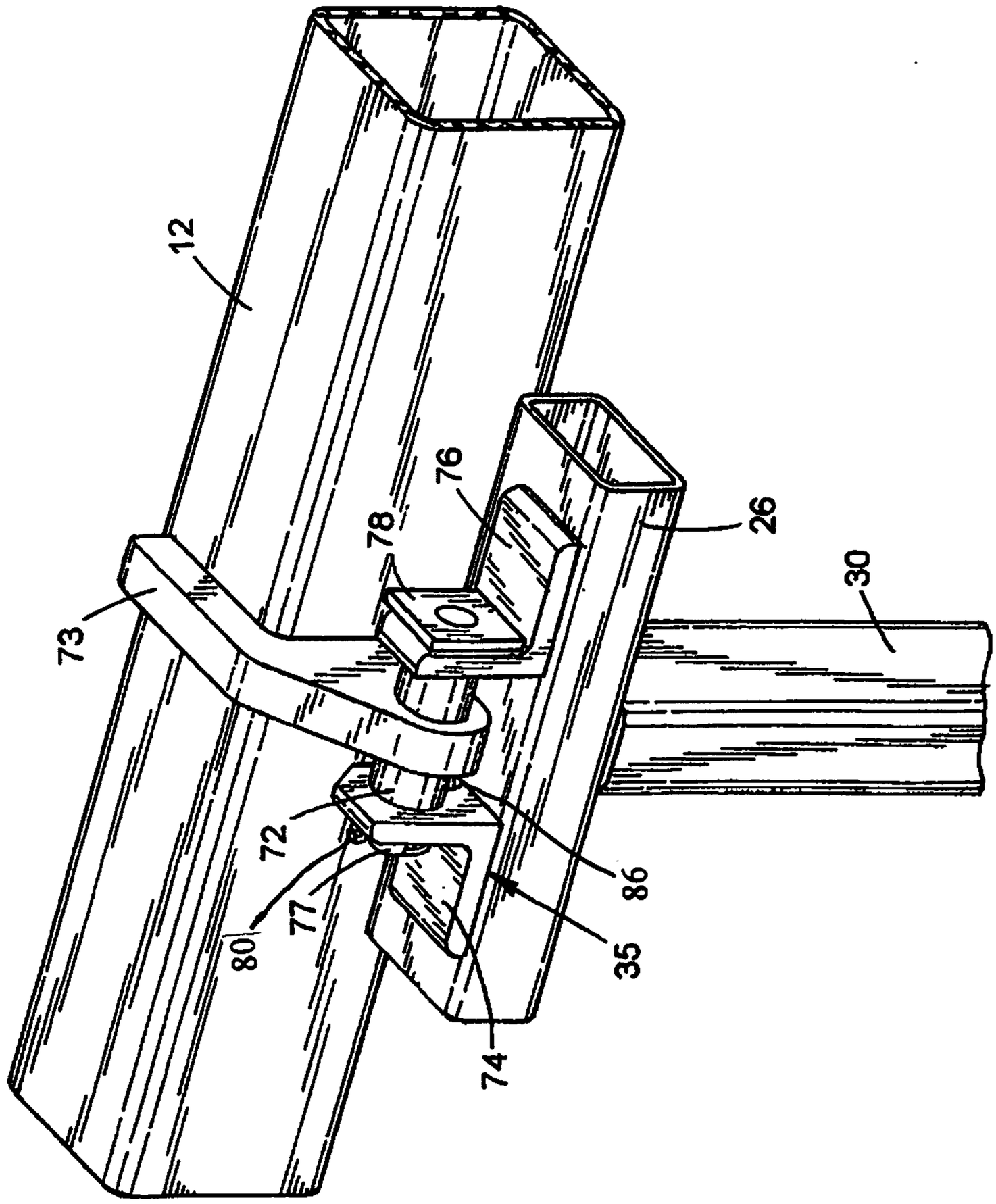


FIG.15

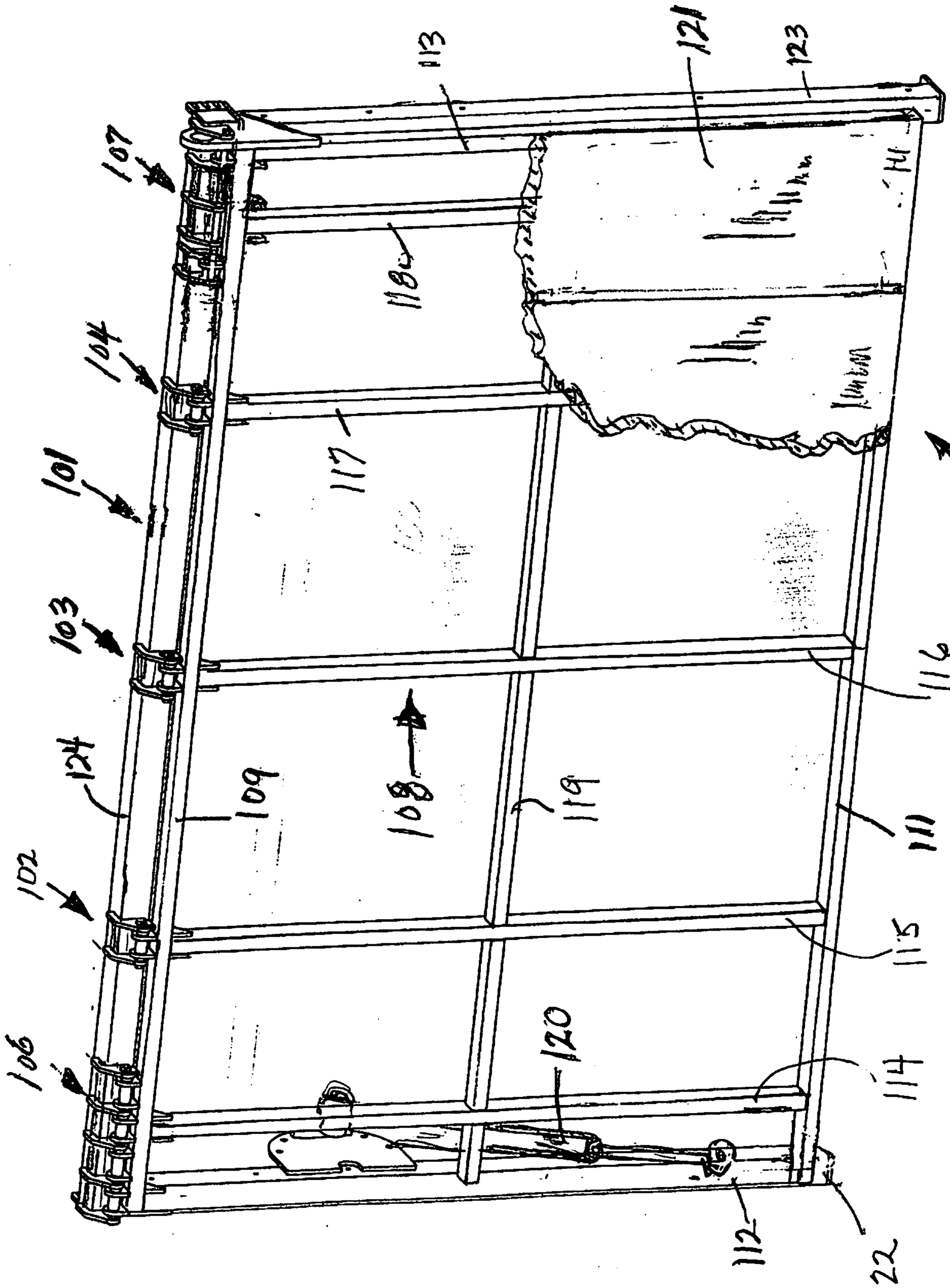

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FIG. 16

