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**De Vries**

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(54) **PLACE SPECIFIC BUDDY LIST SERVICES**

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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 690 days.

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(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... **H04Q 7/20; H04B 1/38**

(52) U.S. Cl. .... **455/414.1; 455/456.3; 455/566**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 455/414.1, 422.1, 455/456, 457, 459, 466, 456.1, 456.2, 456.3, 455/456.4, 456.6, 566; 340/993

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An information service provides search and notifications to inform when certain people (e.g., friends, family, business contacts, etc.) are nearby so as to facilitate communications with those people. Users may define lists of people whose locations may be tracked by positioning equipment based on personal communications/computing devices carried by the people. The information service processes this people and place data to identify those of the listed people that are in the user’s vicinity, and provide notifications and user-initiated search results informing the user such as via the user’s personal communications/computing device.

**26 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**

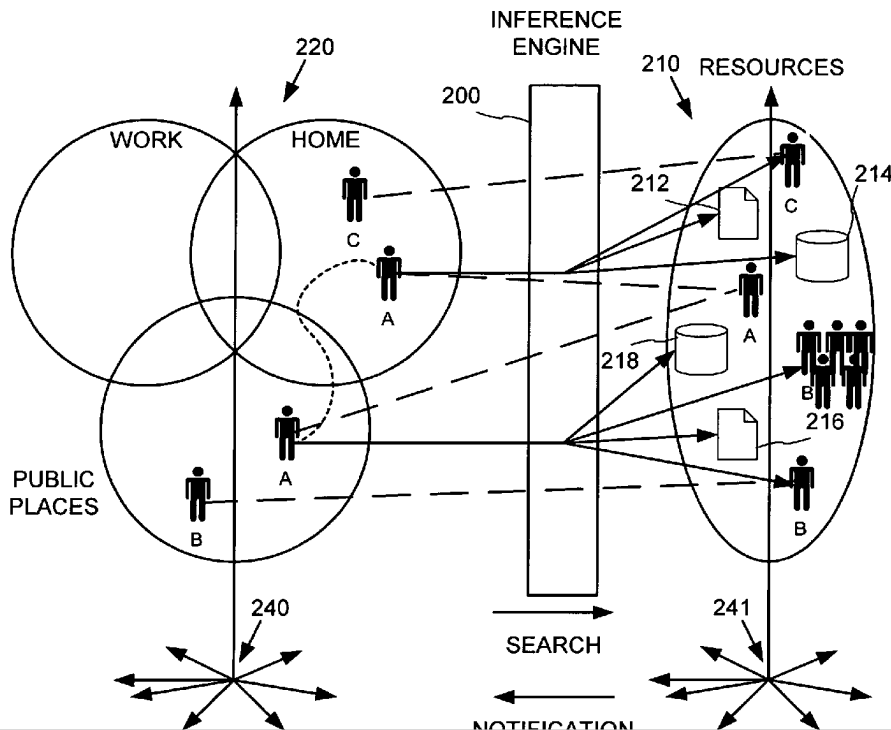


FIG. 1

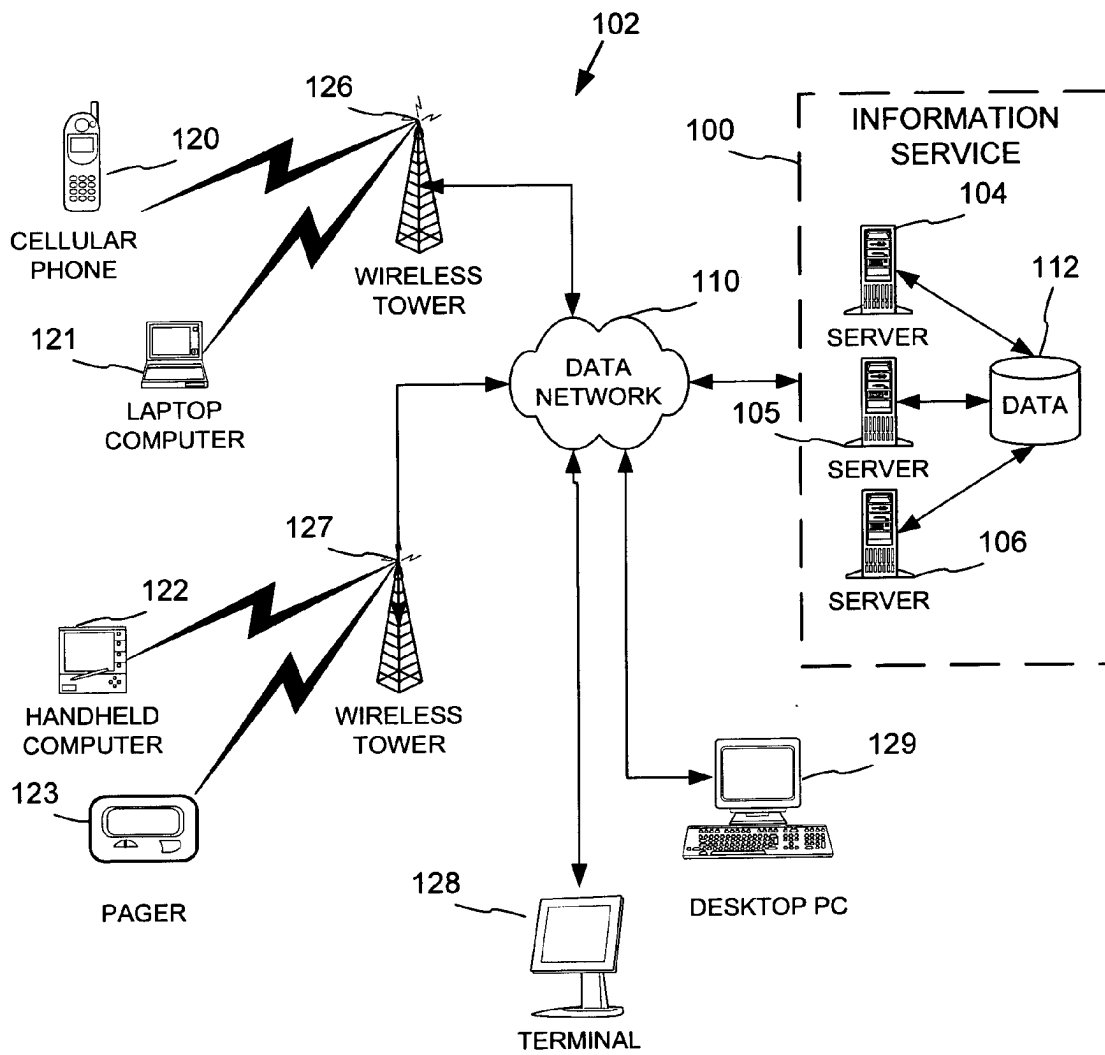
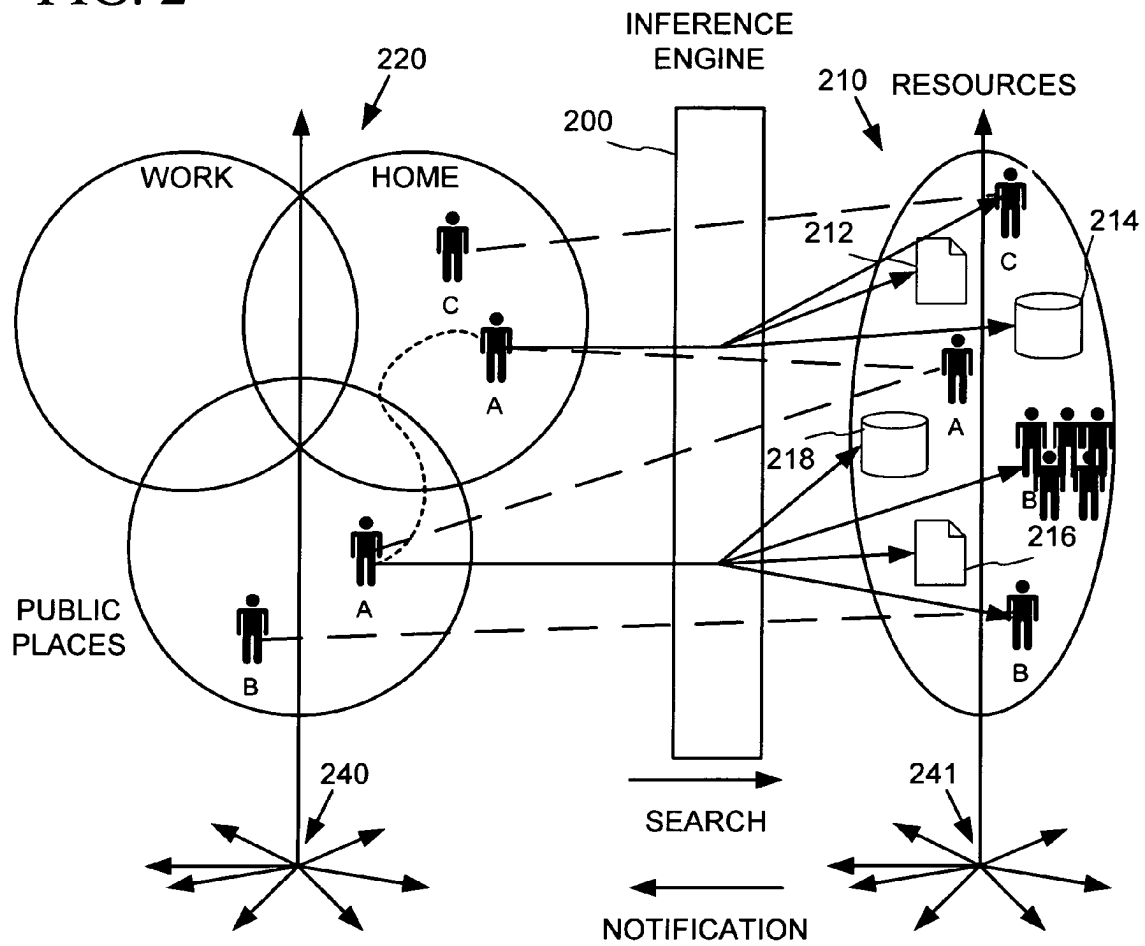


FIG. 2



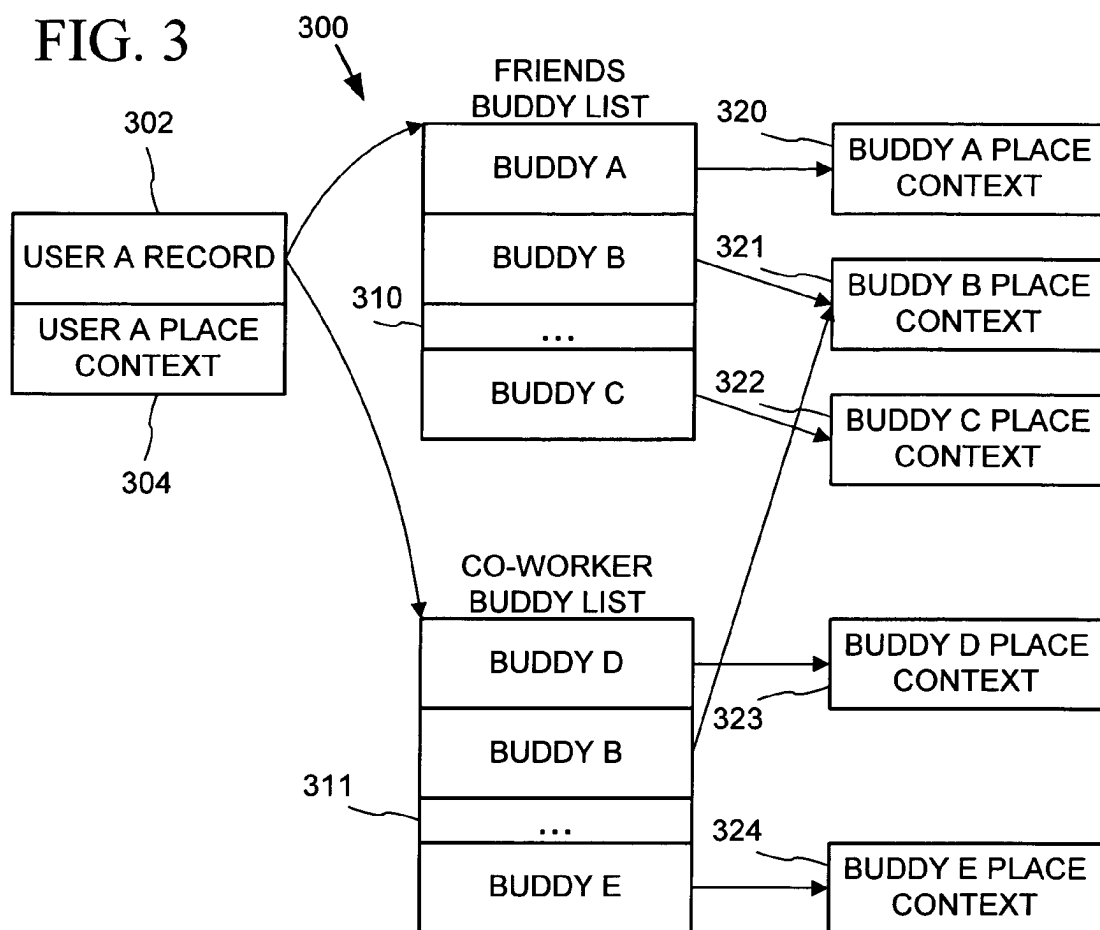
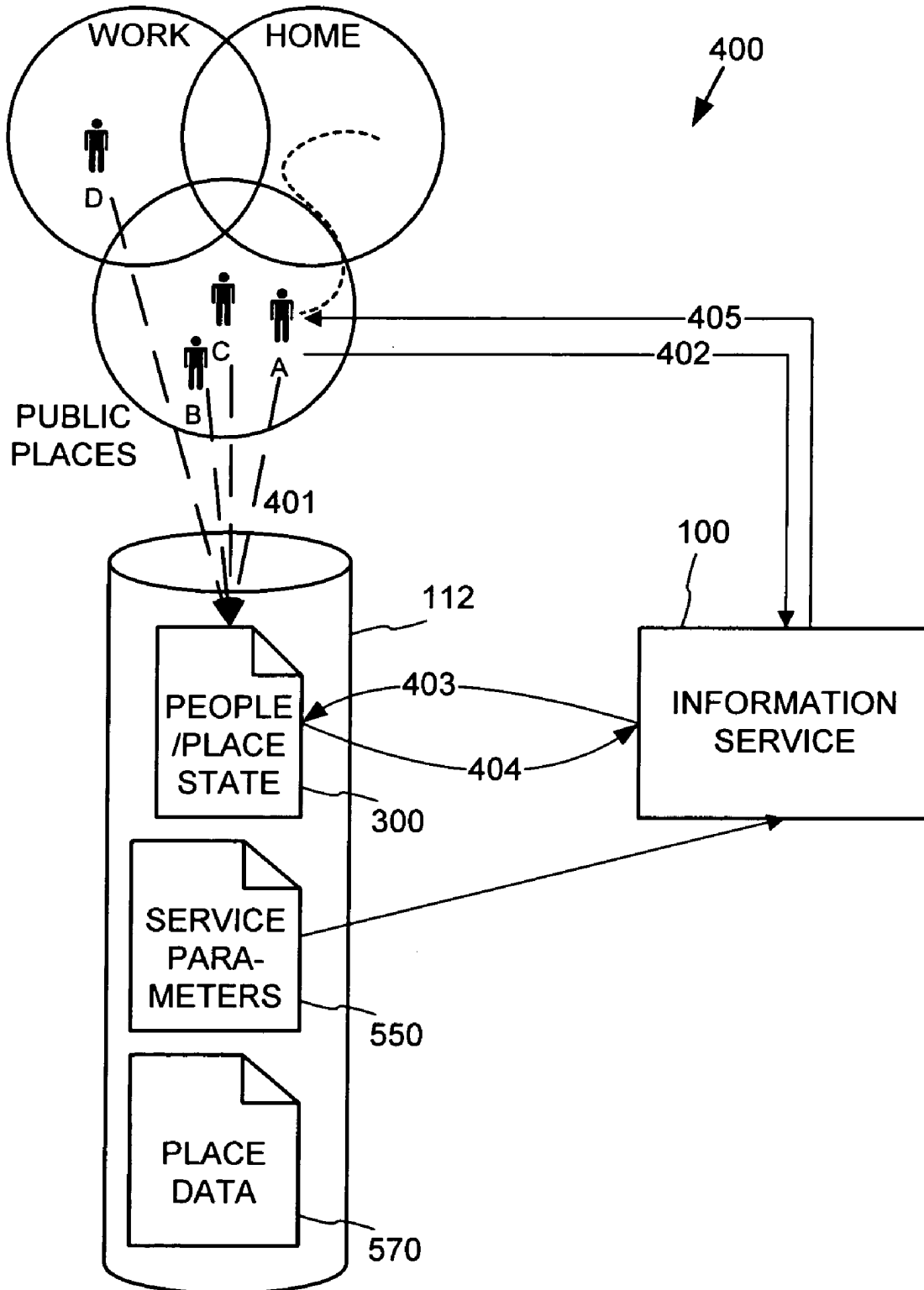


FIG. 4

SEARCH



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