IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JUDGE HOLWELL

ELBEX VIDEO, LTD., a Japanese corporation,

Plaintiff,

٧.

BOSCH SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC. and JOHN DOES 1-10,

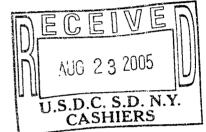
Defendants.

D5 CV 7459

COMPLAINT

Jury Trial Demanded

Civil Action No.:



Plaintiff, Elbex Video Ltd., a Japanese corporation ("Plaintiff" and/or "Elbex Japan"), by way of its Complaint against Defendants, Bosch Security Systems, Inc. and John Does 1-10, alleges as follows:

NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35, United States Code.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. Elbex Japan is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Japan.
- 3. Upon information and belief, Bosch Security Systems, Inc. ("BSSI") is a corporation having places of business located at 850 Greenfield Road, Lancaster,

Pennsylvania and 130 Perinton Parkway, Fairport, New York. Upon information and belief, BSSI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Robert Bosch GmbH.

- 4. Upon information and belief, BSSI is registered to do business in the State of New York.
- 5. Upon Information and belief, BSSI resides in the State of New York and/or transacts business in this judicial district, and this Court therefore has personal jurisdiction over BSSI.
- 6. Upon information and belief, Defendants John Does 1-10 are business entities whose identities are presently unknown to Elbex Japan. Upon information and belief, John Does 1-10 are engaged in the business of selling, distributing and/or installing products and systems that infringe Plaintiff's patents that are asserted herein. To the extent their identities become known to Plaintiff, the John Doe Defendants will be joined and the activities in which they engaged will be pleaded in an Amended Complaint.
- 7. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331 and 1338(a).
- 8. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§1391(b) and (c), and 28 U.S.C. §1400(b).

COUNT I (Patent Infringement of the '085 Patent Against Bosch Security Systems, Inc. by Elbex Japan)

9. Elbex Japan hereby repeats and re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 8 above as if fully set forth herein.

- 10. U.S. Patent No. 4,989,085 ("the '085 patent"), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, was legally issued on January 29, 1991 and is entitled "Apparatus for Remote Verification and Control of Close Circuit Television Cameras."
- 11. Elbex Japan is the owner, by assignment, of all right, title and interest in and to the '085 patent.
- 12. Upon information and belief, BSSI has offered for sale, sold, installed and or caused to be installed, and continues to offer for sale, sell, install and/or have installed, closed circuit television products and systems in the United States.
- 13. BSSI has infringed and/or has contributed to the infringement by others and/or has induced others to infringe and, unless enjoined, will continue to infringe and/or contribute to the infringement by others and/or induce others to infringe claims of the '085 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using and installing products and systems covered by claims of the '085 patent, or equivalents thereof.
- 14. Elbex Japan has been damaged by BSSI's infringements of the '085 patent, in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 15. The infringement of the '085 patent by BSSI has caused Elbex Japan to suffer irreparable harm and injury.
- 16. The infringement by BSSI of the '085 patent is in direct violation of Elbex Japan's right under 35 U.S.C. §271 to exclude others from making, using, selling and/or offering for sale products embodying the invention of the '085 patent.
 - 17. Elbex Japan has no adequate remedy at law.
- 18. Elbex Japan will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless an injunction is issued enjoining and restraining BSSI from infringing the '085 patent.

COUNT II (Patent Infringement of the '864 Patent Against Bosch Security Systems, Inc. by Elbex Japan)

- 19. Elbex Japan hereby repeats and re-alleges paragraphs 1 through 8 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 20. U.S. Patent 4,943,864 ("the '864 patent"), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B, was legally issued on July 24, 1990 and is entitled "Closed Circuit Television Apparatus for Supervisory System."
- 21. Elbex Japan is the owner, by assignment, of all right, title and interest in and to the '864 patent.
- 22. Upon information and belief, BSSI has offered for sale, sold, installed and or caused to be installed, and continues to offer for sale, sell, install and/or have installed, closed circuit television products and systems in the United States.
- 23. BSSI has infringed and/or has contributed to the infringement by others and/or has induced others to infringe and, unless enjoined, will continue to infringe and/or contribute to the infringement by others and/or induce others to infringe claims of the '864 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using and installing products and systems covered by claims of the '864 patent, or equivalents thereof.
- 24. Elbex Japan has been damaged by BSSI's infringements of the '864 patent, in an amount to be determined at trial.
- 25. The infringement of the '864 patent by BSSI has caused Elbex Japan to suffer irreparable harm and injury.

- 26. The infringement by BSSI of the '864 patent is in direct violation of Elbex Japan's right under 35 U.S.C. §271 to exclude others from making, using, selling and/or offering for sale products embodying the invention of the '864 patent.
 - 27. Elbex Japan has no adequate remedy at law.
- 28. Elbex Japan will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless an injunction is issued enjoining and restraining BSSI from infringing the '864 patent.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully prays for judgment against Defendant BSSI as follows:

- (a) That an injunction issue permanently enjoining BSSI, and its agents, servants, and employees, and all those in active concert and participation with them, from infringing and contributing to the infringement by others and inducing infringement of the '085 patent and the '864 patent;
- (b) That Elbex Japan be awarded damages in connection with BSSI's infringement, contributory infringement and inducement of infringement of the '085 patent and the '864 patent;
- (c) That an accounting be had, and judgment be rendered in Plaintiff's favor against BSSI for the gains, profits and advantages derived by it, directly or indirectly, by its unlawful acts of patent infringement, and for damages in an amount adequate to compensate Plaintiff's monetary damages resulting from the wrongful conduct of Defendant, together with costs and interest, as

- appropriate; and as authorized by any statute or law applicable to any claim made in this Complaint;
- (d) That attorney's fees, costs and disbursements incurred in connection with the prosecution of this litigation be awarded to Elbex Japan; and
- (e) For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just, proper and equitable under the circumstances.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

GOTTLIEB, RACKMAN & REISMAN, P.C.

