

T 860,010

# DEFENSIVE PUBLICATION

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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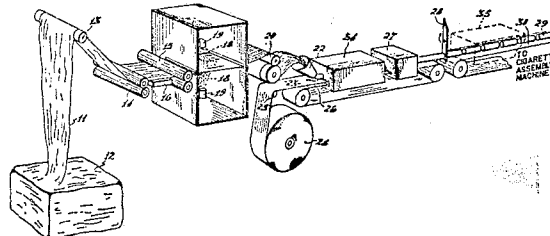
### METHOD FOR FORMING CIGARETTE FILTER RODS

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2 Sheets Drawing. 15 Pages Specification



A method and apparatus for forming cigarette filter rods that includes the step of heating the filter rod fibers and/or plasticizer by microwave energy to cause rapid and even curing of the rods. The microwave energy may be applied to the filter rod fibers either immediately after the tow material is formed, simultaneously with the forming, or after the rod-like configuration of plasticizer containing tow material is wrapped with a wrapper.

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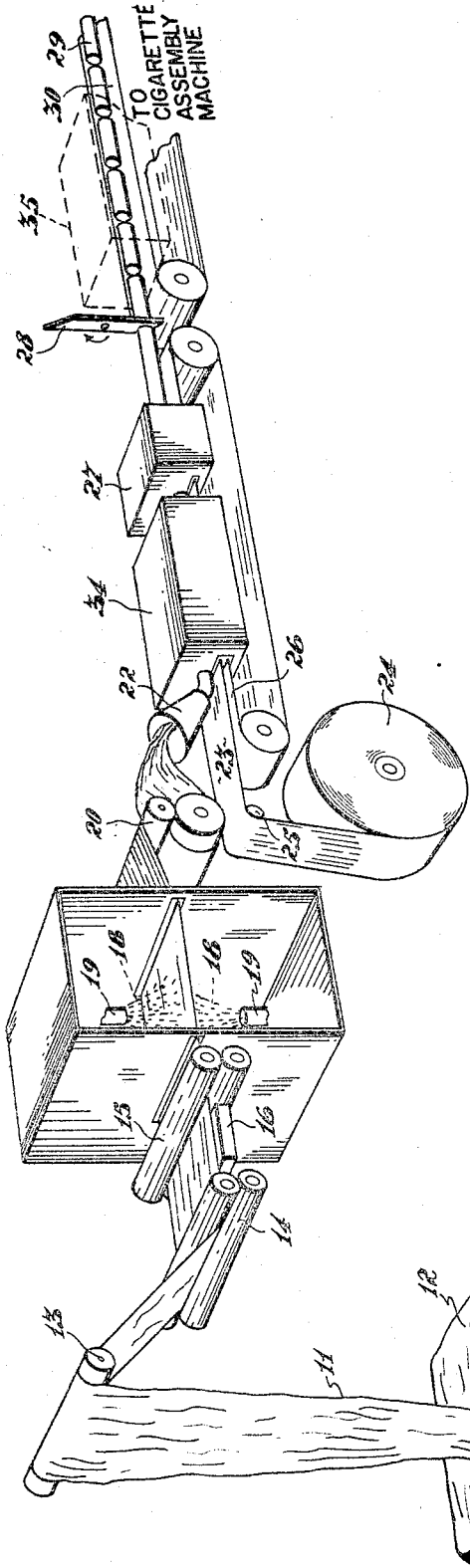


Fig. 1

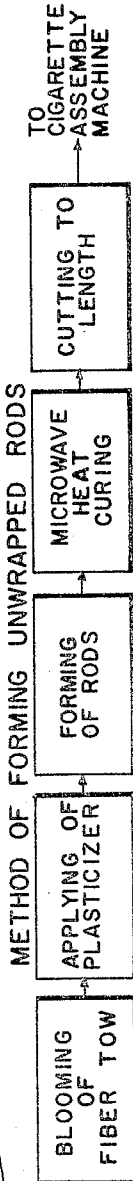


Fig. 2

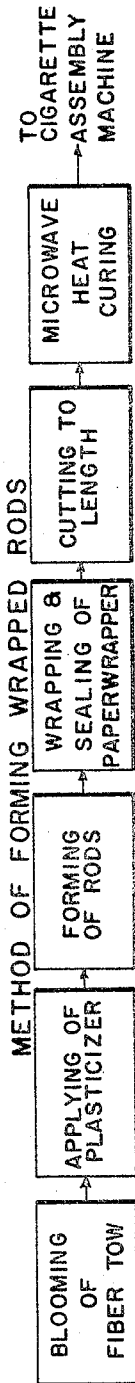


Fig. 3

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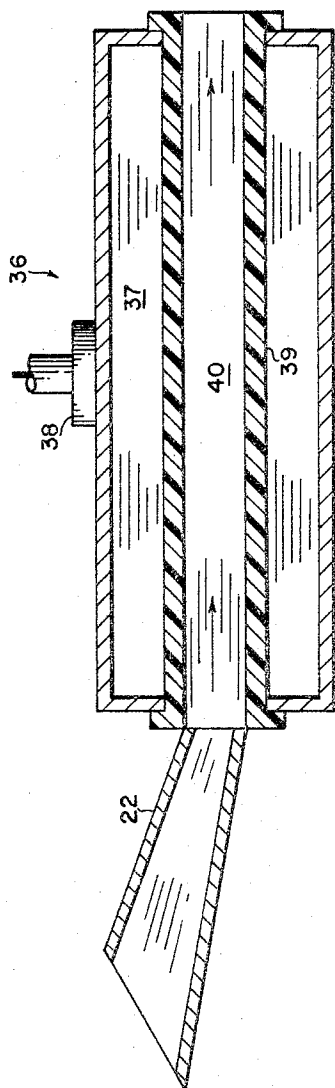


FIG. 4

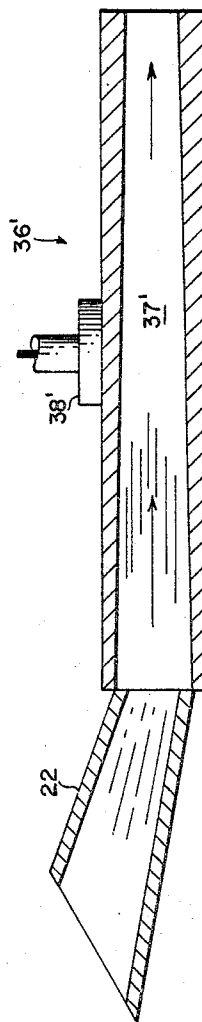


FIG. 5