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United States Patent [19]
Jacobsen et al.

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[54] WIRELESS TELEPHONE DISPLAY SYSTEM

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[21] Appl. No.: 08/855,909

[22] Filed: May 14, 1997

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of application No. 08/853,630, May 9, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/838,420, Apr. 7, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/810,646, Mar. 3, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/766,607, Dec. 13, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/741,671, Oct. 31, 1996.

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ H04Q 7/32

[52] U.S. Cl. 455/566; 455/556; 455/557;
455/575; 455/90; 345/102; 345/103; 379/433;
379/428

[58] Field of Search 455/566, 556,
455/557, 575, 90, 425, 347, 346; 379/433,
428; 345/102, 103, 108, 87

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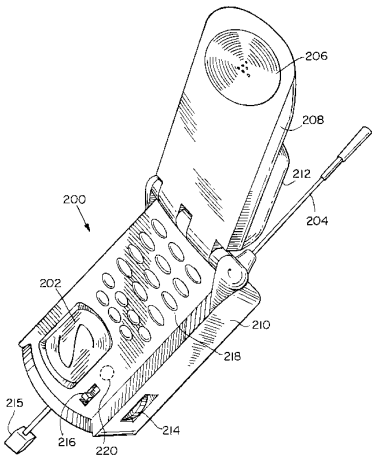
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Assistant Examiner—Keith Ferguson
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Hamilton, Brook, Smith & Reynolds, P.C.

[57] ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a microdisplay system that utilizes a small high resolution active matrix liquid crystal display with an illumination system and a magnifying optical system to provide a hand held communication display device. The system can employ an LED illumination system and cellular communication or processor circuits within a compact housing to provide communication devices such as pagers, telephones, televisions, and hand held computer or card reader devices with a compact high resolution data and/or video display.

20 Claims, 42 Drawing Sheets



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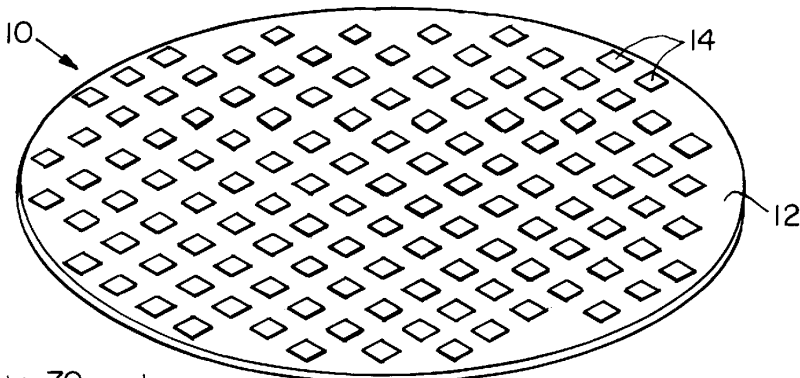


FIGURE 1

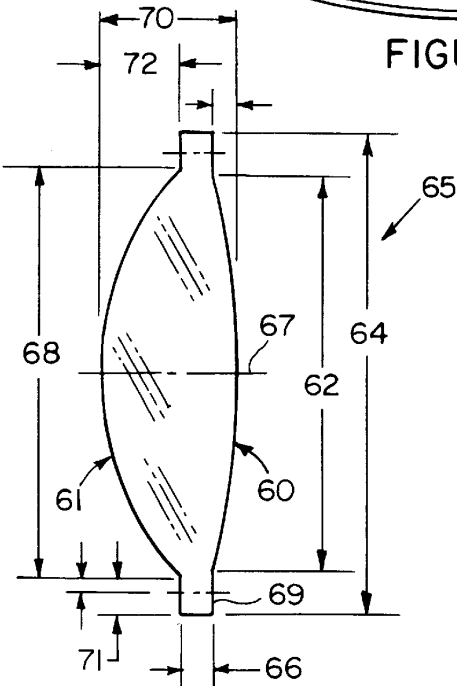


FIGURE 5A

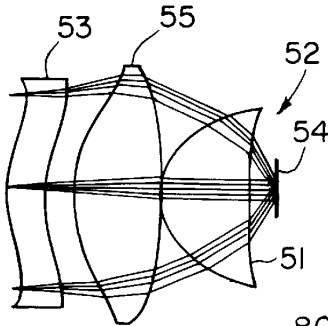


FIGURE 5B

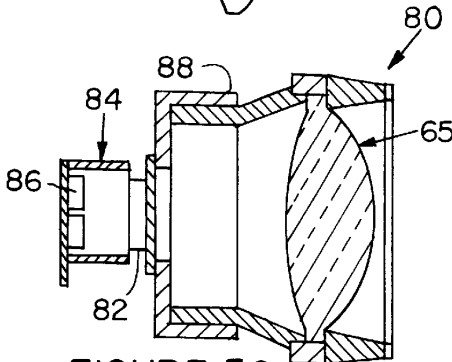


FIGURE 5C

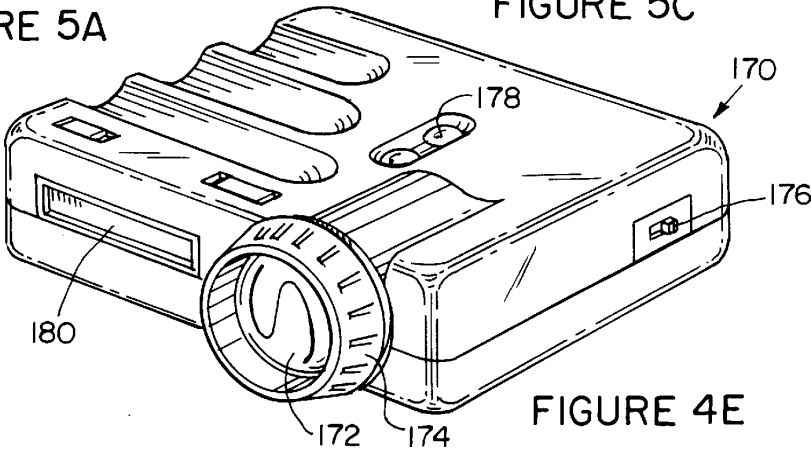


FIGURE 4E

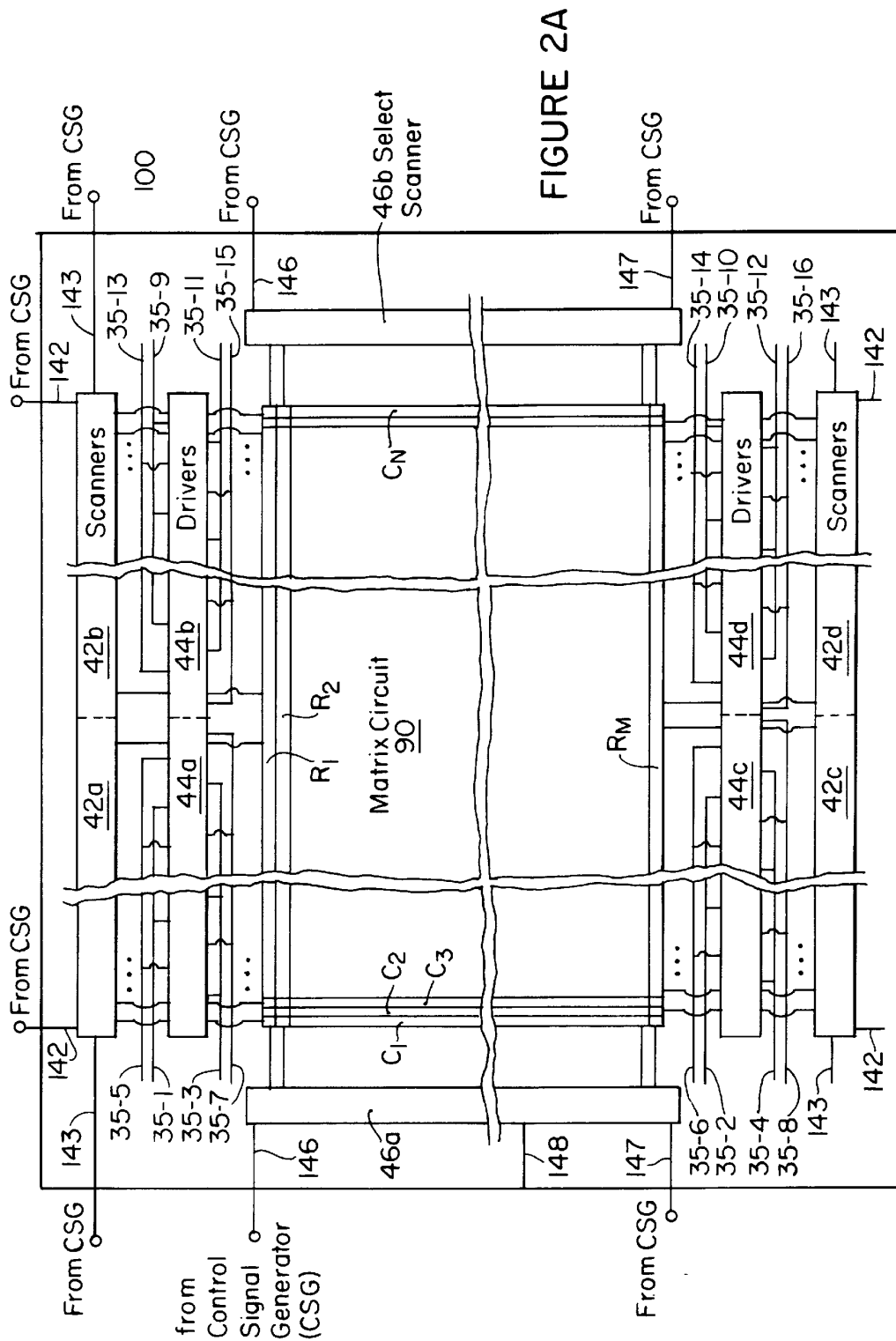


FIGURE 2A

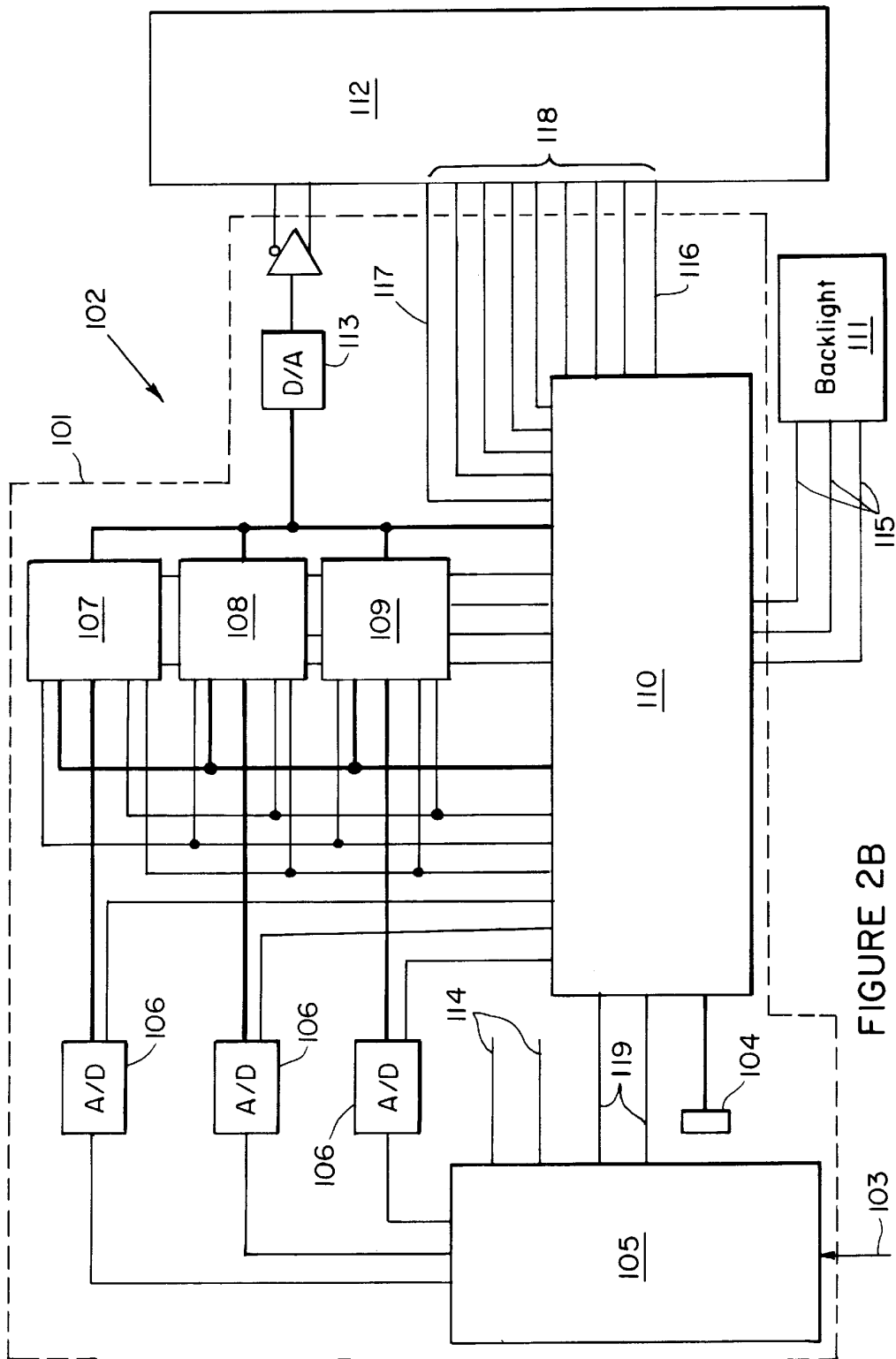


FIGURE 2B

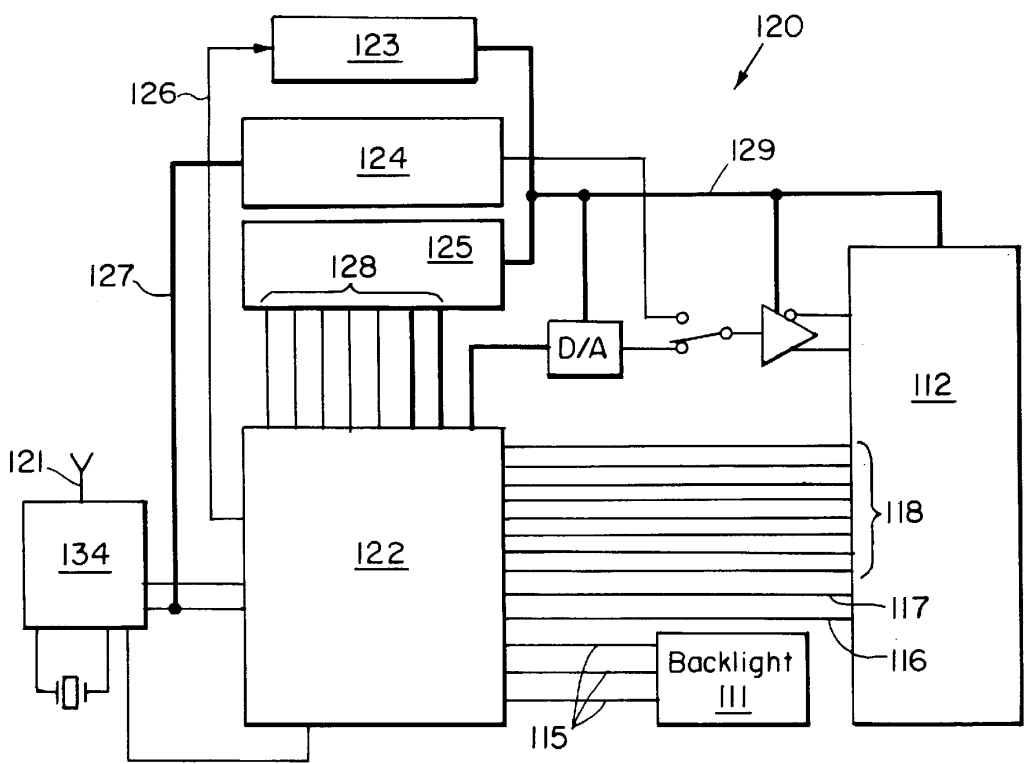


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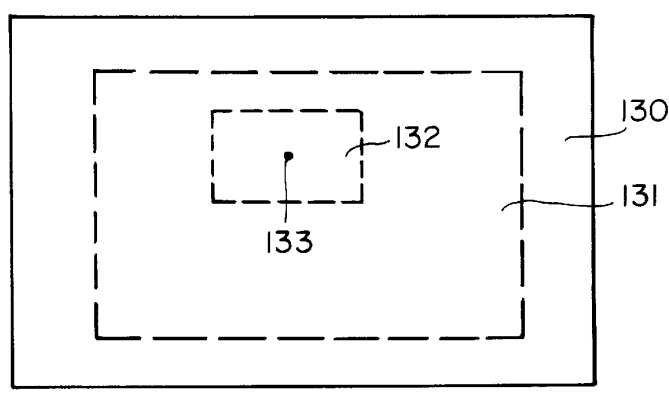


FIGURE 2D

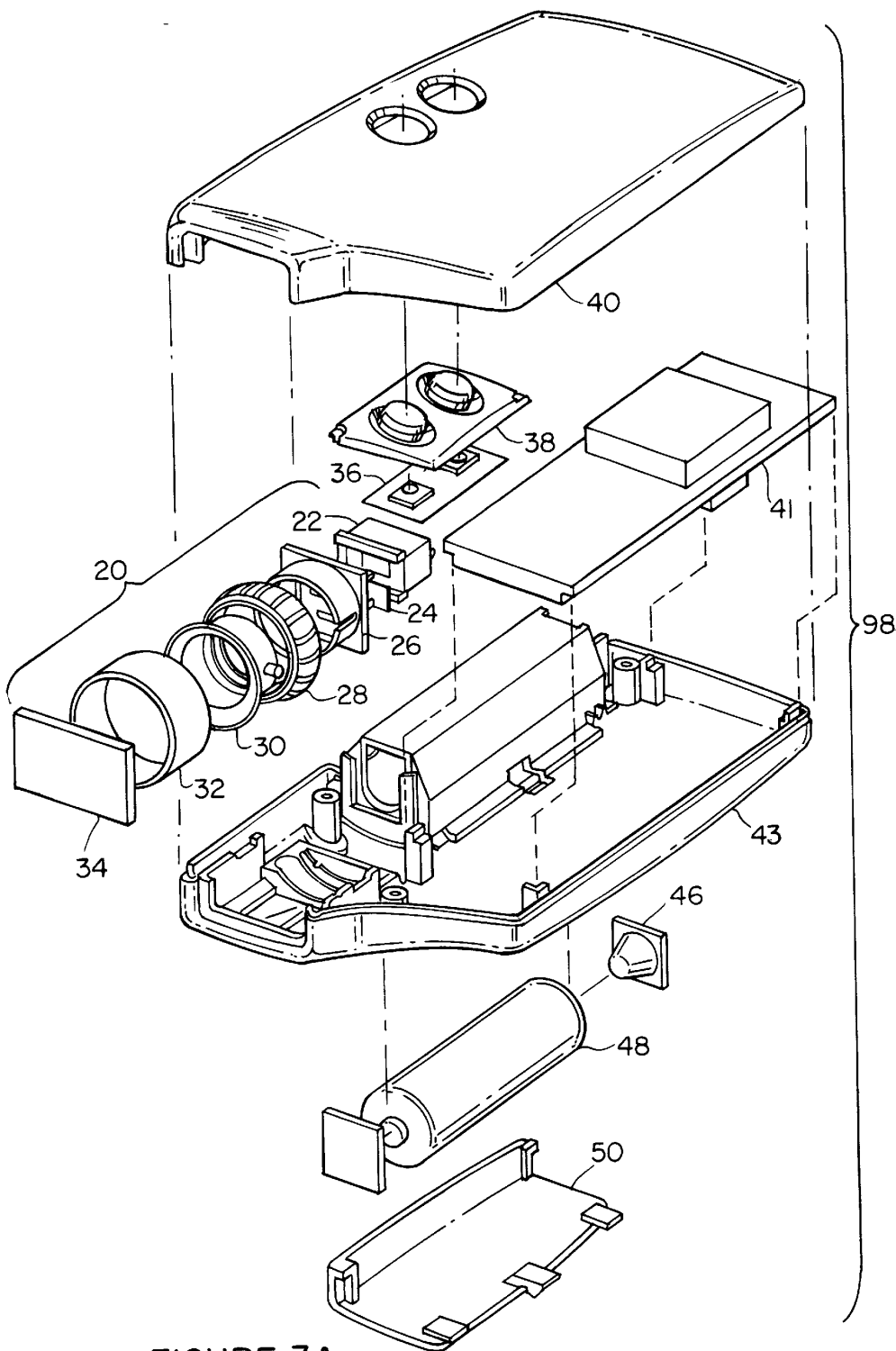
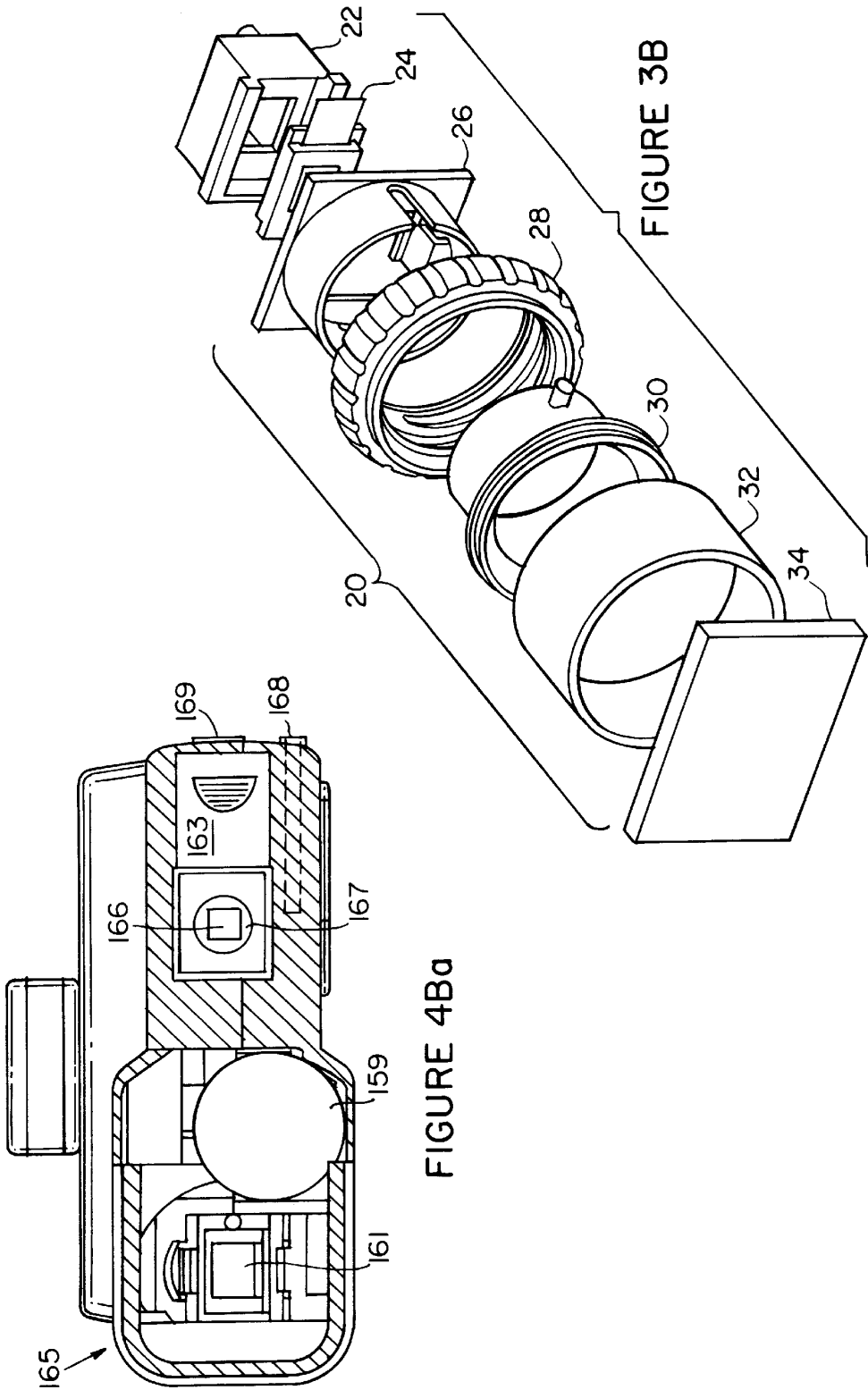