By: Michael I. Rackman (MIR 2142)

Richard S. Schurin (RSS 0199)

Steven Stern (SS 5203)

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Dated: New York, New York August 23, 2005

United States Patent [19]

Elberbaum

[11] Patent Number:

4,989,085

[45] Date of Patent:

Jan. 29, 1991

[54] APPARATUS FOR REMOTE VERIFICATION AND CONTROL OF CLOSE CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS

[75] Inventor: David Elberbaum, Tokyo, Japan

[73] Assignee: Elbex Video, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan

[21] Appl. No.: 270,577

[22] Filed: Nov. 14, 1988

[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

[56]

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OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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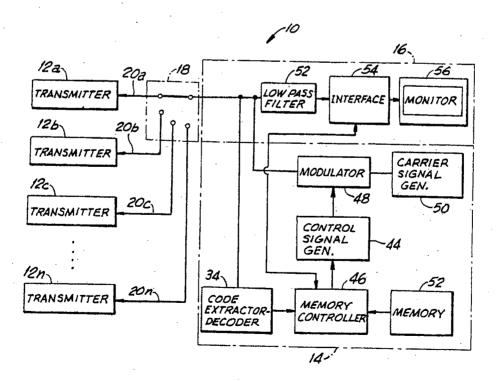
Primary Examiner-James J. Groody

Assistant Examiner-Victor R. Kostak Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Helfgott & Karas

[57] ABSTRACT

A closed circuit television apparatus comprises a plurality of transmitters each including a remote-controlled television camera for generating video signals to a central supervisory station and a circuit for generating first code signals corresponding to a camera code allotted to the television camera, a receiver which receives the video signals and displays images corresponding to the received video signals. A controlling device is provided for controlling the television camera, receiving the first code signals, generating control signals to control the television camera and second code signals corresponding to the received first code signals, and transmitting the control signals and the second code signals to the television camera. A switching device is connected to the transmitters for selecting a transmitter to be connected to both, the receiver and the controlling device. Each transmitter includes a driving circuit for receiving the control signals and the second code signals generated in the controlling device, regenerating the control signals and the second code signals and operating the television camera based on the regenerated control signals when a code corresponding to the regenerated second code signals coincides with a code corresponding to the first code signals.

3 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets



U.S. Patent

Jan. 29, 1991

Sheet 1 of 2

4,989,085

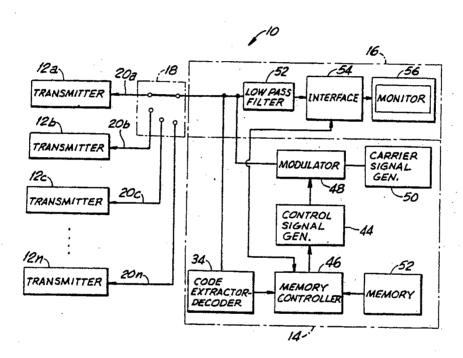


FIG.I

U.S. Patent

Jan. 29, 1991

Sheet 2 of 2

4,989,085

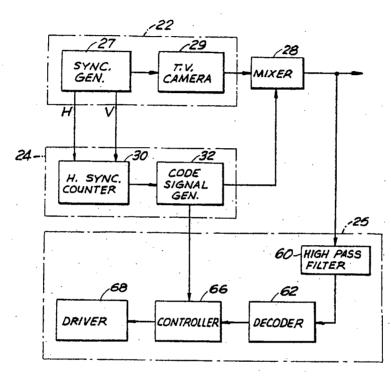
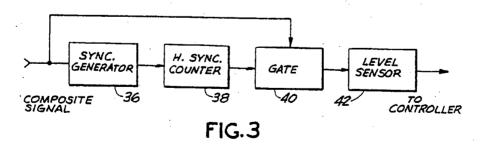


FIG.2



APPARATUS FOR REMOTE VERIFICATION AND CONTROL OF CLOSE CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention:

This invention relates to a closed circuit television apparatus as a supervisory system, and more particularly to a closed circuit television apparatus in which 10 operation of a television camera is remotely controlled.

2. Description of the Prior Art:

Generally, in a closed circuit television system such as a supervisory system, a remote-controllable television camera is located at each of a plurality of different places to be observed. At a central supervisory station, a monitor for receiving video signals from the selected television camera, a controlling device for controlling the operation and coordinates of the television camera, such as up-down (tilting), left-right (panning), far-near (focusing) and wide-tele (zooming), and a switching circuit for selecting one of the television cameras to be connected to the controlling device and the monitor, are located.

The positioning of each television camera coordi- 25 nates such as tilting, panning, focusing and zooming are controlled by control signals supplied from the controlling device, and the television camera transmits video signals to the central supervisory station. The switching circuit includes a switch for the video signals and an 30 other switch for the control signals, and these two switches should be interlocked with each other.

A problem with such conventional closed circuit television apparatus is that if the two switches are not interlocked due to the break-down of the switching 35 circuit, a wrong television camera coordinates could be repositioned.