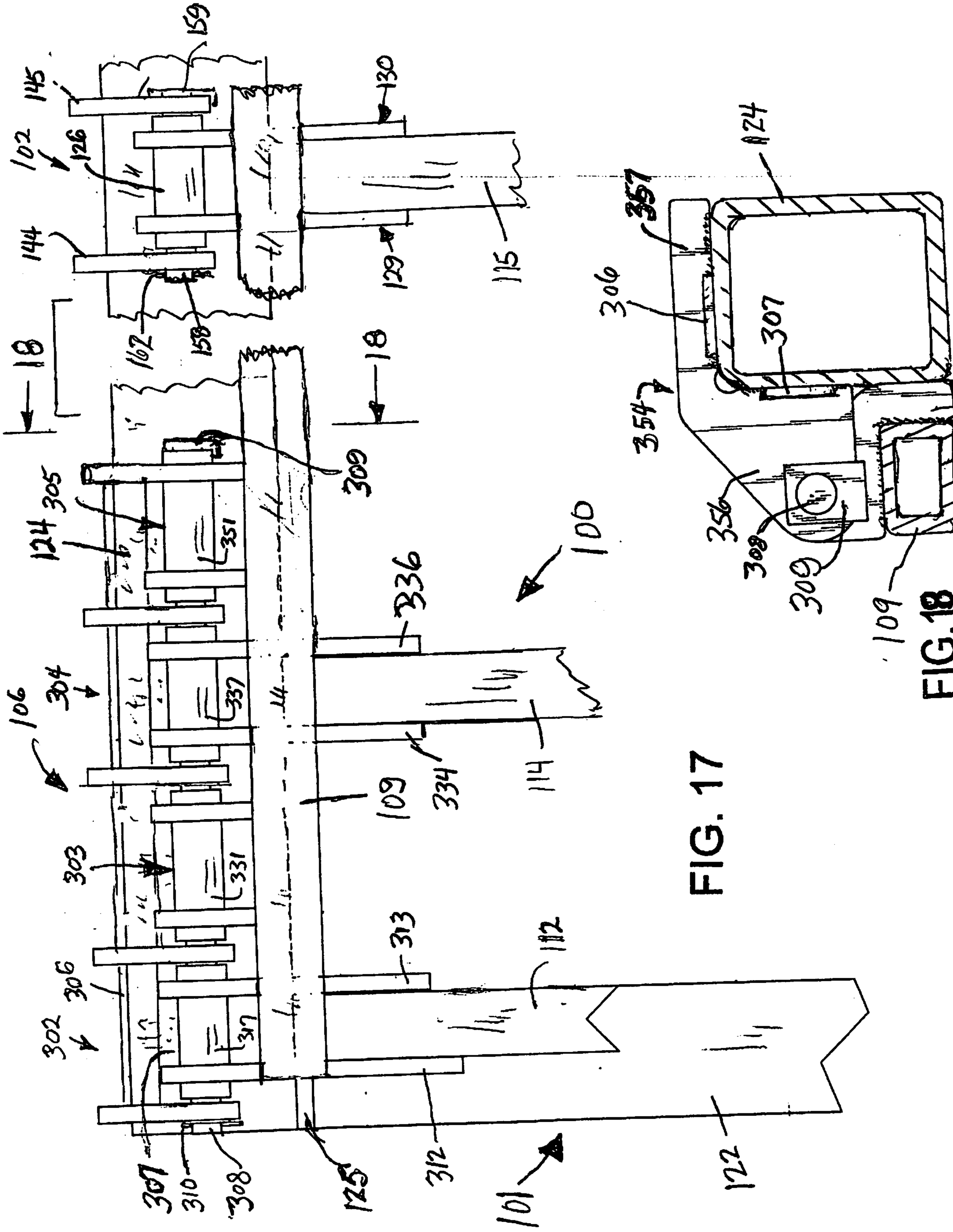

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FIG. 17

FIG. 18

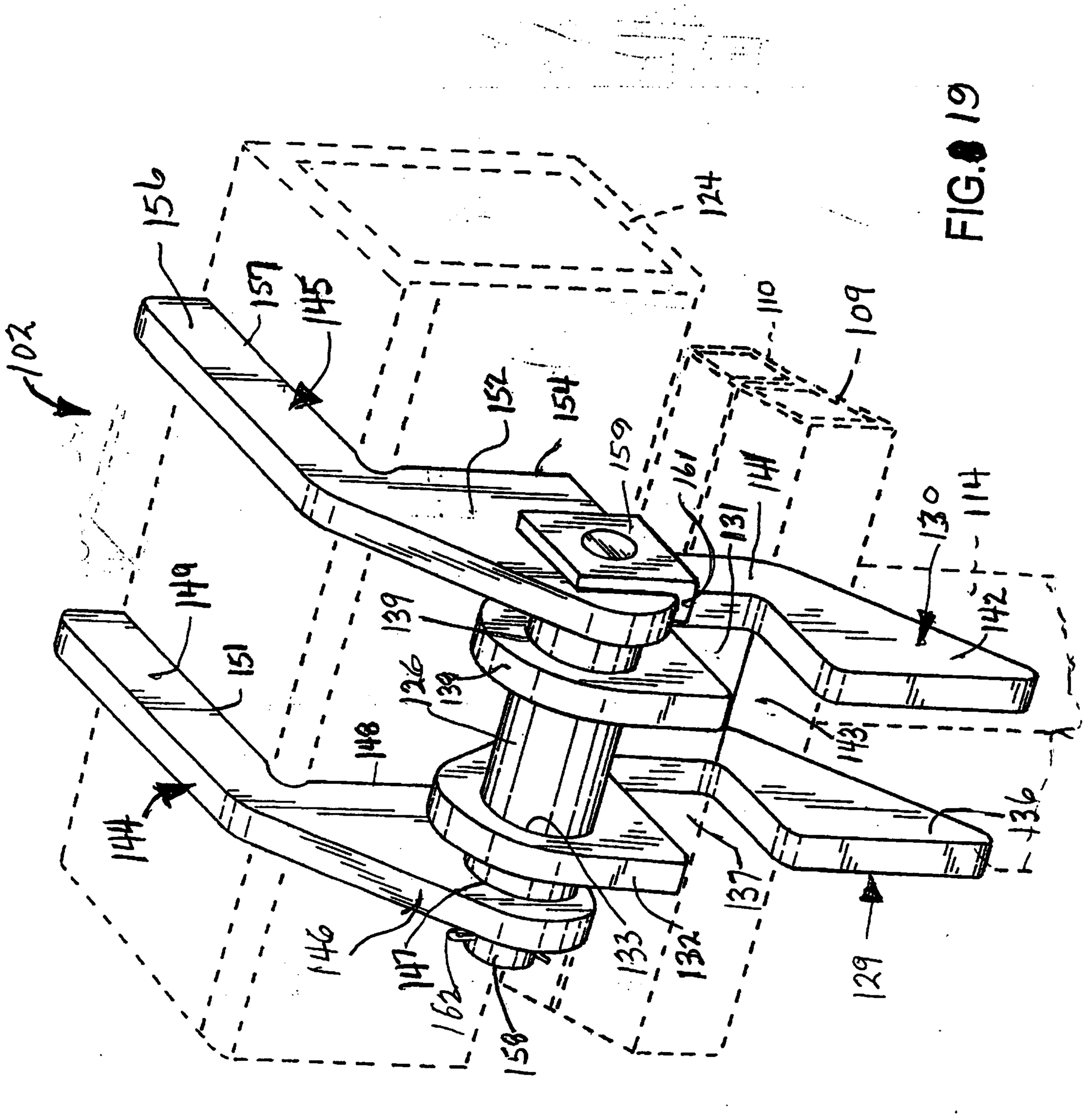

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FIG. 