

United States Patent [19]
Lightner

[11] **3,718,906**
 [45] **Feb. 27, 1973**

[54] **VENDING SYSTEM FOR REMOTELY ACCESSIBLE STORED INFORMATION**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** 340/147 R, 179/2 TV, 179/6.3 CC, 179/6.3 MA, 179/100.2 E, 194/15

[51] **Int. Cl.** G11b 15/02, H04m 17/02, H04q 9/00

[58] **Field of Search ..** 340/147 R, 147 A, 149 A, 162, 340/174.1 R, 174.1 CC, 147; 178/6.6 A; 179/100.2 E, 2 R, 2 A, 6.3 MA, 6.3 CC; 346/33 M; 194/2, 10, 15

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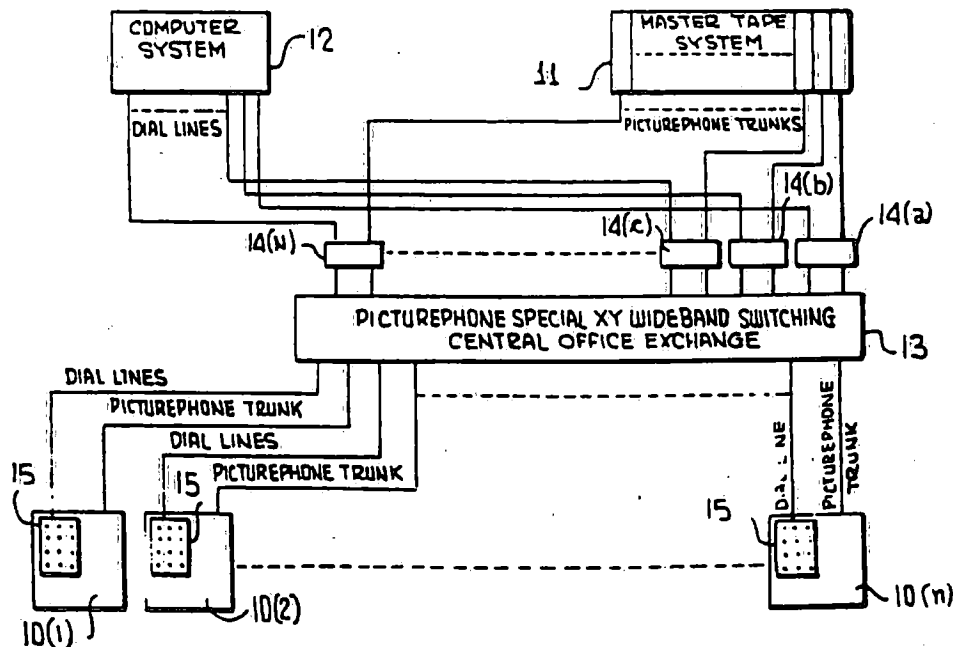
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Primary Examiner—Donald J. Yusko
Attorney—Rose & Edell

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A vending system includes a central station at which various information stored on master recordings can be selectively accessed by purchasers from any of multiple remote vending machines, the accessed information being reproduced on cartridge-type storage media at that vending machine. The cartridge, upon receiving all of the selected information, is ejected from the vending machine for the permanent use of the purchaser. In a preferred embodiment the master recording medium comprises a plurality of endless master tapes continuously driven by a common capstan. The master tapes may contain commercially recorded music which is selectively transferred to a magnetic tape cassette at a vending machine. The master tapes may contain complete albums of recordings which are automatically produced on the cassette, or alternatively may contain a variety of solo recordings which can be individually selected to create a new album of the purchaser's choice.

