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Ishii et al.

[45] Date of Patent: ***May 16, 2000**

[54] NAVIGATION APPARATUS, NAVIGATION METHOD AND AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES

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[73] Assignee: **Sony Corporation**, Tokyo, Japan

[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

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Primary Examiner—Brent A. Swarthout
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jay H. Maioli

[21] Appl. No.: **08/728,914**

[57] ABSTRACT

[22] Filed: **Oct. 11, 1996**

[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

A navigation apparatus and navigation method for an automobile in which a map is visually displayed and a desired destination can be set by speaking the name of such destination. A voice recognition section recognizes the destination and marks it on the map that is being displayed and the best route to the displayed destination is then shown on the map to be followed by the driver of the automobile.

[31] Int. Cl.⁷ **G08G 1/123**

[52] U.S. Cl. **340/995; 340/990; 701/209; 701/211**

[58] Field of Search 340/995, 990, 340/988; 364/449.2, 449.3; 701/208, 209, 211, 210

15 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

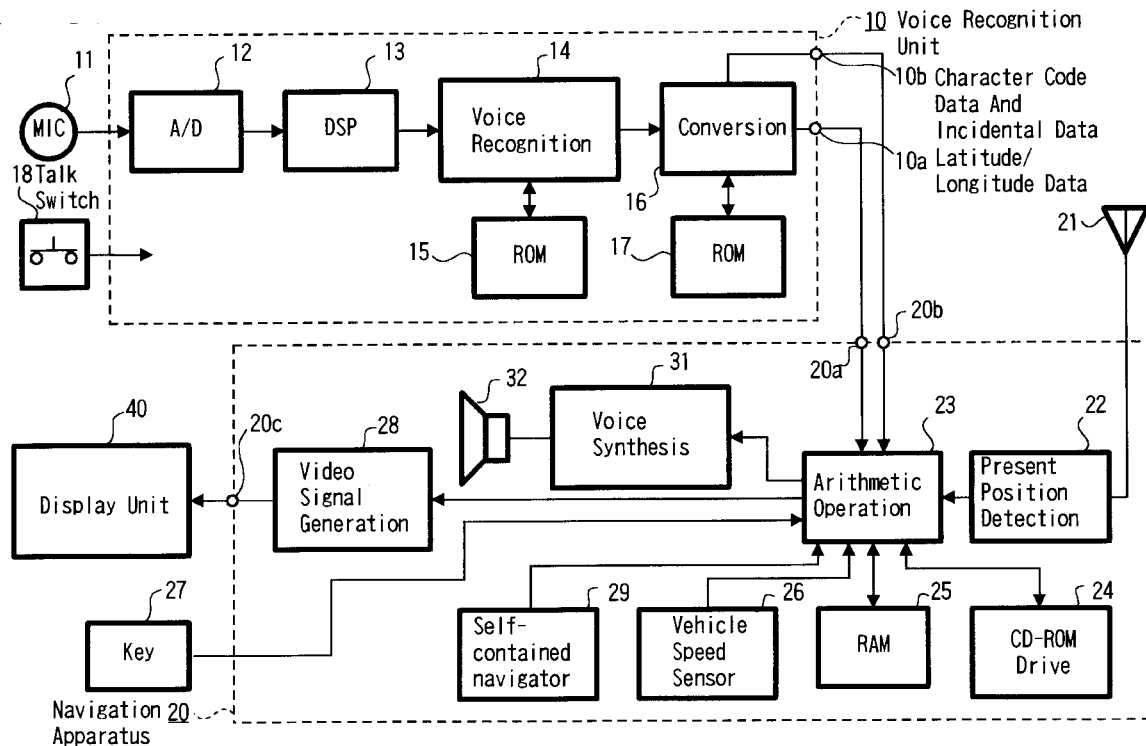
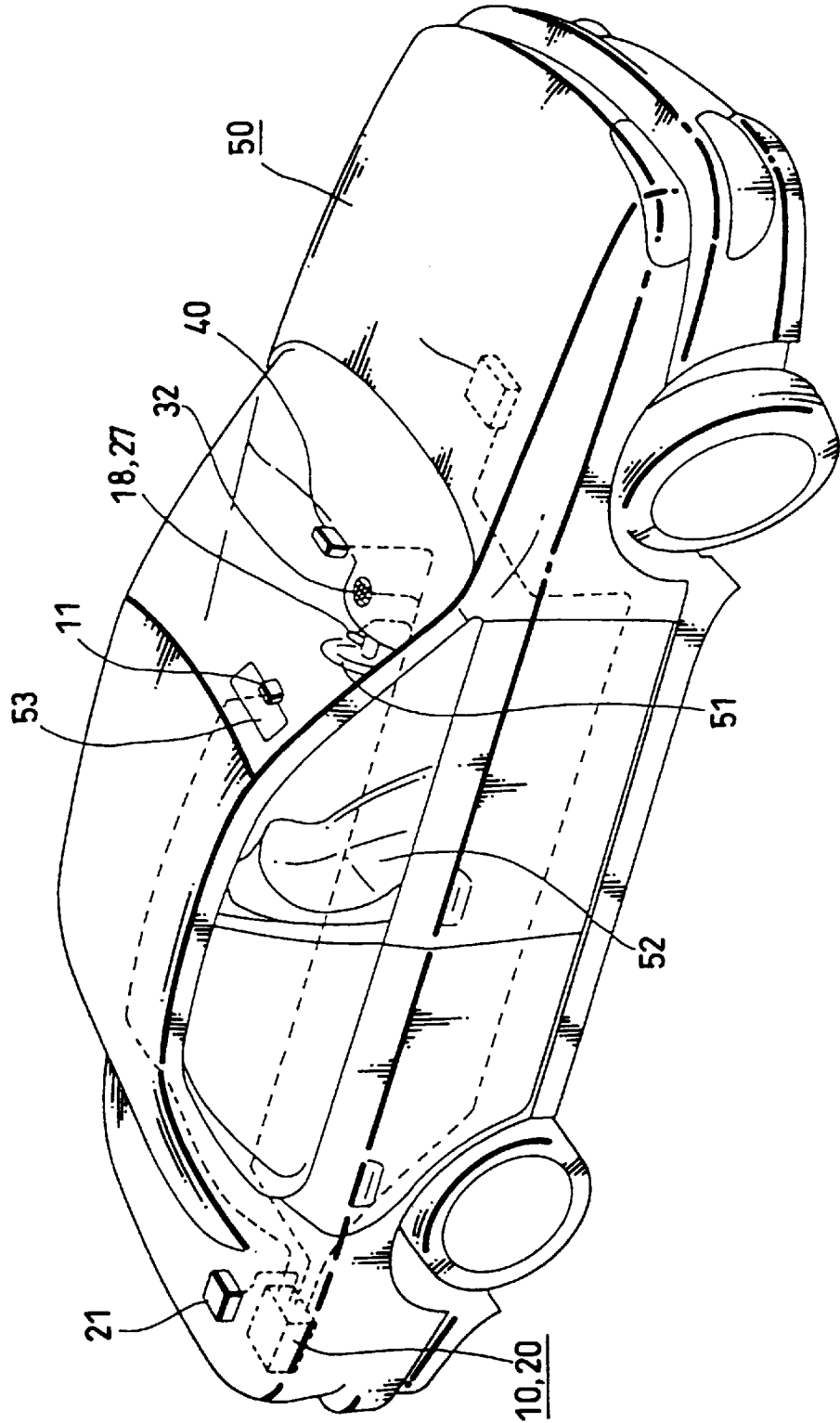