19

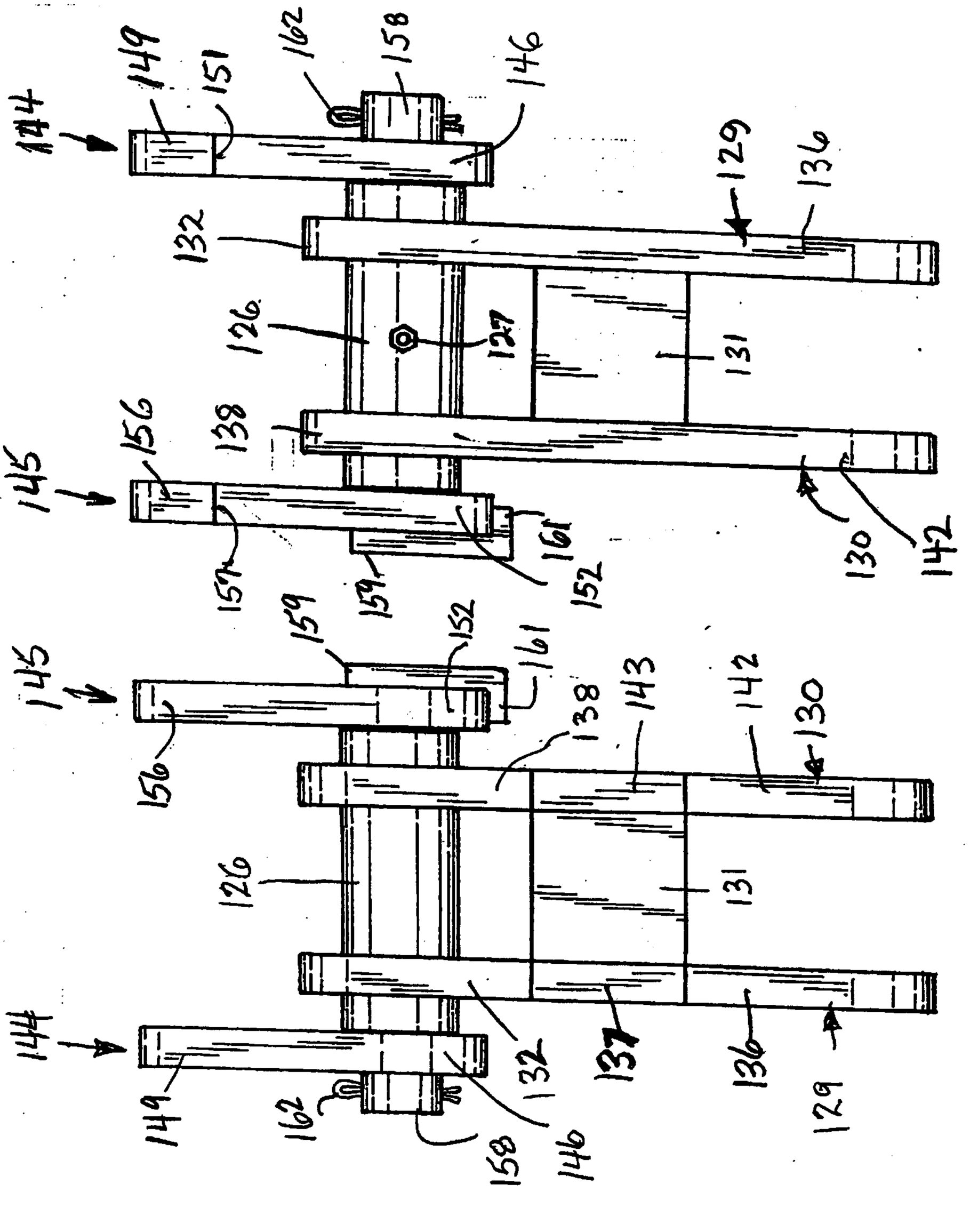


FIG.4 21

FIG.4 20

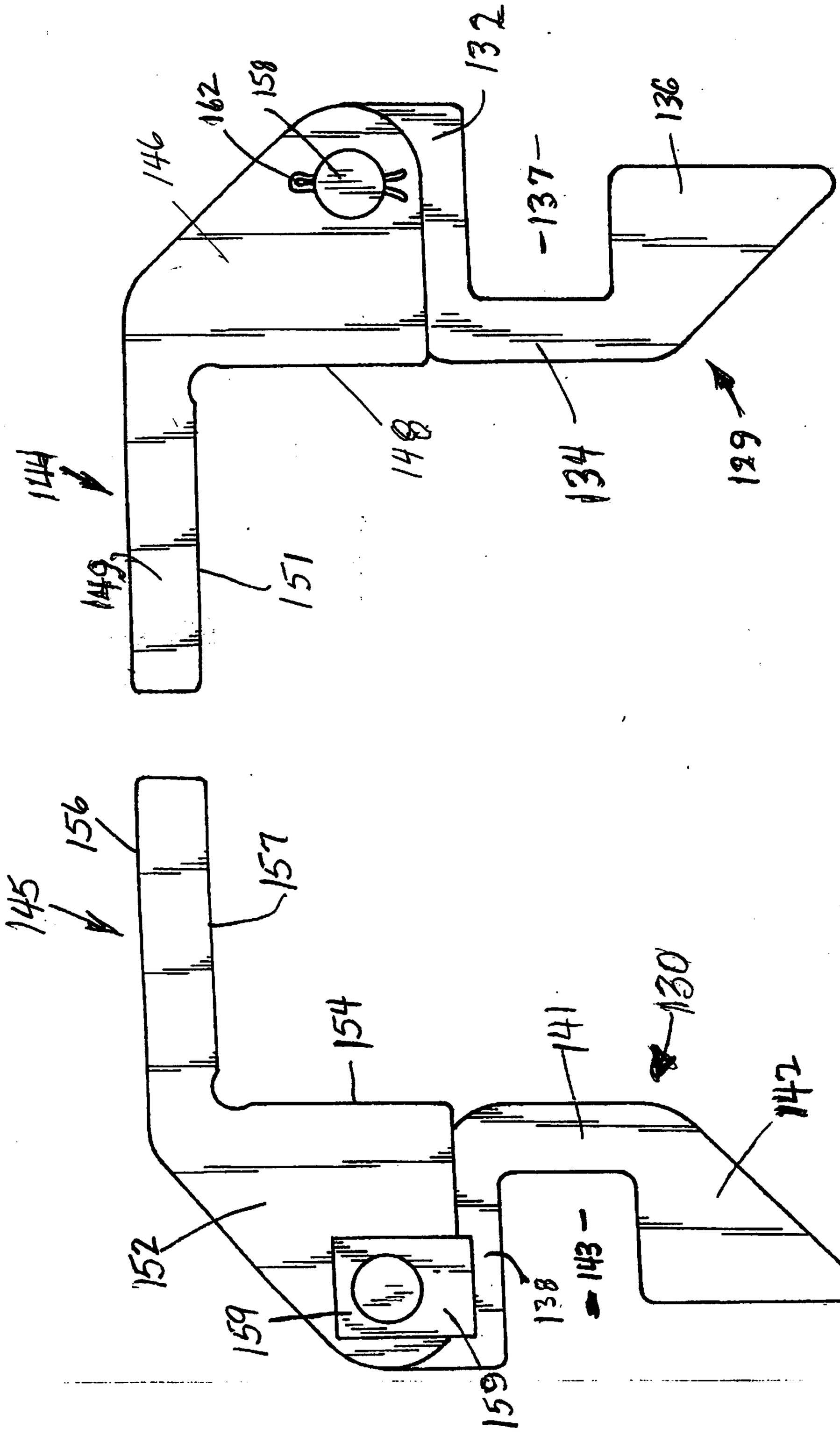
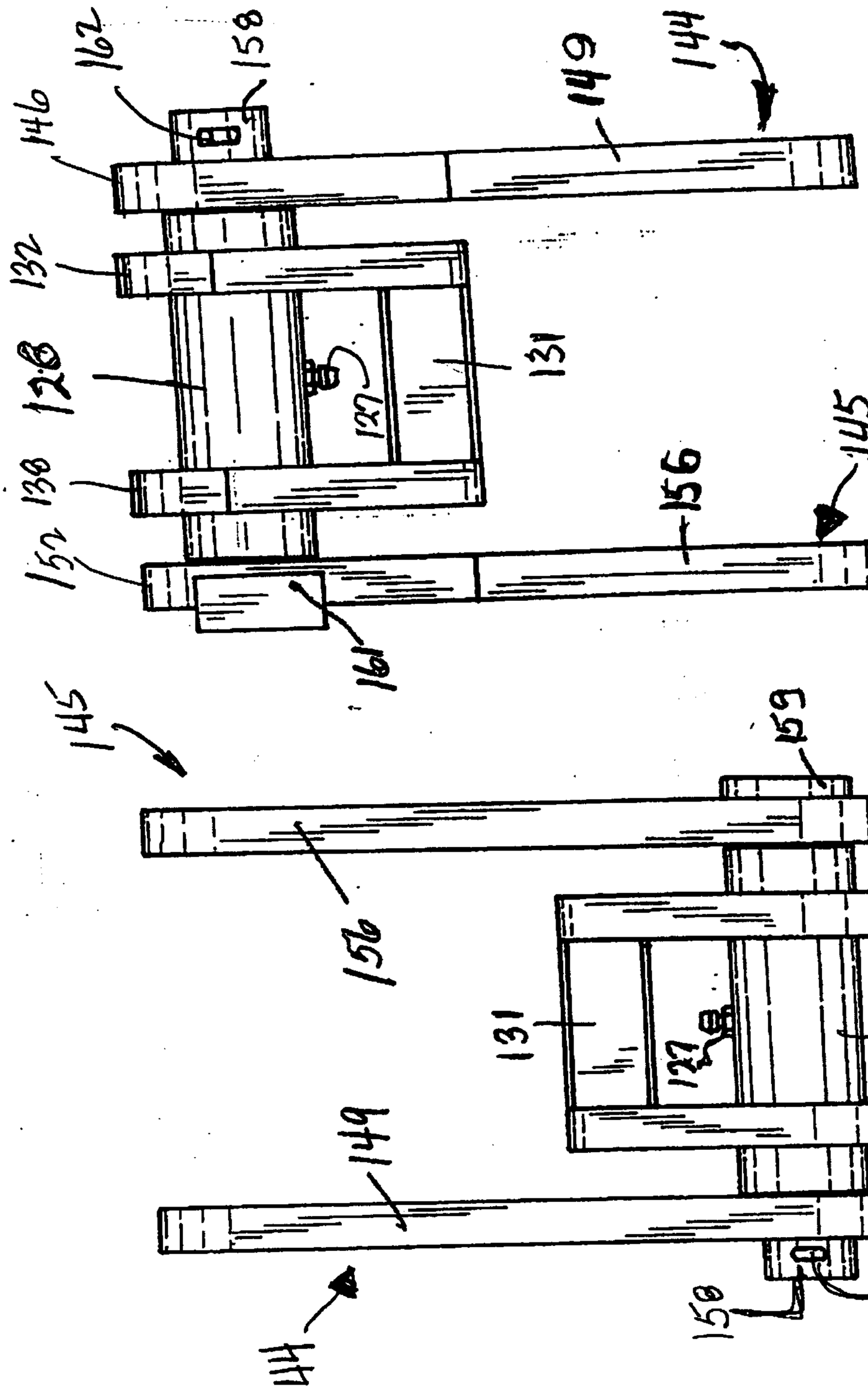

