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(54) Title: READ/WRITE RECORDING DEVICE AND HEAD POSITIONING MECHANISM THEREFOR**(57) Abstract**

A recording device (10) operative to read and write data on a recording medium (200) has a support frame (26), a take-up mechanism (24), bearing elements (18, 22) on opposite sides of a recording head (20). The recording head (20) is mounted for translational movement by a positioning assembly which includes a pair of flexure plates (54, 56) having flexure portions (120, 150) defining torsional springs with oppositely acting torques to resist rotational movement of the recording head (20) during reciprocal movement. A drive includes a stepper motor (96) that operates a shaft cam (94) that bears against a head cam block (86) to move flexure portion (120) and a recording head (20) against a restorative force of flexure portions (120, 150). Cam nuts (34, 38) adjust skew and a cam element (107) adjusts tape penetration.