23 Claims, 14 Drawing Figures



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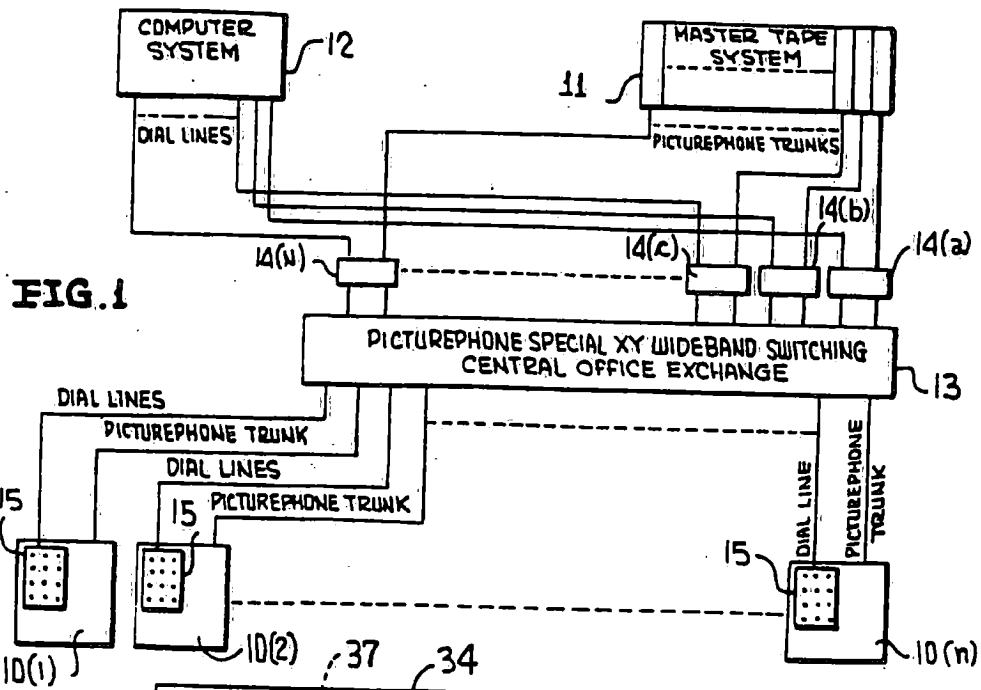
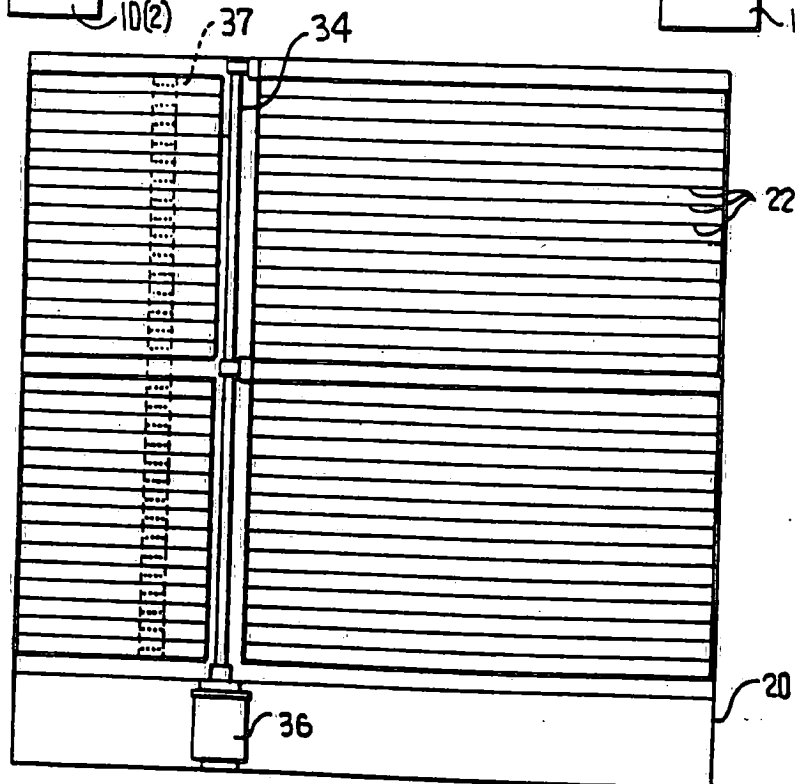