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FIG.23

FIG.22


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FIG. 25
FIG. 24

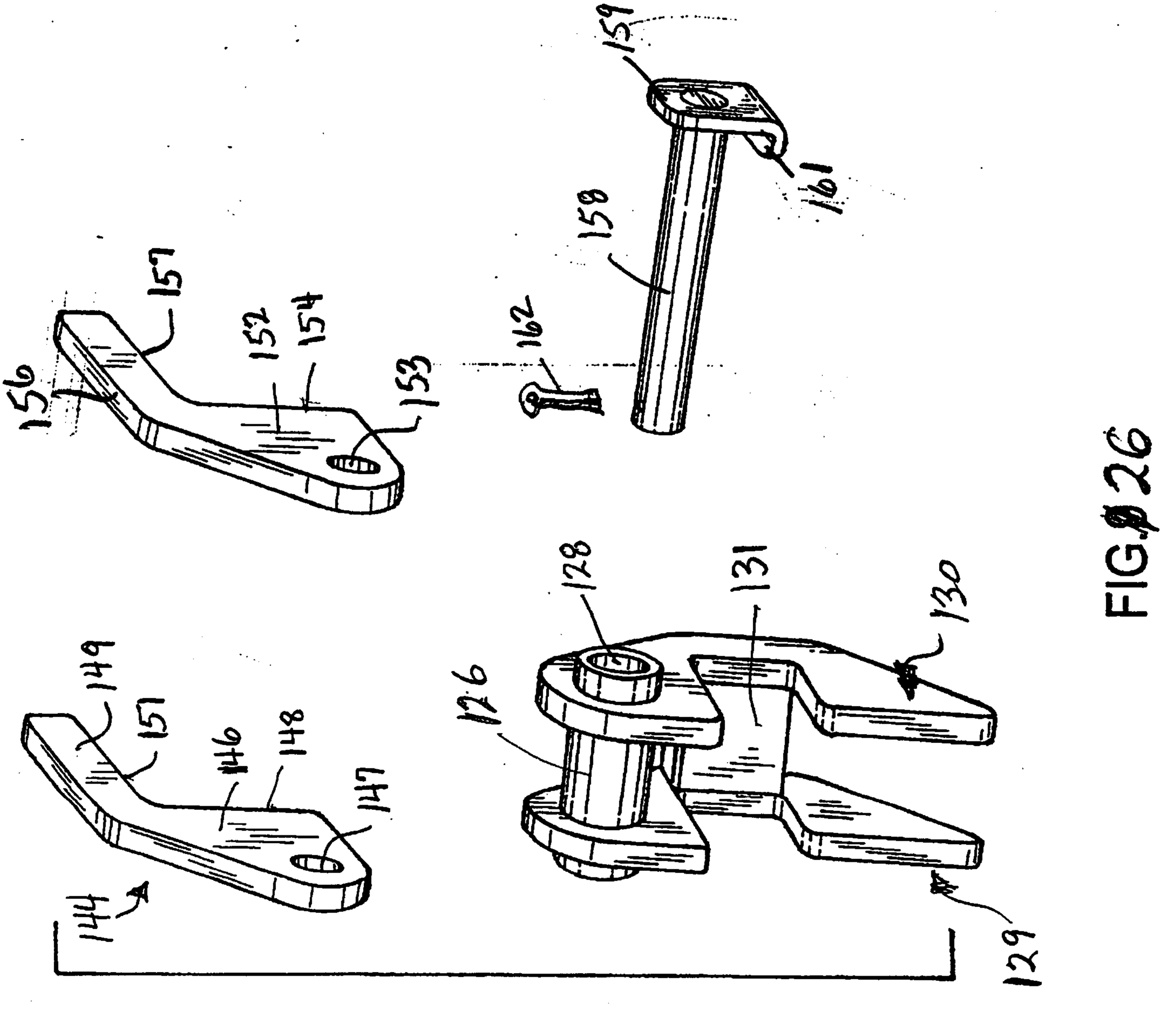

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FIG 26

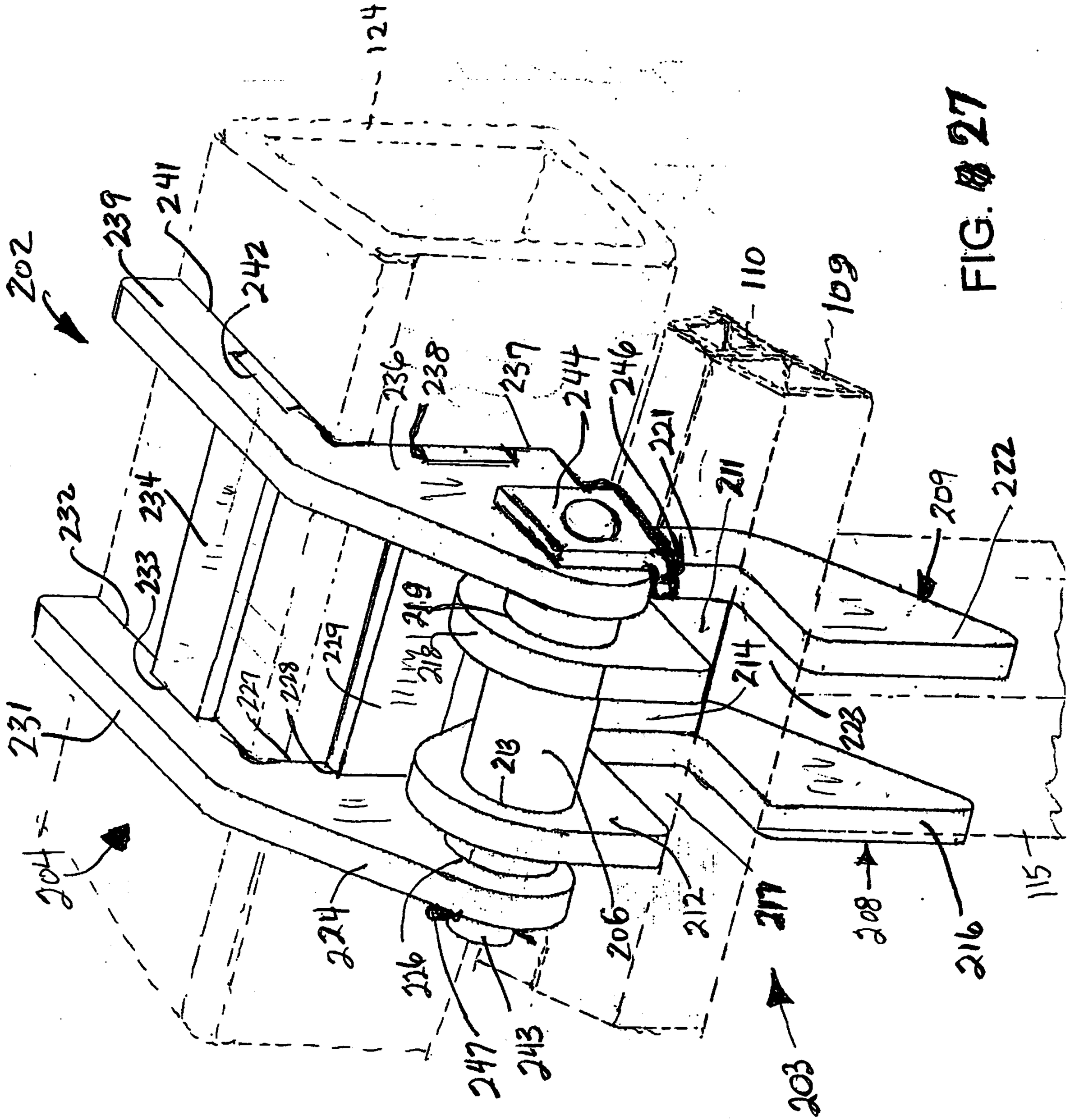

