

U.S.G.S. - Possible Proposal

How It Began:

I was originally contacted by Gerald Askevold of the U.S.G.S about a year ago for advice in regard to terminal hardware for data collection. At that time he had submitted a project proposal to the Survey, which was subsequently approved. The purpose of the project was to investigate ways for geologists, as near to the field source as possible, to collect their notes in machine readable form, preferably in an on-line, interactive environment, and, secondly, to collect Alaskan mineral resource data in or near the field for transmission to the Reston, Va, Survey computer.

Gerald's problem had some overlap with the ideas we were working with on the Data Computer. Harvey Lehtman and I were invited to attend several demonstrations of information retrieval software presented for the Survey on a variety of hardware combinations.

The project appears to have met with substantial interest and approval in the survey.

Survey Background:

Organization==

LEVEL	NAME	HEAD
Cabinet	Secretary of the Interior	
Department	U, S, G, S,	
Division	Geologic	Sheldon
Branch	Office of Resource Analysis	Allen Clark (Reston, va,)
Projects	Pamrac	Hank Bery (Menlo Park)
	CRIB	

Personnel==

Gerald Askevold works for the Office of Resource Analysis and reports to Allen Clark.

Gerald has visited ARC on several occasions, has seen NLS demonstrated and has talked with Doug, Mike, and Jim Norton.

Gerald has expressed a keen interest in NLS both for his

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immediate professional use and as a possible tool for the survey,

2b1b

Hank Berg is a senior geologist at the Menlo Park Survey,

2b2

Hank is in charge of the pamrac (Alaskan Mineral Resource Data Base) project. I have met Hank several times at the above mentioned demonstrations. He is very aware of the need for sophisticated tools both in the more traditional areas of data collection and retrieval and in the communications and conferencing areas.

2b2a

The Point of All This:

3

It appears that the Survey, immediately through Gerald Askevolde, might entertain two small proposals from ARC:

3a

Gerald was VERY impressed by the NLS demonstrations and would like to use it in his own work with the possible end in view of making it generally available to the Survey in a workshop environment.

3a1

The Menlo Park Survey is planning to acquire both terminals and a front end type (probably a PDP11) computer. They are in need of consulting on the configuration both of the hardware and the software.

3a2

They are in a hurry to get started in both of these areas.

3b

U.S.G.S. - Possible Proposal

(J23009) 15-MAY-74 17:55; Title: Author(s): Elizabeth K. Michael/EKM; Distribution: /DCE([ACTION]) RWW([ACTION]) JCN([ACTION]) CHI([ACTION]) DVN([ACTION]) HGL([INFO-ONLY]) KEV([INFO-ONLY]) JEW([INFO-ONLY]) JDH([INFO-ONLY]) DSM([INFO-ONLY]) WRF([INFO-ONLY]) JHB([INFO-ONLY]) MDK([INFO-ONLY]) ; Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: EKM; Origin: (MICHAEL, USGSPROP,NLS;4,), 15-MAY-74 17:43 EKM ;####;

Currently it is defined to be <"B>. There is no way for a default TNL5 user to use Ken's file recognition feature, <"B> doesn't do in the new system what it did in the old so people certainly aren't used to it as it is. Please change it,

(J23010) 15-MAY-74 18:29; Title: *** DIRECTIVE ERROR; String Too
Big *** ,H1="Please change the default setting for ESC in TNLS to be
ESC, MESSAGE; Currently it is defined to be <"B>, There is no way for
a default TNLS user to use Ken's file recognition feature, <"B> doesn't
do in the new system what it did in the old so people certainly aren't
used to it as it is, Please change it,"; Author(s): Kirk E.
Kelley/KIRK; Distribution: /CHI([ACTION]) KEV([ACTION]) FDBK([
ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections; SRI=ARC; Clerk: KIRK;

herald length zero, why not?

Why can't the herald be set to length zero? The prompt (if at least partially on) will be sufficient to key the user. The terse option could be default to be length zero if any prompt is on (partial or full), otherwise leave terse as is when no prompt is on.

1

herald length zero, why not?

(J23011) 15-MAY-74 19:20; Title: Author(s): Robert N.
Lieberman/RLL; Distribution: /FDBK([ACTION]); Sub=Collections:
SRI=ARC; Clerk: RLL;

HELP Problems

I tried to use HELP to answer Laura Gould's question about the state of anglebrackets: 1

"show content" informs you only about content in the sense of a global, I will undertake to fix that, 2

"anglebrackct and "angle=bracket" were not found, I will fix that, 3

The table of intrafile addresses menued under ADDRESS is confusing if you hit it cold, It should probably be labled a table where it appears as a menue item and might use a few words o introduction, I could do that, but JMB knows that part of the file better, 4

I really like the when FILENAME at the same spot spells out its parts in the menued line, 4a

When I wet to EDITOR, my help image stayed on my screen, When I hit f, I got both my help image and the file I had been in, I had to log out to get rid of the HELP image, 5

HELP Problems

(J23013) 15-MAY-74 20:04; Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /NEWNLS([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC NEWNLS;
Clerk: DVN;

Steps Towards USGS Proposals

I heartily support your efforts to get something going with the USGS. (Mjournal,23009,) came to me as an action item, and I'm not sure what I should do, 1

I imagine Jim Norton must endorse submission of a proposal for a utility slot in response to (mjournal,23009,3a1). Such a proposal would be fairly easy to prepare as similar proposals exist, 2

I imagine Dick Watson must endorse a proposal for consulting services in response to (,3a2). The appropriate people... Martin (?) Charles (?) Ken (?) should meet to decide what it should say. No more than 4-5 pages should be necessary. Again I would be happy to help as I could with writing the proposal. 3

Steps Towards USGS Proposals

(J23014) 15-MAY-74 20:19; Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /EKM([ACTION]) DCE([ACTION]) RWW([ACTION])
JCN([ACTION]) HGL([INFO-ONLY]) KEV([INFO-ONLY]) MEH([INFO-ONLY]) WRF([INFO-ONLY]) JHB([INFO-ONLY]) MDK([INFO-ONLY]) ; Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: DVN;

Positioning of CM after update command; bug?

After an Update file compact command, the CM seems to be repositioned in random places. Occasionally it returns me to the origin (not so bad), other times it leaves me where I am currently (what I expect), and still other times places me somewhere else (no apparent significance to the address).

1

Positioning of CM after update command: bug?

(J23015) 16-MAY-74 08:15; Title: Author(s): Robert N.
Lieberman/RLL; Distribution: /FDBK([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections:
SRI=ARC; Clerk: RLL;

DVN KIRK 15-MAY-74 15:30 23016

Commandwords in Help: NLS currently cannot be self-teaching

The problem of teaching a new user of Help, while dealing with a variety of recognition modes, is serious.

Commandwords in Help: NLS currently cannot be self-teaching

The problem of teaching a new user of Help, while dealing with a variety of recognition modes, is serious. In fact unless one of the following four things are done, we believe that NLS cannot be self teaching because Help itself cannot be self teaching,

1. Commandwords are eliminated from the help subsystem.
(Commands without commandwords are possible with CML. Kirk has written a Whole Universe Catalog subsystem with a CML front-end that does not use commandwords.)

2. A special "Show mode" is created where the show command is automatically recognized and repeated. This has the disadvantages of (1,) requiring some special procedure to get out of the Show mode in order to specify some other command like "Quit", (2,) failing to explain how to use commands in HELP other than "Show", and (3,) unnecessary typing out of the word "Show" everytime,

3. A default recognition mode is defined in the Help subsystem independent of the user's useroptions setting. We don't know how hard it would be to code such a mode. The default recognition mode could be either the default recognition for NLS (EXPERT, FIXED?) or else ANTICIPATORY. What should that default be?

4. The help software and the help database are made smart enough to be able to determine the user's recognition mode and give him the welcome messages, response to questionmark, help subsystem descriptions, etc, appropriate for that recognition mode. This would by far be the hardest for the Database to implement and we suspect it would also be the hardest for the Software as well.

Commandwords in Help; NLS currently cannot be self-teaching

(J23016) 15-MAY-74 15:30; Title; Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys,
Kirk E. Kelley/DVN KIRK; Distribution: /RWW([ACTION]) HGL([ACTION
]) DIRT([INFO=ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC DIRT; Clerk: KIRK;

copy filtered

COPY STRUCTURE With Filter (the old execute assimilate) is now implemented,

KEV 15=MAY=74 17:25 23017

copy filtered

(J23017) 15=MAY=74 17:25; Title: Author(s): Kenneth E. (Ken)
Victor/KEV; Distribution: /SRI=ARC([INFO=ONLY]); Sub=Collections:
SRI=ARC; Clerk: KEV;

KIRK 15-MAY-74 17:52 23018

July USING Meeting response

July 10 at UCSB sounds fine to me, I plan to be there, == Kirk

1

KIRK 15=MAY=74 17:52 23018

July USING Meeting response

(J23018) 15=MAY=74 17:52; Title: (Unrecorded) Title: Author(s):
Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK; Distribution: /NJN([INFO=ONLY]) ;
Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: KIRK;

Response to Feedback Received as of 5/15/74

This is especially directed to JCN, DCE, MEJ, JML, KIRK, DVN, RLL, JMB, RWW, and LEG, and an opinion is asked of everyone,

Response to Feedback Received as of 5/15/74

Response to feedback received as of 5/15/74

The changes listed below are either now in effect or will be after a new version of NLS is brought up. For other lists of fixed bugs and answers to questions see, (22973,) (22915,) (22896,).

Everyone =

Is there any consensus as to whether Interrogate should be the default when entering Sendmail? Also as to what order you are interrogated for information?

Jim Norton =

The problem you had with update old and sendmail was really a problem with your return ring. The programmers know there is a bug and are working on it. Do you remember if you used split screens anytime during that session?

Doug =

The bug with Compile Content analyzer has been fixed and it will now work for a bugged pattern.

Also, in the Jump to Content and Word commands, you are now prompted I: rather than RPT: in the beginning.

