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PRECIS - A Program to Scan a Binary Tape

by David Rosenthal, Research Triangle Institute

PRECIS is a program to obtain quickly a brief summary of the core requirements of an unknown binary tape. It is useful to find out what areas may be free for inserting patches, etc. It does not guarantee success (e.g. some parts of core may be used as buffers); however, it can often give a clue as to what is on a particular binary tape. The program is also useful to find out what locations are used in order to store them efficiently on disk.

The program additionally prints out the total number of blocks (in octal) which are loaded from the tape. This information is useful when using the binary punch routine for punching out a section of core. A running checksum is also carried and tested for at the end of the tape.

An independent relocatable subroutine prints out the contents of the accumulator on the teletype in octal with leading zeros removed (except, of course, for the number "0").

Programming. The program was written in PAL III assembler language and was assembled on a 4K computer. Since it was designed as a stand alone program, no effort was made to economize on space, so the program extends over more core than is absolutely necessary. The program uses locations 20-50 on page 0 and 131₈ locations on page 1, 113₈ locations on page 3 and 66₈ locations on page 4. The program assumes the presence of the high speed paper tape reader. However, alteration to accommodate the low speed teletype reader is very simple and obvious.

Page four (1000-1066) is an independently compiled relocatable subroutine to type out the contents of the accumulator in octal. Leading

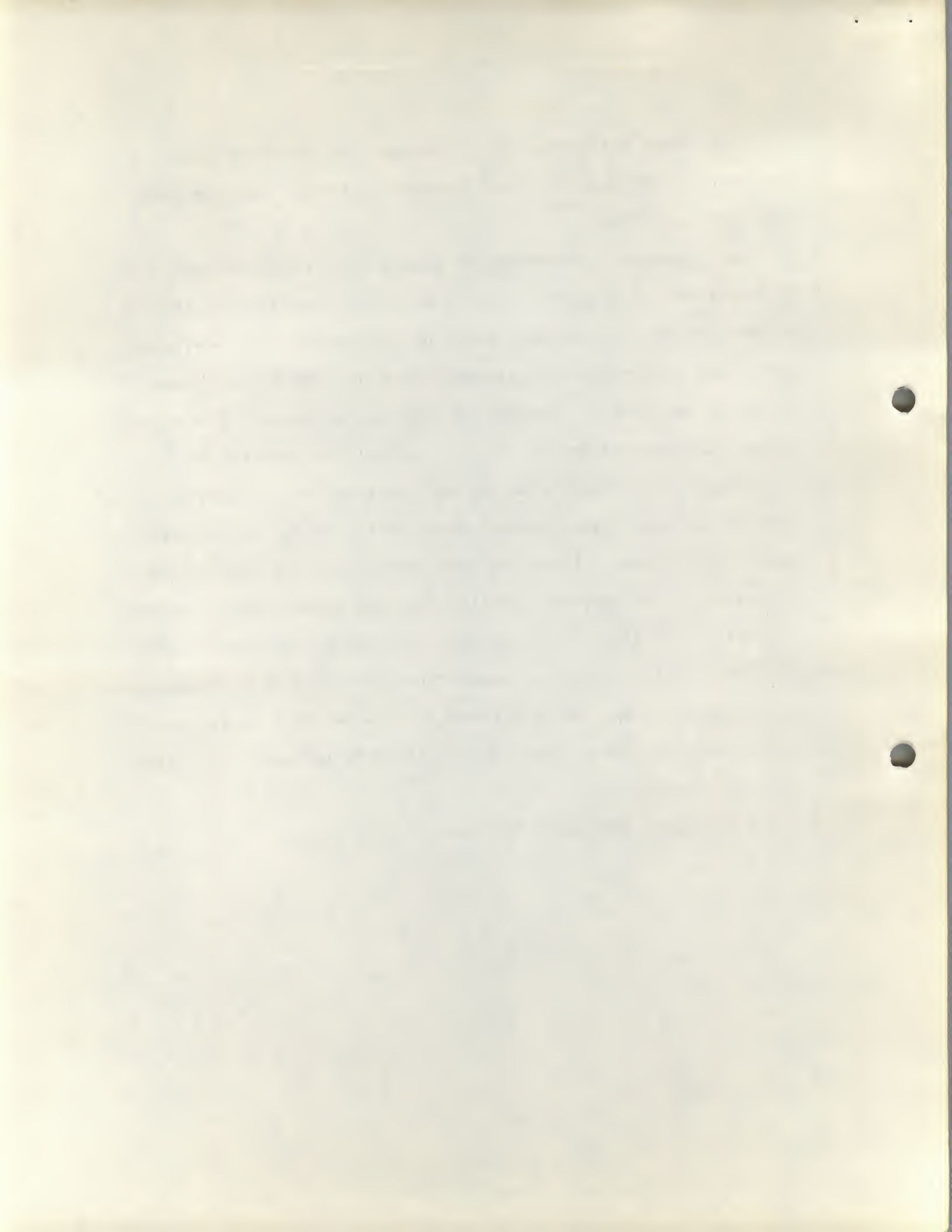
[The text on this page is extremely faint and illegible. It appears to be a multi-paragraph document, possibly a letter or a report, with several lines of text visible but not readable.]

