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Wortham

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[54] **VEHICLE LOCATING AND COMMUNICATING METHOD AND APPARATUS**

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[75] Inventor: **Larry C. Wortham, Garland, Tex.**

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[73] Assignee: **By-Word Technologies, Inc., Dallas, Tex.**

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[21] Appl. No.: **642,436**

[22] Filed: **Jan. 17, 1991**

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ **G01S 3/02**

[52] U.S. Cl. **364/460; 340/990; 340/995; 364/449**

[58] Field of Search **364/448, 449, 460; 340/990-995; 342/450, 451, 457, 463; 379/58, 59, 200, 60; 455/67, 92, 99, 33**

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Primary Examiner—Parshotam S. Lall
Assistant Examiner—Michael Zanelli
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Harold E. Meier

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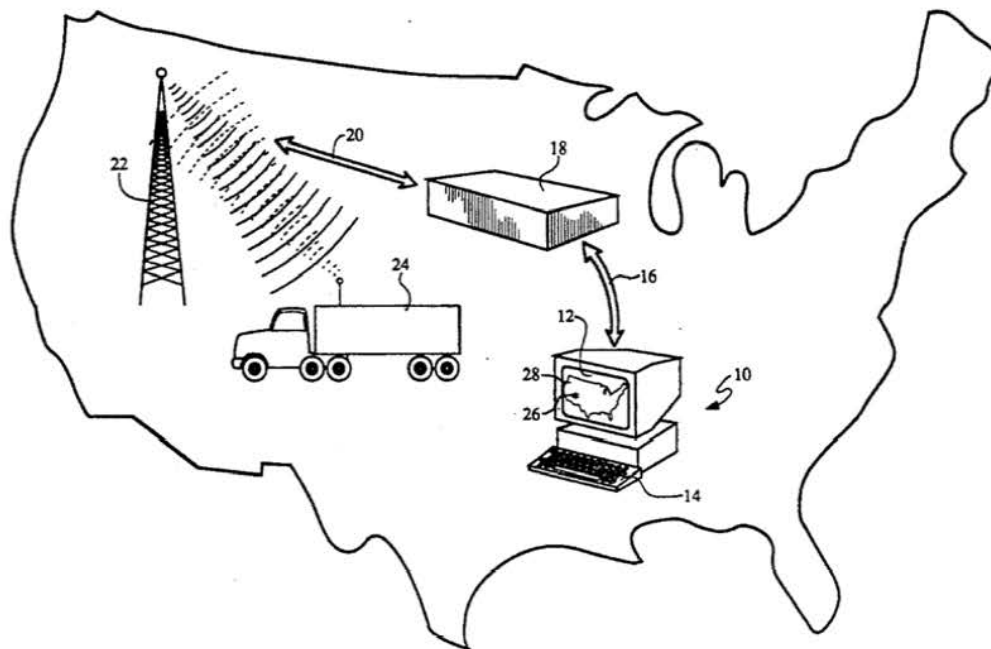
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[57] ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for locating and communicating with vehicles is provided, including at least one mobile cellular unit connected to at least one microprocessor and installed within a vehicle. The microprocessor interrogates the mobile cellular unit to obtain location information from an overhead message stream transmitted from cellular telephone transmitter sites. The location is displayed on a display located in the vehicle or the microprocessor periodically instructs the mobile cellular unit to initiate a call to a host controller and, upon receipt of transmitting instructions from the host controller, transmits the location information for display on a screen connected to the host controller.

31 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



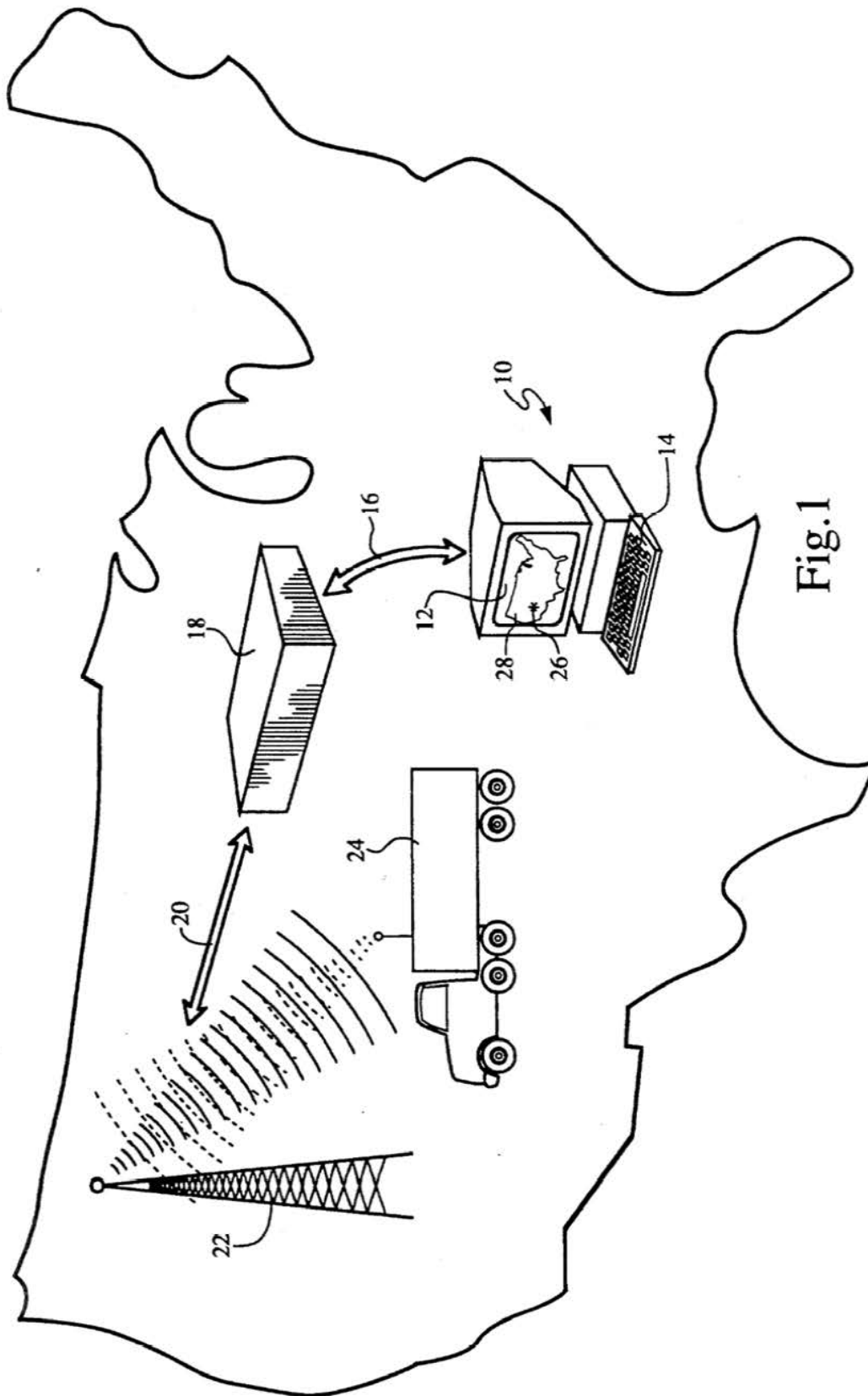
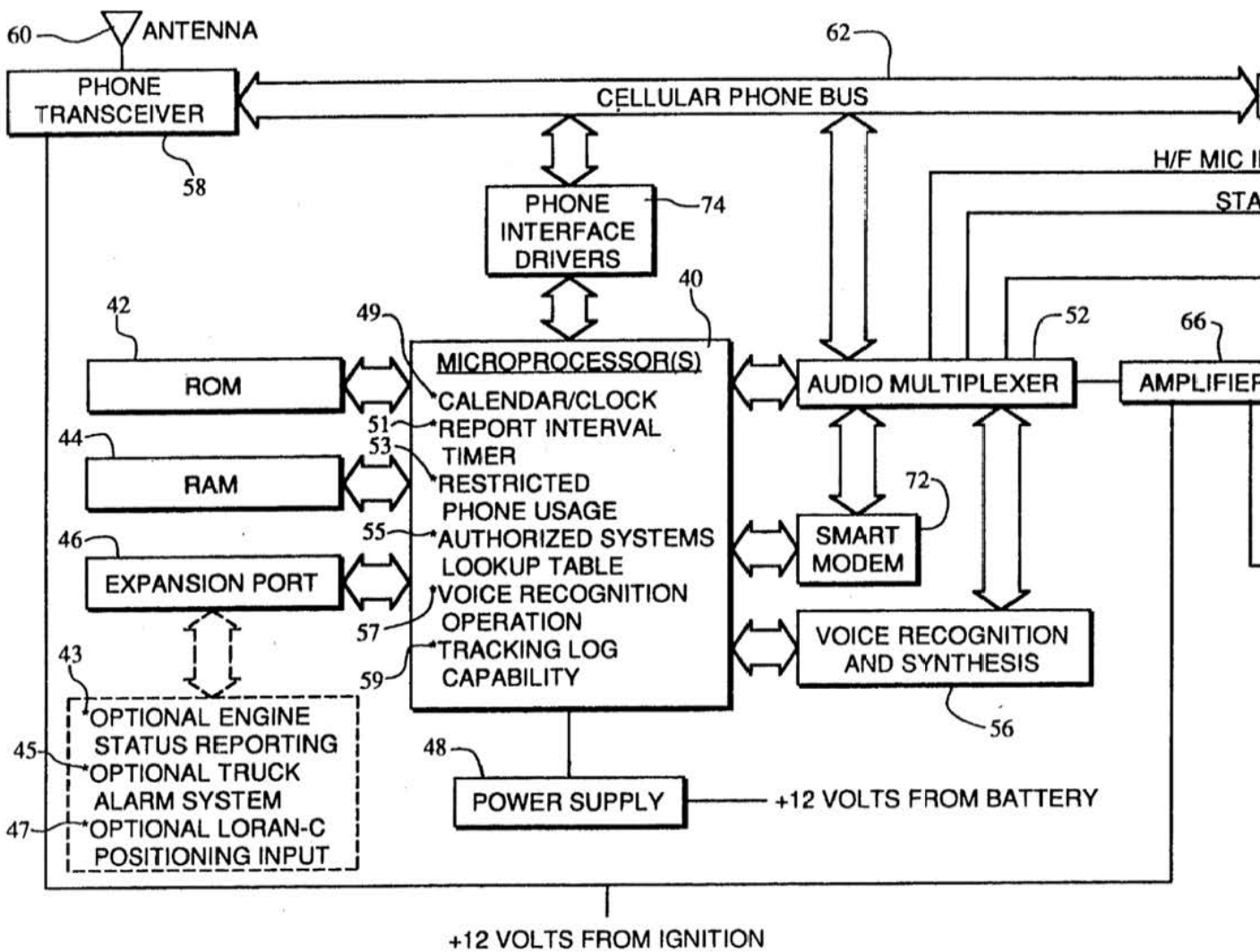


