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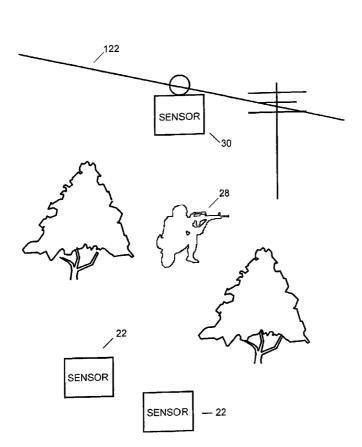
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING AND LOCATION AN ACOUSTIC EVENT (SNIPER)



(57) Abstract: A system and method for detecting, identifying, and fixing the location of the source of an acoustic event. The inventive system includes: a plurality of sensors dispersed at somewhat regular intervals throughout a monitored area; a communication network adapted to deliver information from the sensors to a host processor; and a process within the host processor for determining, from the absolute times of arrival of an event at two or more sensors, a position of the source of the event. Acoustic events are detected and analyzed at each sensor so that the sensor transmits over the network: an identifier for the sensor; an identifier for the type of event; and a precise absolute time of arrival of the event at the sensor. In a preferred embodiment, the system also identifies the type of weapon firing a gunshot.

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TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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/US2004/002036 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01S5/20 G01S G01S7/539 G01S5/14 G01S5/00 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) G01S G01V IPC 7 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, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category ° US H1 916 H (HOLLANDER SAMUEL) χ 1-5,7-137 November 2000 (2000-11-07) column 2, line 12 - column 7, line 42; figures 1,5,6 WO 00/73811 A (GTE INTERNETWORKING INC) 1-5,7-137 December 2000 (2000-12-07) page 8, line 29 - page 11, line 31; 6 Α figures 1,2A,8A,8,12A,12B page 35, line 9 - page 40, line 29 1-5,7-13 US 5 504 717 A (BELT RONALD A ET AL) χ 2 April 1996 (1996-04-02) the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 10 Z 10. 2004 7 June 2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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International application No. PCT/US2004/002036

| Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: | | | | | |
| Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: | | | | | |
| Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: | | | | | |
| 3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). | | | | | |
| Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet) | | | | | |
| This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: | | | | | |
| see additional sheet | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims. | | | | | |
| 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. | | | | | |
| 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: | | | | | |
| 4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: See annex | | | | | |
| Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees. | | | | | |

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-13

The first group of claims 1-13 comprises 3 independent claims 1,10,13 The subject matter of claim 1 relates to a sensor for detecting and providing the absolute time of arrival of an acoustic event. The sensor of claim 1 includes a network interface for transmitting the time of detection. Claim 10 relates to a system for locating and identifying an acoustic event, which uses a plurality of sensors (similar to the sensor defined in claim 1). Each sensor provides the absolute time of arrival of a known acoustic event to a processor via a network interface. The system includes at least 3 sensors to calculate the location of the acoustic event (dependent claim 11). Claim 13 relates to a system for locating an acoustic event, which uses a plurality of sensors (similar to the sensor defined in claim 1). Each sensor provides the absolute time of arrival of a known acoustic event to a processor via a network interface. The system includes at leat 3 sensors to calculate the location of the acoustic event by triangulation.

2. claim: 14

Second group comprises only independent claim 14
The subject matter of claim 14 relates to a method for identifying the source of a known acoustic event. The method includes the steps of

- 1) storing envelope and spectral characteristic of a known particular acoustic event.
- 2) receiving acoustic waves at a sensor
- 3) determining the envelope of the received acoustic waves
- 4) performing a first correlation in time domain and if some matching is found with the particular acoustic event then a second correlation is performed in the frequency domain for identifying that the acoustic waves were produced by an event matching the known particular acoustic event.

Information on patent family members

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