Mil, Jeanne Leavitt and other TNLS users =

The Print command has been changed so that viewspecs specified will be in effect until next changed.

Kirk =

The problem with the number command has been fixed.

Charles plans to change the hardcopy command to offline.

Dirk =

You commented that you never use Set Case Character. Charles said that force case was originally suggested and rejected. Since it would be easier to use, he will implement it if a decision is made to do so.

Markers should now work in links.

Robert =

Response to Feedback Received as of 5/15/74

The files you did Update File Compact on and got the message
"file numbers do not match in storestring" are O,K, 1h1

More information has been added to the Help system about
statement delimiters as per your suggestion (22803,) 1h2

Jeanne Beck = 1i

IDENTLIST has been added to the Help system as suggested, 1i1

Dick = 1j

The consistency problem with Y/N in Sendmail has been fixed, 1j1

Charles plans to change Sendmail so that when in Interrogate, a
CA may be typed to get past an item. He disagrees that a CD in
interrogate should take you to the next Interrogate command, 1j2

Laura Gould = 1k

I tried frontslash, backslash, and single quotes for a
character address in TNLS and they all seemed to work. If you
still have problems let us know, 1k1

Content searches are now specified only by quotes (no more
anglebrackets). A paragraph from the Help system should
explain the new syntax; 1k2

CONTENTADDRESS; "TYPEIN"=2W3S
where TYPEIN = the content to be searched for (surrounded by
quotes in A;)
This may be followed by "=" and a Number N and a "w"
indicating the Nth occurrence of TYPEIN as a word, and/or a
Number N and a "s" meaning to search only within N
statements. A "c" can be used instead of a "w" to mean the
Nth occurrence of TYPEIN as any string. (If a number or
letter is not specified it will be taken to be 1), 1k2a

me (Susan) = 1l

Sendmail Interrogate no longer prompts you B; in TNLS, 1l1

The file etc, specified in Sendmail will now appear in the
Status, 1l2

A user should no longer be able to send a null message, i.e, a
file, statement, message, etc, must be specified before it will
let you send it, 1l3

Response to Feedback Received as of 5/15/74

Viewspec problems with the combination Gmy on should be fixed,

114

SRL 16-MAY-74 09:32 23019

Response to Feedback Received as of 5/15/74

(J23019) 16-MAY-74 09:32; Title; Author(s): Susan R. Lee/SRL;
Distribution: /SRI=ARC([INFO=ONLY]) LEG([INFO=ONLY]) ;
Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: SRL;

Baggiano visit

10=MAY=74 0707=PDT CRAIN at USC=ISI: WHERE WE'RE AT
Distribution: FEINLER, BAGGIANO
Received at: 10=MAY=74 07:07:26

1

GREETINGS;

GOT YOUR MESSAGE(9MAY) OUR CURRENT STATUS IS:

1. WE HAVE 3 ACCOUNTS(BAGGIANO,MAYHAN,CRAIN) AT ISI, THATS WHERE WE GET MAIL

2. WE HAVE ONE ACCOUNT(CRAIN) AT OFFICE-1, I'VE BEEN USING THAT TO GET INTO NLS, NICE SYSTEM, WHEN YOU GET USED TO IT.

3. WE ARE SHARING PHONE NUMBERS ON RML(3) AND RADC(1) TIPS, GETTING TO THEM VIA DIAL-UP AUTOVON LINES, WE ARE WORKING ON GETTING 3-5 VOICE GRADE TRUNKS TO RML, WITH MODEMS, ETC, SO WE CAN DIAL A LOCAL<ON BASE> NUMBER AND CONNECT DIRECTLY TO PATRICKS TIP, THAT SHOULD COME IN IN ABOUT 2 MONTHS,

4. I HAVE BEEN GIVING LOTS OF DEMONSTRATIONS TO VARIOUS PEOPLE WITHIN

AND VISITION THE CENTER, AND THERE IS GROWING INTEREST IN THE NET.

WE ALREADY HAVE REQUEST TO GET ON TO USE TEXT EDITORS, SIMULATORS, ASSEMBLERS FOR MINIS, AND GENERAL EXPERIMENTING,

1a

THANKS FOR YOUR NOTE, I'LL SEE THAT MAJ. B GETS A COPY, I'M WORKING ON A VISIT TO SRI ABOUT THE 13TH OF JUNE, SO MAYBE I'LL GET A CHANCE TO SAY HI THEN,

1b

CHEERS,
LARRY CRAIN

1c

Baggiano visit

(J23020) 16-MAY-74 10:15; Title: Author(s): Elizabeth J. (Jake)
Feinler/JAKE; Distribution: /JHB JCN; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk:
JAKE;
Origin: <FEINLER>BLAP,NLS;2, 16-MAY-74 10:12 JAKE ;

Feedback about Tenex Scrolling

DHC 24=APR=74 14:53 30550

Message: The system recognizes TERM SCO lines width <cr> but does not use the info to control printout. That is, it should pause after <lines> number of lines have been printed out (if there has been no type=in) and wait for me to send a character (implying go-ahead).

It is intended to keep text from scrolling past you before you can read it.

Thanks for the support. (Also,..Dirk did a secondary distribution to me.) Dave,

Feedback about Tenex Scrolling

(J23021) 16-MAY-74 11:29; Title: Author(s): James H. Bair/JHB;
Distribution: /FEED(info only) FDBK(tertiary distribution) FDBK(tertiary
distribution: ACTION) DHC(info on action); Sub=Collections; SRI=ARC;
Clerk: JHB;

KIRK 16-MAY-74 12:47 23022

Please change the default setting for ESCAPE in TNLS back to be
ESCAPE

The current implementation makes it impossible for NLS to be
self-teaching,

Please change the default setting for ESCAPE in TNLS back to be
ESCAPE

Currently it is defined to be <"B>. There is no way for a default
TNLS user to use Ken's file recognition feature, <"B> doesn't do in
the new system what it did in the old so people certainly aren't used
to it as it is. I suggest this be changed in your default useroption
parameters specification. Also, is there any way you could submit
some of your specifications now so they can be implemented while we
wait for resolution of the others? .

1

KIRK 16=MAY=74 12:47 23022

Please change the default setting for ESCAPE in TNL5 back to be
ESCAPE

(J23022) 16=MAY=74 12:47; Title: (Unrecorded) Title: Author(s):
Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK; Distribution: /JHB([ACTION]) DIRT([INFO=ONLY
]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC DIRT; Clerk: KIRK;

lineprocessor feedback

author:JHB date:15 may 74 time:4:30

1

all of a sudden received stream of garbage characters, in command mode that i couldn't stop, some of them were executed causing file to be renamed,

1a

author:JHB date:15 may 74

2

<"C> and con do not clear screen for tenex, neither does reset,

2a

author:JHB date:15 may 74

3

split screen insert statement--dumped part of statement into tenex window and doubled the viewspec fdbk,

3a

author:JHB date:15 may 74

4

would randomly not clear fdbk windows,

4a

author:kirk date:8 may 74 time:15:31

5

backspace character (BC Key) is defined to be <"H> which doesn't wok in tenex and means something different in NLS, it should be defined to be <"A>,

5a

author:kirk date:9 may 74 time:9:18

6

i had viewspec B and L and then changed to W but i only got 2 lines no matter what i did after that, i could not get more than 2 lines for a statement,

6a

author:kirk

7

i got hung, characters went in but nothing came back, reset LP and <"P> worked,

7a

author:MEH

8

same bug as one listed previously, reset tip channel by disconnecting modem, works ok now, for some reson tip gets in a state where it will not listen to <"P>,

8a

lineprocessor feedback

(J23023) 16-MAY-74 14:45; Title: Author(s): Martin E. Hardy, James
H. Bair, Kirk E. Kelley/MEH JHB KIRK; Distribution: /FDBK([INFO=ONLY]
) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: SLJ;

Interrogate opinion

I think the order should be; (1) Title (2) Type of source (3) Send
(4) Show status (5) Done. First impression is I wouldn't want
interrogate to be the default but I haven't thought about it.

1

Interrogate opinion

(J23024) 16=MAY=74 19:05; Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /FDBK([INFO=ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk:
KIRK;

KIRK 16-MAY-74 19:10 23025

I'm in favor of Force (case) STRING/STRUCTURE DESTINATION OK; . It
would be nice if it was a first level command (freeze is not
available in TNLS anyway).

I'm in favor of Force (case) STRING/STRUCTURE DESTINATION OK: , It
would be nice if it was a first level command (freeze is not
available in INLS anyway).

Set Case is unuseable.

KIRK 16-MAY-74 19:10 23025

I'm in favor of Force (case) STRING/STRUCTURE DESTINATION OK; . It
would be nice if it was a first level command (freeze is not
available in TNLS anyway).

(J23025) 16-MAY-74 19:10; Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /FDBK([INFO=ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections; SRI=ARC; Clerk:
KIRK;

Steps Towards USGS Proposals

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Steps Towards USGS Proposals

(J23026) 15-MAY-74 20:19; Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /EKM([ACTION]) DCE([ACTION]) RWW([ACTION])
JCN([ACTION]) HGL([INFO-ONLY]) KEV([INFO-ONLY]) MEH([INFO-ONLY]) WRF([INFO-ONLY]) JHB([INFO-ONLY]) MDK([INFO-ONLY]) ; Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: DVN;

Bug with viewspecs and jumping

When you jump to item and point to a statement at the top of the screen and change the viewspecs, nothing happens. Viewspec f seems to correct the problem.

KIRK 16-MAY-74 20:28 23027

Bug with viewspecs and jumping

(J23027) 16-MAY-74 20:28; Title: Author(s): Kirk E, Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]); Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC BUGS;
Clerk: KIRK;

DRAFT Plan for SRI Capabilities Center

This is submitted for inclusion in a report on 'Institute-Wide Text
Hnadling'.

