

US00D620977S

(12) **United States Design Patent**  
**Fisher et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US D620,977 S**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*\* Aug. 3, 2010**

(54) **BINDING ELEMENT**

(75) Inventors: **Mark Fisher**, Highland Park, IL (US);  
**Peter Hotkowski**, Chester, CT (US);  
**Marc Kullberg**, Lisle, IL (US); **Samuel Amdahl**, Prospect Heights, IL (US);  
**Frank Todaro**, Old Saybrook, CT (US)

2,206,394 A \* 7/1940 Farkas ..... 281/27.1  
2,242,185 A \* 5/1941 Spinner ..... 281/27.1  
2,311,090 A 2/1943 Schade  
2,314,204 A 3/1943 Fontecilla  
2,322,180 A 6/1943 Vernon  
2,328,416 A 8/1943 Blizzard et al.

(Continued)

(73) Assignee: **General Binding Corporation**,  
Lincolnshire, IL (US)

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

CA 509621 2/1955

(\*\*) Term: **14 Years**

(Continued)

(21) Appl. No.: **29/353,560**

*Primary Examiner*—Charles A Rademaker

(22) Filed: **Jan. 11, 2010**

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Michael Best & Friedrich LLP

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation of application No. 11/462,532, filed on Aug. 4, 2006.

(51) **LOC (9) Cl.** ..... **19-04**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **D19/32**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... D19/32;  
D18/34.9; 412/34, 40; 281/27.1, 27.2; 402/8,  
402/30; 156/85

See application file for complete search history.

(57) **CLAIM**

We claim the ornamental design for a binding element, as shown and described.

**DESCRIPTION**

FIG. 1 is a front perspective view of a binding element showing our new design;

FIG. 2 is a front elevation thereof;

FIG. 3 is a top plan view thereof;

FIG. 4 is a bottom plan view thereof;

FIG. 5 is a rear elevation thereof;

FIG. 6 is a side elevation thereof, the side opposite being a mirror image; and,

FIG. 7 is an enlarged plan view of a fragment of the design taken from FIG. 2.

The broken lines shown in the drawings represent structure and form no part of the claimed design.

