



- [54] TELEPHONE/TRANSACTION ENTRY DEVICE AND SYSTEM FOR ENTERING TRANSACTION DATA INTO DATABASES  
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[\*] Notice: This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation of application No. 08/446,546, May 19, 1995, Pat. No. 5,805,676.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... H04M 11/00

[52] U.S. Cl. .... 379/93.17; 379/93.25; 379/93.01

[58] Field of Search ..... 379/93.17, 93.25, 379/93.01, 88.18; 395/200.31, 200.33; 364/400; 348/13, 14; 381/110

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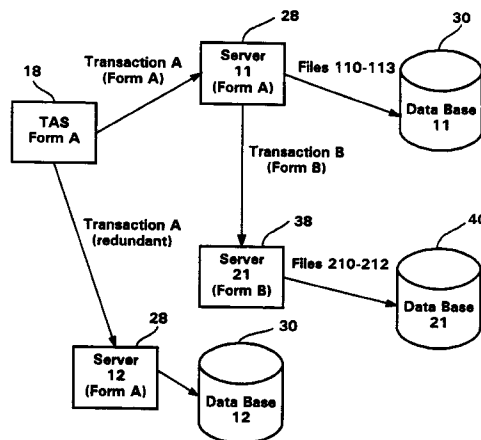
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Assistant Examiner—Melur Ramakrisnaah  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Woodcock, Washburn Kurtz Mackiewicz & Norris LLP

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A data transaction processing system in which transaction data is entered by the user in response to prompts in a template which is tailored to each user application. The template and entered data are accumulated into data transactions which are immediately transmitted upon completion to an external database server for processing and storage. The data transactions are not locally stored for processing, and no conventional operating system is necessary. No local processing needs to be provided, and the only local storage is a flash PROM which stored the control firmware, a flash memory which stores the data streams making up the forms and menus, and a small RAM which operates as an input/output transaction buffer for storing the data streams of the template and the user replies to the prompts during assembly of a data transaction. The data transaction is received via standard protocols at a database server which, depending upon the application, stores the entire data transaction, explodes the data transaction to produce ancillary records which are then stored, and/or forwards the data transaction or some or all of the ancillary records to other database servers for updating other databases associated with those database servers. Also, in response to requests from the transaction entry device, the database server may return data streams for use in completing the fields in the data transaction or in presenting a menu on the display which was read in from the database server or a remote phone mail system. The transaction entry device is integrated with a telephone and is accessed via a touch screen, an optional keyboard, a magnetic card reader, voice entry, a modem, and the like.

