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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Broadhurst**

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(54) **METHOD OF DETERMINING  
UNAVAILABILITY OF AN INTERNET  
DOMAIN NAME**

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 1 day.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/133,836**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 13, 1998**

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1997.

(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **G06F 15/16**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **709/203; 709/217; 709/219**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **709/217, 224,  
709/223, 219, 245, 227, 249, 203; 707/104,  
500, 505**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods, systems, and articles of manufacture consistent  
with the present invention provide an improved query server  
that overcomes the shortcomings of existing domain name  
searching techniques by performing a multitude of searches  
simultaneously, transparent to the user. Specifically, the  
improved query server searches for existing domain name  
records in various domains and then displays the results in  
a formatted manner, thus eliminating the need for a user to  
perform individual searches.

**17 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**

idNames.com™

SEARCH FOR A NAME

TOP 50 COUNTRIES RANKED BY ANNUAL  
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

ENTER NAME:

ENTER YOUR NAME IN THE TEXT BOX (WITHOUT EXTENSIONS). FOR  
EXAMPLE, ENTER "yourname" NOT "www.yourname.com". CLICK ON  
THE "SEARCH" BUTTON TO SEARCH THE TOP 50 COUNTRIES RANKED BY  
ANNUAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRDDUCT.

- |                   |                  |                    |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. USA            | 18. IRAN         | 35. SWITZERLAND    |
| 2. JAPAN          | 19. TURKEY       | 36. AUSTRIA        |
| 3. CHINA          | 20. NETHERLANDS  | 37. HDNG KONG      |
| 4. GERMANY        | 21. ARGENTINA    | 38. BANGLADESH     |
| 5. INDIA          | 22. TAIWAN       | 39. NIGERIA        |
| 6. UNITED KINGDOM | 23. PAKISTAN     | 40. PORTUGAL       |
| 7. FRANCE         | 24. SOUTH AFRICA | 41. DENMARK        |
| 8. ITALY          | 25. POLAND       | 42. CHILE          |
| 9. BRAZIL         | 26. UKRAINE      | 43. ALGERIA        |
| 10. MEXICO        | 27. BELGIUM      | 44. NORWAY         |
| 11. RUSSIA        | 28. VENEZUELA    | 45. GREECE         |
| 12. CANADA        | 29. SAUDI ARABIA | 46. MOROCCO        |
| 13. INDONESIA     | 30. COLOMBIA     | 47. VIET NAM       |
| 14. SPAIN         | 31. MALAYSIA     | 48. FINLAND        |
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| 16. AUSTRALIA     | 33. PHILIPPINES  | 50. SYRIA          |
| 17. THAILAND      | 34. EGYPT        |                    |