Another conventional system uses two switches to be operated independently. In such conventional closed circuit system, the attendant must operate the switch to 40 connect the monitor to the television camera that its coordinates must be repositioned and must connect the controlling device to the same television camera separately, which is laborious, time-consuming and may cause operational error as the attendant may connect a 45 wrong camera to the controlling device.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a closed circuit television apparatus in which 50 only the television camera that its video signal is received will be remotely operated by the attendant without error.

According to the present invention, a closed circuit television apparatus comprises a plurality of transmitting means each including a remote-controllable television camera for generating video signals and a circuit for generating 1st code signals corresponding to a camera code allotted to the television camera, a receiving means for receiving the video signals and for displaying 60 images corresponding to the received video signals, a controlling means for controlling the television camera, for receiving the 1st code signals, for generating 2nd code signals corresponding to the received 1st code signals, for generating control signal to control the 65 television camera and for transmitting said 2nd code signals and said control signals to the television camera, and a switching means for selecting the transmitting

means to be connected to the receiving means. The transmitting means further includes a driving circuit for receiving the control signals generated in the control-ling means, for regenerating the control signals and the code signals and for operating the television camera coordinates based on the regenerated control signals when a code corresponding to the regenerated code signals coincides with a code allotted to the camera.

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In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, said controlling means includes a circuit for generating said 2nd code signals and said control signals having a frequency corresponding to a kind of control, a circuit for generating carrier signals each having a frequency higher than the frequencies of said video signals, and a modulating circuit for modulating said carrier signals by said 2nd code signals and said control signals, and for outputting the modulated carrier signals to said switching means.

The driving circuit preferably includes a filter for extracting said carrier signals transmitted from said controlling means, a decoder for demodulating said 2nd code signals and said control signals from carrier signals obtained from the output of said filter and for outputting a code corresponding to said 2nd code signals and said control signals, a driver for actuating said television camera, and a controller for comparing said code, outputted from said decoder, with said camera code and for controlling said driver based on the control signals outputted from said decoder, when said code outputted from said decoder coincides with said camera code.

With this arrangement, the television camera is controlled based on the control signals transmitted from the controlling means only when the code transmitted from the controlling means coincides with a camera code allotted to the television camera to be controlled. Therefore, only the correct television camera be operated, other television camera not be operated.

Further, since the controlling means regenerates the 2nd code signals based on the 1st code signals transmitted from the transmitting means and transmits the 2nd code signals to the transmitting means. Therefore, the attendant cannot error and only the television camera which is connected to the receiving means is controlled.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects and features of the invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment of the invention with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing an electrical circuit of an embodiment of a closed circuit television apparatus according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing an electrical circuit of an embodiment of a transmitting means; and FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing an embodiment of

a decoder for code signals.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1 shows a closed circuit television apparatus 10, in which a plurality of transmitting divices 12a, 12b, 12c ... and 12n for generating video signals and for transmitting the video signals to a central supervisory station are located at each of a plurality of different places to be observed.

On the other hand, at the central supervisory station, a controlling device 14 for controlling the functions of the individual transmitting device 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n, a displaying device or receiving device 16 for receiving the video signals from the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n and displaying images corresponding to received video signals, and a switching device 18 for selecting one of the transmitting device 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n to be connected to the controlling device 14 and the receiving device 16.

Between the central supervisory station and the respective places to be observed, cables or transmission lines 20c, 20b, 20c... and 20n for the respective transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n are built.

Each video signal is a composite picture signal which 15 is composed by adding a composite synchronizing signal, etc. to a picture signal.

As shown in FIG. 2, each of the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n includes a known television camera 22, a code signal generating circuit 24 for generating 1st code signals corresponding to the camera code allotted to the television camera 22, a driving circuit 26 for driving the coordinates of the television camera 22, such as up-down (tilting), left-right (panning), far-near (focusing) and tele-wide (zooming), and a mixer 28 for 25 injecting the 1st code signals to the video signals. The coordinates of the television camera 22 and the camera operation are remote controllable.

The television camera 22 includes a synchronizing signal generating circuit 27 and a video signal generat- 30 ing circuit 29. The television cameras 22 of the transmitting devices 12a. 12b. 12c... and 12n. for example, are allotted with specific camera codes "1", "2" ... and "n", respectively.

Horizontal and vertical synchronizing signals gener- 35 ated by the synchronizing signal generating circuit 27 of the television camera 22 are supplied to the video signal generating circuit 29 and also to a counter 30 of the code signal generating circuit 24.

The horizontal synchronizing signals are supplied to 40 the input terminal of the counter 30, while the vertical synchronizing signals are supplied to a clear or reference terminal of the counter 30. Therefore, the counter 30 counts the number of horizontal scanning lines of the television camera 22 in reference to every field or frame 45 of the vertical scanning. The counted value of the counter 30 is supplied to a code signal generator 32 of the code signal generating circuit 24.

The code signal generator 32 outputs 1st code signals, corresponding to the camera code allotted to the television camera 22, to the mixer 28 only when the counted value of the counter 30 is a predetermined value, for example, during specific horizontal scanning lines in vertical trace of the video signals. The camera code allotted to the respective television camera 22 is set in 55 the code signal generator 32.

The code signal generator 32 may be a circuit which generates 1st code signals every single horizontal scanning and outputs the 1st code signals only when the counted value of the counter 30 is a predetermined 60 value, or may be a circuit which is operative only when the counted value is a predetermined value.

