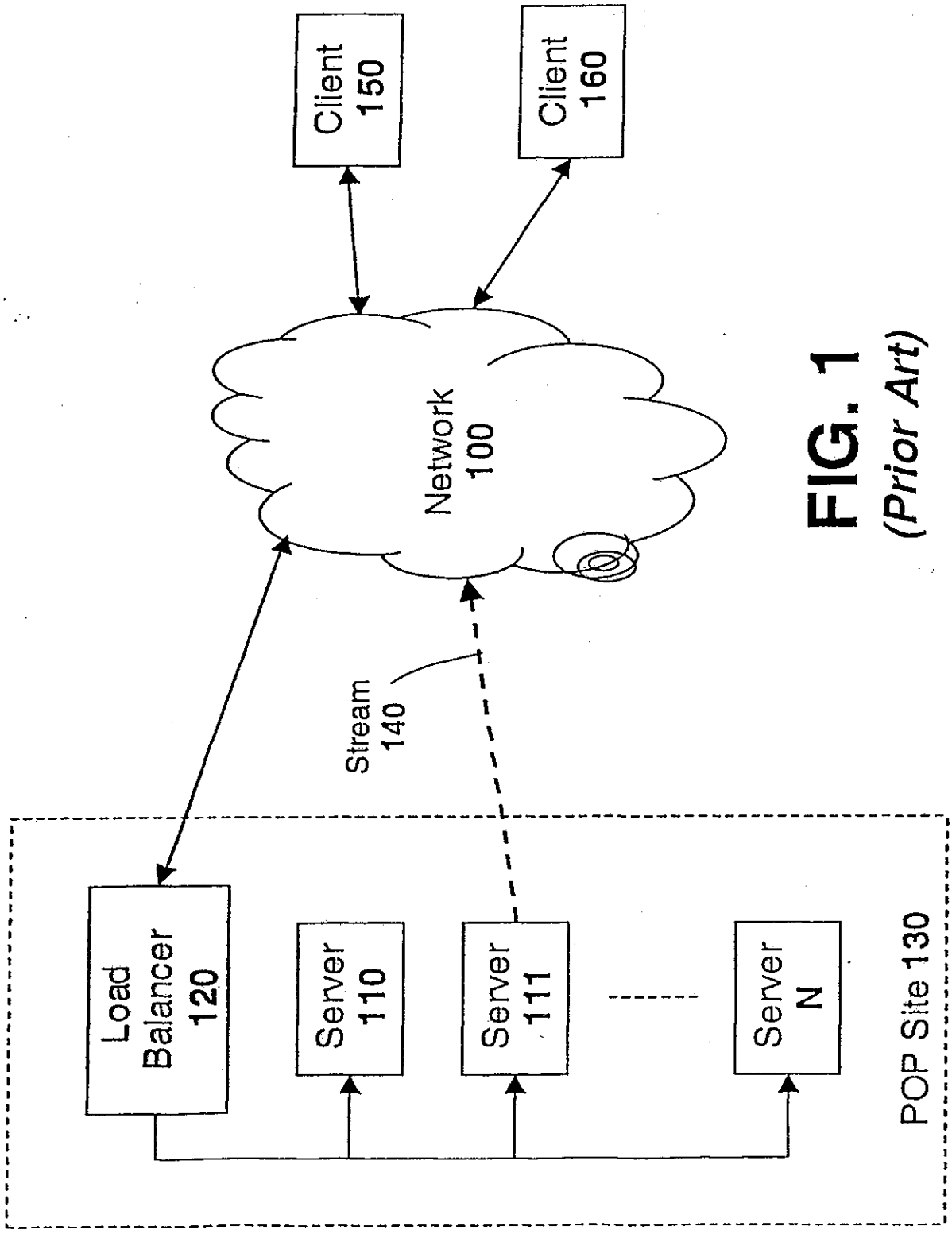


FIG. 1
(Prior Art)

