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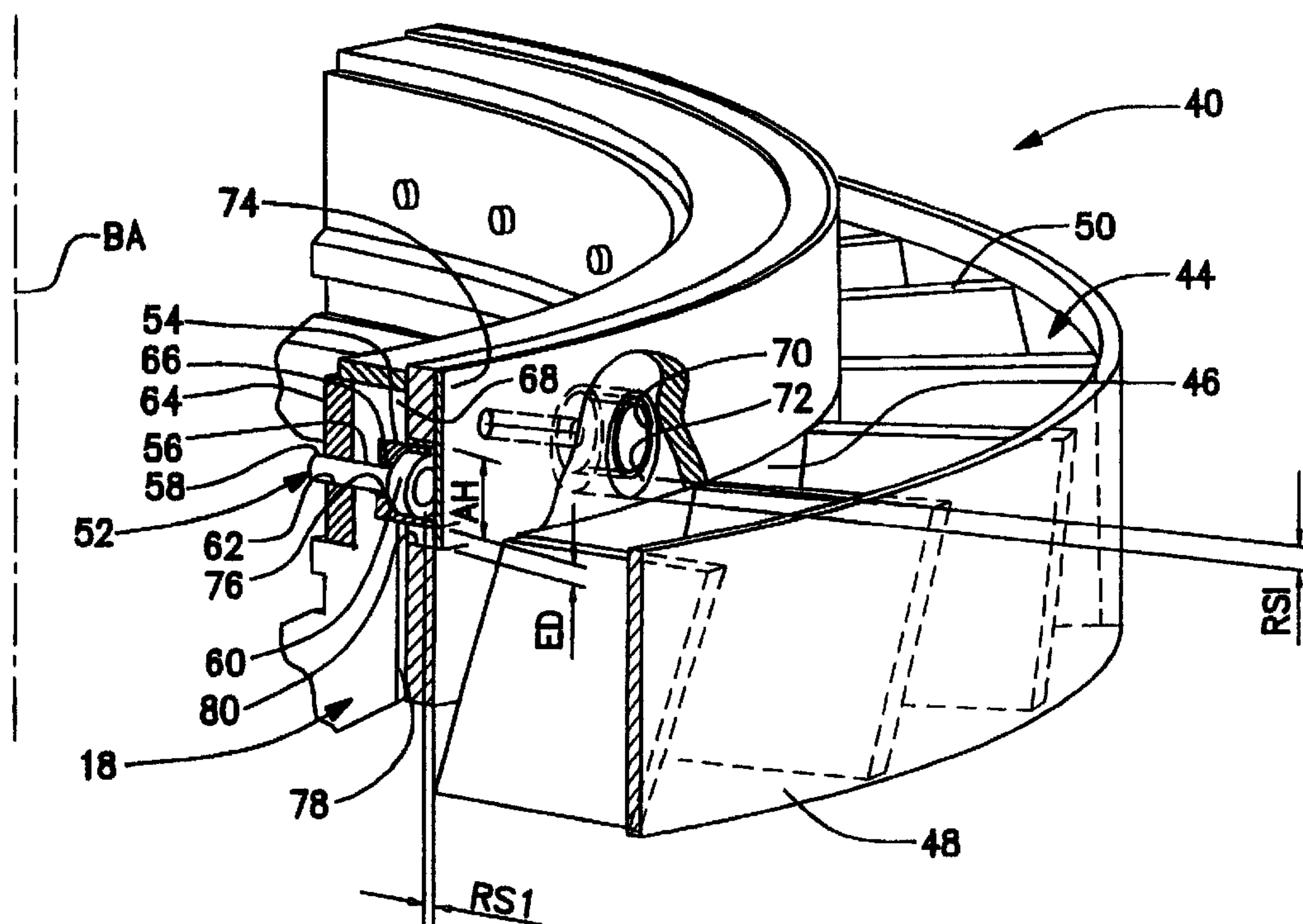
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(54) Titre : DISPOSITIF POUR FIXER UN ENSEMBLE ROUE A AUBES AU PLATEAU DE BROYAGE D'UN BROEUR
A CUVE TOURNANTE A PULVERISATION

(54) Title: AN ARRANGEMENT FOR SECURING A VANE WHEEL ASSEMBLY TO A GRINDING TABLE OF A
PULVERIZER BOWL MILL



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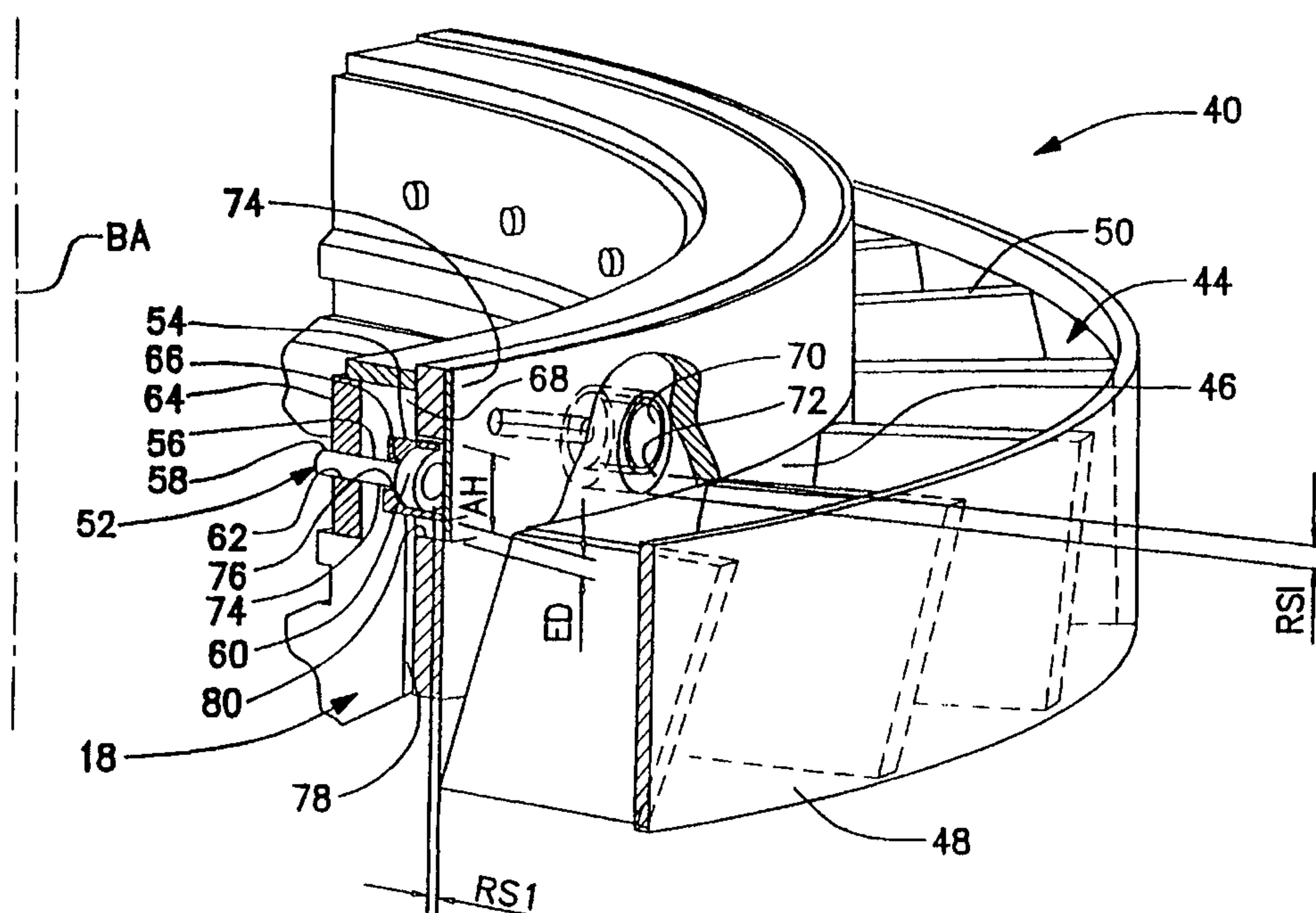
An arrangement (38) for supporting a vane wheel assembly (12) of a pulverizer bowl mill (10) that is operative to effect therewith a reliable and accurate securement of a vane wheel assembly (12) to the rotating grinding table (16) of the pulverizer bowl mill (10).

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/05017 (22) International Filing Date: 25 February 2000 (25.02.00) (30) Priority Data: 09/260,584 1 March 1999 (01.03.99) US (71) Applicant: ABB ALSTOM POWER INC. [US/US]; 2000 Day Hill Road, Windsor, CT 06095 (US). (72) Inventors: EASTMAN, Rory, G.; 7 Metacomet Drive, East Granby, CT 06026 (US). FARRIS, Lawrence, S.; 8 Broken Arrow Road, East Granby, CT 06026 (US). PRAIRIE, Robert, S.; 41 Sutton Drive, Vernon, CT 06066 (US). (74) Agents: FOURNIER, Arthur, E., Jr. et al.; ABB Alstom Power, Patent Services, 2000 Day Hill Road, Windsor, CT 06095 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, CN, IN, JP, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

(54) Title: AN ARRANGEMENT FOR SECURING A VANE WHEEL ASSEMBLY TO A GRINDING TABLE OF A PULVERIZER BOWL MILL

**(57) Abstract**

An arrangement (38) for supporting a vane wheel assembly (12) of a pulverizer bowl mill (10) that is operative to effect therewith a reliable and accurate securement of a vane wheel assembly (12) to the rotating grinding table (16) of the pulverizer bowl mill (10).

AN ARRANGEMENT FOR SECURING A VANE WHEEL ASSEMBLY
TO A GRINDING TABLE OF A PULVERIZER BOWL MILL

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5

The present invention relates to a pulverizer bowl mill and, more specifically, to an arrangement for supporting a vane wheel assembly of a pulverizer bowl mill.

10 It has long been known in the prior art to provide apparatus that is suitable for employment for purposes of effecting the grinding, i.e., pulverization, of materials, with coal being one such material. More specifically, the prior art is replete with examples of various types of apparatus that had been used heretofore to effect therewith the grinding of a multiplicity of different kinds of materials. In this regard, in many instances discernible differences of a structural nature can be
15 found to exist between individual ones of the aforesaid apparatus. The existence of such differences is in turn attributable for the most part to the diverse functional requirements that are associated with the individual applications in which such apparatus are designed to be employed. For instance, in the selection of the particular type of apparatus that is to be utilized for a specific application one of
20 the principal factors to which consideration must be given is that of the nature of the material that is to be ground in the apparatus.

One particular type of coal pulverizing apparatus, which is to be found in the prior art is an apparatus, most commonly referred to in the industry by the name bowl mill. The latter apparatus obtains its name by virtue of the fact that the
25 pulverization, i.e., grinding, of the coal which takes place therein is effected on a grinding surface that in configuration bears a resemblance to a bowl. Reference may be had by way of exemplification to U. S. Patent No. 3,465,971, which issued September 9, 1969 to J. F. Dalenberg et al., and/or U. S. Patent No. 4,002,299, which issued January 11, 1977 to C. J. Skalka, both of the latter patents having
30 been assigned to the same assignee as the instant application, for a teaching of the nature of the construction and the mode of operation of a prior art form of bowl

mill that is suitable for use in a coal fired power generation system to effectuate the pulverization of the coal that is to be burned as fuel therein.

Continuing, in a coal pulverizing apparatus of the type to which reference has been had hereinbefore, a primary classification is had within the bowl mill of the material, e.g., coal, that is being pulverized therewithin. As employed herein
5 the term primary classification is intended to refer to the separation of pulverized material from the air in which such material is entrained. In particular, reference is had here to that separation of pulverized material, which occurs as a consequence of causing the air within which the pulverized material is entrained
10 to follow a tortuous path through the bowl mill whereby in the course of changing directions of flow the larger of the particles of the pulverized material lose their momentum and are made to return to the surface of the grinding table whereat they are subjected to further pulverization.

In accordance with the teachings of the prior art, it has been known to
15 employ a vane wheel assembly in a bowl mill for purposes of accomplishing the aforescribed primary classification of pulverized material therewithin. By way of exemplification, such a bowl mill comprises the subject matter of U.S. Patent No. 4,523,721, which issued on June 18, 1985 to T. V. Maliszewski et al. And which is assigned to the same assignee as the present invention.

20 FR-A2-0264103 discloses a pulverizer bowl mill having a shroud sub-assembly 4 with plurality of vanes 11. The shroud sub-assembly 4 is fixedly secured to the circumference 3 of a rotating grinding table of the bowl mill 1 by a plurality of bolts 9.