The 1st code signal is a binary or bar code signal having two levels, high or white which is the maximum level of a picture signal in a video signal and low or 65 black which is the minimum of a picture signal in the video signal supplied from the television camera 22 to the mixer 28. Alternatively, the 1st code signal may be

a sine-wave signal having a frequency corresponding to the camera code.

The mixer 28 injects the 1st code signals from the code signal generating circuit 24 to the video signals from the television camera 22 and then outputs the composite signals of the code and video signals to a predetermined transmission line.

The controlling device 14 includes a decoder 34 for extracting the 1st code signals from the composite sig10 nals transmitted from any one of the transmitting device and for generating 2nd code signals corresponding to the extracted 1st code signals.

The decoder 34, as shown in FIG. 3, includes a synchronizing signal separating circuit 36 for extracting horizontal and vertical synchronizing signals from the composite signals transmitted from the transmitting device, a counter 38 for counting the number of the separated horizontal sync pulses in reference to every field or frame of the separated vertical sync pulses, a gate circuit 40 allowing the composite signals, transmitting device to pass, only when the counted value of the counter 38 is a predetermined value, i.e., only during predetermined horizontal scanning lines, and a level sensor 42 for sensing the level of the output signals of the gate circuit 40 to generate 2nd code signals.

Hence, the gate allows the signals to pass during the same horizontal scanning lines in which the 1st code signals are generated by the transmitting device.

The output signals of the decoder 34 are supplied to a control signal generating circuit 44 via a controller 46. The control signal generating circuit 44 is activated by a push-button-type telephone apparatus or a tone encoder (on the market under the name such as "dual tone encoder", "touch tone encoder" and "dial tone").

The control signal generating circuit 44 includes a signal generator like the tone encoder, and a mixer for supplying to a modulating circuit 48 composite signals which are composed of the control signals generated by the control signal generator and 2nd code signals generated by the decoder 34.

Each control signal outputted from the signal generator is a composite signal of two signals different in frequency according to the kind of control and hence the control code. This composite signal is a combination of one of four different signals of frequencies f1, f2, f3, f4 and one of other four different signals of frequencies f5, f6, f7, f8, and is determined by depressing the control push buttons similar to a commonly known "dial tone" telephone apparatus.

The power-on command, the power-off command, the wiper-on command, and the wiper-off command are allotted, for example with the control codes "1", "2", "3"and "4", respectively. The control code may be one or more than one figure, and may be inputted by depressing the control push buttons to operate the tone encoder successively.

The signal generator for generating the control signals may be an alternative means operated by plurality of switches as substitute for the push buttons of the tone encoder. For this alternative form also, the control signal is a composite signal of two different signals according to the control code.

Further, the signal generator may include a control code setting circuit, and a processing circuit for generating control signals each having a frequency corresponding to the control code set by the setting circuit. This setting circuit may be operated by a key-pad, a

plurality of switches, a joy stick, etc. Otherwise the setting circuit may be a remote-controller of radio or infrared system. The processing circuit may be a dial tone encoder or a computer serial coder.

The 2nd code signals may be a binary or bar code signal, or may be a sine-wave signal having a frequency different from the frequency of the control signal. The control signal may be a single signal or a combination of more than three signals having different frequencies according to the control code.

The modulating circuit 48 modulates the frequency of a carrier signal supplied from a carrier signal generating circuit 50, by the control and code signals from the control signal generating circuit 14. The modulated carrier signals are transmitted to a predetermined one of 15 the transmitting device through the switching device 18 and via the transmission lines $20a\ 20b$, $20c\dots$ and 20n, located between the switching device 18 and the transmitting device selected by the switching device 18, as a control information signal. Each carrier signal has a 20 constant frequency higher than the maximum frequency of each video signal transmitted from the individual transmitting device 12a, 12b, $12c\dots$ and 12n to the receiving device 16.

Instead of modulating a single carrier signal by the 25 2nd code signal and the control signal, one of two carrier signals of different frequencies may have its frequency modulated by the 2nd code signals, and the other carrier signal may have its frequency modulated by the control signal.

The controlling device 14 includes a memory 52 in which information data indicating the location, the numeral, etc. of each television camera is memorized for every television camera. The information data in the memory 52 is read out by the controller 46.

The controller 46 includes a processor for the 2nd code signals supplied from the decoder 34. The controller 46 reads out from the memory 52 the information data concerning the television camera corresponding to the 2nd code signals transmitted from the decoder 34, and generates display signals to the monitor 58 to superimpose character and visual display on the reproduced image from the video signals transmitted from the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n to the receiving device 16.

The 2nd code signal is also supplied from the controller 46 to the control signal generating circuit 44 similar to the control signals. Other wise code information corresponding to the 2nd code signals for each television camera may be memorized in the memory 52, may 50 be read out one of them from the memory 52 and outputted through the controller 46 to the control signal generating circuit 44 to be converted into a code of "dial tones" similar to the control signal.

The receiving device 16 includes a low-pass filter 54 55 which allows the video signals to pass and prevents the high frequency output signals of the controller device 14 from passing. The output signals of the filter 54 are supplied to a television receiver or monitor 58 via an interface 56 which superposes the display signals from 60 the controller 46 on the output signals of the filter 54.

