

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2004/0098533 A1**

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(43) **Pub. Date: May 20, 2004**

(54) **USE OF A MEDIA CACHE FOR SUBSEQUENT COPYING ACCELERATION**

(52) **U.S. Cl. 711/100**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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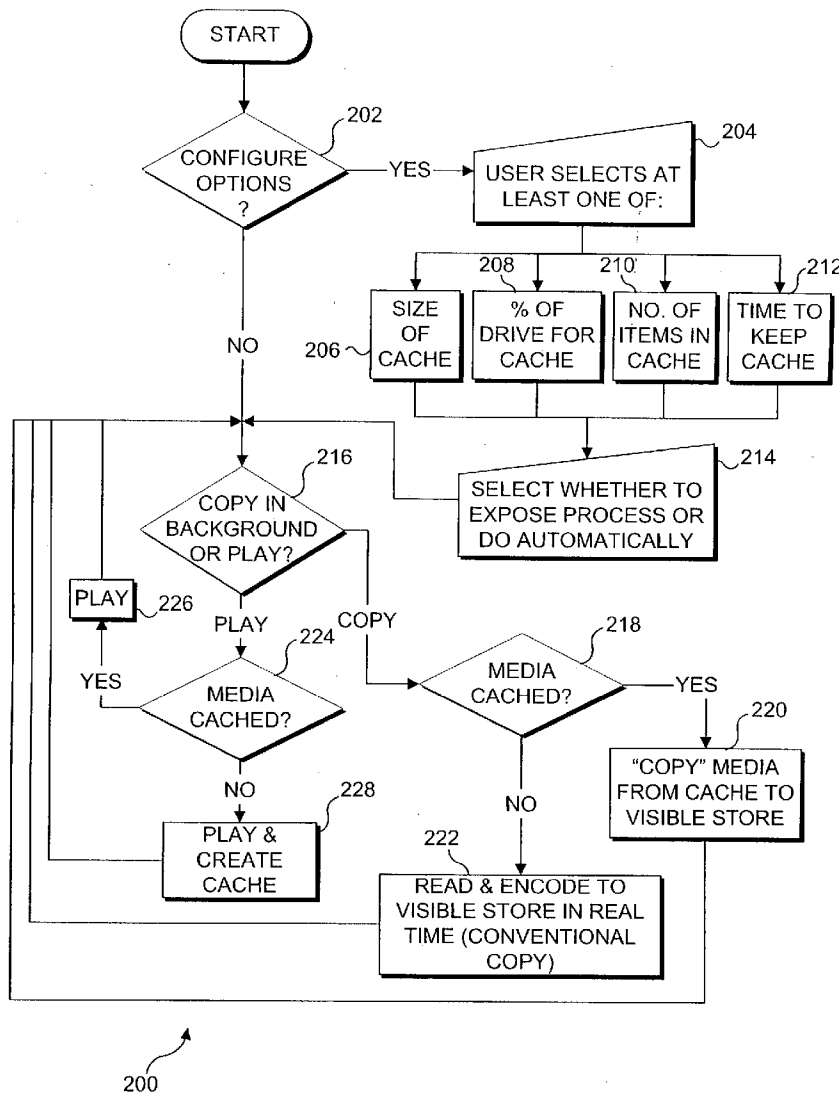
The apparent speed with which a media work is ripped to copy the work into a visible store is substantially reduced. When the media work is played, its content is cached onto a persistent, fast access storage media. If the user subsequently decides to rip the media work, the content of the cache is copied to a visible store in substantially less time than would be required to play the media work and convert it. The user thus perceives that the media work is ripped in a substantially shorter time, compared to that required for ripping the media work in a conventional manner. The ripping process may encode or transform the format of the content to a desired format for use within the visible store. Constraints may be imposed by the user to limit the cache, or the caching process may be hidden from the user.

(21) **Appl. No.: 10/298,450**

(22) **Filed: Nov. 15, 2002**

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.7 G06F 3/00**



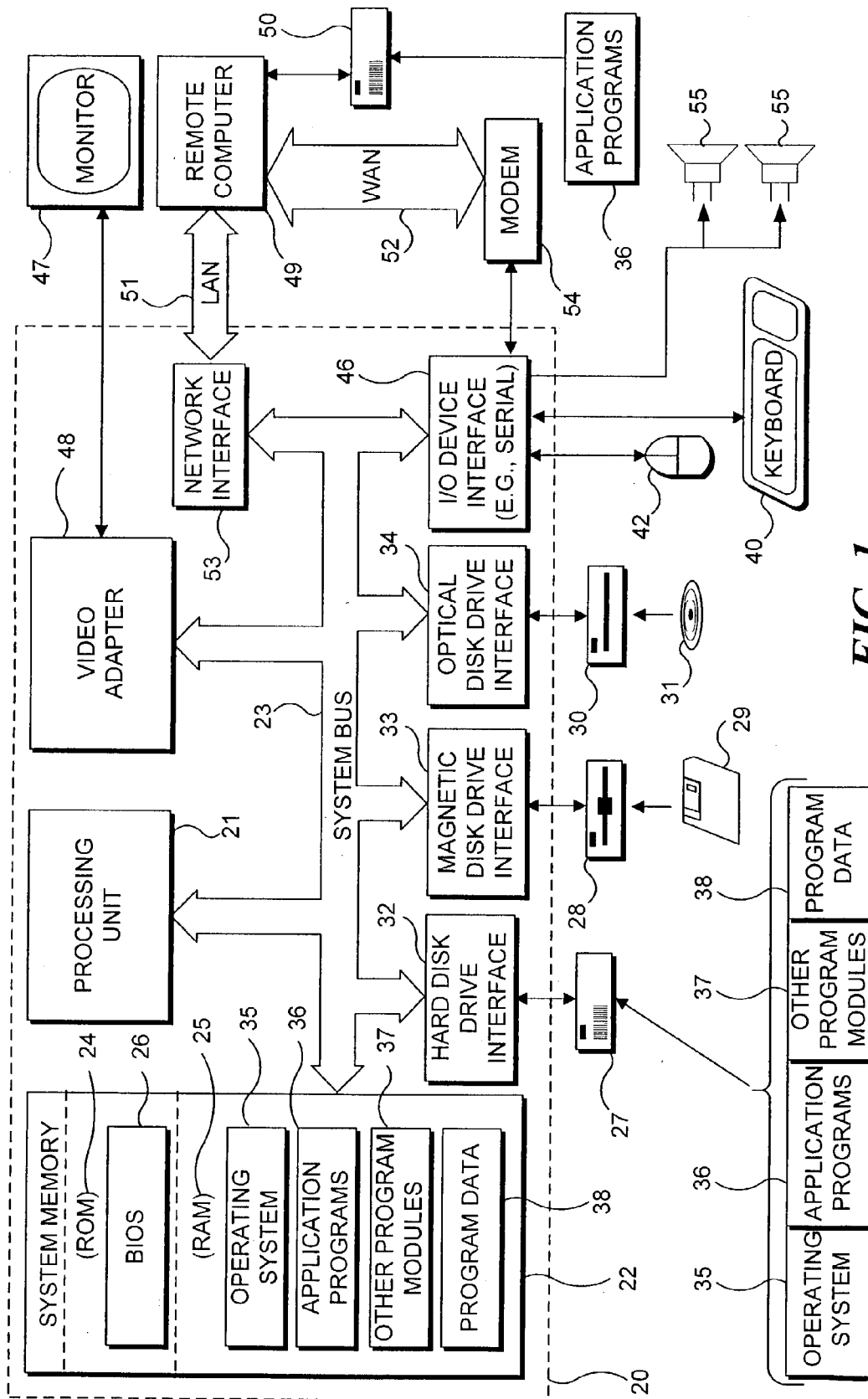


FIG. 1

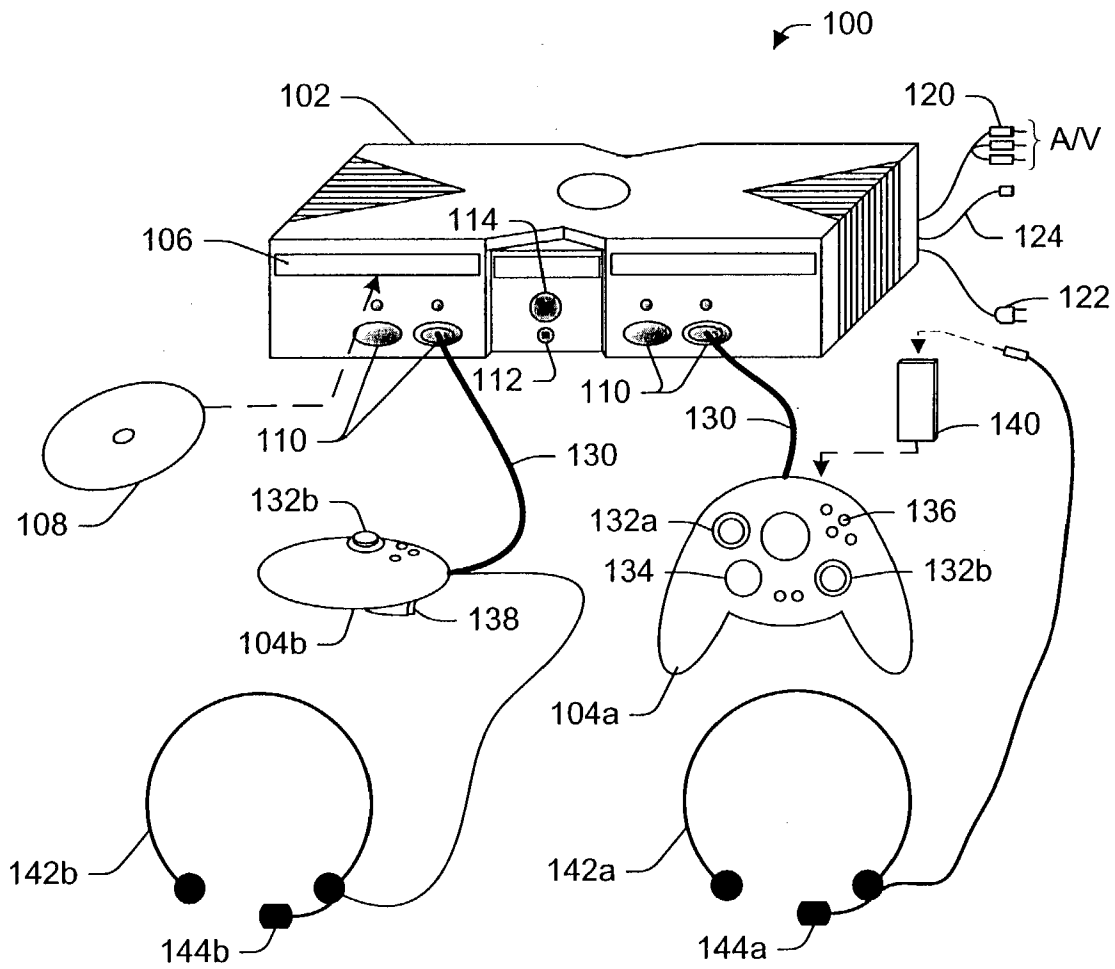


FIG. 2

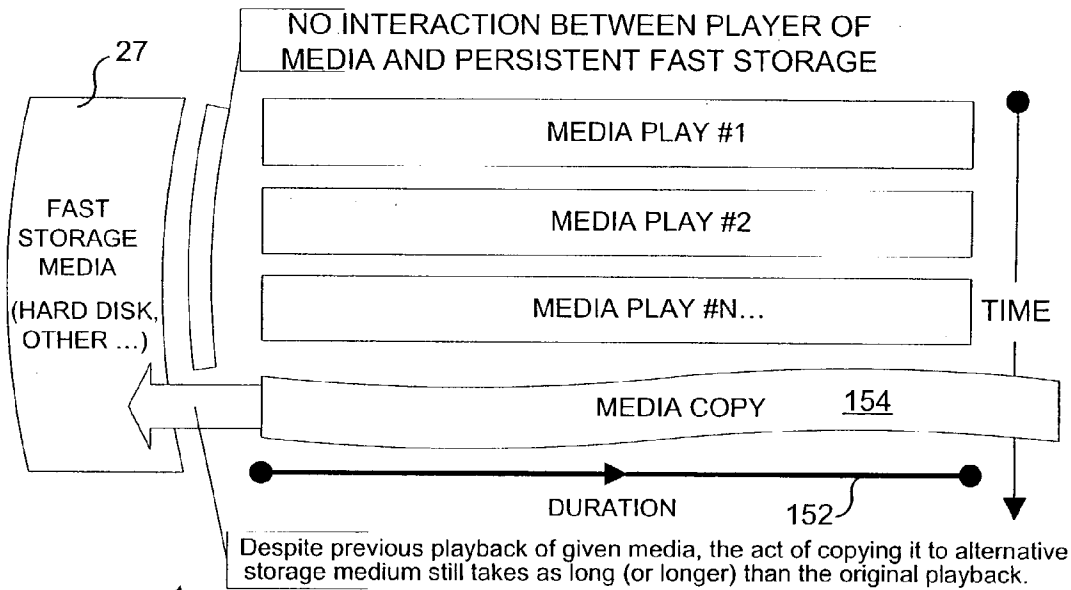


FIG. 3A
(PRIOR ART)

