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Cox et al.

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(54) **AEROSOL GENERATOR AND METHODS OF MAKING AND USING AN AEROSOL GENERATOR**

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An aerosol generator includes a tube having a first and a second end, a heater arranged relative to the tube for heating the tube, a source of material to be volatilized, the second end of the tube being in communication with the source of material, a valve operatively located between the source of material and the tube, the valve being openable and closeable to open and close communication between the source of material and the first end of the tube, and a pressurization arrangement for causing material in the source of material to be introduced into the tube from the source of material when the valve is in an open position. The aerosol generator further includes a source of power for operating the heater and the valve, and a control device for controlling supply of power from the source of power to the heater and the valve. A method of making and a method of using an aerosol generator are also disclosed.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/172,023**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **A61M 11/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **128/200.14**; 128/203.17; 128/203.23

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 128/200.14, 200.19, 128/200.21, 200.22, 200.23, 201.13, 203.17, 203.23, 203.24, 203.26, 204.17

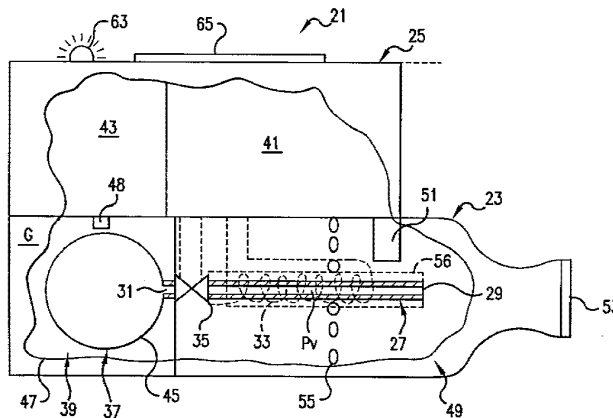
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**68 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets**



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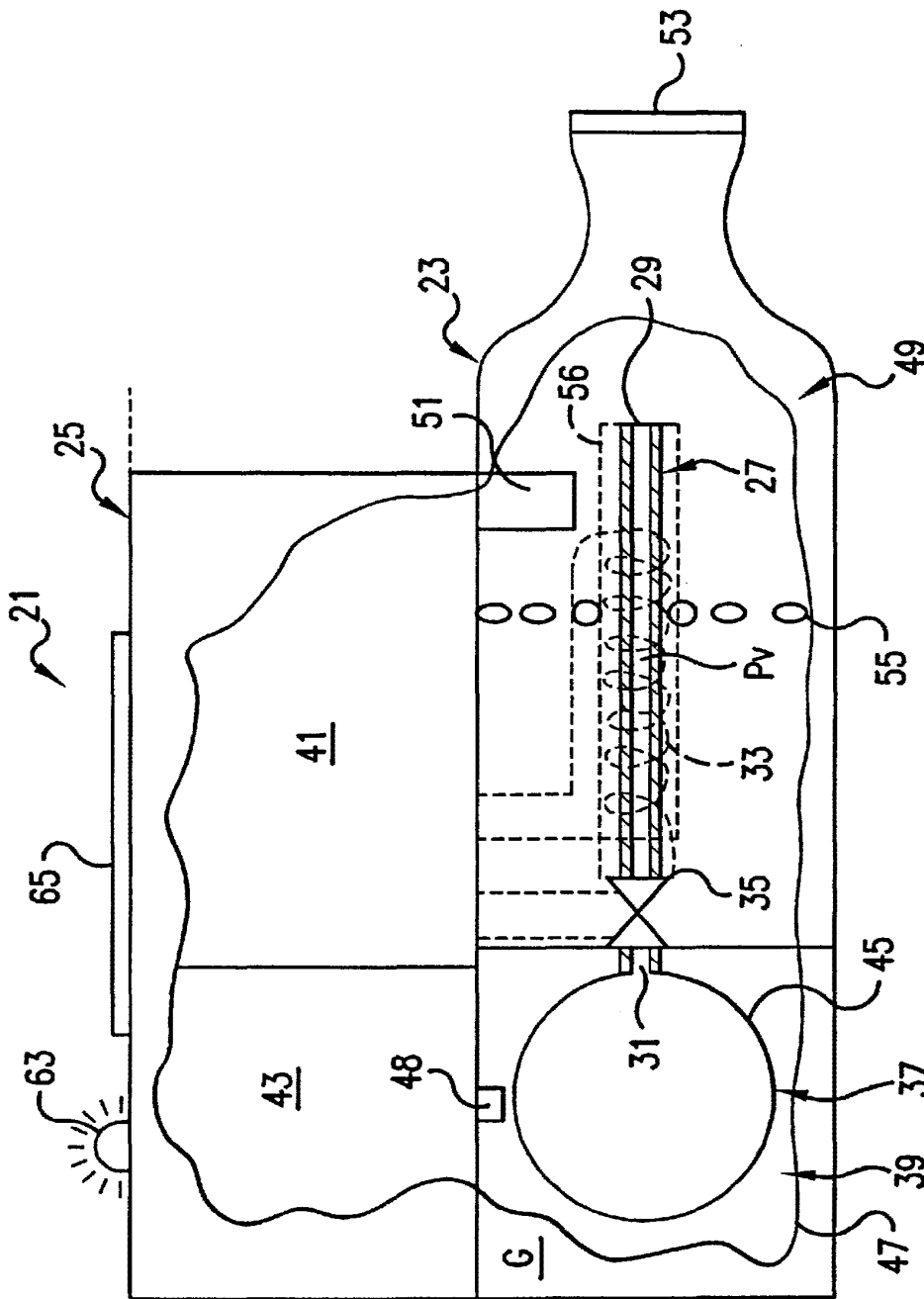