zeros are sensed and eliminated. If desired, the subroutine could easily be altered to print blanks instead of skipping, thus providing a uniform output format.

Use of Program. To operate the program, load the binary tape in core with the binary loader. Turn on the teletype and execute, starting at location 200_8 . The program should be executed with the leader of a binary tape in the paper tape reader. After the program has stopped, it may be reexecuted by pressing "continue" or, in the case of a serious failure (the reader jamming), it may be restarted at location 200.

Output. The program scans the tape and types out the location of each new starting address followed by the address of the last location loaded in that block. If the block is a dummy block (no words loaded), it is ignored. On sensing the trailer, the running checksum is compared with that on the tape. If the checksum is in error, the computer types "CK", displays the difference between the computed and found checksum on the AC, and halts. If the internal checksum is identical with that on the tape, the computer types "OK", followed by the number (in octal) of blocks scanned.

A listing of the program follows.



Sample Output

PROGRAM +PRECIS
SUB-FILE-
START AT-

20 - 50
200 - 327
375 - 377
600 - 711
776 - 777
1000 - 1066
OK
6 BLOCKS

Precis of PRECIS

7400 - 7552
OK
1 BLOCK

Precis of "Octal Memory Dump"

1 - 7
20 - 177
200 - 376
400 - 577
600 - 777
1000 - 1173
1200 - 1377
1400 - 1572
1600 - 1775
2000 - 2015
2031 - 2174
2200 - 3006
OK
14 BLOCKS

