BILL BRIDGE 3380 56 ZZZ 01/21/72

BASIC

CURRENT SYSTEM MESSAGES

09 OCT 71 SYSMES, OLDMSG, TTYMES LISTINGS

LISTINGS OF SYSMES, OLDMSG, AND TTYMES MAY BE OBTAINED BY EXECUTING CONTROL CARDS SYSMES. OLDMES. TTYMES.

19 JAN 72 BUGS AND RESTRICTIONS

FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF KNOWN CALIDOSCOPE SYSTEM BUGS; THE LIST WILL BE MODIFIED AS BUGS ARE FIXED OR FOUND.

- MNF, RBR, WBR ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE

30 DEC 71 MAXIMUM FIELD LENGTH ON THE JOB CARD

IF THE MAXIMUM FIELD LENGTH THE JOB ATTAINS(EITHER BY A RFL CONTROL STATEMENT OR A CENTRAL REQUEST VIA MEM) IS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 120,000 OCTAL, THIS MAXIMUM MUST BE SPECIFIED ON THE JOB CARD, OTHERWISE THE JOB WILL BE ABORTED.

09 JAN 72 CAL S N O B O L MK II

THE ≠SNOBOL≠ CONTROL CARD NOW CALLS A NEW VERSION OF SNOBOL SIMILAR TO THE EXPERIMENTAL VERSION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AS ≠XSNOBOL≠ (WHICH WILL DISAPPEAR IN A FEW DAYS). SOME BUGS FOUND IN XSNOBOL HAVE BEEN FIXED IN THIS NEW VERSION:

1) IT NO LONGER GETS ARITH ERRORS DURING COMPILATION
2) THE I/O ASSOCIATION PROCEDURES INPUT(), OUTPUT(), AND DETACH() ARE WORKING SMOOTHLY
3) SEVERAL PROGRAMMER-DEFINED DATATYPES WITH ONE OR MORE FIELD NAMES IN COMMON NO LONGER CAUSES SNOBOL TO RUN TO TIME LIMIT
4) THE COMPILER DIRECTIVE -NOLIST HAS BEEN CHANGED TO -UNLIST

(FOR A DESCRIPTION OF COMPILER DIRECTIVES AND OTHER NEW FEATURES OF SNOBOL, SEE THE WRITEUP ≠RECENT CHANGES TO CAL SNOBOL≠, NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE COMPUTER CENTER LIBRARY.) BRING ANY QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS TO PAUL MCJONES, 209 EVANS, TELEPHONE EXT. 2-5835.

19 JAN 72 CALIDOSCOPE

THE INCARNATION OF CALIDOSCOPE WHICH HAS BEEN IN OPERATION SINCE 5 JAN HAS PROVED SUFFICIENTLY STABLE FOR PRODUCTION PURPOSES. A HIGH INCIDENCE OF HARDWARE PROBLEMS HAS PLAGUED US DURING THIS PERIOD, BUT SOFTWARE CRASHES HAVE BEEN INFREQUENT. ONLY TWO EXAMPLES OF JOBS WHICH RAN UNDER SCOPE BUT WOULDNT RUN UNDER CALIDOSCOPE HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION. ONE OF THESE PROBLEMS IS SOLVED (SEE FREAK NOTICE), THE OTHER IS ≠GET-AROUNDABLE≠ AND WILL BE REPAIRED SHORTLY. THE BIGGEST (KNOWN) REMAINING PROBLEM IS THAT THE JOB SCHEDULER HAS SOME MISSING PIECES. THIS HAS RESULTED IN SOME SCHEDULING ABERRATIONS, NOTABLY LONG TURNAROUND FOR REMOTE JOBS, ESPECIALLY REMOTE TAPE JOBS. THIS SHOULD BE CLEARED UP OVER THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO AND TURNAROUND WILL BECOME MORE RATIONAL AND DEPENDABLE. WE WILL ANNOUNCE WHEN WEVE FIXED THE SCHEDULER. MEANWHILE, PLEASE CONTINUE TO BRING ANY OTHER CALIDOSCOPE RELATED PROBLEMS TO THE CONSULTANT IN 217 EVANS, X 2-4072. IF YOU CANT CONTACT THE CONSULTANT, CONTACT GENE ALBRIGHT AT 2-5540, DICK PETERS AT 2-5512, THOS SUMNER AT 2-5974, OR BRUCE THOMSON AT 2-5952. FAILING ALL OF THE ABOVE, LEAVE THE PRINTOUT AND DECK, IF POSSIBLE, AND A NOTE TELLING HOW TO REACH YOU WITH THE SHIFT SUPERVISOR IN THE MACHINE ROOM.

19 JAN 72 HOW TO FIX FREAK AND OTHER MOTHER DERIVATIVES

A LIBRARY ROUTINE IS AVAILABLE WHICH HAS SUCCESSFULLY MASSAGED AT LEAST ONE MOTHER TAPE AND PRODUCED A TAPE THAT RAN ON AN ODD DAY (WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE - THE TAPE EVEN PRODUCED CORRECT DATES). IF YOU REQUEST YOUR OLD MOTHER TAPE AS OLDMOM AND A SUITABLE NEW TAPE AS NEWMOM, THE FOLLOWING CONTROL CARDS WILL MAKE A NEW TAPE FOR YOU -

```
RFL,60000.
FIXMUM,OLDMOM,NEWMUM.
```

LET US KNOW IF THIS SOLVES, OR FAILS TO SOLVE, YOUR MOTHER PROBLEMS.

19 JAN 72 RUN COMPILER BUG

A BUG HAS BEEN DISCOVERED IN THE RUN COMPILER WHICH, UNDER SOME CIRCUMSTANCES, CAUSES IT TO EXPONENTIATE TO THE POWER 7 IF (1) A VARIABLE IS BEING RAISED TO AN INTEGER CONSTANT POWER AND (2) THAT VARIABLE IS A DIMENSIONED VARIABLE WHICH IS BEING USED WITHOUT A SUBSCRIPT (E.G., USING X AS SHORT FOR X(1)). THIS PROBLEM DOES NOT OCCUR IN RUNW OR FUN.

19 JAN 72 BCD X TAPE POSITIONING PROBLEM

A BCD (CODED) X TAPE IS IMPROPERLY POSITIONED AFTER THE END-OF-FILE MARK IF THE LAST UNIT RECORD IN THE FILE HAS BEEN READ LOGICALLY (BUT NOT THE END-OF-FILE ITSELF). THIS USUALLY CAUSES NO PROBLEM IN FORTRAN PROGRAMS, BUT IN THE CASE OF READING UP TO (BUT NOT INCLUDING) THE END-OF-FILE AND THEN EXECUTING A SKIP FILE FUNCTION, THE NEXT FILE WILL BE SKIPPED, INSTEAD OF MERELY SKIPPING PAST THE END OF THE CURRENT FILE AS WAS INTENDED. THIS PROBLEM IS EXPECTED TO BE CORRECTED BY JAN. 24. IN THE MEANTIME, THE PROBLEM MAY BE CIRCUMVENTED BY COPYING AS MANY FILES OF THE TAPE AS YOU ARE GOING TO USE TO DISK, AND EXECUTING FROM THE DISK FILE INSTEAD OF FROM TAPE. HOWEVER, PLEASE USE THIS METHOD ONLY IN CASE OF A KNOWN FAILURE AND ONLY UNTIL THE PROBLEM IS CORRECTED, SINCE DISK SPACE IS VERY LIMITED.