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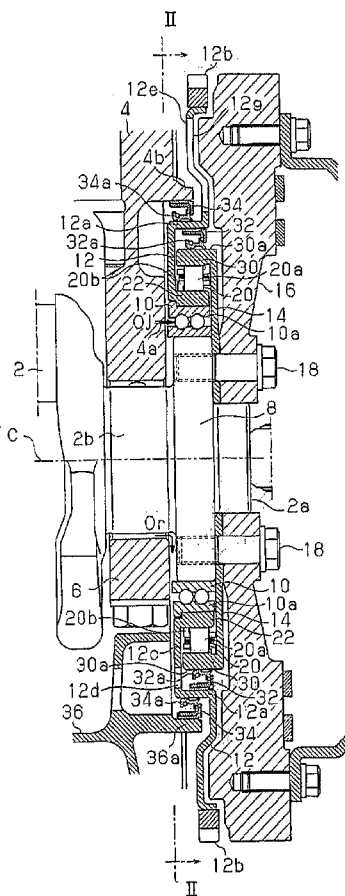
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: LUBRICATION STRUCTURE OF CRANKING ROTATIONAL FORCE TRANSMISSION MECHANISM FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE



(57) Abstract: The lubricant-return holes (12d) are provided in the intermediate portion (12c) of the ring gear (12). Thus, the lubricant stagnating above the first oil sealing member (32) can be easily discharged to the oil pan (36) side via the lubricant-return holes (12d) even when the ring gear (12) has stopped rotating in response to the starter motor being turned off after completion of the start of the internal combustion engine. As such, the level of the surface of lubricant stagnating between the ring gear (12) and the outer race member (14) does not rise, and therefore the lubricant surface virtually does not reach the outer race (30) and the one-way clutch (20) that are rotating while the internal combustion engine is running. Thus, bubbling of lubricant and production of sludge, which may otherwise be caused by agitation of the lubricant surface, can be prevented.

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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2006/016668 A (TOYOTA MOTOR CO LTD [JP]; ASADA TOSHIKI [JP]; EZAKI SHUICHI [JP]; ISH) 16 February 2006 (2006-02-16) page 26, line 4 - page 27, line 9 figures	1-6,9-11
A	JP 07 071351 A (HONDA MOTOR CO LTD) 14 March 1995 (1995-03-14) abstract; figures	1
A	JP 2006 057612 A (TOYOTA MOTOR CORP) 2 March 2006 (2006-03-02) abstract; figure 2	1
A	DE 103 43 400 A1 (DAIMLER CHRYSLER AG [DE]) 14 April 2005 (2005-04-14) figure	1
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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 409 374 C (MAYBACH MOTORENBAU GMBH) 5 February 1925 (1925-02-05) the whole document -----	

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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