

United States Patent [19]

[11]

4,275,950

Meyer

[45]

Jun. 30, 1981

[54] **LIGHT-GUIDE LENS**

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43212

[21] Appl. No.: **104,081**

[22] Filed: **Feb. 4, 1980**

[51] Int. Cl.³ **G02B 5/16; F24J 3/02**

[52] U.S. Cl. **350/96.10; 126/440;**
126/450; 350/96.18

[58] **Field of Search** 350/96.10, 96.15, 96.18,
350/96.24, 96.25, 167, 211, 212; 250/227;
126/417, 440, 450, 451

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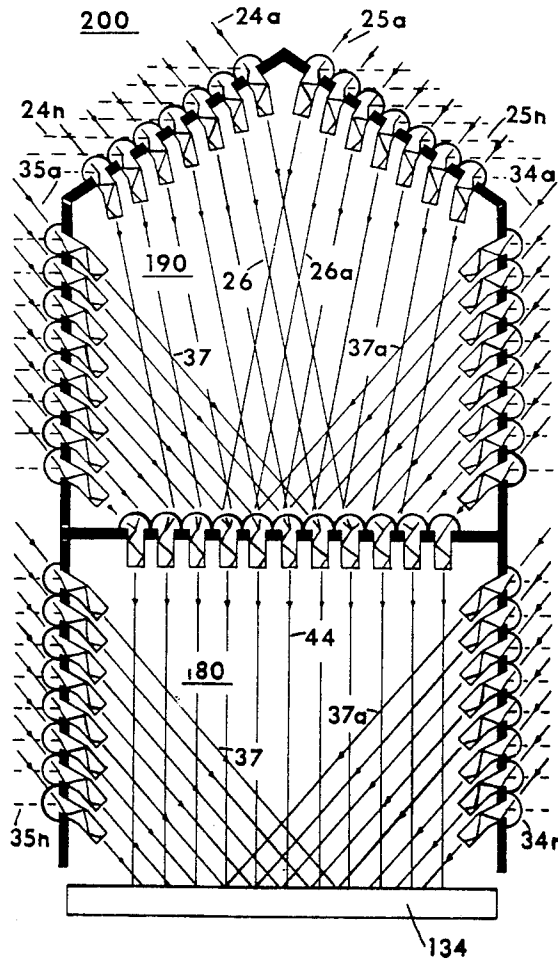
Primary Examiner—Stewart J. Levy

[57] **ABSTRACT**

The light-guide silo collector-concentrator lens is a

component assembly of light-guide lenses, comprising of array of light-steering lens embodiments having different refractive index material light-guide semi-transparent and reflective to incident light radiation- to control, focus, or disperse the transmission angle of the light radiation from that of the incident light rays. The component assembly is contoured in a capping relationship over a focusing lens to provide an extremely high concentration of solar energy irrespective of the angle of the sun. The light-guide lenses increase by several orders of magnitude the amount of solar energy striking the surface of the focusing lens. The focusing lens is a plurality of flat surface type of lenses stacked one over the other in spaced relationship and operable to concentrate the solar energy to a central region. Surrounding the perimeter of the plurality of focusing lenses is an array in a "wall" configuration of light-guide lenses similar in construction to the aforesaid capping light-guide lenses. The angle of the reflective surface of the capping lenses and the wall lenses is such to receive and direct to the focusing lenses the maximum amount of incident light radiation at all times of the day or season.

10 Claims, 371 Drawing Figures



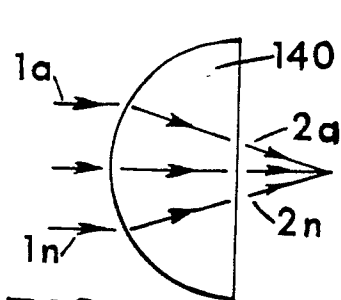


FIG. 1

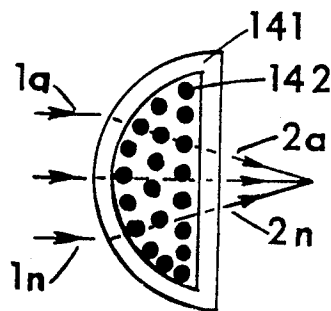


FIG. 2

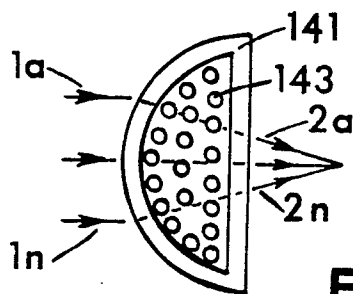


FIG. 3

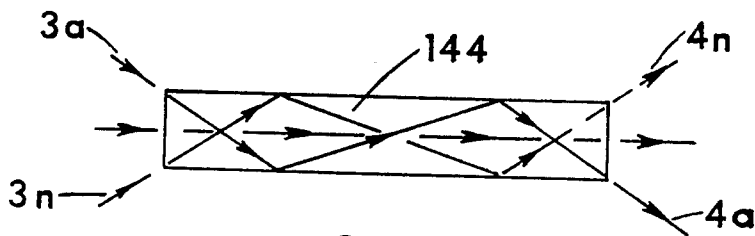


FIG. 4

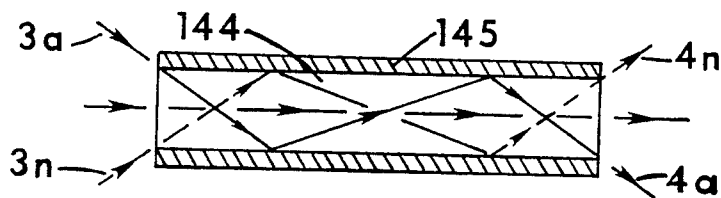


FIG. 5

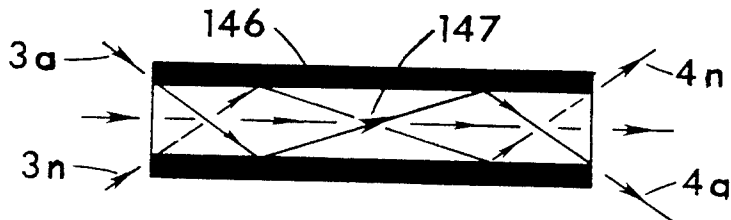


FIG. 6

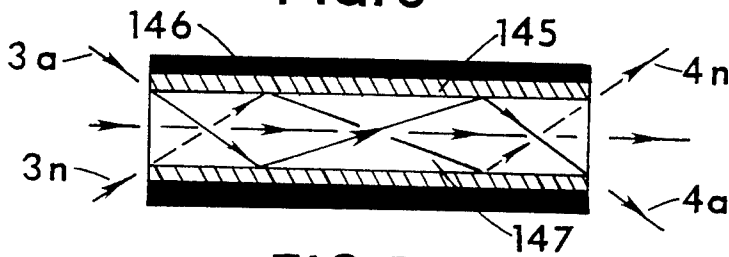


FIG. 7

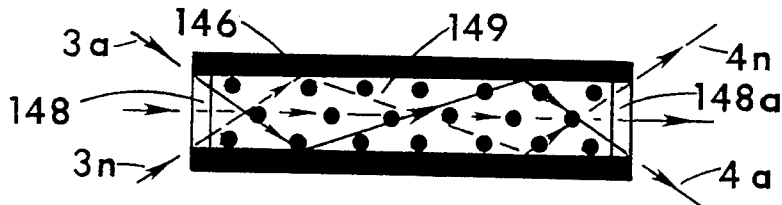


FIG. 8

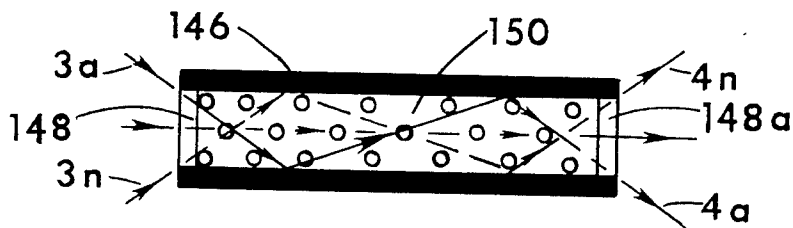


FIG. 9

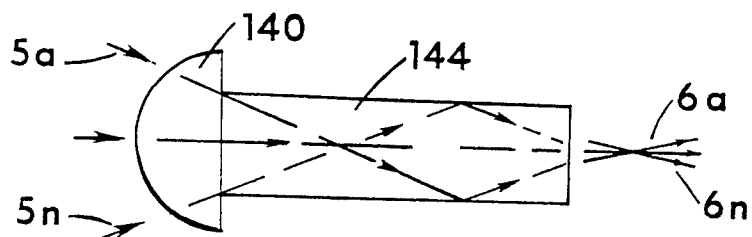


FIG. 10

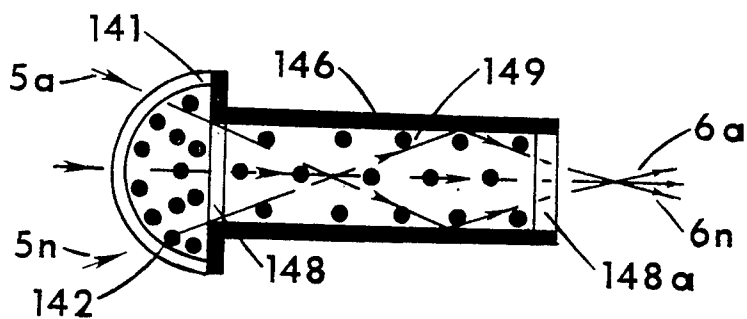


FIG. 11

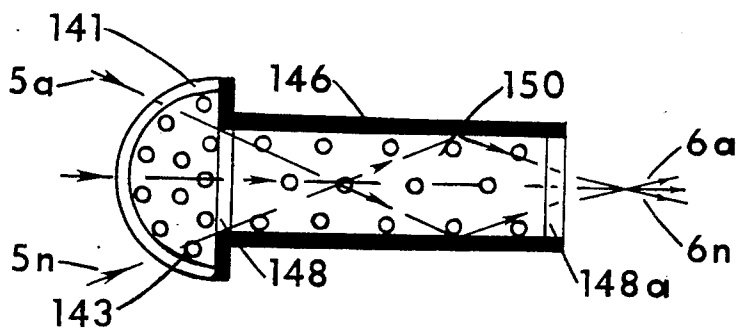


FIG. 12

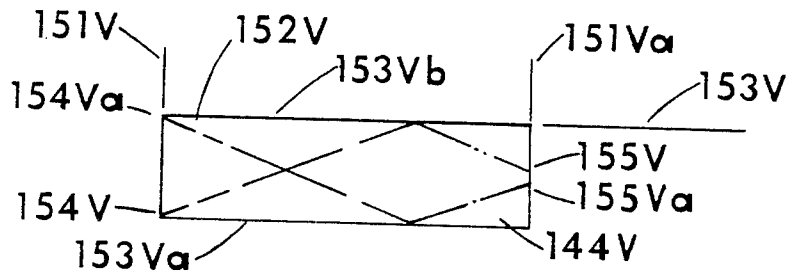


FIG. 13

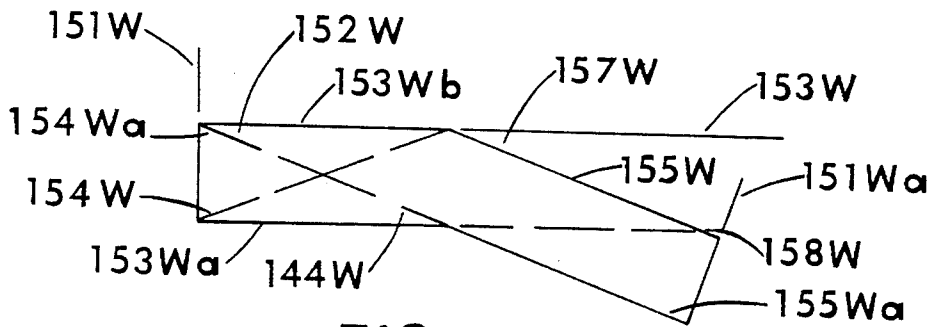


FIG. 14

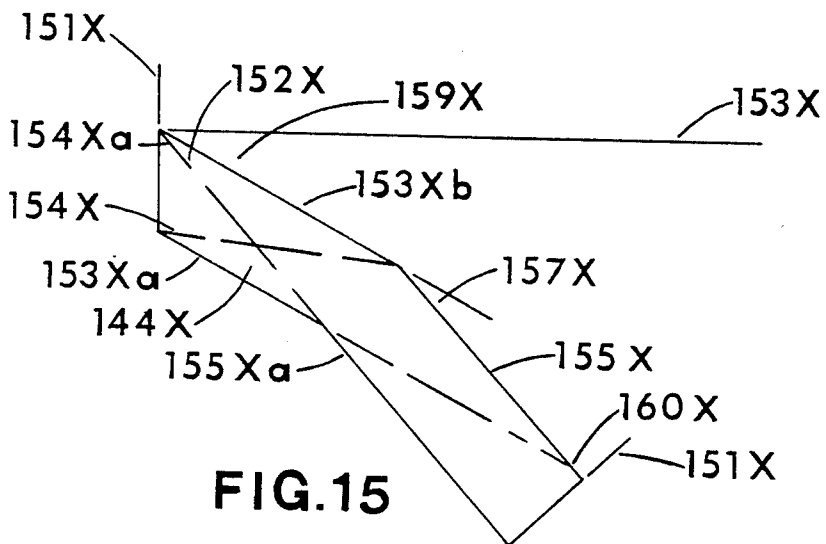


FIG. 15

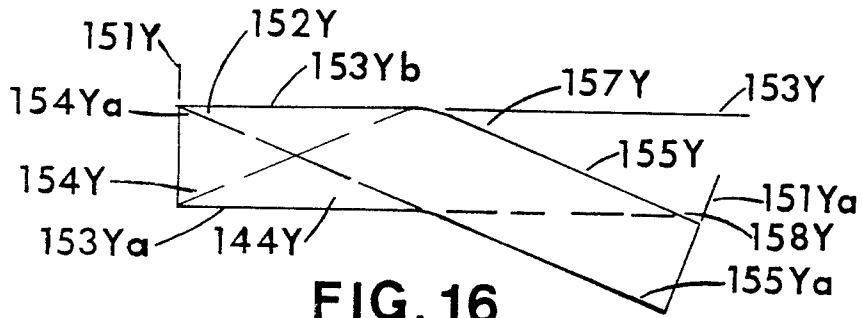


FIG. 16

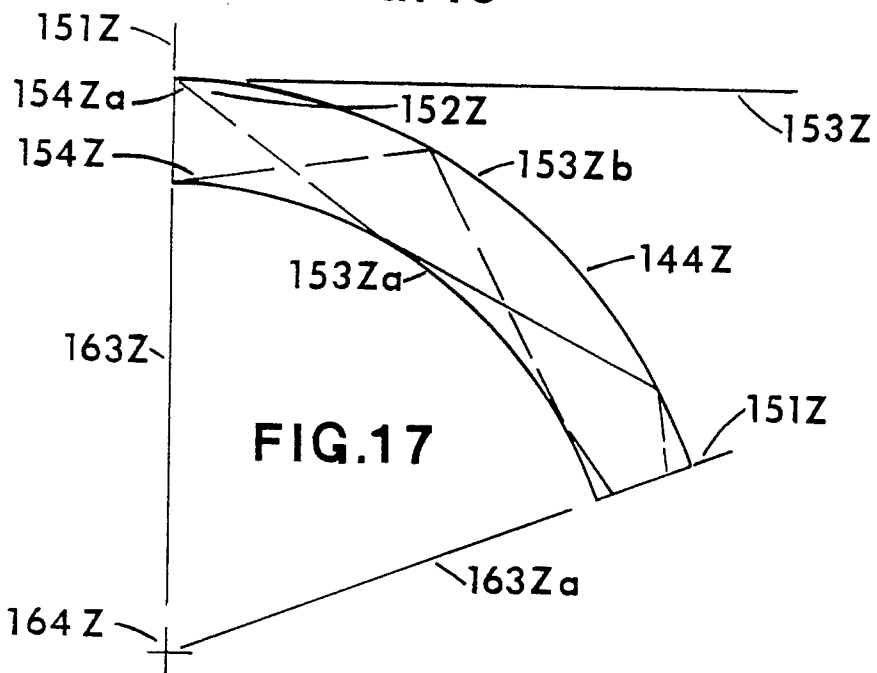


FIG. 17

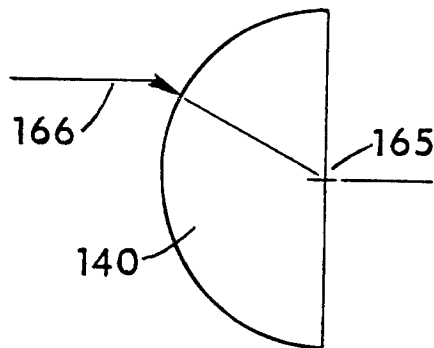


FIG. 18

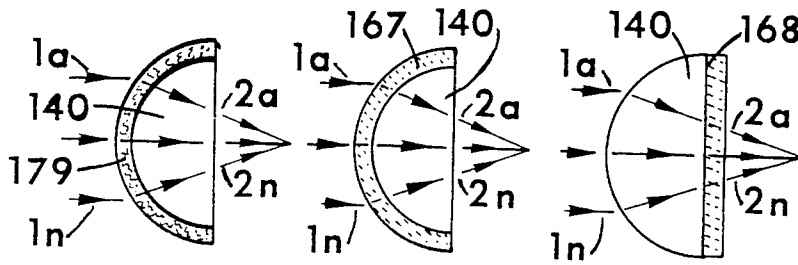


FIG.19 FIG.20 FIG.21

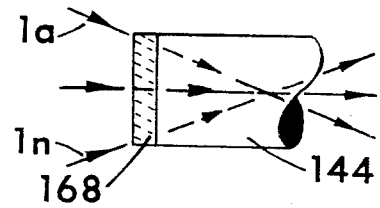


FIG.22

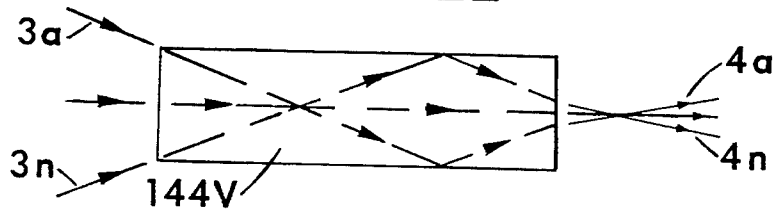


FIG.23

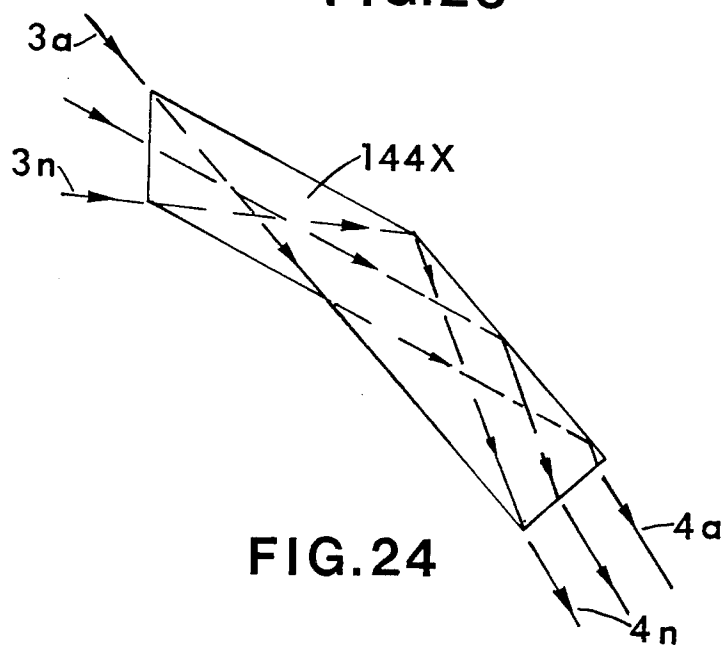


FIG.24

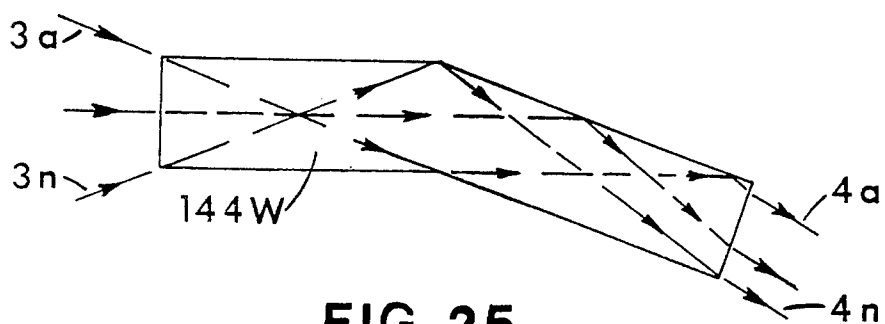


FIG. 25

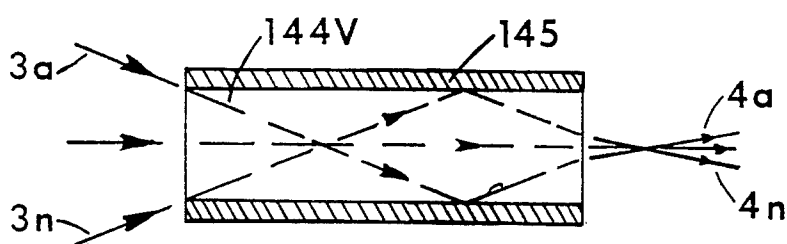


FIG. 32

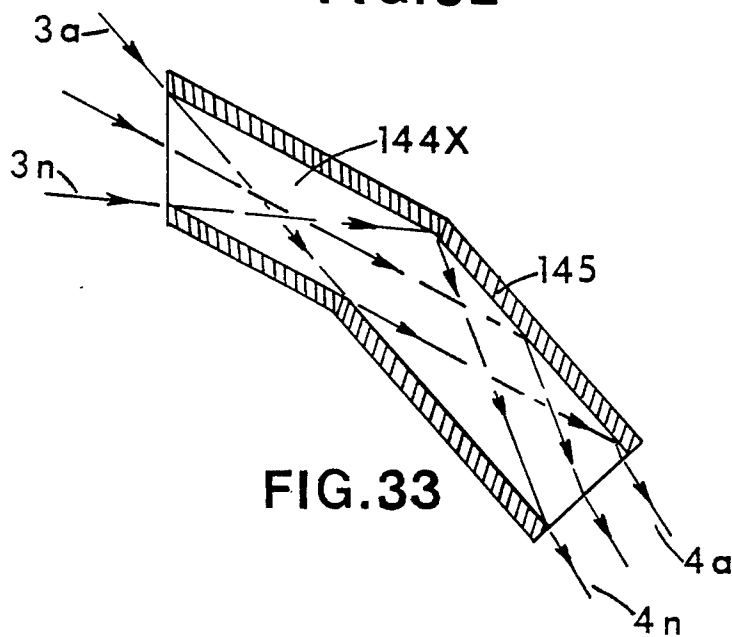


FIG. 33

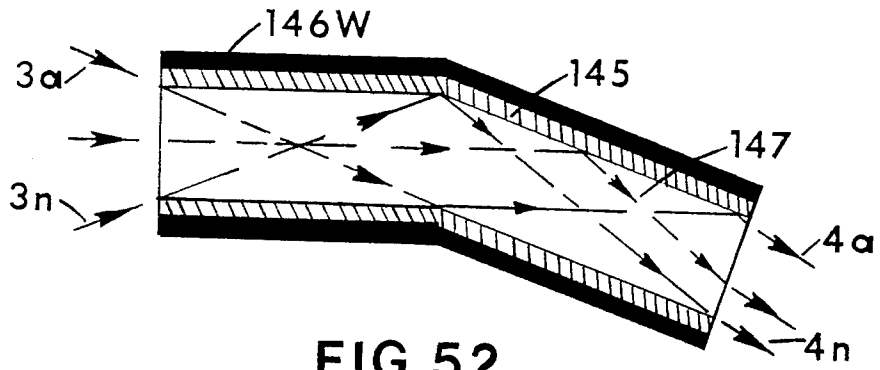


FIG. 52

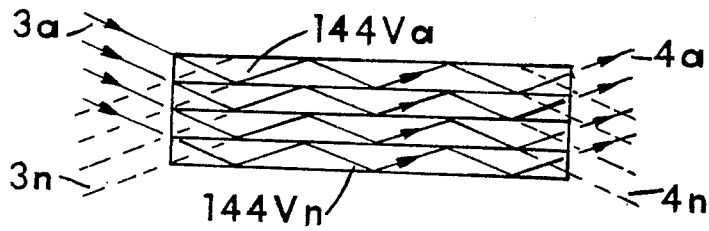


FIG. 26

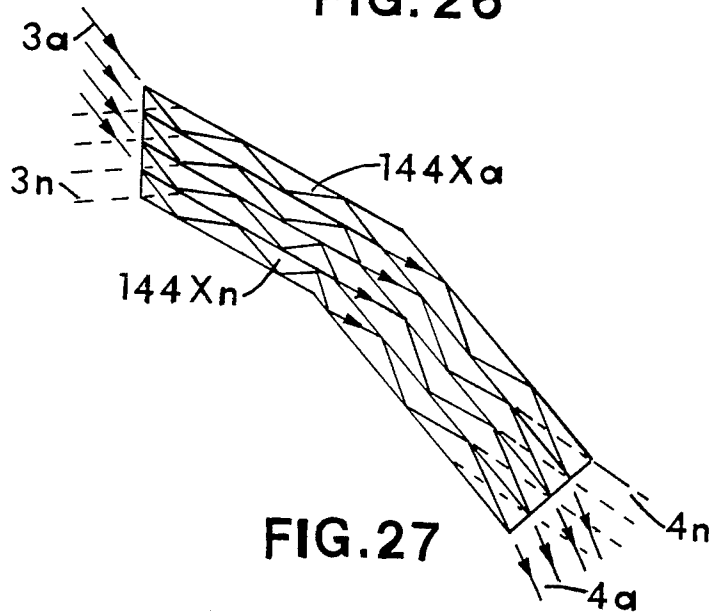
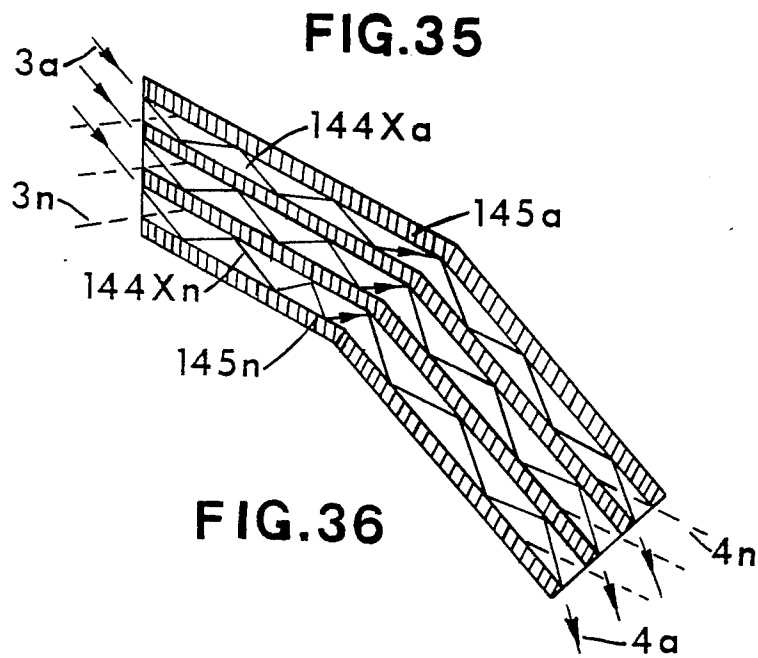
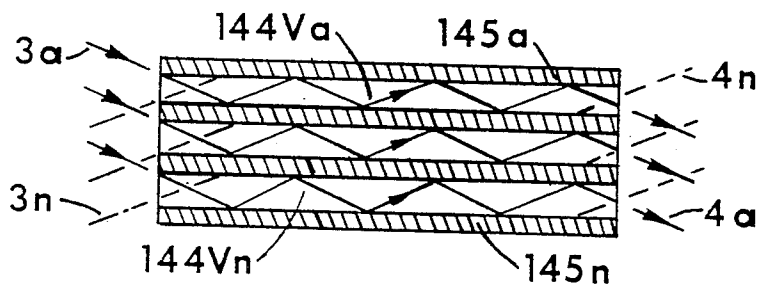
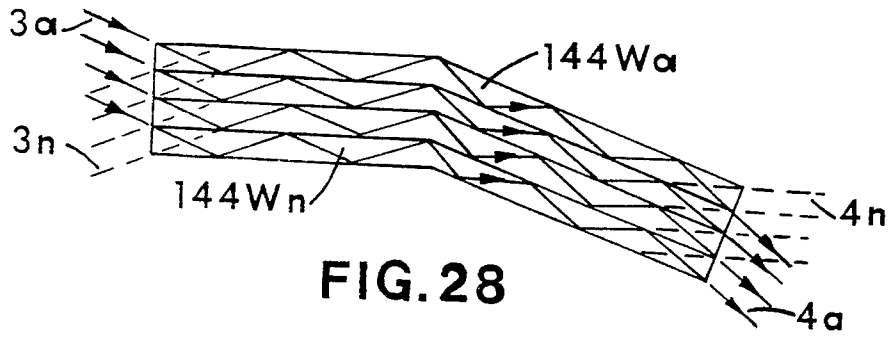


FIG. 27



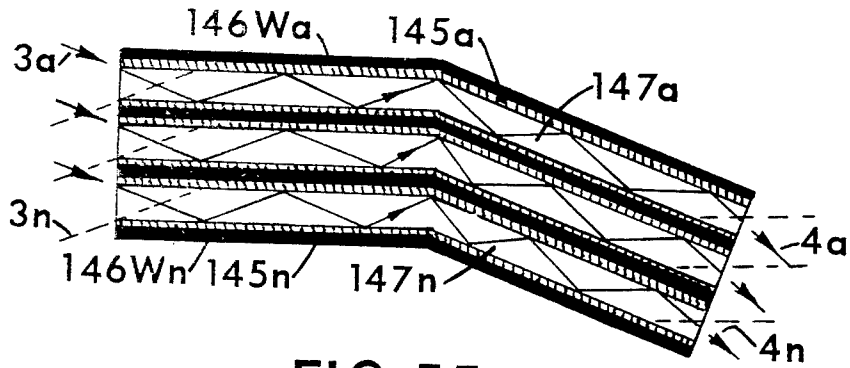


FIG. 55

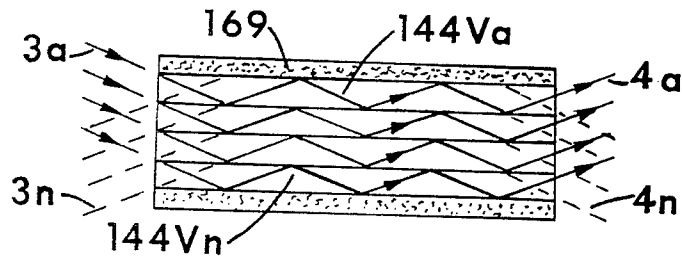


FIG. 29

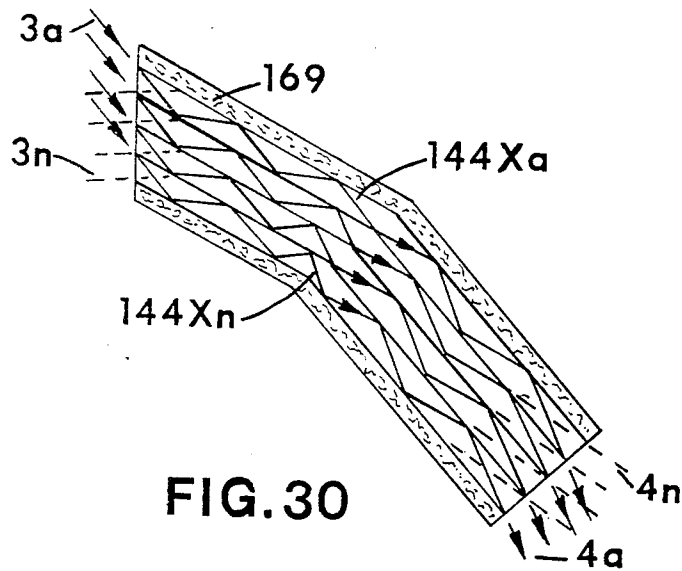


FIG. 30

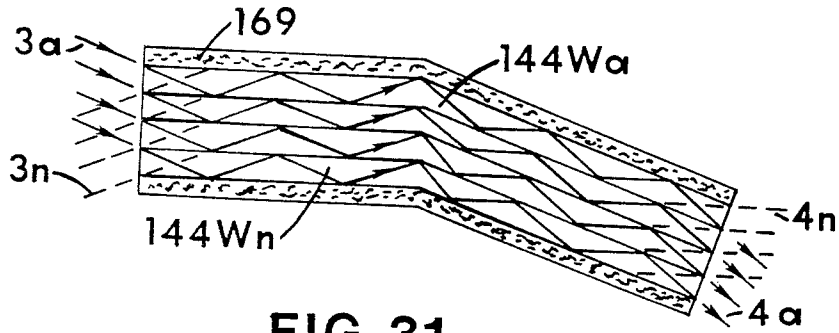


FIG. 31

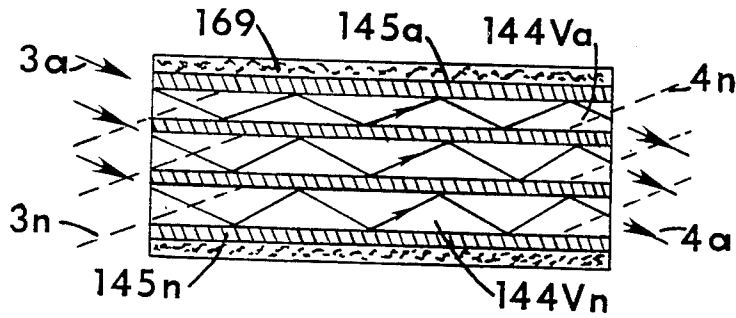


FIG. 38

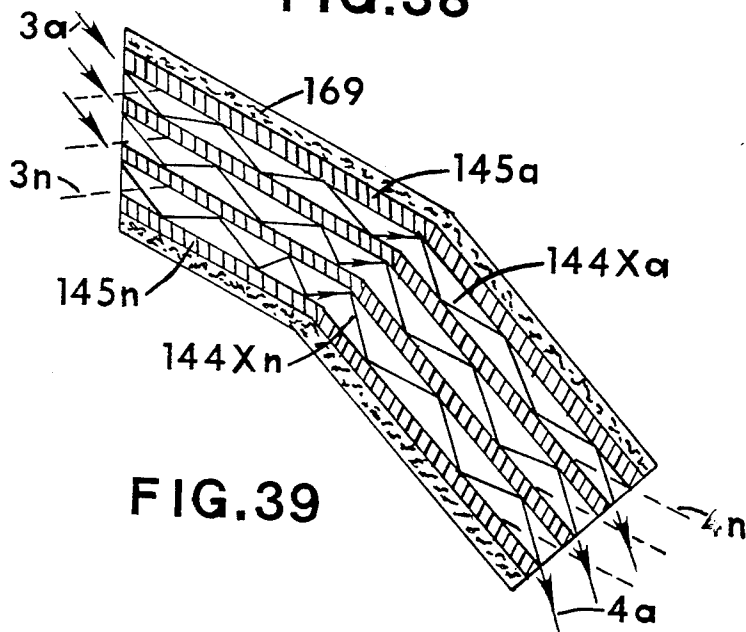


FIG. 39

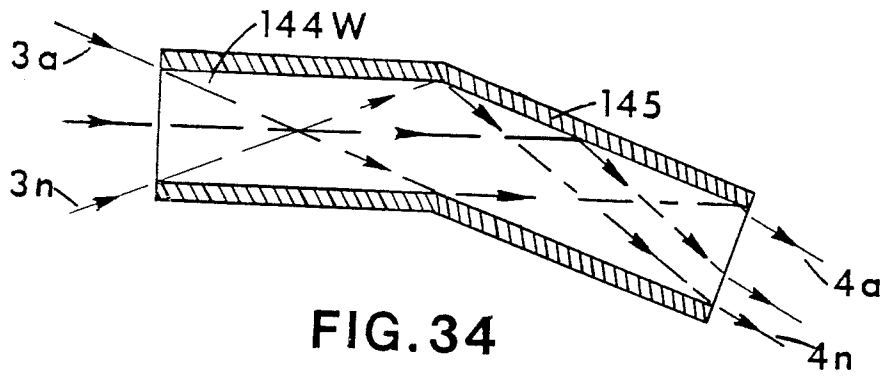


FIG. 34

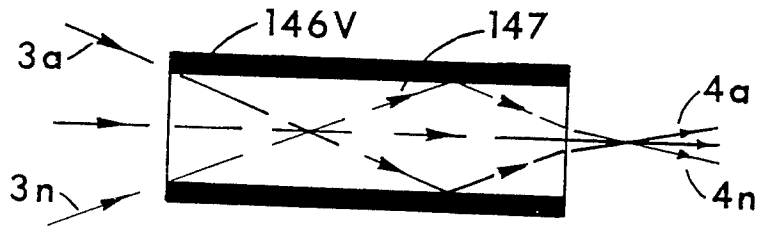


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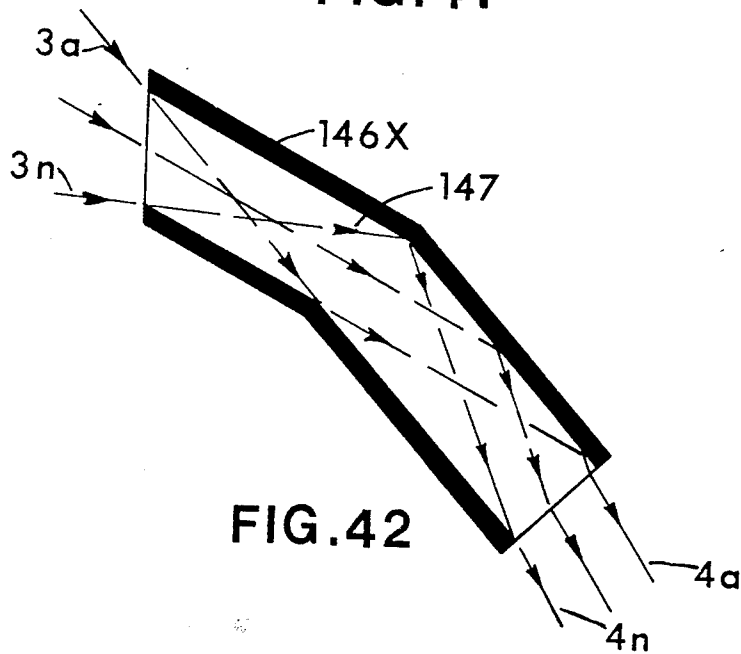


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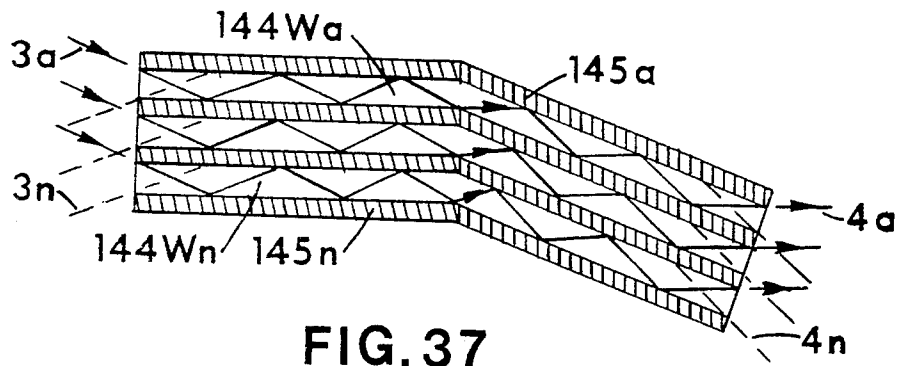


FIG. 37

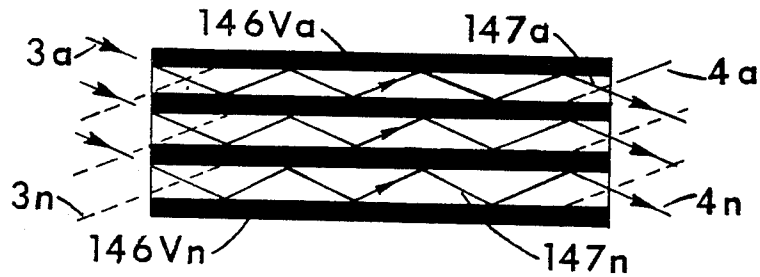


FIG. 44

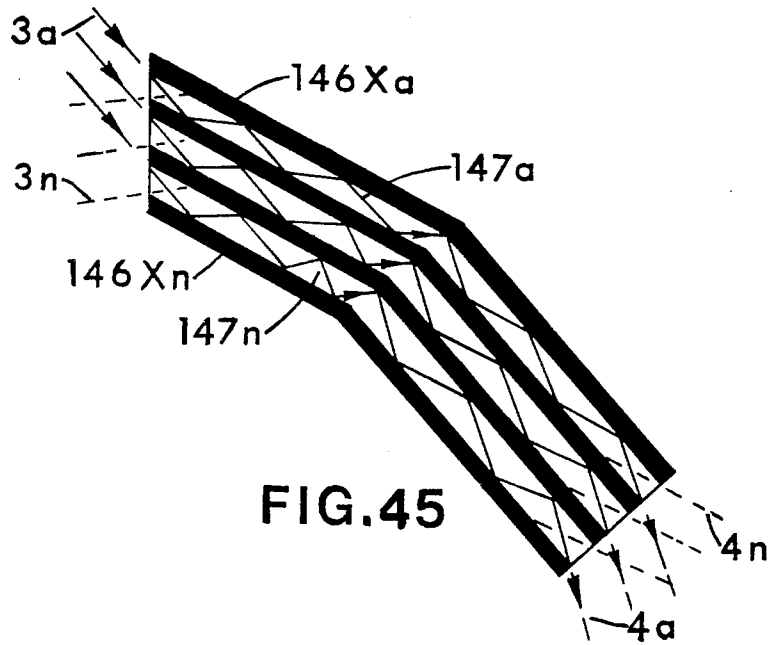


FIG. 45

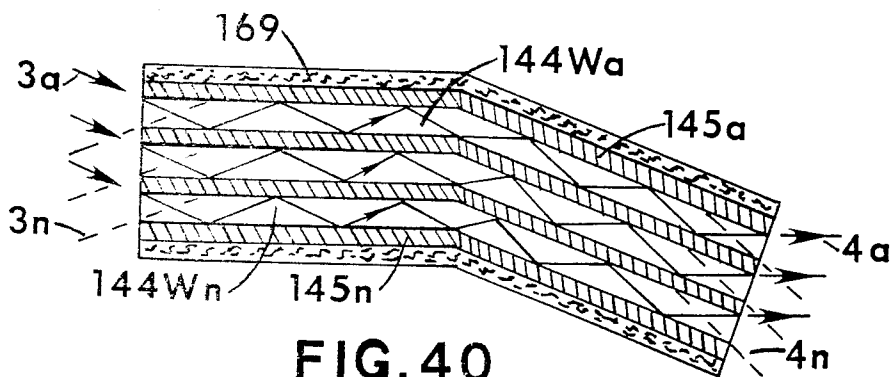


FIG. 40

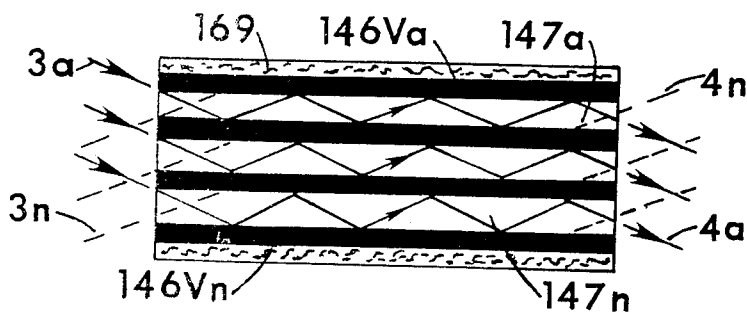


FIG. 47

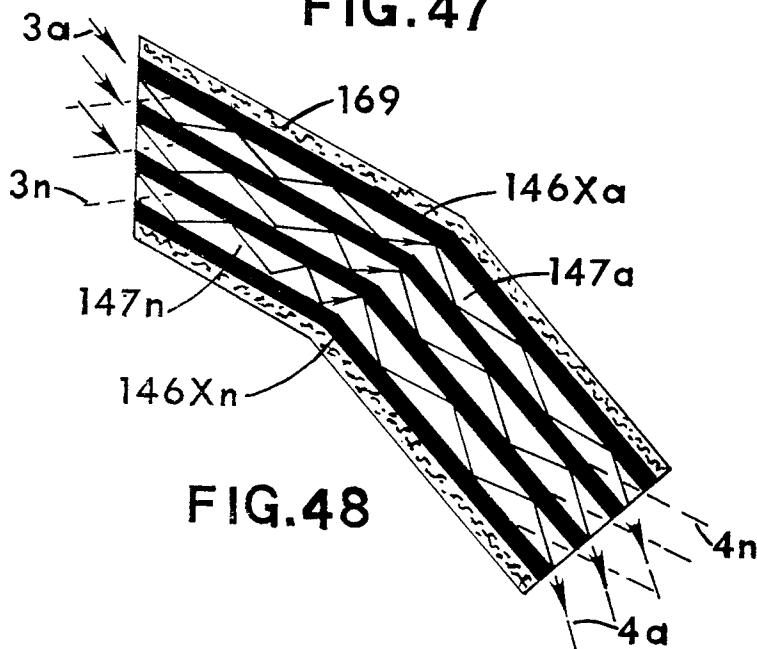


FIG. 48

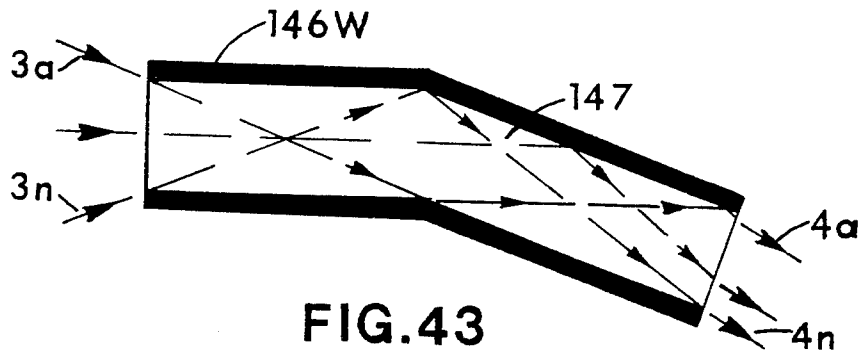


FIG. 43

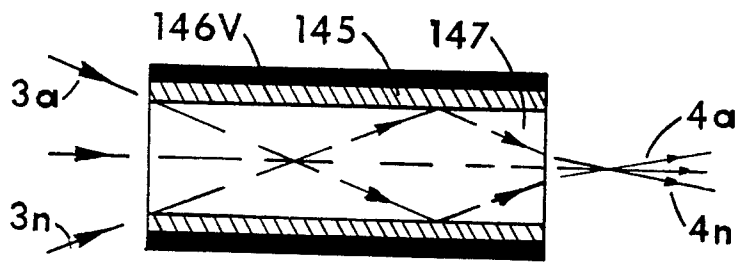


FIG. 50

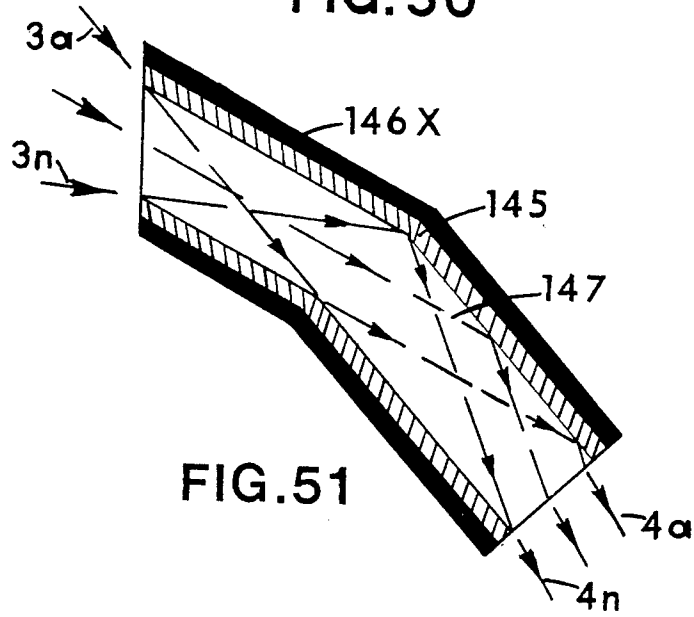


FIG. 51

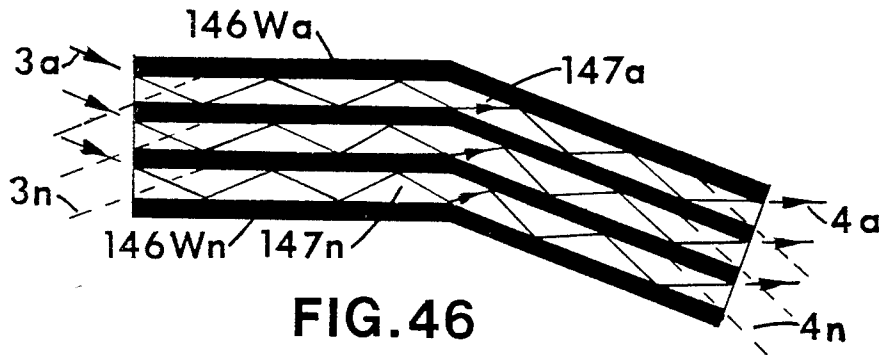


FIG. 46

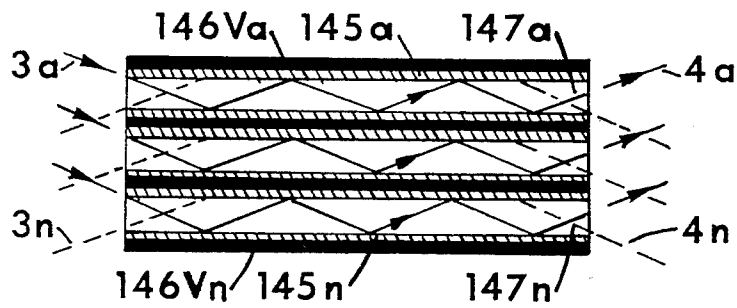


FIG. 53

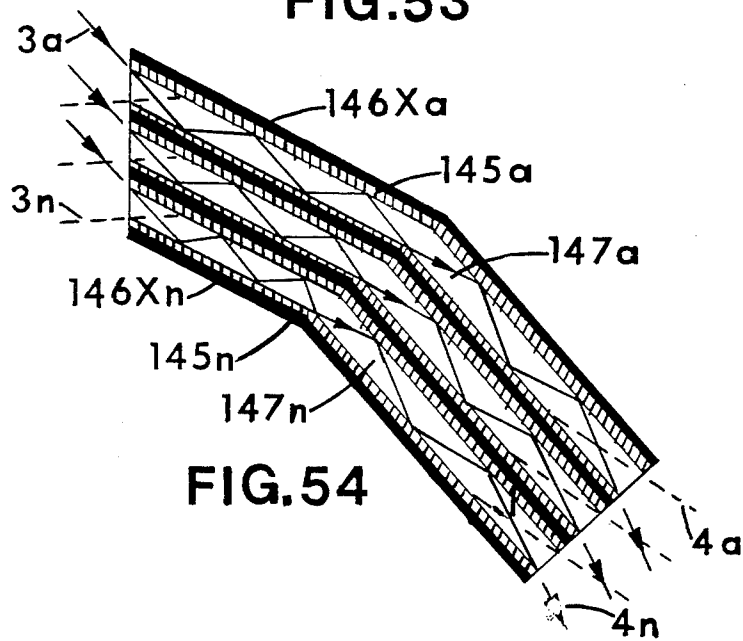


FIG. 54

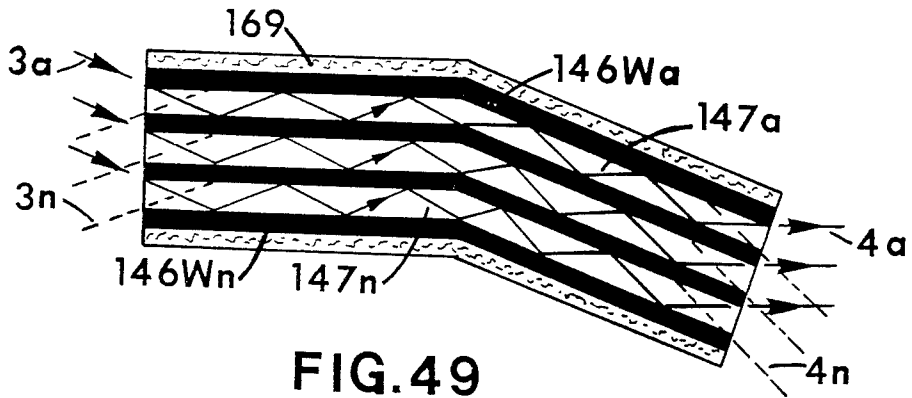


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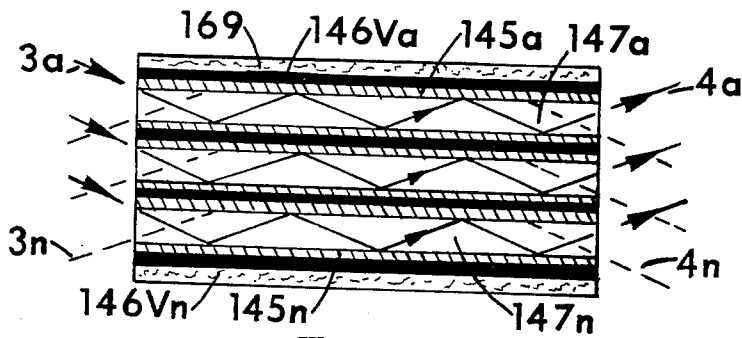


FIG. 56

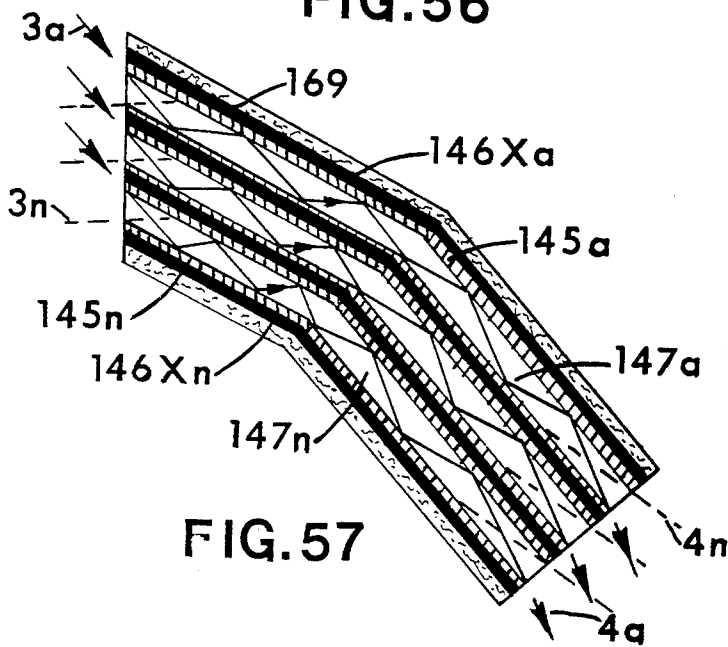
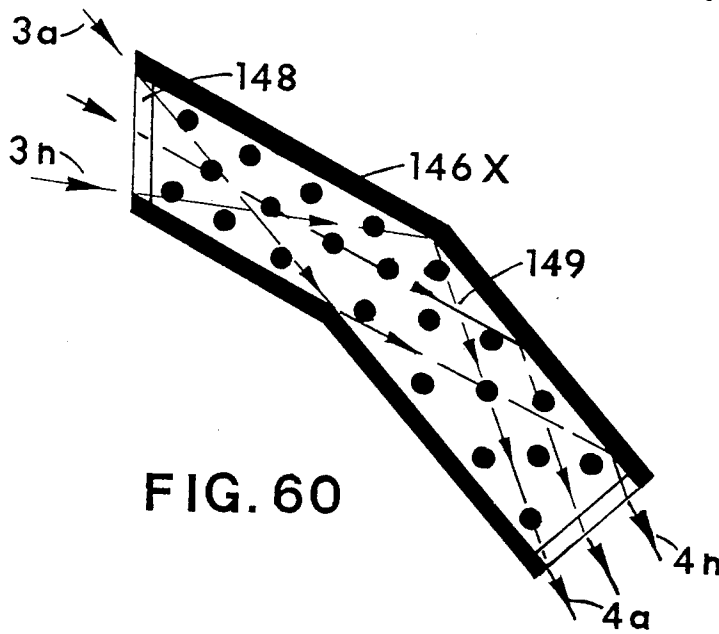
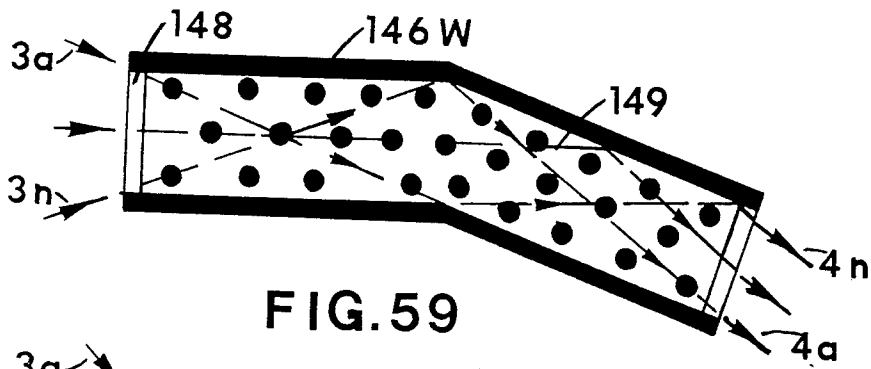
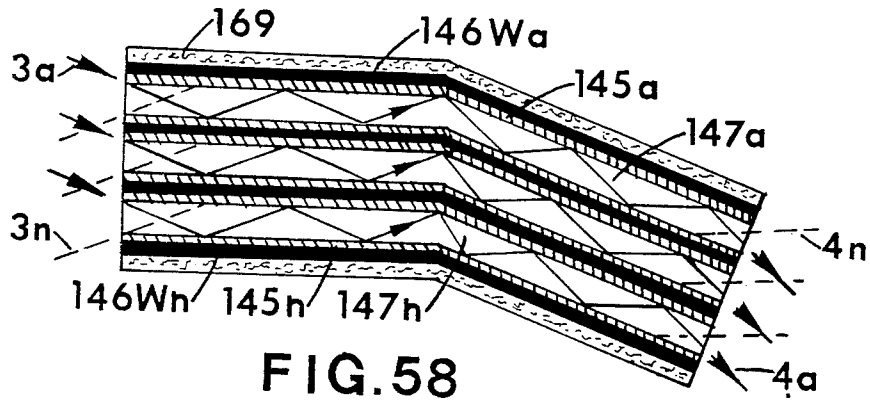


FIG. 57



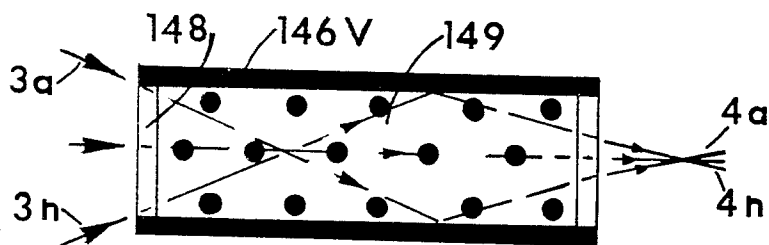


FIG. 61

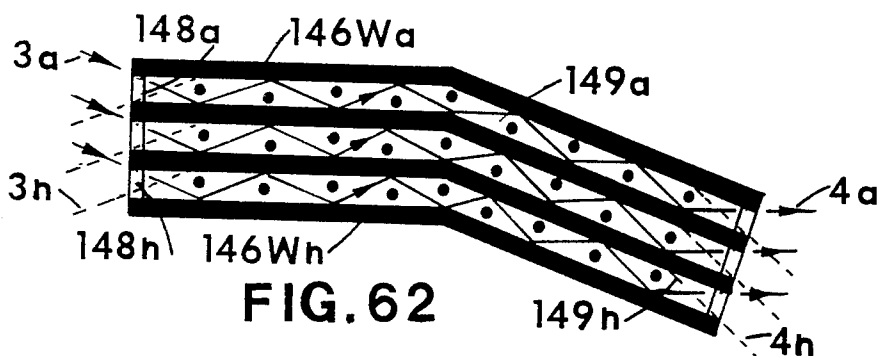


FIG. 62

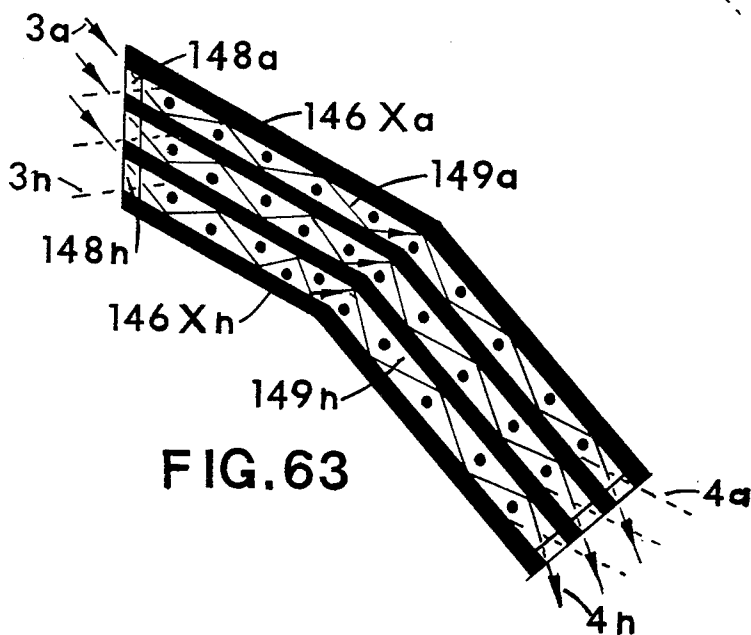


FIG. 63

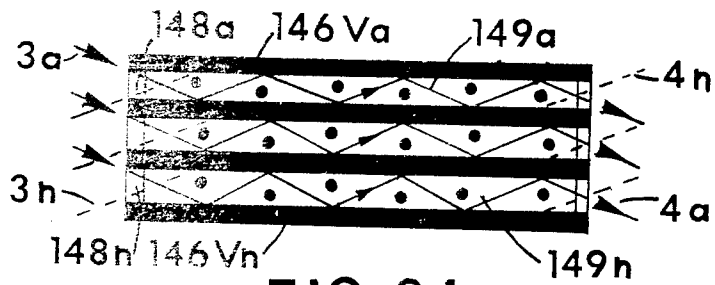


FIG. 64

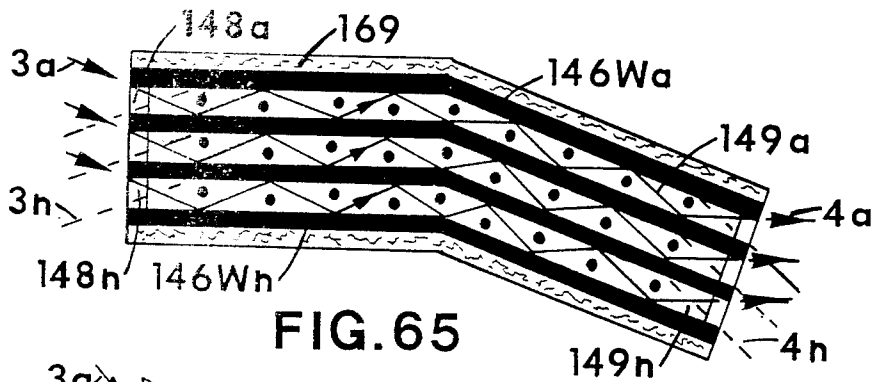


FIG. 65

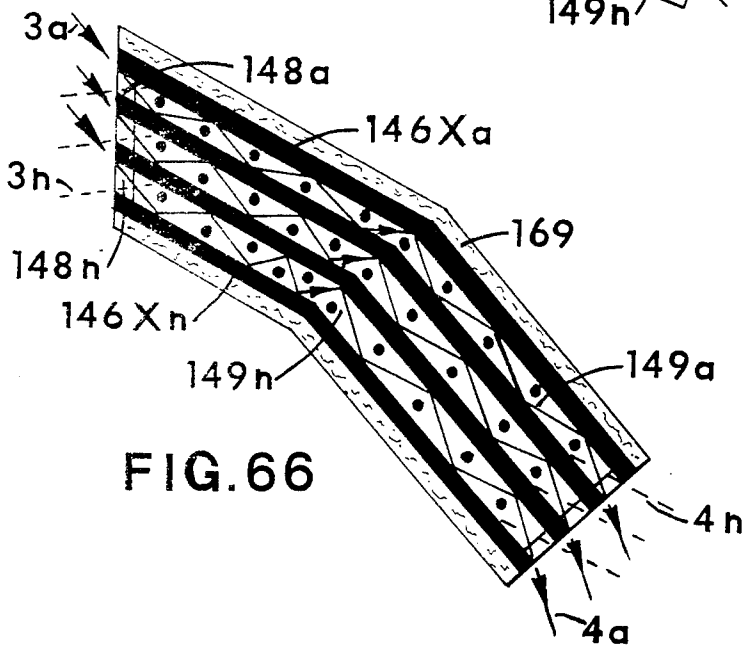
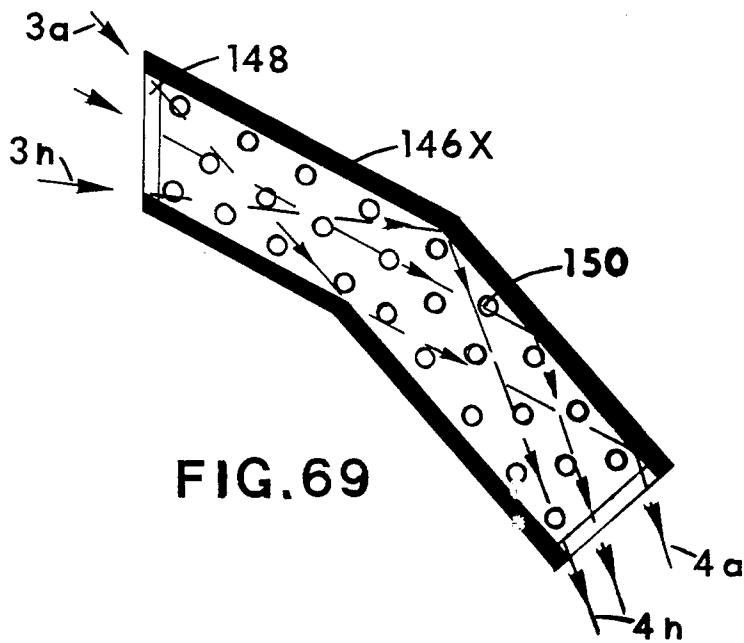
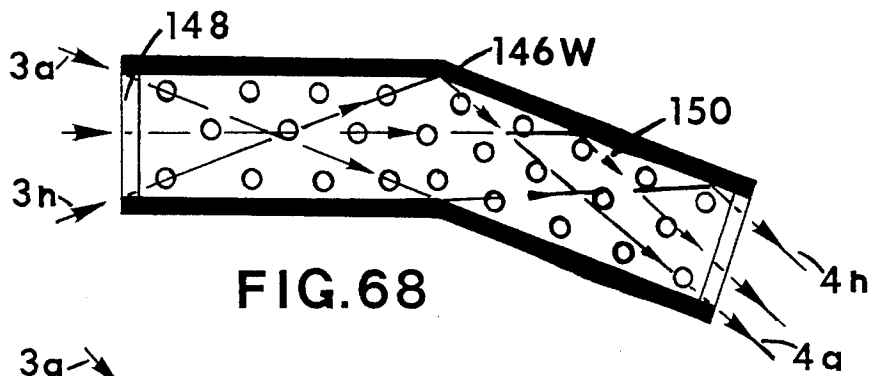
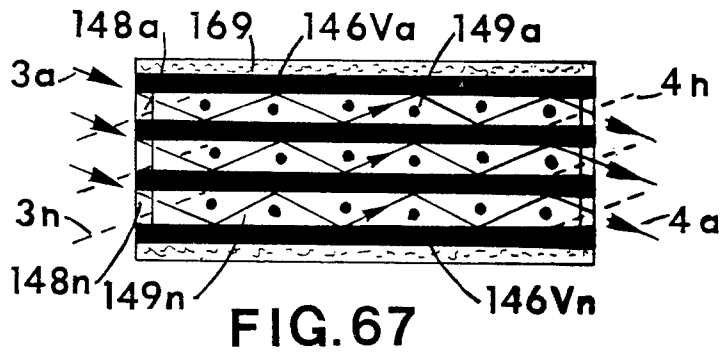


