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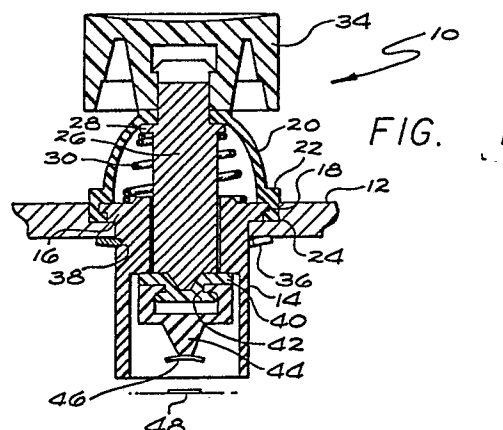
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(54) **Key for a keyboard.**

(57) A plunger (26) is slidable in a jacket (14), preferably electrically insulating. A flange (16) is disposed on the jacket at one surface of the bezel (12). The flange receives a lip portion at one end of a boot (20) preferably made from a pliant material such as a silicone rubber. The boot and a thumbpiece (34) abut a flange on the plunger. A spring (30) may be constrained between the jacket and the flange on the plunger to bias the plunger and the boot to an unconstrained relationship of the boot. A retainer (36) such as a ring is disposed in a groove (38) in the plunger adjacent the opposite surface of the bezel from the jacket flange. The retainer cooperates with the bezel to press the jacket flange and the boot lip tightly against the bezel. This causes a seal to be produced to prevent water and humidity from passing through the bezel. An electrical contact (46) is attached to the plunger at the opposite end of the plunger from the thumbpiece. The electrical contact may be shock mounted to the plunger as by a rubber mount. The electrical contact cooperates with a contact (48) fixedly mounted in the bezel to define

a switch. The plunger and the thumbpiece may be translucent. A lamp may be illuminated when the switch is closed, thereby illuminating the plunger and the thumbpiece. Under such circumstances, the contact on the plunger may bridge a pair of spaced contacts in the bezel to establish electrical continuity to the lamp. The lamp may also be illuminated independently of any operation of the key.





CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

X LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions.

namely:

1. Claims 1-6,9: Seal for prevent water and humidity passing through the bezel on which is disposed a keyboard key
2. Claims 7,8,10-12: Electrical contacts, possibly for a lamp in the switch
3. Claim 13: Mechanical assembling to combine the action of many keys

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,
namely claims: 1-6,9



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