As a result, a visual character or illustrative display is superposed on the image reproduced from the video signals transmitted from one of the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n on the monitor 56 to identify 65 the location being observed and the camera. Since the modulated carrier signals in the input signals to the receiving device 16 are eliminated by the filter 54, the

picture or image reproduced on the monitor 56 cannot be affected by the control information signals even if the video signals and the control information signals are transmitted through a common transmission line.

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The switching device 18 includes a switch having a plurality of fixed contracts connected independently to the transmission lines 20a, 20b, 20c... and 20n, and a movable contact adapted to be selectively connected to one of the fixed contacts, the movable contact being connected to the controlling device 14 and the receiving device 16. It may also be a known electronic sequential switcher commonly used in CCTV systems.

In order to process the control signals to be transmitted from the controlling device 14, the driving circuit 26 of each transmitting device 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n includes a high-pass filter 60, as shown in FIG. 2. The filter 60 extracts the modulated carrier signals transmitted from the controlling device 14 and supplies the extracted signals to a demodulator/decoder 62.

The demodulator/decoder 62 demodulates the signals outputted from the filter 60 and converts the demodulated coded "dial tones" into a code corresponding to the 2nd code signals, and outputs this code to a controller 66.

Similarly, the demodulator/decoder 64 demodulates and decodes the control signals, and transmits the decoded control signals to the controller 66.

The controller 66 controls the operation of the television camera 22, such as make-and-break of a power, make-and-break of a wiper and changes the axis of: tilting (up-down), panning (left-right), focusing (farnear) and zooming (tele-wide), based on the output signals of the demodulator/decoder 62. This controller 66, however, will transfer the control signals from the output of the decoder 62 to the driver 68, only when the 2nd code signals transmitted from the decoder 62 are identical and coincide with the 1st code signals transmitted from the code signal generator 32.

The driver 68 incorporates known circuits for actuating the functions of the television camera 22, such as make-and-break of a power, make-and-break of a wiper, and rotates motors biderectionaly to change the axis of tilting position, panning position and the lens, focusing and zooming rings, as controlled by the controller 66.

According to the closed circuit television apparatus 10, when the movable contact of the switching device 18 is connected to the predetermined one of the fixed contact, the transmitting device 12a, for example, connected to the fixed contact is connected simultaneously to the controlling device 14 and the receiving device 16 requiring a single switch to connect the transmitting device 12a, for example, to both the receiving device 16 and the controlling device 14.

Another advantage of the closed circuit television apparatus 10 is that since the composite signals outputted from the transmitting device 12a are supplied to the controlling device 14, the controlling device 14 outputs to the receiving device 16 the display information concerning the television camera 22 of the transmitting device 12a by utilizing the 1st code signals in the composite signals and reading out the data stored in the memory 52, whereby characters or illustrated display corresponding to the location and the camera connected are superposed on the image or picture reproduced from the video signals, on the monitor 56 of the receiving device 16. Therefore, observing the picture displayed on the monitor 56 of the receiving device 16, the attendant at the central supervisory station can iden-

Furthermore, the operator can unmistakably operate the controlling device 14 that generates the control 5 signals and the code signals to remotely operate the television camera that generates the image being observed by the operator while remotely controlling the same camera he is observing. Further, since the television camera is controlled by the driving circuit 26 of the 10 transmitting device according to the transmitted control signals only when the code transmitted from the controlling device 14 coincides with the camera code, there is no danger that a wrong television camera could be affected by the control signals.

Partly because the control signals are transmitted to the transmitting device connected to the receiving device 16, and partly because the controlling device 14 generates the code information based on the code signal transmitted to the controlling device 14 the attendant at 20 the central supervisory station can remotely control, through the controlling device 14, only the television camera of the transmitting device connected to the controlling device 14 and the receiving device 16, the picture or image of which is displayed on the monitor 25 56 of the receiving device 16.

What is claimed is:

- 1. A closed circuit television apparatus comprising:
- a plurality of remote-controlled television cameras for generating video signals, each camera including 30 a circuit for generating 1st code signals allotted to a respective television camera;
- receiving means for receiving said video signals and said 1st code signals;
- switching means for selecting a television camera to 35 be connected to said receiving means;
- said receiving means including a monitor for displaying images corresponding to the video signals received in said receiving means; and
- controlling means for controlling said television cam- 40 era:

said controlling means including control and code generator means for generating control signals to control said television camera and 2nd code signals corresponding to the 1st code signals received in said receiving means and for transmitting said control signals and said 2nd code signals to said television camera;

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- each television camera further including a command circuit receiving said control signals and said 2nd code signals generated in said controlling means and operating said television camera in accordance with said control signals when said 2nd code signals coincide with a code allotted to said television camera.
- 2. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control and code generator means includes a circuit for generating said 2nd code signals and a circuit for generating said control signals each having a frequency corresponding to a type of control, a circuit for generating carrier signals each having a frequency higher than frequencies of said video signals, and a modulating circuit for modulating said carrier signals by said 2nd code signals and said control signals, and for outputting the modulated carrier signals to said switching means.
- 3. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said command circuit includes a filter for extracting said carrier signals transmitted from said controlling means, a decoder for demodulating said 2nd code signals and said control signals from said carrier signals obtained from an output of said filter and for outputting a code corresponding to said 2nd code signals and said control signals, a driver for actuating said delevision camera, and a controller connected to said driver and said decoder for comparing said code outputted from said decoder with the code allotted to said camera and for controlling said driver in accordance with the control signals outputted from said decoder when said code outputted from said decoder when said code outputted from said decoder coincides with said code of said camera.

