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(54) **Ribbon cassette for use in printer.**

(57) An ink ribbon cassette (1a,1b) includes a re-inking mechanism and includes a replaceable ink reservoir (4) which can be readily attached to or detached from the remainder of the cassette through a socket in the housing without opening the housing. This arrangement allows the cassette and ribbon (4) to be used many times. A cleansing solvent ribbon cassette for cleansing a printer head includes a replaceable cleansing solvent reservoir and a ribbon (2) which is not inked and is of similar construction and allows the cassette and ribbon (2) to be used many times.

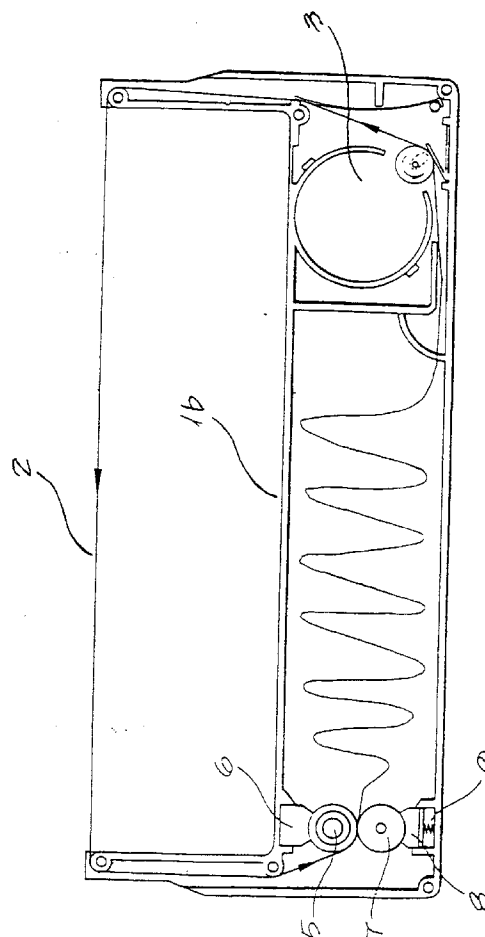


FIG. 3

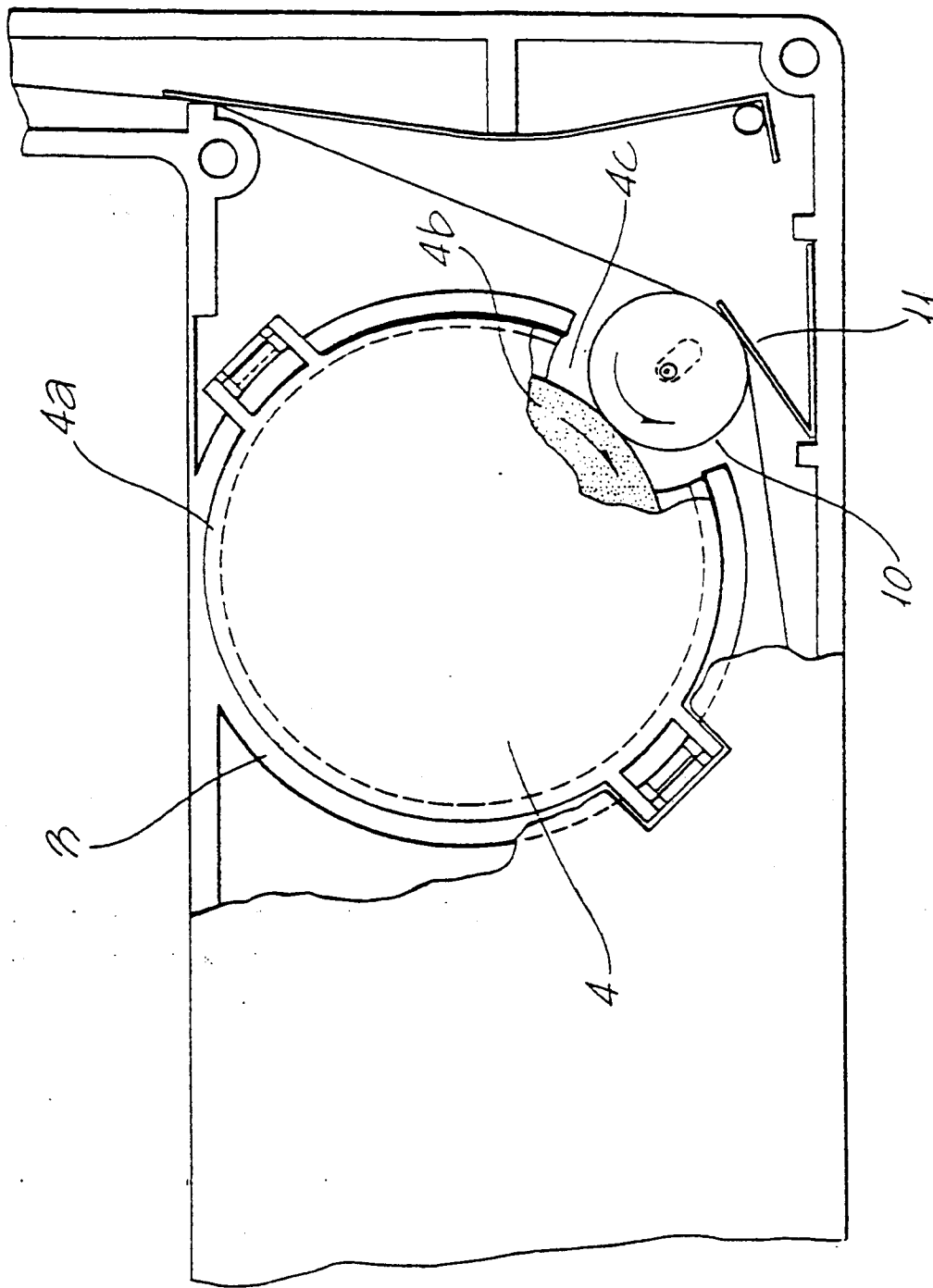


FIG. 4



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 30 6780

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	DE-A-3 420 085 (SEIKOSHA)	1-3,6-8, 10	B41J31/16
Y	* page 3, line 23 - page 4, line 35; figures *	4,5, 11-13	
X	US-A-4 322 172 (FURROW) * column 2, line 18 - column 3, line 40; figures *	1-3,6-8	
D,Y	EP-A-0 167 892 (OKI ELECTRIC INDUSTRY COMPANY) * page 4, line 3 - page 5, line 3; figure 1 *	4,5	
A	EP-A-0 314 254 (MERLIN) * column 2, line 26 - line 53; figure 2 *	8	
Y	WO-A-8 606 683 (HUMPHRIES) * abstract; figures 1,2 *	11-13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B41J
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 10 FEBRUARY 1993	Examiner DE GROOT R.K.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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