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(54) **TEXT ENTRY METHOD AND DEVICE THEREFOR**

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(57)   **ABSTRACT**

A method and device for improved character input are described, wherein the method employs a keypad **100** comprising keys **102** able to display secondary characters **106** in addition to primary characters **104**. The keypad has a default display state. A first key selection causes the keypad **100** to display secondary characters **106** associated with the first key on other keys **102**, whereupon a second key selection causes the displayed character to be input, following which the keypad reverts to displaying the default state. Further secondary characters **200** may also be displayed after a first key selection. The method is particularly useful for handheld devices such as mobile radio telephones or handheld computers adapted to implement the method of the invention.

16 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets
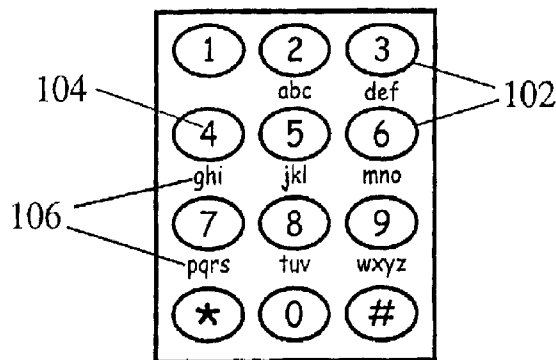
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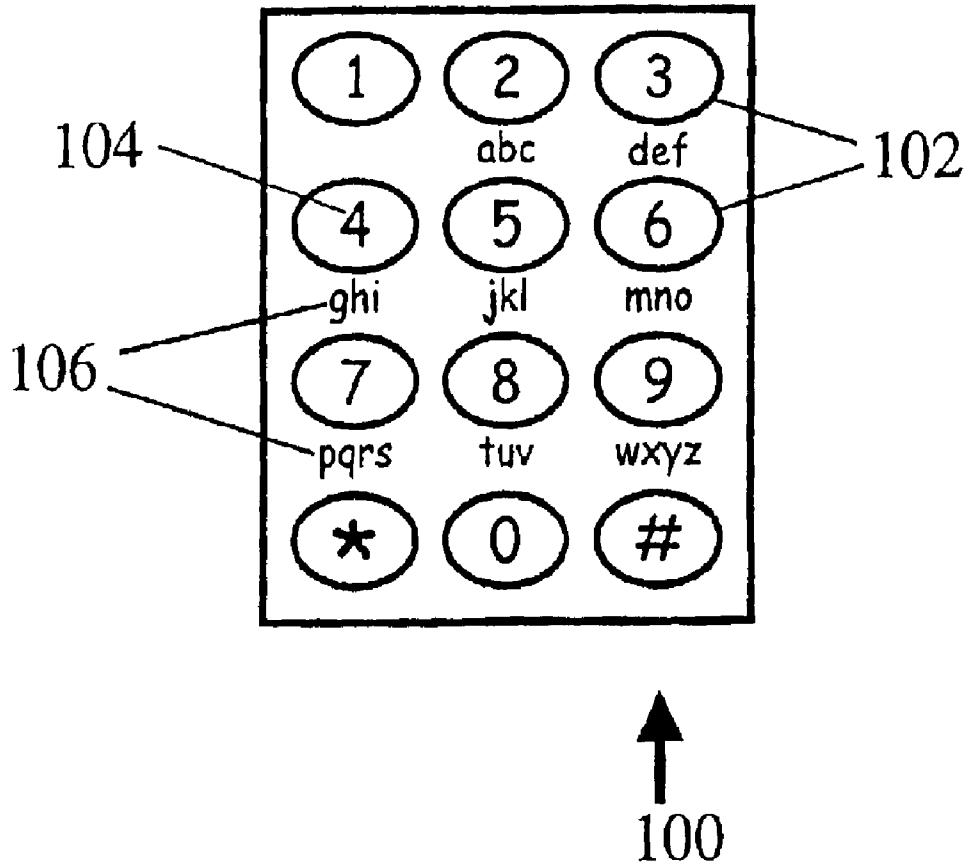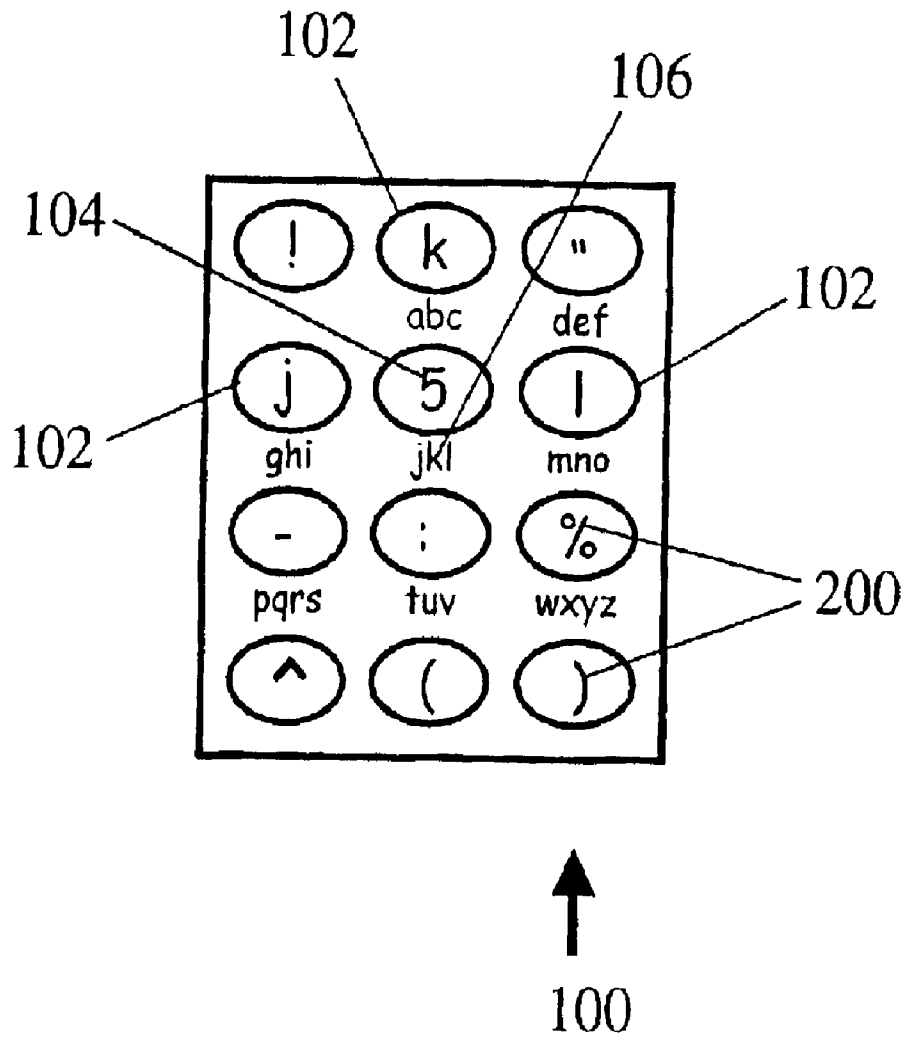
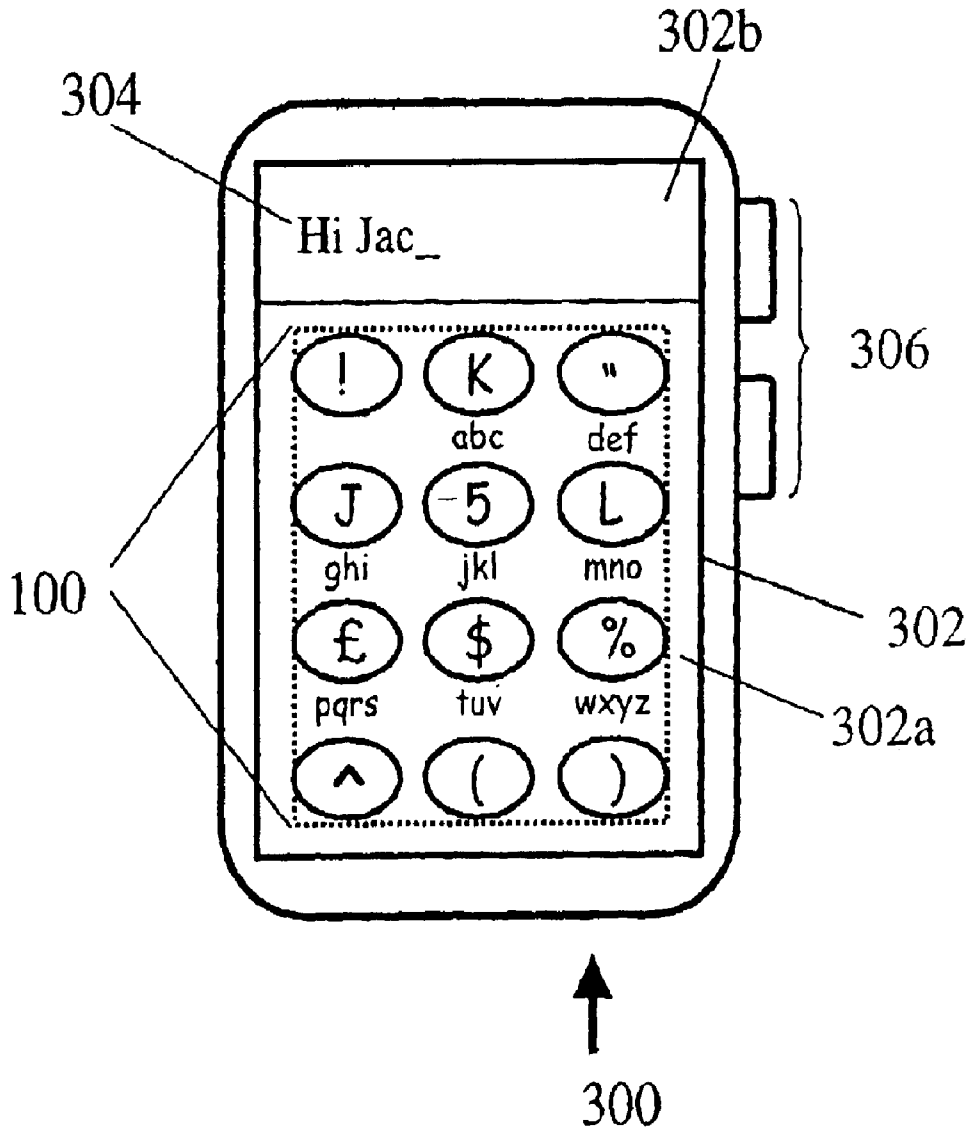* cited by examiner

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

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