

ABSTRACT

NIGHT-VISION DEVICE WITH DUAL-ACTION ARTIFICIAL ILLUMINATION

A night vision device (12) with infrared light (44) usable for covert signaling, reading, as well as illumination of dark areas where sufficient ambient light does not exist for the night vision device to provide a view of the area, includes a singular dual-action control switch (40) which allows an operator (10) to operate all of the functions of the device with a singular control. These functions include momentary illumination (#5) of the infrared light (44) for signaling and for "quick look" purposes, of updating a user's knowledge of map coordinates. The control circuit also allows infrared light (44) to be maintained "on" for continued area illumination until turned off. However, momentary illumination (#5) of infrared light (44) improves utility of night vision device (12) for signaling, and improves user's safety when "quick look", and area illumination functions are performed. Human factor considerations for operation of the night vision device with minimal training and in stressful situations are improved.

(Figure 1)