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(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB00/00448 (22) International Filing Date: 11 April 2000 (11.04.00) (30) Priority Data: 9908934.4 19 April 1999 (19.04.99) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ROLIC AG [CH/CH]; Chamerstrasse 50, CH-6301 Zug (CH). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): CHERKAOU, Zoubair, Mohammed [MA/CH]; Allmendstrasse 2, CH-4123 Allschwil (CH). BENECKE, Carsten [DE/DE]; Vierthauen 9, D-79576 Weil Am Rhein (DE). SCHMITT, Klaus [DE/DE]; Gartenstrasse 16B, D-79541 Lörrach (DE). (74) Agent: GRONER, Manfred; Isler & Pedrazzini AG, P.O. Box 6940, CH-8023 Zurich (CH).		(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.	
(54) Title: LIQUID CRYSTAL COMPOUNDS			
$\begin{array}{c} A^1-MG^1-B^1-MG^2-A^2 \\ \quad \quad \\ A^3 \quad \quad A^4 \end{array} \quad (I)$			
(57) Abstract			
The invention provides compounds of formula (I), wherein A¹ to A⁴ are independently selected from the group consisting hydrogen, a methyl group and a hydrocarbon group containing from 2 to 80 carbon atoms in which one or more carbon atoms are optionally replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting -O-, -S- and -N- with the proviso that firstly no two heteroatoms are joined together and secondly that at least one of A¹ to A⁴ includes a polymerisable group; B¹ represents a hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 80 carbon atoms, in which one or more carbon atoms are optionally replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting -O-, -S- and -N- with the proviso that no two heteroatoms are joined together; MG¹ and MG² are the same or different and each independently represents an aromatic or non-aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system containing from 1 to 80 carbon atoms, with the proviso that firstly at least one of MG¹ and MG² comprises at least two ring systems and secondly, when MG¹ and MG² are identical each of A¹ and A² or A³ and A⁴ are different. The invention also provides liquid crystalline mixtures and optical or electro-optical devices including compounds of formula (I).			