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**Turcotte**

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DEVICE AND CARRIER INDEPENDENT LOCATION SYSTEMS FOR MOBILE DEVICES**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(73) **Assignee:** Palm Source, Inc., Sunnyvale, CA (US)

A method and system for a device and carrier independent geographic location protocol. Specifically, the present invention provides location information of a mobile device to third parties in a communication network through a protocol that is device and network carrier independent. Position information of any first format is sent to a proxy server. An identifier that identifies the type and format of the position information is also sent. The proxy server then locates and accesses an executable plug-in module associated with the identifier to convert the position information of the first format into one of a plurality of standard location formats. The executable plug-in module converts the position information into a second standard format as required by the third party. After the position information is converted to the second format, the proxy server sends the position information to the third party.

(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 742 days.

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(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... G01C 12/26

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 701/213; 701/300; 701/207; 709/217; 709/318

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 701/213, 207, 701/209, 212, 216, 300; 707/3, 6, 10, 104.1; 709/203, 217, 218, 318

(56) **References Cited**

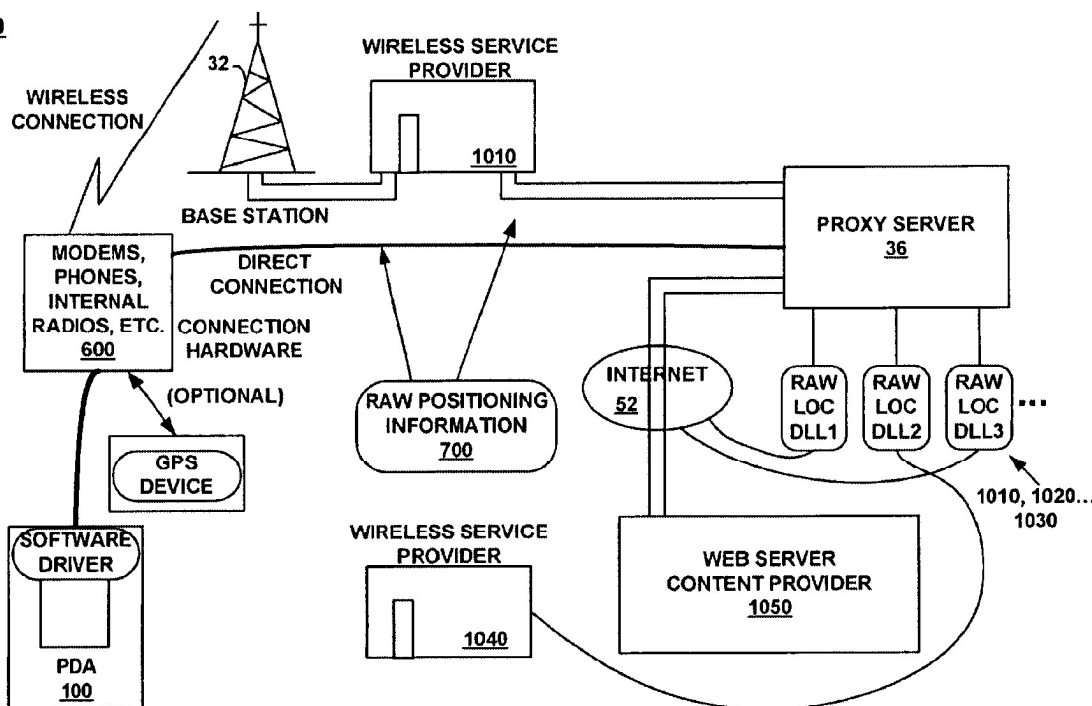
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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\* cited by examiner

**32 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets**

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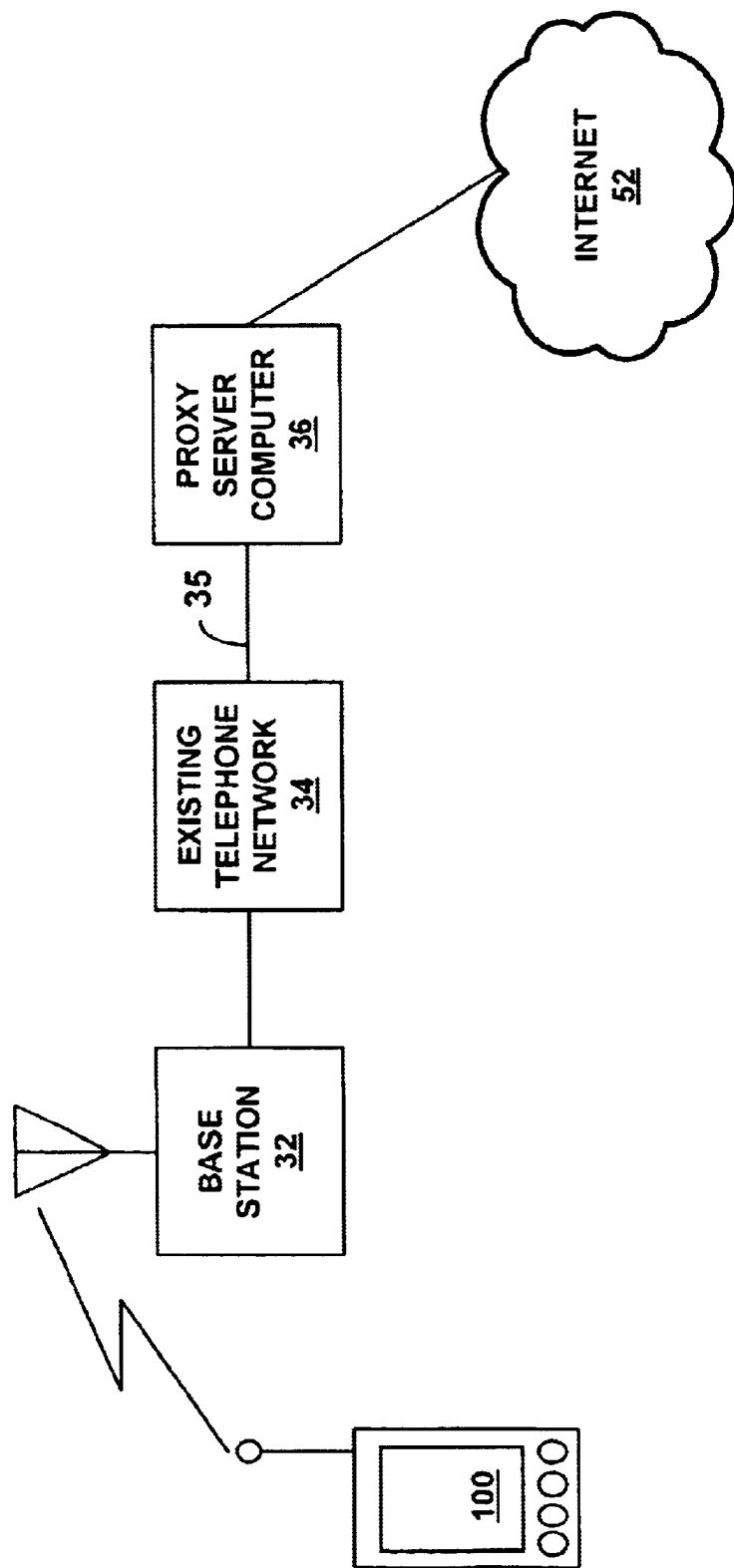


FIGURE 1A

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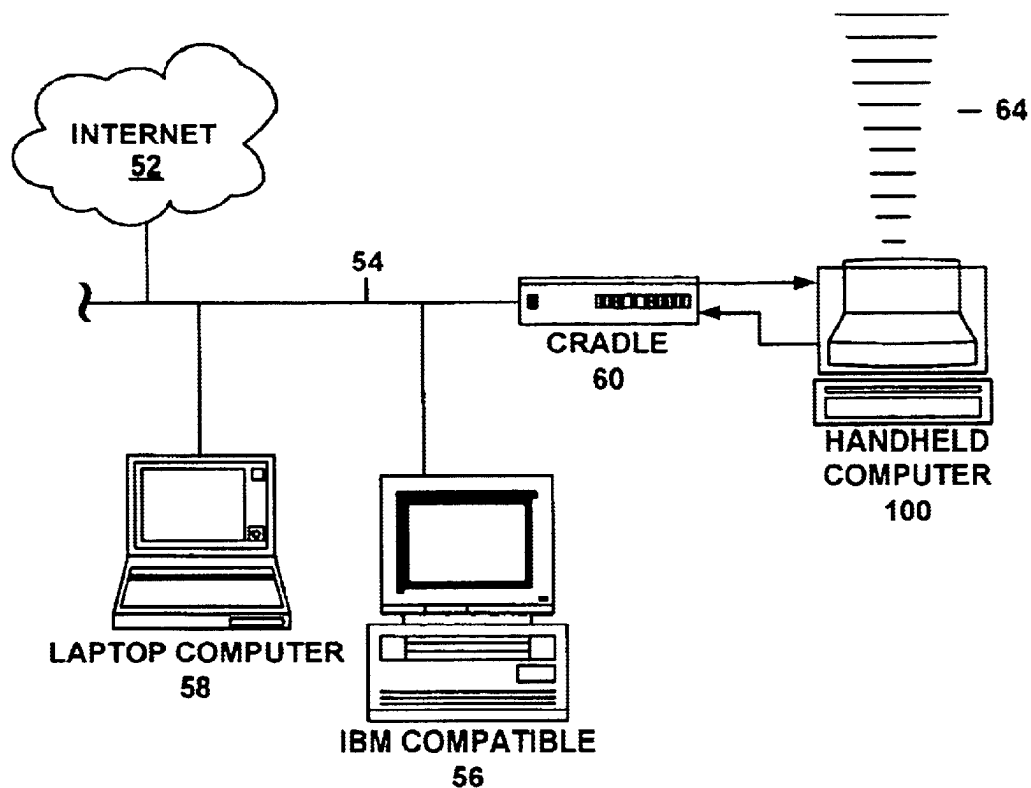
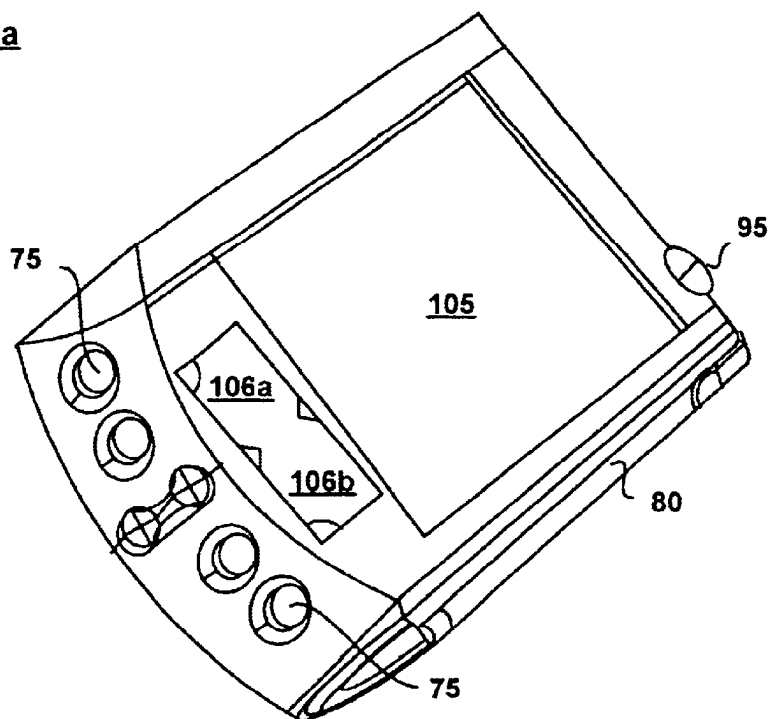


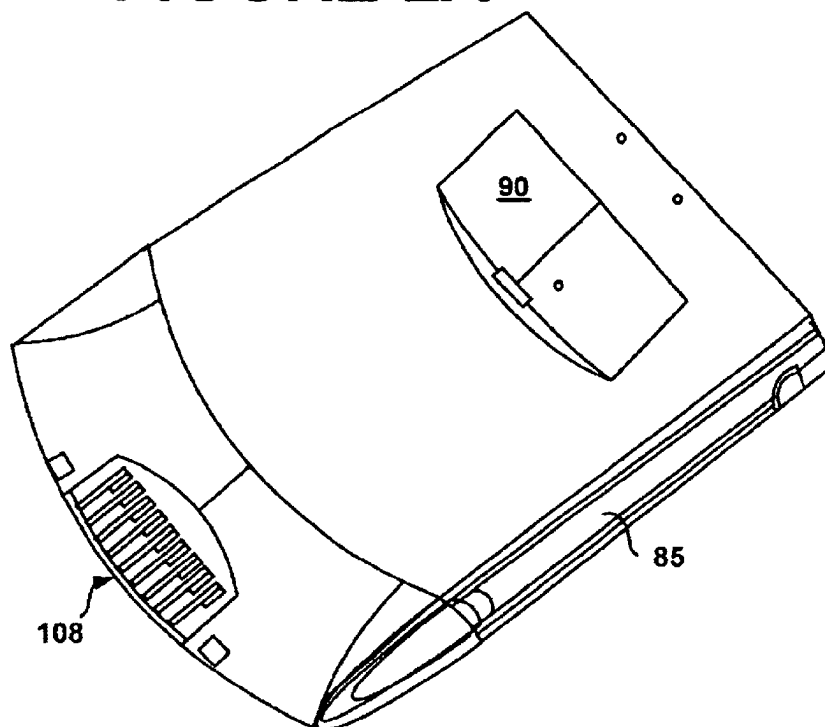
FIGURE 1B

100a



**FIGURE 2A**

100b



**FIGURE 2B**

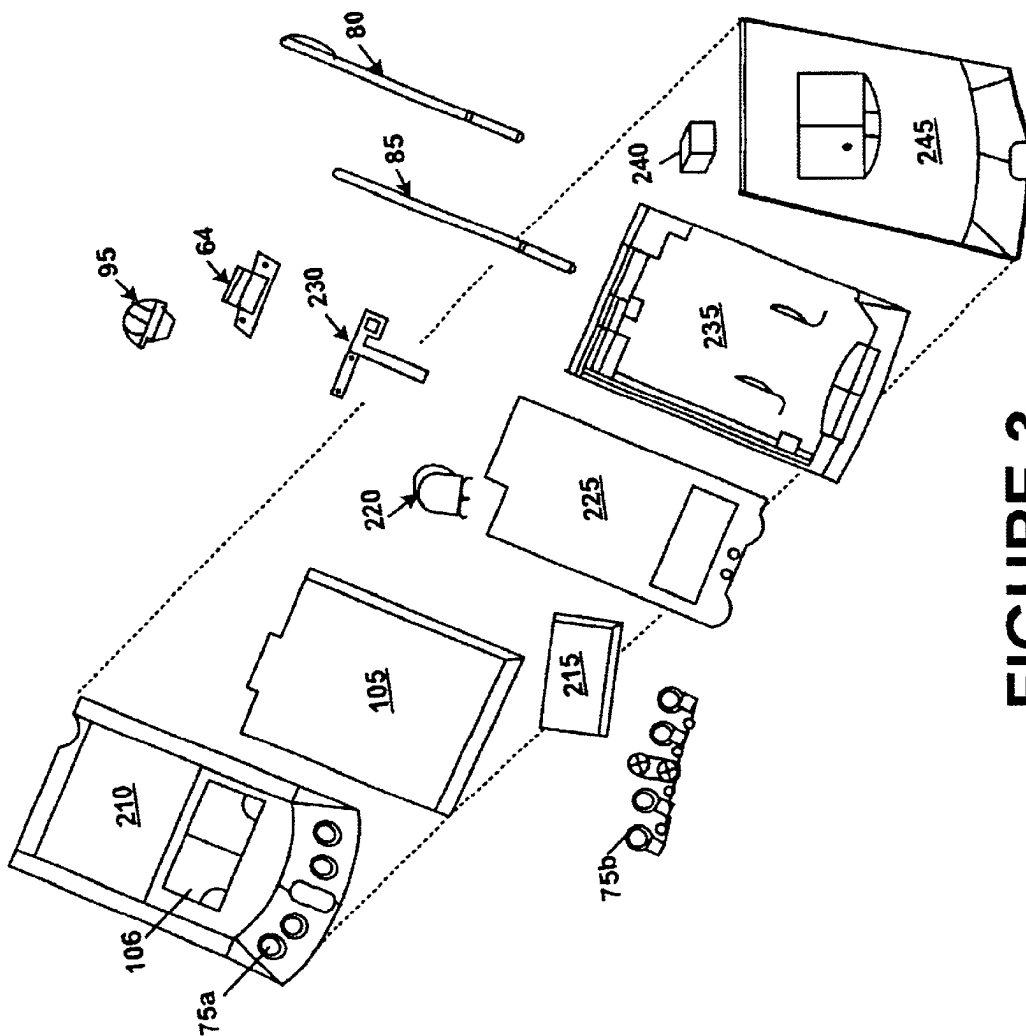


FIGURE 3

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