



United States Patent [19]

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Bensimon et al.

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[54] **REMOVABLE COMPUTER SECURITY DEVICE**

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[73] Assignee: **International Business Machines Corporation**, Armonk, N.Y.

[21] Appl. No.: **503,536**

[22] Filed: **Jul. 18, 1995**

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 397,017, Mar. 1, 1995, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 43,425, Apr. 6, 1993, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **H04K 1/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **380/4; 380/23; 380/25**

[58] Field of Search **380/3, 4, 23, 25, 380/49, 50; 235/379, 380, 382**

Primary Examiner—David C. Cain

[57] ABSTRACT

An intelligent removable information storage device (100), for coupling to a host microcomputer system (10), includes a local processor unit (106) including apparatus for preventing the microcomputer system from reading from, or writing to, the storage device absent the entry of an appropriate password by a user of the host microcomputer system. The storage device also includes a storage medium (e.g., a magnetic disk) for storing information including at least one password. The local processor unit includes apparatus for preventing access to the information stored in the storage means absent receipt of a valid password.

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10 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

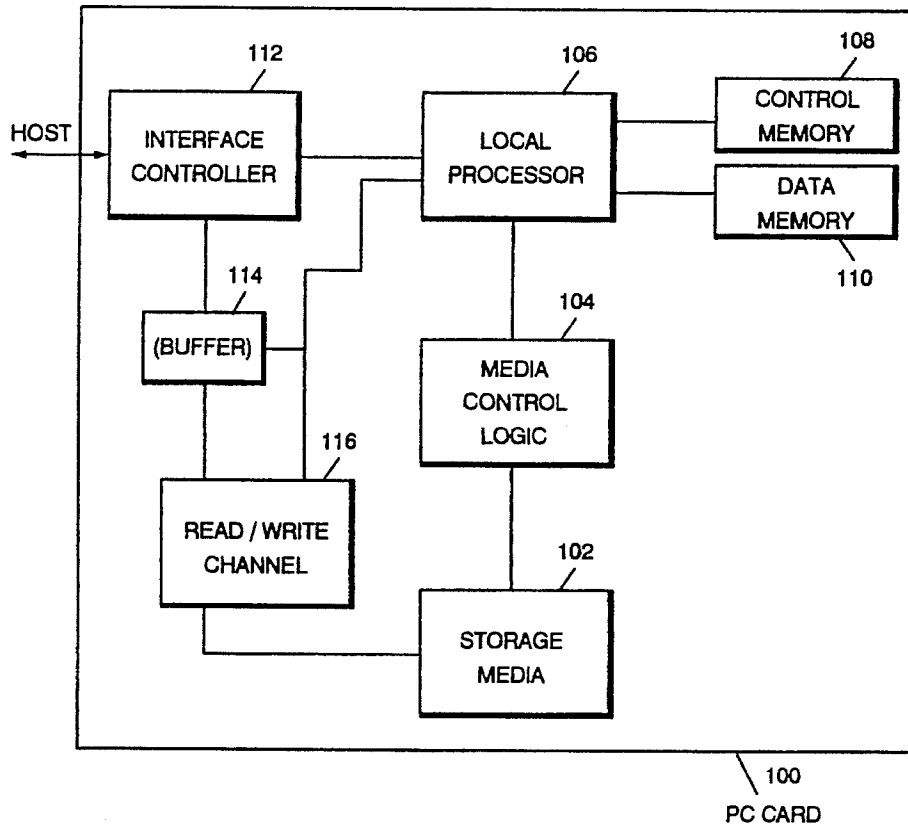
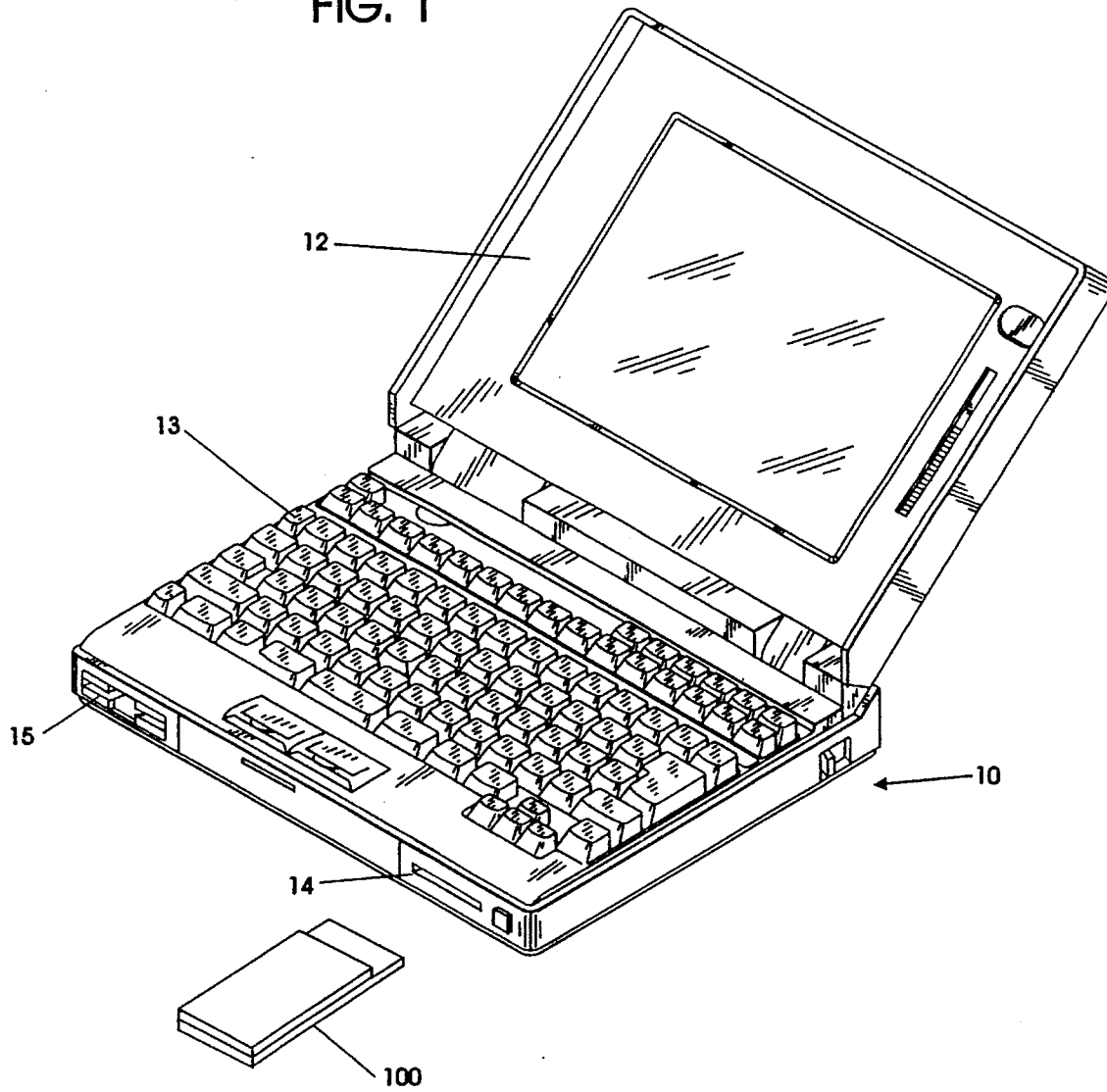


FIG. 1



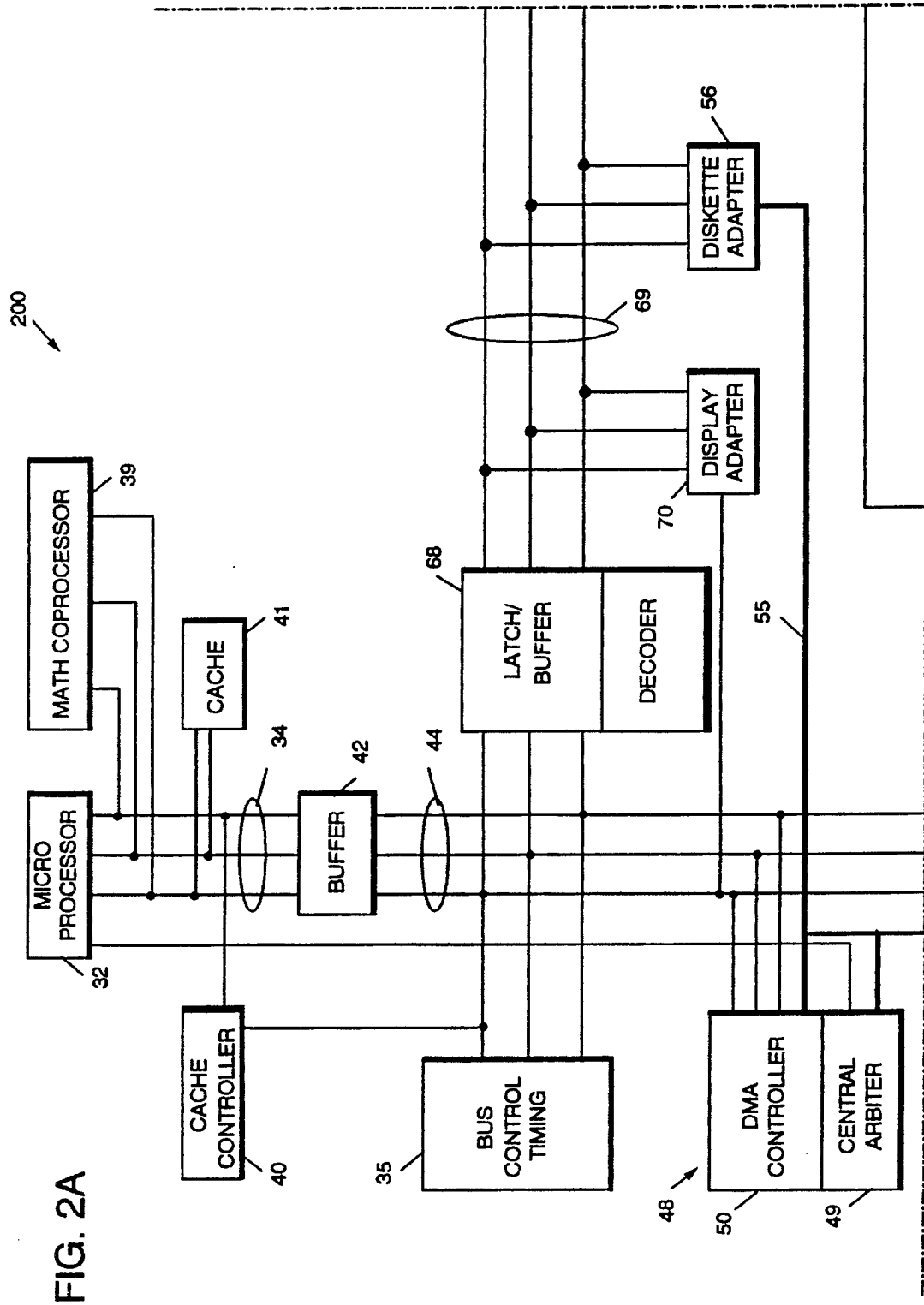


FIG. 2A

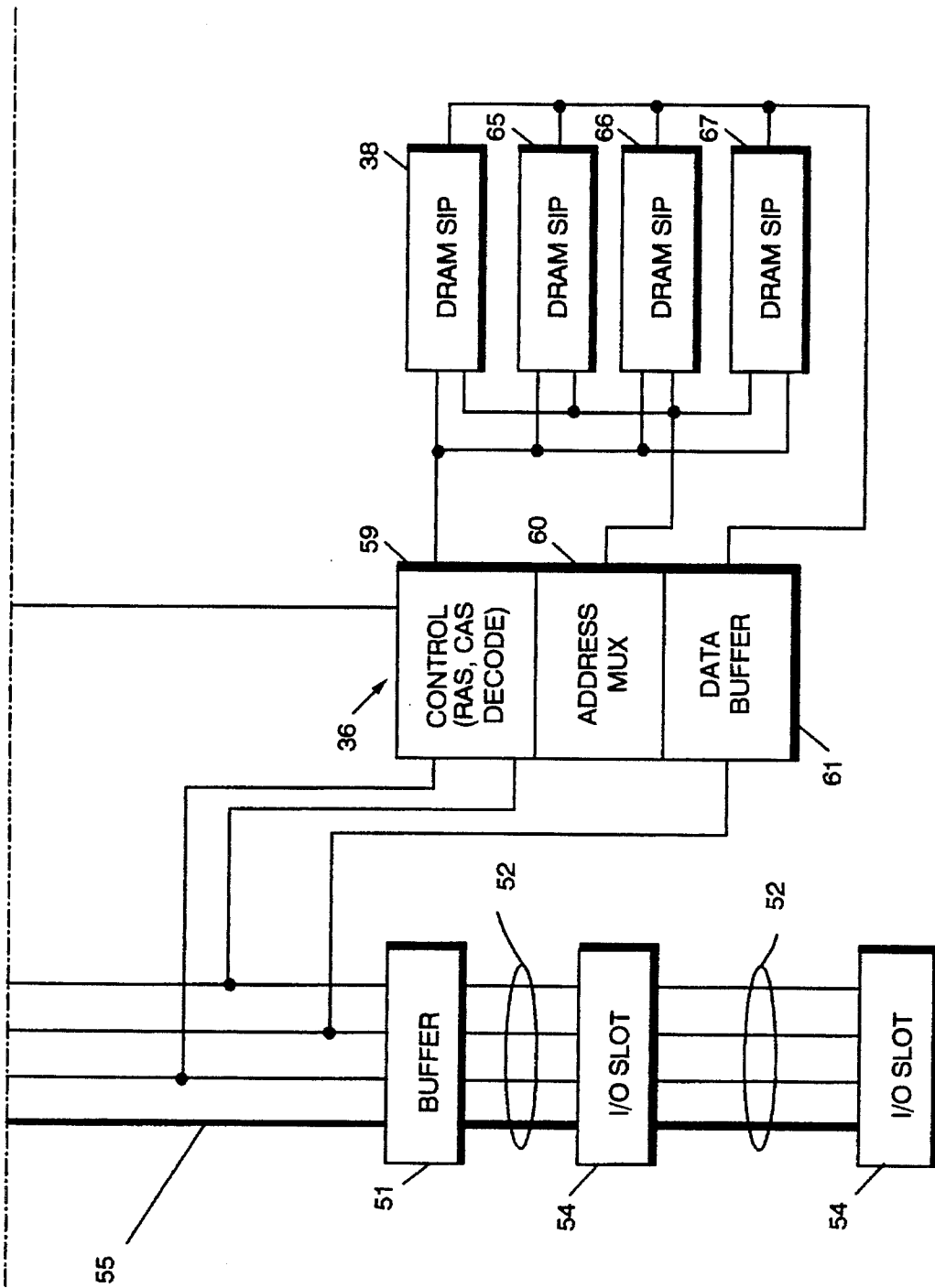