DRAFT Plan for SRI Capabilities Center

Overview

1

Let us imagine a Center for the purpose of providing boiler plate. We could not call it the Boiler Plate Center, of course, so let's call it the Capability Center. It would provide writeups for direct use or easy tailoring to fit proposals, CBD responses, and other promotional or semipromotional material aimed at readers outside SRI. The subjects would certainly include SRI's related experience and resumes, and might also include facilities, SRI management, and the rote contract and cost writeups of proposals.

1a

There are a number of questions about this Center which I want to put off for a moment such as how the boiler plate is stored, the physical and organizational location of the Center, etc.

1b

I want to imagine what information is stored, who uses it, and the roles central personnel must fill to serve them. More conventional job descriptions will depend on the storage medium.

1c

I imagine storage space in the end equivalent to about four four-drawer file cabinets for (roughly 50,000 pages or 6 X 10 (7) characters).

1d

At the source level, storage would hold writeups cut out of previous proposals and other source documents.

1e

At the next level of refinement would be writeups on areas of interest. For example the file might contain the related experience from a proposal on zirconium creep, which would be one source for a for-the-file writeup on stress analysis.

1e1

Such writeups would draw on the files, and also on interviews with researchers. Appropriate experts (typically department heads at this level) would approve them. They would be clearly written, dated, include lists by number of photos and drawings held by SRI, and perhaps cross references to reports.

1e1a

Higher level writeups, say on Materials in the the example, would summarize larger areas of SRI work as appropriate.

1e2

At a third higher level of finish, the Center might make available preprinted sheets or foldouts nicely formatted with photographs and other illustration, (lifted from previous documents) describing SRI's capabilities. Such preprints, although more or less inappropriate to any given use, could be attractive and quickly bound-in off the shelf.

1e3

Let us consider the roles necessary to create these files:

1f

DRAFT Plan for SRI Capabilities Center

Typing; someone who can key in and edit information in whatever storage mediums we are using, 1f1

Writing; someone who prepares the summary, 1f2

Reading; someone who reads all of SRI's proposals and many other documents and chooses what to store, 1f3

Formatting (repro typist); someone to deal with the layout of the preprinted material, 1f4

Retrieving; someone who can hand appropriate pieces of paper to an ignorant user, 1f5

I picture two ways of using of this information. First, authors at the time they have begun to assemble their proposal (or whatever) come to the Center and ask for a paper on a certain subject. The retriever hands them paper which they browse through. They select some as appropriate. Some one will probably have to edit this paper lightly to tailor it to each specific use, 1g

Secondy, I imagine the author of selected important proposals would be able to call on help from a writer who would study the outline of the proposal, talk with the author or leader, and, knowing the files, assemble and/or be able to write rapidly appropriate descriptions of capabilities, 1h

This overview Proposes a model for providing capabilities information. Some other kinds of boiler plate could be handled in the same way: descriptions of SRI management, descriptions of facilities, rsumes, The Center could also provide in skeletal form management sections and cost sections of proposals, 1i

SRI Report Retrieval and Indexing 2

As people writing documents with marketing purposes need boiler plate, researchers need facts which may lie concealed in previous SRI reports. The occasions and procedures for making facts available however differ from procedures for making boiler plate available, 2a

The user needs the information when she is doing research, not when she is writing proposals, 2a1

The user needs facts, not paper; questions of clarity, editing, etc, do not apply, 2a2

Indexing and retrieval are much different. We can retrieve boiler plate from files nicely by organizing them

DRAFT Plan for SRI Capabilities Center

hierarchically according to the subjects with thin cross-referencing. Fact retrieval must be highly cross-referenced. For obscure facts, a key word-in-context, "indexing system", based on online storage of abstracts of SRI reports (or at least a list of key words) would be a practical ideal,

2a3

What SRI researchers need is a service for SRI reports like the service Chem Abstracts, for example, gives chemists,

2b

At present, not all SRI reports come to the attention of people who are interested in storing them for general use, it would be very difficult to remedy that situation completely because people working in divisions want to get out their letter reports without hassling with bureaucratic procedures that would capture it for retrieval. However, a well publicized and effective index and retrieval system would attract some of these reports, and we could at least be sure to capture all those that pass through Report Services,

2c

Assuming that when documents enter Report Services they enter a form that computers can read, programs that automatically do indexing-like work could be very helpful to report storage and retrieval. They could, for example, extract keywords from reports that failed to have abstracts,

2d

Commercial services store and retrieve abstracts on the basis of keyword in context, i.e., Lockheed's Dialog system, it seems to me appropriate to investigate the use of such a system by SRI,

2e

Use of a commercial system raises privacy questions. Clearly we do not want information such as contract values to be on a system that is not secure. SRI might seriously consider separating private information from the abstracts and allowing the abstracts to be available to any user on the system (as all the abstracts known to the DIALOG system are available to all users) as advertising,

2e1

Thus some researcher who had never heard of SRI could come upon an abstract that indicated SRI's knowledge of his subject,

2e1a

Although separate from the Capabilities Center an "SRI abstracts index" should be stored in compatible media and have cross-reference,

2f

Sample Subject File Organization

3

Physics:

DRAFT Plan for SRI Capabilities Center

An online writeup on SRI Physics, About one Page, Clearly written, Approved by the authorities, Revised atleast annually, Dated, Also a list of numbers of cited photos and drawings, perhaps of reports by number, cross references to other relevant writeups,

3a

Plasma Physics:

An online writeup on SRI Plasma Physcs, Clearly written, About one page, Approved by the authorities (probably department head(s), Revised at least annually, Dated, Also a list of numbers of cited photos and drawings, perhaps of reports by number, cross references to other relevant writeups,

3a1

Appropriate related experience extracted from previous proposal, Dated,

3a1a

Appropriate related experience extracted from previous CBD response, Dated,

3a1b

Appropriate related experience extracted from Brochure, Dated,

3a1c

:
:
:
More of the same,

3a1d

Plasma Physics:

A hardcopy page on SRI Plasma Physics, Maybe a foldout, Clearly written and handsomely laid out, Approved by the authorities (probably department head(s), Revised a least annually, Unobtrusively dated, Stock on hand for quick binding into larger documents, [Hardcopy writeups only on frequently used or otherwise important subjects]

3b

:
:
:Solid State Physics:

:
:
:Radio Physics:

:
:
:etc,

3c

Organizational Location

4

DRAFT Plan for SRI Capabilities Center

Organizational location is important to the success of a Capability Center, it must not be wedded to any division, and it must not be wedded to any organization with its own strong retrieval tradition that will distort the Center's goals and methods. Studying the SRI organization chart and talking with scattered people, I find it easier to see where the Capability Center should not go than where it should go,

4a

It should not go in any division because it is most effective in inter-disciplinary and interdivisional work and personnel should not identify with any division or technical subject,

4b

it should not be attached to the library because most of the documents in a library are not relevant to it and because people in a library tend to feel satisfied when they have given somebody a piece of paper that contains the information that he wants, while our peoples should not be satisfied until a proposal (or whatever) contains words appropriate to its persuasive purpose,

4c

it should not be attached to the contracts organization because contrac-by-contract files fragment information with respect to these purposes and present special privacy problems,

4d

Such Centers have been attached to marketing and editing in other organizations, and SRI marketing appears to be too divided to promote the Center's synergistic function,

4e

Editing has attempted to fill some such needs in the past and still supplies resumes. Many editors would be quite capable in some of the roles discussed above. I think that Editing is not and has not proved to be an appropriate organizational location because the personnel keep being drawn off by their normal flow of crises. The people in the Capabilty Center must be free to do their own work,

4f

The Center should not be in Computer Planning and Operations because it is not a computer system but a service which may use some compute-based tools,

4g

This reasoning eliminates all the first-glance answers. The Center might be staff either to the Office of Research Operations or to the Office of Finance and Administration. It is not fundamentally an administrative or financial function. The charter of Research Operations to coordinate interdivisional work and proposals suggests a staff position at that point,

4h

This discussion suggests a general question of proposal support at SRI. In general, few people are experts in either writing proposals or organizing the effort of writing large proposals which

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is a one-time-through developmental project like building a bridge or developmental hardware. Those who are experienced are attached to divisions. It would profit SRI to have a person or persons who centered his interests on proposal preparations and could assist leaders of substantial interdisciplinary proposals to plan the proposal outline, with the physical and organizational problems of assembling the document, and with writing summary material.

4i

if such a service were available at SRI, the capability Center should sit next to it.

4j

Storage

5

Assuming that the sources capabilities information (writeups in existing documents) is available in computer readable form because existing documents are passing through reports services in computer readable form, it would be easy to store the capabilities files in a form computers can read.

5a

Computer-based storage offers advantages both in retrieval and output.

5a1

The retriever can call for information by various categories of search, keywords, date, format, etc.

5a1a

Elaborate retrieval schemes can be expensive in programming and running time; design work should be careful in this area and include revision on the basis of experience.

5a1a1

Note also that a simple hierarchical organization with modest cross referencing can usually locate the right paper. The advantage of computer retrieval is real but not great.

5a1a2

In the long run, automated generation of summary material may be the most important reason for computer storage.

5a1b

I.e., in a CBD response (or proposal), it is often advantageous to summarize the relevance many resumes by a single table in the form of matrix with the names of researchers on one axis and fields of experience on the other. A program could create and print such a matrix automatically from online resumes.

5a1b1

Retrieval strategies and automated generation of summary material add a new role to our Center: programming.