FIG. 1



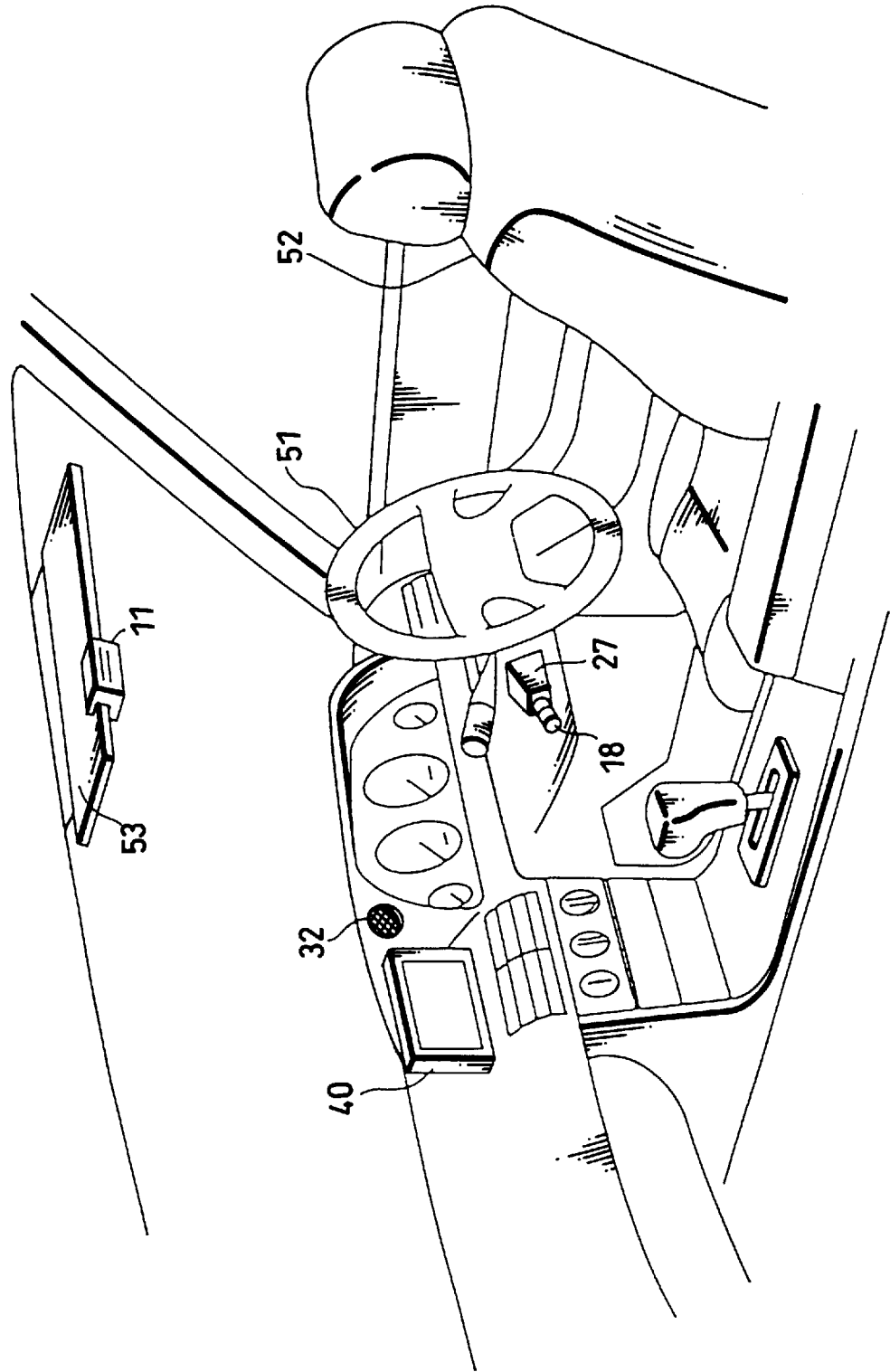


FIG. 2

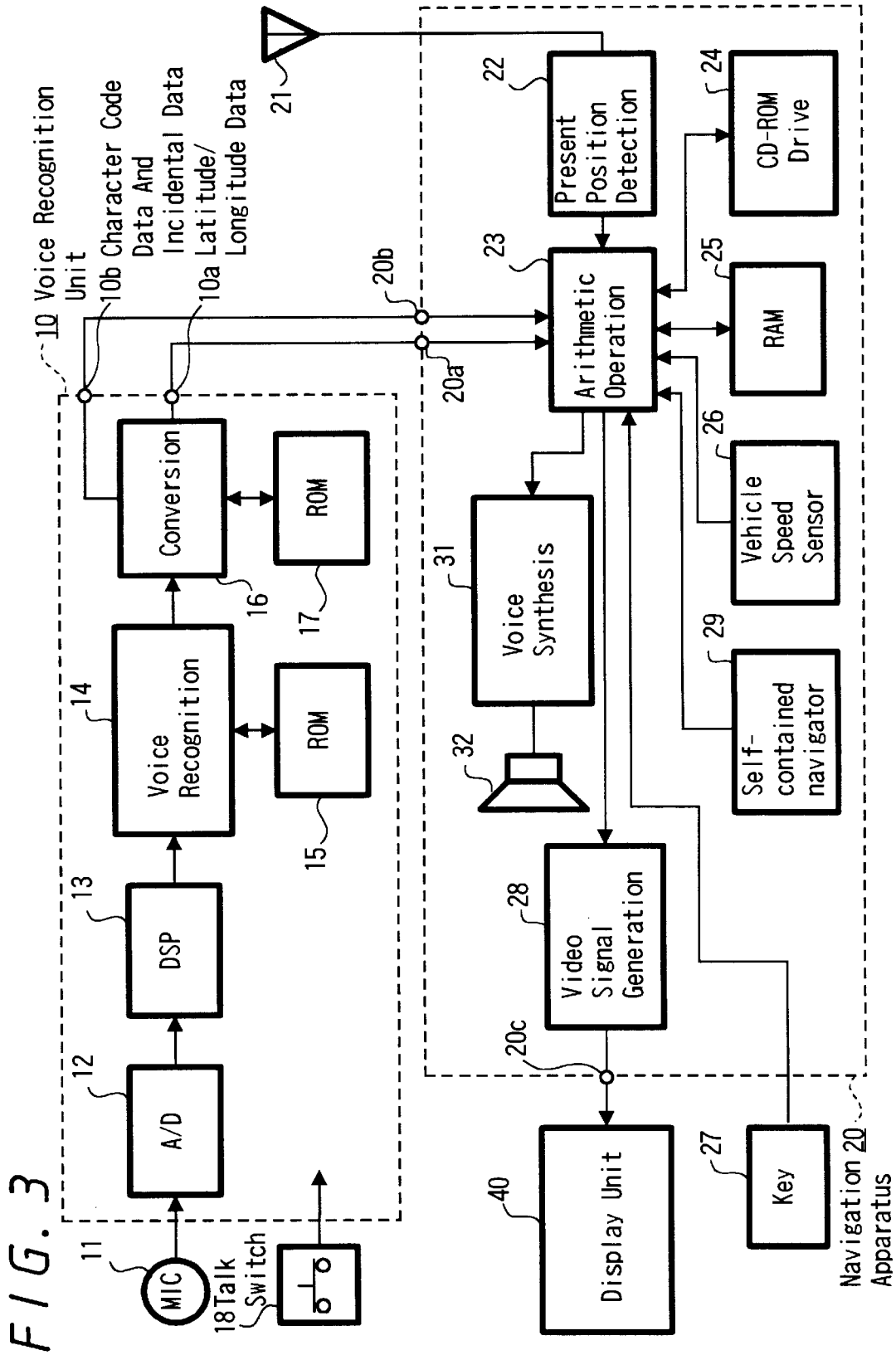


FIG. 4

Prefecture	Other Municipality Names	Phonemic Model
Hokkaido	Akabira City Asahikawa City ⋮	
Aomori Prefecture	Aomori city ⋮	
Kanagawa Prefecture	Ooiso Town Ooiso-Cho	
Kanagawa Prefecture	Kawasaki City	
Tokyo	Kawasaki City	

⋮

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