NOTICE OF CHANGES TO THE OPERATING SYSTEM

Bill Elliott added the following enhancements to the Express Tape Library mainten-
ance program, EXPLIB:

1. The nine-track flag is automatically set for all tapes entered with VSN above
    either UC2000 or SN6000.

2. The cleaning date is automatically set to the current date for all new tapes
    entered into the library.

Bill also fixed a problem in COST which occasionally inflated the figure for MS
sectors. Additionally, program RESEX now provides a brief dump whenever it is
aborted.

Kevin Matthews added two new common decks, COMSPMS, used by performance measurement
programs and COMPUST, which updates the statistics table used for performance mea-
surement. Kevin also installed the Z control card (see DSN 2, 6, p.2).

Bob Zalusky repaired a security problem in program PROFILE. Through use of the
DMP option, users could read the VALID64 file used to validate SEND usage.

Jim Mundstock repaired some tape copy operations in CALLPRG and several small bugs
in WRITEUP. Additionally, page accounting employed by BATCHER has been altered
according to request by B. Fox.

Rick Matthews provided several modifications to the loader.

1. Both the CYBER loader and the LINK loader have time sharing map options.

2. The LINK loader now prints errors prior to printing the load map.

3. A bug in random index processing which caused certain overlay loads to fail
    has been repaired.

4. The LINK loader now properly recognizes unrecognizable loader input.

N. L. Reddy modified program IMS, Initialize Mass Storage, to be able to read the
factory flaw map from a 844-41 disk pack (double density). This capability means
that pack flaws need not be tediously transferred to cards and included in the
CMRDECK.

Tim Salo contributed a new version of the program QDUMP. New features include:

1. The L = 0 option has been replaced with the SL parameter (suppress listing).

2. All internal tables are built using the SYSTEXT macros.

3. QDUMP will not request a dump tape unless the program determines that at least one queue file to be dumped exists.

4. A much more detailed list output is available including; date and time, jobname, queue type, account numbers, bin number, length and date job ran. The date the job ran is also stored in the 77 table of the dump record and is thus displayed whenever a dump tape is cataloged.

Tim repaired two problems in REBLOCK and one problem in QDL:

1. REBLOCK occasionally misinterpreted an End-of-Information and now checks for both soft and hard EOI.

2. Depending on the condition of input data, REBLOCK ignored an N parameter on the REBLOCK control card.

3. QDL's central memory buffer size check now accommodates a full 18 bits rather than 12 bits.

Additionally, Tim installed a new Account File Message option. This new option permits a CP program to issue Account File Messages without a jobname appended. This allows a priviledged CP program to perform operations which are accounted to another job. This option is used by the new QLOAD and QDUMP.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE OPERATING SYSTEM

Rick Matthews proposes that the ENQUIRE utility, OP=L, option (loader information) be enhanced to indicate which loader is in current use by the user.

Bob Zalusky has completed an initial rewrite of the program SEND leaving the program unchanged from an external standpoint. Bob will now entertain suggestions as to further changes in the statement format, etc.

Alan Johston is presently engaged with the installation of ECS memory display and memory change commands in DSD, CPUMTR and DIS from KRONOS 2.1.0. Since this is a local feature, Alan has chosen to reorganize the CPUMTR functions REWM, WEWM and ECSM into a single CPUMTR function ECSM with several subfunctions defined in COMSCPS. Currently, no programs on WPL use these functions except 6DE, the DDP driver. Alan would like anyone who is using the old CPUMTR functions to contact him soon.

SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: PEOPLE AND PROCEDURES

Letter to the editor - from D. R. Lienke

I have heard that some work is being done/contemplated on XMIT/SEND. I should like to see compatible calling sequences and the same meaning and form for parameters.

The name SEND is preferable to XMIT.

Now for something completely different. In my never ending quest for making our beloved operating system aesthetically pleasing, I once suggested that parentheses be used to demarcate records belonging to indexed writeups available from WRITEUP. My suggestion was turned down since it intimated a departure from the KRONOS convention that a closing paren 'terminates the scan.' Although there is some merit to such a rejoinder, I do not consider it sufficient grounds for not implementing it, since:

    a) It is by far the most natural expression for subgroups,
    b) close parens do NOT always 'terminate the scan' - e.g., in literals ($)))))))$),
    c) it's only a convention, not a physical law.

However, not being in a position of supreme authority, I retired from the fight, gallantly albeit disgruntledly.

I now return to the fray refreshed, my spirit rekindled, with (apparently) a revlation; to wit:

    Why not allow brackets ([]) as an alternate method of enclosure for indexed writeup records? I await your pleasure.

And thirdly, I would like FETCH to allow multiple arguments.

CCDOC - by R. T. Franta

CDCOC is a program which collects information on control cards for use by:

1. Amy and I to produce a "KRONOS instant" type listing for the pocket guide.

2. Amy to maintain and correct this listing.

3. I will use it to produce, update and maintain an indexed WRITEUP file for use by users who know basically how to use control cards but have forgotten which parameter is which or similar problems.

The WRITEUP file produced will have a record named INDEX which will explain use of the file, terms and a CCINDEX type listing of control cards. CCDOC produces a random access file (TAPE1) containing a 450 word record for each card entered. I now have 175 cards described. To get a listing of present cards log into MIRJE on a CRT (TTY) in BATCH subsystem and do the following:

    A,TAPE1, CCDOC/UN = YZE6045
    RFL,37000
    CCDOC

answer the questions posed by CCDOC and a listing will be produced. To get a feeling for the types of things contained on the file I would suggest looking at the following cards:

    ACCOUNT, ASSIGN, BMD030,CALL,
    COPYBR, MODIFY, REWIND

Please do not change or add information to my file directly, this to avoid possible

file destruction, rather do the following:

```
        A,CCDOC/UN = YZE6045
        RFL, 37000
        CCDOC, MYFILE
                        enter control card stuff

        STOP 200 (normal end of CCDOC)
        SAVE, MYFILE/CT = PUBLIC,M = READ,
                  FS = SC
```

Then tell me the name and UN of your file and I will SORT and MERGE it into my master file. I will inform you when this is done so that your file may be PURGE'd.

I certainly would appreciate any help in entering control cards that you can give since the POCKET GUIDE is waiting for this information.

As you can see see from the list of cards presently on file, I need help most with compilers, assemblers, data base system, application packages and UCC produced utilities. If you would like any changes made to CCDOC to make information entry easier, please let me know.

You will need the following information for each control card you wish to enter:

1) control card name
2) one line description (see CCINDEX)
3) general card image (see examples)
4) abbreviation (if any)
5) support level (see CCINDEX)
6) type of command (make best choice from those offered)
7) origin of card
8) documentation source
9) parameters (30 max.)
10) should parameters be included in "pocket guide." (heavily used or often misused cards only)
11) special notes (state cautions, common errors, warnings or anything else you think needed. Maximum 6 forty character lines.)

Warnings and notes:

1) Minimum FL is 6 digits or less.
2) Any parameter entered must be 10 characters or less.
3) On YES,NO type question from CCDOC any response starting with Y is yes and these starting with N are no. Also acceptable are:

        OUI, DA, JAVOHL, OK, SURE,
        AYE, AFIRMATIVE, CERTAINLY.

4) When more than one line of input is requested (like on special notes) an EQF (CR on TTY or CRT) will terminate request for more lines.
5) Parameter descriptions may move from one control card to another. Keep this in mind when entering parameter so that you don't eliminate the possibility by putting the card name in the description.
6) I have always used ILFN, OLFN, SLFN for things having input files, output files and source files (see examples) be consistent.
7) I have always used the , form for control cards you do not have to.

8) See example REWIND for use of ellipses and recurrent parameters.
9) Remember that information filed does not have to be complete or detailed but only a hint of what is most frequently used.

Thank you for your help and good luck.

COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

One area of UCC Systems development which offers a wealth of newsworthy information and which influence on Cyber 74 operations has steadily increased during the last two years is Communication Systems. Elie May of the Communication Systems Group has offered to capsulize development news in the area and pass them on to me for inclusion as a new section in the Deadstart Systems Newsletter.

Hind Sight in the Front-End or Visa Versa - by E. May

New features in the PDP-11 front-end include post mortem dumps on error condition before the PDP-11 hangs, port activity reports during production and a properly working "down message" for 1004 and 200 UT terminal users if SUPIO hangs.

The Communication Systems Group has recently installed a three-rotary phone configuration on the PDP-11. This new configuration gives the option of allowing up to three different time-out algorithms to be in effect simultaneously.