



[54] APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MARKING TEXT ON A DISPLAY SCREEN IN A PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 279,639, Jul. 25, 1994, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ G09G 5/00

[52] U.S. Cl. 345/173; 345/179

[58] Field of Search 345/156, 173, 345/179, 174, 180, 175, 158, 157, 168; 178/18, 19; 379/96; 341/22, 33, 34; 359/803

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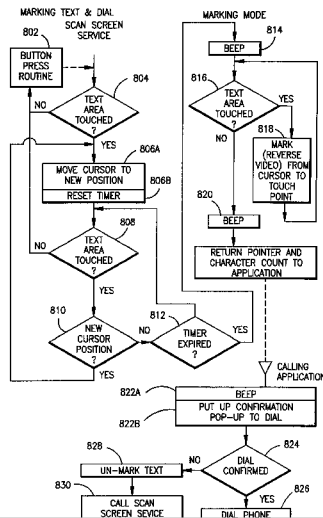
"Simon" from Bell South Designed by IBM.

Primary Examiner—Dennis-Doon Chow
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Pollock, Vande Sande & Priddy; George Grosser

[57] ABSTRACT

In a personal communications device having a touch sensitive display screen, text may be marked by a user to be used with different applications. In particular, to begin marking, a user has to maintain his touch at a location on the screen for a short predetermined period of time until the system detects that the position is held over the same character for a delayed period, at which time the system beeps to provide an indication that there has been a change of operation mode. The marking mode continues in operation until the user removes his contact from the touch screen. Thus, text over which the contact point passes after the initiation of the marking mode is marked, until the user removes his contact point from the touch screen. A second beep is sounded to alert the user of the termination of the marking mode, and the appearance of a menu of operations on the screen. The menu of operations echoes the marked text for user confirmation. The marked text may be used by the user in a number of applications, among which include a calling application whereby the marked text is used to place a call.

