Problems with the HELP system, circa 18-April-74.

This is a relatively old document, by now (a couple of weeks or so),
Sorry it's late, just noticed I had never journalized it.
A quick reading will determine whether any of the things I noted
are still outstanding problems. ... Mike

Problems with the HELP system, circa 18-April-74.

Background for this note.   1

   The comments in this note are offered in this context: 1a

      I BELIEVE THAT THE HELP SYSTEM MUST BE EXCEPTIONALLY EASY TO
      USE.   1a1

      IF LEARNING TO USE IT REQUIRES ACCESS TO A USERS MANUAL
      (HOWEVER SMALL) OR KNOWLEDGE OF A "HELP" SYSTEM COMMAND
      LANGUAGE, I BELIEVE WE'VE DEFEATED THE PURPOSE, AND LOST THE
      BATTLE TO MAKE NLS EASIER TO LEARN AND USE.   1a2

   Please note that I haven't used the HELP system before, and I
   haven't used the new NLS language very much at all, so I consider
   myself as providing a good example of what experienced NLS users
   will face when the new system comes up.   1b

   THIS IS A PRELIMINARY, INCOMPLETE REPORT ON WHAT I'VE FOUND.   1c

      More will be forthcoming.   1c1

      But in my opinion no one person can exhaustively debug the
      numerous data and system errors that are bound to exist in the
      HELP system.   1c2

      MY STRONGEST RECOMMENDATION IS THAT, IN ORDER TO HELP DEBUG THE
      HELP SYSTEM, EVERYONE USE IT AS THOROUGHLY AS HE CAN FOR THE
      NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS AND REPORT WHAT DIFFICULTIES HE FINDS
      THROUGH THE ARC FEEDBACK MECHANISM.   1c3

   For ease of reference, I suggest that we categorize HELP system
   problems as follows: 1d

      0. Overall impressions about usefulness and useability
      1. Bugs that cause fatal errors
      2. Other Bugs or Inconsistencies
      3. Unsatisfactory features
      4. Unclear or misleading or just plain missing descriptions
         of particular commands or concepts or terminology
         (including misspelled words, of which there are quite a
   few)   1d1

0. OVERALL IMPRESSIONS   2

   MY OVERALL IMPRESSION IS THAT IN ITS PRESENT STATE, THE HELP
   SYSTEM IS VERY DIFFICULT TO USE.   2a

   This conclusion stems from a number of factors: 2b

Problems with the HELP system, circa 18-April-74.

First, the HELP system imposes a new command language, a new
syntax and a different recognition mode that the user must learn
before he can learn how to get the help he wants. In particular: 2c

    - I think it's a serious mistake to require the use of the
verb SHOW. A user who's interested in a particular operand (a
command or a concept or some terminology), will expect to type
just that operand, not a superfluous verb. That's as near as
possible to the way he gets HELP via the question mark
mechanism in new NLS itself.   2c1

       For more advanced browsing capabilities, it seems that QUERY
commands could be parsed via an escape mechanism, such as an
initial period or space before the command verb.   2c1a

       For some operations, I would hope that we can devise more
"natural" commands. The one example I stumbled onto is the
"SHOW <" command for getting back to the previously "shown"
segment. It is at best obscure and certainly not "natural".   2c1b

    - If we must insist on using SHOW (and I strongly object to
that), then it's still a serious mistake to have single letter
recognition mode for the verb ("s" for "show") when the rest of
the command requires a full typein. This is surely gross
inconsistency for a recognition mode, a carryover from the
experimental query language that JFV hastily put together for
the ICCC.   2c2

    - Regardless of whether we use SHOW or not, I also think it's
a serious mistake to require that all operands be typed in
full.   2c3

       In my opinion, we should strive for something like this: 2c3a

       When an operand is an NLS command, the recognition mode for
that operand should be precisely the same as the one the
user was using when he called HELP.   2c3b

       When an operand is NOT an NLS command, then it seems
reasonable to provide either Tenex-like recognition or
940-like recognition, preferably the former.   2c3c

Second, the HELP system is unacceptably slow, both to get into it,
and to do almost anything once you're in it.   2d

    It certainly doesn't have to be the fastest subsystem there is,
but neither should it result in processing suspended on a SHOW
command.   2d1

Problems with the HELP system, circa 18-April-74.

It seems to me that when in the HELP subsystem the user should
be prevented from ever being suspended.   2d2

Third (especially in DNLS), the user can get carried along down
several menu lists or down a long menu list that doesn't fit on
the screen and then has no obvious way to back up to a previous
menu list, and no apparent way to learn how to back up to a
previous menu list.   2e

One can quickly lose one's train of thought, and forget where
he was or what he was looking for.   2e1

There appears to be no simple explanation anywhere on how to
USE that fundamental entity, the "menu". (It was pointed out
to me by Kirk and DVN, who kindly reviewed portions of this
note for me, that the explanation exists under the description
of the "show" command. I think it should be in a more obvious
place, like under "menu".)   2e2

Can you bug a menu item in DNLS? (You can, but it doesn't
work; the wrong things happen.)   2e2a

How do you get to see a previously displayed part of a menu
list that passed off the screen when you typed "MORE"?   (I
don't know, and I couldn't find this described in the HELP
system.)   2e2b

How do you get back to a previous menu list that you just
came from? (I don't know.)   2e2c

Whatever mechanisms exist for this, they should be "natural" to
use, and easy to learn about.   2e3

Fourth, it should be as "natural" as possible to get INTO the HELP
system, but it isn't (at least, not to me).   2f

Currently, you must type GOTO HELP, or <control-q>.   2f1

Instead of GOTO HELP, it seems to me that the natural way would
be to simply type HELP. And, whatever subsystem you were in
when you typed HELP should dictate what entry point you reach
when you get into HELP.   2f2

Instead of <control-q>, it seems that the natural thing to do
is to type a second question mark (i.e., to get HELP type two
consecutive question marks). The first question mark would get
the list of alternatives as it does now, and the second
question mark immediately following the first would get the
HELP system at the appropriate entry point. It doesn't seem to

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me that the NLS command parser should have any insurmountable
difficulty in knowing whether it was the first or second
question mark which was being typed.   2f3

Fifth, there apparently is no information in the current HELP data
base about the old, no-longer-valid NLS command language.   2g

What's the equivalent of output file? No way to find out.
Similarly for Xset, null file, output sequential, output
assembler, output file, execute device type, and presumably all
the rest.   2g1

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THIS WILL BE THE NUMBER ONE REASON THAT
PEOPLE WILL WANT TO USE HELP AT THE BEGINNING; TO FIND OUT THE
NEW WAY TO DO WHAT THEY'VE BEEN DOING ALL ALONG.   2g2

Kirk agrees with this, and has begun to put in a brief
description of these commands. The original intention was to
wait until all new commands were described and then just link
to the appropriate one. But this won't work unless all new
commands have been described. So a shorter explanation is
needed.   2g3

1. BUGS THAT CAUSE FATAL ERRORS   3

In a cursory scan of the HELP system on April 9th, I found that
the command

    SHOW SYNTAX

caused a fatal error (expulsion to the Tenex exec, with no
recourse but to RESET and enter NLS again).   3a

I don't know whether this is the only offending command, or what
caused the bomb out. But it was reproducible. Here especially,
everyone must help in finding the offending commands.   3b

2. OTHER BUGS OR INCONSISTENCIES   4

The commands listed as part of the HELP system repertoire include
both ENTRYPOINT and EXECUTE. But there's no apparent way to do
the EXECUTE command. The "E" is pre-empted by ENTRYPOINT.   4a

In several instances (some of which are described later) there are
inconsistencies between what you get when typing ? in new NLS
and what you find in the HELP DB. Some alternatives listed with
? are simply not to be found in the DB.   4b

The use of ? in new NLS has the following bugs/difficulties: 4c

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When you first enter new NLS and immediately type ? , you get
a list of alternatives that are in fact those for which you
must first type a space in expert mode.   4c1

Then, after giving any command (but not simply CD), subsequent
use of ? at the EDITOR command level gets you the correct
list of alternatives (those that are recognized by their first
letter in expert mode).   4c2

3. UNSATISFACTORY FEATURES   5

   a.   Under the description of HELP itself (obtained via a menu
   item under SHOW HELP), the "concise list" of HELP commands isn't
   menued. It should be.   5a

   b.   The SHOW EDITOR command gives an alphabetical list of editing
   commands. It would be MUCH better to organize these commands into
   categories. Alphabetical lists are useful only when you know what
   you're looking for. If you don't, how can you find it most
   easily?   5b

   c.   I thought the idea of stacked statement names as objects of
   the SHOW command was to allow the user to get directly to the item
   he was interested in. This doesn't happen. Examples are: 5c

      obj of SHOW   user actually gets   5c1

      INSERT SEQUENTIAL   INSERT
      SYNTAX SEQUENTIAL FILE   SYNTAX
      SEQUENTIAL   SEQUENTIAL FILE   5c2

   d.   The object of the SHOW command should be echoed on the same
   line as the SHOW command itself. Otherwise it disappears during
   execution of the SHOW command, and the user has no aid to remember
   what he SHOWed.   5d

      When the object of the SHOW command is "not found", the error
      message "item not found" should not be exhibited; instead, the
      word "item" should be replaced with the literal typein that
      wasn't found. For example, "INSERT FILE not found"   5d1

   e.   The command SHOW <<<< ... provides a useful function, but
   the syntax is not appropriate for a HELP system, in my opinion.   5e

      I would prefer to see something like PREVIOUS MENU or PREVIOUS
      ITEM (the words chosen to be appropriate to the function
      desired). More verbose, yes; but more intuitive, also.   5e1

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This gets into the area of "reserved" words, and warrants a
separate discussion.   5e1a

This command also has the discomforting and disconcerting
aspect that you don't know how many "<'s" to give, i.e. you
don't know where you've been, especially in DNLS.   5e2

Wouldn't it be nice if we could give the user his "show
return stack" in a meaningful way (for example, by echoing
the first line of what was previously shown, as in NLS "Jump
to Return") and let him back up through his stack till he
gets to the one he wants, so that he can then pick the one
he wants to go back to ?   5e2a

f.   SHOW DELETE MARKER   5f

This works o.K. but illustrates an undesireable feature: 5f1

The first line of the response says simply "MARKER". It should
say "DELETE MARKER". This comment holds for all SHOW's for
which the object is a stacked statement name: the first line
that results from execution of the SHOW command should contain
the entire stacked statement name.   5f2

g.   The message "This section of the HELP data base is
incomplete. Please try another." is condescending and useless.
The user doesn't want to "try another": What good would it do him
?   5g

4. UNCLEAR OR MISLEADING OR JUST PLAIN MISSING DESCRIPTIONS   6

                                                                        6a

[Note: These are comments at random, about things discovered
in browsing through the HELP system in the manner that I
suspect every user will do. It is certainly not meant to be a
complete list, nor is anything else in this note meant to be
complete and definitive.]   6a1

                                                                        6b

There's nothing about UPDATE, USEROPTIONS, PROTECT, and probably
many others.   6c

What is "blablabla" under SHOW COMMANDS?   6d

The description via SHOW COMMANDS mentions NOTHING about menus
!!!   6e

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The description via SHOW SUBSYSTEMS does not say anything about
what USE the subsystem stack is,   6f

  In general, when a user comes across a new command that didn't
  exist before, it seems highly desireable to tell him what the
  motivation for that command is. In fact I think motivation
  ought to be included in the description of EVERY command, but
  at least for the new commands,   6f1

What replaces the old centerdot function (as well as the literal
<control-b> itself) in NLS? No obvious way to find out   6g

The helpful message "current alternatives are" that you get in
response to typing ? would, in my opinion, be better worded as
"choose one of these alternatives".   6h

SHOW JOURNAL   6i

  menu item #4 doesn't discuss SECONDARY DISTRIBUTION   6i1

SHOW SEND   6j

  menu #1 SHOULDN'T MENTION "*" ; that's the default, no?
    it reads like you MUST do "*"   6j1

  menu #5 document: no info here   6j2

SHOW TERMINAL   6k

  bug in statement name   6k1

  also, there should be a synonymous SHOW DEVICE, since we're all
  used to that word in the old system,   6k2

SHOW TAB   6l

    item #3 no info,
    item #2 bad link   6l1

SHOW APPEND LINK
SHOW FUNCTION APPEND LINK
SHOW SYNTAX APPEND LINK   6m

  These don't do the right things,   6m1

  The first two get you APPEND STATEMENT, the last one gets you
  SYNTAX APPEND STATEMENT   6m2

  There's nothing in the data base about APPEND LINK; yet it's

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listed as one of the alternatives when you type ? after
APPEND in new NLS.   6m3

BREAK ? <control-q>
BREAK STATEMENT ? <ca> <control-q>
COPY ? <control-q>   6n

gets "HELP DB Error, Call ARC."   6n1

Throws you back to NLS command level. What causes this? Can
we think of a better error message and action?   6n2

SHOW FREEZE STATEMENT   6o

gets a duplicated "incomplete" message.   6o1

MOVE FILE ? <ca> <control-q>   6p

gets MOVE followed by a menu, in which item #4 is "file", but
there's no info in item #4.   6p1

Here as elsewhere the stacked statement name feature should
take you right to the item being called for, not to a higher
level. That is, SHOW MOVE FILE should get you item #4 under
MOVE.   6p2

SHOW MOVE STRUCTURE   6q

menu should include an item on "FILE" since in new NLS, typing
? after the verb MOVE lists "file" as one of the alernatives.   6q1

Item #4 "nouns" has a menu, in which: 6q2

a) item #5 "structure of files" has no information   6q2a

b) item #6 "illustrations" has a menu in which item #1
"statements" contains GROSSLY MISLEADING INFORMATION: "a
statement is addressed by any character position within it"
!!!   6q2b

SHOW ORIGIN STATEMENT   6r

some garbled text in the write-up.   6r1

SHOW VERIFY FILE.   6s

No description   6s1

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```
    EXECUTE ? <control-q>
    GOTO ? <control-q>                                                  6t

        sometimes these get "HELP DB Error. Call ARC.";
        Sometimes these get the description under "EDITOR".             6t1

        But SHOW EXECUTE and SHOW GOTO seem always to do the right
        things.                                                        6t2

    > ? <control-q>
    < ? <control-q>
    ; <control-q>                                                       6u

        These get "HELP DB Error. Call ARC."                           6u1

    ;?                                                                  6v

        Currently unparseable; won't give help via  ?.                 6v1

    SHOW <                                                              6w

        doesn't give EXACT previous view:  the top of the typeout is
        slightly different.                                            6w1

        for an example, try                                            6w2

            SHOW INSERT LINK
            SHOW 4
            SHOW 3
            SHOW <                                                     6w2a

    LOAD BUSY ? <control-q>                                             6x

        gets LOAD FILE from the HELP DB                                6x1

        SHOW BUSY gets item not found                                  6x2

        SHOW LOAD BUSY gets LOAD FILE                                  6x3

        Yet, "BUSY" is one of the alternatives you're told about when
        you use  ?  in new NLS after typing the verb LOAD.             6x4