Efforts to rigidly secure a vane wheel assembly to the grinding table of a
25 bowl mill for rotation therewith had led to problems such as cracking due to differential thermal expansion. Accordingly, there remains a need in the prior art for an arrangement that reliably and accurately secures a vane wheel assembly to a rotating grinding table of a bowl mill yet which improves over the prior art.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an arrangement for
30 securing a vane wheel assembly to the rotating grinding table of a bowl mill in a reliable manner.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention there is provided an arrangement for securing a vane wheel assembly to a grinding table of a bowl mill, wherein the vane wheel assembly includes a plurality of vanes mounted to at least one shroud sub-assembly at circumferential spacings from one another. The subject
5 arrangement comprises first securement means securable with the bowl mill, and second securement means securable with the shroud sub-assembly. The first securement means and the second securement means cooperate together to retain the shroud sub-assembly in a retained relationship with the bowl mill for rotation of
10 the vanes with the grinding table during rotation of the grinding table. In addition, the first securement means and the second securement means also movably engage one another in a manner permitting free movement in a predetermined direction of at least a portion of the inner shroud sub-assembly relative to the grinding table while the inner shroud sub-assembly is in its retained relationship with the grinding
15 table.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a front view in vertical section of a pulverizer bowl mill;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of a portion of the vane wheel assembly of the
20 pulverizer bowl mill shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3A is an enlarge perspective view of one variation of the arrangement of the present invention for securing a vane wheel assembly to a grinding table for rotation therewith, and showing the first and second relative movement means in one operational disposition;

25 Figure 3B is an enlarged perspective view of the one variation of the arrangement shown in Figure 3A and showing the first and second relative movement means in a different operational disposition; and

Figure 4 is an enlarged perspective view of another variation of the arrangement of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring Figure 1 of the drawings, a bowl mill 10 as illustrated therein includes a vane wheel assembly 12 and a substantially closed body portion comprised of a separator body 14 and a millside area 16. A grinding table 18 is
5 mounted on a shaft 20, which in turn is operatively connected to a suitable drive mechanism (not shown) so as to be capable of being rotatably driven thereby. With the aforesaid components arranged within the closed body portion in the manner depicted in Figure 1, the grinding table 18 is designed to be driven in a clockwise direction about a bowl mill axis BA defined by the axis of the shaft 20.

10 Continuing with a description of the bowl mill 10, a plurality of grinding rolls 22, preferably three in number in accord with conventional practice, are suitably supported within the interior of the separator body 14 so as to be equidistantly spaced one from another around the circumference of the closed body portion. In the interest of maintaining clarity of illustration in the drawing, only
15 two such grinding rolls 22 have been shown. With further regard to the grinding rolls 22, each is preferably supported on a shaft 24, which in turn is cooperatively associated with some form of biasing means.

The material, e.g. coal, that is to be pulverized in the bowl mill 10 is fed thereto by means of any suitable conventional form of feed means. By way of
20 exemplification in this regard one such feed means that may be employed for this purpose is a belt feeder means (not shown). Upon being discharged from the feed means (not shown), the coal enters the bowl mill 10 by means of a coal supply means, generally designated by reference numeral 26, with which the closed body portion is suitably provided. In accordance with the embodiment of the bowl mill
25 10 illustrated in Figure 1, the coal supply means 26 includes a suitably dimensioned duct 28 having one end thereof which extends outwardly of the closed body portion and preferably terminates in a funnel-like member (not shown). The latter member (not shown) is suitably shaped so as to facilitate the collection of the coal particles entering the bowl mill 10, and the guiding thereafter of these coal particles

into the duct 28. The other end 30 of the duct 28 of the coal supply means 26 is operative to effect the discharge of coal onto the surface of the grinding table 18. To this end, as shown in Figure 1, the duct end 30 preferably is suitably supported within the closed body portion through the use of any suitable form of conventional support means (not shown) such that the duct end 30 is coaxially aligned with the shaft 20 that supports the grinding table 18 for rotation, and is located in spaced relation to a suitable outlet 32 provided in the classifier, generally designated by reference numeral 34, through which the coal flows in the course of being fed onto the surface of the grinding table 18.

10 In accord with the mode of operation of bowl mills that embody the form of construction depicted in Figure 1, a gas such as air is utilized to effect the conveyance of the coal from the grinding table 18 through the interior of the closed body portion for discharge from the bowl mill 10. The air that is used in this connection enters the millside area 16 through a suitable opening, denoted by
15 the reference numeral 36, formed therein for this purpose. From the aforesaid opening 36 in the millside area 16 the air flows in surrounding relation from beneath the grinding table 18 to above the surface of the latter. More specifically, the air flows through the space provided for this purpose between the inner wall surface of the millside area 16 and the circumference of the grinding table 18.
20 The path of flow that the air follows thereafter will be described more fully hereinafter in connection with the description of the vane wheel assembly 12 with which the bowl mill 10 in accord with the present invention is provided.

The air is made to flow through the interior of the bowl mill 10 and the coal which is disposed on the surface of the grinding table 18 is being pulverized
25 by the action of the grinding rolls 22. As the coal becomes pulverized, the particles that result therefrom are thrown outwardly by centrifugal force away from the center of the grinding table 18. Upon reaching the region of the circumference of the grinding table 18, the coal particles are picked up by the air flowing upwardly from

Beneath the grinding table 18 and are carried away therewith. Thereafter, the stream of air with the coal particles entrained therein follows a tortuous path through the interior of the bowl mill 10. Moreover, in the course of following this tortuous path the larger of the coal particles are caused to be separated from the air stream in which they are entrained and are made to return to the surface of the grinding table 18 whereupon they undergo further pulverization. The lighter of the coal particles, on the other hand, continue to be carried along in the air stream. Ultimately, the combined stream of air and those coal particles that remain entrained therein flows to the classifier 34 to which reference has previously been had hereinbefore.

The classifier 34, in accord with conventional practice and in a manner which is well known to those skilled in this art, operates to effect a further sorting of the coal particles that remain in the air stream. Namely, those particles of pulverized coal, which are of the desired particle size, pass through classifier 34 and along with the air are discharged therefrom and thereby from the bowl mill 10. On the other hand, those coal particles which in size are larger than desired, are returned to the surface of the grinding table 18 whereupon they undergo additional pulverization. Thereafter, these coal particles are subjected to a repeat of the process described above. That is, the particles are thrown outwardly of the grinding table 18, are picked up by the air exiting from beneath the grinding table 18, are carried along with the air through the yet to be described tortuous path that is provided therefor through the interior of the bowl mill 10, as the air stream follows the aforesaid tortuous path the heavier particles drop back onto the grinding table 18, the lighter particles through continue to be carried along with the air to the classifier 34, those particles which are of the proper size pass through the classifier 34 and exit from the bowl mill 10.

The present invention provides an arrangement 38 for securing the vane wheel assembly 12 to grinding table 18 of the bowl mill 10. Further details of the vane wheel assembly 12 will now be provided with reference to Figure 2, which is

a top plan view of a portion of one circumferential sector 40 of a channel member 42 of the vane wheel assembly and Figures 3A and 3B, which illustrate one variation of the preferred embodiment of the arrangement 38 for securing the vane wheel assembly 12 to the bowl mill 10. As seen in Figure 2, the channel member 42 is mounted in supported relation by the arrangement 38 on the rotatable grinding table 18 of the bowl mill 10, in a manner to be described in more detail below.