FIGURE 3A



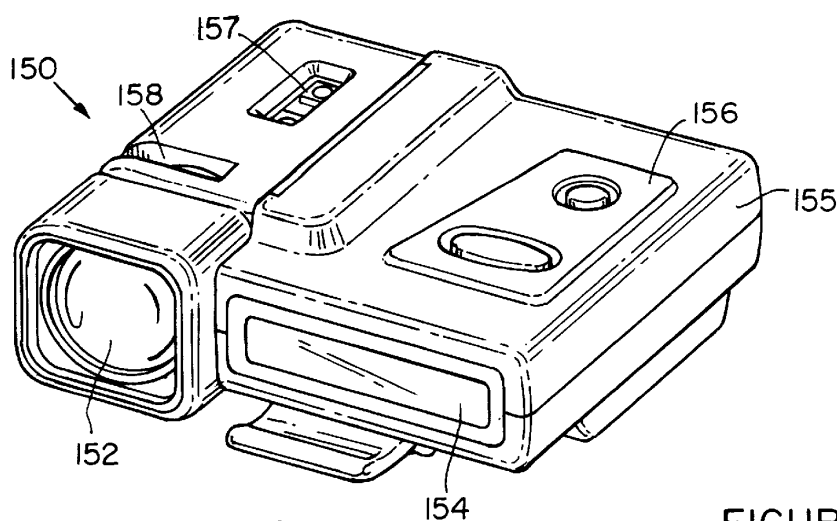


FIGURE 4A

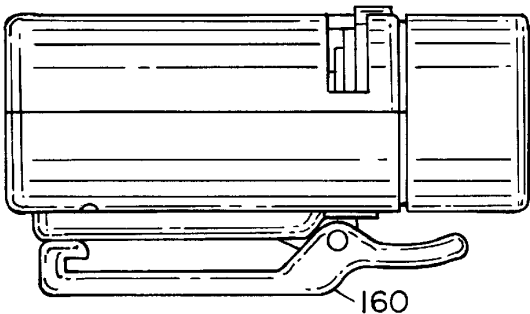


FIGURE 4C

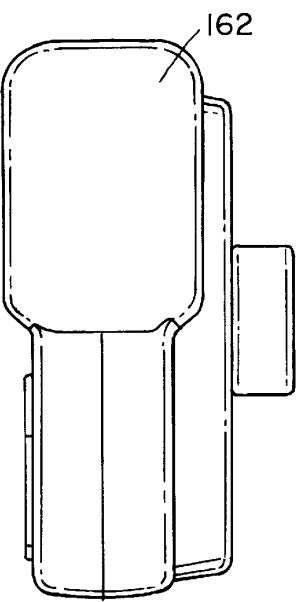


FIGURE 4B

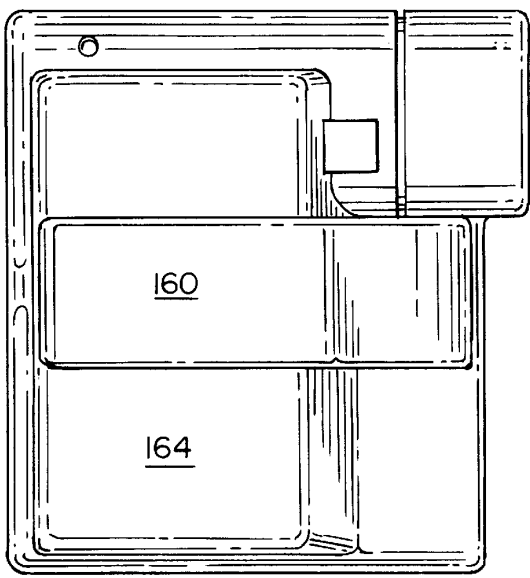


FIGURE 4D

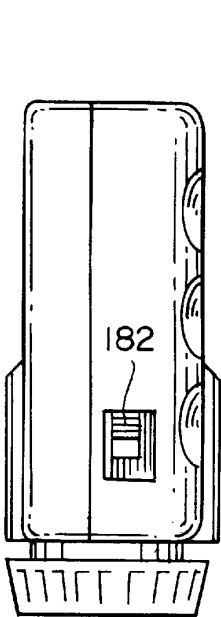


FIGURE 4G

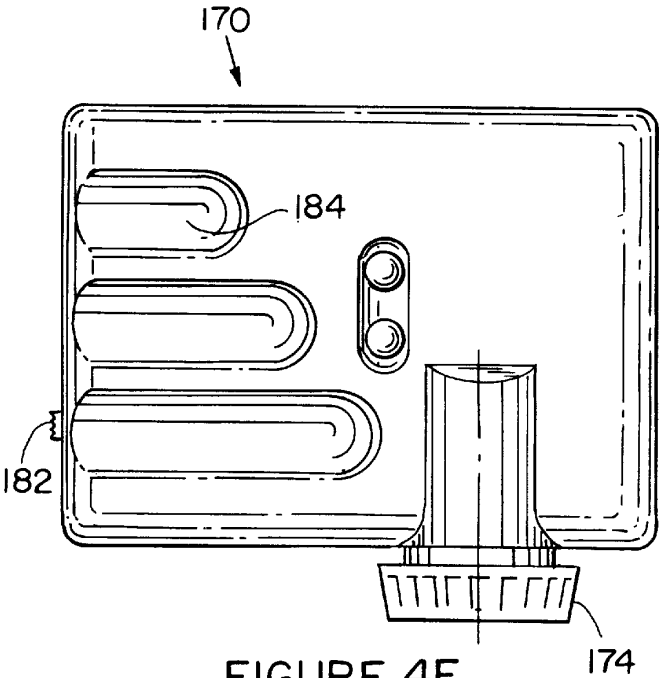


FIGURE 4F

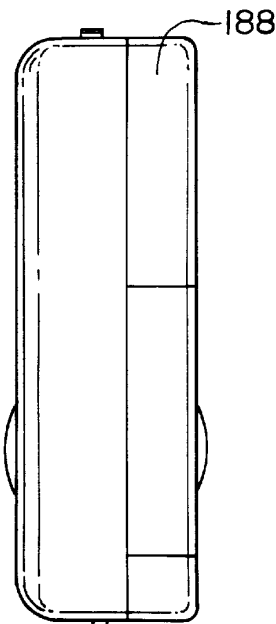


FIGURE 4H

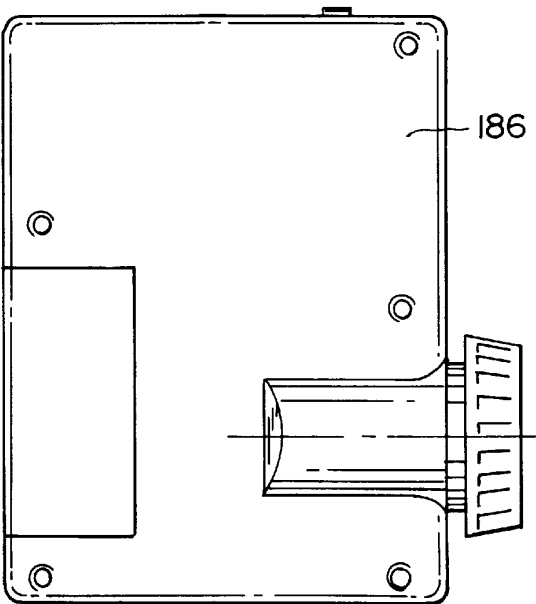


FIGURE 4I

FIGURE 4J

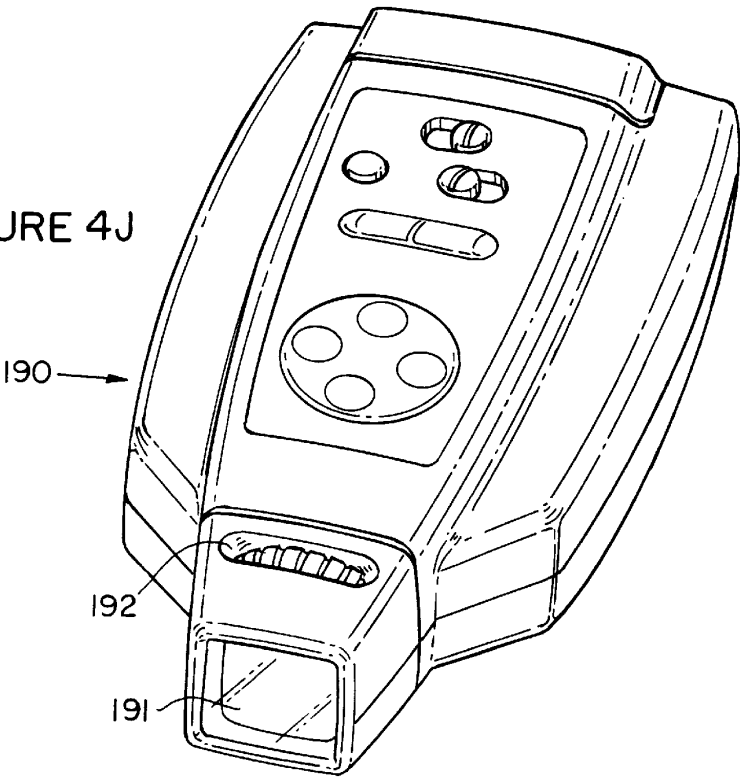
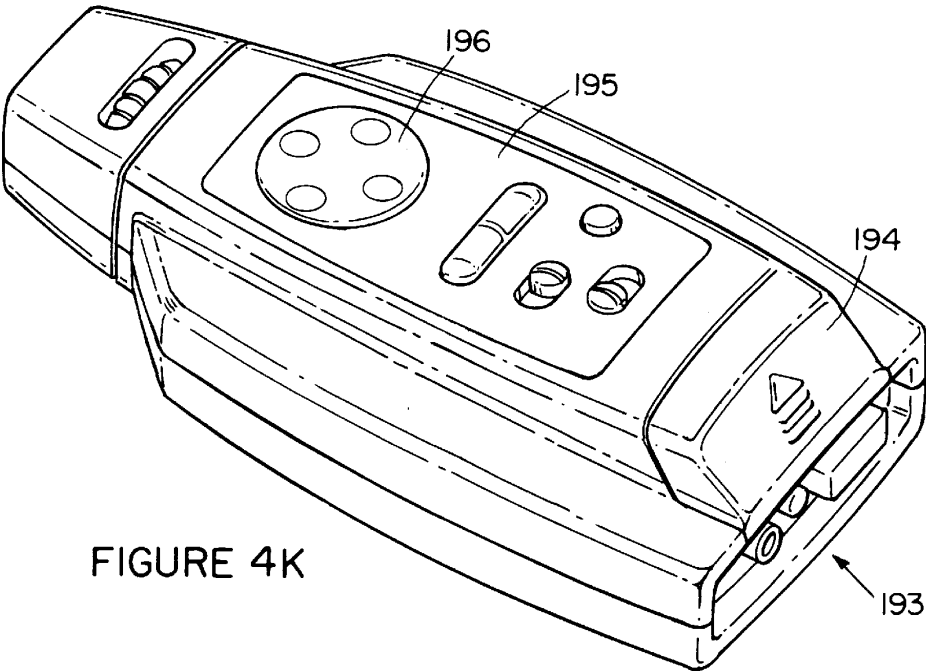


FIGURE 4K



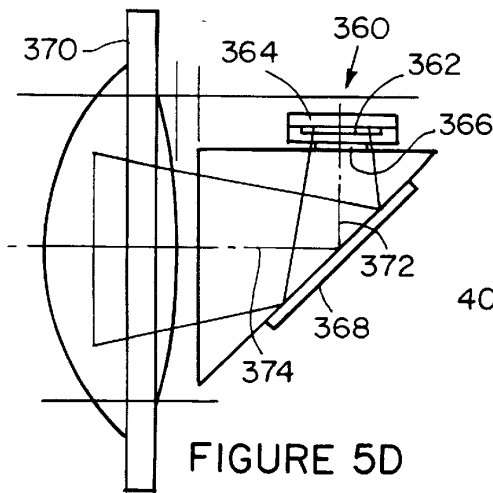


FIGURE 5D

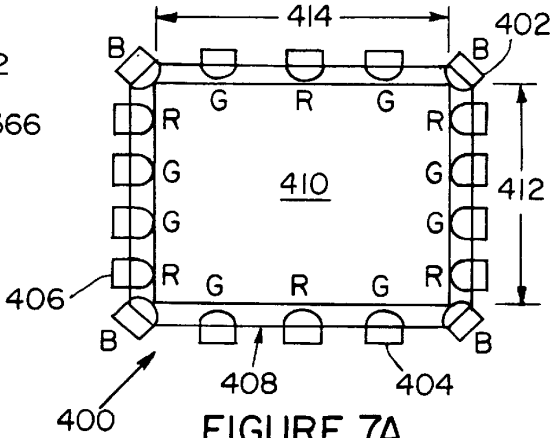


FIGURE 7A

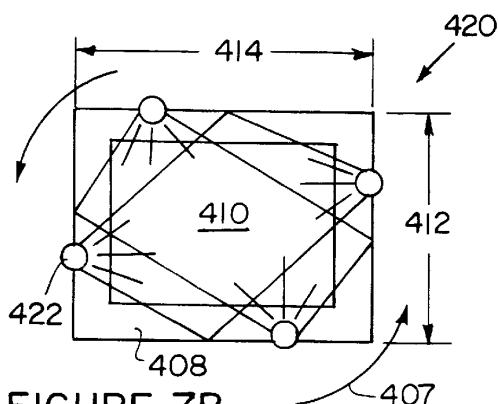


FIGURE 7B

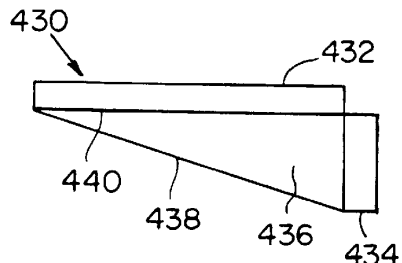


FIGURE 7C

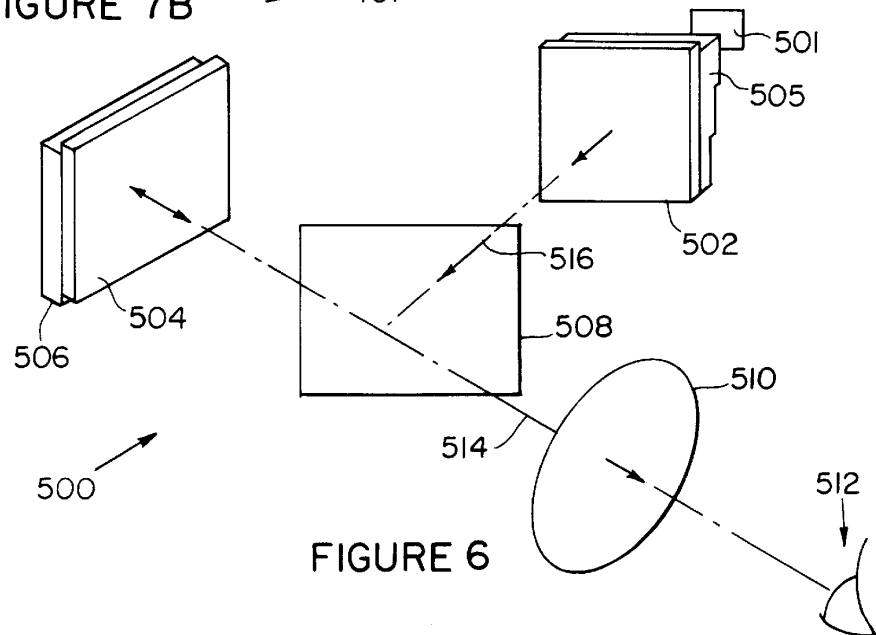


FIGURE 6

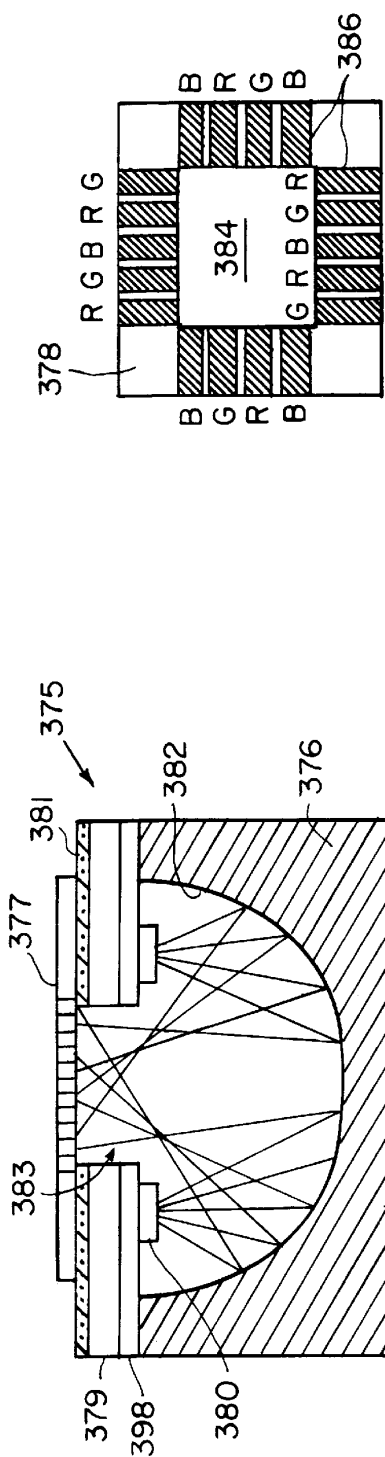


FIGURE 5E

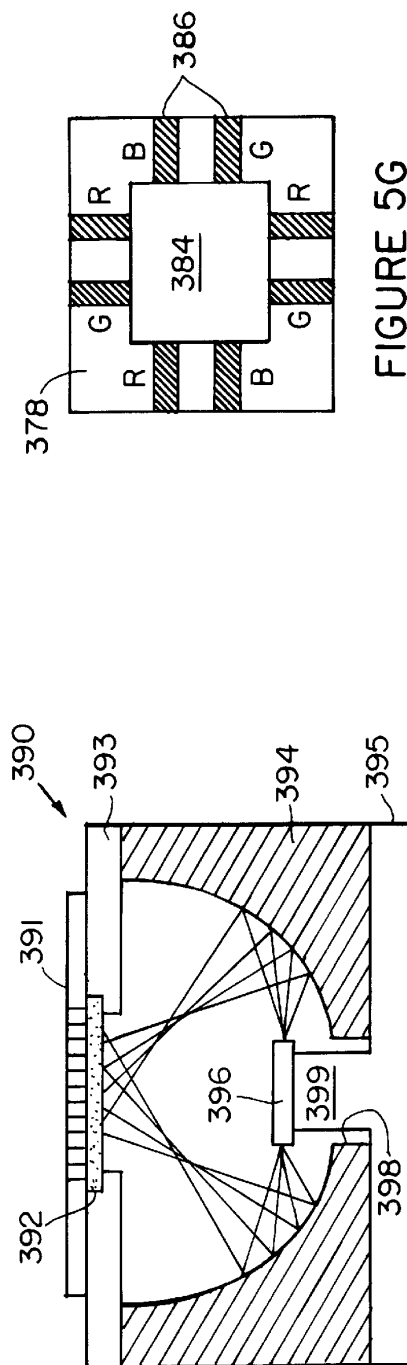


FIGURE 5H

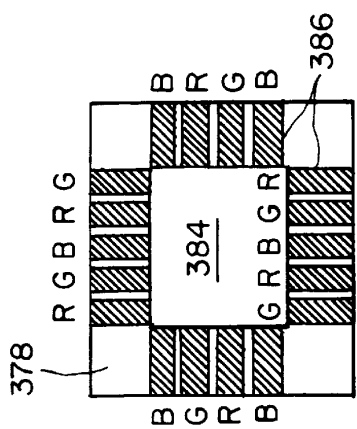


FIGURE 5F

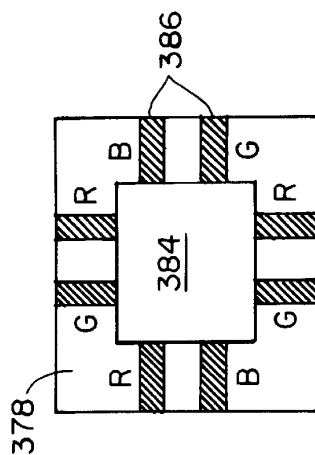
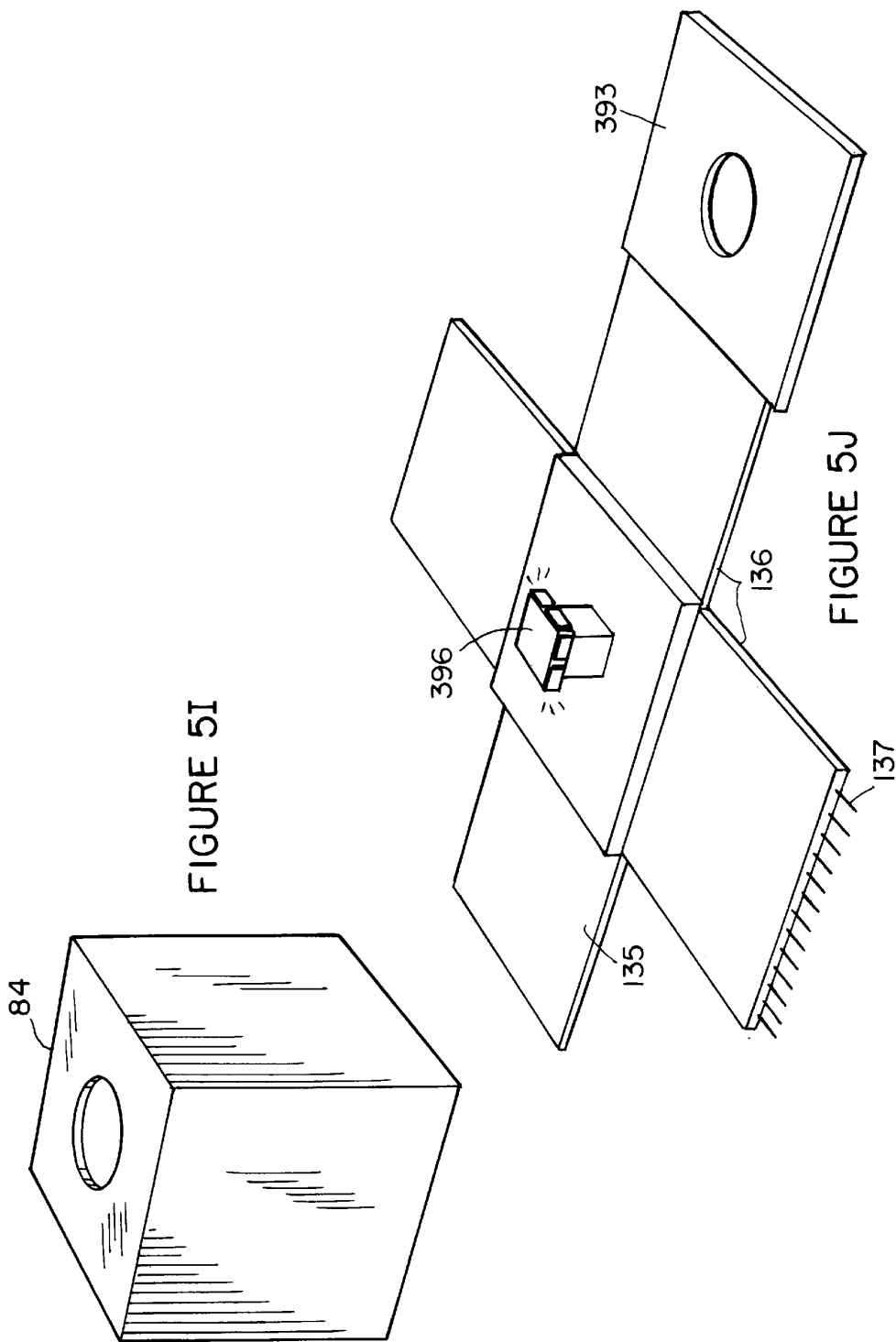
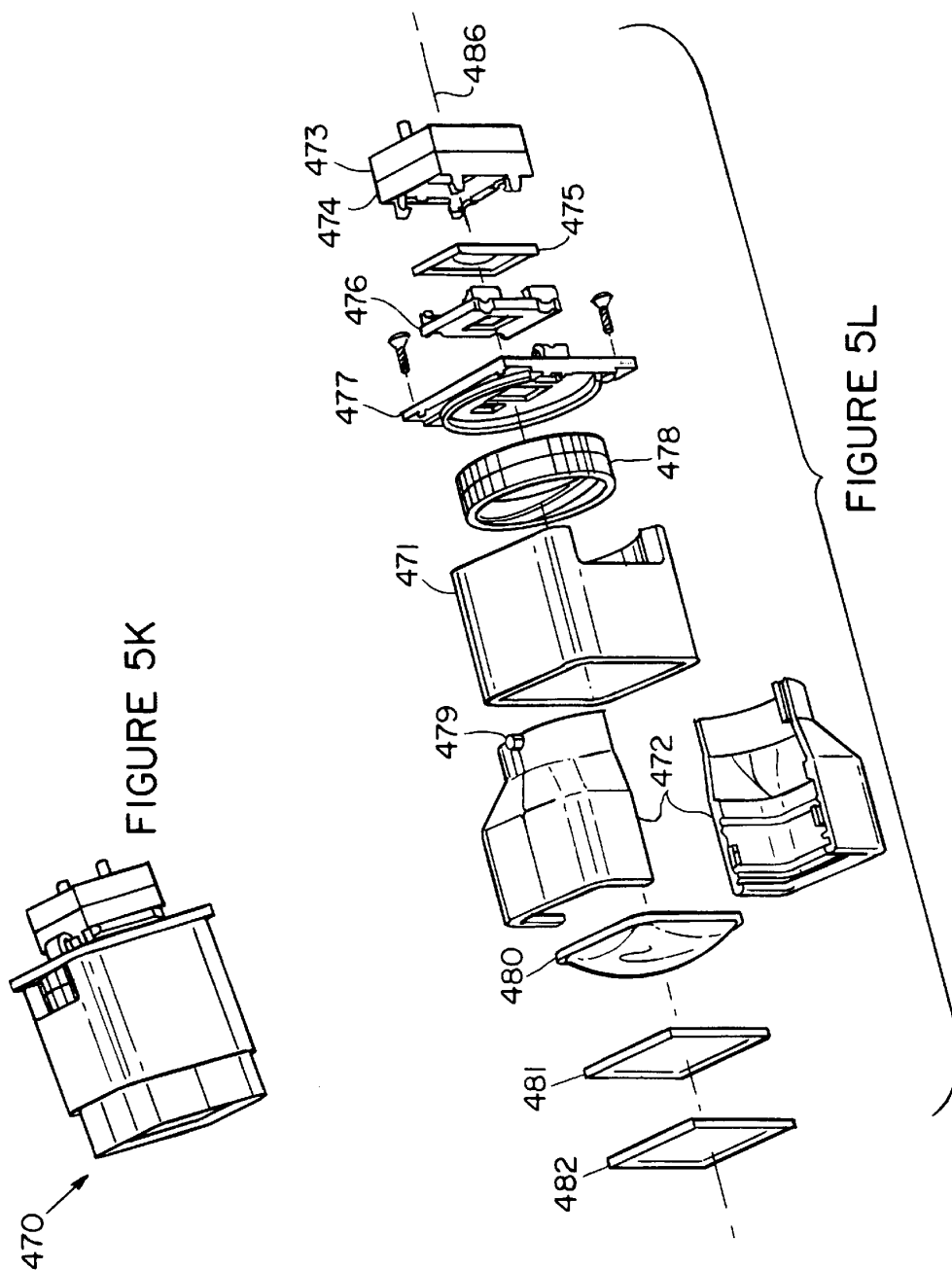