1 Claim, 6 Drawing Sheets



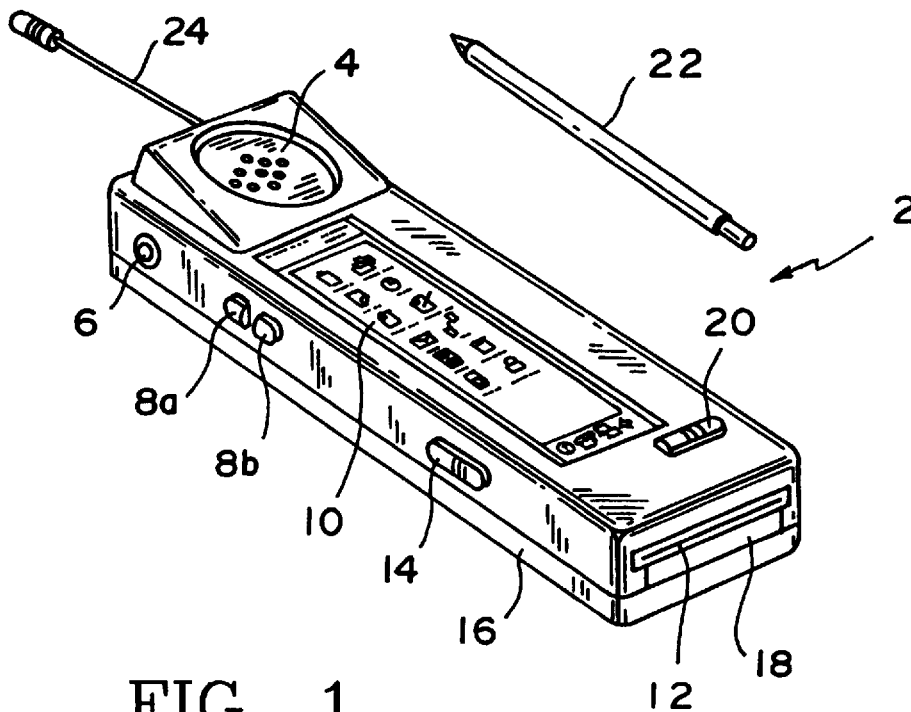


FIG. 1

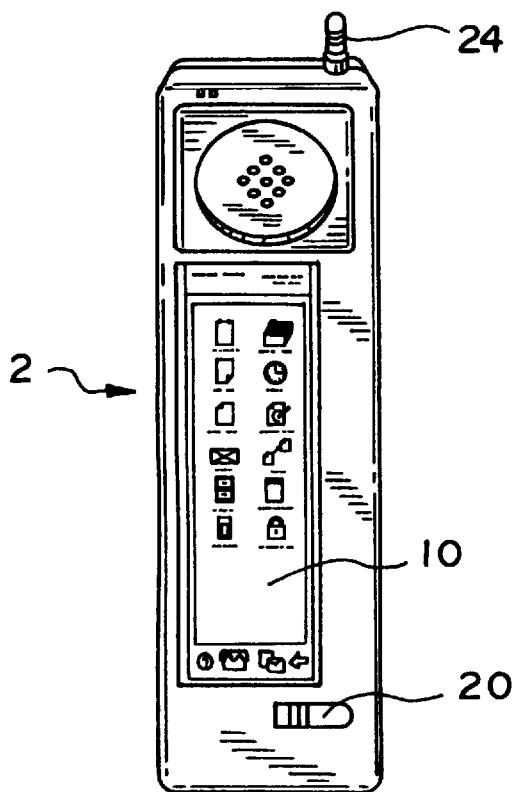
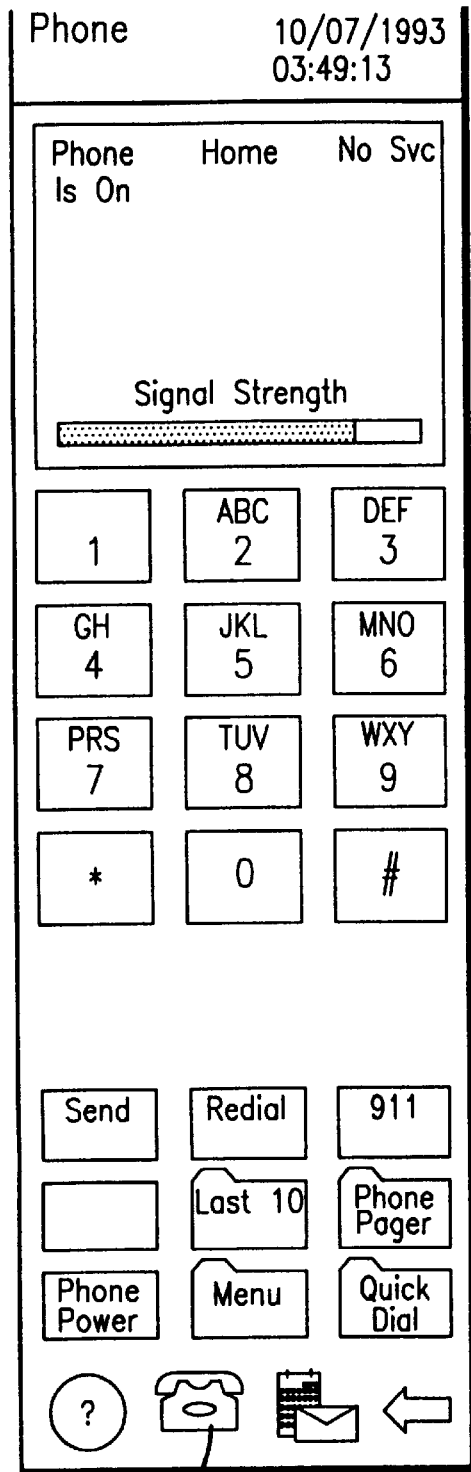


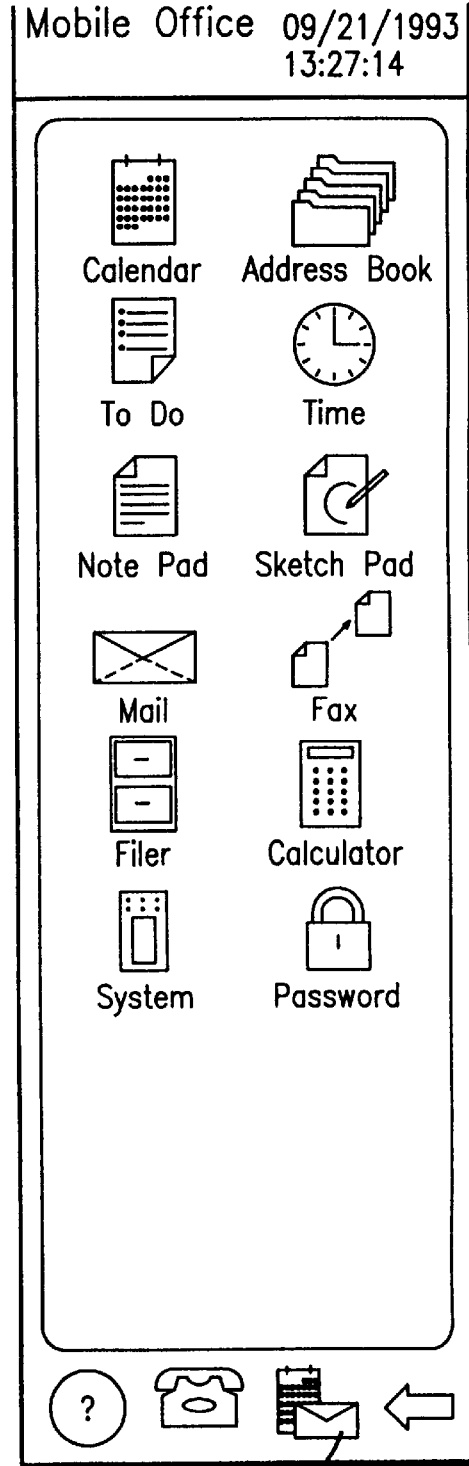
FIG. 2



26

The Phone Screen

FIG. 3



28

The Mobile Office Screen

FIG. 4

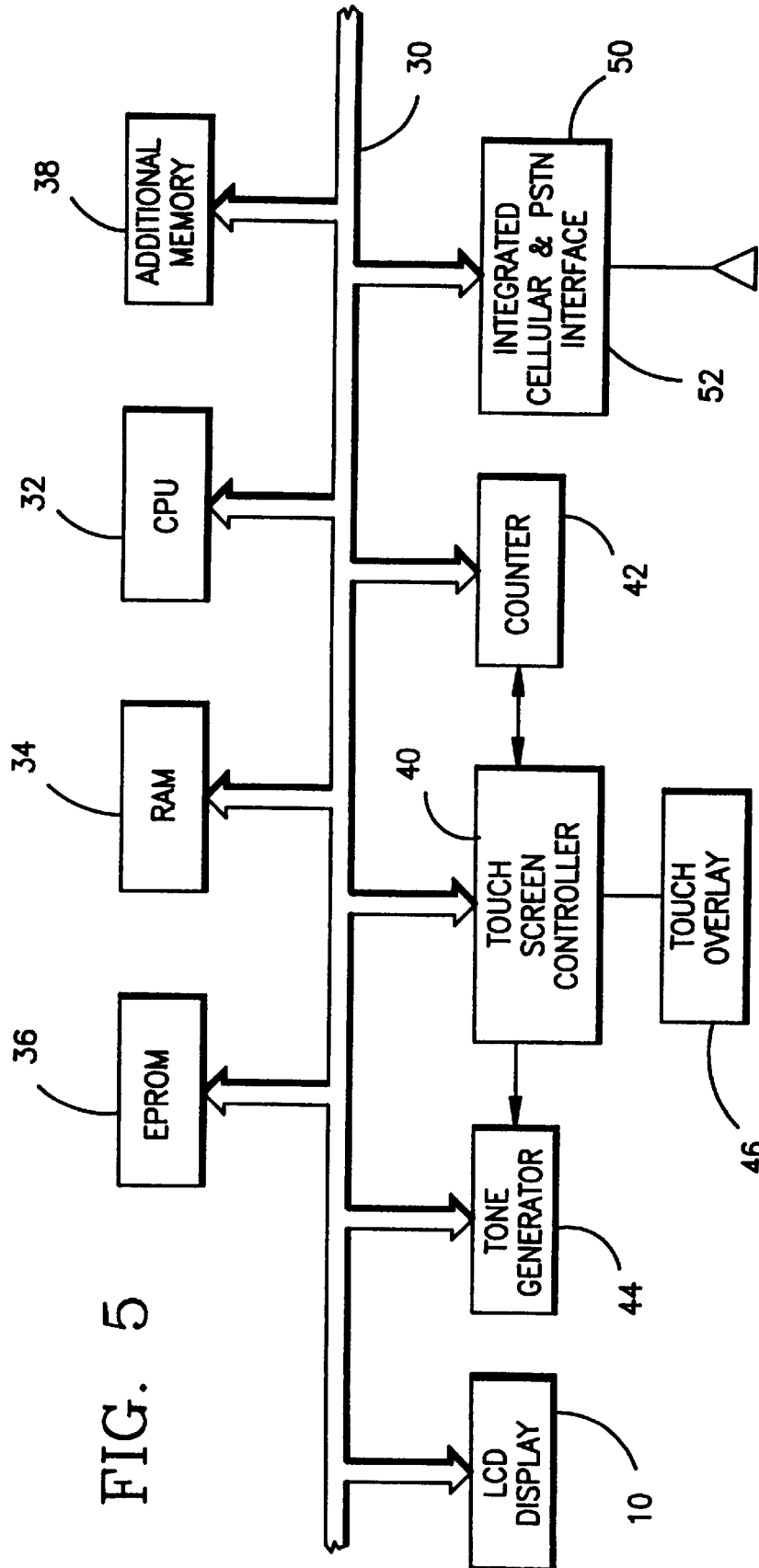


FIG. 5

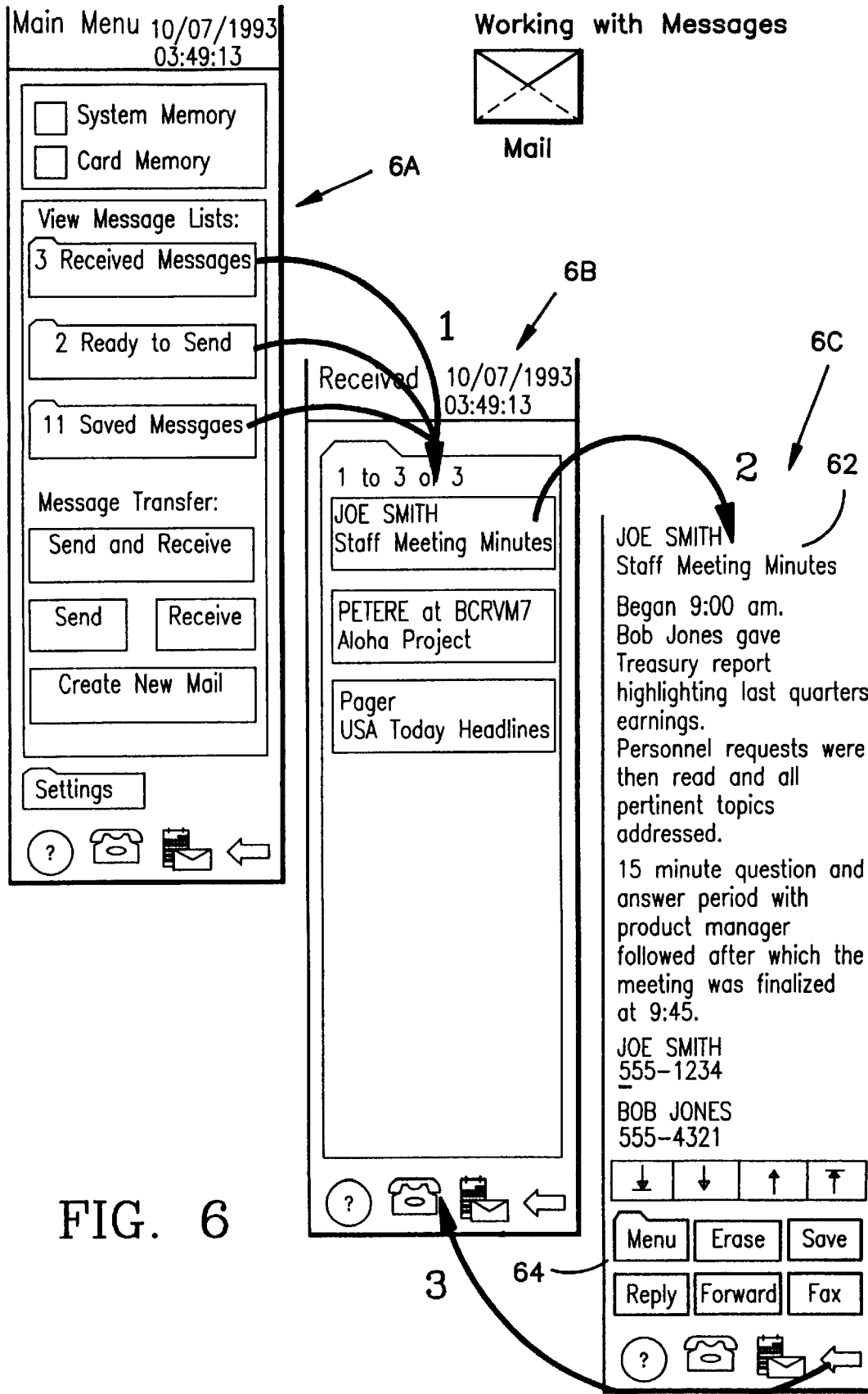


FIG. 6

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