    SHOW LOAD FILE                                                      6y

        menu item # 1 "syntax" doesn't explain CONTENT for filenames.
        Doesn't even mention FILENAME.   Yet,  SHOW FILENAME talks
        about FILENAME being in command syntaxes.                      6y1

    SHOW FILENAME                                                       6z
```

Problems with the HELP system, circa 18-April-74.

menu item # 1 "filenames"   6z1

   the phrase "version numbers go up when one updates" is
obscure at best.   6z1a

also there are these menu deficiencies: 6z2

   item # 6 "versions" no info
item # 2 "typein" no info
item # 4 "stars" no info   6z2a

SHOW JUMP   6a0

   under DNLS, the menu item BUG; should instead be B;, since
that's what you get in new NLS when you type ? after the verb
JUMP   6a01

SHOW INSERT LINK   6aa

gets INSERT STRING   6aa1

Instead, it should get item 3 "link" under item 4 of INSERT
STRING; and item 3 should then give INSERT STRING as a menu
item.   6aa2

This situation exists for all the INSERT X stuff; it may exist
as well for other members of the editing command family.   6aa3

THE POINT IS, HELP SHOULD GET THE USER TO THE EXACT COMMAND
HE'S ASKING FOR !!!   6aa4

Problems with the HELP system, circa 18-April-74,

(J22871) 1-MAY-74 14:57;   Title: Author(s): Michael D, Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /FDBK; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: MDK;
Origin: <KUDLICK>NEWNLS,NLS;10, 18-APR-74 14:07 MDK ;

Note on the ARPANET

I wrote this note for Stephen Miller of SRI. He will probably
distribute it (or a meaningful subset of it) to international SRI
offices. These offices have been badgering Steve for information
about the NIC, about the Network, and related topics, and as you can
see from this note I've essentially punted most of the inquiries into
ARPA's lap.
...   Mike

Note on the ARPANET

About the ARPANET
Advanced Research Projects Agency
Department of Defense
Computer Network   1

The ARPANET is a relatively new kind of digital communication
system, a network employing wideband leased lines and message
switching. The ARPANET provides for the interconnection of
dissimilar computers at widely separated sites via high=speed
common carrier circuits. The development of the Network was
sponsored by the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) of the
U.S. Department of Defense.   1a

Each computer, called a "Host", on the Arpanet is connected to the
network through a communication interface called a "node".   1b

Terminals may be connected to the network either through a Host,
or directly through a special type of node.   1c

Nodes are small general purpose computers whose primary function
is to forward data. No storage of data is accomplished at nodes,
only forwarding. Storage is accomplished at Hosts.   1d

Some nodes ("IMPS") function as communication interfaces for
Hosts. A maximum of four Hosts may be connected to the network
through a single IMP.   1e

Other nodes ("TIPS" are the simplest kind; "ANTS" a more
sophisticated recent development) function as communication
interfaces for terminals. A maximum of 64 terminals may be
connected to the network through a single TIP. The maximum number
of terminals connectable through an ANTS is not known to me at
this time.   1f

In all nodes of a given type, identical "protocols", i.e. rigidly
structured and rigidly ordered data communication sequences, are
programmed. In addition, new protocols are continually under
development to reflect new data communication needs.   1g

The major objectives in developing the network have been: 2

1) to develop highly reliable and economic digital communications
among heterogeneous computer systems and terminals, and   2a

2) to permit sharing of computer resources (hardware, software,
and data) among geographically separated individuals, groups, and
organizations.   2b

Note on the ARPANET

One of the major technological innovations used in the network is the
concept of "packet switching".   3

   Information is transmitted over the ARPANET as binary "messages"
   which are segmented for transmission purposes into pACKETS
   (groups) of up to one million bits in length. Each message and
   hence each packet may contain person-readable or machine-readable
   information or both. The length of a message is arbitrary; the
   length of the packet is controlled by the network switching
   technology.   3a

   In transmitting packets over the network, transmission paths are
   not established in advance. Instead, each packet carries
   sufficient "switching" information with it. This enables each
   node of the network (which as previously mentioned is a small
   computer) to choose a currently operable path along which the
   packet can be routed or "switched" to the next appropriate node on
   its journey from source to destination.   3b

   Information about the technical details of network technology
   exists in the professional literature, primarily in: 3c

      1) May 1970 Spring Joint Computer Conference Proceedings
      2) May 1972 Spring Joint Computer Conference Proceedings   3c1

The network currently consists of about 90 nodes.   4

   Attached to about half of these nodes are medium to large scale
   computer systems. The remaining nodes function as direct
   interfaces to the network for a variety of computer terminals ---
   typewriter terminals, display terminals, high speed printers, and
   the like.   4a

   More detailed information about the composition of the network ---
   its computer resources, the projects associated with it, and the
   uses made of it --- is presently considered to be U.S. proprietary
   information. This information is available only to those
   receiving permission from the ARPA Information Processing
   Techniques Office. Their address is: 4b

      Advanced Research Projects Agency
      Information Processing Techniques Office
      1400 Wilson Boulevard
      Arlington, Virginia 22209   4b1

   DR. J.C.R. LICKLIDER is currently the head of this Office.   4c

   Foreign users of the network are not usually given access to
   network resources or network technological developments.   4d

Note on the ARPANET

There are two research computer systems at SRI currently attached to
the network --- one in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Laboratory,
one in the Augmentation Research Center (ARC). There are also other
projects at SRI which are funded by ARPA but for which no separate
computer system exists.   5

The AI Lab is currently headed by Dr. Peter Hart. The ARC is
currently headed by Dr. Douglas Engelbart. Each of these men
carries out research for ARPA in conjunction with their use of the
ARPA Network. Information about the nature of these research
efforts should be directed either to Dr. Bonnar Cox, Executive
Director of the Information Science and Engineering Division, or
to Dr. Hart or Dr. Engelbart.   5a

In addition, the ARC operates the Network Information Center
(NIC). The NIC's function is to collect, maintain, publish, and
distribute certain summary information about the computer
hardware, computer software, and individual persons involved in or
associated with network-oriented research.   5b

To obtain information about the network from the NIC, one has to
be a member of the network community. To be a member, one
currently has to have permission from ARPA, or whomever they
designate. The NIC does not have the authority to grant this
permission; it is strictly a publishing and distribution center
for ARPA. Once such permission is granted to an organization, all
members of that organization are entitled to receive the summary
information that the NIC distributes.   5c

One final aspect of SRI's ARPA-related research efforts should be
noted, as it has been the source of some confusion: The ARC has
established a separate computer facility that is connected to the
ARPA network and physically operated at and by a commercial
organization, TYMSHARE Inc. This separate facility, sometimes
known simply as the "Utility", exists primarily for the purpose of
furthering the research efforts of Dr. Engelbart, and any
inquiries about it should be directed to him.   5d

                                                                    6

Note on the ARPANET

(J22872) 1-MAY-74 15:11;   Title: Author(s): Michael D. Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /NIC; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC NIC; Clerk: MDK;
Origin: <KUDLICK>SM.NLS;8, 1-MAY-74 15:07 MDK ;

1-MAY-74 1508-PDT WATSON: NIC Announcement
  Distribution: KUDLICK, norton
  Received at: 1-MAY-74 15:08:24   1

  Jim, My strong feeling is that as man responsible for "new" NIC
  you should negotiate announcement with Fields. The users will be
  your clients as will he, Mike or I would not mind talking with
  Fields about it but it doesn't seem proper if this is topic of
  some sensitivity to man paying you for NIC. I agree that users
  could contact you, but do feel users deserve to know where they
  stand by seeing clearly what services will exist nd which go away,
  Fields may not be aware of it but most NIC se
  ices were really in use. ARPA's need to cut back is
  understandable given word through Stan Ffrelick from Kahn that
  IPTO took a 25% overall funding cut so we probably should not be
  too hard on them for chopping services but people should be told
  whats going aaway, Dick   1a

(J22873) 1-MAY-74 15:23; Title: Author(s): Michael D, Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /JAKE; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: MDK;

help system needs

Some suggestions fo Help, w need to instrument help to see path etc,
It would also be nice to let the user input free form text to express
his question or problem and whether or not it got answered or what
ever.   1

help system needs

(J22874)   1-MAY-74 16:15;   Title: Author(s): Richard W, Watson/RWW;
Distribution: /FDBK(* action *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
RWW;

The Status of Line Processor Guides

Some time ago Don Andrews made a rough user guide. He journalized it.
With Tjcat locked I can't retrieve the number, but the text is in my
file (vannouhuys,lineguide,15) and following statements. I set out to
make a guide for really naive users (the first 14 branches of
lineguide) but have not finihsed, won't get to tonight. For ARC with
the machine alread set up, the raw andres guide might sufice.   1

The Status of Line Processor Guides

(J22875)   1-MAY-74 19:45;   Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /MEH(* action *) DIA(* info-only *) JCN(* info-only *
) ; Sub-Collections: DIRT SRI-ARC; Clerk: DVN;

Final Steps of Proposal Preparation

RWW review corrections Bart had made in the MS, Either Bart or RWW
may want to talk face to face about them, or it may not be necessary,   1

At the same time as (1) carry the MS with approval sheet to Spencer
Floyd for contract approval,   2

Accept or reject Bart's edits,   3

Put Bart'edits in the Online file, (mej is a good person to do that,)   4

Print out the online file, being sure to start printout of the title
page at the beginning of the actual title-page statements in the
latter part of the file,   5

Give the printed file, the resumes, and any other attachments to
Gerry Oram, reports co-ordintor (x 2830),   6

Discuss with Gerry if you want Reports Services or ARC to send the
printed proposals to ARPA, and how many you want to print, People
will be interested in this proposal; I suggest 100,   7

If you need to double check th distribution list, call Spencer Floyd,   8

The propsal has a preassinged journal number, That number is
preassigned to me, Jim asked that he be the one to actually
journalize it, When appropriate, I wuld suggest you send him a
messagethat it is ready to journalize,   9

Final Steps of Proposal Preparation

(J22876) 1-MAY-74 20:00; Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN; Distribution: /JML(* action * RWW asked me to write this) RWW(* info-only *) JCN(* info-only *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC DPCS; Clerk: DVN;

Date: 30-APR-74 13:18:39   1

From: Carl M. Ellison   2

Subject: FEEDBACK,SAV   3

Type of comment: Gripe   4

Network online address: ellison@utah-10   5

Phone: 801-581-8224   6

Degree of urgency: Low priority   7

Type of response desired: No response needed   8

                                                                              9

Text: 10

I can appreciate feedback's taking such complete information   11

about the sender, but isn't most of it redundant?   12

That is, couldn't one supply his NIC ID (if he has one)   13

and have the header inserted at the NIC?   14

                                                                             15

P.S. Has someone fixed the closing comment yet?   16

                                                                             17

                                                                             18

(J22877) 30-APR-74 12:18; Title: Author(s): NET GRIPE/NGRP;
Distribution: /NGRP(* action *) ; Sub-Collections: NIC; Clerk: NGRP;

Note: you may ignore or respond or change the command or whatever you feel like.

Using Sendmail

In the Sendmail subsystem, when I want to give my distribution list,
XNLS makes me first choose whether I want to send this item for
"information" or "action". I assume my decision causes either the
phrase "Note: info-only" or "Note: for action" to appear after the
citation. I find the required decision really onerous.   1

Often, neither applies. Or, they imply things I don't want to say!
For instance, reading the "Note; info-only" often says to me that I
am only an incidental recipient of this message, or that my response
isn't really solicited. But the sender may also not want to demand
my "action".   2

I guess I'm saying I find myself with a problem in connotation every
time I have to choose one of those in order to send something. I
often don't want to demand a particular type of response. Maybe I'm
too sensitive, but this "feature" seems more trouble than it's worth.
Is it possible to choose neither of the above; i.e, have no
"Note:..." ?   3

Using Sendmail

(J22878) 30-APR-74 18:43; Title: Author(s): Jeanne M. Beck/JMB;
Distribution: /FDBK(* action *) CHI(* action *) ; Sub-Collections:
SRI-ARC; Clerk: JMB;

Network Journal Submission

This is a   1

   three line   1a

      document,   1a1

[No content was specified!]   2

Network Journal Submission

(J22879)   1-MAY-74 21:09;   Title: Author(s): James E. (Jim)
White/JEW; Distribution: /JEW(* action *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC;
Clerk: JEW;

Do You Want to Know More About ARC HELP?

Nancy,   1

   The other morning I stumbled on your file (bbn-net,to-helpdoc,) at
Office-1. It made me wonder if you were interested in the state of
our work on our HELP system? Kirk keeps things pretty well up to date
in a file called (documentation,manual,) at ARC. We have a group to
which many working journal items are distributed, do you want to be
on?   2

Of course none of these papers get into questions of distributed
operation over the net. Mostly they deal with the content and
structure of the data base, search algorhythms, and what the system
will look like to the user.   3

Kirk has, by the way, brought up his local whole Universe program
which roughly speaking allows you to query a data base in NLS using
only the mouse and mouse buttons. It's neat for what it does.   4

Best
...Dirk   5

Do You Want to Know More About ARC HELP?

(J22880) 26-APR-74 14:32;   Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /NJN(* info-only *) KIRK(* info-only * fyi) RWW(*
info-only * fyi) ; Sub-Collections: DIRT SRI-ARC; Clerk: DVN;

Disadvantages to the way HELP handles links

BACKGROUND   1

About a year ago, I proposed a system inspired by Charles Irby
that allowed you to view links without jumping on them or directly
accessing them in any way. I called text viewed in this way
"warped" and a link being used in this fashion a "warp". This
system was controlled by two proposed viewspecs which turned
"warps" on and off specifying when the system automatically took a
link. <For the current version, see -- kelley, catalog, warps>   1a

I saw this system opening up a "fourth-dimention" to NLS to be
controlled like lines and levels (the second and third
"dimentions"). This would provide many capabilities one of which
would allow cross-file substitutes, searches, and editing without
split screens.   1b

Jake Feinler was at this time concerned with having this
capability and I explained my proposal to her. She was also on
the Query design committee with Harvey Lehtman and shortly
