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Parulski et al.

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[54] **ELECTRONIC CAMERA SYSTEM WITH PROGRAMMABLE TRANSMISSION CAPABILITY**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **348/211**; 348/723; 358/906; 386/117

[58] **Field of Search** 348/222, 723, 348/722, 705, 724, 211, 212; 358/906, 335, 310; 386/38, 107, 117; H04N 5/222, 5/225, 5/232, 5/28

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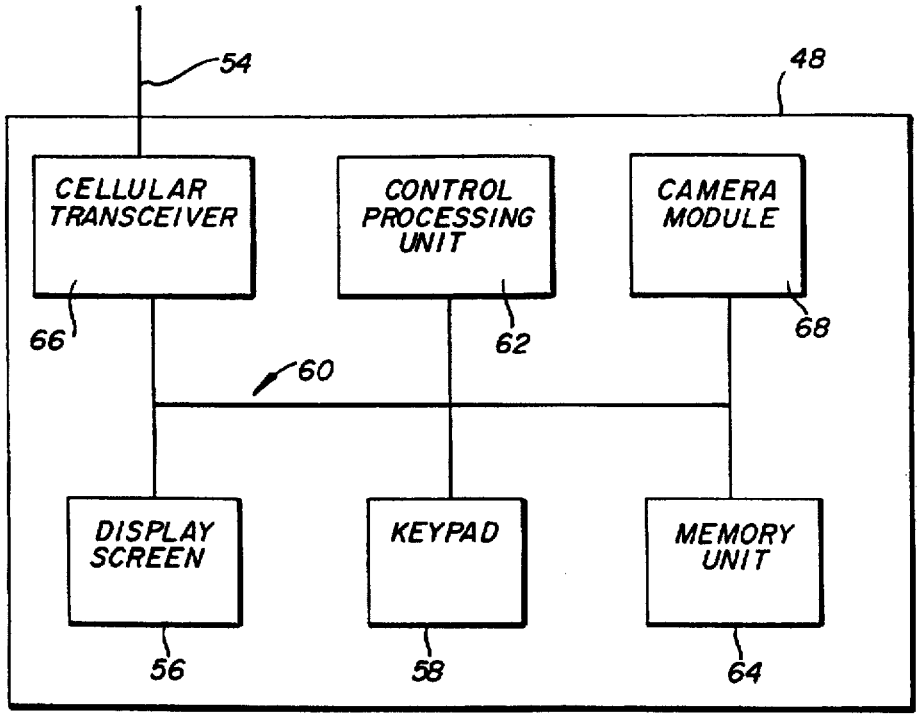
[57] **ABSTRACT**

An electronic camera system includes a programmable transmission capability for selectively transmitting electronic image data to a plurality of remote base units. In one embodiment, a camera module is detachably coupled to a portable computer including a display screen and a data entry device. The electronic image data generated by the camera module is supplied to the portable computer for display on the display screen. The data entry device is used by an operator to select which of the plurality of base units are to receive the digital image data. The digital image data is supplied by the portable computer to a radio-frequency transmitter module for transmission to the selected base units. The radio-frequency transmitter module is formed either integral with the portable computer or, like the camera module, is detachably coupled to the portable computer. In a further embodiment, a combined telephone/camera unit is provided that includes a camera module for generating electronic image data representative of a scene to be imaged, a memory unit for storing the electronic image data generated by the camera module, a display screen for displaying the electronic image data stored in the memory unit, a mechanism for selecting which of the plurality of base units is to receive the digital image data, and a cellular transceiver for transmitting the digital image data to the base units selected by the selection mechanism.

10 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets