

**(12) United States Patent  
Burg**

**(10) Patent No.: US 6,219,413 B1  
(45) Date of Patent: Apr. 17, 2001**

(54) **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CALLED-PARTY TELEPHONE MESSAGING WHILE INTERCONNECTED TO A DATA NETWORK**

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

(21) Appl. No.: **08/908,669**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 7, 1997**

(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **H04M 11/00**; H04M 3/42

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **379/215**; 379/93.35; 370/352

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 379/88.12, 88.13, 379/88.16, 88.17, 88.19, 88.2, 210, 211, 212, 215, 93.15; 370/352

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus and method allow a called party, who is utilizing the telephone transmission line to connect to a data network, and as such is unable to directly receive an incoming phone call from a calling party, to be able to provide a specific response message to the calling party while not requiring the called party to directly communicate with the calling party.

**20 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**

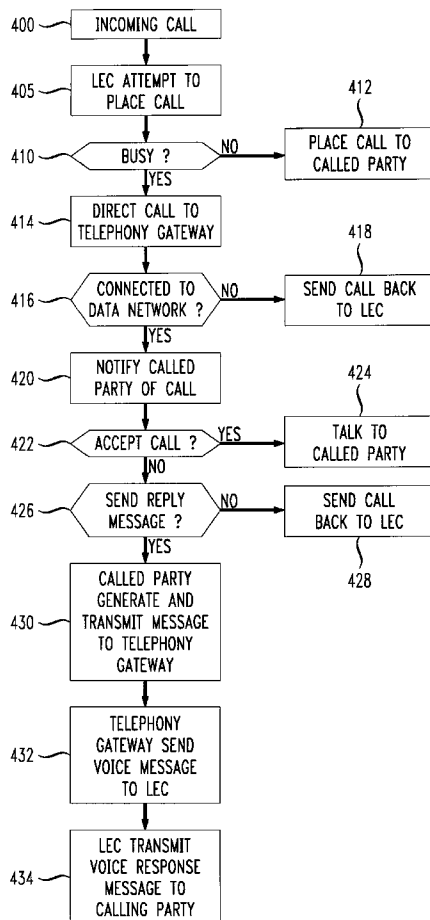