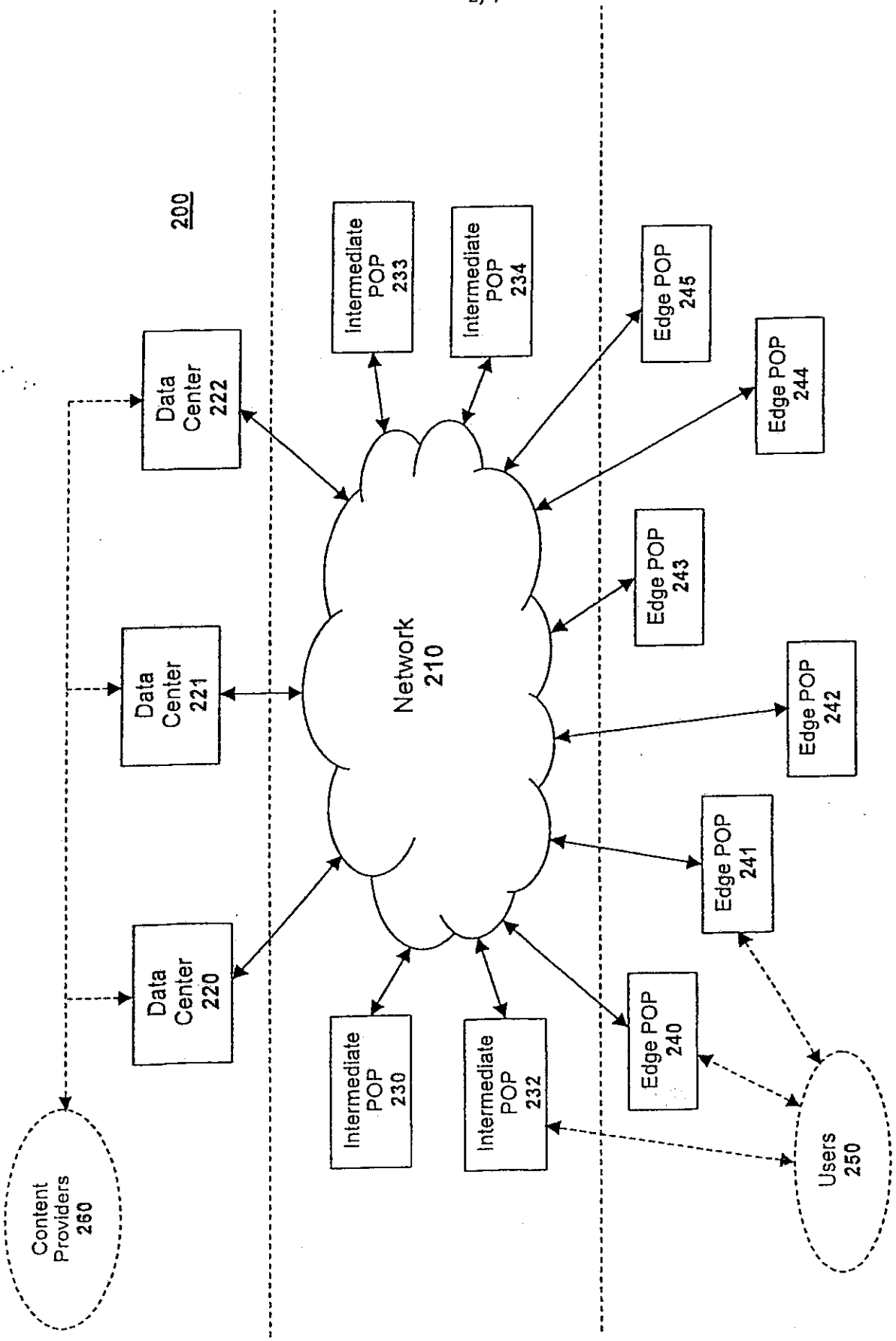

200
Data Center 222
Data Center 221
Data Center 220
Content Providers 260
Network 210
Intermediate POP 233
Intermediate POP 234
Intermediate POP 230
Intermediate POP 232
Edge POP 245
Edge POP 244
Edge POP 243
Edge POP 242
Edge POP 241
Edge POP 240
Users 250