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United States Patent 1191

Elberbaum

Patent Number:

4,835,613 5/1989 Johnson Primary Examiner-John K. Peng Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Helfgott & Karas

4,943,864

Date of Patent: [45]

Jul. 24, 1990

| [54] | CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION APPARATUS FOR SUPERVISORY SYSTEM | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| [75] | Inventor: David Elberbaum, Tokyo, Japan | |
| [73] | Assignee: Elbex Video, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan | |
| [21] | Appl. No.: 270,579 | |
| [22] | Filed: Nov. 14, 1988 | |
| [30] | Foreign Application Priority Data | |
| Feb. 25, 1988 [JP] Japan 63-40617 | | |
| [51] | Int. Cl. ⁵ H04N 7/18; H04N 5/268; H04N 7/10 | |
| [52] | U.S. Cl 358/108; 358/86 | |
| Fe01 | 358/181; 340/734 Field of Search | |
| [58] | 340/734; 350/183 | |
| [56] | References Cited | |

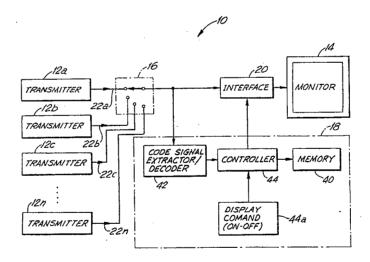
A closed circuit television camera for a supervisory system includes a number of transmitting devices which generate video signals and are located at each of a number of different places to be observed, a television re-ceiver which receives the video signals, and a switching device which selects one of the transmitting devices and connects the same to the television receiver. Each transmitting device includes a television camera having a specific code, a circuit for generating code signals and a signal for a constant of the contraction. circuit for generating composite signals. The receiver has a circuit for receiving the composite signals which also extracts the code signals from the composite signals and generates display signals to identify the television camera corresponding to the extracted code signals.
Visual information corresponding to the display signals is displayed on a monitor.

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ABSTRACT

7 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

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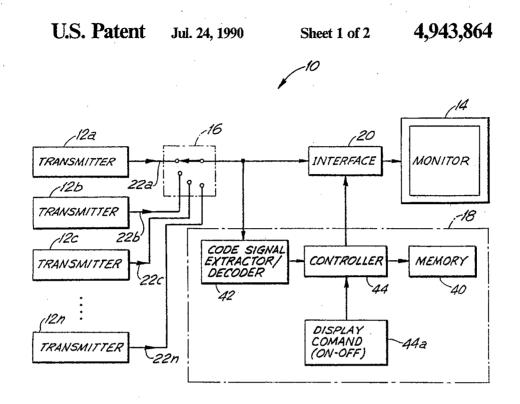
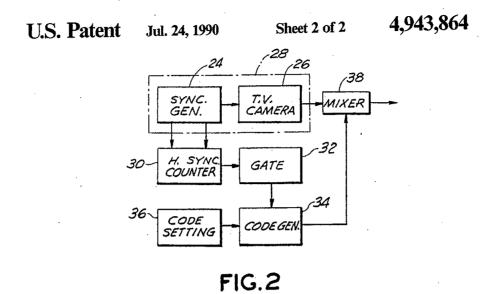


FIG.I



SYNC.
SEPARATOR

48-H. SYNC
COUNTER

50-GATE
CIRCUIT

52-LEVEL
SENSOR

TO CONTROLLER 44

FIG.3

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CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION APPARATUS FOR SUPERVISORY SYSTEM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates to a closed circuit television apparatus suitable for a supervisory system.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Generally, as a supervisory system for observation of different locations from a central supervisory station, a closed circuit television apparatus is employed. At each location to be observed, a television camera is used, and at the central supervisory station, a monitor for receiving video signals transmitted from the selected television cameras and a switching device for selectively connecting the television cameras to the monitor are located.

In this type of supervisory system, the attendant must identify the television camera transmitting the video signals corresponding to the image being reproduced on the monitor. For this purpose, in the conventional supervisory system the attendant identifies the television camera by the connection condition of the switching device, but the attendant may occasionally misconceive such connection condition.

Another conventional system, superpose characters on the reproduced image on the monitor. The conventional system however is limited to few characters, 30 furthermore these characters cannot be switched off, removed or having their position shifted from the reproduced image on the receiver or monitor at the monitoring station. The conventional system, therefore, is disadvantaged by the character superpose on top of 35 important object to be surveyed so that said character interrupts the identification of an important portion in the image on the monitor.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a closed circuit television apparatus, with which it is possible to identify easily and correctly the television camera transmitting the video signals, by generating unrestricted visual alpha numeric characters or illustrative display together with the image or picture being reproduced on a monitor.

According to the present invention, a closed circuit television apparatus comprises a plurality of transmitting means for generating videos signals, a receiving 50 means for receiving the video signals, and a switching means for selectively connecting the transmitting means to the receiving means. Each of the transmitting means includes a television camera to which a specific code is allotted, a circuit for generating code signals corre- 55 sponding to the specific code, and a circuit for generating a composite signal wherein the code signals are injecting into the video signal. The receiving means includes a circuit for receiving the composite signal, for extracting the code signal from the received composite 60 signal and for generating a display signal pertaining to the television camera corresponding to the extracted code signal, and a monitor or receiver for displaying visually information corresponding to the display signal together with images corresponding to the video sig- 65

The code signal generating circuit may be a circuit for generating said code signal during one or more

desired horizontal scanning period of said television camera.

