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Teller et al.

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(54) **DEVICE AND METHOD FOR MONITORING THE PRESENCE OF ITEMS AND ISSUING AN ALERT IF AN ITEM IS NOT DETECTED**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
G08B 1/08 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **340/539.32**; 235/385; 340/539.11; 340/572.1

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 340/539.32, 572.1, 539.23, 539.11; 235/385; 705/28
See application file for complete search history.

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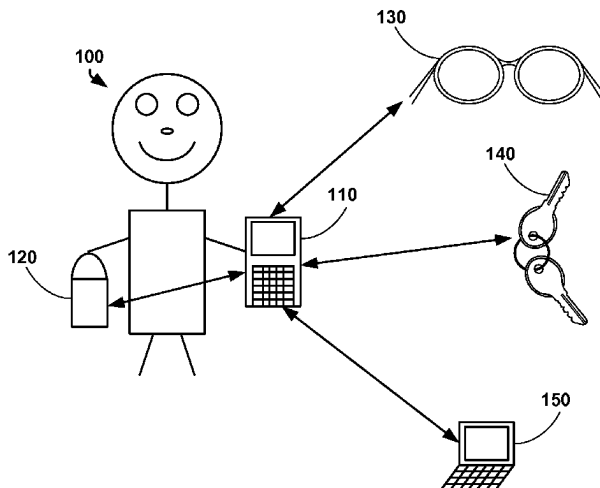|				
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Disclosed herein are methods and systems that involve monitoring presence of items based on context. An exemplary method involves: (i) determining a context for a given user; (ii) determining