FIG. 2

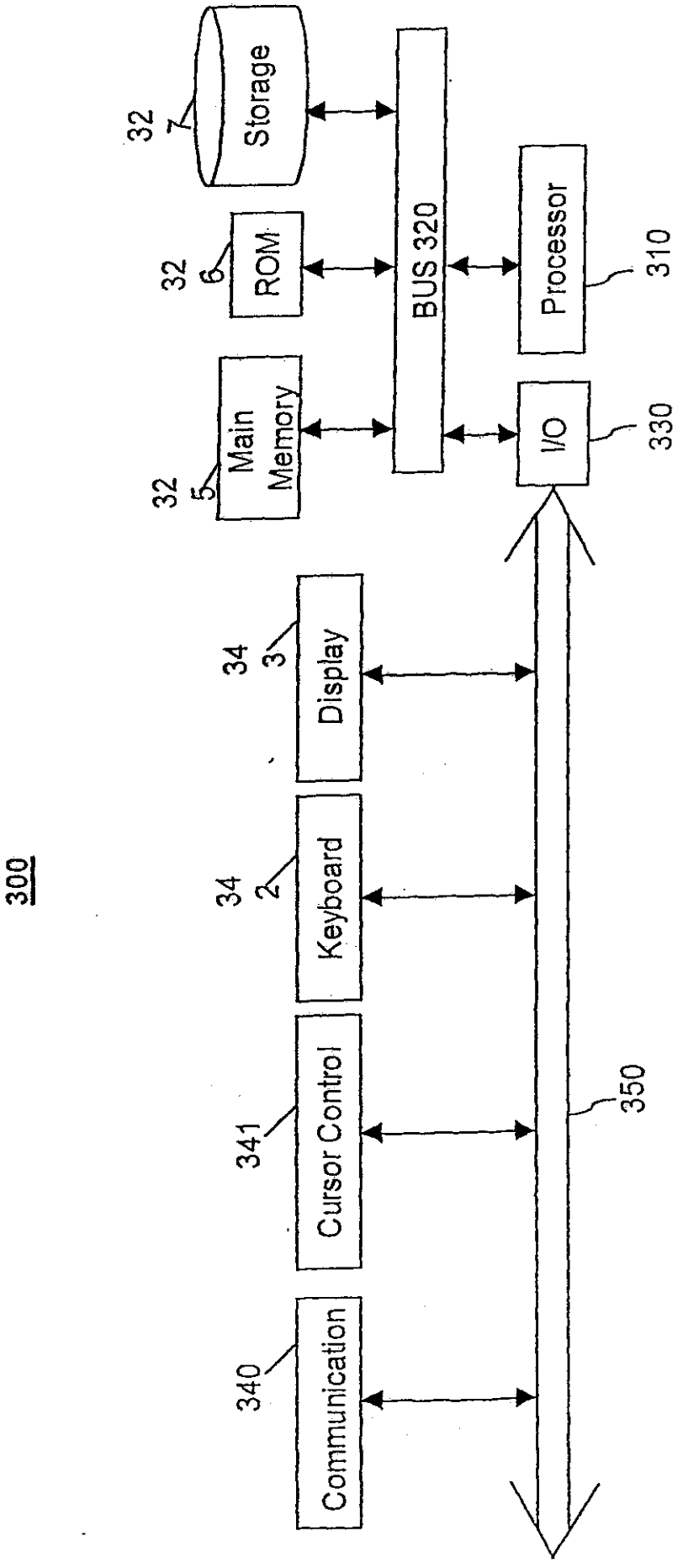

300
Storage
327
ROM
326
Main Memory
325
BUS 320
Processor
310
I/O
330
Display
343
Keyboard
342
Cursor Control
341
Communication
340
350