Fig. 1



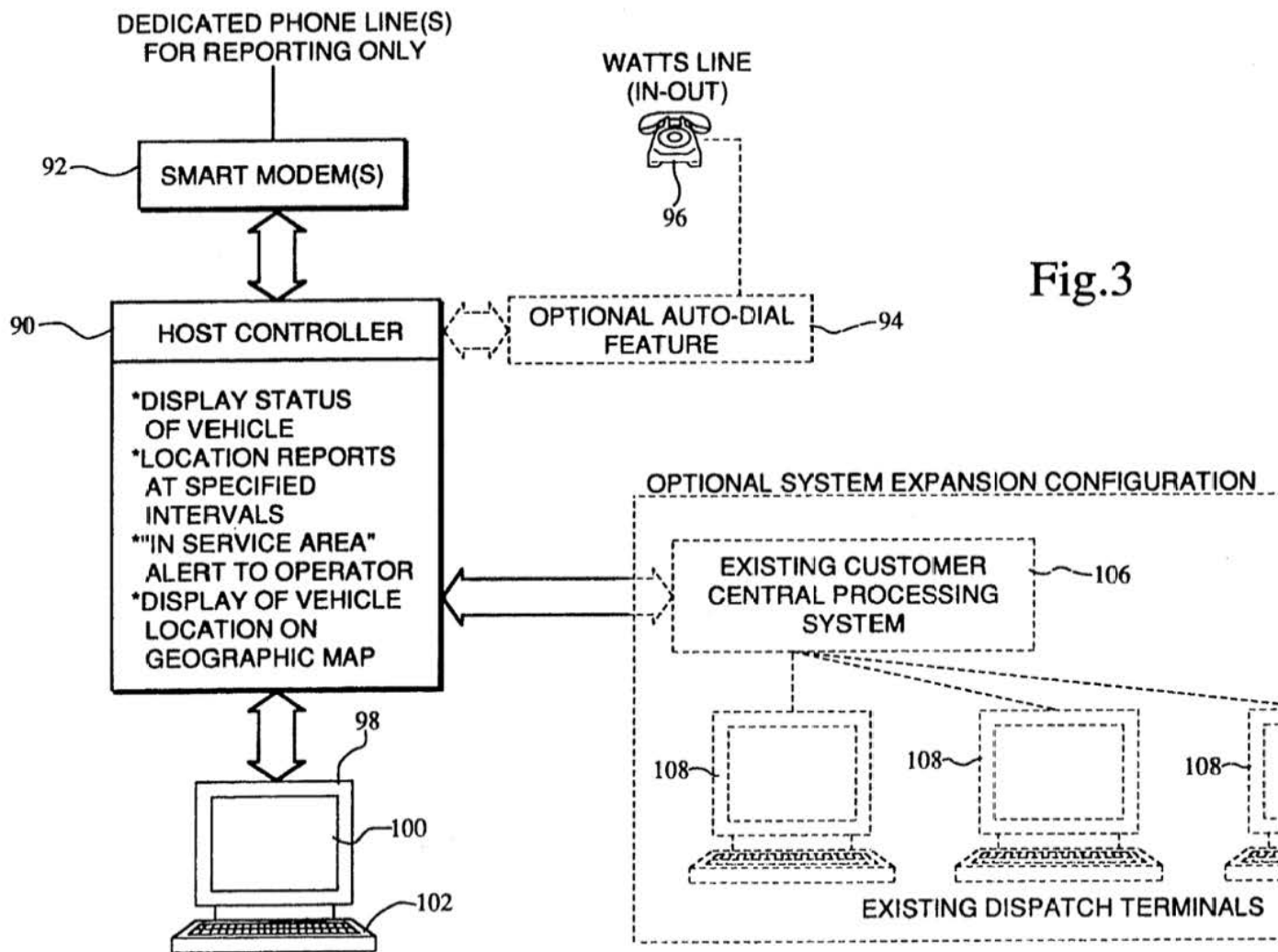


Fig.3

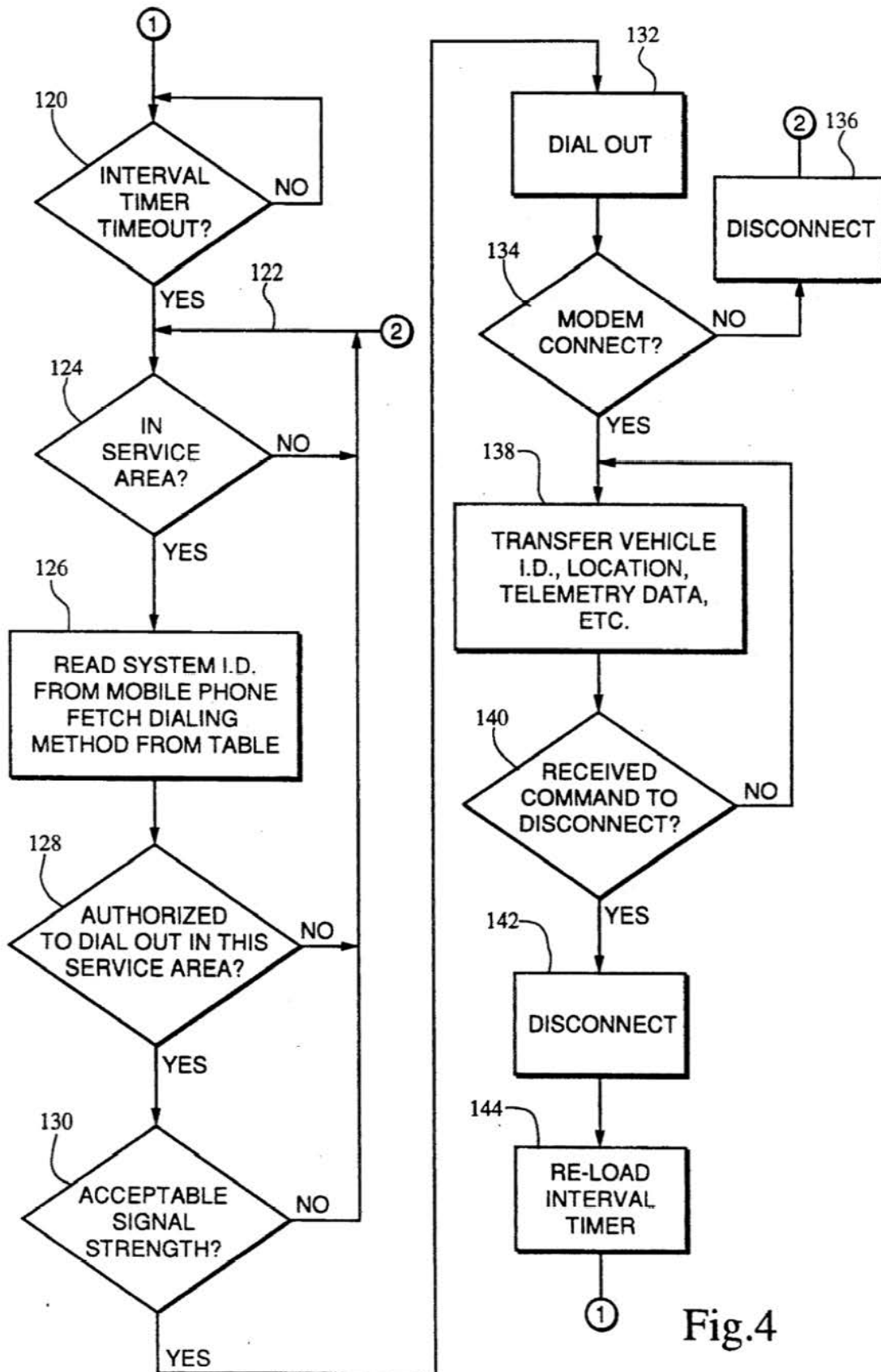


Fig.4

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