FIG. 66



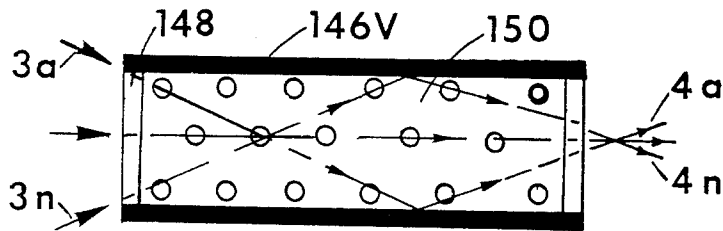


FIG. 70

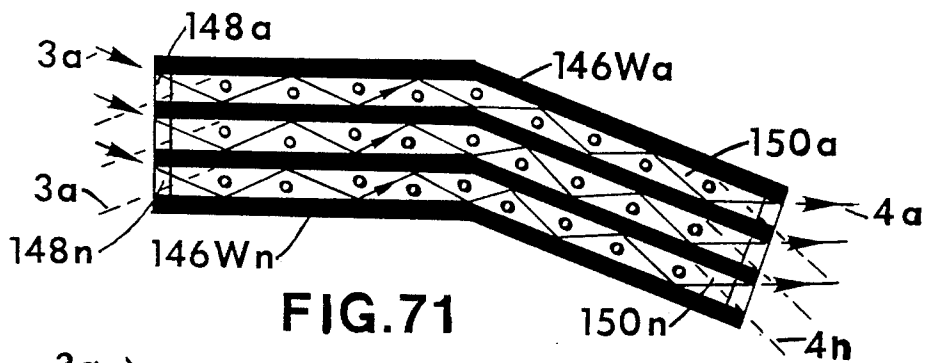


FIG. 71

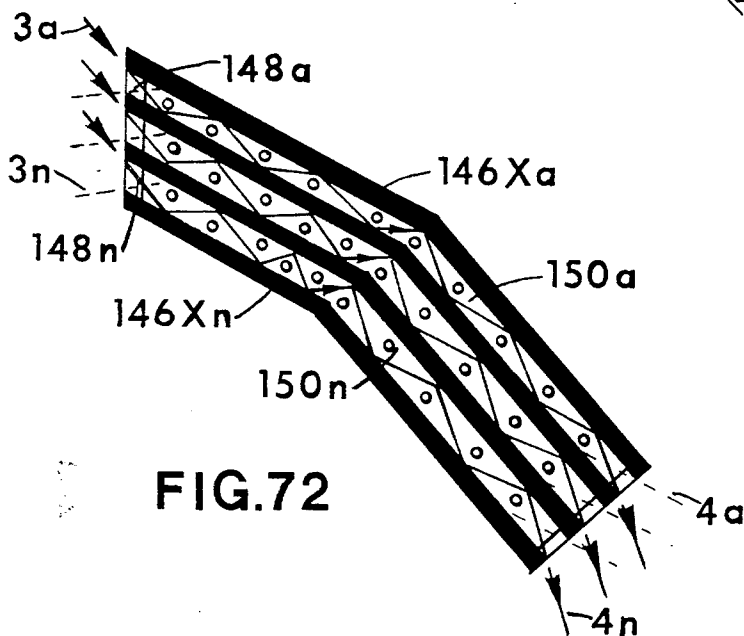


FIG. 72

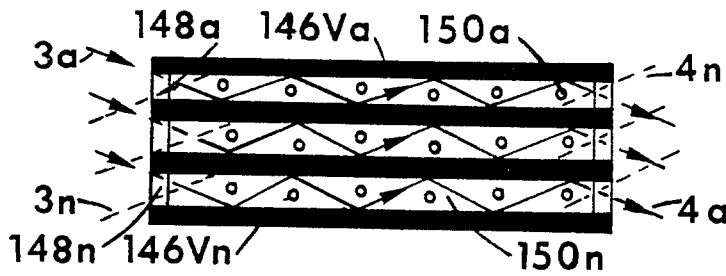


FIG. 73

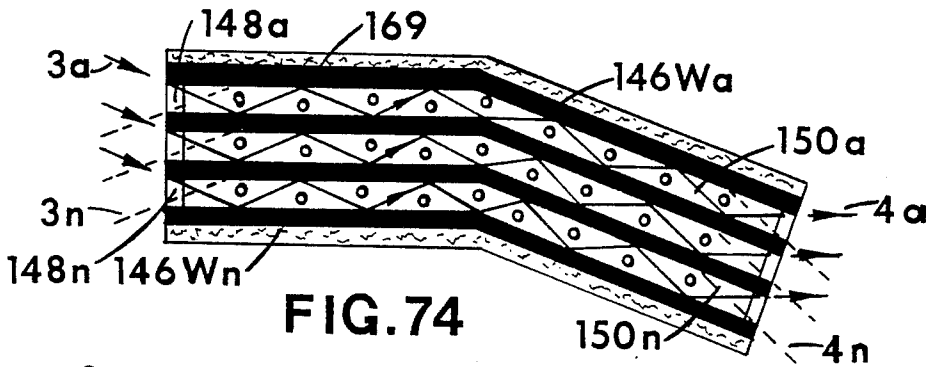


FIG. 74

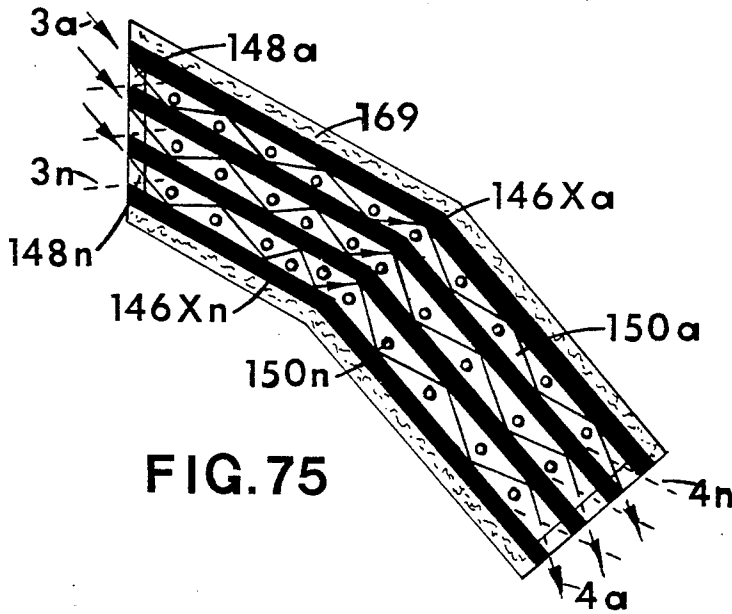


FIG. 75

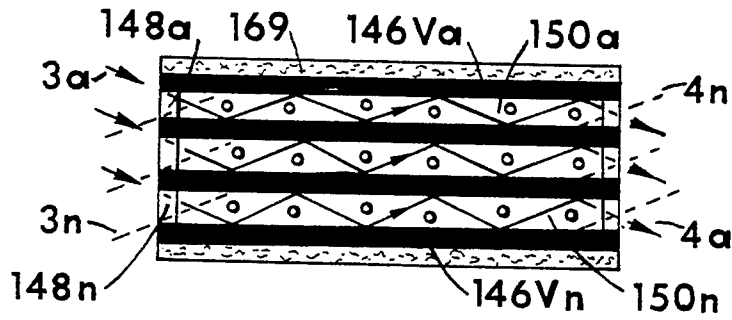


FIG.76

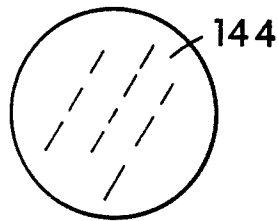


FIG.77

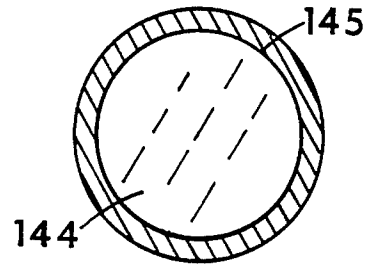


FIG.78

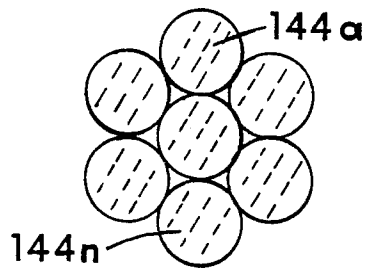


FIG.79

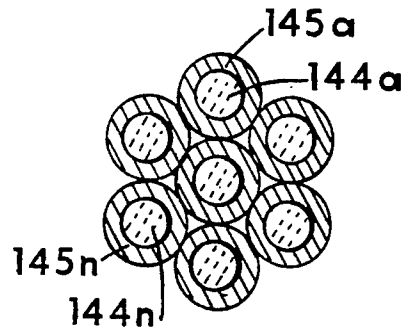


FIG.80

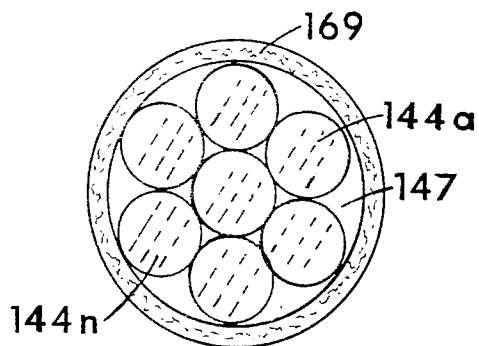


FIG. 81

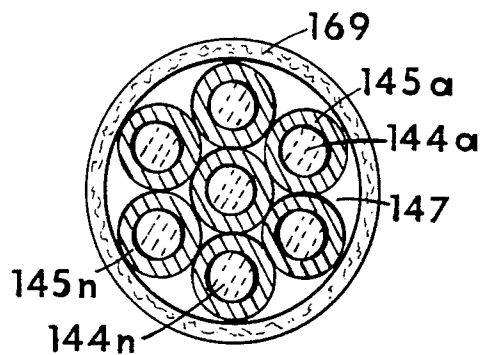


FIG. 82

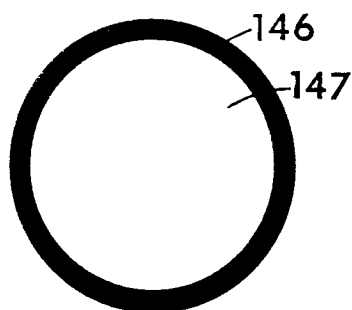


FIG. 83

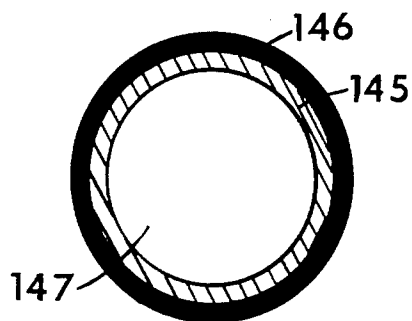


FIG. 84

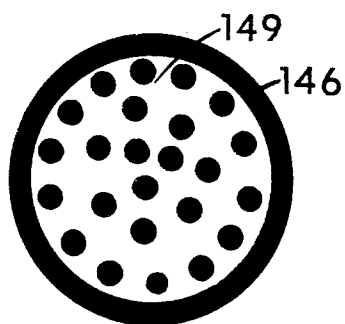


FIG. 85

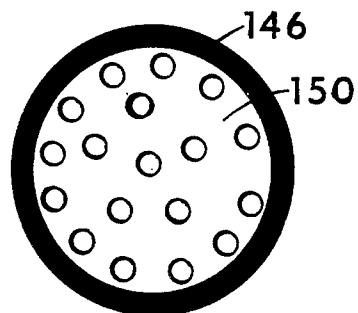


FIG. 86

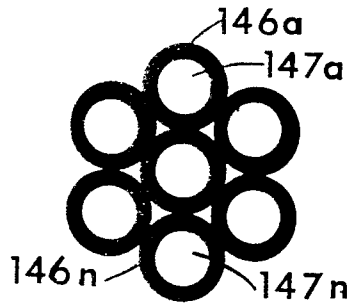


FIG. 87

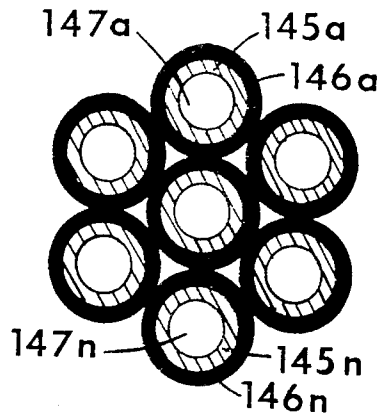


FIG. 88

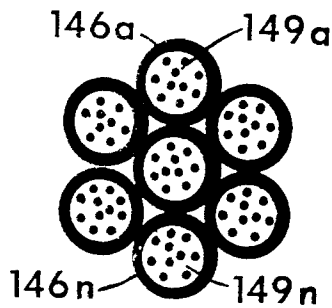


FIG. 89

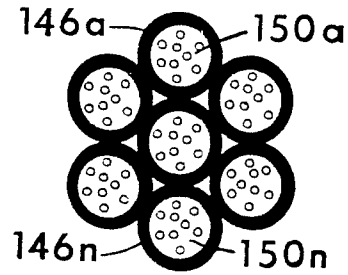


FIG. 90

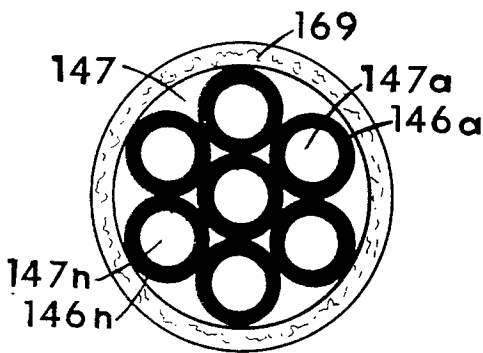


FIG. 91

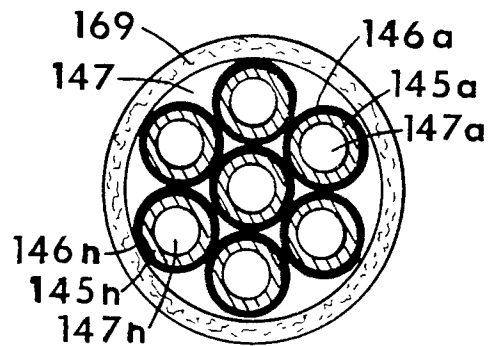


FIG. 92

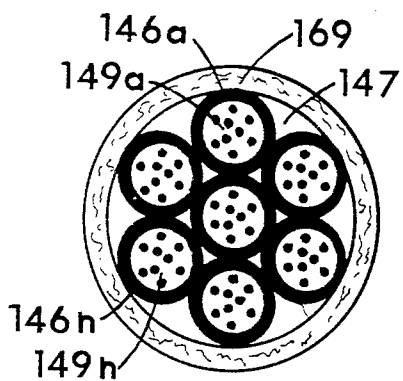


FIG. 93

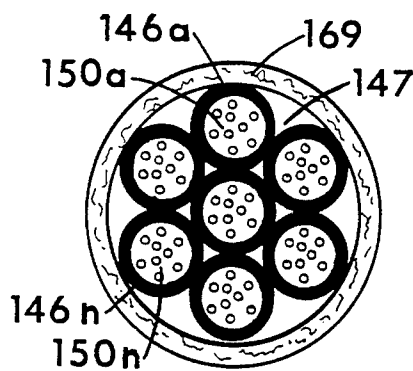


FIG. 94

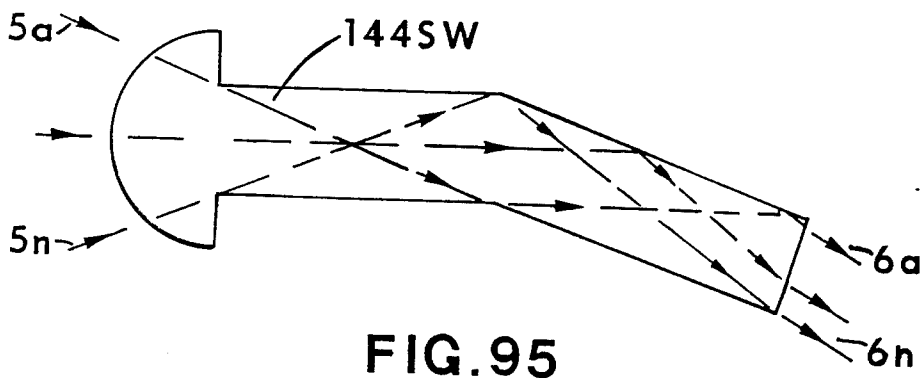


FIG. 95

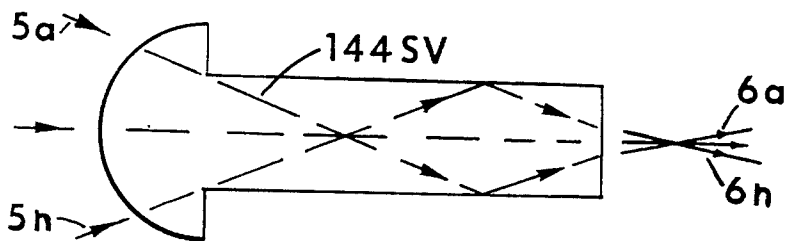
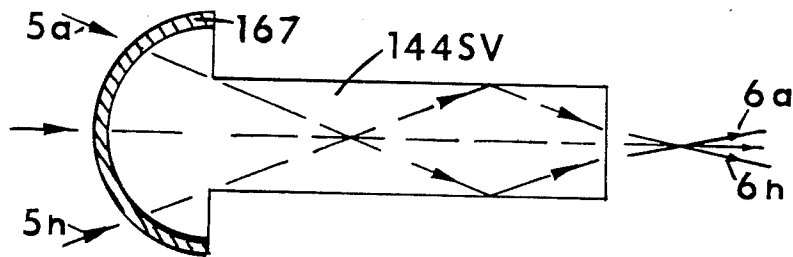
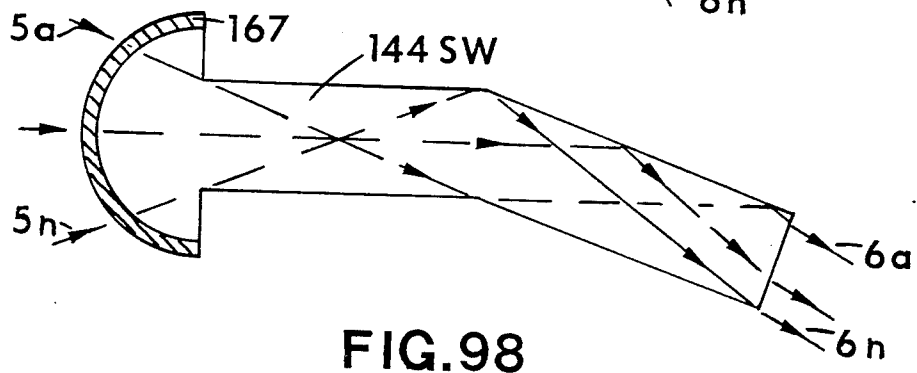
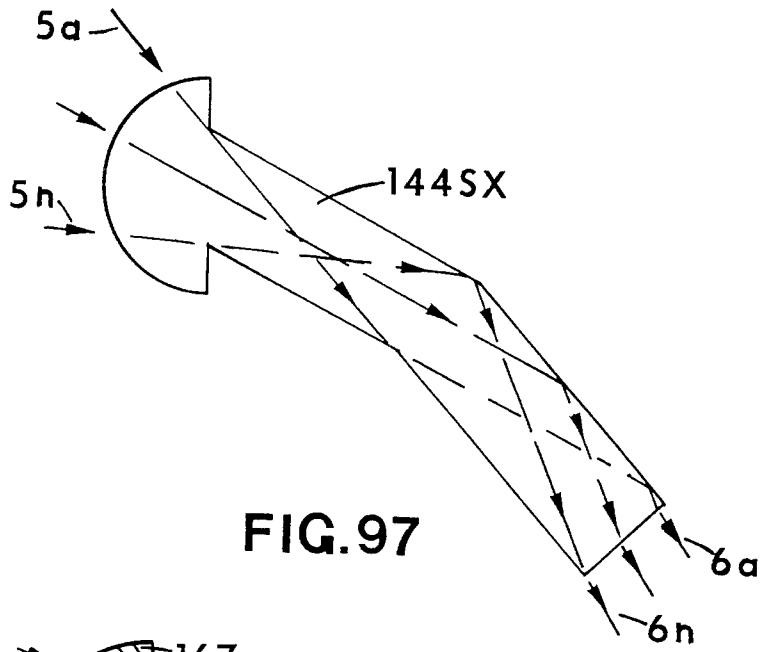
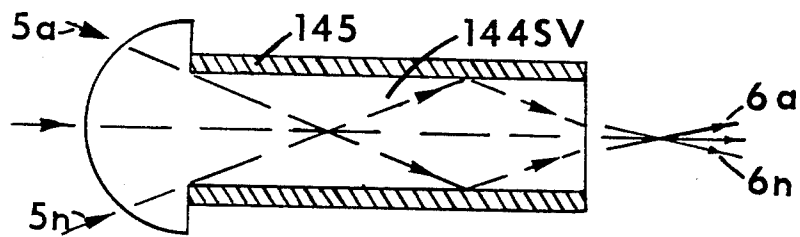
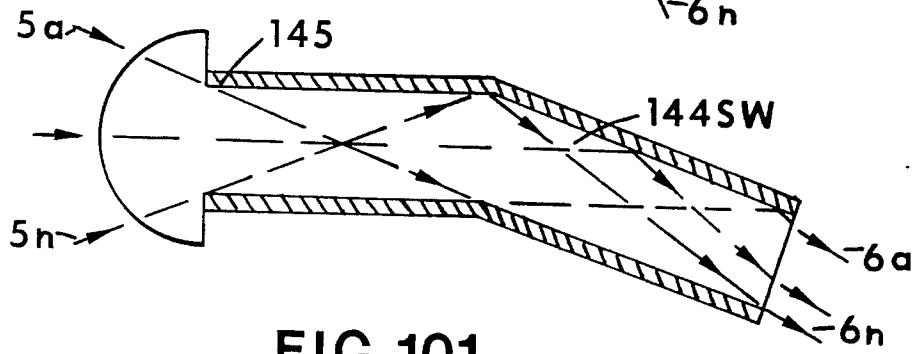
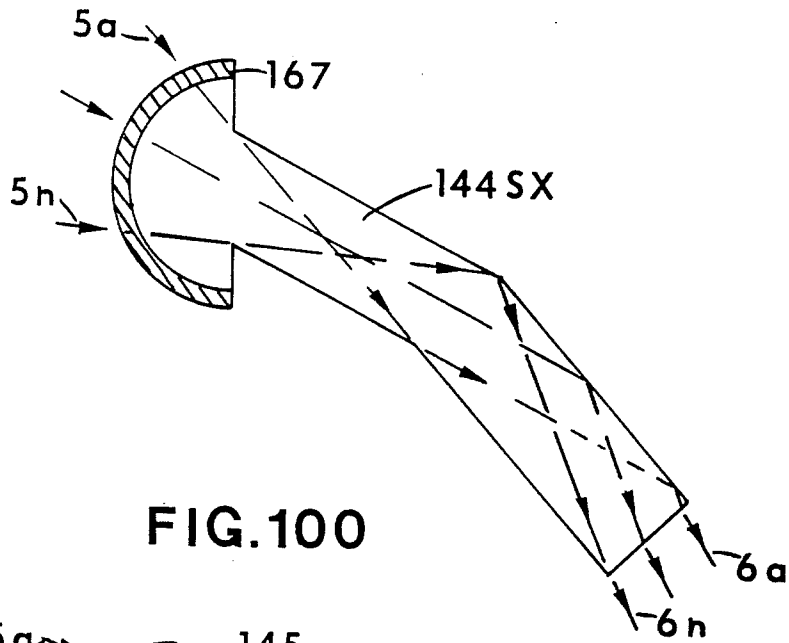
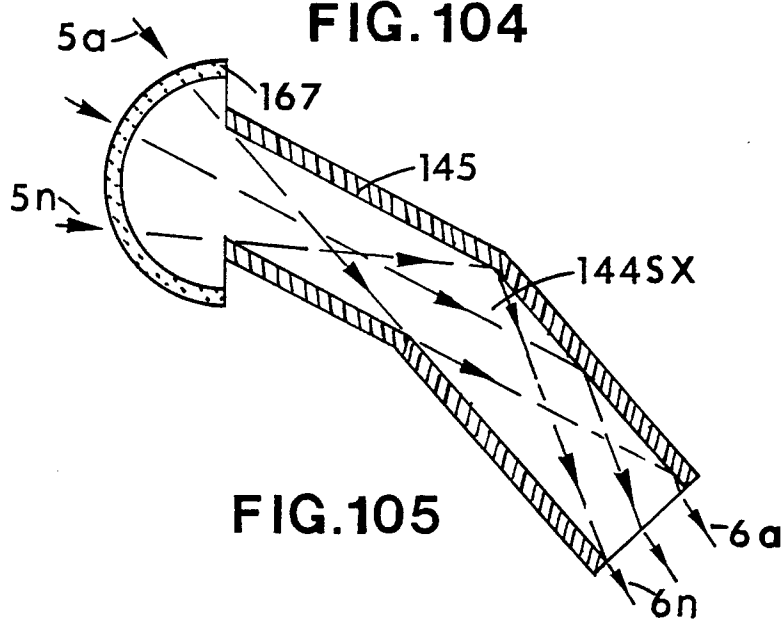
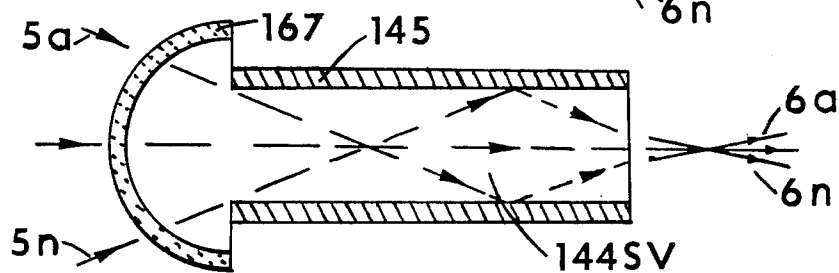
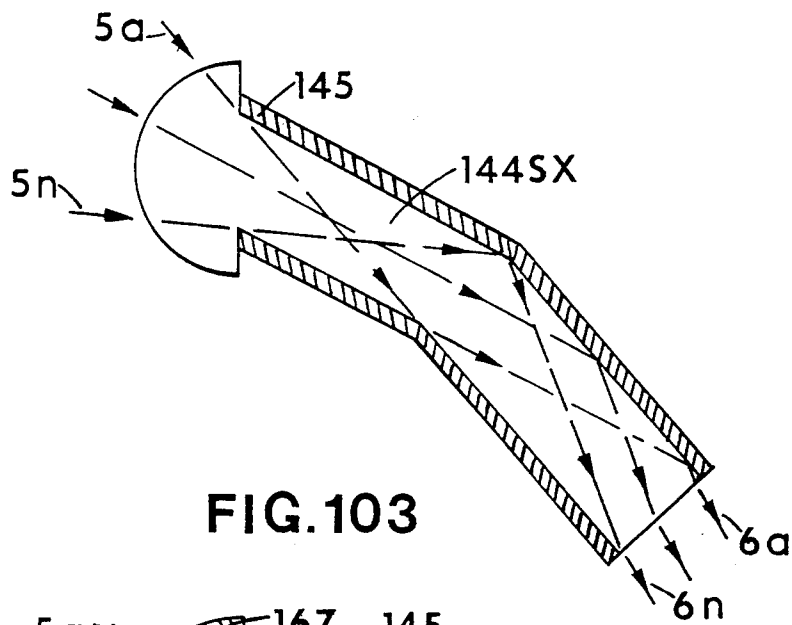


FIG. 96







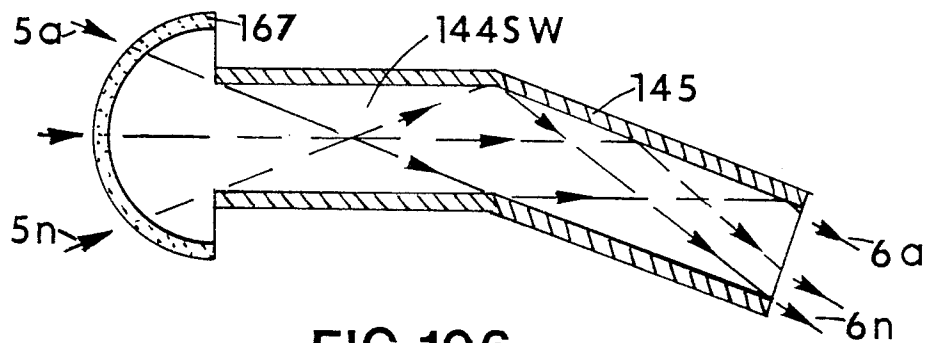


FIG. 106

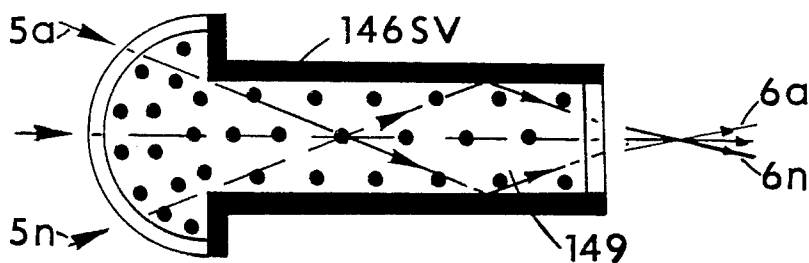


FIG. 107

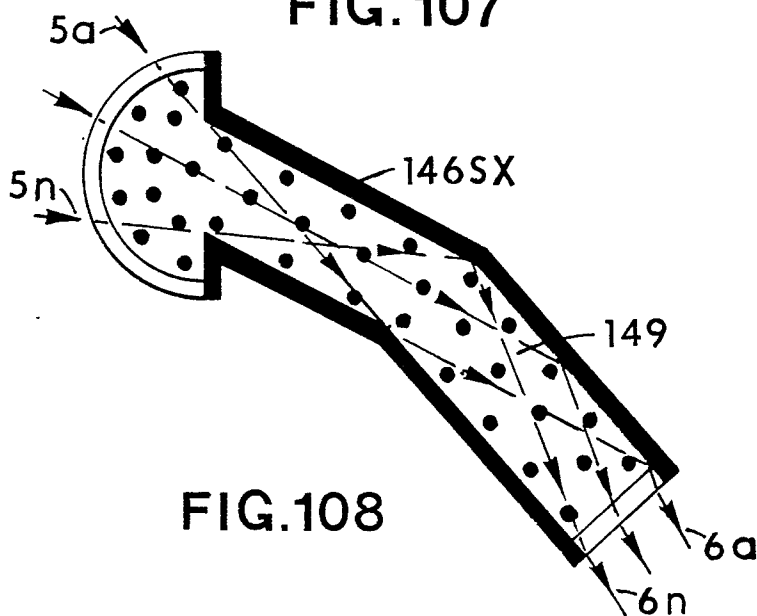


FIG. 108

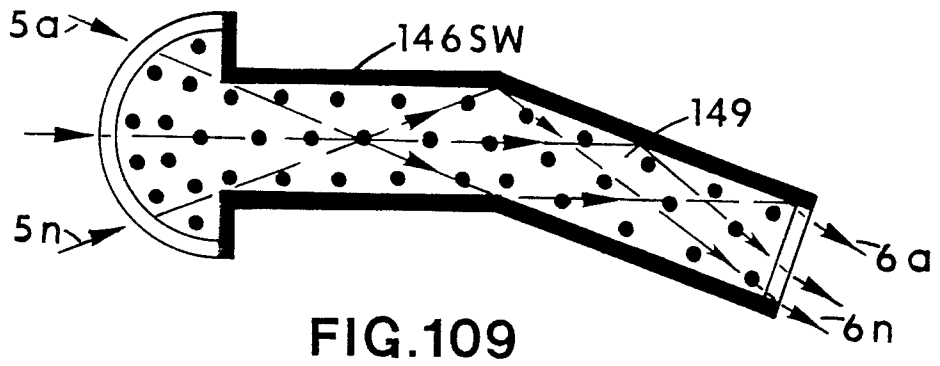


FIG. 109

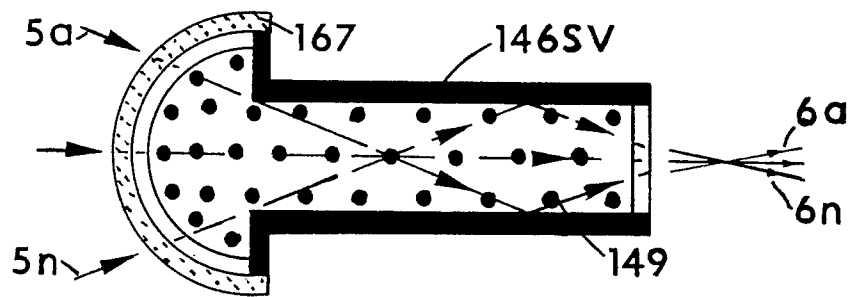


FIG. 110

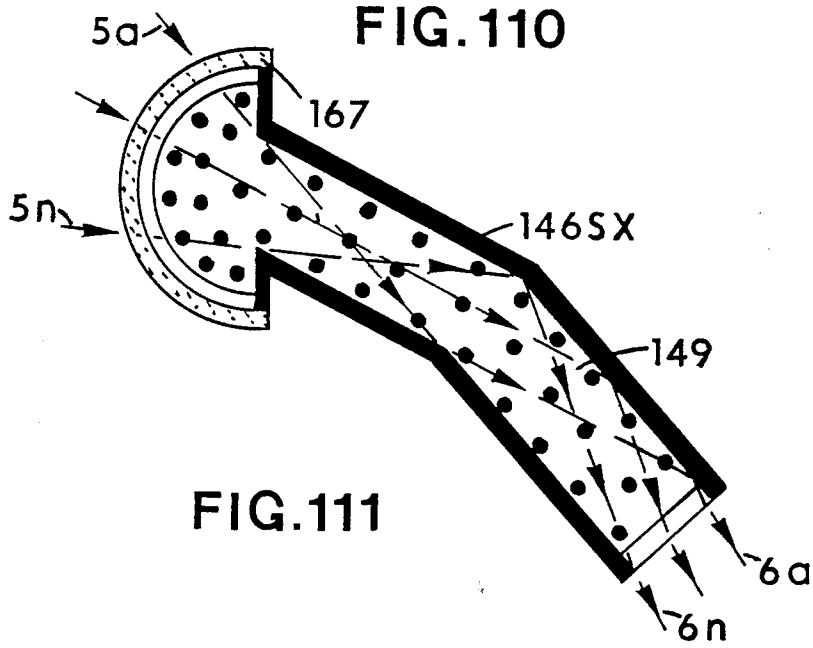


FIG. 111

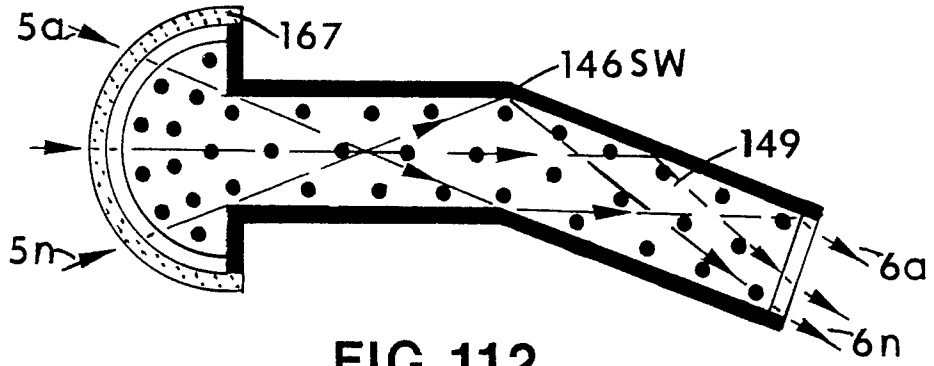


FIG. 112

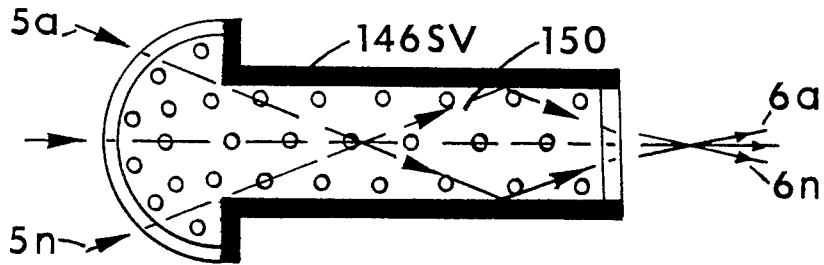


FIG. 113

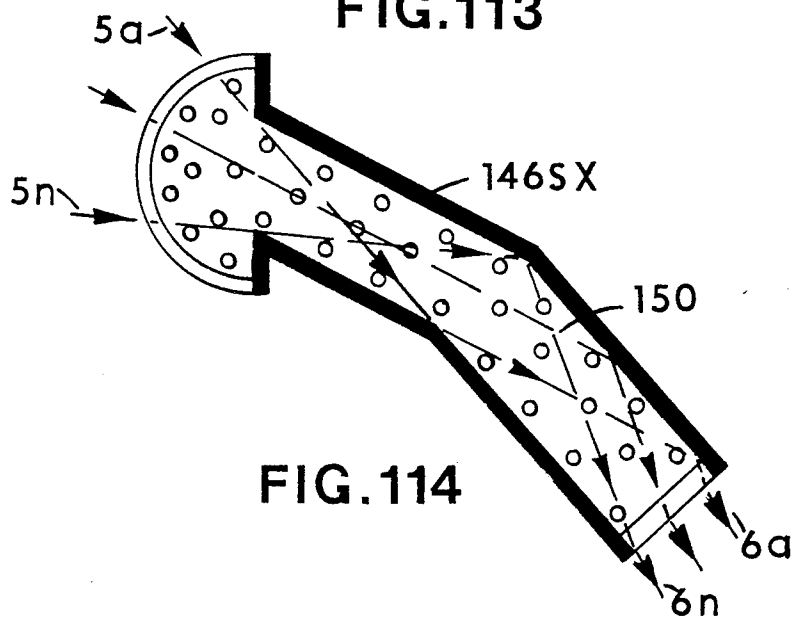


FIG. 114

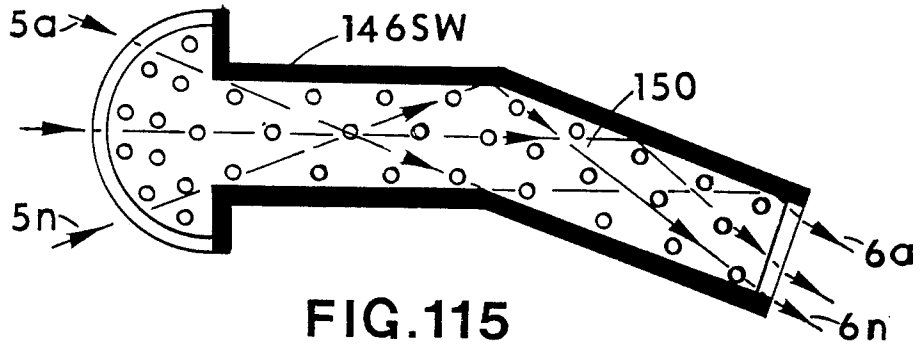


FIG. 115

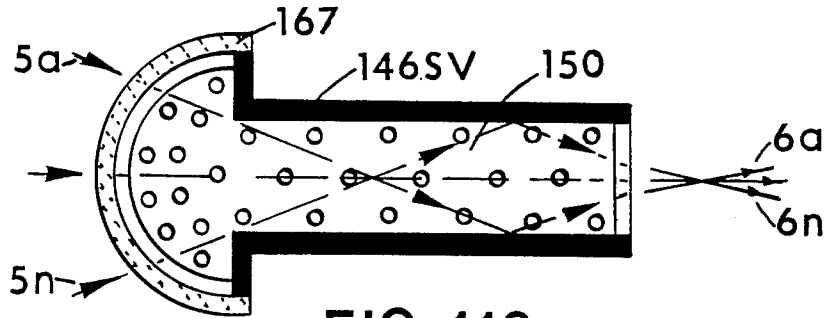


FIG. 116

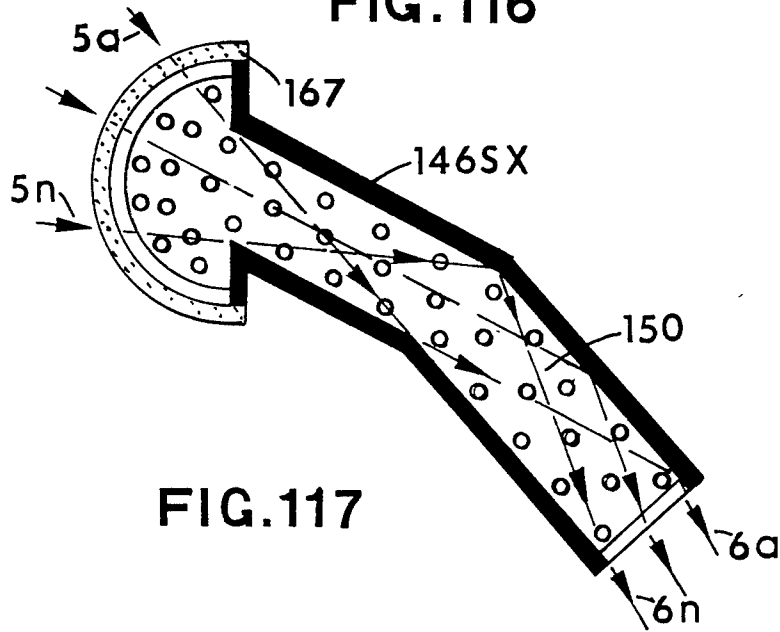
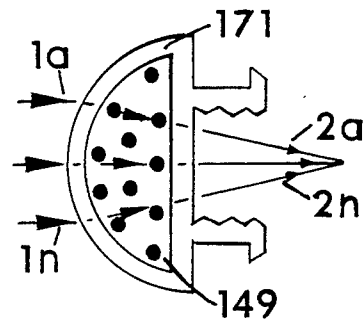
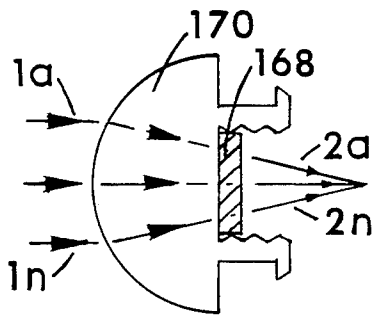
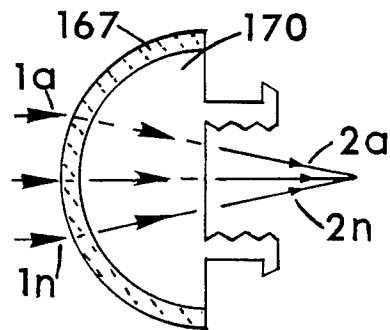
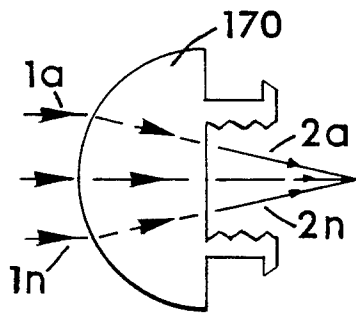
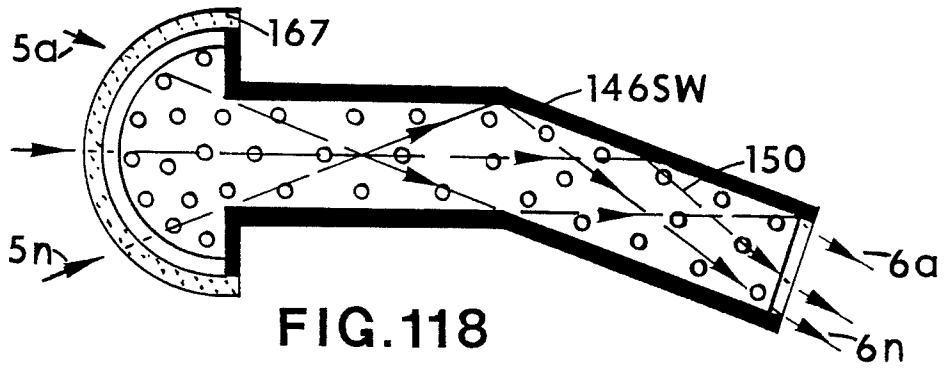


FIG. 117



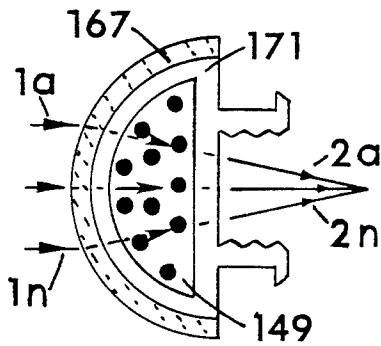


FIG. 123

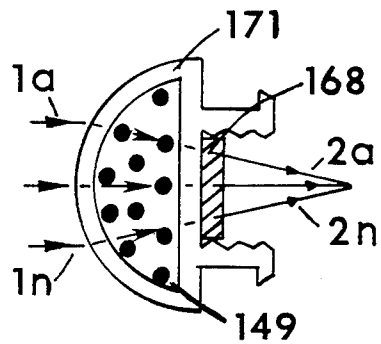


FIG. 124

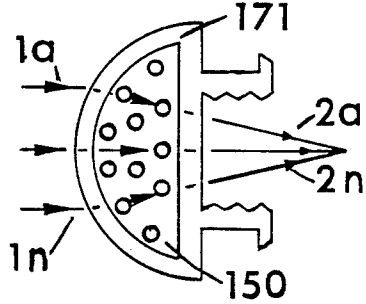


FIG. 125

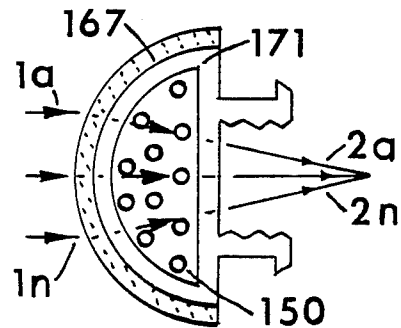


FIG. 126

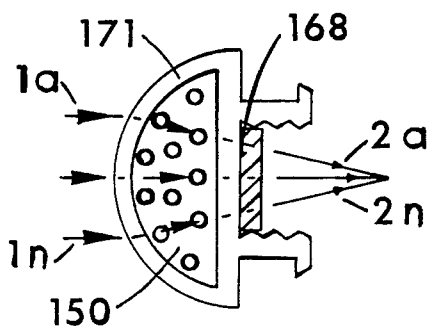
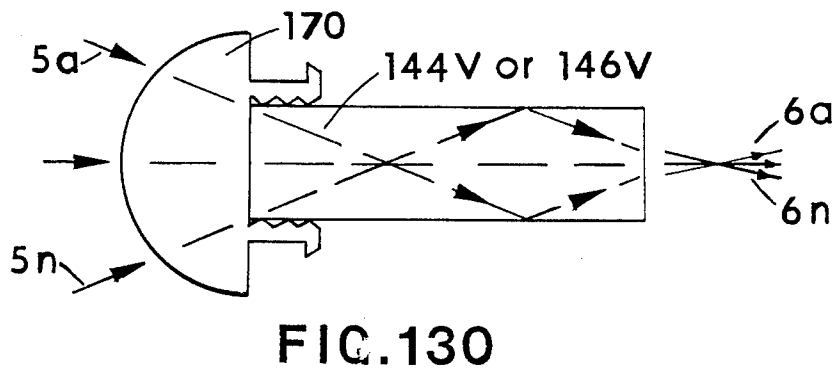
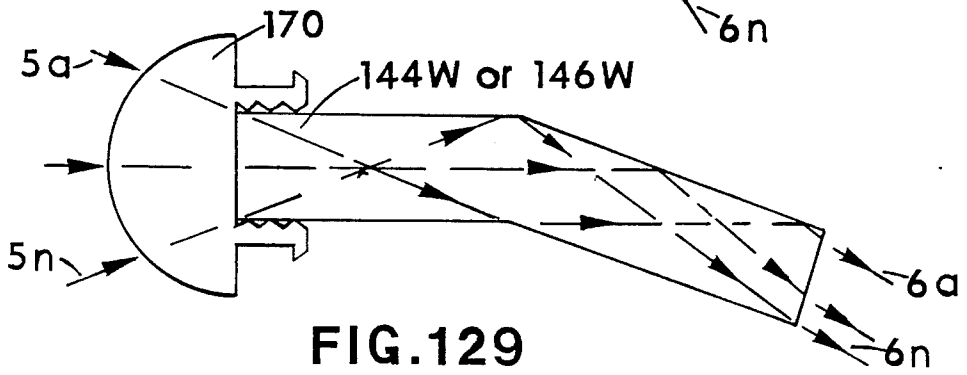
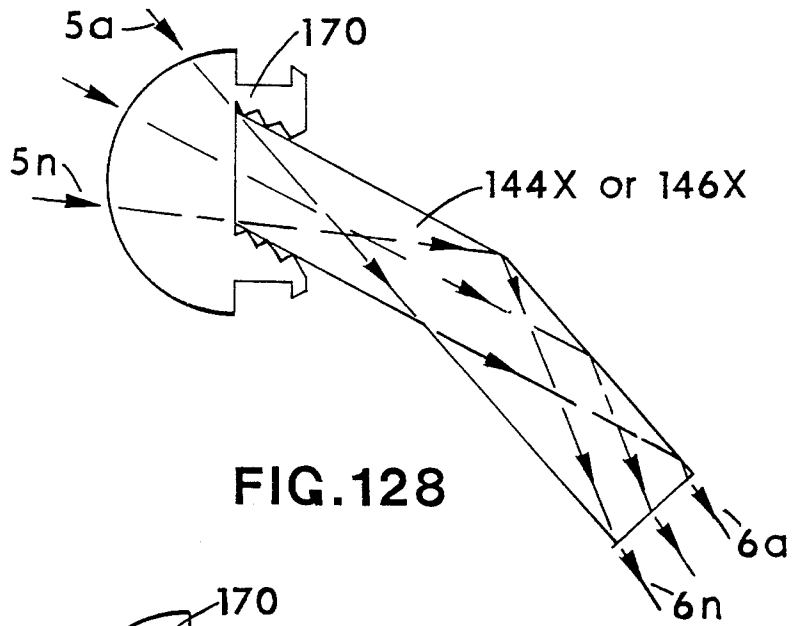


FIG. 127



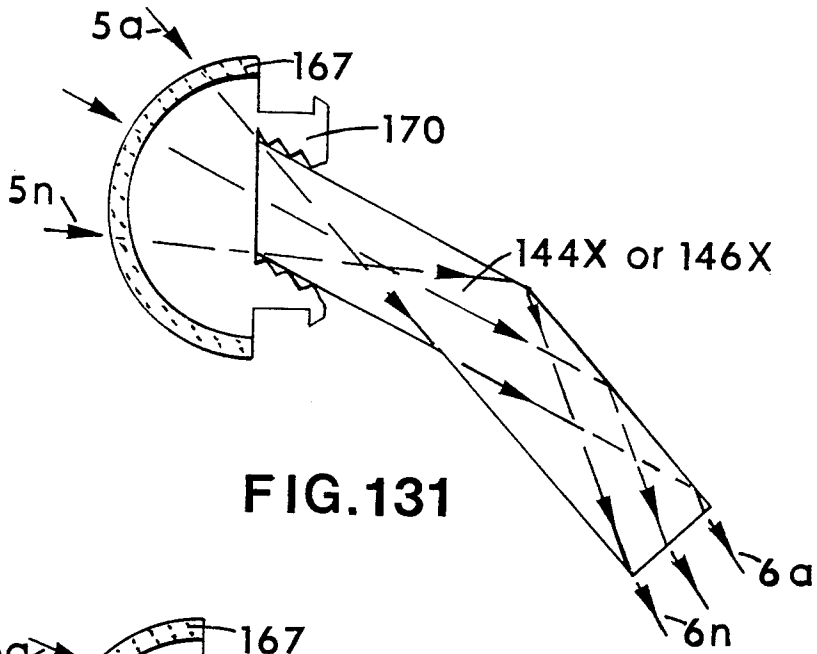


FIG. 131

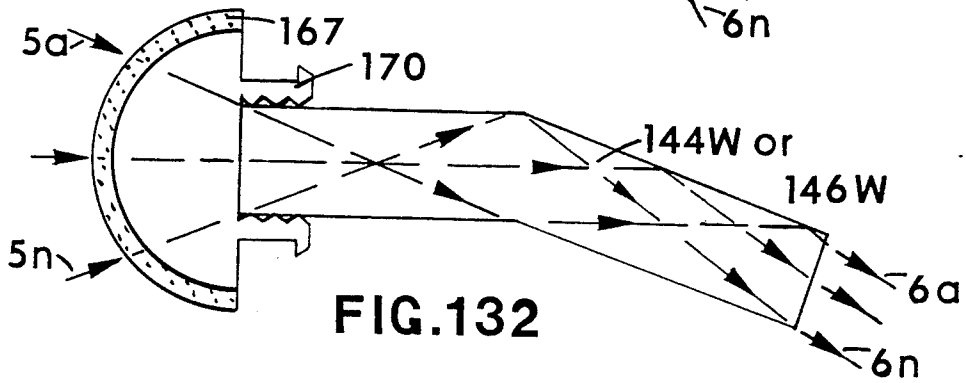


FIG. 132

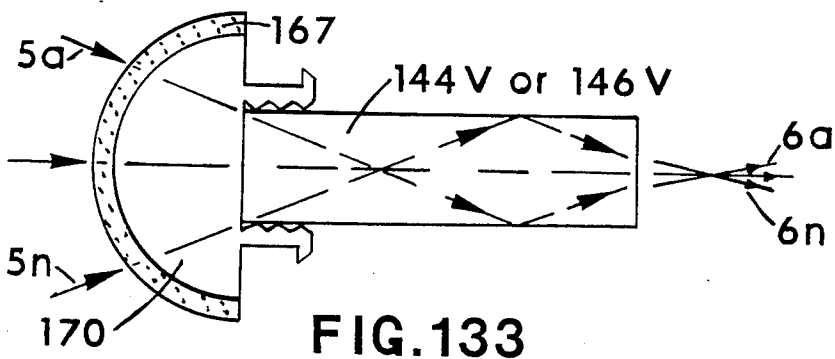
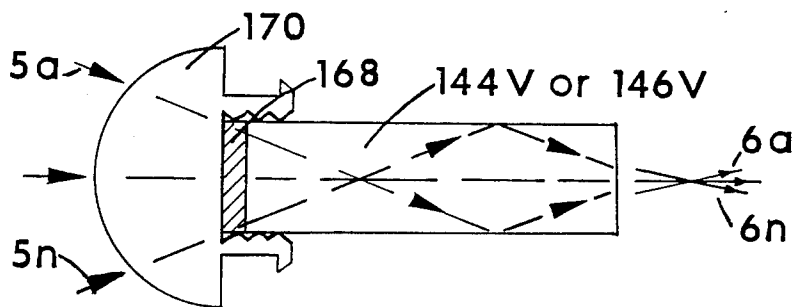
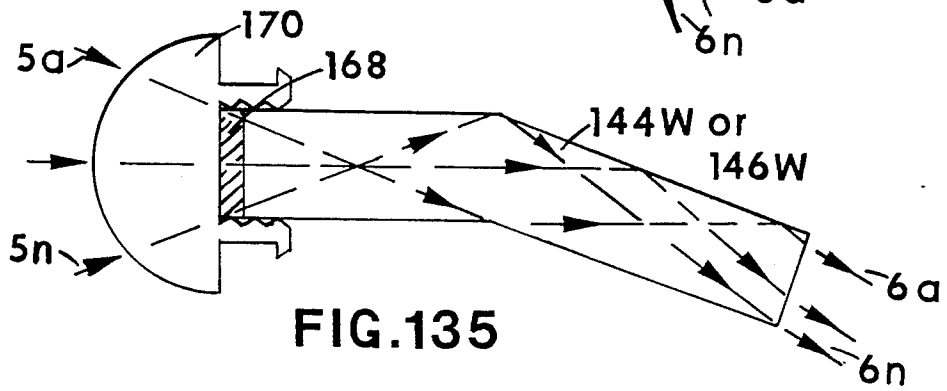
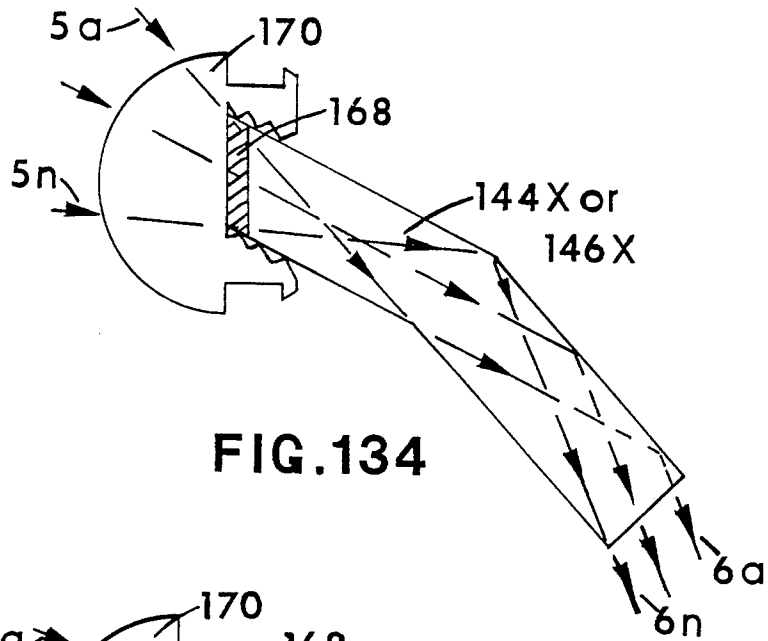


FIG. 133



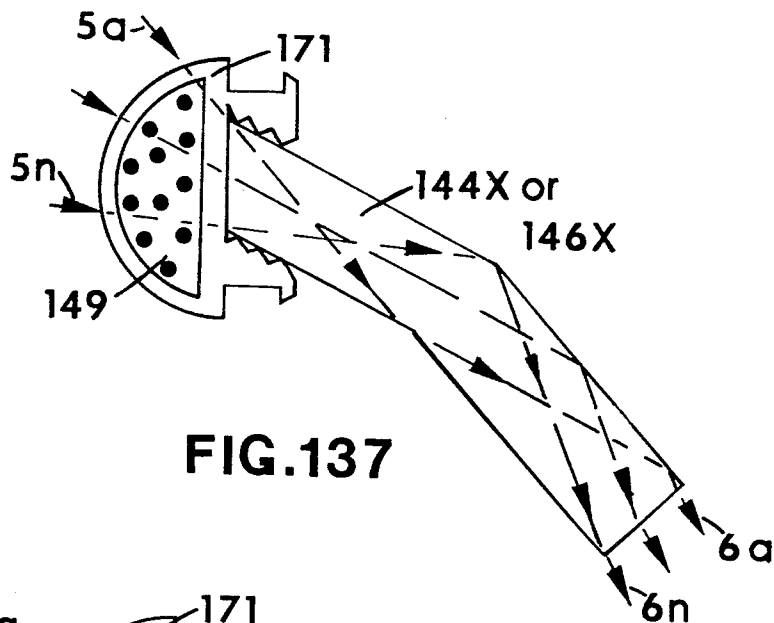


FIG. 137

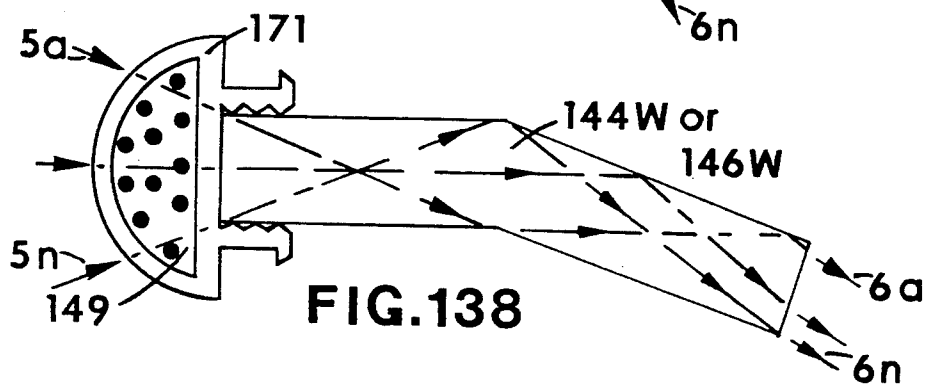


FIG. 138

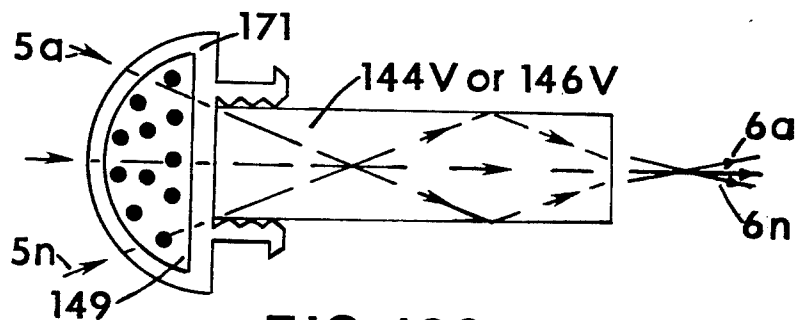


FIG. 139

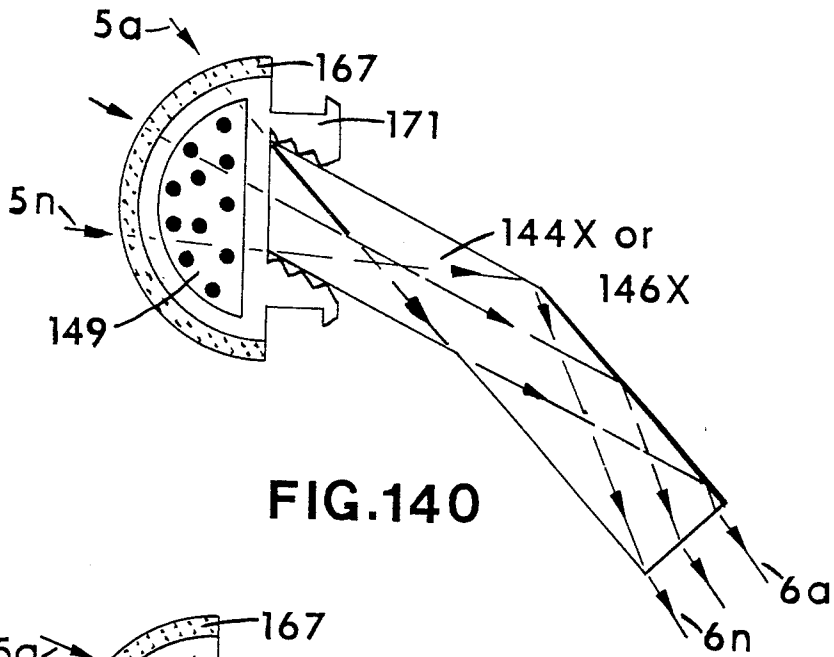


FIG. 140

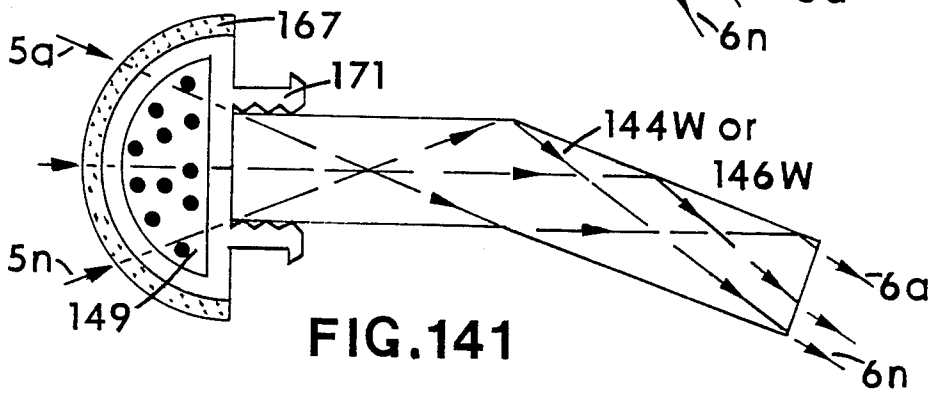


FIG. 141

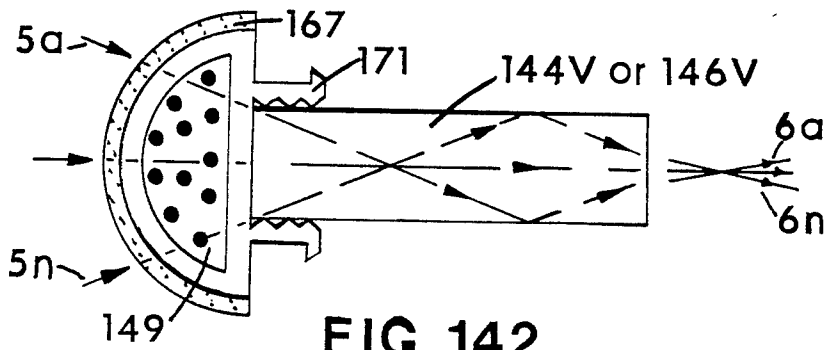
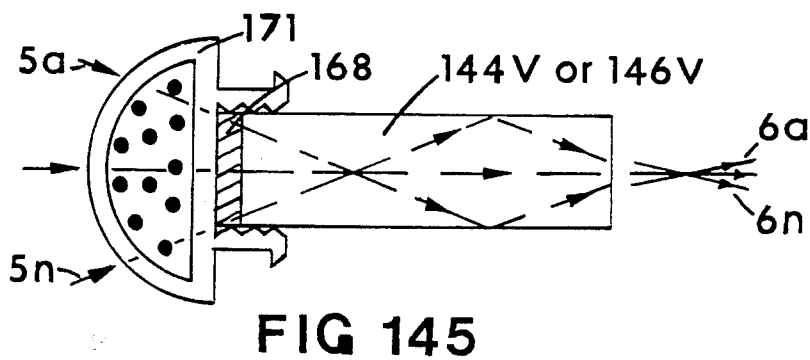
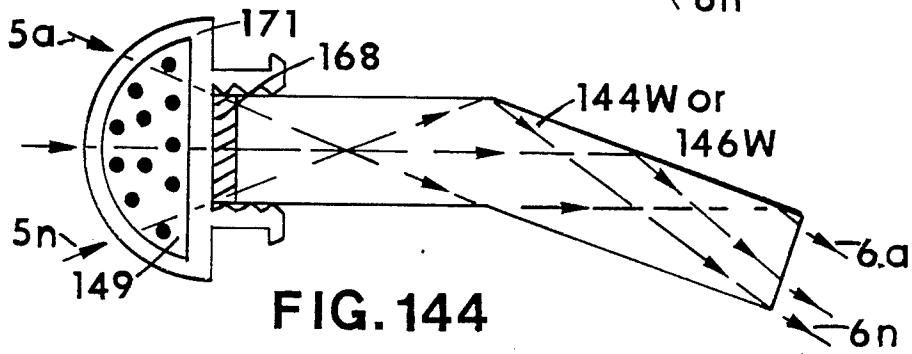
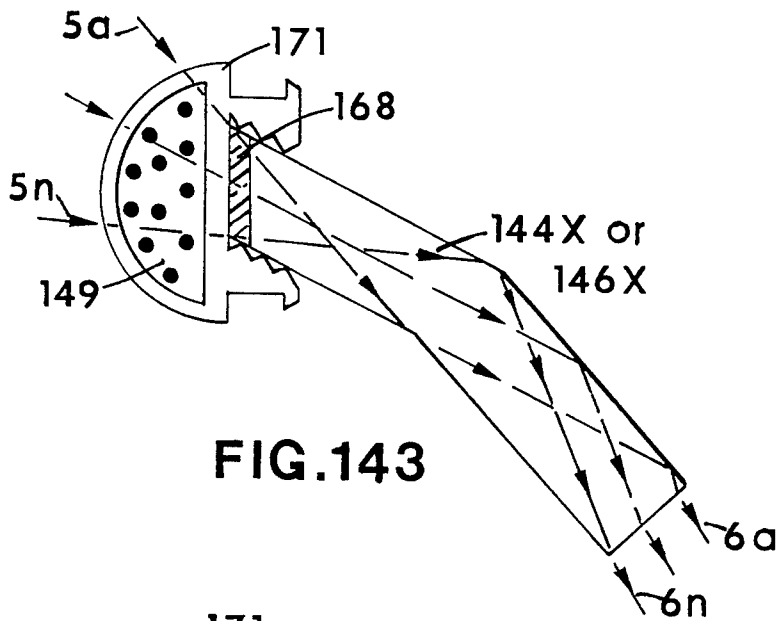