FIGURE 5G





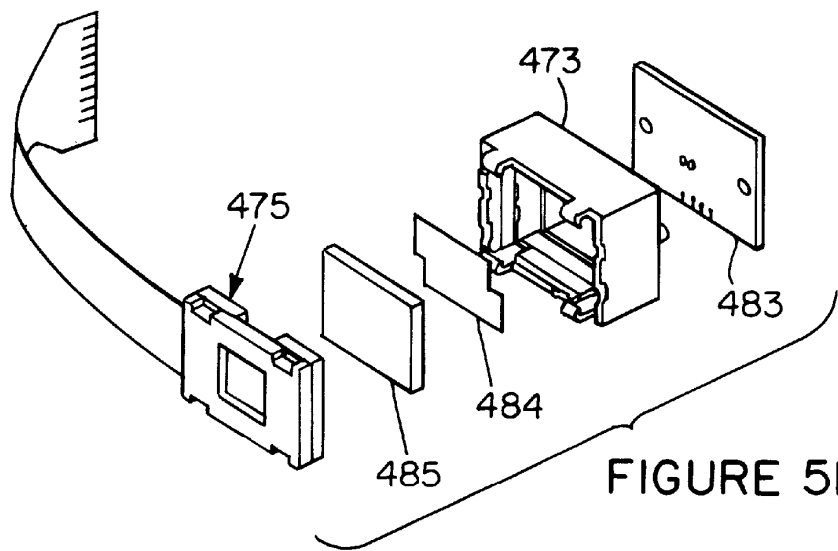


FIGURE 5M

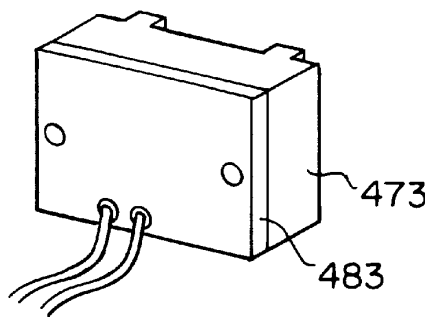


FIGURE 5N

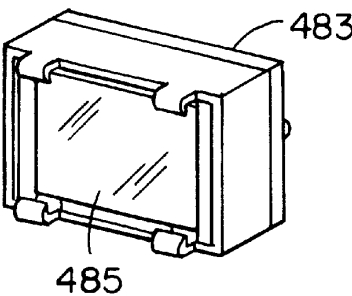
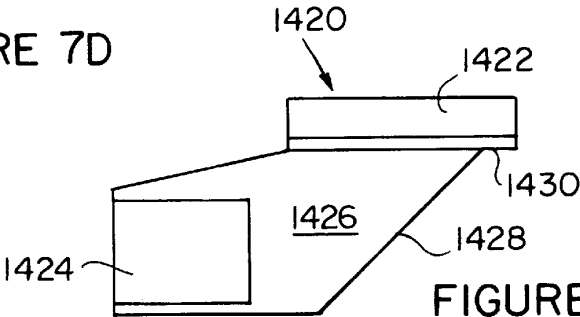
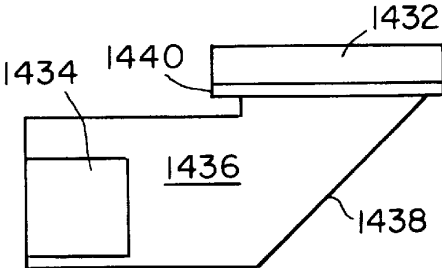
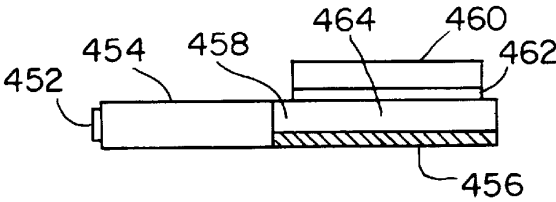
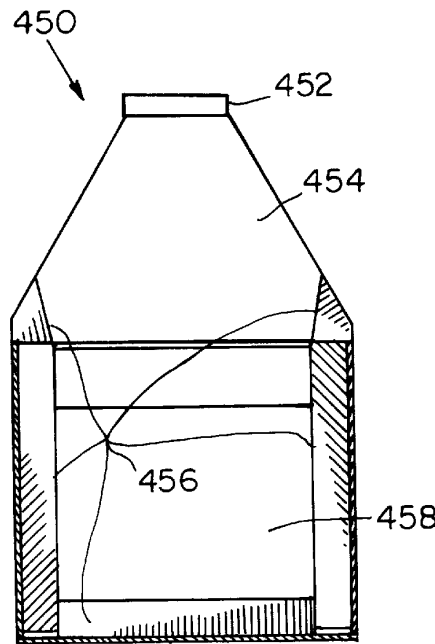
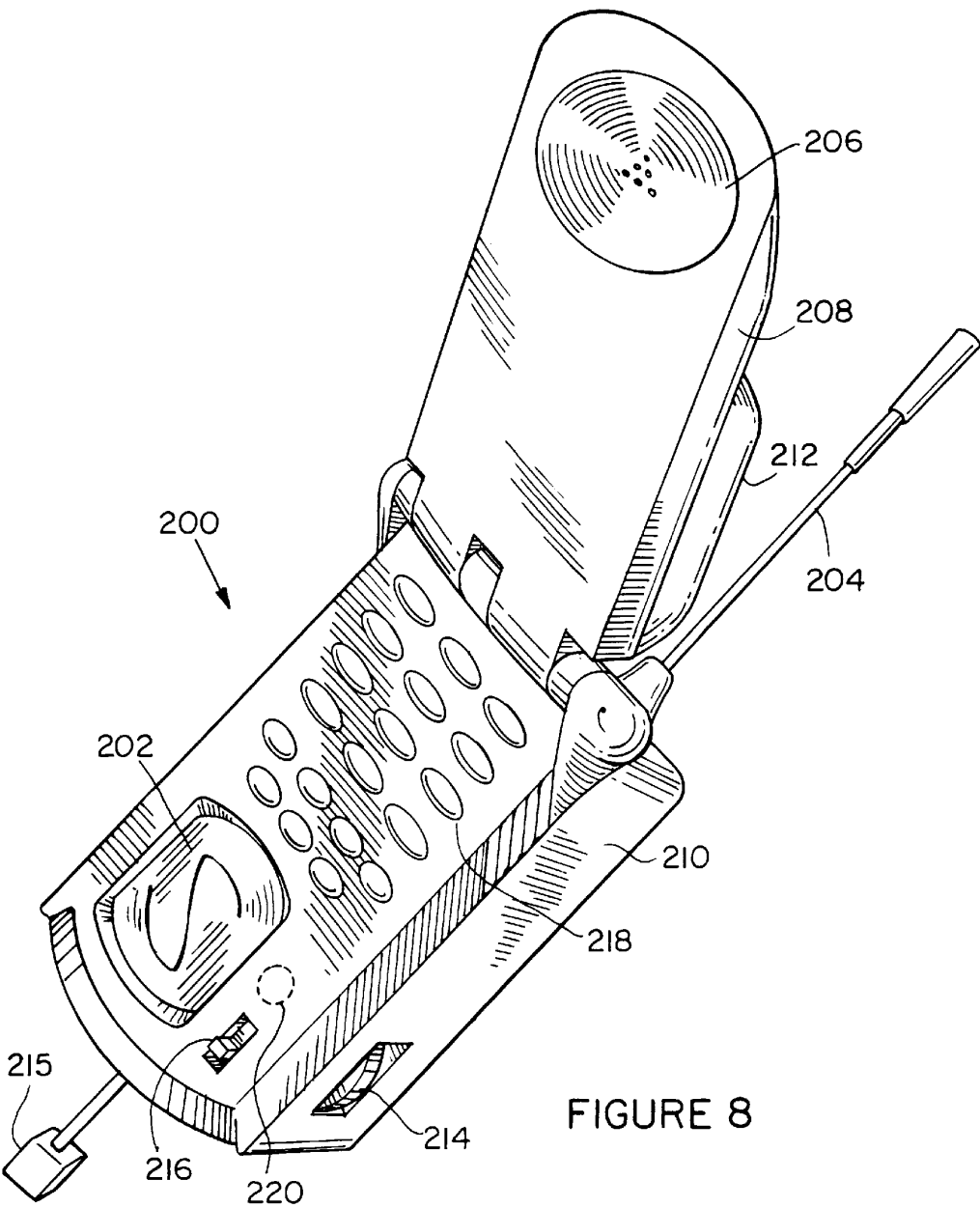
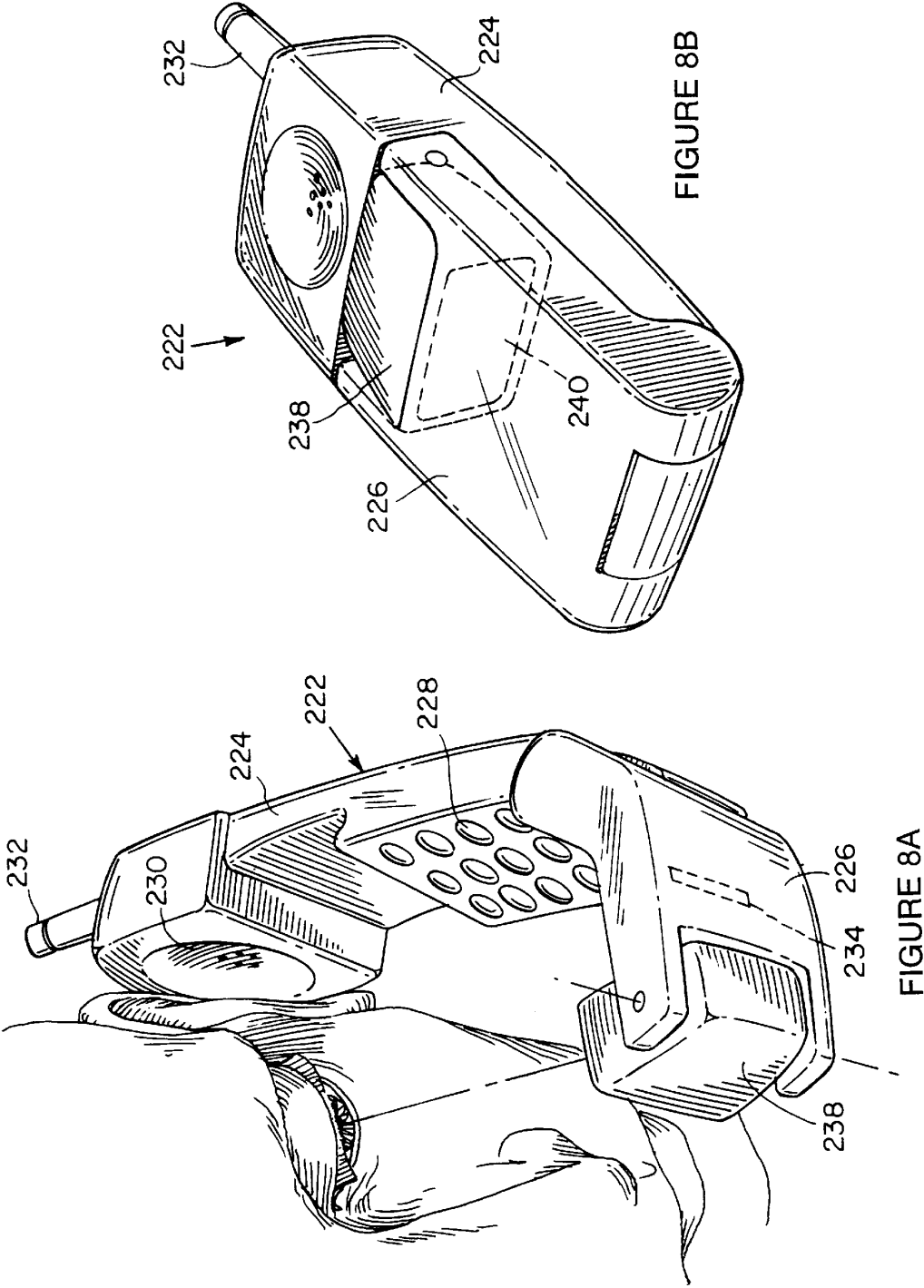
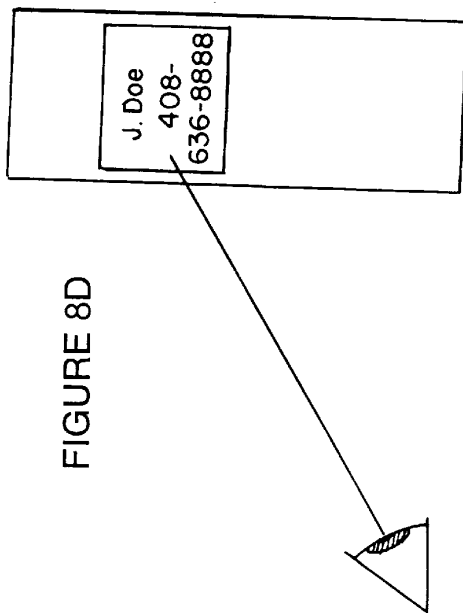


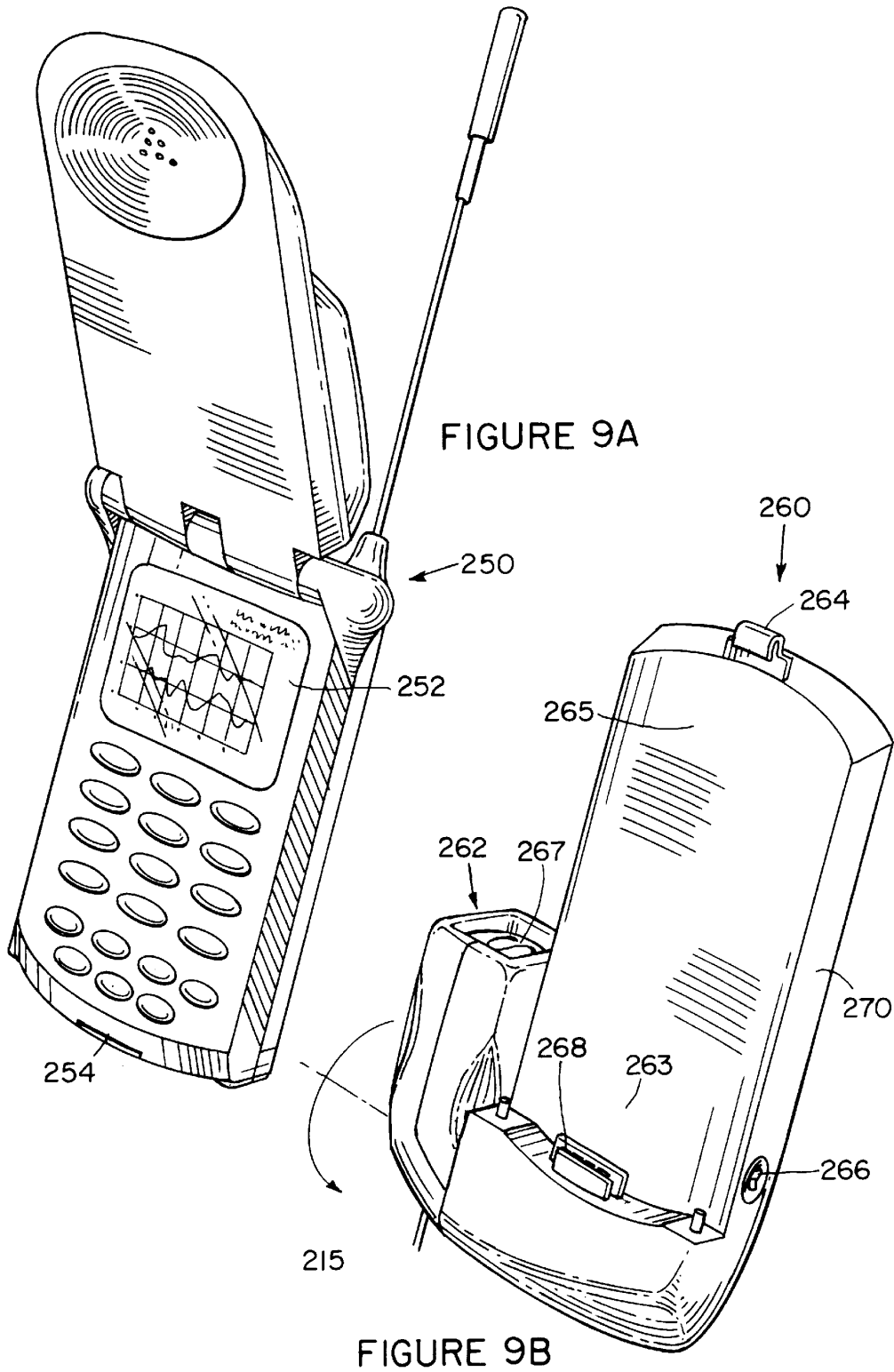
FIGURE 5O











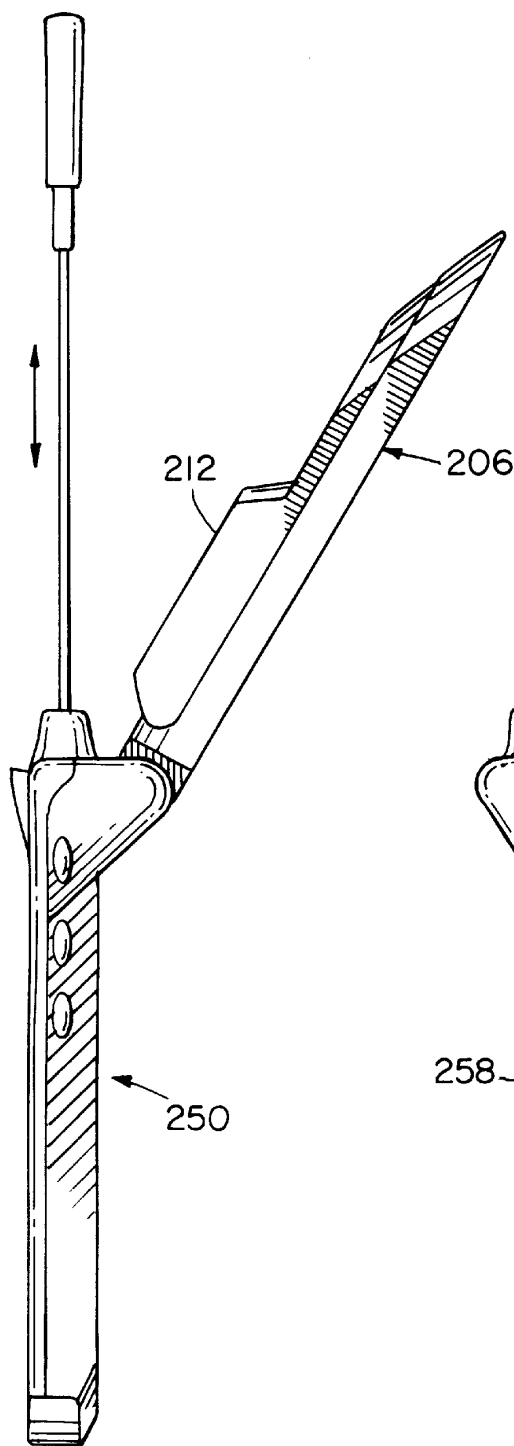


FIGURE 9C

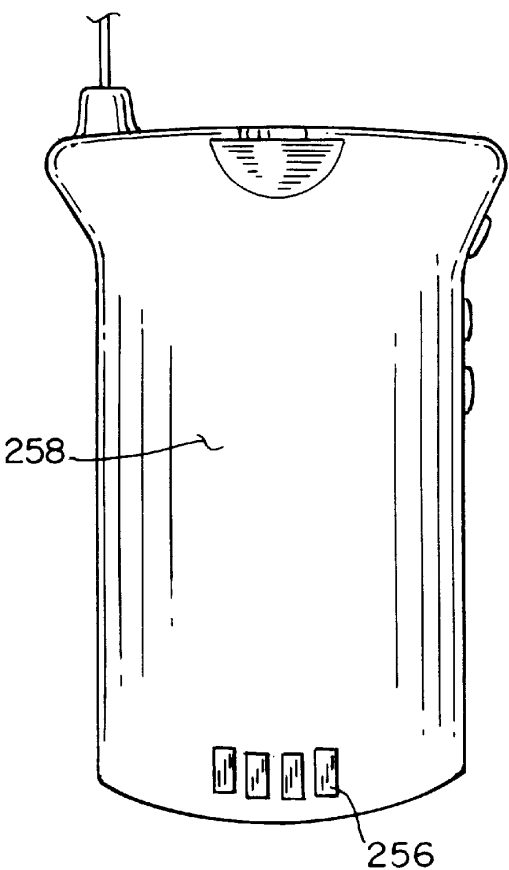


FIGURE 9D

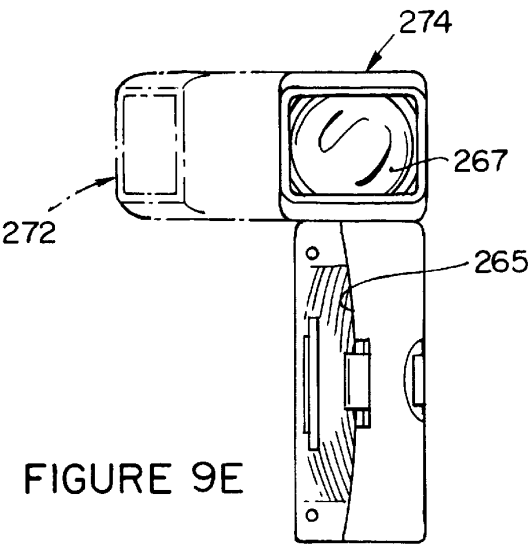


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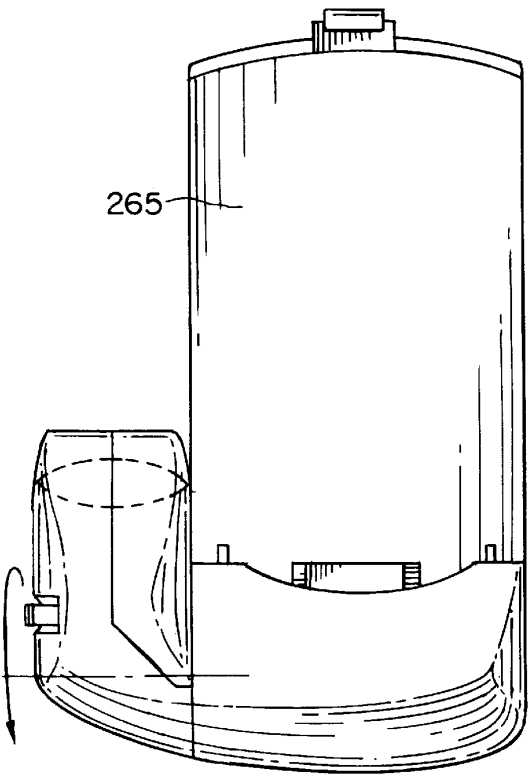


