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# United States Patent [19]

Cooper et al.

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[45] Date of Patent: **May 26, 1998**

[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENABLING TRIAL PERIOD USE OF SOFTWARE PRODUCTS: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING A MACHINE-DEPENDENT IDENTIFICATION**

0 268 139 A3	5/1988	European Pat. Off.	.....	G06F 1/00
0 561 685 A1	9/1993	European Pat. Off.	.....	G06F 12/14
0 598 587 A1	5/1994	European Pat. Off.	.....	G06F 1/00
0 601 500 A1	6/1994	European Pat. Off.	.....	G06F 1/00
2 136 175	9/1984	United Kingdom	.....	H03K 13/24
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**Robert Franklin Pryor**, Longmont,  
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### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"Information Distribution via Rom Disks" (IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 33, No. 12, May 1991).  
"Data Masking Algorithm" (IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, vol. 32, No. 6B, Nov. 1989).

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[21] Appl. No.: **235,032**

### [57] ABSTRACT

[22] Filed: **Apr. 25, 1994**

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... **H04L 9/00; H04L 9/32**

A method and apparatus is provided for distributing a software object from a source to a user. A software object is encrypted with an encryption operation utilizing a long-lived encryption key. It is directed from the source to the user. It is loaded onto a user-controlled data processing system having a particular configuration. A numerical machine identification is derived based at least in part upon the particular data processing system configuration of the user-controlled data processing system. A temporary key is derived which is based at least in part upon the numerical machine identification and the long-lived encryption key. The long-lived key generator is provided for receiving the temporary key and producing the long-lived encryption key. The user is allowed to utilize the temporary key for a prescribed interval to generate the long-lived encryption key to access the software object.

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **380/4; 380/21; 380/23; 380/25; 380/49**

[58] Field of Search ..... **380/4, 9, 21, 23, 380/25, 49, 50**

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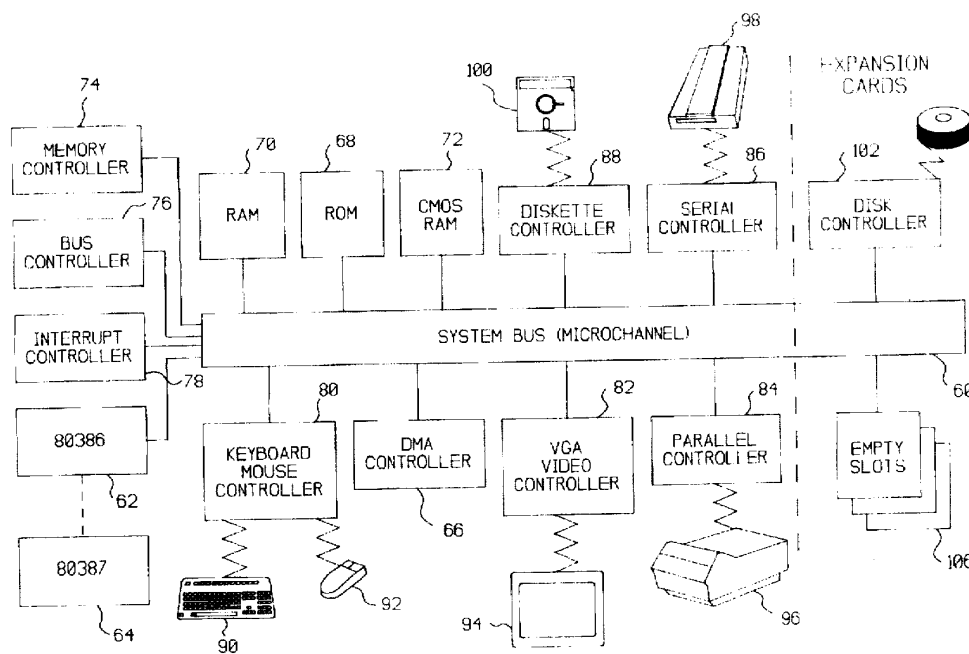
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**8 Claims, 28 Drawing Sheets**