FIG. 142



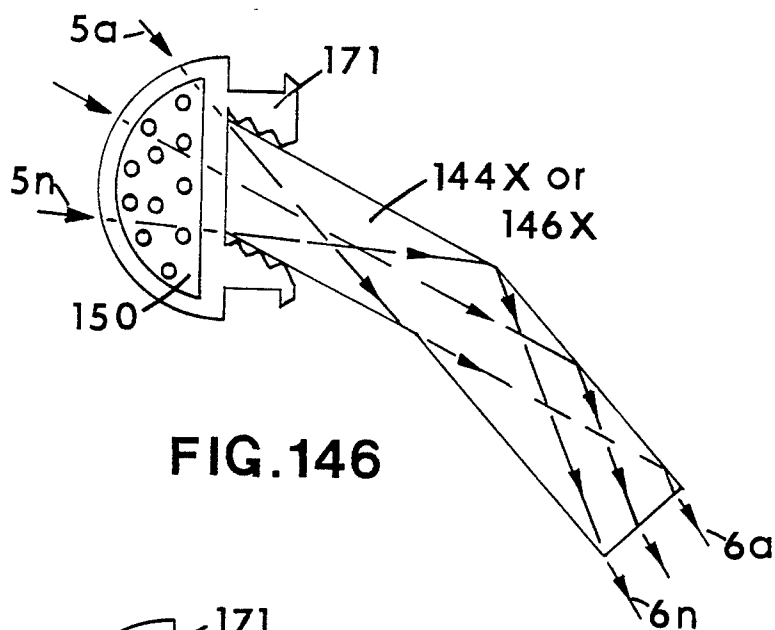


FIG. 146

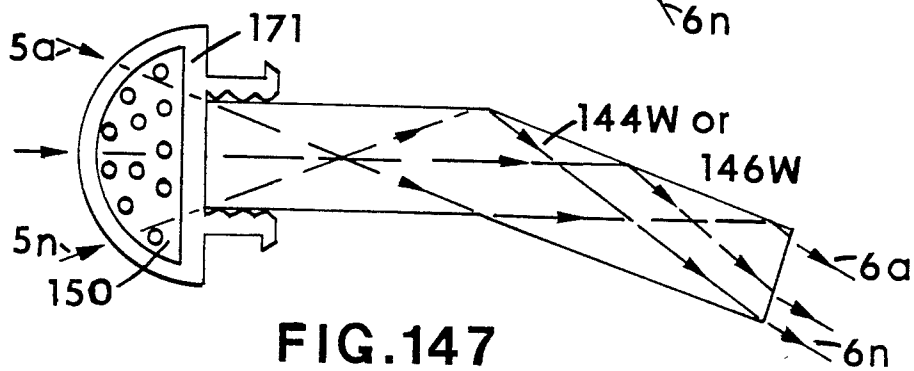


FIG. 147

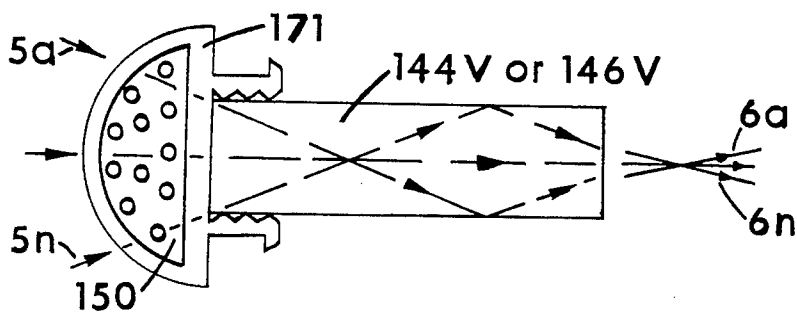


FIG. 148

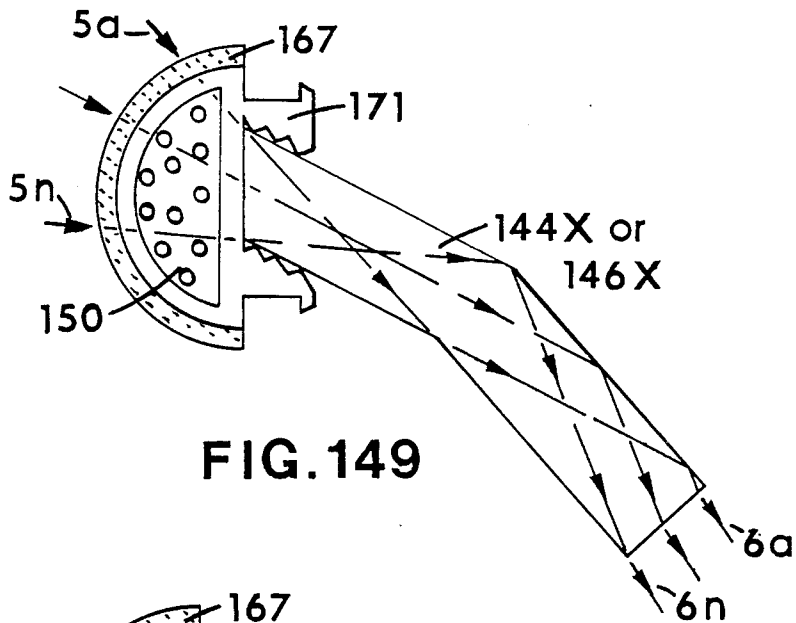


FIG. 149

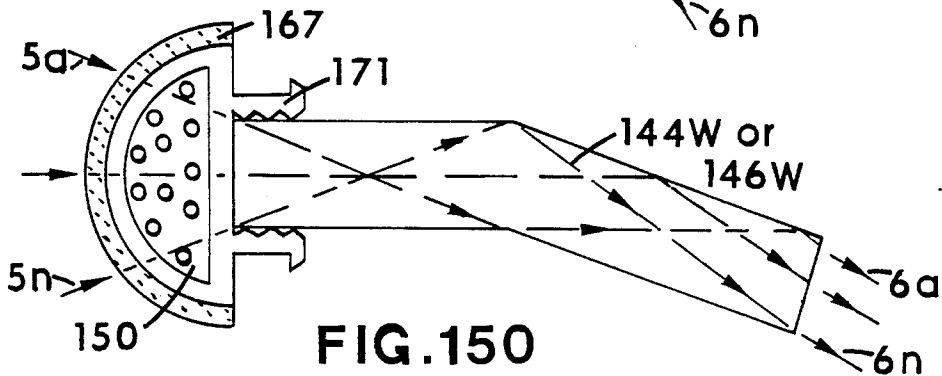


FIG. 150

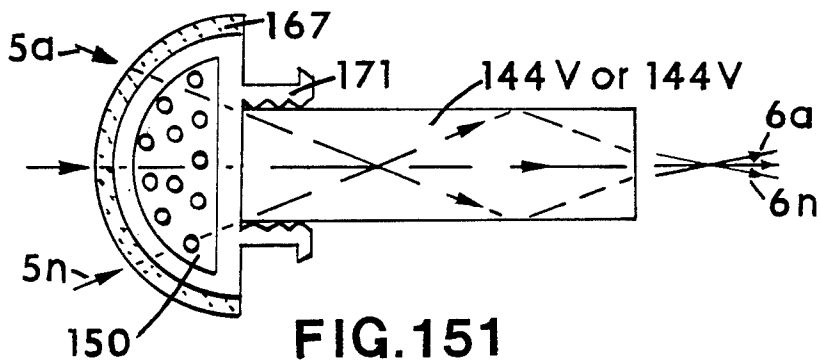


FIG. 151

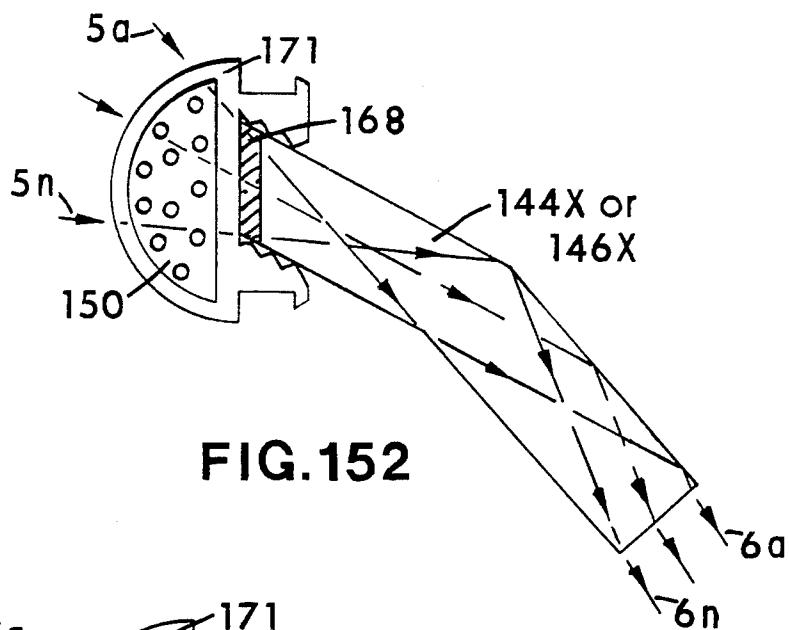


FIG. 152

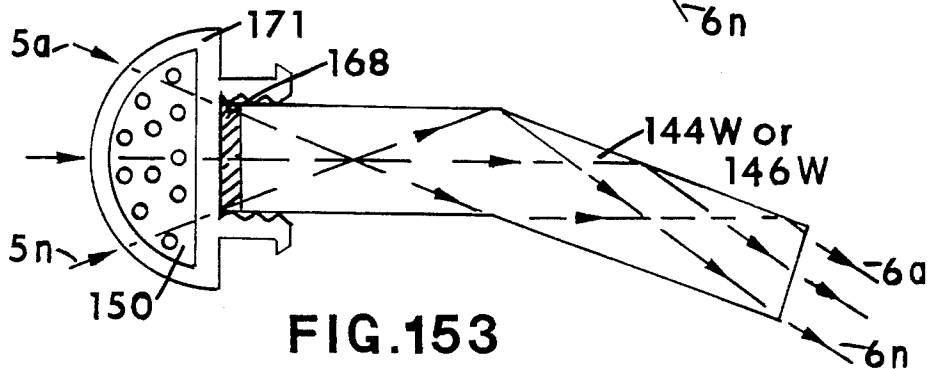


FIG. 153

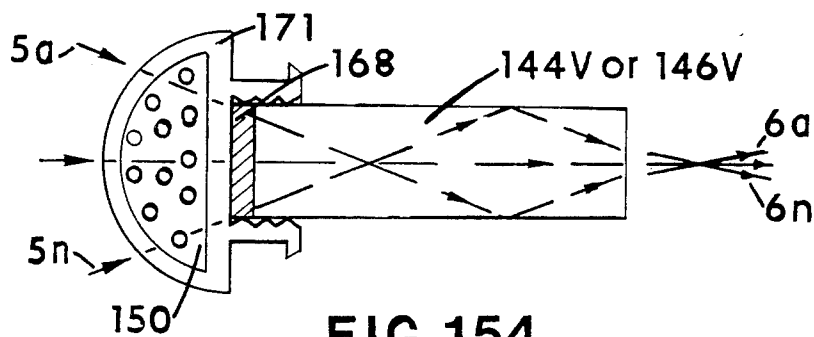
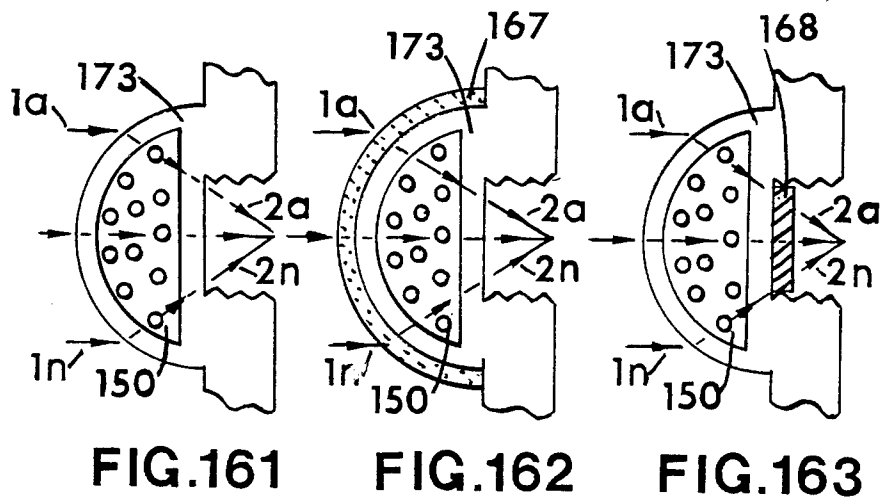
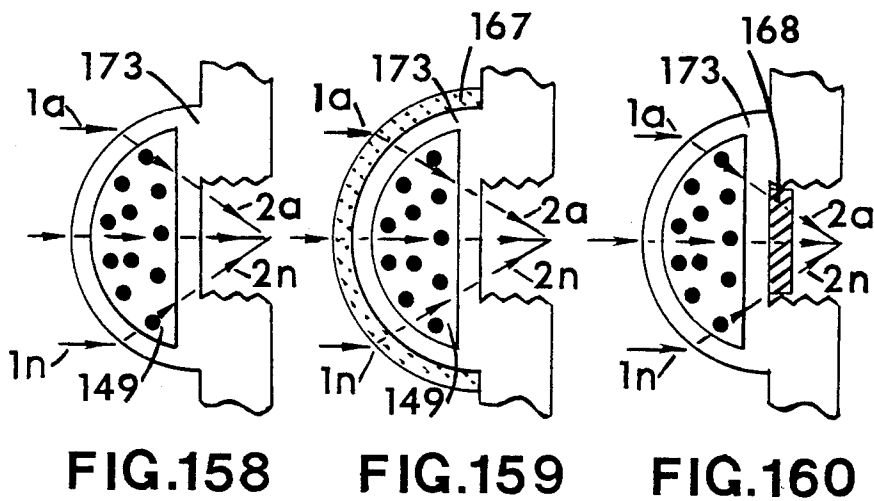
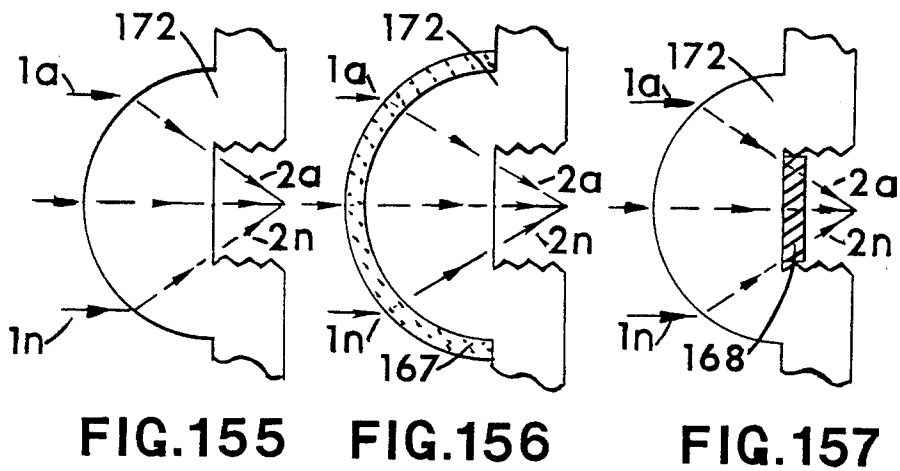
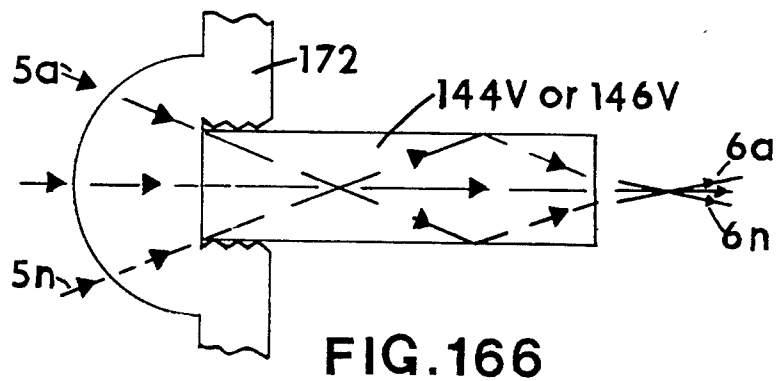
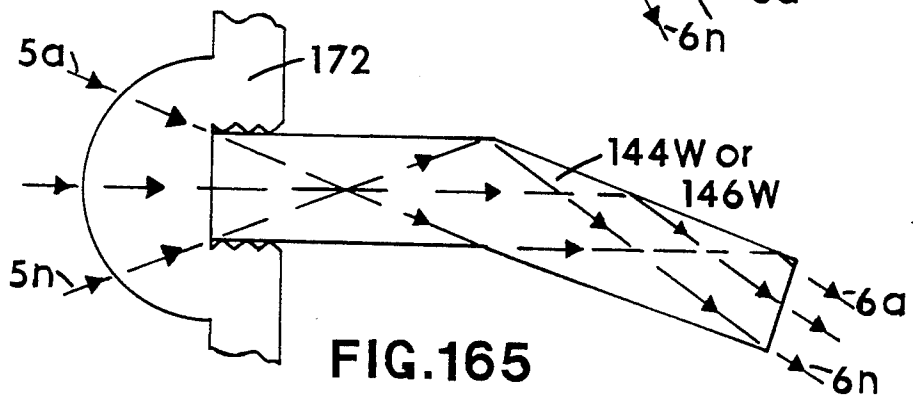
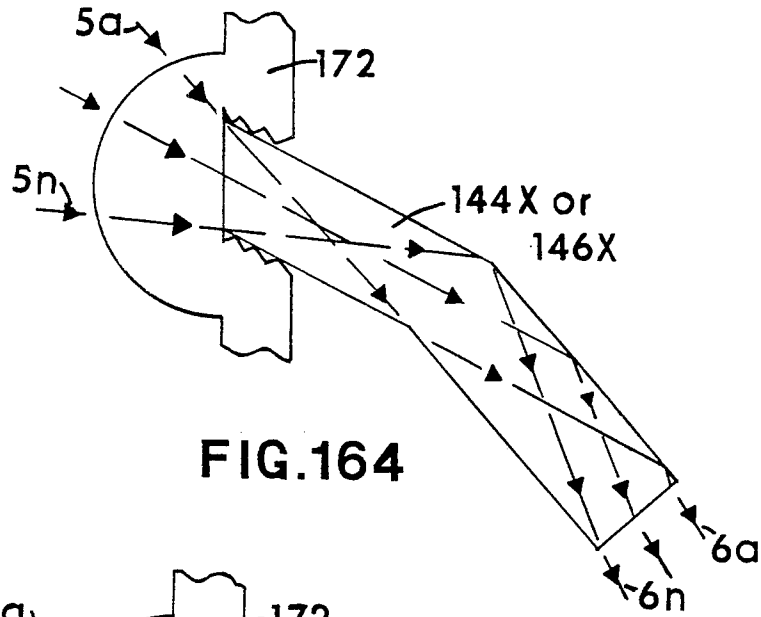
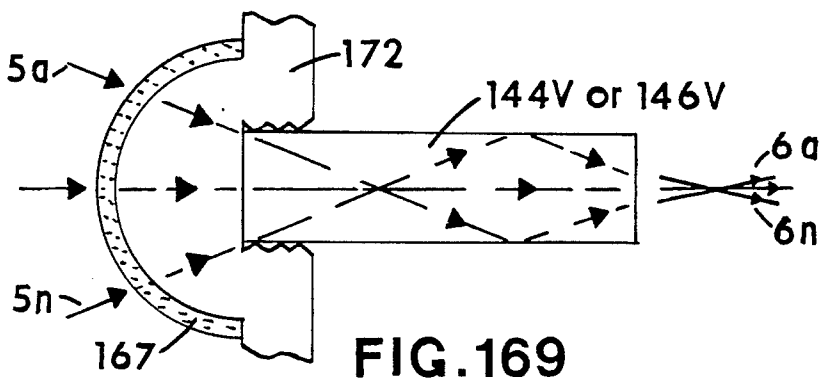
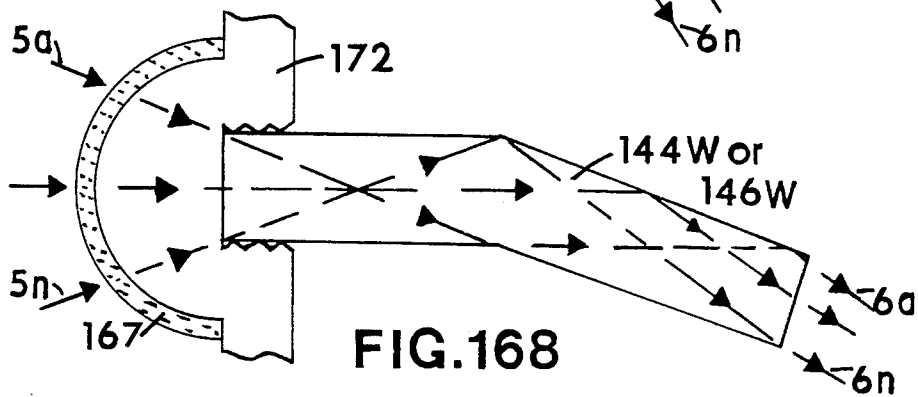
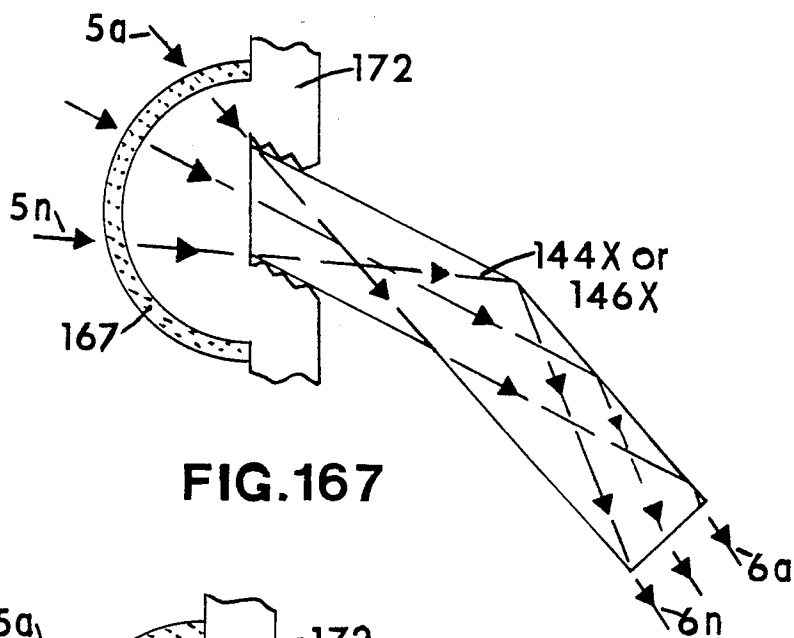
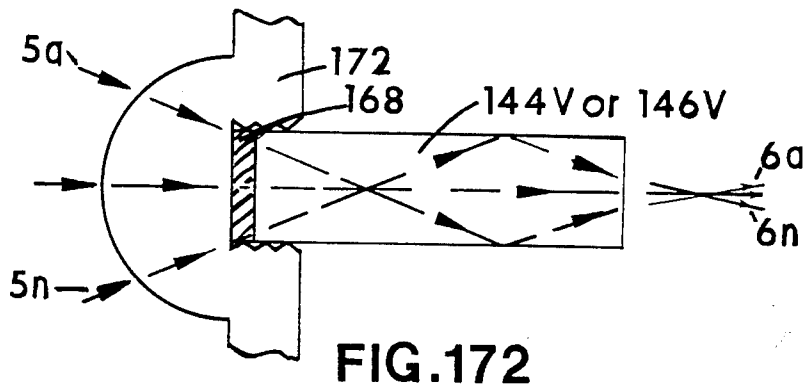
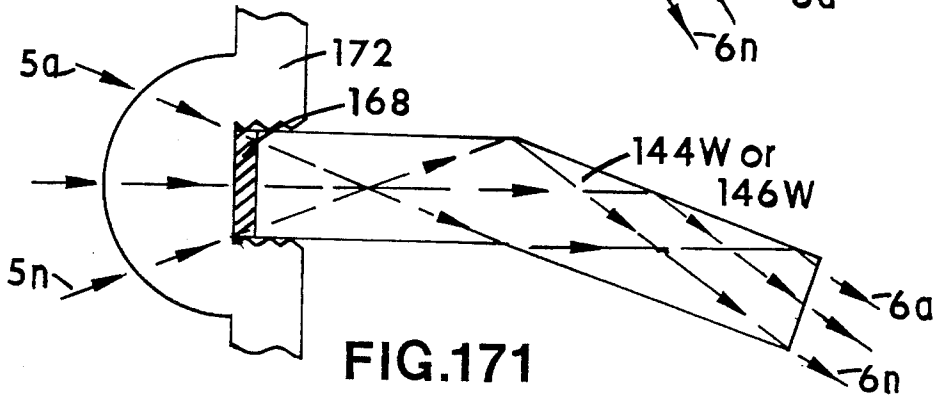
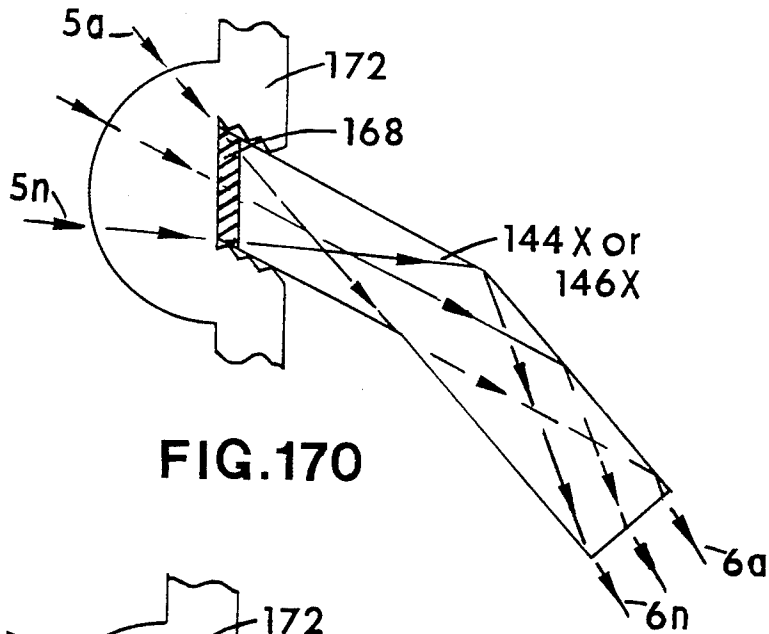


FIG. 154









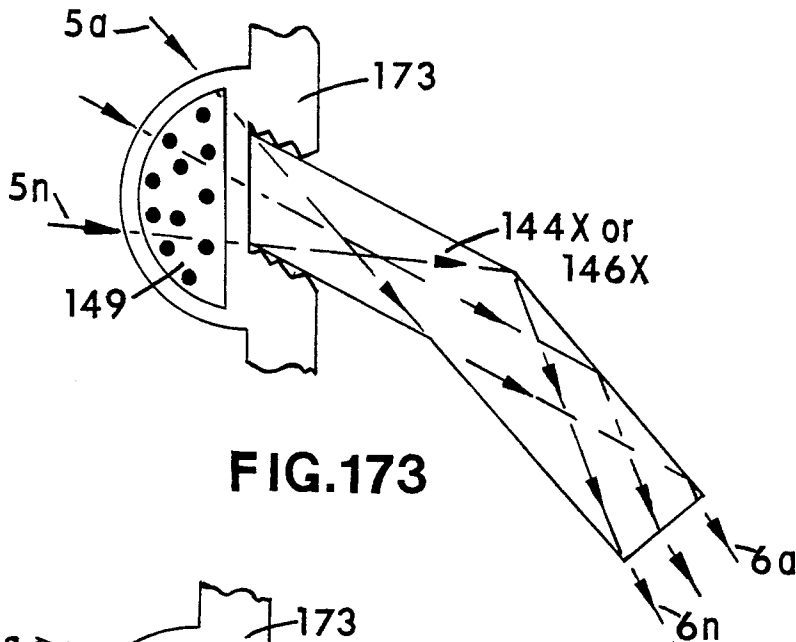


FIG. 173

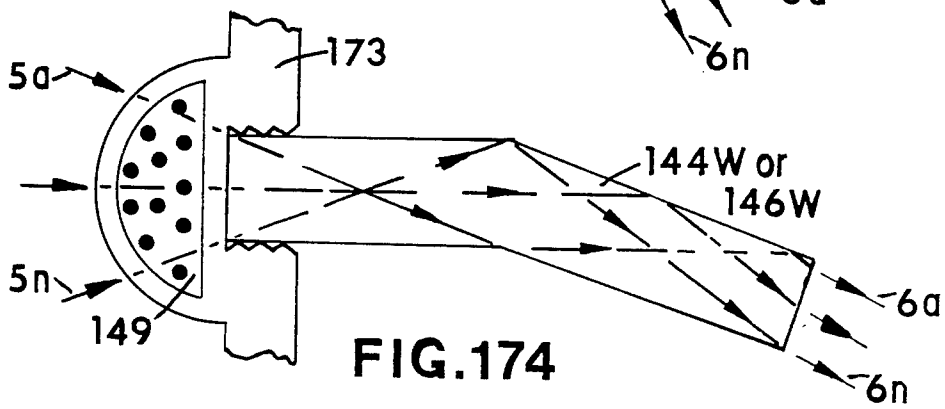


FIG. 174

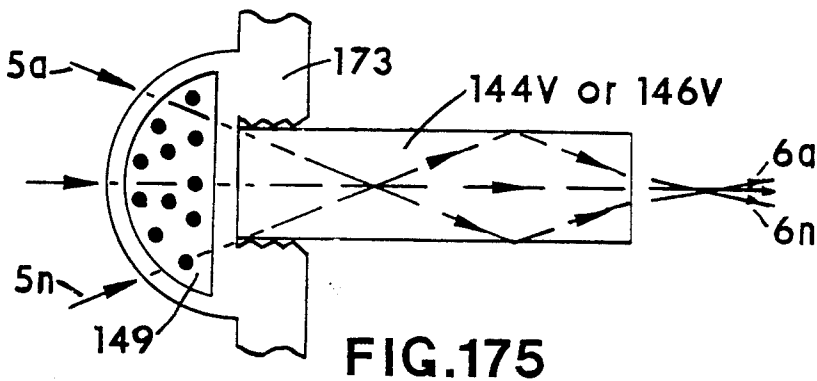


FIG. 175

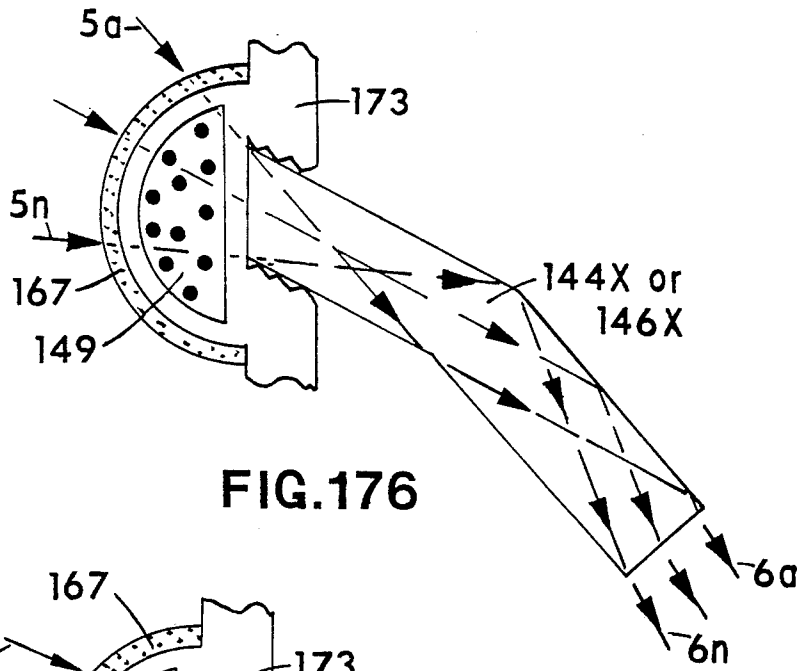


FIG. 176

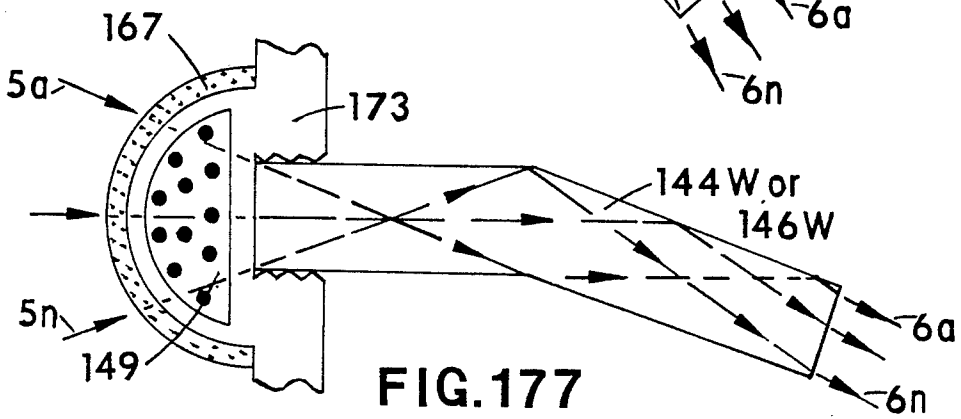


FIG. 177

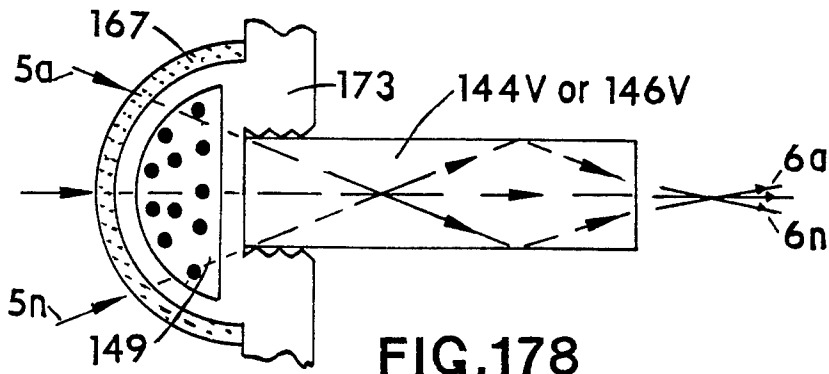


FIG. 178

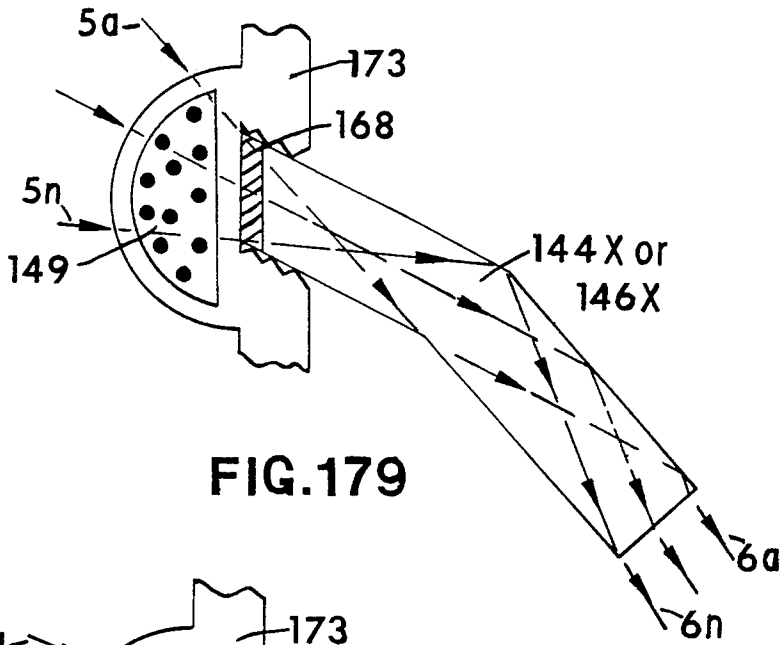


FIG. 179

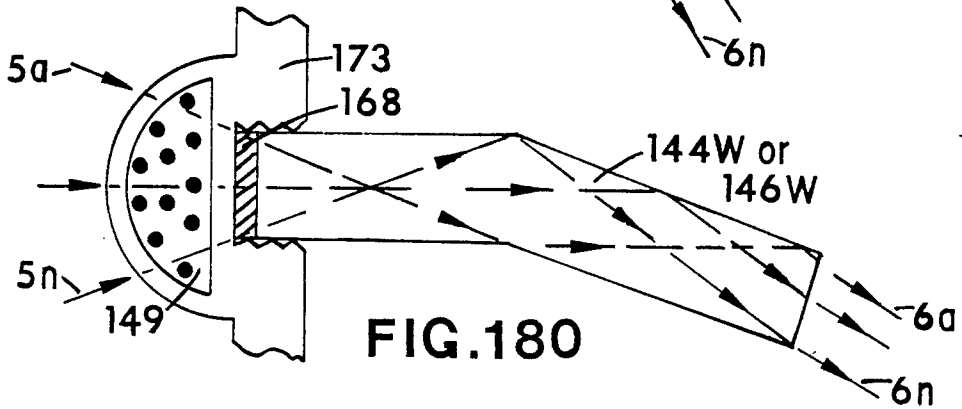


FIG. 180

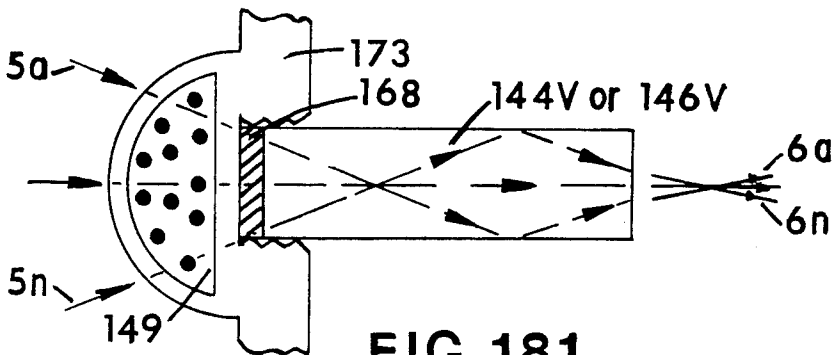


FIG. 181

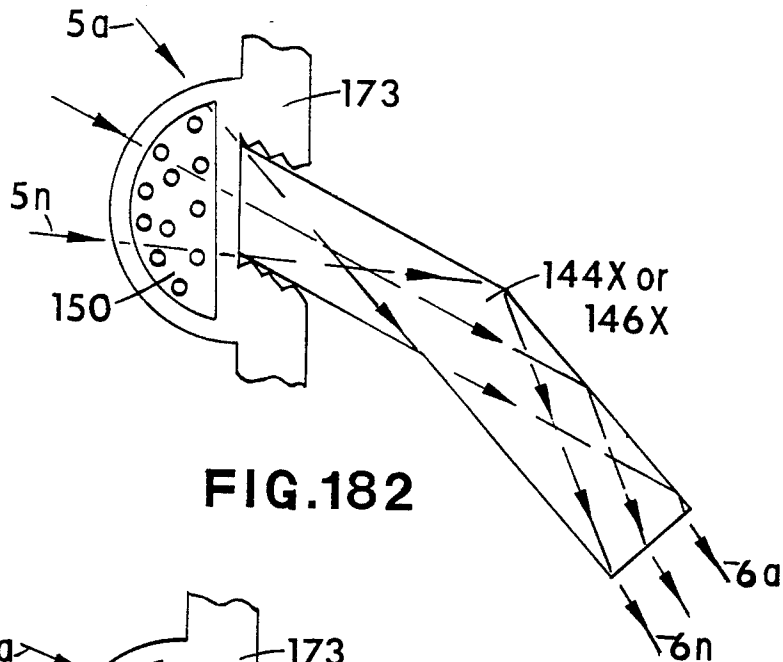


FIG. 182

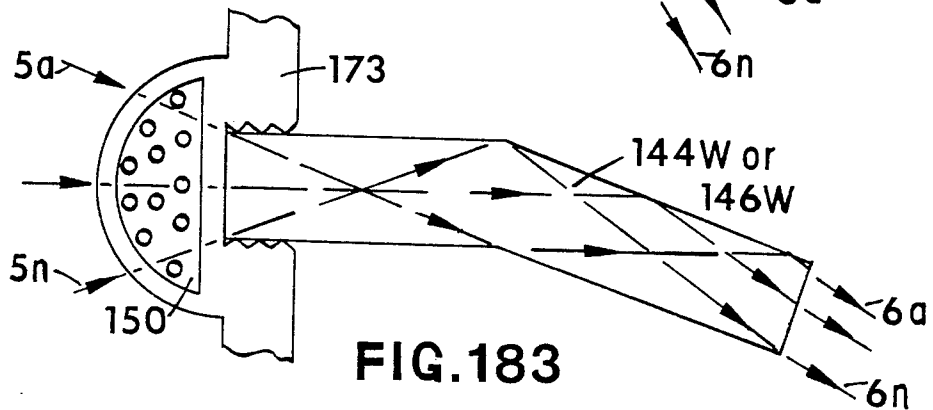


FIG. 183

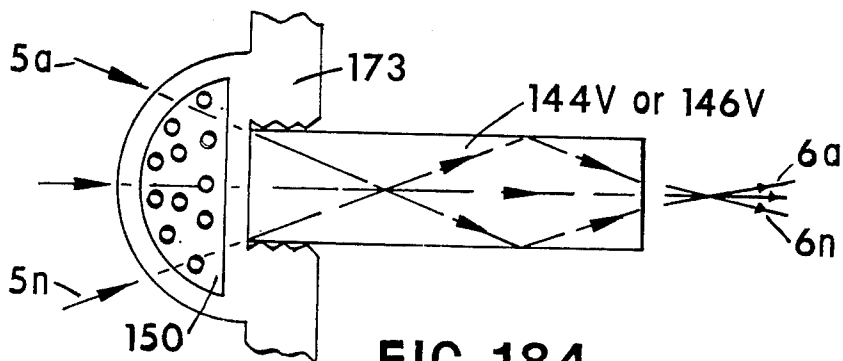


FIG. 184

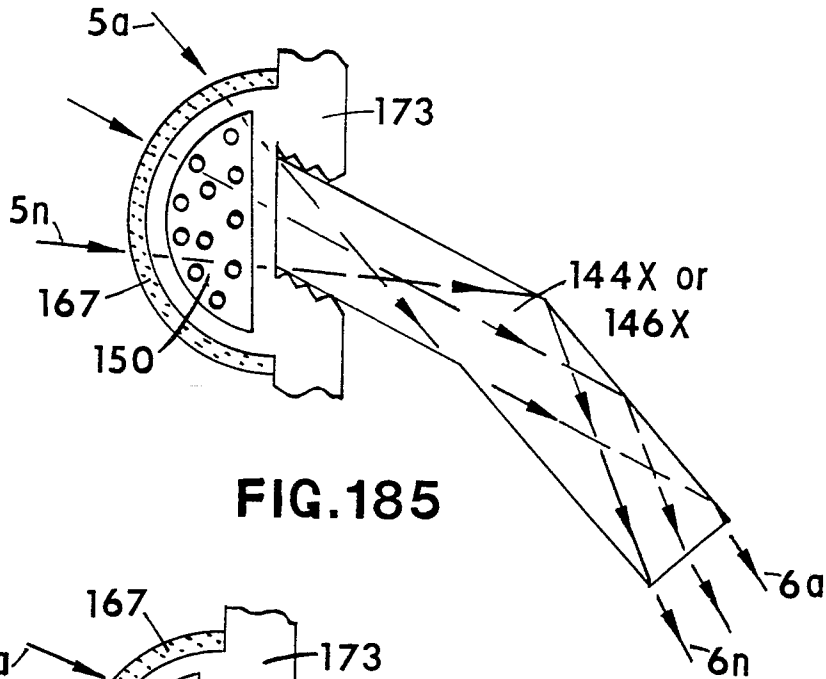


FIG. 185

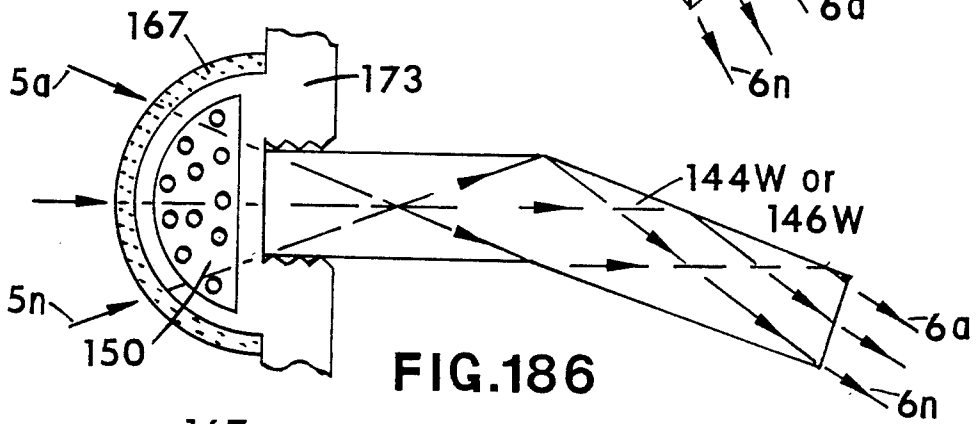


FIG. 186

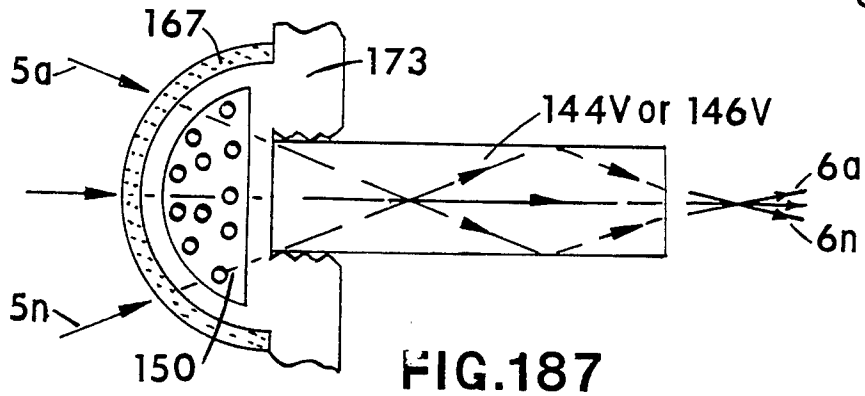


FIG. 187

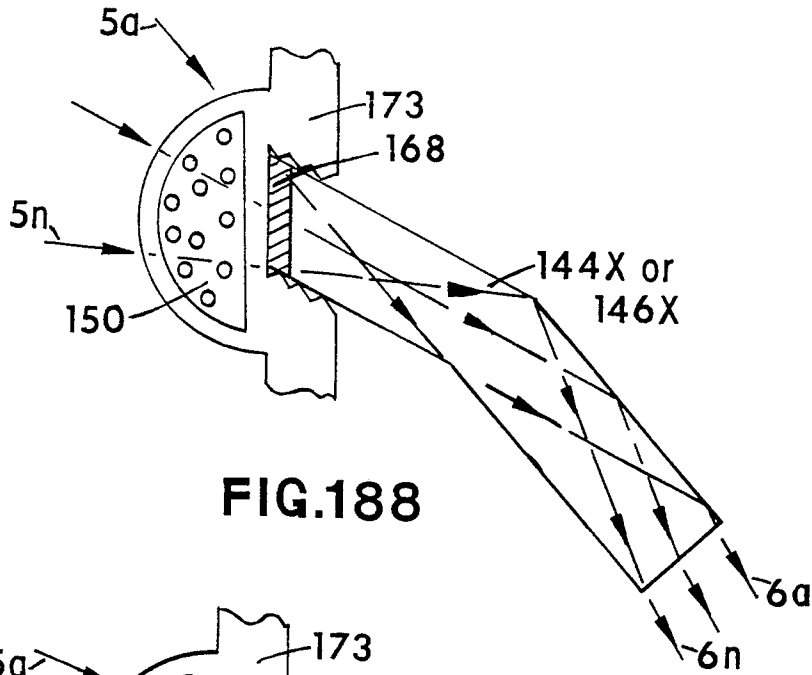


FIG. 188

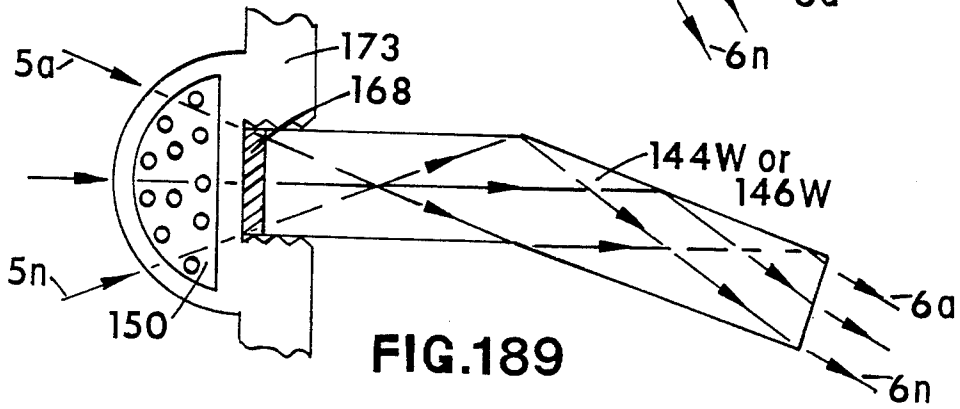


FIG. 189

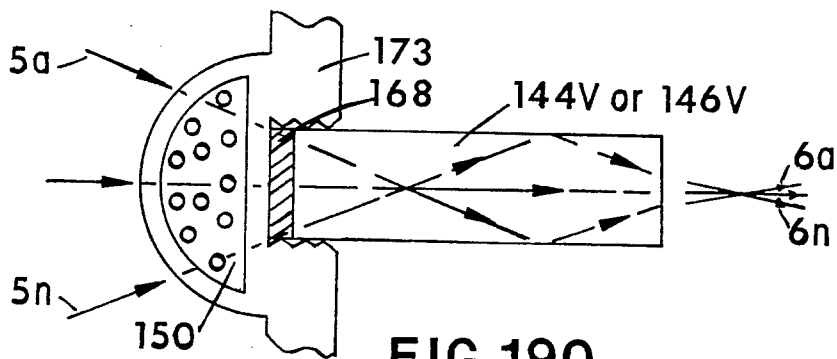


FIG. 190

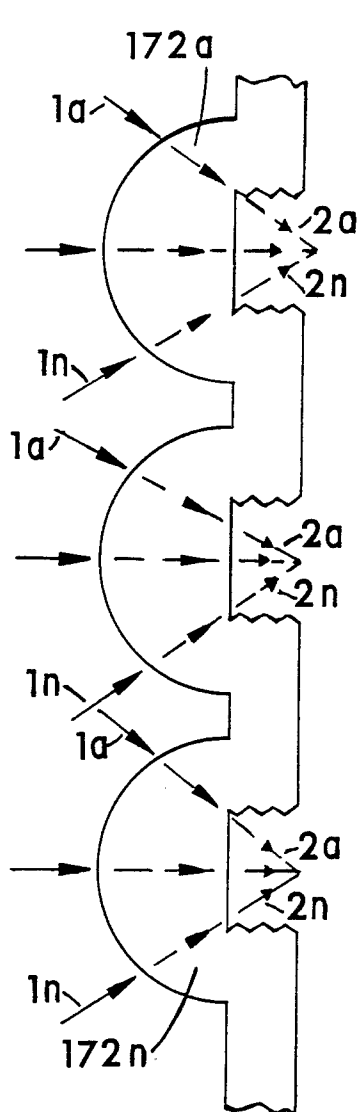


FIG. 191

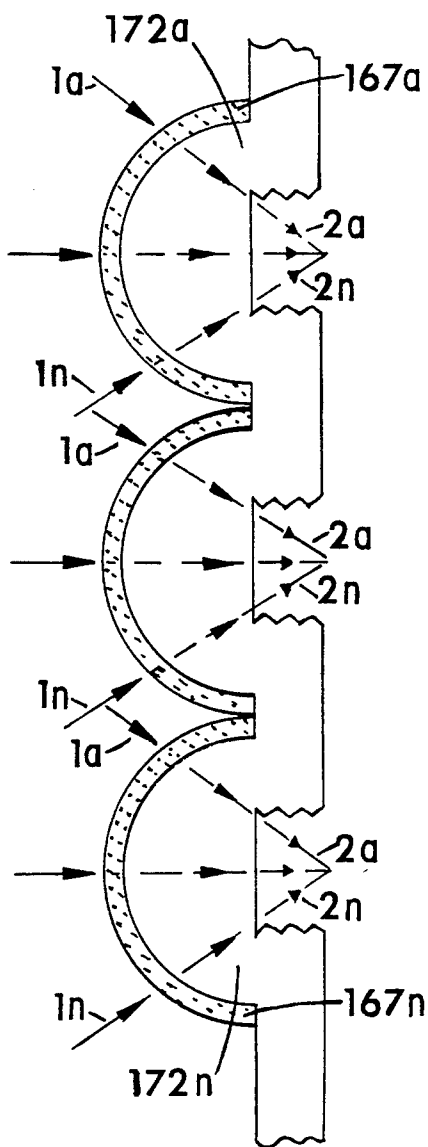


FIG. 192

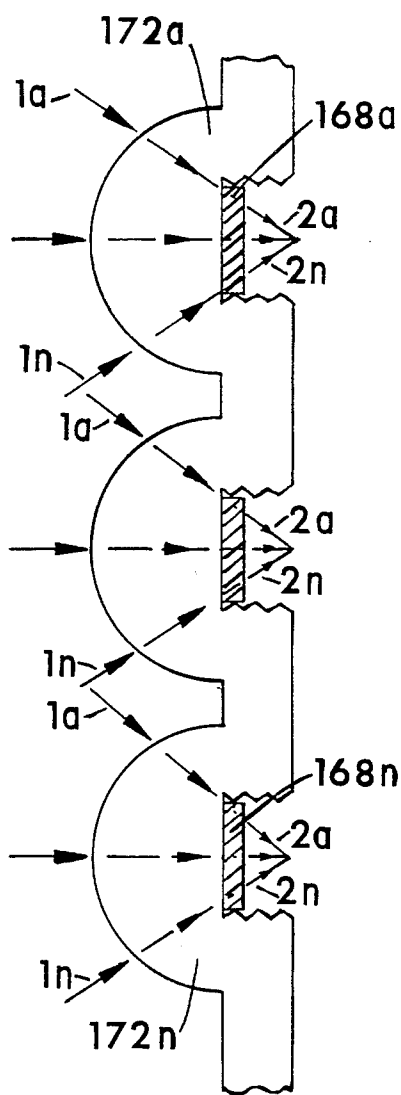


FIG. 193

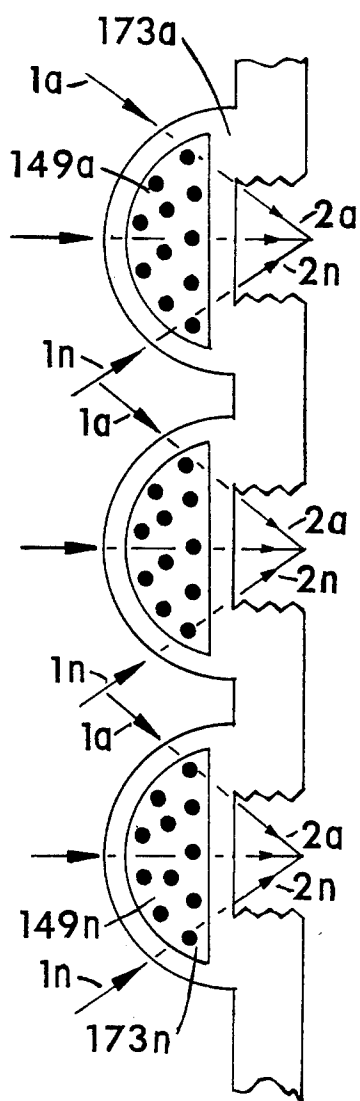


FIG. 194

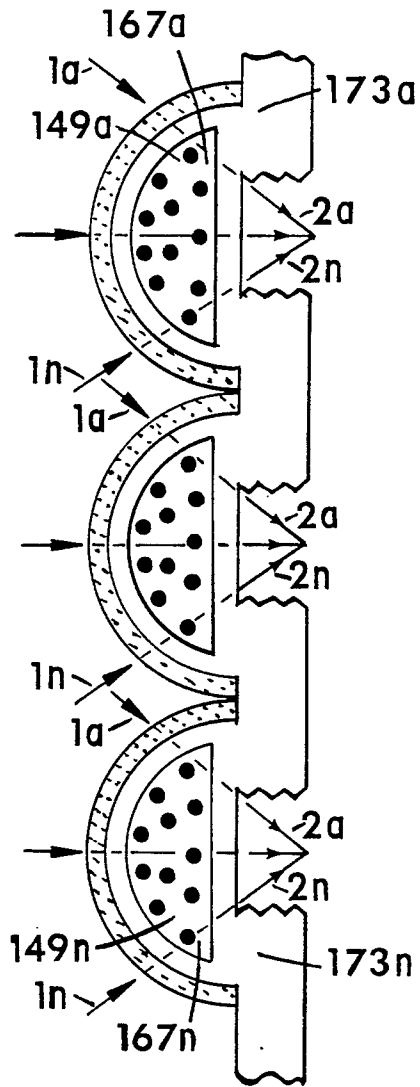


FIG. 195

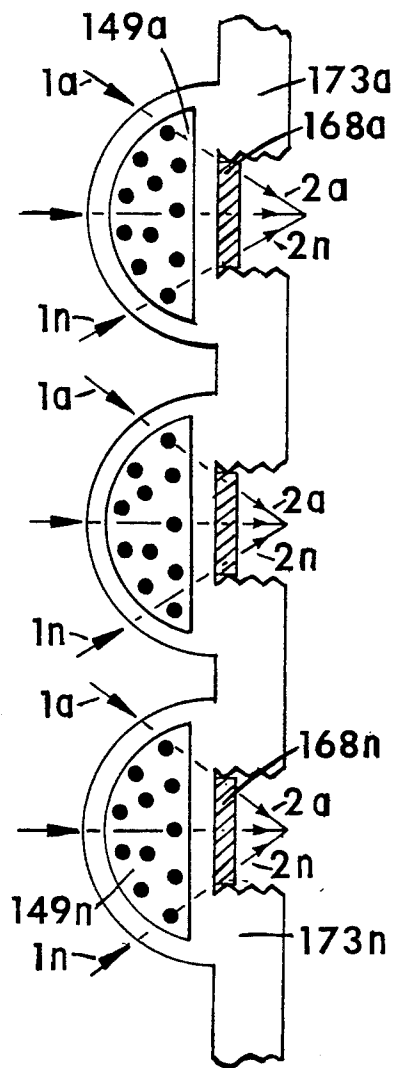


FIG. 196

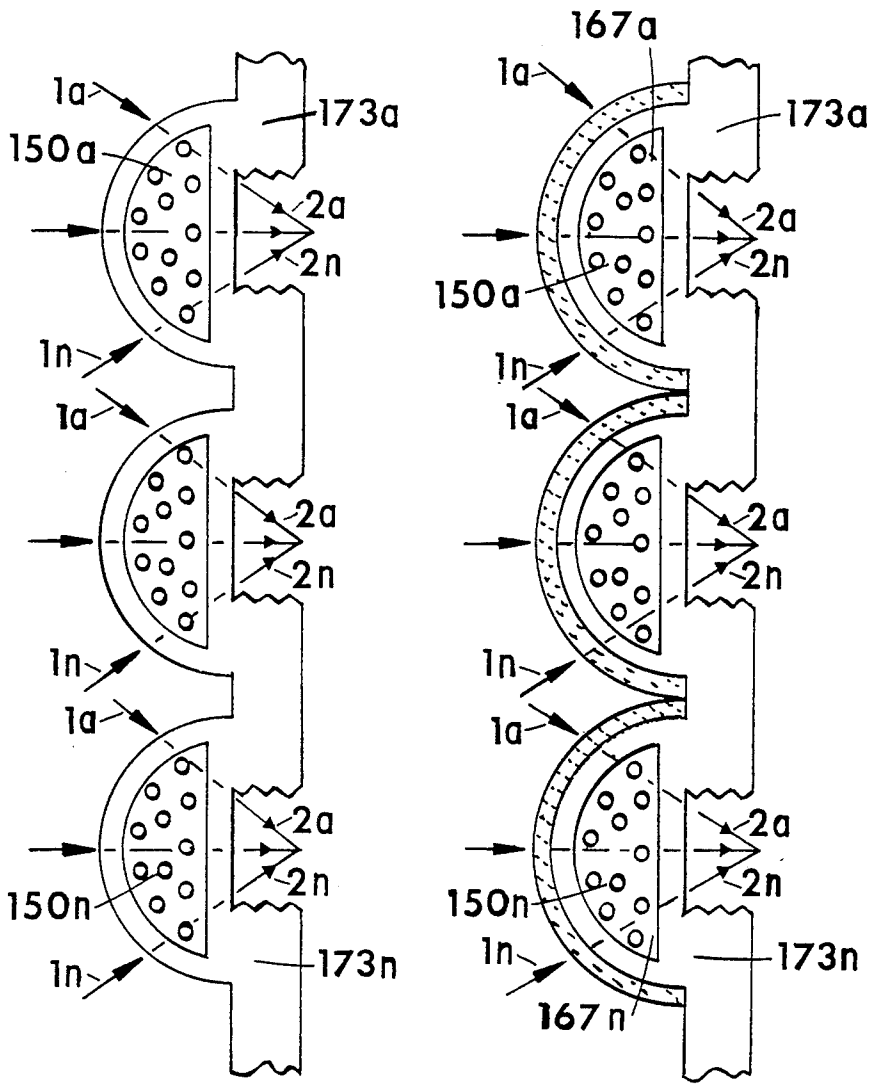


FIG.197

FIG.198

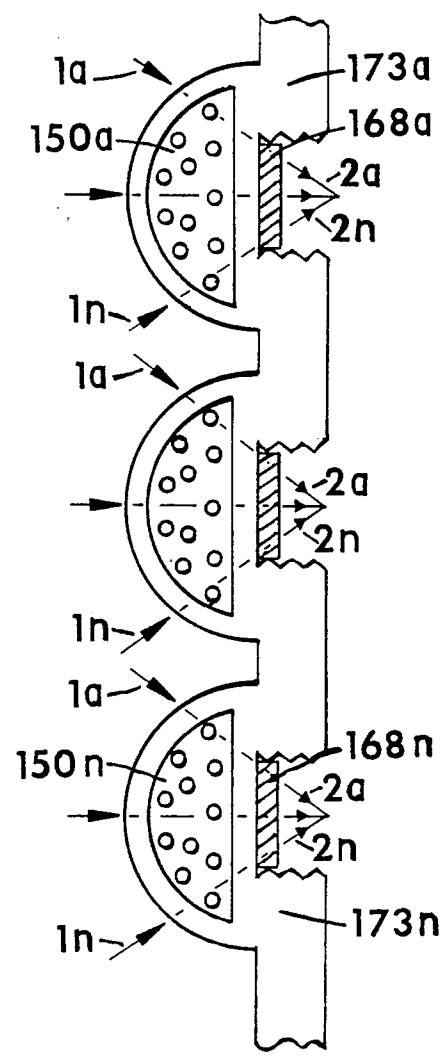


FIG. 199

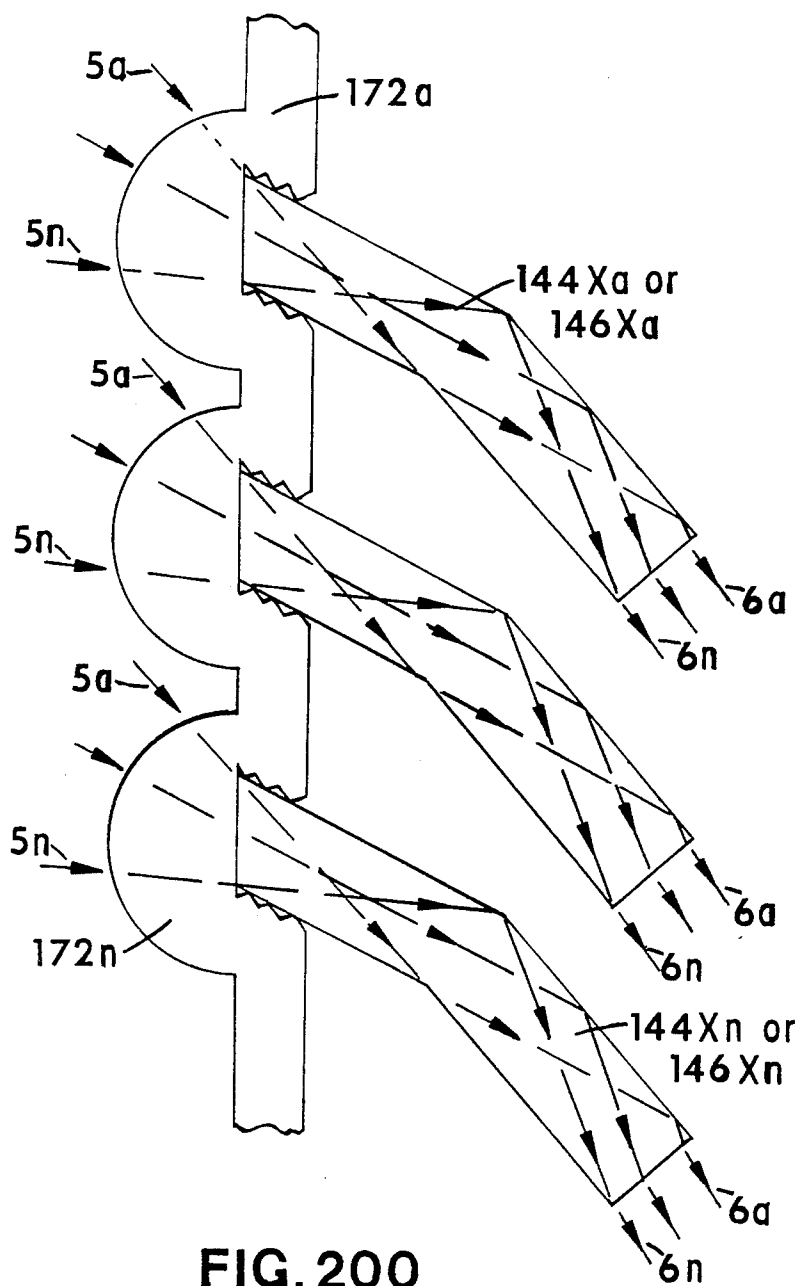


FIG. 200

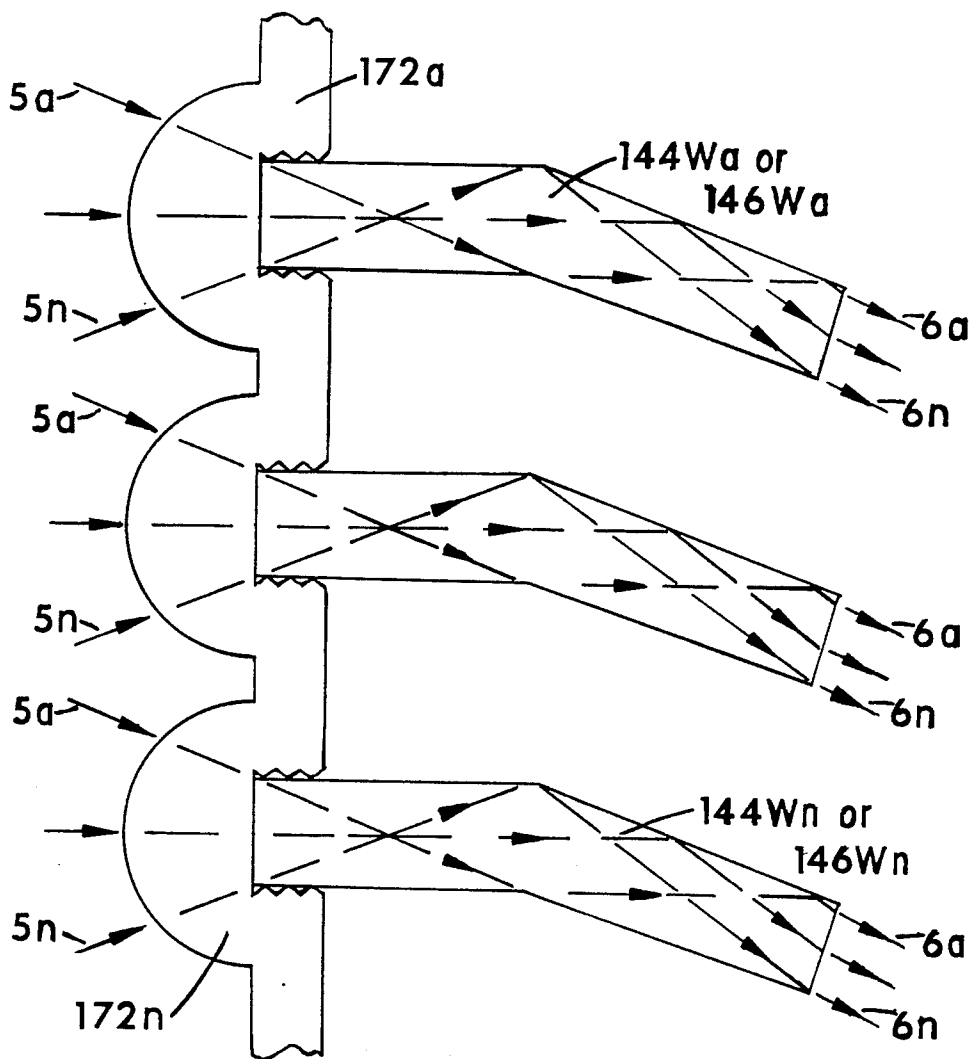


FIG. 201

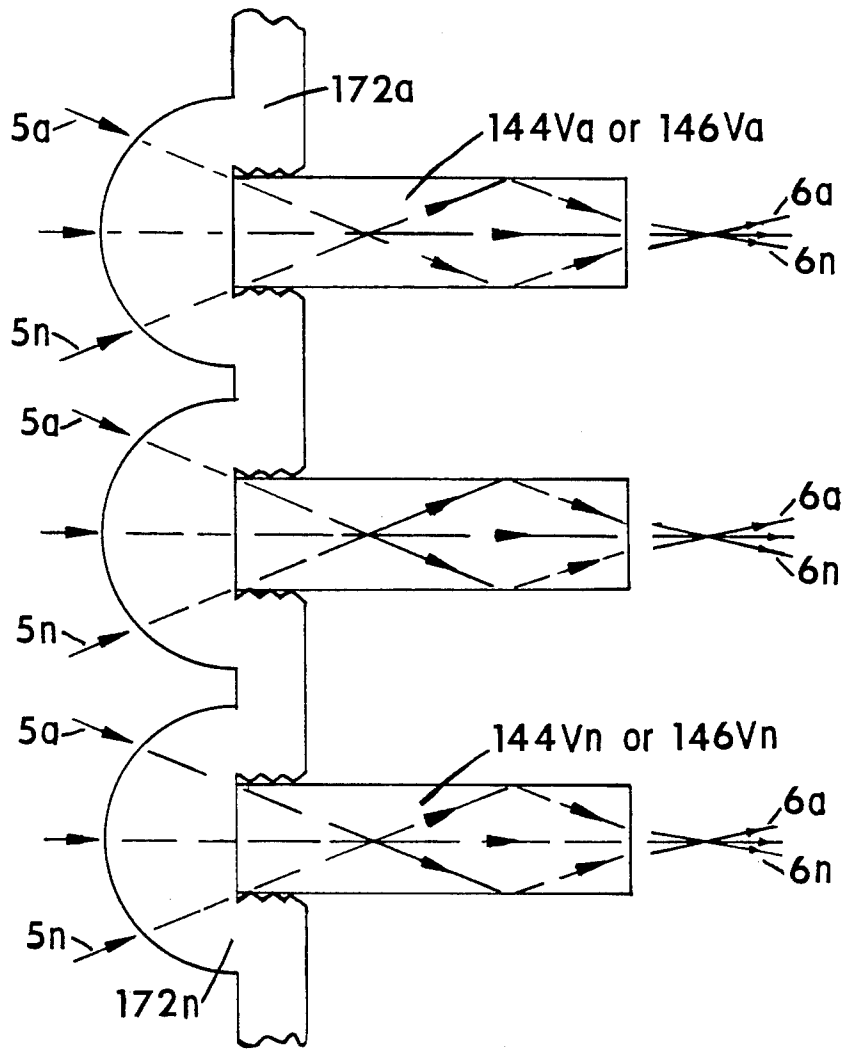
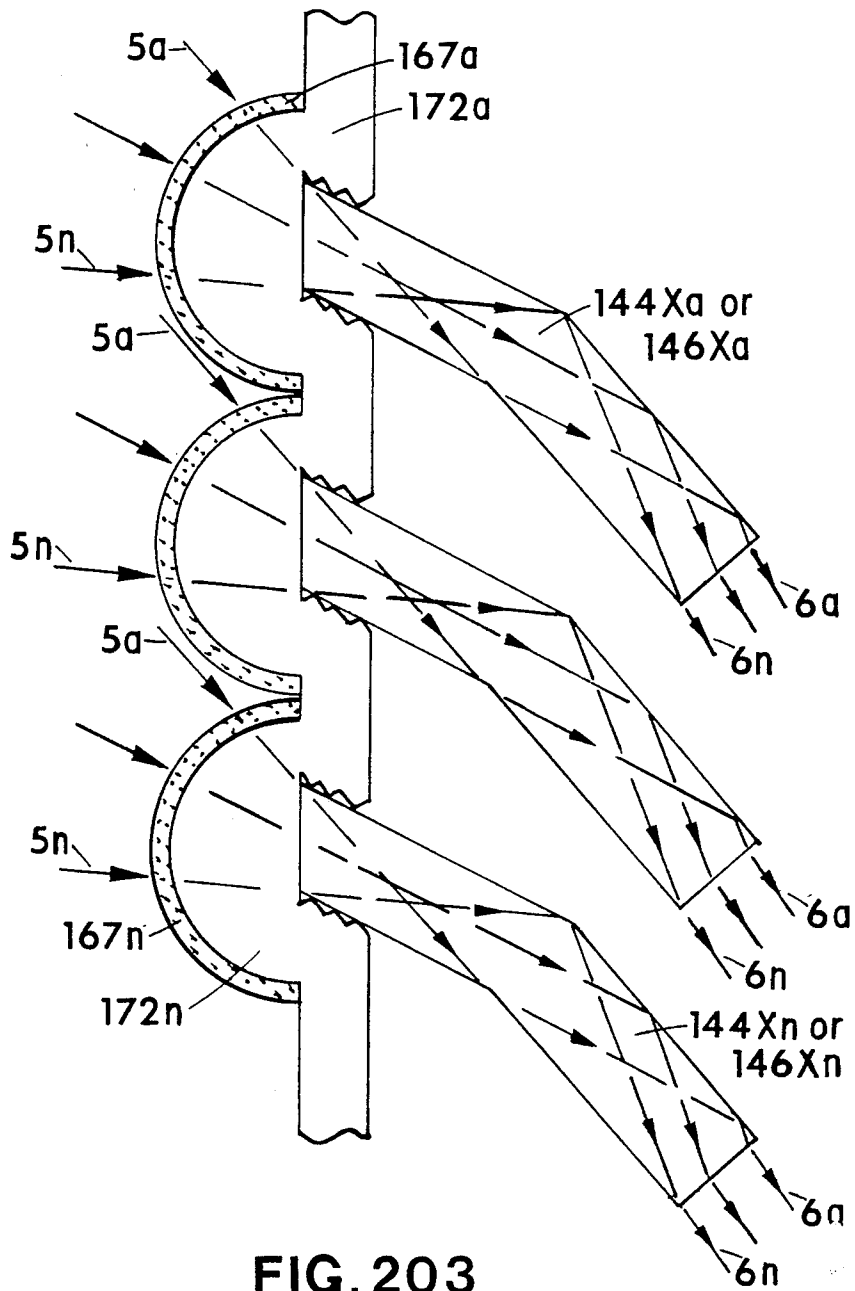


FIG. 202



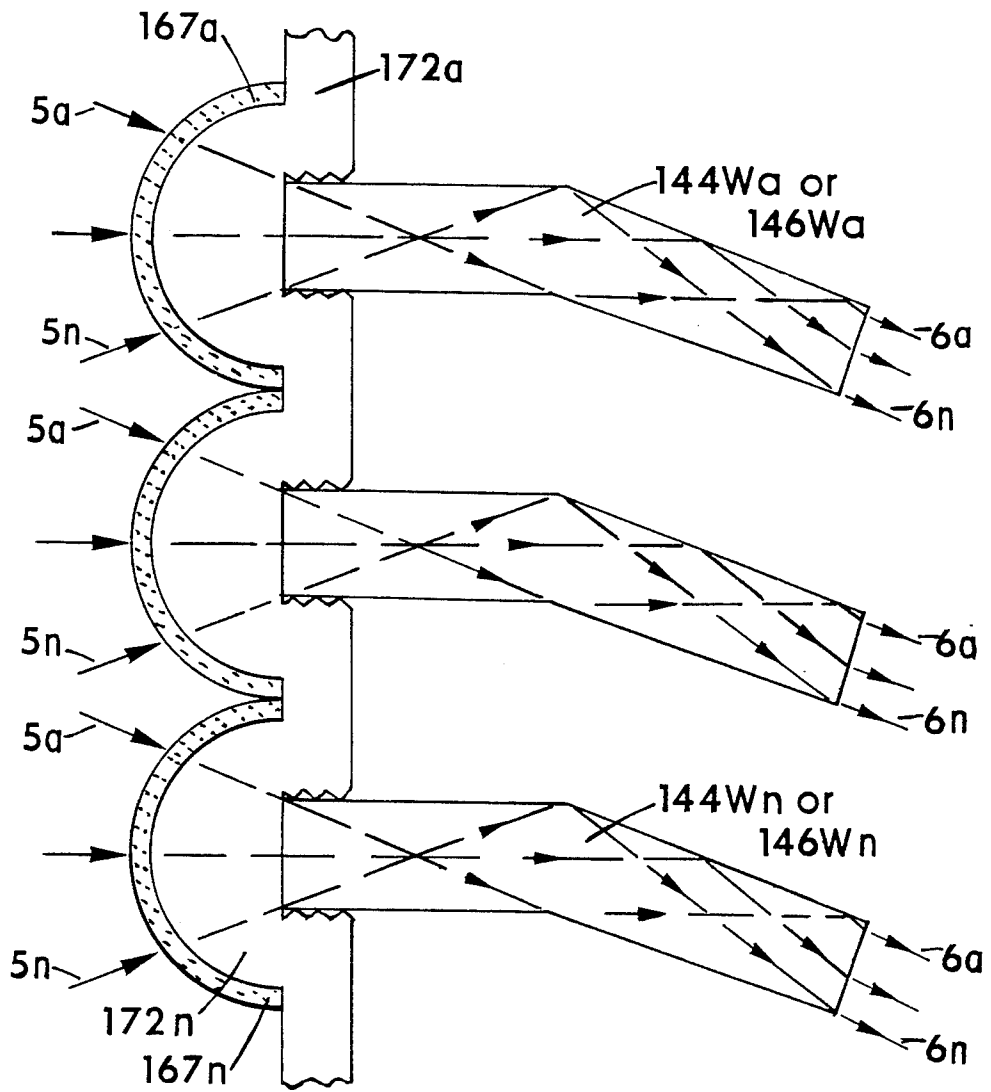


FIG.204

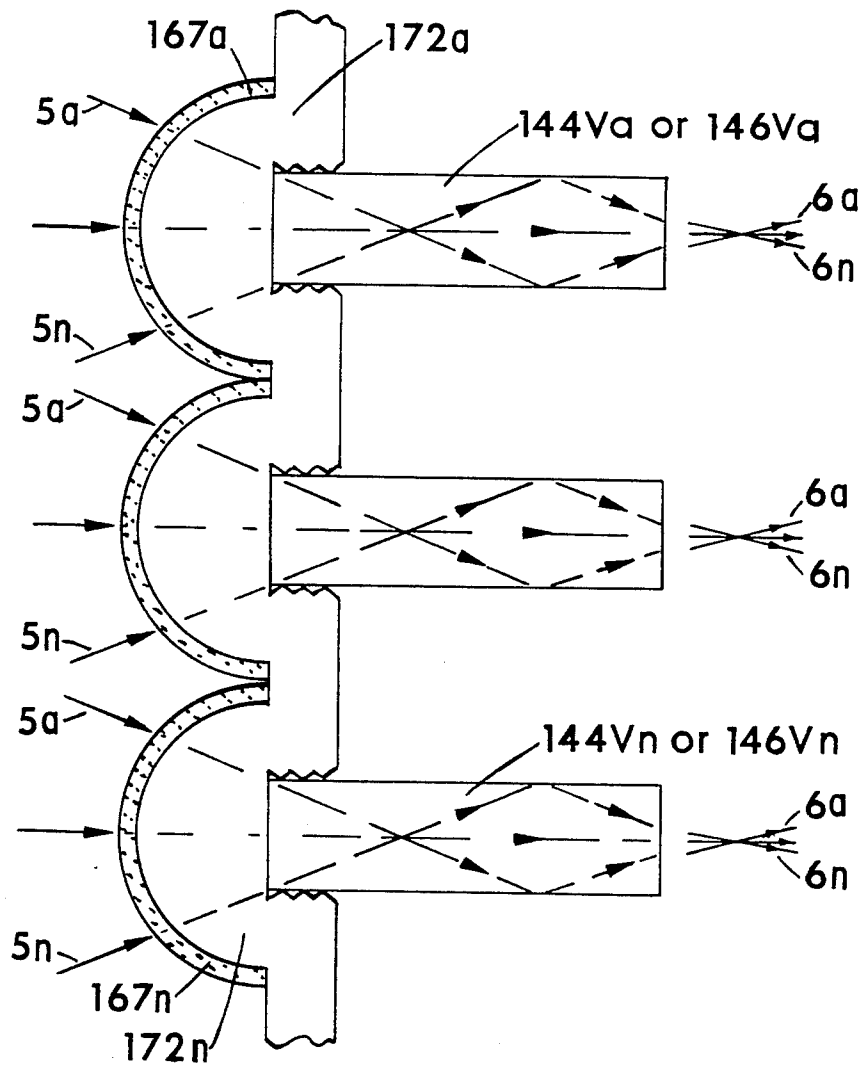


FIG. 205

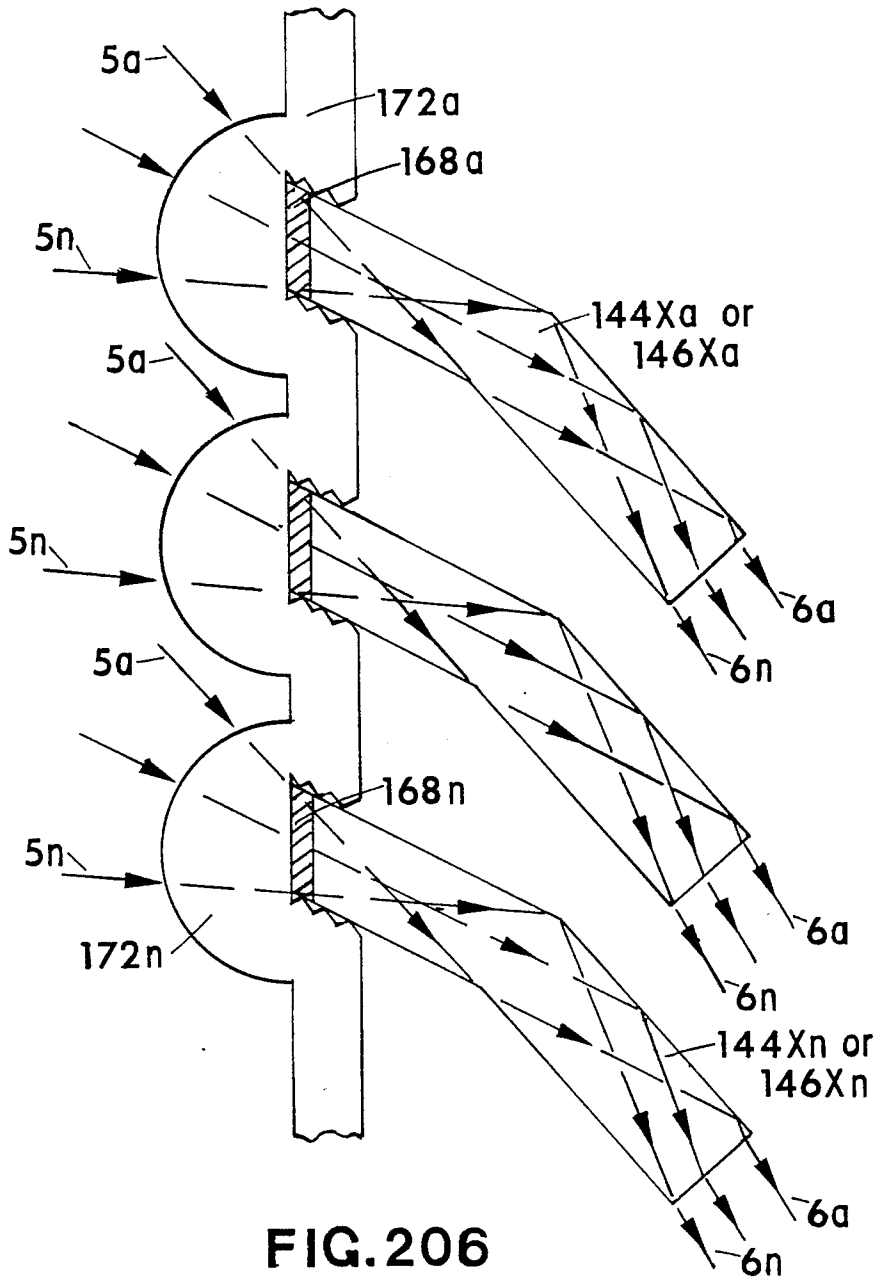


FIG. 206

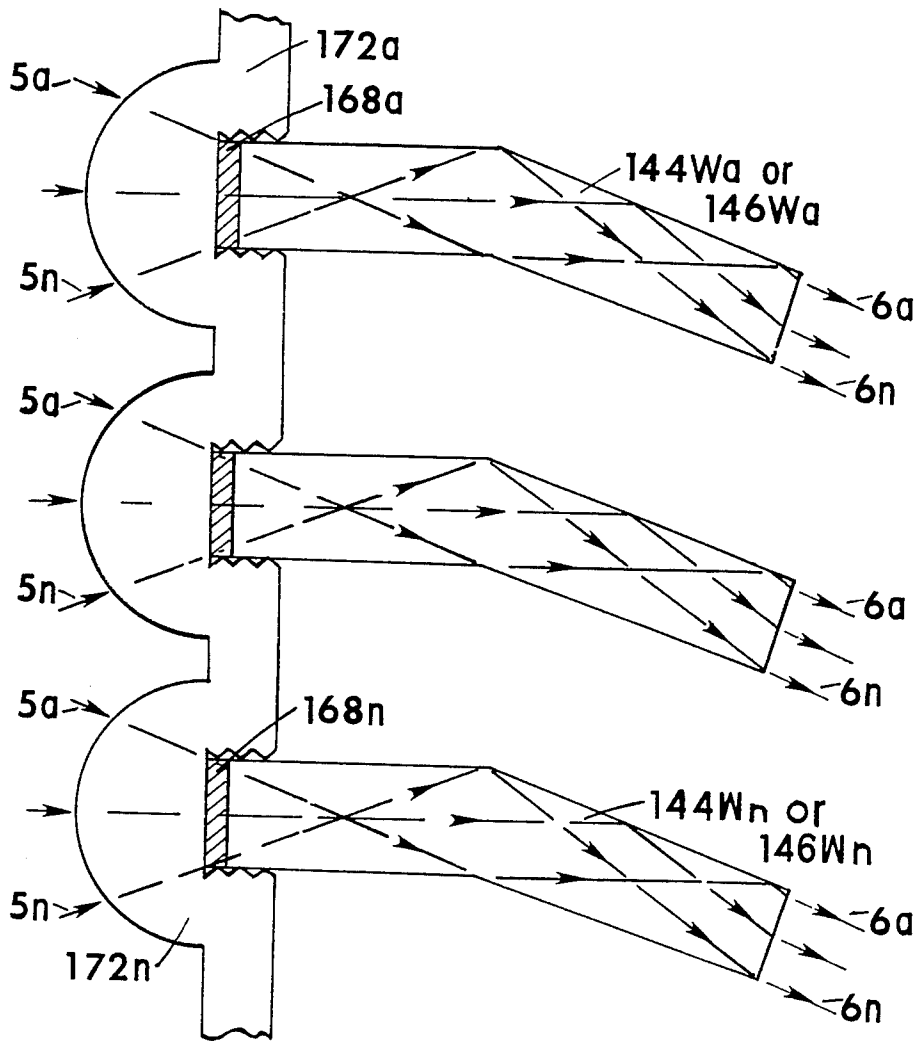


FIG. 207

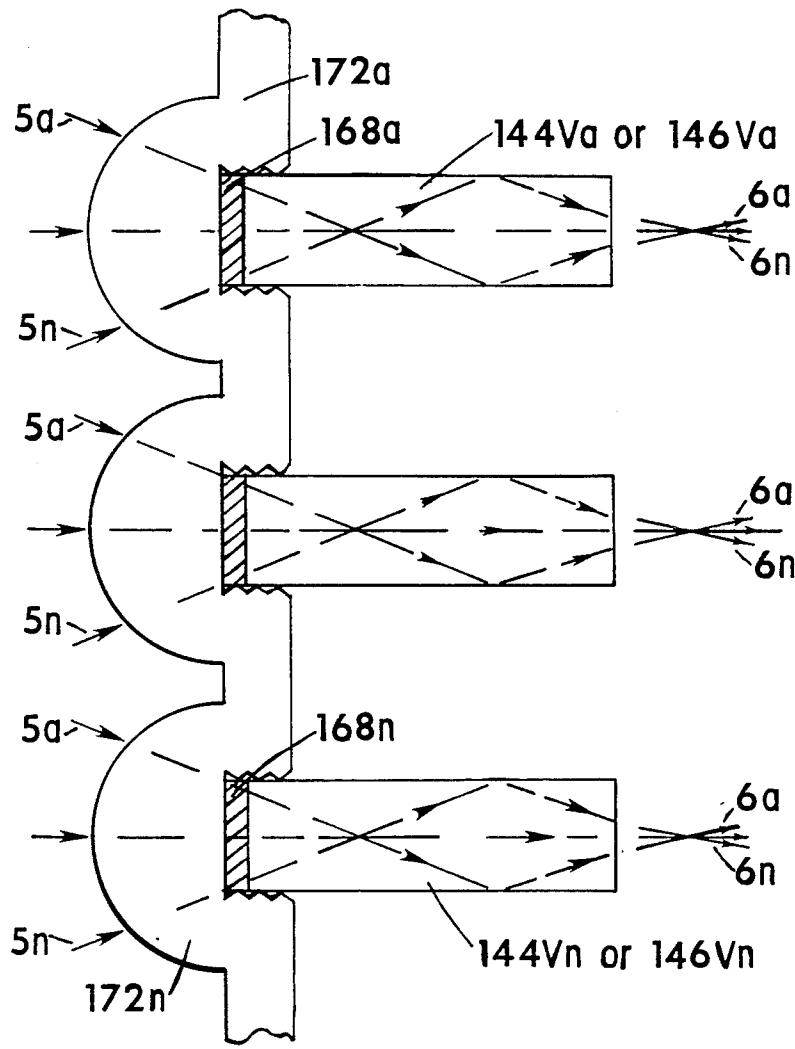


FIG. 208

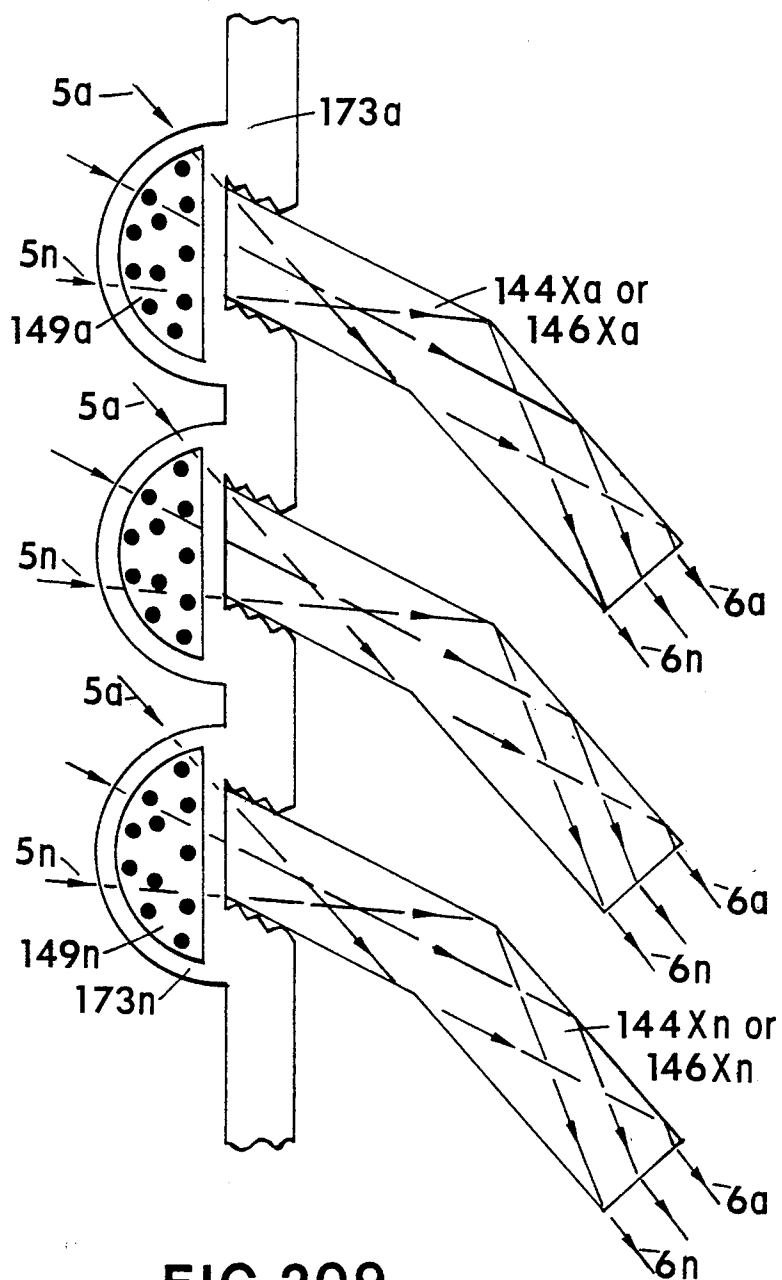


FIG. 209

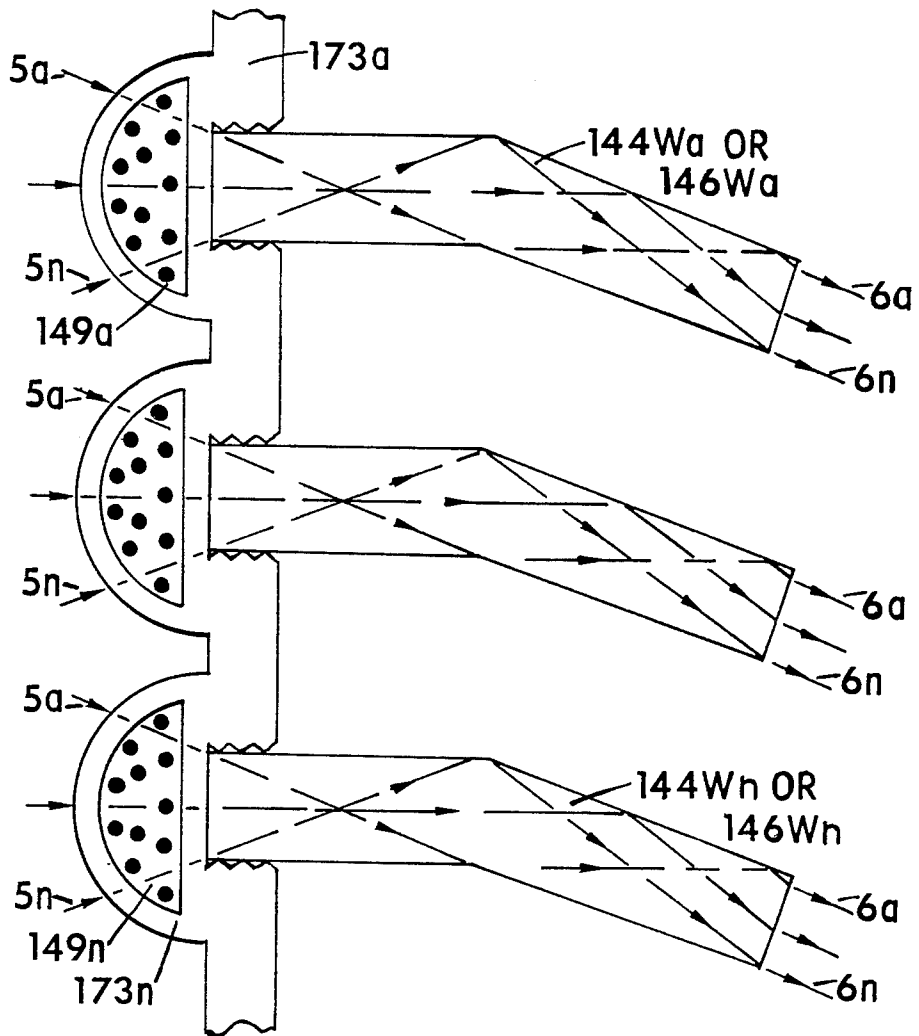


FIG. 210

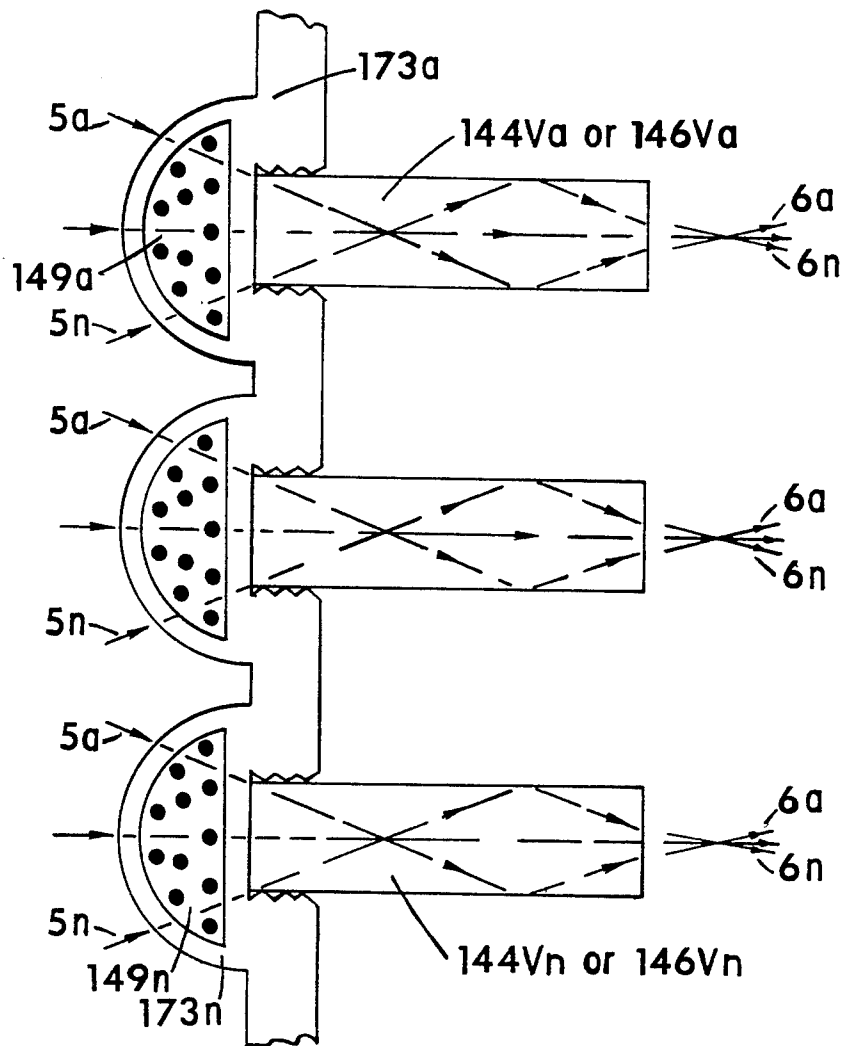


FIG.211

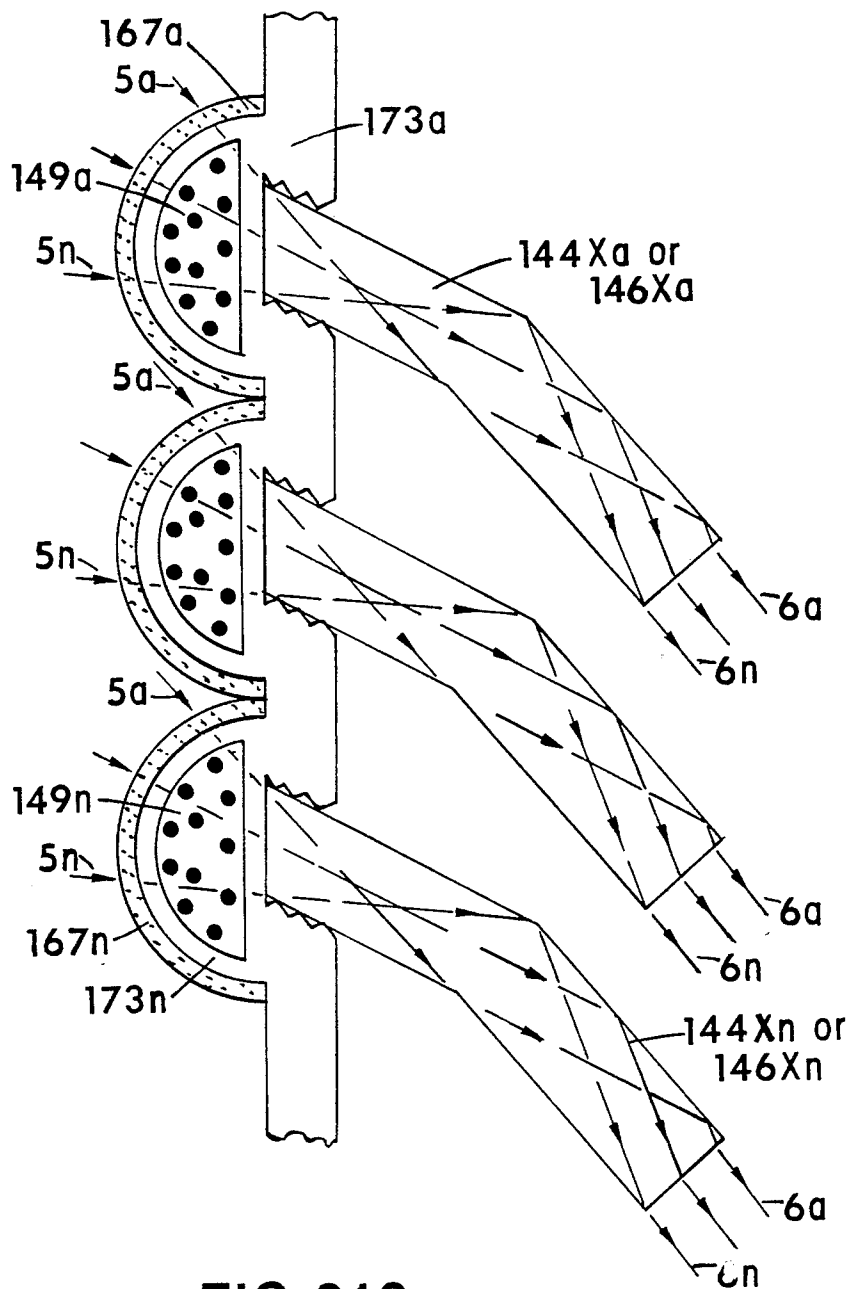


FIG. 212

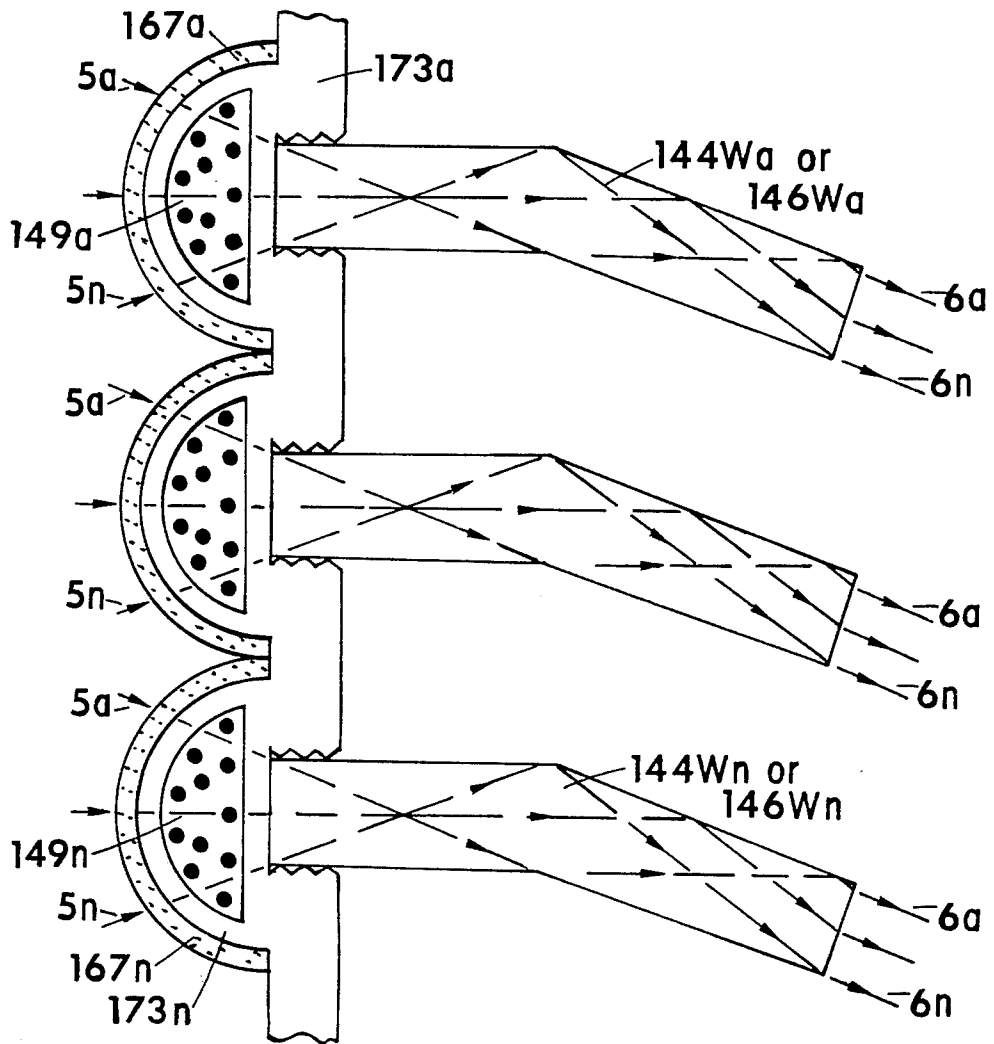


FIG.213

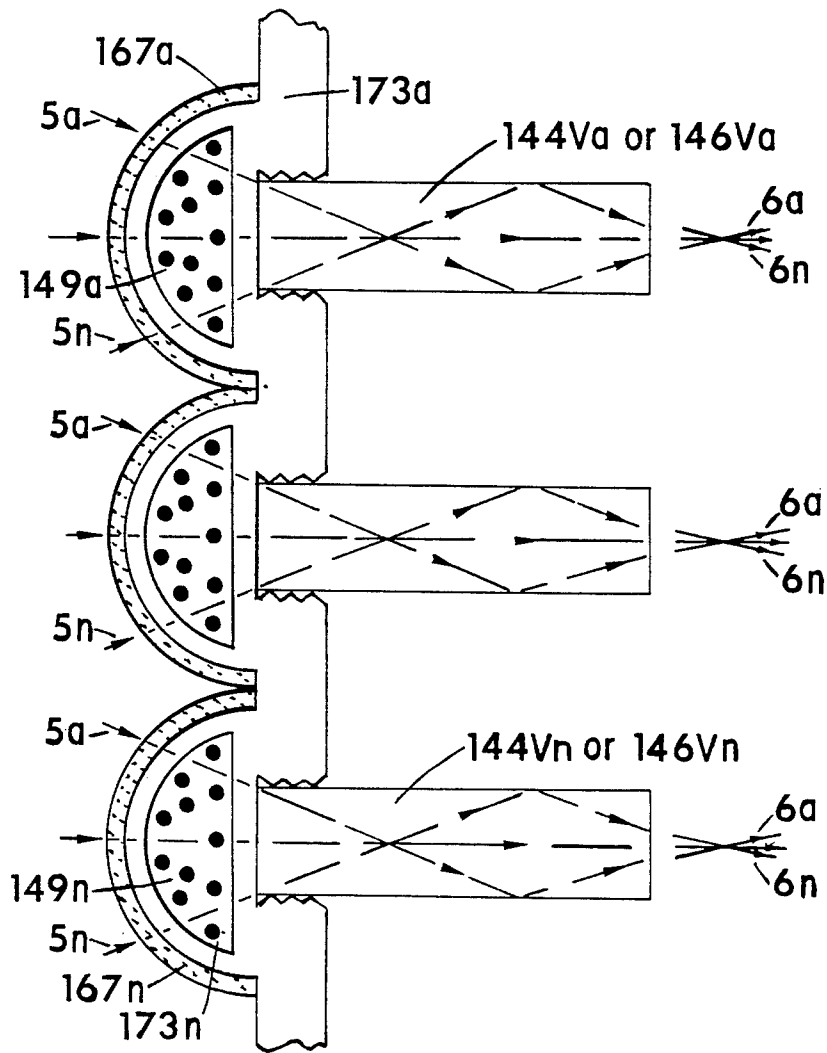


FIG. 214

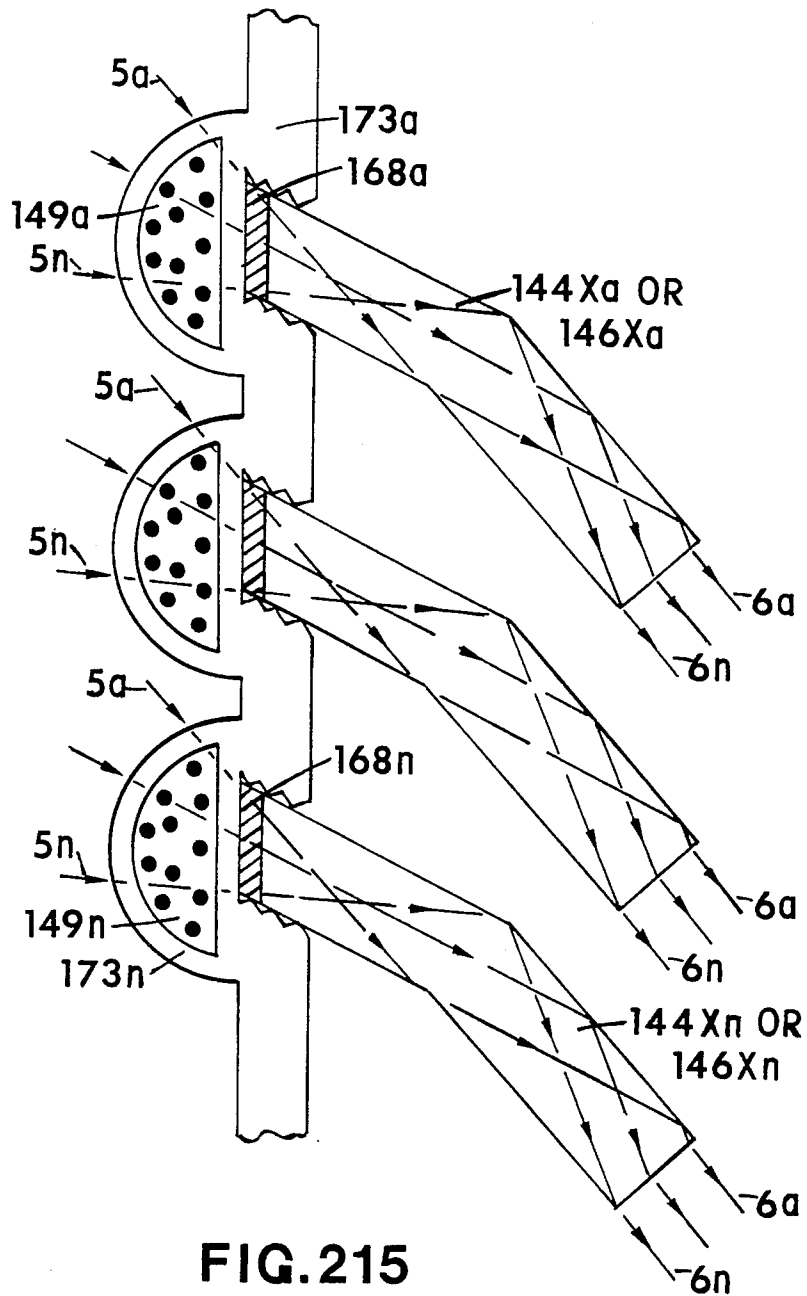


FIG. 215

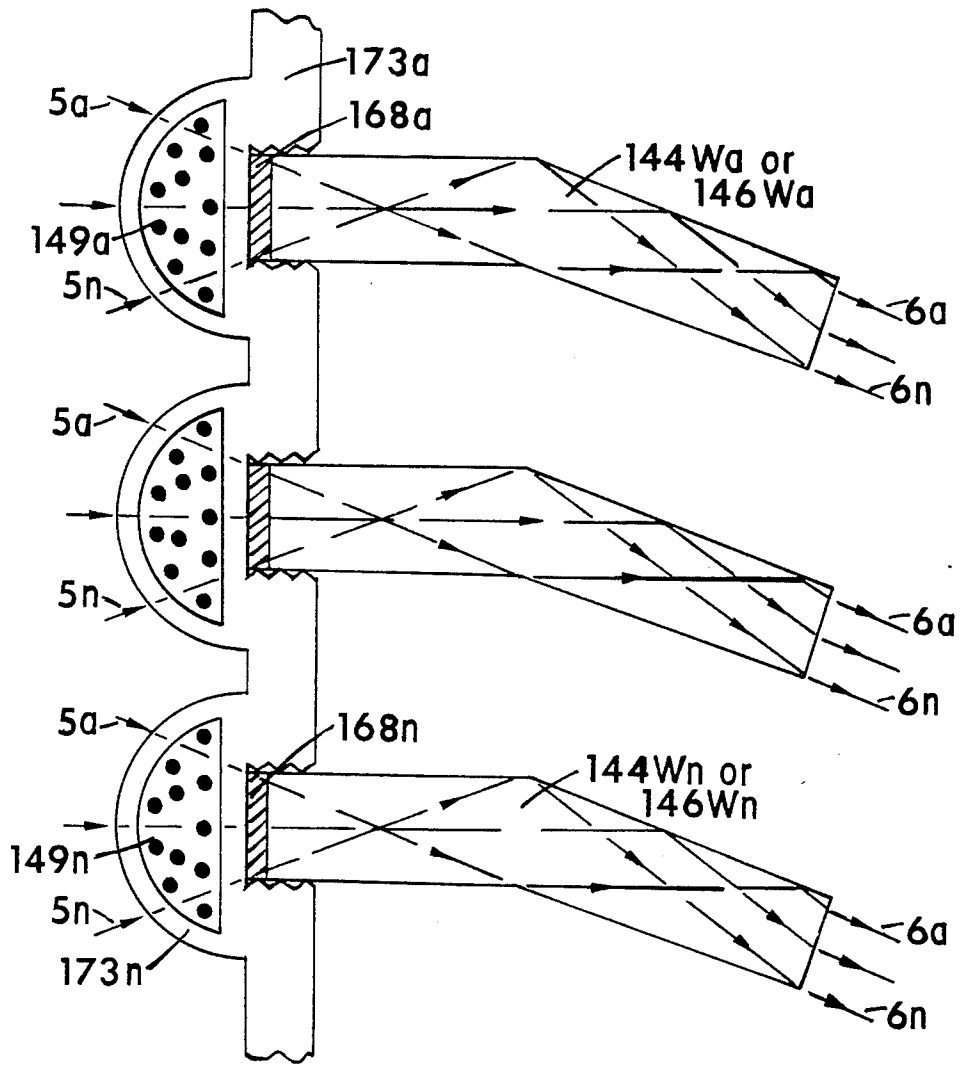


FIG. 216

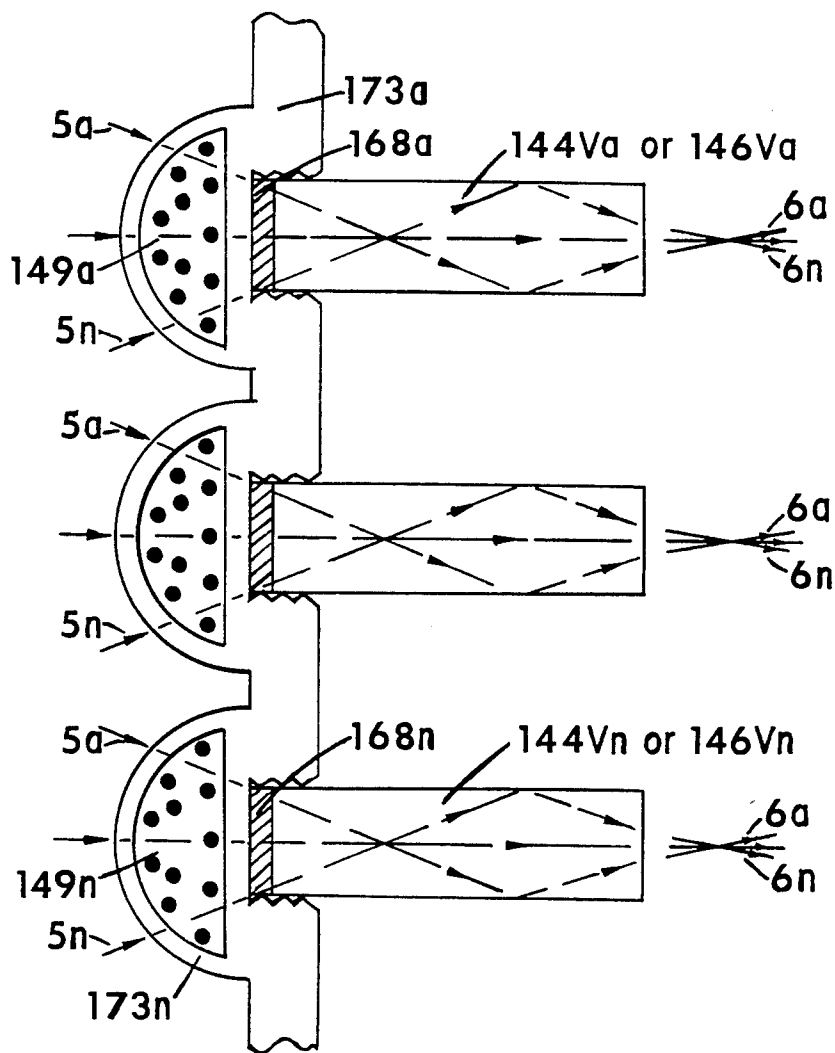
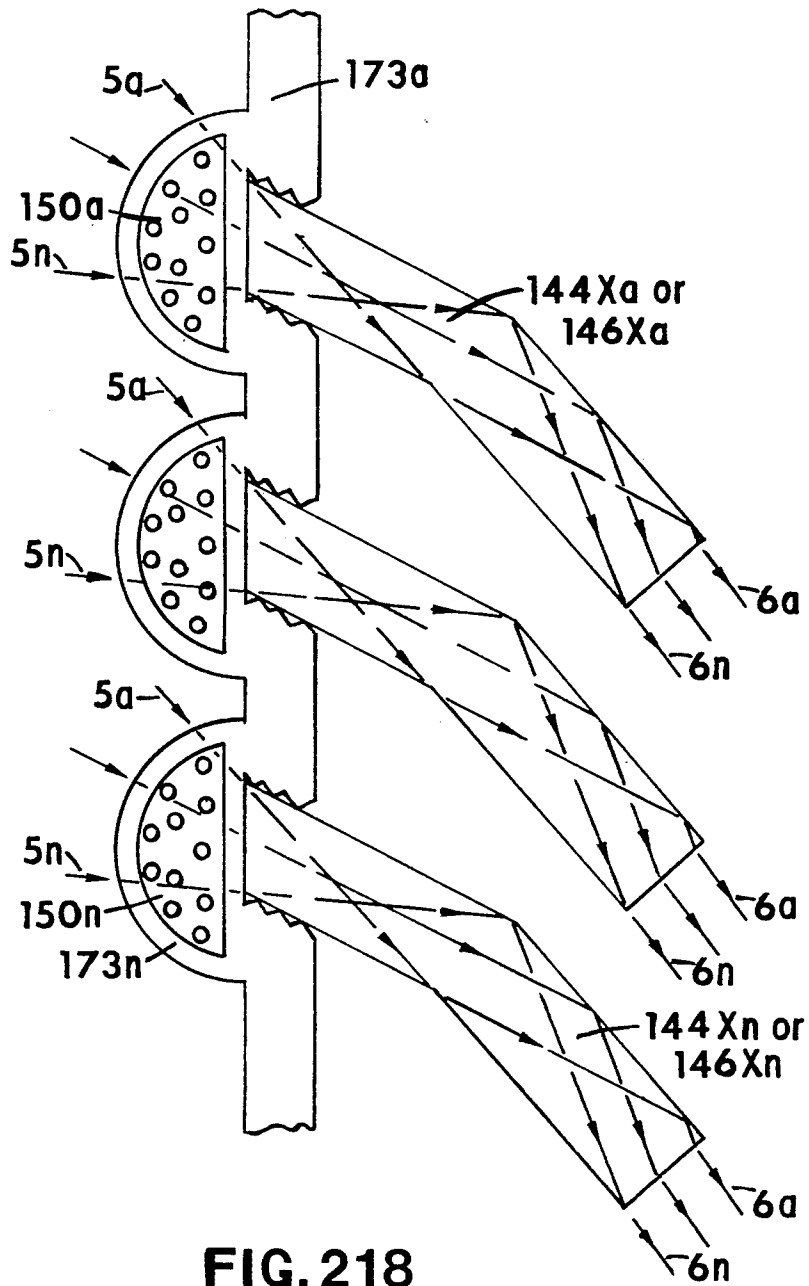