The channel member 42 is operable to cause the air flowing in surrounding relation to the grinding table 18 to flow at a preestablished specified velocity therethrough in an upwardly direction as seen with reference to Figure 1. This has the effect, as noted previously, of causing the pulverized material, which is thrown outwardly of the grinding table 18 under the influence of centrifugal force, to become entrained in the flow of air that is exiting from the channel member 42.

As seen in Figure 2, the channel member 42 defines a plurality of individual channel passages, each of which is designated as a channel passage 44. The channel member 42 preferably encompasses six such channel passages 44 in each sixty (60) degrees circumferential sector 40 of the six circumferential sectors 40 mounted along circumference of the grinding table 18, thus making for a total of thirty-six (36) such channel passages 44, six per sixty (60) degree circumferential sector 40, located around the entirety of the circumference of the grinding table 18. It is noted, however, that the channel passages 44 may be formed by any other suitable circumferential sector arrangement such as, for example, a circumferential sector arrangement comprising three (3) circumferential sectors of one hundred and twenty (120) degrees each and each such circumferential sector encompassing a total of twelve (12) channel passages 44. Alternatively, the channel passages 44 may be formed in a single three hundred and sixty (360) degree circumferential arrangement.

As seen in Figures 3A and 3B, which shown a perspective view of a portion of one of the one circumferential sectors 40 forming the channel passages 44, the one circumferential sector 40 includes an inner shroud portion 46, an outer

shroud portion 48, and a plurality of vanes 50. The inner shroud portion 46 is of a lesser radius measured.

relative to the bowl mill axis than the outer shroud portion 48 and the inner shroud portion 46 and the outer shroud portion 48 are fixedly interconnected to one another by the vanes 50. Each vane 50 includes an axial extent which may be planar, arcuate, or another geometric shape and one edge of the vane is compatibly shaped with respect to the inner shroud portion 46 and fixed thereto by, for example, welding, while the opposite edge of the vane is compatibly shaped with respect to the outer shroud portion 48 and fixed thereto by, for example, welding. The vanes 50 of each circumferential sector 40 of the channel member 42 are spaced from one another in the circumferential direction such that each adjacent pair of the vanes 50 defines therebetween one of the channel passages 44.

The channel member 42 is secured to the grinding table 18 by the arrangement 38 which includes a first securement means securable with the bowl mill 10 and a second securement means securable with a shroud sub-assembly in the preferred embodiment, each shroud sub-assembly comprises one of the six inner shroud portions 46 and the respective assorted one of the six corresponding outer shroud portions 48 of the six circumferential sectors 40. In the preferred embodiment, the first securement means and the second securement means cooperate together to retain each inner shroud portion 46 and its corresponding outer shroud portion 48 in a retained relationship with grinding table 18 for rotation of the vanes 50 with grinding table 18 during rotation of the grinding table 18. The first securement means and the second securement means movable engage one another in a manner permitting free movement in a predetermined direction of at least a portion of the shroud sub-assembly relative to the grinding table 18 while the shroud sub-assembly is in its retained relationship with the grinding table 18. Preferably, the first securement means and the second securement means movable engage one another in a manner permitting free movement in a predetermined direction of each of the six circumferential sectors 40 having their respective pair of the inner shroud portions 46 and the outer shroud portions 48.

The first securement means includes a plurality of pins 52 and a corresponding plurality of sleeves 54. Each pin is preferably formed with an elongate body portion 56 having, at one axial end thereof, a series of threads 58,

and, at the opposite axial end thereof, a retaining head 60. The threads 58 are compatibly configured with a threaded tap bore 62 of which a plurality are formed at equal predetermined circumferential spacings from one another in a bull ring 64 mounted to the grinding table 18. A plurality of through bores 66 corresponding
5 in number and location to the threaded tap bores 62 are formed in the circumferential outer surface 68 of the grinding table 18, each through bore 66 permitting passage therethrough of a respective one of the pins 52 for threaded engagement of the threads 58 of the pin with a respective one of the threaded tap bores 62. The bull ring 64 is an annular ring mounted to the grinding table 18
10 along an interior radius thereof interiorly of the circumferential surface 68 of the grinding table 18 on which the inner shroud portions 46 are mounted.

Each sleeve 56 has a cylindrical outer surface and an inner through bore 70 having a first radius selected in consideration of the radius of the elongate body portion 54 of a pin 52 to permit the elongate body portion 54 of the pin to pass
15 therethrough and a second radius larger than the first radius and selected in consideration of the radius of the retaining head 60 of a pin 52 such that the retaining head is seated within the second radius portion of the inner through bore 70 of the sleeve 54 when the elongate body portion 56 of the pin has been received through the first radius portion of the inner through bore 70. Each of the
20 throughbores 66 formed in the circumferential surface 68 of the grinding table 18 is provided with an enlarged cylindrical portion extending radially inwardly from the outer circumferential surface 68 and sized with respect to the cylindrical outer surface of the sleeve 54 such that the radially inwardmost axial extent of the cylindrical outer surface of the sleeve 54 is received in the enlarged cylindrical
25 portion of the throughbore 66 while the radially outermost axial extent of the cylindrical outer surface of the sleeve 54, and the corresponding enlarged second radius portion of the sleeve 54 in which the retaining head 60 of the pin 52 is seated, both extend radially outwardly of the outer circumferential surface 68 of the grinding table 18.

The second securement means is preferably in the form of a means forming an aperture in the shroud sub-assembly. In the one variation of the preferred embodiment of the arrangement of the present invention shown in Figures 3A and 3B, the means forming an aperture in the shroud sub-assembly is preferably in the form of a plurality of aperture forming means each forming an aperture 72 in one of the inner shroud portions 46. The apertures 72 formed in the inner shroud portions 46 each extends completely radially through the respective inner shroud portion and is located and dimensioned with respect to a respective one set of the pins 52 and their corresponding sleeves 54 such that the respective sleeve 54 extends radially into the aperture 72 in the installed disposition of the respective inner shroud portion 46 on the grinding table 18.

