

[54] INTERACTIVE DEVICE FOR DATA INPUT INTO AN INSTRUMENT OF SMALL DIMENSIONS

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[75] Inventors: Christian Piguet; Jean-Félix Perotto, both of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

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[73] Assignee: Centre Electronique Horloger SA, Neuchâtel, Switzerland

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[21] Appl. No.: 968,917

Primary Examiner—Marshall M. Curtis
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Wender, Murase & White

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[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

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Jul. 17, 1978 [CH] Switzerland 7690/78

[51] Int. Cl.³ G06F 3/14

[52] U.S. Cl. 340/711; 340/365 C; 340/712; 340/718; 178/18

[58] Field of Search 340/712, 365 R, 365 C, 340/711, 718; 178/18

[57] ABSTRACT

The device according to the invention comprises a sensor formed by a plurality of capacitive or resistive electrodes. The user searches the symbol to be selected by displacing his finger on the sensor while looking at a control display unit. Any position of the finger on the sensor causes the display of to at least one symbol within an alphanumeric group, these symbols appearing sequentially on the control display.

The device does not require any instruction for use nor any indicator marked on the instrument because its working principle is based on permanent visual feedback. The device is compatible with the dimensional requirements of portable instruments of small dimensions, e.g. timepieces.

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22 Claims, 16 Drawing Figures