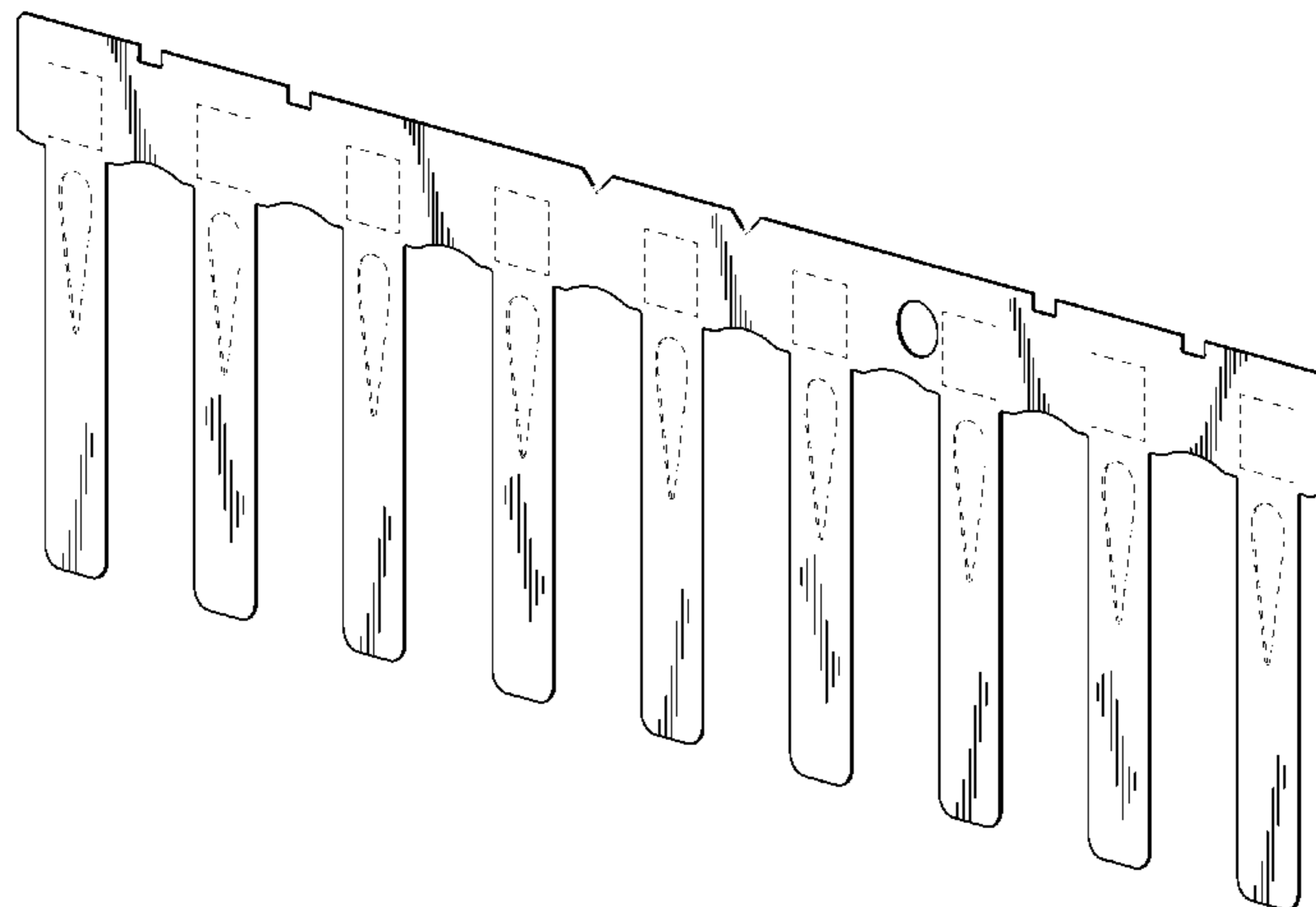
The portions of the binding element shown in broken lines are for illustrative purposes only and form no part of the claimed design. The side view opposite FIG. 6 is a mirror image of FIG. 6 and is not shown.

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

699,290 A 5/1902 Daniel  
754,791 A 3/1904 Mentzer  
1,005,423 A \* 10/1911 Slder ..... 402/8  
1,119,786 A 12/1914 Morden et al.  
1,343,103 A 6/1920 Wolf  
1,537,675 A 5/1925 Horn  
1,816,021 A 7/1931 Meyerson  
1,970,285 A 8/1934 Douvry  
2,089,881 A 8/1937 Dohring  
2,099,881 A 11/1937 Emmer  
2,112,389 A 3/1938 Trussell  
2,139,480 A 12/1938 Young  
2,141,524 A \* 12/1938 Emmer ..... 281/27.2  
2,170,147 A 8/1939 Lane