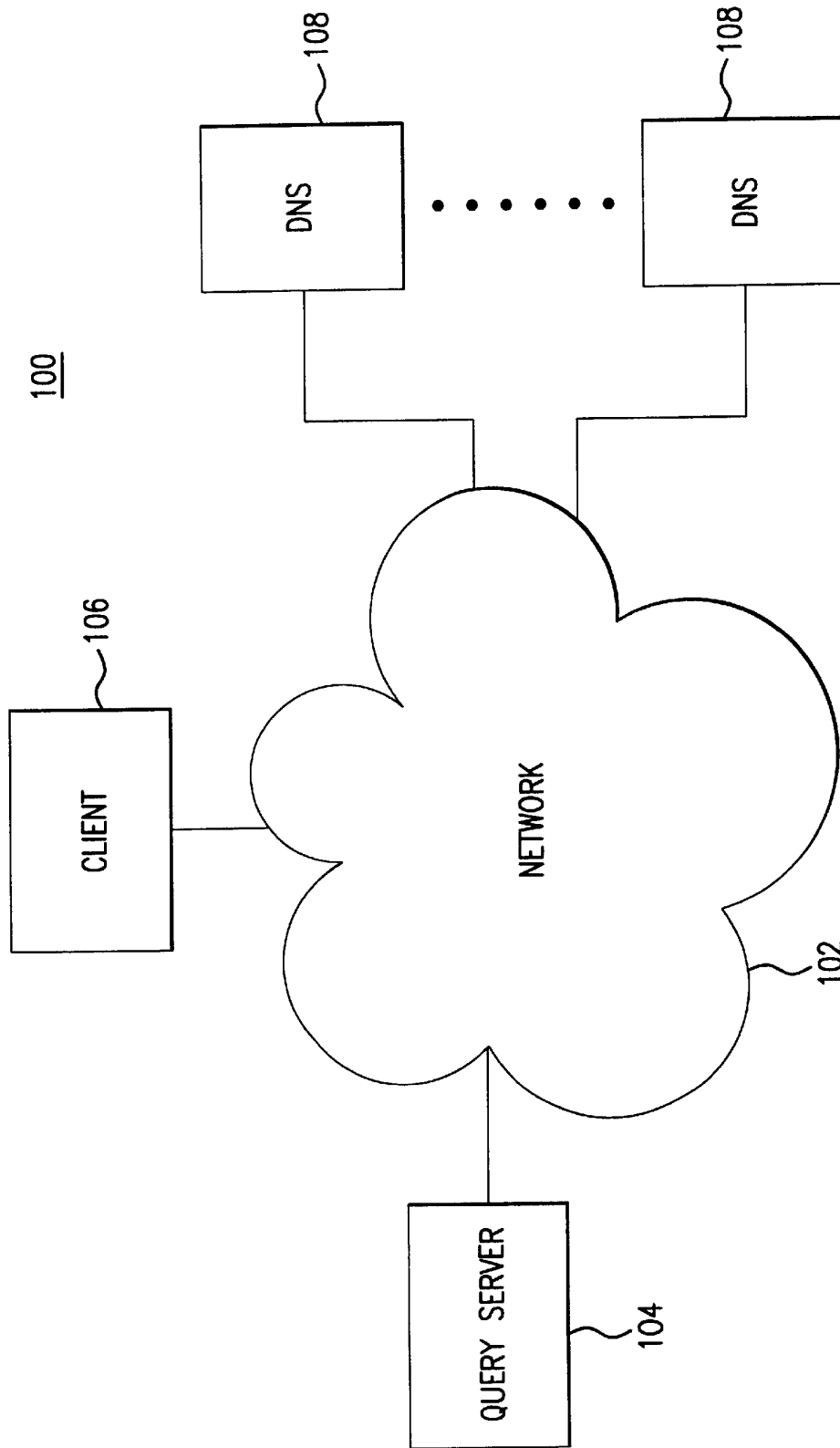


FIG.1

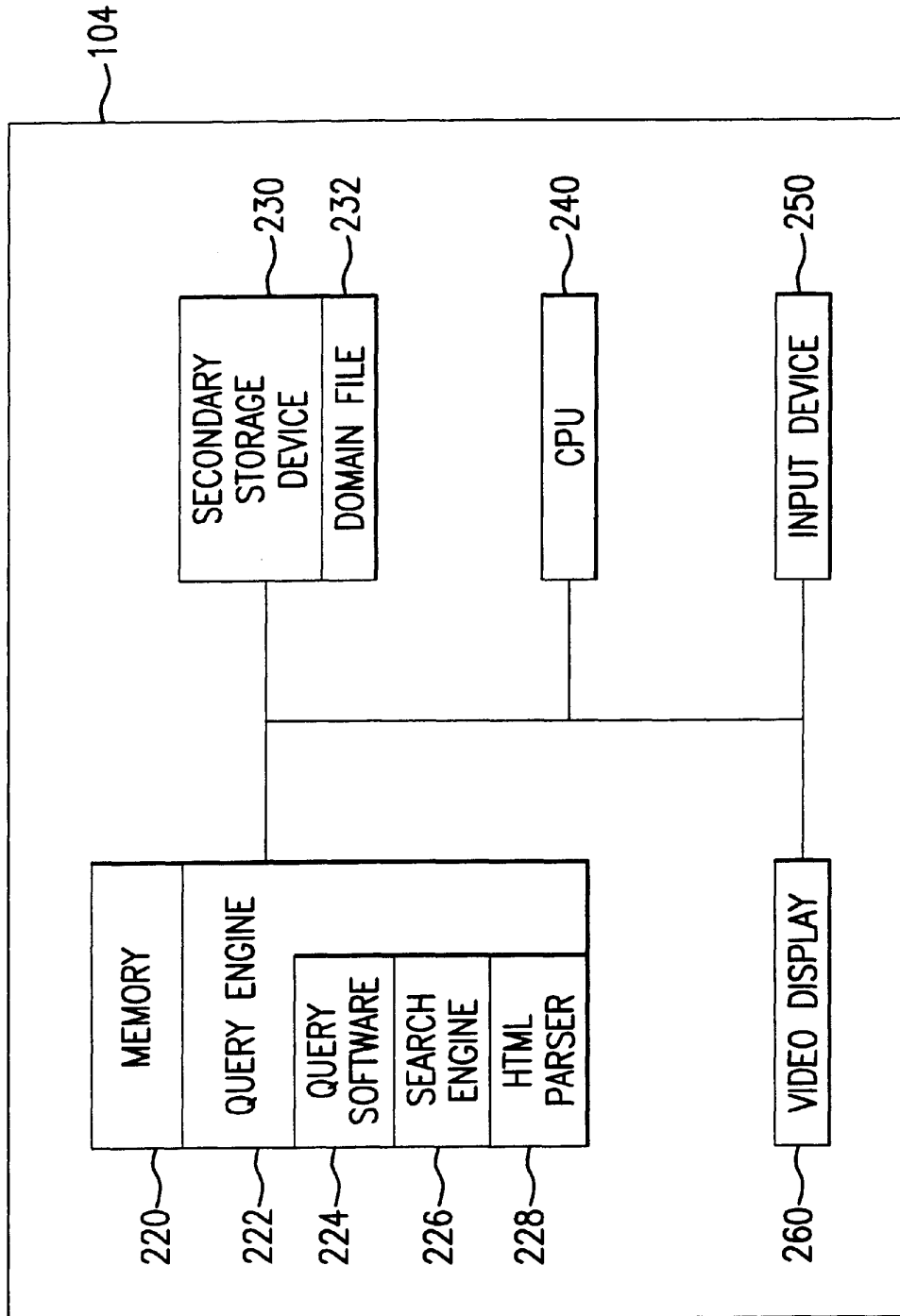


