



(12) **United States Patent**  
**Joao**

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(54) **CONTROL AND/OR MONITORING APPARATUS AND METHOD**

(76) Inventor: **Raymond Anthony Joao**, 122 Bellevue Pl., Yonkers, NY (US) 10703

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See application file for complete search history.

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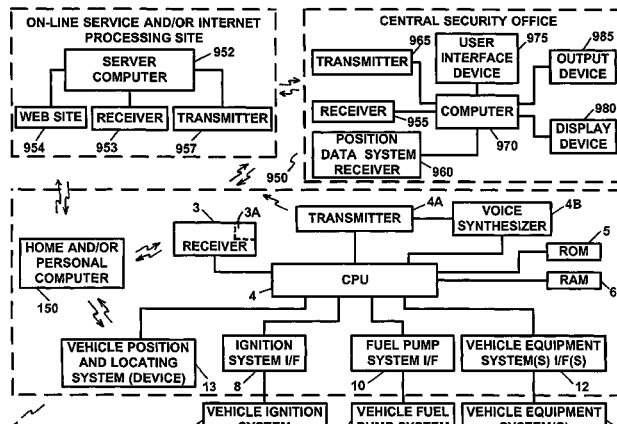
*Primary Examiner*—Van T. Trieu

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Raymond A. Joao, Esq.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus including a first device which generates and/or transmits a first signal and which is associated with a web site and located remote from a premises or vehicle. The first signal is transmitted in response to a second signal transmitted from a second device located remote from the first device and remote from the premises or vehicle. The first device determines whether an action or an operation associated with the second signal is authorized or allowed and, if so, transmits the first signal to a third device located at the premises. The second signal is transmitted via the Internet and/or the World Wide Web. The third device generates and/or transmits a third signal for activating, de-activating, disabling, re-enabling, and/or controlling an operation of, a system, device, equipment, equipment system, component, and appliance, of the premises or vehicle.

**88 Claims, 20 Drawing Sheets**



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