**1 Claim, 3 Drawing Sheets**



# US D620,977 S

Page 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS		
			4,844,974 A	7/1989	McCullough, Jr. et al.
2,363,848 A	11/1944	Emmer	4,873,858 A	10/1989	Jones
2,367,687 A	1/1945	Phillips	4,900,211 A	2/1990	Vercillo
2,374,803 A	5/1945	Broadwell	4,904,103 A	2/1990	Im
2,407,656 A	9/1946	Emmer	4,934,890 A	6/1990	Flatt
2,435,848 A	2/1948	Schade	4,973,085 A	11/1990	Growth, III
2,459,541 A	1/1949	Russell	4,997,208 A	3/1991	Staats, III
2,466,451 A *	4/1949	Liebman ..... 281/27.2	5,009,537 A	4/1991	Stengel
2,489,706 A	11/1949	Emmer	5,015,114 A	5/1991	Miller
2,502,493 A	4/1950	Trussell	5,028,159 A	7/1991	Amrich et al.
2,571,523 A *	10/1951	Bennett ..... 242/131	5,037,229 A	8/1991	Stengel
2,571,525 A	10/1951	Blitstein	5,051,050 A	9/1991	Scharer
2,582,953 A	1/1952	Bender	5,090,859 A	2/1992	Nanos et al.
2,629,382 A	2/1953	Gomez	5,102,167 A	4/1992	Growth, III
2,664,897 A	1/1954	Derringer	5,123,675 A	6/1992	Staats, III
2,779,987 A	2/1957	Jordan	5,138,855 A	8/1992	Faris
3,180,488 A	4/1965	Heusmann	5,162,141 A	11/1992	Davey et al.
3,191,319 A	6/1965	Wasigerber	5,167,463 A	12/1992	Corbishley
3,205,897 A	9/1965	Jamison	5,370,489 A	12/1994	Bagrosky
3,224,450 A	12/1965	Whittemore et al.	5,383,756 A	1/1995	Coleman et al.
3,235,925 A	2/1966	Gerhardt et al.	5,393,156 A	2/1995	Mullin et al.
3,246,653 A	4/1966	Sexton	5,464,312 A	11/1995	Hotkowski et al.
3,270,749 A	9/1966	O'Connell	5,524,997 A	6/1996	von Rohrscheidt
3,276,450 A	10/1966	Pelezzare	5,584,633 A	12/1996	Scharer
3,280,240 A	10/1966	Bardy	5,653,544 A	8/1997	Pijoan et al.
3,362,411 A	1/1968	Moller	5,669,747 A	9/1997	Scharer
3,373,748 A	3/1968	Maccormack	5,782,569 A	7/1998	Mullin et al.
3,418,733 A	12/1968	Tyrrell, Sr. et al.	5,895,190 A *	4/1999	Viola ..... 412/40
3,433,688 A *	3/1969	Winkelmann et al. .... 156/85	6,168,337 B1	1/2001	Adams
3,475,775 A	11/1969	Staats	6,270,280 B1	8/2001	Baumann
3,483,067 A	12/1969	Staats	D457,560 S *	5/2002	Grbic ..... D19/32
3,596,929 A	8/1971	Abildgaard et al.	6,394,684 B2	5/2002	Kapur et al.
3,612,709 A	10/1971	Miyamoto	6,435,753 B1	8/2002	Gusack
