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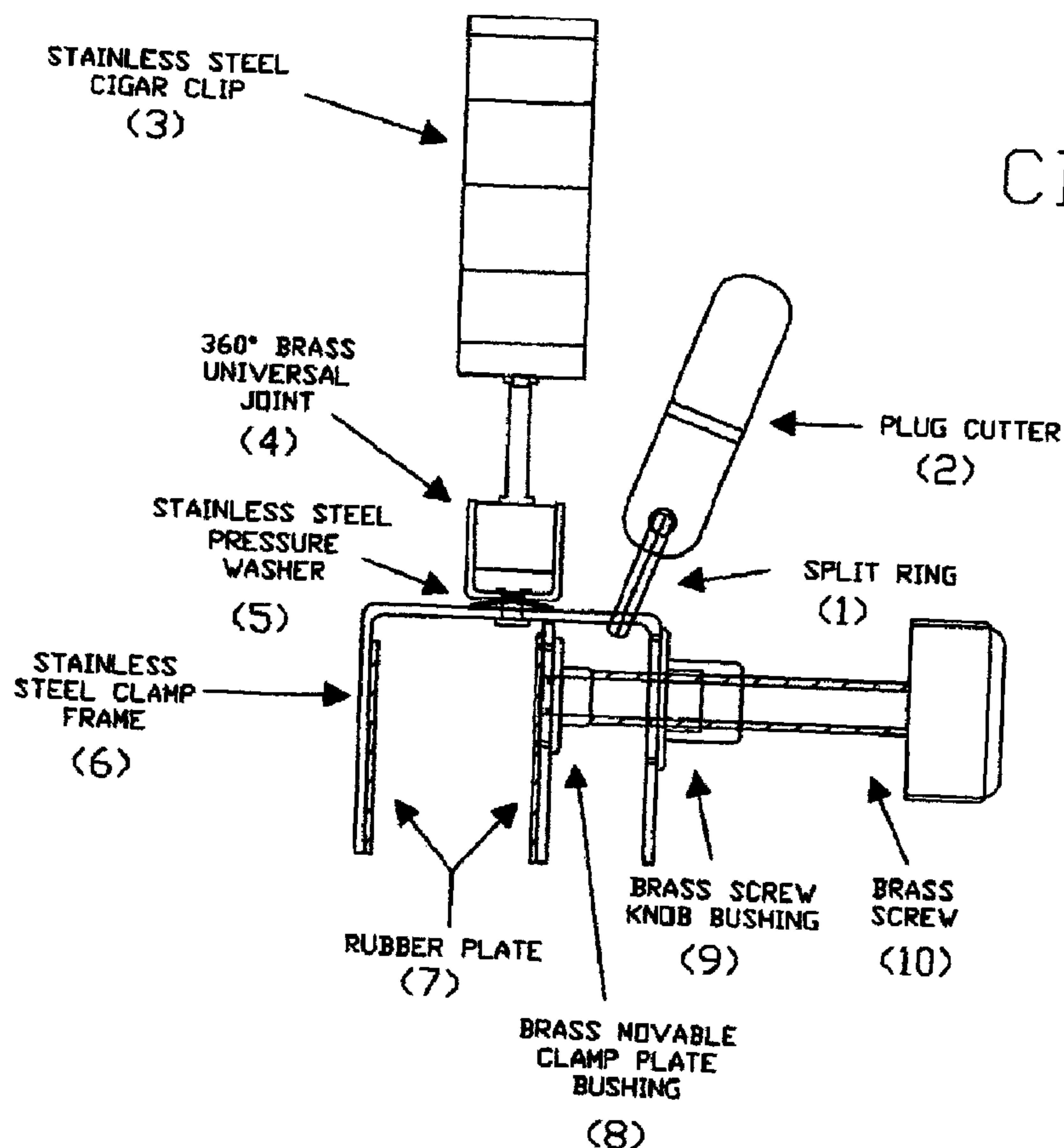
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(54) Titre : DISPOSITIF DE SUPPORT UNIVERSEL