thereafter, the current system for handling links in Help appeared
as a shocking suprise to me.   1c

I immediately felt my ideas had been perverted beyond recognition
and whether or not this is true, I have from that day to this,
objected to the way links are being handled.   1d

Disadvantages: 2

1. It is inconsistant with the way NLS handles links.   2a

2. It is very slow.   2b

3. It occupies by far the largest percentage of the precious Help
code address space.   2c

4. It generates unwanted carriage returns everytime it takes a
link.   2d

5. It requires every link to be duplicated in the following format
so that substructure doesn't take for ever to display.   2e

    modifying
    ##<modifying>##   2e1

6. which results in at least two lines of the twenty available in
the screen to be wasted when someone takes a link and   2f

7. in most cases unnecessarily repeats the first line of the
addressed node.   2g

8. It makes giving the user a choice of something in a node
feasibly impossible. For several months I've been told after
fighting very strongly for this capability that it might appear,
I'm not holding my breath.   2h

9. It makes views complicated, and viewspecs hard to implement
(they don't work yet) so that you cannot get a "MAP" view (one
line, several levels) of the help database, you cannot get a
"FULL" view (all lines) of more than one node at a time (making it
frustratingly tedious to find out anything in depth ... I don't
have room to begin to explain this problem), and you cannot get a
view of anything to more than one level.   2i

10. It makes bugging a node from the screen very expensive and
difficult to implement (you can't do that yet) and bugging a word
will probably not be implemented.   2j

Advantage?   3

The user never sees a link (and never has the choice of taking
one).   3a

Reference -- kelley, catalog, warps>   4

Disadvantages to the way HELP handles links

(J22881) 26-APR-74 21:54;   Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /DIRT(* info-only *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC DIRT;
Clerk: KIRK;

Problem With XNLS Delete File

It doesn't seem to wat to delete unattached partial copies.   1

Problem With XNLS Delete File

(J22882)   29-APR-74 09:18;   Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van
Nouhuys/DVN; Distribution: /NEWNLS(* action *) ; Sub-Collections:
SRI-ARC NEWNLS; Clerk: DVN;

Re (LJOURNAL, 22852,) Revised Quick Reference of New...

I like it!
One suggestion: Your section on prompts (LJOURNAL, 22852, 11) does
not indicate that T! is being used also to prompt for a reference to
a file (is this going to change?). It would be nice if your Quick
Reference could head off some confusion on this file address stuff,
You see, even I'm still confused.   1

Re (LJOURNAL, 22852,) Revised Quick Reference of New...

(J22883)   29-APR-74 17:07;   Title: Author(s): Jeanne M, Beck/JMB;
Distribution: /DVN(* info-only *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
JMB;

Update File Compact Still Scrambles Markera

It still does,   1

Update File Compact Still Scrambles Markera

(J22884)   29-APR-74 21:12;   Title: Author(s): Dirk H, Van
Nouhuys/DVN; Distribution: /NEWNLS(* action *) ; Sub-Collections:
SRI-ARC NEWNLS; Clerk: DVN;

Answers to SRI G-K Survey

Question 9: Supervision is flexible i format at ARC, people are
characteristically involved in several job roles and each role may
follow a different leader, in general we expect a lot of self
supervision from people, Bearing that in mind, I regularly have some
supervisory functions with respect to: Sandy Johnson, Jeannie
Leavitt, Mil Jernigan, Kirk Kelley, and Jeannie Beck,   1

Question 7: Plan, write, analyze production of o- and off-line
documents on a computer-based knowledge workshopsystem,   2

   Documents include hard copy reports, proposals, manuals, and
   documents readable only interactively throough a computer,
   Planning and production may include initial organization and
   continue through typing procedures, on line job file organization
   , editing, dickering with the printer,and manipulating computer
   code whih which lays out the final format,   2a

 Assist people little familiar with the ARC or other computer systems
to use them mainly in work like that described in 1, This technology
transfer includes training, design of precedures, analysis of
proposed systems, and a lot of general hand holding and question
answering,   3

A sort of supervision (see below) of people within ARC doing work
descirbed in 1,   4

a hodge podge of administrative tasks including such things as
assigning offices and terminals, leadership on a project devoted to
1) above, pruchase of some hardware items, etc,, etc,   5

participate in design of user features of NLS,   6

In my present job my work has generally changed from, say, quarter to
quarterand has been scattered in severa roles, some vageuly defined,
The above is a current snapshot,,   7

Question 8:   8

   Hardware   8a

      Regularly -- computer terminals TI, Execupport, Delta Data
      (with and without line processor),   8a1

      Occasionaly -- computer terminals: GE terminette, termicette
      terminet data recorder, complete sort of sony 1/2" video type
      equipment PDP-10 computer   8a2

   Software systems: 8b

Regularlly: NLS (ARC's regularly on-line system) TENEX (a time
sharing executive for the PDP-10 computer)   8b1

Occasionally: TECO, send message, readmail, (subsystems of
TENEX); various subsystems of the ARPA network, including file
transfer protocol and the resource sharing executive,   8b2

Answers to SRI G-K Survey

(J22885) 1-MAY-74 21:45;   Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /JCN(* action * in haste) SLJ(* info-only *) ;
Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: DVN;
Origin: (VANNOUHUYS, BLAP.NLS;1,), 1-MAY-74 21:43 DVN ;####;

Some recommendations for new users of the new NLS

I recommend that new users of the new NLS set their prompting to
"PARTIAL" and their recognition mode to EXPERT ANTICIPATORY.
Further, I recommend that TNLS users set their HEARALD LENGTH to 4 or
that they set their HERALD to TERSE. These are all accomplished by
using the USEROPTIONS subsystem. I give the following as an example:
EXECUTE <command in subsystem> USEROPTIONS RECOGNITION <mode> EXPERT
<secondary mode> ANTICIPATORY CA.   1

Some recommendations for new users of the new NLS

(J22886)   2-MAY-74 08:54;   Title: Author(s): Charles H. Irby/CHI;
Distribution: /SRI-ARC(* info-only *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC;
Clerk: CHI;

Laura ... I've just finished reading the SCHOLAR / TNLS PRIMER
documents which you kindly sent us, and I really like them. The care
with which you introduce new concepts is really beautiful. The
prose, it seems to me, is just right. And I also like the notation
you've chosen to distinguish what the user types from what the system
types.   1

Ever since you sent me a brief note several months ago (at the time
you first got introduced to the "new nls"), I've been very curious to
hear more from you regarding your comment, "I wish I could report
that the new language is easier to describe than the old, but the
contrary seems to be the case". Do you care to elaborate on that
now?   2

I personally have not been overjoyed at quite a number of aspects of
the new language.   3

One glaring difficulty is that there really is no "beginner" mode;
all the prompts and feedback in the world do nothing but amplify the
complexity of the syntax, in my opinion. So I've been mentally
toying with a few ideas to simplify things for beginning or casual
users, and (hopefully) for experienced users as well.   4

If you're interested, I'd be glad to share these ideas with you,
tentative and informal as they are.   5

Look forward to hearing from you. ... Mike Kudlick   6

P.S. Gene McDaniel (a former student of yours) came for an interview
and I had a long chat with him, attempting to put things in
perspective, especially in answering his good, pointed questions. I
like Gene. He came across as a very level headed person, wise to the
needs of users etc. SRI-ARC has extended him an offer to work, but I
don't yet know what he's planning to do.   7

(J22889) 2-MAY-74 11:20;   Title: Author(s): Michael D. Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /LEG(* action *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
MDK;
Origin: (KUDLICK, LEG.NLS;3,), 2-MAY-74 11:09 MDK ;####;

Privacy Status

Privacy is now fully implemented in the new running system (and, of
course, at OFFICE-1). You can journalize things as private, set your
own files private, only load files to which you have access, and so
forth (there may be some bugs to be run into, but none that I know
of). Documentation is forthcoming, hopefully by Monday. Ferg hopes
to have the CHANGE IDENT Exec command removed and login ident
appropriately restricted for multi-user directories by tommorrow --
at least in terms of code. We then need to add the appropriate ident
lists to the groups data base -- e.g., what idents can legally login
as <DOCUMENTATION>. I'm about to write a program which extracts the
required info from the ident file.   1

Privacy Status

(J22891)   2-MAY-74 12:57;   Title: Author(s): James E. (Jim)
White/JEW; Distribution: /JCN(* info-only *) RWW(* info-only *) JHB(
* info-only *) WRF(* info-only *) JDH(* info-only *) CHI(*
info-only *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: JEW;

TNLS Basic Course Copy of Outline

Here's a copy of the course just to illustrate the Journal and to
give you a permanent citation to it.

BASIC TNLS COURSE

SRI-ARC

3 MAY 74

Augmentation Research Center

STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE
MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA 94025

TNLS SYLABUS

THE BASIC TNLS COURSE

INTRODUCTION TO AKW

   AKW = Augmented Knowledge Workshop

   PURPOSE OF SYSTEM: Augmentation of Knowledge Work

   TNLS = Typewriter oN Line System

   Course Goals and Philosophy

THE TERMINAL AND USE (if necessary)

   Similarities to and differences from a typewriter

COURSE ORGANIZATION

   The course is organized by concepts of what a user can do with
   TNLS at this level. There are seven concepts (as listed below)
   that are ordered as one would need them to use the system. Under
   each concept are the exact commands that instruct the computer to
   perform the function that goes with the concept. There is a
   command summary at the end of the course outline that lists the
   same commands alphabetically for easy reference.

   The commands which are included in this first course have been
   selected to let a user write, edit, store, and communicate
   text. Those commands numbered with a (2) are to be covered on
   the second day of the course.

   GETTING TO NLS

      NETWORK (if used)

      TENEX Executive

   TNLS CONCEPTS:

      1. FILES

      2. TYPING IN TEXT

      3. PRINTING

      4. ADDRESSING

5. EDITING

6. COMMUNICATING

7. TROUBLE SHOOTING AND HELP

GETTING TO NLS   (For those familiar with using the Net and Tenex)

NETWORK   (if used)

Login protocols   (Office-1 is host numer 43)

e, log and close, device code extrapadding

TENEX Executive   (review)

Login procedure:

log USERNAME PASSWORD ACCOUNT#

Group allocation quota: gro<esc>UPSTAT

Directory listing:

dir

Some executive commands:

delete

logout

Calling NLS:

Type NLS, then   (after the asterisk) type: v c m y E CR

control c   and continue

DEFINITIONS FOR THE COURSE OUTLINE

control = hold down the control (ctrl) key while typing the
specified character.

[ ] = brackets which enclose what the computer types out for
you.

* = the TNLS ready signal. It means that you can type in a
command.

TNLS BASIC COURSE OUTLINE:

Abort Commands = control X

1. FILES

The origin statement

The initials file

New files

n[ull file F:] FILENAME CR

2. TYPING IN "TEXT"

Insert Statement

i[nsert] s[tatement at A:] ADDRESS CR   CR

(2) Continue to insert = escape key (esc)

backspace character = control a
backspace word = Control w

3. PRINTING

Printing

p[rint] CR

Stop printing = control o

Print Statement (ADDRESS = .statement number)

p[rint] s[tatement A:] ADDRESS   CR CR

(2) Skip statement (control s)

4. ADDRESSING

    Addressing within files

        Statement numbers preceded by a period (NOTE: TNLS
        automatically renumbers statements when appropriate)

        SPACE command address

            SPACE [A:] ADDRESS CR

            (2) Content string: [string]

    Addressing across files and directories

        load file

            l[oad] f[ile F:] FILENAME CR

            (2) Link: (Fileowner,filename,statement number) OR
            (filename,statement number)

5. EDITING

    Commands:

        Delete Statement

            d[elete] s[tatement at A:] CR [OK?] CR

        Substitute Text in Statement

            s[ubstitute] t[ext in] s[tatement A:] ADDRESS CR
    [<new text> T:] TYPEIN CR
    [<for old text> T:] TYPEIN CR
    [finished?] CR [yes]
    [substitutions made= #]

        Update

            (2) Move Statement

            m[ove] s[tatement] [to follow A:] ADDRESS CR [from A:]
            ADDRESS CR CR

            (2) formatting technique

insert carriage return = control v CR

u[pdate] CR [filename]

6. COMMUNICATING

(2) JOURNAL SYSTEM: .

(2) Submit message using idents (or .receivername) and
Interrogate:

E[xecute Journal]

&S[ubmit] M[essage T:] TYPEIN CR

&&I[nterrogate] CR

[&&Title: T:] Example

[&&Distribution: I:] rww I: jcn I: dvn CR

[&&Status] CR (the following is the status typed
by the system:)

[Catalog Number: Deferred

Author(s): JHB (your ident)

Title: Example

Distribution: RWW JCN DVN

Subcollections: sri-arc

Clerk: JHB; (your ident)

&&Go?] CR [Yes]

[Journal System in progress]
[Completed]

(2) Submit statement (See the Command Summary for an
example)

(2) Submit file (See the Command Summary)

(2) Initials file = mail box

(2) Print Journal

p[rint] j[ournal] CR

(2) Empty mail box: subsitute (read) for (journal)...

TENEX ways: (review)

SNDMSG

Link (to) [username]; break links

7. TROUBLE SHOOTING AND HELP

(2) FEEDBACK mechanism:

SNDMSG to FEEDBACK or send a Journal item to ident
FEED

HELP:

call or Link to (Bair (Jim) at SRI/ARC, (415 326-6200,
ext.3614))

(2) Status commands

control t

(2) Remedies

control c, reset, NLS

Output file

PRACTICE

In addition to trying each command, there is a Primer designed
to be used for practice.

TNLS COMMAND SUMMARY FOR THIS COURSE: (alphabetical) NLS
supplies that which appears between brackets. CR = Carriage
Retrun.

BACKSPACE CHARACTER = control a ; BACKSPACE WORD = control w

CARRIAGE RETURN (formatting) = control v CR

CONTINUE TO INSERT = escape key (esc)

DELETE STATEMENT:

    d[elete] s[tatement at A:]   CR [OK?] CR

INSERT STATEMENT:,

    i[nsert] s[tatement at A:] ADDRESS CR   CR

LINK:

    (Fileowner,filename,statement number) or (filename,statement
    number)

LOAD FILE:

    l[oad] f[ile F:] FILENAME CR

MOVE STATEMENT:

    m[ove] s[tatement] [to follow A:] ADDRESS CR [from A:]
    ADDRESS CR   CR

NULL FILE:

    n[ull file F:] FILENAME CR

OUTPUT FILE:

    o[utput] f[ile F:] FILENAME   CR

PRINT STATEMENT:

    p[rint] s[tatement A:] ADDRESS   CR CR

PRINT:

    p[rint] CR

Stop printing = control o

Skip to next statement = control s

SPACE [A:] ADDRESS CR

SUBSTITUTE TEXT IN STATEMENT:

s[ubstitute] t[ext in] s[tatement A:] ADDRESS CR
[<new text> T:] TYPEIN CR
[<for old text> T:] TYPEIN CR
[finished?] CR [yes]
[substitutions made= #]

UPDATE A FILE:

u[pdate] CR   [filename]

JOURNAL SYSTEM:

Submit Message or Statement or file, idents (or ,receivername),
and Interrogate

e[xecute] j[ournal   CR]

s[ubmit] f[ile] at A: FILENAME CR   OR
s[ubmit] s[tatement] at A: ADDRESS CR   OR
s[ubmit] m[essage T:] TYPEIN CR

EXAMPLE: (NLS supplies the prompts * and & and && and
everything in brackets)

*E[xecute Journal]

&S[ubmit] S[tatement at A:] ADDRESS CR

&&I[nterrogate] CR

[&&Title: T:] Example

[&&Distribution: I:] rww I: jcn I: dvn CR

[&&Status] CR   (the following is the status typed by
the system:)

[Catalog Number: Deferred

Author(s): JHB

                    Title: Example

                    Distribution: RWW JCN DVN

                    Subcollections: sri-arc

                    Clerk: JHB;

                    &&Go?] N[o] CR (if you change your mind)

                    &&Q[uit] CR

                Journal subcommands:

                    t[itle:] TYPEIN CR

                    d[istribution:] IDENT SPACE IDENT SPACE IDENT... CR

                    co[mments:] TYPEIN CR

                    g[o?] CR [yes]
                    (OR)   n[o]

                    i[nterrogate] CR

