A microbolometer (280) for the detection of infrared radiation that has a substrate (202) and an array of sensor elements (220) fixed relative to the substrate (202). In one embodiment, at least some of the sensor elements (322) are less thermally isolated from the substrate than others (320). The less thermally isolated sensor elements (322) are selected when transients are expected to exist within the sensor array (220). In another embodiment, all of the sensor elements (220) are deselected when transients are expected.
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

**IPC 7**

G01J 5/20

H04N 5/33

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

**IPC 7**

G01J 5/20

H04N

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, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5 789 753 A (GOOCH ROLAND W ET AL) 4 August 1998 (1998-08-04) column 3, line 54 -column 5, line 27; claim 1</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 5 952 659 A (NOMURA HITOSHI ET AL) 14 September 1999 (1999-09-14) claims 1-6</td>
<td>2,5,6,10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:
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Date of the actual completion of the international search: 29 July 2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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<td>US 5789753</td>
<td>A 04-08-1998</td>
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