FIG. 1

FIG. 2



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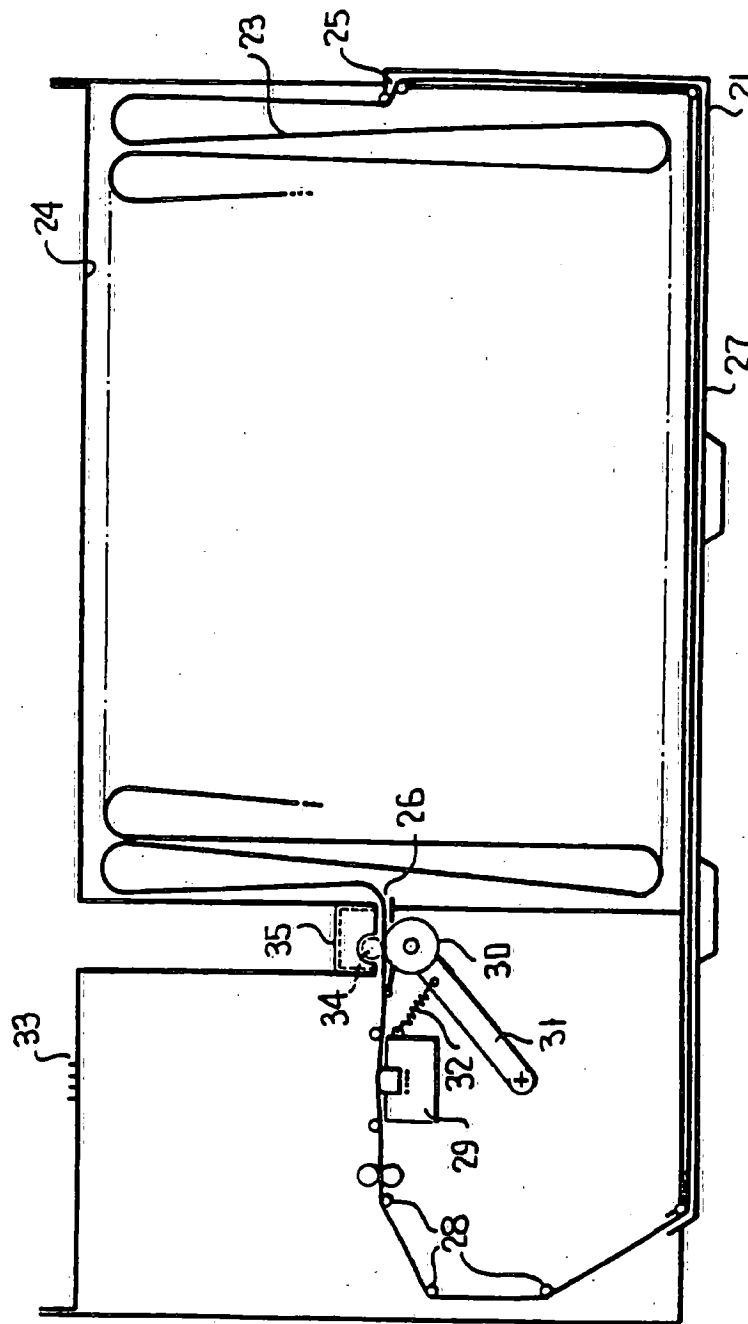


FIG. 3

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FIG. 4

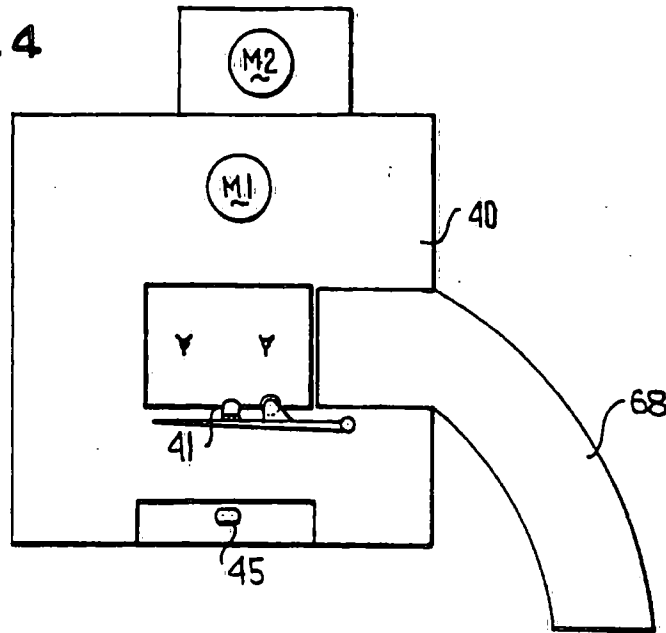
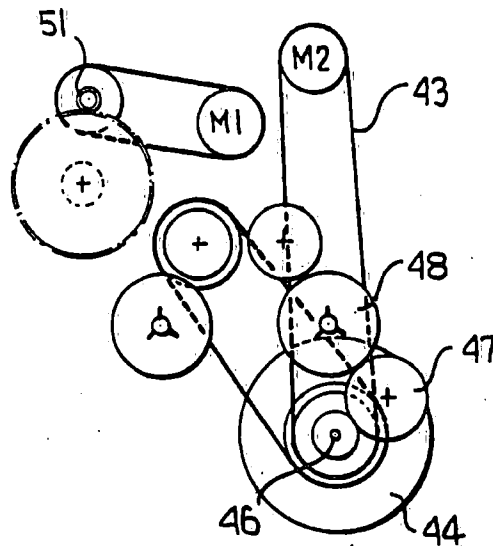