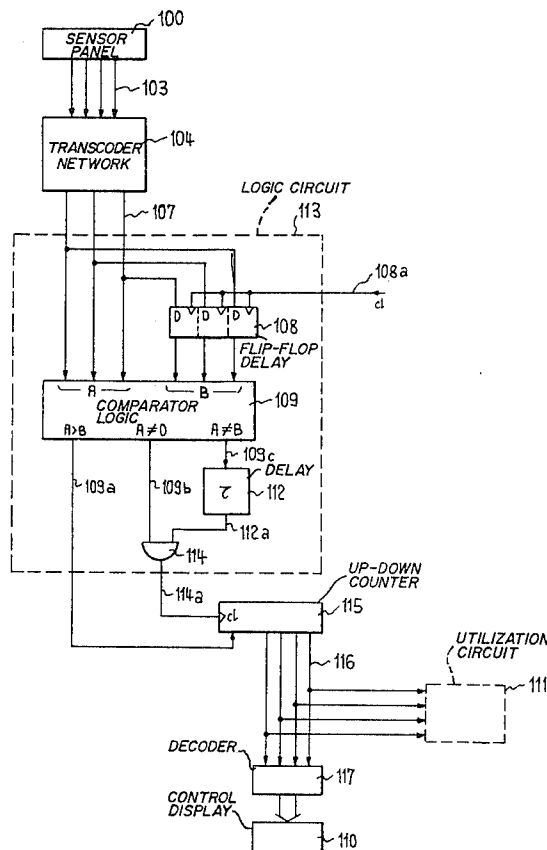


FIG. 1

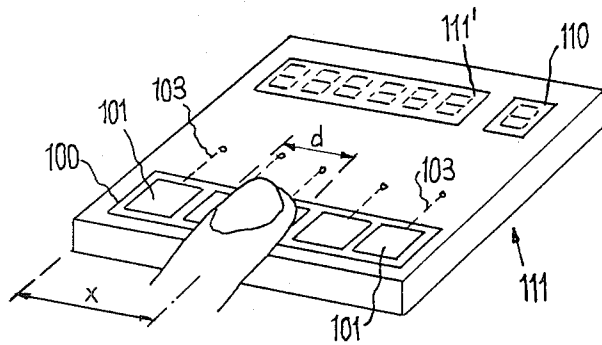


FIG. 2

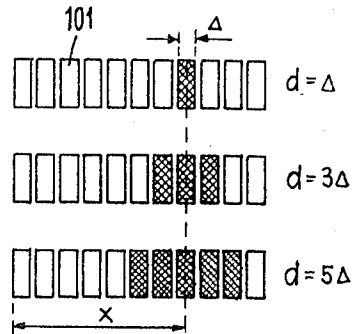


FIG. 3

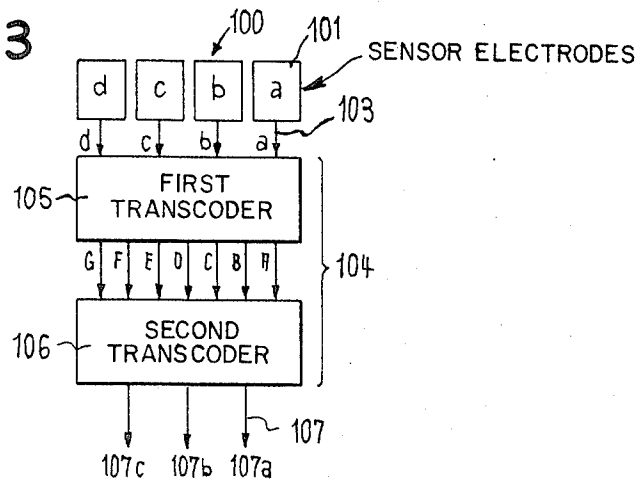


FIG. 5

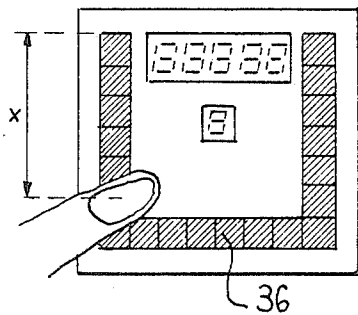


FIG. 6