FIG. 1

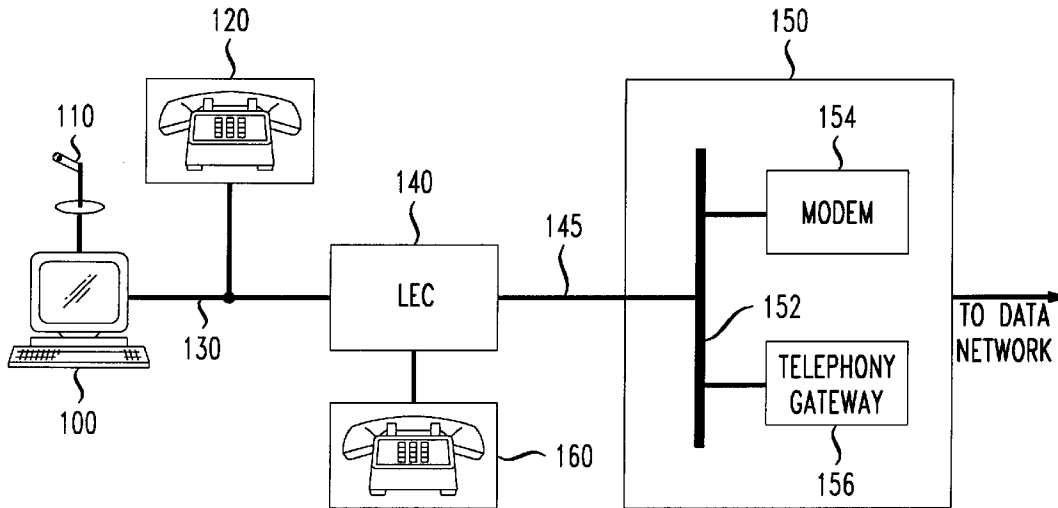


FIG. 2

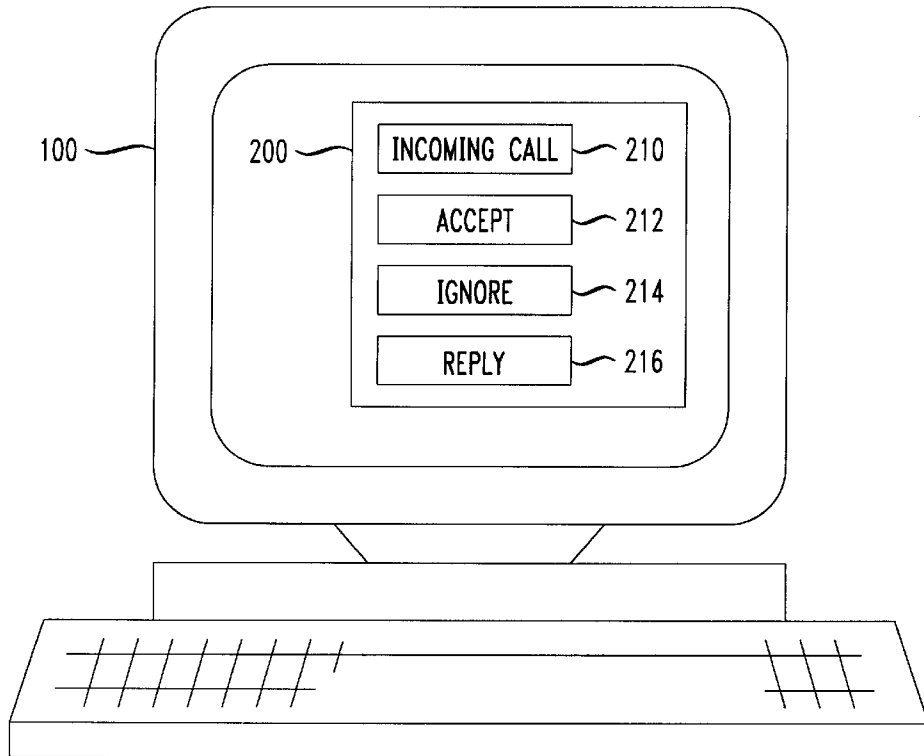


FIG. 3A

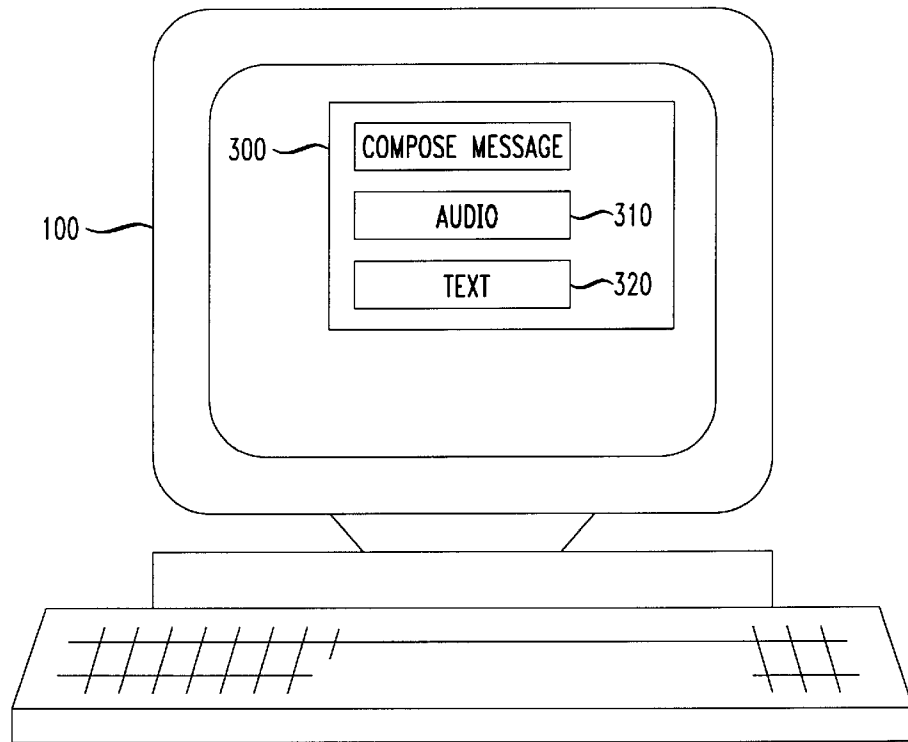


FIG. 3B

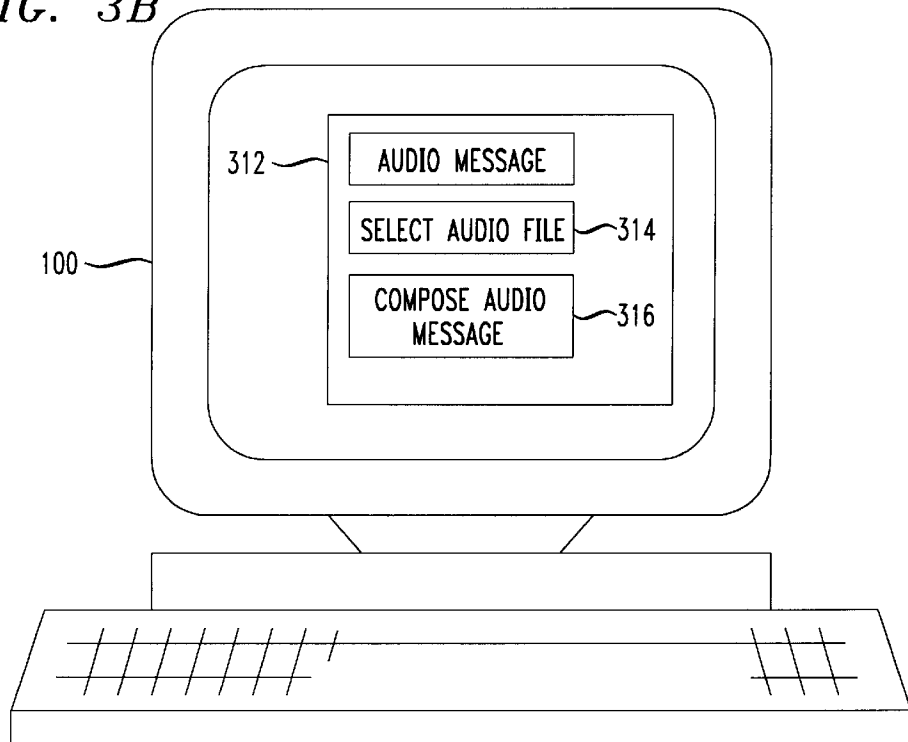


FIG. 3C

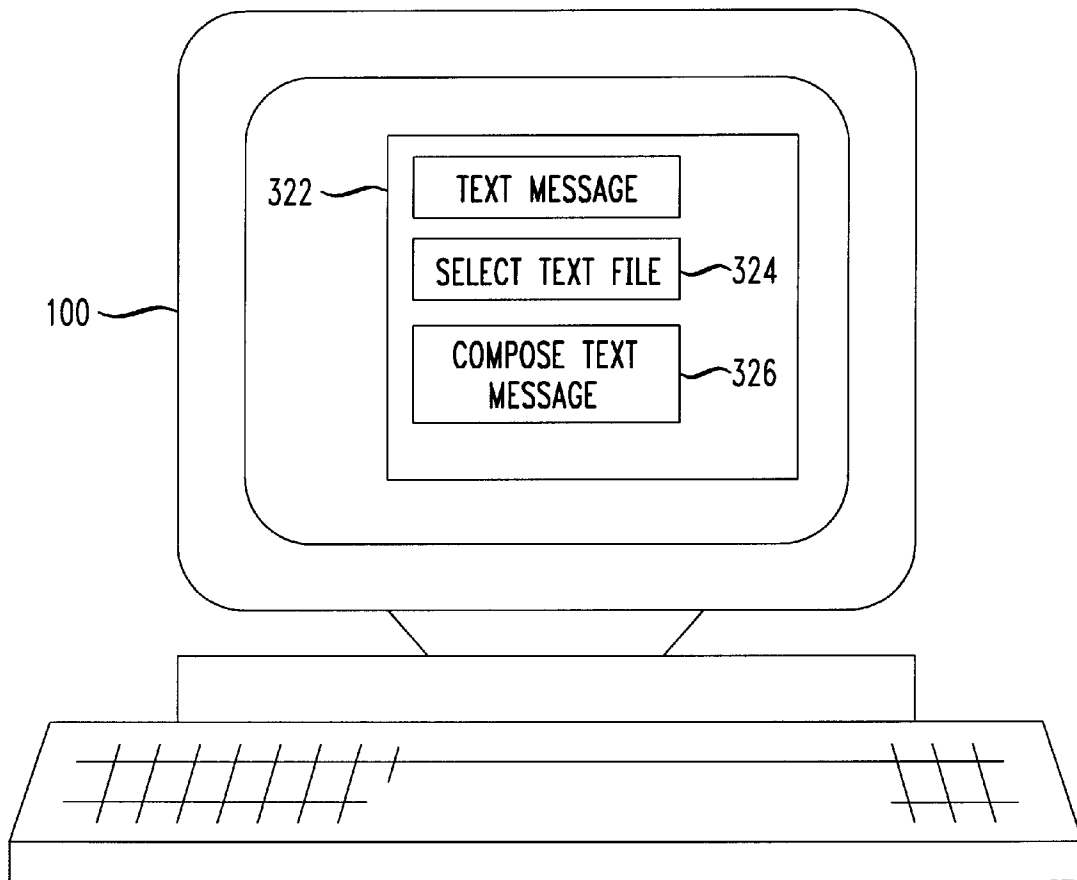
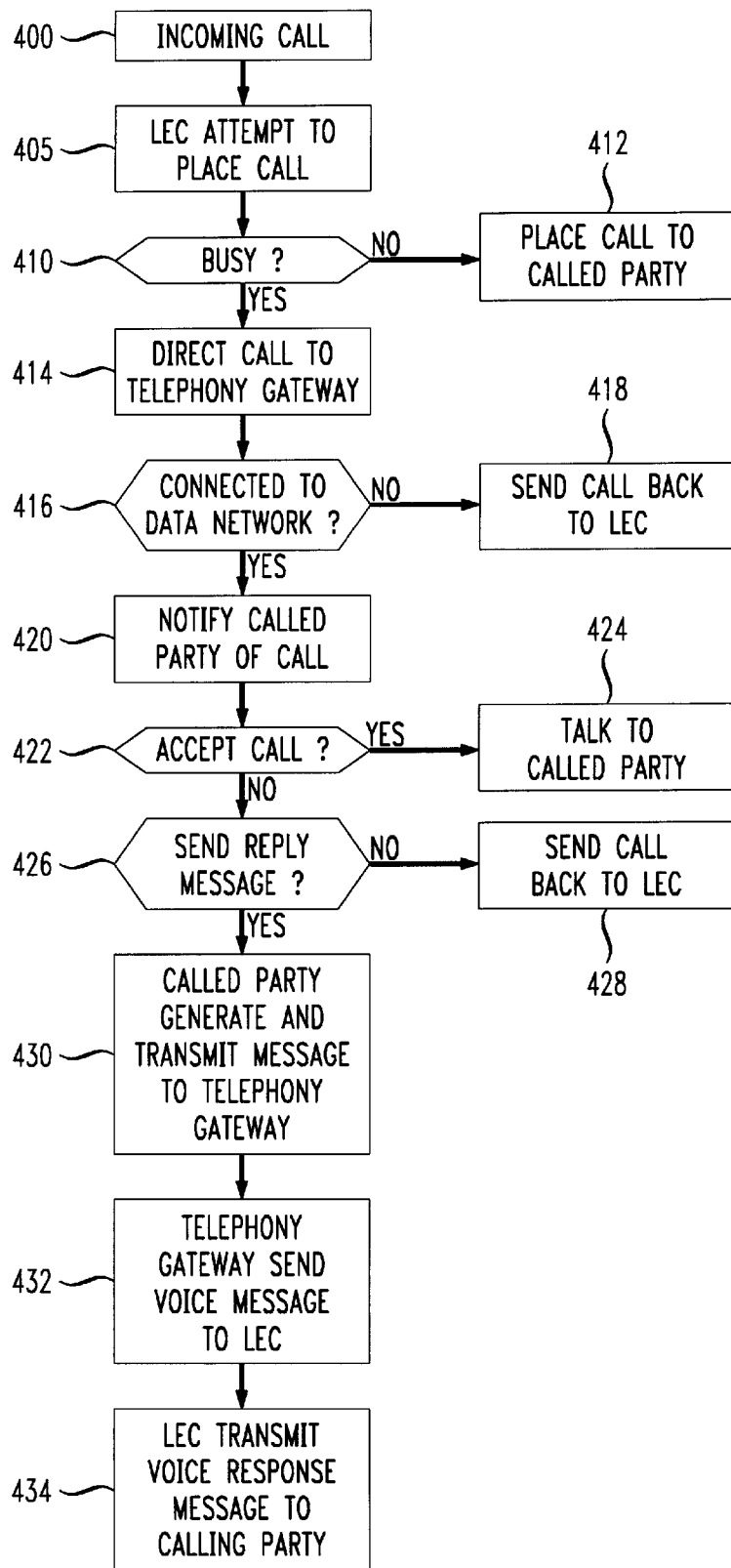


FIG. 4



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