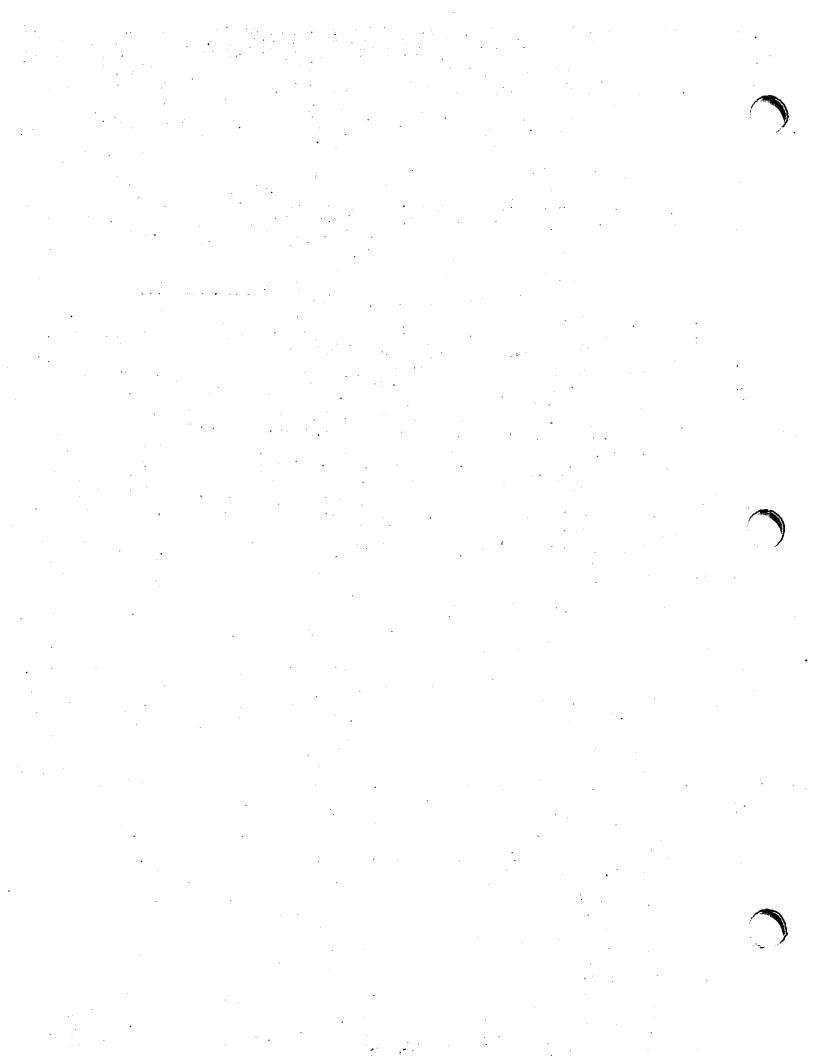NATIONAL BANK OF DETROIT

SUBJECT: PRINTF
                Disc to Printer Utility Program

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PRINTF is a utility program for printing ASCII files. It was written in order to implement a form of pseudo-spooling, in which any programatic output intended for the line printer would first be written to a disc file and printed later; but it is also useful for listing data and program source files.

The program examines the CCTL f-option of the input file to determine whether the first character of each record is to be used as a carriage control character or printed as data. If the CCTL bit is off, the entire record is printed using single spacing with automatic page eject. The file name is printed as a heading on the first page. If the CCTL bit is on, the user is asked if the records are to be pre-spaced or post-spaced and whether to use or suppress automatic page eject.

After printing one file, the program will ask for another file until a blank line (carriage return) or :EOD is entered. The user may terminate the printing of a file by typing a control Y.

:RUN PRINTF.PUB.SYS

FILE PRINT PROGRAM

FILE?   { filename [/lockword] [.group [.account]] }
                { *formal designator }

If the CCTL bit is off, the program will begin printing the file; otherwise it will ask: (default response is underlined)

PRE- OR POST-SPACING?   { PRE }
                            { <u>POST</u> }

SUPPRESS AUTO EJECT?   { Y }
                           { <u>N</u> }

After each file is printed, the program will ask for another file until a blank line or :EOD is entered.

NOTES

Pre-spacing and post-spacing:

In general, output from the compilers and other MPE subsystems such as the segmenter is post-spaced. Output from a Fortran program is, by convention, pre-spaced.

Auto page eject:

The line printers used on the HP 3000 provide two techniques for slewing paper: the first is a VFU* slew in which the paper is advanced until a hole is found in the specified channel of the VFU tape, the second is a count down slew in which the paper is advanced and a line counter is decremented until the line count has been counted down to zero. Automatic page eject has been implemented by using a VFU slew on channel 3 whenever single spacing is desired. The standard VFU tape supplied by Hewlett Packard contains a hole punched in channel 3 for every line except lines 1 - 3 and 64 - 66 of an 11 inch form. Whenever a special VFU tape is made for non-standard length forms, the user must either punch channel 3 for every line or switch to a count down slew. Count down slew may be selected either explicitly by specifying a carriage control character of the form %2nn as indicated in figure 6-3 of the MPE manual (page 6-27) or by suppressing the auto eject feature of the driver by answering YES to the question "SUPPRESS AUTO EJECT?".

*Vertical Forms Unit