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FIG. 27

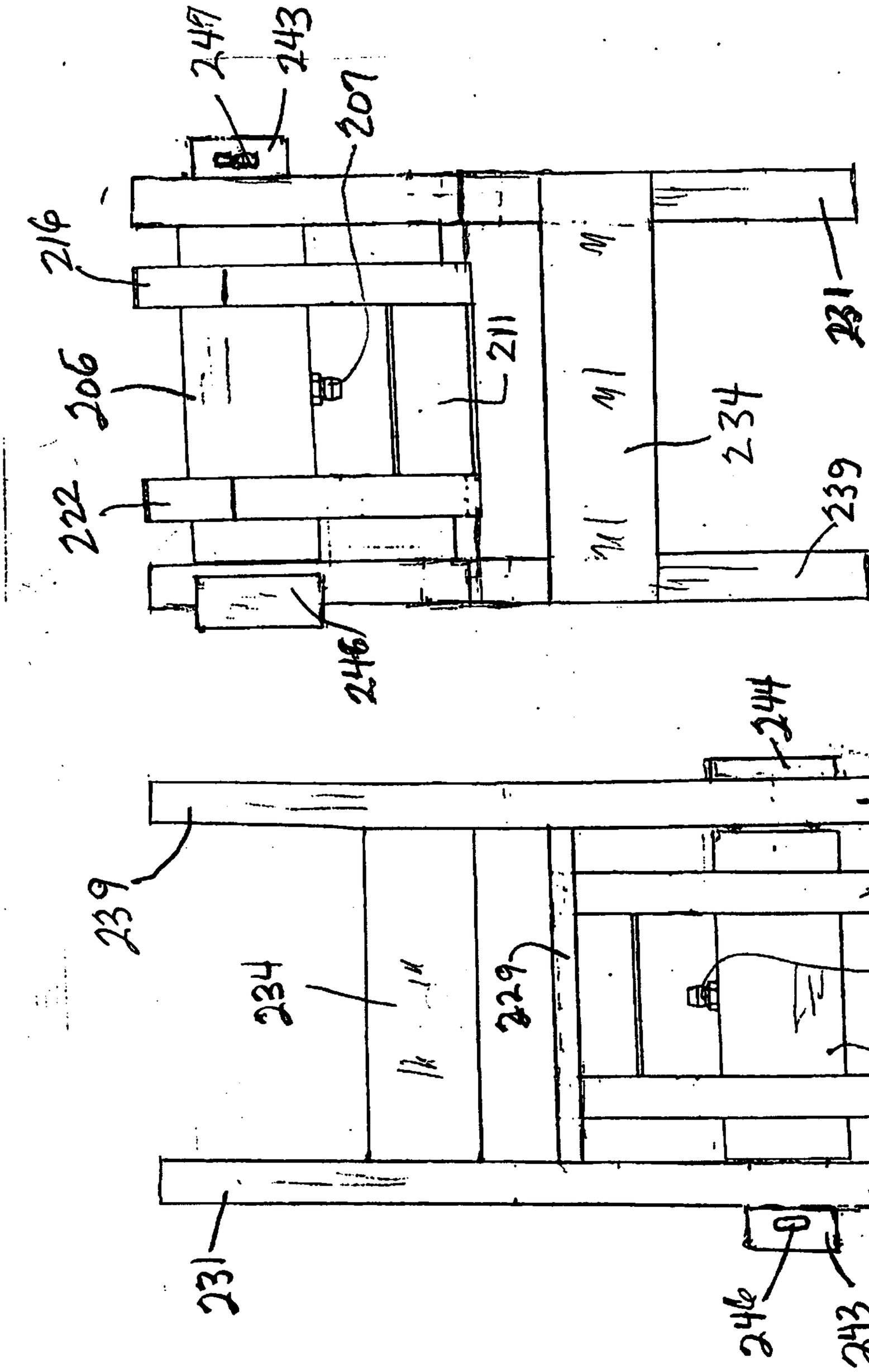

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FIG. 29

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FIG. 28

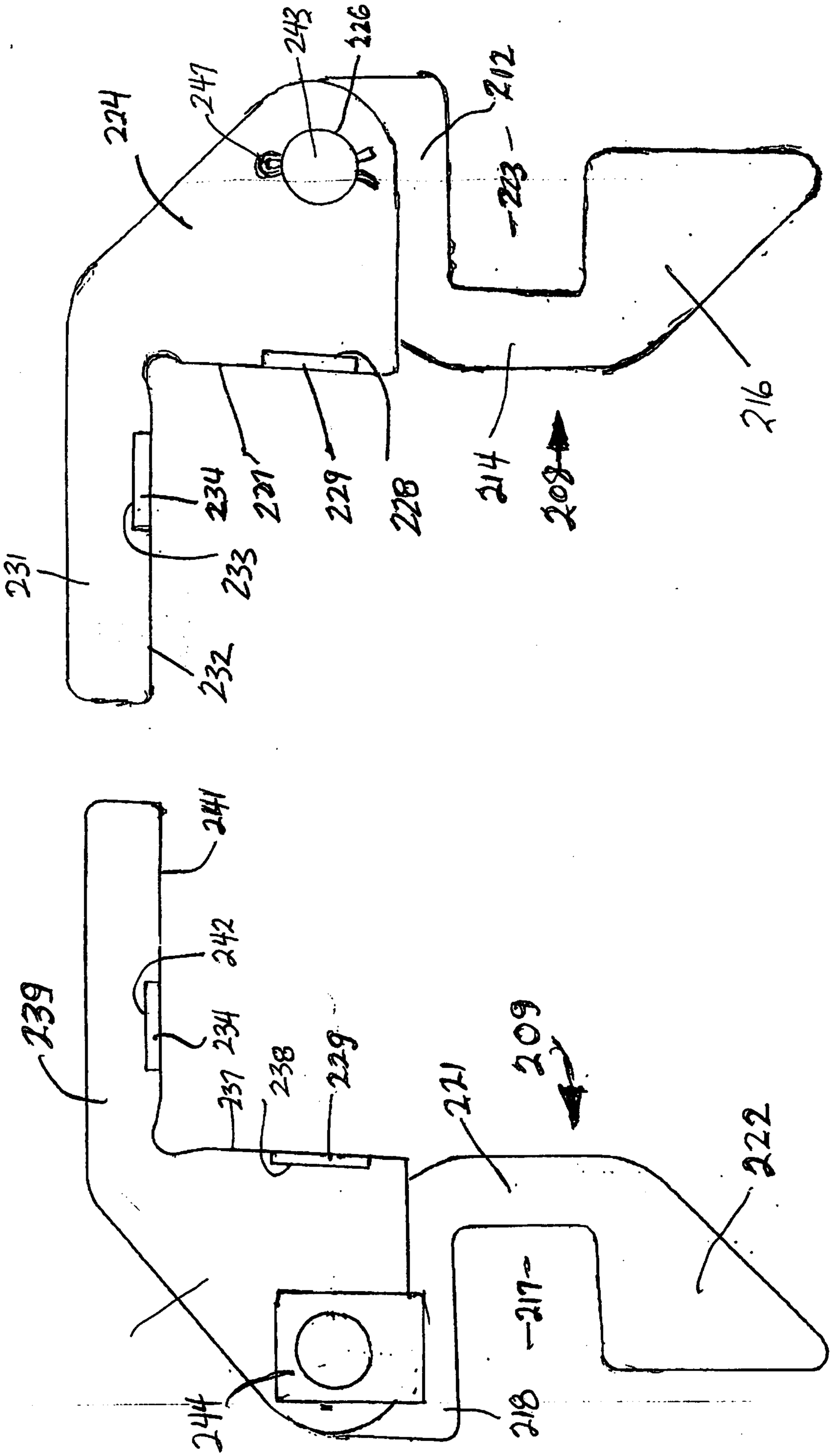