3,654,668 A	4/1972	Appleton	6,450,492 B1	9/2002	Coombs et al.
3,706,503 A	12/1972	Foley	D480,105 S *	9/2003	Leibman ..... D19/32
RE28,202 E	10/1974	Abildgaard et al.	6,655,868 B2 *	12/2003	Drew ..... 402/8
3,950,107 A	4/1976	Seaborn	6,669,392 B2 *	12/2003	Rebora ..... 402/8
3,956,798 A	5/1976	Wright	D497,947 S *	11/2004	Kaneda ..... D19/32
3,970,331 A	7/1976	Guilie	6,955,493 B2	10/2005	Acquaviva et al.
4,031,585 A	6/1977	Adams	6,976,719 B2	12/2005	Agayof et al.
4,070,736 A	1/1978	Land	D527,048 S *	8/2006	Scudder ..... D19/32
4,121,892 A	10/1978	Nes	7,198,422 B2	4/2007	Ng et al.
4,135,832 A	1/1979	Saltz	D564,021 S *	3/2008	Liu ..... D19/32
4,200,404 A	4/1980	Agnew et al.	2003/0147687 A1	8/2003	Freund et al.
4,202,642 A	5/1980	Sjostedt	2004/0052615 A1	3/2004	Fuchs et al.
4,202,645 A	5/1980	Giovannetti	2004/0240967 A1	12/2004	Crudo et al.
4,256,411 A	3/1981	Podosek			
4,288,170 A	9/1981	Barber			
4,302,123 A	11/1981	Dengler et al.	CH	692912	12/2002
4,304,499 A	12/1981	Purcocks	DE	1094708	12/1960
4,305,675 A	12/1981	Jacinto	DE	1200252	9/1965
4,349,289 A *	9/1982	Cardellini ..... 402/30	DE	8622425	10/1986
4,369,013 A	1/1983	Abildgaard et al.	DE	29808713	9/1998
4,398,856 A	8/1983	Archer et al.	EP	0390199	10/1990
4,429,901 A	2/1984	Clery, Jr. et al.	EP	0527246	2/1993
4,433,929 A	2/1984	Jones	EP	0704322	4/1996
4,453,850 A	6/1984	Purcocks	EP	0842790	5/1998
4,453,851 A	6/1984	Purcocks	EP	1124694	1/2003
4,511,274 A	4/1985	Chen	FI	31504	12/1960
4,525,117 A	6/1985	Jones	FR	1060284	3/1954
4,577,985 A	3/1986	Beyer	FR	1228267	8/1960
4,607,970 A	8/1986	Heusinkveld	FR	1364099	5/1964
4,620,724 A	11/1986	Abildgaard et al.	GB	229515	2/1925
4,645,399 A	2/1987	Scharer	GB	755953	8/1956
4,674,906 A	6/1987	Abildgaard et al.	GB	1225120	3/1971
4,685,700 A	8/1987	Abildgaard	GB	1372055	10/1974
4,693,624 A	9/1987	Moosmuller	GB	1569497	6/1980
4,708,560 A	11/1987	Abildgaard et al.	GB	2193466	2/1988
4,722,626 A	2/1988	Abildgaard	JP	S3610616	5/1961
4,743,048 A	5/1988	Growth, III	JP	H08175058	7/1996
4,832,207 A	5/1989	Alexander	JP	H08176421	7/1996
4,832,370 A	5/1989	Jones	JP	H08290692	11/1996

