#### United States Patent [19]

#### Kasday

[56]

#### [54] TOUCH POSITION SENSITIVE SURFACE

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- [73] Assignce: AT&T Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.
- [21] Appl. No.: 333,744
- [22] Filed: Dec. 23, 1981

#### **Related U.S. Application Data**

- [63] Continuation of Ser. No. 140,715, Apr. 16, 1980, abandoned.
- [51] Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup> ...... G08C 9/00
- 250/549; 340/712

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#### [11] Patent Number: 4,484,179

#### [45] Date of Patent: Nov. 20, 1984

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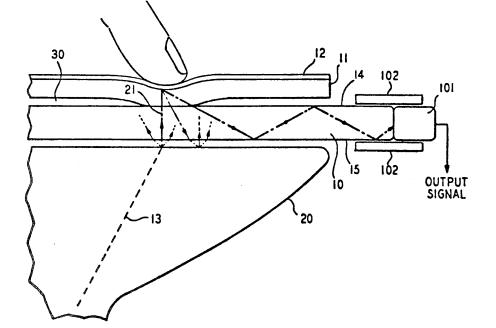
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Primary Examiner-David L. Trafton Attorney, Agent, or Firm-David H. Tannenbaum

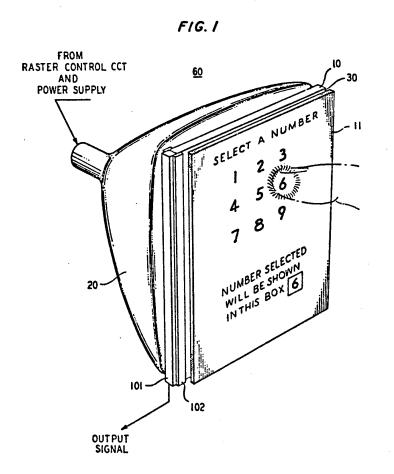
#### ABSTRACT

A touch sensitive device is arranged with substantially parallel surfaces which are at least partially transparent to light. A flexible membrane is supported above the top surface of the screen and when the overlay is flexed into contact with the screen, light which had passed through the screen, is trapped between the screen surfaces by total internal reflection. The edges of the screen are fitted with light detectors for gathering the trapped light. Using this arrangement positional determination of one or more screen touches is possible.

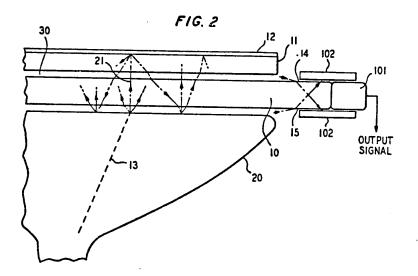
#### **30 Claims, 9 Drawing Figures**

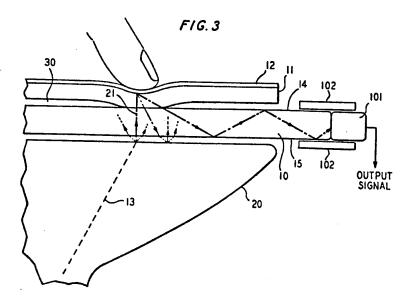


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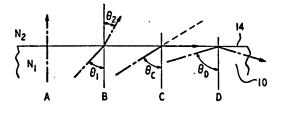
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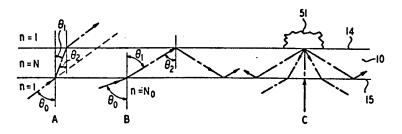


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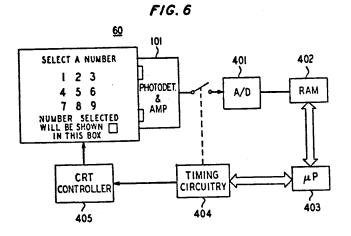




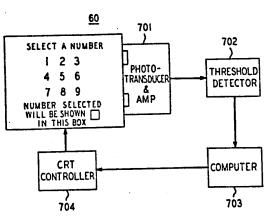




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