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FIG.31

FIG.30

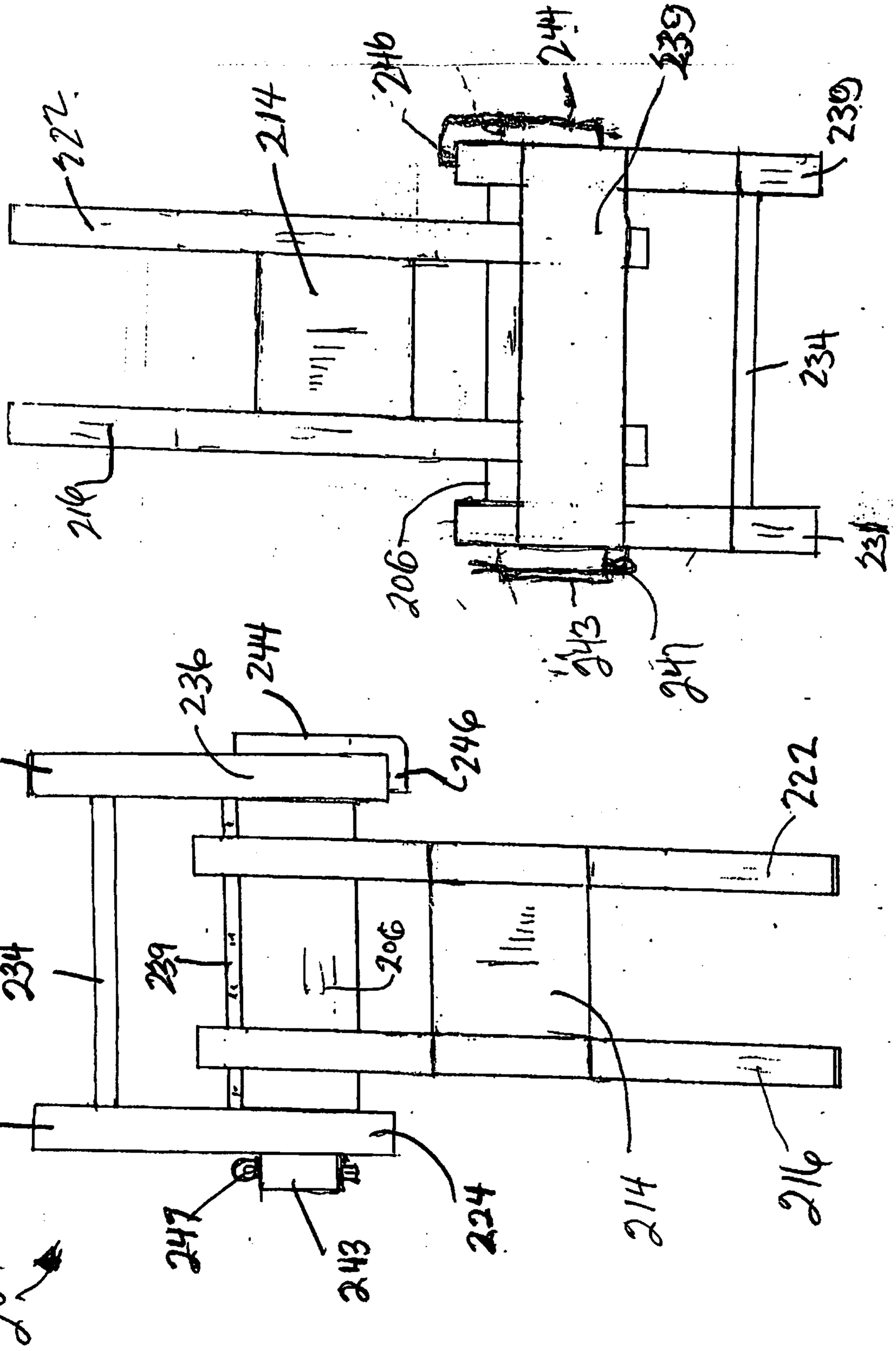

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FIG. 32

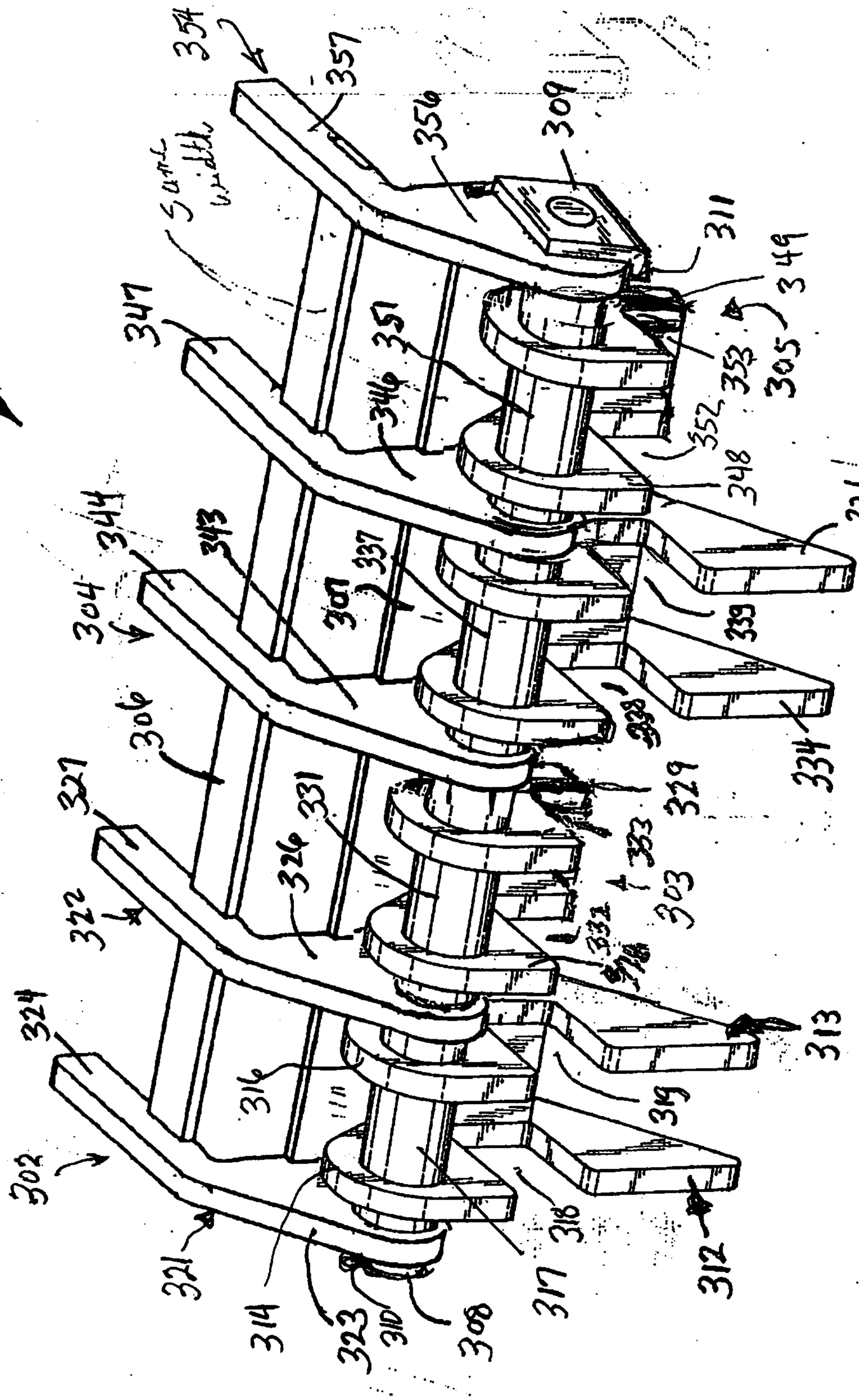

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FIG. 34

