

the answer is "NO", this indicates that the sub-control circuit 201 is still updating, so that the CPU 103 monitors the state of reception of the command in S535.

[0172] The control operation of the sub-CPU 203 of the sub-control circuit 201 will be described below.

[0173] FIG. 31 is a flowchart showing interrupt process. The interrupt process is executed as interrupt process every three microseconds by the sub-CPU 203, and the sub-CPU 203 stores a command transmitted from the main control circuit 101 into the sub-RAM 205.

[0174] First, the sub-CPU 203 checks an input buffer (S600), and determines whether the input buffer has an input signal (S601). If the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 directly ends the interrupt process. If the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 turns on a reception flag (S602) and sets the contents of the received command to the sub-RAM 205 (S603), and brings the interrupt process to an end. Then, the sub-CPU 203 checks the received command and determines whether the received command is an initialization command (S604). If the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 checks applied payout performance settings and image data based thereon (S605) and causes the respective liquid crystal display devices to display images (S606), and brings the interrupt process to an end. If the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 directly brings the interrupt process to an end.

[0175] FIG. 32 is a flowchart showing the main process of the sub-control circuit 201. First, the sub-CPU 203 checks the reception flag of the sub-RAM 205, and determines whether a parameter change demand command has been transmitted from the main control circuit 101 (S620), and if the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes parameter change process (S621) and proceeds to S622. If the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 skips S621. The parameter change process can modify the number of payout coins and a winning probability. Details will be described later.

[0176] Then, the sub-CPU 203 determines whether the sub-control circuit 201 has received a start command (S622), and if the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 skips S623 to S624, whereas if the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes effect control process for the starting period of the main process (S622). The effect control process for the starting period performs BR control process in the case where an RB is occurring. Details will be described later.

[0177] Then, the sub-CPU 203 determines whether the sub-control circuit 201 has received a reel stop command (S624), and if the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 skips S625 to S626, whereas if the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes effect control process for a reel stopping period (S625). The effect control process for a reel stopping period notifies the player of stop order during BR generation lottery process or a BR, and provides an effect corresponding to the degree of matching between notified contents and an actual stop operation. Details will be described later.

[0178] Then, the sub-CPU 203 determines whether the sub-control circuit 201 has received a one-game end command (S626), and if the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 skips S627 and returns to the process of S620, and repeatedly performs the same process. If the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes effect control process for a one-game end period (S627). The effect control process for a one-game end period executes preview notice effect process, and

updating process on a BR continuation period in the case where a BR is occurring. Details will be described later.

[0179] After the S627 has come to an end, the sub-CPU 203 returns to S620 and repeatedly performs the same process. In this manner, on the basis of each of the commands transmitted from the main control circuit 101, the main process of the sub-control circuit 201 repeatedly performs a process which branches to the corresponding effect process.

[0180] FIG. 33 is a flowchart showing the parameter change process. First, the CPU 103 displays the support menu screen shown in FIG. 22A (S540). The support menu makes it possible to select any one from the three modes. The sub-CPU 203 determines whether Mode 1 has been selected (S541), and if the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes payout/probability modifying process (S542) and proceeds to S547. If the answer is "NO", then the sub-CPU 203 determines whether Mode 2 has been selected (S543). If the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes ST generation probability modifying process (S544), and proceeds to S547. If the answer is "NO", then the sub-CPU 203 determines whether Mode 3 has been selected (S545), and if the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 executes setting modifying process and proceeds to S547. If the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 does not execute any of the modes, and proceeds to S547.

[0181] Then, the sub-CPU 203 determines whether the keyswitch has been turned off, namely, whether the sub-control circuit 201 has received a keyswitch-off command transmitted from the main control circuit 101 (S547). If the answer is "YES", the sub-CPU 203 transmits the current stored number-of-payout-coins data and probability data to the main control circuit 101 as a parameter change completion command (S548), and brings the support menu to an end and returns to the initializing process. If the answer is "NO", the sub-CPU 203 returns to S540, and repeats the same process until an input to select any of the modes or an input to operate the keyswitch has been provided.

[0182] FIG. 35 is a flowchart showing the payout/probability modifying process. First, the CPU 103 displays the password input screen shown in FIG. 22B (S550). Then, the CPU 103 determines whether character inputs have been provided through a pseudo-keyboard displayed on the screen (S551), and if the answer is "YES", the CPU 103 displays the input characters in the input character display shown in FIG. 22B (the input letters are displayed in an asterisk form) (S552), and returns to S551. If the answer is "NO", then the CPU 103 determines whether the key "correction" displayed at the bottom right of the pseudo-keyboard has been operated (S553). If the answer is "YES", the CPU 103 deletes the previous input characters (S554), and returns to S551.

[0183] If the answer to the question of S553 is "NO", then the CPU 103 determines whether the key "end" displayed at the bottom right of the pseudo-keyboard has been operated (S555). If the answer is "YES", then the CPU 103 determines whether the password input and defined is a correct password (S556). If the answer is "YES", then the CPU 103 executes input process (S557). If the answer to the question of S556 is "NO", this indicates that an incorrect password has been input, so that the CPU 103 provides display to the effect that the password is inappropriate (S559), and returns to S550 to make a request to input a password again.