FIG. 4a



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FIG. 5

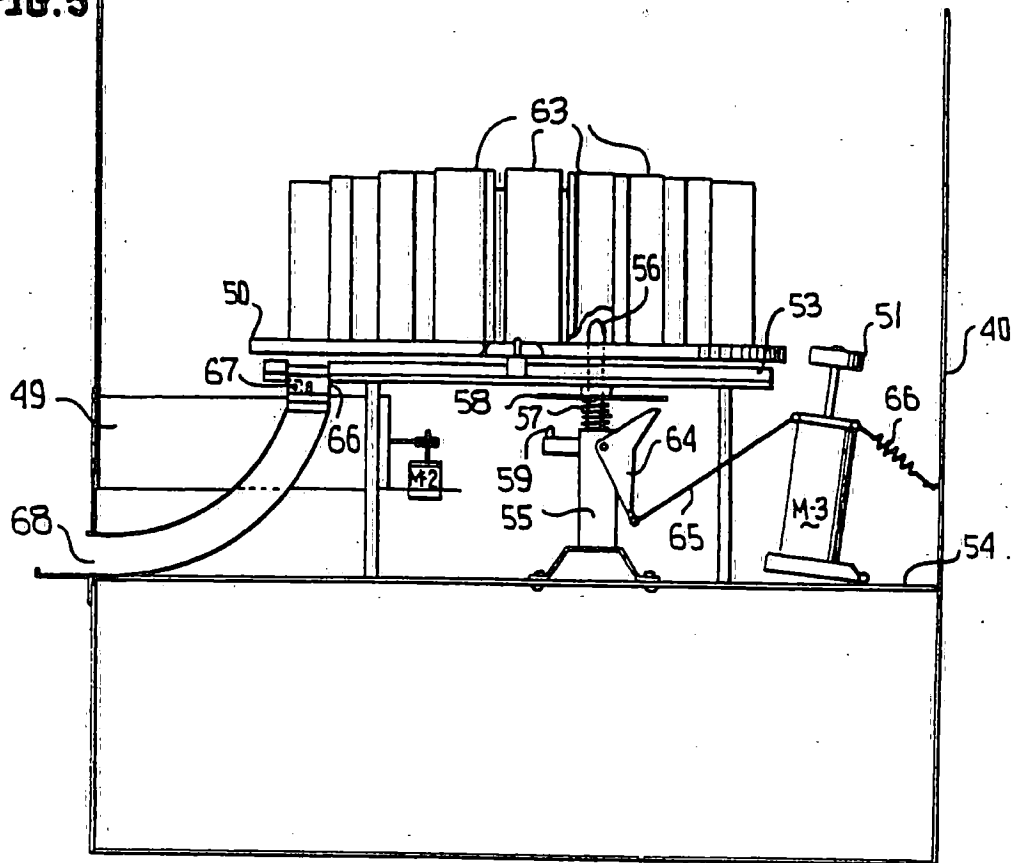


FIG. 6

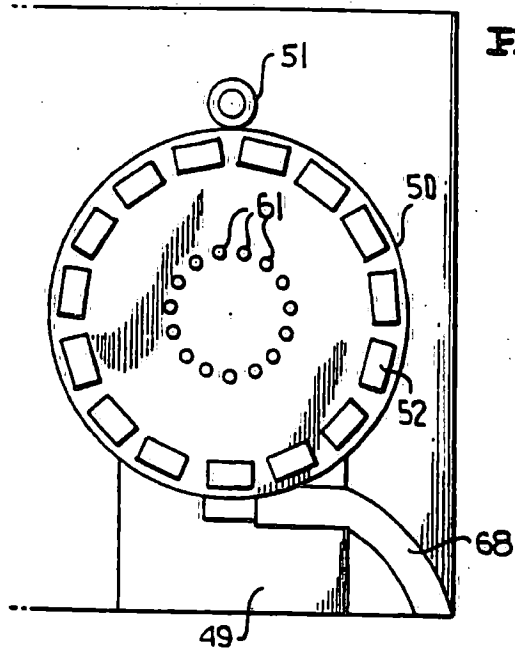
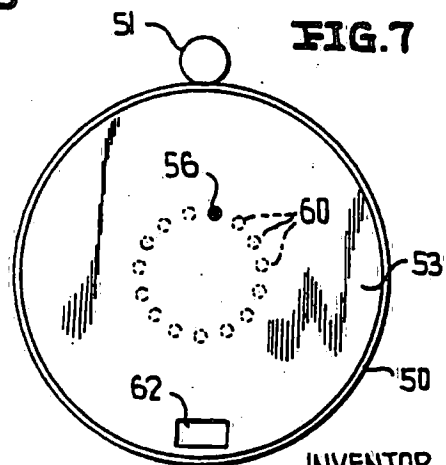


FIG. 7



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