FIG. 3

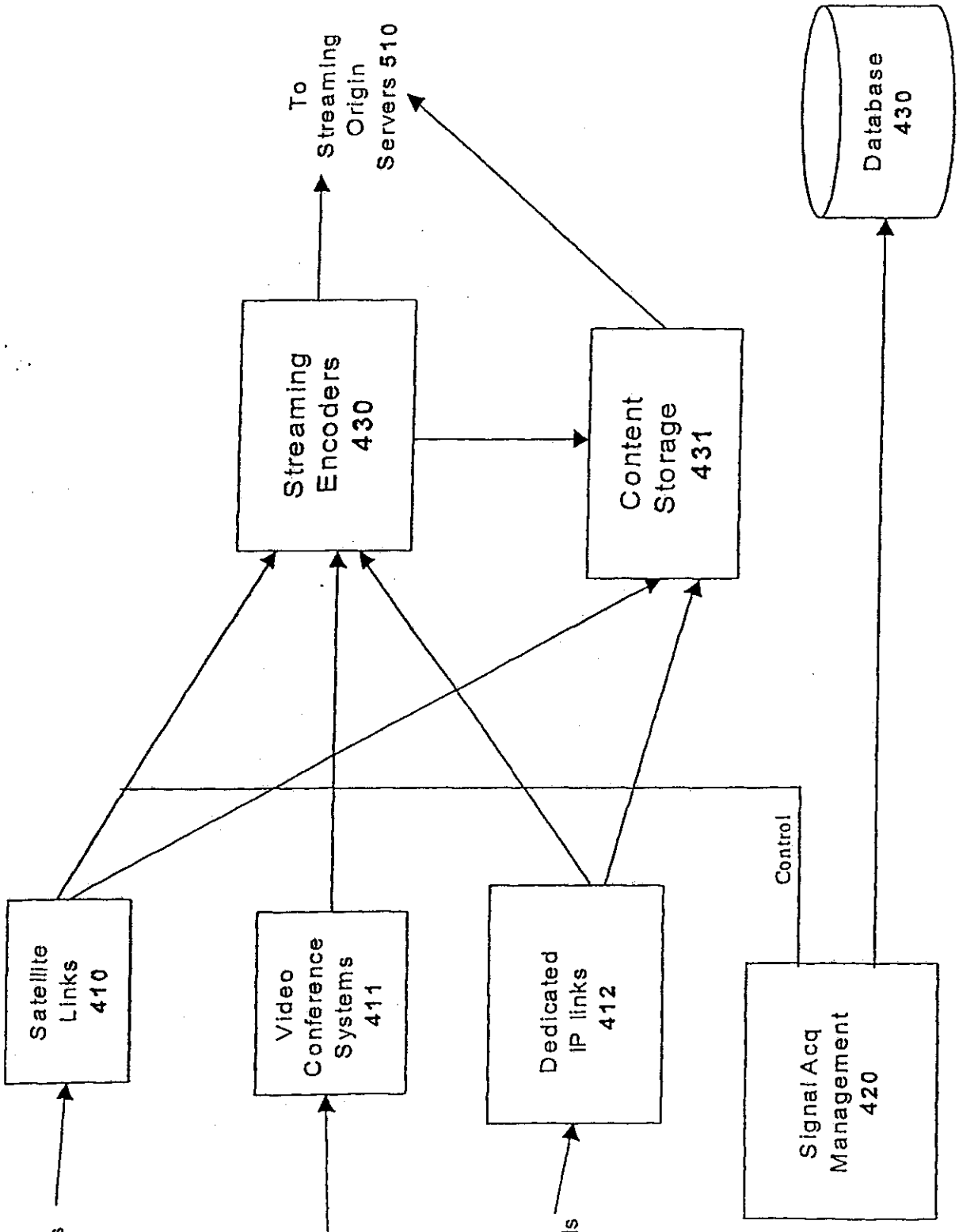

"Live" Signals or recorded signals 401
"Live" Signals 402
"Live" Signals or recorded signals 403
Satellite Links 410
Video Conference Systems 411
Dedicated IP links 412
Control
Signal Acq Management 420
Streaming Encoders 430
Content Storage 431
Database 430
To Streaming Origin Servers 510