In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the code signal generating circuit includes a code setting circuit in which said code is set, a counter for counting the number of horizontal scanning lines of said television camera every field or frame of vertical scanning, and a circuit for generating, when the counted value of the counter is a predetermined value, said code signal corresponding to said code set in said code setting circuit.

The code signal can be a signal having two levels, high which is a white level and low which is a black level of a picture signal in said video signal.

The display signal generating circuit preferably includes a memory for storing said display signal for each of said television cameras, an extracting circuit for extracting said code signal from said composite signals, and a control circuit for reading out the display signal corresponding to said extracted code signal from said memory based on an output signal of said extracting circuit and for supplying said read-out display signal to said receiving means.

The display signal generating circuit preferably includes a memory for storing said display signal for each of said television cameras, an extracting circuit for extracting said code signal from said composite signals, and a control circuit for reading out the display signal corresponding to said extracted code signal, based on an output signal of said extracting circuit, and for supplying said read-out display signal to said receiving means, said extracting circuit including a circuit for counting horizontal synchronizing signals in said video signal every field or frame of vertical scanning, a gate circuit for allowing said composite signals to pass when the counted value of said counting circuit is a predetermined value, and a circuit for reproducing said code signal based on an output signal of said gate circuit.

The reproducing circuit preferably includes a level sensor for reproducing said code signal based on the level of the output signal of said gate circuit.

With the closed circuit television apparatus thus constructed, since character information such as a description of the location of the television camera is generated by the display signal generating circuit based on the code signals transmitted from the television camera, it is possible to easily and correctly identify the image reproduced on the receiver. Further, since the character information corresponding to the television camera is displayed on the receiver based on a code signal transmitted from the television camera being connected to the receiver, it is possible to identify correctly the television camera being connected to the receiver.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects and features of the invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment of the invention with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing an embodiment of an electrical circuit of a closed circuit television apparatus according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram showing an embodiment of an electrical circuit of a transmitting device; and

FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing an embodiment of a code signal extracting circuit.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1 shows a closed circuit television apparatus 10 for a supervisory system, in which image pick-up devices or transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c . . . and 12n for generating respective video signals are located at each of a plurality of different places to be observed. On the other hand, at a central supervisory station, a television receiver or monitor 14 for reproducing an image 10 corresponding to the video signal transmitted from a selected one of the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c... . and 12n, a switching device 16 for selecting one of the transmitting devices to be connected to the monitor 14, a display signal generating circuit 18 for generating a 15 display signal identifying the transmitting device connected to the monitor 14, and an interface 20 for composing an output signal of the display signal generating circuit 18 with the video signal, are located. Between the central supervisory station and the respective places 20 to be observed, cable-like transmission lines 22a, 22b, 22c... and 22n for the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c . . and 12n are built.

The video signal is a composite signal which is composed by adding a composite synchronizing signal to an 25 image signal. The display signal is a character or illustrative information for visually identifying on the monitor 14 the location observed and the television camera connected to it.

As shown in FIG. 2, each of the transmitting devices 30 12a, 12b, 12c... and 12n has a known television camera 28 including a synchronizing signal generating circuit 24 and a video signal generating circuit 26. Vertical and horizontal synchronizing signals generated by the synchronizing signal generating circuit 24 are supplied to 35 the video signal generating circuit 26 and a counter 30.

The horizontal synchronizing signal is supplied to an input terminal of the counter 30, and the vertical synchronizing signal is supplied to a clear or reference terminal of the counter 30, whereby the counter counts 40 the number of horizontal scanning lines every field or every frame of the vertical scannings of the television camera 28. The counted value of the counter 30 is supplied to a gate signal generating circuit 32.

The gate signal generating circuit 32 outputs a gate 45 signal to a code signal generating circuit 34 only when the counted value of the counter 30 is a predetermined value, i.e., during a predetermined one or more horizontal scanning period.

The code signal generating circuit 34 is connected to 50 a code setting circuit 36 in which camera codes are set one for each television camera 28. Therefore, only when the gate signal is supplied to the code signal generating circuit 34, the code signal generating circuit 34 outputs to a mixer 38 a code signals corresponding to 55 the code set in the code setting circuit 36.

the code set in the code setting circuit 36.

The codes "1", "2", "3" ... and "n", for example, are allotted to the television cameras of the transmitting devices 12a, 12b, 12c ... and 12n respectively.

The code signal generating circuit 34 is a circuit 60 which generates a code signal every line scanning and gates the code signal by the gate signal. But the code signal generating circuit 34 may be an alternative circuit which is operative to generate a code signal only when the counted value of the counter 30 is a predetermined 65 value.

The code signal is a binary or bar code signal having two levels, high or white which is the maximum level of a picture signal in a video signal supplied from the television camera 28 to the mixer 38 and low or black which is the minimum level of the picture signal. Alternatively, the code signal may be a sine-wave signal having a frequency corresponding to the code. This code signal is generated during a period of one or more horizontal scanning line during the vertical blanking period of the video signal or immediately after vertical blanking period.

The mixer 38 superposes the code signal supplied from the code signal generating circuit 34 over the video signal supplied from the television camera 28, and then outputs to a predetermined transmitting line a composite signal of the code signal and the video signal.