As seen in Figure 3A, each aperture 72 has a diameter AH which is dimensioned with respect to the diameter of sleeve 54 in a relationship in which the height AH of the aperture 72, as measured relative to the axis of the bowl mill 10, is sufficiently relatively larger than the sleeve diameter so as to permit predetermined movement of the respective inner shroud portion 46 in which the aperture 72 is formed relative to the grinding table 18. For example, the height AH of the aperture 72 shown in Figure 3A is greater than the diameter of sleeve 54 by an excess dimension ED which is preferably equal to between about 100.5% to 103% of the sleeve diameter. The predetermined relative movement which is permitted by this arrangement preferably includes at least relative radial movement between the inner shroud portion 46 and the grinding table 18 and may also include axial and angular relative movement as well. In the one variation of the arrangement shown in Figure 3A, each sleeve 54 is fixedly mounted with respect to the grinding table 18 and so the predetermined relative movement between each inner shroud portion 46 and the grinding table 18 is manifested as relative movement between the respective inner shroud portion 46 and the respective sleeve 54 received therein. Moreover, the aperture 72 may be formed as a cylindrical aperture such as the aperture shown in Figure 3A which permits radial,

axial, and angular movement of each inner shroud portion 46 relative to the sleeves 54.

Preferably, as shown in the one variation of the preferred embodiment of the arrangement illustrated in Figures 3A and 3B, each sleeve 54 received in a
5 respective aperture 72 of an inner shroud portion 46 does not extend fully radially through the aperture but, instead extends to a radial spacing from the axis of the bowl mill 10 less than the radius of outer circumferential surface of the respective inner shroud portion 46, thereby permitting an annular facing ring portion 74 to be mounted on the outer circumferential surface of the inner shroud portion 46.
10 These facing ring portions 74 completely cover the apertures 72 so as to reduce the passage of pulverized material into the apertures.

It can be appreciated that the first securement means, in the form of the pins 52 and the sleeves 54, and the second securement means, in the form of the means forming the apertures 72 in the inner shroud portions 46, movable engage
15 one another in a manner permitting free movement in a predetermined direction of the inner shroud sub-assembly relative to the grinding table 18 while the inner shroud sub-assembly is in its retained relationship with the grinding table 18. Figure 3A illustrates the one variation of the arrangement of the present invention in one pulverizer operational scenario in which the respective inner shroud portion
20 46 is disposed relative to the respective sleeves 54 on which it is supported such that a portion of the axially upper surface of each means forming an aperture 72 is engaged by a portion of the axially upper surface of a sleeve 54. Moreover, in this one pulverizer operational scenario, the outer end of each sleeve 54 is spaced radially inwardly from the respective facing ring portion 74 by an amount RS1, as
25 measured along the sleeve axis. Turning now to Figure 3B, this figure illustrates the one variation of the arrangement of the present invention in a second pulverizer operational scenario which may differ from the one pulverizer operational scenario in a number of respects such as, for example, a different temperature regime and/or a different instantaneous loading of pulverized material
30 being channeled through

the channel member 42. As seen in Figure 3B, the respectively illustrated inner shroud portion 46 has moved relative to the grinding table 18 as shown by the fact that the portion of the upper axial surface of each means forming an aperture 72 is no longer in engagement with the respective sleeves 54 but, instead, there is a circumferential clearance CC around the entire circumference of the sleeve 54 and the corresponding aperture in which it is received. Additionally, the respective inner shroud portion 46 has moved radially with respect to the grinding table 18 as shown by the radial spacing RS2 between the outer end of each sleeve 54 and the facing ring portion 74 which is greater than the radial spacing RS1 of the one pulverizer operational scenario shown in Figure 3A.

Figure 4 illustrates another variation of the arrangement of the present invention and depicts a portion of one of the circumferential sectors forming the channel member 42 and a corresponding portion of the grinding table 18. For ease of reference, components illustrated in Figure 4 are denominated with the one hundred ("100") series reference numbers of like components shown in the one variation of the arrangement of the present invention shown in Figures 3A and 3B. the channel member 44 includes an inner shroud portion 146, an outer shroud portion 148, and a plurality of vanes 150. The inner shroud portion 146 is of a lesser radius measured relative to the bowl mill axis than the outer shroud portion 148 and the inner shroud portion 146 and the outer shroud portion 148 are fixedly interconnected to one another by the vanes 150. Each vane 150 includes an axial extent which may be planar, arcuate, or another geometric shape and one edge of the vane is compatibly shaped with respect to the inner shroud portion 146 and fixed thereto by, for example, welding, while the opposite edge of the vane is compatibly shaped with respect to the outer shroud portion 148 and fixed thereto by, for example, welding. The vanes 150 of each circumferential sector 140 of the channel member 42 are spaced from one another in the circumferential direction such that each adjacent pair of the vanes 150 defines therebetween one of the channel passages 144.

The channel member 42 is secured to the grinding table 18 by an arrangement which includes a first securement means securable with the bowl mill and a second securement means securable with the shroud sub-assembly which, in the preferred embodiment, comprises the six inner shroud portions 146 and the six
5 corresponding outer shroud portions 148. A first securement means is secured to the grinding table 18 and includes a cylinder member 176 having a cylinder 178, a threaded bolt end 180 at one axial end of the cylinder 178, and a throughbore 182 at the opposite axial end of the cylinder 178. The threaded bolt end 180 is threadably secured in a corresponding threaded bore in the bull ring 164 to
10 thereby fixedly mounted the first securement means to the grinding table 18.

A second securement means includes a pin 184 having a threaded axial end 186 and, at its opposite axial end, an enlarged radius head 188. The threaded axial end 186 is adapted to threadingly engage a threaded bore 190 in the inner shroud portion 146 so as to fixedly mount the pin 184 to the inner shroud portion.
15 The enlarged radius head 188 of the pin 184 is disposed in the cylinder 178 such that the pin 184 can move radially relative to the first securement means, as viewed with respect to the bowl mill axis BA. As the inner shroud portion 146 expands radially outwardly relative to the grinding table 18, the enlarged radius head 188 of the pin 184 moves within the cylinder 178 in a direction toward the
20 throughbore 182 of the first securement means. Thus, in the other variation of the arrangement of the present invention shown in Figure 4, the first securement means and the second securement means cooperate together to retain the shroud sub-assembly in a retained relationship with the grinding table 18 for rotation of the vanes 150 with the grinding table 18 during rotation of the grinding table 18
25 and the first securement means and the second securement means movably engage one another in a manner permitting free movement in a predetermined direction of the shroud sub-assembly relative to the grinding table 18 while the shroud sub-assembly is in its retained relationship with the grinding table 18.

