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(54) **MAIL SYNCHRONIZATION OF REMOTE AND LOCAL MAIL SYSTEMS**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/206; 709/248; 709/217**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **709/206, 709/217, 106, 203, 227-229, 248; 707/10, 707/201**

See application file for complete search history.

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Primary Examiner—Hosain Alam

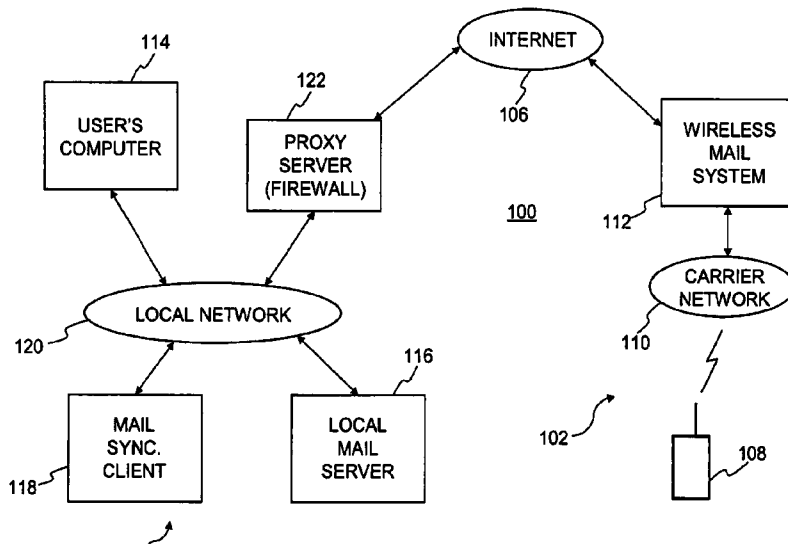
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Improved techniques for synchronizing different electronic mail mailboxes (accounts) of a user are disclosed. The user is able to effectively see and interact with only a single "virtual" mailbox, which is the synchronized combination of the two different electronic mailboxes. The electronic mailboxes are used to receive, store, read and send electronic mail over a network to electronic mailboxes associated with recipients. The electronic mail can include electronic messages that contain text, graphics or video. The synchronization of the two different electronic mailboxes can be performed automatically in a two-way manner without user interaction. The synchronization can also be performed securely even though electronic messages are transmitted over a public network.

