I was director of Engineering for about 8 months at Androbot back in the 80s. The device you are pointing at was an IR communications mockup that was to be called something like the Androhub or AndroCommunciator. While the fancy wooden one never worked (photo model) the plastic one that was shown and CES in Chicago did work.

Nice to see pictures still around -- it was a pretty exciting idea at the time....maybe today the tools and the talent exists to make this work...

Regards,

Richard Foote