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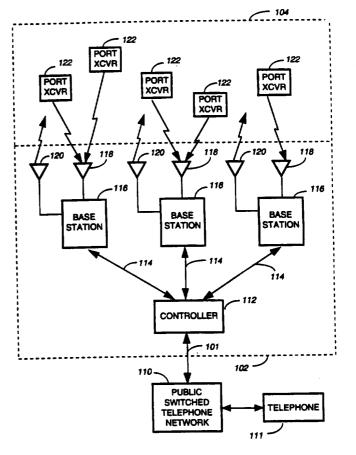
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FLEXIBLE RESPONSE MESSAGING IN A RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

A method and apparatus providing a caller the capability to receive a response message from a portable transceiver (122). The caller also selects a response mode for the message from a group of response modes. A fixed portion (102) of the radio communication system generates response mode information according to the response mode selected by the caller, and transmits the message together with the response mode information to the portable transceiver (122). The portable transceiver (122) receives the message and response mode information, and alerts a user to the pending message. The user selects a response message in accordance with the response mode information. The portable transceiver (122) transmits the response message selected by the user to the fixed portion. The fixed portion transmits an acknowledgement to the portable transceiver (122), and delivers to the caller the response message. The portable transceiver (122) displays the status of the response message acknoledged by the fixed portion (102).



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