Precis of PAL III Assembler

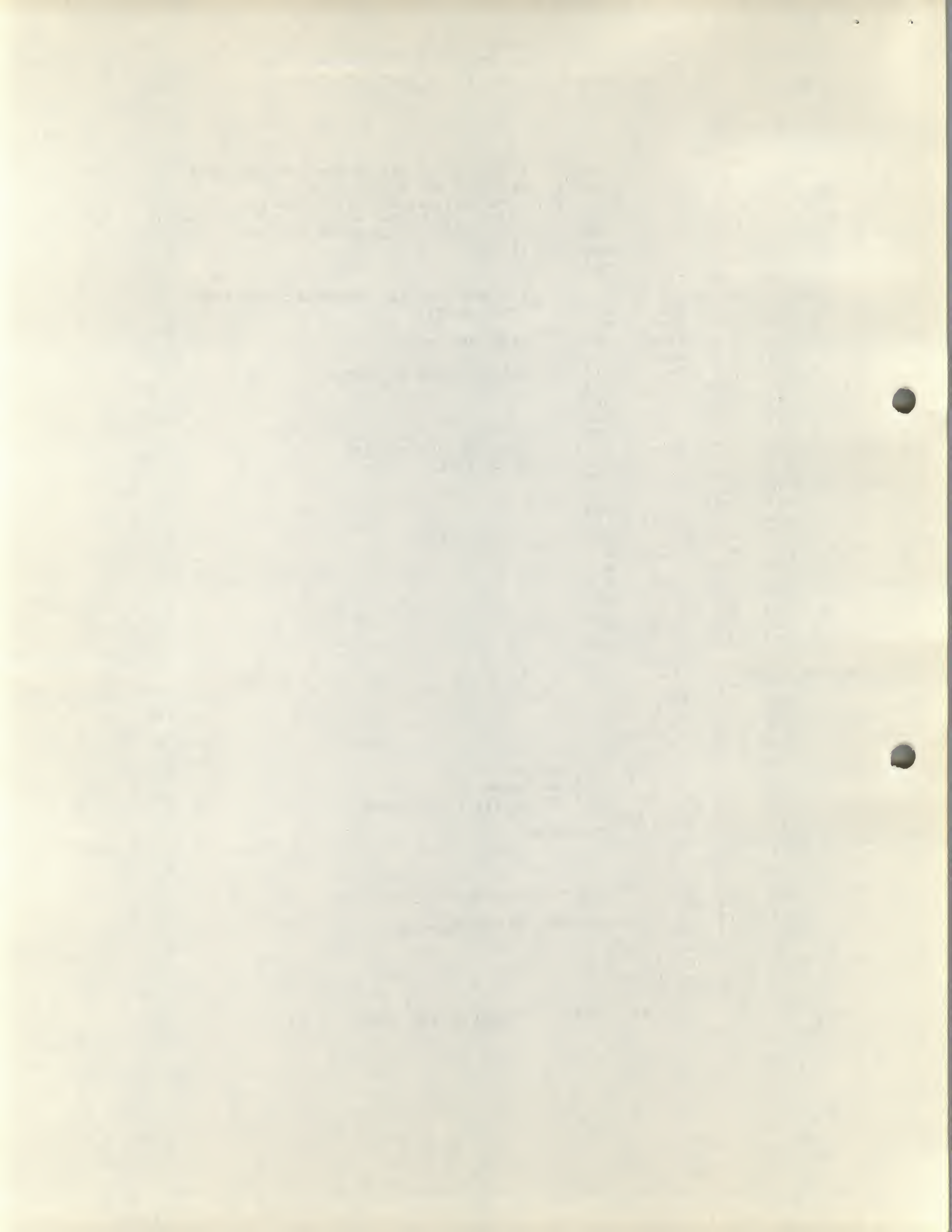


/PRECIS. A PROGRAM TO SCAN A PDP-8 BINARY TAPE
 /AND TO PRINT OUT THE NUMBER OF BLOCKS
 /WRITTEN, THE STARTING AND FINAL ADDRESS OF EACH
 /BLOCK, AND CHECKSUM CHECK. PROGRAM USES HIGH-SPEED
 /PAPER TAPE READER, 4K PDP-8 AND TELETYPE. STARTING
 /ADDRESS IS 200.

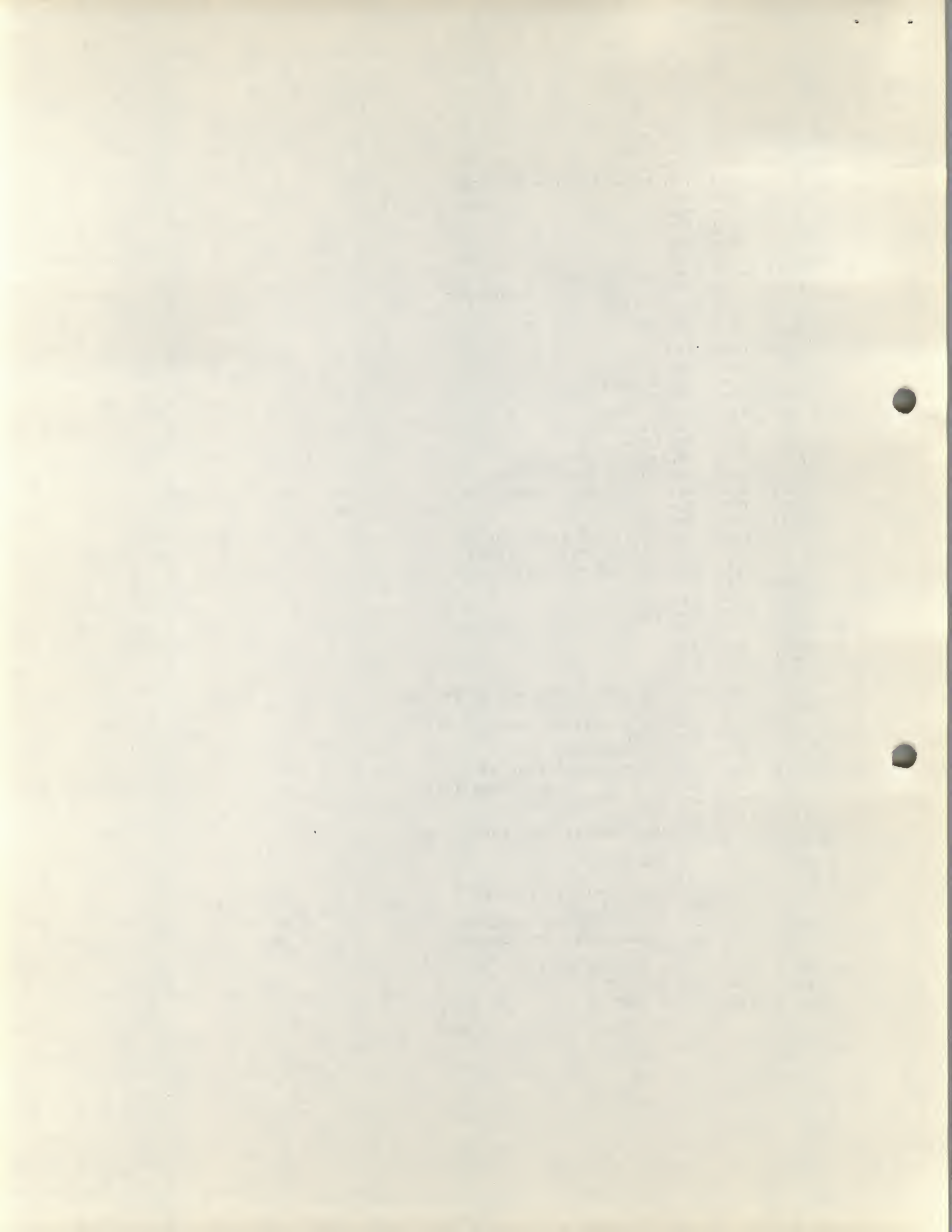
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*20
0020 0000 T1, 0
0021 0000 T2, 0 /T'S ARE LOCATIONS WHERE 4 LAST FRAMES
0022 0000 T3, 0 /ARE STORED
0023 0000 T4, 0
0024 0664 READ, RD /READ SUB. ADD.
0025 0077 K77, 77
0026 0317 O, 317 /LETTERS USED IN OUTPUT
0027 0313 313
0030 0303 303
0031 0240 240
0032 0255 255 /A DASH
0033 1000 OUT, 1000 /AD OF OUTPUT ROUTINE
0034 1057 1057 /AD OF TYPE
0035 0302 B, 302
0036 0314 314
0037 0323 323
0040 1057 TYPE, 1057
0041 0672 CRLF, LFCR
0042 0000 INLOC, 0
0043 0000 0
0044 0000 CCHK, 0
0045 0000 0
0046 0000 FST, 0
0047 0000 NBLOCK, 0
0050 7600 M200, 7600
      PAUSE
*200
0200 6046 6046
0201 6016 6016
0202 4441 JMS I CRLF
0203 3042 DCA INLOC
0204 3043 DCA INLOC+1/FIN LOC
0205 3044 DCA CCHK/CALC CHKSUM
0206 3045 DCA CCHK+1/FOUND CHKSUM
0207 3046 DCA FST /FLAG SAYING ITS 1ST ADDRESS
0210 3047 DCA NBLOCK
0211 4424 JMS I READ/1ST FRAME
0212 3023 DCA T4
0213 1023 TAD T4
0214 1050 TAD M200
0215 7450 SNA/IS THE CH A LEADER OR TRAILER?
0216 5211 JMP .-5
0217 4424 JMS I READ/N, FILL UP THE BUFFERS
0220 3022 DCA T3
0221 4424 JMS I READ
0222 3021 DCA T2
0223 4424 JMS I READ
0224 3020 DCA T1
0225 1021 LOJP, TAD T2/IS IT THE END OF THE TAPE?