FIG. 217



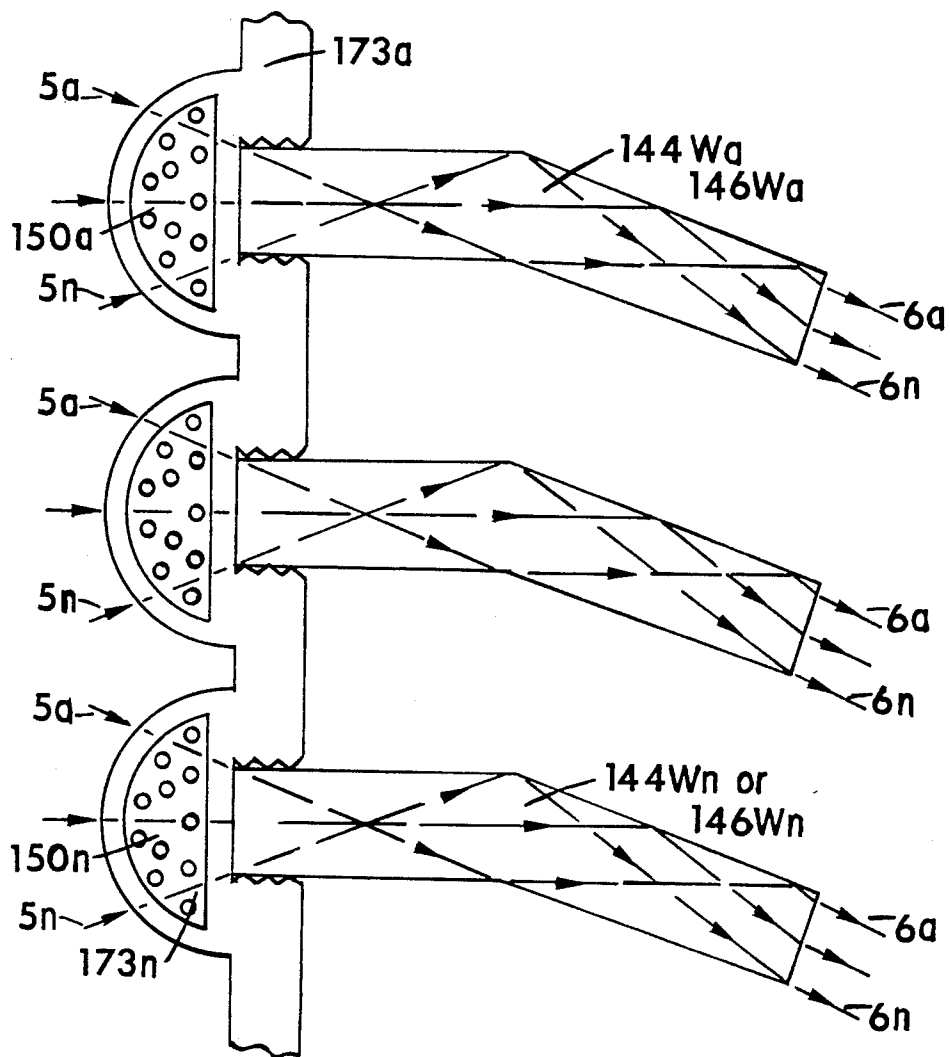


FIG. 219

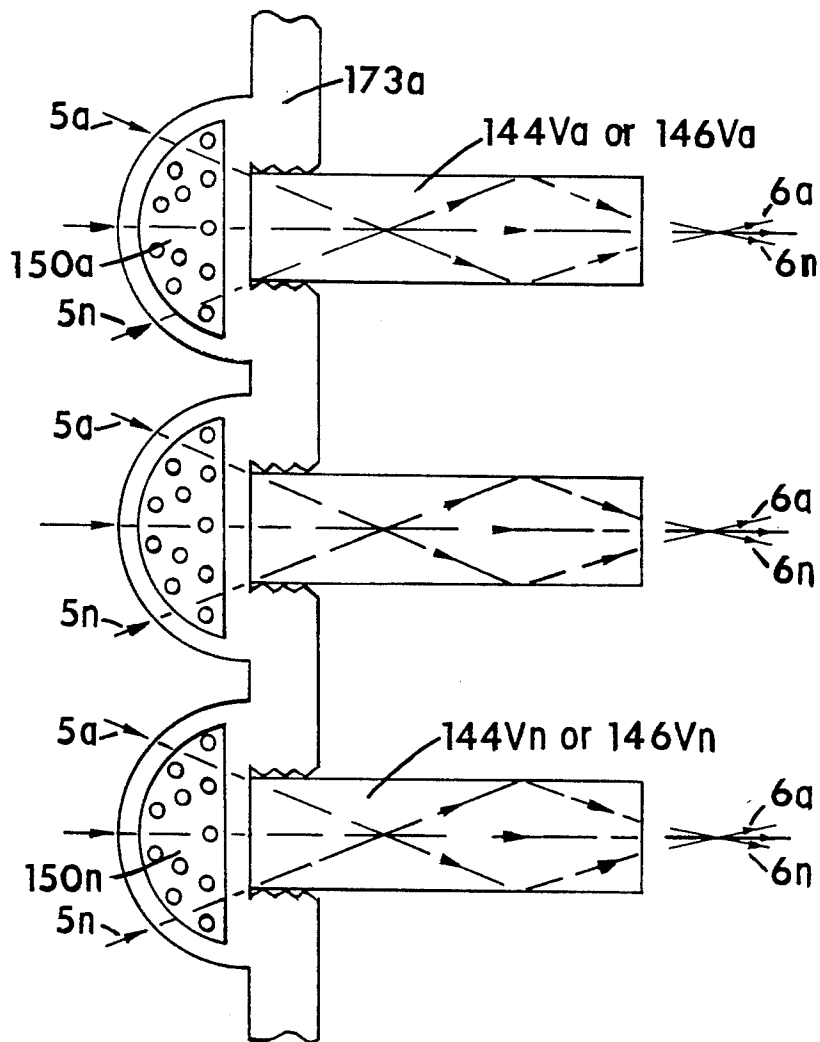


FIG. 220

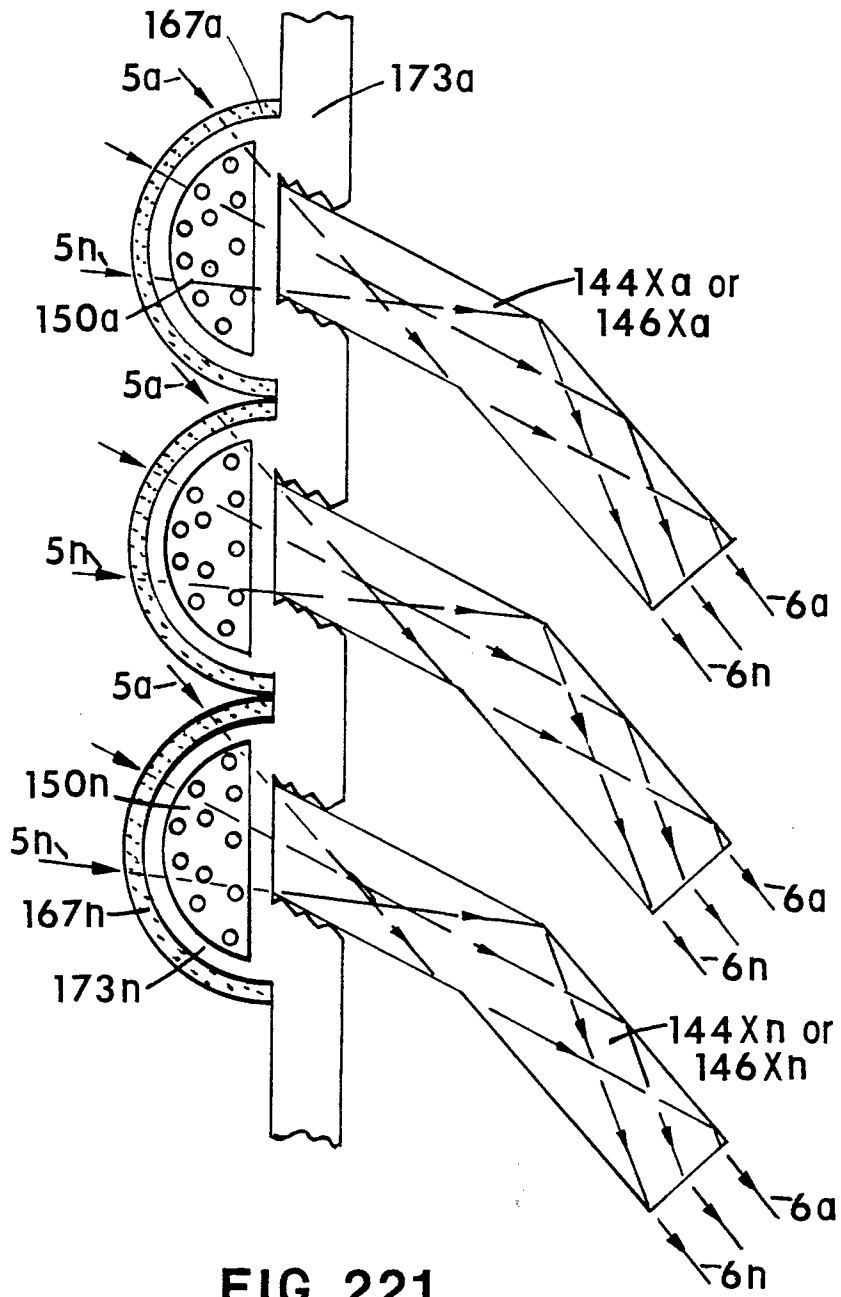


FIG. 221

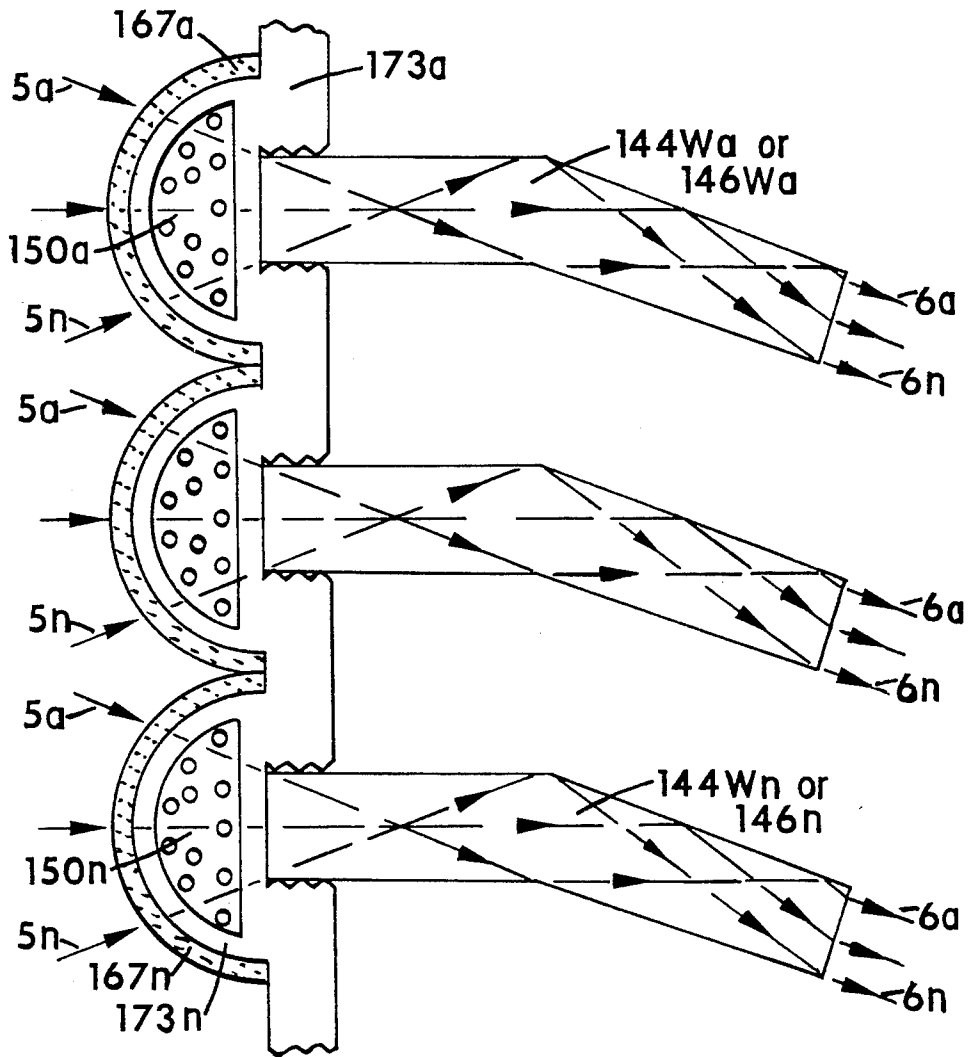


FIG. 222

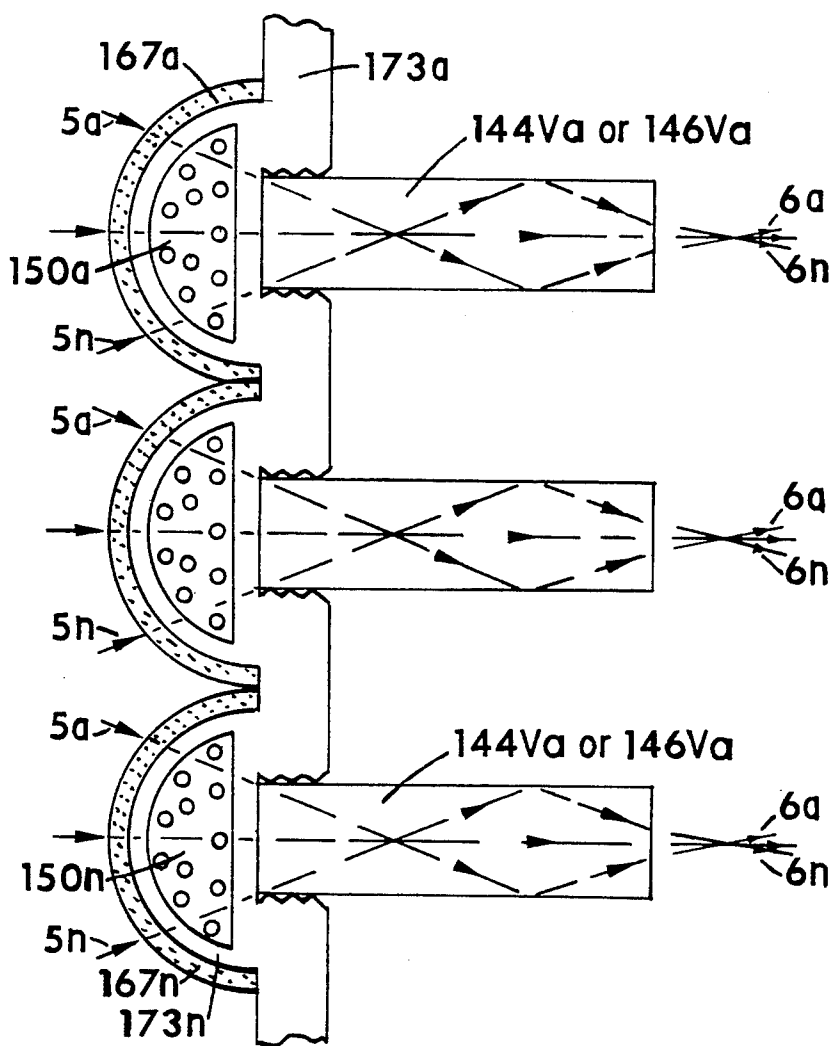


FIG. 223

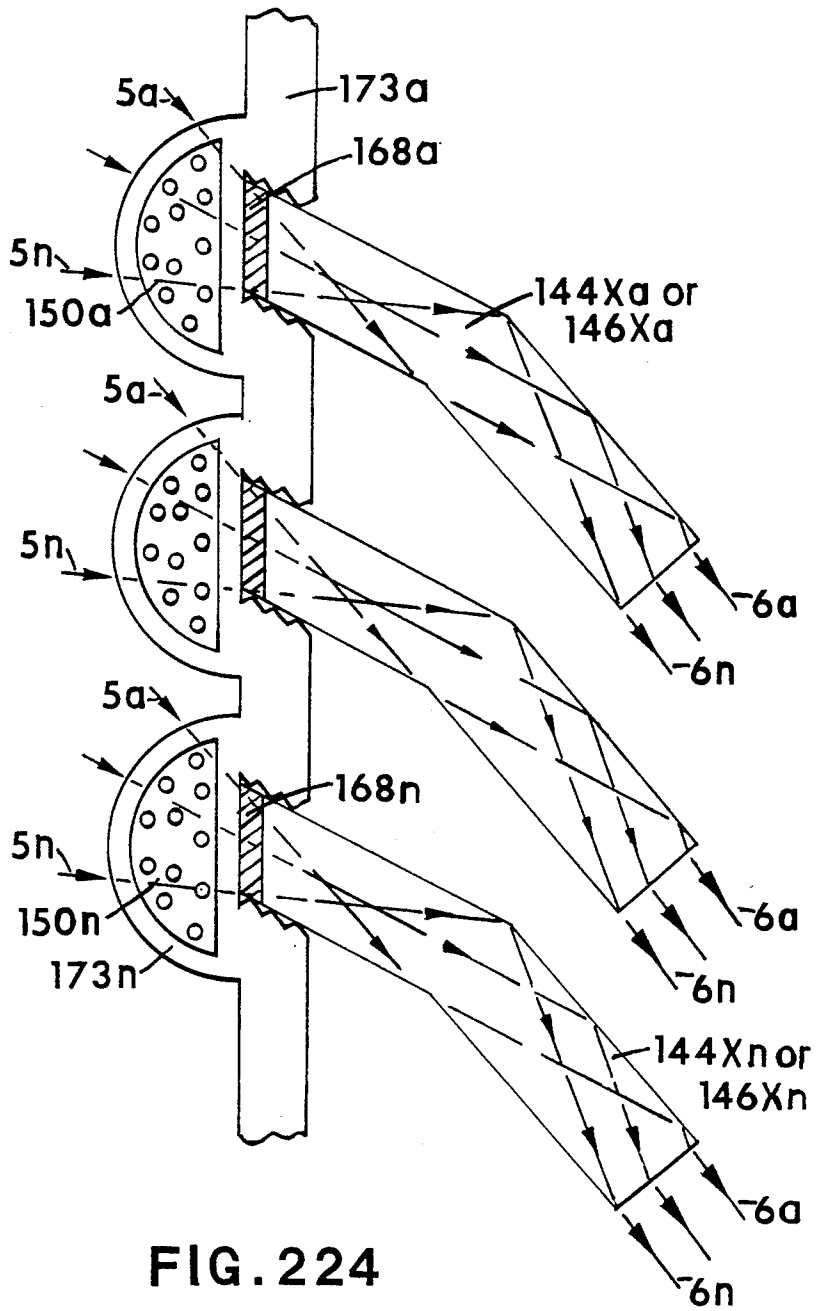


FIG. 224

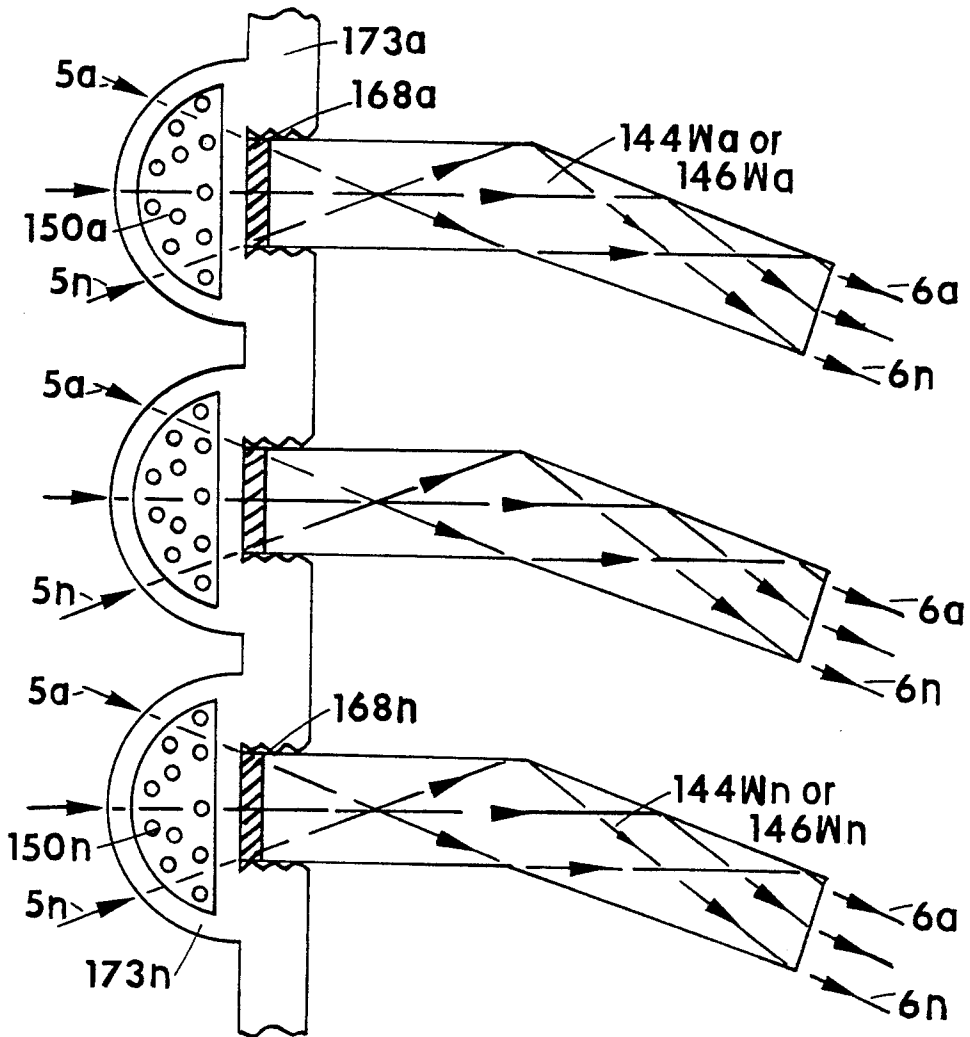


FIG. 225

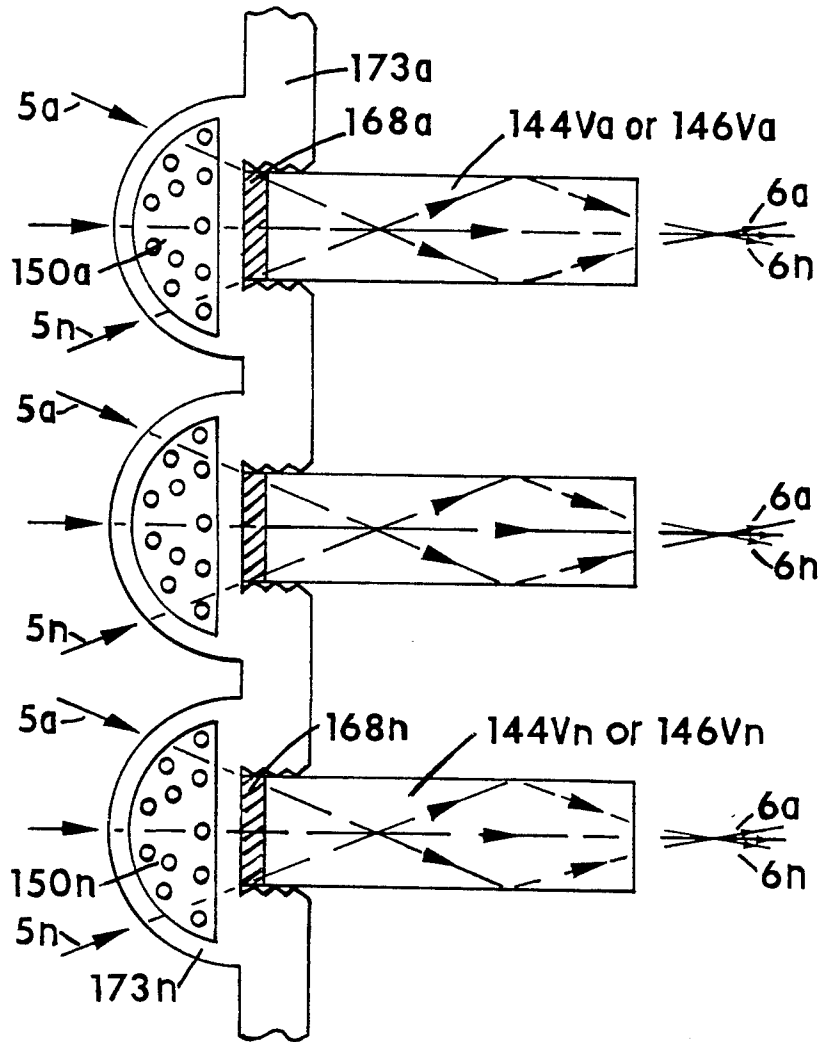


FIG. 226

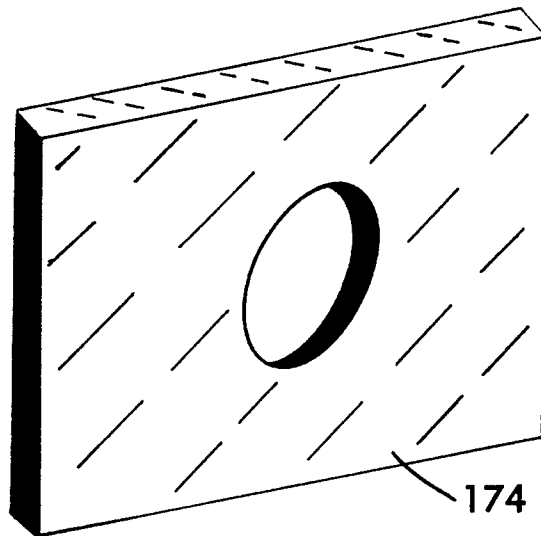


FIG. 227

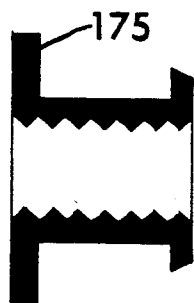


FIG. 228

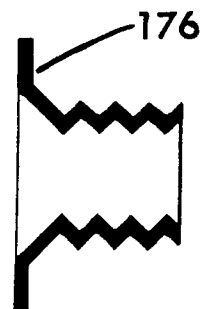
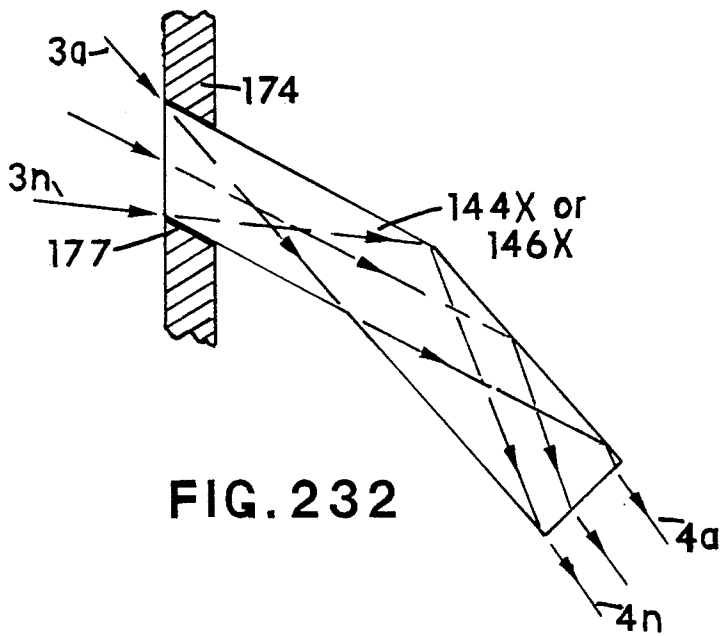
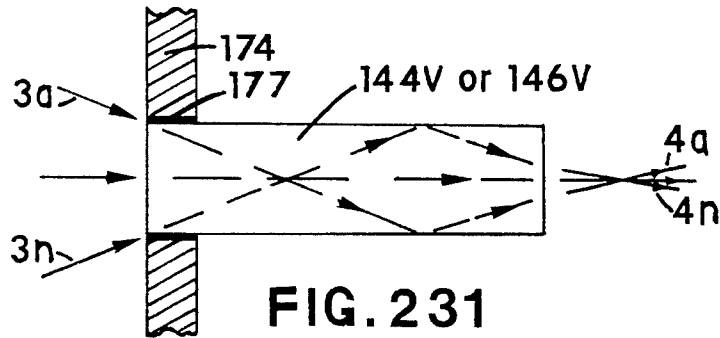
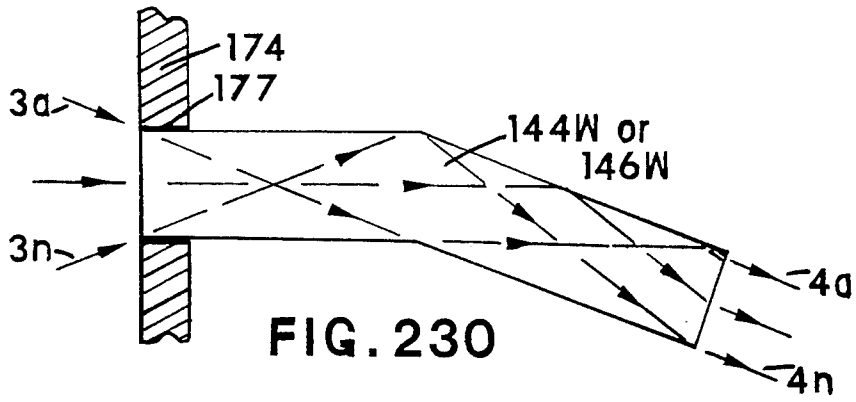
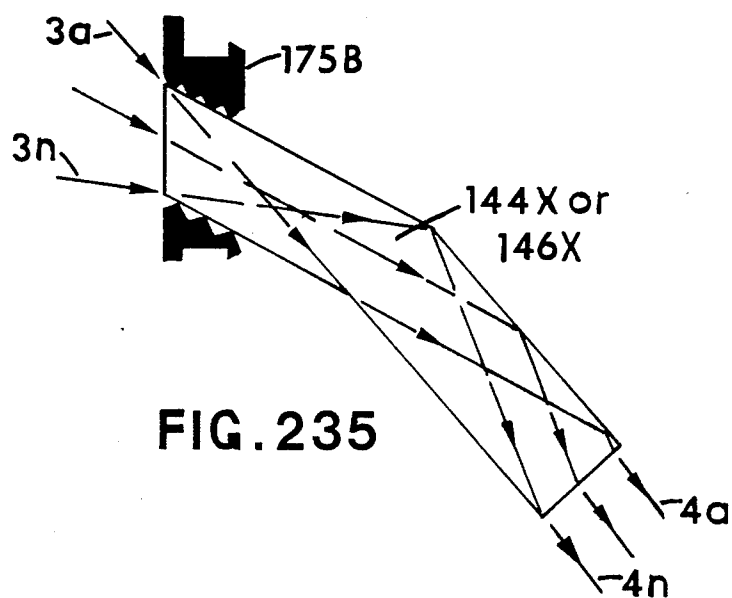
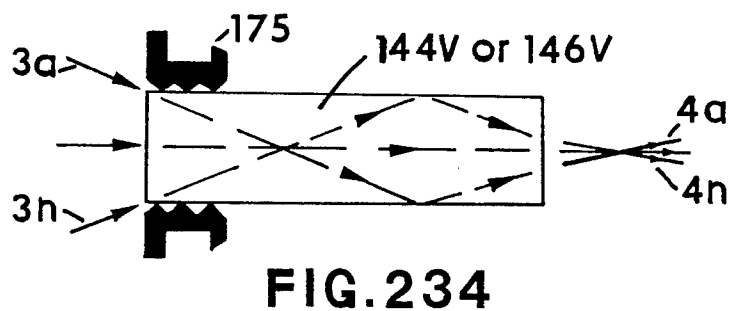
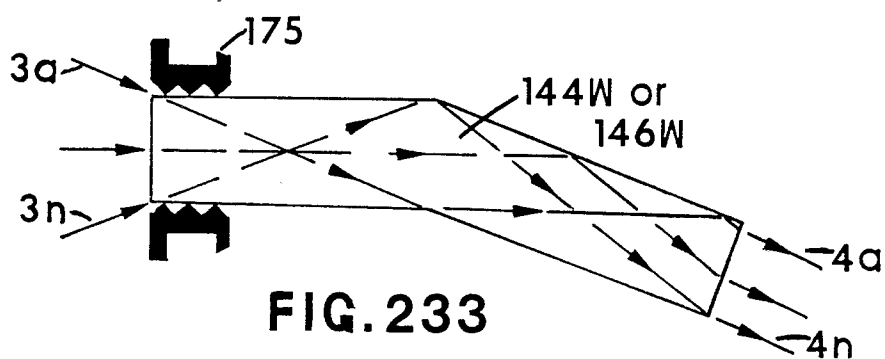
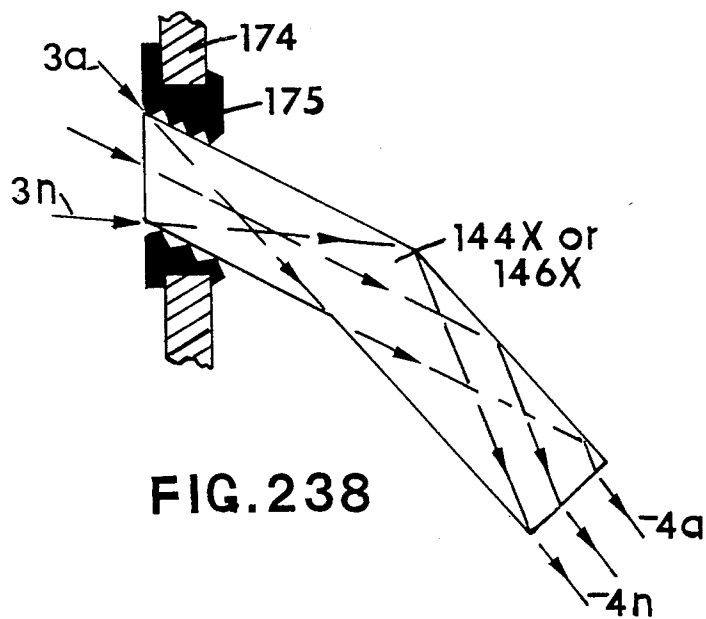
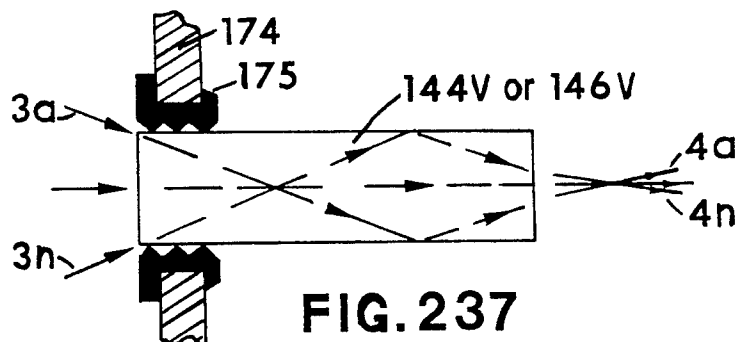
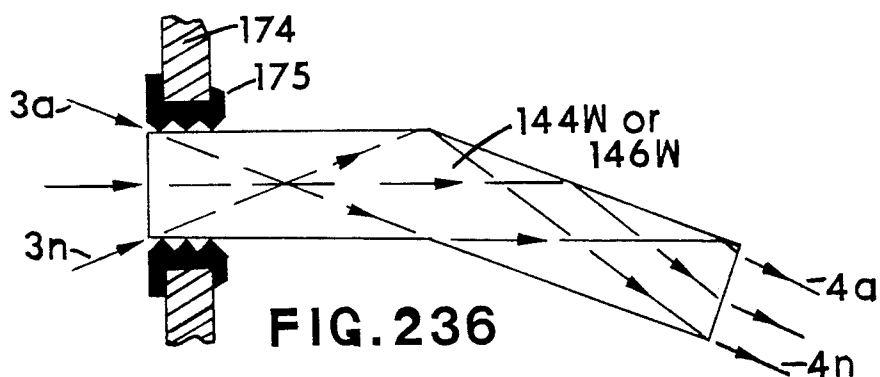
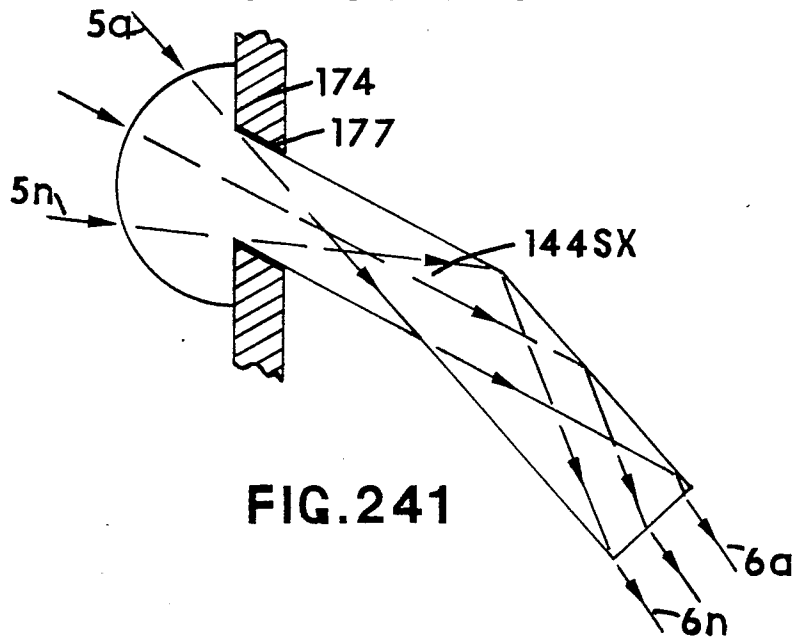
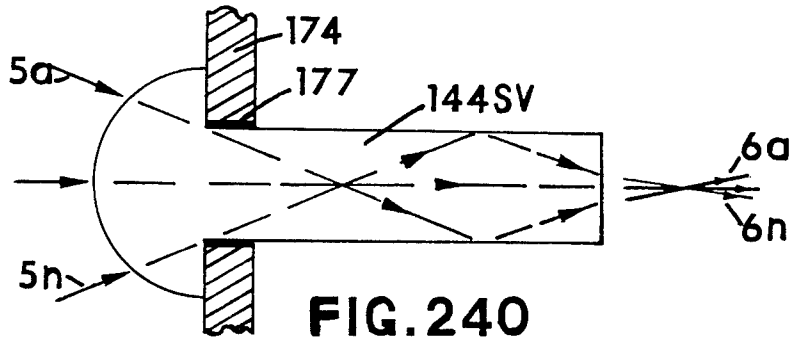
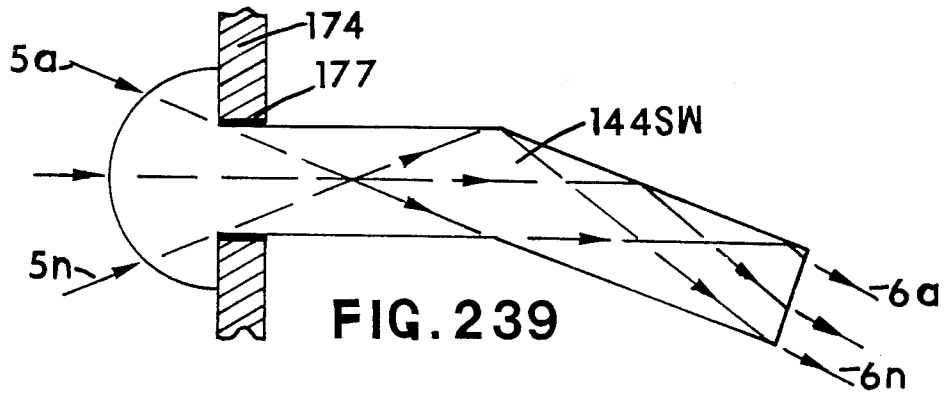


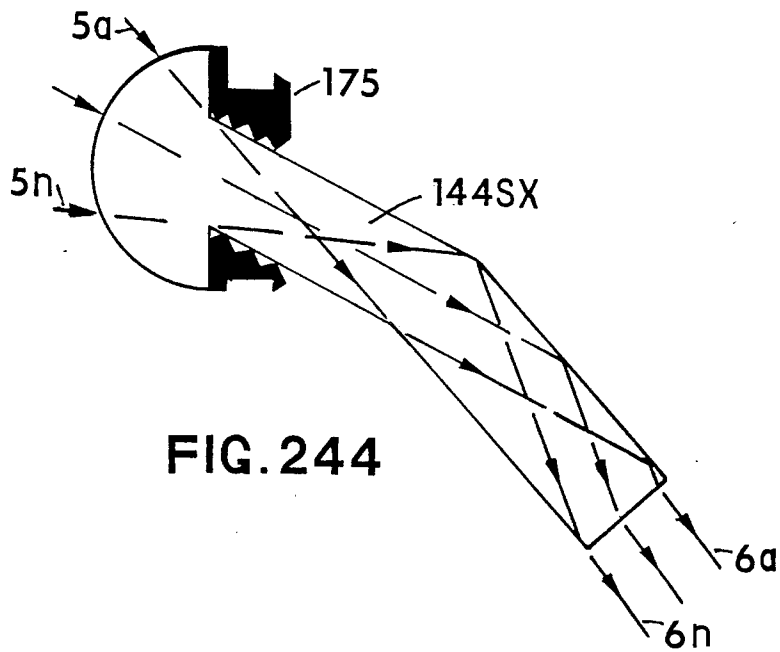
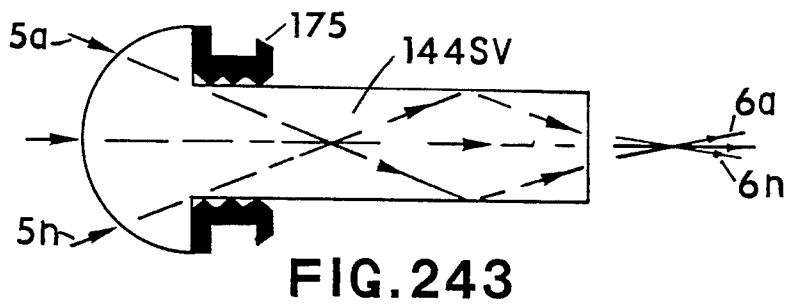
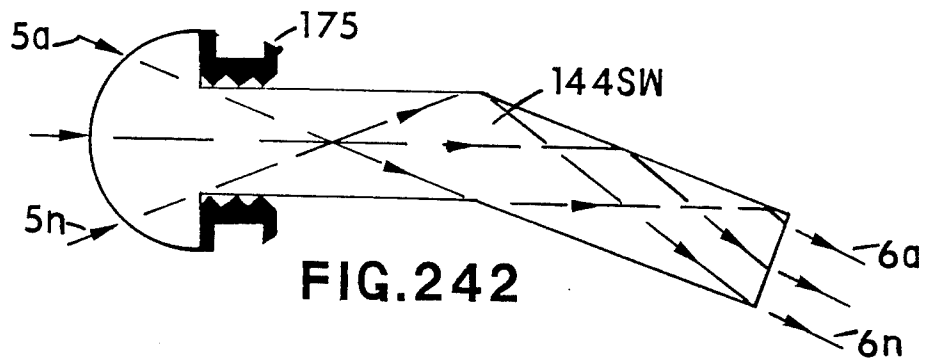
FIG. 229

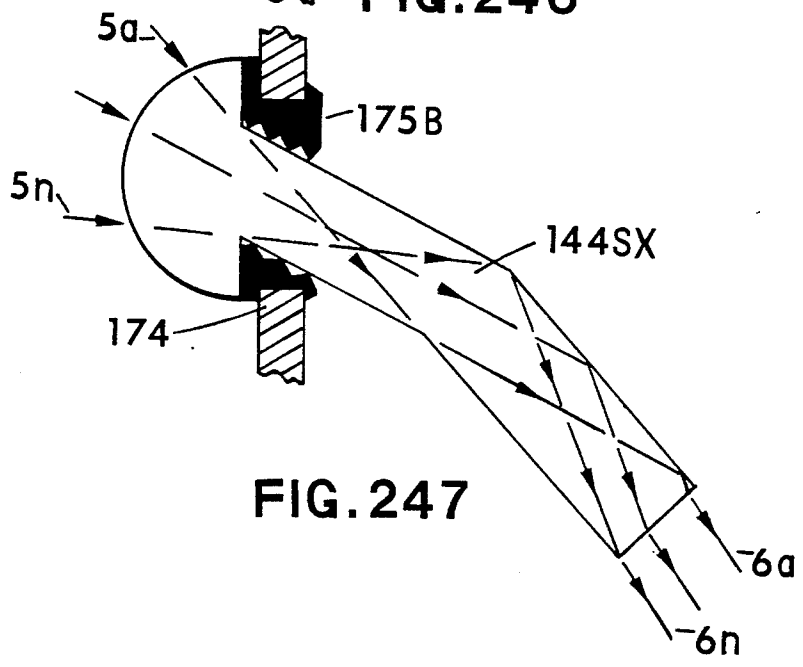
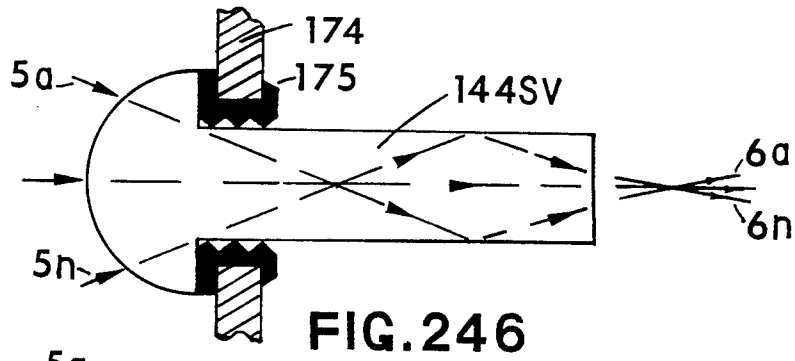
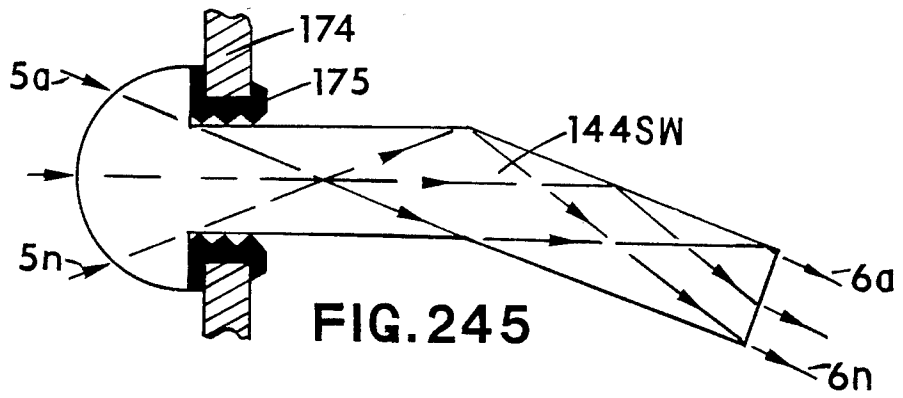












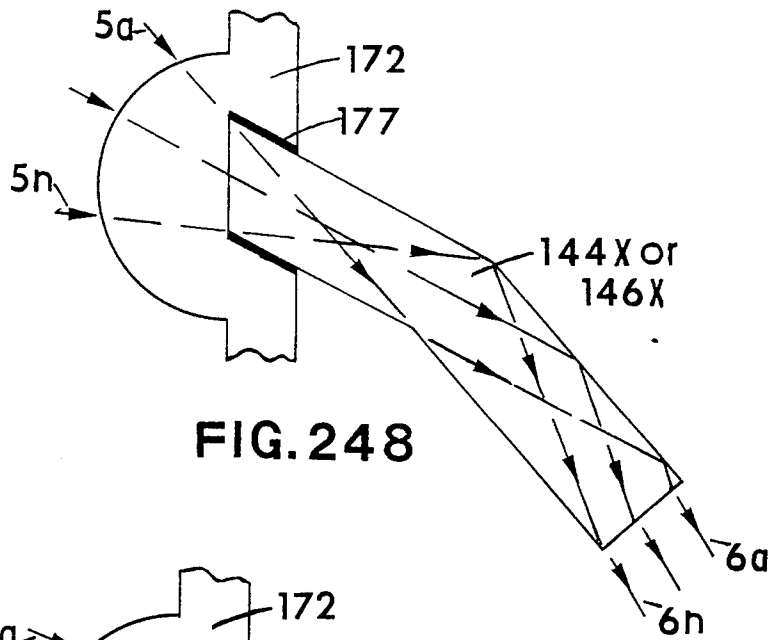


FIG. 248

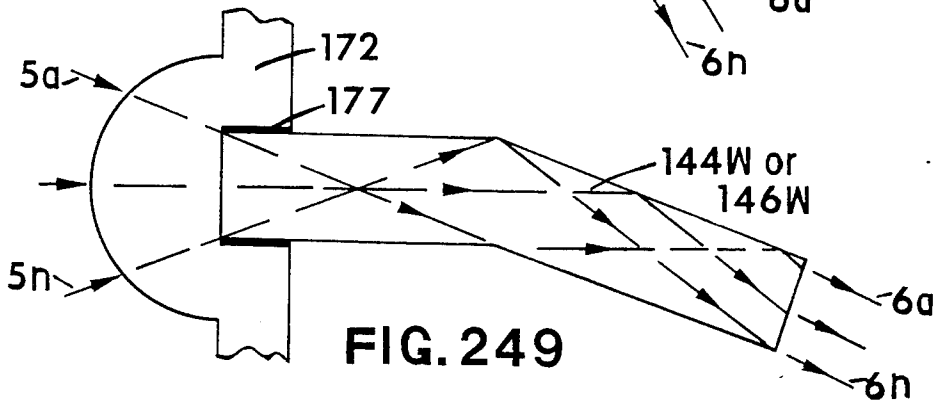


FIG. 249

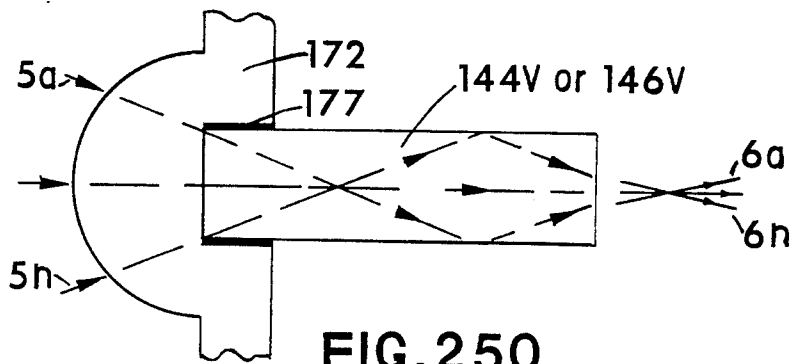


FIG. 250

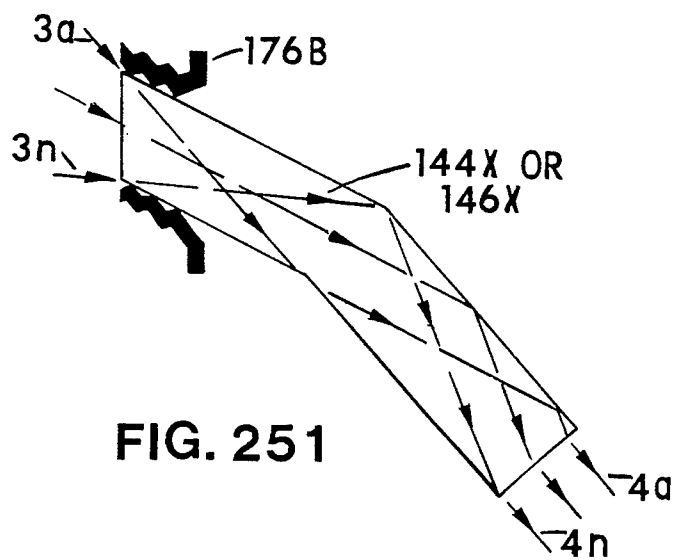


FIG. 251

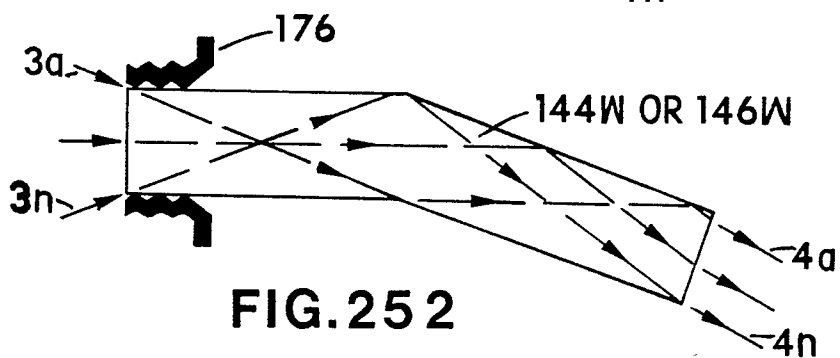


FIG. 252

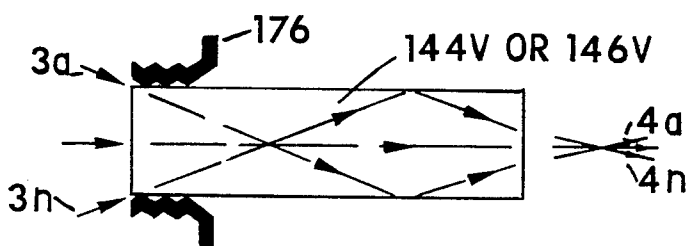


FIG. 253

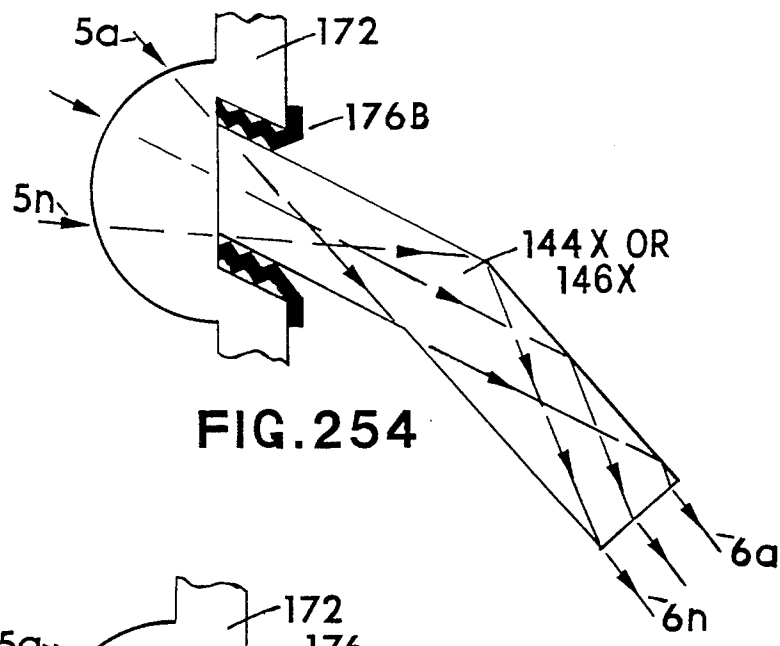


FIG. 254

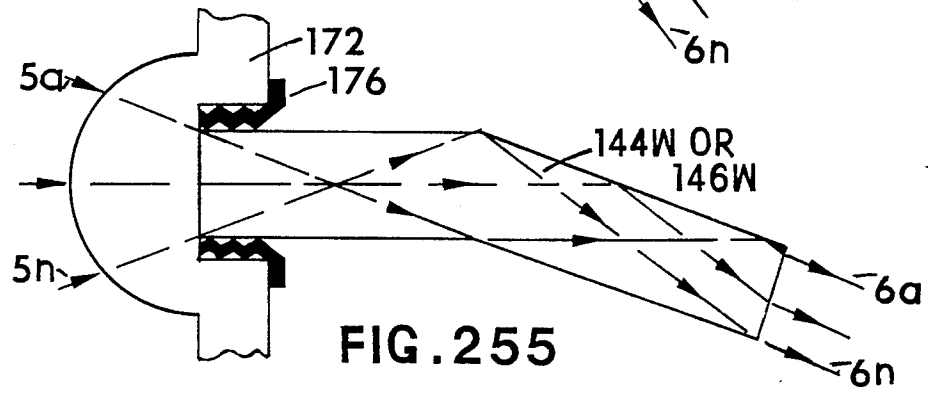


FIG. 255

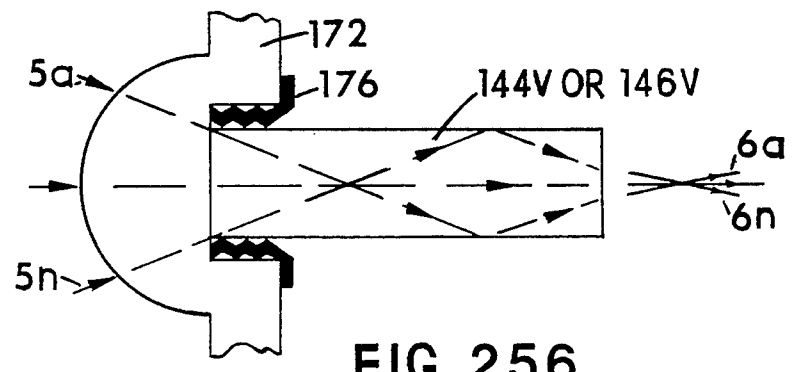
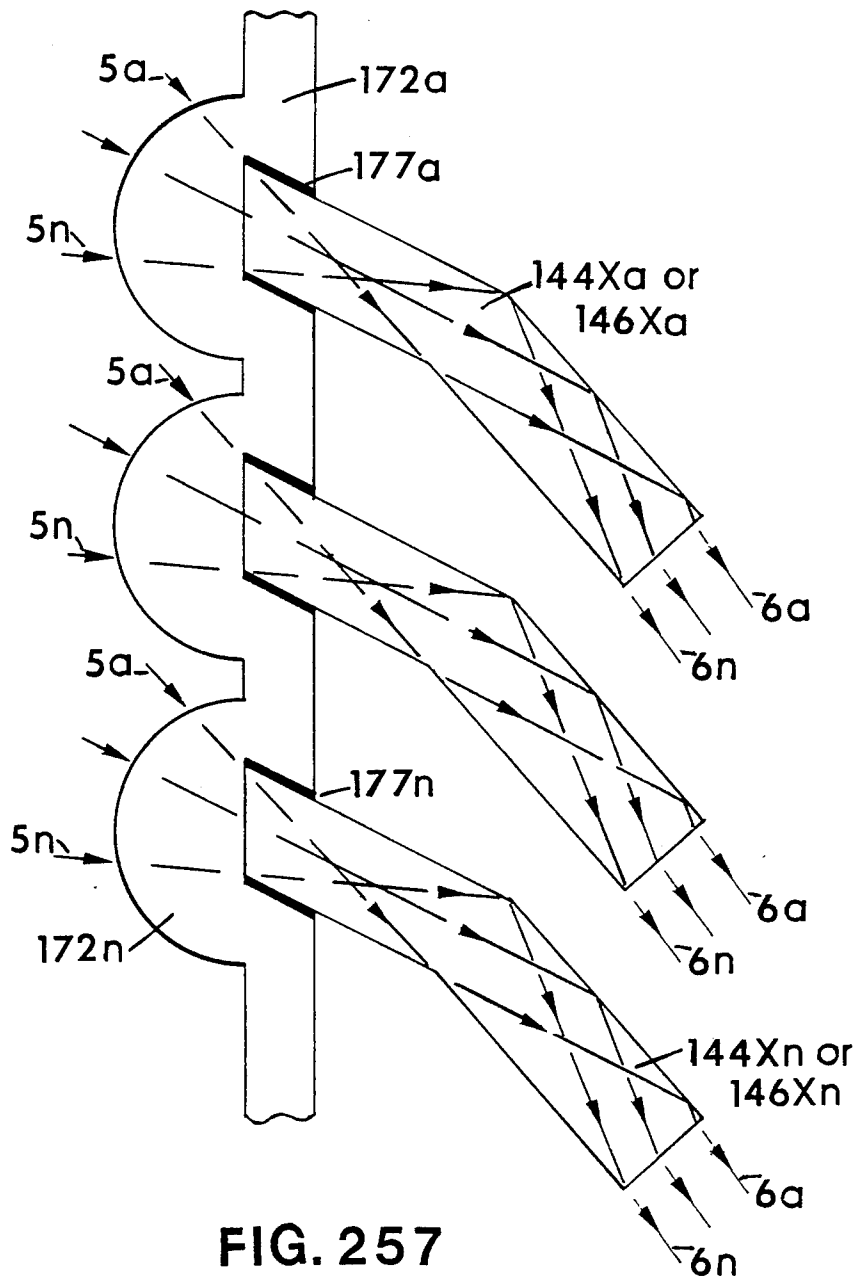


FIG. 256



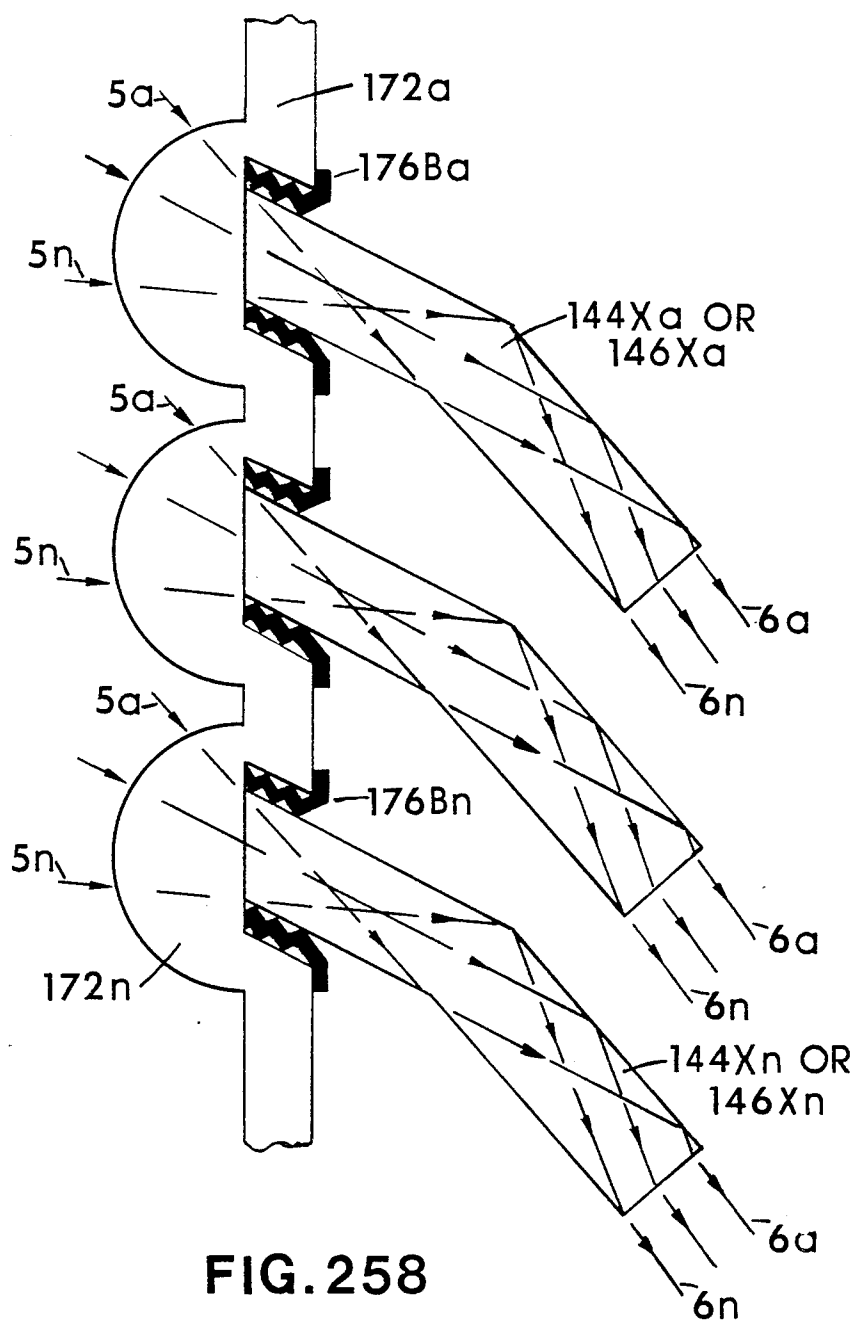


FIG. 258

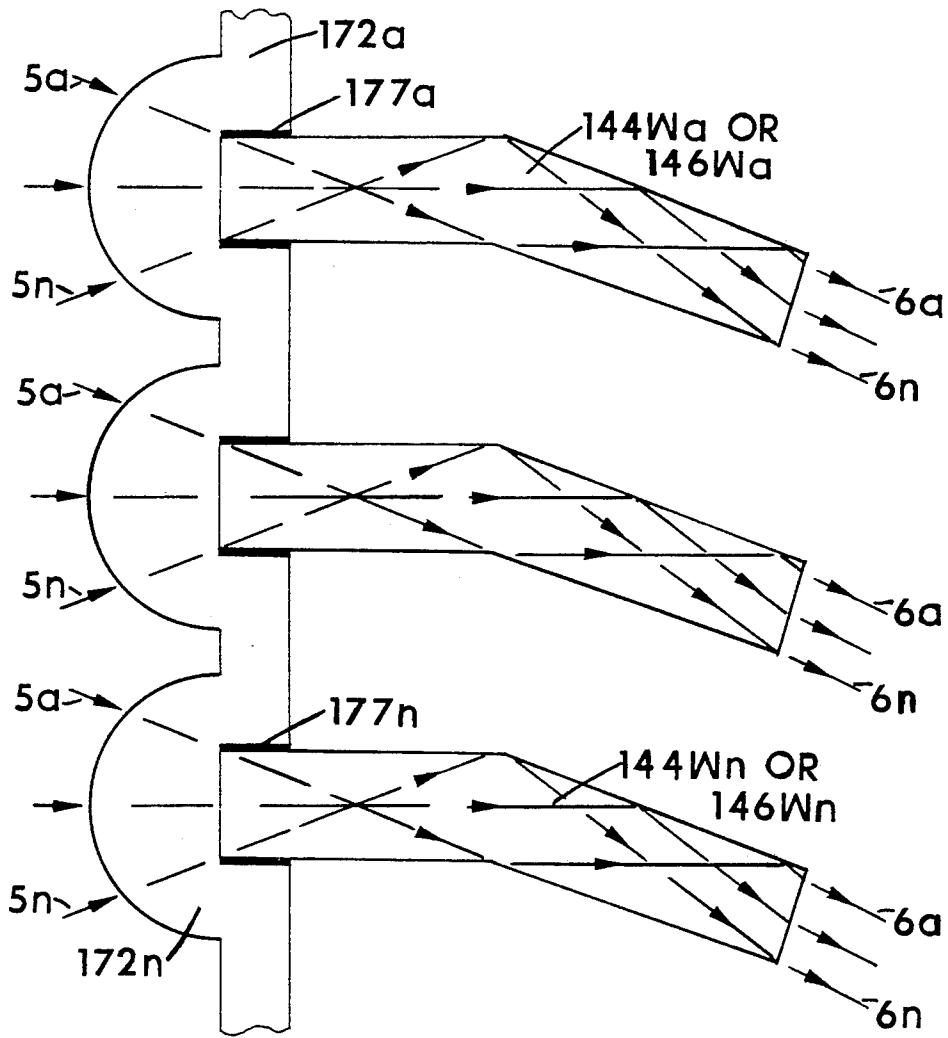


FIG.259

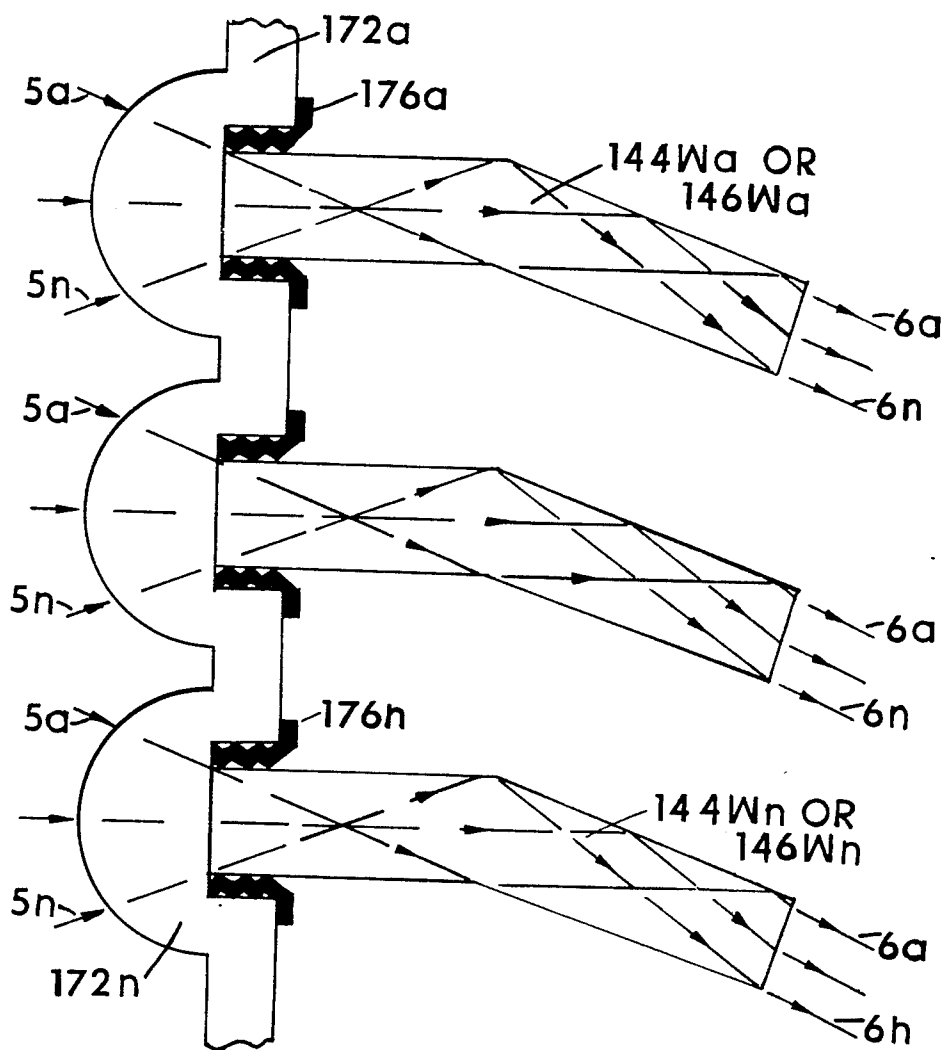


FIG.260

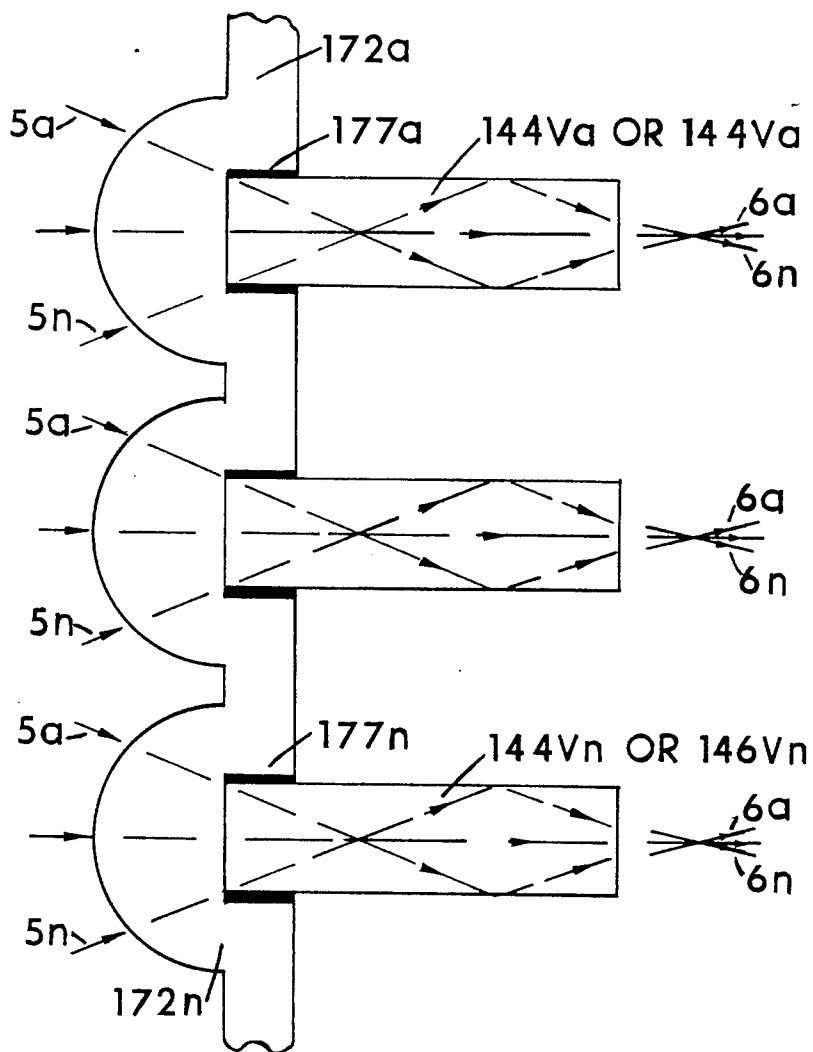


FIG. 261

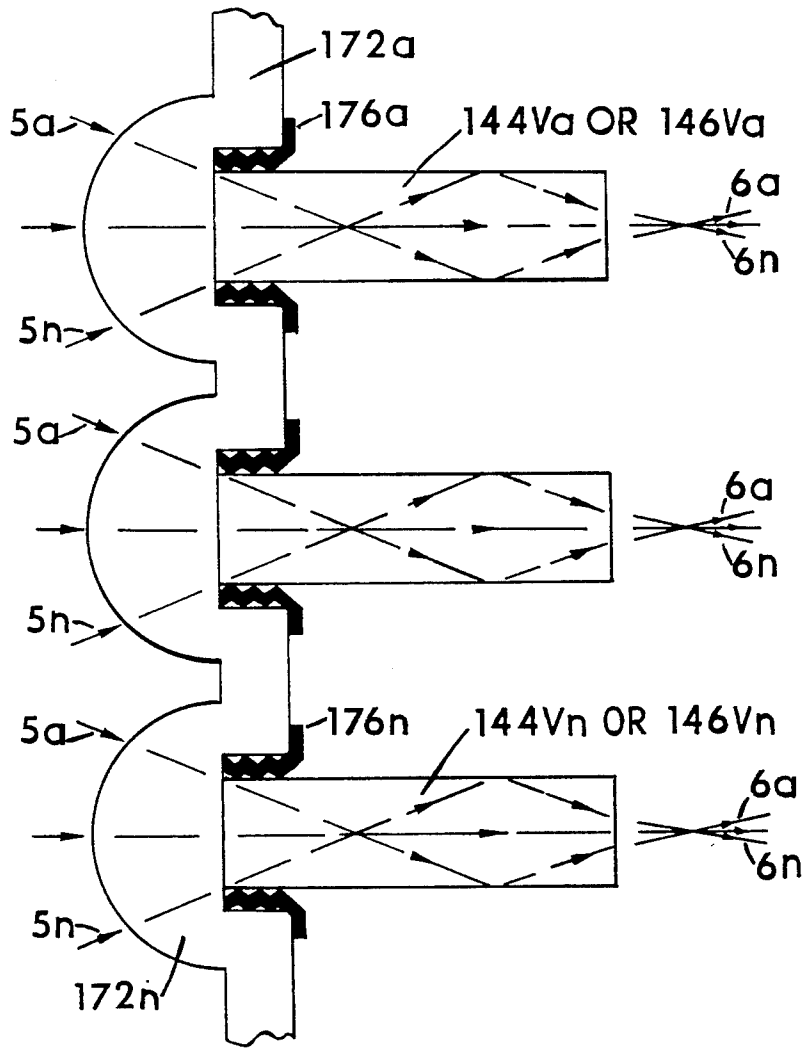


FIG. 262

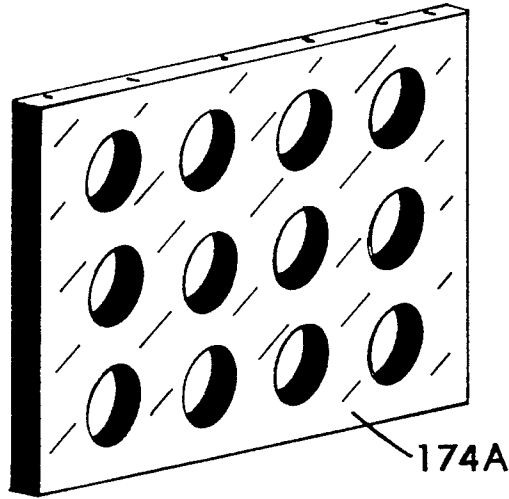


FIG. 263

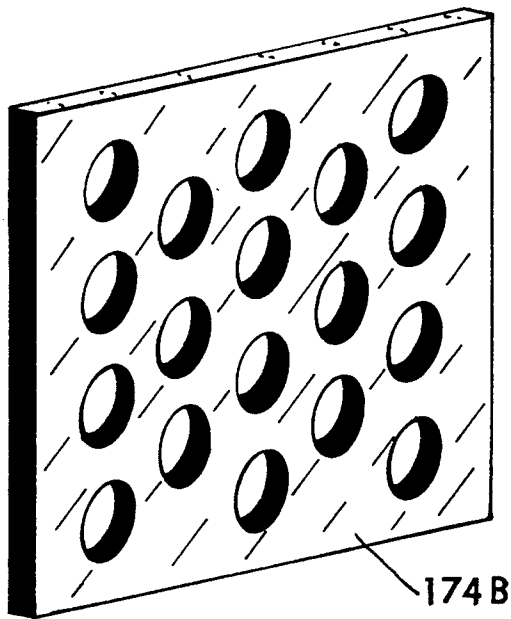
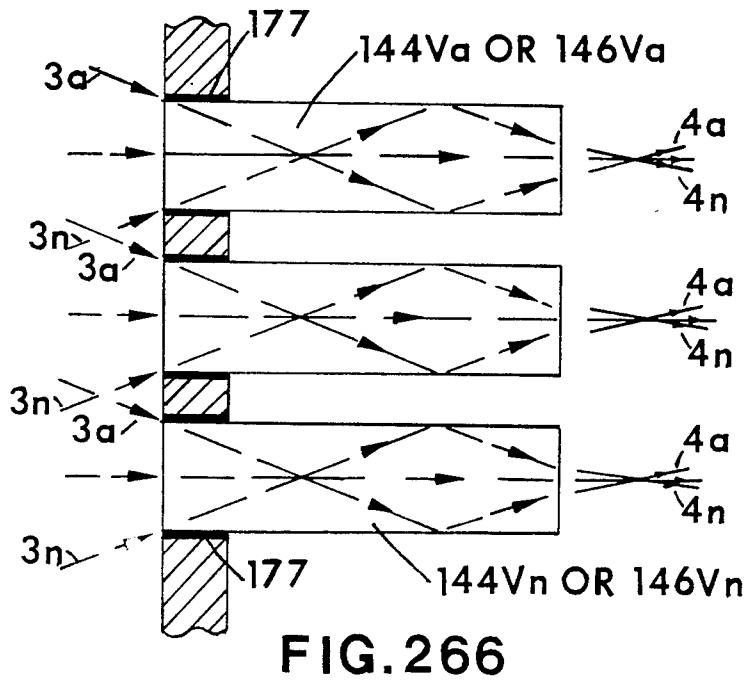
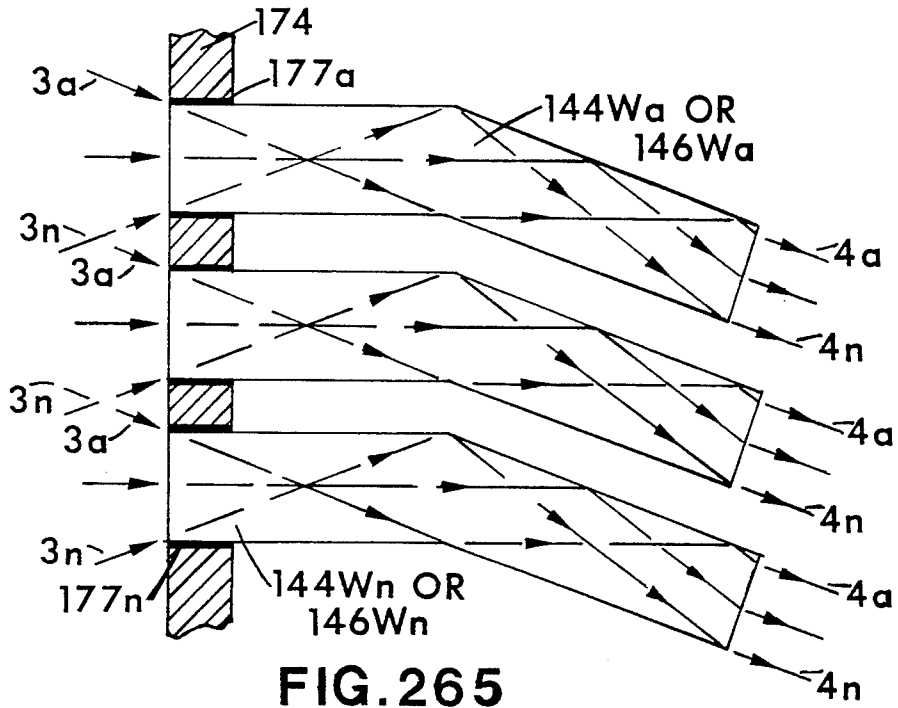


