United States Patent [19]

Prame

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[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CHARACTER GENERATION**

[75] Inventor: **Eric S. Prame**, Lidingo, Sweden

[73] Assignee: **International Business Machines Corporation**, Armonk, N.Y.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **340/365 R**; 340/365 S; 178/17 C; 400/100; 400/485

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 340/365 S, 365 R, 365 G, 340/365 A; 178/17 R, 17 A, 17 C; 179/90 K, 90 R, 2 DP; 400/100, 472, 485, 486, 489

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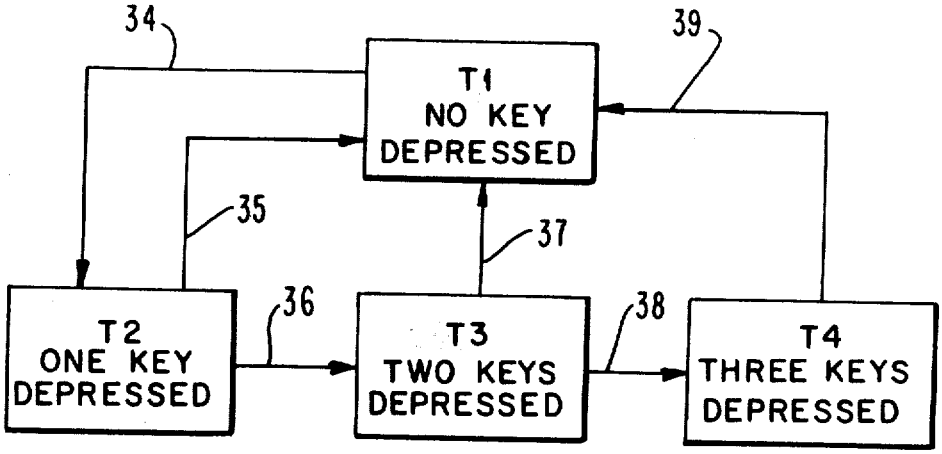
Primary Examiner—John W. Caldwell, Sr.
Assistant Examiner—Donnie L. Crosland
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Edward H. Duffield

[57] **ABSTRACT**

Generation of a character code for an alphabetic character is performed by depressing at least two keys in a sequence. The code is generated when the last key is depressed and the other keys in the sequence still are pressed, or when all keys in the sequence are released. Numerical character codes are generated by depressing only one key per character. A logic and storage means is provided having a number of registers, code converting tables and control circuits for storing the history of depressed keys and for generating character codes.

3 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures