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(54) **WORK AREA TRANSFORM IN A GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE**

Publication Classification

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for transforming a work area and displaying an information component in a graphical user interface is provided. The graphical user interface utilizes a three-dimensional transformation to move a presently displayed work area, for example a desktop with open windows, revealing a background presentation area behind it. In the portion of the presentation area revealed, an information component, such as a Start Menu, is displayed. Use of the three-dimensional transformation effectively decouples an operating system from the applications it hosts. The transformation further prevents visual clutter by separating the information component from the previously underlying desktop.

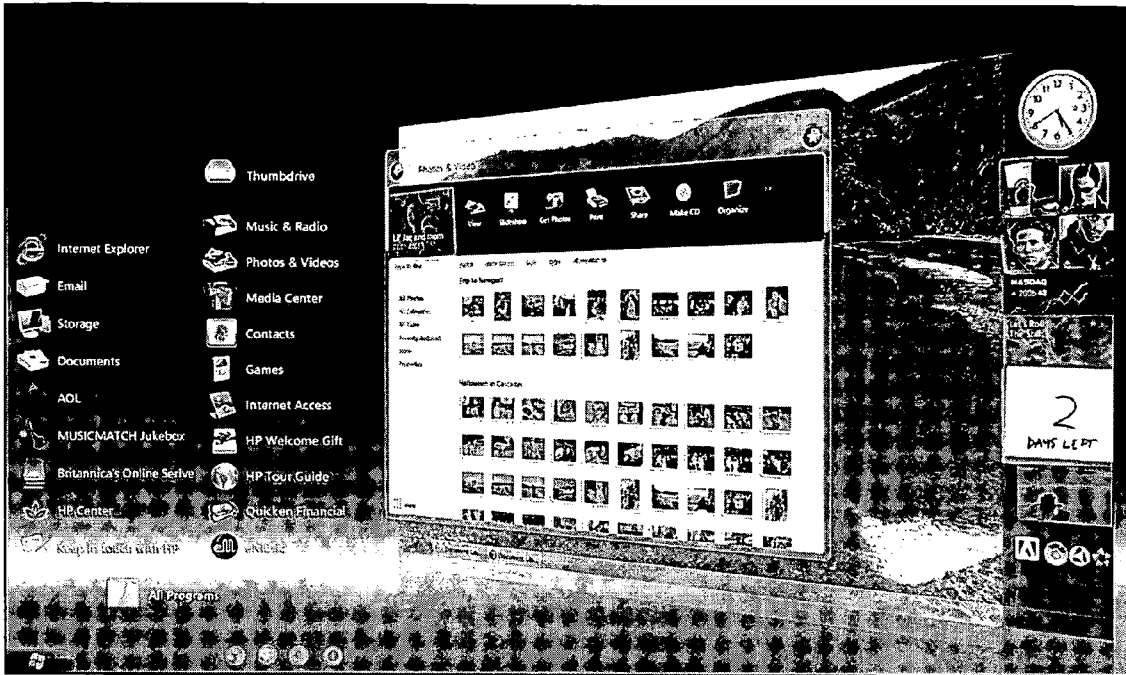
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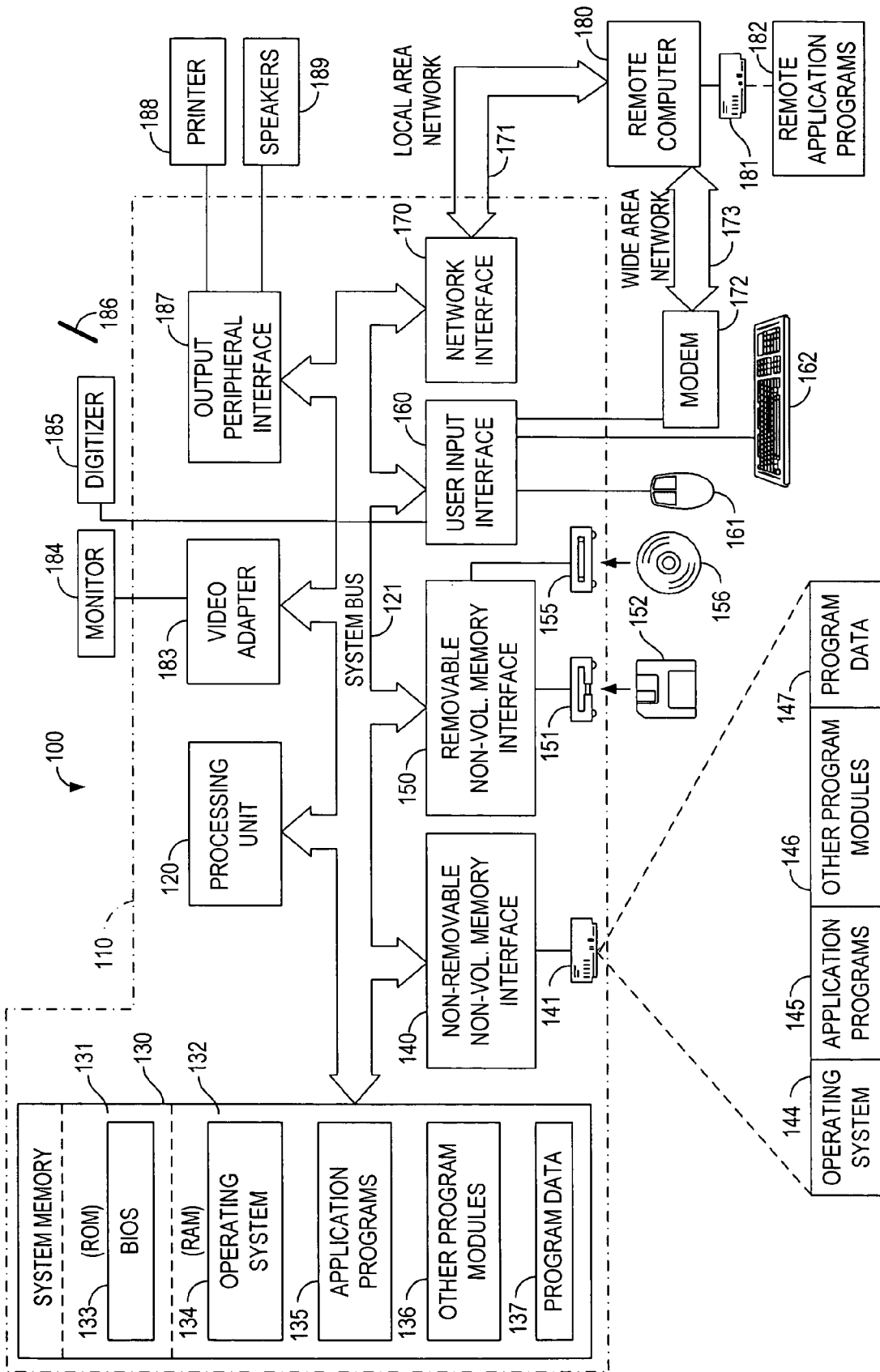