FIGURE 9F

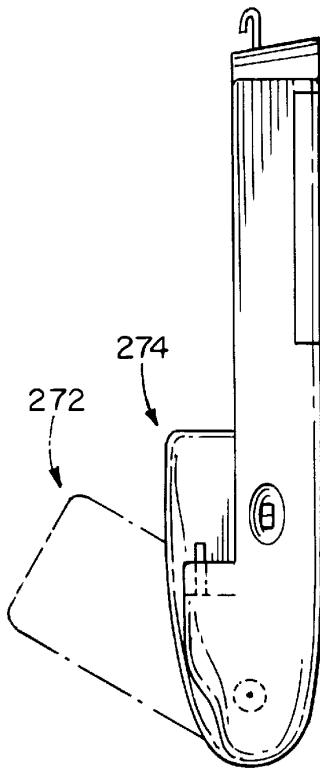


FIGURE 9G

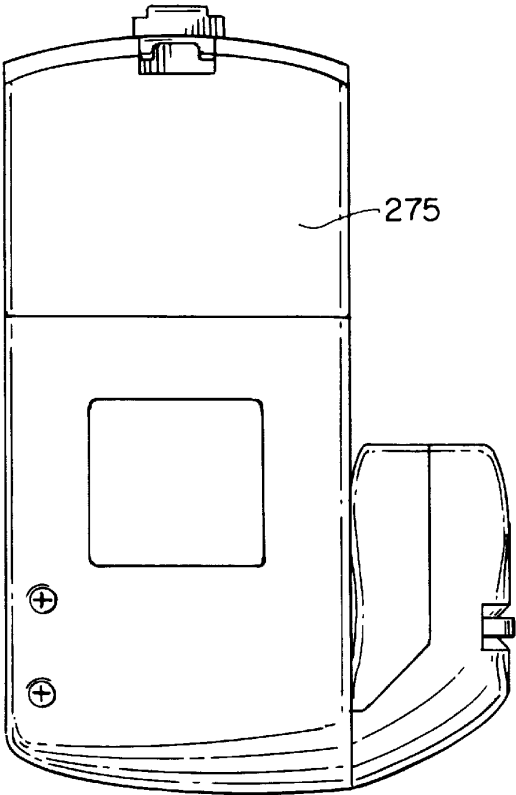


FIGURE 9H

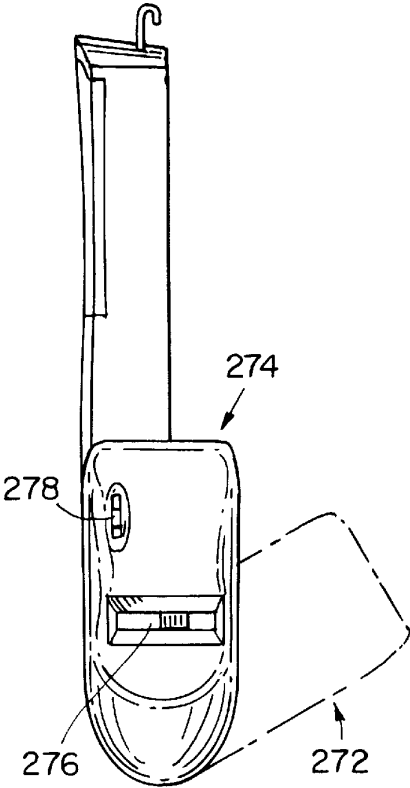


FIGURE 9I

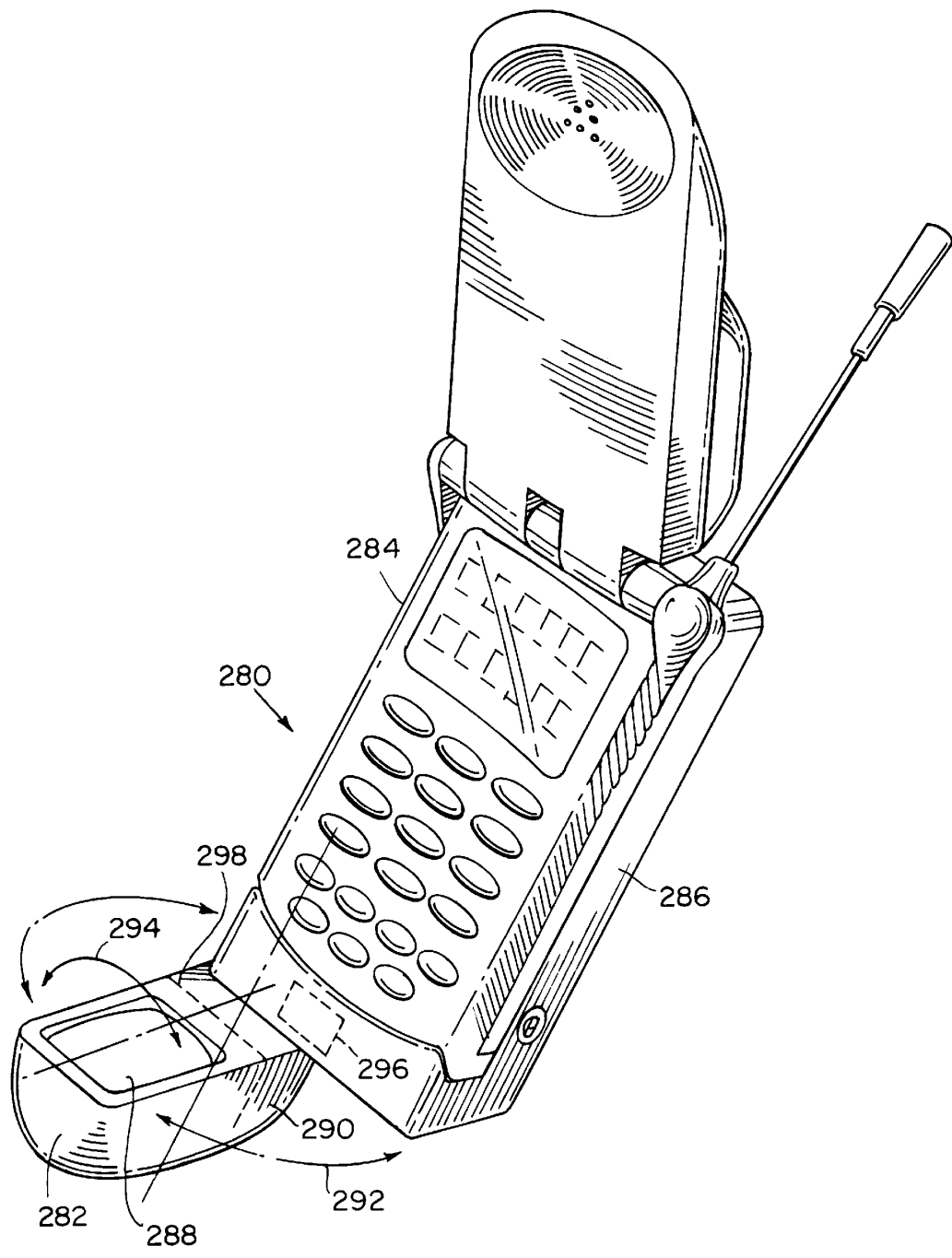
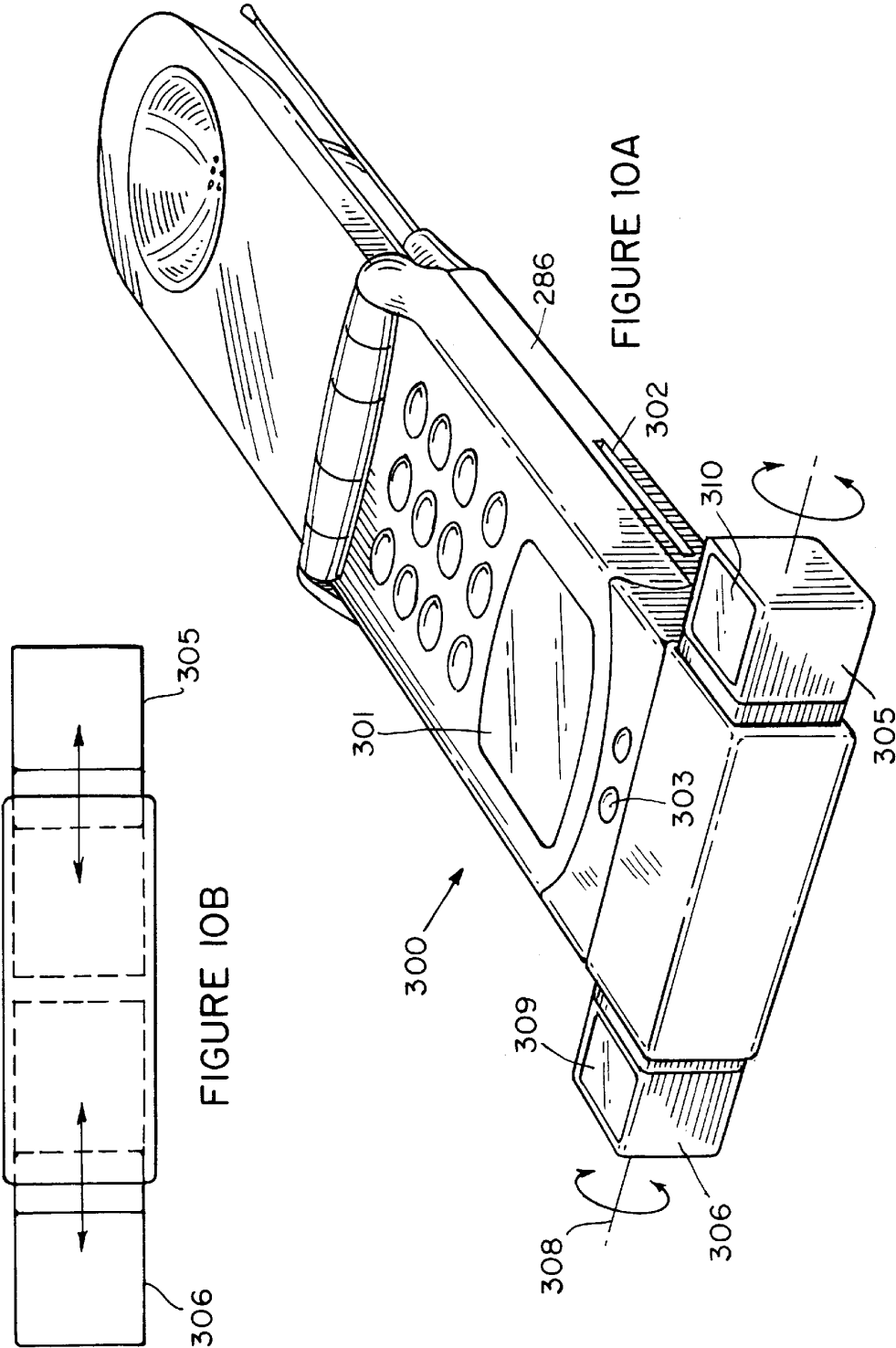