53 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets



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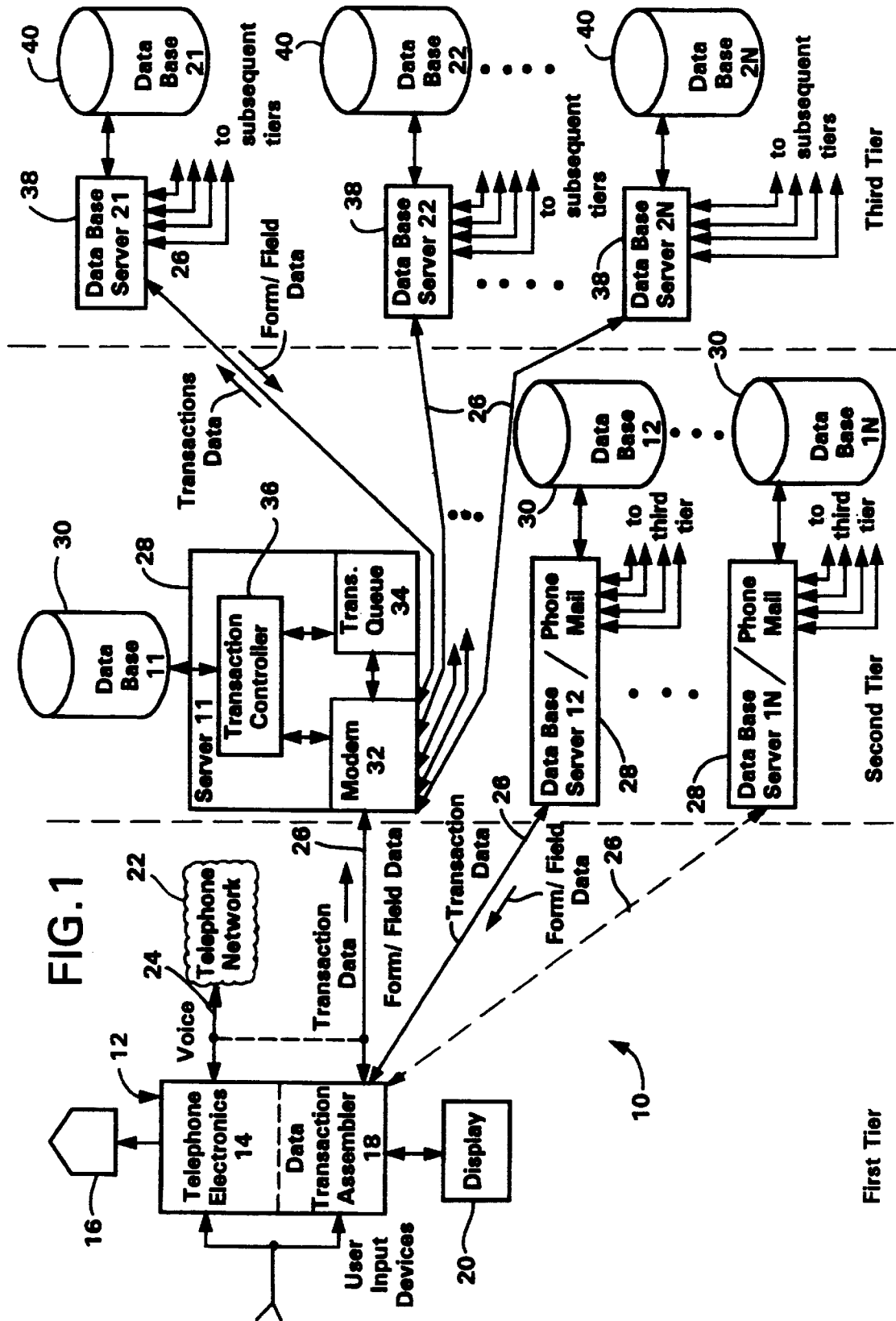
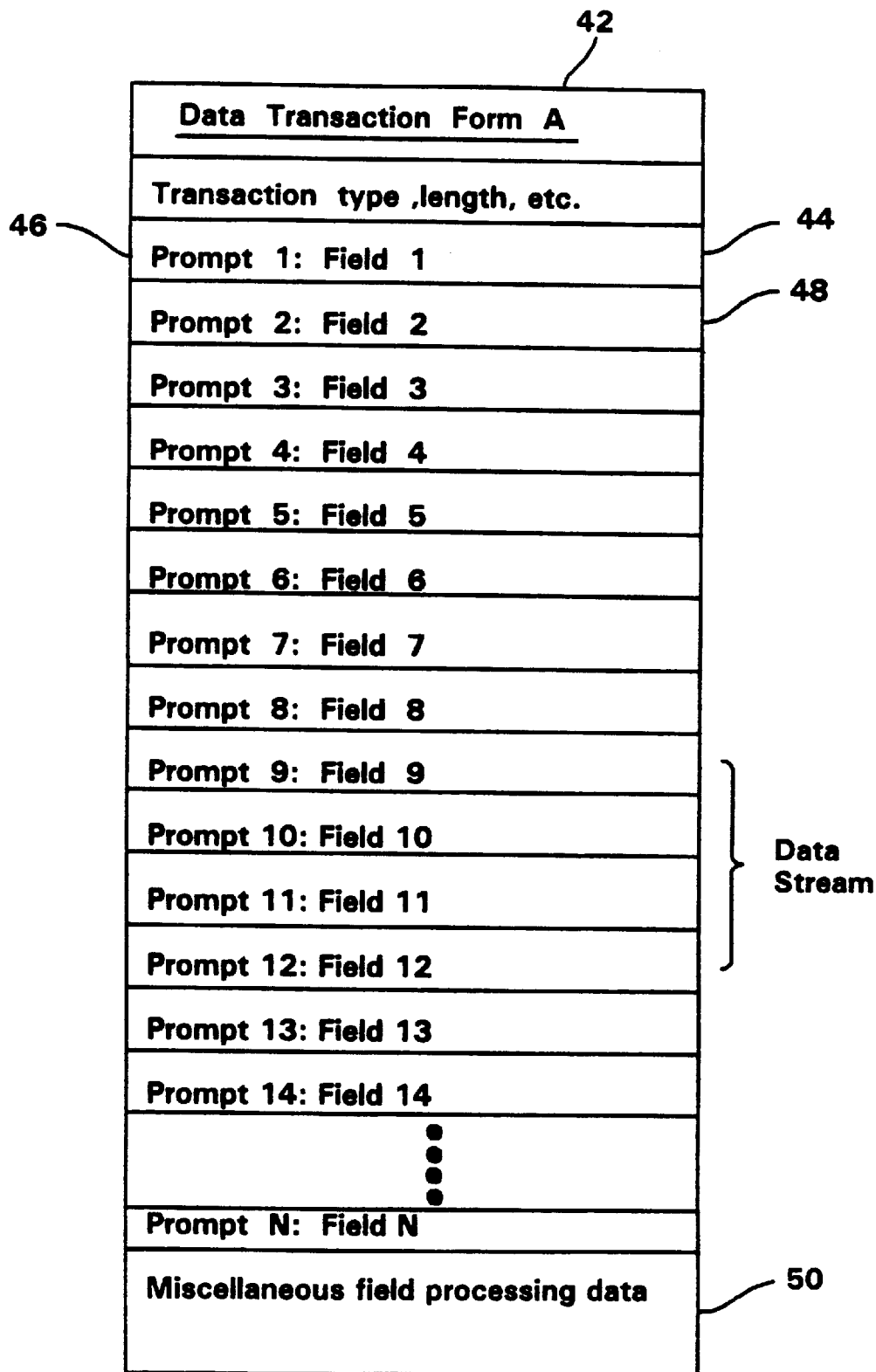


