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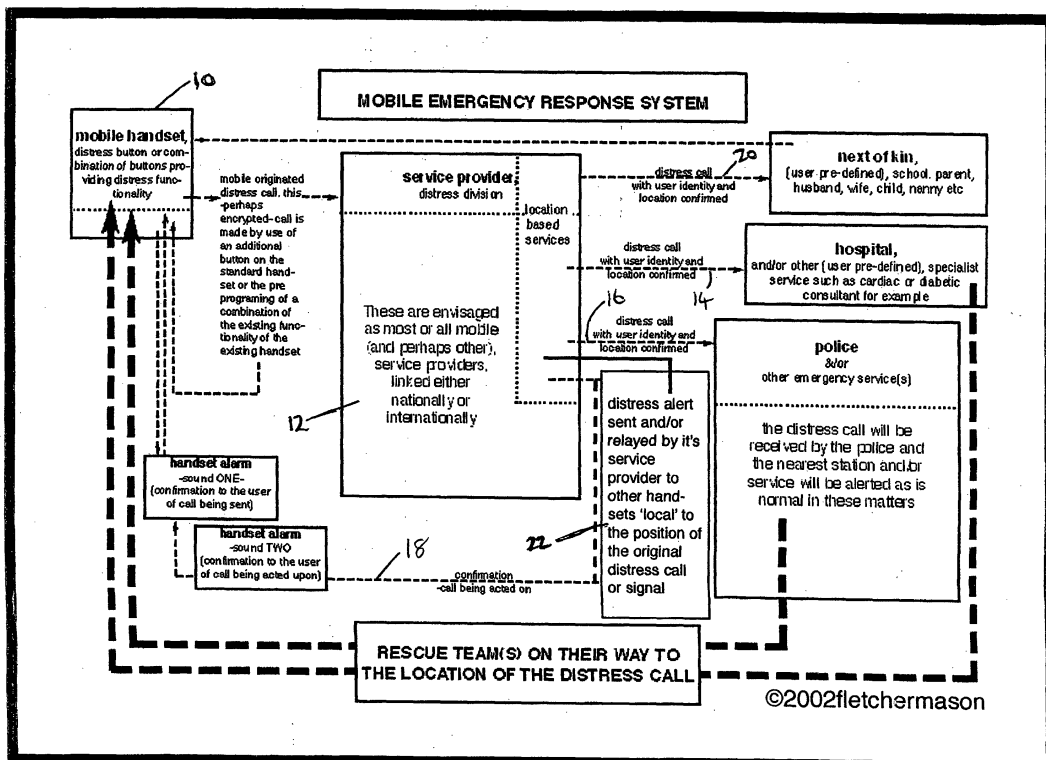
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(54) Distress Alert

(57) A distress condition is indicated by transmission of a signal from a portable transmitting or receiving device (10) such as a mobile telephone. A receiving station (12) receives the signal and identifies from the sig-

nal the nature of the distress condition and its location. The receiving station then automatically notifies the relevant authorities of the distress condition and its location and they can react accordingly.



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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 5 388 147 A (GRIMES GARY J) 7 February 1995 (1995-02-07) * column 1, line 16 - line 30 * * column 4, line 23 - line 27 * * column 4, line 33 - line 47 * * column 6, line 28 - line 33 * * column 6, line 51 - line 63 * * column 7, line 3 - line 58 * * column 8, line 11 - line 19 * * column 8, line 25 - line 52 * * column 11, line 3 - column 12, line 5 * * figures 1,2 *	1-11	G08B25/01
X	DE 197 29 645 A (INTRONIC SICHERHEITSSYSTEME VE) 14 January 1999 (1999-01-14) * column 1, line 5 - line 8 * * column 1, line 33 - column 2, line 17 * * column 2, line 38 - line 52 * * column 2, line 58 - column 3, line 6 * * column 3, line 54 - column 4, line 7 *	1-11	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)  G08B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>8 July 2003</b>	Examiner <b>Meister, M</b>
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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EP 02 25 8227

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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08-07-2003

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82