FIG. 4

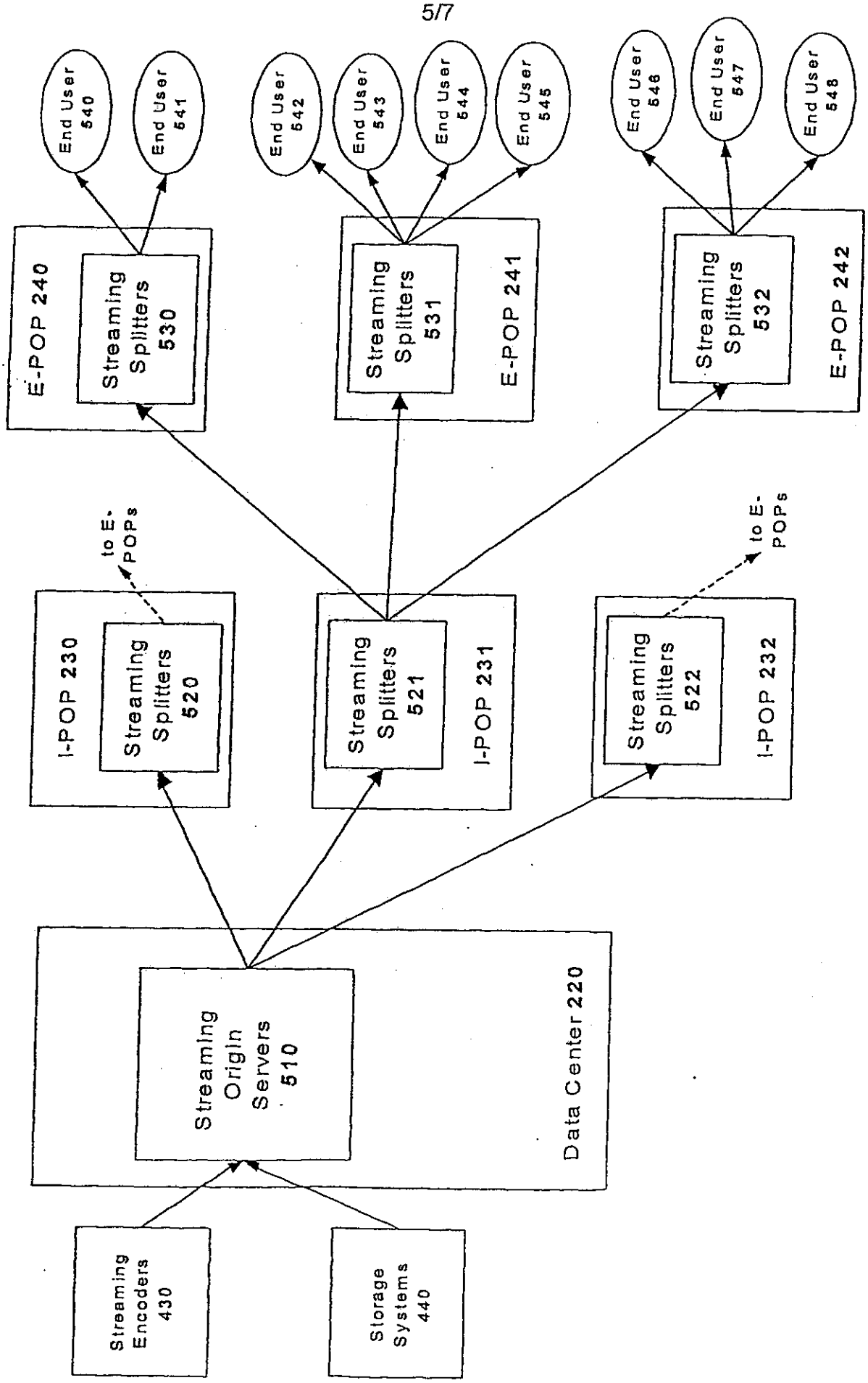

End User 540
End User 541
End User 542
End User 543
End User 544
End User 545
End User 546
End User 547
End User 548
E-POP 240
Streaming Splitters 530
Streaming Splitters 531
E-POP 241
Streaming Splitters 532
E-POP 242
to E-POPs
I-POP 230
Streaming Splitters 520
Streaming Splitters 521
I-POP 231
to E-POPs
Streaming Splitters 522
I-POP 232
Streaming Origin Servers 510
Data Center 220
Streaming Encoders 430
Storage Systems 440