WE CLAIM:

1. An arrangement (38) for securing a vane wheel assembly (12) to a grinding table (18) of a pulverizer bowl mill (10), the grinding table (18) being rotatable about a bowl mill axis (BA) so as to co-act with a plurality of grinding rolls (22) to effect the pulverization of material and the vane wheel assembly (12) including a shroud sub-assembly having a plurality of vanes (50) each having a radially inner edge mounted to an inner shroud portion (46) and a radially outer edge mounted to an outer shroud portion (48), the vanes (50) being at circumferential spacings from one another so as to form channel passages (44) between circumferentially adjacent pairs of the vanes (50) through which air flows as the shroud sub-assembly rotates with the grinding table (18), the arrangement (38) being characterized by:

first securement means securable with the grinding table (18); and

second securement means securable with the shroud sub-assembly, the first securement means and the second securement means cooperating together to retain the shroud sub-assembly in a retained relationship with the grinding table (18) for rotation of the vane wheels (50) with the grinding table (18) during rotation of the grinding table (18) and the first securement means and the second securement means movably engaging one another in a manner permitting free movement in a predetermined direction of at least a portion of the shroud sub-assembly relative to the grinding table (18) during rotation of the grinding table (18).

2. An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the first securement means is a pin means (52) and the second securement means is a means forming an aperture (72) in the shroud sub-assembly, the aperture (72) for receiving therethrough the pin means (52) and being configured with respect to the cross section of the pin means (52) such that a selected dimension of the aperture (72), as measured perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bolt of the pin means (52), is at least about 100.5 percent (%) to about 103 percent (%) greater than the corresponding dimension of the pin means (52) as measured at the aperture (72).

3. An assembly according to claim 2 wherein the shroud sub-assembly is composed of a plurality of inner shroud portions (46), outer shroud portions (48) and vanes (50) collectively forming a circle.

4. An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the first securement
5 means and the second securement movably engage one another in a manner to permit relative radial movement between the shroud sub-assembly and the grinding table (18).

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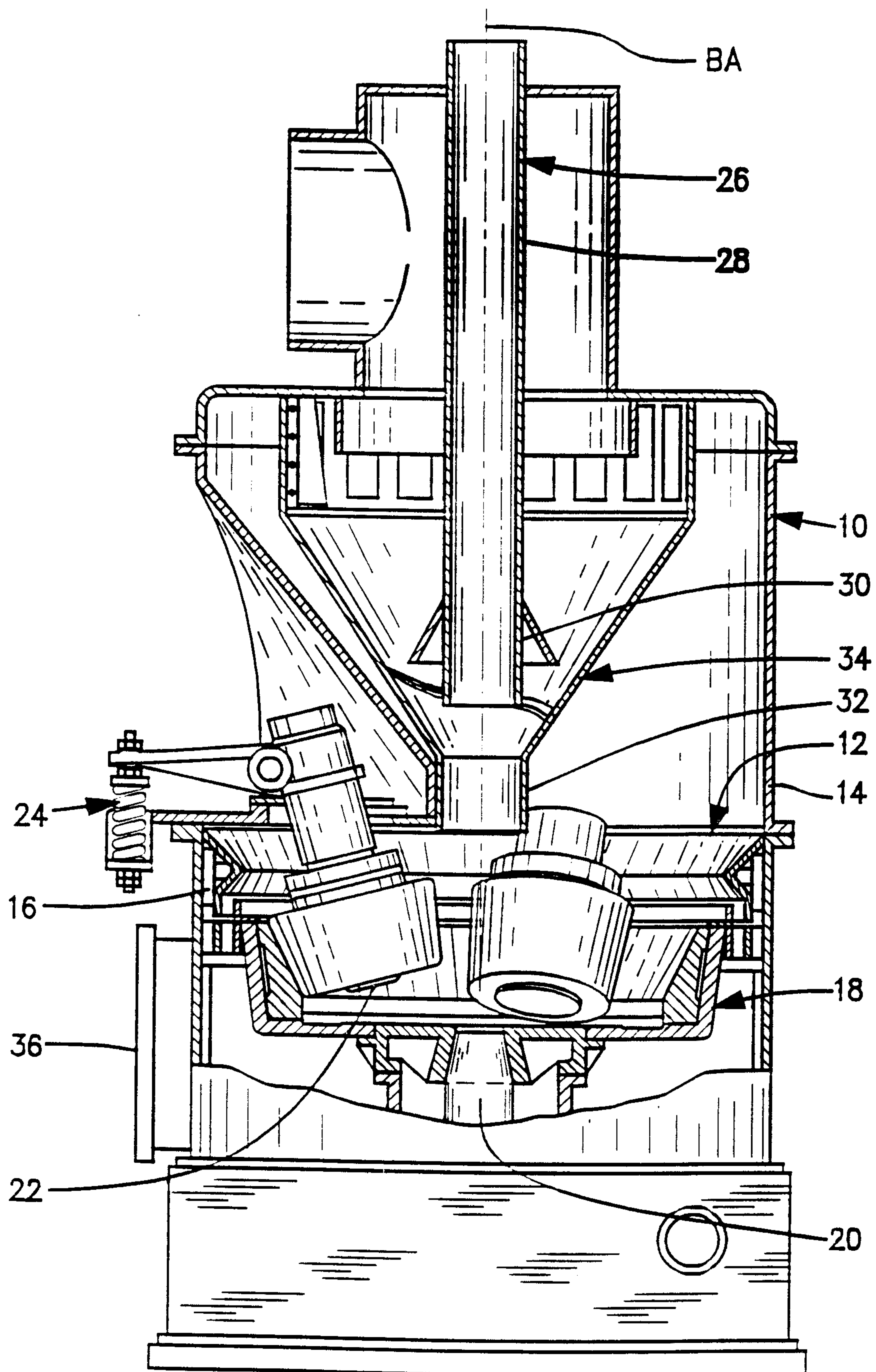