# US D620,977 S

Page 3

---

JP	9240184	9/1997	WO	0058112	10/2000
JP	2000247078	9/2000	WO	0149569	7/2001
JP	200417290	1/2004	WO	2006017255	2/2006
WO	200024592	5/2000			
WO	0040426	7/2000			

\* cited by examiner

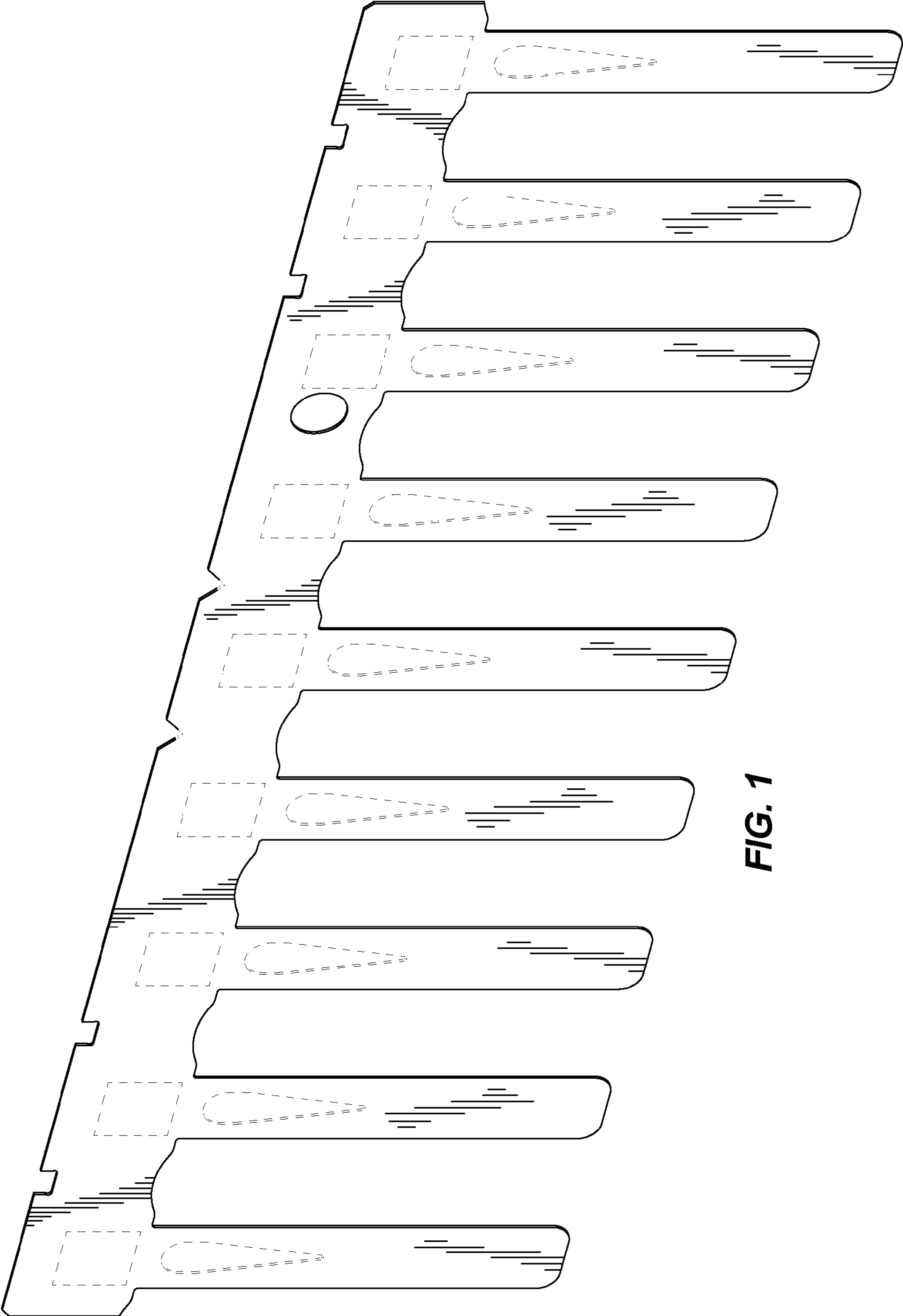
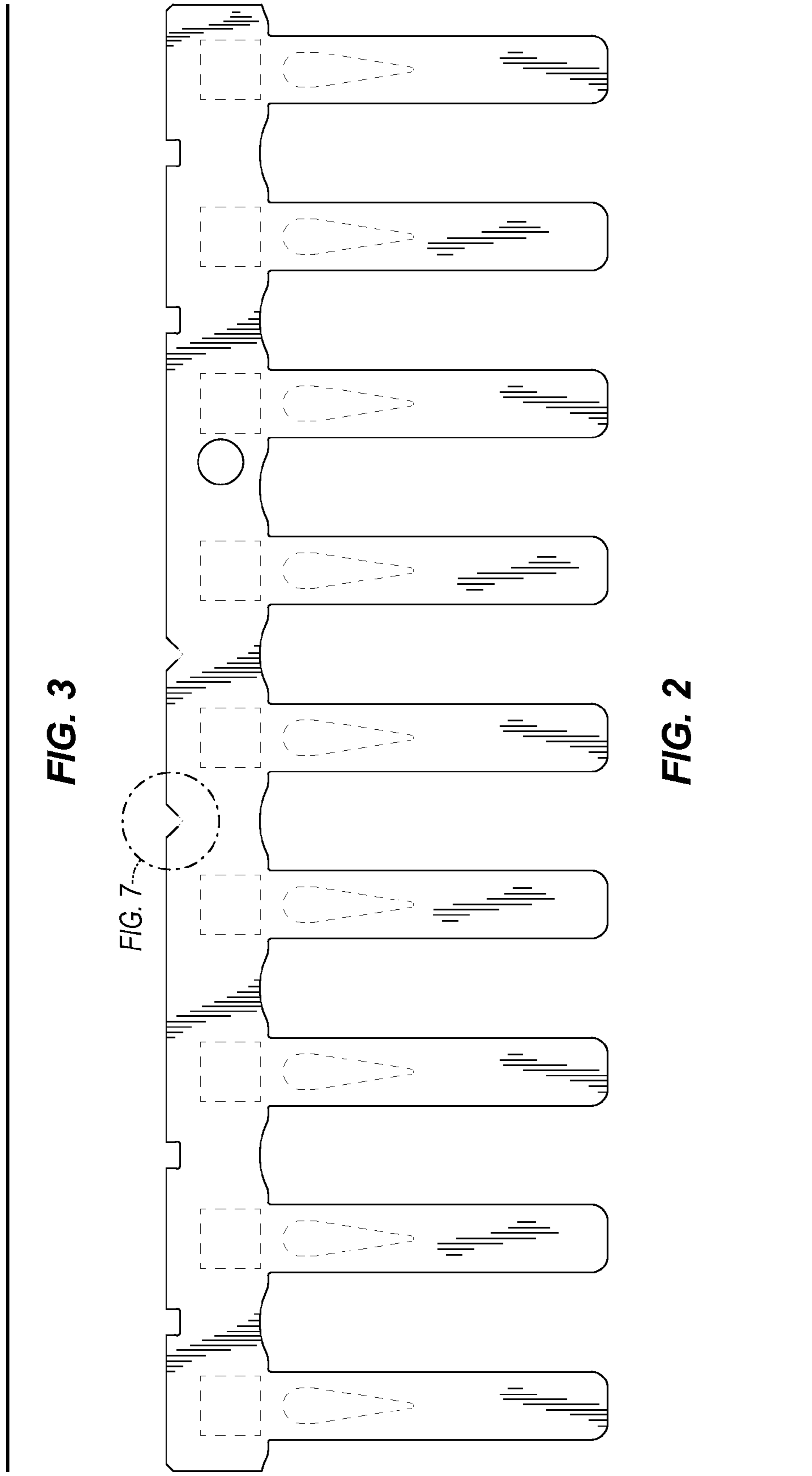


