

(12) **United States Patent**
Chew et al.

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(54) **SMART COLUMN FOR CONTACT INFORMATION ON PALM-SIZED COMPUTING DEVICES AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISPLAYING THE SAME**

(75) **Inventors:** **Chee H. Chew**, Redmond, WA (US); **Elizabeth A. Bastiaanse**, Cambridge, MA (US); **Ido Ben-Shachar**, Sammamish, WA (US); **Jeffrey R. Blum**, Seattle, WA (US); **Mark H. Enomoto**, Seattle, WA (US); **Greg A. Keyser**, Sammamish, WA (US); **Kathryn L. Parker**, Fall City, WA (US); **Kevin T. Shields**, Redmond, WA (US); **Sarah E. Zuberec**, Seattle, WA (US)

(73) **Assignee:** **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, WA (US)

(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G06F 3/00**
 (52) **U.S. Cl.** **345/841; 345/157**
 (58) **Field of Search** **345/157, 169, 345/173, 863, 762, 763, 764, 841**

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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* cited by examiner

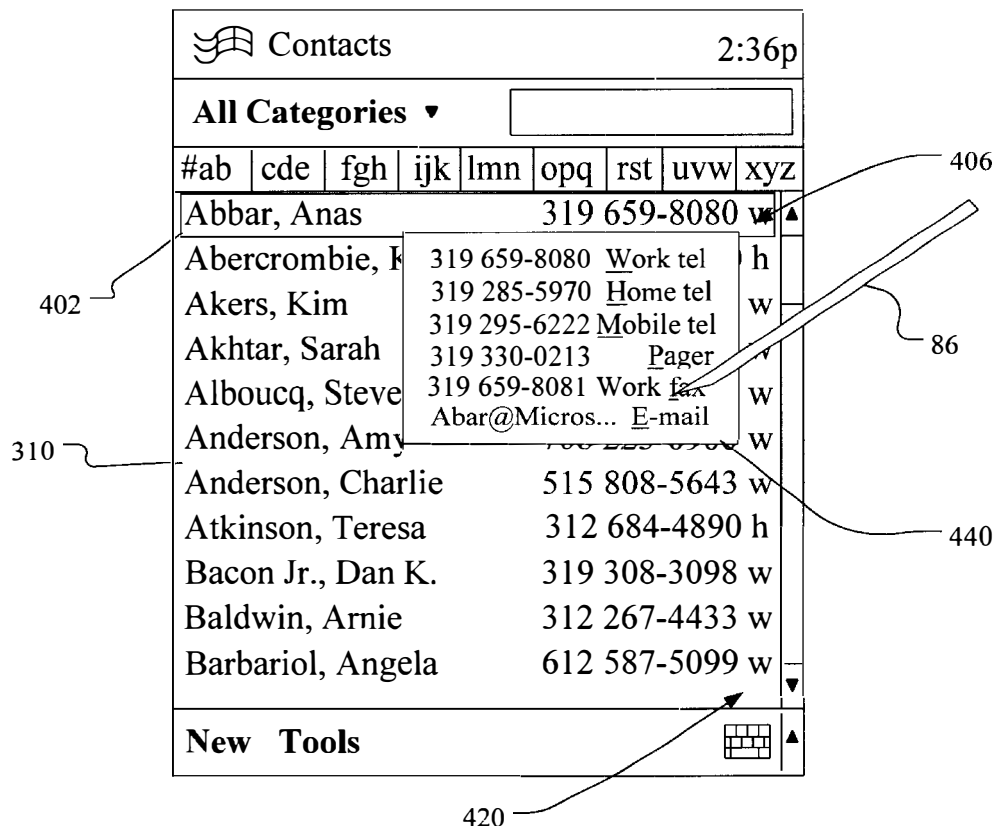
Primary Examiner—Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Westman, Champlin & Kelly, P.A.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The UI of the present invention increases the number of contacts initially shown to the user of a hand-held device to aid the user in finding information in a Contacts database. While displaying a list of Contacts database entries, the UI displays a column which contains single letters indicating the type of information displayed for the names represented in the list of entries. A tap on a letter in that column causes a sub-list of other most commonly needed information to be deployed for the corresponding entry, potentially eliminating the need for the user to open the entire record for that entry.