5a1c

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Cost may be an advantage of computer storage, depending on cost of implementing the computer system and context of storage and procedures in which the writeup is used, 5a1d

Cost in a non-computer system would be for items such as, storage space, clerical time for retrieval, author time for retrieval cost of copying pages to give the author, cost of retyping, 5a1d1

Equivalent computer costs are storage space, clerical retrieval time (presumably less), author retrieval time (presumably less) retyping (presumably less), printout (presumably somewhat cheaper than Xerox). Depending on the context of storage and procedures there might be a savings against retyping and handling cost in transmitting text directly from the online storage of the Capabilities Center to the online storage of a document in production in Report Services, 5a1d2

But note the Paper Problem below, 5a1d2a

Distant offices (see below) offer special cost problem. A Center based on conventional storage could respond to questions phoned or written in by sending paper copies to the distant office. But they would have to send much too much paper to allow the author to browse. Online access might well be cheaper, 5a1d2b

Decisions will have to be made about the storage medium: different types of disk, vs different types of online storage vs different types of tape etc. The system must be compatible with the Report Productions system. The decisions about storage medium will alter the retrieval strategies and possibly what kind of a job the retriever has, 5a2

The SRI text handling project for the moment does not include graphics. But drawings and photographs are often very important to establishing capabilities. The online file could store the photographs or illustration numbers. A certain number of sample illustrations and photographs should be available as hard copy for browsing, 5a3

Writers preparing summaries or writing the related experience sections of proposals presumably would be trained to work on-line, 5b

The Paper Problem 5c

Consider the following cycle: Few authors will want to work online. The retriever then will have to provide the author

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with print-out at a certain expense. The author will either choose or reject the printout page by page. The retriever will have to either collect the rejected pages and file them in a hard copy file system duplicating the online system or else throw them away. The author will normally want small changes in the copy she chooses. In the system invisioned in this report, she will have to ask some specialist (a typist in the Capability Center) to make the changes online or take the paper home to her typist for revision and lose the advantages on online revision,

5c1

Personnel

6

if we assume a facility in a central location with online storage, we probably need a manager who spends some of her time writing, culling sources, and supporting proposals; another writer, someone to maintain the file system, and a typist. All should be able to operate the online system. In addition, they would need support from repro typists (or the online equivalent) and from a programmer. That is a fairly expensive proposition but I don't see how we could get away with less,

6a

At extra writer and an extra typist at the beginning, say the first six months, would be useful to set up a solid body of summaries and type in material from old offline sources,

6b

Classified Information

7

Because of limitations on the privacy of computer data bases, it would be inappropriate to store classified information on-line. It might be useful to maintain a separate paper file with parallel structure for classified informaton,

7a

It certainly would be possible to cite classified documents in the online descriptions of SRI work in given fields,

7b

Physical Location:

8

Short Run

8a

The Capabilities Center should be in some central place. It should include not only space for its own personnel and their computer peripheral equipment, but in addition a reasonably pleasant space for authors to browse and work, that is a table and chairs in a somewhat quiet place,

8a1

Distant Offices

8b

In so far as they need to inform people of SRI capabilities,

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offices such as Washington and Huntsville stand to gain more from a Capabilities Center than local departments. A Center operating in conventional media or with only local computer access could respond to mailed or phoned questions by sending a bundle of paper, but such response is slow and expensive in retriever and author time and in copying costs.

8b1

A terminal with access to the Center's file its retrieval routines, and some form of local paper output would be more responsive to the needs of distant offices than conventional communication. Such a setup could be connected to the computer supporting the Center either through telephone lines or through one of the existing specialized computer networks. Such a terminal at a distant office might also be used for report production and other purposes.

8b2

The distant office would need special arrangements for using retrieval procedures. Three possibilities are:

8b3

Training people at the distant office in the retrieval procedure. Probably difficult since any given person would use the system infrequently.

8b3a

Having a parallel communication channel open between the user at the distant office and a trained person at SRI; Possible Channels include a voice telephone line or a terminal-to-terminal hookup within the computer system whereby the two people can type to each other. Probably best in the short run.

8b3b

Interactive programs that would prompt the distant user in sophisticated ways. Maybe for the long run.

8b3c

Long Run

8c

We look forward to the day when terminals supporting publication will be scattered at SRI. Such terminals should be compatible with the Capabilities Center, and, if the Capabilities Center is parasitic on Reports Services for its raw material, there should be little difficulty in keeping them compatible. The people who use these terminals will be in a position very similar to those using the terminals at distant offices considered above. Perhaps that is the point where we would consider seriously sophisticated interactive programs to prompt naive users.

8c1

Costs

9

Personnel

9a

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Very roughly: \$15-20,000/year before overhead for a writer/manager; \$10-15,000 for another writer, \$8-10,000 for a Retriever, \$6-8000 for a typist, \$4-5000 for part-time repro typing support; \$7-10 for part-time programming support,

9a1

That means up towards \$60,000 a year,

9a1a

Note that more writing and typing support would be useful in the first six months,

9a1b

Computer

9b

Storage

9b1

Roughly 50,000 Pages when up to full strength. Very hard to figure before deciding on the storage medium,

9b1a

Peripherals

9b2

Depending on storage, one CRT and one hard copy terminal, one tape or disk drive, each at \$100-\$150 a month
=\$3600/year,

9b2a

Retrieval

9b3

If from online files: \$5 per instance, 10 instance per day, 250 days a Year gives \$10,000, all 3/4=blind guesses,
=\$12,500/year,

9b3a

Writing and up Dating

9b4

2 people on 6 hours a day at system cost/hr might be a rough guess=

9b4a

The same work is going on in the insitute now; presumably less efficiently and perhaps less well,

9c

These cost are based on a design that I rouhgly imagine gives most efficent service, It is possible to cut services and cut costs,

9d

Charging

10

There is a question whether the Capabilitiies Center should charge internally for its services, charge part of its cost, or not at all,

10a

The Center will have to run for some time before it will have gathered enough materia to be useful, possibly three months. Even when its personnel and friends think its is useful, it will

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encounter a lot of resistance from guys who think, sometimes correctly, that what is in his division office or desk drawer is better, think people who are not technical specialists can't possibly know anything, or are hostile/afraid of computers, etc,

10b

It is not difficult to find ways to charge. The center could charge per retrieval (per instance or on some per-page basis); it could charge for its preprinted sheets; and it could charge for the hours of its writers doing reserach and tailoring writeups to fit specific outgoing documents. It could also charge parts of SRI for writing summaries of their field, but it seems likely it would seldom get business on that basis; it is more often other departments who feel the need of the writeups. Other possibilities such as charging for storage exist,

10c

The Center could establish both its data base and its clientele most easily if its services were free to its users for say the first year. SRI pays the bill anyway. At that time it might be appropriate to consider charging strategies that would establish whether all or parts of its services were really worthwhile to its users.

10d

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(J23028) 17-MAY-74 09:43; Title: Author(s): Dirk H. Van Nouhuys/DVN;
Distribution: /TLH([ACTION]) DCE([INFO-ONLY]) JCN([INFO-ONLY]
) RWW([INFO-ONLY]) PR([INFO-ONLY]) JAKE([INFO-ONLY]) JMB([INFO-ONLY]) &DPCS([INFO-ONLY]); Sub-Collections: SRI-ARC DPCS;
Clerk: DVN; Origin: (VANNOUHUYS, ADDCC,NLS;2,), 17-MAY-74
09:27 DVN ;####;

Text that Tenex HELP system gives to user (index to HELP's Tenex database)

%		1
To get specific HELP, type any keyword on the left, To quit, type control=c,		2
NEWS	To get latest info on NIC and OFFICE=1 resources,	3
ACCOUNTS	How to obtain a computer account at the NIC	4
QUOTA	How the group allocation scheme works for NIC users	5
QUERY	How to browse through NIC data bases	6
ARPANEWS	How to read the ARPANET News on=line	7
RESOURCES	How to learn about Network resources	8
%		9
NLS	How to use NLS, the software system developed by SRI=ARC	10
IDENTS	How to obtain and use a NIC "IDENT"	11
HOSTNAMES	How to learn about or generate new Host Names	12
TIP	How to connect to the NIC at OFFICE=1 via TIP's	13
ARCHIVE	How to archive files and retrieve archived files	14
OTHER	How to use other NIC services not listed above	15
HELP	To get this opening message again	16
%		17
A keyword may be partially typed, and completed with "ESCAPE". It must be terminated with "CARRIAGE=RETURN",		18

Text that Tenex HELP system gives to user (index to HELP's Tenex database)

(J23029) 17-MAY-74 10:29; Title: Author(s); Michael D. Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /MDK; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: MDK;
Origin: <KUDLICK>HELPTXT,NLS;11, 15-FEB-74 18:01 MDK ;

RADC Inter-Office Memo Format

Duane: No way to do that simply with directives, SRI's standard format is similar, so I wrote a user content analyzer program which does approximately that. It's called SRIFORM. We may be able to modify the format slightly to get just what you want. Take a look at eh program and let us know if you guys need help modifying it. (Note: it does a special thing for statements with bullets, i.e., starting with , or =) You can update a file, reformat it with the program, do an output device printer, the unlock the file. --Dean

1

RADC Inter-Office Memo Format

(J23030) 17-MAY-74 11:14; Title: Author(s): N. Dean Meyer/NDM;
Distribution: /DLS FEED; Sub-Collections: RADC ; Clerk: NDM;

Illegal Statement Return Ring after Horizontally Split Screens

Err is calld from READSR+6 called from XRINGJUMP+31,

KIRK 17-MAY-74 12:10 23031

Illegal Statement Return Ring after Horizontally Split Screens

(J23031) 17-MAY-74 12:10; Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]); Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC BUGS;
Clerk: KIRK;

Trying out interrogate

After consideration, Interrogate as a default mode when entering SENDMAIL seems to be a good idea only if the user does not already have an unfinished item. This would also make a good signal that would help me avoid a problem I've had where I've quit out of SENDMAIL unfinished, then gone back in and started on a new item only to find sometimes embarrassing parameters attached to the new item that were left over from the old.

1

Trying out interrogate

(J23032) 17-MAY-74 12:18; Title: Author(s): Kirk E, Kelley/KIRK;
Distributions: /FDBK([INFO=ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk:
KIRK;

DNLS session problem

My Statement Return Stack goes bad a lot (error message: Illegal Statement Return Ring). Why is that and how do I fix it, that is, once I've gotten that message Jump to Return won't work for the rest of that NLS session?