FIG. 5

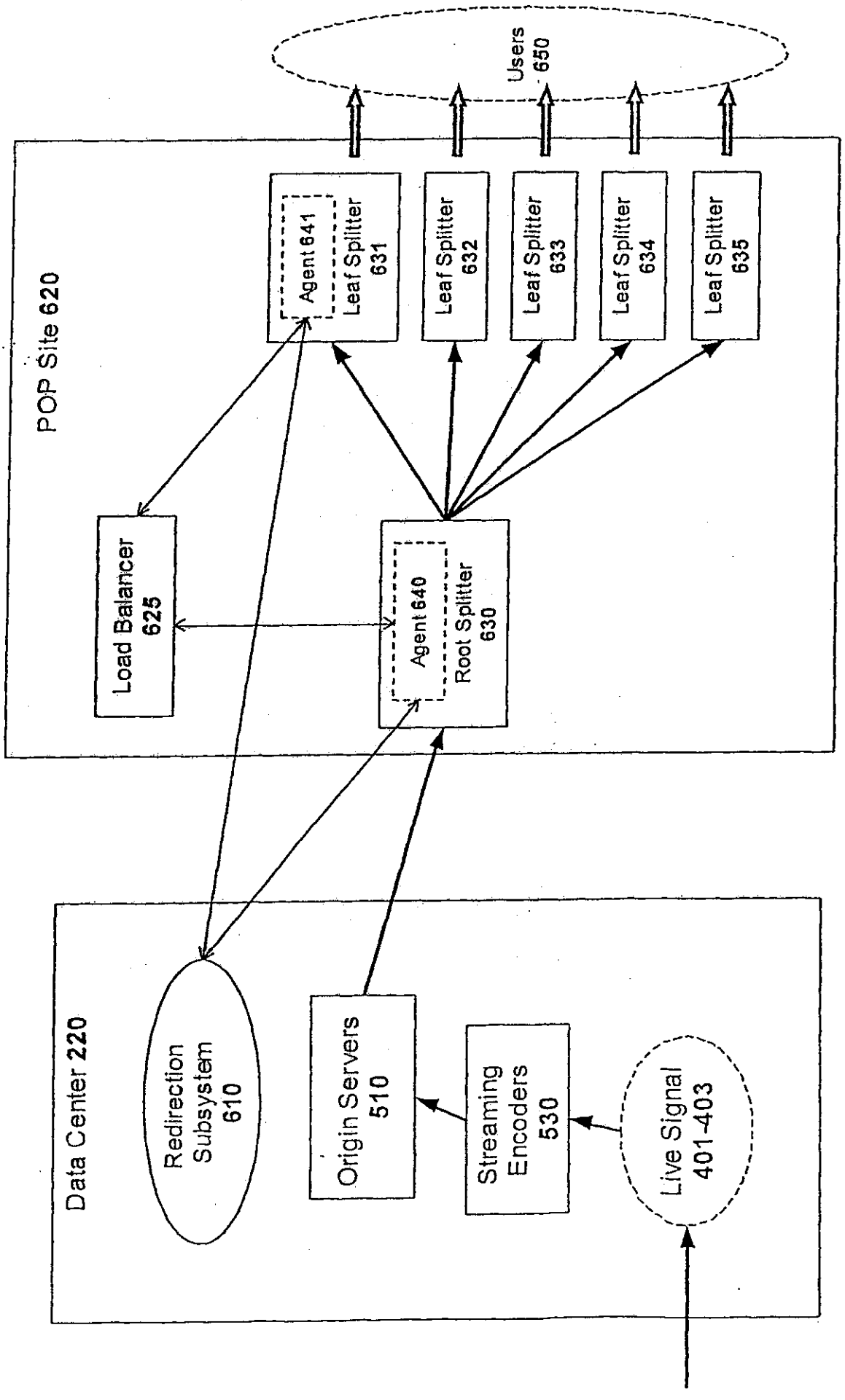

Users
650
POP Site 620
Agent 641
Leaf Splitter
631
Leaf Splitter
632
Leaf Splitter
633
Leaf Splitter
634
Leaf Splitter
635
Load Balancer
625
Agent 640
Root Splitter
630
Data Center 220
Redirection
Subsystem
610
Origin Servers
510
Streaming
Encoders
530
Live Signal
401-403