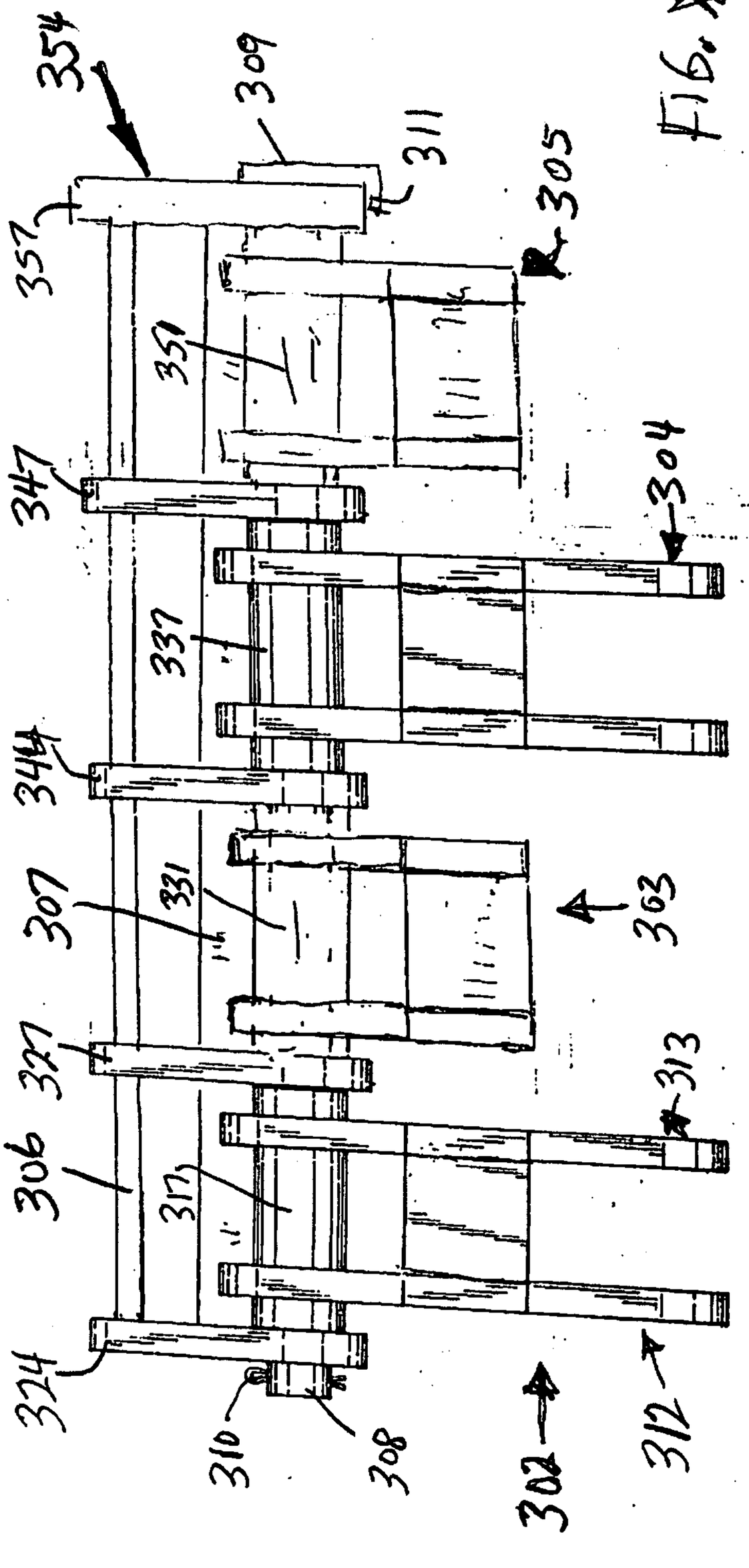

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Fig. 35

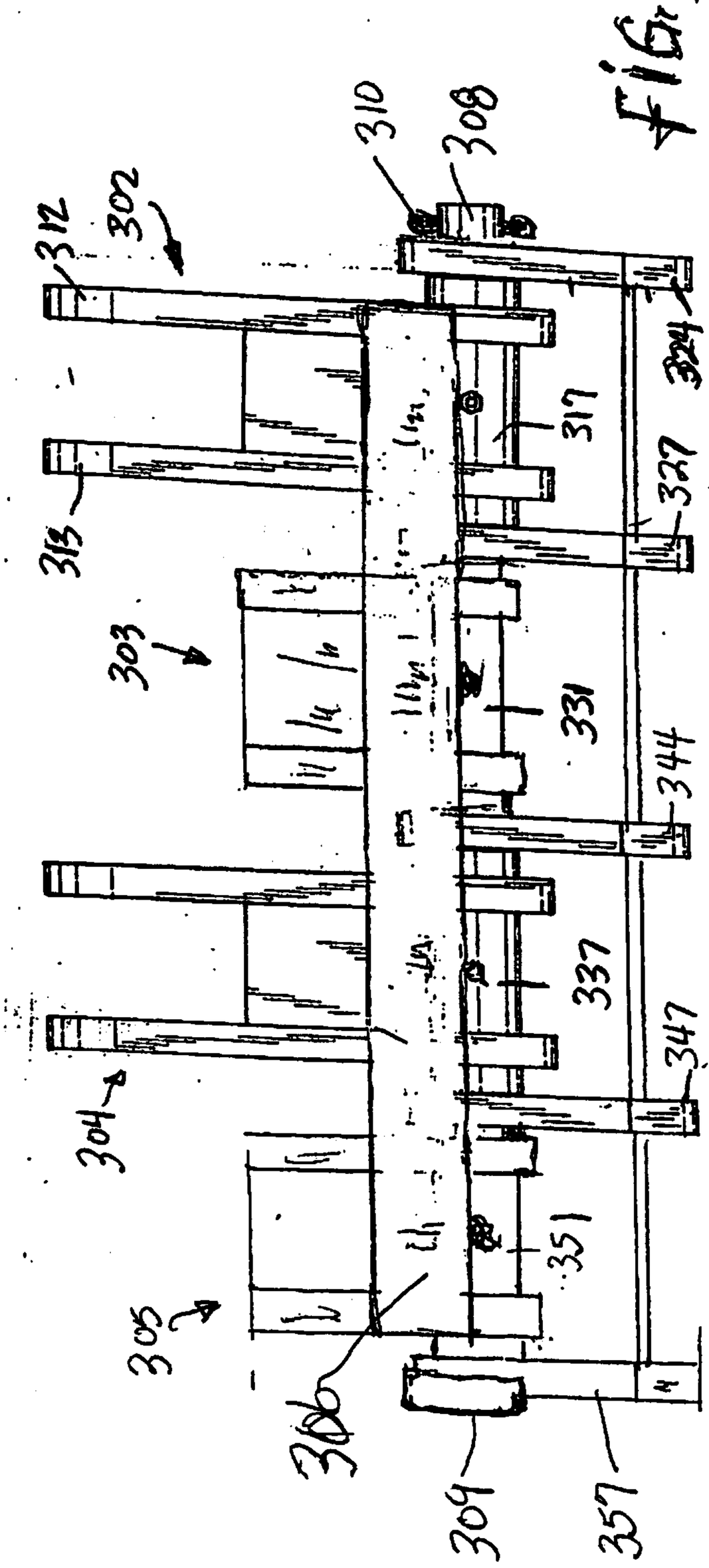

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Fig. 36

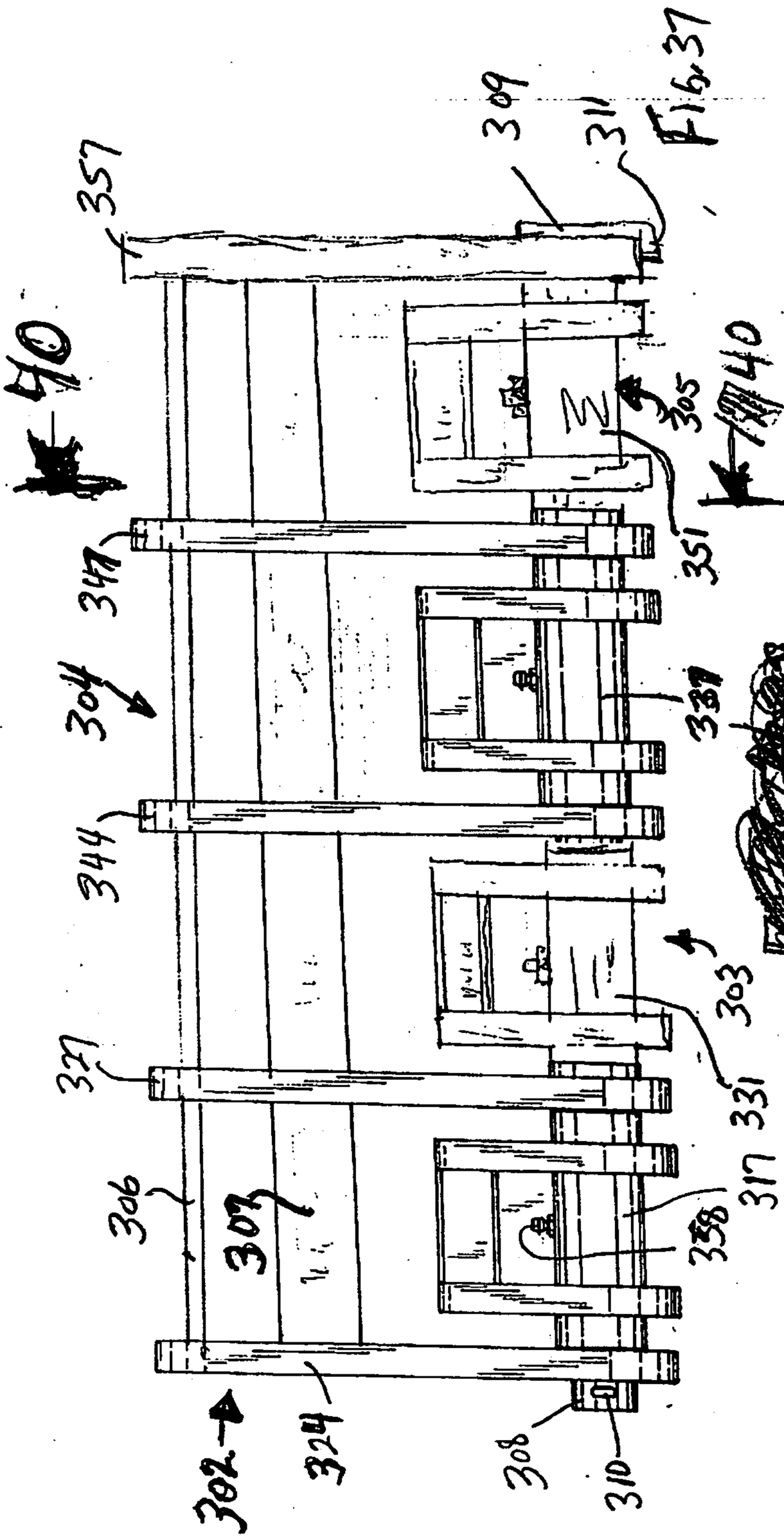

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Fig 37