FIG. 1



**FIG. 3**

**FIG. 2**

**FIG. 4**

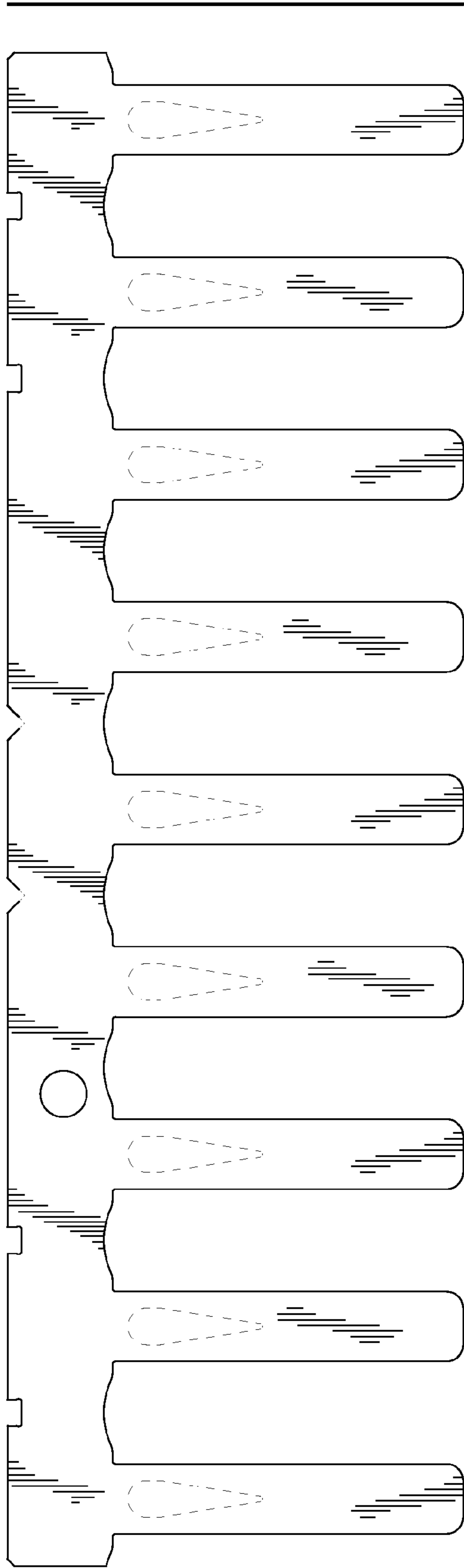


FIG. 5

