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TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

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Utility System Programming Proposals

Proposal for Modifications to TAPE

by

H. J. Frieden

1 May 1963

Approved

J. B. Munson

SYSTEM

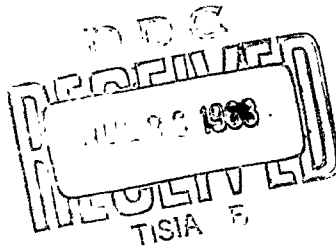
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-1-

TM-890/008/00

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21 May 1963 is the cut-off date for review of this document. If no comments or guidance instructions are received prior to this date, complete acceptance and approval of this proposal will be assumed.

Proposal for Modifications to TAPE

MTCII's input-output routine for tapes (TAPEIO) has been generalized to perform all possible tape operations. This does not obsolete the subroutine TAPE, since the calling sequence to TAPE is preferable to the calling sequence for TAPEIO, for many applications. However, TAPE can be modified to use TAPEIO instead of doing its own input-output. This will shorten the TAPE routine, in addition to conforming to the policy of centralized input-output.

The following modifications to TAPE are also proposed at this time.

1. The "tape not ready" error return would be eliminated. TAPE would always wait for the tape to become ready. (TAPEIO prints "Unit N not ready", and waits for the operator to ready the tape.)
2. An error return for "illegal op code" would be added.
3. An error return for "illegal tape number" would be added.
4. An error return for "equipment inoperative" would be added.
5. The A register would always contain the buffer word on the normal return from a check read operation.
6. On an error return, the lower address of the A register would contain the physical tape address given in the TTTT table for the specified tape.
7. An error return for a parity error in writing an end-of-file would be added.

1 May 1963

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Proposes modifications to TAPE.
Reports that TAPE can be modified
to use TAPEIO (input-output routine
for tapes) instead of doing its own
input-output.

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