21 Claims, 21 Drawing Sheets



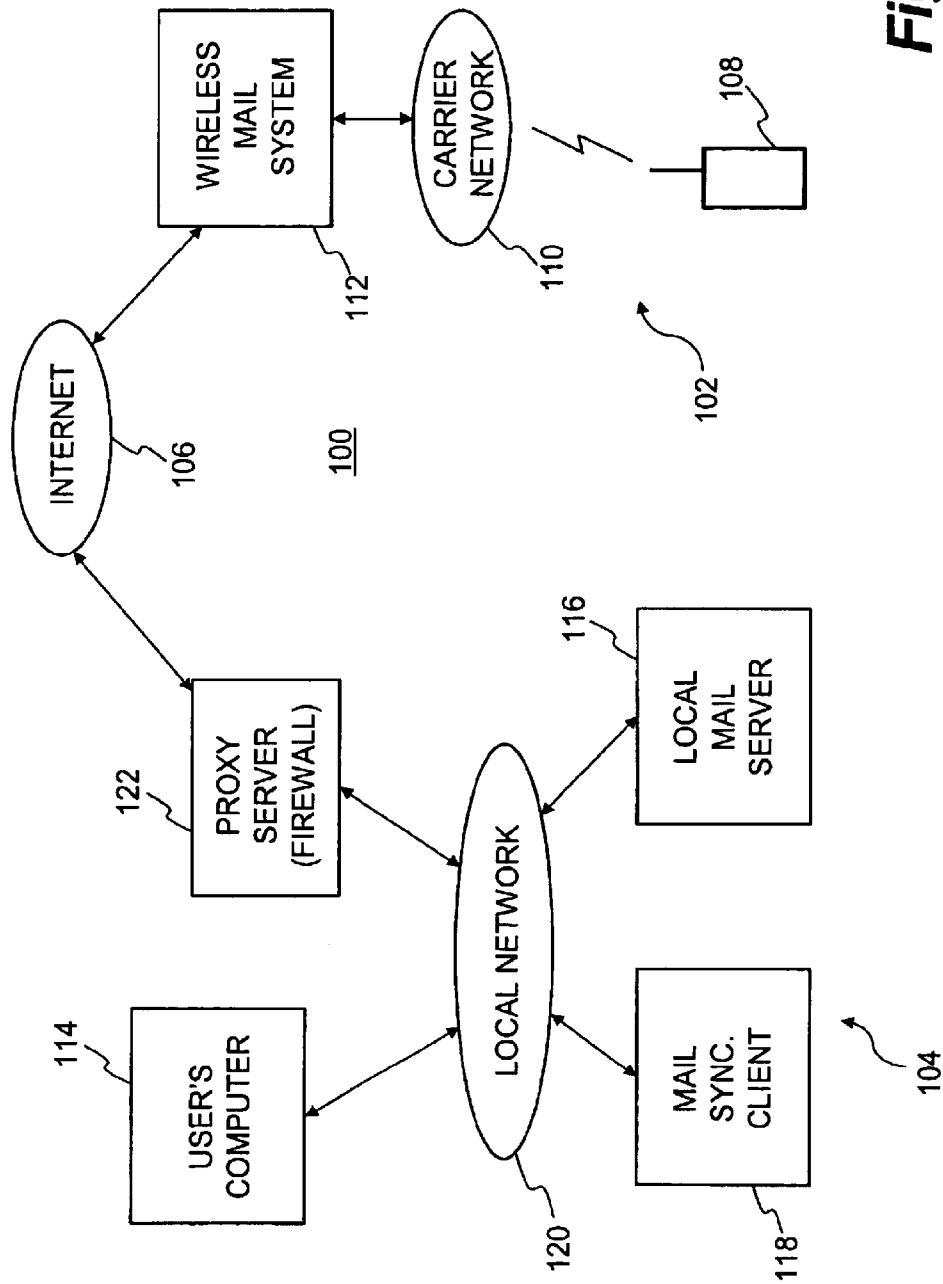


Fig. 1

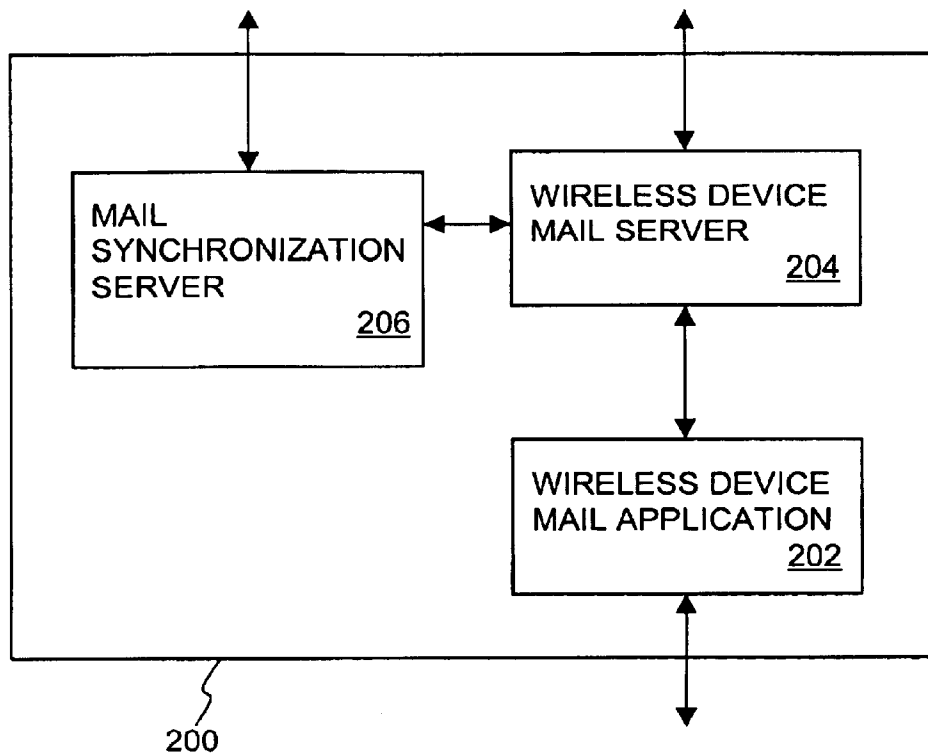


Fig. 2A

