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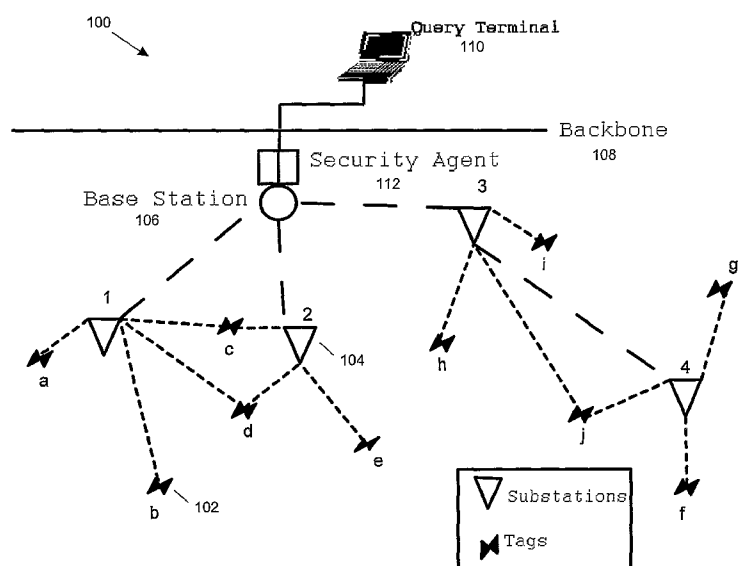
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[Continued on next page]

- (54) Title:** A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SEARCHING PHYSICAL OBJECTS



- (57) Abstract:** A system and method for searching physical objects. The system comprises one or more tags, each tag being disposed on one associated object; one or more substations, each substation arranged for communication with tags located within a range around each substation; one or more base stations, each base station arranged for communication with substations located within a range around each base station; an interrogation engine residing in each base station for interrogating, in response to a search query, the substations within the range around each base station, to determine whether a search object of the search query is within the range around the respective substations.



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