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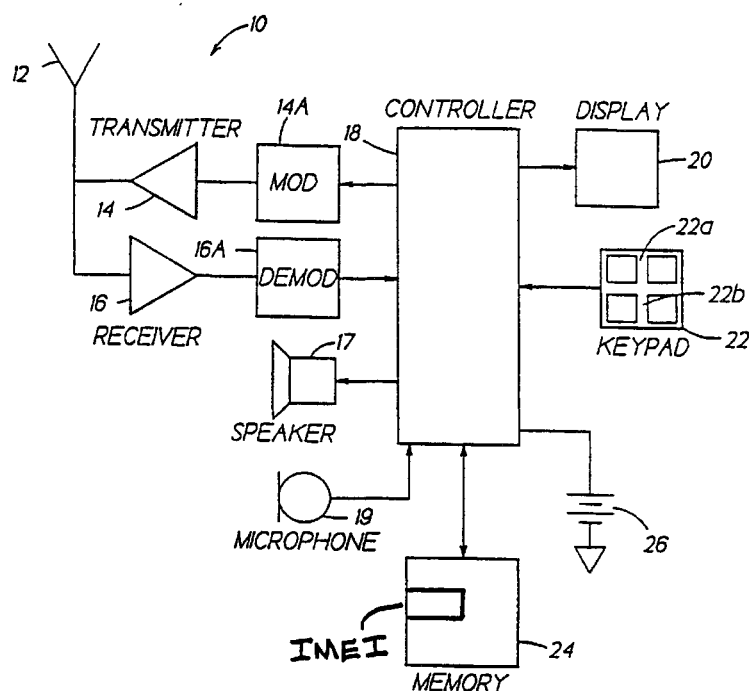
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(54) Title: BACKWARDS COMPATIBLE, EXTENDED METHOD TO EXECUTE CHECK NUMBER CALCULATION OF IMEI



(57) Abstract: A method is taught to provide an improved mobile station International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) code having at least a six digit hexadecimal SNR representation, in conjunction with modifying a Check Digit calculation procedure so as to insure backwards compatibility with an existing installed base of mobile stations having a six digit BCD SNR representation.