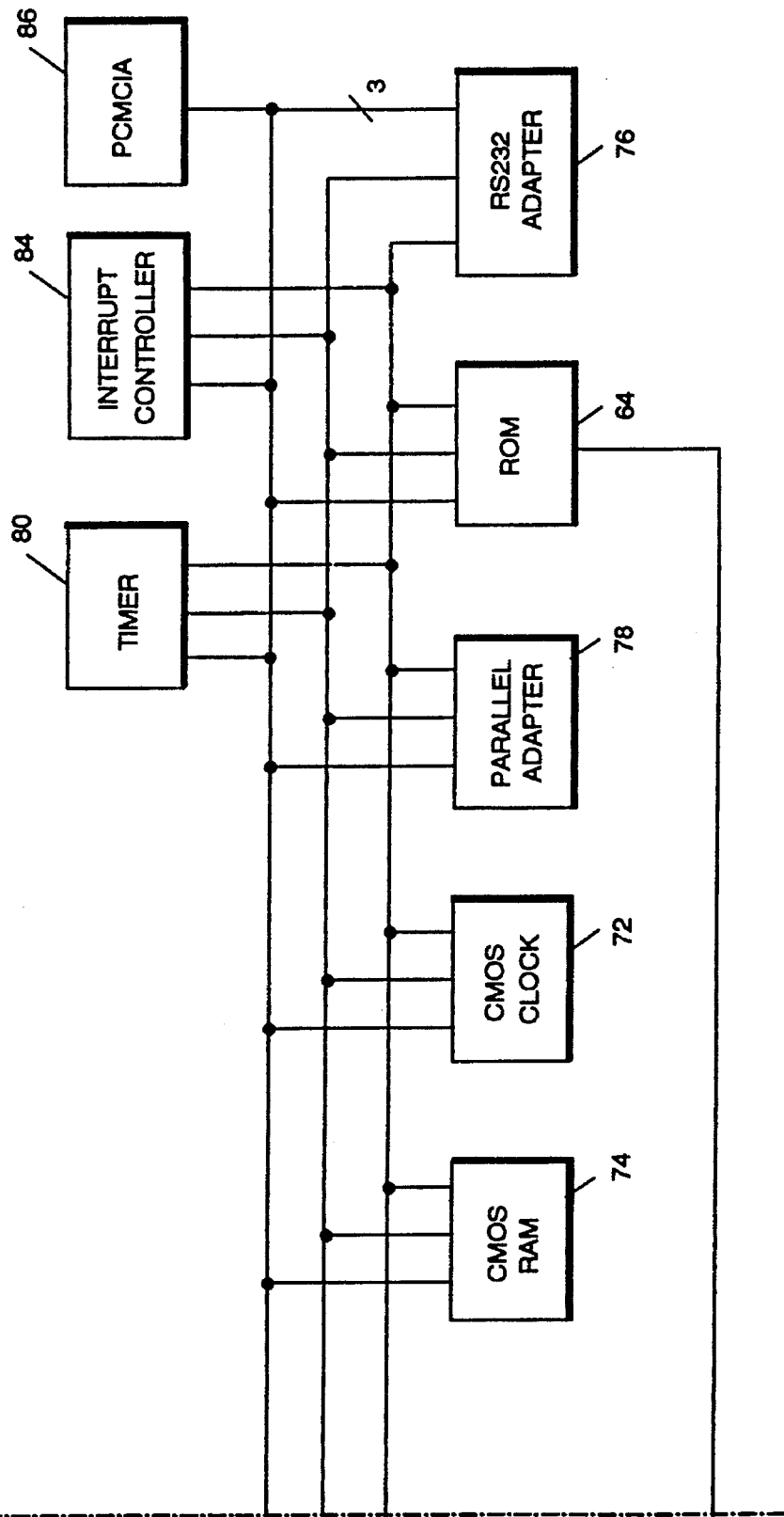


FIG. 2B

FIG. 2C



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