                    st[atus] CR

                    g[o?] CR

            (2) Print Journal

                p[rint] j[ournal] CR

            (2) Empty mail box: subsitute (read) for (journal)...

TNLS Basic Course Copy of Outline

(J22892) 3-MAY-74 06:25; Title: Author(s): James H. Bair/JHB;
Distribution: /WEC EAR EFF DRW LAC; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
JHB;
Origin: <BAIR>COURSENSW.NLS;10, 30-APR-74 23:24 JHB ;

Procedure for Sending Messages

adopted by DEIS project for their message traffic,

Procedure for Sending Messages

If there are no Output Processor directives in a file, you should
send it using SENDMES (the user program), This program currently
only works in old NLS, Using this program will prevent wrap around
problems when INMES brings it back into NLS, and most of the
structure of the file will be reinstated,   1

If there are directives and you would like your message to be
formatted according to those directives, you should do the following: 2

    1) You probably want the directive PSw=Off in your origin
    statement, This will cancel all pagination, including explicit
    (PES) and of course headers, footers, etc, Tthe directive YBS=1
    is also suggested, so that INMES can break the statements
    properly,   2a

    2) You should then do an Output Device Printer to a file in your
    directory, This creates a sequential print file with special
    codes for the line printer,   2b

    3) You can then use SENDPRINT to create a regular (formatted)
    sequential file from the print file, Specify Output to FILE, To
    be printed on TENEX? NO,   2c

    4) You may then insert this file in a SNDMSG using <control-b>,   2d

Procedure for Sending Messages

(J22893) 3-MAY-74 07:16;   Title: Author(s): N, Dean Meyer/NDM;
Distribution: /KIRK DVN RJ SRI-ARC(fyi) ECW; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC
DEIS; Clerk: NDM;
Origin: (MEYER, ME.NLS;2,), 3-MAY-74 07:03 NDM ;

Response to feedback received as of 5/2/74

This file contains responses to MEJ, JAKE, JCP, RWW, DvN, JMB, and
MDK but anyone is welcome to look.

Response to feedback received as of 5/2/74

1

Mil -   1a

When question mark is typed first thing the wrong alternatives
are listed (they are the ones that are available after first
typing a space), this is being worked on,   1a1

You read journal mail, load files essentially the same as in
the past, The command Print Journal has been changed and as
with all commands, the new syntax may be found by typing Show
and the old command in the Help system,   1a2

"O is being fixed to stop typing alternatives,   1a3

Tabs work the same except there is a new feature in searching
for some particular content which makes use of tab, If you
show address in help and look at the menu item that deals with
content search it will tell you that once you have successfully
searched for something, tab will automatically look for the
next occurrence, It probably would be a good idea to read that
description, If you try to type tab at the command level
without having just completed a search you will get the message
Illegal Search Type, Tabs may be entered the same way as
before AFTER you have been prompted T: (any place where text
may be entered), Tab is legal as a command only after doing a
content search,,   1a4

A new file is made with the create file command, If you still
have expert-expert recognition, you must type a space before
the c to get the second level commands,   1a5

Viewspecs are SUPPOSED to stay but I'll check and see if this
is a bug, I'll let you know,   1a6

If after typing a question mark the response isn't meaningful,
such as "Please make a selection of type: CHARACTER via Address
Expression" your recourse is to type "Q to get more information
from the HELP system (hopefully!), The odd capitalizations
have no special meaning to the user at this point,   1a7

Also, thanks for the suggestion about carriage return before
EDI C:, It will be taken under consideration,   1a8

Feinler -   1b

The Jump command as well as all others may now be repeated by
typing "B instead of the last command accept, Once you have
repeated a command like Jump to Successor, you may then use "A

to "backspace" over the word Successor and change it to any
other command word allowed in a jump command. If you have
trouble with this let us know.   1b1

The Append Statement now allows you to bug a portion of text to
put between the two statements, and therefore the "join with"
and then "through". This is recognized as being a questionable
feature and one possibility would be to have an option of
entering text between statements so that the standard append
statement is shorter. This will be considered at a later date.   1b2

The idea with the Jump Return command was that it would be
easier to learn how to go back to prior views if the system
asked you Y/N when the line of text is displayed instead of the
user knowing that a space was required to get any other view.   1b3

Jeff -   1c

Control C is being fixed to stop the list   1c1

I agree that expert-expert was probably a bad choice, I don't
think any more new users will come on in that mode.   1c2

Dirk -   1d

The programmers know that update compact scrambles markers and
that there are some problems deleting partial copies. They're
working on it!   1d1

Jeanne Beck -   1e

Your suggestion about disliking to choose between "for
information" and "for action" has been received and will be
taken under consideration.   1e1

Dick and Mike -   1f

Thanks for comments about the Help system. I won't respond to
all of them here but they will be referred to the Help people
as well as Analysis. Thanks.   1f1

Response to feedback received as of 5/2/74

(J22896) 3-MAY-74 09:02;   Title: Author(s): Susan R. Lee/SRL;
Distribution: /SRI-ARC; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: SRL;
Origin: (ANALYSIS, RESPONSE.NLS;2,), 3-MAY-74 08:38 SRL ;

Smokey's Tree

Anyone wishing to contribute something towards the tree we bought for
Smokey's send-off should feel free to intercept me and press said
contribution into my eager palms.   1

Smokey's Tree

(J22897)   3-MAY-74 10:39;   Title: Author(s): Judy D, Cooke/JDC;
Distribution: /SRI-ARC; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: JDC;

Upcoming Privacy-Related Change to the Login Procedure

Please promptly read and, if appropriate, respond to this memo.

Upcoming Privacy-Related Change to the Login Procedure

We are about to install a change to the SRI-ARC EXEC in support of
the NLS privacy features which are now installed at both OFFICE-1 and
SRI-ARC. This change will affect the login procedure for "shared"
directories. Please read and, if appropriate, respond to this memo.   1

THE CURRENT LOGIN PROCEDURE   2

In most cases, the EXEC at login can (and does) infer a user's NLS
ident from his TENEX directory. If a user logs in as WHITE, the
EXEC infers that his ident is JEW.   2a

But there are some directories with which no single ident can be
associated. MIT-MULTICS users share a single directory at
OFFICE-1. And at SRI-ARC, a number of users, though assigned
their own, personal directories, must also upon occasion log in as
DOCUMENTATION. In all such cases, the EXEC must prompt for and
accept any ident the user types.   2b

THE COMING LOGIN PROCEDURE   3

Since the new NLS privacy features control access to NLS files on
the basis of the ident with which the user logged in, it's no
longer satisfactory to assume that the user will type his own
ident. The EXEC will, therefore, maintain a list of valid idents
for each such shared directory, and permit the user to type one of
those (and only those) idents.   3a

A REQUEST   4

If ANY of the directories under which you log in require you to
type your ident at login, let me know about it so the EXEC's data
base can be updated appropriately. Otherwise, you may find
yourself unable to log in to that directory.   4a

If you know of users who will be affected by this change and who
haven't been sent this memo, please forward it to them or respond
on their behalf.   4b

Respond please by Journal mail to JEW.   4c

Upcoming Privacy-Related Change to the Login Procedure

(J22898) 3-MAY-74 15:26; Title: Author(s): James E, (Jim) White/JEW;
Distribution: /SRI-ARC(* action *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
JEW;

All of the people in the SCHOLAR ident group, jmb, dvn, and kirk
should be able to log in to DOCUMENTATION. If you give other idents
this capability, please let me know who they are. By the way, what
keeps a user from impersonating one of the acceptable idents for a
username. This scheme doesn't seem to me as though it is going to
provide any privacy what so ever. Just a bunch of masquerading
users.   1

(J22899)   3-MAY-74 21:09;   Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /JEW; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: KIRK;

THE WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG
An Augmented Network Information Center

INTRODUCTION

1

This paper is intended to be in complete agreement with the USING Information Management Committee report [Reference 1] and the Help and Documentation Committee report [Reference 2]. However, it describes an online Whole Arpanet Catalog that uses the same accessing system to interface to the proposed integrated Help systems and other shared resources, as it uses to take users to the information that classifies the resource and all other available information about the Arpanet. A Hardcopy Whole Arpanet Catalog (HWAC) and supplements (News) are also discussed.

1a

This paper also goes into specific detail describing how the Whole Arpanet Catalog online accessing system interface (software and databases) should work and who should be involved in developing and maintaining it.

1b

The view here is that everything contains information including a tool like a side-rule or a terminal, a service like a typist or an editing system, as well as words found in a book or a database. Furthermore, all that information should be accessible to some degree via a single, easy to learn (self teaching) accessing system.

1c

DATABASE MAINTENANCE AND SOFTWARE INTERFACING

2

In general, the bulk of the information for each server site (help, hardware, and software documentation) should be developed and maintained by that site at that site. A core accessing system (database and software) to all sites should be maintained and improved at Office-1 by one accessing system coordinator person (with the help of one full time programmer for the first year). This core accessing system should be distributed by copying updated versions to other sites.

2a

Users retrieving information should use the core accessing system at their "home" site or pay for CPU time to use it at office-1. This accessing system should then take the user to the appropriate computer containing the information and service (s)he wants. The local site information coordinator(s) should maintain their site's information except for People information (the Ident File) which should be maintained by each individual and group coordinator from the Master copy located at Office-1.

2b

As stated in the Help Documentation Committee report [Reference 2], each site should be responsible for interfacing with the core network accessing system both to provide information and to retrieve it from other sites. Those sites that have not yet

THE WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG
An Augmented Network Information Center

interfaced with the Whole Arpanet Catalog should buy computer
service from Office-1 until the interface is completed. Whole
Arpanet Catalog personnel should provide support for these sites
toward complete at-site information management,   2c

THE WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG ACCESSING SYSTEM   3

The same accessing system should be used for the Whole Arpanet
Catalog as has been developed for the Whole Universe Catalog
[Reference 3]. It can run in a small subset of the Online System
developed at SRI-ARC called NLS. It is simple to use and learn
(self teaching) in both a one-dimensional teletype-like
environment from a keyboard and in a two-dimensional display like
environment from a pointing block with three buttons called a
"mouse". It contains all of the same information retrieval
capabilities as NLS including tree structure view specification
codes (called viewspecs), cross-file indirect addresses (called
links), and content searching with boolean logic (called content
analyzer patterns). In addition, it gives the user control over
a "fourth-dimension" of information space which is not available
in NLS [Reference 3].   3a

The user does not need to understand or even know of the
existance of these complicated systems and does not need to know
or understand any other NLS peculiarities like command word
recognition in order to use the Whole Arpanet Catalog Accessing
System.   3b

All the user needs to know is: 3c

FIRST POINT: 3d

    From the Mouse, push the leftmost button to point to a line,
    the middle button to point to a word for it's "definition",
    the rightmost button to go back or return,   3d1

    From the Keyboard, type a number to point to a line, type any
    word for it's "definition", or type a backarrow _ to go
    back,   3d2

THEN VIEW: 3e

    From the Mouse, push the middle button for a FULL view
    (verbose, all lines), the leftmost button for a MAP view
    (brief, one line),   3e1

    From the Keyboard, type Carriage return for a FULL view,
    Linefeed for a MAP view,   3e2

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Other capabilities are available with different combinations of
buttons on the mouse and text typed in from the keyboard that add
control as you learn about them [Reference 3]. However, you do
not need these in order to successfully access the Whole Arpanet
Catalog. In fact, an even simpler compatable accessing system
can be used which does the pointing and view specification with
one push of the appropriate button on the mouse.   3f

Among other things, this system allows for almost unlimited
freedom in database format. Though some conventions may be
recomended as being optimum for online viewing and database
maintenance, there are no rigid format restrictions as are
mandatory for the crude query language currently used to access
the old online Resource Notebook.   3g

                 THE WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG DATABASE   4

Table of Contents   4a

    NEWS
    TERMS: The Arpanet Keyword Dictionary, Index, and Thesarus
    SOFTWARE RESOURCES
    HARDWARE RESOURCES
    SITES
    PUBLICATIONS
    PEOPLE: Directory   4a1

    These sections should be cross-indexed and interlinked in a
    network, similar to the NLS Help Database, to provide many
    different paths to, and views of, the information. Each
    section is described in more detail below.   4a2

NEWS   4b

    This section should take the user to the online locations of
    the Supplements to the Hardcopy Whole Arpanet Catalog
    (including the issue in preparation).   4b1

TERMS: The Arpanet keyword dictionary, index, and thesarus.   4c

    This section of the Whole Arpanet Catalog is a necessary part
    of any real information center online accessing system and has
    as it's model (and possible original source), the Network
    related terms in the NLS Help Database.   4c1

SOFTWARE RESOURCES   4d

    This section should be structured for browsing to easily find

THE WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG
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what you want especially if you don't know what Site provides
the program nor what the appropriate program for you is named.
Some possible categories: 4d1

  Network Protocols   4d1a

  Accounting systems
  Analysis systems
  Calculators
  Communication systems
  Documentation Production systems
  Graphics Systems
  Programming Systems   4d1b

This section should be maintained by the database coordinator
from data provided by the sites. It should not only take the
user to information about the programs it classifies, but
should interface to the actual site, software, and Help system
where possible.   4d2

HARDWARE RESOURCES   4e

This section should also be structured for browsing and be
maintained by the database coordinator from data provided by
the sites. It should not only take the user to information
about the hardware, but should directly interface to the
actual computer, accounting mechanisms, and relevant people
where possible (see People, below).   4e1

SITES   4f

This official list of the Hostnames should follow the
established protocols and be updated from information supplied