FIG. 1A

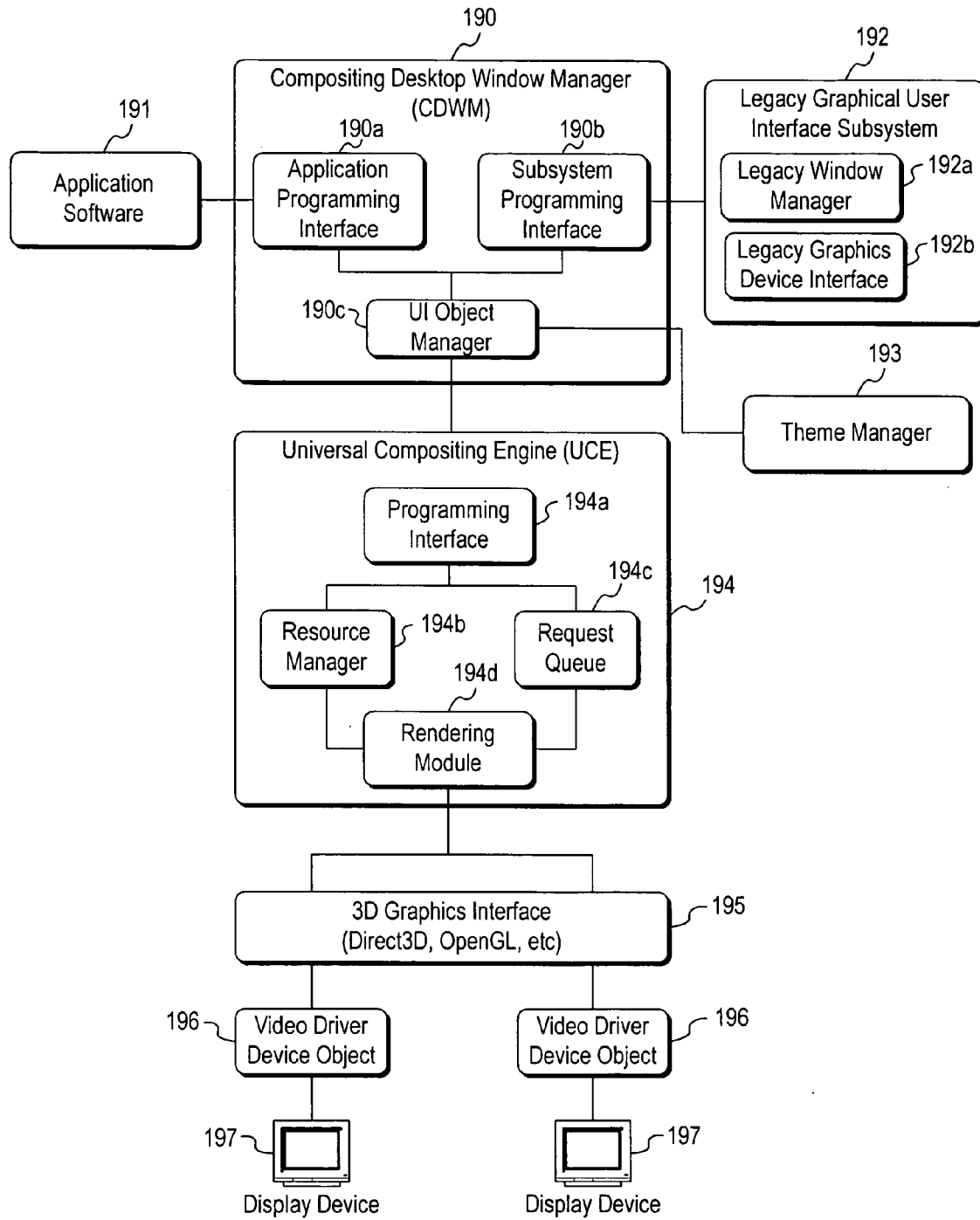


FIG. 1B

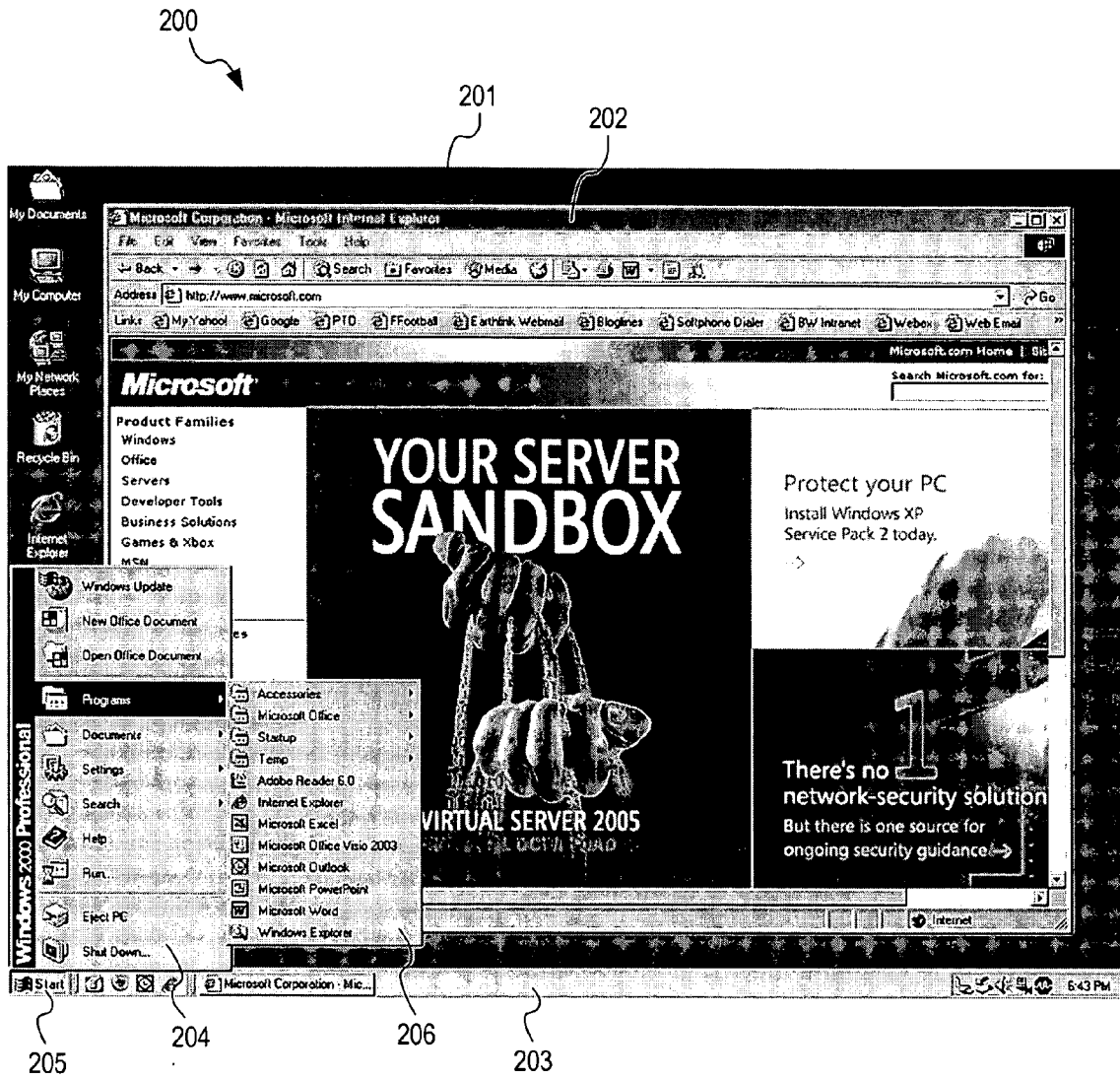