Fig. 1

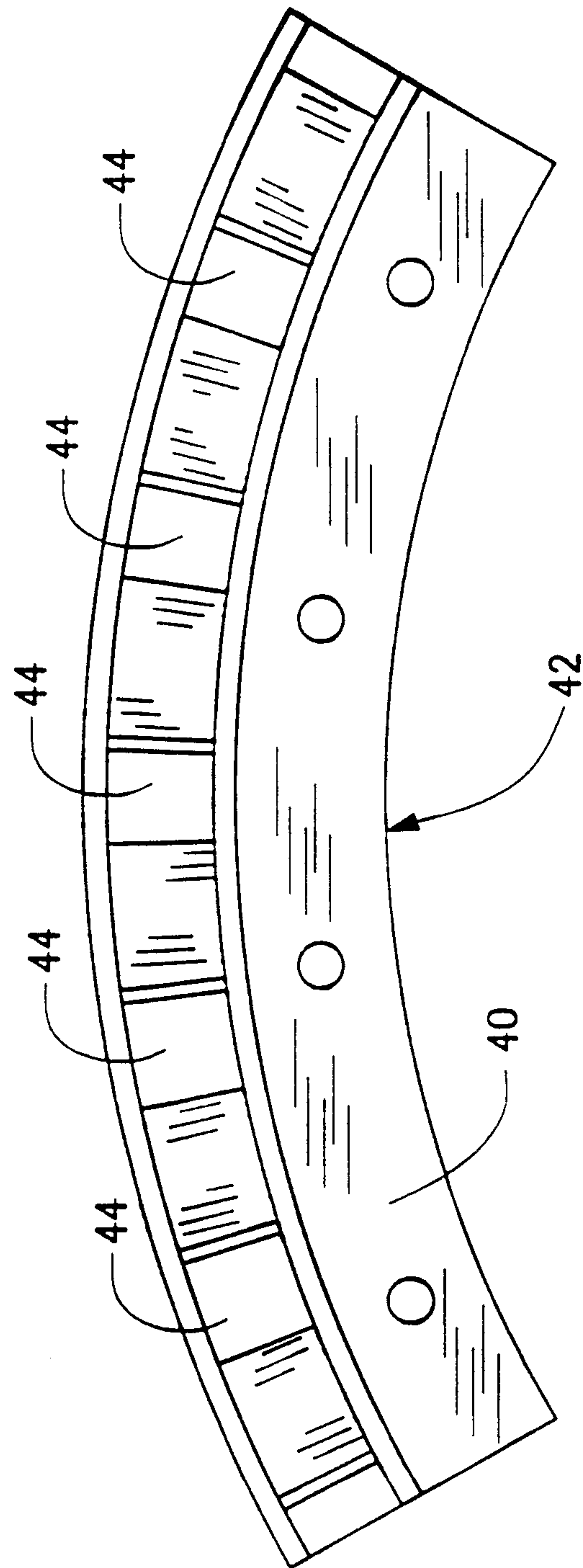
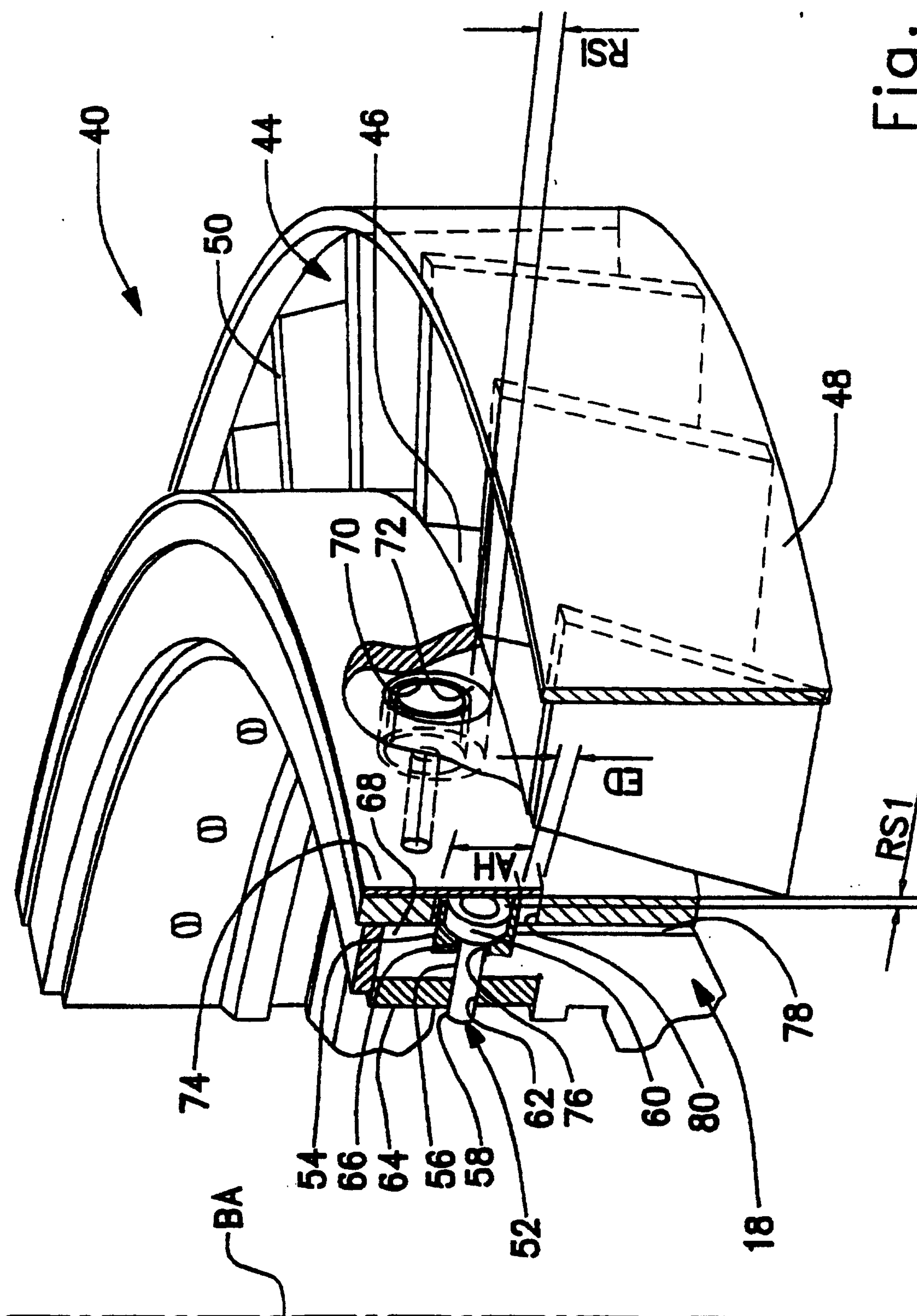
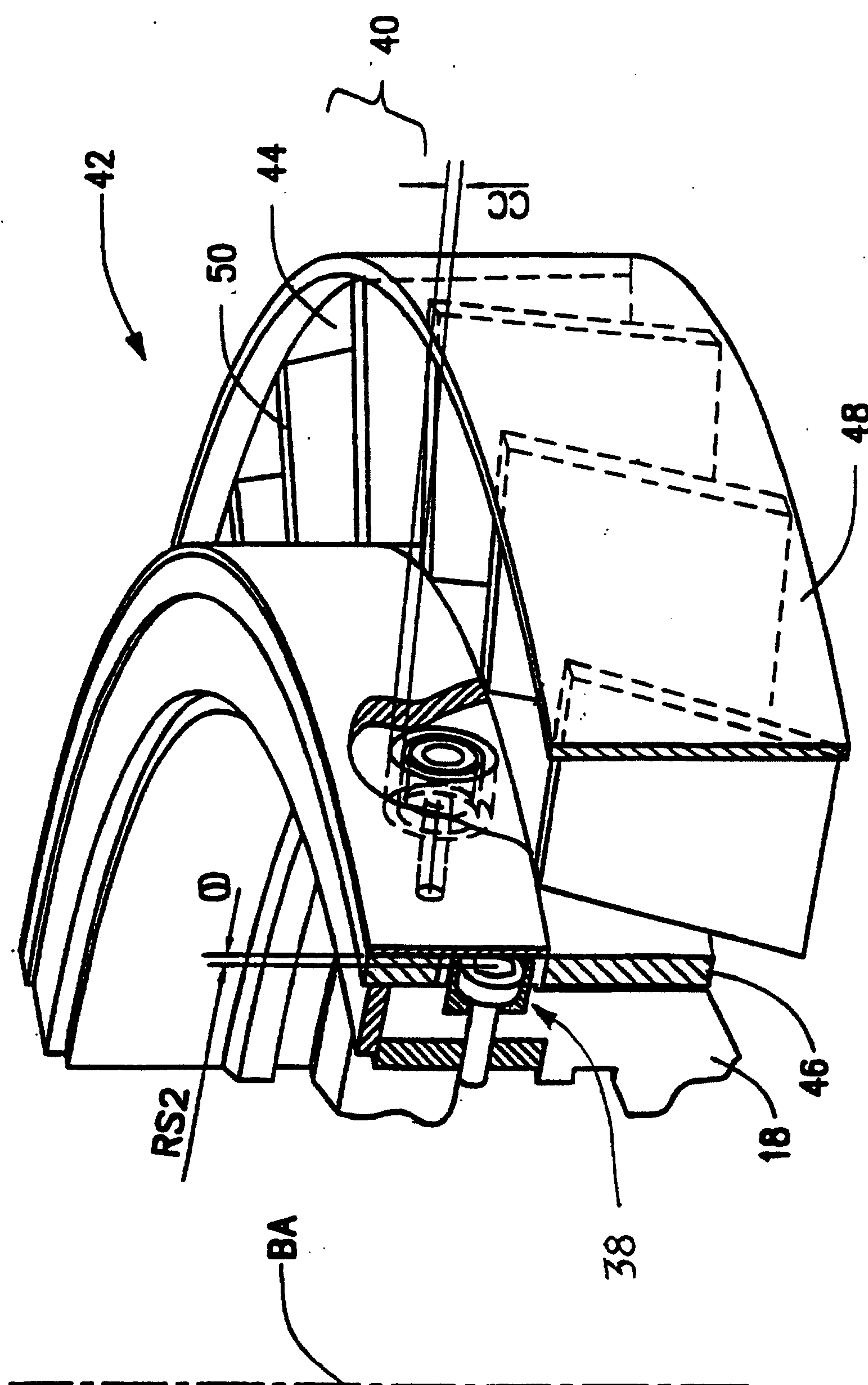