FIG. 264



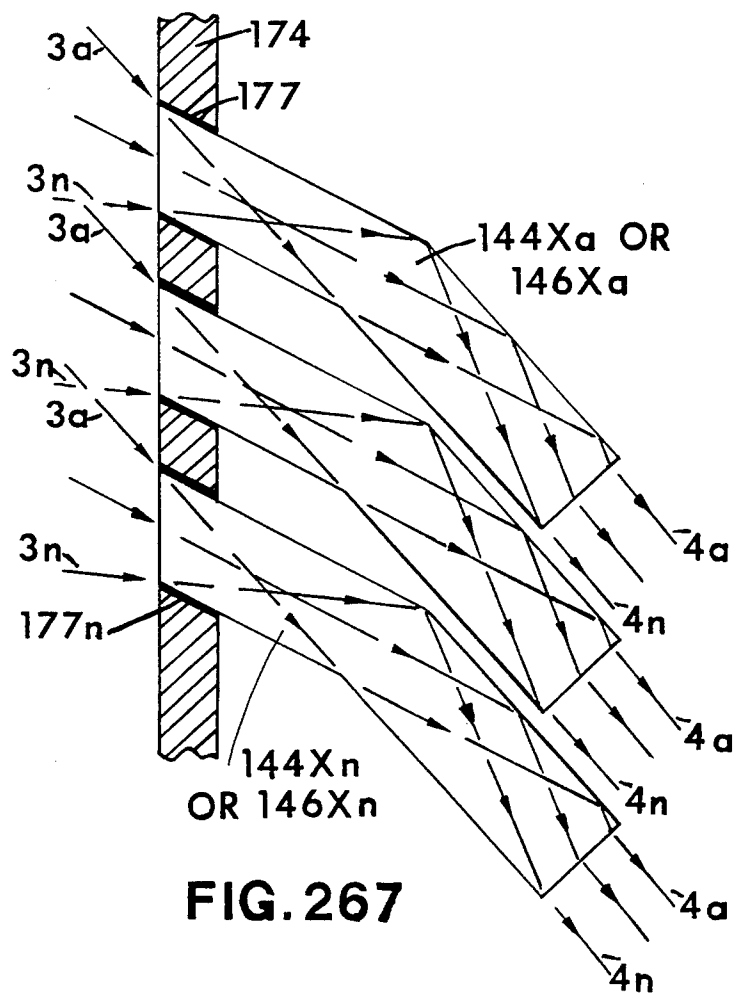


FIG. 267

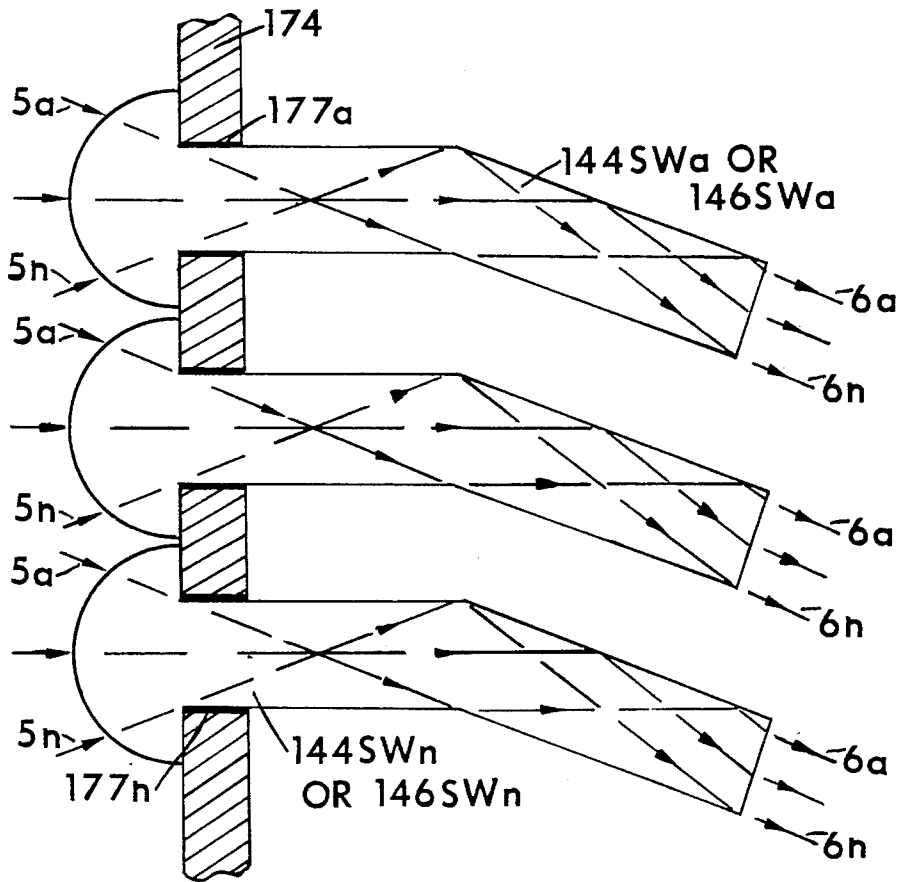


FIG.268

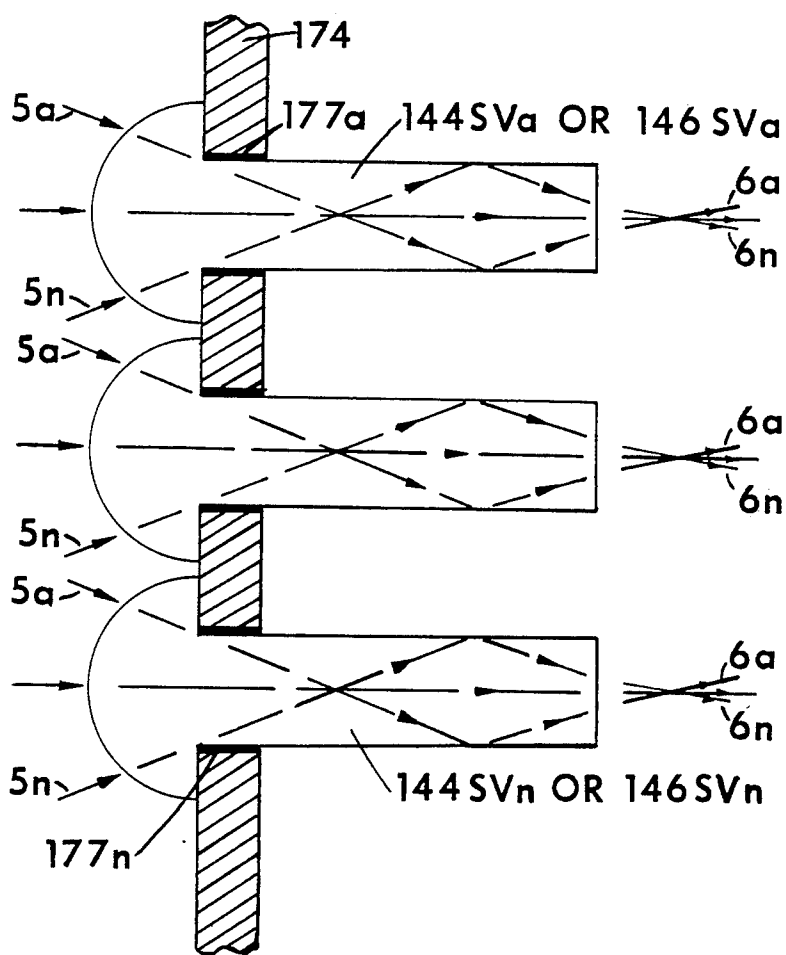


FIG. 269

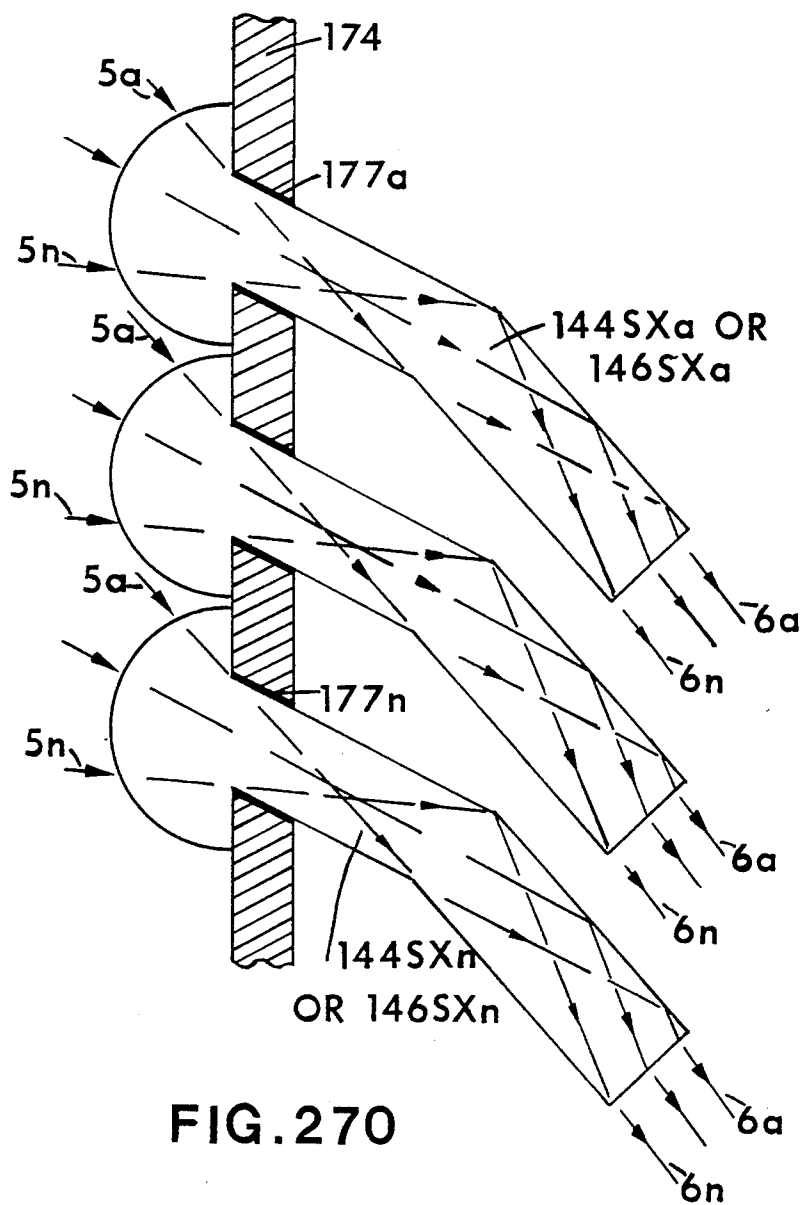


FIG. 270

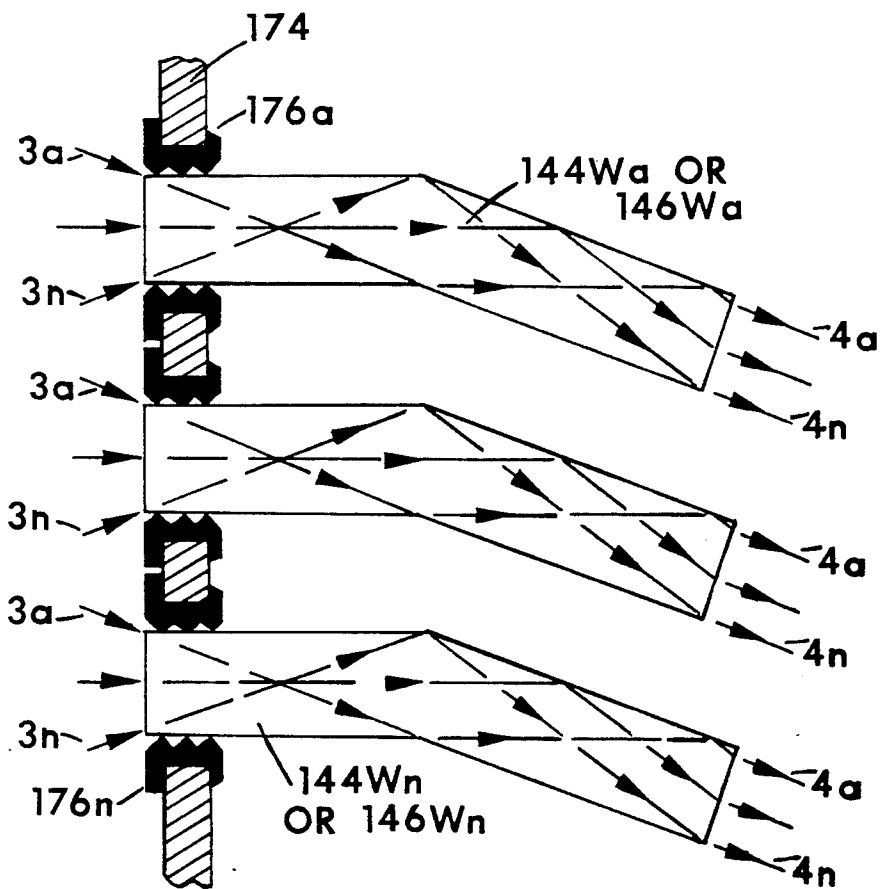


FIG.271

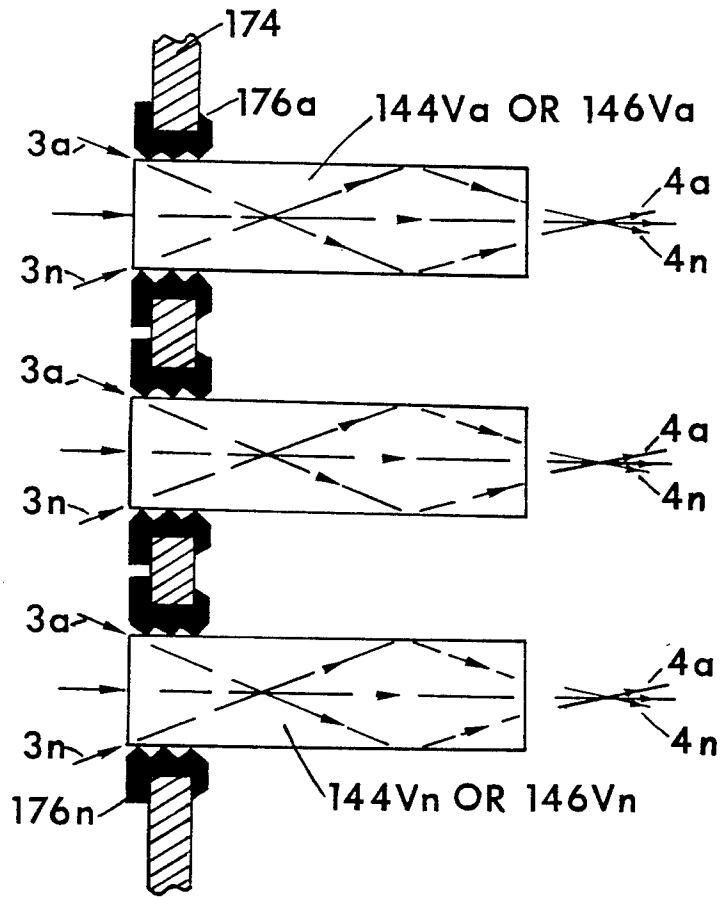
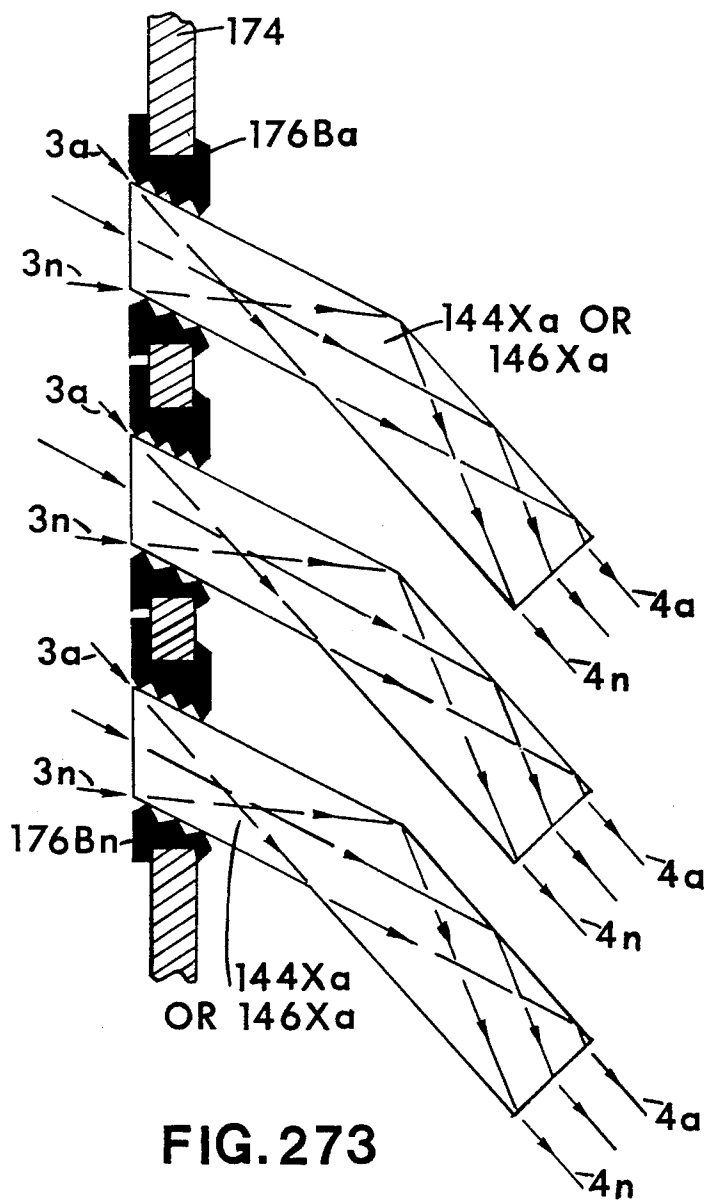