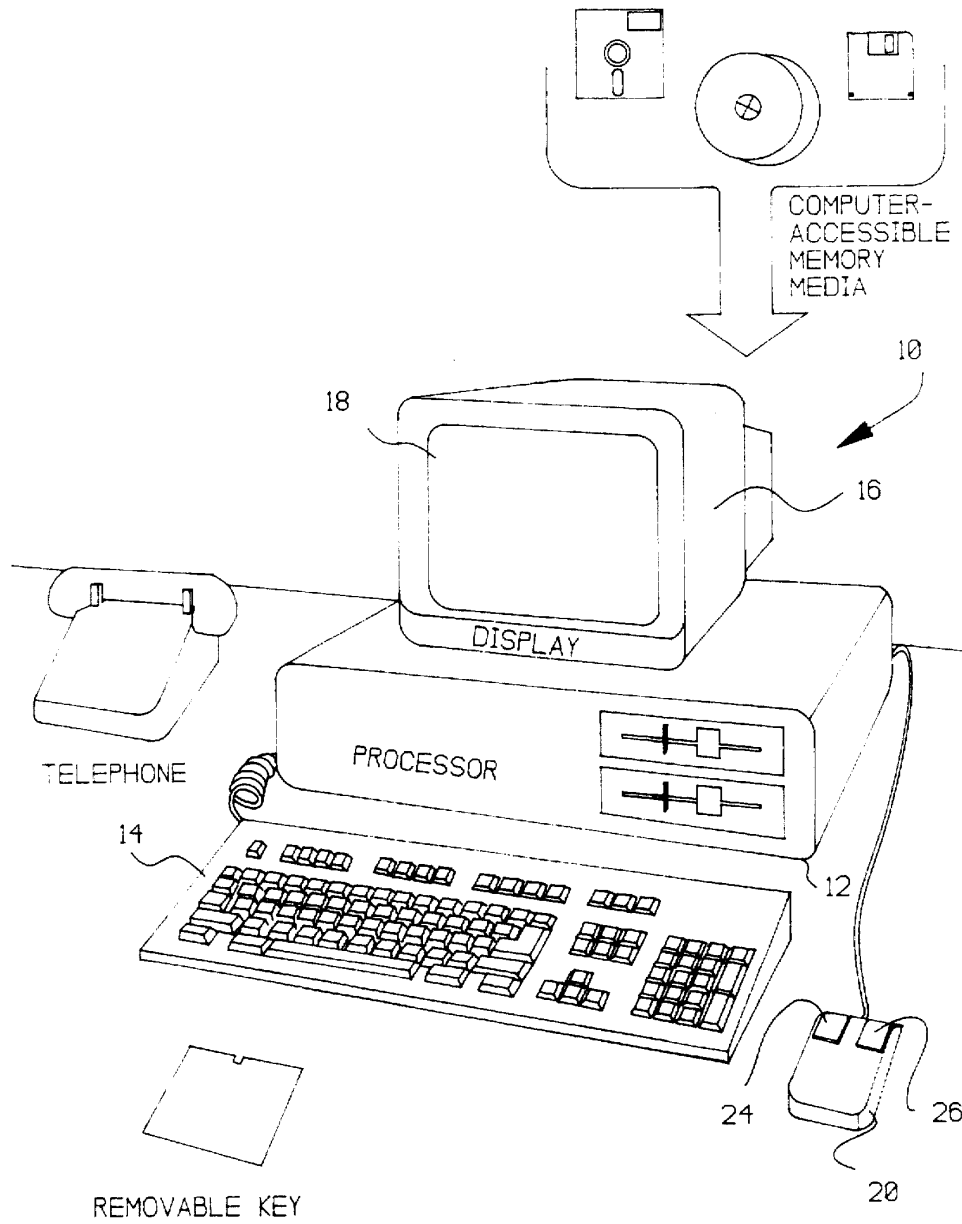


FIG. 1

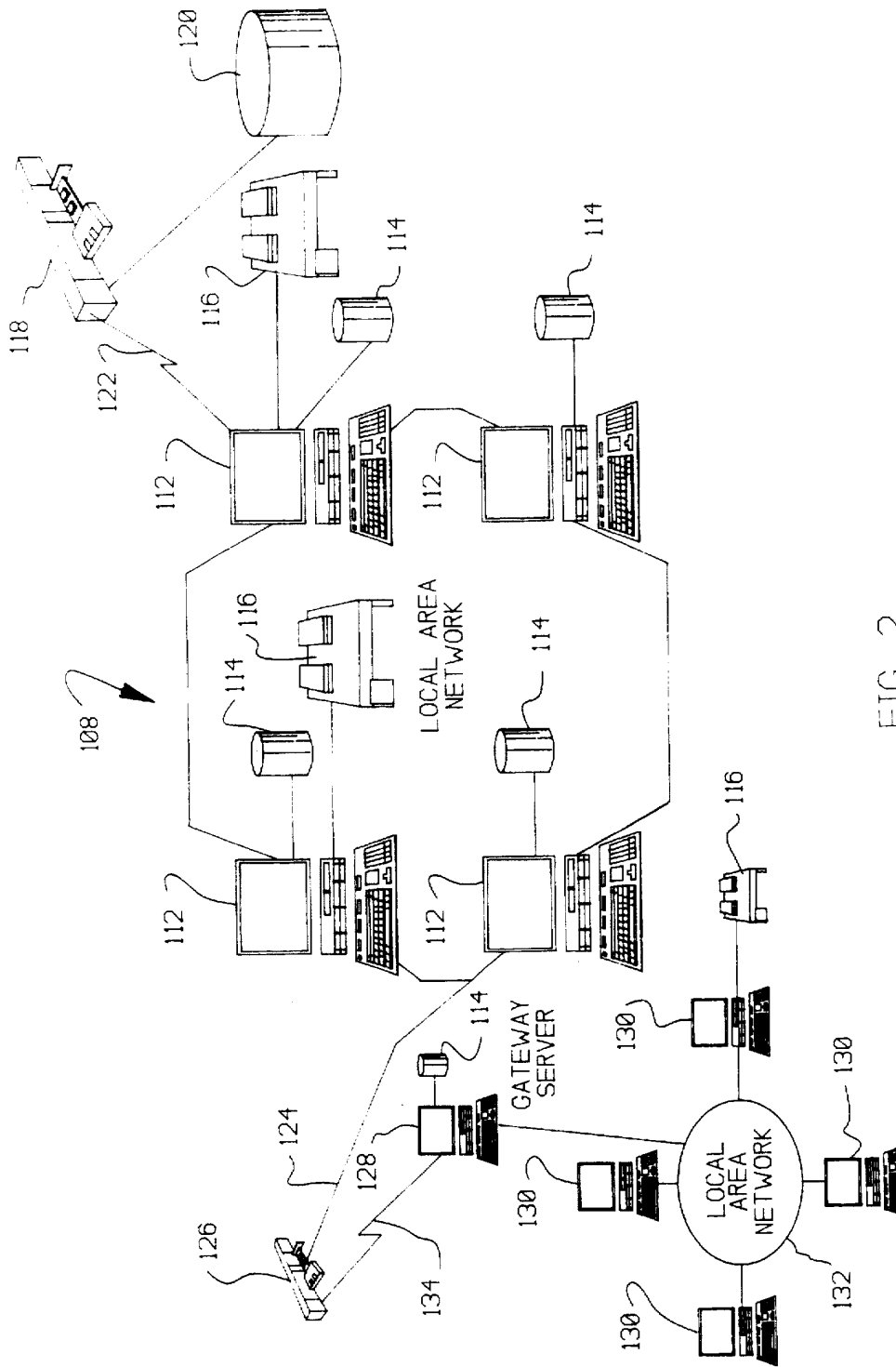


FIG. 2

