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(54) **AUXILIARY DISPLAY UNIT FOR A COMPUTER SYSTEM**

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See application file for complete search history.

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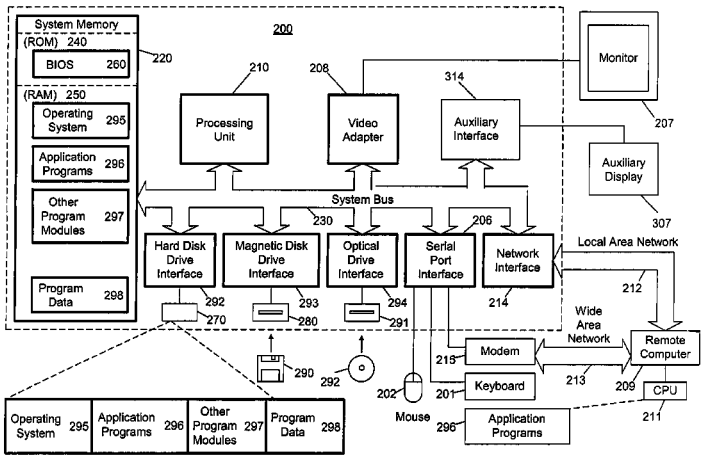
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A host computer is provided with a main display unit and an auxiliary display unit. The host computer can free up screen space on the main display screen by routing certain types of display information to the auxiliary display unit for display. Display information can range from notification of events such as receipt of email, appointments, system messages, and information from separate applications. The auxiliary display panel may function as a user interface for audio, video, "push information", MP3 player or become the hardware equivalent of a multimedia player. The auxiliary display panel may be integrated together with the host computer in the same physical structure or may be part of a standalone display unit that is wired or wirelessly coupled to the host computer.

24 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets