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Nguyen et al.

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(54) **SECURED VIRTUAL NETWORK IN A GAMING ENVIRONMENT**
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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 931 days.

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(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/732,650, filed on Dec. 7, 2000.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
H04L 9/00 (2006.01)
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)
A63F 9/24 (2006.01)
H04K 1/00 (2006.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A disclosed gaming machine may securely communicate with devices over a public network such as the Internet. The gaming machine utilizes a combination of symmetric and asymmetric encryption that allows a single gaming machine to securely communicate with a remote server using a public network. The secure communication methods may be used to transfer gaming software and gaming information between two gaming devices, such as between a game server and a gaming machine. For regulatory and tracking purposes, the transfer of gaming software between the two gaming devices may be authorized and monitored by a software authorization agent.

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **726/4; 463/29; 713/168; 713/176; 380/251**

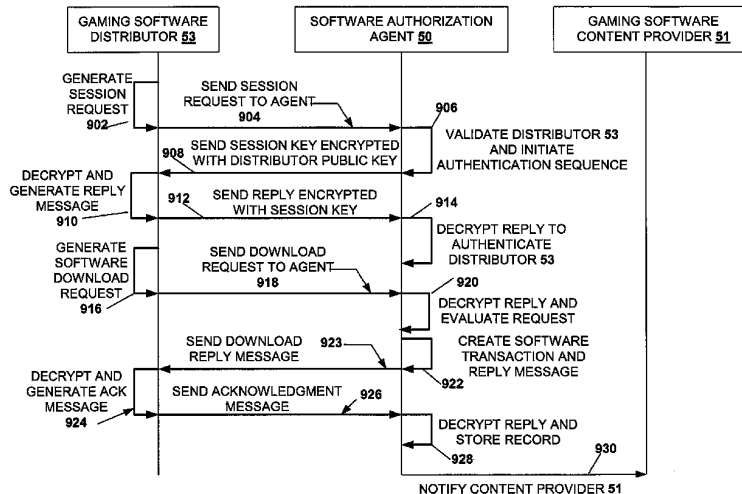
(58) **Field of Classification Search** None
See application file for complete search history.

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136 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets



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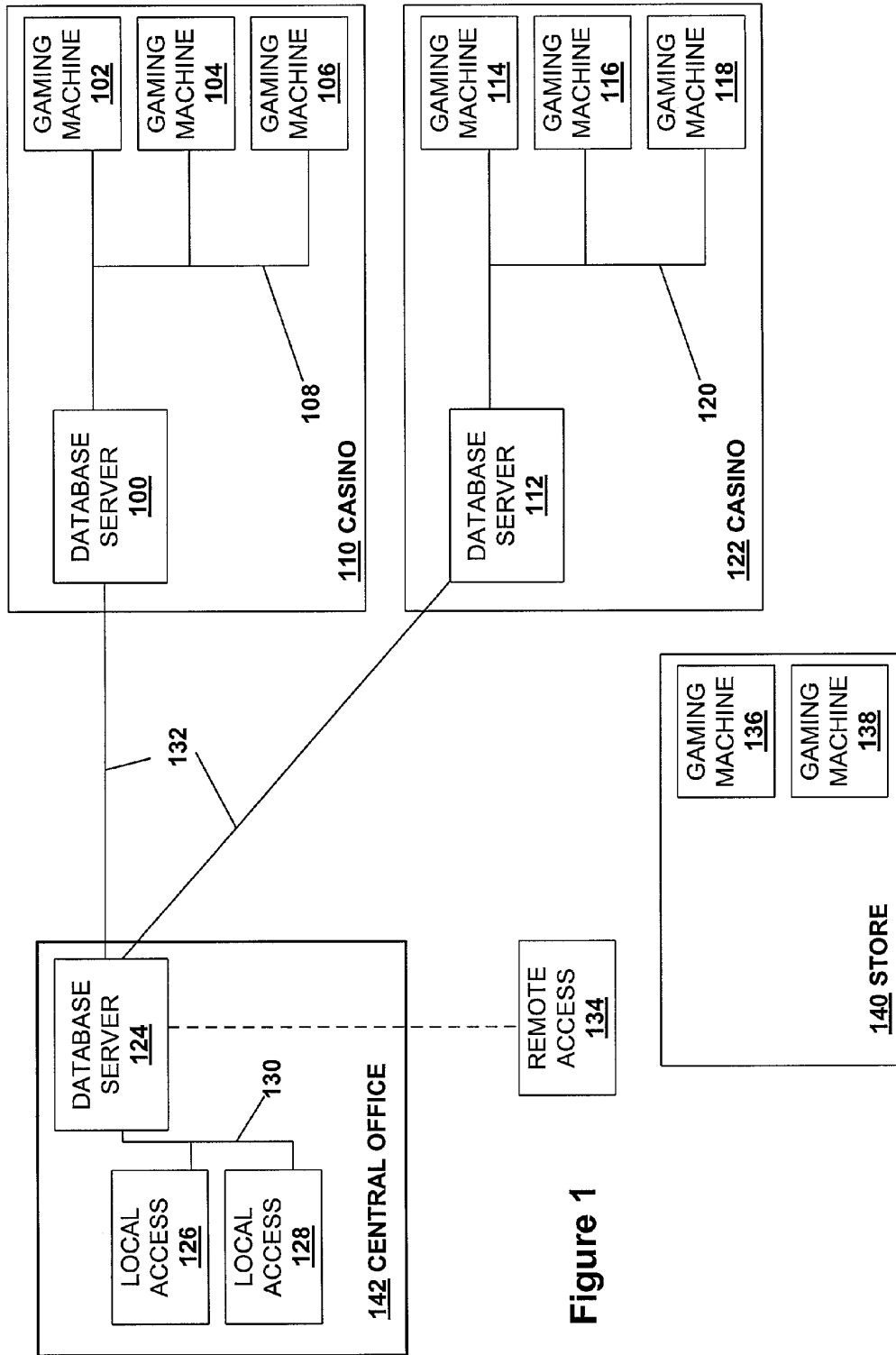