19 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets



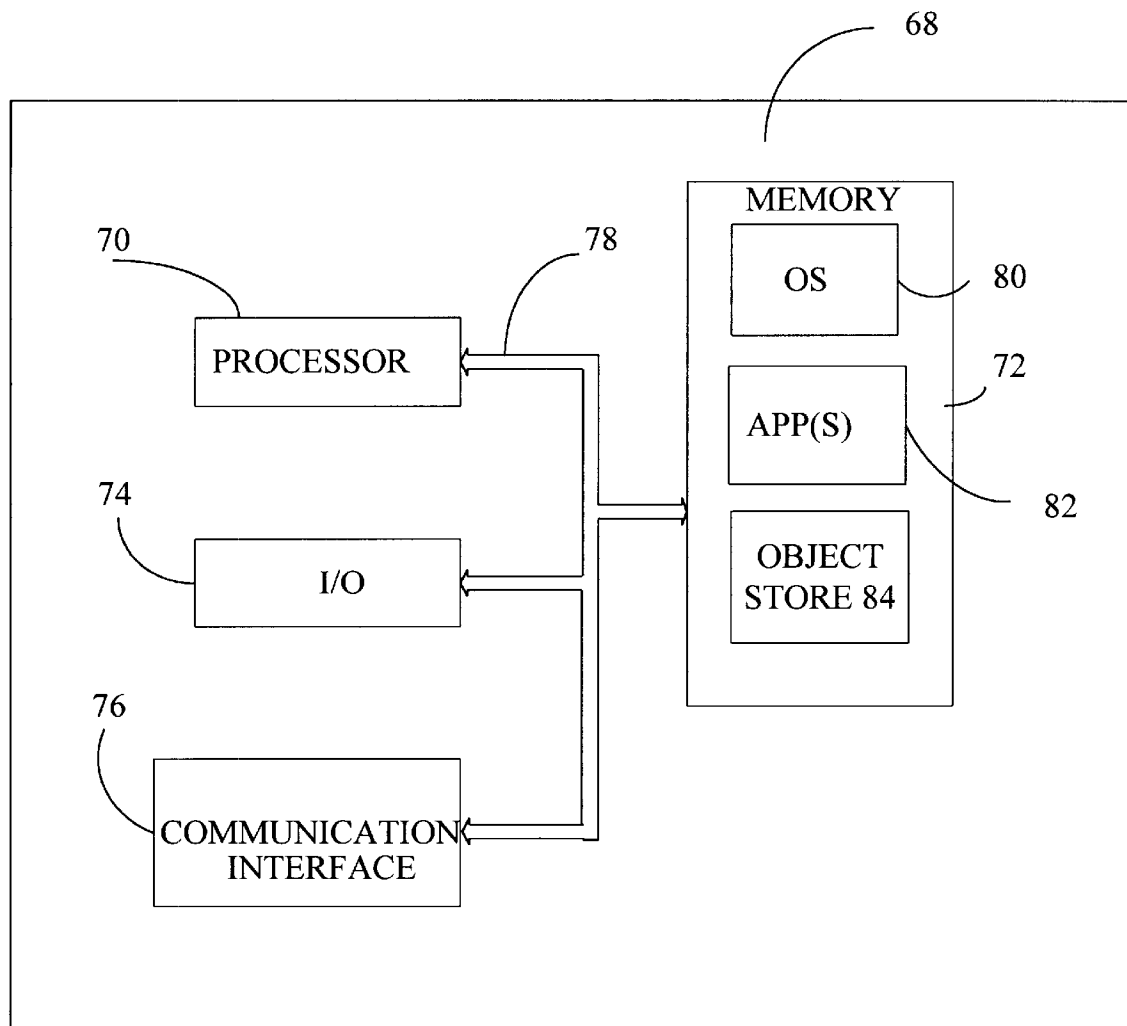


FIG. 1

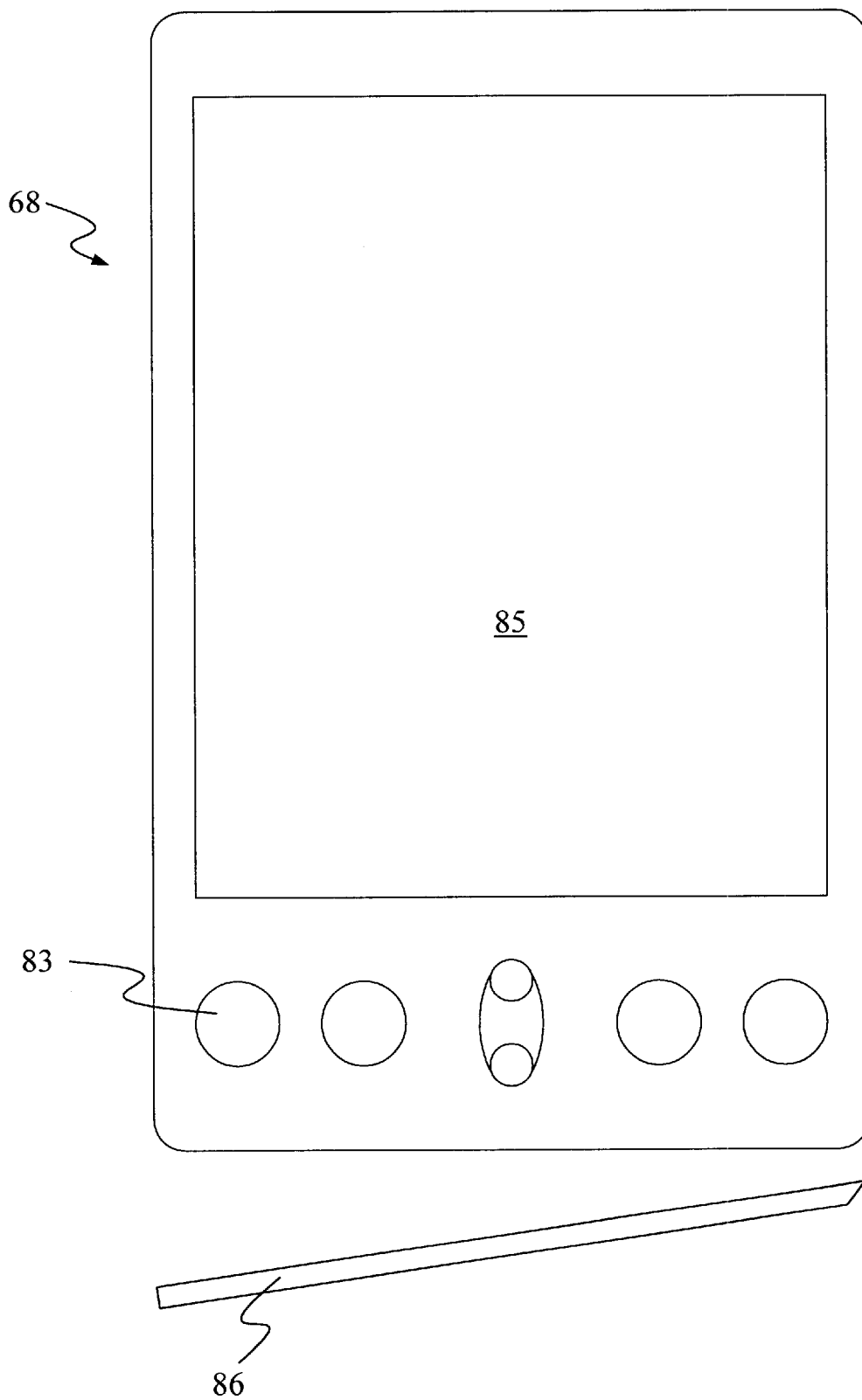


FIG. 2

