

## United States Patent [19]

#### Milliman et al.

#### [54] SURGICAL STAPLING APPARATUS

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- [51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... A61B 17/068
- [52] U.S. Cl. ..... 227/176.1; 227/19; 227/178.1
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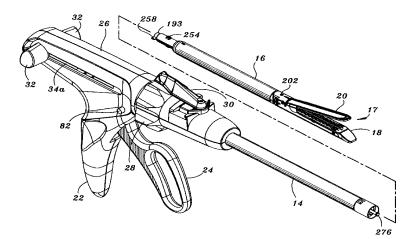
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Primary Examiner-Scott A. Smith

#### [57] ABSTRACT

A surgical stapling device particularly suited for endoscopic procedures is described. The device can be used with both articulating and non-articulating disposable loading units and has a sensing mechanism for sensing the type of disposable loading unit secured to the device.

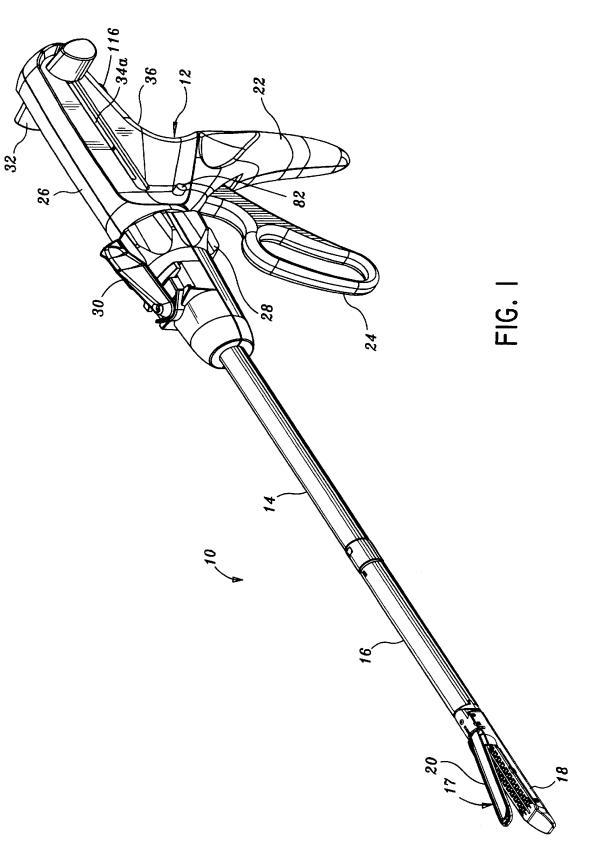
#### 4 Claims, 39 Drawing Sheets



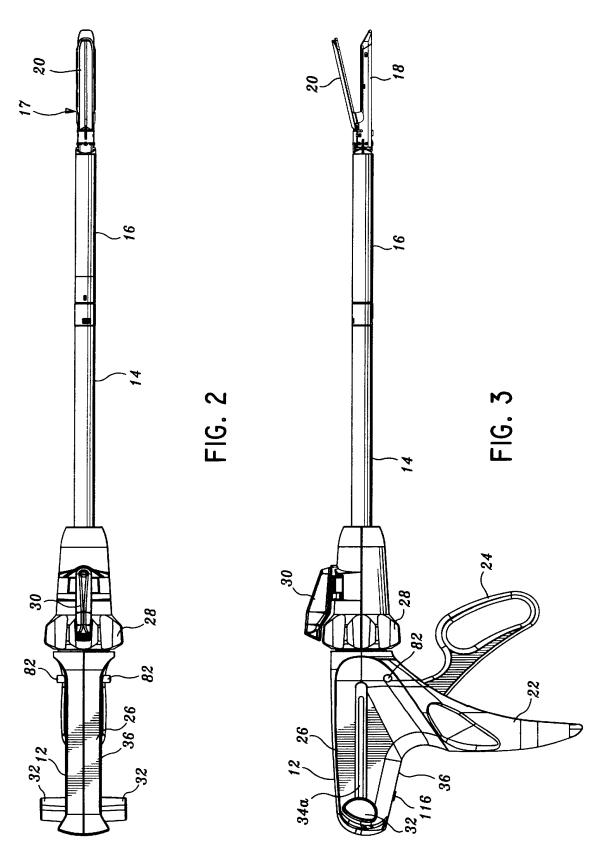
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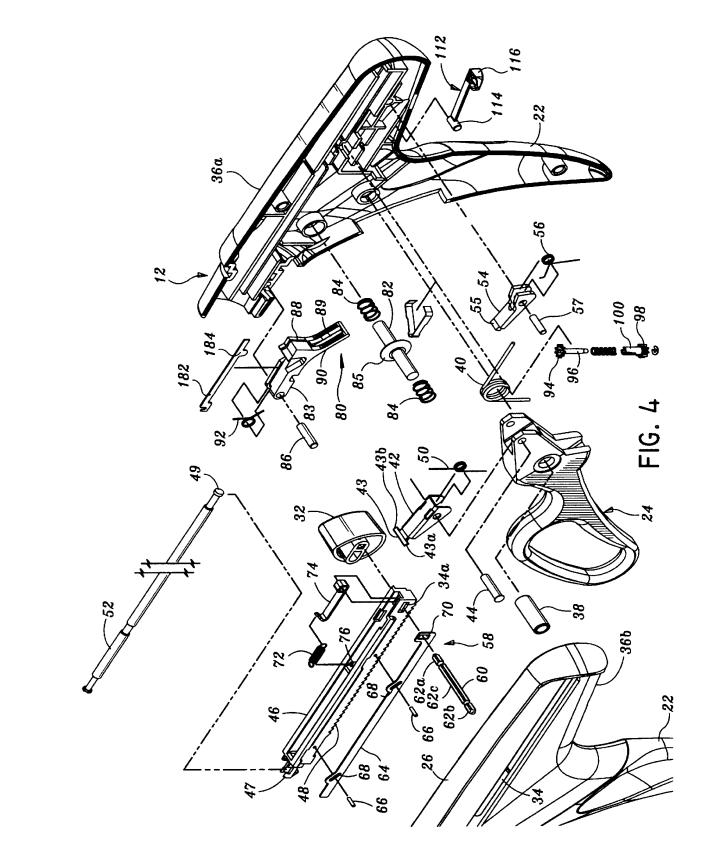
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