FIGURE 9J



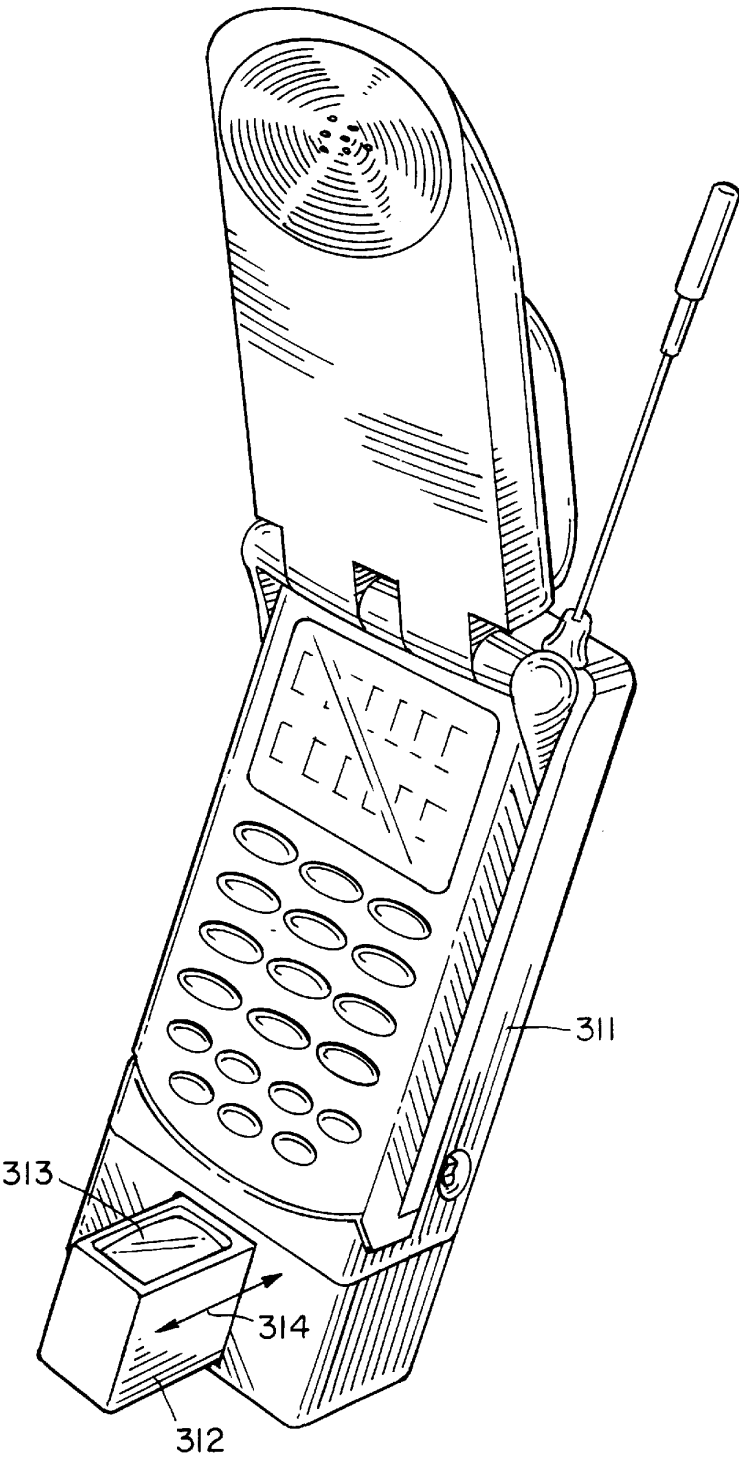


FIGURE 11

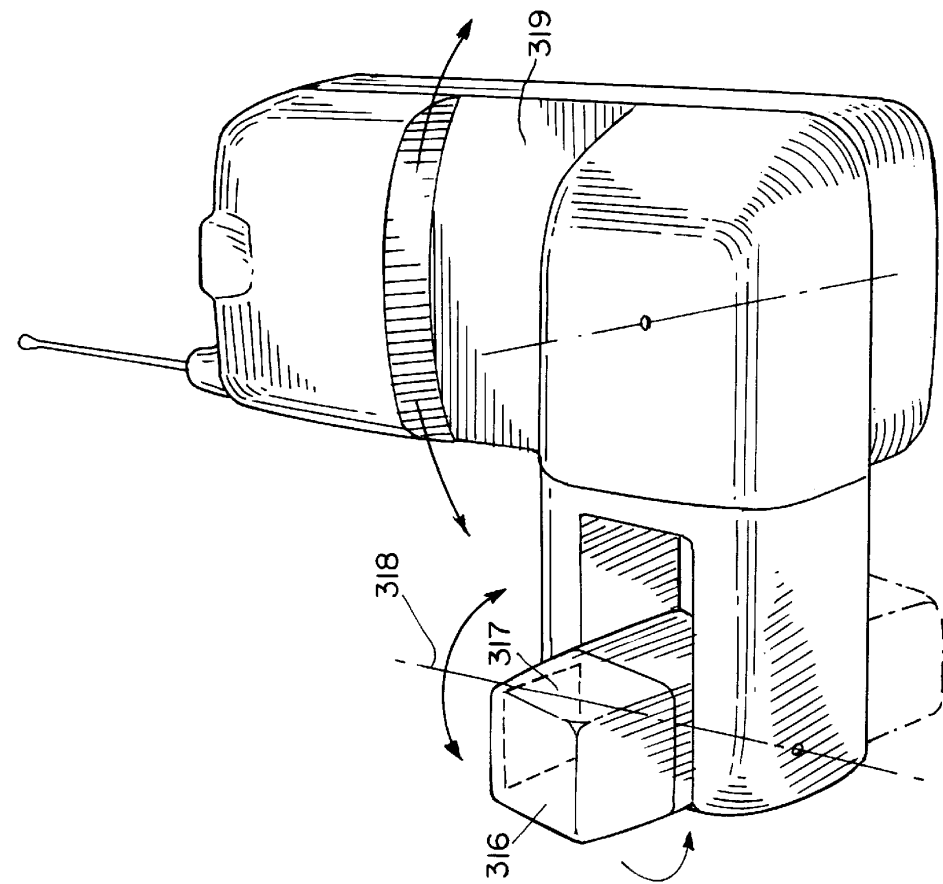


FIGURE 12B

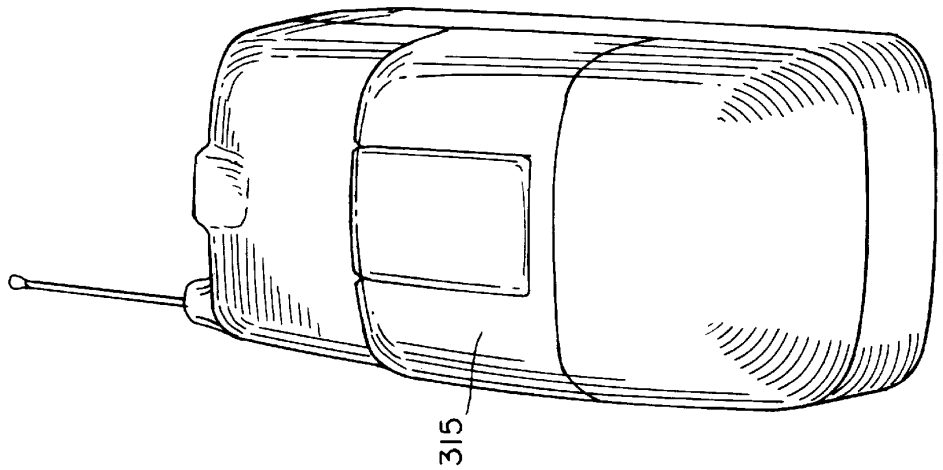


FIGURE 12A

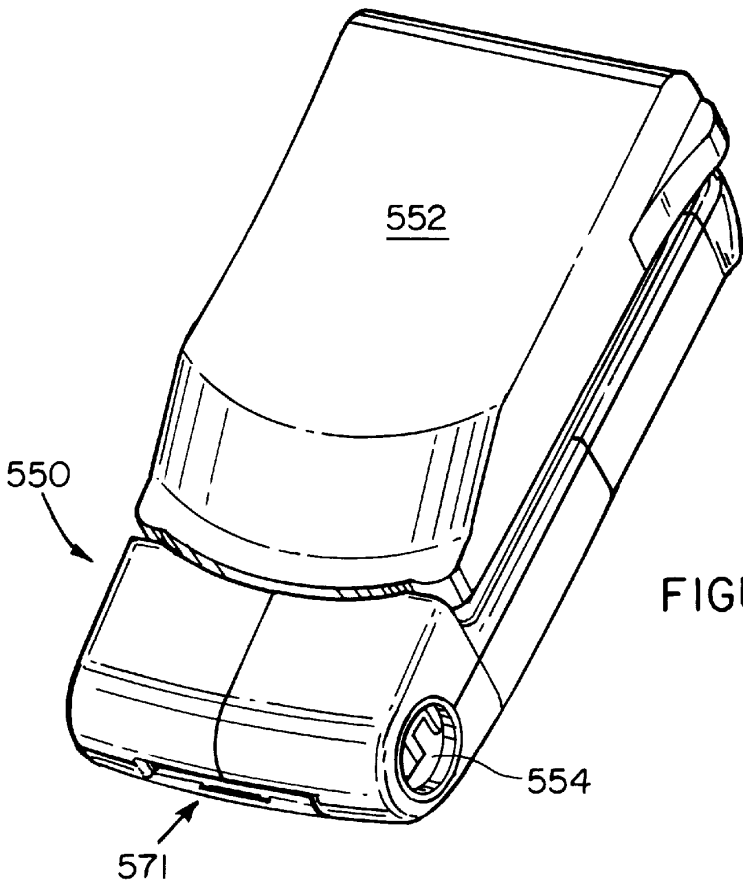


FIGURE 13A

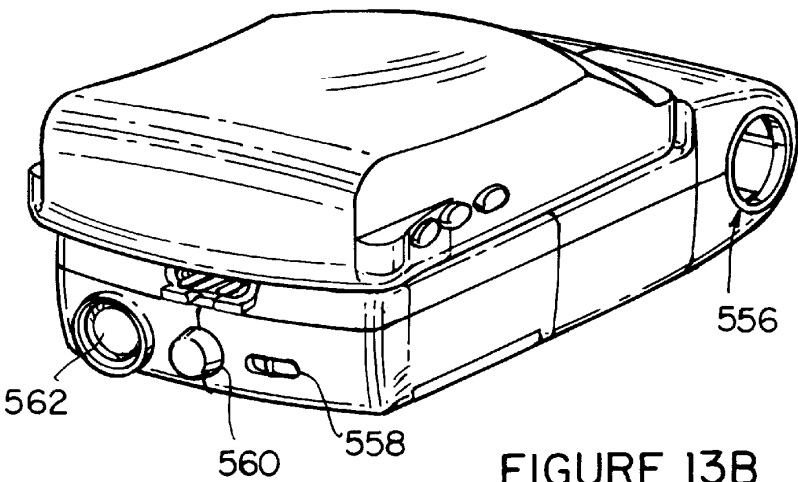


FIGURE 13B

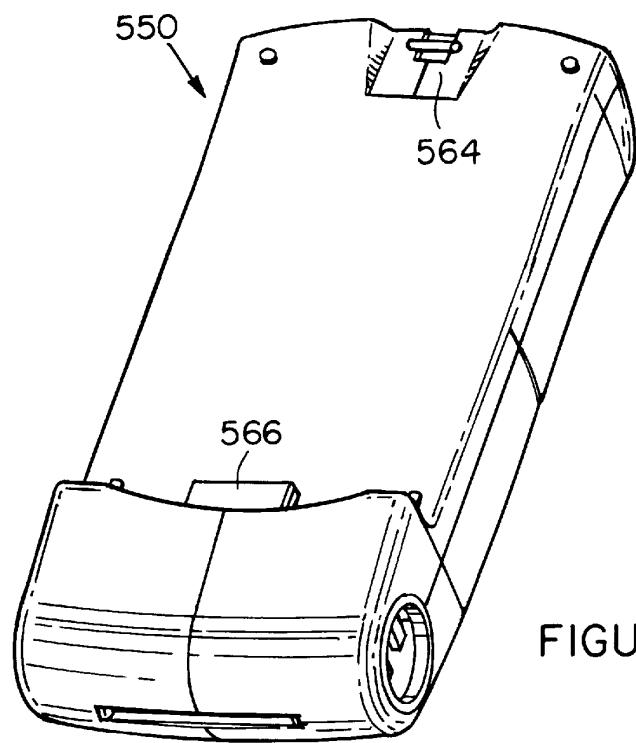


FIGURE 13C

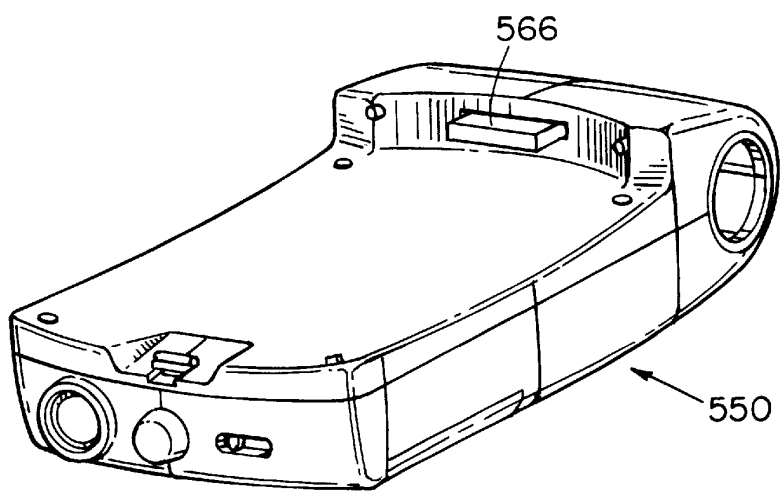


FIGURE 13D

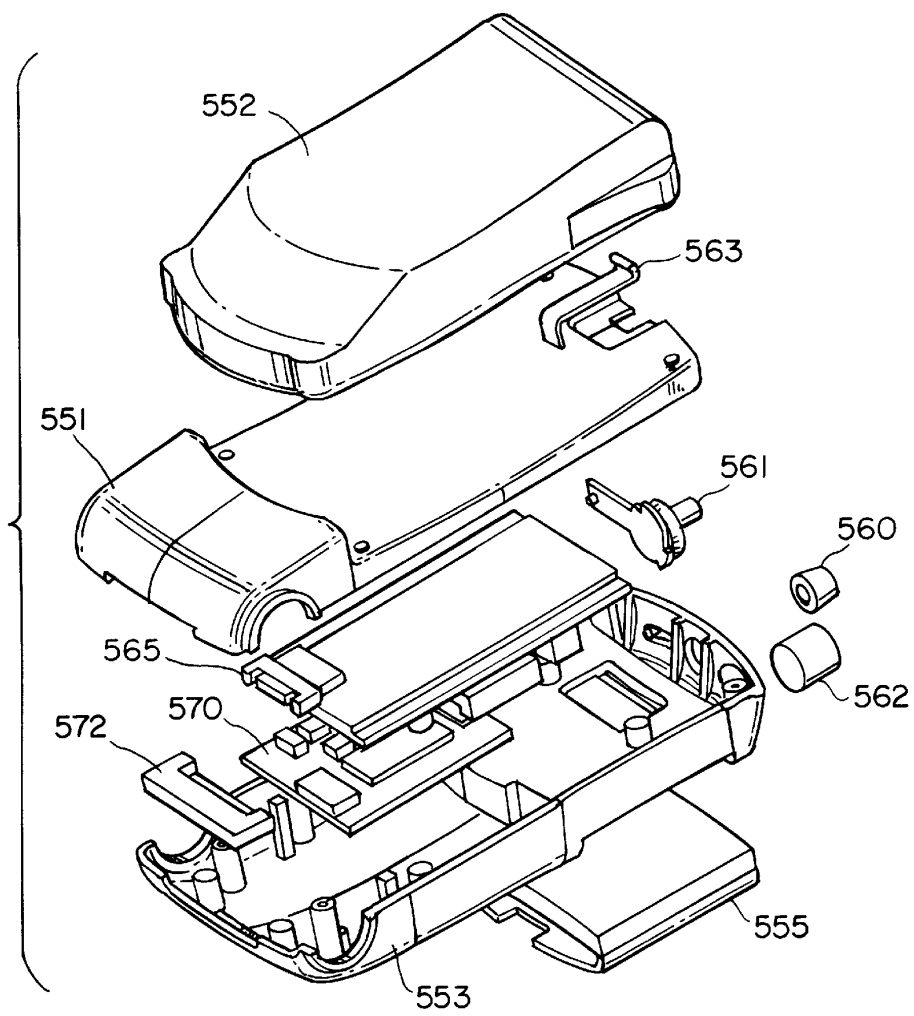


FIGURE 13E

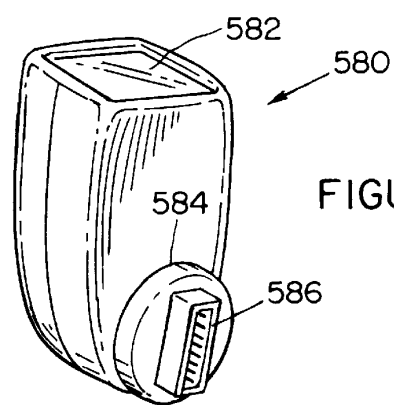


FIGURE 13F

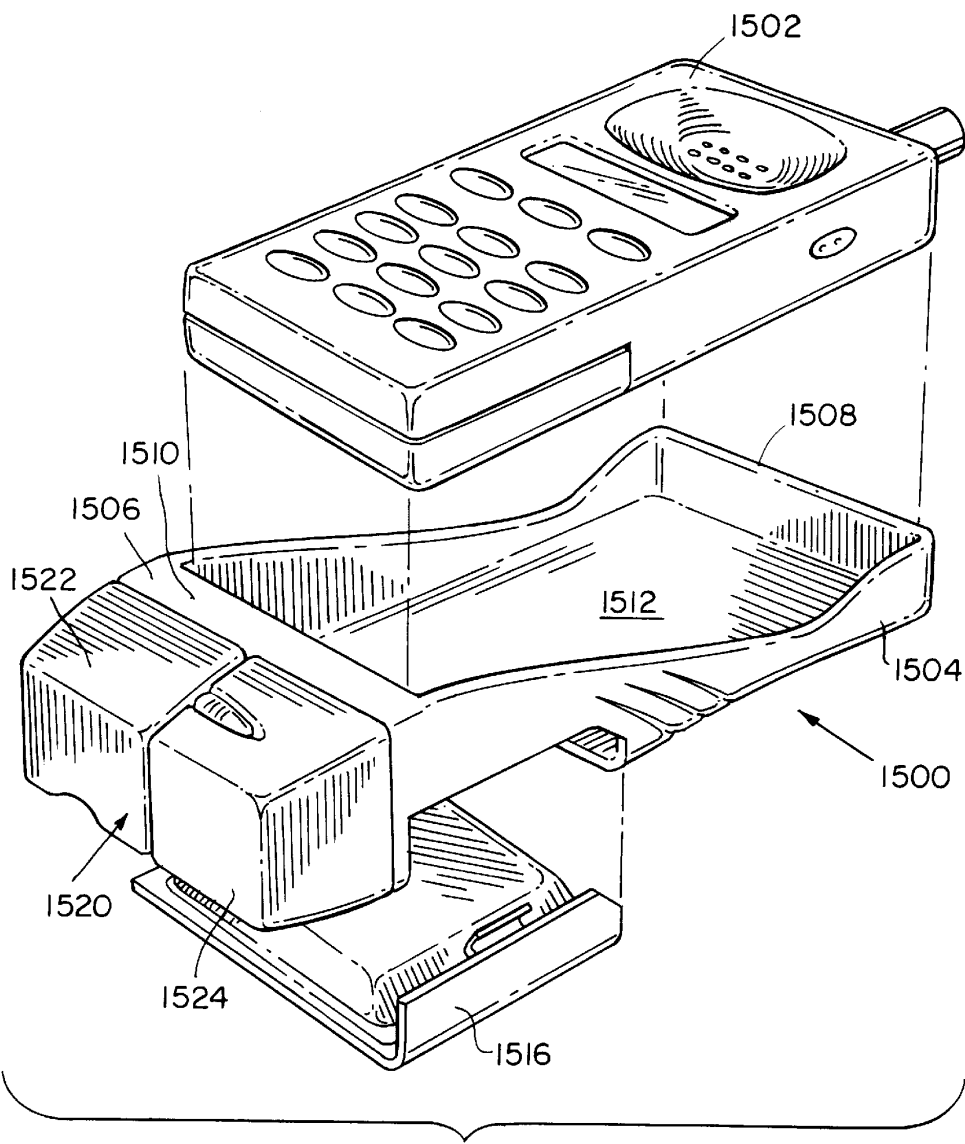


FIGURE 13G

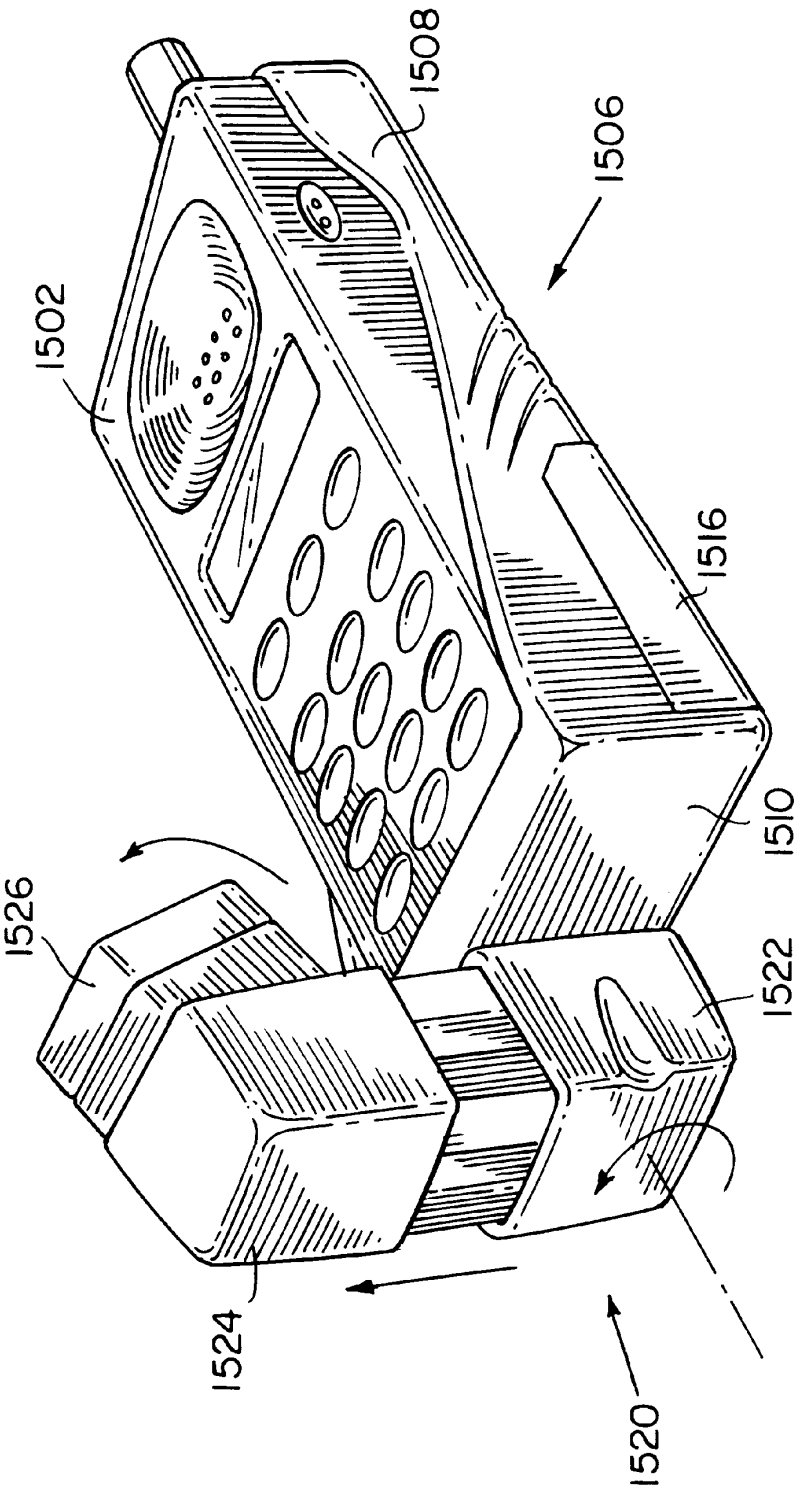


FIGURE 13H

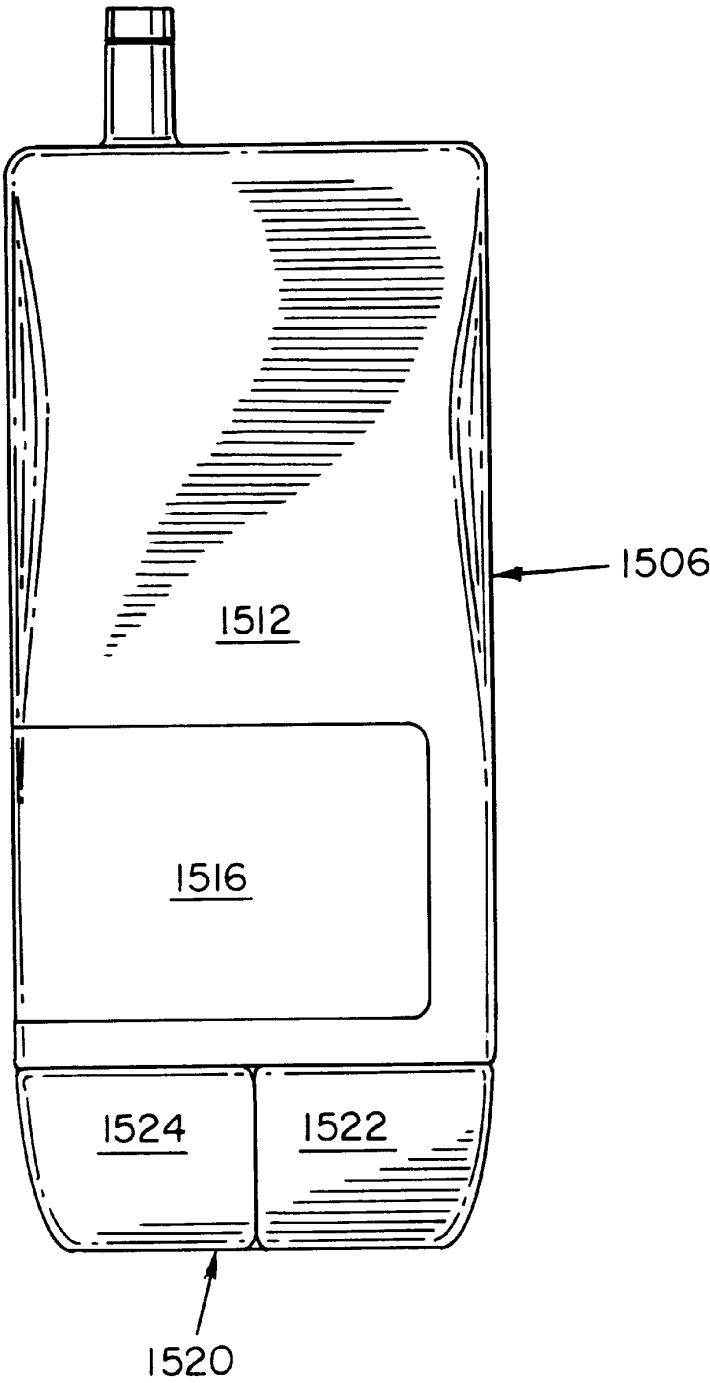
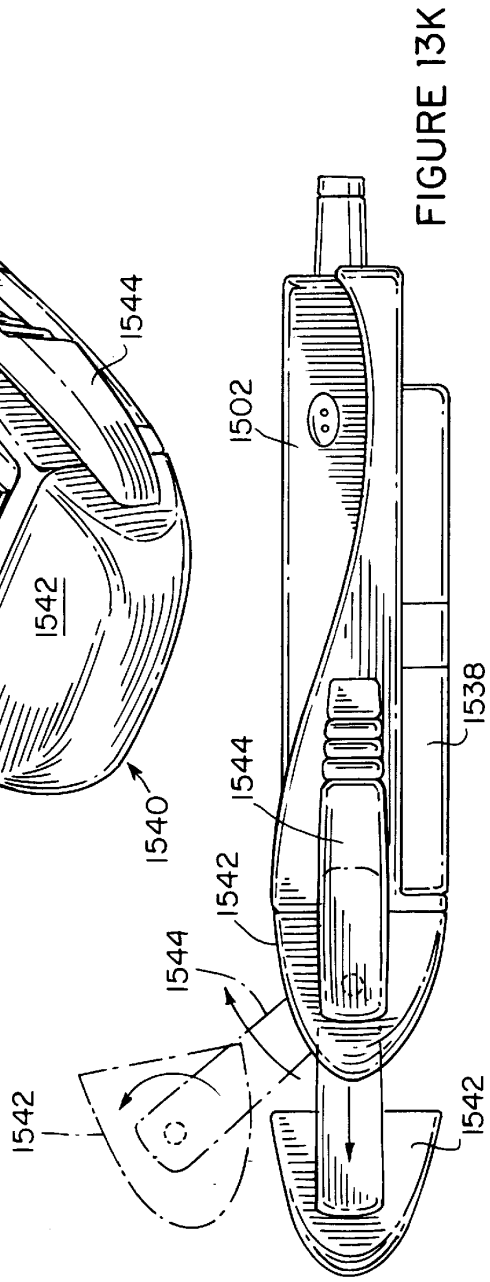
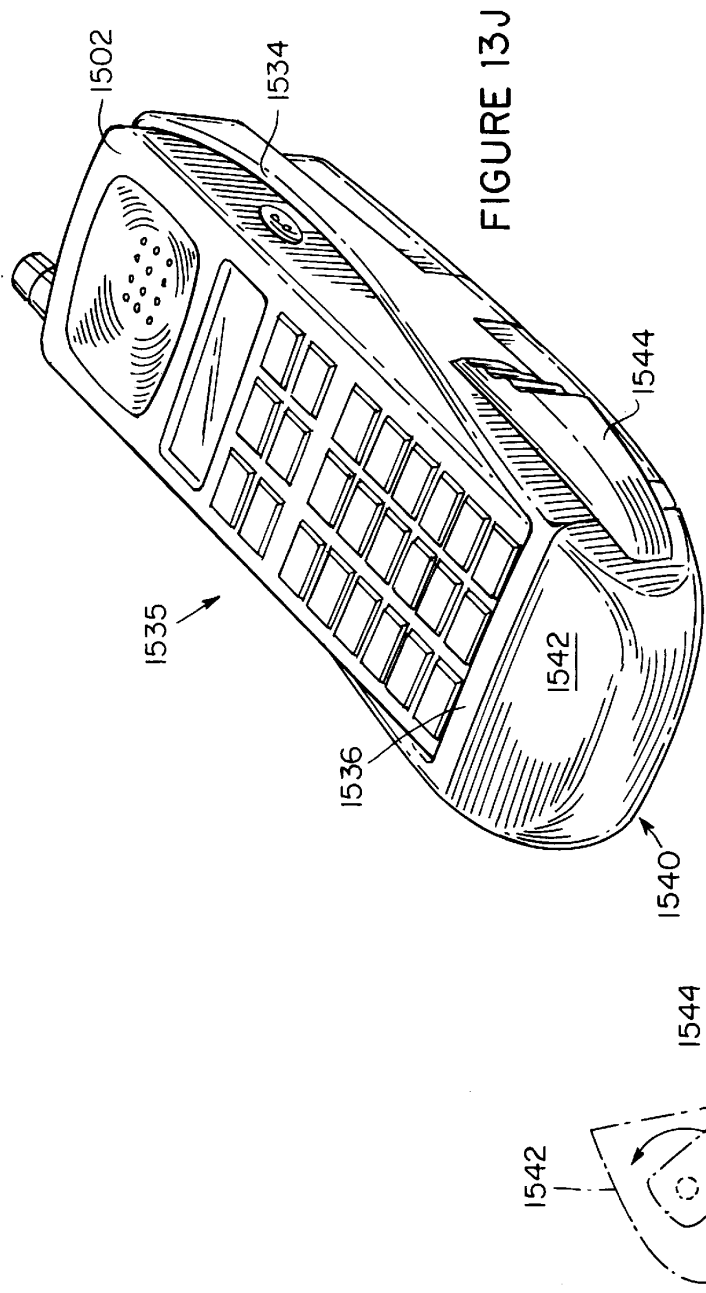


FIGURE 13I



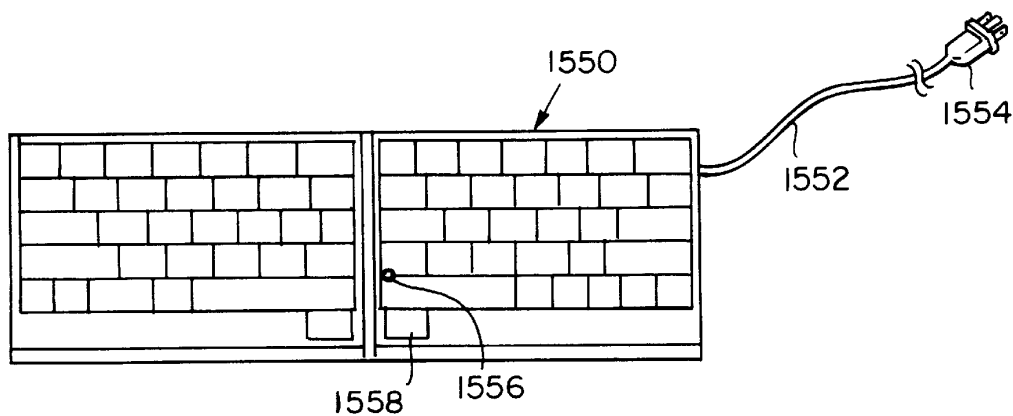


FIGURE 13L

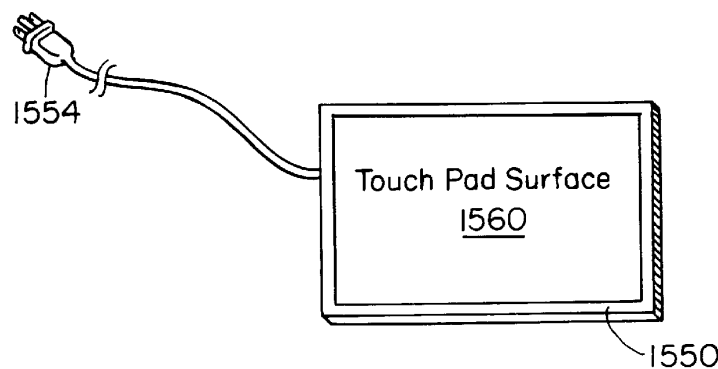


FIGURE 13M

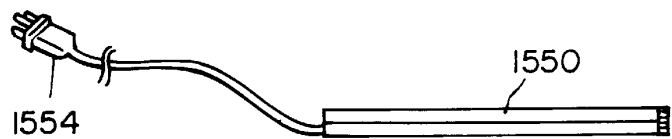
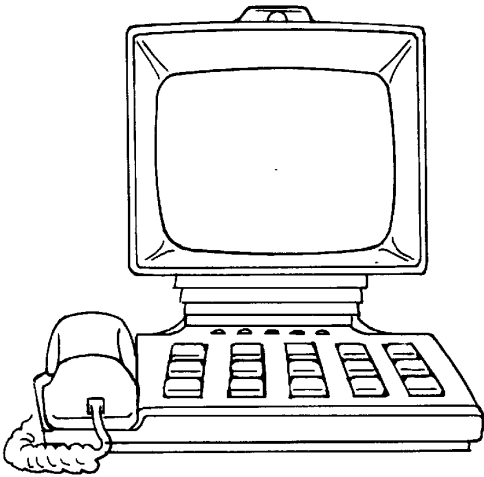
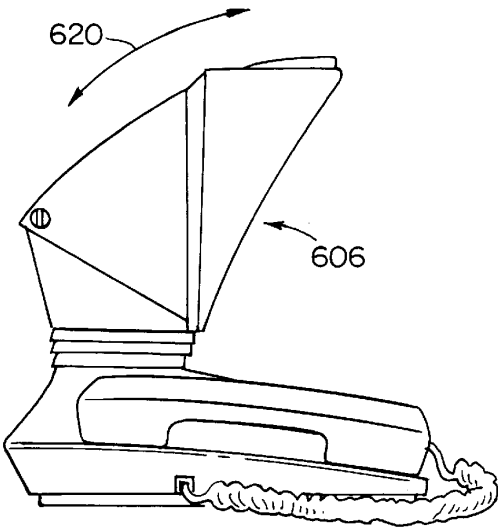
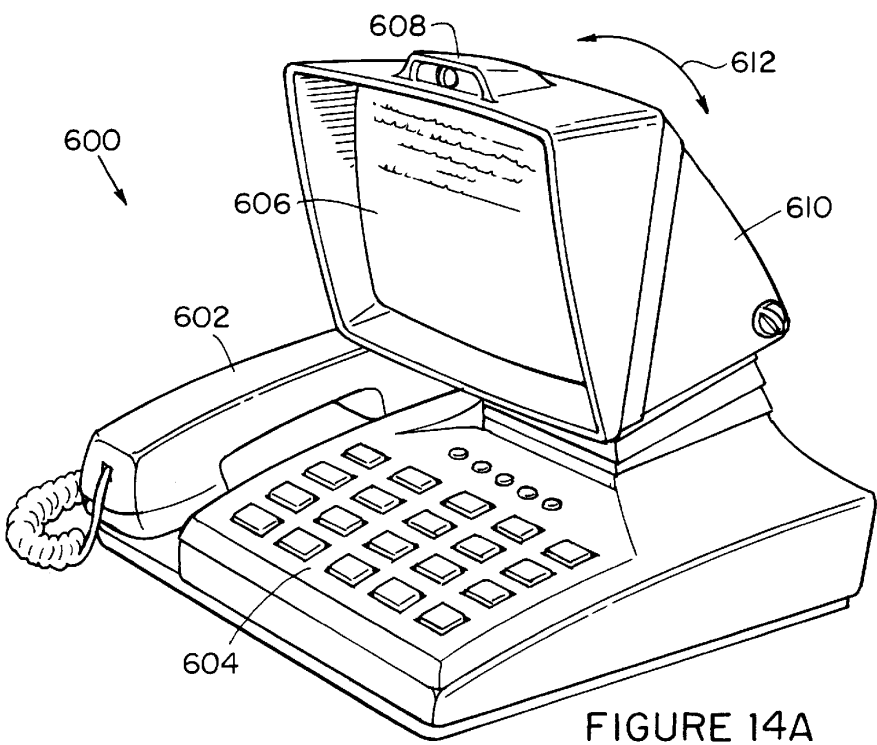