1

DNLS session problem

(J23037) 17-MAY-74 16:29; Title: Author(s): Jeanne M. Beck/JMB;
Distribution: /FDBK([ACTION]); Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk:
JMB;

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

This is a first draft of some of my ideas about a calendar subsystem,
I would welcome comments and criticisms,

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

* * * * ROUGH DRAFT * * * *

TOWARDS THE DESIGN OF AN ONLINE CALENDAR SUBSYSTEM

INTRODUCTION

An online calendar subsystem is being considered for implementation on the intelligent terminals of the MST program. It is argued that since the MST system will be designed to become the prototype of the integrated working environment of the executives and knowledge workers of tomorrow, a flexible online calendar must be incorporated in that system,

Such an online calendar system can be implemented with the presently existing technology. In the long run, there is no doubt that it will be needed and become very useful. In the short run, however, there does not seem to be any urgency at all as the potential advantages of such a system are not likely to materialize in the early phases of the project,

For instance, it has been pointed out that unless the system is highly reliable and totally available at all time it will be necessary for every user to maintain in practice a dual calendar system. This would create unwanted duplication and even possibly some confusion,

Periodic printouts of all the calendar files will be required to provide the back up system that will be needed in case of system failure. This relatively unwieldy manipulation of printouts will be part of the price of an online calendar system. Also, it will mean a significantly increased paper consumption,

Thus, it is not obvious whether or not an online calendar subsystem should be implemented in the near future. It basically depends on:

- a) whether or not it would provide users with some significant improvements over the present manual calendar systems and,
- b) whether or not it would open up immediately some experimental possibilities that would enrich considerably the experimental working environment,

A cursory analysis indicates that the most commonly used "calendar" systems are generally deemed to be reasonably satisfactory from a practical viewpoint. The scheduling procedures and mechanical aspects of these systems do not seem to

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

present any major problem. Furthermore, it is usually not considered that that storage and retrieval of past calendar records is either necessary or even desirable,

3d

The major difficulties seem rather to stem from the many personal interactions that demand personal intervention and from some personal considerations and organizational intricacies that prevail in our present office culture. These are the sources of the major problems,

3e

Hence, to be really justifiable, an online calendar system must focus on new possibilities and new features and deal only with the more common calendar features insofar as they are needed to support the new aspects. Let us examine some possibilities,

3f

- A group calendar system would allow more effective scheduling of conference rooms and other common facilities or equipment needed for meetings and other group sessions. Decentralized coordination would become feasible and all necessary information exchanges would be greatly simplified,

3f1

- Under certain conditions, an automatic reminder system could be a very effective tool. It could be effective for instance for dealing in a flexible fashion with delayed events or events that are planned for a more or less distant future. It could also be effective for dealing with group reminders, acknowledgements and confirmations of events which would all enhance individual and group interactions,

3f2

- Records of group events could be centrally maintained for easier group interactions and possibly catalogued and stored for future reference and retrieval. Cross referencing of group records with individual calendar systems could potentially save much duplication and many costly iterations in the preparation of group events,

3f3

- Calling meetings could be simplified if it were possible to check online whether or not any invited participant has a scheduling conflict for the proposed date or dates,

3f4

The following comments made by two executive secretaries at SRI give some indication of the scope of that problem:

3f4a

- "Calling meetings is the most frustrating thing. Everyone must be called, usually twice, and when one time is unacceptable then I often have to wait for Dr. X again to set a new time and the whole cycle starts all over again,"

3f4b

- "Calling meetings is very time consuming. Often meetings

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

have to be set up between 5 or more people. The first thing to do is to check when the conference room is free, and then keep calling people until a satisfactory arrangement can be reached. This usually takes several times." 3f4c

= "Mr. Y has from 20-25 scheduled meetings per week and any number of informal meetings." 3f4d

= " Mr. X has from 5-10 meetings per week, most of which are scheduled in advance." 3f4e

To summarize, it seems that under present conditions there is no urgent need for an online calendar system that would only duplicate the most commonly used manual systems. However, an experimental system that would be oriented towards group needs, while retaining some of the features of the manual systems, would offer enough promising possibilities to justify early implementation. 3g

A preliminary outline of such a system is given here. It is based on the following long run premises. 3h

1) We assume that in the new online working environment that is being developed each knowledge worker will have a terminal available in his own office that will be constantly logged in and ready for use. 3h1

2) We assume that the overall reliability of the system will be such that reliance on an online calendar system will be practical. However, some alternate procedure must be developed in parallel that will substitute for the online system when it is down. 3h2

3) Most people in a given working environment will have such a system at their disposal and thus communications among coworkers will be easy and efficient. 3h3

4) The need for privacy can be guaranteed to every user with a high degree of confidence. 3h4

A PERSONAL CALENDAR SYSTEM 4

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS 4a

An online calendar system should have certain basic characteristics that seem essential. A few of these are: 4a1

= SIMPLICITY 4a2

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

If the system is to be generally adopted as a working tool it must be convenient to use and its features must be simple and easy to learn. This implies that it should be at least as easy to manipulate as the most commonly used manual calendar systems and offer the same advantages and flexibility,

4a2a

- AUTOMATIC UPDATING

4a3

For most users, yesterday's calendar items are essentially worthless or, at best, a matter of record. Desk calendars allow us literally to turn the pages and proceed with current business. An online system must provide us with the same feature, i.e., it should automatically update every day all personal schedules and record files in order to keep constantly the main focus on current business,

4a3a

- IMBEDDED MASTER CALENDAR

4a4

A master calendar should be built in the system that would indicate the days of the week, including of course the weekends, and all official holidays,

4a4a

A query system should be developed that would answer questions such as: "what day will be May 31st?" or "when is Labor day?" or indicate "what date corresponds to, say, 12 working days from today?". It should also allow a user to schedule an event three, or ten, or fifteen working days ahead without having to specify the actual calendar dates,

4a4b

- PRIVACY

4a5

The personal calendar system must remain a private tool. Nobody should have the capability to access the calendar system of anybody else without being explicitly invited to do so. This restriction has several implications:

4a5a

Secretaries should have read and write access to the calendar systems of those for whom they are working. This implies that procedures should be developed that will allow smooth coordination of the record keeping and eliminate effectively all possible conflicts and mistakes,

4a5a1

Occasionally, one should be able to grant temporary read access to a third party. A special key system or a temporary, limited authorization procedure could be instituted to that effect. It could allow for instance

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

person X to access twice the calendar system of person Y when the latter initiates such an authorization, 4a5a2

A further exception to the no access rule deals with availability checks for meeting coordination. It is discussed below, 4a5a3

- CALLING MEETINGS 4a6

A person who wants to call a meeting ought to be able to query the personal calendar systems of all contemplated participants in order to check for possible scheduling conflicts, 4a6a

One should have the option to do that type of queries either by group identification or by individual identifications or names. The answer to such a query should give the list of names of those showing potential conflicts, 4a6b

However, final arrangements should never be allowed to be done automatically and the system should be designed in such a fashion that personal interactions are made easier rather than attempting to replace them, 4a6c

FUNCTIONS 4b

Scheduling 4b1

An advanced schedule of planned personal events - appointments, meetings, trips, visits, phone calls to be given, deadlines, and so on - should show at a glance the free and busy periods for several weeks in advance. The following example illustrates what an online schedule for a two week period could look like,, 4b1a

This schedule should be updated each day by deleting yesterday's row and adding a new day at the bottom of the schedule. All known events for that day, i.e, all events that were previously recorded in the calendar system, should be noted on the schedule when that day appears, 4b1b

Each event should appear on the schedule in the form of a mnemonic character that will be repeated on the schedule to cover the necessary number of 15 minute time periods the event is supposed to last. Ex: ,WWW,WW might represent a 90 minute meeting with Watson at the indicate time. We call this mnemonic reminder a trace, 4b1c

With each trace there is an associated calendar record that

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

contains all useful information about the event along with any further details or comments that are relevant to that event,

4b1d

When pointing to any trace the corresponding record should be displayed and, at insertion time, such a record should be automatically created. An updating procedure should be developed.,

4b1e

EXAMPLE: PERSONAL CALENDAR FOR A TWO WEEK PERIOD IN APRIL

4c

APRIL 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
EVE

4d

```

THU 18 . . . . . ,XXXX,XXXX,XXXX, .
.
FRI 19 . BB, . . ,X . . . ,****,****, .
.
SAT 20 . . . . . . . . . . . . .
.
SUN 21 . . . . . . . . . . . . .
.

