

(12) **United States Patent**
Slemmer

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,226,677 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **May 1, 2001**

(54) **CONTROLLED COMMUNICATIONS OVER A GLOBAL COMPUTER NETWORK**

(75) Inventor: **Michael W. Slemmer**, Sioux Falls, SD (US)

(73) Assignee: **LodgeNet Entertainment Corporation**, Sioux Falls, SD (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.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/232,386**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 15, 1999**

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 60/109,878, filed on Nov. 25, 1998.

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G06F 13/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/227**

(58) **Field of Search** 705/14; 709/202, 709/317, 227

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,781,550 * 7/1998 Templin et al. 370/401

5,802,320 9/1998 Baehr et al. 709/249
5,948,061 * 9/1999 Merriman et al. 709/219
6,014,698 * 1/2000 Griffiths 709/224
6,098,172 * 8/2000 Coss et al. 713/201
6,119,162 * 9/2000 Li et al. 709/227

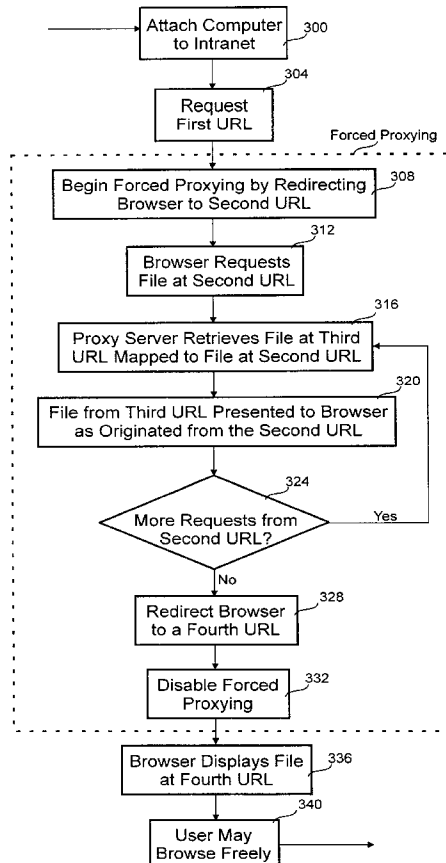
* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Kenneth R. Coulter
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Sheridan Ross P.C.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

In one embodiment, a method related to controlling communication of a TCP packet from a user machine is disclosed. During a browser request from the user machine, the TCP packet is sent via the intranet to a forced proxy server. The TCP packet having a number of fields including a first field related to a first destination IP address. The TCP packet and its first destination IP address is received by the forced proxy server and analyzed. If the first destination IP address is not from a "sandboxed" domain, the first destination IP address is changed to a predetermined second destination IP address to effectively reroute the TCP packet to another IP address on the Internet. The rerouted IP address provides content to the user machine in which at least a majority of the content is different from that expected to be obtained by the user machine.

