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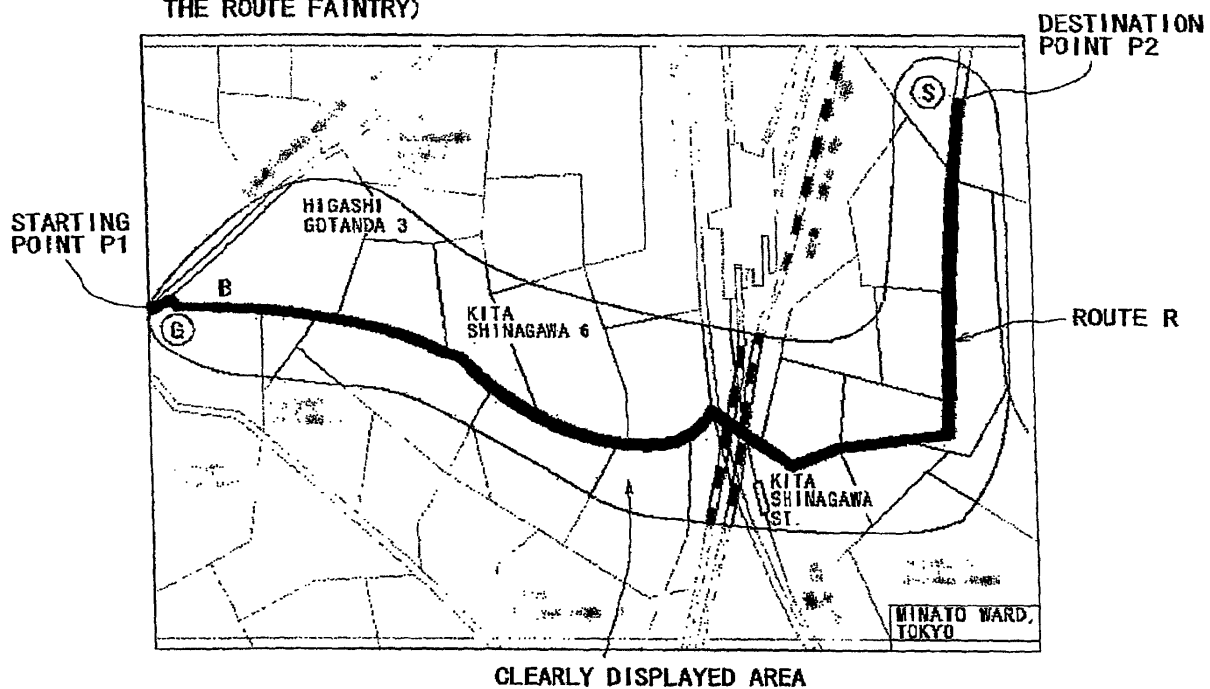
(54) **Map display method, map display device and map display system**

(57) A map display method, a map display device and a map display system which improve visibility by changing its display mode when a map is to be displayed on the screen. A predetermined map is displayed on the

screen, a route is specified on the map displayed on the screen, the area having a predetermined width of this specified route is displayed clearly, and the other area is displayed less clearly.

FIG. 3

(DISPLAY PICTURE WHICH DISPLAYS AN AREA OTHER THAN THE ROUTE FAINTLY)



CLEARLY DISPLAYED AREA



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 25 5484

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 03, 28 April 1995 (1995-04-28) & JP 6 331371 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 2 December 1994 (1994-12-02) * abstract * * figures 1,3 *	1-18	G01C21/36
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A	US 5 802 492 A (DELORME ET AL) 1 September 1998 (1998-09-01) * figures 5,5a,5b,5c * * column 35, line 9 - line 22 * * column 42, line 3 - line 12 * * column 44, line 36 - column 50, line 15 *	1-27	
A	US 5 471 205 A (IZAWA MICHIO) 28 November 1995 (1995-11-28) * abstract; figure 7 * * column 5, line 23 - line 30 *	1-27	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) G01C
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
The Hague	6 July 2004	Santos, M	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82