Fig. 2



AMENDED SHEET



AMENDED SHEET

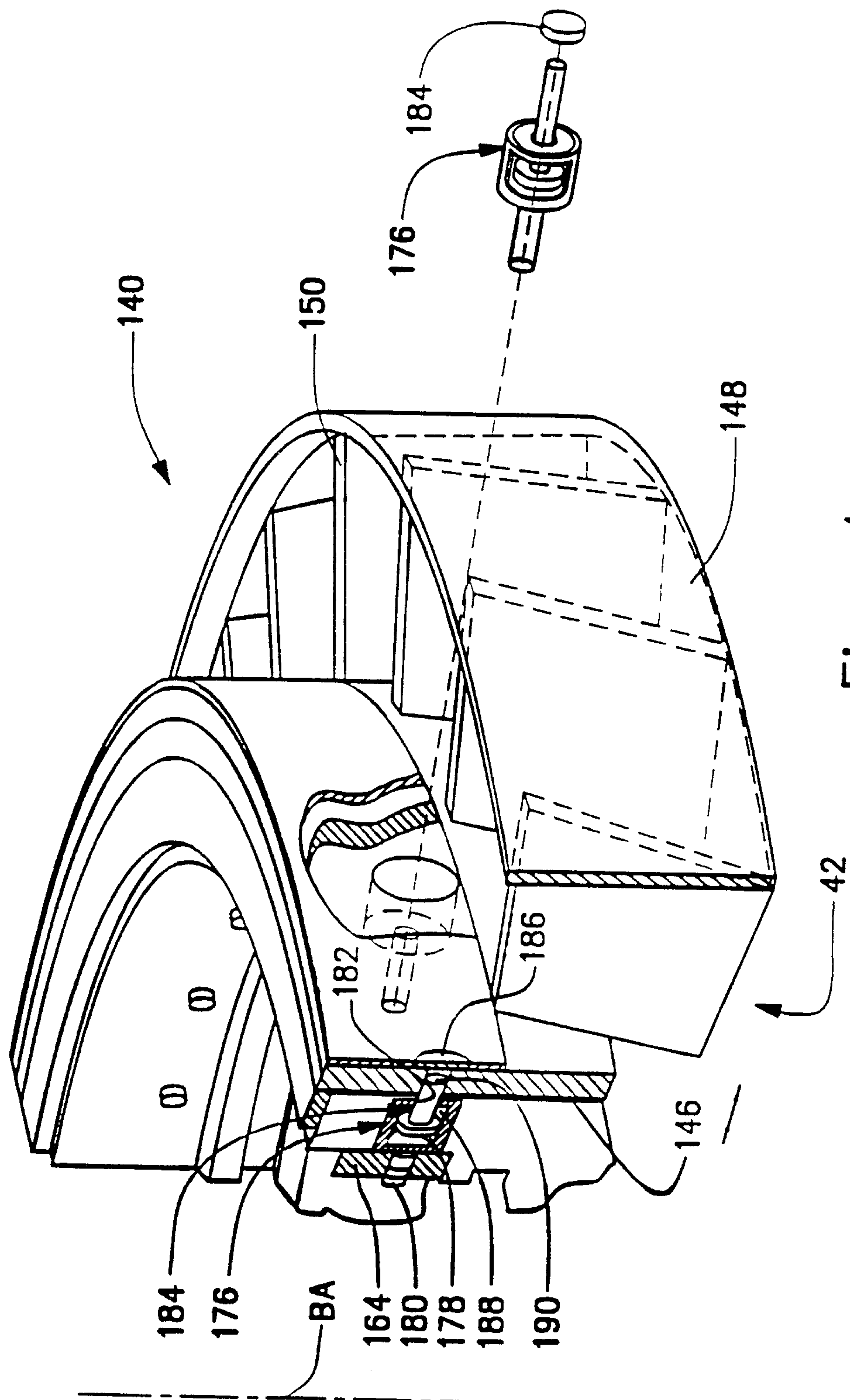


Fig. 4