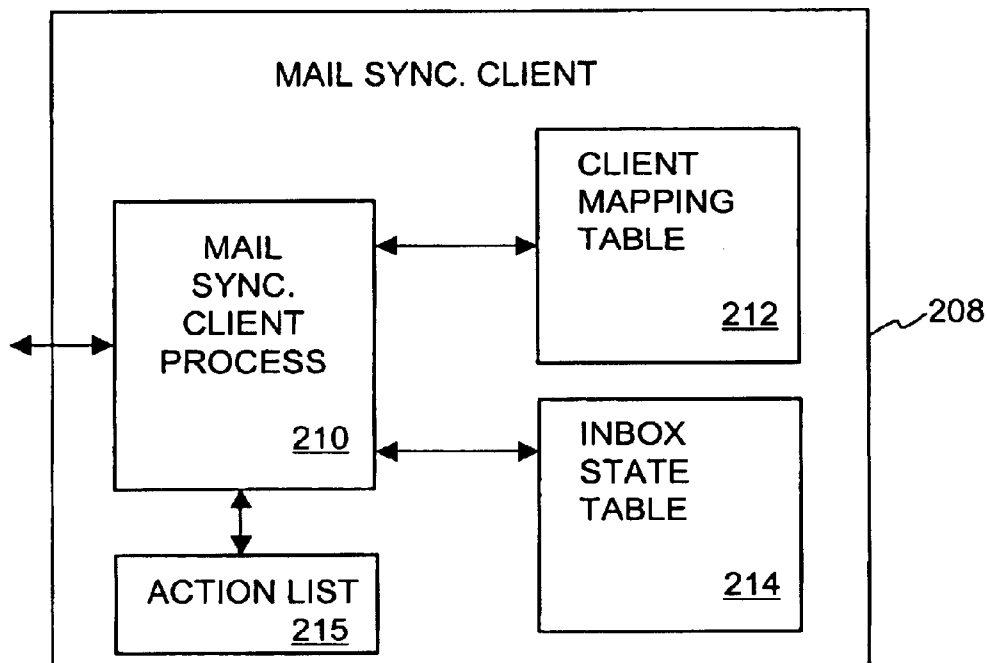


Fig. 2B

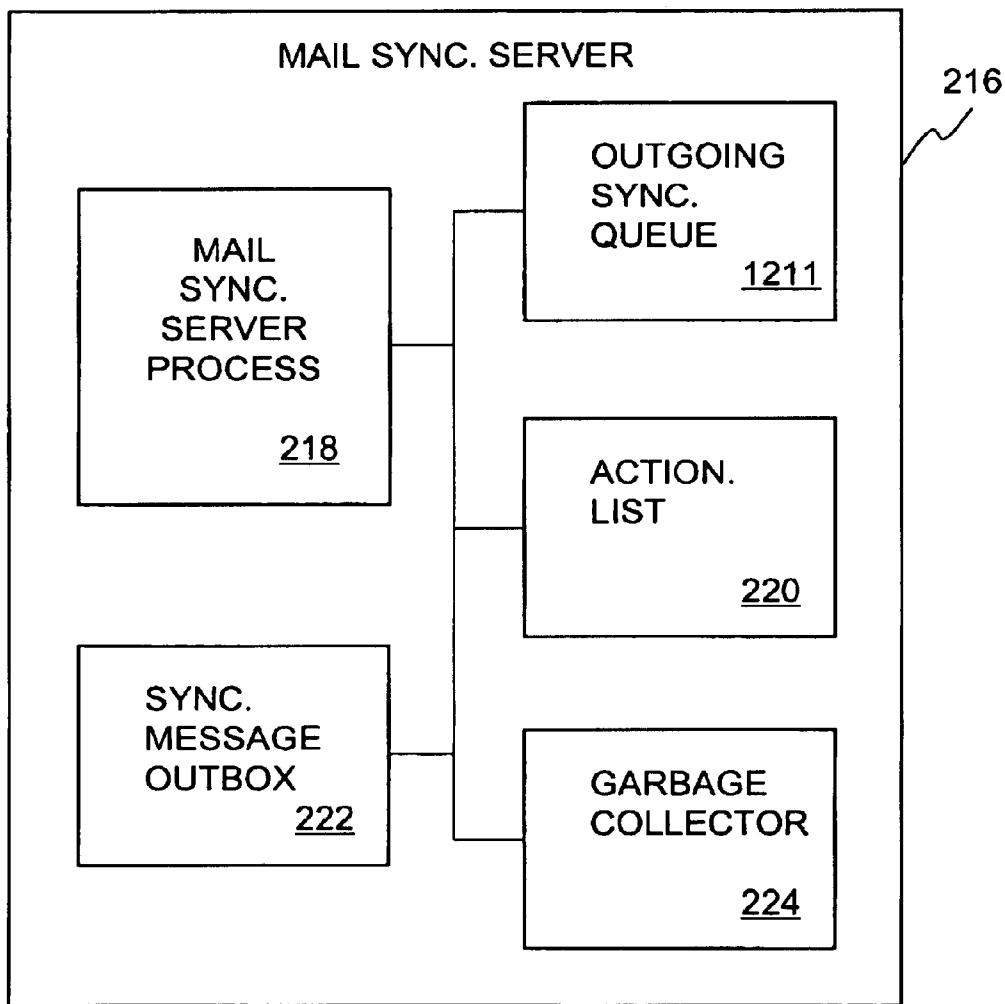


Fig. 2C

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