June 21, 1960 A. KUDLIK 2,941,333

TRIP INTO SPACE TOY

Filed Feb. 25, 1958

Fig. 1

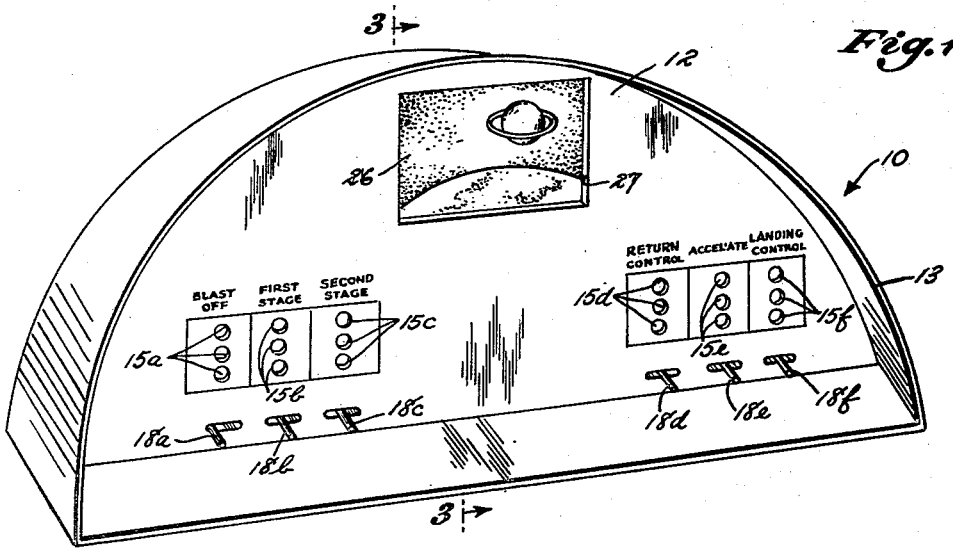


Fig. 2

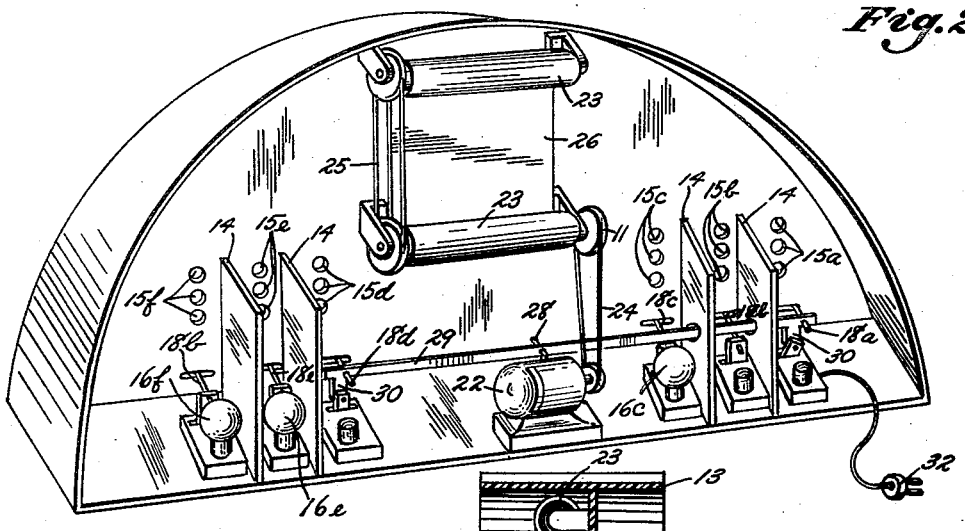
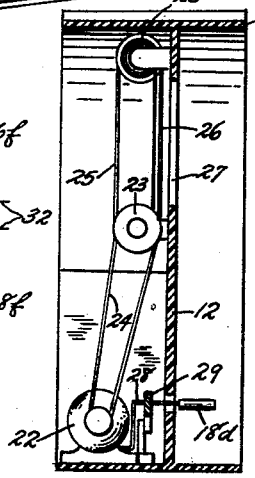


Fig. 3



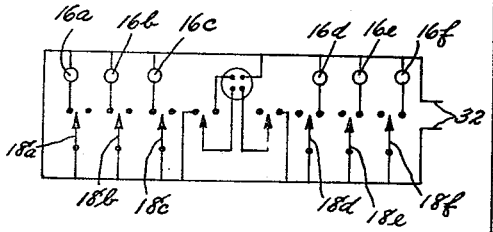


Fig. 4

ALEX KUDLIK
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United States Patent Office 2,941,333 Patented June 21, 1960