FIGURE 13N



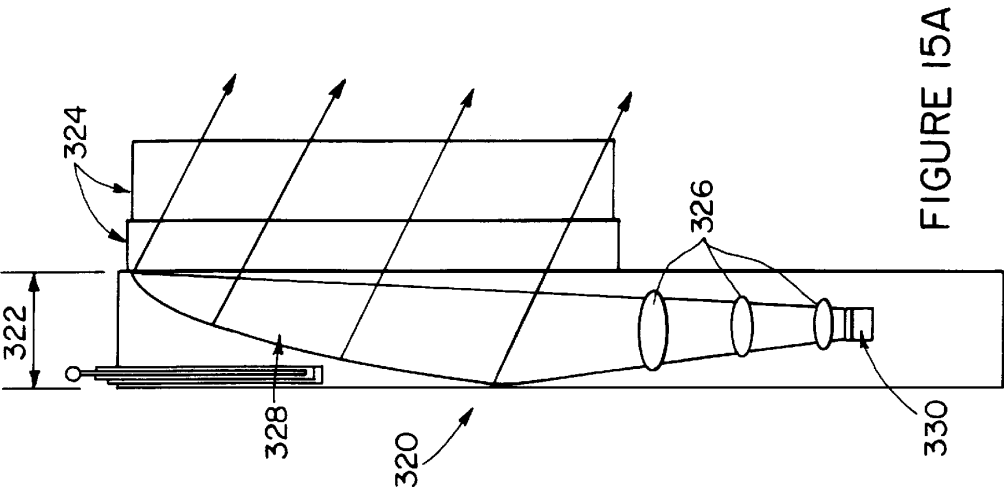


FIGURE 15A

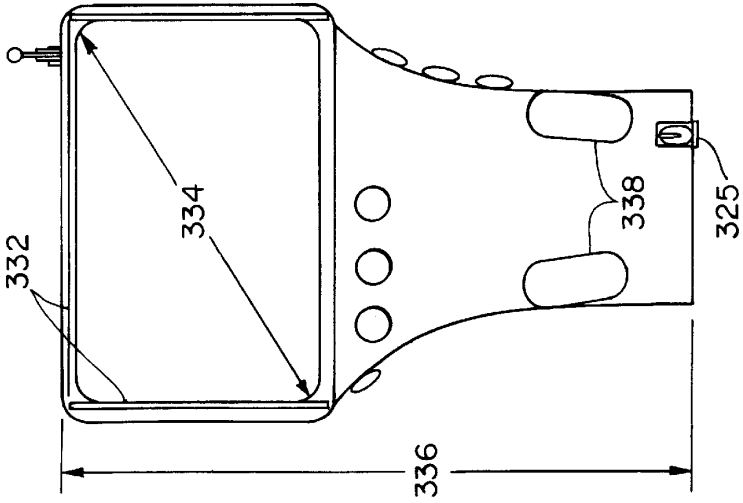


FIGURE 15B

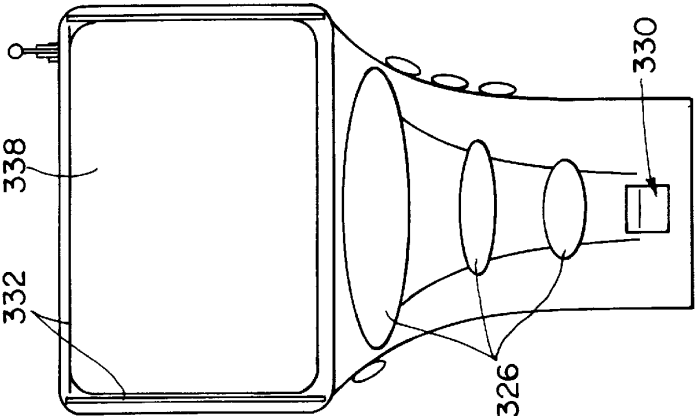


FIGURE 15C

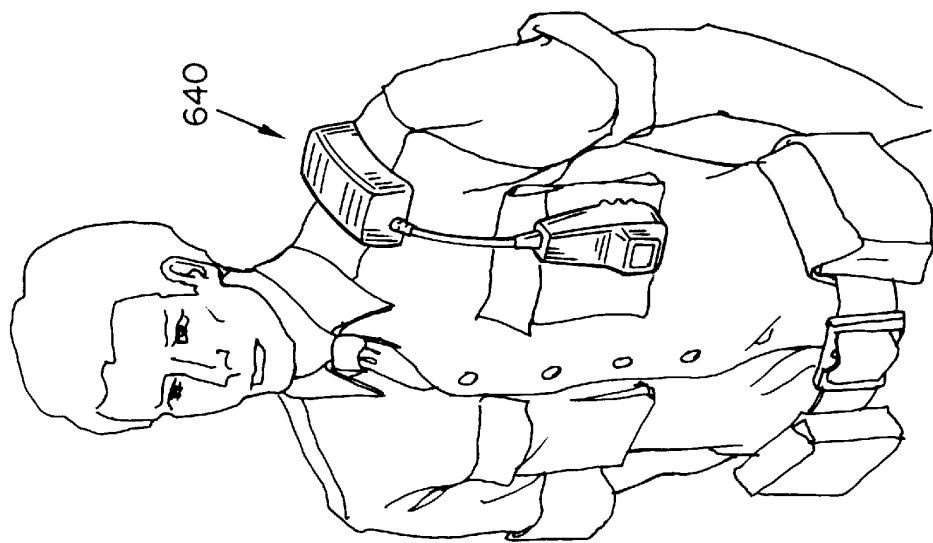


FIGURE 16B

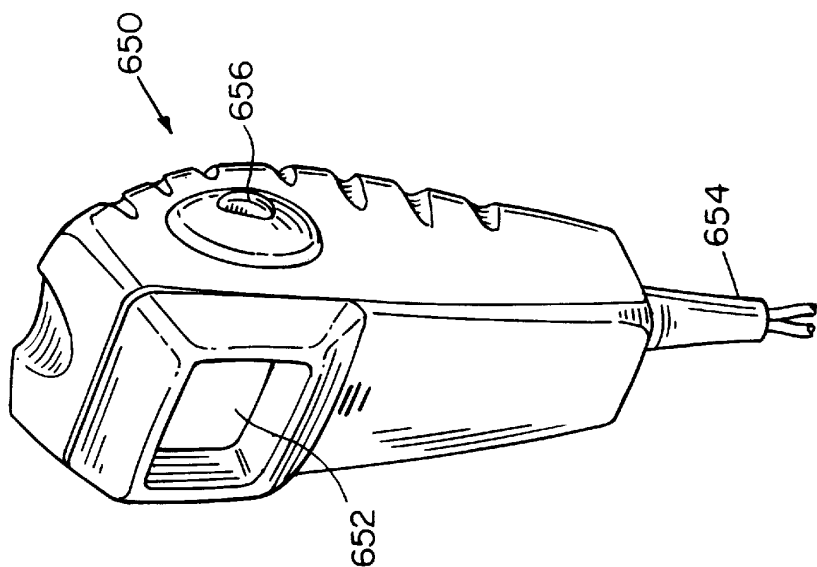


FIGURE 16A

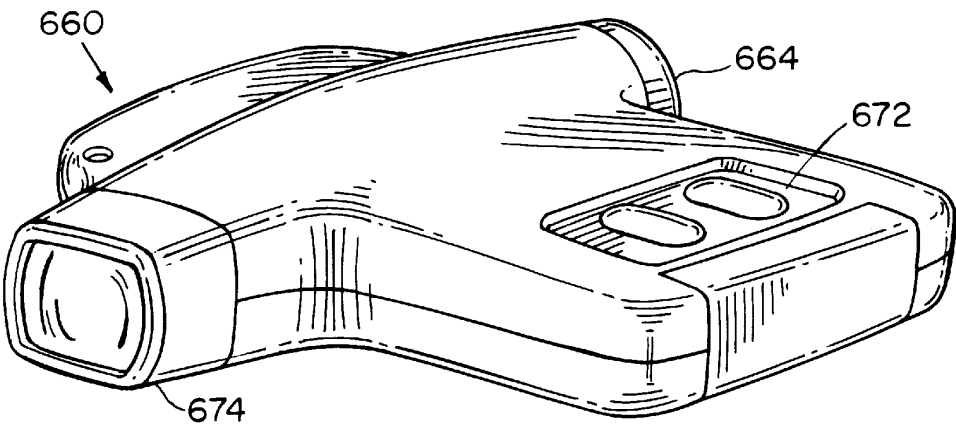


FIGURE 16C

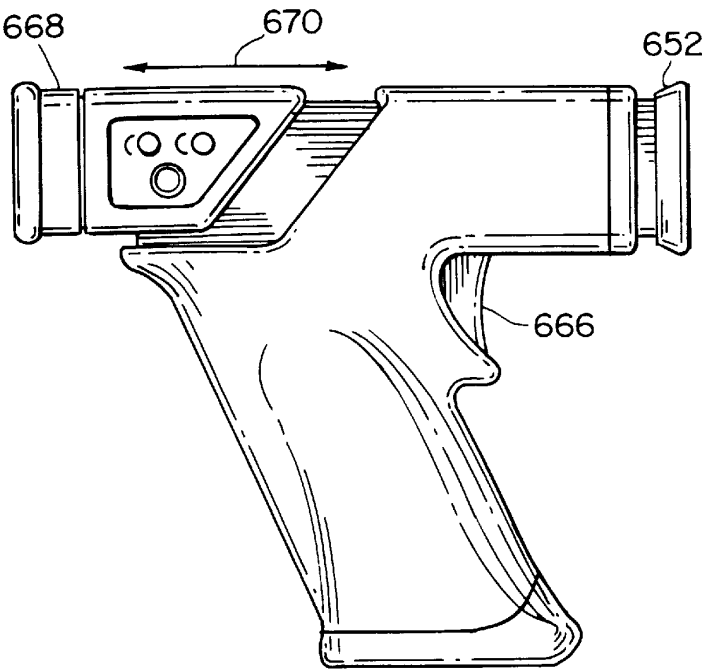


FIGURE 16D

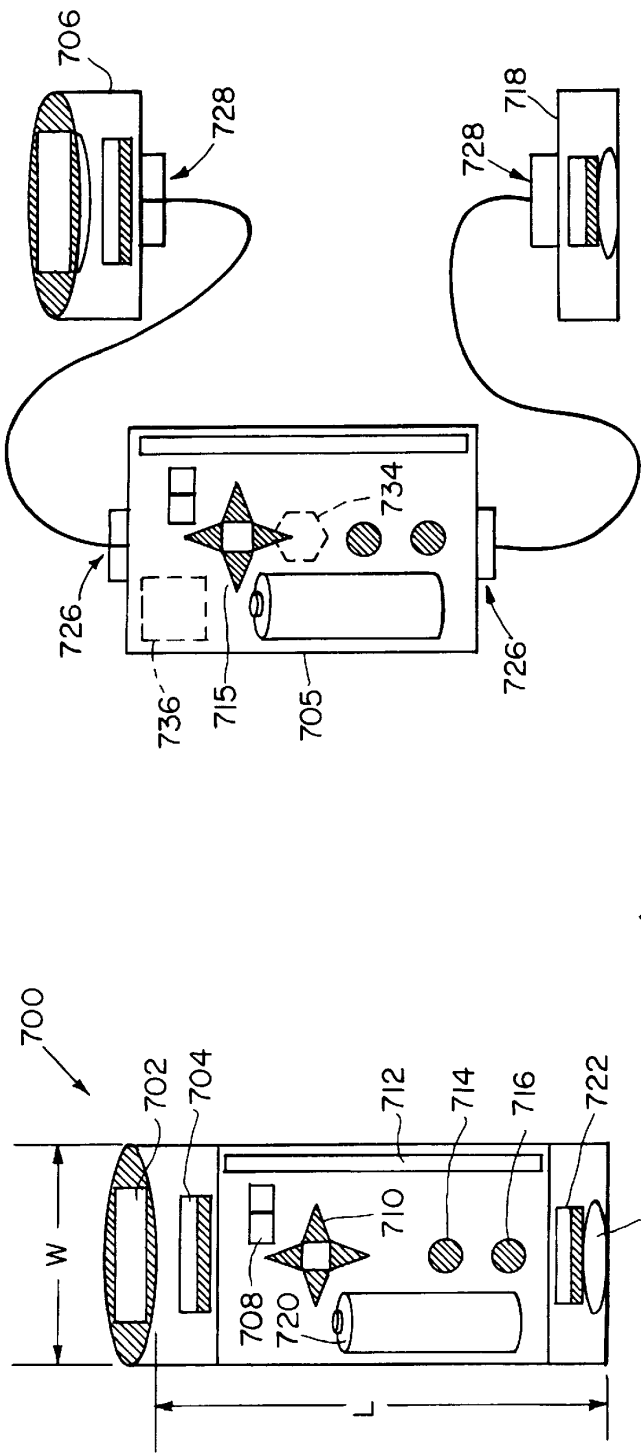


FIGURE 17B

FIGURE 17C

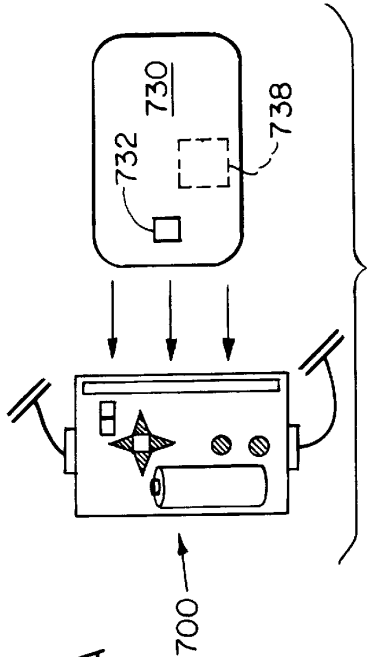


FIGURE 17A

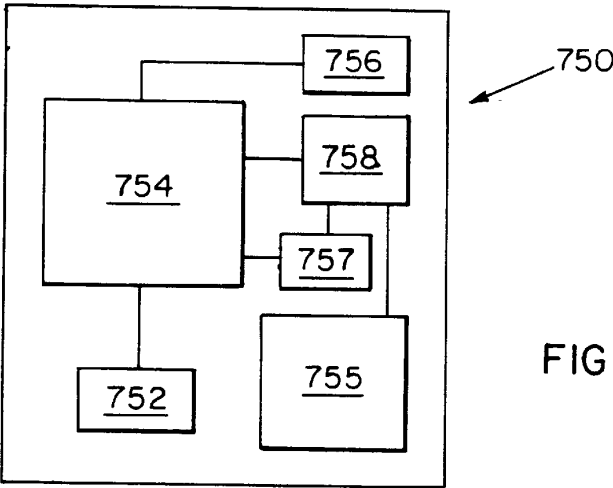


FIGURE 18

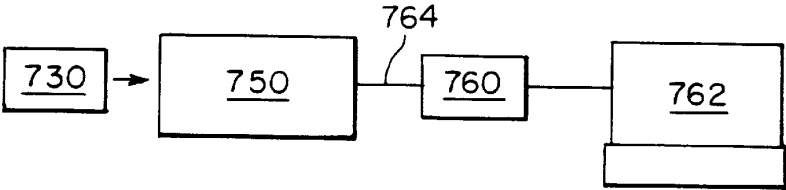


FIGURE 19

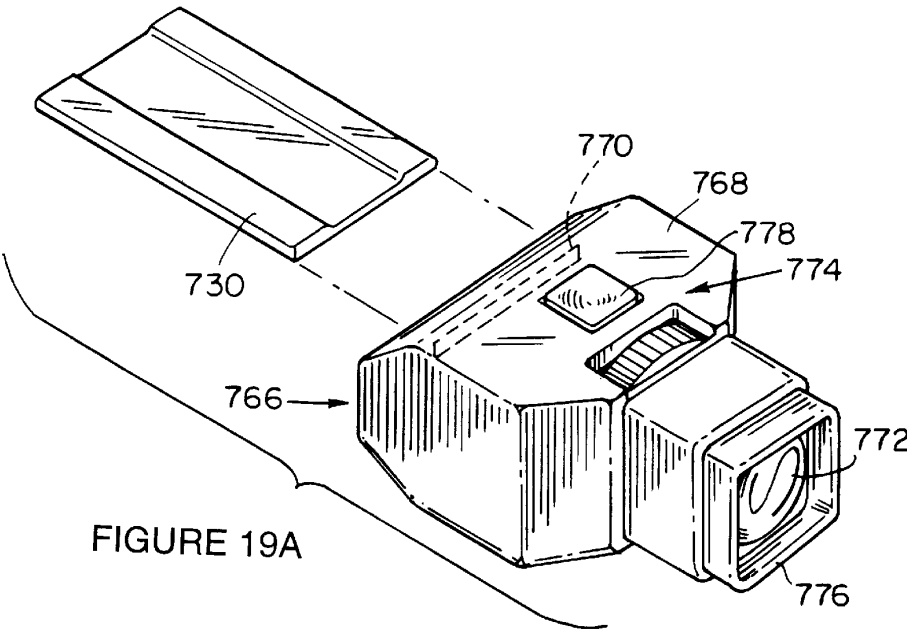
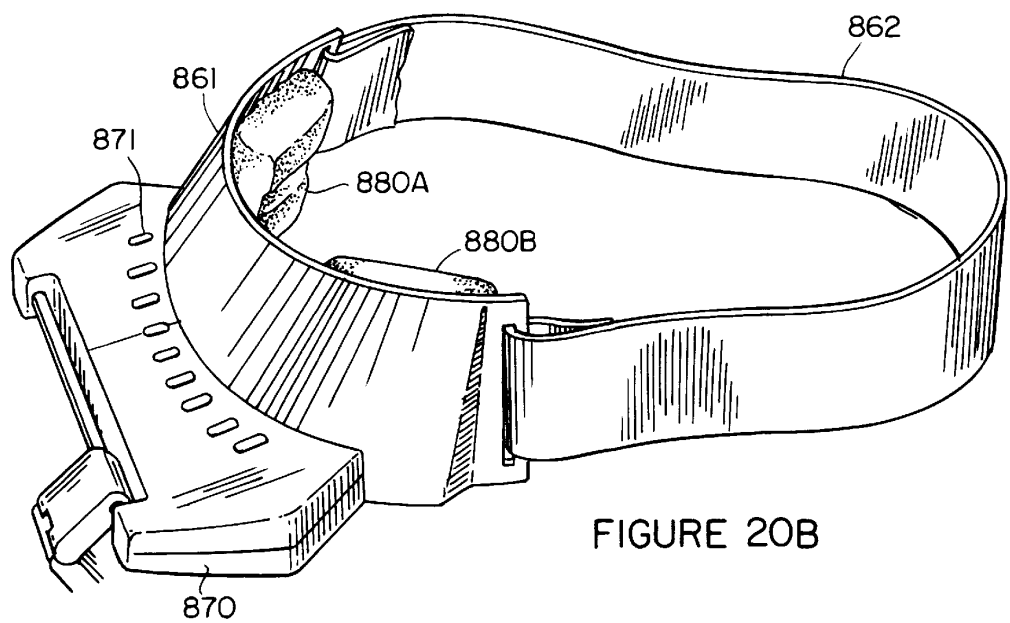
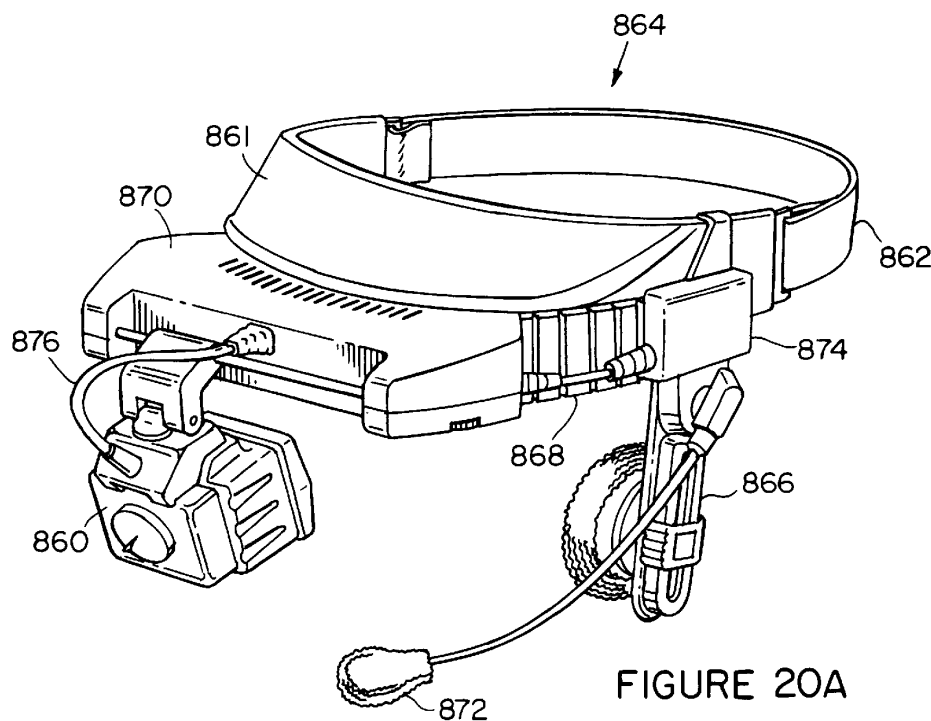


FIGURE 19A



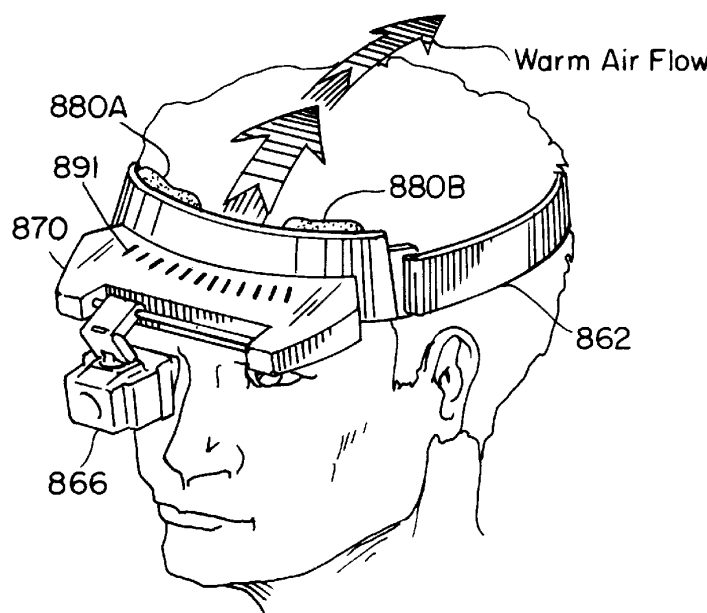


FIGURE 20C

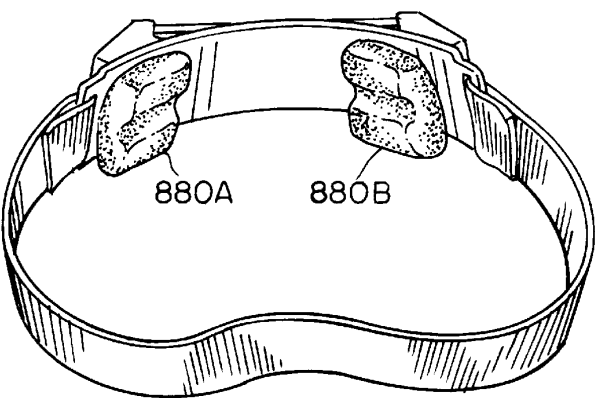


FIGURE 20D

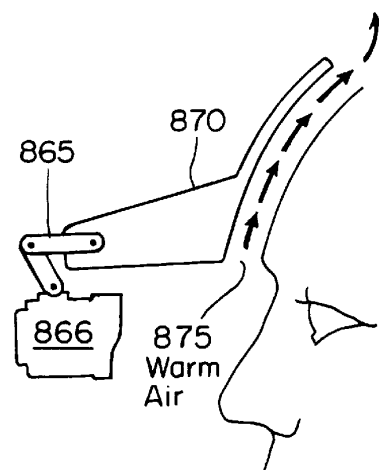


FIGURE 20E

WIRELESS TELEPHONE DISPLAY SYSTEM**RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This is a continuation application of U.S. Ser. No. 08/853,630, filed on May 9, 1997 pending of Jacobsen, et. al. which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Ser. No. 08/838,420, filed on Apr. 7, 1997 pending of Jacobsen, et. al. which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Ser. No. 08/810,646 filed on Mar. 3, 1997, pending which is a Continuation-in-Part application of U.S. Ser. No. 08/766,607 filed on Dec. 13, 1996 pending which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Ser. No. 08/741,671 pending filed on Oct. 31, 1996, the entire contents of the above applications being incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Flat-panel displays are being developed which utilize liquid crystals or electroluminescent materials to produce high quality images. These displays are expected to high quality images. These displays are expected to supplant cathode ray tube (CRT) technology and provide a more highly defined television picture or computer monitor image. The most promising route to large scale high quality liquid crystal displays (LCDs), for example, is the active-matrix approach in which thin-film transistors (TFTs) are co-located with LCD pixels. The primary advantage of the active matrix approach using TFTs is the elimination of cross-talk between pixels, and the excellent grey scale that can be attained with TFT-compatible LCDs.