27 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



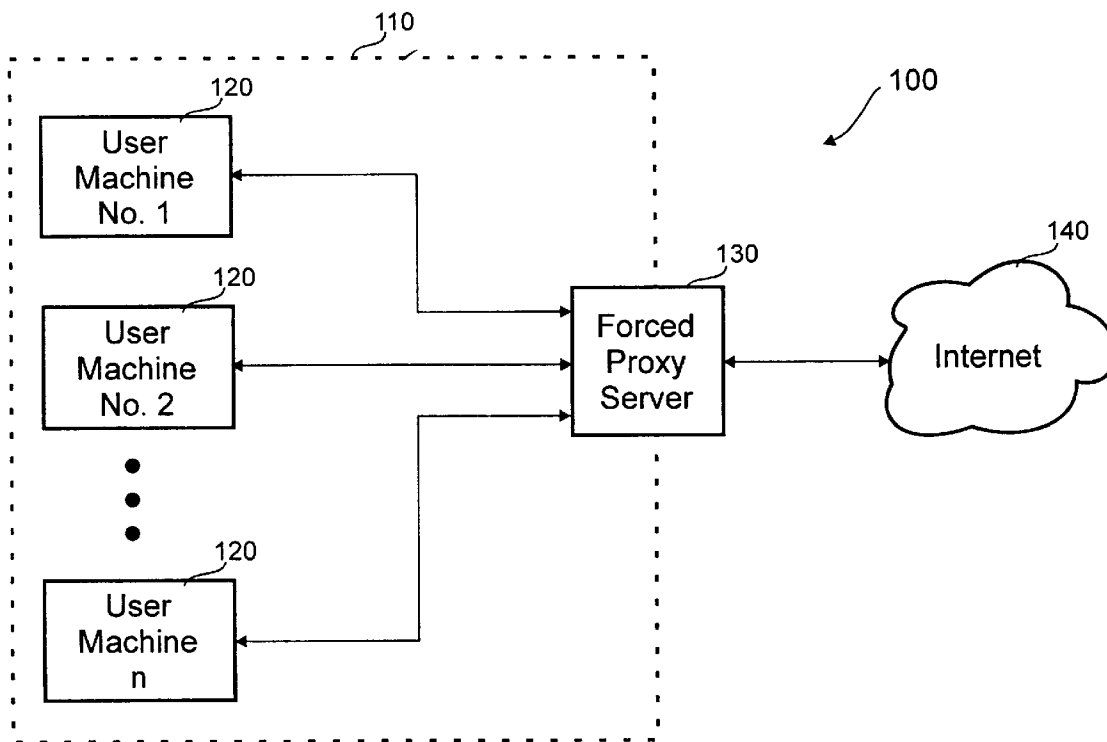