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0226 1150 TAD M200
0227 7650 SVA CLA
0230 5777 JMP I 377/Y, GO TO END
0231 1023 TAD T4/N, IS IT A NEW ADD?
0232 7006 RTL
0233 7100 CLL
0234 7006 RTL
0235 7006 RTL
0236 7430 S&L
0237 4253 JMS AD/Y GO TO AD
0240 4276 JMS NOAD/N GO TO NO ADD SUB
0241 7200 CLA/SHIFT
0242 1021 TAD T2
0243 3023 DCA T4
0244 1020 TAD T1
0245 3022 DCA T3
0246 4424 JMS I READ
0247 3021 DCA T2
0250 4424 JMS I READ
0251 3020 DCA T1
0252 5225 JMP LOOP
0253 0000 AD, 0/SUB NEW ADDRESS
0254 2253 ISZ AD/JMP BACK TO **2
0255 4776 JMS I 376/CALL CHKSUM SUB
0256 7200 CLA
0257 1046 TAD FST
0260 7440 S&A/IS IT THE FIRST AD?
0261 4303 JMS OUTPUT/WRITE OUT INFO
0262 2046 ISZ FST /NO MORE SKIPS
0263 7300 CLA CLL
0264 1023 TAD T4
0265 0025 AND K77
0266 7006 RTL
0267 7006 RTL
0270 7006 RTL
0271 1022 TAD T3
0272 3042 DCA INLOC/THE PREV SET UP IN. ADD
0273 1042 TAD INLOC
0274 3043 DCA INLOC+1/FINAL ADD
0275 5653 JMP I AD
0276 0000 NOAD, 0/NOT A NEW AD
0277 2043 ISZ INLOC+1/BUMP FINL AD
0300 7000 NOP/EVEN IF IT TURNS OVER 7777
0301 4776 JMS I 376/CHKSUM SUB
0302 5676 JMP I NOAD
0303 0000 OUTPUT, 0/PRINTS OUT INFO
0304 7200 CLA
0305 1042 TAD INLOC
0306 7041 CIA
0307 1043 TAD INLOC+1/IF INIT = FIN
0310 7650 SVA CLA /NO OUTPUT
0311 5703 JMP I OUTPUT/SINCE NO DATA
0312 2047 ISZ NBLCK/INC # OF BLOCKS
0313 1042 TAD INLOC
0314 4433 JMS I OUT/WRITE IN AD
0315 1031 TAD U+3 /SP
0316 4443 JMS I TYPE

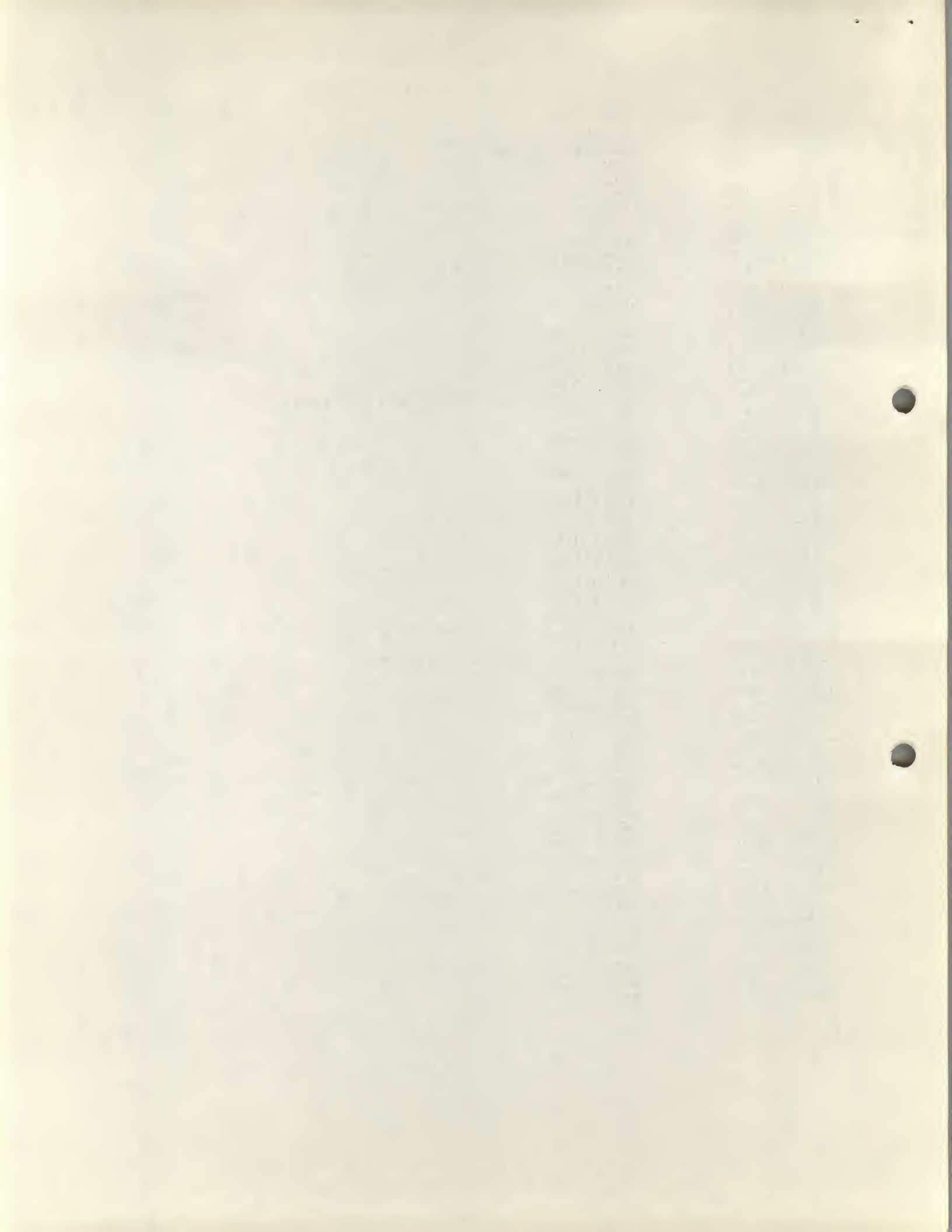


0317 1032 TAD OUT-1
0320 4440 JMS I TYPE
0321 1031 TAD J+3
0322 4440 JMS I TYPE
0323 1043 TAD INLOC+1
0324 1375 TAD 375 /SUBTRACT ONE FROM FIN AD
0325 4433 JMS I OUT
0326 4441 JMS I CRLF
0327 5703 JMP I OUTPUT