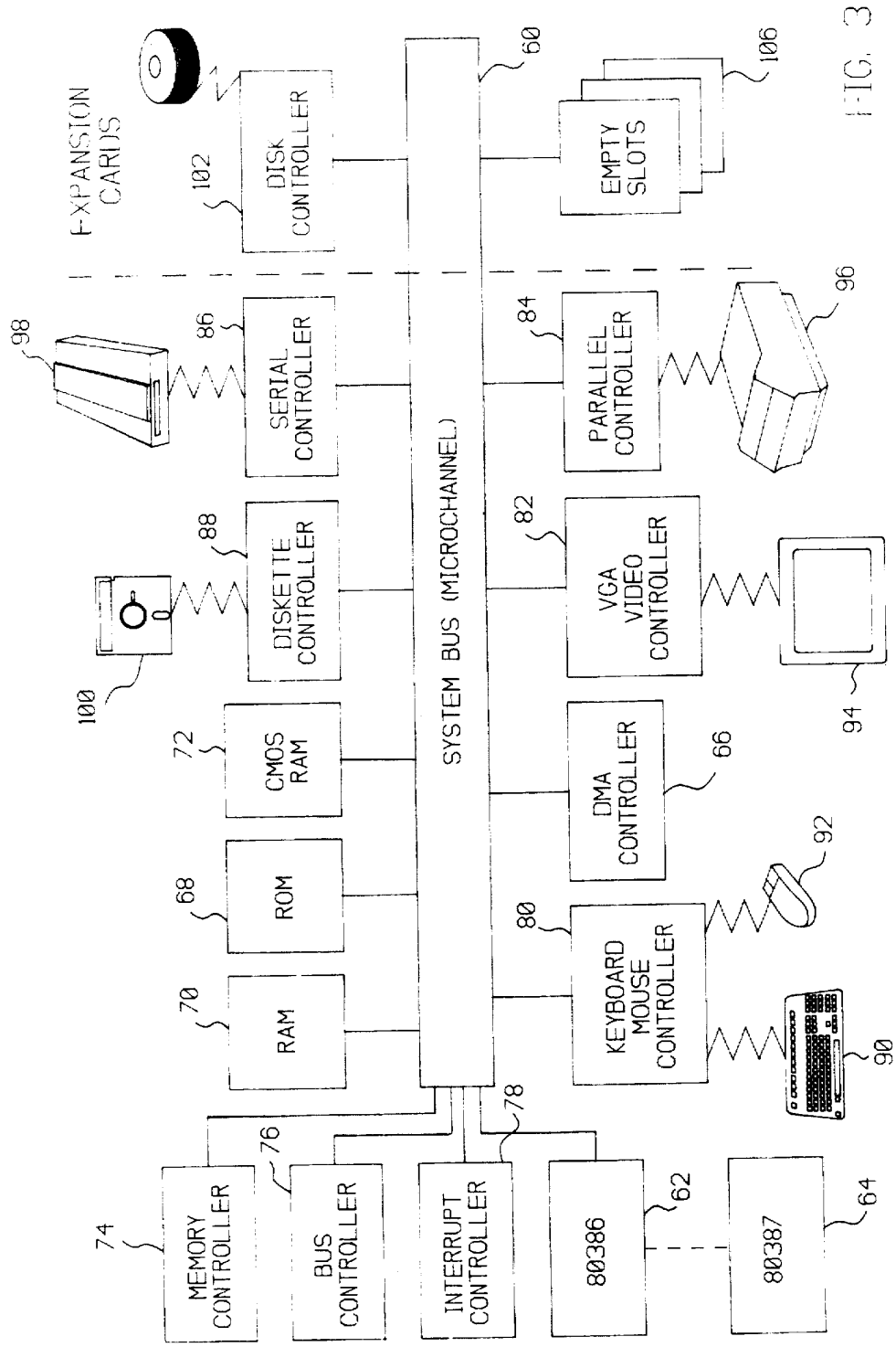


FIG. 3

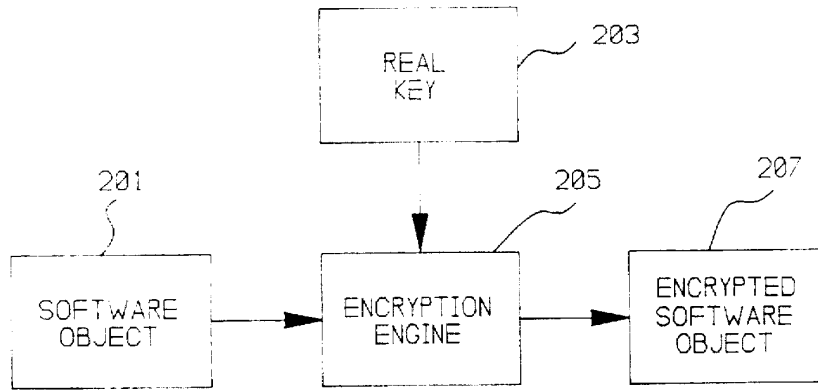


FIG. 4

