UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

COMPUTER CENTRE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DATE   : WEEK ENDED 22 JUNE 1972
AUTHORIZATION : DIRECTOR OF THE COMPUTER CENTRE

1.   OPERATIONS

1.1   PDP-10 SYSTEM

MONDAY   19 JUNE INCORRECT RETRIEVAL MESSAGES ON SOME PROJECTS, INVESTIGATION FROM 1100-1400 CONFUSED BY HARDWARE FAULTS
SYSTEM MAINTENANCE 1400-1640
RECOVERY OF ACCOUNTING FILES 1640-1725
RANDOM FILE ERRORS, LOGIN OR LOGOUT NOT POSSIBLE, SYSTEM MAINTENANCE 1830-2020
BATCH OPERATING PROBLEMS CAUSED MONITOR RELOAD 2112
SYSTEM OFFLINE UNTIL 2250 FOR RECOVERY OF FILES FROM DISK PACKS AND DUMPER TAPE
BATCH PROCESSING ONLY 2250-2400.

TUESDAY   20 JUNE SYSTEM FAILURE, OFFLINE 0945-1000
SYSTEM IN LOOPING STATE, SOFTWARE INVESTIGATION 1100-1107, USERS LOGGED OUT
SYSTEM MAINTENANCE 1135-1900.

WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE DIAGNOSTIC MAINTENANCE 0930-0950
CORRECTION OF ACCOUNTING FILES, END OF DAY PROCEDURE FOR PREVIOUS NIGHT 0951-1107
COPYING OF OPERATIONAL DISK PACKS FOR RELIABLE BACKUP 1107-1145
MONITOR RELOADED, SYMBIONTS STARTED 1145-1155
TELETYPE CONTROLLER UNIT TO MAINTENANCE 1205-1330.

THURSDAY   22 JUNE END OF DAY ACCOUNTING FOR PREVIOUS NIGHT, UNTIL 0955
LINE PRINTER NOT PROCESSING DUE TO FAULTY FILE ON LISTER QUEUE 1030
SYSTEM PARITY ERROR, MAINTENANCE 1155-1500
LINE PRINTER STILL INACCESSIBLE, SOFTWARE INVESTIGATION 1645-1657, MAINTENANCE TO PRINTER

1705-2200.

SCHEDULE FOR FORTHCOMING WEEK: MAINTENANCE 0700-0900
                                 OPERATIONS   0930-2300.

1.2   GE-225 SYSTEM

SCHEDULE FOR FORTHCOMING WEEK: MAINTENANCE 0700-0830, 2000-2130
                                 OPERATIONS   0900-2000, 2130-2400.

2.   COBOL V3 ERROR

IN USE OF THE SORT FEATURES OF COBOL, IT APPEARS THAT UNDER SOME
CIRCUMSTANCES WRONG CODE IS CREATED BY A RETURN STATEMENT OF THE
FORM

      RETURN FILENAME INTO IDENTIFIER . . .

THIS CAN BE OVERCOME BY OMITTING THE INTO OPTION BUT ACHIEVING
THE SAME EFFECT BY MOVING THE DATA TO THE REQUIRED DESTINATION
AFTER THE RETURN.

3.   ALGOL V2

VERSION 2 OF THE ALGOL SYSTEM DOES NOT ALLOW THE USE OF EXTERNAL
FORTRAN SUBPROGRAMS. THIS FEATURE IS DISCUSSED IN VARIOUS
MANUALS AND INFORMATION FROM DIGITAL INDICATES THAT THIS FACILITY
WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH VERSION 3.

4.   PALX

PALX DOES NOT WORK CORRECTLY AT PRESENT BUT THIS WILL BE REMEDIED
SHORTLY.

5.   NEW MONITOR

A NEW MONITOR BECAME OPERATIONAL TUESDAY 27 JUNE. THIS MONITOR
HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED TO ALLOW FOR MORE TELETYPE LINES. IN
ADDITION, VARIOUS ERRORS, WHICH WERE NOT OF DIRECT RELEVANCE TO
USERS, HAVE BEEN CORRECTED.