Figure 1

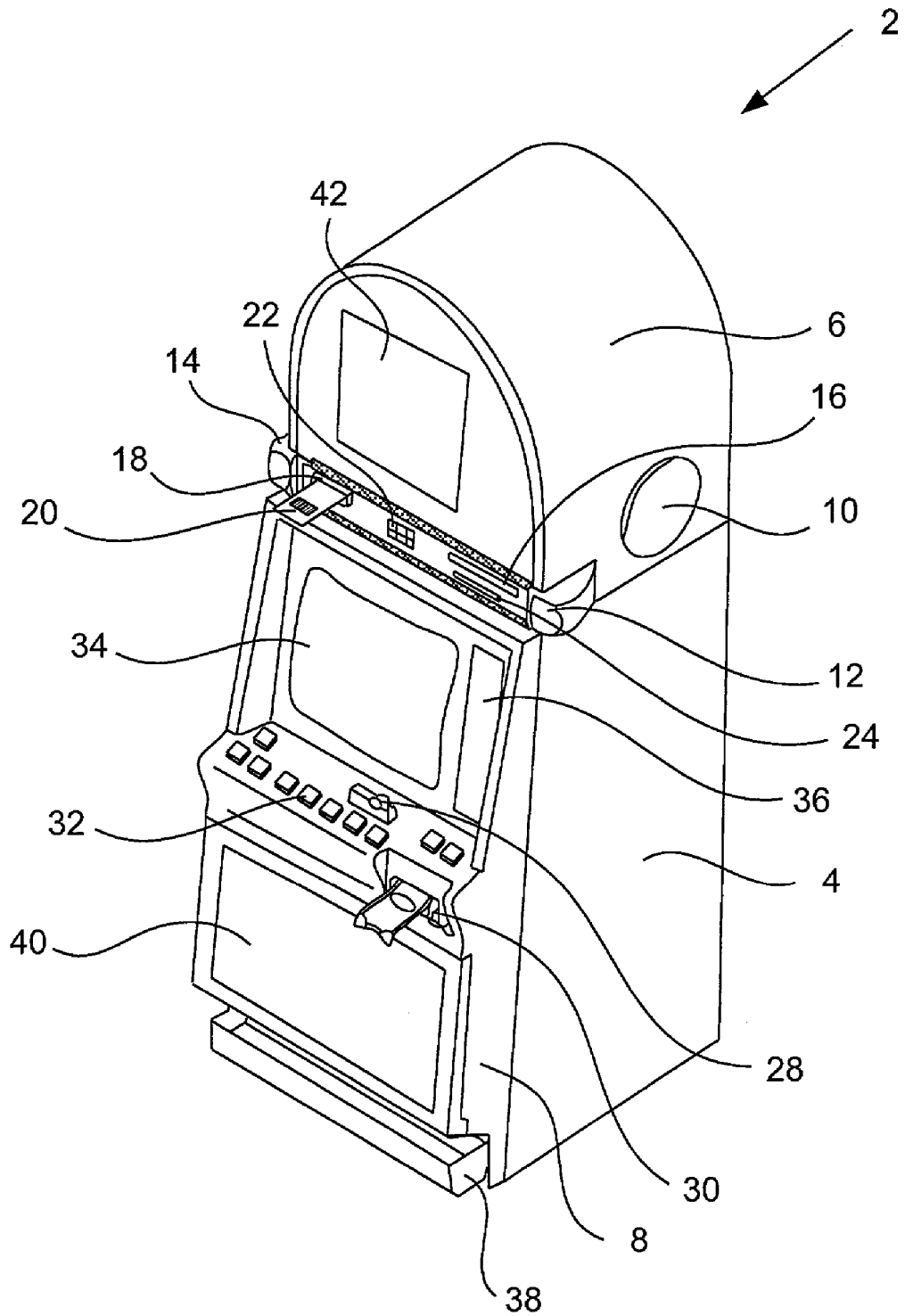


FIGURE 2