FIG. 1

FIG. 2



**FIG. 3**

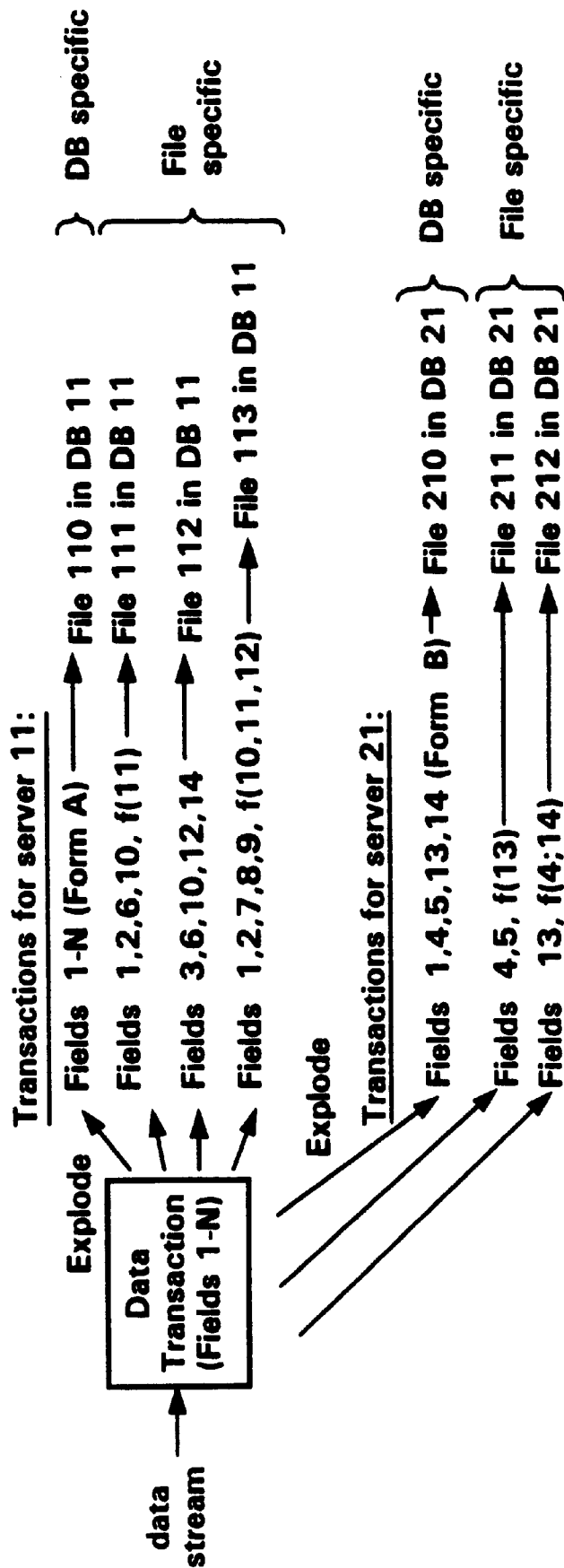
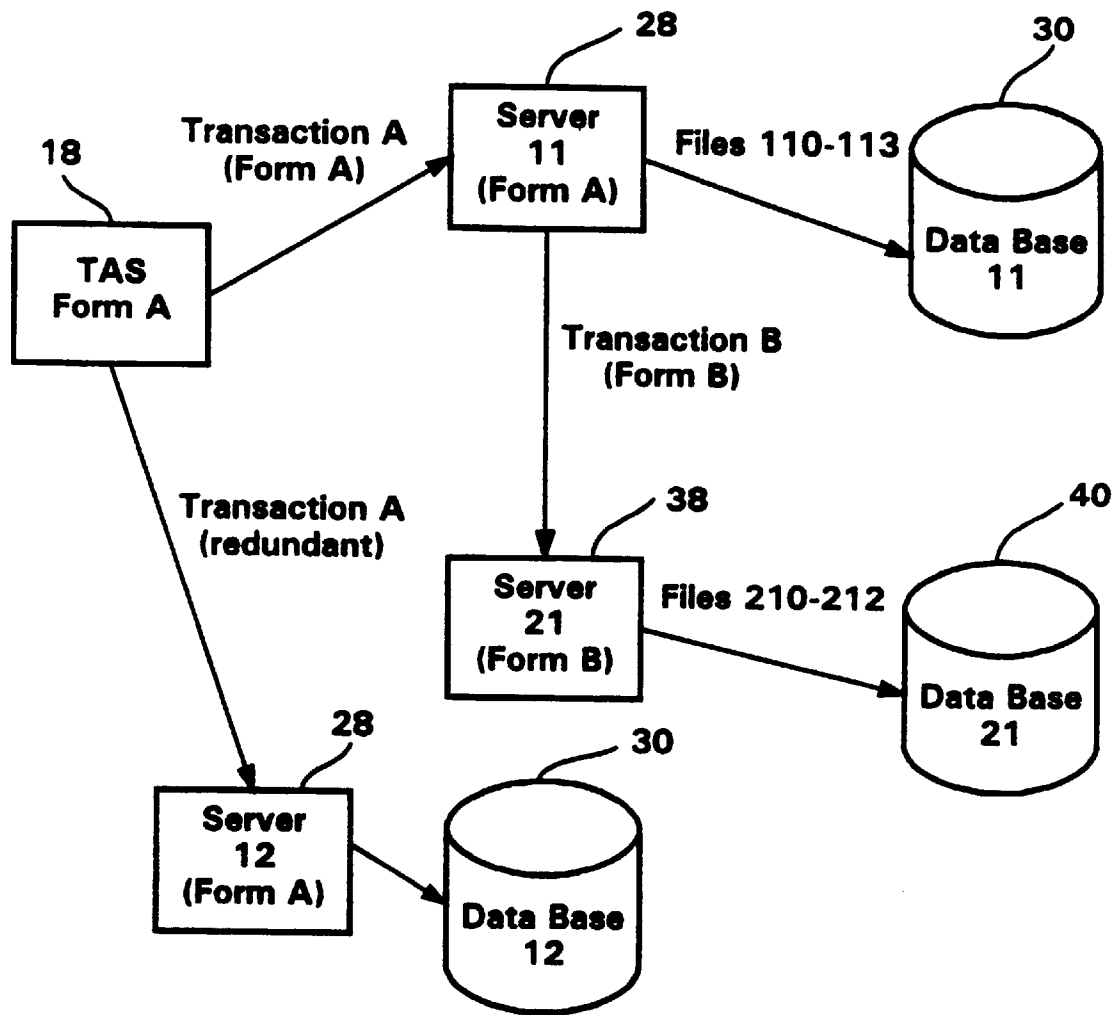


FIG. 4



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