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

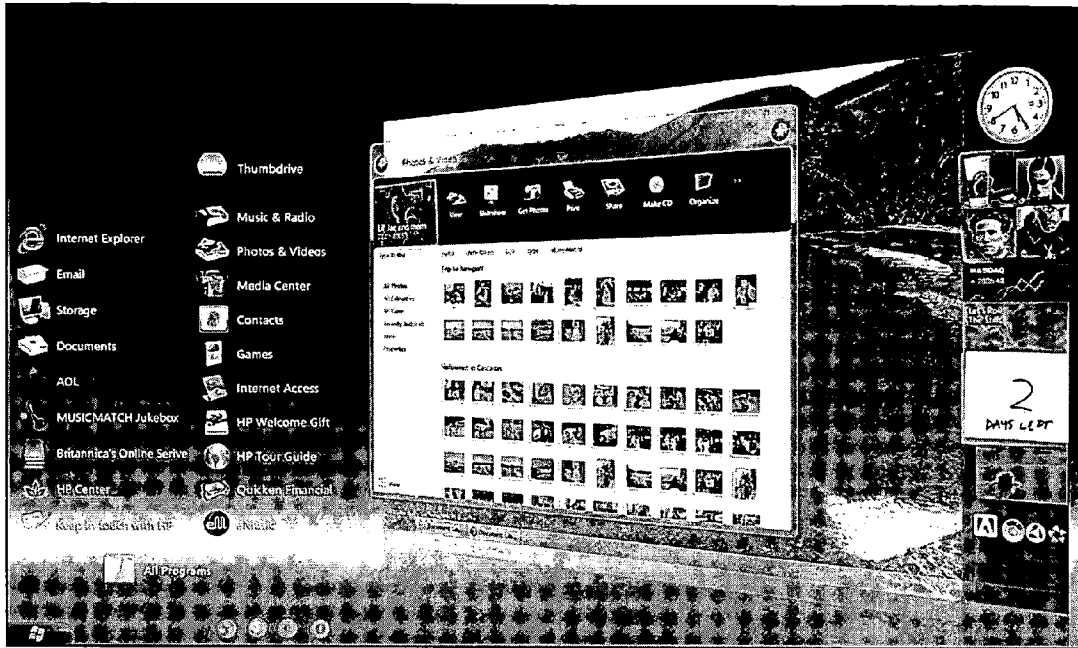


FIG. 3A