Fig. 1

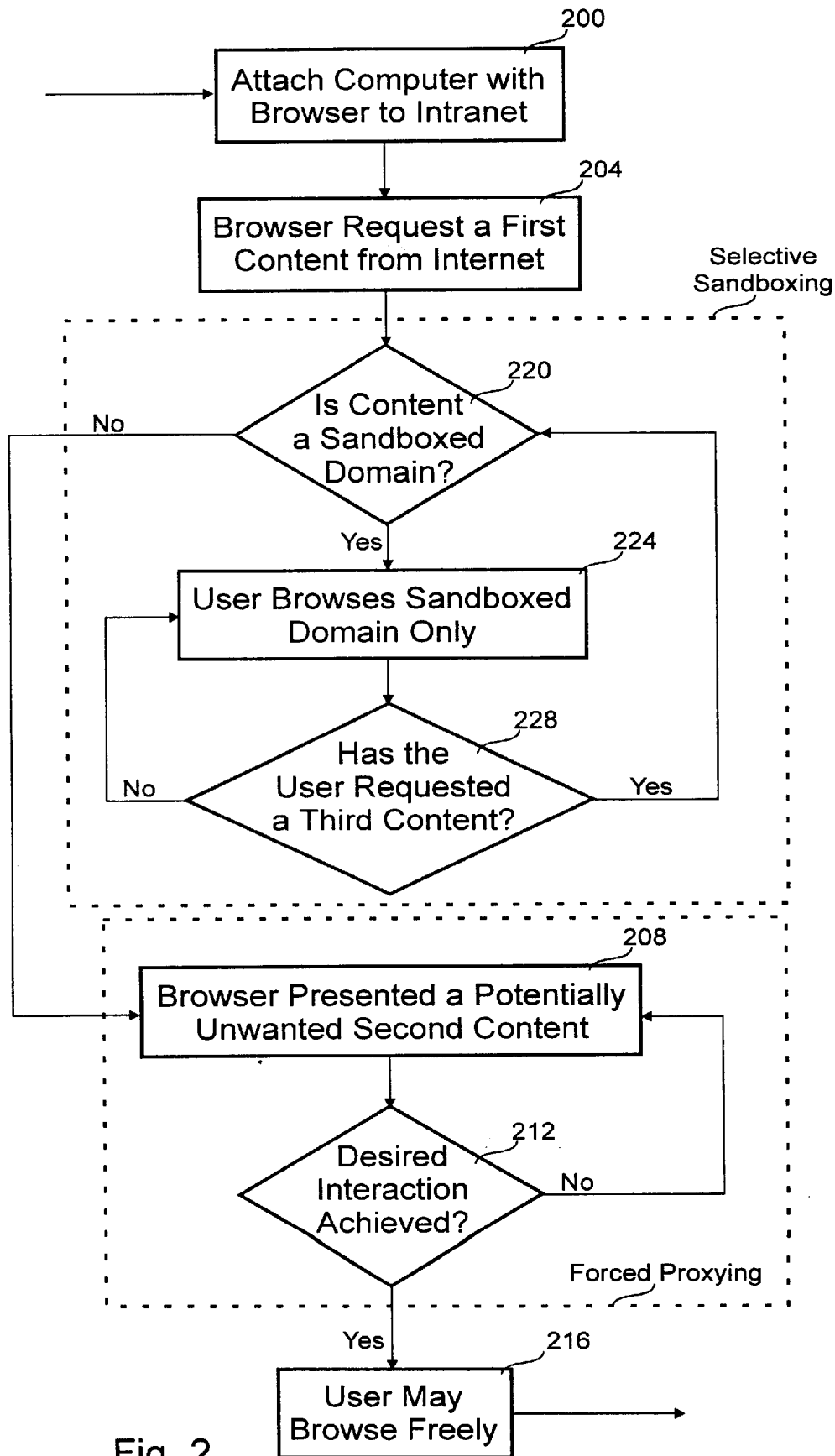


Fig. 2

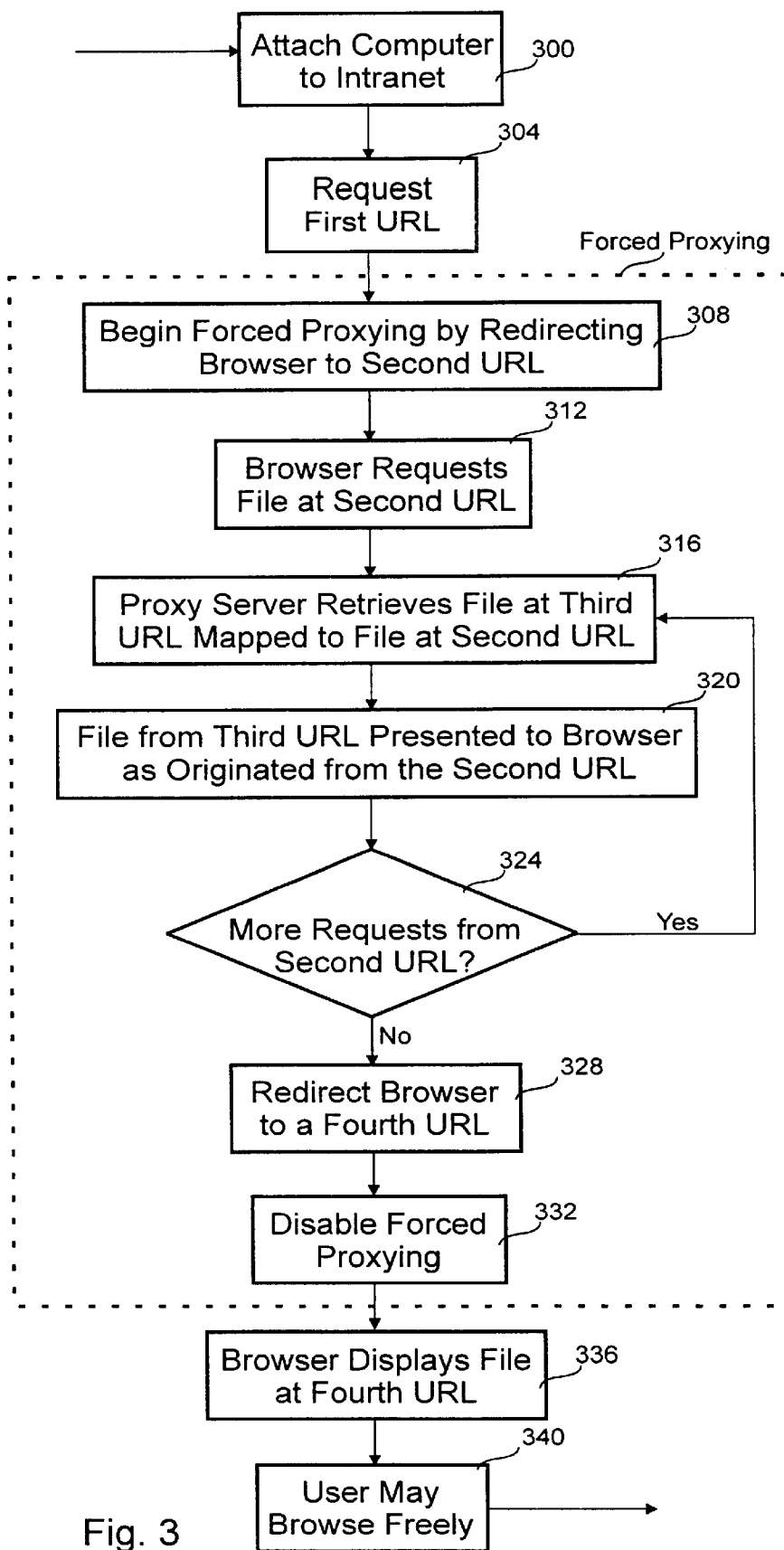


Fig. 3