Flat panel displays employing LCDs generally include five different layers: a white light source, a first polarizing filter that is mounted on one side of a circuit panel on which the TFTs are arrayed to form pixels, a filter plate containing at least three primary colors arranged into pixels, and finally a second polarizing filter. A volume between the circuit panel and the filter plate is filled with a liquid crystal material. This material will allow transmission of light in the material when an electric field is applied across the material between the circuit panel and a ground affixed to the filter plate. Thus, when a particular pixel of the display is turned on by the TFTs, the liquid crystal material rotates polarized light being transmitted through the material so that the light will pass through the second polarizing filter.

The primary approach to TFT formation over the large areas required for flat panel displays has involved the use of amorphous silicon, which has previously been developed for large-area photovoltaic devices. Although the TFT approach has proven to be feasible, the use of amorphous silicon compromises certain aspects of the panel performance. For example, amorphous silicon TFTs lack the frequency response needed for high performance displays due to the low electron mobility inherent in amorphous material. Thus the use of amorphous silicon limits display speed, and is also unsuitable for the fast logic needed to drive the display.

As the display resolution increases, the required clock rate to drive the pixels also increases. In addition, the advent of colored displays places additional speed requirements on the display panel. To produce a sequential color display, the display panel is triple scanned, once for each primary color. For example, to produce color frames at 20 Hz, the active matrix must be driven at a frequency of 60 Hz. In brighter ambient light conditions, the active matrix may need to be driven at 1830 Hz to produce a 60 Hz color image. At over 60 Hz, visible flicker is reduced.

Owing to the limitations of amorphous silicon, other alternative materials include polycrystalline silicon, or laser

recrystallized silicon. These materials are limited as they use silicon that is already on glass, which generally restricts further circuit processing to low temperatures.

Integrated circuits for displays, such as, the above referred color sequential display, are becoming more and more complex. For example, the color sequential display is designed for displaying High Definition Television (HDTV) formats requiring a 1280-by-1024 pixel array with a pixel pitch, or the distance between lines connecting adjacent columns or rows of pixel electrodes, being in the range of 15–55 microns, and fabricated on a single five-inch wafer.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the invention, the cost and complexity of high resolution displays is significantly reduced by fabricating multiple integrated displays of reduced size on a single wafer and then dicing the wafer to produce a plurality of display devices.

The displays are then assembled with appropriate magnifying optics to form a portable display system of low cost and reduced size. Included in the optics is a magnification system which compensates for the small image size by magnifying and projecting the image at an appropriate distance for viewing.

In preferred embodiments, the microdisplay, because of its small size and weight, can be used as a hand-held communication system such as a pager, a wireless mobile telephone, or alternatively, as a head-mounted display or a card reader display system. The display can provide a visual display suitable for data, graphics or video and accommodate standard television or high definition television signals. The system can optionally include circuitry for cellular reception and transmission of facsimile communications, can be voice activated, can include a mouse operated function, provide Internet access, and can have a keyboard or touch pad for numeric or alphabetic entry. The system can have, such as in a card reader display system, a housing with a port or aperture to receive a card, and a card reader for reading information from the card and displaying the information on the microdisplay. The telephone or hand-held unit can be equipped with a camera or solid state imaging sensor so that images can be generated and transmitted to a remote location and/or viewed on the display. Also the telephone user can call to access a particular computer at a remote location, present the computer screen on the microdisplay, access specific files in the computer memory and download data from the file into a memory within the telephone or a modular memory and display unit connected to the telephone. The telephone can be connected to a local computer or display and the data from the file can be loaded into the local memory.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, a light emitting diode (LED) device is used to illuminate the display. For transmission displays the LED device operates as a back light and can include a diffuser. An LED device can also be used as a light source for a reflective display in another preferred embodiment of the invention. The displays are preferably liquid crystal displays using a nematic liquid crystal material. Consequently, controlling the time domain is not necessary to obtain grey scale.

For the purposes of this application, a micro display is defined as a display having at least 75,000 pixel electrodes and an active area of less than 160 mm², where the active area of the display is the area of the active matrix circuit that generates an image, including all of the pixel electrodes but not including the driver electronics and the border area for

bonding and sealing of the liquid crystal display. For example, the array can be at least 320×240, 640×480 or higher. A preferred embodiment of the micro display has an active area of 100 mm² or less, and is preferably in the range between 5 mm² and 80 mm². The pixel pitch for these displays is in the range of 5–30 microns and preferably in the range between 5 and 18 microns. By utilizing pixel pitches of less than 18 microns smaller high resolution displays are now possible.

For displays of this size and resolution to be read by a user at distances of less than 10 inches (25.4 cm) there are specific lighting and magnification requirements. For a 0.25 inch (6.35 mm) diagonal display, for example, the LED device preferably includes a plurality of LEDS coupled to a diffuser. The lens used to magnify the display image has a field of view in the range of 10–60 degrees, and preferably at least about 16 degrees–22 degrees, an ERD in the range of about 25 mm–100 mm and an object distance of between about 1.5 and 5 feet (152.4 cm). A color field sequentially operated LED back light system can use a plurality of LEDS with a two or four sided reflector assembly to concentrate the light through the liquid crystal display. A preferred embodiment can use at least two LEDs, or as many as six or more of each color, to provide the desired brightness level. Alternatively the LEDs can be arranged around the periphery of a transmissive display and directed down into a conical reflector that directs the backlighting through the display in concentrated form.

The backlight, the display and the viewing lens can be aligned along a single axis within a small housing volume that is less than 20 cm³, and preferably less than 12 cm³. The system weighs less than 10 grams, preferably in the range between 5 and 8 grams. The system can be incorporated into battery operated personal communication devices without substantial alteration of their form factor and weight requirements.

The display can be operated using a color sequential system as described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/216,817, "Color Sequential Display Panels" filed on Mar. 23, 1994, the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference, discloses an active matrix display in which the control electronics is integrated with the active matrix circuitry using single crystal silicon technology. The control electronics provides compressed video information to produce a color image for data, a still image or a video image such as a television image on the display.

The micro displays described herein can be used in head mounted displays and portable communications systems, including color sequential systems as described in greater detail in U.S. application Ser. No. 08/410,124 filed on Mar. 23, 1995, the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference. Further details regarding the drive electronics suitable for a micro display can be found in U.S. Ser. No. 08/106,416 filed on Aug. 13, 1993, the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference. A preferred embodiment, of the display control circuit utilizes an "under scanning" feature in which selected pixels are rapidly turned on and off to enhance edge definition and emulate a higher resolution display. The display control circuit can also utilize a panning capability so that a small portion of a displayed image can be selected, by mouse operation for example, and presented using the entire micro display image area thereby allowing the user to perceive smaller displayed features. This can also be used to view selected portions of a high resolution image, such as a portion of a 640×480 image on a 320×240 micro display.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above and other objects and features of the invention will be better understood and appreciated by those skilled in

the art in view of the description of the preferred embodiments given below in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a single wafer having a plurality of display devices formed thereon in accordance with the invention.

FIG. 2A is a schematic illustration of a die for an integrated active matrix panel display which includes optional control signal circuitry therein.

FIGS. 2B and 2C illustrate preferred embodiments of display control circuits in accordance with the invention.

FIG. 2D illustrates a method for selectively displaying an image on a display in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 3A and 3B are exploded views of a video display device and pager in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIGS. 4A–4K are exterior views of hand-held imaging devices in accordance with the invention.

FIG. 4Ba is a partial cross section rear view of a preferred embodiment of a pager with integrated camera in accordance with the invention.

FIG. 5A is a side view of a lens suitable for magnifying a micro display in accordance with the invention.

FIG. 5B is a side view of a multi element lens providing an increased field of view.

FIG. 5C is a cross-sectional view of a display assembly with a fixed lens.

FIG. 5D is a schematic view of an LED backlighting system for a liquid crystal display in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 5E–5O illustrate additional preferred embodiments of a backlighting system in accordance with the invention.

FIG. 6 is an optical diagram of a lighting system for a reflective liquid crystal display.

FIGS. 7A–7G illustrate preferred LED backlighting systems for a transmission type display.

FIG. 8 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment mobile telephone having a display device in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 8A–8B illustrate an alternative embodiment of a mobile telephone having a display device in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 8C–8F illustrate the changing of the resolution of the display from high resolutions to low resolutions.

FIGS. 9A–9J are illustrations of further preferred embodiments of a telephone micro display system in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 10A and 10B illustrate another preferred embodiment of a telephone micro display system.

FIG. 11 illustrates another preferred embodiment of a telephone micro display system in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 12A and 12B illustrate rear views of another preferred embodiment of a telephone micro display.

FIGS. 13A–13K illustrate other preferred embodiments of the invention including a display docking system for a cellular telephone.

FIGS. 13L–13N illustrate a folding keyboard with a touchpad for uses with phone, display docking system, or pager.

FIGS. 14A–14C illustrates the use of a micro display rear projection system for a telephone video conferencing station.

FIGS. 15A–C are side cross-sectional, front, and front cross-sectional views of a hand held rear projection display system in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 16A–16B illustrate a body worn, hand operated display system in accordance with the invention.

FIGS. 16C–16D illustrate the use of a micro display as a viewfinder for a camcorder in another preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIGS. 17A–17C illustrate the use of a micro display in a card reader system in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 18 is a schematic circuit diagram for a portable card reader system.

FIG. 19 illustrates another preferred embodiment of a card reader system.

FIG. 19A shows another preferred embodiment of a card reader system.

FIG. 20A is a perspective view of a head-mounted display system of the invention.

FIG. 20B is a partial schematic perspective view of the system of FIG. 20A emphasizing additional features of the invention.

FIG. 20C is a schematic perspective view of the system of FIG. 20A which emphasizes certain aspects of the invention.

FIG. 20D is a schematic perspective view of the headband and pads of FIG. 20C.

FIG. 20E is a partial schematic side view of the system of FIG. 20A.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

High Resolution Active Matrix Microdisplay

A preferred embodiment of the invention utilizes a process of making a plurality of flat panel displays 10 in which a large number of active matrix arrays 14 are fabricated on a single wafer 12 as illustrated in connection with FIG. 1. The number of displays fabricated on a single wafer depends upon the size of the wafer and the size of each display. A preferred embodiment of the invention, for example, uses a high resolution display having an imaging area of the display with a diagonal of 0.5 inches (12.7 mm) or less. For a four inch wafer, forty separate displays can be fabricated on a single four inch wafer. Where each display has a diagonal of about 0.25 inches (6.35 mm), 80 displays can be fabricated on a single wafer, over 120 displays can be fabricated on a five inch wafer, and 400 displays can be fabricated on an 8 inch wafer.

By fabricating a large number of small high resolution displays on a single wafer the manufacturing yield can be substantially increased and the cost per display can be substantially reduced.

To obtain monochrome resolutions of at least 75,000 pixels (e.g. a 320×240 array) suitable for displaying an NTSC television signal on a 0.25 inch diagonal display the pixel electrodes are preferably on the order of about 15 microns in width or less. To obtain a monochrome resolution of at least 300,000 pixels (e.g. 640×480 array) on a 0.25 inch diagonal display the pixel electrodes preferably have a width of about 8–10 microns.

These small high resolution displays require magnification such that when held in a user's hand within the range of 0.5 inches to 10 inches of the user's eye, a clear image is provided.

Referring now to FIG. 2, an integrated circuit active matrix display die is shown schematically which has been

fabricated from a single wafer along with selected number of replicated circuits. Incorporated into the circuit 100 are scanner circuits 42a, 42b, 42c, 42d, along with pixie driven circuits 44a, 44b, 44c, 44d, select scanner circuits 46a, 46b and a display matrix circuit 90.

Further details regarding the fabrication of each die on a wafer can use the methods described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,256,562, the contents of which incorporated herein its entirety by reference.

By fabricating a selected number of circuits 100 on a single wafer, the circuit yield from a single wafer is greatly enhanced at the expense of reduced display area. However, this area disadvantage is overcome by magnifying and projecting the display image as will be described herein.

A video signal bus 35-1 through 35-16 carries analog video signals from digital to analog amplifiers (not shown) to column drivers 44a–d. Because signal interference and signal loss can occur as the analog video signal cross each signal line in the signal bus 35, the channels of video signals are arranged to reduce interference. As illustrated, there are four column drivers 44a–44d, two column drivers 44a, 44b at the top of the active matrix circuit 90 and two column drivers 44c, 44d at the bottom of the active matrix circuit region 90. Each channel is allocated to one of the column drivers 44 such that each column driver 44 receives video from four channels. The top column drivers 44a, 44b receive video from the channels that drive the odd-numbered pixel columns and the bottom column drivers 44c, 44d receive video from the channels that drive the even-numbered columns. As shown, no video signal has to cross the path of more than one other video signal.

The illustrated arrangement of column drivers is particularly suited for edge-to-center and center-to-edge video writing, although the data can also be written from left-to-right or right-to-left. It should be understood that more or less than four column drivers 44 can be employed in preferred embodiments of the invention. For applications having resolutions of 320×240 or 640×480 it is desirable to use single column and row drivers to drive the display. For high speed, high definition displays more can be used to improve performance.

The data scanners 42a–d are responsive to a pixel data signal 142 and a pixel clock signal 143 from a control signal generator (not shown). The data scanners 42a–d can use a shift register array to store data for each scan. An odd shift register array can be used to store data to odd column pixels and an even shift register array can be used to store data to even column pixels. As illustrated, there are left and right odd data scanners 42a, 42b and left and right even data scanners 42c, 42d.

The column drivers 44 selected by the data scanner 42 transmit video data to a selected column of C pixels in the active matrix circuit 90. The select scanner 46 controlled by a control signal generator determines by control lines which pixels accept this column data.

To reduce signal loss across the active matrix region 90, the select lines are driven from both sides by select scanners 46a and b. As viewed in FIG. 2A, a left select scanner 46a and right select scanner 46b are connected to the select data line 146 and the select clock line 147. A third enabling line 148 can also be used for specific applications. The left select scanner 46a provides a select line signal at the end of the select line nearest the lowest-valued pixel column (C_1) and right select scanner 46b provides a select line signal at the end of the select line nearest the highest-valued pixel column (C_N). Thus, an identical select line signal is supplied at both ends of the select line.

Although static shift registers can be used, the shift registers of the data scanner **42** and the select scanners **46** are preferably implemented as dynamic shift registers. The dynamic shift registers rely on capacitor storage without leakage. However, dynamic shift registers are susceptible to leakage, especially when they are exposed to light. Hence, light shields are needed to protect the scanners **42a-42d, 46** from exposure to light. Similarly, light shields are also used to protect the transmission gates **44** and pixel columns C_1-C_N .

For further information regarding the input signals to the circuit **100**, reference is made to the above-cited U.S. patents and applications.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the panel drive circuitry of FIG. **2A** is fabricated as an integrated circuit along with the active matrix circuit **90**. The integrated circuitry is preferably fabricated in single crystal silicon having a silicon-on-insulator (SOI) structure using the fabrication and transfer procedures described previously in the aforementioned U.S. Pat. No. 5,256,562. By fabricating the row and column drive circuitry **42a-42d, 44a-44d, 46a, 46b** as well as the scanners in single crystal material along with the active matrix circuit **90**, the size of the display panel is not constrained by the connecting pins for the various discrete components. The integrated fabrication also increases the operating speed of the display relative to displays constructed from discrete components. Furthermore, the drive circuitry can be optimized to increase display performance. For example, it is easier to construct a small 1280 Hx1024 V display panel with dual select scanners through integrated fabrication than it is using discrete components.

The pixel electrodes in a preferred embodiment are between 60 and 250 microns square. Consequently, a 1280 Hx1024 V active matrix with the control system can be fabricated such that there are at least 40 such integrated circuits on a five inch wafer, for example.

A preferred embodiment of a display control circuit for a color sequential micro display is illustrated in connection with FIG. **2B**. The display control circuit **102** receives an analog composite signal **103** such as a television or VCR video signal at converter **105**. Converter **105** can be a commercially available chip, such as the Sony CXA1585, which separates the signal **103** into red, green and blue components. The three analog color components are converted into digital signals by three respective analog to digital (A/D) converters **106**. The three color digital signals are stored in red **107**, green **108**, and blue **109** memory circuits. Circuits **107**, **108** and **109** can be DRAM frame buffers that are connected to the timing circuit **110**. Timing circuit **110** can be connected to the telephone processor **104** by an interface bus and receives horizontal and vertical synchronization signals along lines **119** from converter **105**. Circuit **110** controls the sequential flow of each color frame onto the display by sending video data from each memory **107**, **108**, **109** onto the display and coordinating actuation of the back light **111** along lines **115** for each primary color. Lines **114** provide control of hue and contrast of the resulting image. Lines **116**, **117** and **118** are used to control the row and column driver circuits within display circuit **112**. Lines **116** and **117** control horizontal shift and vertical shift of the data as it is read onto the display and allow the user to invert the image on the display. This can be useful for the telephone user who may select one hand to hold the telephone during use and simply press a button on the housing so that the image is inverted for presentation to the eye of the user when electing to hold the telephone speaker in the other hand adjacent to the user's ear.

Lines **118** control vertical and horizontal pulse, vertical and horizontal clock, even and odd row enable signals and the horizontal multiplying pulse signal. Digital to analog converters **106**, **113**, memories **107**, **108**, **109**, connector **105** and control circuit **110** can be mounted on a common circuit board with display **112**, or they can be split onto separate circuit boards or integrated circuits within the telephone housing or the docking element housing described in greater detail below depending on the geometry and operational requirements of the specific embodiment.

Another preferred embodiment of a display control circuit is illustrated in connection with FIG. **2C**. In this embodiment, a digital circuit **120** is used to control color sequential display operation. The processor **104** receives serial digital image data at **121** and sends display data to memory **124**. An optional additional flash memory circuit **125** can also be included to store graphics data where that is in addition to text stored at **124**. Timing control circuit **122** receives clock and digital control signals from processor **104** and transmits control signals to the back light **111** and display **112** along lines **115**, **116**, **117**, and **118**, respectively. Lines **128** direct ready, reset, write enable, output enable, color enable, address and data signals to memory to control deliver of image frames to the display **112**.

Power management circuit **123** receives control signals along line **126** from circuit **122** to lower power consumption of the circuit **120**. Circuit **123** is used to control power during display operation. This capability arises from the use of a transferred thin film active matrix circuit described previously which has an ability to store charge between vertical synchronization pulses. This storage capacity enables lower power consumption of the display and back light at less than 0.2 Watts. Thus, after a frame of data is written on the display, power is lowered until the next frame is written. This lengthens battery cycle time of portable communication devices as described herein.

FIG. **2D** illustrates a method of displaying information on the display in which large amounts of information are contained in each image. For such high information images it may be desirable to enlarge a selectable portion of that image on the display. For example, the full image **130** has a region **131** in which a cursor **133** can be positioned. The user can position the cursor using a mouse or button control element anywhere within region **131** and identify a subregion **132**. The user selects the image of subregion for display on the full display area.

A preferred embodiment in the form of a stand-alone video display device **20** featuring a liquid crystal display incorporating the actual matrix display circuit **100** will now be described in connection with the exploded views of FIGS. **3A** and **3B**.

In FIG. **3A**, a portable imaging device such as a pager is illustrated having a housing including a top **40** and a bottom **44** with a door **50** for access to a battery **48**. The battery **48** provides power to the circuit board **42**, the display **24** and the back light **22**. The pager can be operated by controls **38** or push buttons accessible through one of the housing surfaces that actuate display functions. An optical system **20** is positioned within the housing and includes a back light **22**, preferably an LED back light, a transmission liquid crystal display **24**, a focusing mechanism including a knob **28** that the user rotates to move the tunnel **30** relative to the optic slide **26**, a lens assembly **32**, and a cover glass **34**.

Preferred embodiment of hand held display devices are illustrated in connection with FIGS. **4A-4K**. FIG. **4A** is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of a pager system **150** having two display viewing areas **152** and **154**

within a housing 155. Viewing area 152 has a lens through which the user views a micro display as described previously. A second flat panel display without magnification is viewed by the user at 154. The second display is a simple low resolution numeric and/or alphabetic display to read telephone numbers or scrolled numbers or messages. The micro display magnification can be adjusted at switch 158. The displays are operated by switches 156, 157. As seen in the rear view of FIG. 4B, the rear surface 162 of housing 155 is thicker in that portion containing the micro display and the battery. In the alternative embodiment illustrated in FIG. 4Ba, the rear panel 162 is removed to expose the cavity 159 for the battery and the rear of the display assembly 161. Also shown in this embodiment is a cover 163 which slides to cover or expose a camera including an image sensor 166 and lens 167. The digital imaging sensor 166 can take images electronically stored within a memory within the pager that can be sent by wireless transmitter to a personal computer, a telephone as described herein, or web browser. The images can also be loaded by wire through port 169 onto a personal computer, or alternatively, can be loaded onto a smart card or flash memory card that can be inserted into one or more card slots 168. The port 169 can also be connected directly to a keyboard or touchpad as described herein. The sideview of the housing 155 shown in FIG. 4C illustrates a clip 160 that is used to fasten the device to the clothing of the user. The clip 160 is attached to the bottom surface 164 of the housing 155 as shown in FIG. 4D.

Another preferred embodiment of a hand-held viewing device 170 is illustrated in the perspective view of FIG. 4E. A first display is seen through lens 172 with magnification being adjusted by knob 174. A second display 180 as described above is positioned on the same side of the device 170 as the lens 172 for ease of viewing. The displays are operated by switch 176 and buttons or control elements 178. A top view is illustrated in FIG. 4F showing ridges 184 that accommodate the fingers of the user and the second display switch 182, which is shown more clearly in the side view of FIG. 46.

Rear and bottom views of device 170 show rear 188 and bottom 186 sides in FIGS. 4H and 4I, respectively.

A lens 65 suitable for magnifying the image of a micro display for viewing by a user is illustrated in the example of FIG. 5A.

For a 0.25 inch diagonal micro display, the outer diameter 64 of the lens can be about 30.4 mm, the thickness 70 of the lens at the optical axis 67 can be about 8 mm, the inner surface 60 that receives light from the display has a curved diameter of about 21.6 mm, and the viewing surface 61 has a diameter of 68 of about 22.4. The peripheral edge 69 used to hold the lens in the assembly can have a thickness 66 of about 2 mm and a radius 71 of about 4 mm. The lens 65 can be made of glass or a plastic material such as acrylic. This particular example of such a lens has a 16 degree field of view and an ERD of 25. The lens assembly can include an automatic focusing system, or a lens system that collapses in size when not in use.

Another preferred embodiment for providing a color display can use a diffraction optical system such as those described in application U.S. Ser. No. 08/565,058 filed on Nov. 30, 1995, the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Another preferred embodiment of a 1.25 inch diameter lens system 52 with a larger field of view is illustrated in FIG. 5B. Three lens elements 51, 53 and 55 enlarge the image on the display 54.

The lens 65 of FIG. 5A can be used in the alternative display assembly of 80 of FIG. 5C. In this embodiment, the

display 82 is positioned between the back light housing 84, containing LED 86, and the lens housing 88 that holds the lens 65 in a fixed position relative to the display 82.

A micro display system 360 utilizing a folded optical path is illustrated in connection with FIG. 5D. In this embodiment, an LED array 362, or other light source, illuminates the display within housing 364. The display 366 directs an image along a first optical path 372 that is reflected by mirror 368 along a second other path 374 through the lens 370 as described previously.

Another preferred embodiment of the back light system is illustrated in FIGS. 5E-5G. The back light 375 includes a reflective bowl 376 with an inner concave surface 382 that reflects light emitted by the LEDs 380 onto the active matrix region of display 377. The LEDs 380 are mounted on a circuit board 378 that is electrically connected to the timing circuit described previously. The system 375 can also include a heat sink 379 for applications requiring thermal isolation of the display circuit from the back light circuit. The element 379 can be a silicon carbide, silicon, or aluminum nickel plate or wafer. The element 379 can be a silicon carbide, silicon, or aluminum nickel plate or wafer. The element 379 can be insulated from the display 377 with layer 381 such as an adhesive. The circuit board 378, element 379 and optional layer 381 have openings that are aligned to provide an aperture 383.

A preferred embodiment of printed circuit board 378 on which the LEDs are mounted is shown in FIG. 5F. In this embodiment 18 blue, green and red LEDs 386 are positioned around opening 384. Another preferred embodiment utilizing 8 LEDs 386 is illustrated in FIG. 5G. Fewer LEDs allow the circuit to operate at lower power. Additionally, for color sequential operation, where frame rates are relatively high, the LEDs are driven at higher rates to increase brightness. Another preferred embodiment of a back light is illustrated by the system 390 of FIG. 5H. In the embodiment the circuit board 395 on which the LEDs 396 are mounted is positioned underneath the reflective bowl 394 with the LEDs 396 mounted on a post 399 extending through opening 398. Light is diffusely reflected by bowl through diffuser 392 onto display 391.

FIG. 5I illustrates a back light housing 84 with an aperture on one side through which light exits the housing and is directed through the display. The housing has a base and sides 135 in the folded opened view of FIG. 5J. The display is mounted onto plate 393. The display 391 can be connected to external connectors 137 by flexible circuit boards 136 which wrap around the sides of the bowl. The back light housing preferably has a volume of less than 0.5 cubic inches. The display module has a volume of less than 2 cubic inches and preferably less than 20 cm³.