(54) Title: UNIVERSAL HOLDING DEVICE



CIGAR BUDDY
FRONT VIEW

(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The people who play golf and smoke cigars usually complain about the lack of a place to hold their cigars, in a clean environment, away from the grass and the harmful pesticides applied to the grass. Here, we present a new device (Universal Holding Device) for

(57) **Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):**

this exact purpose, which can be applied to many other applications, as well. It can hold large, medium and small ring gauge size cigars. It is capable of 360 degree swivel for right or left hand use, or up or down wind position. Usually, it is made of stainless steel and brass (non-rusting) components. However, other materials can be used, as well. It is portable and durable (rugged design, lasting for years). It also includes a water-resistant carrying pouch and stainless steel plug cutter.

Abstract

The people who play golf and smoke cigars usually complain about the lack of a place to hold their cigars, in a clean environment, away from the grass and the harmful pesticides applied to the grass. Here, we present a new device (Universal Holding Device) for this exact purpose, which can be applied to many other applications, as well. It can hold large, medium and small ring gauge size cigars. It is capable of 360 degree swivel for right or left hand use, or up or down wind position. Usually, it is made of stainless steel and brass (non-rusting) components. However, other materials can be used, as well. It is portable and durable (rugged design, lasting for years). It also includes a water-resistant carrying pouch and stainless steel plug cutter.

Universal Holding Device

BACKGROUND OF THE INTERVENTION

The people who play golf and smoke cigar usually complain about the lack of a place to hold their cigars, in a clean environment, away from the grass and harmful pesticide applied to the grass.

In this disclosure, we present a new device (Universal Holding Device) for this exact purpose, which can be applied to many other applications, as well. It can hold large, medium and small ring gauge size cigars. It is capable of 360 degree swivel for right or left hand use, or up or down wind position. Usually, it is made of stainless steel and brass (non-rusting) components. However, other materials can be used, as well. It is portable and durable (rugged design, lasting for years). It also includes water resistant carrying pouch and stainless steel plug cutter.

A prototype has already been manufactured by the inventor, to test all the features for optimization. The product is called "Cigar Buddy™." The design of our product is superior to anything that has already been suggested, design, patented, or made.

Now, let's look at the prior art:

Hernlein, US Patent Number 5605226, is directed to a convenience caddy for a smoker's use, but it discusses a different design than the one taught here.

King, US Patent Number 584281, is directed to portable cigar tray, but it discusses a different design than the one taught here.

Manderick, US Patent Number 6102047, is directed to a combination cigar punch, stand, and holder, but it discusses a different design than the one taught here.

Kontos, US Patent Number 6161550 is directed to a cigar holder with a cutter, but it discusses a different design than the one taught here.

Kontos, US Patent Number 6386204, is directed to a cigar holder with a cutter.

Parks et al., US Patent number 6994639, is directed to a golf divot tool and accessory.

DeMichele, US Patent Number 6330944, is directed to a multi-function golf bag.

Title: The Grip Clip Cigar Holder and the Cigar Holder Golf Tee
 Author: Bonita Smokeshop – Cigar Retailer
 Date: March 30, 2006
 Source: www.bonitasmokeshop.com

Title: The Axel & Andy Cigar Protector
 Author: Axel & Andy Corporate Website
 Date: March 30, 2006
 Source: www.axel-andy.com/features

Title: The Stogie Vise
 Author: Michael Moretti
 Date: March 30, 2006 – first posted Monday July 18, 2005
 Source: www.cigaraficionado.com/ca/cigar/ca_feature

Stogie Vise has a limitation to 4 locking positions in the horizontal plane. Consequently, after many uses, the lateral resistance may go away (due to the wear at the ball joint), and the clip does not stand up anymore, making it less sturdy, compared to our design. In addition, the whole structure is made p of 2 plates (connected together), instead of unitized stainless steel frame (6) (for our design/invention), making it less sturdy, compared to our design. Therefore, our design is different, superior, and more flexible than the Stogie Vise.

