

FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART) is a cross-sectional view of a mechanical assembly. The assembly includes a central shaft (10) with a series of steps or changes in diameter. The shaft is surrounded by a housing (12) which has a central bore (14). The housing is divided into several sections by axial flanges (16, 18, 20). The shaft has corresponding features: a central section (22) with a bore (24), and end sections (26, 28) with bores (32, 34). The housing sections are secured to the shaft by a series of bolts (17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37). The bolts are arranged in a circular pattern around the shaft. The assembly is shown in a cross-sectional view, with the shaft and housing sections indicated by different hatching patterns.

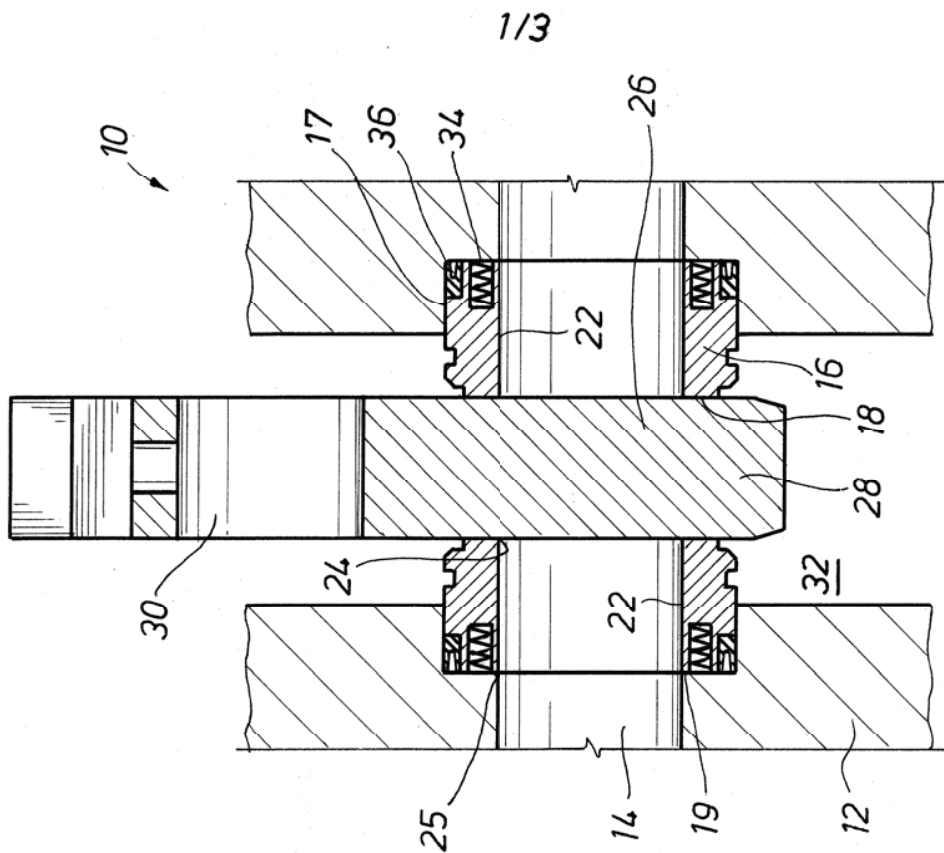


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

FIG. 3

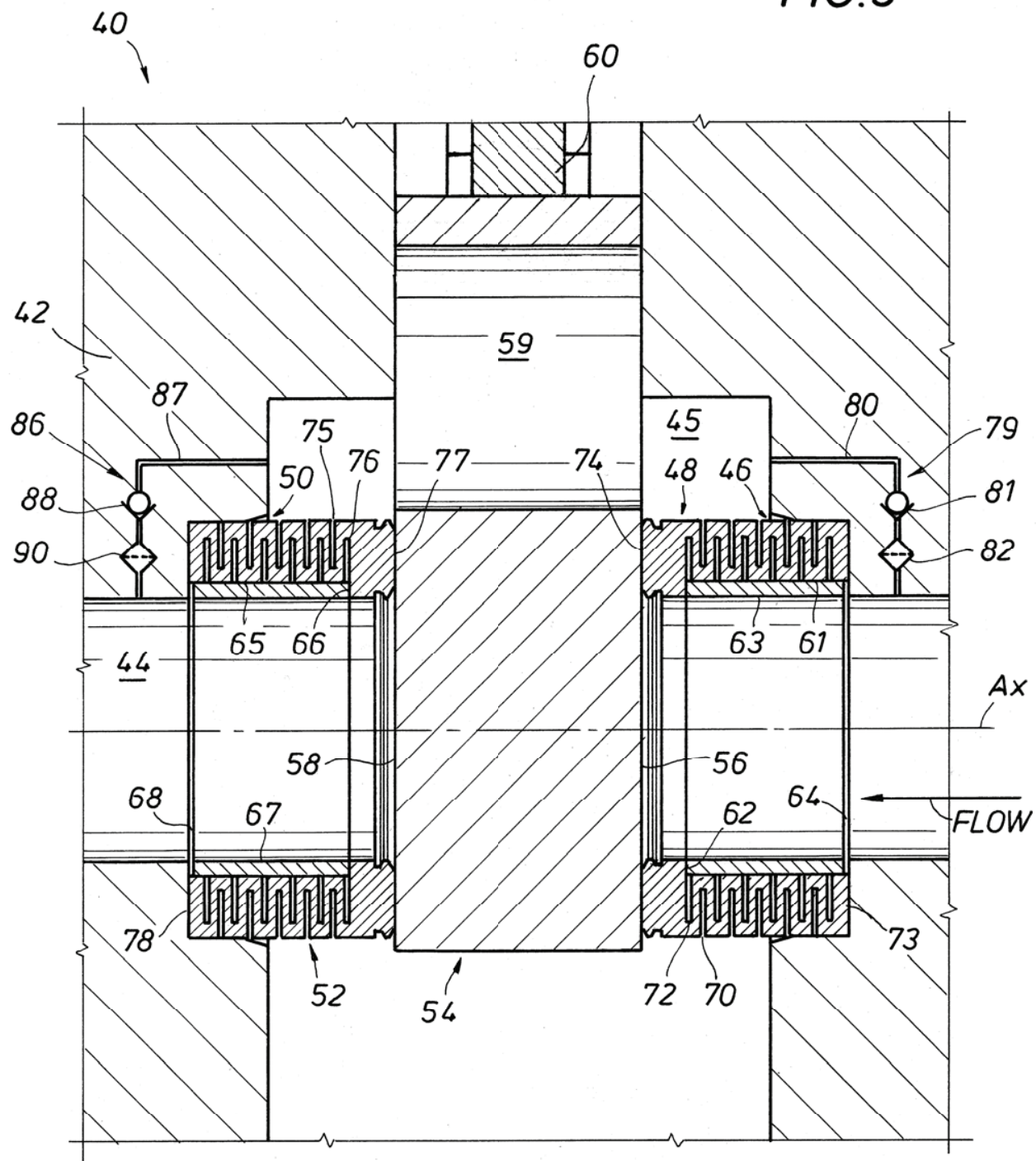


FIG. 4

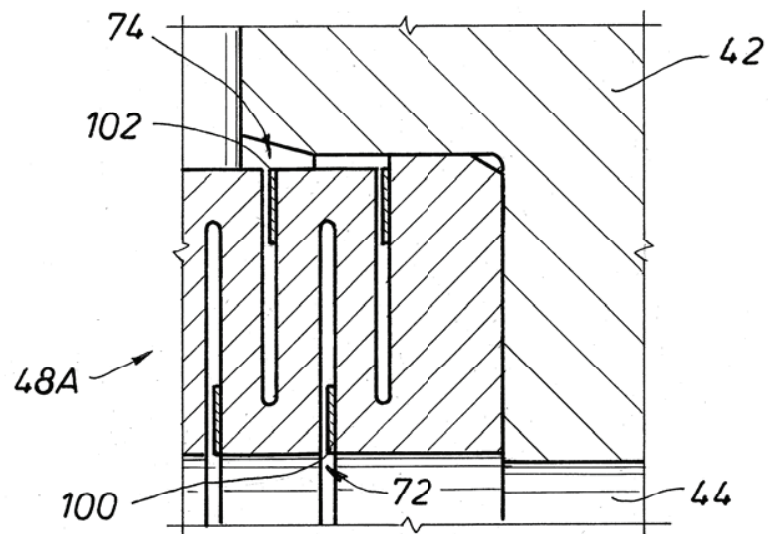
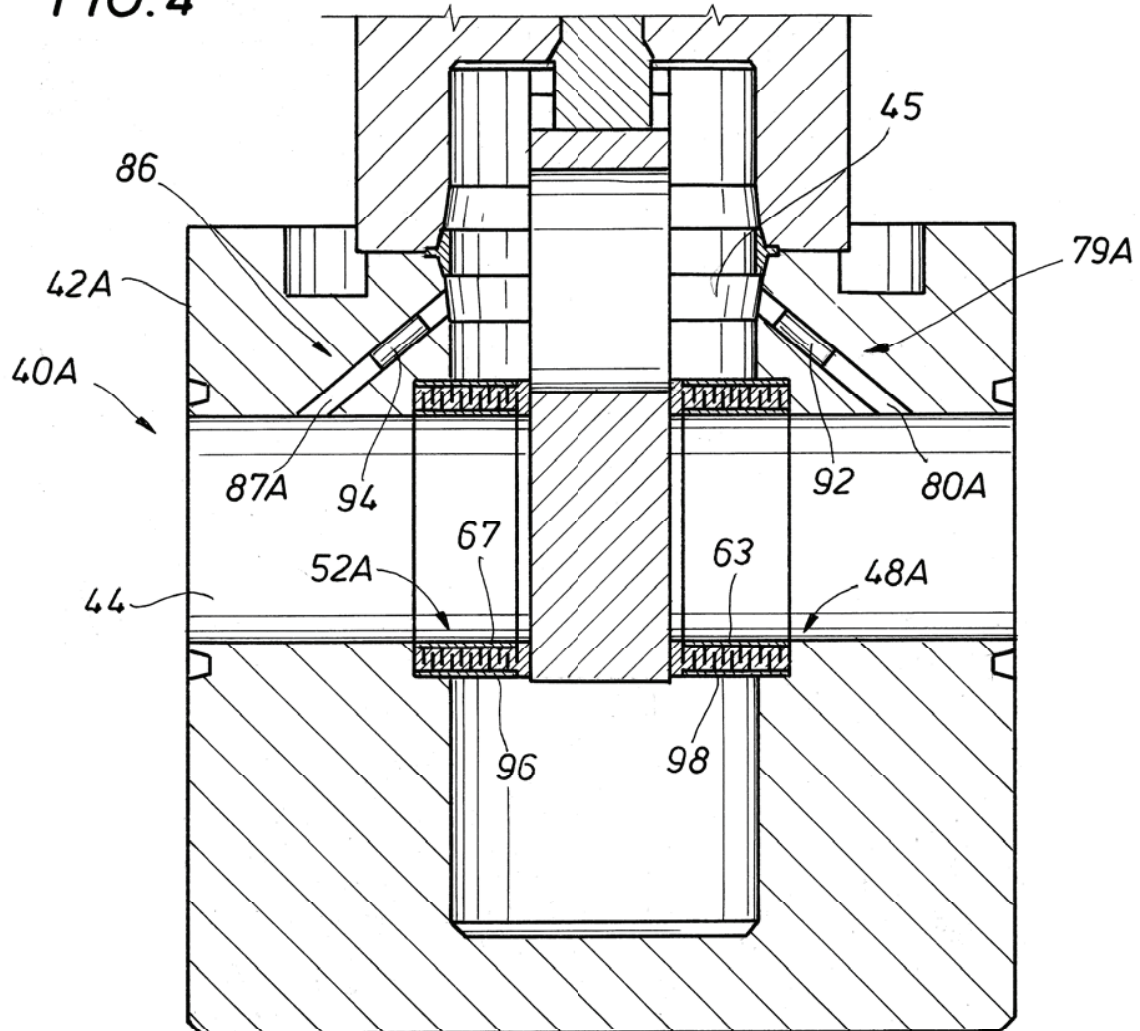


FIG. 5