FIG.2

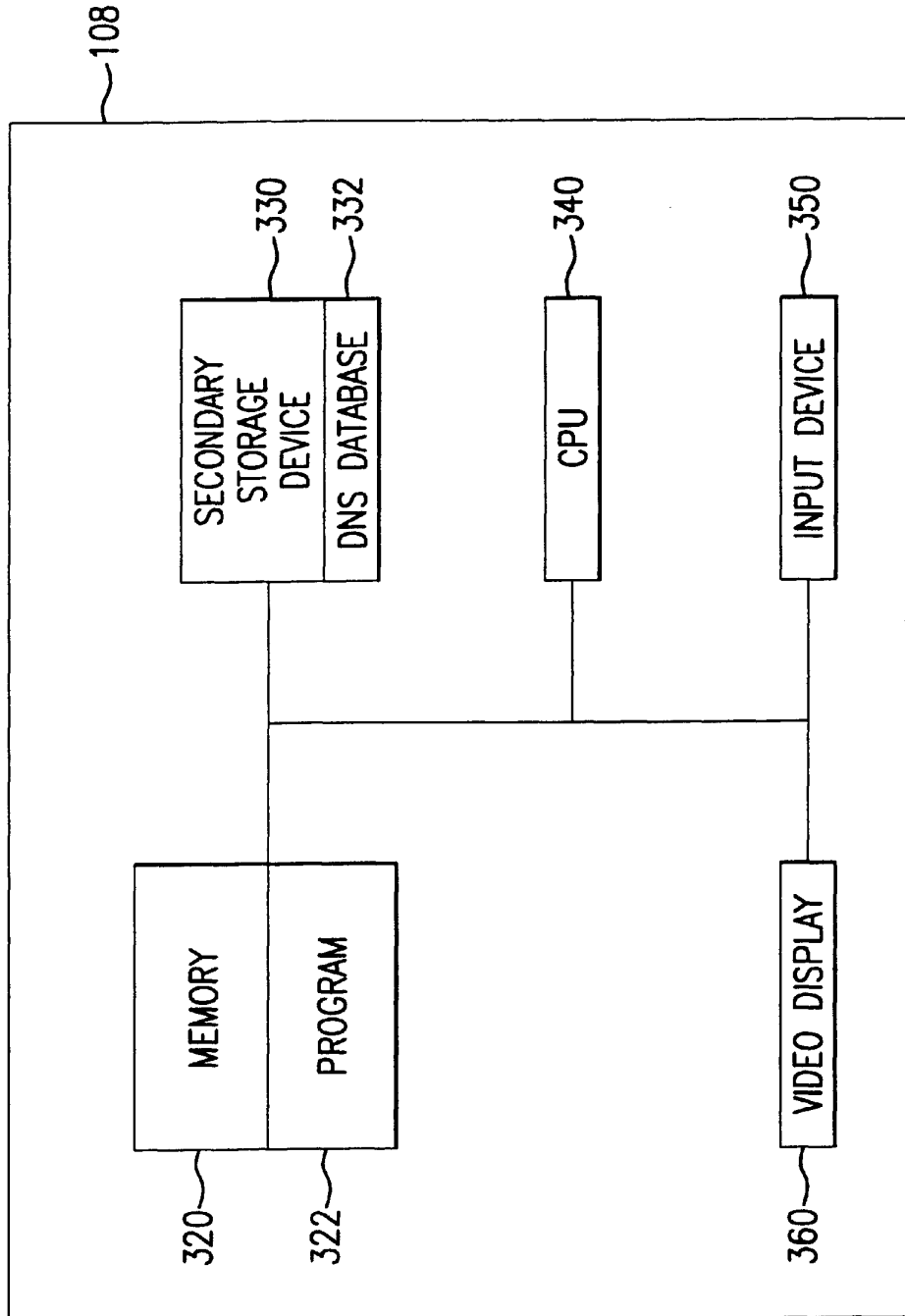


FIG. 3

