

United States
Zukowski

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[54] **SURGICAL INSTRUMENT
ILLUMINATING ENDOTRACHEAL
TUBE INSERTER**

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[51] Int. Cl. **A61b 1/06, A61m 16/00, G02b 5/16**

[58] Field of Search..... **128/6, 11, 351, 8, 10**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A surgical instrument used as an endotracheal tube introducer consists of a central curved fiberoptic bundle for viewing and a surrounding tubular fiberoptic bundle to carry light to the area to be viewed and an outermost metallic sheath to give rigidity. The distal end of the instrument is bent laterally at an angle so that it can be twisted to permit scanning around anatomical obstructions so that a path of entry can be found whereby the instrument will bypass obstructions without damage. The tube to be inserted is sleeved on the instrument with provision for detaching the tube after insertion into the trachea thereby permitting withdrawal of the instrument after intubation.

6 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures