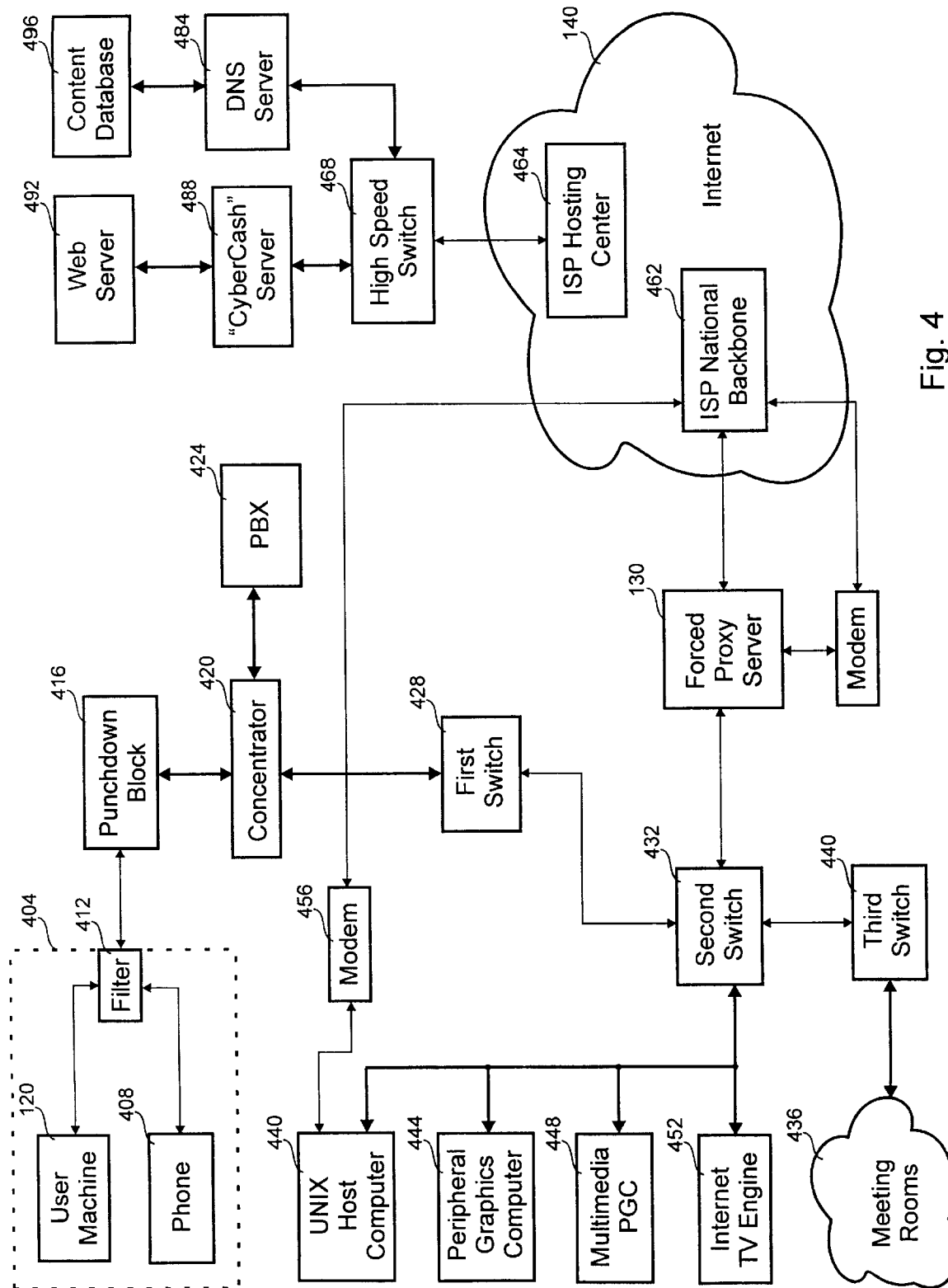


Fig. 4

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.