FIG. 6

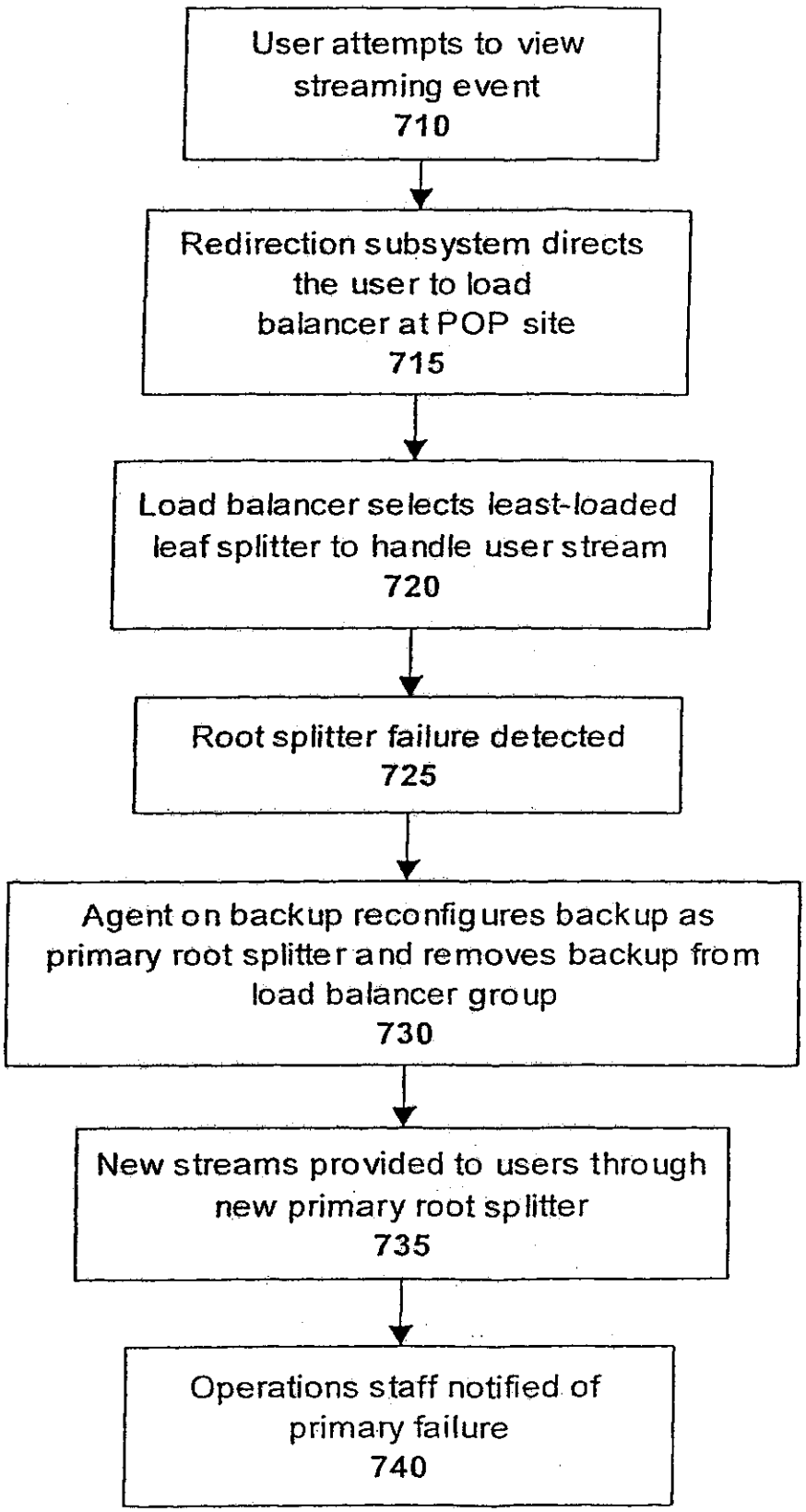

User attempts to view streaming event 710
Redirection subsystem directs the user to load balancer at POP site 715
Load balancer selects least-loaded leaf splitter to handle user stream 720
Root splitter failure detected 725
Agent on backup reconfigures backup as primary root splitter and removes backup from load balancer group 730
New streams provided to users through new primary root splitter 735
Operations staff notified of primary failure 740

FIG. 7