a proximity framework between a monitoring device and one or more items, based on the determined context, wherein the proximity framework comprises (a) one or more proximity requirements, each proximity requirement indicating a required proximity between the monitoring device and at least one of the items and (b) a notification process corresponding to each proximity requirement; (iii) monitoring proximity of each of the items relative to the monitoring device, based on a presence signal from each of the items, in order to determine when one of the proximity requirements is not met; and (iv) responsive to determining that one of the proximity requirements is not met, initiating the corresponding notification process.
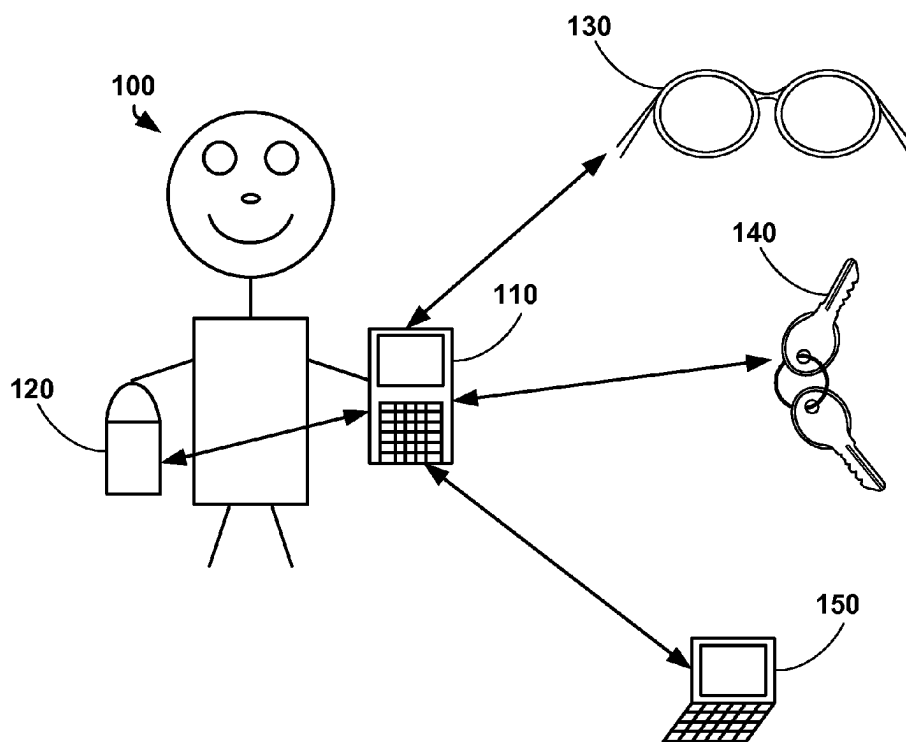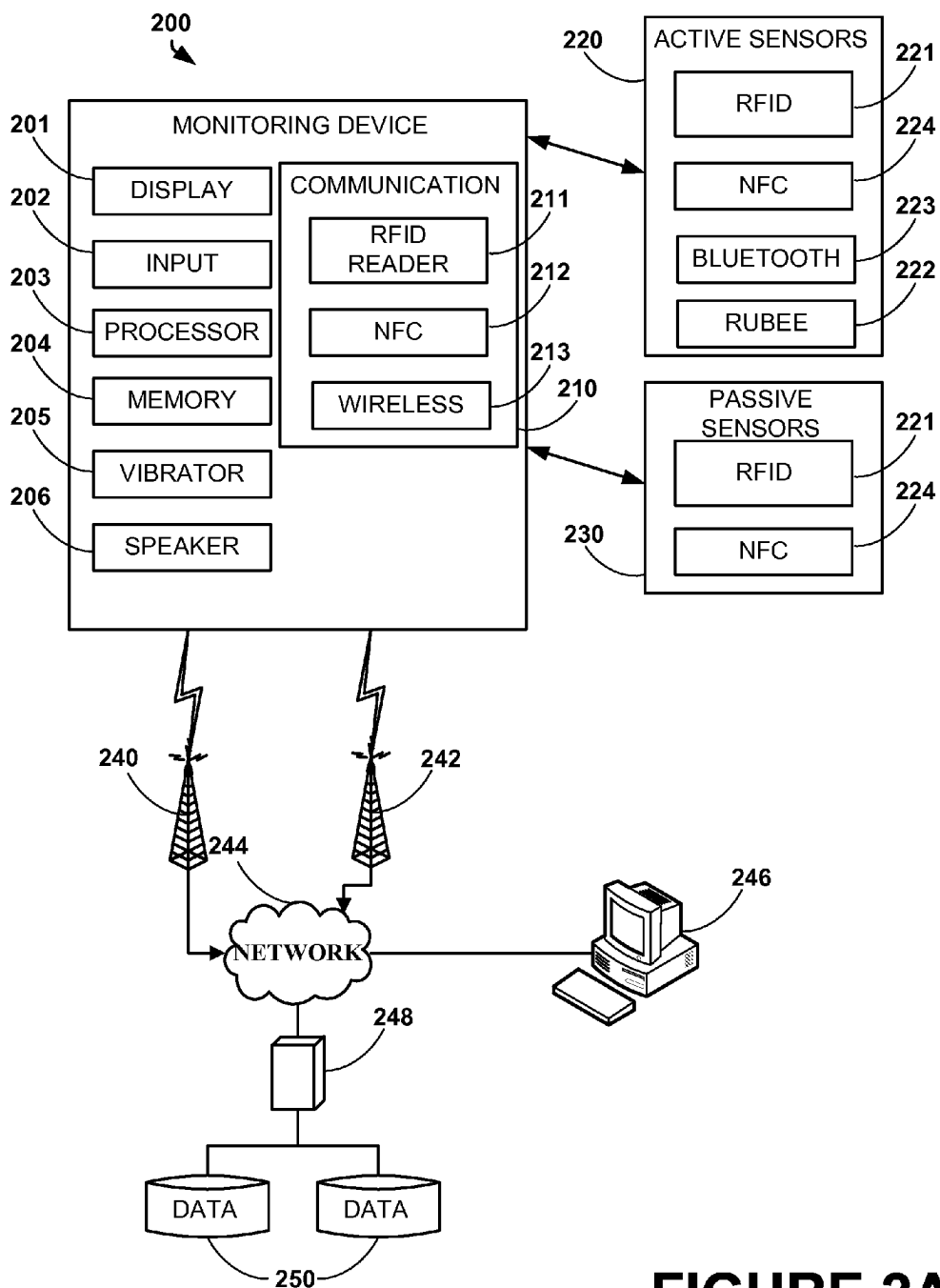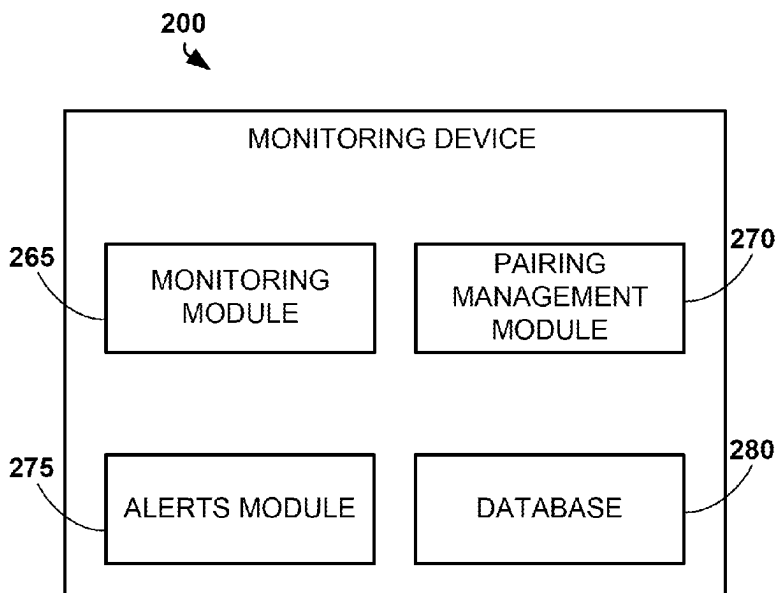
35 Claims, 22 Drawing Sheets

FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2A

200

MONITORING DEVICE

265 — MONITORING MODULE

PAIRING MANAGEMENT MODULE — 270

275 — ALERTS MODULE

DATABASE — 280

FIGURE 2B

300

310

AN ITEM HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED
THAT CAN BE PAIRED WITH
THIS DEVICE SO THAT YOU
WILL BE ALERTED IF THE ITEM
IS SEPARATED FROM YOU.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO PAIR IT
TO THIS DEVICE?

320

YES

330

NO

FIGURE 3A

350

355

DISTANCE

10 FT ▼

370

360

TYPE OF WARNING

VIBRATE ▼

365

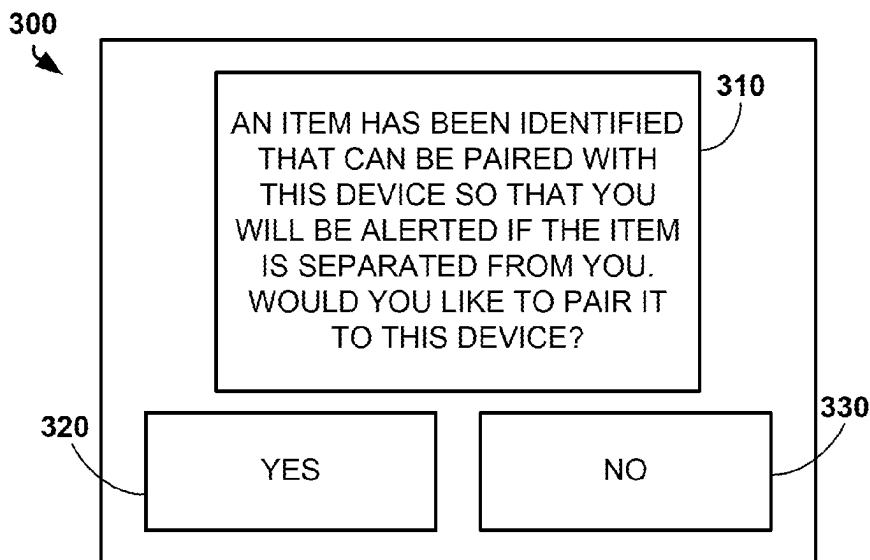DETECTION FREQUENCY
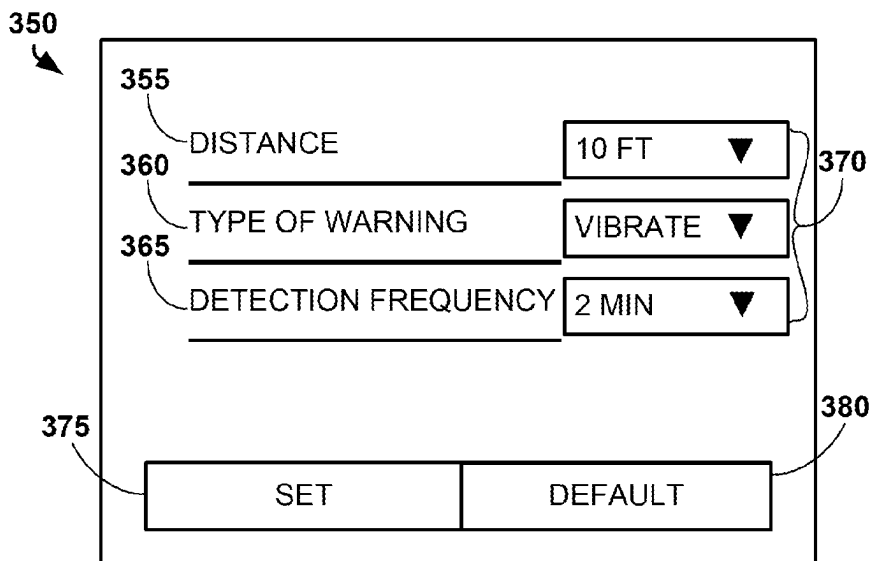
2 MIN ▼

375

SET

380

DEFAULT

FIGURE 3B

DOCKET ALARM

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