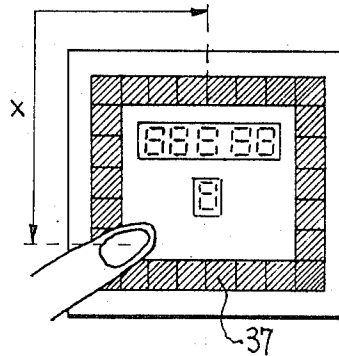


FIG. 4

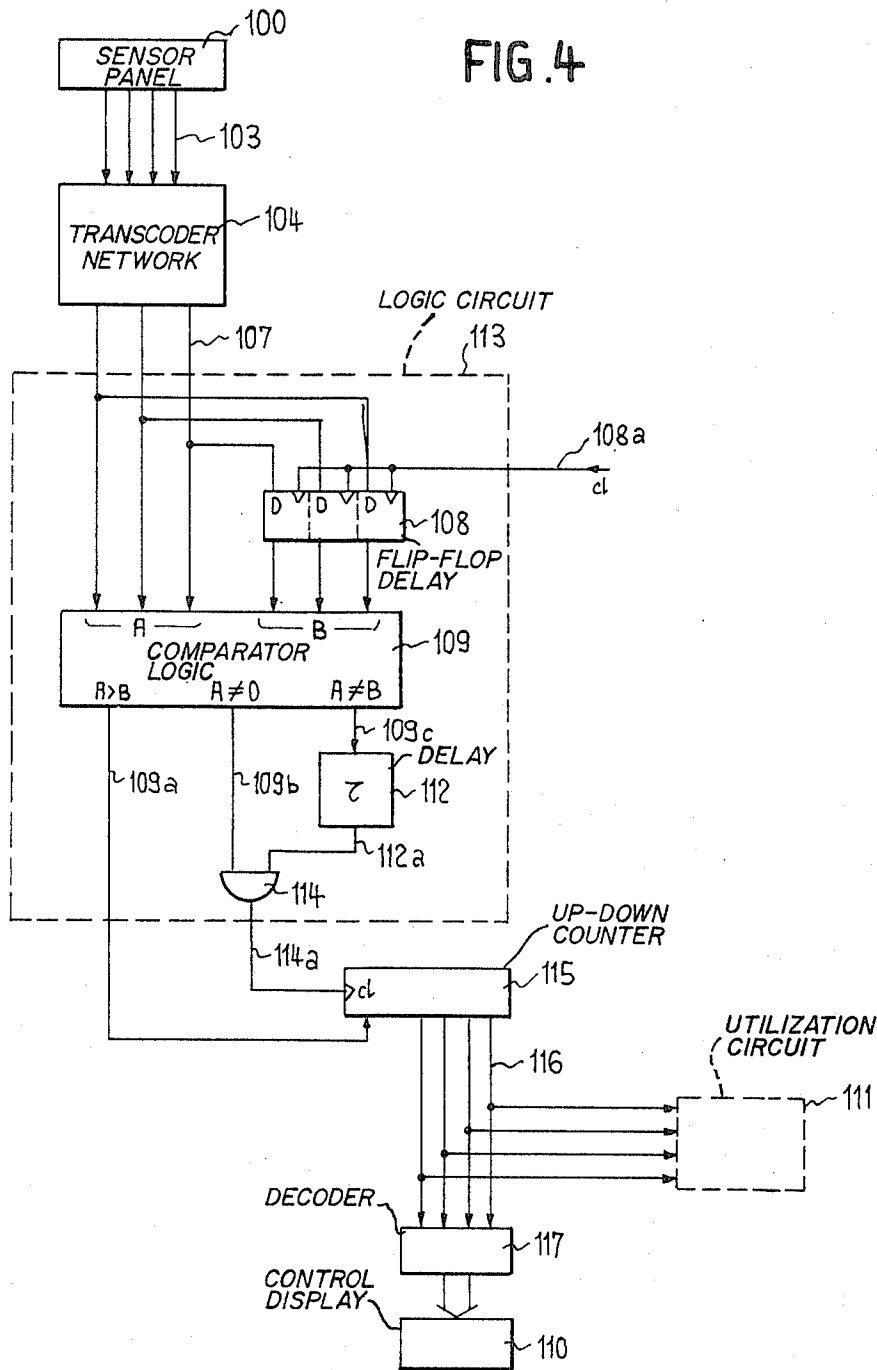


FIG. 7

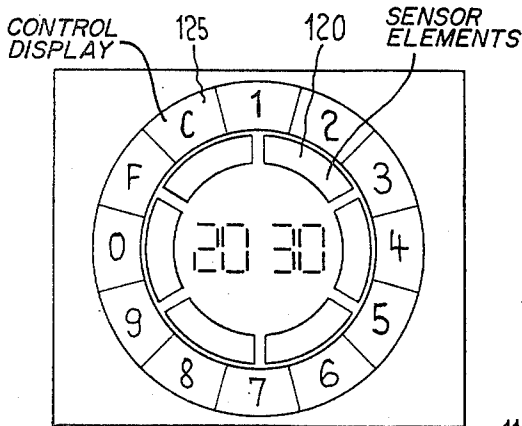


FIG. 8

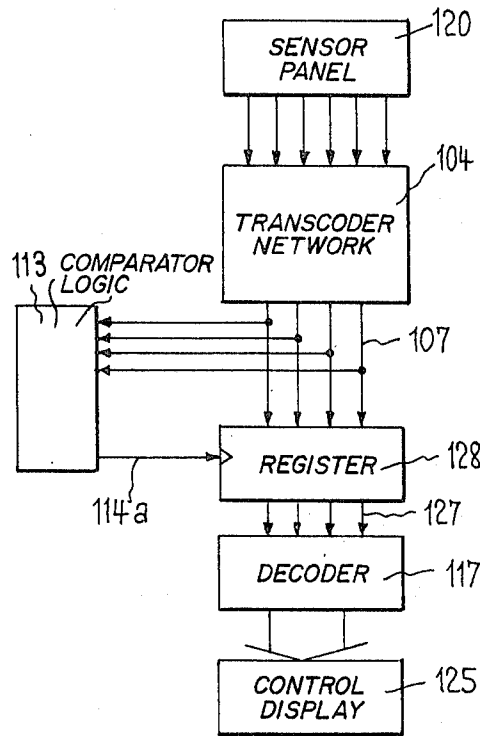
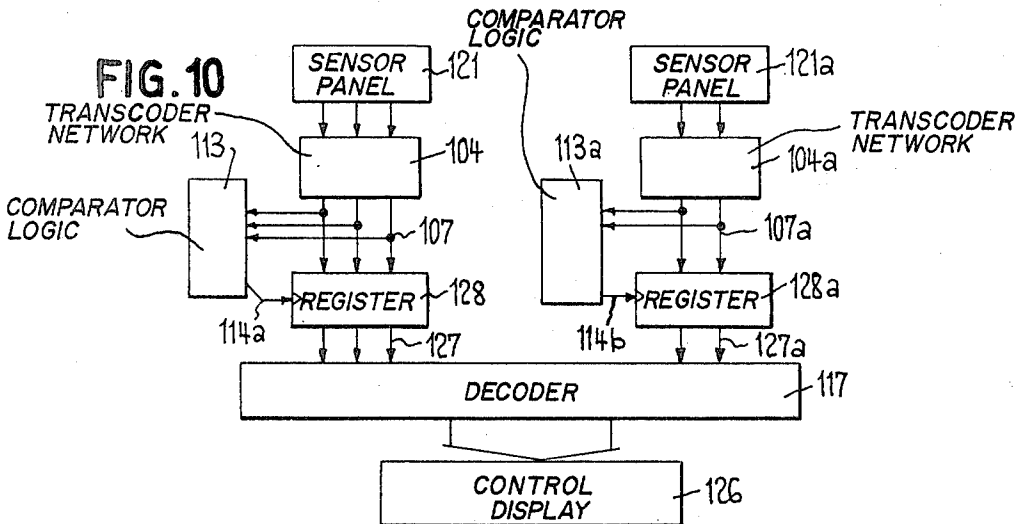
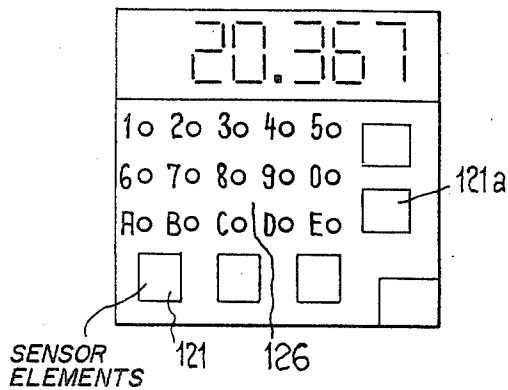


