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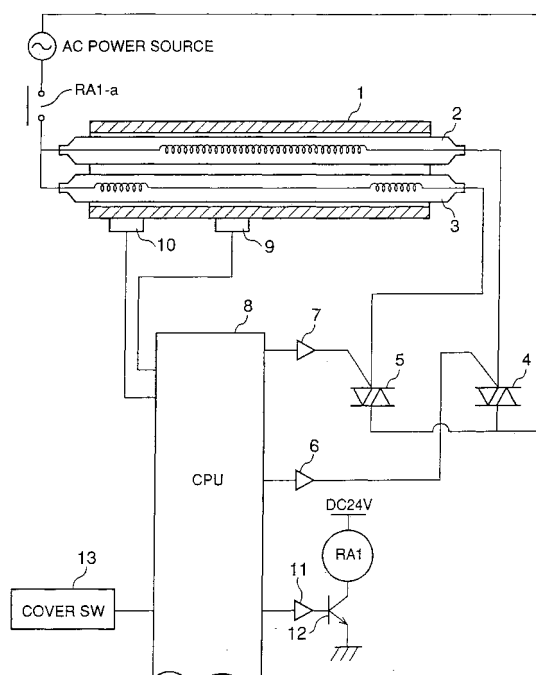
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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
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(54) **Fixing apparatus for an image forming apparatus**

(57) A fixing apparatus has heaters (2, 3) to provide heat to fix a toner image on print paper. The heaters are intermittently activated to maintain the fixing apparatus at a substantially constant temperature. The heaters are activated by a predetermined voltage (Vf). Deactivation of the heaters (2, 3) is controlled by providing a low voltage immediately before the heaters are completely turned off so that a rate of change in a current flowing to the heaters is reduced. A timing of deactivation of each of the heaters may be controlled so that a start time of deactivation of the heaters (2, 3) differs from each other. The heaters (3) excluding at least one (2) of the heaters (2, 3) may be maintained to be deactivated when the fixing apparatus is in a predetermined operational state such as a waiting state or pre-heating state.

FIG.1





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