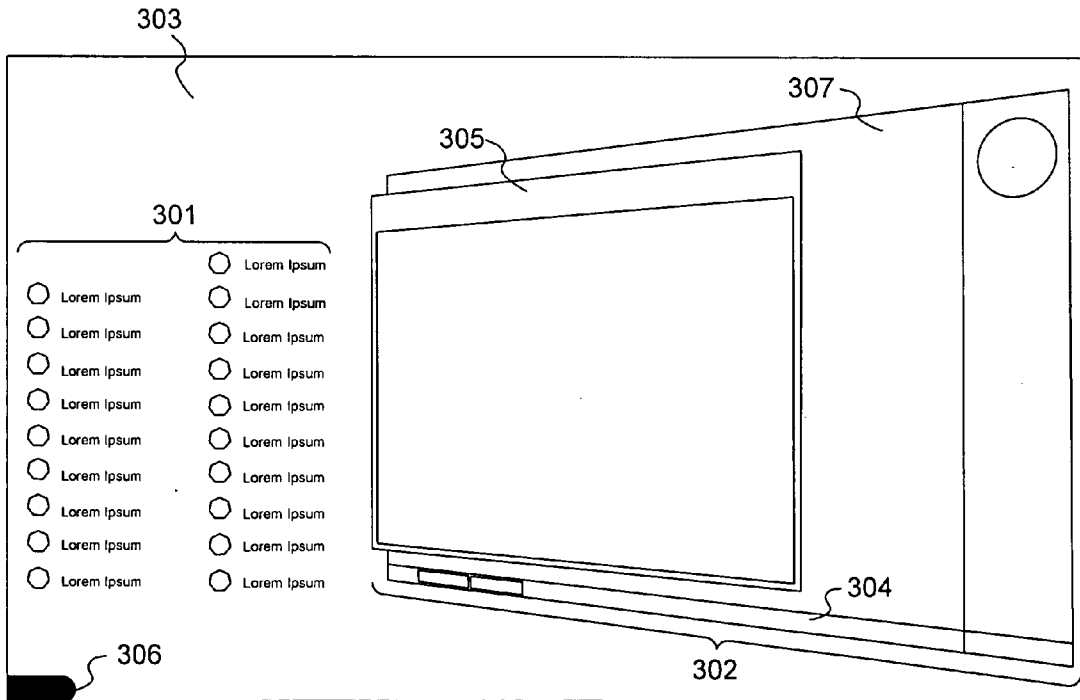


FIG. 3B

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