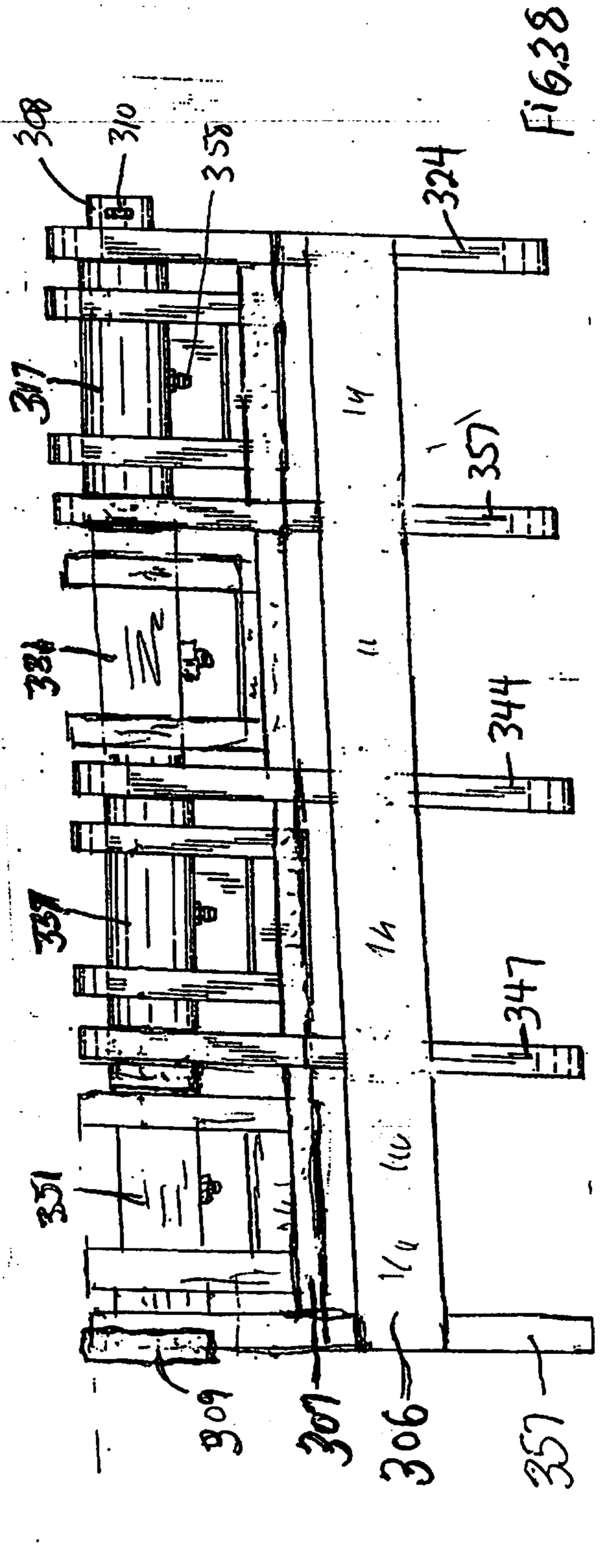

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Fig 38

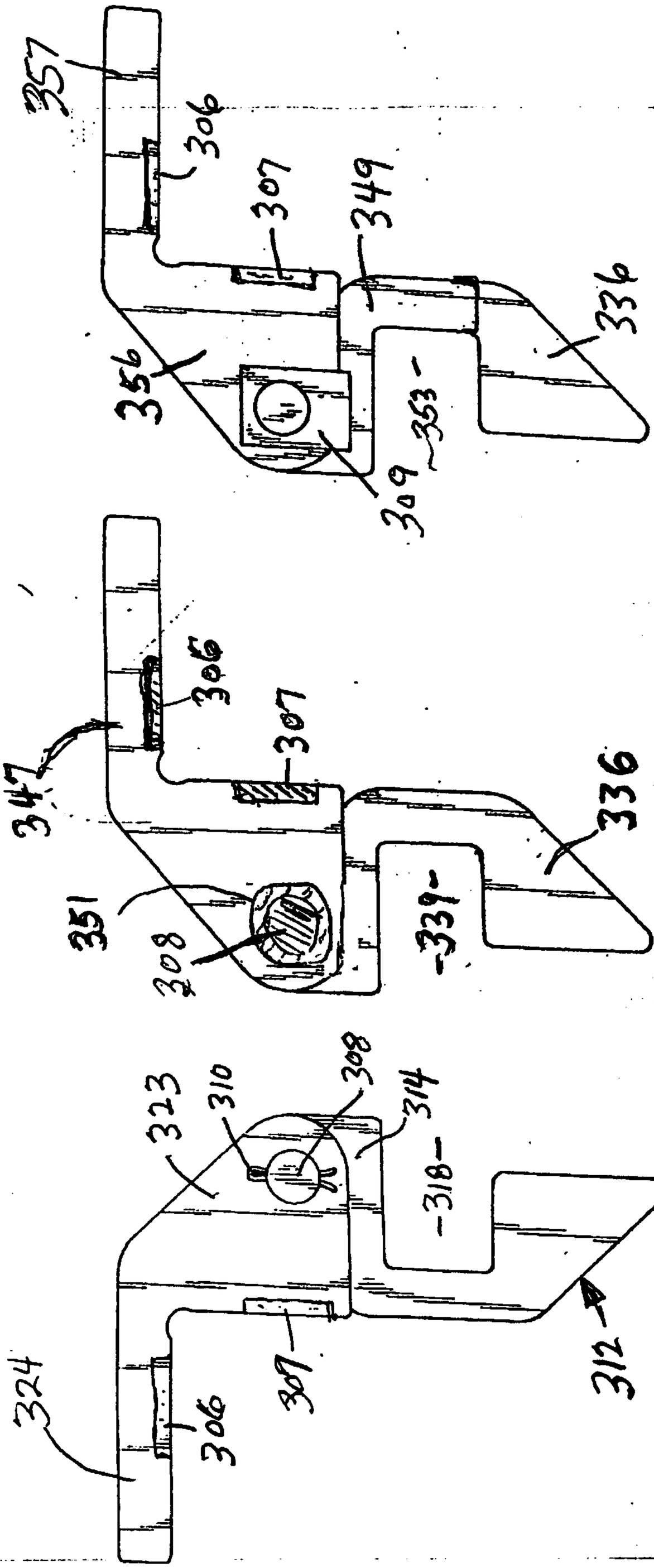
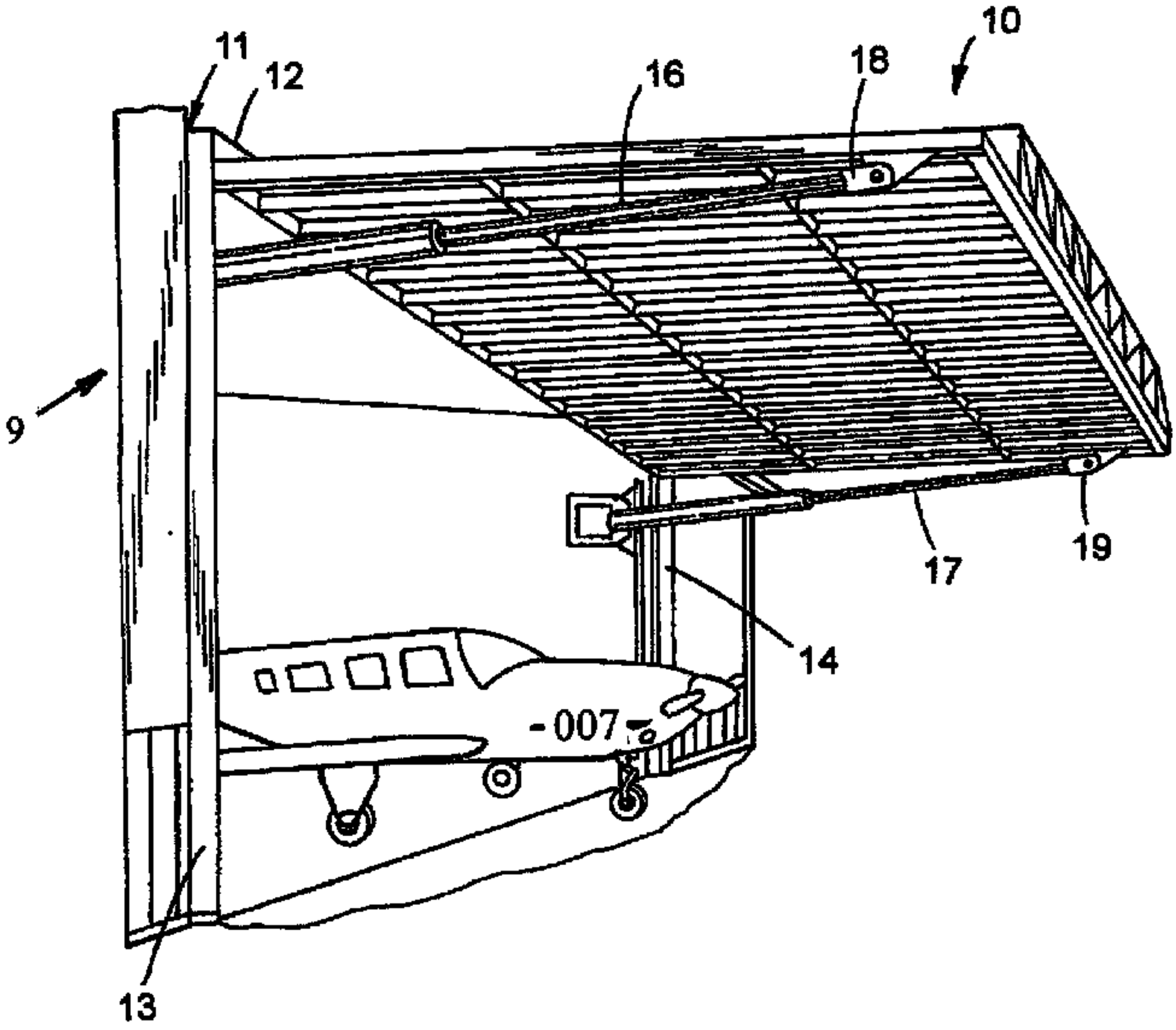


FIG. 41

FIG. 40

FIG. 39


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