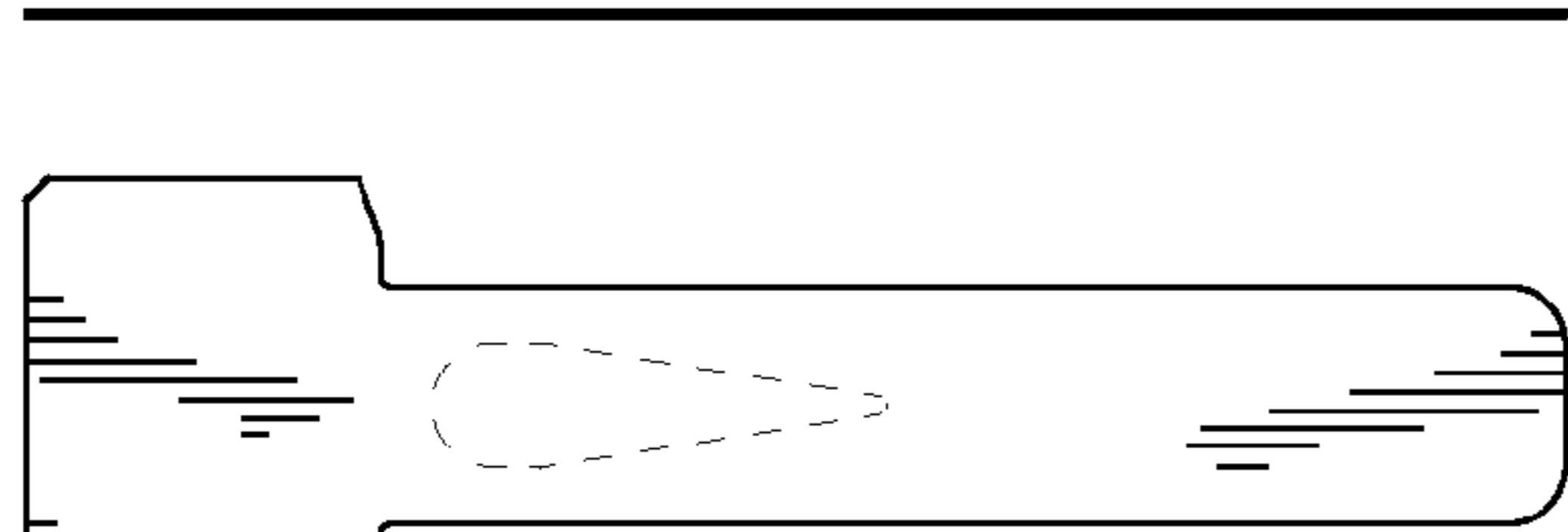


FIG. 6

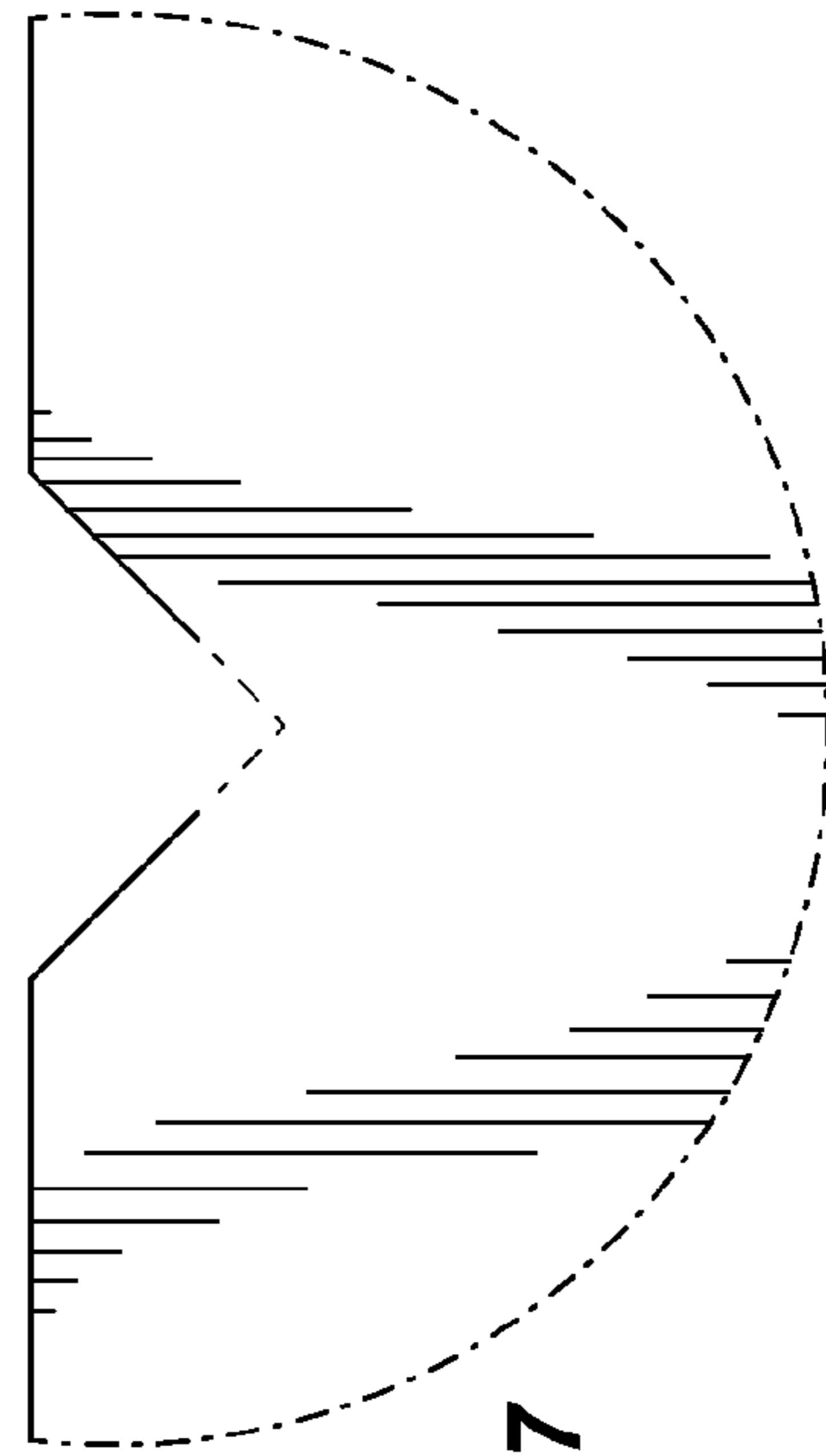


FIG. 7