The display signal generating circuit 18 extracts the code signal in the composite signal transmitted from the transmitting device, and generates the display signal identifying the television camera corresponding to the extracted code signal. The display signal generating circuit 18 may comprise, for example, a memory 40 for storing display signals indicating the location, the numeral, etc. of the respective television camera, a decoder or extracting circuit 42 for extracting the code signal form the composite signal, and a controller 44 for reading out from the memory 40 the display signal identifying the television camera corresponding to the extracted code signal based on the output signal of the extracting circuit 42 and then supplying this display signal to the interface 20 to superimpose the display signal on the receiver or monitor 14 together with the reproduced image or picture of the corresponding television camera.

The extracting circuit 42 decodes the code signal by utilizing the synchronizing signal transmitted from the transmitting device and by sensing, timing and reading the code signal high and low levels transmitted from the transmitting device.

The extracting circuit 42, as shown in FIG. 3, may comprise, for example, a synchronizing signal separating circuit 46 for extracting vertical and horizontal synchronizing signals in the composite signal transmitted from the transmitting device, a counter 48 for counting the number of horizontal line scannings of the television camera 28 every field or frame of the vertical scanning, a gate circuit 50 for outputting the composite signal, which is transmitted from the transmitting device, only when the counted value of the counter 30 is a predetermined value, and a level sensor 52 for sensing a level of the output signal of the gate circuit 50 to reproduce the code signal.

The reproduced code signal is supplied from the extracting circuit 42 to the controller 44. The controller 44 generates the display signal by retrieving and reading out the stored information in the memory 40 corresponding to the code signal reproduced by the level sensor 52.

The display signal supplied from the controller 44 to the interface 20 is superposed on the video signal in the interface 20 so that a character or illustration corresponding to the display signal is displayed on the monitor 14.

The switching device 16 has a plurality of fixed contacts connected to the respective transmission lines 22a, 22b, 22c... and 22n, and a movable contact or it may be a commonly available automatic sequencing electronic switching device. One end of the movable contact or the input of an electronic sequencing switcher is selectively connected to one of the fixed

In the closed circuit television apparatus 10, for example, when the transmitting device 12a is connected to 5 the monitor 14 by the switching device 16, the video signal transmitted from the transmitting device 12a is inputted to the monitor 14 via the switching device 16 and the interface 20, thereby reproducing on the monitor 14 the image or picture derived from the television camera 28 of the transmitting device 12a.

Meanwhile, the code signal corresponding to the television camera 28 of the transmitting device 12a is inputted to the display signal generating circuit 18, 15 which hence supplies to the interface 20 the display signal corresponding to the television camera 28 of the transmitting device 12a. Thus the character or illustration corresponding to the location etc. of the television camera 28 of the transmitting device 12a is displayed on 20 the monitor 14 as superposed on the reproduced picture or image. Accordingly the attendant can identify, from the picture on the monitor 14, the place (to be observed) corresponding to the reproduced image.

It is preferable that the code signal is generated dur- 25 ing the blanking period of the vertical retrace of the video signal, whereby the reproduced image is not affected by the code signal, even if the code signal is injected to the video signal, and a clear image or picture can be obtained on the monitor 14. Even if the code is 30 injected immediately after the blanking period, only a minor disturbance can be observed of the black and white bars along single horizontal scanning line.

What is claimed is:

- 1. A closed circuit television apparatus comprising: a plurality of transmitting means for generating video signals;
- a receiving means for receiving said video signals; a switching means for selectively connecting said
- transmitting means to the receiving means; each of said transmitting means including a television camera to which a specific code is allotted, a circuit for generating code signals corresponding to said specific code, and a circuit for generating composite signals wherein the code signals are injected into the video signals; and
- said receiving means including a circuit for receiving said composite signals, for extracting said code generating display signals identifying the television camera corresponding to the extracted code signals, and a receiver for displaying visually information corresponding to said display signals together

6 with reproduced images or pictures corresponding to said video signals.

- 2. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said code signal generating circuit is a circuit for generating said code signal during one or more desired horizontal scanning period of said television camera.
- 3. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said code signal generating circuit includes a code setting circuit in which said code is set, a counter for counting the number of horizontal scanning lines of said television camera every field or frame of vertical scanning, and a circuit for generating, when the counted value of the counter is a predetermined value, said code signal corresponding to said code set in said code setting circuit.
- 4. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 2 or 3, wherein said code signal is a signal having two levels, high which is a white level and low which is a black level of a picture signal in said video signal.
- 5. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display signal generating circuit includes a memory for storing said display signal for each of said television cameras, an extracting circuit for extracting said code signal from said composite signals, and a control circuit for reading out the display signal corresponding to said extracted code signal from said memory based on an output signal of said extracting circuit and for supplying said read-out display signal to said receiving means.
- 6. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said display signal generating circuit includes a memory for storing said display signal for each of said television cameras, an extracting circuit for extracting said code signal from said composite signals, and a control circuit for reading out the display signal corresponding to said extracted code signal based on an output signal of said extracting circuit, and for supply-ing said read-out display signal to said receiving means, said extracting circuit including a circuit for counting horizontal synchronizing signals in said video signal every field or frame of vertical scanning, a gate circuit for allowing said composite signals to pass when the counted value of said counting circuit is a predetermined value, and a circuit for reproducing said code signal based on an output signal of said gate circuit.
- 7. A closed circuit television apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said code signal is a signal having two levels, high which is a white level and low which is a signals from the received composite signals and for 50 black level of a picture signal in said video signal, said reproducing circuit including a level sensor for reproducing said code signal based on the level of the output signal of said gate circuit.