A system having a volume less than 15 cm³ is illustrated in connection with FIGS. 5K-5O. FIG. 5K is a perspective view of an assembled display module 470. The exploded view of FIG. 5L shows the elements of system 470 in detail. The back light reflector is positioned in back light housing 473 which can be adhered directly onto the display 475 with an epoxy adhesive or with an optional clip 474. The display is held by a display holder 476 which can also serve to define the visual border for the active area of the display as seen by the user through transparent window 482. The holder 476 is attached to holding panel 477 which retains ring 478 within the proximal end of housing element 471. The ring can be manually or electrically actuated to rotate and thereby translate optics holder 472 along the optical axis 486. A pin 479 can be used to couple the holder 472 to internal helical thread of ring 478. The lens 480, an optional second lens

within the distal end of holder **472**, a color correction element **481** and window **482** can all be held within holder **472** which moves relative to the display to focus the image thereon.

Element **470** fits snugly within an external housing such as that shown in FIG. **13F**, or within the other device housings as described herein.

An exploded view of a preferred embodiment of the back light relative to the display **475** is shown in FIG. **5M**. The display circuit and LED back light are mounted on circuit board **483**. Preferably, two or three LEDs are used to provide two or three colors, respectively. Between the back light housing **473** and the display **475**, a brightness enhancement film **484**, such as the "BEF" film available from 3M Corporation can optionally be used along with a diffuser **485**. As seen in FIGS. **5N** and **5O**, the circuit board **483** mounted on a first side of housing **473** and the back light active area is defined by the diffuser **485** on a second side of the housing **473**.

Lighting System For Reflective Liquid Crystal Display

The details of a lighting system **102** for a reflective microdisplay of the invention will now be described in connection with FIG. **6**. Illumination for a reflective LCD system **500** based upon the active matrix circuit described heretofore in connection with FIG. **2** is provided by an array of Light Emitting Diodes (LED(s)) **501** disposed adjacent light-diffuser **505** which uniformly transmits the source LED light to a linear polarizer **502**.

The linear polarized light **516** from polarizer **502** is passed to a polarizing beamsplitter or prism **508** which is reflected by beam beamsplitter **508** and is incident on specularly reflective LCD **506** to provide the requisite illumination. The light incident on LCD **506** is selectively reflected to generate an image that is rotated by $\frac{1}{4}$ wave plate **504** so that it is transmitted through splitter **508** and through lens **510** to the observer **512**.

Shown in FIGS. **7A–7C** are preferred embodiments of an LED backlighting system utilizing a diffuser for a transmission display in accordance with the invention. In a first embodiment of an LED illumination system **400** shown in FIG. **7A**, blue (B)**402**, green (G)**404**, and red (R)**406** LEDs are optically coupled to a flat diffuser element **408** around the periphery of an illumination area of **410** that is positioned adjacent the display active or viewing area. For a display having a diagonal of 6.35 mm, the side of **412** of the viewing area **410** can be about 3.81 mm in size, and the length **414** of the viewing area can be about 5.08 mm. The diffuser **408** can be a plastic material such as acrylic and the back of the diffuser can be coated with a reflective material to improve light output of the device.

In another embodiment of an LED display illumination system **420** as shown in FIG. **7B**, the LED's **422** are coupled in pattern to the edge of the diffuser **408**. The LEDs **422** are actuated in sequence **407** to provide color sequential operation with fewer LEDs.

In the system **430** of FIG. **7C**, the display **432** is coupled to an angled diffuser **436** at interface **440**. The linear array of LEDs **434** are coupled at one end of the diffuser and a reflective back surface **438** is designed to evenly distribute light as it is directed through the interface.

An enlarged top view of a diffuser and light pipe system **450** for back light illumination of a display is illustrated in FIG. **7D**. The light source **452** such as three light emitting diodes is coupled to an expanding light pipe **454**. The light pipe **454** directs the light into the side of a reflecting element or diffuser **458**, as illustrated in FIG. **7E**. A BEF film referenced above can be used between the light pipe **454** and

element and reflective element **458**. The sides and bottoms of the elements can be beveled at **456** to further reduce the volume occupied by this portion of the optical system. A reflective surface or mirror **464** serves to reflect light towards diffuser **462** and through the display **460**.

In another embodiment of an LED display illumination system **1420** as shown in FIG. **7F**, the display **1422** is coupled to an angled diffuser **1426** at interface **1430**. The linear array of LEDs are inserted into slot **1424** to couple light into one end of the diffuser and a reflective back surface **1428** is designed to evenly distribute light as it is directed through the interface. The increase thickness and shortness of the body of the angled diffuser **1426** increases the coupling efficiency of the element **1426** to display and thus increases the foot-lamberts (fL) of light produced per amount of power.

In another embodiment of an LED display illumination system as shown in FIG. **7G**, the display **1432** is coupled to an angled diffuser **1436** at interface **1440**. The linear array of LEDs are inserted at slot **1434** at one end of the diffuser and a reflective back surface **1438** is designed to evenly distribute light as it is directed through the interface. Similarly to the previous embodiment, the increased thickness and shortness of the body of the angled diffuser **1436** increases the coupling efficiency of the backlight system.

Illustrated in connection with FIG. **8** is a cellular telephone **200** having a magnified micro display in accordance with the invention. The display can be included in a base portion **210** of a "flip-phone" along with keypad **218** and microphone **220**. The speaker **206**, or the display or a second display as well as additional circuitry can be included in second portion **208** that rotates relative to the base **210**. An antenna **204** can telescope out of the base for improved wireless reception. A battery is housed at **212**. A lens **202** can be viewed by the user while holding the speaker to his or her ear thus enabling both viewing and voice transmission at the same time. The display can be turned on or off at switch **216** to save battery life when the display is not in use. The magnification can be adjusted at knob **214**.

Additionally, a small camera **215** such as a charge coupled device (CCD) or other solid state imaging sensor can be mounted on a telescoping element to provide an imaging or video-conferencing capability. The camera can be pivoted so that the user can point and hold the camera in any selected direction. The image generated can be seen on the display and/or transmitted to a remote location, selected buttons or touch pad keys **218** can be used as a mouse control for the display.

Referring to FIGS. **8A** and **8B**, an alternative embodiment of a cellular telephone **222** having a magnified micro display in accordance with the invention is shown in open and closed perspective views respectively. The cellular "flip-phone" **222** has a base portion **224** and a flip portion **226**. The base portion **224** has a keypad **228**, a speaker **230**, and an antenna **232**. The base portion **224** may include an alphanumeric display for seeing the telephone number as it is being entered. The flip portion **226** pivots from the base portion **224** and includes a microphone **234**, shown in hidden line in FIG. **8A**. The micro display is located in a module **238** which rotates relative to the flip portion **226**. The module or pod **238** is flush with the flip portion **226** when in a stored position, such that the viewing port **240** is protected by the flip portion **226**, as seen in FIG. **8B**. When the "flip-phone" **222** is in use, the pod **238** is rotated generally 90 degrees from the stored closed position, such that a viewing port **240** is exposed, and in the user's line of sight. The flip portion **226** spaces the micro display the proper distance from the base portion **224** to facility viewing.

Alternatively to the base portion 224 having an alphanumeric display, the telephone 222 can have software which can vary the image size on the micro display. The software can create low resolution image with large characters, such as illustrated in FIG. 8C. This resolution is primarily used when the micro display is viewed from 6 to 18 inches. When the user is inputting the telephone number on the keypad 228, the user's eye is typically that distance from the micro display as represented in FIG. 8D. The software can create high resolution small characters, and typically does, such as represented in FIG. 8E. This resolution is primarily implemented when the user's eye is 1 to 6 inches from the micro display, as represented in FIG. 8F, such as when the user is speaking on the phone. The software can automatically switch after the telephone number is dialed or a button can be pushed.

Alternatively, the display can be formed in a modular component that snaps onto the base portion of a standard telephone and couples to a display circuit port in the base section of the telephone. This is illustrated in the preferred embodiments of FIGS. 9A-9J.

FIG. 9A shows a telephone 250 having standard features such as a display 252 and a port 254 for external communications. The modular display unit 260 shown in FIG. 9B is configured to dock with the telephone 250 wherein the connector 268 is inserted into port 254 and latch 264 connects to the top of the base section of telephone 250 thereby connecting the micro display within display subhousing 262 to the receiver within the telephone 250. The subhousing 262 pivots relative to main housing 270 to allow viewing of the display through lens 267 during use of the telephone 250. In this embodiment, telescoping camera 215 can extend from subhousing 262. Base 270 includes a second battery, drive electronics for the LED backlit LCD display on activation switch 266. FIG. 9C is a sideview of telephone 250 showing the battery housing 250 on the opposite side from the speaker 206. Back panel 258 is shown in the rear view of FIG. 9D along with second battery contacts 256 exposed thereon. When the telephone 250 is docked in unit 260, the surface 258 abuts surface 265 and connectors 264 are positioned against contacts 256 such that the telephone can be powered by the second battery in housing 270.

FIGS. 9E, 9F and 9G illustrate top front and side views of unit 260 where the subhousing is shown in both its storage position 274 and its viewing position 272. FIGS. 9H and 9I show back and second side views of unit 260 and illustrate battery access panel 275, focus knob 276 and control buttons 278 that are exposed on the side of housing 270 when the sub-housing 262 is rotated to the viewing position 272.

In the embodiment 280 shown in FIG. 9J the telephone 284 is shown docked with housing 286. However in this embodiment, the display is mounted with a pivoting unit 282. The user can swing unit 282 along arc 292 to expose viewing lens 288. The user can also swing the display around a second orthogonal axis 294 at joint 298 so that the display rotates into a variety of viewing positions relative to hinge section 290.

FIGS. 10A and 10B illustrate another docking system for a portable telephone. The element 286 of system 300 includes mouse controls 303 that can be positioned on the front or rear of the element. The telephone, which can incorporate a touchpad 301, nests within the docking element 286 and is electrically connected to the element through a connecting port as described previously. Part of the base section houses a display module 306 having a

display window 309 and can optionally also include a CCD or CMOS camera 310 in module 305. The modules 305, 306 can be manually or electrically actuated to move between a cavity within the base element and an operating position outside of the base section. Each module 305, 306 can rotate around axis 308 when in the operating position for easy repositioning by the user. The display can be used as a view finder for the camera. The base section can optionally rotate around the longitudinal axis of the base section for left or right handed use.

The docking element 286 can also include a PCMCIA card slot 302 and a touchpad on the rear panel adjacent the docking element battery. Slot can receive an image data card on which data can be stored or retrieved. The slot and associated circuitry can thus receive a smart card that can be used to charge or pay for phone calls or information on the card can be shown on the display or transmitted. Slot 302 as described herein can also be included in a wireless telephone with an integrated display as shown in FIG. 8.

FIG. 11 illustrates another preferred embodiment of a docking element 311 in which the display module 312 can be moved along axis 314 between a position within the base section to an operating position outside the docking element housing. The image viewed through lens 313 can be inverted for left or right handed use.

Another preferred embodiment of the docking element is illustrated in FIGS. 12A and 12B. The element 315 has a rotating portion on the back of the telephone and includes a display module 316 which rotates around a second axis 318 to expose the viewing port 317. The module 316 can rotate around a third axis for positioning by the user.

Another preferred embodiment of the docking element is illustrated in connection with FIGS. 13A-13F. In this embodiment a cellular phone 552 docks with a docking element 550. Docking system 550 has a two display module ports 554 and 556. Either port 554 or 556 can receive the display module 580 that is illustrated in FIG. 13F. FIG. 13A illustrates port 554 on a first side of system 550 and docking port connector access 571. FIG. 13B shows a second port 556 on a second side of the docking system as well as a joystick element 560, a mouse button 558 and an external mouse port 562.

FIGS. 13C and 13D show the docking element 550 without the phone 552. These illustrate the phone docking connector 566 and the phone retention clip slot 564.

FIG. 13E shows an exploded view with the housing 550 having top 551 and bottom 553. The housing contains the joystick 561, the phone port connector 565, circuit board 570, docking port connector 572 clip 563.

The display module housing 580 has a connector 586 that electrically connects the display circuit to the circuit board 570. A circular element 584 connects to each port 554, 556 and permits the housing 580 to rotate relative to system 550 so that the viewing window 582 can be positioned by the user.

An alternative display docking system 1500 is shown in FIGS. 13G-13I. A cradle 1504 in a docking element or station 1506 receives the cellular phone 1502. The cradle 1504 is formed by a pair of side rails and a top rail 1554, in addition to the base 1510 and the bottom 1512. The docking station 1506 is adapted to receive a battery 1516 as best seen in FIGS. 13G and 13I. The battery 1516, which is received on the bottom of the docking station 1506 1552, is capable of powering both the docking station 1506 and the cellular phone 1502.

Still referring to FIGS. 13G-13I, the docking system 1500 has a display subhousing 1520 which pivots relative to the

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base 1510 of the docking station 1506. The display subhousing 1520 has a foot pivot portion 1522 that rotates relative to the base 1510 of the docking station 1506 and an arm 1524. The arm 1524 extends laterally from the foot pivot portion 1522 in the operating position, as seen in FIG. 13H. The arm 1524 has a viewing housing 1526 with a lens, which moves outward, therein spacing the lens from the micro display located in the arm 1524.

FIGS. 13J and 13K show another alternative display docking system 1530. The display docking system 1530 has a cradle 1534 on the docking station 1536 similar to the embodiment shown in FIGS. 13G–13I. The docking station 1536 likewise is adapted to receive a battery 1538 capable of powering both the docking station 1536 and the cellular phone 1502.

Still referring to FIGS. 13J and 13K, the docking system 1530 forms a handset and has a display subhousing 1540 which has a display pod 1542 and a pair of sliding arms 1544. The display subhousing 1540 moves relative to the docking station 1536 by the arms 1544 moving translation relative to the side rails of the station 1536 as represented in FIG. 13K. The arms 1544 then are capable of rotating relative to the docking station 1536 as illustrated in phantom in FIG. 13K. The display pod 1542, which houses the micro display and a lens, can rotate relative to the arms 1544 to position the micro display for viewing.

FIG. 13L illustrates a keyboard 1550 having a conventional key layout. The keyboard has a cord 1552 with a plug 1554 adapted to be received by a data transmission system, such as a docking station, a cellular telephone or a pager. The keyboard 1550 has a mouse track point joy stick 1556 and a pair of mouse buttons 1558. The keyboard 1550 is capable of folding such that its thickness is less than 15 millimeters as illustrated in FIG. 13N. The keyboard 1500 can have a touch pad 1560 on one side, such as shown in FIG. 13M, for taking notes or drawing inputs.

Illustrated in FIGS. 14A–14C is another preferred embodiment of a telephone system 600 incorporating the micro display of the present invention. In this desktop system a handset 602 is connected by cable or wireless connection to a base containing by cable or wireless connection to a base containing a standard telephone keypad 604. The display operates in a rear projection configuration within housing 610. The housing can pivot 620 or swivel 612 and includes a camera 608 so that a user viewing screen 606 can be seen by a person with a similar system. Further details regarding rear projection systems are described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,467,154, the contents of which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIGS. 15A, 15B and 15C show side cross-sectional, front and front cross-sectional views of a hand-held rear projection system 320 using a micro display. The system 320 includes a micro display and back light assembly 330, a projection lens system 326, a reflective screen 328 and optional retractable sun screens 324. The device has a thickness 322 of less than 2 inches, preferably about 1 inch, a height 336 of less than 8 inches, preferably about 5–6 inches and a display diagonal 334 of 4 inches or less, preferably about 3 inches. This provides a system volume that is preferably less than about 40 inches. The rear reflective screen 328 is shown in the front view of FIG. 13C at 338 and are surrounded on 3 sides by retractable shades 332 (324). The handle portion can include speakers 338 and an earphone jack 325.

A body worn hand-held display system is shown in FIGS. 16A and 16B. The hand-held unit 350 includes a micro display viewed through port 352 that is controlled by control

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element 356 and connected by cable 354 to a body worn communications pod 340.

Another preferred embodiment of the invention relates to a card reader system. Such a system 700 is illustrated in connection with FIGS. 17A–17C and includes a housing 705 with a port or aperture 712 for insertion of a card 730, a display system 706 for presenting information to the user, a card reader 734, a control circuit 736, and a control panel 715 that controls reader operation. The display system 706 can include the color sequential display module as described previously herein.

The card 730 being read by the reader can be a so-called “Smart Card” or a PCMCIA card. Smart cards are commercially available and can include elements 738 such as a memory for storing data, a controller, a power source, and a coil antenna 732 to interface with the reader, all mounted on a piece of plastic. This type of card can be used to store personal financial information, personal medical history, insurance information, and/or many other types of data useful to the card user. More details regarding such cards can be found in U.S. Ser. No. 08/680,210 filed on Jul. 11, 1996, the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference. Alternatively, the card 730 can be a PCMCIA card such as a modem including a wireless receiver or data storage card.

The user is often interested in displaying information contained on the card and in controlling access to this information. The card reader of the present invention is used to provide access to this information by displaying selected information stored on the card. As shown in FIG. 17A, the reader housing 705 has a viewing window 702 and a slot or aperture 712 for insertion of at least that portion of the card containing the interface 732 to permit reading of information stored in card memory. The user manipulates control elements or buttons on a control panel 715 of the reader housing 705 to operate the system. The elements can include an on/off switch 708 and a four way element 710 to scroll the display up, down, left or right. An internal battery 720 provides power for all reader functions.

In an alternate embodiment of the invention, the reader 700 can also include an imaging device 718, including a CMOS or CCD imaging circuit 722 and imaging optics 724. Button 714 can operate the cameras 718 and select button 716 allows the user to select from a menu of reader 700 operations.

As shown in FIG. 17B, another preferred embodiment provides for detaching the display 706 and or the camera 718 from the housing 705. Either detachable element can be electrically connected to the housing 705 with a cable 726 from a socket 728 of either element 706, 718. The reader 734 is positioned in the housing 705 to be adjacent to the antenna 732 on the card 730 or can be any other suitable interface such as a magnetic strip reader.

A schematic circuit diagram for a card reader system is illustrated in FIG. 18. The circuit includes an interface 752 that connects with the card being read, a controller 754 having a memory, a user control panel 756, a micro display circuit 758, as described previously herein, and a display 755. The interface 752 can be for cards with contacts or for contactless cards. A battery 757 provides power to the reader. The controller 754 and interface 752 and other physical characteristics of the card reader are preferably configured to comply with the guidelines set forth in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards which are available from ANSI at 11 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. These standards, including ISO/IEC

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7816-1 through 7816-7, and the amendments thereof, are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

As illustrated in FIG. 19, the card reader 750 can be connected by wireless modem, telephone or other cable link 764 to an interface 760 such as a personal computer (PC) card to a general purpose computer 762.

Another embodiment of the card reader system 766 is illustrated in FIG. 19A. The system includes a housing 768 with a port or aperture 770, shown in hidden line, for insertion of the card 730, or at least that portion of the card that contains the interface, a display system 772 for presenting information to the user, and a control panel 774 that controls reader operation. Similar to the previous embodiment, the system 766 has a card reader, a control circuit, and an internal battery as described previously. The display system 772 can include the color sequential display module as described previously herein and is shown in actual size.

As shown in FIG. 19A, the reader housing 768 has a viewing window 776. The user manipulates control elements or buttons on a control panel 774 of the reader housing 768 to operate the system. The elements can include an on/off switch 778 and a four way element to scroll the display up, down, left or right.

The card reader system can be used to access or change the data stored on the card or select an option from choices provided through a PCMCIA modem. The user can change the data or make the selection using a four way element 710 and a select button 716, such as shown in FIG. 17A.

The display module shown in FIG. 19A can be equipped with an antenna and television receiver to provide a pocket size color television.

Head Mounted Display System

In yet another embodiment of the invention shown in FIG. 20A, the HDTV color active matrix display, as described in connection with FIG. 2A, is provided with suitable optics and incorporated into a housing 860 and pivotally attached to a headband frame 861 to provide a novel head mounted display system 864. In general, the system 864 is comprised of a unique headband frame 861 and adjustable strap 862 for attaching the system to the user's head, a side-mounted speaker system 866 connected by cable 868 to electronics console 870 attached to the front of the frame 862, a microphone 872 rotatably suspended from speaker frame 874, and the aforementioned display housing 860 dependent from console 870 and electronically connected thereto by cable 876.

Not shown in FIG. 20A is a headband system comprised of two or more pads 180A, 180B, as shown in FIGS. 20B-20E.

To allow for the broadest range of head sizes, the headband frame 861 utilizes two contoured foam pads 880A and 880B, angled, and spaced apart such that both small and large forehead curvature are accommodated. Each foam pad also has two primary contact areas 881 and 883, that act in the same way. When combined with a strap 862 placed below the ball formed at the rear of the head, the net effect is that the headband frame 861 is securely located on the wearer's forehead 887 whether child or adult.

When the electronics are used, there is some heat being generated in the main housing or console 870. Prior art headbands used wide forehead pads which effectively trapped this heat at the wearer's brow. This proved to be quite uncomfortable after extended wear.

The foam pads 880A and 880B displace the headband frame 861 from the user's forehead 887 leaving a gap there between which serves as a warm air vent 875 to dissipate warm air generated by the electronics in console 870.

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This new embodiment provides a "chimney-like effect" that effectively vents the warm air away from the wearer's face. The foam pads are removably attached, as by Velcro® type fasteners, and covered with terrycloth 861 for improved comfort. Optional additional vents 871 are provided in the console 870.

Equivalents

While this invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and details may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A wireless telephone having a display panel comprising:

- a handset housing having a speaker and a microphone within the housing;
- a transceiver system within the handset housing that receives audio and image data;
- a display module housing that is connected to the handset housing and that houses a liquid crystal active matrix display, a backlight and a lens that magnifies a displayed image on the matrix display, the matrix display having at least 75,000 pixel electrodes defining an active area of less than 160 mm² and the backlight including a light emitting diode (LED); and
- a display control circuit connected to the transceiver system and the matrix display.

2. The wireless telephone of claim 1 wherein the display module housing moves relative to the handset.

3. The wireless telephone of claim 1 wherein the handset has a first display module port and a second display module port such that the display module can be electrically connected to the transceiver at the first port or the second port.

4. The wireless telephone of claim 1 wherein the display module can be moved from a storage position within the handset to an operating position outside of the handset.

5. The wireless telephone of claim 1 wherein the handset housing comprises a first housing element and a second housing element that is rotatably attached to the first housing element, the display module being attached to the second housing element.

6. The wireless telephone of claim 1 wherein the backlight comprises a light emitting diode that is optically coupled to the display with the module housing having a reflective interior surface and a diffuser.

7. The wireless telephone of claim 1 wherein the backlight is optically coupled to the matrix display with a side illumination device.

8. The wireless telephone of claim 1 further comprising a second numeric display on the handset.

9. The wireless telephone of claim 1 further comprising a second numeric display on the handset.

10. A method of displaying an image on a wireless telephone having a display panel comprising:

- providing a handset housing having a speaker and a microphone within the housing;
- providing a transceiver system within the housing that receives audio and image data;
- providing a display module having a liquid crystal active matrix display, a backlight and a lens that magnifies a displayed image on the matrix display, the matrix display having a plurality of pixel transistor circuits formed with a single crystal silicon material and at least 75,000 pixel electrodes defining an active area of the

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- display of less than 160 mm² and the backlight including a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs); and operating a display control circuit connected to the transceiver and the matrix display to display an image on the display.
11. The method of claim 10 further comprising moving the display module relative to the housing.
12. The method of claim 10 further comprising providing the handset with a first display module port and a second display module port such that the display module can be electrically connected to the transceiver at the first port or second port.
13. The method of claim 10 further comprising moving the display module from a storage position within the handset to an operating position outside of the handset.
14. The method of claim 10 further comprising providing a handset having a first housing element and a second housing element that is rotatably attached to the first housing element, the display module being attached to the second housing element.
15. A wireless telephone having a display panel comprising:
- a handset housing having a speaker and a microphone within the housing;
 - a transceiver system within the handset housing that receives audio and image data;
 - a display module housing having a liquid crystal active matrix display, a backlight, a diffuser between the

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- backlight and the display, and a lens that magnifies a displayed image on the matrix display, the display having a plurality of pixel transistor circuits formed with a single crystal silicon material and at least 75,000 pixel electrodes defining an active area of the display of less than 160 mm², the backlight including a red light emitting diode (LED), a green LED and a blue LED.
16. The wireless telephone of claim 15 wherein the matrix display moves relative to the handset housing.
17. The wireless telephone of claim 15 wherein the matrix display can be moved from a storage position to an operating position.
18. The wireless telephone of claim 15 wherein the display module housing comprises a first housing element and a second housing element that is rotatably attached to the first housing element, the matrix display being within the second housing element.
19. The wireless telephone of claim 15 wherein the backlight comprises a light emitting diode that is optically coupled to the display with a reflective interior surface of the module housing.
20. The wireless telephone of claim 15 wherein the backlight is optically coupled to the matrix display with a side illumination device.

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