```

4e

```

MON 22
,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,ttt,
TUE 23 . . . . . . . . . . . . XX, . .
.
WED 24 . . . . ,SSSS, . . . . . . .
.
THU 25 . . . . . . . . ,X . . ,DDDD, .
.
FRI 26 . . . ,SSSS, .X . . . ,****,****, .
.
SAT 27 ,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt,tttt, . . . . .
.
SUN 28 . . . . . . . . . . . . .
.
MON 29 . . . . WW, . . . . . . .
.
TUE 30 . . . . . . . . . . . . XX, . . D
.
WED 1 . . . ,XXXX,XXXX, . . . . . . .
.
-----

```

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

- 4f
- Scrolling 4f1
- It should be easy to browse through the calendar system,
Both forward and backward scrolling should be allowed, 4f1a
- Action Items 4f2
- Action items other than scheduled events should be handled
by the calendar system. Several lists of such items - a
weekly one and daily ones - should be maintained by the
calendar subsystem. Special traces on the schedule ought to
link the latter to these lists, 4f2a
- RECORDS 4f3
- A detailed record of the scheduled event should be created,
It should include the following items - to be prompted by
the system at insertion time by a mechanism similar to our
journal system=: 4f3a
- the date and time of the meeting (could be
done automatically from the indications
given on the schedule),
 - the scheduled length of the meeting,
 - the place of the meeting,
 - the topic to be discussed,
 - possibly the agenda,
 - the list of attendees,
 - links to any relevant notes and references,
 - any other relevant comments, 4f3a1
- it should also contain indications about the nature of
the reminders that the user wishes to get and the degree
of security desired for the meeting, 4f3a2
- Two types of records should be kept, namely, 4f3b
- the current ones 4f3b1
- They should be constantly connected to the
corresponding items on the schedule in such a manner
that a command, say "show item" XXX, will display
automatically that record on the display in DNLS or
print it out in TNLS, 4f3b1a

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

= the past ones 4f3b2

They should be stored in chronological order, indexed and catalogued for possible subsequent retrieval, 4f3b2a

INSERTION OF CALENDAR ITEMS 4f4

When an item is to be inserted on the calendar system one should be able to proceed as follows, 4f4a

Point out on a weekly, or a biweekly, schedule (see the example given in the next section) when the event is to be scheduled, 4f4a1

For instance, when the event is to be scheduled from 9:00 to 10:00 am on a given day one should be able to bug that time slot on the weekly schedule. Two things should then happen automatically, namely, 4f4a2

= the trace of the scheduled event should appear on the schedule for as many 15 minute periods as the event is supposed to last, say XXX for the 45 minute meeting, and 4f4a2a

IMPLEMENTATION 4g

SOME COMMANDS 5

SCHEDULE EVENT 5a

The function of this command is to allow insertion of an item on the personal schedule and creation of a corresponding record that captures all the necessary details about that scheduled event, 5a1

Example 5a2

Consider the following possible schedule for Friday, April 26: 5a2a

APRIL	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
EVE										

FRI 26	,		SS	,		XX,XX	,			***,****,

5a2b

To insert these items on the calendar, one the following three types of commands could be implemented: 5a3

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

- 1) In DNLS one could "bug" the positions on the calendar, 5a3a

The beginning of the meeting could be indicated by bugging any character in the range <, sp sp sp sp> corresponding to the hour when the meeting is supposed to begin, 5a3a1

For instance, if a one-hour meeting is called for 8:00, it suffices to bug any character in the "8 range" to put it on the calendar, 5a3a2

If the meeting is called for 8:15 or 8:30, then an appropriate number of blank spaces will indicate the corresponding number of 15 minute increments after the hour. The following examples will clearly illustrate that, 5a3a3

A similar procedure indicates the end of the meeting, 5a3a4

EXAMPLES 5a3a5

I (nsert Item) S (from) bug1 sp (to) bug2 sp CA 5a3a6

where bug1 is in the 9 range (including ",")
and bug2 is in the 9 range (including ","), 5a3a6a

I (nsert Item) X (from) bug1 sp sp (to) bug2 sp sp CA 5a3a7

where bug1 is in the 11 range (including ",")
and bug2 is in the 12 range (including ","), 5a3a7a

I (nsert Item) * (from) bug1 sp (to) bug2 CA 5a3a8

where bug1 is in the 3 range (including ",")
and bug2 is in the 4 range (including ","), 5a3a8a

- 2) In TNLS, or even as a DNLS option, one could just indicate the times of the meeting. The following examples illustrate this procedure quite clearly: 5a3b

I (nsert Item) S (from) 815 (to) 945 CA 5a3b1

I (nsert Item) X (from) 1130 (to) 1230 CA 5a3b2

I (nsert Item) * (from) 1515 (to) 1700 CA 5a3b3

- 3) An alternative is the following: 5a3c

I (nsert Item) S (at) 815 (for) ,5 (hours) CA 5a3c1

Towards the Design of an Online Calendar Subsystem

I (nsert Item) X (at) 1130 (for) 1 (hours) CA 5a3c2

I (nsert Item) * (at) 1515 (for) 1,75 (hours) CA 5a3c3

CANCEL EVENT 5b

This command should cancel a scheduled task by deleting its trace from the personal schedule. However, the record corresponding to this task should be preserved in a file of cancelled events for future reference or future rescheduling, 5b1

DELETE EVENT 5c

This command should delete a scheduled task along with its corresponding record. It should disappear from the data base altogether, 5c1

RESCHEDULE EVENT 5d

This command should reschedule a previously scheduled event at a new specified date and time. There are two cases to be considered, 5d1

- If it is a scheduled event, then the trace should be moved from its present date to the new specified date and the corresponding record should be modified accordingly, 5dia

- If the event was previously cancelled, it should be reclaimed from the "cancelled" file and reinstated as a scheduled event at the date specified, 5d1b

SHOW EVENT 5e

This command should prompt the calendar system to display the record corresponding to the scheduled event that is being pointed to on a display or referred to by its date. If a teletype is used that record should be printed out, 5e1

The option should be provided to "show" all the records corresponding to a given time period. In particular, all the records for a given date should be shown in chronological order if the date only is pointed to or referred to. An option could be provided to show the a,m, or p,m, periods only, 5e2

RETRIEVE EVENT 5f

This command should retrieve the record of either a past event or a cancelled one. It should provide the option to refer to such a record either by its serial number, or by the name or

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names of the participants involved in that event, or by the subject, or by its date and starting time, or by a combination thereof,

5f1

The capability should also be provided for retrieving all the records concerning on subject, or involving one person or a group of persons, over a given time period,

5f2

NOTE EVENT

5g

This command should create a "preliminary" record for a future event that cannot be scheduled for any one of various reasons. For instance, it might be a possible event in a distant future that cannot yet be scheduled, or it might be a tentative event that must be confirmed,

5g1

Appropriate periodic reminders should be given at specified dates to allow for the scheduling, cancellation or deletion of such tentative events,

5g2

REMIND EVENT

5h

This command should allow the user to ask the system to send him a reminder of the specified event at a given date or dates,

5h1

GLOSSARY

6

Event: any appointment, meeting, trip, visit, phone call, deadline or any other task that is recorded in the calendar system and managed by it,

6a

Schedule: the weekly, biweekly, or monthly summary that displays in a mnemonic form a person's commitments for that period,

6b

Trace: the indication of a planned event on the schedule. A mnemonic character is inserted on the schedule in the time slots corresponding to the planned event -- one character for every 15 minute time period or fraction thereof. For instance, "EEE" might indicate a planned thirty minute meeting with Doug Engelbart,

6c

Record: the numbered record that is associated with each event that is entered into the calendar system,

6d

Reminder: the message that the calendar system sends to the user to remind him of a forthcoming event that he wanted to be reminded of,

6e

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(J23038) 17-MAY-74 16:59; Title; Author(s); Paul Rech/PR;
Distribution; /RWW DCE SRL CHI; Sub-Collections; SRI-ARC; Clerk; PR;
Origin; <RECH>CALEN,NLS;29, 17-MAY-74 16:52 PR ;

comment on your 23019

i think interrogate should yes yes be default in sendmail, standard
order would be faster for me, bye, and you will will will get bike
back back back,

1

comment on your 23019

(J23039) 17-MAY-74 17:02; Title: Author(s): Sandy L. Johnson/SLJ;
Distribution: /FDBK([INFO-ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk:
SLJ;

KIRK 17-MAY-74 21:06 23040

Programs sybsys Delete Last command bug

Much thanks to Dirk, Mike and Jeanne Beck for their comments on this item.

Programs sybsys Delete Last command bug

(J23040) 17-MAY-74 21:06; Title: Author(s): Kirk E. Kelley/KIRK;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]) SRI=ARC([INFO=ONLY]) ;
Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC BUGS; Clerk: KIRK;

New NLS bugs == 2

2 bugs tonite: When one uses Go to Help, he is given the fdbk, "for more help type " Q again",,, He never used it in the first place,
2) When bugging a link which is the first visable in a statement , the msg "illegal link, left delimiter not found" was consistantly received for all operations on links. The link status was (). The problem did not hold true for < > when these replaced the parens. The same problem existed when there were no characters preceeding the link. Links elsewhere in the same statment worked. Thanks,

1

New NLS bugs == 2

(J23041) 17-MAY-74 23:15; Title: Author(s): James H. Bair/JHB;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]) FDBK([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections:
SRI=ARC BUGS; Clerk: JHB;

Journal Indices not online

Don't you think the Journal Indices SHOULDN'T be archived, especially ones for JUL73 = DEC73. I try and make sure that ARCLOCATOR doesn't get archived even if noone reads it for awhile, so I feel that the links for its indices also should stay online. I was here on Saturday and couldn't get to the P-Z TITLEWORD INDEX for JUL 73 = DEC 73. Why don't you try setting those files to ARCHIVE & DON'T DELETE, or to DON'T ARCHIVE in Tenex. Having them stay around would be helpful when working at times no operator is here to retrieve archived files.

1

Journal Indices not online

(J23042) 18-MAY-74 10:20; Title: Author(s): Jeanne M. Beck/JMB;
Distribution: /BAH([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI-ARC; Clerk:
JMB;

Logging in as Userguides

I couldn't log in today (may 18) as userguides. I mean, I could log in but couldn't get into nls: I typed nls <cr> and got the following:

@nls

Ident =

ILLEGAL INST 0 at 1,

@

before I had a chance to start typing an Ident.

I don't know if you meant this was to be already implemented, but just to let you know it's almost there. It will sure be good to have USERGUIDES as a username--will make file transfer easier!

1

Logging in as Userguides

(J23043) 18-MAY=74 10:39; Title: Author(s): Jeanne M. Beck/JMB;
Distribution: /DVN([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk:
JMB;

New NLS bug in split screen

Help (control G) says Split (window),,; The command is actually Split Window,,; Hitting "Q after split doesnt tell you to hit w. I think the w is superfluous, and the command should be Split vertically or Horizontally. Its logivcal even if the noun field is not quite perfect,,,. Change the command not the documentation,

1

JHB 19=MAY=74 19:34 23044

New NLS bug in split screen

(J23044) 19=MAY=74 19:34; Title: Author(s): James H. Bair/JHB;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]) FDBK([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections:
SRI=ARC BUGS; Clerk: JHB;

New NLS suggestion/bug

When a user types ? in expert mode, there should be some clue that there are more commands if he types a space and then another ?. Better yet, have all options listed with those requiring a space showing that, ie, for move ?, have boundary listed as <space>boundary.
If you have complications because of multiple recognition modes, then it should be worked in anyway,

New NLS suggestion/bug

(J23045) 19-MAY-74 20:04; Title: Author(s): James H. Bair/JHB;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]) NP([ACTION]) RWW([ACTION])
FDBK([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC BUGS NP; Clerk: JHB;

New NLS bug

When in Jump to File Return and spacing back through the link list (about 8 loads) received "pushdown overflow at 25301" and was left in exec. Continue got: "illegal instruction at 17000420001 at user 411516", whew.