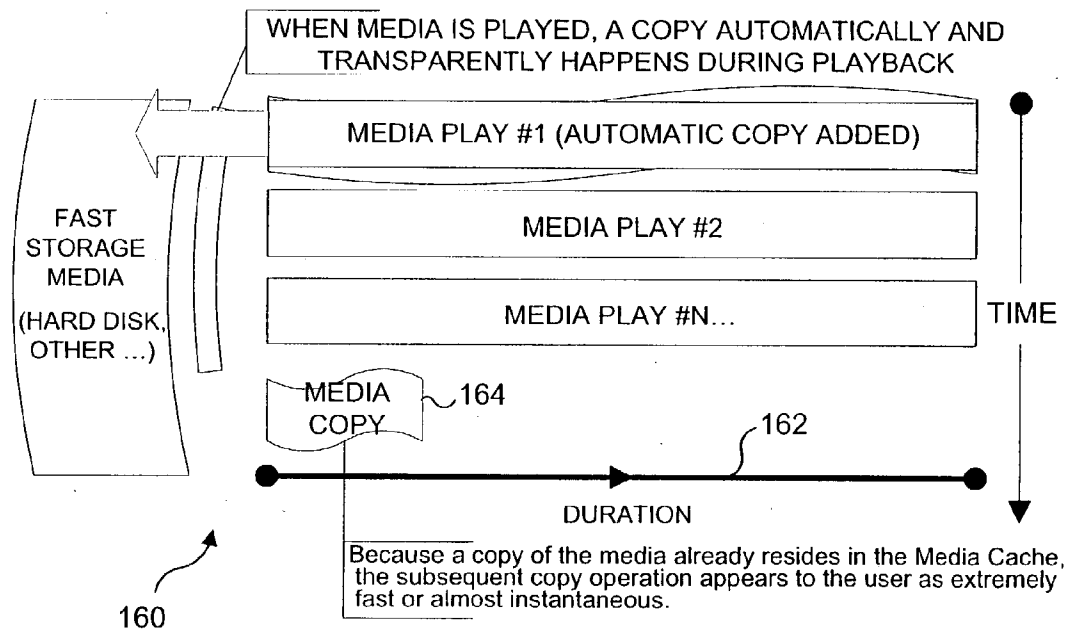
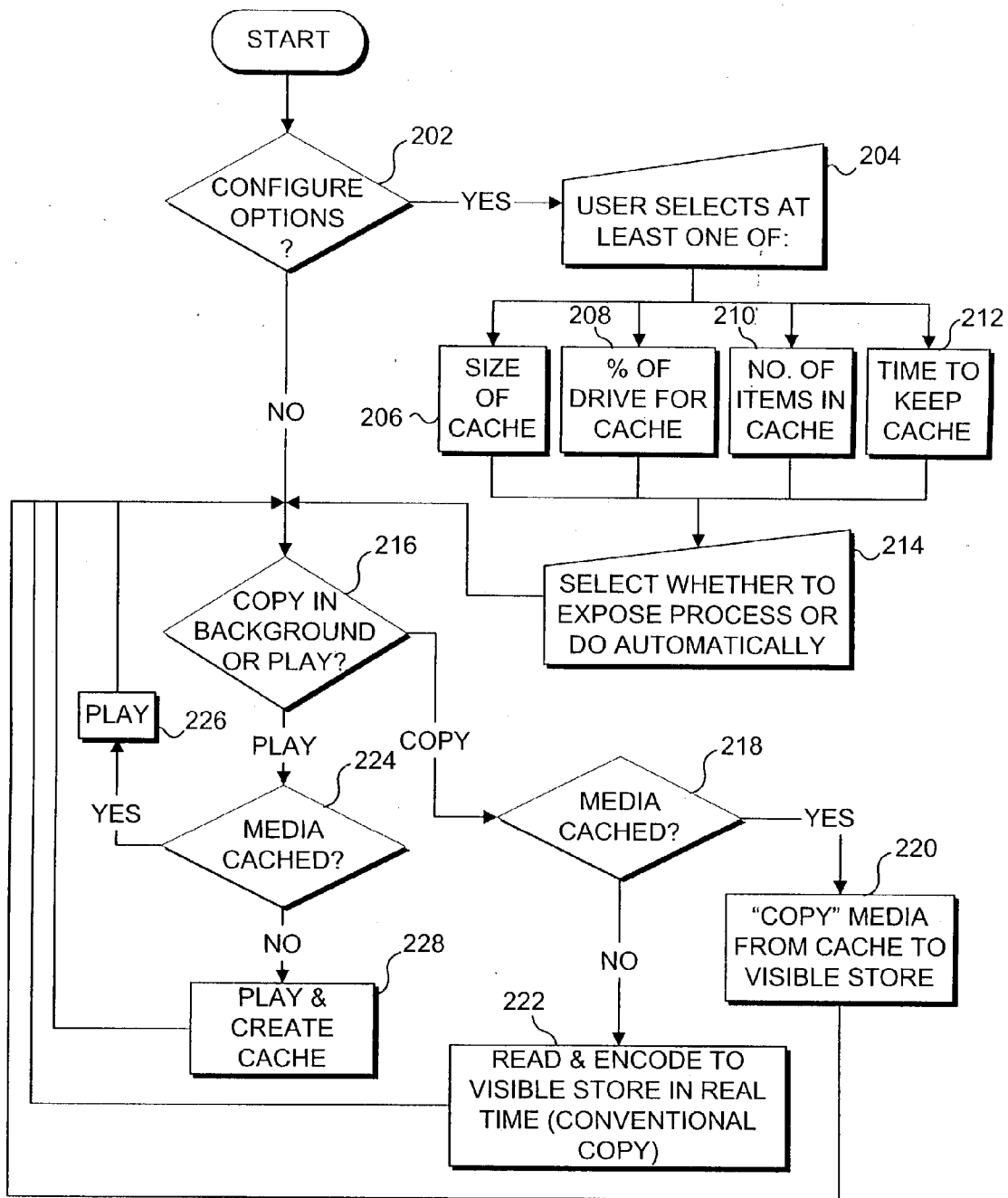


FIG. 3B



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FIG. 4

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