by ARPA IPTO. The list should contain links off to the online
information, help systems, and other resources, maintained at
each server site by that site.   4f1

For sites that do not yet have software to which the Whole
Arpanet Catalog can interface, arrangements should be made to
provide them disc space and support at Office-1. This service
should probably be of the same form as the old online Resource
Notebook except of course it should be formatted for the much
more flexible query language described above. Support should
be towards eventual complete maintenance of a site's section
by that site.   4f2

The Official List of Host Names should also be available as an

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ASCII sequential file in a format optimal for hardcopy
viewing,   4f3

PEOPLE   4g

Finding a person in the People section of the Whole Arpanet
Catalog should allow you, among other things, to go directly
to   4g1

1. online citations to offline papers and direct online
links to online documents entered by that person (entered
automatically if he uses the NLS journal);   4g1a

2. a TENEX type link to his job if he is logged in;   4g1b

and it should eventually be possible to get directly to   4g1c

3. a message sending system;   4g1d

4. ringing the phone at his current location,   4g1e

These capabilities are logical extentions of the current
IDENTIFICATION subsystem of NLS which allows individual users
to add and modify their own information and already provides
many fields such as, phone number(s), US Mail address, SNDMAIL
address, preferred delivery medium, and so on,   4g2

PUBLICATIONS   4h

Depending on time, CPU, and manpower available, it may be
possible to catalog Arpanet user community documents by
subject or special interest group in this section linking to
the PEOPLE section for author classification and linking to
the TERMS section for titleword classification. This would
probably be limited to items or citations recorded by the NLS
Journal, if done,   4h1

THE HARDCOPY WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG (HWAC)   5

This document should be available in total and by the single
sections described above, HWAC would replace the old Network
Resource Notebook, It should be generated from the Database by
using NLS Output Processor directives. The generating, printing
and mailing costs should be paid for by subscriptions from groups
and individuals on the Arpanet,   5a

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THE SUPPLEMENTS TO THE HARDCOPY WHOLE ARPANET CATALOG (NEWS)   6

These issues should be available quarterly. They would fill the
gap of the now defunct Arpanet News. The generating, printing
and mailing costs should be paid for by subscriptions from groups
and individuals on the Arpanet.   6a

CONCLUSION   7

Refering to the USING Information Management Committee report
[Reference 1], the users of the NIC desire a distributed online
oriented mode of managing information providing easier access to
resources. Servers also want more of a say in how their Site is
represented and with fewer middle-men. Refering to the Help
Documentation committee report [Reference 2], a single coherent
help accessing system interface is desired.   7a

By way of developing the Whole Universe Catalog and NLS Help
database, the information accessing software and database
building techniques have evolved to the point where the needs of
the network users as expressed in the USING committee reports can
and should be met by a single accessing system interface
(software and database) in the form of a Whole Arpanet Catalog.   7b

REFERENCES   8

1. The USING Information Management Committee,
   "Some Initial Suggestions for Network Information
   Management", <OFFICE-1, USING, INFO-DRAFT,>, 9-APR-74   8a

2. The USING Help and Documentation Committee,
   "Network Help Facility: A Discussion of Requirements
   and Potentials", <OFFICE-1, USING, NETHELP,> 29-APR-74.   8b

3. Kelley, Kirk, "The Whole Universe Catalog accessing system",
   <ARC, KELLEY, CATALOG,>.   8c

4. Kelley, Kirk, "The Whole Universe Catalog database",
   <ARC, KELLEY, WUC,>.   8d

5. Kelley, Kirk, "The current status of the Help database",
   <NIC--22743,> 16-APR-74.   8e

6. Kelley, Kirk, "Responses to Nancy's comments on WAC",
   <NIC--21626,> 25-JAN-74.   8f

7. Kelley, Kirk, "In regards to the ARPANET WEC",
   <NIC--21345,> 9-JAN-74.   8g

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8h

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(J22900) 3-MAY-74 21:31;   Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /INFORMAN HELPDOC CF; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC INFORMAN
HELPDOC; Clerk: KIRK;
Origin: (KELLEY, WAC.NLS;4,), 3-MAY-74 18:04 KIRK ;

.PEL; .PN=PN-1; .GCR;Please consider this to be incorporated or
appended to the Information Management / Help and Documentation
Committee Reports,

Background Idents.

A null ident should be allowed for BACKGROUND. If this isn't
possible, then JDH, JCP, and JEW should be allowed.   1

Background Idents.

(J22901)   3-MAY-74 22:39;   Title: Author(s): J. D. Hopper/JDH;
Distribution: /JEW(* action *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
JDH;

your privacy request

Jim ... two directories which should be included in your new privacy
stuff are UK-ICS and NORSAR-TIP. The appropriate idents are in the
identfile under those organization/group names. ... Mike   1

your privacy request

(J22902) 6-MAY-74 10:06; Title: Author(s): Michael D, Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /JEW; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: MDK;

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

The following is a list of rejected suggestions and implemented items
as of May 1, 1974.   1

Rejected Suggestions   2

   JBN Suggestion for Change in Journal Hardcopy Format
   25-NOV-73 20:42 (IJOURNAL, 20492, 1:w)
                                                                           2a

   KIRK NP * DNLS NP Augmented Insert and Combined Move & Replace
   command plan.
   15-FEB-73 16:59 14453-- ?? (IJOURNAL, 14453, 1:w)
                                                                           2b

   KIRK Proposal for a Structural Language that Communicates
   Databases Online
   20-MAY-73 19:16 (IJOURNAL, 16347, 1:w)
                                                                           2c

      KIRK AN NLS INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM %revision of 16347%
      15-JUL-73 20:39 (LJOURNAL, 17815, 1:w)
                                                                          2c1

         Comments: This has been reissued because of renewed interest
         in an NLS Query Language and because of changes in the
         previous version especially in the proposed TNLS command
         syntax.   2c1a

      Comments: This file has been formatted for easy online access
      and is not intended to "flow" if read in hardcopy. Much thanks
      to Mill Jernigan and Dirk vanNouhuys for their comments and
      suggestions.   2c2

   KIRK Inside the TNLS Query Mode
   3-JUN-73 23:59 (IJOURNAL, 17012, 1:W)
                                                                           2d

      HGL Reply to Kirk's (17012,) on Query
      5-JUN-73 08:56 (IJOURNAL, 17042, 1:w)
                                                                          2d1

   KIRK Comment on the idea of
   30-JUL-73 14:37 (LJOURNAL, 18122, 1:w)
                                                                           2e

      HGL Reply to Kirk's query comment (18122,)
      31-JUL-73 09:24 (LJOURNAL, 18134, 1:w)
                                                                          2e1

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

KIRK Response to Harveys considerations (18134,)
31-JUL-73 15:50 (LJOURNAL, 18151, 1:w)

2e2

KIRK Proposed system for handling links in NLS query languages,
4-JUL-73 16:40 (KJOURNAL, 17636, 1:w)

2f

KIRK 20-FEB-74 18:00 22009
A list of six complaints concerning the new nls
Location: (HJOURNAL, 22009, 1:w)

2g

    22-FEB-74 1519-PDT KELLEY: newnls gripe
      Received 22-FEB-74 15:19:16

2g1

    THERE IS NO WAY TO SPECIFY VIEWSPECS WITH THE LOAD FILE
    COMMAND!!

2g1a

Why doesn't the load file commad allow viewspecification as in
the old system?

2g2

JBN would like to see a page with END OF FILE on it at the end of
files being printed that are not immediately followed by another
file in the printer. This is because there is no way of telling
when the printer stops whether it is done or not, and you have to
push form-feed in order to get to your copy.

2h

KIRK Substitution Courtesy
23-MAY-73 19:55 16789 Message:
If you are going to change the NLS Substitute command all around,
the least you could do is let yourself know how many substitutions
have been made BEFORE going ahead and making them so that you can
abort if you got more than you intended. -- A simple courtesy that
is helplessly frustrating otherwise. Have you ever tried to undo
a substitute that substituted too much? It's one of those things
that keeps sno-balling. The more you try to get yourself back
where you started, the more messed up your file becomes.

2i

KIRK DNLS top fourth of screen,

2j

If the name of the current subsystem is going to replace the
date and time, then why move the viewspec feedback area?

2j1

I thought the date and time and maybe even the viewspec area
was going to be accessible through the tty simulation window
instead of being permanent areas. This was so the two line tty

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

simulation window could be lengthened. If this valuable format
is not going to happen, I would like to have the time
underneith the subsystem name, I miss the time,   2j2

KIRK   thoughts about the tty window in new DNLS
5-FEB-74 17:53 (HJOURNAL, 21803, 1:w)

2k

When commands appear in the tty window, how about getting rid
of viewspecs and the subsystem name. They could be readily
available like the time and everything else. Viewspec "?"
would display the current viewspecs, and we already have the
"<" and ">" commands for getting the subsystem,   2k1

This would allow all but except for two lines of the screen to
contain text,   2k2

There are certain things that should not be displayed in the
tty window. Things like file status and other show commands,
I don't think text insertion should show up there because you
couldn't read two lines above what you have written and you
couldn't have automatic backspace reformatting,   2k3

KIRK
5-FEB-74 16:14 21800 Message:
%In the Jump to File Return command. Since "Ahead" went away,
"Return" should be a noise word instead of a Command-word so that
you don't have to type it every time,

21

KIRK   Thoughts about I:, N:, and F:
13-JAN-74 17:15 21376 Message:
 I: and maybe even N: but not F: should be reinstated as prompts,
F: is part of the DAE so it should not be given special treatment,
N: can be confused with one of the nouns for an editing command,
though I think it should be used exclusively in the Journal
subsystem. I won't push it. However, I: is at least as special
as A:. If A: is not going to be replaced by T:, then neither
should I:. Even though both are typed in, one refers to a place
address, and the other refers to a person, or group of person's
identifier(s). Both should be prompted, or a consistent reason
should be given for prompting one, but not the other. I: is
doubly special in that it allows other things besides Idents and
has very special searching instructions that a user needs to
associate with a single prompt. It is almost it's own little
subsystem. Lets give it the recognition it's due,

2m

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

    KIRK Deinstitute Seqgenerator (program) CONFIRM
    could be
    Deinstitute Sequence (generator program) CONFIRM   2n

        %only 6 characters allowed to define uniqueness Sequence--
        conflicts with sequential.%   2n1

    KIRK   19-JUL-73 19:35   17938
    NP for a change in the NIC Directory Generating Programs.
    Location: (LJOURNAL, 17938, 1:w)

                                                                        2o

Executed tasks -- implemented items, fixed bugs, and answered
questions   3

    But not exactly as stated.   3a

        DVN My initial file came up, I said jump to item, option, and
        typed in the name of a statement, "documentation", it went into
        exec with savage remarks like 'R1/FILR\REH
        +11,,S3IFTU+22,=300,,323135 etc. etc.. Later I tried it again
        and it worked O.K.   3a1

        13-DEC-73 1353-PST VANNOUHUYS: Illegal Instruction
        R1,,PSIREG+1 =   1,,232277 at R0 =   0
            Received 13-DEC-73 13:53:27   3a2

        I had split the xcreen and was jumping to link inone of the
        screens; I was fumbled fingered and put in a bunch of
        characters in the address place whi it couldn't understand I
        guess because it bombed me out and said the above.   3a2a

        26-FEB-74 0824-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Fatal Storage shortage error
            Received 26-FEB-74 08:24:41   3a3

        I loaded my initila file, split the screen,loaded a journal
        file on the left, created a secnd file on the right, did a
        little writing, moved the boundry to dismiss the leffthand
        (Journal) file, attempted to load my initial file and got
        that error message along with stuff like "R3/
        DSPBLKK+1746,,R1 =   11110,,1" etc.   3a3a

    NDM 10-APR-74 14:48   22675
    Journal Number Used Twice
    Message: The number 22671 was assigned both to a plex I
    submitted (now in 1journal, a private file) and to a message
    submitted by marcia!

                                                                        3a4

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

                    JDH 10-APR-74 21:43   22700
                    Incorrect Journal numbers 22669-22676
                    Location: (LJOURNAL, 22700, 1:w)

                                                                        3a4a

                    Due to an error in the number system, numbers assigned
                    during the evening of 4-9 and day of 4-10 were incorrect.
                    Change any citations you intend to use to reflect the
                    corrected numbers.   3a4a1

                        original number   author   corrected number   3a4a1a

                            22669   KIRK DVN   22689   3a4a1a1

                            22670   RWW   22690   3a4a1a2

                            22671   NDM   22691   3a4a1a3

                            22673   JBN   22693   3a4a1a4

                            22674   JEW   22694   3a4a1a5

                            22675   NDM   22695   3a4a1a6

                            22676   NDM   22696   3a4a1a7

                    The following people are involved as authors or
                    distributees: 3a4a1b

                        JBN NDM DCE JCN RWW MLK JHB FDBK KIRK JEW SDC2   3a4a1b1

                KIRK 20-FEB-74 18:00   22009
                A list of six complaints concerning the new nls
                Location: (HJOURNAL, 22009, 1:w)

                                                                        3a5

                    When names are turned off, the substitute command writes in
                    garbage and gives you a bad file. (CHI: Ken, this is in
                    running system also. Could you investigate and find out why
                    SUBSTITUTE is sensative to statement name being on or off --
                    it is probably trying to skip over the name and blowing it.
                    Please fix in both systems)   3a5a

                DHC 14-AUG-73 16:34   18410
                Making TNLS more widely available
                Message: The following is a suggestion from Chuck Kline (CSK),
                I almost dismissed it out of hand, but then realized that I was
                not sure of the arguments against it: 3a6

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

Making TNLS, sans ident or journal systems, available as a
standart Tenex subsystem, This of course assumes that NLS
does not have horrible hooks furied into Tenex, I guess it
would also require (perhaps) distribution of the Output
Processor as well,   3a6a

Thoughts? (CHI: After XNLS is moved to be the running
system to Office=1, we should be able to give it out to all
tenex's,)

==Dave,
                                                                             3a6b

KIRK Entering capital viewspecs from the mouse and keyset, an
alternative to (20425,) (CHI: Being done)
   I re=propose the following:
OXX for CONTROL CASE=SHIFT instead of XXX,
XOX for lowercase viewspecs in addition to XXO,
XXX for uppercase viewspecs (XOX + OXO),
OXO for capital=shift with all others would remain the same,
X = mouse buttons held down while a keyset chord is typed,
O = mouse buttons left up,   3a7

Comments: NOW, while the command language is being changed,
is the time to again (see 18FEB==14492,) request ordering
the functions of the mouse buttons in a logical way to
effectively use the available alternatives and allow input
of capital viewspecs, In the new language, in order to
input a capital viewspec from the keyset and mouse, one must
type at the least "<SP>sev" (four characters), A step
backwards from the old language where typing only "v" was
necessary,   3a7a

KIRK The second level command recognition key should be
visible in TNLS %DCW will allow setting this character in
user=options subsystem%   3a8

I suggest period instead of space be used in expert
recognition to get to second level commands, Besides the
advantage of being visible in TNLS, it is easier to type on
the keyset, easy to represent in command summaries, and
consistent with the convention for second level commands
(structural=relationships) in the DAE, The TNLS command
that shows your position by statement number and character
count could use comma instead of period, A dissadvantage
this is that a period is not as easy to type as space on a
keyboard, I feel this fails to outweigh the advantages,   3a8a

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JMB 1-MAR-74 20:13 22167
New TNLS problem
Location: (HJOURNAL, 22167, 1:w)

3a9

Problems using a simple content analysis filter in New TNLS: 3a9a

In Editor, I gave the Set Filter To command, typing in
the pattern   3a9a1

I then did Set Filter On   3a9a2

I set viewspec i on,   3a9a3

When I printed my branch, none of the contents were
filtered out!   3a9a4

In programs, I did a Show Status, and it said my buffer
indeed had the correct thing at the top of the "Stack of
compiled programs"
"None" was printed after each "...program for display
area!"   3a9a5

Can you get someone to diagnose my problem fairly soon,
since I've been trying for two weeks to do a simple
content analysis in xnls for a specific purpose???   3a9a6

DHC 8-MAR-74 17:07 30201
USING idents
Message: What happened to the NETBAGRIPES and NETCOMMENTS
idents??? %Have never been requested%

3a10

KIRK ViewSpec b (add one level) when used while viewspec c is
in effect (ALL levels), should work as viewspecs eb (current
level plus one more) instead of resulting in 0 levels, I
thought this was a bug in the old command language that would
not be carried over in the new command language, Some bugs
with viewspec e and 0 levels were fixed, How about changing
this as well? If someone ever really wanted 0 levels, they
could get there with viewspecs da, JMB points out that
viewspec a at ALL levels should result in the equivalent of
viewspecs ea instead of 62,   3a11

When you specify viewspecs eb, (e = the current level at the
top of the screen, b = add one more level), the feedback
says R+1 (why not e+1?), Sometimes it computes this level
and places that in the viewspec feedback area and the level

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clipping stays at that value until you enter new viewspecs,
At other times, R+1 stays in the viewspec feedback area and
everytime you jump, it recomputes a new level. This feature
is very handy, but there is no consistant way of knowing
which will happen. I propose that whenever the viewspecs
are specified in a Jump command, that they recompute R+1
each time until other level clipping viewspecs are added.
At any other time, (i,e, Set Viewspecs command and double
mouse buttons) I propose that R+1 compute the level once and
remain at that level until other level clipping viewspecs
are added,   3a11a

KIRK 24=JAN=74 17:28   21606
Time and <control=t>
Message: Having the time given with <control=t> is one of the
most logical little features I've seen added except for taking
away the connect time, I't makes analysis more difficult and
seems unnecessary. <control=t> when one is not running a
subsystem need not give the date and time, There is a seperate
command for that, So why not reinstate the connect time and
place the Date and time like so?,

PROCESSING SUSPENDED AT 164674 24=JAN=74 17:04
LOAD 4,40, USED 0:02:57,8 IN 0:20:09

It all fits nicely in the DNLS tty window, it's easier to read,
it contains all of the information associated with time, and it
looks better,

                                                                    3a12

Exactly as stated
(Documenters should be able to trust these items)   3b

  17=DEC=73 2032=PST VANNOUHUYS: Guess
    Received 17=DEC=73 20:32:10   3b1

      I just treid to use <control=i> to repeat a content searc ad
      it went into a loop,or so it seemed,   3b1a

  DVN 7=JAN=73
  Display won't recreate without doing viewspec f,   3b2

  DVN 7=JAN=73
  Get "Possibly fatal display error" message before refreshing
  display   3b3

  24=JAN=74 0820=PDT VANNOUHUYS: XNLS Problem
    Received 24=JAN=74 08:20:49   3b4

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When I go into xnls, my screen says editor in the upper left
corner, and otherwise remains completely blank.   3b4a

KIRK 22-MAR-74 09:07   22466
Move Boundary Bug
Message: If you split a window vertically, and then
horizontally, you sometimes cannot move the vertical boundary
because it acts as if it thinks you bugged the horizontal
boundary and moves it instead.
*****Note: * action * *****
                                                                   3b5

HGL 27-MAR-74 09:19   22502
New NLS Jump to Link Bug
Message: Links to journal items which should go to statement 1
go to thhe origin ignoring the explicit statemnt number
specification in the link in the new NLS.
                                                                   3b6

 3-APR-74 1944-PDT VANNOUHUYS: New Catastrophes from the
XOutput processr
    Distribution: LEE
    Received at: 3-APR-74 19:44:38   3b7

    It said "ILLEGAL INSTRUCTION   OPRTXT =   165601
        at "NLSLANJZJSEND =   413206"" etc, etc and bombed me
    int exec   3b7a

KIRK 26-MAR-74 16:51   22491
Sendmail problems
Location: (JJOURNAL, 22491, 1:w)
                                                                   3b8

Comments: Obsoletes 22467   3b8a

%Fixed% The show status command in the Sendmail subsystem
doesn't show all the status and leaves the user at ...   3b8b

There are no first level "r" commands.   3b8c

The Statement and Plex commands are not available for use.   3b8d

A comment more than a few (6?) lines long gets the "Exceed
Capacity" message.   3b8e

I find I cannot use CA in the Number command to get the
number of the item.   3b8f

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I also find I cannot determine the number of my previous
journal item to say that this updates it,   3b8g

Interrogate in DNLS gets prompting messed up and says "not
implemented",   3b8h

DHC 19=APR=74 17:48   30502
Nic Locator
Message: Once again, the Nic locator catalog has proved
useless, The indices are offline and I can't even use
Interrogate to get them back,

                                                                         3b9

DVN 22=APR=74 22:03   22793
reference to undefined interpreter variable
Location: (LJOURNAL, 22793, 1:w)

                                                                         3b10

  • • • •   3b10a

when I treid to set case mode to upper it gave me taht error
message,   3b10b

=======   3b10c

                                                                         3b10d

21=MAR=74 2210=PDT KELLEY: interesting bug with transpose
text
    Distribution: LEE, wallace, irby, victor
    Received at: 21=MAR=74 22:10:43   3b11

It seems to always not update one of the statements on the
screen if
you are transposing text between two statements, (order may
be important), Recreating the screen fixes it,   3b11a

KIRK 22=MAR=74 09:10   22467
Sendmail problems
Message: The show status command in the Sendmail subsystem
doesn't show all the status and leaves the user at ...
*****Note: * action * *****

                                                                         3b12

30=MAR=74 2132=PDT BECK: Xnls,sav:78
    Distribution: FEEDBACK, wallace, victor
    Received at: 30=MAR=74 21:32:50   3b13

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30-MAR-74 2245-PDT BECK: Further on XNLS,SAV;78
    Distribution: FEEDBACK, wallace, victor
    Received at: 30-MAR-74 22:45:04   3b13a

    That SDDA Jsys error,,,,stuff applies to all instances of
    T:/[A]:   in TNLS- - - - - THis version of New TNLS
    unusable   3b13a1

29-MAR-74 2117-PDT VANNOUHUYS: SDDA Jsys error, CLRSEDA -
    Distribution: LEE
    Received at: 29-MAR-74 21:17:01   3b13b

    I was workin in xtnls, had just come in, printed a plex,
    went to user options and turned off propmpting,Treid to
    insert a statement, After the second command acept (just
    before I would have begun to put in text) it started
    printing out that wrror message, 10 times in less than a
    minute, I hit control c and sent this,   3b13b1

29-MAR-74 2120-PDT VANNOUHUYS: SDDA etc,
    Distribution: LEE
    Received at: 29-MAR-74 21:20:23   3b13c

    I just returned to xnls, immediately treid ot insert a
    staement at the same ppoint, and the same thing happened,
    But I made a mistake in the accound before, It happened
    when I inserted the first character of text, which was 3, 3b13c1

29-MAR-74 2122-PDT VANNOUHUYS: SDDA etc etc,
    Distribution: LEE
    Received at: 29-MAR-74 21:22:49   3b13d

    I just went back and got that message when I tried to
    load file, I'M going to retuttn to plain nls, The version
    is 78   3b13d1

XNLS,SAV;78 is Buggy!!!
The errormessage:
    SDDA Jsys error, CLRSEDA - T:/[A]:
prints over and over again until I type <control-c> and
Reset--
when I type ANYTHING after command-term File
and ANYTHING after command-term Show in Help subsystem,   3b13e

JMB 7-MAR-74 21:16   22357
New DNLS--Null content in Set Name Delimiters command
Message: DNLS--
Set Name Delimiters command doesn't take <control-n> for null

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content either (reference to Useroptions Control command)!
If it never will, please let me know, Thanks, Jeanne B, (CHI:
Ken, I thought this was fixed???)

3b14

JMB 20-DEC-73 18:00   21149
New TNLS confusion
Message:
1, I did Show File Marker list--
   and got the info for default directory
2, I then marked a character
3, I repeated Show File Marker list--
   and it showed my marker correctly
4, I deleted the marker
5, I did Show File Marker list--
   and it still shows my marker
%Fixed% [I can't tell if it really deleted it because the jump
to marker DAE element isn't working]   3b15

DCE   7-MAR-74 17:36   22351
 NLS doesn't treat my NAME-string as a Name
Message: Dear Bughunters: Two statements, (engelbart, work,
083:e1) and 084 for some reason don't get treated right. Their
hash codes apparently aren't set (Jump Name doesn't find them),
and also, VSPEC D doesn't recognize them, I've tried editing
the statement, to get NLS's attention as it were, and every
other trick I can think of,   Got any good words??

3b16

DVN 16-JAN-74 21:45   14572
9 Little XNLS problems
Location: (GJOURNAL, 14572, 1:w)

3b17

    When I attempted to show directory for file <kournal> 11163,
    which I had loaded, by bugging the words, it said "illegal
    file name", %This requires link syntax%   3b17a

    When I split the screen vertically, then jumped to item so
    that the same thing was being displayed on both sides, then
    jumped to tail on one side, and then attempted to jump to
    tail on the other side it gave me an error message about
    illegal numbers of some kind,   3b17b

KIRK 1-FEB-74 12:03   21722
BUG in the freeze statement command
%Not a bug--viewspecs are relevant to manner in which statement
will be displayed in frozen window, not to whether it will be

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displayed%Message: The freeze statement command in the new
system (and old) allows a place for specifying viewspecs, but
when I specify the viewspecs "of" the frozen statement is not
displayed.

3b18

DVN 7-JAN-74 NEW TNLS problems
Some viewspecs (m,I,G) carry forward, others (lines and levels)
reset following each command. %Set viewspecs are permanent,
viewspecs in Print are only for that print command%   3b19

    DVN Since viewspecs are reset each time this is more of a
    problem than a feature.   3b19a

JMB 20-DEC-73 17:53   21148 %CHI%
Another DAE failure
Message: New TNLS does not recognize   #marker
in an address expression

3b20

    DVN 19-MAR-74 09:12 22419
    Xnls Link Addressing Still Fails On Markers
    Message: Try, for example, (vanNouhuys,dvn,#j).

3b20a

    DVN 7-JAN-74 TNLS problem:
     Show Marker List doesn't work and Markers don't work in
    addreses, %first half fixed%   3b20b

JMB 1-MAR-74 21:52 22170
Please change spelling in <NLS>SYNTAX
Message: In CML, for the Useroptions subsystem, would you
please change the spelling of the command-word "Hearald" to
"Herald"? Thanks

3b21

JMB 1-MAR-74 20:28 22168
Problems with the AE in New TNLS:
Location: (HJOURNAL, 22168, 1:w)

3b22

    What do you do in an Address Expression to point to the
    second instance in the statement of "   (double quote)?   3b22a

       1. The following element:
              '"=2c
       and:
              '"=3c

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          all get me only the first double quote mark in the
          statement,   3b22a1

          2, Doing a content search on the string of characters
          ending witth the second double quote mark, thus:
              "ograms""
          is not understood by the system,   3b22a2

      Can you make a suggestion?   3b22b

28-FEB-74 1328-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Quickprint bug
   Received 28-FEB-74 13:28:39   3b23

      Quickprint seems to be starting at the sucesor of the
      statement at thetop of the screen,   3b23a

 8-JAN-74 1037-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Glad to see I can reach you
again
   Received 8-JAN-74 10:37:39   3b24

      Altmode doesn't seem to work today in load file,   3b24a

 8-JAN-74 1147-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Illegal Group
   Received 8-JAN-74 11:47:15   3b25

      I just attemppted to substitute two visisbles in a brach and
      got that error message, It's happened before,   3b25a

10-JAN-74 0916-PDT VANNOUHUYS: No first carriage return
   Received 10-JAN-74 09:16:52   3b26

      It seems to be impossilbe to put in carriage return into
      WORK as the first thing following T: 3b26a

DLS 15-JAN-74 15:29 21420
Control B problems in New NLS
Message: Control B at the end of insert commands acts like a
control H, ie it backspaces a character rather than repeating
the insert command,,,,bug????

                                          3b27

   15-JAN-74 1515-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Viewspce B
     Received 15-JAN-74 15:15:53   3b27a

      It does not seem to be working in newnnls,   3b27a1

DVN 16-JAN-74 21:45 14572
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Location: (GJOURNAL, 14572, 1:w)

3b28

Move Link doesn't seem to work right, It puts a space infront of the link but does not move it,

3b28a

Links that contain only viespecs do nothing, This makes locator very dificult to use,

3b28b

When I try to set filter to pattern it says "No existing block with name LOCAL",

3b28c

JMB 1=MAR=74 20:30   22169
Problems with the AE in New TNLS (the 2nd):
Message: The address element:
        ,w   (jump to word)
takes me to the origin of my file from anywhere in that file,
It does this also when I use a number before the w
Makes Transpose Word, or Insert, etc, very difficult to use in
TNLS!

3b29

15=FEB=74 1427=PDT KELLEY: Jump to Back command
    Received 15=FEB=74 14:27:47

3b30

It dosn't jump to the right statement, It's something random to me, I can't see any pattern to where it jumps except that it isn't back,

3b30a

KIRK 20=FEB=74 17:57 22008
 %Other parts of this file are in the NP,implemented, and bug
branch%The most immediate bugs from several intensive sessions
in XNLS
Location: (HJOURNAL, 22008, 1:w)

3b31

Copy sequential says "illegal string destination"

3b31a

Insert group says "Illegal string designation" when bugging the group,

3b31b

The repeat character doesn't work after typein in the insert, replace, or append commands,

3b31c

It takes 2 CA's to get out of viewspec status mode,

3b31d

Insert Branch doesn't work when addressing the source,