FIG.1

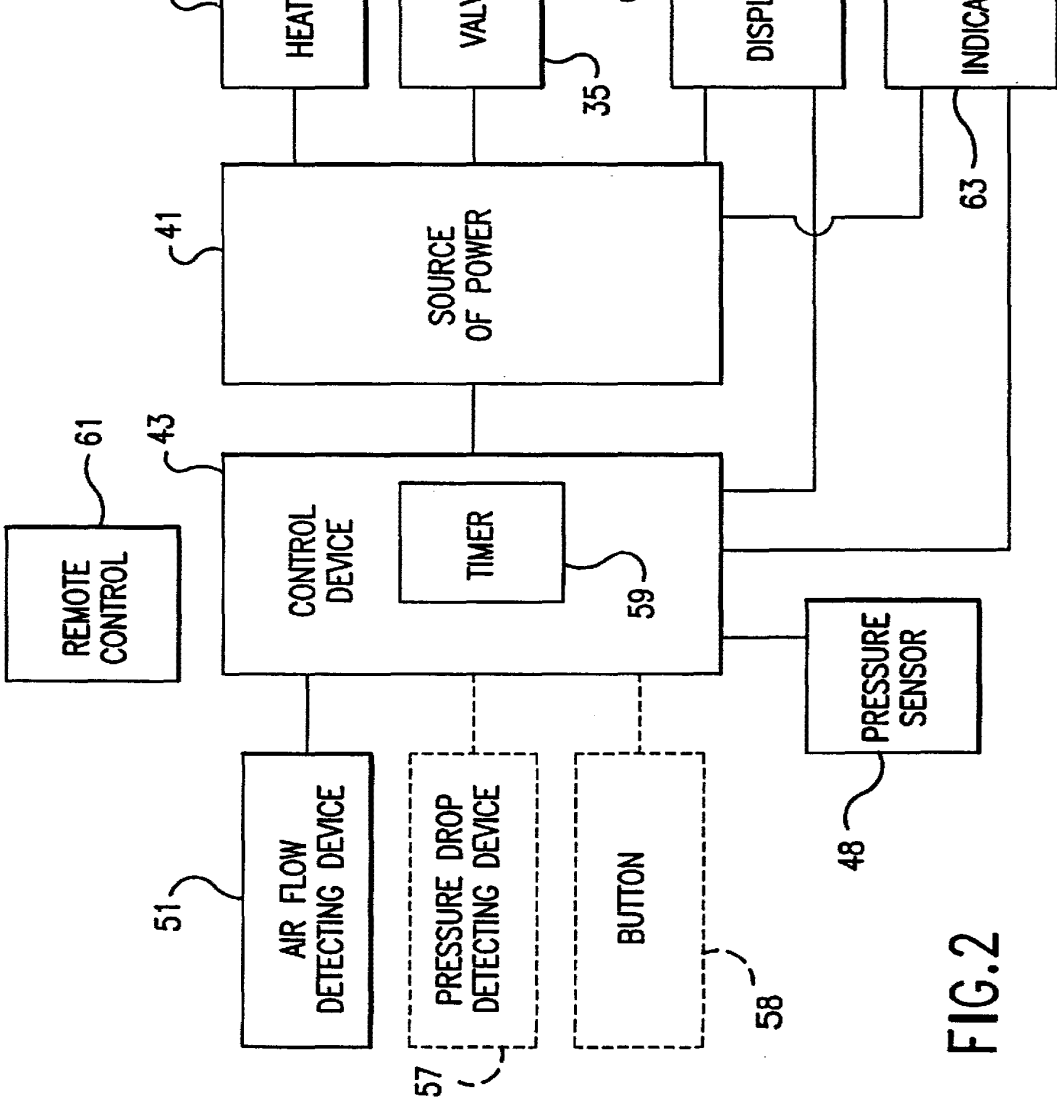


FIG. 2

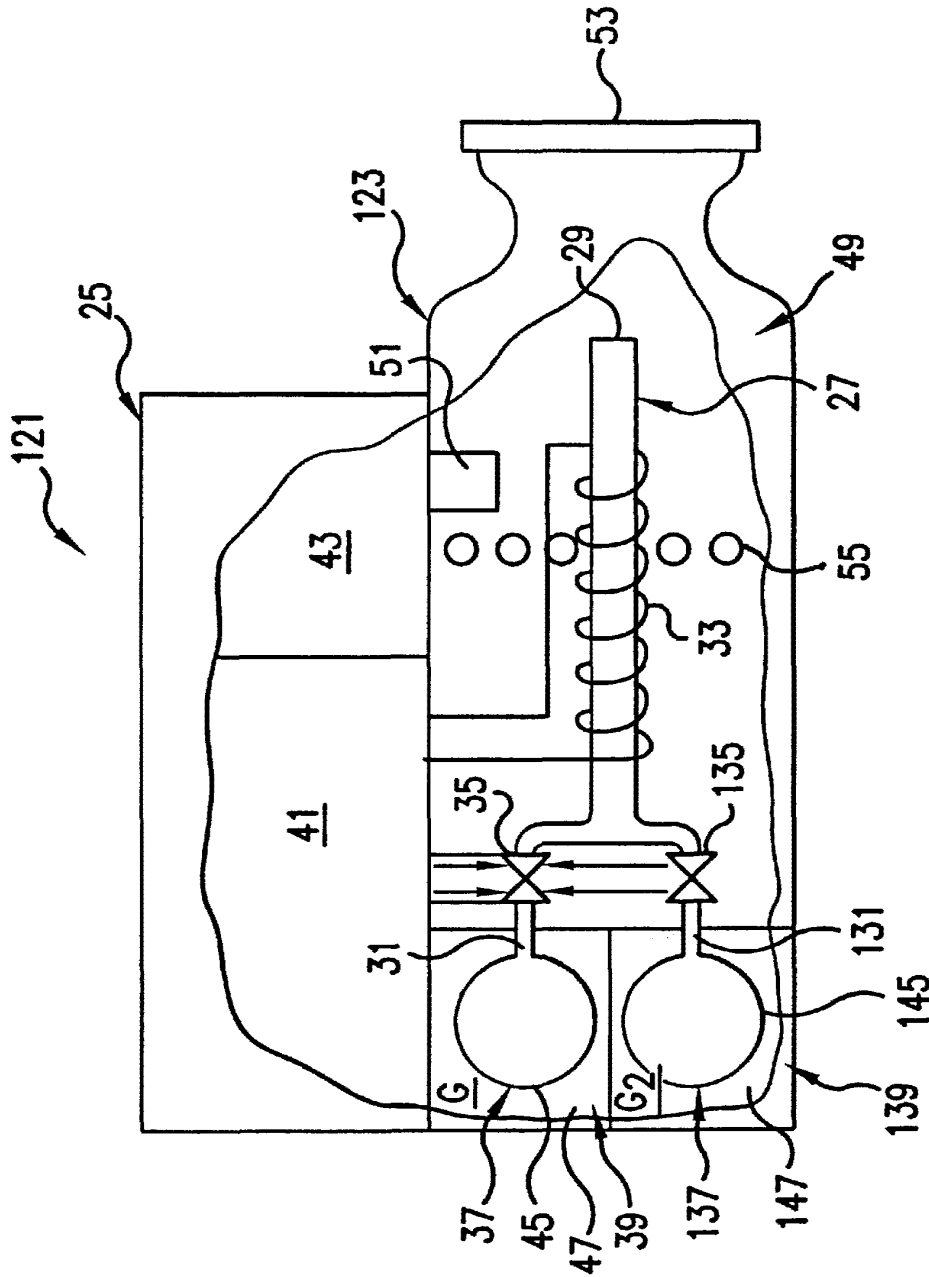


FIG. 3

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