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NOTES & COMMENTS

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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The University Computer Center is pleased to announce the establishment of its West Bank Computer Station. The station is located in Blegen Hall, Room 90, where a CDC 3200 computer system has been placed in operation. The entire facility is available to West Bank faculty and students on the same general basis as other University Computer Center facilities and will provide a considerably enhanced computer service to the West Bank.

The 3200 system will be operated in two modes simultaneously:
(1) as an input-output station for problems to be transmitted to the University Computer Center's CDC 6600 in Lauderdale, and (2) as (apparently) an off-line computer for special purpose local use. Peripheral equipment in support of the first mode of operation includes a 1200 card per minute reader and a 1000 line per minute printer. These are connected to the 6600 in Lauderdale via a broadband telephone channel and in effect will provide West Bank personnel with the same input-output capability as provided to personnel on site at Lauderdale. This service is called EXPORT/IMPORT and is expected to be functional about October 31. Peripherals in support of the second mode of operation include two 854 Disk Storage Drives and four CDC 211 Cathode Ray Tube Inquiry/Retrieval Display Stations. These peripherals are expected to provide local users of the system a highly inter-active computer milieu for the special research and teaching needs of the West Bank.

In order to mitigate the problems caused by the distance between the West Bank station and the University Computer Center's headquarters in the Experimental Engineering Building on East Bank, the Center has established a representative on the West Bank. Mr. William Craig has assumed the position of University Computer Center West Bank Representative. He will continue as Director of the SSRFC. As UCC Representative, Mr. Craig will

furnish information to West Bank users on current and future activities, plans, and policies of the University Computer Center and will answer questions that may arise as to the implementation of UCC policies on the West Bank. He will also convey to the Director of the UCC information regarding the present and future activities and plans and the associated requirements of the West Bank, so that the Center can maintain itself in a position of responsiveness to West Bank needs. In this connection, a West Bank Faculty Committee has been established and will also serve as a channel of communication to the Director of the University Computer Center. Professor Gary Andrew is Chairman of the Committee and Professor James Henderson is Vice-Chairman. Other members are Professors Russell Adams, Thomas Hoffmann, Gordon Davis, and Rene Dawis, and William Craig, ex-officio.

Operations and Scheduling

West Bank Station operations and scheduling will function within the overall framework of University Computer Center operations and scheduling. Mrs. Phyllis Simpkins is Manager of Operations and Scheduling for the West Bank Station. The tentative schedule follows:

9:00 AM - 6:30 PM 3200 local runs until October 31, 1968
9:00 AM - 6:30 PM EXPORT/IMPORT 6600 beginning Nov. 1, 1968
6:30 PM -10:00 PM Fortran and Cobol Class Problems run locally (Fall Quarter: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday). Also, non-class programs with a time limit of 1 minute may be run.

Times not listed above can be scheduled for production runs. Schedule changes will be announced by Mrs. Simpkins and in this newsletter. Although the current schedule does not contemplate simultaneous EXPORT/IMPORT operations and local operations, this feature of the station will be implemented on delivery of the memory protect hardware feature, already on order.

For new projects intended for the 6600 via EXPORT/IMPORT the procedure for obtaining access remains unchanged. Request for Access Forms and Request for Grant Forms to subsidize unfunded use of the 6600 can be obtained from Mr. James Foster, Assistant to the Director, room 217 Experimental Engineering, extension 3-5757. Access and scheduling for strictly local mode of operation should be arranged through Mrs. Simpkins, room 93 Blegen Hall, extension 3-4973.

Input/Output Room

The input-output room of the West Bank station will operate in a similar fashion to the input-output facility in Experimental Engineering. Users submitting jobs will log in their jobs on the log sheet, place a SITENUM card in their deck as the second card of the deck, put an orange end-of-file card as the last card of the deck and place the deck in the input tray. The SITENUM cards are numbered in sequence corresponding to the numbers on the log sheet and to the numbers on the output boxes. When the job has been run, the job deck and output will be placed in the numbered box corresponding to the SITENUM number. (Both the SITENUM cards and the orange end-of-file cards are provided by the UCC.) There will be no divert feature at this station so all printed output will be returned via EXPORT/IMPORT.

Users submitting jobs that require tapes follow the same procedure with the addition of a tape request form that must be filled out and placed at the front of the job deck. Jobs using permanent tapes can be run in normal sequence by EXPORT/IMPORT but jobs using transient tapes must wait on the courier schedule. We strongly urge that users log in their tapes permanently whenever possible. This will allow a faster turn-around time for their jobs and will provide much better care for the tapes.

After November 1st, the only jobs requiring transportation to the Lauderdale site will be those with transient tapes and the only jobs that must wait on the delivery schedule will be those with punched card or microfilm output. Pick-up and delivery will be made at 11:30 AM, 4:00 PM and at 8:00 PM.

The input-output room of the West Bank Station will be open continuously so the facilities will be available at any time that the building is open, approximately 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM.

Software and Consulting

West Bank Station software and consulting operations will be integrated into the overall software and consulting operations of the University Computer Center. Mr. William Craig is Manager for software and consulting for the West Bank Station. Consultation on a regularly scheduled basis will be provided with regard to all aspects of the software including library programs, languages, compilers, and the operating system. A consultant area has been established in the input-output room and will be staffed on the following schedule until further notice:

Monday	9 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday	9 AM - 12 NOON and 1 PM - 4 PM
Wednesday	9 AM - 4 PM
Thursday	9 AM - 12 NOON and 1 PM - 4 PM
Friday	9 AM - 4 PM

Non-scheduled consultations should be arranged through Mr. Craig, room 100 Social Sciences Tower, extension 3-5582.

Social Sciences Consultant

Mr. Michael Skow of the University Computer Center will be working with staff members in the social sciences to set up a Social Sciences library of programs that will be of special interest to users in these disciplines. Mr. Skow will be at the West Bank Station from 1:30 - 3:30 PM on Tuesday and Thursday. For appointments at other hours, see Mr. Skow in his office in 210 Experimental Engineering or call extension 3-7745.

In general this newsletter is directed at persons who are involved in actually using the University Computer Center facilities or who have plans for such use. This issue has had a wider distribution than normal. If you are not currently on our mailing list and desire to be, please fill out and return the enclosed form to Mrs. Amy Koepke, 227 Experimental Engineering.

PLEASE PUT ME ON YOUR MAILING LIST FOR THE UCC NOTES & COMMENTS

NAME _____

DEPARTMENT _____

ROOM & BUILDING : _____