FIG. 272



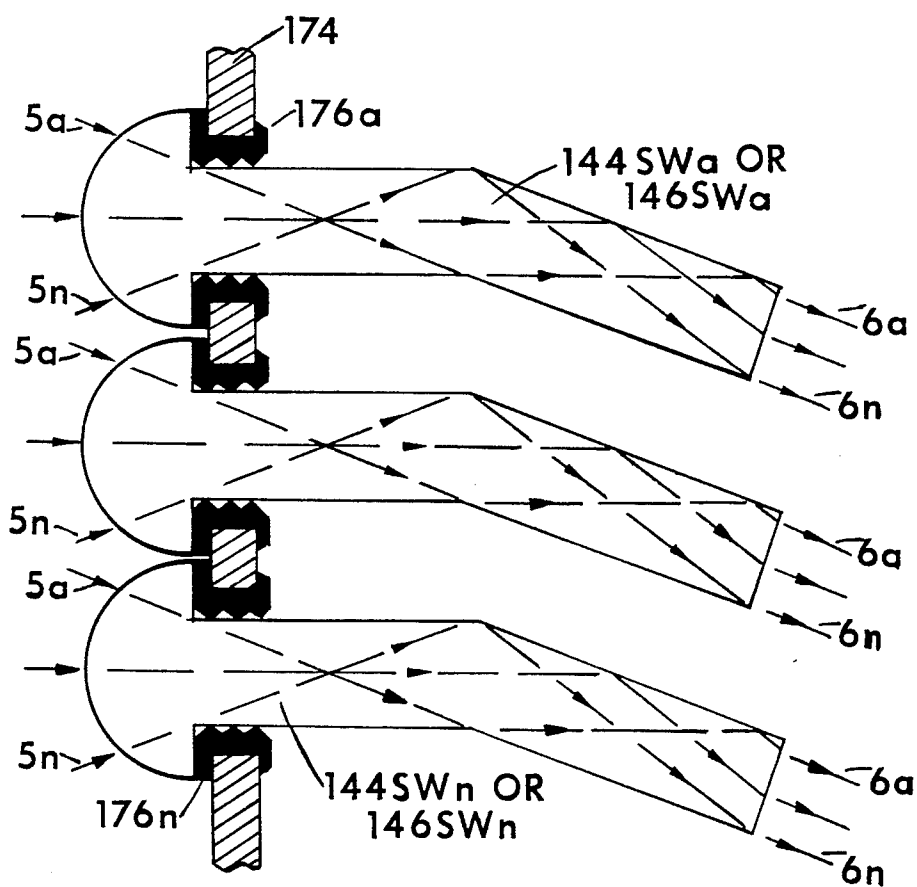


FIG. 274

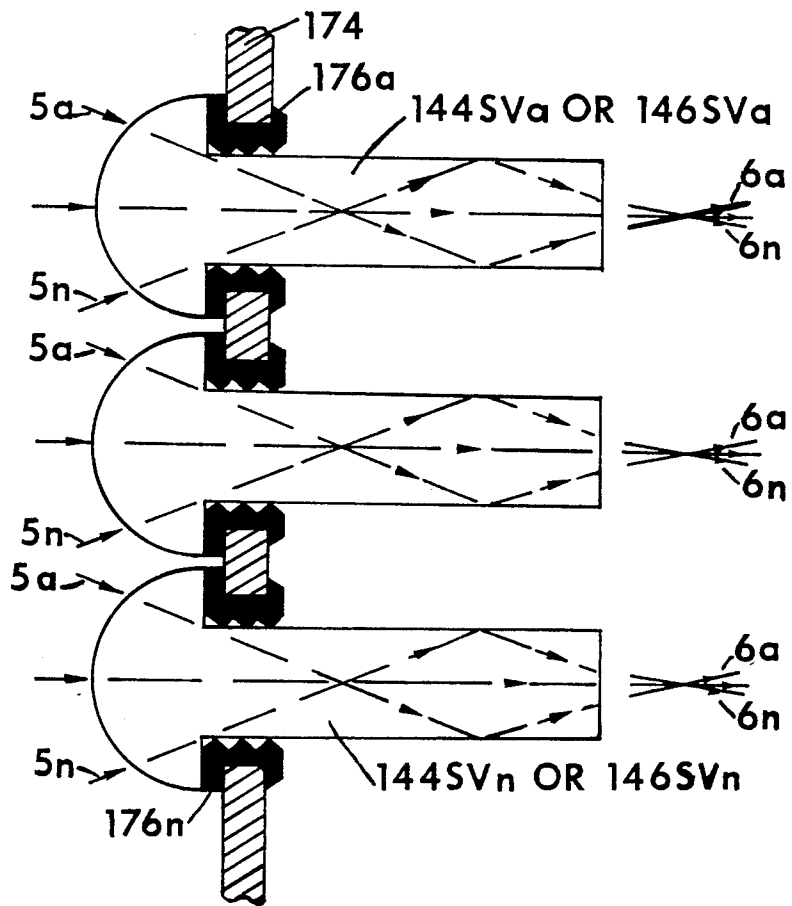


FIG. 275

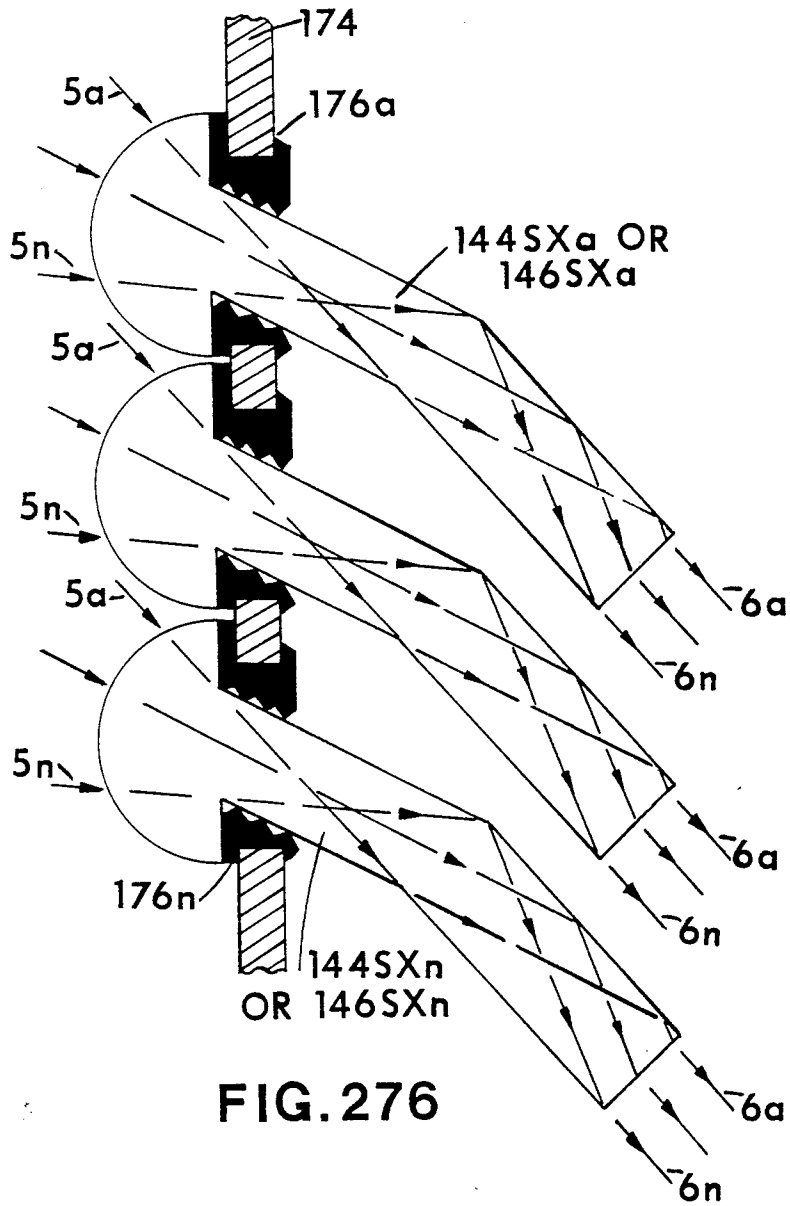


FIG. 276

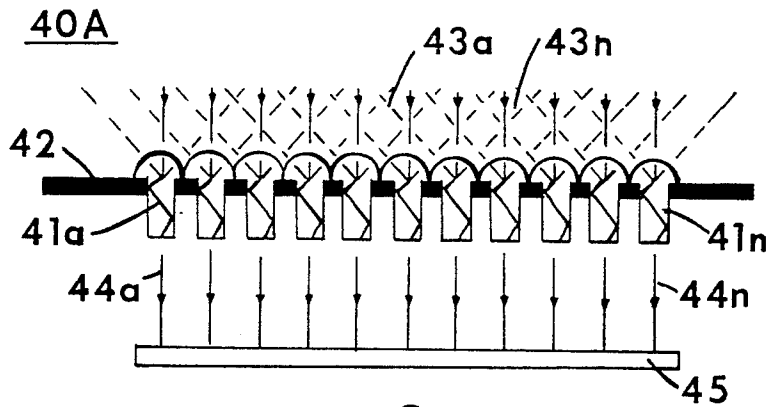


FIG. 277

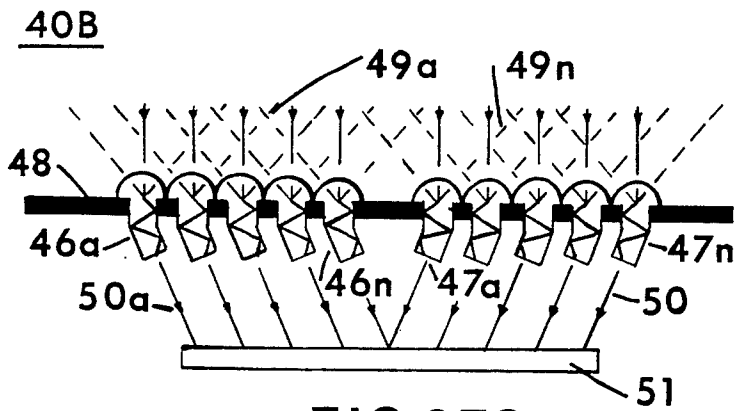


FIG 278

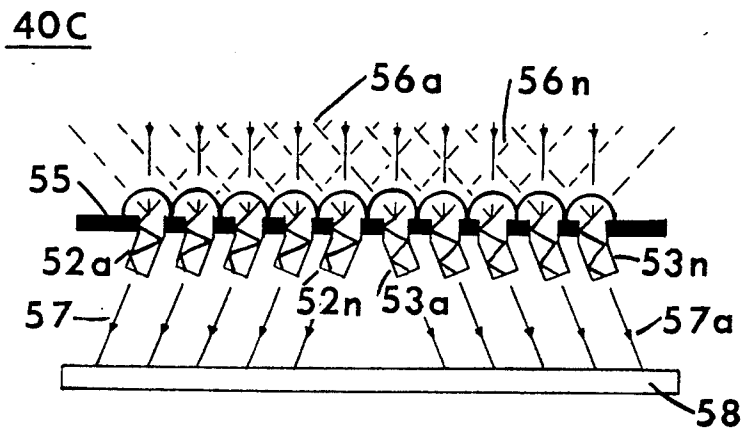


FIG. 279

40D

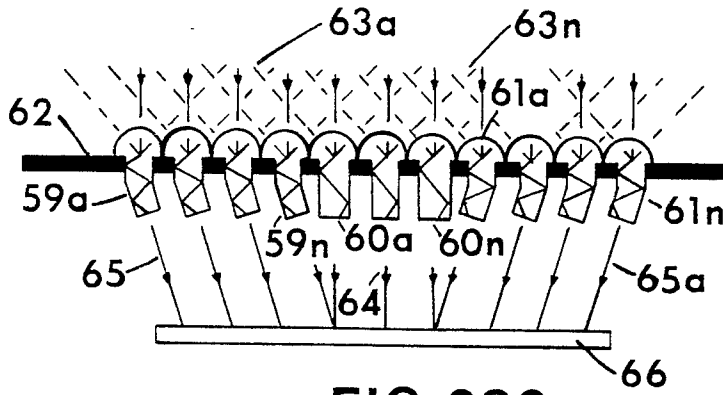


FIG. 280

40E

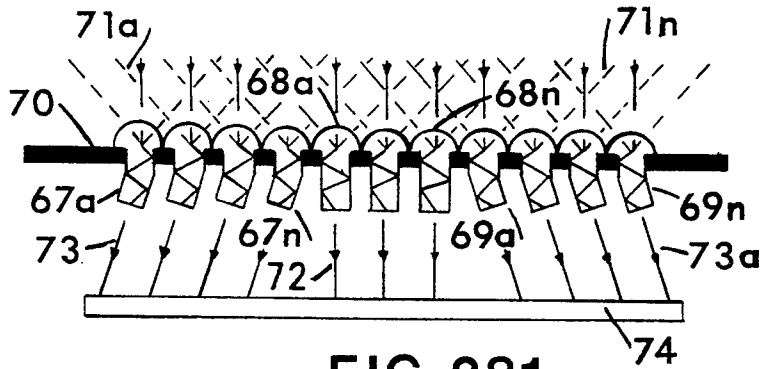


FIG. 281

40F

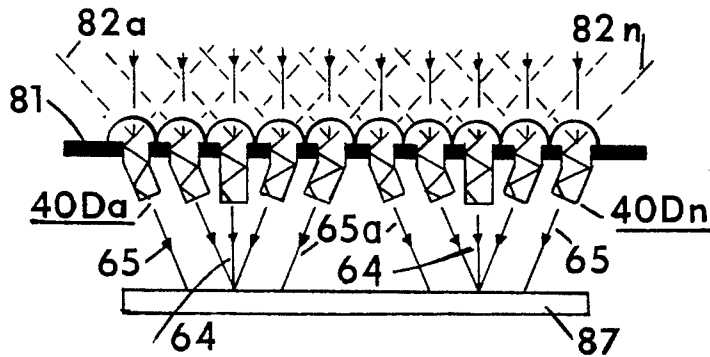


FIG. 282

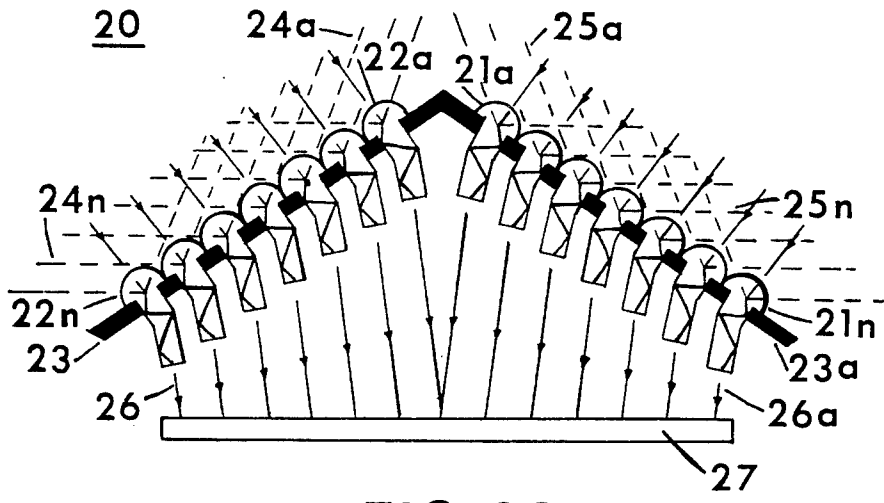


FIG. 283

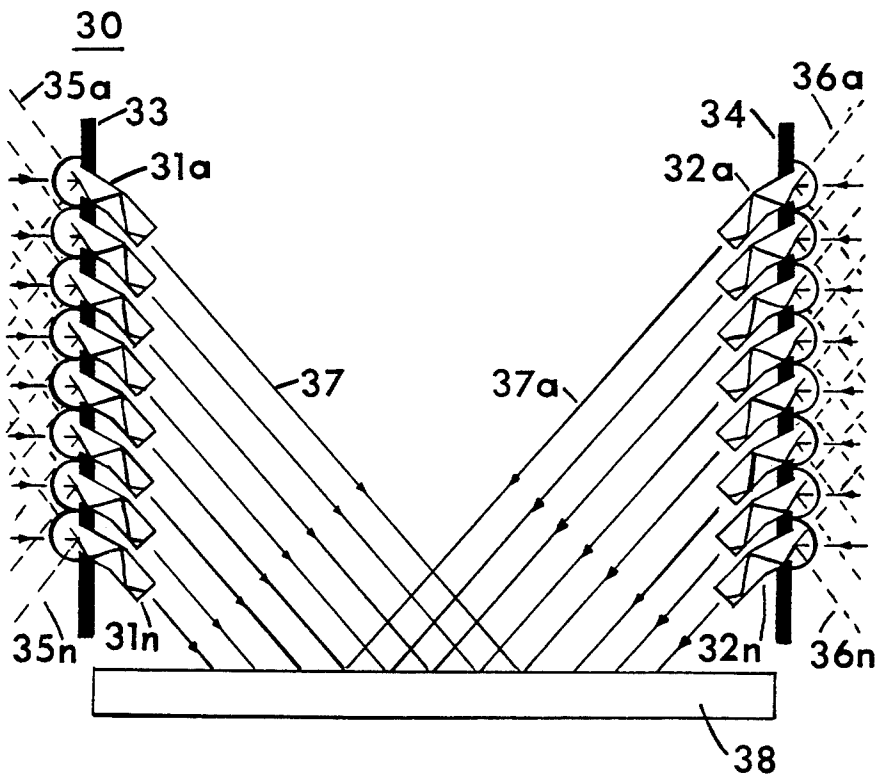


FIG. 284

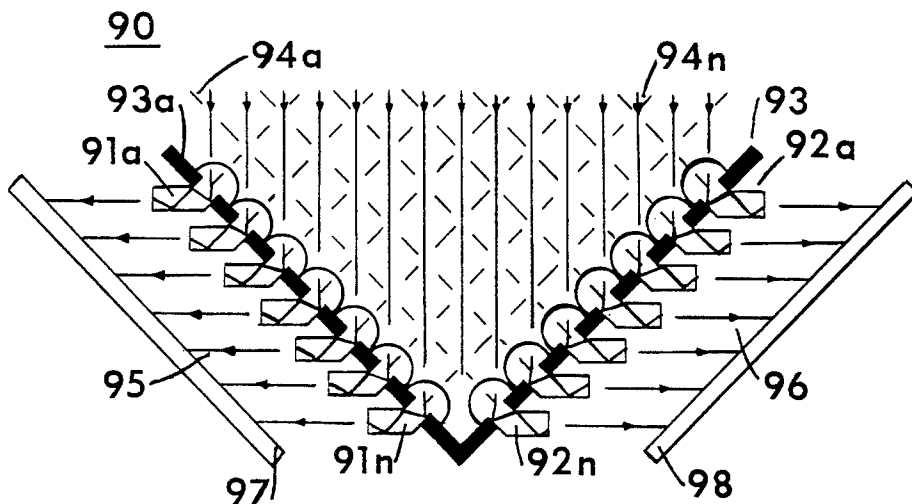


FIG. 285

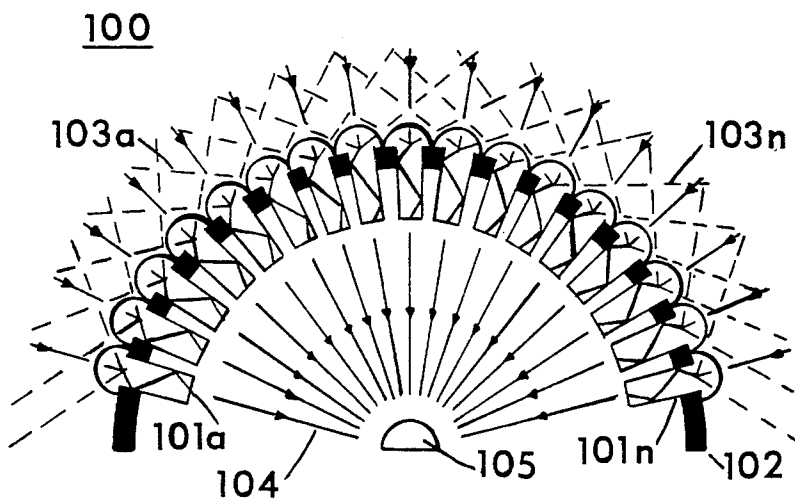


FIG. 286

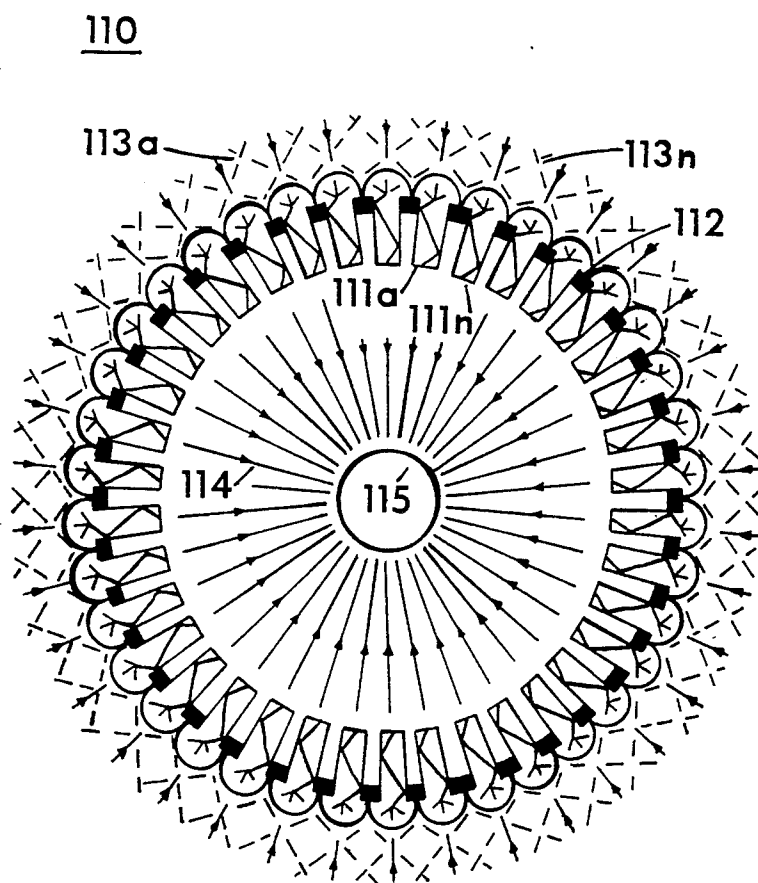


FIG.287

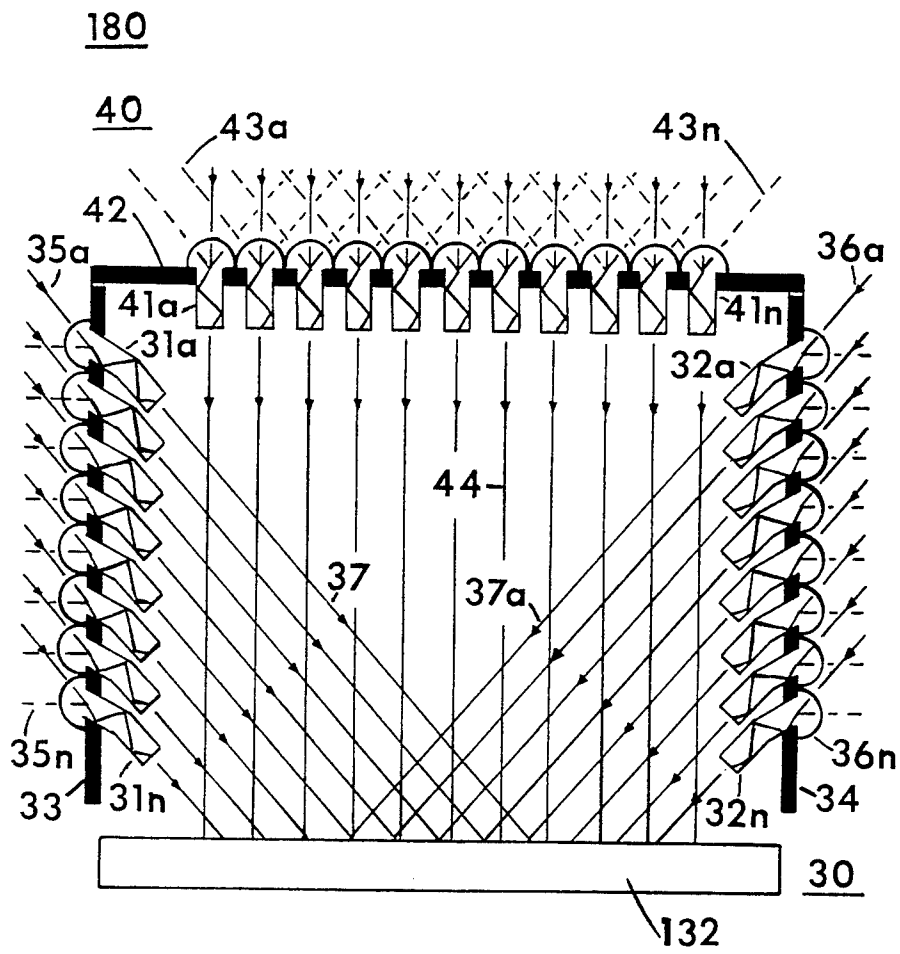


FIG. 289

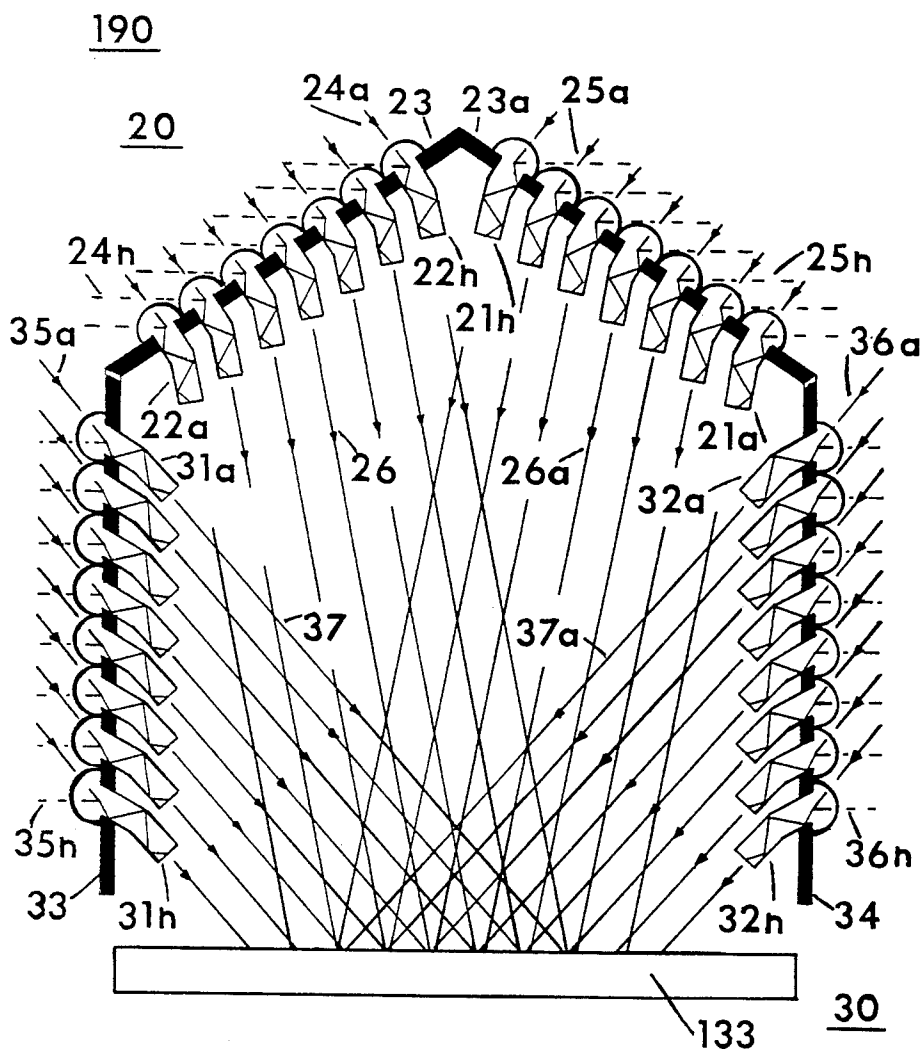


FIG. 290

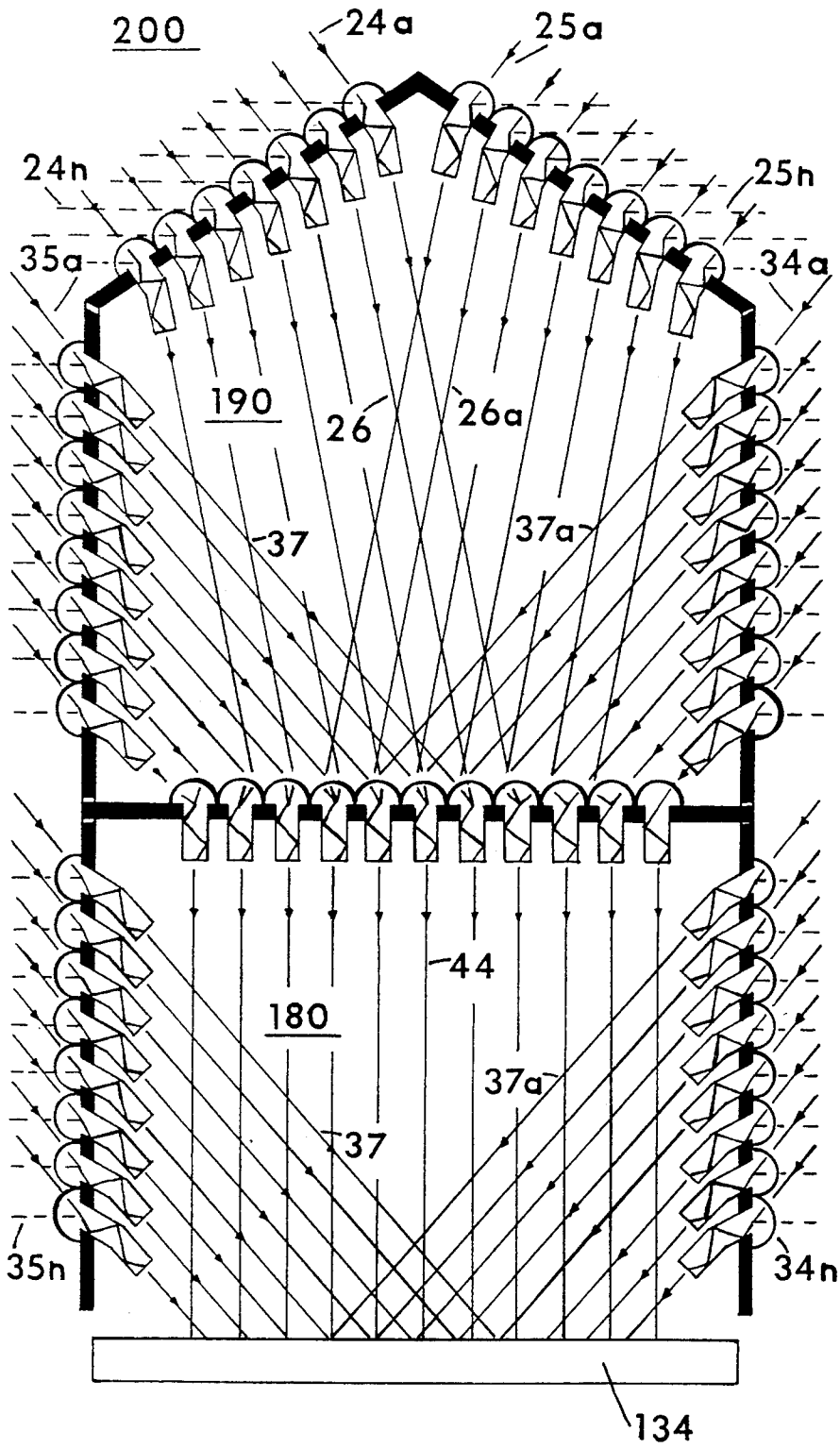


FIG. 291

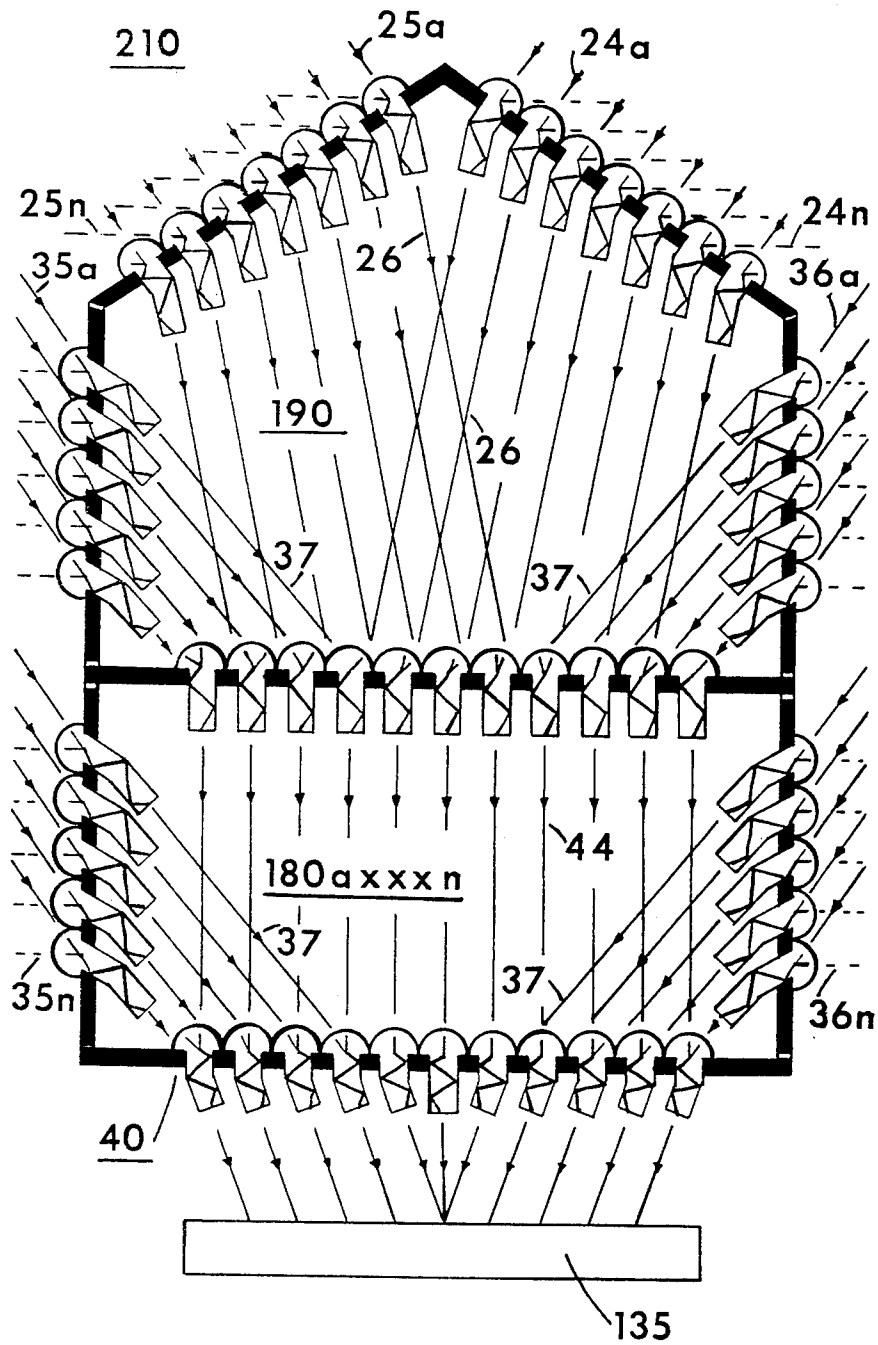


FIG. 292

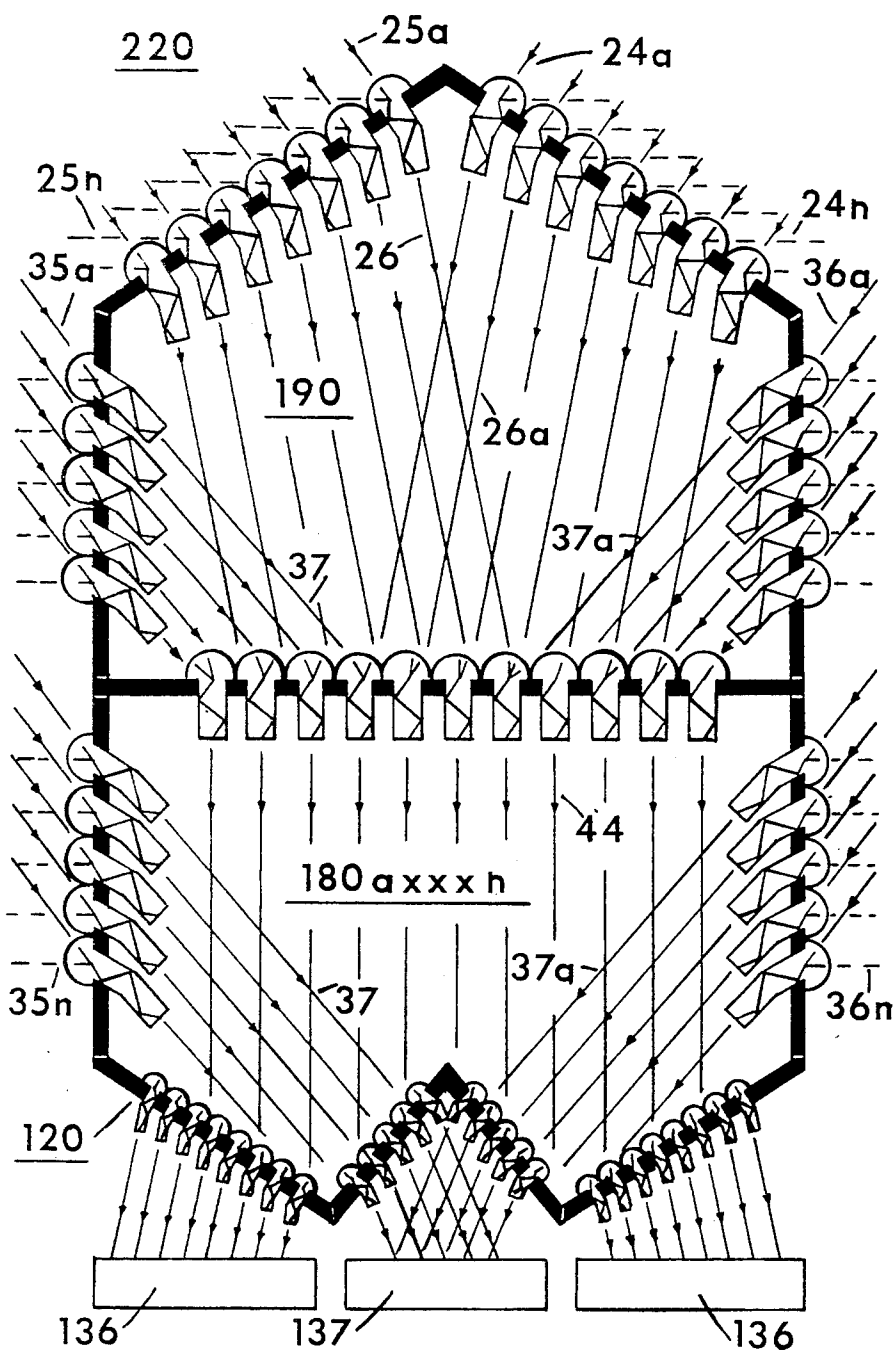


FIG. 293

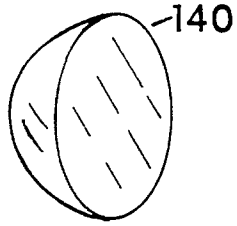


FIG. 294

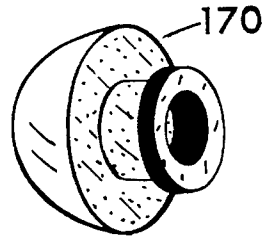


FIG. 295

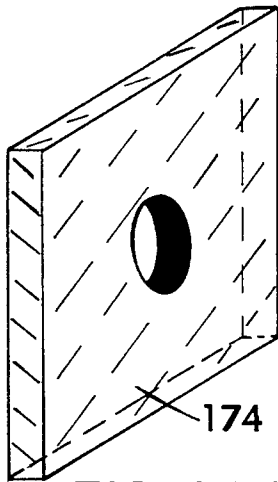


FIG. 296

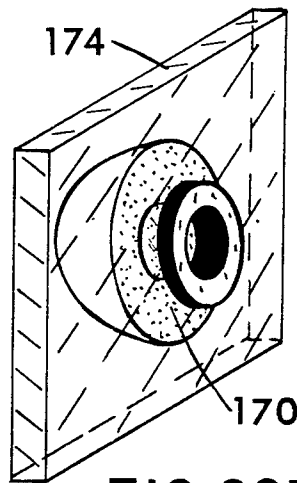


FIG. 297

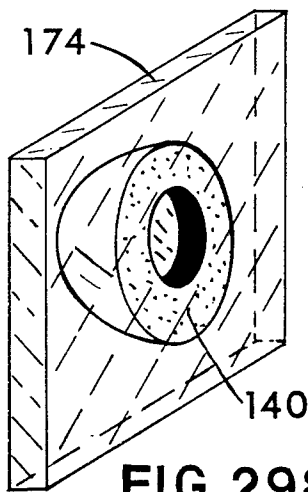


FIG. 298



FIG. 299

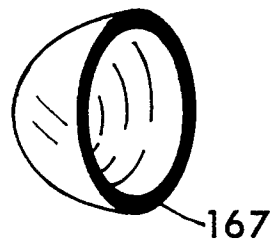


FIG. 300

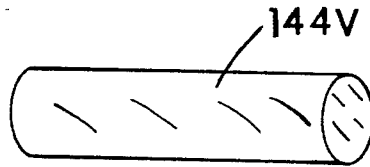


FIG. 301

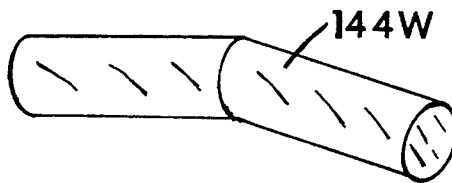


FIG. 302

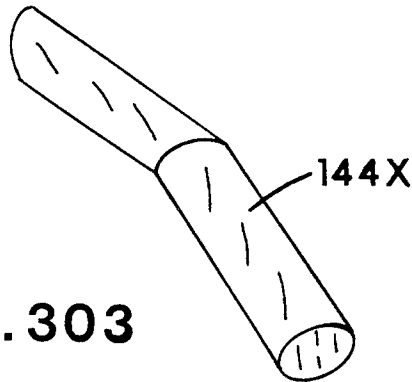


FIG. 303

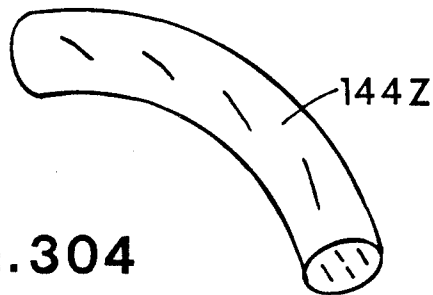


FIG. 304

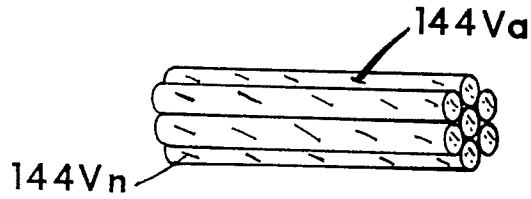


FIG. 305

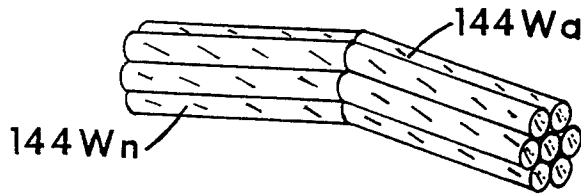


FIG. 306

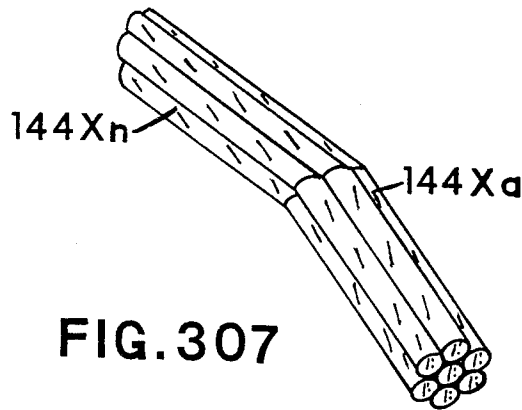


FIG. 307

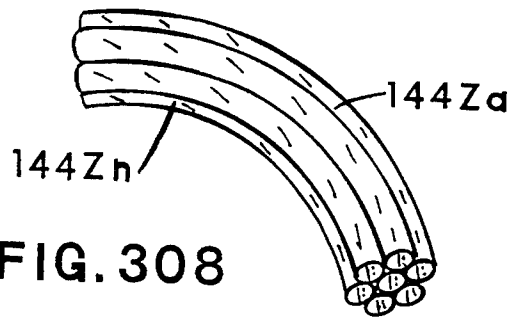


FIG. 308

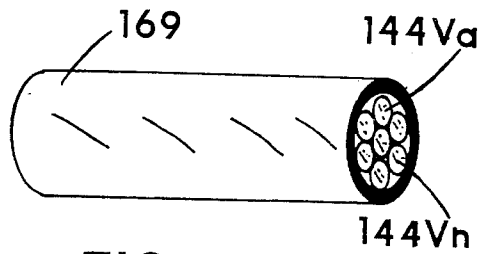


FIG. 309

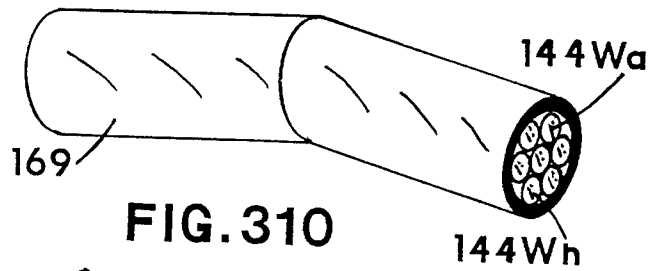


FIG. 310

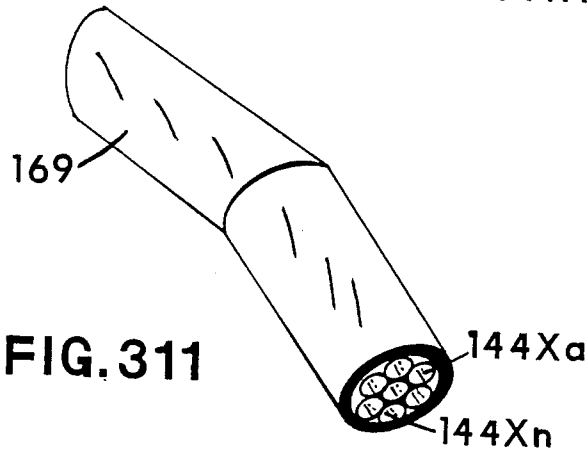


FIG. 311

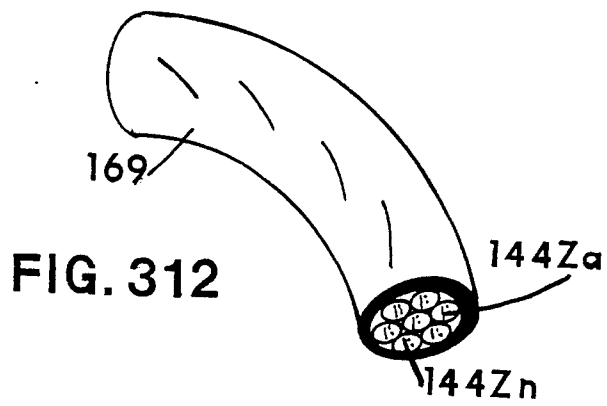


FIG. 312

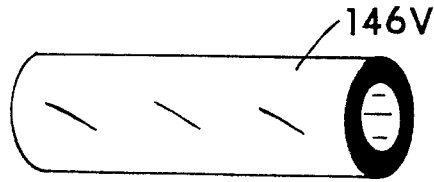


FIG. 313

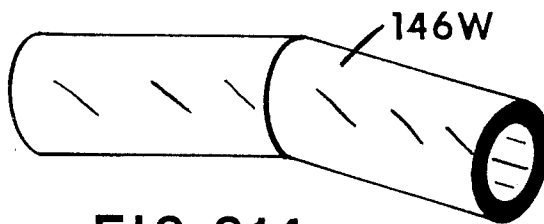


FIG. 314

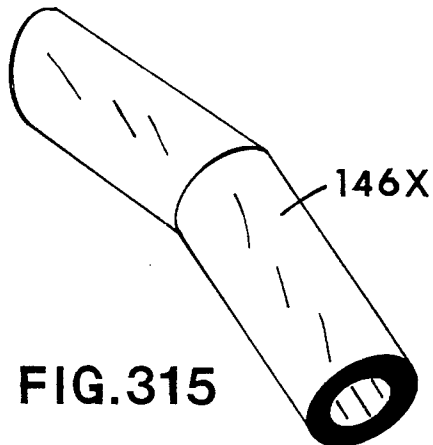


FIG. 315

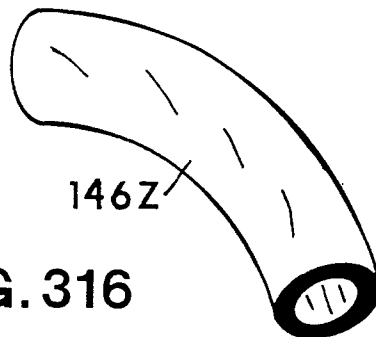


FIG. 316

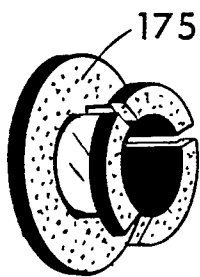


FIG. 317

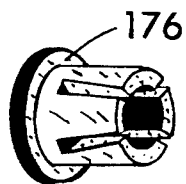


FIG. 318

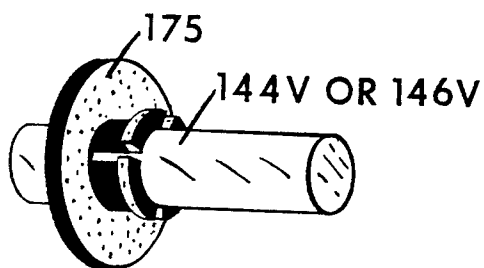


FIG. 319

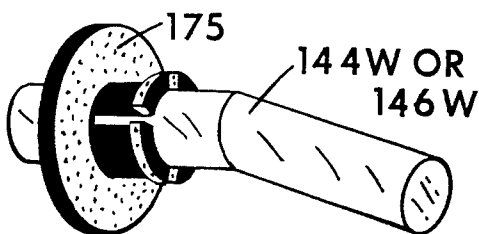


FIG. 320

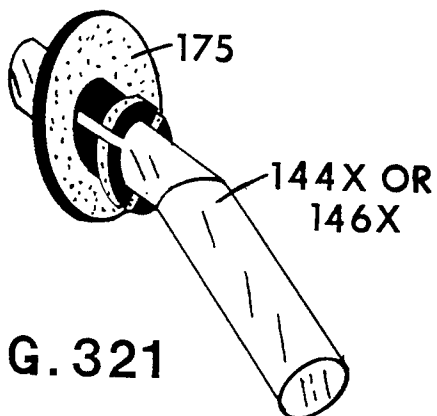


FIG. 321

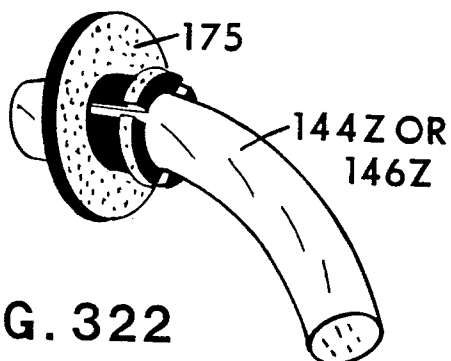


FIG. 322

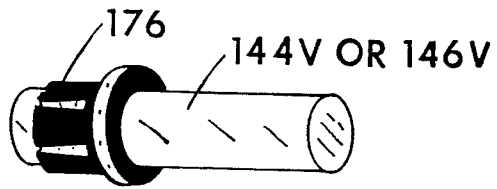


FIG. 323

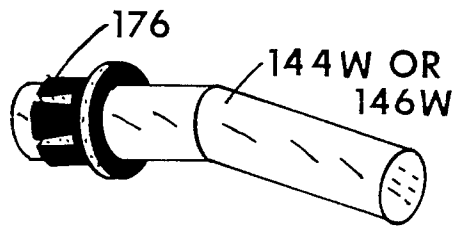


FIG. 324

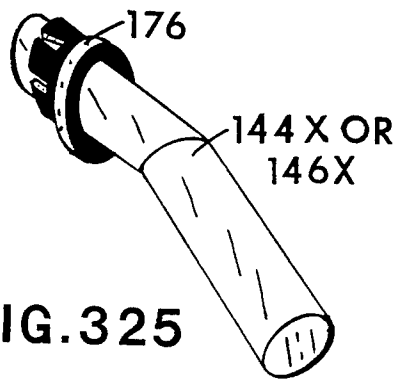


FIG. 325

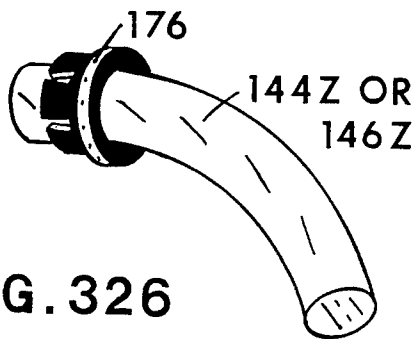


FIG. 326

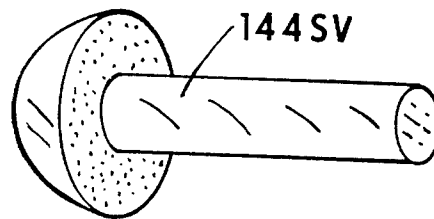


FIG. 327

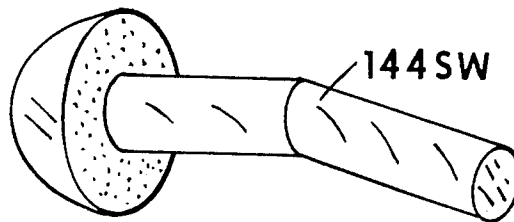


FIG. 328

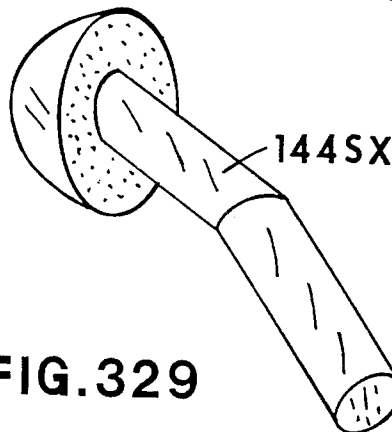


FIG. 329

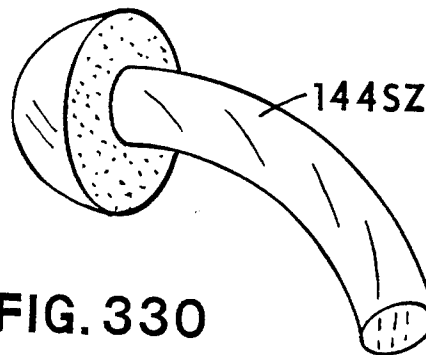


FIG. 330

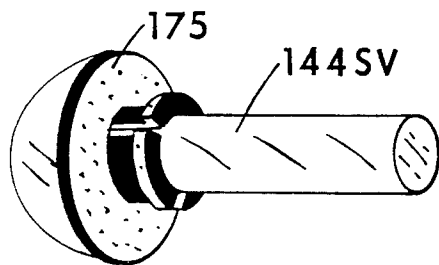


FIG. 331

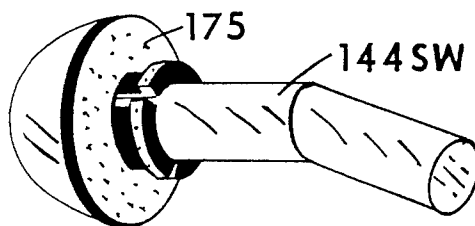


FIG. 332

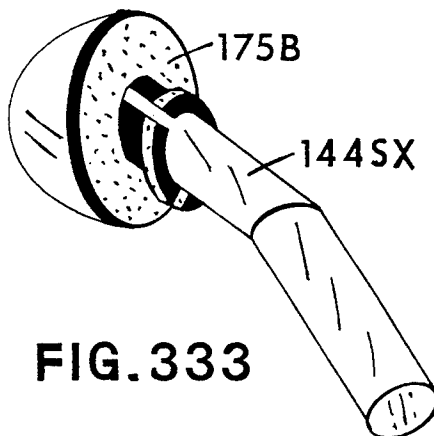


FIG. 333

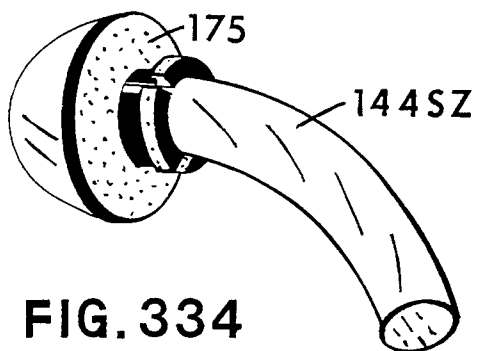


FIG. 334

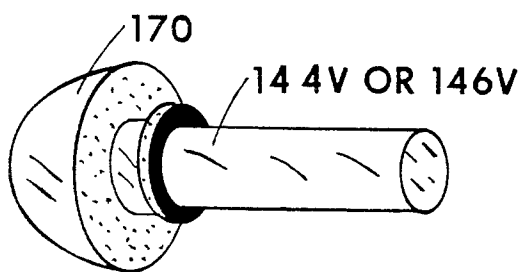


FIG. 335

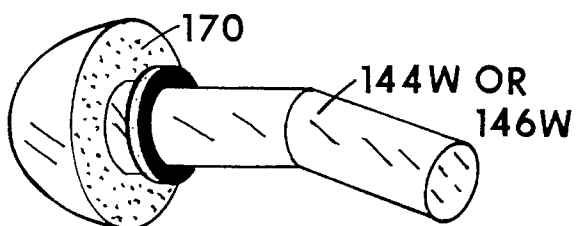


FIG. 336

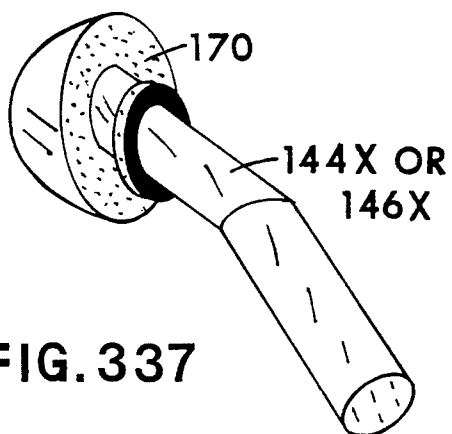


FIG. 337

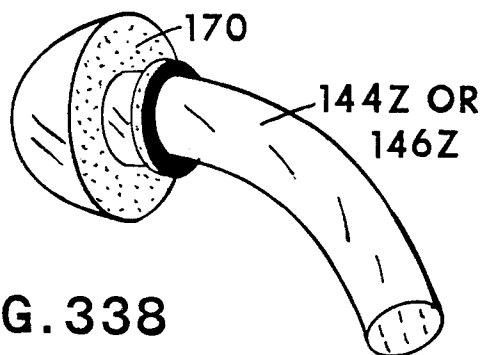


FIG. 338

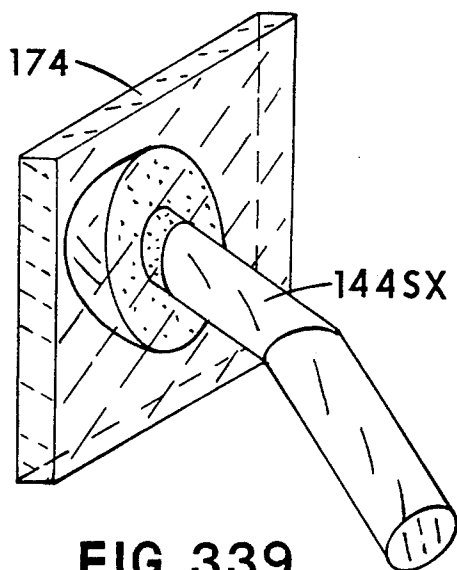


FIG. 339

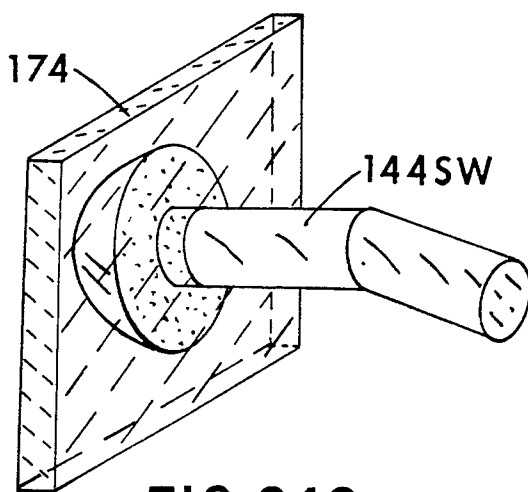


FIG. 340

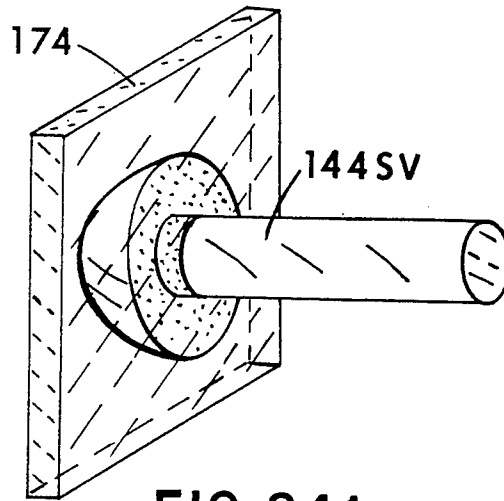


FIG. 341

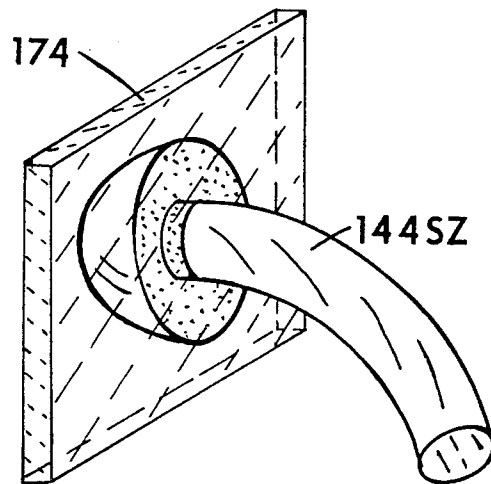
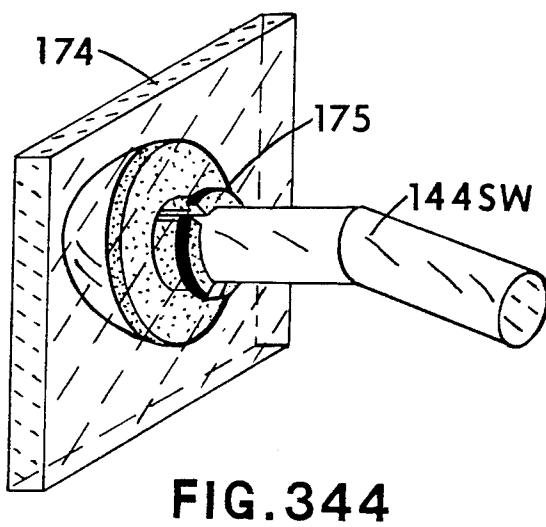
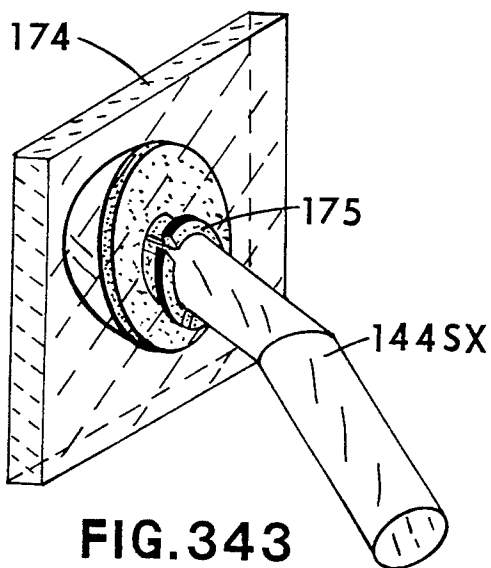


FIG. 342



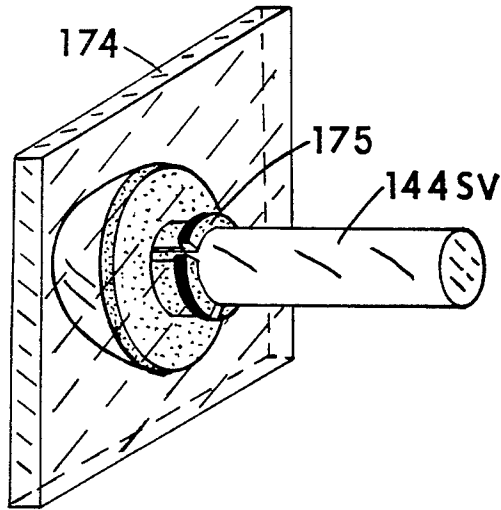


FIG. 345

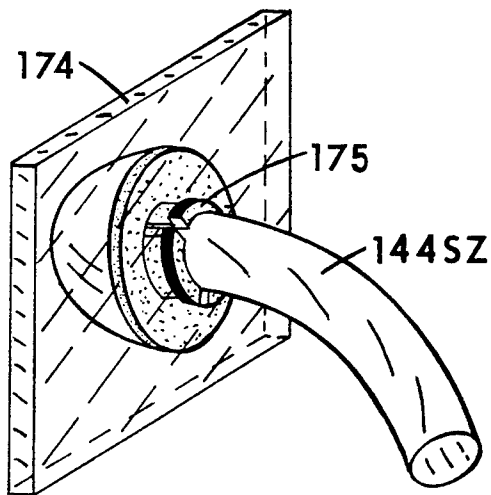


FIG. 346

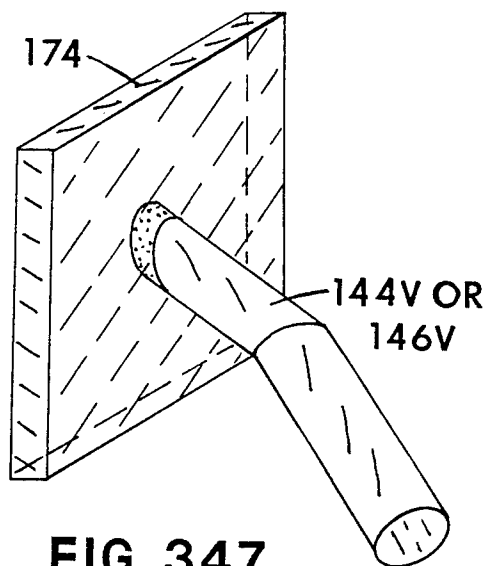


FIG. 347

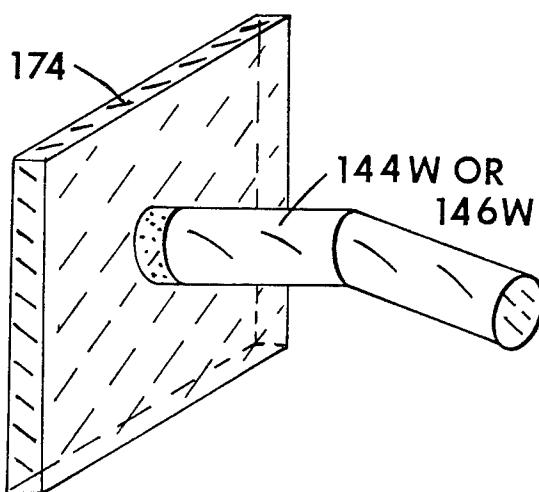


FIG. 348

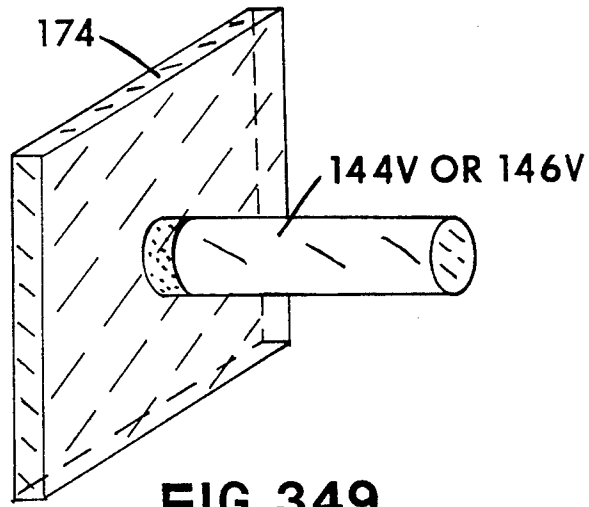


FIG. 349

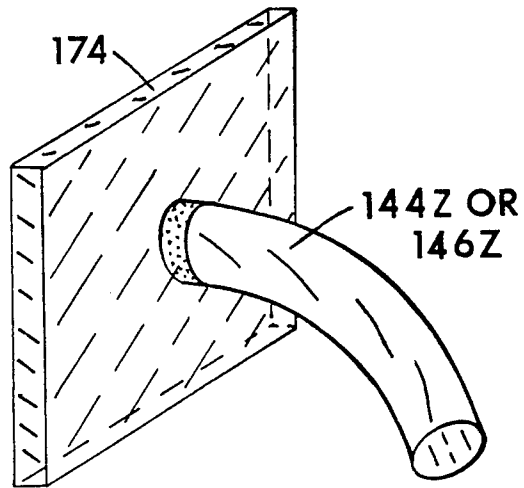


FIG. 350

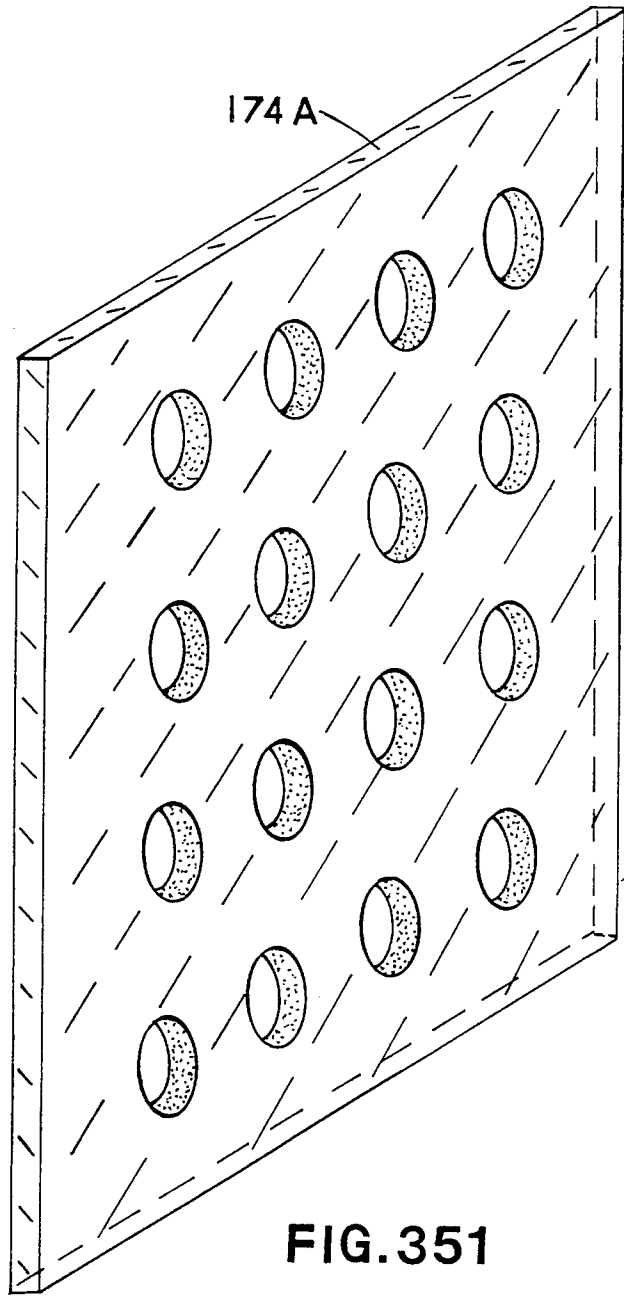


FIG. 351

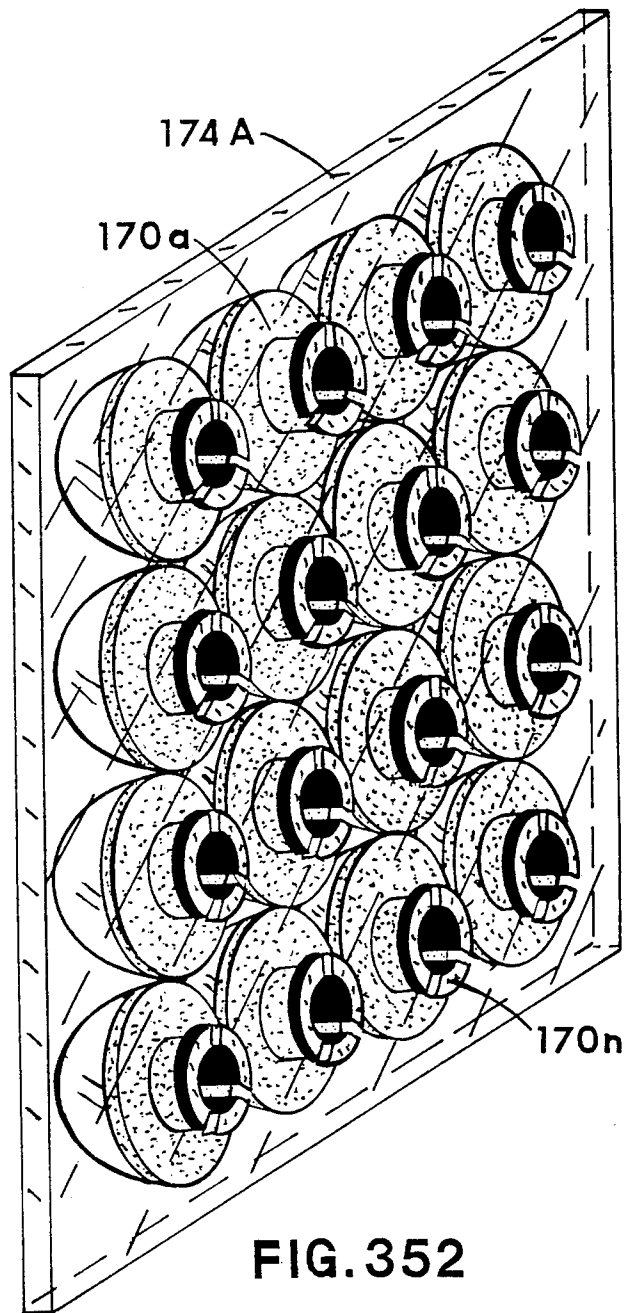


FIG. 352

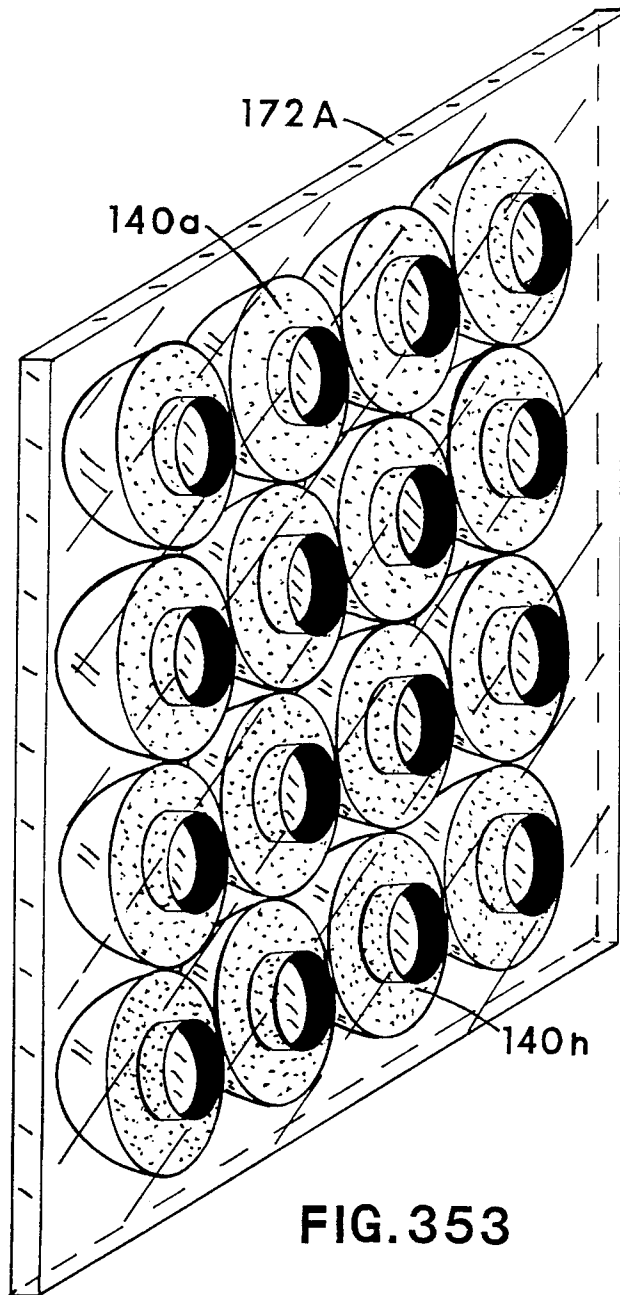


FIG. 353

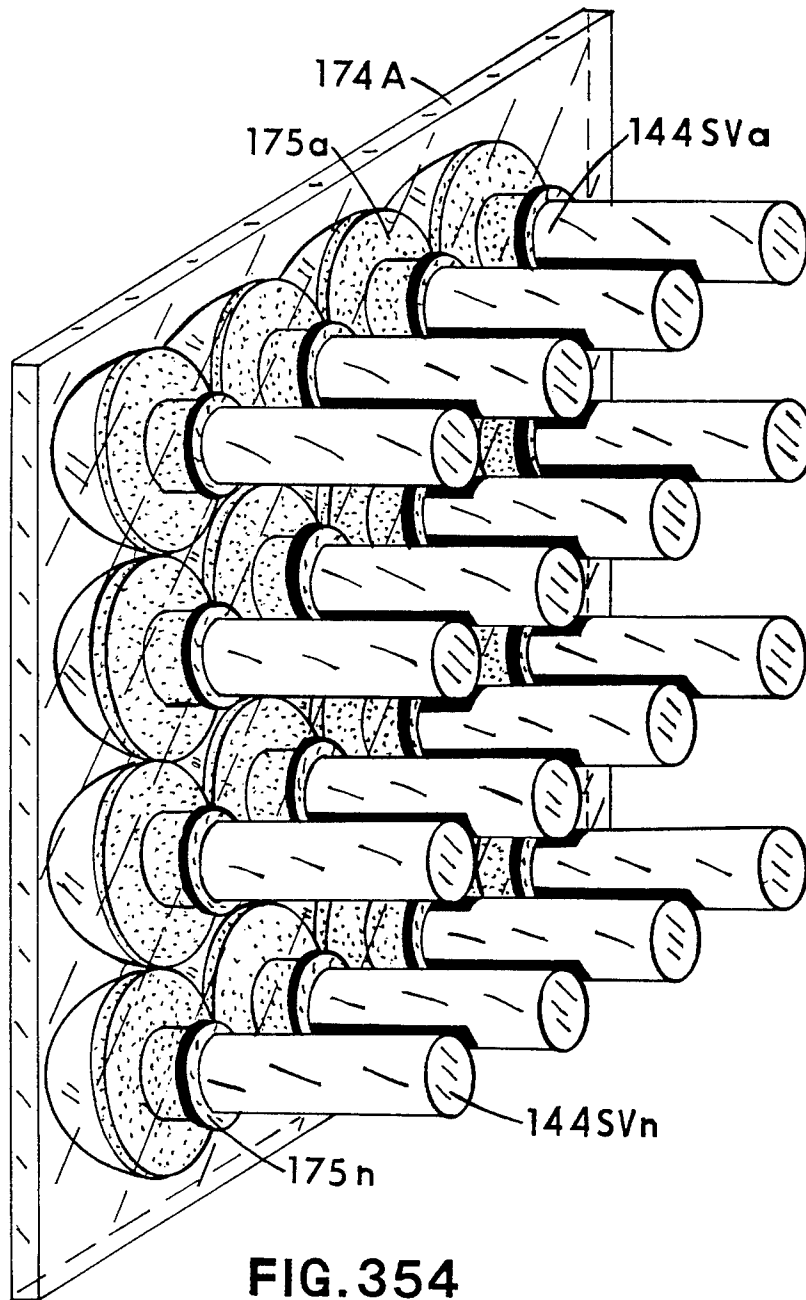


FIG. 354

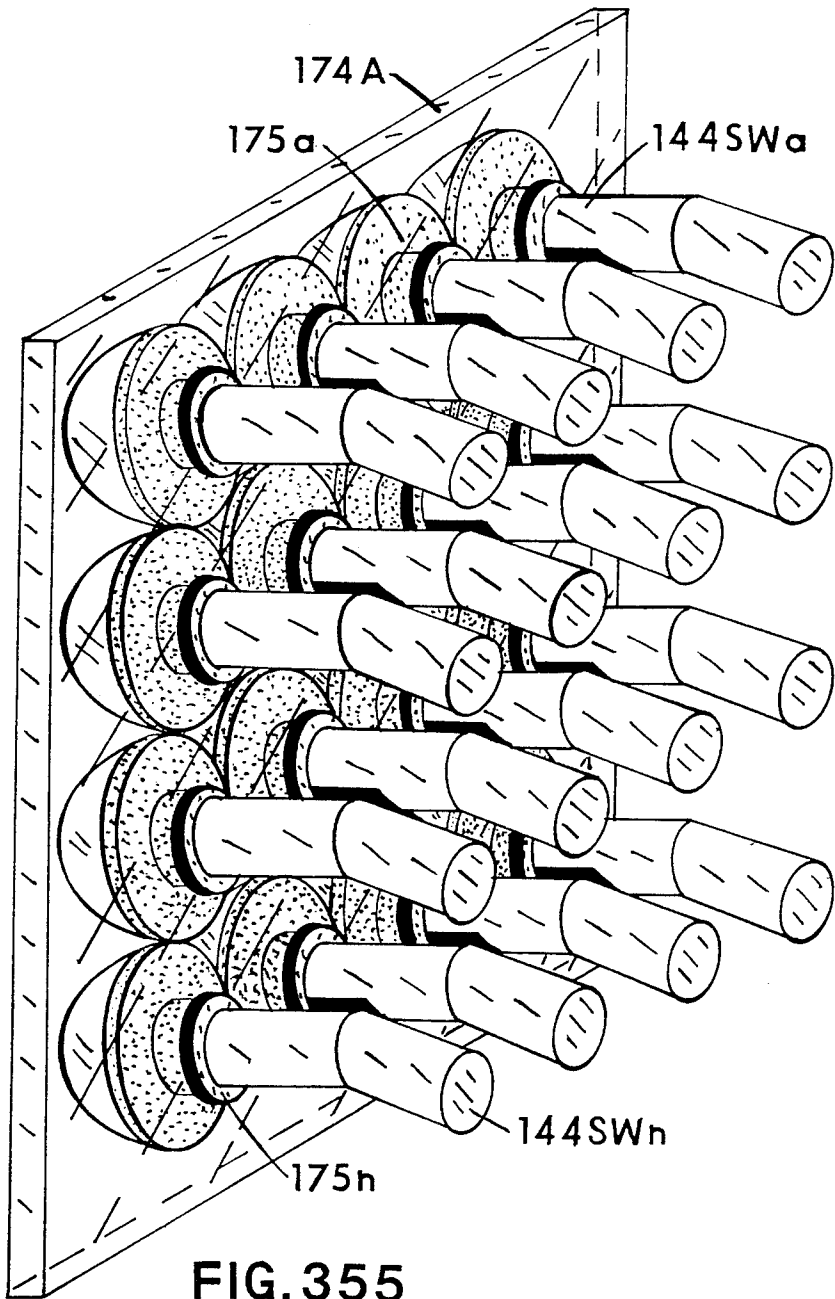


FIG. 355

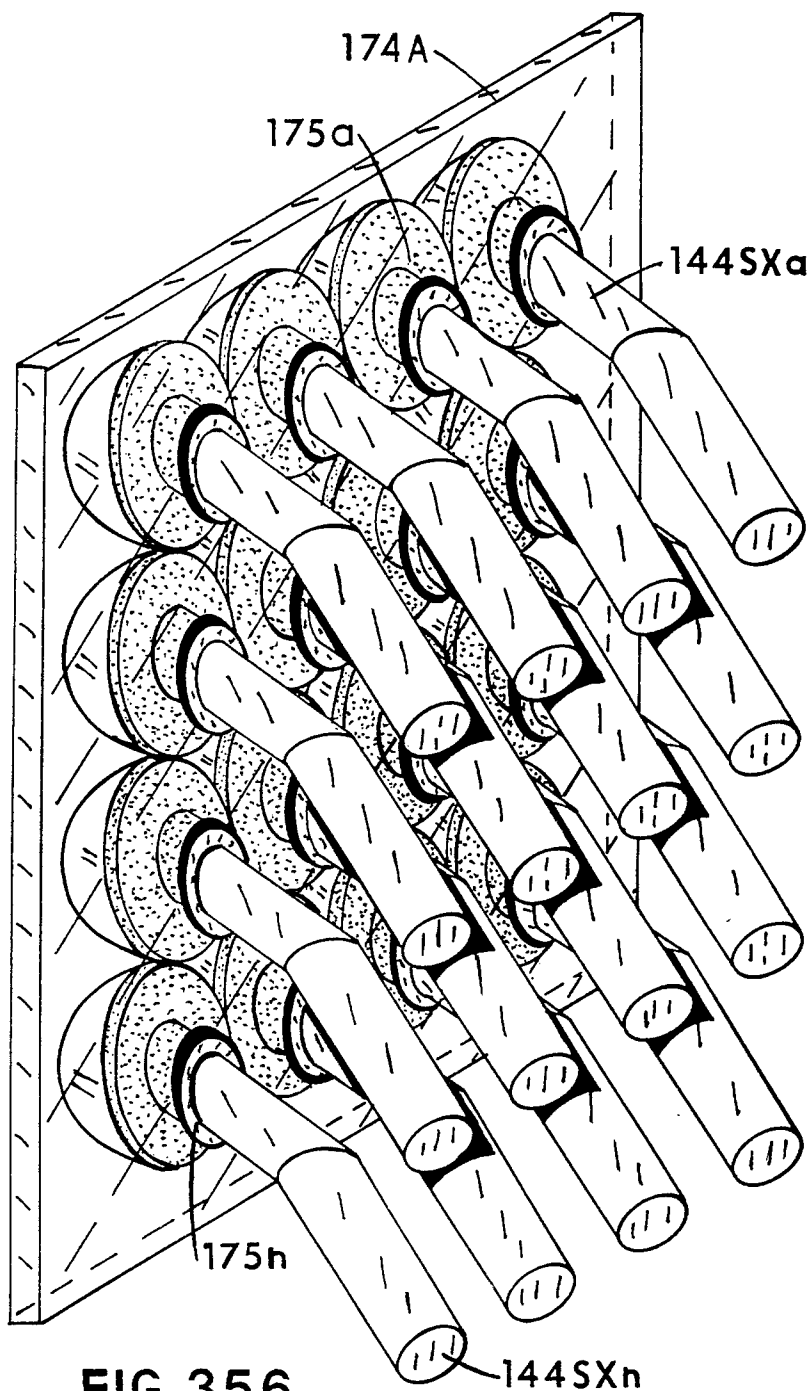


FIG. 356

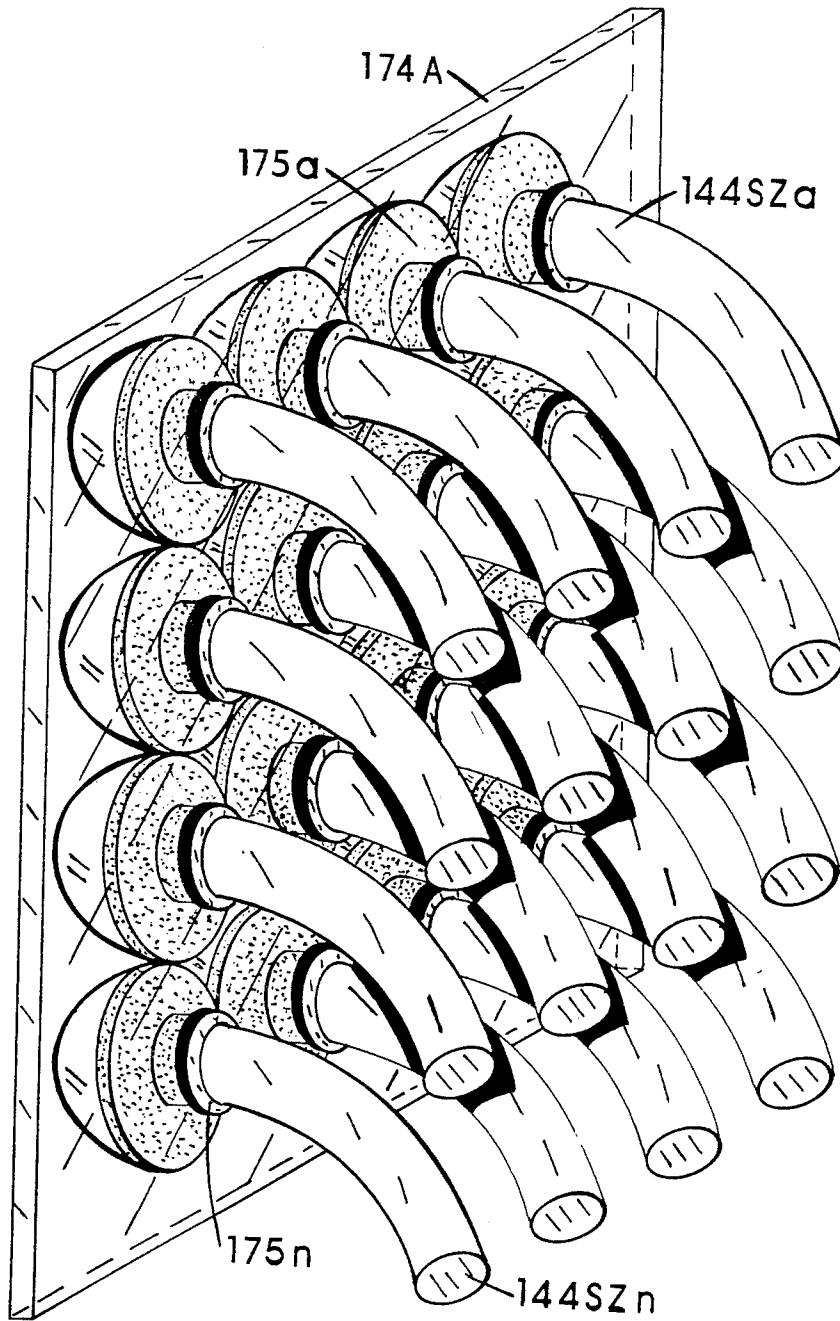


FIG. 357

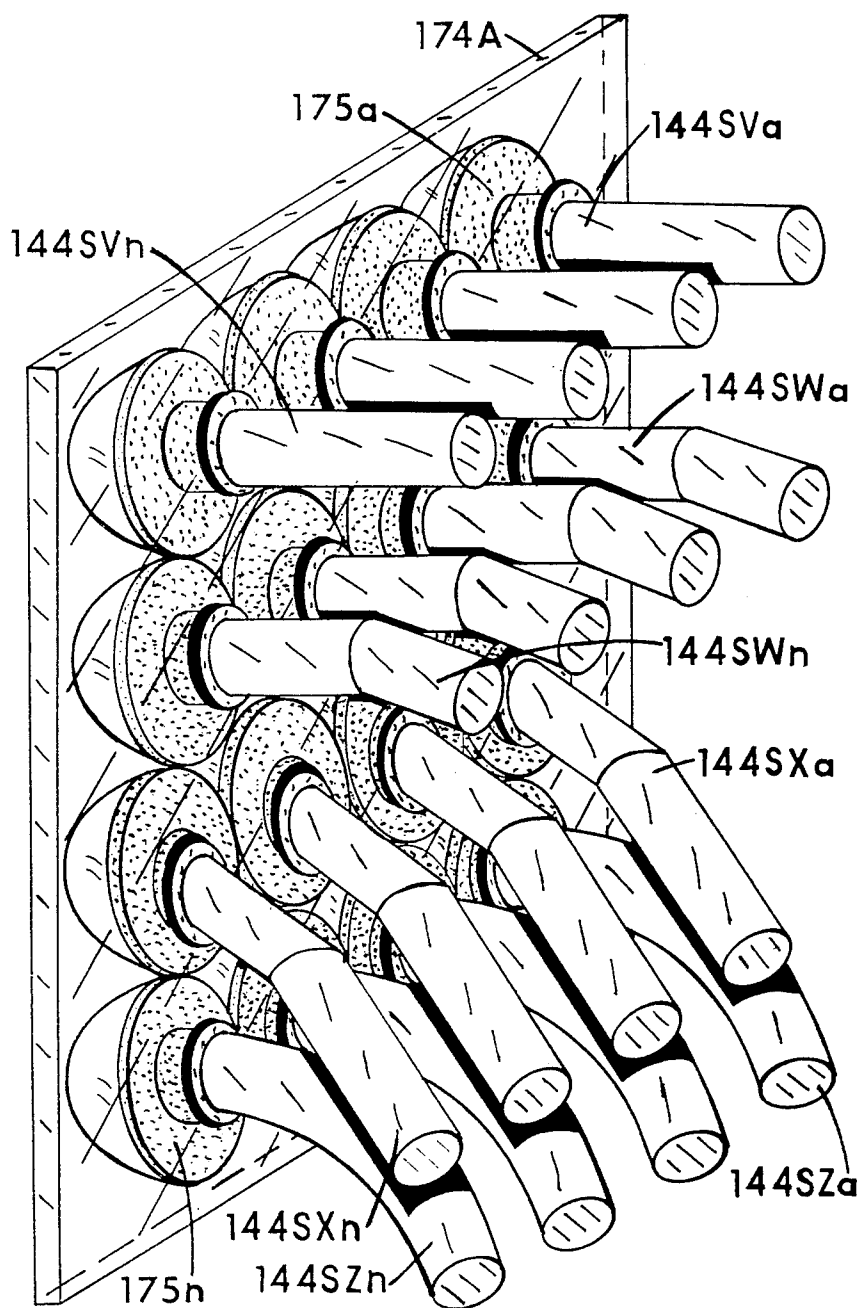


FIG. 358

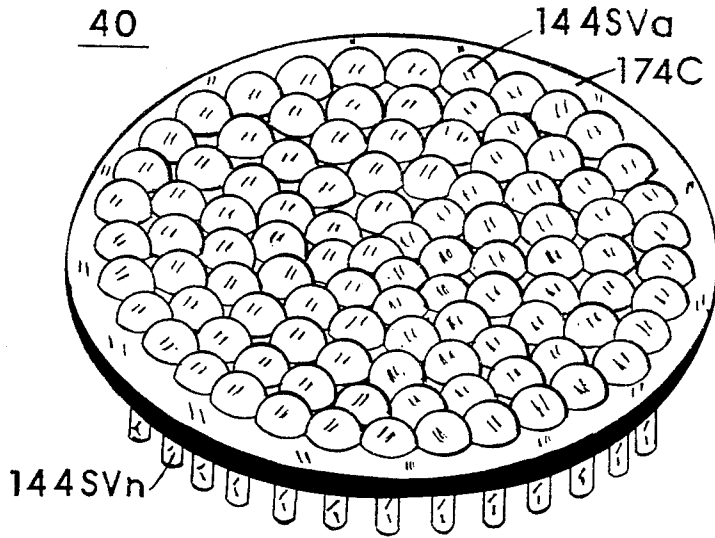


FIG. 359

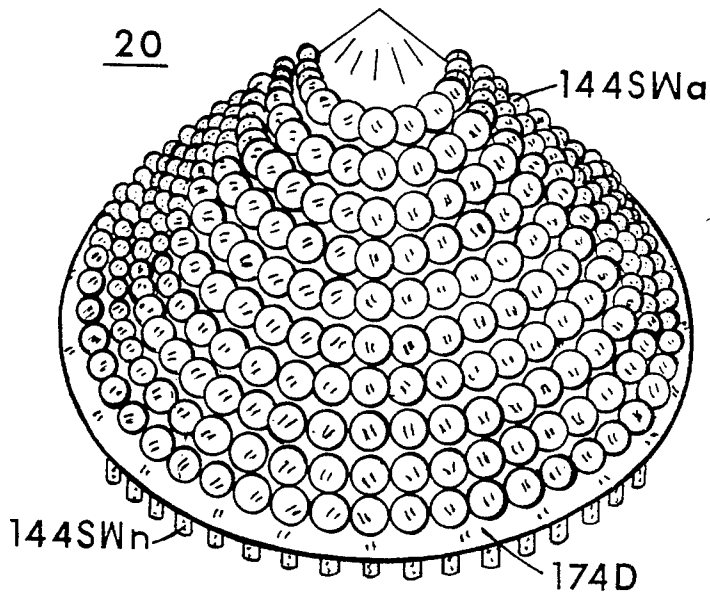


FIG. 360

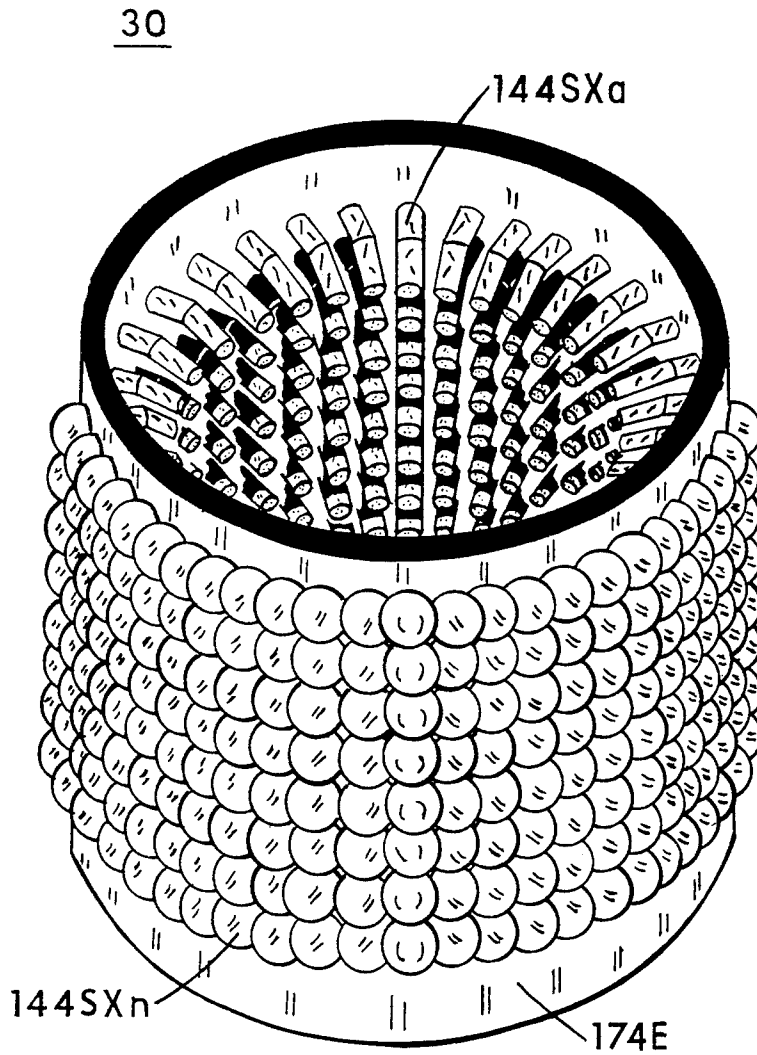


FIG.361

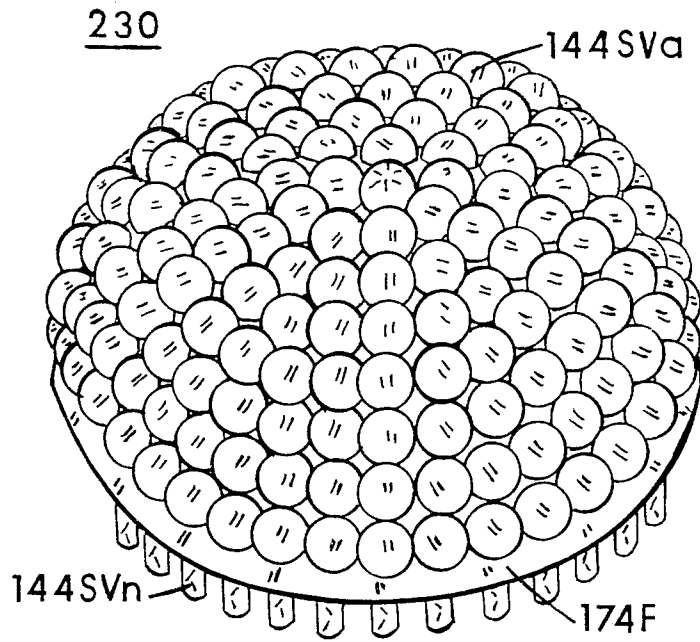


FIG. 362

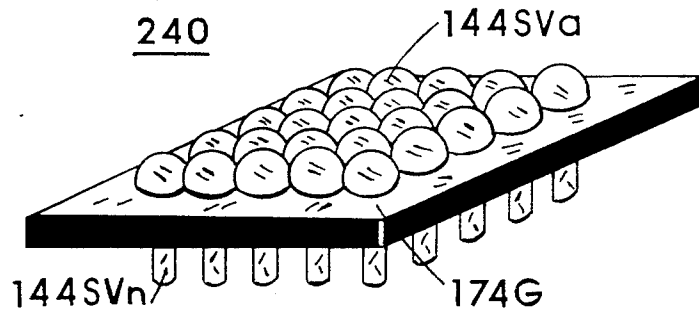


FIG. 363

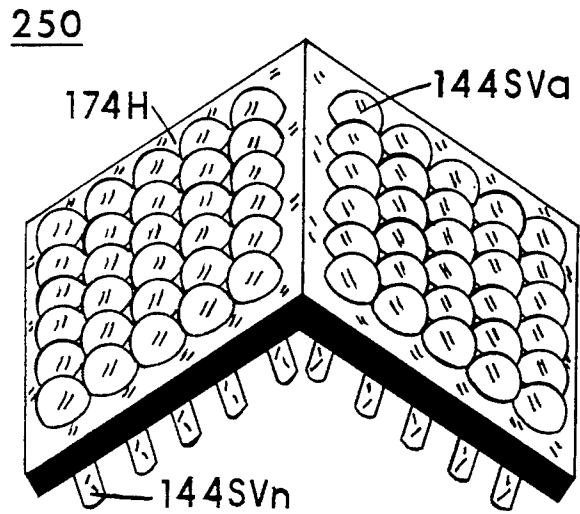


FIG. 364

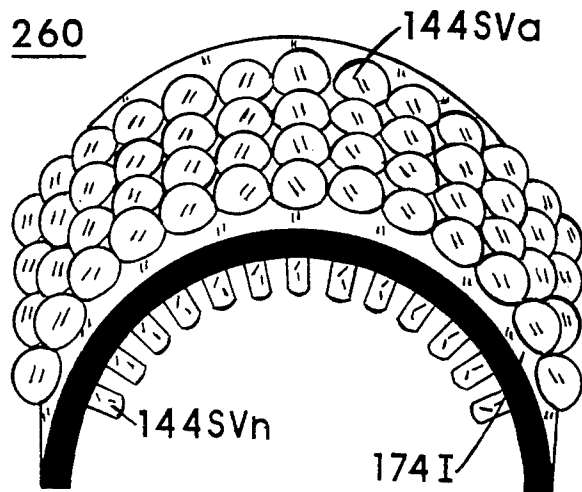


FIG. 365

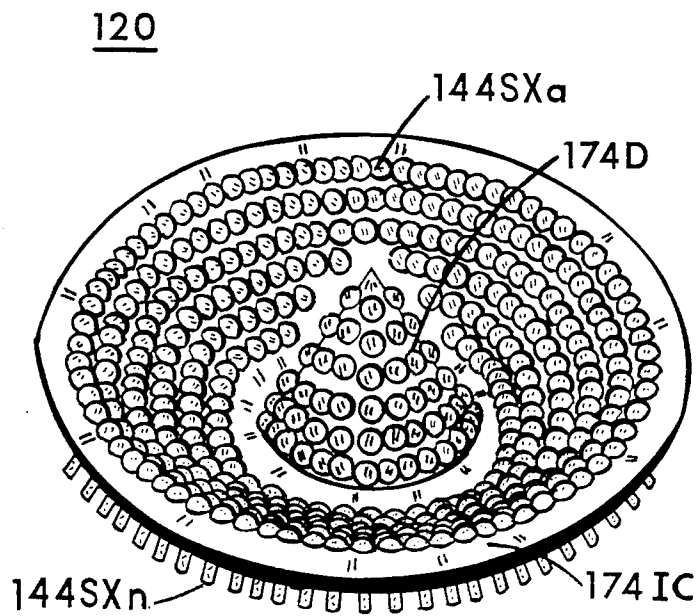


FIG. 366

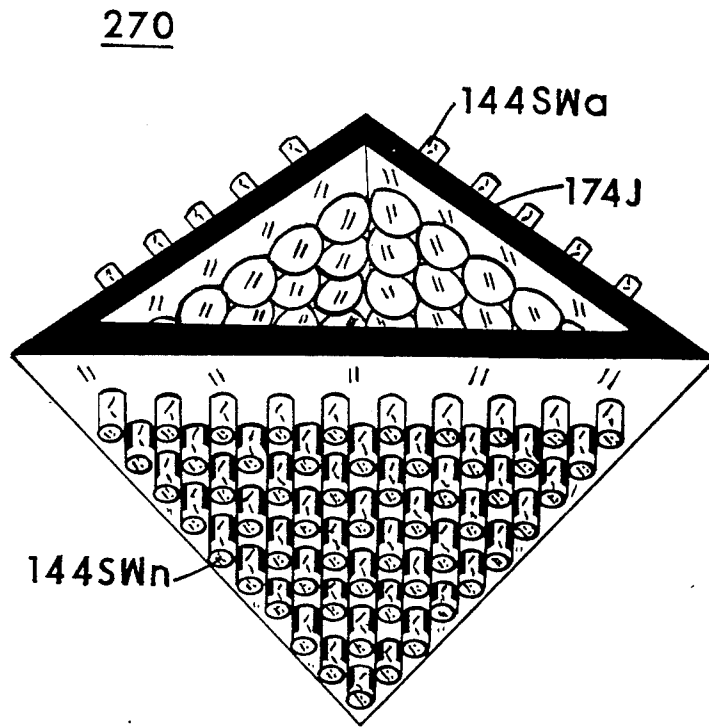


FIG. 367

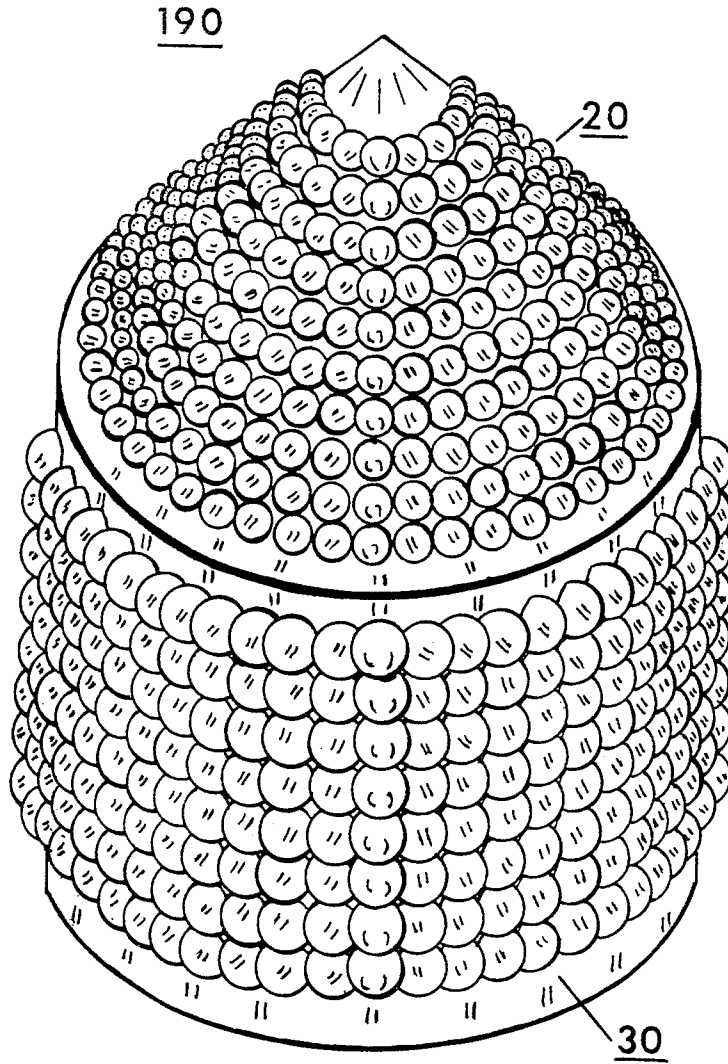


FIG. 368

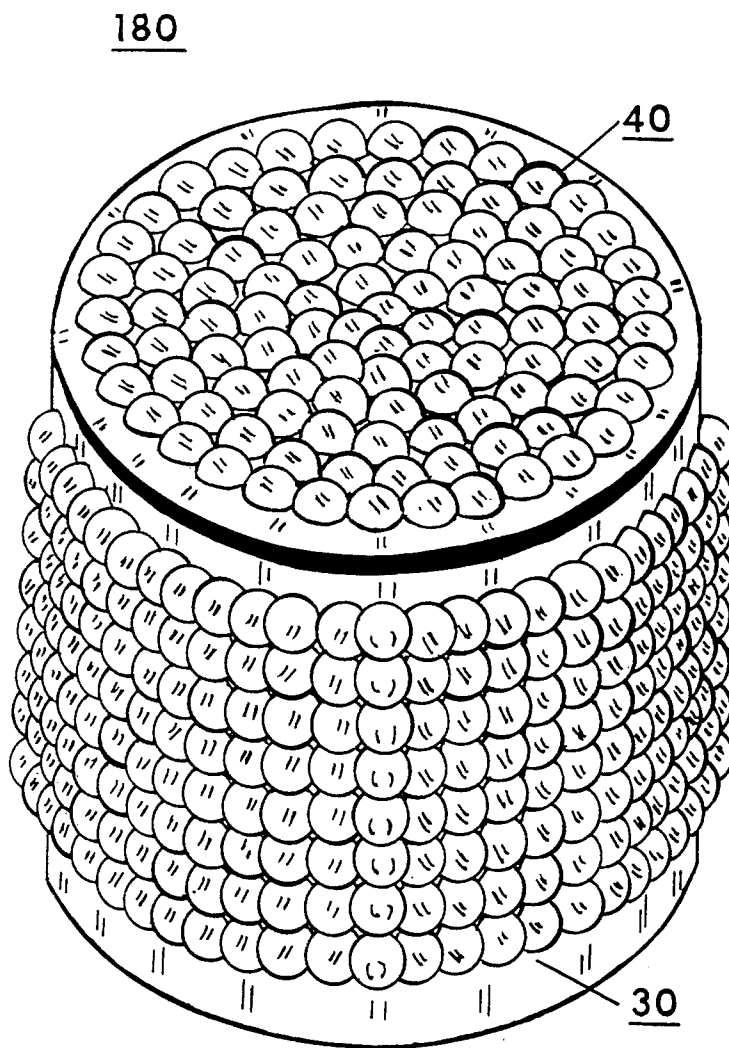


FIG. 369

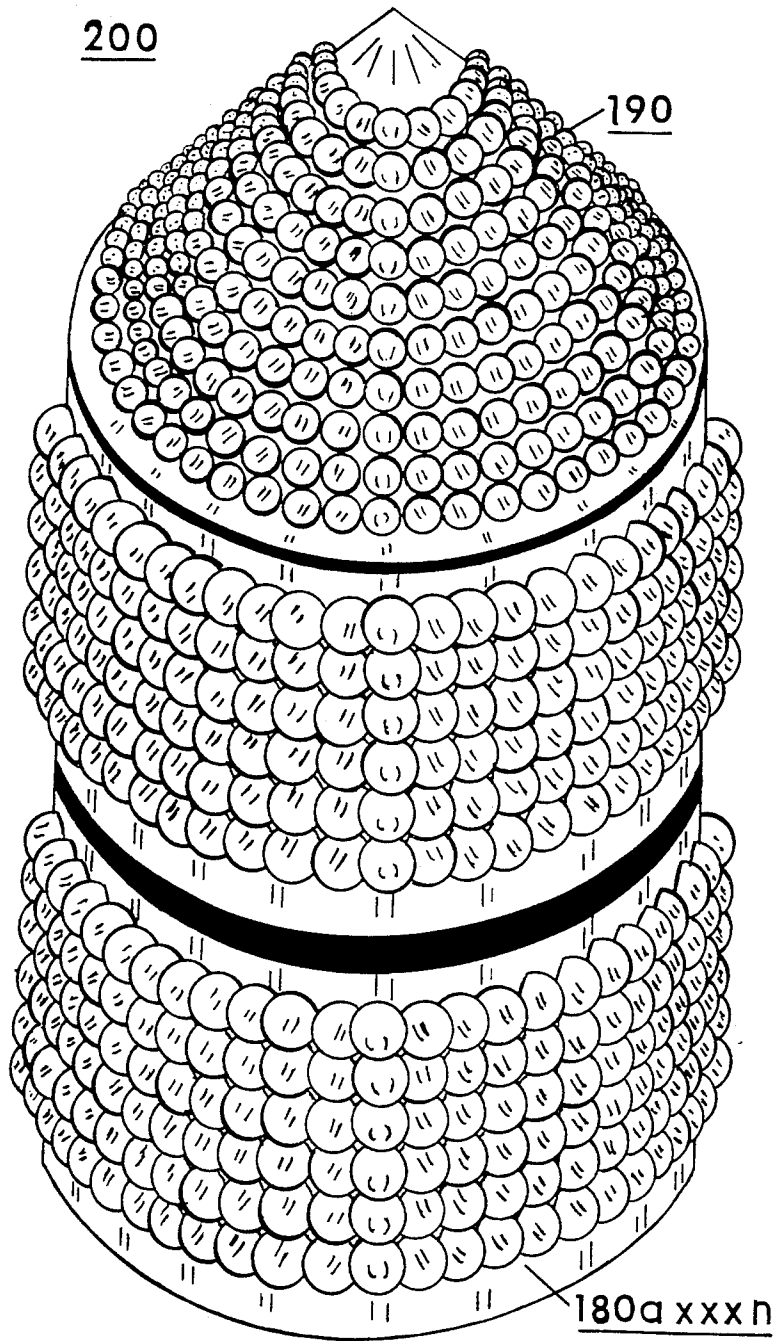


FIG. 370

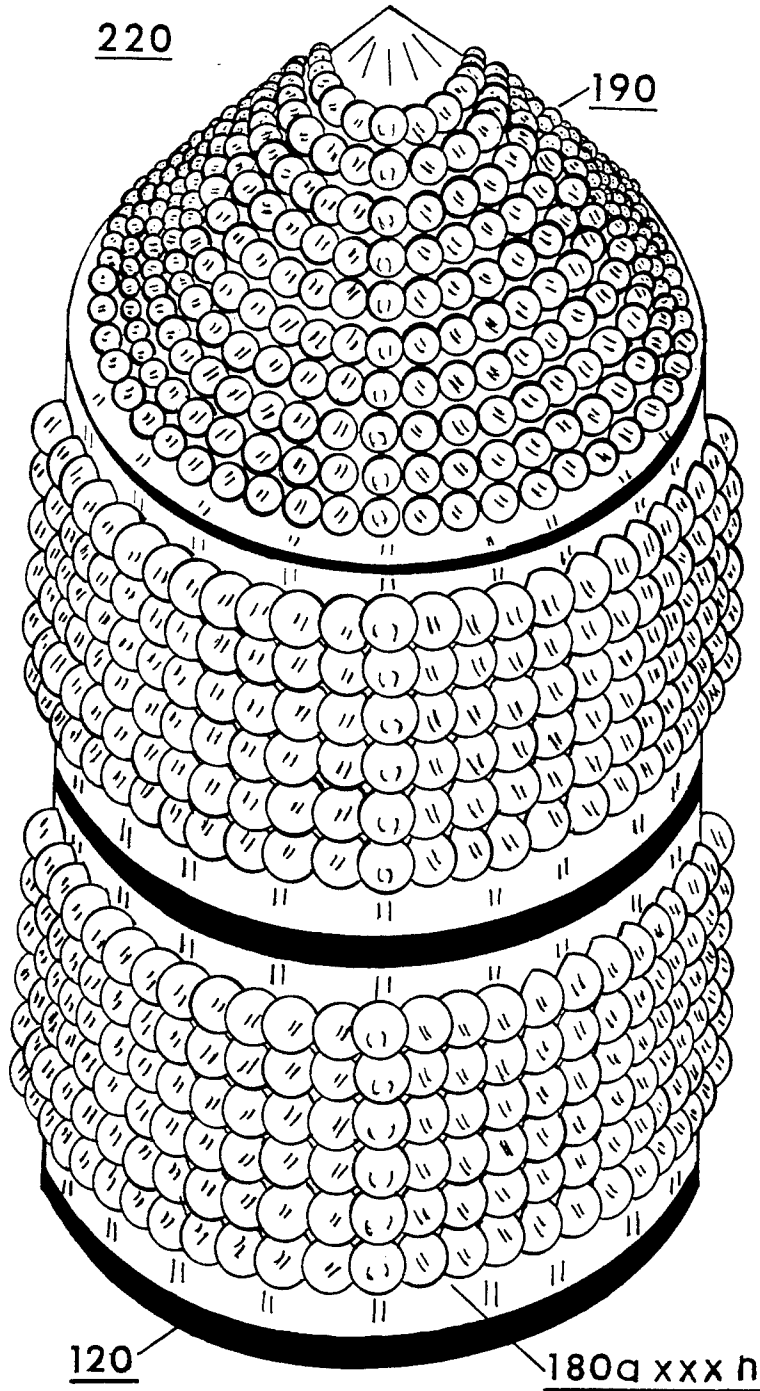


FIG. 371

LIGHT-GUIDE LENS

BACKGROUND

With the energy crises created by the impact of consumption of non-renewable natural resources, together with a new emphasis in establishing clean-air-standards associated with the usage of such natural resources, a considerable amount of effort has been directed to other forms of energy. Although there are several other forms of energy, the emphasis has been placed on solar energy as the most logical non-polluting recyclable energy source. Consequently there are on the market many so-called solar focusing lenses.

These prior art devices generally comprise a focusing lens that is limited to a scan range of sixty degrees (60°); and, consequently are not capable of varying the effective scan angle while directionally focusing or dispersing the incident light radiation. The bulk of lenses of the various types are designed for use with a single stationary light source whether it be of a single beam or incident light radiation in planar array. Accordingly, the problems encountered with a single light source continuously varying its angular position are not appreciated by the prior art. In those instances where the problem has been encountered efforts have been made to have the lens "follow" the source.

In other instances where the light source is dispersed, the incident light rays upon the lens may be insufficient for practical applications-even when focused. Still, in other lens arrangement the apparatus becomes extremely large, bulky, and of course expensive.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The invention comprises in its most general aspects a unitary silo collector-concentrator lens enclosure that houses a combination of light-guide lenses made up of arrays of light-steering lenses that collects, redirects, transfers, and focuses or disperses incident light radiation to a central region irrespective of the angle of the sun during the day or season. The lens system provides a heat source with an extremely larger capacity of high concentration of solar energy and operable to low-angle sun rays for an extended period of time over that of the prior art.

The silo collector - concentrator lens configuration includes an upper or top contoured capping light-guide lens positioned over a first flat-surface focusing lens. Beneath the focusing lens there is positioned in spaced relationship several additional focusing lenses. Surrounding the perimeter of the plurality of focusing lenses is an array, in wall-like arrangement of light-guide lenses similar in embodiment to the flat-surface and capping light-guide focusing lenses. All of the lenses are joined in a unitary structure. Each of the light-guide lenses is made up of a series of light-steering lenses having a focusing lens affixed to one end of a different refractive index material light-guide stem. The light-steering lens embodiments are uniform in size, evenly distributed, and may be linearly or non-linearly aligned.

The light-guide stem, angular or curved configurations, varies in its adaptability to the particular intended use. Fundamentally the light-guide stem is a light transparent area between highly reflective surfaces. The incident light radiation passes uninhibited until it strikes a reflective surface of the low refractive material and is

then reflected back and forth for the length of the light-guide stem.

OBJECTS

It is accordingly the principal object of the present invention to provide a new and improved light-guide lens that controls the distribution of incident light radiation emanating from a fixed or variable light source.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a solar energy collector-concentrator that substantially increases the amount of incident solar radiation at all angle of the sun.

Another object of the present invention is to utilize a collector-concentrator lens comprising a contoured upper lens and a plurality of focusing lenses completely surrounded by a wall-like light-guide lenses.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a lens that controls the concentration or dispersion of the transmitted light from a source displaced at all angles relative to the lens.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a lens that is relatively simple in principle of operation, inexpensive to manufacture, and that can be designed with ease for a particular application.

Other objects and features of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the drawings in which:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide lens-cap structure in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 2 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent thin-walled material light-guide lens-cap structure filled with a light transmittal gas combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 3 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent thin-walled material light-guide lens-cap structure filled with a light transmittal liquid combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 4 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid rod light-guide stem structure in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 5 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid rod light-guide stem structure with a different refractive index material outer-surface coating combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 6 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a hollow tube light-guide stem structure with a highly reflective inner-surface in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 7 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a hollow tube light-guide stem structure with a different refractive index material inner-surface coating combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 8 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent sealed ends hollow tube light-guide stem structure filled with a light transmittal gas com-

combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 9 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent sealed ends hollow tube light-guide stem structure filled with a light transmittal liquid combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light means.

FIG. 10 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-steering lens embodiment with its lens-cap structure affixed to a light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 11 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent thin-walled light transmittal gas filled light-steering lens embodiment with its lens-cap structure affixed to a light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 12 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent thin-walled light transmittal liquid filled light-steering lens embodiment with its lens-cap structure affixed to a light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 13 Illustrates diagrammatically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with its geometrical straight design configuration principle.

FIG. 14 Illustrates diagrammatically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with its geometrical angular design configuration principle.

FIG. 15 Illustrates diagrammatically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with its geometrical tilt-angular design configuration principle.

FIG. 16 Illustrates diagrammatically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with its geometrical curved-angular design configuration principle.

FIG. 17 Illustrates diagrammatically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with its geometrical curved-design configuration principle.

FIG. 18 Illustrates diagrammatically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material lens-cap structure combined with its geometrical radius design configuration principle.

FIG. 19 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a lens-cap structure without a filter-lens combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 20 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a lens-cap structure with a filter coating on its curved-surface combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 21 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a lens-cap structure with a filter affixed to its flat-surface combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 22 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a light-guide stem structure with a filter material affixed to its end combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 23, 24, and 25 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-

guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 26, 27, and 28 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a bundle array of transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 29, 30, and 31 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of transparent solid material light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 32, 33, and 34 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a different refractive index material surface-coated transparent material light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 35, 36, and 37 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a bundle array of different refractive index material surface-coated transparent material light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 38, 39, and 40 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of different refractive index material surface-coated transparent material light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 41, 42, and 43 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a highly reflective inner-surface hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 44, 45, and 46 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a bundle array of highly reflective inner-surface hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 47, 48, and 49 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of highly reflective inner-surface hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 50, 51, and 52 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a different refractive index material inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 53, 54, and 55 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a bundle array of different refractive index material inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 56, 57, and 58 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of different refractive index material inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 59, 60, and 61 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent sealed ends light transmittal gas filled hollow tube light-guide stem structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 62, 63, and 64 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a bundle array of transparent

sealed ends light transmittal gas filled hollow tube light-guide stem structures combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 65, 66, and 67 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of transparent sealed ends light transmittal gas filled hollow tube light-guide stem structures combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 68, 69, and 70 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent sealed ends light transmittal liquid filled hollow tube light-guide stem structures combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 71, 72, and 73 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a bundle array of transparent sealed ends light transmittal liquid filled hollow tube light-guide stem structures combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 74, 75, and 76 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of transparent sealed ends light transmittal liquid filled hollow tube light-guide stem structures combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 77 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-guide stem in its simplest form.

FIG. 78 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a different refractive index material outer-surface coated transparent solid material light-guide stem.

FIG. 79 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a bundle array of transparent solid material light-guide stems.

FIG. 80 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a bundle array of different refractive index material outer-surface coated transparent solid material light-guide stems.

FIG. 81 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of transparent solid material light-guide stems.

FIG. 82 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of different refractive index material outer-surface coated transparent solid material light-guide stems.

FIG. 83 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a highly polished inner-surface hollow tube light-guide stem.

FIG. 84 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a different refractive index material inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stem.

FIG. 85 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a transparent sealed end light transmittal gas filled hollow tube light-guide stem.

FIG. 86 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a transparent sealed end light transmittal liquid filled hollow tube light-guide stem.

FIG. 87 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a bundle array of highly polished inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIG. 88 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a bundle array of different refractive index material inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIG. 89 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a bundle array of transparent sealed ends light transmittal gas filled hollow tube light guide stems.

FIG. 90 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a transparent sealed ends light transmittal liquid filled hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIG. 91 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of highly reflective inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIG. 92 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of different refractive index material inner-surface coated hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIG. 93 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of transparent sealed ends light transmittal gas filled hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIG. 94 Illustrates schematically an end view cross-section of a sheath bundle array of transparent sealed ends light transmittal liquid filled hollow tube light-guide stems.

FIGS. 95, 96, and 97 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material light-steering lens embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 98, 99, and 100 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a filter coated lens-cap curved-surface transparent solid material light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 101, 102, and 103 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a different refractive index material coated outer-stem-surface transparent solid material light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 104, 105, and 106 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a filter coated lens-cap curved-surface different refractive index material coated outer-stem-surface transparent solid material light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 107, 108, and 109 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent thin-walled light transmittal gas filled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 110, 111, and 112 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a filter coated lens-cap curved-surface transparent thin-walled light transmittal gas filled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 113, 114, and 115 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent thin-walled light transmittal liquid filled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 116, 117, and 118 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a filter lens-cap curved-surface transparent thin-walled light transmittal liquid filled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 119 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a transparent solid material grip-lock collar lens-cap structure combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

tal gas filled matrix lens-cap modular assembled light-steering lens embodiment combined light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 218, 219, and 220 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of an array of transparent thin-walled material light transmittal liquid filled matrix lens-cap modular assembled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 221, 222, and 223 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of an array of filter coated curved-surface transparent thin-walled material light transmittal liquid filled matrix lens-cap modular assembled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 224, 225, and 226 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of an array of filter coated flat-surface transparent thin-walled material light transmittal liquid filled matrix lens-cap modular assembled light-steering lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 227 Illustrates a overall view configuration of a lens-plate structure in its simplest form.

FIG. 228 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a snap-lock gripping collar in its simplest form.

FIG. 229 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a matrix lens-cap grip-lock collar in its simplest form.

FIGS. 230, 231, and 232 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a non-removable light-guide stem lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 233, 234, and 235 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable snap-lock gripping collar light-guide stem embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 236, 237, and 238 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable snap-lock gripping collar light-guide stem lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 239, 240, and 241 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a non-removable light-steering lens lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 242, 243, 244 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable snap-lock gripping collar light-steering lens embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 245, 246, and 247 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable snap-lock gripping collar light-steering lens lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 248, 249, and 250 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a non-removable matrix lens-cap light-guide stem modular assembled light-guide lens

embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 251, 252, and 253 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable matrix lens-cap grip-lock collar light-guide stem embodiment in its simplest form combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 254, 255, and 256 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable grip-lock collar light-guide stem matrix lens-cap modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 257, 259, and 261 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a non-removable unitary array matrix lens-cap light-guide stem modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 258, 260, and 262 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a removable unitary array matrix lens-cap light-guide stem modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 263 Illustrates an overall view configuration of an inline hole spacing matrix lens-plate.

FIG. 264 Illustrates an overall view configuration of an alternate hole spacing matrix lens-plate. FIGS. 265, 266, and 267 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array of non-removable light-guide stem lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 268, 269, and 270 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array of non-removable light-steering lens lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 271, 272, and 273 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array of removable snap-lock gripping collar light-guide stem lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIGS. 274, 275, and 276 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array of removable snap-lock gripping collar light-steering lens lens-plate modular assembled light-guide lens embodiment combined with light dispersing means and their effect upon the projected light beams.

FIG. 277 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of unitary array flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to vertical displaced light radiation.

FIG. 278 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 279 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to divergent light radiation.

FIG. 280 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array flat-surface light-guide lens

embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to central vertical-peripheral convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 281 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to central vertical-peripheral divergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 282 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to multi-regional central vertical-peripheral convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 283 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 284 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array cylindrical-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to circular convergent-angularly convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 285 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array inverted cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to divergent light radiation.

FIG. 286 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array hemispherical-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 287 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array circular-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to circular-convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 288 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array peripheral non-apex inverted cone-shaped/central upright cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to central convergent-peripheral divergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 289 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array peripheral cylindrical-shaped/top positioned flat-surface-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to peripheral convergent-angularly convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 290 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array peripheral cylindrical-shaped/top positioned cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly—displaced incident light radiation focused to circular convergent angularly convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 291 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array peripheral cylindrical-shaped/top positioned cone-shaped/inside mid-regional positioned flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to circular convergent—angularly convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 292 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array peripheral cylindrical-shaped/top positioned cone-shaped/inside mid-regional and lower positioned flat-surface light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light

radiation focused to circular convergent-angularly convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 293 Illustrates schematically a side view cross-section of a unitary array peripheral cylindrical-shaped/top positioned cone-shaped/inside mid-regional positioned flat-surface/lower positioned peripheral non-apex inverted cone-shaped central upright cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment operable to angularly displaced incident light radiation focused to circular-convergent-angularly convergent displaced light radiation.

FIG. 294 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a light-guide lens-cap configuration.

FIG. 295 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a grip-lock collar lens-cap configuration.

FIG. 296 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a lens-plate configuration.

FIG. 297 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a modular assembled lens-cap lens-plate configuration.

FIG. 298 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a unitary structure lens-cap-plate configuration.

FIG. 299 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a filter disc configuration.

FIG. 300 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a hemispherical-shaped lens-cap filter configuration.

FIGS. 301, 302, 303, and 304 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of transparent solid material light-guide stem configurations.

FIGS. 305, 306, 307, and 308 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of bundle-array transparent solid material light-guide stem configurations.

FIGS. 309, 310, 311, and 312 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of sheathe-bundle-array transparent solid material light-guide stem configurations.

FIGS. 313, 314, 315, and 316 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of transparent tubular material light-guide stem configurations.

FIG. 317 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a light-guide stem snap-lock gripping collar configuration.

FIG. 318 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a matrix lens-cap grip-lock collar configuration.

FIGS. 319, 320, 321, and 322 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of snap-lock gripping collar placement on light-guide stem configurations.

FIGS. 323, 324, 325, and 326 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of grip-lock collar placement on light-guide stem configurations.

FIGS. 327, 328, 329, and 330 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of transparent solid material light-steering lens configurations.

FIGS. 331, 332, 333, and 334 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of snap-lock gripping collar placement on transparent solid material light-steering lens configurations.

FIGS. 335, 336, 337, and 338 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of modular assembled light-steering lens configurations.

FIGS. 339, 340, 341 and 342 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of transparent solid material light-guide lens configurations. FIGS. 343, 344, 345, and 346 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of modular assembled transparent solid material light-guide lens configurations.

FIGS. 347, 348, 349, and 350 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of transparent solid material light-guide-stem light-guide lens configurations.

FIG. 351 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a matrix lens-plate configuration.

FIG. 352 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a removable snap-lock lens-cap lens-plate configuration.

FIG. 353 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a matrix lens-cap-plate configuration.

FIG. 354 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a linear-array light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 355 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of an angular-array light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 356 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a tilt-angular-array light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 357 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a curved-angular-array light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 358 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a linear-angular-tilt angular-curved angular-array light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 359 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a disc-shaped light-guide lens configuration. FIG. 360 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a conical-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 361 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a cylindrical-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 362 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a hemispherical-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 363 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a rectangular-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 364 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a peak-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 365 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a semi-circle-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 366 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a central cone-peripheral disc-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 367 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a multi-triangular-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 368 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a silo-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 369 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a drum-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 370 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a modular assembled silo-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

FIG. 371 Illustrates an overall view in pictorial of a modular assembled silo-focusing lens-shaped light-guide lens configuration.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION WITH REFERENCE TO DRAWINGS

With particular reference now to FIG. 292, there is illustrated schematically a preferred embodiment of the present invention. In its most fundamental form the silo collector-concentrator lens comprises a housing or enclosure 210, a contoured capping light-guide lens 20, a wall light-guide lens 30, and a plurality of flat-surface light-guide focusing lenses 40a xxx n.

In principle of operation, the solar incident radiation is collected, redirected, and focused as it passes through the contoured capping lens 20 and wall lens 30. The transmission angle of the light radiation from that of the incident light rays is altered still further by the same light bending method as it passes through a plurality of flat-surface focusing lenses 40a xxx n stacked one over the other in spaced relationship and operable to concentrate the solar energy to a focal region 135. All the lenses are joined in a unitary structure 210. Placement of an angular-surface focusing lens 120 of FIG. 293 at bottom of lens 210 provides a split-focal region 136 and

another focal region 137. In each case, the silo collector-concentrator lens arrangement 210 is capable of directing a maximum amount of solar radiation to a central focusing lens. The solar radiation is directed to the central focusing lens from all angles irrespective of the position of the sun overhead or on the horizon. The prior art lenses are not capable of varying the effective scan angle while directionally focusing or dispersing the solar incident light radiation.

The solar radiation energy lens 210 of FIG. 292 is shown more explicitly (again schematically) in FIG. 289, FIG. 290, and FIG. 291 to which particular reference now may be made as to its modular component assembly construction. The basic unitary silo lens stage 190 of FIG. 290 is a composite assembly of a contoured capping lens 20 atop a wall lens 30a. An additive feeder lens stage 180 of FIG. 289 which is made up of a flat-surface focusing lens 40 atop another wall lens 30n is positioned beneath the silo lens 190 to form lens structure 200 of FIG. 291—increasing the vertical scanning surface. The solar energy capacity of any size silo lens is directly determined by the actual surface area of the silo lens stage 190 plus wall-surface area 34 of whatever number of feeder lens stage 180a xxx n being used.

Contrary to prior art lenses that project real images, the silo lens is specifically designed to concentrate solar radiant energy in an extremely large BTU'S flow capacity at very high temperatures heretofore not possible.

With reference to FIGS. 277 through 288, there are illustrated several other light-guide lens embodiments in an overall cross-sectional schematic view to demonstrate various functions and operations to control the transmission of light rays emanating from a source at various angles FIG. 277, FIG. 278, FIG. 279, FIG. 280, FIG. 281, and FIG. 282 are flat-surface focusing lenses that are interchangeable in whatever combination of arrangement with 40 a xxx n of silo lens 210 of FIG. 292. Conical lens 283 and hemispherical lens 286 are peak-surface contour focusing lenses that are interchangeable as a capping lens 20 for any silo lens. Cylindrical lens 284 is a vertical wall structure focusing lens used in all silo lens configurations. Omnidirectional lens 285 is interchangeable with angular-surface focusing lens 120 of FIG. 293. Spherical lens 110 of FIG. 287 is an all directional focusing lens.

Light-guide lens 20 of FIG. 283, light-guide lens 30 of FIG. 284, light-guide lens 40A of FIG. 277, light-guide lens 40B of FIG. 278, light-guide lens 40C of FIG. 279, light-guide lens 40D of FIG. 280, light-guide lens 40E of FIG. 281, light guide lens 40F of FIG. 282, light-guide lens 90 of FIG. 285, light-guide lens 100 of FIG. 286, light-guide lens 110 of FIG. 287, and light-guide lens 120 of FIG. 288 can be used separate or apart or in combination with any or all other light-guide lenses to form any geometrical design configuration.

Basically each light-guide lens is an array of light-steering lenses 144a xxx n of FIG. 269 inserted into lens-plate 174. The light-steering lenses 144a xxx n are uniform in size, evenly distributed, and linearly aligned. The light-steering lens embodiments 144a xxx n controls the directivity of incident light radiation while lens-plate 174 is simply a non-optical geometrical support plate.

Fundamentally a light-steering lens embodiment FIG. 10 is made up of a collector-focusing lens-cap FIG. 1 attached to a light-guide stem FIG. 4. The lens-cap FIG. 1 collects the incident light rays 1a xxx n and focuses the projected light rays 2a xxx n as the light

energy passes through the lens material. The light-guide stem FIG. 4 simply transmits the focused light energy $2a \times n$ of FIG. 1 as it passes through the stem material and is projected outwardly $4a \times n$ as shown in FIG. 4.

The transmission angle of the projected light rays $4a \times n$ is strictly determined by the degree of angular displacement of the light-guide stem 144 from horizontal line 153 of FIG. 13 to vertical line 151 of FIG. 15. FIG. 13 illustrates a linear light-guide stem 144V configuration; FIG. 14 illustrates a angular light-guide stem 144W configuration; FIG. 15 illustrates a tilt-angular light-guide stem 144X configuration; FIG. 16 illustrates a curved-angular light-guide stem 144Y configuration; and FIG. 17 is a curved light-guide stem 144Z configuration.

The light-guide stem configuration 144V, 144W, 144X, 144Y and 144Z varies in its adaptability to the particular intended use within a given light-guide lens embodiment. Most generally, light-guide stem 144V of FIG. 13 can be used with feed lens 40A of FIG. 277, 40D of FIG. 280, 40E of FIG. 281, 40F of FIG. 282, with hemispherical lens 100 of FIG. 286, and spherical lens 110 of FIG. 287. Light-guide stem 144W can be used with feedlens 40B of FIG. 278, 40C of FIG. 279, 40D of FIG. 280, 40E of FIG. 281, 40F of FIG. 282, with conical lens 20 of FIG. 283, with V-shaped lens 90 of FIG. 285, and with angular surface lens 120 of FIG. 288. Light-guide stem 144X can be used in wall lens 30 of FIG. 284. Light-guide stem 144Z of FIG. 17 can be used in place of any light-guide stem configuration by simply arcing or curving the stem surface to the desired transmission angle.

Referring now to FIG. 5, there is illustrated the principle of the present invention in its most simplified planar embodiment. The light-guide stem FIG. 5 comprises of a light refractive (transparent) material lens-core 144 with a low refractive outer surface coating material 145. The zone between the high refractive material 144 and the low refractive material 145 produces a reflective surface to incident light rays. The incoming incident light rays $3a$ of FIG. 5, whether from a natural or artificial source, enters the lens-core 144 at end 3 and travel in a straight line to one wall-reflective surface. Relative to the angle of the incoming light $3a$, the light rays will be reflected back and forth through the high refractive area 144 (transparent area)—and thereafter transmitted there from as angularly displaced light $4a$. The ability to transmit light radiation by such a method is known in the field of optic's as total internal reflection.

For purposes of illustration the low refractive area 145 is highly exaggerated in demension. In actuality, area 145 is a very thin coating of highly polished material to prevent any light blockage. The high refractive area 144 is transparent and passes the maximum amount of light whereas the low refractive area 145 is reflective and passes no light energy. Together, the transparent lens-core 144 and the very highly reflective surface make up the light-guide stem.

In practical application the light rays $3a \times n$ of FIG. 5 as shown do not enter the lens-core 144 linearly or straight. At zero degree angle the light would pass directly through the transparent area 144 uninhibited; and, the light-guide stem (linear or straight configuration only) would be of little benefit. However, light sources, whether they be the sun or room light, are always at some angle to an object to be illuminated. The

incident light rays $3a \times n$ will, therefore, always be at some angle from the vertical or the horizontal.

With continued reference to FIG. 5, the space between the two low refractive areas (reflective surfaces) and hence the diameter of the high refractive area 144 (light-guide stem) is such to permit the entrance of the incident light rays from an arc of sixty degrees (60°). The length of the "light-guide stem" 144, its diameter or its width, control in known principles of optics the angle of the transmitted light $4a$. Therefore if the angle of the incoming light rays $3a$, in the simple embodiment of FIG. 5, were reversed to that of incident light rays $3n$, the angle of the transmitted light $4a$ would be reversed to the transmitted light $4n$. Further, with a continuously movable light source swinging through the sixty degrees arc (60°) from that of light rays $3a$ to light rays $3n$, the angle of the transmitted light $4a$ will complementarily swing through a sixty degree arc (60°) in the opposite direction to $4n$.

With further reference to FIG. 5, there is illustrated the fundamental principle of a straight light-guide stem of the present invention in controlling the directivity of the incident light radiation in a linear light transmission mode. Optical-rod of FIG. 4, optical-tubing of FIG. 6 and FIG. 7, and encapsulated optical-tubing of FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 all demonstrate linear light transmission under the same light controlling principle of FIG. 5. This principle of linear light control transmission applies to solid material (transparent) lens-core 144 of FIG. 4 and FIG. 5, to air-lens-core 147 of FIGS. 6 and 7, to gas-lens-core (other than air) 149 of FIG. 8, and to liquid-lens-core 150 of FIG. 9. Whenever there is a combination of different refractive index material (low to high density material such as—solid 144 to air 147 of FIG. 4, solid 144 to solid 145 of FIG. 5, air 147 to solid 146 of FIG. 6 and FIG. 7, solid 146 to gas 149 (other than air) of FIG. 8, and solid 146 to liquid 150 of FIG. 9) the light-guide principle can be used. Since the wall-zone between the high refractive material 144 and the low refractive material 145 provides a reflective surface to incident light rays, a critical angle of reflection 152 (typically 21°) is formed within the lens-core 144. To exceed the critical angle of reflection 152 (as illustrated in FIG. 13 through FIG. 17) would cause light rays $3a \times n$ to pass through the transparent refractive material 145 and be lost for further light transmission. Any angle of light rays less than the critical angle of reflection 152 would, of course, remain inside the lens-core 144 and be transmitted onward until they are emitted at end 4 of FIG. 5.

Beyond the light-lost factor, the critical angle of reflection 152 can, now, be used to increase the directivity of incident light radiation from that of linear to angular displacement of light transmission. FIG. 13, FIG. 14, FIG. 15, FIG. 16 and FIG. 17, illustrates different critical angle of reflection geometrical design configuration for solid 144 and/or tubular 146 light-guide stems.

FIG. 13 illustrates critical angle of reflection geometrical design configuration 144V for linear or straight light-guide stems. Diagonal line 154V of FIG. 13 cuts parallel sides of light-guide stem at an angle equal to the critical angle of reflection 152V of FIG. 13 from intersect points 153Va-151V to intersect point 153Vb-154V of FIG. 13. The minimum linear length of light-guide stem is, now, formed from intersect point 151V-153Vb to intersect point 154V-153Vb of FIG. 13. Line 155V of FIG. 13 starts at intersect point 154V-153Vb at an angle

equal to the critical angle of reflection and extends to line 151V*a* of FIG. 13. Line segment 153V*b* of FIG. 13 at intersect point 154V-153V*b* to intersect point 151V*a*-153V*b* of FIG. 13 is used both for ambient temperature compensation (expansion or contraction of material due to temperature changes) and for light dispersion control of linear light transmission. Diagonal line 154V*a* of FIG. 13 cuts parallel side (opposite from line 154V) at an angle equal to angle 154V from intersect point 151V-153V*b* to intersect point 153V*a*-154V*a* of FIG. 13 to form width (or diameter) of light-guide stem 144V. Front interface surface 151V of FIG. 13 is perpendicular to 153V*b* of FIG. 13. Rear emitting surface 151V*a* is also perpendicular to the same line 153V*b* of FIG. 13.

FIG. 14 illustrates the critical angle of reflection geometrical design configuration 144W for an angular-surface light-guide stem. Diagonal line 154W of FIG. 14 cuts parallel side of light-guide stem at an angle equal to the critical angle of reflection 152W of FIG. 14 from intersect point 153W*a*-151W to intersect point 153W-155W of FIG. 14. Horizontal length (front section of light-guide stem) is now formed from intersect point 151W-153W*a* to intersect point 151W*a*-155W*a* of FIG. 14. Parallel sides of light-guide stem is, now, bent (or rotated angularly) at intersect point 155W*a*-153W*a* to form an angle 157W of FIG. 14 equal to or less than critical angle of reflection 152W of FIG. 14. Diagonal line 154W*a* of FIG. 14 cuts (opposite direction of line 154W) horizontal section 153W*b* at an angle equal to the critical angle of reflection 152W of FIG. 14 from intersect point 151W-153W*b* to intersect point 153W*a*-155W*a* of FIG. 14 to form the width (or diameter) of light-guide stem 144W of FIG. 14. By extending line 153W*a* of FIG. 14 from intersect point 153W*a*-155W*a* of FIG. 14 to intersect point 153W*a* (extended line section)-155W of FIG. 14 an angular linear length (rear section of light-guide stem) is, now, formed from intersect point 153W*b*-155W to intersect point 153W*a*-155W (point location 158W) of FIG. 14. The line from point location 158W to intersect point 151W*a* (on line 155W) of FIG. 14 can vary in length to allow for ambient temperature compensation-like that of FIG. 13. Front interface surface line 151W of FIG. 14 is perpendicular to line 153W*b* of FIG. 14. Rear emitting surface 151W*a* is perpendicular to line 155W. By simply varying angle 157W (only) linear light transmission can be adjusted to any angle up to but not beyond the critical angle of reflection 152W of whatever transparent material being used as a light-guide stem.

FIG. 15 illustrates angular displaced light transmission beyond that of angle 157W of FIG. 14. The critical angle of reflection geometrical design configuration 144X is exactly the same as configuration 144W except for the fact that light-guide stem is angular displaced (tilted) from horizontal line 153 to form angle 159X—typically 27°.

In typical application of usage, light-guide stem 144W can vary light transmission from zero degree (0°) to twenty-one degrees (21°); whereas, light-guide stem 144X changes angular light transmission still further from twenty-one (21°) to forty-eight degrees (48°).

FIG. 16 illustrates critical angle of reflection geometrical design configuration 144Y. Configuration 144Y is exactly the same as light-guide stem 144W except for the fact that the "bend" area (intersect point 153Y-155Y is arc-curved rather than a sharp intersection as shown in FIG. 14.

Unlike FIG. 13 through FIG. 16, the geometrical design configuration 144Z of FIG. 17 illustrates a curved or sloped light-guide stem. The arc-degree curvature or slant of light-guide stem 144Z of FIG. 17 can vary from zero degree (0°) to more than forty-five (45°) from horizontal line 153Z of FIG. 17 for any pre-determined light transmission angle. The arc-shaped line 153Z*a* and 153Z*b* (line 153Z*b* is parallel to line 153Z*a*) is uniformly formed around a central axis 164Z of FIG. 17. Line 163Z always remains constant while line 163Z*a* can vary in length to adjust for the desired angle of light transmission. The arc-shaped light-guide stem is, however, limited to an arc-degree-curvature up to but not beyond the critical angle of reflection 152X of whatever transparent material being used as the light-guide stem.

Not only does light-guide stem configuration 144V, light-guide stem configuration 144W, light-guide stem configuration 144X, light-guide stem configuration 144Y, and light-guide stem configuration 144Z applies to any transparent solid material 144 but also applies to all tubular material 146.

Since geometrical design configuration 144W of FIG. 14, configuration 144X of FIG. 15, configuration 144Y of FIG. 16, and configuration 144Z of FIG. 17, demonstrates non-linear light transmission, certain new and different changes in light ray directivity within the lens-core takes place as compared to FIG. 4 through FIG. 9. Instead of passing the light rays directly through the transparent lens-core 144 of FIG. 5 uninhibited at zero degree, FIG. 24 and FIG. 25 shows the zero degree light ray 3 being deflected at an angle equal to or less than the critical angle of reflection of the transparent lens-core material. Incident light rays 3*a* xxx *n* (60° arc) that are greater than the zero degree of entry are also deflected at an angle equal to or less than the same critical angle of reflection—resulting in a uniform deflection of light rays 4*a* xxx *n* as shown.

Optical rod 144 light-guide stems (FIG. 24, FIG. 25, FIG. 33, and FIG. 34), air-core 147 optical tubing 146 light-guide stems (FIG. 42, FIG. 43, FIG. 51, and FIG. 52), gas-core 149 optical tubing 146 (FIG. 59 and FIG. 60), and liquid-core 150 optical tubing 146 (FIG. 68 and FIG. 69), all demonstrates the same light deflection principle for angular light transmission.

To expand the light-guide stem collection surface area 3 of FIG. 5 from a single lens-core 144 to a multi-surface collection area, a number of light-guide stems 144*a* xxx *n* of FIG. 35 (cross-sectional view) can be bundled together into a unitary assembly structure. Lens-core 146 of FIG. 6 can also be clustered together as shown in FIG. 44. In each case, the same linear light control transmission (total internal reflection) is exactly alike regardless of the number of light-guide stems within a given bundle array 144*a* xxx *n*. The more light-guide stems being used within a bundle array the greater flow volume of incident light energy.

By simply bending the light-guide stems bundle array 144*a* xxx *n* to conform to anyone of the geometrical shapes 144V of FIG. 13, 144W of FIG. 14, 144X of FIG. 15, 144Y of FIG. 16, and 144Z of FIG. 17, the light transmission can be angularly displaced as compared to linear light transmission. Straight light-guide stem bundle array 144*a* xxx *n* (FIG. 26, FIG. 29, FIG. 35, FIG. 38, FIG. 44, FIG. 47, FIG. 53, FIG. 56, FIG. 64, FIG. 67, FIG. 73, and FIG. 76) illustrates multiple lens-cores total internal reflection linear light transmission; angular light-guide stem bundle array 144W*a* xxx *n* (FIG. 28, FIG. 31, FIG. 37, FIG. 40, FIG. 46, FIG.

55, FIG. 58, FIG. 62, FIG. 65, FIG. 71, and FIG. 74) illustrates multiple lens-cores total internal reflection angular light transmission from horizontal line 153 to critical angle of reflection 152; Tilt-angular light-guide stem bundle array 144Xa xxx n (FIG. 27, FIG. 30, FIG. 36, FIG. 39, FIG. 45, FIG. 48, FIG. 54, FIG. 57, FIG. 63, FIG. 66, FIG. 72, and FIG. 75) illustrates multiple lens-cores total internal reflection angular light transmission from critical angle of reflection 152 to more than forty-five degrees from horizontal (line 153 of FIG. 15).

FIG. 77 through FIG. 94 illustrates cross-sectional end view of single (light-guide stem 144 or 146) or bundle array (light-guide stems 144a xxx n or 146a xxx n) light-guide stems in circular configuration. In application, the round shape light-guide stem 144 or 146 provides for maximum light concentration per given area over other cross-sectional end view design configurations. Bundle array 144a xxx n or 146a xxx n can change from circular to other cross-sectional end view design configurations for a given purpose.

By affixing a lens-cap focusing lens (FIG. 1, FIG. 2, or FIG. 3) to anytype of light-guide stem (solid 144 or tubular 146, single or bundle array), incident light energy increases by more than 20% through the lens-core area (144 or 146). Likewise, the incident light collection scan range 3a xxx n (60 degree arc) of any light-guide stem (as shown in FIG. 23) is expanded to 5a xxx n (80 degrees or more) as illustrated in FIG. 96. FIG. 1, FIG. 2, and FIG. 3, illustrates a permanent mounted lens-cap structure (140 or 141); FIG. 119 through FIG. 127 illustrates a removable lens-cap structure (170 or 171); FIG. 155 through 163 illustrates a single-unit lens-cap focusing plate structure (172 or 173); and FIG. 191 through FIG. 199 illustrates an unitary array lens-cap focusing plate structure (172a xxx n or 173a xxx n).

In whatever component combination of assembly, any kind of lens-cap focusing lens can be attached to anytype of light-guide stem structure (single or bundled array) to form a light-steering lens embodiment. FIG. 95 through FIG. 118 illustrates a unitary structure light-steering lens (solid or hollow center) embodiment; FIG. 128 through FIG. 154 illustrates a removable lens-cap light-steering embodiment; and, FIG. 164 through 190 illustrates an inserted light-guide stem (single or bundle array) lens-cap focusing plate light-steering lens embodiment- forming the basic assembly structure of a light-guide lens embodiment.

To prevent harmful or unwanted incident light waves from passing through a light-steering lens embodiment, a light filter material 167 of FIG. 20 can be applied to any kind of lens-cap outer curved-surface area. In place of 167, light filter material 168 of FIG. 21 can be placed on flat-surface of any modular structure lens-cap focusing lens. Light filter material 168 can also be placed between the lens-cap structure and any light-guide stem structure (single or bundled array) as illustrates in FIG. 136. If no lens-cap is needed (as shown in FIG. 22) then light filter material 168 can be directly attached to anytype of light-guide stem structure. Basically, light filter material 167 of FIG. 20 and material 168 of FIG. 21 can apply directly to any light transparent material. To simplify light wave filtering still further, material 167 or 168 can actually become the material used to form anytype of lens-cap structure and/or anytype of light-guide stem structure and/or anytype of light-steering lens embodiment. Still another light filtering method is used different types of liquid (150) or gas (149) light transmit-

tance substances within a given lens-cap thin-walled structure (as illustrated in FIG. 2), within a given light-guide thin-walled stem structure (as illustrates in FIG. 8), or within a given light-steering lens thin-walled structure (as illustrated in FIG. 11).

In cases where incident light energy is to be prevented from passing through anytype of light-steering lens embodiment, an electro-optical coating material 179 of FIG. 19 can be applied to the curved-surface lens-cap area or to the light-guide stem interface-surface area. When an electrical potential (voltage, or current, or both) is applied to the electro-optical coating material 179 the incident light rays are shut-off or stopped-performing the same function as a light-switch. By simply removing the applied electrical potential from the electro-optical coating material 179 allows the incident light energy to flow through the light-steering lens once again. Still other electro-optical materials act as a light-switch (stops or allows the flow of light energy) in reverse to the applied electrical potential.

As illustrated in FIG. 240, unitary structure light-steering lens 144SV (as shown in FIG. 96) can be inserted into a lens-plate 174 of FIG. 227 and be permanently mounted by cement material 177 of FIG. 240 to form a light-guide lens V-shape embodiment in its simplest arrangement. Unitary structured light-steering lenses (solid or hollow centered) of FIG. 99, FIG. 102, FIG. 104, FIG. 107, FIG. 110, FIG. 113, or FIG. 116 can replace light-steering lens 96 of FIG. 240 under the same permanent mounting conditions 177 of FIG. 240—forming the same V-shape light-guide lens embodiment of FIG. 240.

FIG. 239 illustrates the insertion of a unitary structure light-steering lens 144SW of FIG. 95 into lens-plate 174 of FIG. 227 to form a light-guide lens W-shape embodiment in its simplest assembly. Unitary structure light-steering lenses (solid or hollow centered) of FIG. 98, FIG. 101, FIG. 106, FIG. 109, FIG. 113, FIG. 115, or FIG. 118, can replace light-steering lens 144SW of FIG. 239 under the same mounting condition 177 of FIG. 240—forming the same W-shape light-guide lens embodiment of FIG. 239.

FIG. 241 illustrates the insertion of a unitary structure light-steering lens 144SX of FIG. 97 into lens-plate 174 of FIG. 227 to form a light-guide lens X-shape embodiment in its simplest assembly. Unitary structure light-steering lens (solid or hollow centered) of FIG. 100, FIG. 103, FIG. 105, FIG. 108, FIG. 111, FIG. 114, or FIG. 117, can replace light-steering lens 144SX of FIG. 241 under the same mounting condition 177 of FIG. 240—forming the same X-shape light-guide lens embodiment of FIG. 239.

In cases where a removable unitary light-steering lens is required when forming a light-guide lens embodiment, a snap-lock collar 175 of FIG. 228 can be placed around the light-guide stem on any unitary light-steering lens as illustrated in FIG. 242 through FIG. 244. The resultant assembly with snap-lock collar 175 of FIG. 228 can, now, be inserted into lens-plate 174 as shown in FIG. 245 through FIG. 247.

When using a light-guide stem embodiment (single or bundle array) inserted into lens-plate 174 of FIG. 227 to form a non-lens-cap light-guide lens assembly, the same permanent (as shown in FIG. 230 through FIG. 232) or removable (as shown in FIG. 236 through FIG. 238) mounting techniques can be applied as illustrated in FIGS. 239 through 247.

To expand the incident light collection capabilities of a single light-guide lens embodiment, lens-plate 174 of FIG. 227 can be enlarged to lens-plate 174A of FIG. 263 (inline perforated hole arrangement) or to lens-plate 174B of FIG. 264 (alternating perforated hole arrangement) in order to accommodate for any number of light-steering lenses equal to the number of holes available per lens-plate sheet. In schematic cross-sectional view, FIG. 265 through FIG. 267 illustrates an array of permanently mounted light-guide stems (144Wa xxx n of FIG. 265, 144Va xxx n of FIG. 266, and 144Xa xxx n of FIG. 267) is a non-lens-cap light-guide lens structure. FIG. 271 through FIG. 273 illustrates an array of removable light-guide stems in a non-lens-cap light-guide lens structure. FIG. 268 through FIG. 270 illustrates an array of permanently mounted light-steering lenses (144SWa xxx n of FIG. 268, 144SVa xxx n of FIG. 269, and 144SXa xxx n of FIG. 270) in a light-guide lens structure. FIGS. 274 through 276 illustrates an array of removable light-steering lenses in a light-guide lens structure.

FIG. 257, FIG. 259, and FIG. 261, illustrates an array of permanently mounted light-guide stems (144Xa xxx n of FIG. 257, 144Wa xxx n of FIG. 259, and 144Va xxx n of FIG. 261) inserted into an array of lens-cap focusing lenses formed into a unitary lens-plate structure (172a xxx n of FIG. 191 through FIG. 193, or 173a xxx n of FIG. 194 through FIG. 199) to make up a light-guide lens structure (as shown in FIG. 200 through FIG. 226). FIG. 258, FIG. 260, and FIG. 262, illustrates an array of removable light-guide stems inserted into an array of lens-cap focusing plates (as illustrated in FIG. 200 through FIG. 226) to form a light-guide lens structure.

As illustrated in FIG. 200 through FIG. 226, FIG. 257 through FIG. 262, and FIG. 265 through FIG. 276, the light-guide lens embodiments demonstrates the uniform control of the directivity of incident light rays 5a xxx n to projected light rays 6a xxx n beyond a single to an array of light-steering lenses—evenly distributed and linearly aligned. Light-guide lens non-linearly alignment of projected light rays 6a xxx n is simply accomplished by longitudinally rotating one or more light-steering lenses within an array as shown in FIG. 278 and FIG. 279, by placement of different design light-steering lenses within the same array as illustrated in FIG. 280 and FIG. 281, or by combination of both (rotation and placement substitution within an array of light-steering lenses) as illustrated in FIG. 282.

With reference to FIG. 277, there is illustrated the fundamental principle of an array of light-steering lenses 41a xxx 41n of the present invention in controlling the directivity of incident light radiation from an arc of 80 degrees. In this embodiment the array of light-steering lenses (linear light-guide stem—identical in length and diameter) causes the incoming incident light rays 43a xxx 43n to be transmitted as light ray 44 to a focal region 45—providing non-focusing light transmission. By substituting linear stem light-steering lenses 41a xxx 41n of FIG. 277 with angular stem light-steering lenses 46a xxx 46n of FIG. 278 and rotated in opposite direction from center of array, the incoming light rays 49a xxx 49n (80° arc) will be transmitted as light rays 50 and 50a to a focal region 51—providing convergent focusing light transmission. With the angular stem light-steering lenses oriented in opposite direction from FIG. 278, the incoming incident light rays 56a xxx 56n (80° arc) will be transmitted as light rays 57 and 57a to a

focal region 58—providing divergent focusing light transmission.

In another array of light-steering lenses, FIG. 280 illustrates FIG. 277 in combination arrangement with FIG. 278; FIG. 281 illustrates FIG. 277 in combination arrangement with FIG. 279; FIG. 282 illustrates a series combination arrangement 280; and FIG. 281 can be used in opposite orientation of FIG. 282.

Still in another array of light-steering lenses and somewhat similar to FIG. 279, the light-steering lenses 21a xxx 21n of lens-plate 23 and light-steering 22a xxx 22n of lens-plate 23a are linearly placed side-by-side as shown in FIG. 283. In this instance the lens-plate 23 comprising light-steering lenses 21a xxx 21n and lens-plate 23a comprising light-steering lenses 22a xxx 22n are at an angle (displaced from the horizontal) relative to each other. The result obtained is similar to that of FIG. 278. With the angle of lens-plate 23 and 23a as shown in FIG. 283, the incoming light rays 24a xxx 24n (80° arc) and 25a xxx 25n (80° arc) passes through the light-steering lenses 22a xxx 22n and 21a xxx 21n are transmitted as light rays 26 and 26a to a focal region 27.

With the angle of lens-plate 93 and 93a of FIG. 285 in reversed position from that shown in FIG. 283, the incoming light rays 94a xxx 94n (80° arc) will be transmitted as light radiation 95 and 96 but in dispersed direction to focal region 97 and 98 of FIG. 285. By combining FIG. 283 with lens-plate 93 of FIG. 285 (light-steering lens 91a xxx 91n oriented in reverse direction) on one side and lens-plate 93a of FIG. 285 (light-steering lenses 92a xxx 92n orientated in reverse direction) on the other side, FIG. 288 is formed for the purpose of trifocusing incident light rays 127a xxx 127n (80° arc).

The angle of the incoming light 43 of the light-steering lenses 41a xxx 41n of the planar array of FIG. 277 is depicted in an arc of 80 degrees from the horizontal. Similarly, the incident light rays 49 of FIG. 278 and light rays 24 and 25 of FIG. 283 are in an arc of 80 degrees from the vertical. In certain lighting instances, whether natural as the sun or artificial, the light source is displaced at some angle in both the vertical and the horizontal. Also as with the sun, the displaced angle will vary from one period of time to another. To utilize the light rays from a light source in a continuous movement—at some angle starting in the horizontal, passing through the vertical, and again to the horizontal—the contoured configuration of FIG. 286 is used. The lens-plate 102, comprising the array of light-steering lenses 101a xxx 101n, is a unitary semi-circular structure as shown. With the light-steering lenses 101a xxx 101n of FIG. 286, the incoming light rays 103a xxx 103n are directed and transmitted as light radiation 104 to the central focal region 105. The light transmission is continuous through the horizontal-vertical-horizontal angular excursion of the incident light 103a xxx 103n from the moving light source.

Likewise, FIG. 287 performs the same directivity of light control as FIG. 280 except for the fact that FIG. 287 scan range is extended from 180 degrees of FIG. 286 to 360 degrees of FIG. 287.

Referring now to FIG. 284, there is illustrated an arrangement of light-steering lenses that utilize the aforementioned control principles. In this embodiment the light-steering lenses 31a xxx 31n and 32a xxx 32n are also at an angle intermediate between the vertical and the horizontal. The lens-plate 33 and 34 are placed up-right to direct the incident light 35a xxx 35n and 36a

xxx 36n as transmitted light radiation 37 and 37a to focal region 38.

As set forth above relative to FIG. 286, the light source may pass through an angular excursion of horizontal-vertical-horizontal. Similarly the light source may have an angular excursion only in the horizontal. The embodiment of light-steering lenses 35a xxx 35n and 36a xxx 36n of FIG. 284 is effective to control to focal region 38 the incident light from a source having opposing directions intermediate of the vertical and horizontal. The incident light 35a xxx 35n and incident light 36a xxx 36n of FIG. 284 may emanate from a pair of alternately positioned light sources. In that instance the lens-plate 33 and lens-plate 34 are a pair of upright planar arrays. However, if the incident light 35 and the incident light 36 emanate from a single source passing from left to right, the lens-plate 33 and the lens-plate 34 are, in actuality, of cylindrical or semi-cylindrical configuration.

In furtherance of the invention, light-guide lens structure 20 of FIG. 283 can be placed on top of light-guide lens structure 30 of FIG. 284 to form silo capping lens assembly (primary stage) 190 of FIG. 290 to provide a central focal region 133 for transmitted light radiation 26a xxx 26n and 37a xxx 37n. Similarly in assembly, light-guide lens structure 40A of FIG. 277, 40B of FIG. 278, 40C of FIG. 279, 40D of FIG. 280, 40E of FIG. 281, or 40F of FIG. 282 can be placed on top of lens structure 30 of FIG. 284 to form feeder lens assembly (secondary stage) 180 of FIG. 289 to provide a central focal region 132 for transmitted light radiation 44a xxx 44n and 37a xxx 37n.

By simply placing silo capping lens assembly (primary stage) 190 of FIG. 290 on top of feeder lens assembly (secondary stage) 180 of FIG. 289 to form modular assembled silo lens assembly 200 of FIG. 291, the central focal region 132 of FIG. 289 and focal region 133 of FIG. 290 is, now, changed to focal region 134 of FIG. 291. To increase incident light collection still further, additional feeder stages 180a xxx 180n can be stacked one on top of the other (vertical arrangement) and joined beneath FIG. 291 to form a more vertical upright silo lens modular structure. Regardless of the number of stacked feeder lens stages 180a xxx 180n, the focal region 134 of FIG. 291 will always remain at bottom of vertically extended silo lens modular structure.

To increase focusability of silo lens assembly 200 of FIG. 291 still further, focal region 134 of FIG. 291 can be replaced by lens structure 40A through 40F—as illustrated in silo lens assembly 210 of FIG. 292. Instead of having a singular focal region 135 (as illustrated in FIG. 292), a multi-focal region 136, 136a, and 137, can be obtained by using angular lens structure 120 of FIG. 288 in place of 40 series lens structures as shown in silo lens assembly 220 of FIG. 293.

FIG. 1 through FIG. 293 are aforesaid schematic in cross-sectional view to illustrate the function and operation of an array of light-steering lenses within a given light-guide lens form to control the directivity of light rays emanating from a stationary or moving light source at various angles.

With reference to FIG. 294 through FIG. 371, there are illustrated several additional embodiments in an overall pictorial view of the present invention. FIG. 294 is a lens-cap 140; FIG. 295 is a modular lens-cap 170; FIG. 296 is a lens-plate 174; FIG. 297 is a modular assembled lens-cap focusing plate 174-170; FIG. 298 is a unitary lens-cap focusing plate 174-140; FIG. 299 is a

disc light filter 168; FIG. 300 is a lens-cap light filter 167; FIG. 301 through FIG. 304 are optical-rod light-guide stems; FIG. 305 through 308 are bundle array of optical-rod light-guide stems; FIG. 309 through 312 are sheathe bundle array of optical-rod light-guide stems; FIG. 313 through 316 are optical-tubing light-guide stems; FIGS. 317 and 318 are gripping collars; FIG. 319 through FIG. 326 are grip-lock collars mounted on light-guide stems; FIGS. 327 through 330 are solid structured light-steering lenses; FIG. 331 through FIG. 338 are modular assembled light-steering lenses.

Still further in pictorial view, FIG. 339 through FIG. 342 are non-removable light-guide lens structures; FIG. 343 through FIG. 346 are removable light-guide lens structures; FIGS. 347 through 350 are non-removable non-lens-cap light-guide lens structures; FIG. 351 is a perforated lens-plate; FIG. 352 is a removable lens-cap lens plate; FIG. 353 is non-removable lens-cap lens-plate; FIG. 354 is linear light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 355 is a angular light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 356 is a tilt angular light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 357 is a curved-angular light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 358 is a linear/angular/tilt-angular/curved-angular light-guide lens embodiment.

Still further in component assembly in pictorial view, FIG. 359 is a disc-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 360 is a cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 361 is a cylindrical-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 362 is a hemispherical-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 363 is a square-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 364 is a V-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 365 is a semi-circular-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 366 is a disc-cone-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 367 is a unidirectional-triangular-shaped light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 368 is a silo light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 369 is a feeder stage light-guide lens embodiment; FIG. 370 is a multi-stage silo light-guide lens embodiment; and FIG. 371 is a multi-stage silo light-guide lens embodiment with condensing lens embodiment.

Although only a specific and preferred embodiment of the invention has been shown and described, it is understood that modifications may be had thereto without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A solar energy light-guide collector-concentrator silo lens comprising an array of light-steering lenses inserted into a silo lens-plate in combination:

an enclosure,

a contoured capping light-guide lens positioned in the upper most region of said enclosure, said contoured capping light-guide lens comprising an array of light-steering lenses inserted into said contoured capping lens-plate, said light-steering lenses periodically displaced from each other in said array and wherein said light-steering lenses are directive to focus said solar energy to a plurality of spaced transference light-guide lenses in stacked relationship.

A focusing light-guide lens section positioned in the lower most region of said enclosure, said focusing light-guide lens comprising an array of light-steering lenses inserted into said focusing lens-plate, said light-steering lenses periodically displaced from each other in said array and wherein said light-

steering lenses are directive to focus said collected solar energy to a central region.

A contoured light-guide wall lens positioned within said enclosure intermediate of said contoured capping light-guide lens and said focusing light-guide lens and perimeter position around said transference light-guide lenses, said wall lens comprising an array of light-steering lenses inserted into said contoured wall lens-plate, said light-steering lenses periodically displaced in said array and wherein said light-steering lenses are operative to uniformly distribute said solar energy to said transference light-guide lenses.

Said enclosure further comprises a plurality of spaced transference light-guide lenses in stacked relationship within said wall lens, said transference light-guide lens comprising an array of light-steering lenses inserted into said flat-surface lens-plate, said light-steering lenses periodically displaced from each other in said array and wherein said light-steering lenses are directive to transfer said collected solar energy to said focusing lens.

2. The light-guide silo lens of claim 1 wherein said light-guide lenses further comprises an array of removable light-steering lenses inserted into said lens-plate.

3. The light-guide lens of claim 2 wherein said light-steering lenses can be replaced by light-guide stems either in part or all of said array.

4. The light-guide lens of claim 2 wherein said lens-plate can be any type of perforated material that conforms to any desired geometrical shape.

5. The light-guide lens of claim 3 wherein said light-guide stem lens-core is made up of material (solid, liquid, or gas) that is transparent and reflective to incident light radiation and wherein said transparent material uses the principle of total internal reflection for light transmission.

6. The light-guide lens of claim 3 wherein said light-guide stem can be angularly displaced to change the transmission angle of the incident light rays from horizontal to vertical at an angle-of-bend not to exceed the critical angle of reflection of the transparent material being used.

7. The light-guide lens of claim 2 wherein said light-steering lens is formed by affixing said focusing lens-cap to said light-guide stem.

8. The light-guide lens of claim 2 wherein said light-steering lens can be formed (in part or all) by an light-filtering material for the purpose of blocking any or all unwanted or harmful light rays.

9. The light-guide lens of claim 1 wherein said light-steering lens can have an electro-optical material affixed to said light-steering lens in order to shut-off the flow of incoming incident light rays when an electrical potential (voltage, current, or both) is applied to said electro-optical material.

10. The light-guide lens of claim 4 wherein said lens-plate can have the focusing lens-cap affixed to said lens-plate and wherein said light-guide stem can be inserted into said lens-cap-focusing-plate assembly to form said light-guide lens.

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