2,941,333

TRIP INTO SPACE TOY

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1 Claim. (Cl. 46—228)

This invention relates to amusement devices and, more particularly, to a simulated space toy for children.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a toy for children that will simulate a trip through space, individual manually actuated switches being provided to realistically simulate the actual control of a space ship, and having a visible screen which depicts actual travel through space.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a simulated space ship control panel having a plurality of individually operated switches for simulating the control of a space ship, and which is provided with a visible screen having a strip of simulated space scenes supported adjacent to an enlarged window opening for providing a feeling of realism to a child operating the unit.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide a toy of the type described that is extremely simple in construction, efficient in operation, and which can be manufactured in large quantities at a relatively low cost.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a space toy made in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the rear side of the toy shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a transverse cross sectional view taken along line 3—3 of Figure 1; and

Figure 4 is a schematic circuit diagram of a toy illustrated in Figures 1 to 3.

Referring now to the drawing, and more particularly to Figures 1 to 3 thereof, a toy **10** for children made in accordance with the present invention is shown to include a main panel board **12** that has a marginal peripheral flange **13** which acts as a shield to reduce the amount of light from the room that falls upon the face of the panel board. A plurality of sets of window openings **15***a, b, c, d, e, f* are disposed on the panel board **12**, a partition **14** being disposed between each adjacent set so as to isolate each set of window openings. A lamp **16***a, b, c, d, e, f* is supported behind each such set of window openings for providing illumination therethrough in response to movement of switch control levers **18***a, b, c, d, e, f* toward an energized position on the front of the panel. It will thus be recognized that as each such switch is moved from the deenergized to an energized position, the respective lamp will illuminate and provide light through the associated set of window openings. Indicia associated with each set of window openings on the front side of the panel suggests the proper sequence of operation of the switches to simulate the actual control of the space ship through space. The actuation of each such switch providing illumination through each said associated set of window openings, thus providing visible effects that further the imaginative thinking of the child.

A motor **22** supported behind the panel **12** has pulley connections **24**, **25** to a pair of vertically spaced apart parallel rolls **23** that are supported at opposite sides of an enlarged window opening **27**. A strip of flexible material which may be either opaque or transparent is

secured at opposite ends to the rolls **23** so as to be transferable from one such roll to the other in response to rotation thereof by the motor **22**. This motor **22** is reversable and has a control lever **28** extending outwardly therefrom that is connected to the control bar **29** which is connected at its ends by means of depending arms **30** to predetermined ones of the switch control levers **18***a, d*. Thus, in response to movement of either one of these switch levers **18***a, d*, electricity from a supply line **32** may be supplied to the associated lamps and the motor **22** to effect partial illumination of the panel board and movement of the strip past the window opening.

In actual use, the initial switch lever **18***a* may be moved toward an energized position to illuminate the first set of window openings **15***a* and effect movement of the strip **26** past the window opening **27** in a forward direction. The additional switch levers **18***b, c* can then be actuated to further illuminate the panel. However, in response to actuation of the next control lever **18***d*, the lamp **16***d* associated therewith will illuminate the window openings **15***d* and effect a reversal of the direction of movement of the strip **26** past the window opening. This will simulate the return of the space ship from outer space toward earth, the illustrations on the strip **26** showing the earth becoming larger as the ship approaches the landing, as compared to movement of the strip in the initial position in which the earth appeared to be getting smaller as the ship moved away from the earth. Finally, the other control levers **18***e, f* can be actuated to further simulate the landing of the space ship as it reaches the earth.

It will now be recognized that an extremely amusing and imaginative toy has been provided for children that is based upon the new space age in which such travel fascinates young and old alike.

While this invention has been described with particular reference to the construction shown in the drawing, it is to be understood that such is not to be construed as imparting limitations upon the invention, which is best defined by the claim appended hereto.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A simulated space ship toy comprising, in combination, a main panel, an enlarged cutout in said main panel, an illustrated strip supported behind said panel for longitudinal movement past said enlarged cutout, means for selectively effecting said movement of said strip, said strip comprising a sheet of flexible material, a pair of rollers rotatably supported at opposite sides of said enlarged cutout, each end of said sheet being secured to one of said rollers, said means for moving said strip comprising a reversible motor, pulley means drivingly connecting said motor to one of said rollers, a drive belt drivingly connecting both of said rollers together, energization of said motor being operative to positively drive both of said rollers simultaneously, a plurality of switches mounted upon said panel, and a link connected between predetermined ones of said switches and said motor for energizing said motor for rotation in a selective direction in response to actuation of said predetermined switches.

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