3b31e

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The default address for a link containing no address, only
viewspecs, should be the statement containing the link. The
arc and nic locators operate on this principle. Currently
the CM doesn't move.   3b31f

"Jump to Item <=U> name <SP> .1 CA CA" takes you to the
name, but does not jump to the link contained in the named
statement. The arc and nic locators operate on this
principle.   3b31g

SRL 4=JAN=73 %KEV%
There seems to be some problem with numbers. When trying to
edit a filename which happened to be a number, it said illegal
number.   3b32

JMB 19=FEB=74 22:14   21988
TNLS Insert problems
Location: (HJOURNAL, 21988, 1;w)

                                                                  3b33

Three basic problems with the Insert command in New TNLS:
19=FEB=74   3b33a

Why won't Insert Statement let me give a <control=b> or
<ESC> to repeat the command (I know about <control=e> and
agree that works, but...)? It takes the RpT character
and puts it in the text as <control=b>, and then inserts
a repetition of the last character I input before the
RPT!   3b33a1

Why does Insert Word insert the word at the end of the
statement when I've given an address within the
statement, or left the CM at the beginning?????   3b33a2

Insert STRING commands are still asking for Level !   3b33a3

KIRK 28=FEB=74 20:44   22175 %Other parts of this suggestion may
be found in the NP and bugs branch%
Bugs or Features? II
Location: (HJOURNAL, 22175, 1;w)

                                                                  3b34

A bug that stops work in the Help Database:
Output Quick Print doesn't print the first statement. In
the help database, that top node contains all of the crucial
information.   3b34a

Move Link (such as: (Return)) does really wierd things.

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Like putting it in a different place from where you bug or
saying illegal link at the destination selection,   3b34b

JI   Output Processor Cue Card
4-NOV-73 22:29 20042 Message:
This is a mini-suggestion for the construct of an Output
Processor Cue card like the NLS cue card that was distributed
several months ago, In using the Output Processor, I find it a
great annoyance and real handicap to always "thumb" through the
manual to obtain the appropriate directives, I feel sure that
many people react the same way and would be very appreciative
to have such a cue card constructed and mad available,

Would invite your consideration of this request, The few people
I have mentioned it to would also like to have copies if they
were available, Thanks,,,,,,,,Jean

                                                                      3b35

DVN We should be able to Print Lists of Archived files,
21-MAY-73 08:28 16698 Message:
Since many directories of archived files are now past screen
length, many past two or three screen lengths, it sure would be
nice if lpt were a subcomand of the interrogate group or in
some other way we could print out the files archived in a given
directory,

                                                                      3b36

KEV Established user program library
21-FEB-73 21:37 14715 Message:
now that we have go to program get rel file we should
establish a new directory for maintaining a library of user
programs in rel format and the appropriate documentation,

                                                                      3b37

DHC LCONNECTING NLS TO THE MAIL SYSTEM
26-JUN-73 13:06 17480 Message:
THIS HAS NO DOUBT OCCURRED TO OTHERS, BUT ,,,   3b38

It would be nice to be able to send a journal message to
someone who does not have a journal ident, Probably the
easiest way to implement this would be to specify the
person's name and address at Distribution time,   3b38a

I recognize that the goal is to Journalize everybody (or at
least, it would be nice) but this doesn't seem reasonable
now, Therefore, it should be made easy to use the Workshop
tools to talk to people not 'hard-wired' to the workshop,   3b38b

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    The suggested ability seems to me to be very simple for
    simple enough, yet useful enough, to justify the work that
    would be necessary, (besides, I can't stand typrewriters,
    now that I have been indoctrinated to nls, And licking
    envelopes is a drag, too),

                                                            3b38c

    KEV protection of partial copies
    25-APR-73 20:27 16215 Message:
     partial copies aught to be created with the same protection as
    the file to which they belong

                                                            3b39

    MDK * Suggestion for a reset viewspecs command
    14-FEB-73 7:41 14429 Message:
     One comment by a person at the recent TNLS course, which I
    think it is worthwhile to pass on: it would be nice to have a
    command which resets all viewspecs to their default values,
    This is especiially useful for beginners, who don't know all
    the viewspecs anyway, and also useful I think for display users
    (like me) who make ungodly mistakes in typing and wind up with
    unwanted viewspec settings, most of which I don't even know I
    have set,

                                                            3b40

    JMB New TNLS suggestion and comment
    26-DEC-73 12:38 21196   %KEV% Message:
     Requested grammar change in command feedback for TNLS Trim and
    Undelete commands:
    Make it print, "Trimmed Files are: ,,,"
    instead of,   "Trimmed File are: ,,,"
    and, "Undeleted Files are: ,,,"
    not, "Undeleted File are: ,,,"
    Incidently, I really appreciate these lists being printed for
    these commands,

                                                            3b41

    JMB   Change "Quit SUBSYSTEM" to "Quit To SUBSYSTEM"--first
    choices in Command then would be: 3b42

        Quit CONFIRM   3b42a

        Quit Nls ,,,   3b42b

        Quit To ,,,   3b42c

        KIRK: TO should not be a ""noun" as stated above, it should
        be a noise word,   3b42d

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KIRK Jump to return from one side of a split screen to another
does not put you back in the file where you left it, but
instead, puts you at the origin statement,

jump return-- True,   A feature, (!?)   Should this be changed?   3b43

24-JAN-74 0820-PDT VANNOUHUYS: XNLS Problem
   Received 24-JAN-74 08:20:49   3b44

   When I go into xnls, my screen says editor in the upper left
   corner, and otherwise remains completely blank,   3b44a

 6-FEB-74 2155-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Subsytems don't work
   Received 6-FEB-74 21:55:27   3b45

   Whenever I try to go into any subsystem from XNLS, it says
   "subsystem stack overflow,,,"   3b45a

 6-FEB-74 0817-PDT VANNOUHUYS: File Numbers do not Match in
Pushring
   Received 6-FEB-74 08:17:41   3b46

   So I logged in te morning an read my journal mail, jumping
   to files and back and deleteing the statements after I read
   the items,Then I inserted a statement, The next thing I
   tried to do was delte another statement, Instead I got the
   error mesage that titlesthis report, I decided, perhaps
   foolisly, that update compact might help, I was suspended,
   I did a <control-c>, reset, am sending this message, Then I
   will try to log in again, Will I have an initila file? Tune
   in tomorrow,   3b46a

DVN 7-JAN-74 NEW TNLS prblems
Quit puts you in TENEX OK, but with "Illegal Instruction" and a
lot of location shit,   3b47

DVN 7-JAN-74 New TNLS problems
 Content analyser patterns don't seem to work in links,,,,In a
print cmmand they yeilded the curious response: "No existing
block with name LOCAL _ A: V:" and then accepted the viewspec
and printed the current statement,   3b48

11-JAN-74 1119-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Fancy Sndmsg
   Received 11-JAN-74 11:19:06   3b49

   DVN 15-JAN-74 12:56   21413
   Problem with Copy Sequential
   Message: (When I treid, via various options, to copy

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ssequnetial on the file: VANNOUHUYS, SUSAN.TXT;1,)It tolde
me "illega string designation",

3b49a

<VANNOUHUYS>SUSAN.NLS;1, 11-JAN-74 11:16 DVN ; When I did
work I got an NLS with the lower half of my screen blank,
The viewspec feedback line was more useful than it has ever
been   before because it told me the viewspecs were 0 16
hjvDP,   But when I had straightened out my viewspecs,
and tried to type in   a command, it just took command
letters (leavint them caps)   indefinitely,   0
recognition mode?   I gave up via <control-c>, Later
I got into work OK, wrote the first branch of this message,
and tried to do output sequential on it, It said "illegal
string designation"

3b49b

DVN 16-JAN-74 21:45   14572
9 Little XNLS Problems
Location: (GJOURNAL, 14572, 1;w)

3b50

I find the information about how long I've been on more
useful than the timeof day, I check the ration of CPU to
clock tim on various occasions; I know the time of day,

3b50a

Freeze statement doesn't work,

3b50b

Move Link doesn't seem to work right, It puts a space
infront of the link but does not move it,

3b50c

When I do jump file return and say no to the first file it
offeres me, it gives m an error message an won't return me
any further, Either "illegal file return ring" or, that
loveliest of all messages, "Exceed capacity",

3b50d

When I attempted to show directory for file <kournal> 11163,
which I had loaded, by bugging the words, it said "illegal
file name",

3b50e

When I try to set filter to pattern it says "No existing
block with name LOCAL",

3b50f

DVN 21-JAN-74 12:48   14571
XNLS Doesn't Grow as Smoothly as Tulips
Location: (GJOURNAL, 14571, 1;w)

3b51

I logged in, went into NLS, loaded three or four files in

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succession, then jumped back and forth once between the last
two, When I attempted to jump file return to the third from
last it would only show me the names of the last two, When I
tried to load the third from last by name it said "illegal
statement in return ring,"...1/21/8:30,   3b51a

I'm really glad markers work in the old way after jump
to,.....1/21/8:45,   3b51b

Links that contain only a marker,e.g, (,#marker) don't work,
The system says " #marker ?"....1/21/8:45,   3b51c

JMB 4-FEB-74 12:51   21783
problems today (Feb 4) with X-TNLS
Message: There seem to be some bad glitches in the recognition
modes for new TNLS today (Feb 4):
I couldn't get at the Protect command in Expert; I changed to
Fixed and got a different list of commands if I typed a
question mark right after the herald than if I typed a space
and then ?, though I couldn't get to Protect at all in either
case though it was listed, I then changed to Anticipatory--as
soon as I typed a "p" I got "Playback" and could get neither
Print nor Protect! I also could not get out of Anticipatory
mode because I couldn't do "Set Recognition",....very
frustrating,
                                                                          3b52

17-DEC-73 2036-PST VANNOUHUYS: still trying   %DIA%
    Received 17-DEC-73 20:36:48   3b53

    So I tried again, This time I jumped to link and put the
    string of content in the link with viewspec K, "No esxisting
    block with name LOCAL" it replied and bombed me out,   3b53a

NDM 26-DEC-73 09:07   21185   %DIA%
content analyzer
Message: There is a bug in the cmmad "set Filter To" (content
analyzer patterns) which displays the error message "No
existing bock wit name LOCAL", Also, why can't you type in a
content analyzer pattern from the programs subsstem "Compile
Content analyzer" or some such Command?
                                                                          3b54

12-dec-73   %KEV% DVN - Tried to write on a file which he did
not have access to; Took him to the exec with illegal
instruction blap   3b55

JMB New TNLS complaint %Extention problem fixed%

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as of May 1, 1974

18-DEC-73 11:04 20947 Message:
Load File (in TNLS) will not take anything but a complete filename with extension and version (gives an archive message). Will you fix it soon to take altmode or stars?

3b56

12-DEC-73 2056-PST VANNOUHUYS: the usual %DSK%
Received 12-DEC-73 20:56:02

3b57

(This was preceded by a large substitute) I was working along quietly with split screens when when I jumped to item and it said something about the display truncating and wouldn't respond to any inpput characters until I happened to hit <control-o> when it began grooving again. This things wwent one smoothly for a few more jumpps until it suddenly said "fatal storage shoratage error" and would takes nothing but <control-c> That's where I am now.

3b57a

4-DEC-73 1353-PST VANNOUHUYS: xnls fuckup %DSK%
Received 4-DEC-73 13:53:21

3b58

I went into xnls, immediately jumped on al link to a journal item. I got a blanks screen. After a long time I trid a virespec F. It replied "try nonexistant". I treid to jump to file return. It said "NLS display error". The I did control C and sent you this message.

3b58a

JMB 12-DEC-73 16:23 20864
Re Append command
Message: Append command:
Could we have some noise word to indicate what is wanted when the prompt (in DNLS) T:/B:/[A] appears (the second time) expecting an LSEL of the stuff to insert between he appendees. At one point in a scenario, when the prompt is B:/[A:, the feedback line shows "Append Statement at to"; then you give your bug, then the prompt changes to T:/B:/[A] but the feedback line still holds at "Append Statement at to". This could be made more clear. At this point I understood that typing <control-n> would be available as an alternative to SP BC. If this is still what's planned (it's what I've documented), it would be nice to have a noise word like:
    "insert between (type <control-n> for null typein)"
or something shorter if necessary, appear when ready for the LSEL.
Thanks, Jeanne B.

3b59

JMB 20-DEC-73 17:50 21146 %CHI%

Rejected suggestions and implemented items submitted by ARC users as
of May 1, 1974

New Nls suggestion
Message: In the new NLS the show file status command should
print
"Try an Update File Compact command to improve % used"
instead of
"Try an Output File ..."

3b60

DVN 7-JAN-74 NEW TNLS problem
<control-b> at the end of a command does not make the command
repeat as in DNLS. It would be very useful in the sytem where
you have to wait for characters to type.

3b61

JMB 26-DEC-73 12:41   21197
new tnls suggestion
Message: In TNLS, can we get Update File command to print the
new filename?

3b62

JMB 20-DEC-73 17:53   21148 %CHI%

3b63

    First level commands not available in second level

3b63a

        It was my impression when the concept of typing <SP> in
        front of a command was accepted, that it was in order to
        allow the most commands available with the least ammount
        of typing necessary by the user. Meaning that in expert
        mode, after a <SP> had been typed, all of the OTHER
        commands would be available with anticipatory
        recognition. Instead, I find the command I had just
        "spaced" out of is still available resulting in extra
        keys to be typed and buying me nothing. Will one of the
        recognition modes do what I originally thought would
        happen? YES

3b63a1

SRL 4-JAN-73
To get rid of the split screen you have to reset in the exec

3b64

SRL 4-JAN-73
When the screen is split and you jump to a link, you get a
message about a problem with return ring.

3b65

23-JAN-74 13:51

3b66

    <Control-Q> placement in the HELP DATABASE

3b66a

        <Control-Q> before a Command verb is specified should
        take the user to the NLSCOMMANDS branch under CONCEPTS.

3b66a1

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of May 1, 1974

<Control-Q> immediately after a verb should take the user
to the Command-term in the FUNCTION branch as a show
command,   3b66a2

<Control-Q> after a noun-type should take the user to the
noun-type under the verb Command-term in the FUNCTION
branch as a show command (e.g. print the path name
including the verb), <Control-Q> at any prompt or prompt
alternatives after the second C: should print the
function branch and then before the welcome message,
automatically type out: Show also $VARIABLE, Where
VARIABLE = the name(s) of the concept(s) that define the
prompt(s) at the point the user typed <^Q>,   3b66a3

The Help welcome message should appear after the branch
indicated by the placement of <Control-Q> has been
printed,   3b66a4

   should it read   3b66a4a

      Type ? to determine your current alternatives,   3b66a4a1

         or   3b66a4a1a