Summary of the Invention

We are presenting a new device which can be used for many purposes. It has a very flexible design and can be converted for new applications very easily. It is very sturdy and durable.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 shows the front view of one of the embodiments.

Fig. 2 shows the side view of one of the embodiments (same as Fig. 1).

Fig. 3 shows the front and side views of the components of one of the embodiments (same as Fig. 1).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

This product can be used for golf carts, boats, chairs, patios, workshops, decks, railings, and on any other movable or stationary objects. In one embodiment, it can hold 3 different ring gauge sizes of cigars: cigarillos, medium, and up to large ring gauge cigars. It can also be modified for other applications. For example, the cigar holder (cigar clip) (part 3 in the figures) can be changed slightly to hold flashlights, with the cross section of the clip being circular for conventional flashlights (with cylindrical handles), or the cross section of the clip being elliptical for more flexibility, to hold the different sizes of the flashlights.

Furthermore, multiple objects can be attached on the same device. For example, a cigar and flashlight can be simultaneously attached to the device, in parallel, on top of

each other, on any order, based on the shape of the clips (holders) (part number 3 in the figures). This makes the device truly universal for most applications.

It can also be used for pen flashlights, working in dark areas, replacing flat tires on the highway, barbeque, toothpaste holder, toothbrush holder, small vise, fixing/attaching two objects by glue, and for underwater operations, to hold the objects close to the user.

In addition, the clip (3) can be used to hook, to hang different objects to it, such as key chains or ID badges. In another embodiment, the clip (3) can be made of magnetic material to hold magnetic objects. Alternatively, the clip (3) can be made of the elastic material for the maximum flexibility for the operational challenges.

In another embodiment, the clip can be made up of smaller parts, sliding on top of each other, to adjust the size and length of the clip, and be secured in the ideal position by a screw or a pin.

In another embodiment, the clip has smaller components, hinged together, and thus, can be folded down, to reduce the size, or change the overall shape of the clip, to be used for different applications.

Different clips can be sold separately or together, for maximum benefit to the user. This makes it more cost-effective for different applications. In addition, in case of a damaged clip, one has to only change the clip (3) part of the apparatus, saving money in this process.

Now, let's look at one of the embodiments in more detail (as an example). Fig. 1 shows the front view of one of the embodiments. Fig. 2 shows the side view of one of the

embodiments (same as Fig. 1). Fig. 3 shows the front and side view of the components of one of the embodiments (same as Fig. 1). Note that all the numbers mentioned below refer to the part numbers in those figures.

The cigar clip (3) can rotate 360 degrees horizontally, and about 270 degrees vertically. The universal joint (4) used in the structure makes it very flexible for applications as it can assume many different positions.

The post (11) under the cigar clip (3) is held to the universal joint (4) by riveting the end (spread tip) of the post (11) on the inside of the hole in the top of the drum (12). Note that there is a hole going into the drum (12) from the bottom, inside the universal joint (4). The friction plates (13) (typically made of nylon or rubber compound) are set at both sides of the drum (12) which in turn are held in place by means of a brass pin (14) which is riveted. The brass Universal Joint Assembly (4) is fastened to the stainless steel clamp frame (6) by a brass rivet (16) that goes through the stainless steel pressure washer (5) and is riveted. Pressure washer (5) is a wavy structure (for its spring property).

There is a notch in the movable clamp plate (to which brass bushing (8) is attached), to make it possible to pass (and avoid collision with) the extension of the split ring (1).

The plates are usually padded (7). Rubber pads (7) (or similar material) can be attached to the plates, using a strong glue. The padded plates help the user to clamp the device on the side of the upright posts of a golf cart (or a similar structure). The movable clamp plate is a little bit flexible and loose, for a better grip. A spring clip connects the

movable clamp plate located behind the rubber pad (7) and brushing (8) to the threaded screw (10).