1

JHB 19-MAY-74 21:48 23046

New NLS bug

(J23046) 19-MAY-74 21:48; Title: Author(s): James H. Bair/JHB;
Distribution: /BUGS([ACTION]) FDBK([ACTION]) ; Sub=Collections:
SRI=ARC BUGS; Clerk: JHB;

CHI 20-MAY-74 08:40 23047

Request for more info on link bugging problem

Re 23041, number 2

Request for more info on link bugging problem

Jim, what were the name delimiters for the statement in which you could not bug a link if it were the first visible in the statement (could NLS have thought it was a statement name)? -- Charles,

1

CHI 20-MAY-74 08:40 23047

Request for more info on link bugging problem

(J23047) 20-MAY-74 08:40; Title: Author(s): Charles H. Irby/CHI;
Distribution: /JHB([INFO-ONLY]) FEEDBACK([INFO-ONLY]) ;
Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC FEEDBACK; Clerk: CHI;

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes,

```

FILE newhosts % (L10,) (kudlick,newhosts,) %                               1

% PROGRAM TO GENERATE NLS FILE TO BE RUN THROUGH OUTPUT ASSEMBLER FOR
ASCII HOSTNAMES FILE %                                                    2

% default input file = <feinler>hostaddr=master %                        2a

% default output file = <netinfo>hosts %                                   2b

% Global declarations %                                                    3

REGISTER r2 = 2;                                                            3a

DECLARE dirno;                                                              3b

DECLARE                                                                      3c

    stid, % input file top plex, current host statement %                 3c1

    endstid, % origin of input file %                                       3c2

    filf, % TRUE if output is NEW FILE %                                     3c3

    outstid, % output file current tail stid %                             3c4

DECLARE STRING dirname [40];                                               3d

DECLARE STRING xlit [80]; % for file names%                               3e

(newhosts) PROCEDURE;                                                       4

% Local Declarations %                                                    4a

LOCAL TEXT POINTER tp1, tp2, tp3, substid;                                4a1

LOCAL STRING inpstr[100]; % used to hold attribute names %                4a2

LOCAL STRING statement[150]; % used for formatting output line %         4a3

LOCAL STRING attstr[20];                                                  4a4

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes.

```

% ***** % 4b
%
%      INITIALIZATION;  SETTING UP ATTRIBUTE NAMES      % 4c
%
%inptr* = "NICKNAMES,", EOL; 4c1
%
%      to add a new attribute name, put it within quotes, % 4d
%      the final quote to be preceded AND followed by % 4e
%      a comma, as with the name NICKNAMES above      o % 4f
% ***** %
%
% initialization, opening files % 4h
% get output file name % 4h1
%      otfl(); 4h1a
% get input file name % 4h2
%      infl(); 4h2a
%
% loop to process input % 4i
%      crlf(); 4i1
%      typeas ($" Program starting,"); 4i2
%      LOOP 4i3
%          BEGIN 4i3a
%          % get host name % 4i3b
%          CCPOS SF(stid); 4i3b1
%          *statement* = NULL; 4i3b2

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes,

```

xtrnam($statement, $swork, =1);                                413b3
% get host address %                                          413c
  substid = stid; %starting point of search%                 413c1
  substid = namgrp(substid, substid, s"HOST=ADDR", 10);      413c2
IF substid = endfil THEN                                       413c3
  BEGIN                                                       413c3a
    *statement* = "skipping ", *statement*, " ... No        413c3b
    Host=Addr statement";
    crlf();                                                  413c3c
    typeas($statement);                                       413c3d
    GOTO newsite;                                             413c3e
  END;                                                         413c3f
IF NOT FIND SF(substid) > ['() []] sNP *tp1 1SD *tp2        413c4
THEN                                                            413c4
  BEGIN                                                       413c4a
    *statement* = "skipping ", *statement*, " ... No        413c4b
    Host=Addr value";
    crlf();                                                  413c4c
    typeas($statement);                                       413c4d
    GOTO newsite;                                             413c4e
  END                                                         413c4f
% first line of entry: HOST NAME and HOST ADDR %           413d
  ELSE *statement* = *statement*, ' , , tp1 tp2;            413d1

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes.

```

    outstid _ cis(outstid, $statement, succdir);                                4i3d2
% second line of entry: STATUS= %                                           4i3e
    substid _ stid; %starting point of search%                               4i3e1
    substid _ namingrp(substid, substid, $"STATUS", 10);                     4i3e2
    *statement* _ "STATUS=";                                                 4i3e3
    IF substid = endfil THEN GOTO nosite;                                     4i3e4
    IF NOT FIND SF(substid) > [^() [^]] $NP ^tp1                             4i3e5
    ([ "SERVER" ] / [ "USER" ] / [ "TIP" ]) ^tp2 THEN
        (nosite);                                                            4i3e5a
        *statement* _ *statement*, "UNKNOWN"                                4i3e5b
    ELSE *statement* _ *statement*, tp1 tp2;                                  4i3e6
% third and subsequent lines of entry: %                                     4i3f
    FIND SF(*inpstr*) ^tp1;                                                  4i3f1
    LOOP                                                                      4i3f2
        BEGIN                                                                4i3f2a
            IF NOT FIND tp1 > $NP ^tp1 [^,] ^tp3 ^tp2 _tp2 THEN            4i3f2b
                BEGIN                                                        4i3f2b1
                    fattr($statement); % output final attr for this        4i3f2b2
                    site %
                EXIT LOOP;                                                    4i3f2b3
            END                                                                4i3f2b4
        ELSE % get next attribute name and process it %                      4i3f2c
            BEGIN                                                            4i3f2c1
                *attstr* _ tp1 tp2;                                          4i3f2c2

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes.

```

        tp1[i] = tp3[i];                                413f2c3
        IF NOT attr($attstr, $statement) THEN           413f2c4
            BEGIN                                       413f2c4a
                fattr($statement);                     413f2c4b
            EXIT LOOP;                                   413f2c4c
        END;                                            413f2c4d
    END;                                               413f2c5
END;                                                  413f2d

% get next top level site-name %                      413g
    (newsite); IF (stid = getsuc(stid)) = endstid THEN EXIT
    LOOP;
                                                    413g1
END; % of main loop %                                413h
                                                    413i

% close files %                                       414
    freflnt();                                         414a
    crlf();                                           415
    typeas($"HOSTS program terminated normally.");    416
    RETURN;                                           417
END,                                                  418

(attr) PROCEDURE (atstr, statement); %find and output next attribute
%
    REF atstr, statement;                             5a
    LOCAL sbstid;                                     5b
    LOCAL TEXT POINTER tp1, tp2;                     5c

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes,

```

sbstid _ stid; %starting point of search%           5d
sbstid _ namingsrp(sbstid, sbstid, satstr, 10);     5e
IF sbstid = endfil THEN RETURN (FALSE);           5f
IF NOT FIND SF(sbstid) > ['('] [')'] sNP "tp1 isCH [ENDCHR] "tp2
THEN RETURN (TRUE) % no attribute value for this attribute name
%                                                    5g
ELSE                                               5h
    BEGIN                                         5h1
        % get previous attribute out %           5h2
            outstid _ cis(outstid, sstatement, succdir); 5h2a
        % prepare this attribute for next output % 5h3
            *statement* _ *atstr*, "=", tp1 tp2; 5h3a
    END;                                           5h4
RETURN (TRUE);                                     5i
END,                                               5j

(fattr) PROCEDURE (stmnt); % output final attribute for this site% 6
    REF fstr, stmnt;                               6a
    % put EOL on final attr, and get it out %     6b
    *stmnt* _ *stmnt*, EOL;                       6c
    outstid _ cis(outstid, sstmnt, succdir);     6d
RETURN;                                           6e
END,                                               6f

(infil) PROCEDURE; % determine input file name % 7
    LOCAL TEXT POINTER tp1, tp2;                 7a

```


L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes.