      Type <control-q> for help with Help,   3b66a4a2

   what should ? give at this point?   3b66a4b

      Show ? |to find out more|
      Quit <CR> |to return to where you typed
      <control-q>|
      < <CR> |to return to your last point in HELP|
      <Control-Q> |for a detailed explination of
      HELP query language| 3b66a4b1

   ? at other points should give more commands? fewer
   comments?   3b66a4c

   Careful thought from this point of view should be
   given for what <control-q> will give at this point,   3b66a4d

8-JAN-74 1152-PDT VANNOUHUYS: Freak State of the day|
%Resulted from DCW redoing new NLS%
Received 8-JAN-74 11:52:49   3b66b

After the last message I sent you I typped work <cr> and
got, an astrisk at the margin, I was not in TNLS however,
whatever I could think of to do it would rely only "GTJFN

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Old File Required". Now I am going t try a reset. If you
don't hear frm me I suceeded.   3b66b1

JMB 20-DEC-73 17:52   21147 %KEV%
New TNLS error
Message; I get an error message when I try to Show Disk
space;
"Illegal String Designation"
                                                                3b66c

DVN 7-JAN-74   NEW TNLS prblems   %KEV%
When I asked "Show Directory" for everything, it gaave me
only account numbers.   3b66d

DVN 7-JAN-73 %KEV%
Did a copy directory command and it missed some files. SRL
has a printout of the example.   3b66e

JMB 20-DEC-73 16:17   21144
New TNLS thing not working
Message; The TNLS address element for "jump to file return"
-- .fr -- was not understood. I had to reload the file.
                                                                3b66f

DVN 7-JAN-73
Keep getting the message "Illegal Return Ring ..." after
changing files and doing something.   3b66g

KIRK Error message;   3b66h

   "File Locking Conflict" should read
   "File Modification Conflict".   3b66h1

KIRK Change the Insert STRUCTURE command to work like copy
and move so that when bugging a SOURCE instead of typing, it
doesn't require an extra command accept to get out of the
LEVELADJUST.   3b66i

JMB 12-DEC-73 18:03   20868
Re Jump to Name--SUGGESTIONS
Message; (1)
In DNLS, Change prompt after Jump to Name from CA;/C; to
B;/C; because your choice at that point is really between a
Bug (which elsewhere is prompted B;) or one of the
command-words Only, First, Next,
Also, I think the name read should be fed back immediately
after you bug it (this is re choice Bug after Name)
(2) Jump to Name Only should be changed to Jump to Name Any

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if that's what it does when that name exists more than once
in the file
==Jeanne B,

3b66j

JMB 13=DEC=73 11:36   20879
XNLS complaint
Message: Jump to File Return locates me at a seemingly
random address in the old file; can the old one be recreated
exactly?

3b66k

DVN 14=DEC=73 15:57   20908
Another Way to Cut Down on the Number of Times You have to
Hit the Option Character
Message: Following the reasoning of (20895), since I
normally jump to statemens on the screen with "jump to" and
use "jump to item" only to reach offscreen statements, I
would like to see address an alternative rather than an
option following item,

3b66l

JMB Comment on links
12=DEC=73 12:09 20857 Message:
 XNLS would not jump to link in one of my files; I changed
their delimiters from anglebrackets to parentheses and then
they worked, Comment: If there is a direct relationship
here, it implies that I have to changes scores of links in
many files, Surely this is not true!!??!

3b66m

13=DEC=73 0948=PST VANNOUHUYS: xtnls for a change
    Received 13=DEC=73 09:48:57   3b66n

    I went from Xdnls to xtnls via simulate terminal, Then I
    quit, Instead of nicely giving me TENEX in spit our stuff
    about illengal instructions, in particulr at "R1,,PSIREG
    +   =   1,232277"   3b66n1

18=DEC=73 0820=PST VANNOUHUYS: markers as links
    Received 18=DEC=73 08:20:40   3b66o

    In the new NLS links to markers (e,g, <,#jr> which is
    alink to a branch marked "jr" in my initial fle, don't
    work, That is if you say jump too link and bug the thing
    above, it replies #jr? Even though the link iss still
    there and it works in old nls,   3b66o1

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JMB   New TNLS complaint   %Altmode not to be implemented for some time%
18=DEC=73 11:04 20947 Message:
 Load File (in TNLS) will not take anything but a complete filename with extension and version (gives an archive message). Will you fix it soon to take altmode or stars?

3b66p

JMB   Bug in new TNLS
17=DEC=73 11:34 20930 Message:
 1.   Copy Word asked me for a Level=adjust (L:)!!!!
2.   The insert visible command did the same thing.
Note: I used both of these in TNLS.

3b66q

JMB
18=DEC=73 11:06 20948 Message:
 Same TNLS bug: Move Character asked me "L:" and waited instead of confirming the command as it should have at that point.

3b66r

Output Quickprint   3b66s

JMB 18=DEC=73 11:08   %Done%   20949
Suggested change in new TNLS
Message: The prompt after specifying "Print" in TNLS should be "OK/C:" and not "CA/C:" because you may actually end the command after Print with REPEAT or INSERT.

3b66t

Executed by default (feature of new CML)   3c

   DVN 25=APR=74 03:36   22831
   Can't Get into NewNLS
   Location: (LJOURNAL, 22831, 1:w)

3c1

   - - - -   3c1a

   <rel= etc. yeilds "ILLEGAL INSTRUCTION TRAP IN EXEC   3c1b

   PC 10761   ACS 400001 0 0" etc. "work" yields   "ILLEG INST 0
   AT 1"   3c1c

   =======   3c1d

                                                                    3c1e

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JMB 20-DEC-73 16:31   21145
New TNLS confusion
Message: I was in TNLS in fixed recognition mode and assumed, wen prompted Y:/N:, that my input would be interpreted as any other command word in fixed mode, so I typed "no". It wouldn't take the "o" and didn't echo anything, Which way will Yes and No work when you fix them?

3c2

12-FEB-74 1829-PDT   JERNIGAN: XNLS
   cc: jernigan
   Received 12-FEB-74 18:29:57   3c3

   Susan -
   I have some questions: 3c3a

   (1) I tried XNLS for the first time tonight with some rather
   weird results, I spent half an hour trying to find the
   thing, Tried all possible
   permutations of NLS, XNLS, <NLS>nls,
   <xnls>nls, <xnls>xnls, <relnls>nls, <relnls>xnls, and
   finally hit on
   <rel-nls>xnls, (Who would have thought about a hyphen in the
   dir
   name?)   3c3b

   Once I got into the thing I had additional (mis?)adventures,
   (2) my greeting from the elusive <rel-nls>Xnls was EDI C:
   and a lot of
   blank paper, My immediate thought was, "Who is EDI and is it
   Eddie,
   Edie or who,,,and why?" Obviously I must somehow have got
   in the wrong program with
   all my messing around, because I wanted NLS, not some
   sub-user
   program named an obscure "EDI C", However, because I had
   heard
   weird tales of the obscurity of the wording of the "new"
   "NLS",
   I hit a "?".   3c3c

   (3) I promptly got about a quarter of page of printout
   nicely
   alphabetized from Accept to Split in four columns,,none of
   which
   meant a damn thing to me,,,,so I Split, Still must be in the
   wrong
   program,   3c3d

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(4) Tried it again, and "EDI" greeted me again, so somehow
this must
be NLS ("NLS"???) even though it bore no relationship
whatever to
any possible uses I might want to put it to,   3c3e

(5) I hit a "?" again, since rumors had told me that a ?
would give
you complite instructions,,,"You can't go wrong," I had been
told, "all
you have to do is hit a ? at any point and all your
questions will
be answered," Well, I carefully hit one ?,,,nothing else,,,
and again,,   3c3f

(6) Accept (which I was not about to do!), Create (HOW????)
through
Split started printing out, I had already been that route
and hand't
liked it the first time,,,sooo,,,   3c3g

(7) I hit a "o, which is sort of standard on any TENEX,,,you
know a
"O will (is supposed to, at least) stop the printing, Guess
what? It
didn't, Nothing stopped that neat printout of alphabetized
enigmas,   3c3h

(8) I took my ti printout and hunted up someone,,,happened
to be Kirk,,
to try to find out what had happened, Kirk sympathized and
agreed
with me that it was totally screwed, and told me that to
find out how
too load a file (which is what I was trying to find out), I
had
hit a space and then a ?, he could tell from the printout,
He advised
to go back and hit only a ? and I would get the information,   3c3i

(9) I did, Guess what?   3c3j

(10) Again, my old enemy "Accept" (still wasn't having any!)
through
Split printed out with me hitting "o's and "x's all over the
place, but no go,,,like the advertisements on TV, every
letter dripped
like pearls off my printhead and went through the whole

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thing again,
So I said to my self, maybe Kirk had it backwards, This
time I will
in fact, carefully, hit a space ?,   3c3k

(11) I did, Guess what?   3c3l

(12) At least it was different, This time enigmas (enigmae?)
(enigmii?)
started with "Archive, Edit, through "Sort", Still nothing I
could
recognize as how to load a file, There were a lot of
imitation
TENEX EXEC commands in there,,,are we REALLY
tryying to replace BBN? At this late date? And if so, what
are we
still using TENEX for? And BOY!!!!can I see some problems if
someone
happens to accidentally hit an odd "l" somewhere in the
middle of an
update to old version or sommthing of the kind,,,if you
still have
that,,,and if you don't how many additional disk packs did
you buy to
take care of frequent updates to 400 disk page files,,,and
there are
a LOT of them on the system baby,,,did anyone think of that?
And
"Disconnect", that one is a honey and if someone hits an ex
thinking he is going to say "execute" and instead "expunges"
his stuff
he is about to undelete,,,wow! Atleast before there was
this nice
separation between the basic file handligg mechanisms in
TENEX and the
editing in NLS whereby one couldn't easily bring the world
down
around hss ears by a single misstep, Do we REALLY have to
live that
dangerously?   3c3m

(13) I am glad I am becoming fairly proficient in TECO, SOS
and DED
lately, I think I just might find them very useful,   3c3n

(14) Kirk said you wanted "feedback",,,,soooo,,,here it is,   3c3o

    Mil   3c3p

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SRL 23-APR-74 10:46   22797
I want to send things to FDBK via Sendmail
Message: A new version of the identfile should be used in the
experimental system so that people can use the Sendmail system
to send things to fdbk.

3c4

DHC DNLS addressing
24-APR-73 10:57 16103 Message:
 DNLS should have the same ability to use chained addresses as
TNLS. Currently I can only enter "journal" when I would like to
be able to enter "journal d".

This feature becomes critical if the user is attempting to
restrict the i/o to his screen (hello imlacs)

3c5

LPD
23-JUN-73 12:30 17429 Message:
 As time goes on I find the little 3-character prompts in TNLS
more and more annoying. They actively interfere with the
smooth flow of thought and typing. For straight composition of
documents, I now find TNLS only marginally preferable to TECO.

3c6

LPD
14-JUN-73 19:01 17215 Message:
 I find the plethora of 3-character TNLS messages quite
objectionable. TNLS already was putting out too much garbage,
especially when the system was slow: the constant strain of
either waiting for slow computer responses or typing ahead and
becoming disoriented (not to mention making non-undoable
errors) makes TNLS quite unpleasant during the hours of heavy
use. My personal feeling is that it should be possible and
perhaps even the default that there should be NO computer
feedback during specification of the command. (Cf. 940 QED)

3c7

DHC Speeding up user interaction in TNLS
24-APR-73 11:01 16104 Message:
 The "by literal?" query used for replace commands is
irritating at best. How about having "B automatically mean that
literal text will be entered (or have "d mean that and "B mean
to use text from elsewhere, depending on which is used most).
Syntax becomes:

Replace Word at .1a 2w "D
,,enter replacing text,,"D

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OR:
Replace Word at ,1a 2w °B ,2b 5w °D

3c8

Jump'Cntnt'etc'Cmnd'Spec>   ???   ???   <NLS   3c9

   Eliminate need to type 'a after Jump to Name, Jump to
   Content, Jump to Word, etc, -- perhaps by letting one bug
   name register.   3c9a

LPD
8-JAN-73 14:16 13741 Message:
 Whatever became of the plans to allow TNLS addressing in DNLS?
It sure would be nice to get rid of the current hodgepodge of
Jump commands.

3c10

RWW NP *   NP SID Renumbering Command
22-FEB-73 12:16 14717 Message:
 TNLS users are now using SID's extensively and liking them,
There is a need for an easy way to get them renumbered
sequentially after some editing has been done, Users now go to
considerable lengths to do this, by creatng new files,
replacing orgin statements, copying plex as a stadad sequence,
There ought to be a simple command resequence SID's to
accomplish this purpose,

3c11

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(J22903) 6-MAY-74 11:40;   Title: Author(s): Susan R, Lee/SRL;
Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk: SRL;
Origin: (LEE, OLD.NLS;3,), 3-MAY-74 15:45 SRL ;####;

Fixed bugs and response to feedback received as of 5/6/74

This is addressed specifically to MEJ, JAKE, DVN, KIRK, NDM, and JMB
but again anyone is welcome to read,

Fixed bugs and response to feedback received as of 5/6/74

Response to feedback received as of 5/6/74   1

   Mil -   1a

      When executing the print command, any viewspecs specified are
      in effect only for that command. Viewspecs specified in the
      Set Viewspecs command or in Jump (SP) commands should remain in
      effect until changed.   1a1

   Jake -   1b

      Thanks for your comments about Sendmail. You may have noticed
      that there is an interrogate command which works similar to the
      old interrogate command. I think it works fairly well at
      leading a user through the basics required to journalize an
      item. We'll review your other suggestions after the subsystem
      has been used and commented on more extensively.   1b1

Bugs which have been fixed   2

   You probably already know of many of these fixes, but if not, here
   they are;   2a

   Dirk -   2b

      The Output Processor should no longer cause difficulties.   2b1

      When in the Ident system you can now type G and Goto somewhere.   2b2

      Copy Directory now seems to work as advertised.   2b3

      Jump to End of Branch no longer jumps to tail.   2b4

      Move boundary problems seem to have been fixed.   2b5

   Jeanne Beck -   2c

      The password does not print in the Connect to Directory command
      any more.   2c1

      In the Sendmail system, plex has now been made a second-level
      command and is available after typing space.   2c2

      You can now Goto Help from the top of the Sendmail subsystem if
      you're in Expert Expert.   2c3

      Content analyzer programs may now be instituted in TNLS.   2c4

      Reset Viewspecs works the same way in both the Editor and

Fixed bugs and response to feedback received as of 5/6/74

Useroptions subsystems, with CA being the only alternative after typing Viewspecs. I don't know yet why there are two commands.   2c5

Kirk =   2d

Substitute word now works correctly.   2d1

Centerdot no longer works as a command delete when inserting text in DNLS.   2d2

Dean =   2e

In the new CML, SRI-ARC can be typed in as a subcollection.   2e1

Fixed bugs and response to feedback received as of 5/6/74

(J22904)   6-MAY-74 13:59;   Title: Author(s): Susan R. Lee/SRL;
Distribution: /SRI-ARC(* info-only *) ; Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC;
Clerk: SRL;

Additional comment on Whole Arpanet Catalog paper

Please Note: It has been brought to my attention that the ideas I
expressed in <NIC--22900,> for a Whole Arpanet Catalog might be
construed to be SRI-ARC's position. The ideas were developed by me
as a member of the Using Information Management Committee and the
Using Help and Documentation committee on my own time and independant
of any consultation with SRI-ARC which has expressed no opinion, for
or against a Whole Arpanet Catalog,   1

Additional comment on Whole Arpanet Catalog paper

(J22905)   6-MAY-74 15:51;   Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /INFORMAN(* info-only *) CF(* info-only *) HELPDOC(*
info-only *) RWW(* info-only *) JCN(* info-only *) ;
Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC INFORMAN HELPDOC; Clerk: KIRK;