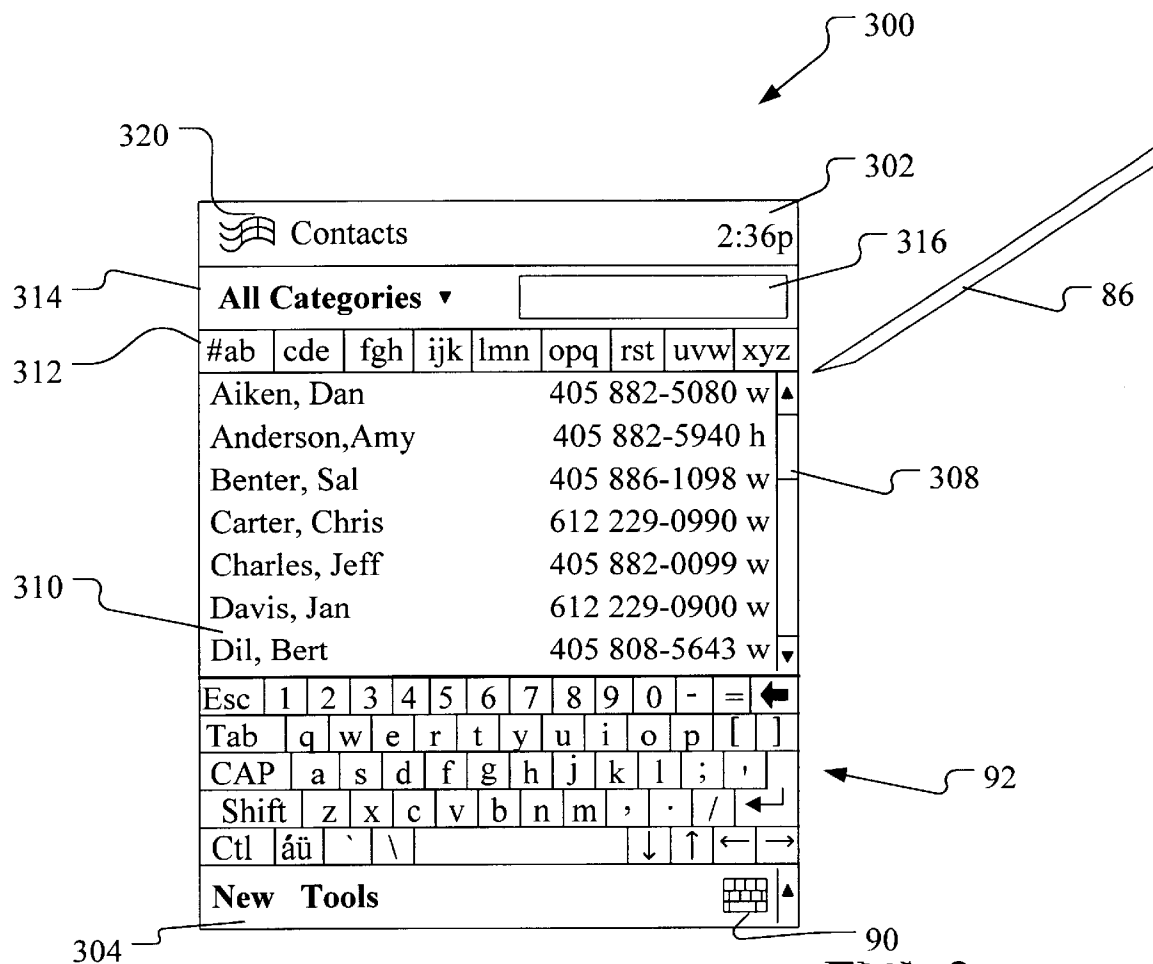
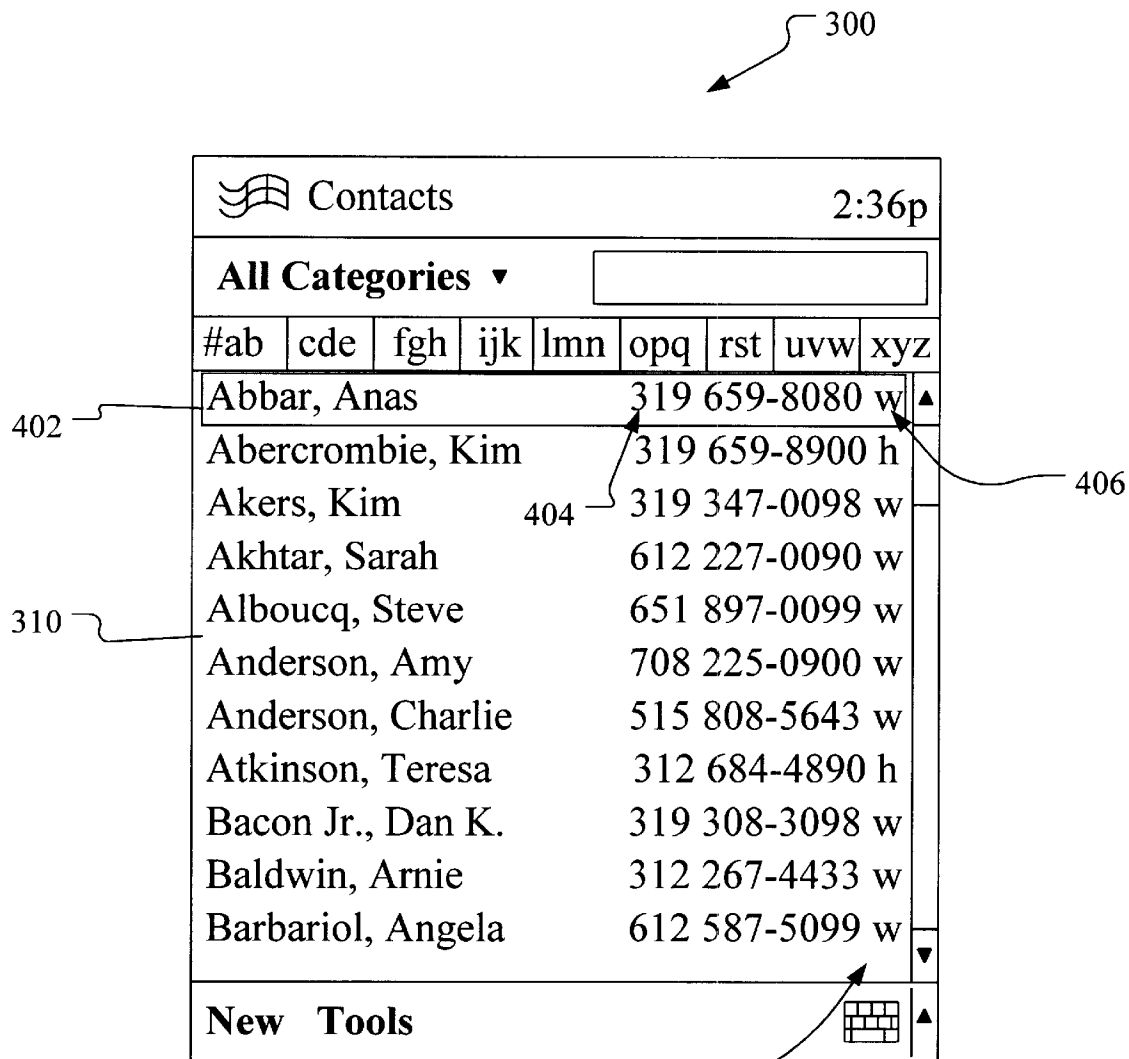


FIG. 3



420 FIG. 4

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