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United States Patent [19]
della Porta

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[54] **DEVICE FOR DISPENSING MERCURY, SORBING REACTIVE GASES, SHIELDING ELECTRODES IN FLUORESCENT LAMPS AND A PROCESS FOR MAKING SUCH DEVICE**

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[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

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[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **313/556**; 313/558; 313/559; 313/560; 313/566; 313/491; 313/493; 313/631; 313/634

[58] **Field of Search** 313/264, 491-93, 313/548-566, 631-32, 634-35, 574

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A mercury dispensing support strip capable of dispensing mercury and sorbing reactive gases. In one embodiment, the support strip of the invention includes at least one track of mercury releasing material deposited on one face of the support strip. At least one track of getter material is also deposited on the same face of the support strip. The tracks of mercury releasing and getter materials are deposited on the support strip such that the mechanical strains exerted by the materials on points of the support strip that are substantially symmetric with respect to a central axis of said first surface of said mercury dispensing support strip are substantially equivalent.

27 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