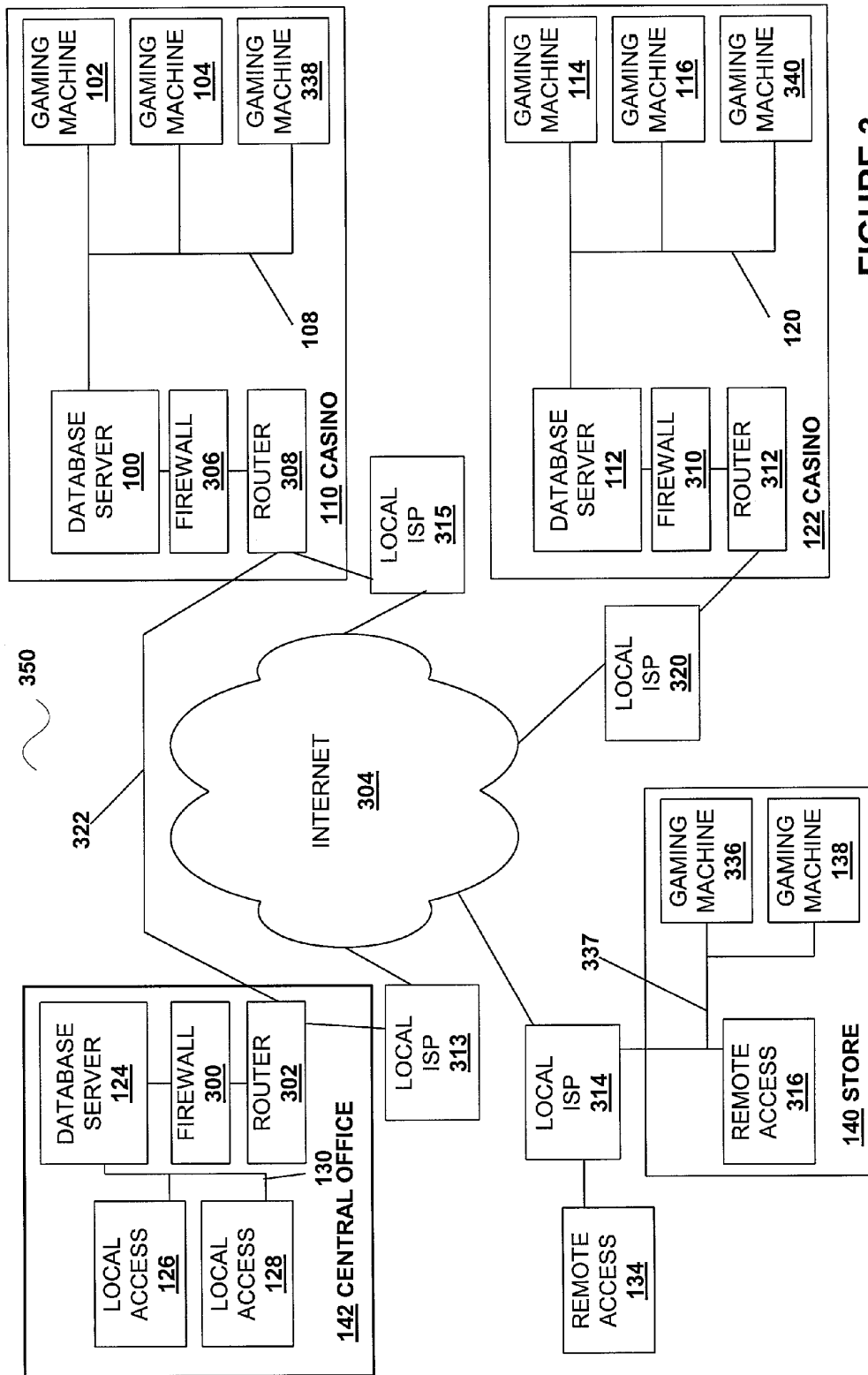


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