```

LOOP                                                    7b
    BEGIN                                              7b1
        stid = origin;                                7b2
        crlf();                                       7b3
        typeas($" Input file = ");                  7b4
        *xlit* = NULL;                                7b5
        txtlit(sxlit);                                7b6
        IF xlit,L # 0 THEN                             7b7
            BEGIN                                      7b7a
                IF NOT FIND SF(*xlit*) > '<' THEN    7b7b
                    BEGIN                              7b7b1
                        ! JSYS gjinf;                 7b7b2
                        dirno = r2;                    7b7b3
                        gdnname (dirno, sdirname);     7b7b4
                        *xlit* = '<, *dirname*, >', *xlit*; 7b7b5
                    END;                                7b7b6
                IF NOT FIND SF(*xlit*) > [';.] THEN *xlit* = *xlit*, ",NLS"; 7b7c
            END                                         7b7d
        ELSE                                           7b8
            BEGIN                                      7b8a
                *xlit* = "<FEINLER>HOSTADDR=MASTER,NLS"; 7b8b
                typeas(sxlit);                          7b8c
            END;                                        7b8d
        IF NOT (stid,stfile = open(0,sxlit)) THEN    7b9

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes,

```

        BEGIN                                     7b9a
        typeas($" Unable to open input file, Try another "); 7b9b
        REPEAT LOOP;                             7b9c
        END;                                     7b9d
endstid = stid;                                7b10
IF (stid := getsub(stid)) = stid THEN          7b11
    BEGIN                                       7b11a
    typeas($"Empty input file, Try another "); 7b11b
    REPEAT LOOP;                             7b11c
    END;                                       7b11d
EXIT LOOP;                                    7b12
END;                                          7b13
RETURN;                                       7c
END;                                          7d
(otf1) PROCEDURE; % determine output file name % 8
LOCAL zeroval,hstid,tstid;                  8a
LOCAL TEXT POINTER tp1, tp2;                8b
zeroval = 0;                                8c
LOOP                                         8d
    BEGIN                                       8d1
    freflnt();                                8d2
    outstid = origin;                         8d3
    crlf();                                   8d4

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes,

```

typeas($" Output file = ");                                8d5
*xlit* = NULL;                                             8d6
txlit($xlit);                                             8d7
IF xlit,L # 0 THEN                                         8d8
  BEGIN                                                    8d8a
    IF NOT FIND SF(*xlit*) > '<' THEN                    8d8b
      BEGIN                                                8d8b1
        ! JSYS gjinf;                                       8d8b2
        dirno = r2;                                         8d8b3
        gname ( dirno, sdirname);                          8d8b4
        *xlit* = '<, *dirname*, >', *xlit*;                8d8b5
      END;                                                  8d8b6
    IF NOT FIND SF(*xlit*) > ['."] THEN *xlit* = *xlit*, ".NLS"; 8d8c
  END                                                       8d8d
ELSE                                                        8d9
  BEGIN                                                    8d9a
    *xlit* = "<NETINFO>HOSTS.NLS";                        8d9b
    typeas($xlit);                                         8d9c
  END;                                                     8d9d
% Open calls err if it doesn't find the file. %          8d10
ON SIGNAL ELSE GOTO newfile;                               8d10a
IF outstid,stfile = open(0, $xlit) THEN                   8d11
  BEGIN                                                    8d11a
    typeas($" (old file) CONFIRM ");                       8d11b

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes.

```

      IF input() # CA THEN REPEAT LOOP;          8d11c
      hstid = pixset(getsub(outstid);tstid);      8d11d
      cdelgrp(hstid,tstid,FALSE,$zeroval);      8d11e
      END                                         8d11f
ELSE                                           8d12
      BEGIN                                     8d12a
      (newfile);                                8d12b
      typeas($" (new file) CONFIRM ");          8d12c
      IF input() # CA THEN REPEAT LOOP;        8d12d
      ON SIGNAL ELSE NULL; %disarm all of them% 8d12e
      IF NOT outstid,stfile = openull(sxlit) THEN 8d12f
          BEGIN                                 8d12f1
          typeas($" Bad Output File Name "); % (that's all it could 8d12f2
          be) %
          REPEAT LOOP;                          8d12f3
          END                                    8d12f4
      ELSE EXIT LOOP;                          8d12g
      END;                                       8d12h
      EXIT LOOP;                                8d13
      END;                                       8d14
RETURN;                                        8e
END,                                           8f
FINISH                                         9

```

L10 Program (NEW NLS) to create NLS file of Host names, addresses,
and attributes.

(J23048) 20-MAY-74 08:41; Title:
for use with NEW NLS !"; Author(s): Michael D. Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /JAKE; Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: MDK;
Origin: (KUDLICK, NEWHOSTS,NLS;8,), 20-MAY-74 08:34 MDK ;

Take the program to create an NLS file of network hostnames, hostaddresses, and attributes has been journalized and distributed to you.

A compiled version exists in (kudlick, newhosts,rel,). I'll leave that in my directory till Wednesday 22-May, then delete it. You can always recompile from the journalized source code, using the Programs subsystem command "compile file",

... Mike

1

(J23049) 20-MAY-74 08:45; Title; Author(s): Michael D. Kudlick/MDK;
Distribution: /JAKE; Sub-Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: MDK;

Response to (30550,) problem with TERM SCO

Dave, there are some programming incompatibilities between taskers running NLS and terminal type scope preventing us from implementing that feature,

SRL 20=MAY=74 10:10 23050

Response to (30550,) problem with TERM SCO

(J23050) 20=MAY=74 10:10; Title: Author(s): Susan R. Lee/SRL;
Distribution: /DHC([INFO=ONLY]) JHB([INFO=ONLY]) DVN([INFO=ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC; Clerk: SRL;

Access to NLS After June, Senoi

I forgot that I sent you a journal item about the Senoi at a time when the new journal system was experimental and later learned it never reached you, I will mail you stuff about the Senoi,

I hear you have talkd to Jim N about access to NLS, Did he mention that there has been vague talk of southerland suing NLS for dcumentation? Elsie Leavitt was here on that score a few months,
Cia

DVN 20-MAY-74 10:39 23052

Access to NLS After June, Senoi

(J23052) 20-MAY-74 10:39; Title: Author(s): Dirk H, Van
Nouhuys/DVN; Distribution: /NJN([INFO=ONLY]); Sub=Collections: NIC
SRI=ARC; Clerk: DVN;

top=down vision

AUTHOR(S): SLJ

MESSAGE: "Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to walk from here?". "That depends a good deal on where you want to go to, said the Cat. "I don't care where"--said Alice. Then it doesn't matter which way you walk, " said the Cat. "So long as I get somewhere," Alice added as an explanation. "Oh, you're sure to do that, said the Cat, if you only walk long enough." Alice felt that this could not be denied so she tried another question. "What sort of people live about here?" In THAT direction, the Cat said, waving its right paw around, lives a Hatter; and in THAT direction, waving the other paw, lives a March Hare. Visit either you like; they're both mad. But I don't want to go among mad people, Alice remarked. "Oh, you can't help that , " said the Cat, "We're all mad here. I'm mad, you're mad, "How do you know I'm mad,", said Alice, "You must be," said the Cat, "or you wouldn't have come here".

1

top=down vision

(J23053) 20=MAY=74 15:07; Title: Author(s): Sandy L. Johnson/SLJ;
Distribution: /SRI=ARC([INFO=ONLY]) ; Sub=Collections: SRI=ARC;
Clerk: SLJ;

My feelings about 23006 'Help Additions and Fixes Currently Being Implemented'

Much thanks to Dirk, Mike and Jeanne Beck for their comments on this item.

My feelings about 23006 'Help Additions and Fixes Currently Being Implemented'

Introduction

This document is an incomplete list of those needs that were not mentioned as being currently under implementation. I have only listed those needs I believe are necessary for the Help system to be useable and of value. Asterisks refer to needs satisfied by the accessing system I have coded. This is only to indicate those items where the arguments "it can't be done" and "it's too hard to do" are false.

In general, the long needed items in 23006 should make Help more useable. A few things seemed like they would do the exact opposite.

New commands, features, or conceptual modifications:

I will not list these as they are to be discussed in a later document. However...

* The "Show mode" sounds difficult to use and explain. In fact, it sounds like getting to the Quit command as well as the new "Back" command being implemented is going to be at least as much or more of a hassle to do and explain as before.

* I notice bugging a node is being implemented. Bugging a word as well for a name search is not being implemented.

Another command word "Back" is being added.

* I saw no reference to allowing the user to specify map views or Verbose Views. The inability of choosing a type of view causes many accessing problems and database design problems. Also, it is currently the prime reason for the need to return in Help. I predict no implementation of "Back" commands, no matter how fancy, will ever satisfy this need.

"viewspecs will work in included links". It doesn't say how. I predict they will be implemented in some way to accomodate the Help link handling mechanism (see=22881,) and won't really work in a useful way. For instance:

* a formatting link containing only viewspecs (no address), as the Locator Files use and would be valuable many places in Help will probably not work.

The top node will probably be treated seperately somehow from it's substructure so viewspecs will not take effect in one or the other.

My feelings about 23006 'Help Additions and Fixes Currently Being Implemented'

Additions and fixes requested by the data base builders that are not mentioned in 23006;

Change punctuation characters input by users to their alpha-numeric name equivalent. Currently, when a user types something like: Show [A];, all that happens is the message "illegal list characters" appears,

When the second word of a two word show search is not found, take a link at the node addressed by the first word to search for the second,

Automatically remember every word asked for by a user, but not found in Help,

* Make available editing the view seen on the screen. That is, being able to make a correction without having to quit out of the Help subsystem, load the help database, re-find the place, make the edit, fire up the Help subsystem, and then re-find the place again to see how it looks,

* Links, available for users to choose within a single node. That is, in Help, links marked by a certain Q-spec should be menued within a statement instead of being automatically "included". This is to do the following,

1. Allow Help to work faster by

A, allowing us to get rid of the many ugly little statements that are nothing but links;

B, allowing the the user to choose when he wants to take a link instead of automatically "including" (searching and displaying) every link,

2. Augment the "show also" convention for the following reasons,

A, to allow the user to get where he wants to go without having to type the whole word, just a number,

B, make the database easier to maintain. (A user program exists to check what links work or don't work. There is nothing that checks if a "Show also" works or not),

C, allow items to be menued that are references (to concepts in the node) but are not classified by that node (do not belong in it's substructure). This would get rid of the

My feelings about 23006 'Help Additions and Fixes Currently Being Implemented'

annoying "loops" in the database that many people have complained about,

3e2c

Bug fixes

4

Statement 4B under Bug Fixes says "Do not make general subsystem commands other than quit (e.g., execute, etc.) available,..."

4a

The Execute Command is already not available. The bug fix would be to make it available as it would be most valuable to Execute a command in another subsystem to try it out and then be back in help,

4a1

The unwanted carriage returns that are issued with every link that is taken should be fixed,

4b

It would be nice to have the ability to use the command: Execute Help and be able to see the desired information without having it immediately disappear,

4c

References

5

HGL "Help Additions and Fixes Currently Being Implemented"
<23006,> 15-MAY-74

5a

KIRK "Disadvantages in the way HELP handles links"
<22881,> 26-APR-74

5b

My feelings about 23006 'Help Additions and Fixes Currently Being Implemented'

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