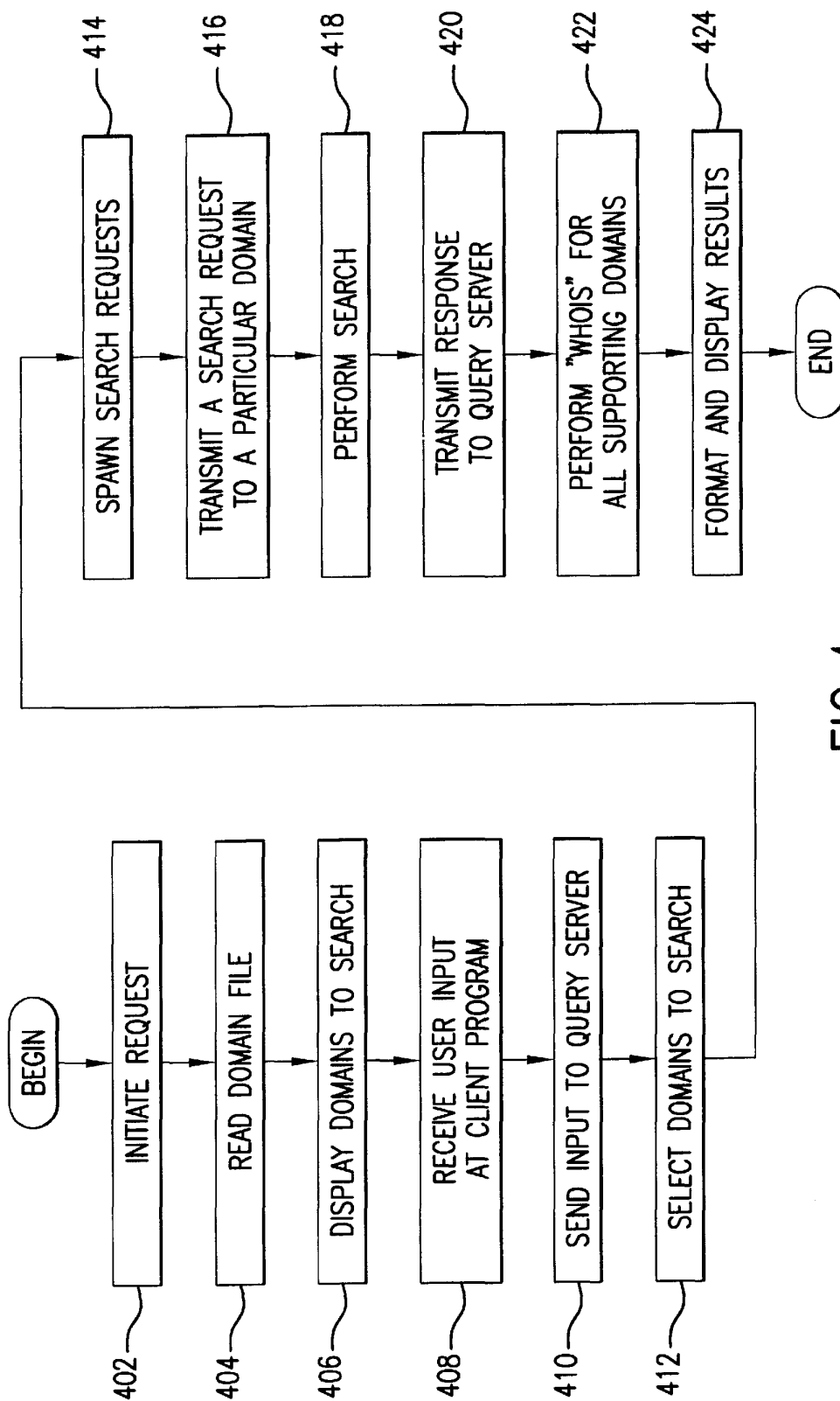


FIG. 4

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