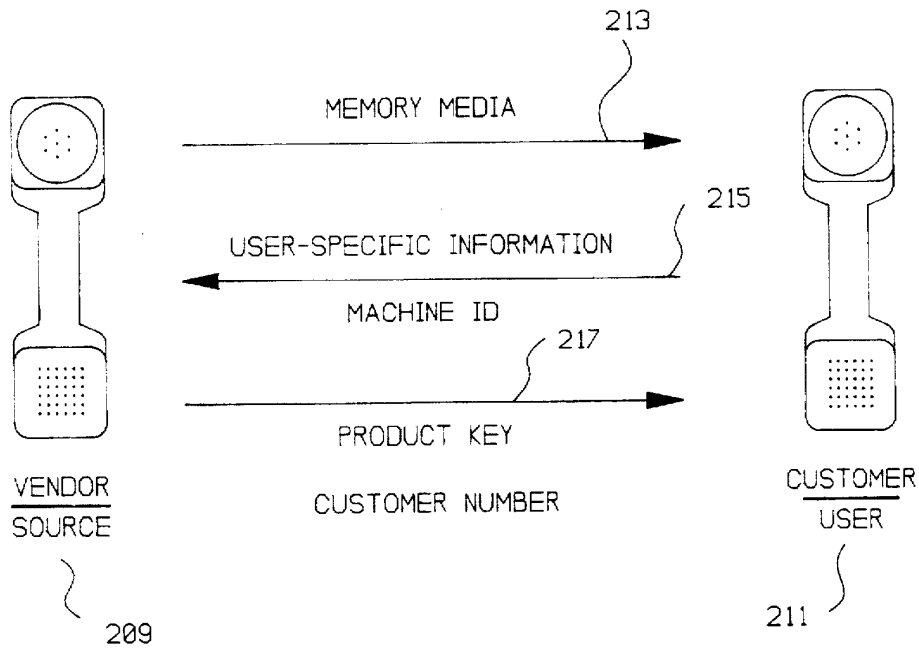


FIG. 5

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