FIG. 9



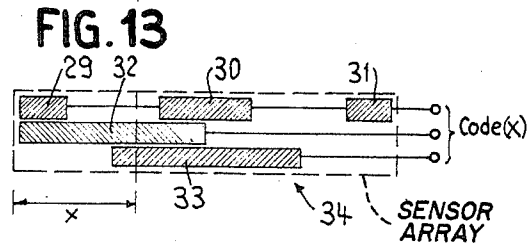
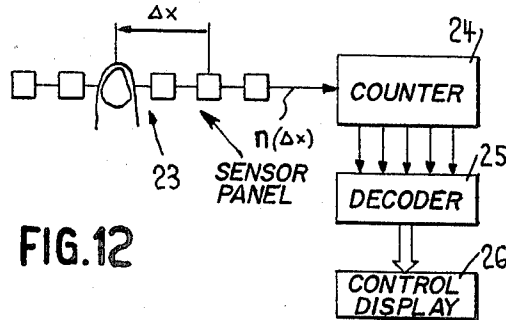
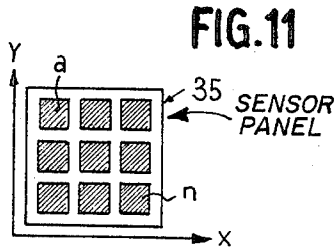


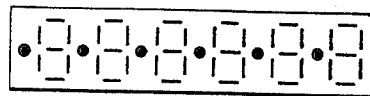
FIG. 14



FIG. 15



FIG. 16



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