The brass screw and its head are made up of one piece (10). The brushing (8) goes into the cavity of brushing (9), when screw (10) is turned out (to its limit), making the plates as wide open as possible, for attaching to a larger object. The two brushings (8) and (9) are pressure-fitted.

A split ring (spring clip) (1) is used to attach the plug cutter (2) to the structure (frame) (6). The plug cutter (2) is an optional feature here.

The cigar clip (3) and its post (11) rotate as one unit (one piece). The post (11) for the cigar clip (3) goes into the drum (12) of the universal joint (4). The plug cutter (2) is made up of molded plastic, with a circular made up of sharp stainless steel.

The production has a zipper pouch (bag), made up of water-resistant fabric. The bag has a spring clip, for attachment to the golf bag or similar objects.

The cigar clip (3), the moveable clamp plate (to which brass brushing (8) is attached), and the frame (6) are made up of stainless steel, and the rest of the apparatus is made of brass.

Note that the use of the other materials, designs, applications, extensions, and their obvious variations are intended for this and other embodiments of this invention.

The pin (14) at the centre of the drum (12) for the universal joint (4) does not more. This pin is riveted at the end (spread tip), to keep it in place.

What I claim my Invention is:

1. An device for attaching a first object to a second object, said device comprising:

a clip, wherein said clip is holding said first object; and a clamp, wherein said clamp comprises 3 parallel plates, wherein one or more of said 3 parallel plates are padded with rubber or other soft material, wherein said clip is foldable and can rotate 360 degrees horizontally, with respect to said clamp, and wherein said clamp attaches said device to second object.
2. A system for attaching a first object, said system compromising:

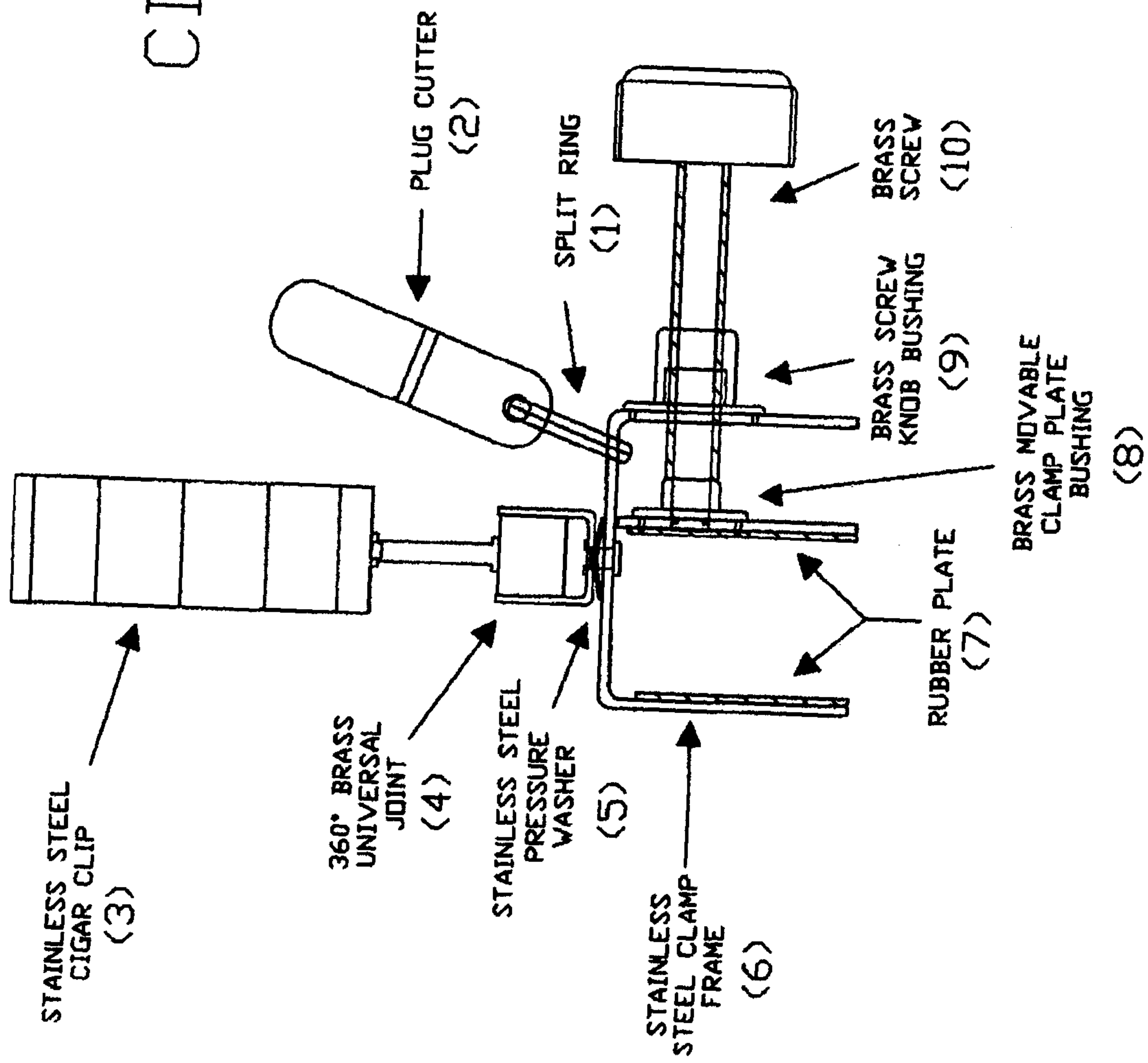
a clip, wherein said clip is holding said first object; and a clamp, wherein said clamp comprises 3 parallel plates, wherein one or more of said 3 parallel plates are padded with rubber or other soft material, wherein said clip is foldable and can rotate 360 degrees horizontally, with respect to said clamp, and wherein said clamp attaches said device to second object.
3. A system for attaching a first object to a second object, said system comprising:

a first subsystem, wherein said first subsystem is holding said first object;
and a second subsystem, wherein said second subsystem comprises 3 parallel plates, wherein one or more of said 3 parallel plates are padded with rubber or other soft material, wherein said clip is foldable and can rotate 360 degrees horizontally, with respect to said clamp, and wherein said clamp attaches said apparatus to second subsystem, and wherein said second subsystem attaches said system to said second object.

4. A device as recited in claim 1, wherein said first object is a cigar.
5. A device as recited in claim 1, wherein said first object is a flashlight.
6. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said clip is made of stainless steel.
7. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said clamp is made of stainless steel.
8. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said second object is a golf cart.
9. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said second object is a table top.
10. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said clip can hold cigars of different ring gauge sizes.
11. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein one of said 3 parallel plates is a movable plate.
12. A device as cited in claim 11, wherein said movable plate is moved by a screw.
13. A device as cited in claim 12, wherein said screw is held in place by two brushes.
14. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said device further comprises a universal joint which allows the foldable clip (3) to be rotated 360 degrees horizontally and approx. 270 degrees vertically.
15. A device as cited in claim 1, wherein said foldable clip (3) can hold various size cylindrical objects at the same time.

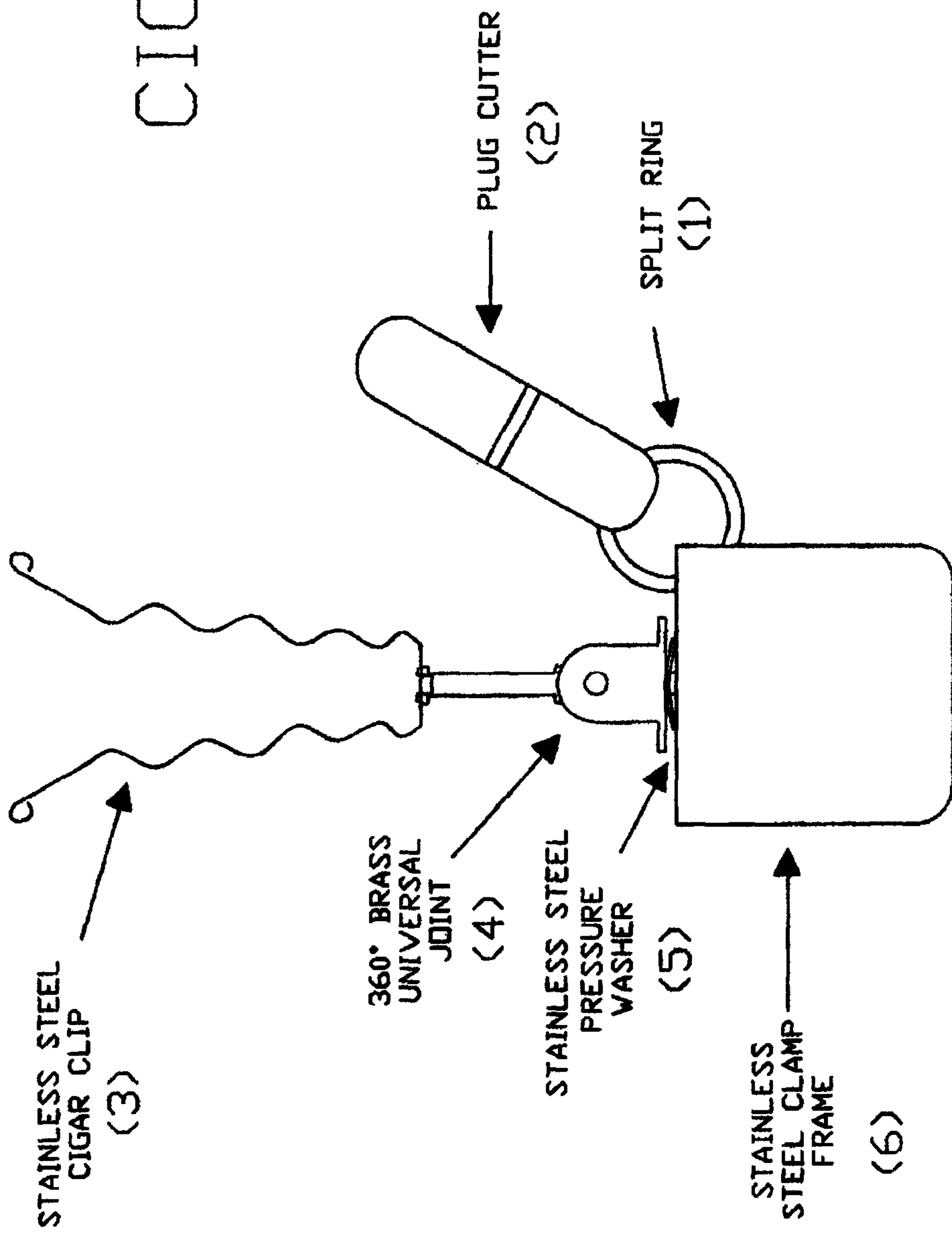
CIGAR BUDDY

FRONT VIEW
FIG. 1
1/3



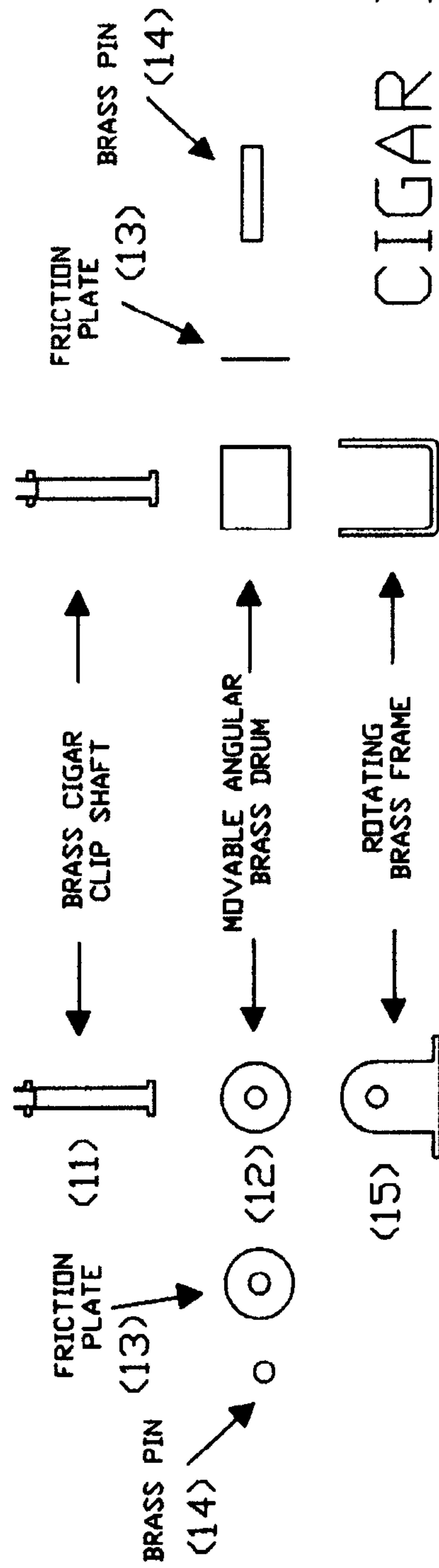
CIGAR BUDDY

SIDE VIEW
FIG. 2
2/3



SIDE VIEW

FRONT VIEW

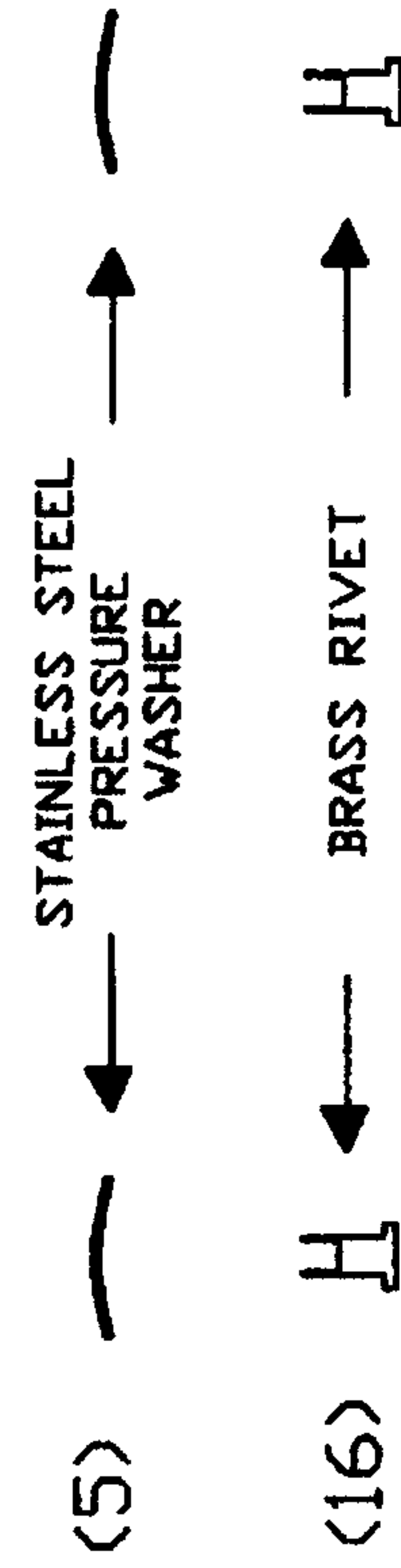


CIGAR BUDDY

360° UNIVERSAL JOINT

315

3/3



CIGAR BUDDY

FRONT VIEW