*375
0375 7777 7777
0376 0703 CHK
0377 0600 END
PAUSE

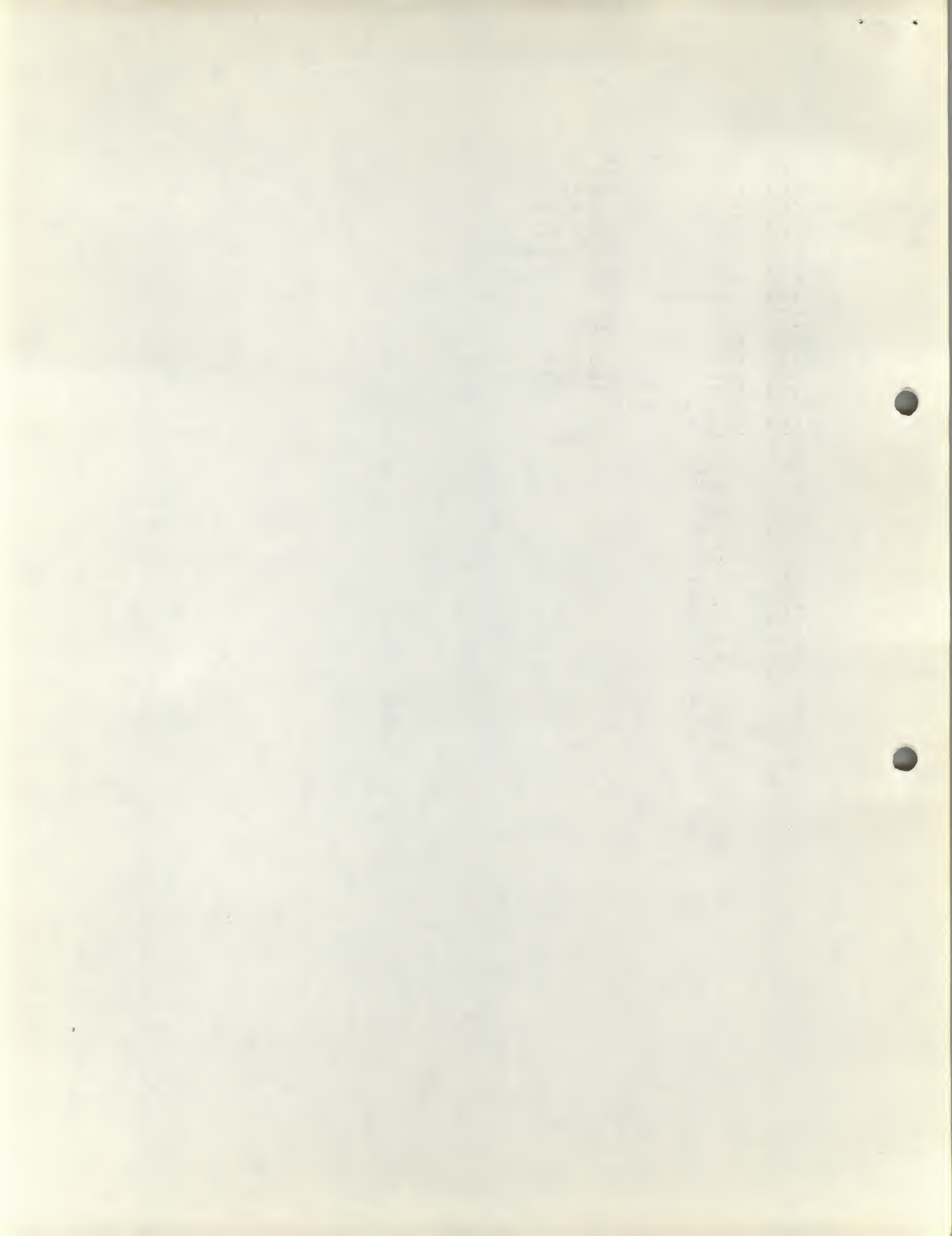


0600	4777	END,	*600	JMS I 777	
0601	7300		CLA CLL		
0602	1023		TAD T4 /CHKSUM		
0603	7006		RTL		
0604	7006		RTL		
0605	7006		RTL		
0606	1022		TAD T3		
0607	7041		CIA		
0610	1044		TAD CCHK		
0611	3045		DCA CCHK+1		
0612	1045		TAD CCHK+1		
0613	7440		SZA		
0614	5252		JMP ER		
0615	1026		TAD 0		
0616	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0617	1027		TAD 0+1		
0620	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0621	4441		JMS I CRLF		
0622	1047		TAD NBLOCK	/PRINT OUT # OF BLOCKS	
0623	4433		JMS I OUT		
0624	1031		TAD 0+3		
0625	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0626	1035		TAD B		
0627	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0630	1036		TAD B+1		
0631	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0632	1026		TAD 0		
0633	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0634	1030		TAD 0+2		
0635	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0636	1027		TAD 0+1		
0637	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0640	1047		TAD NBLOCK		
0641	1376		TAD 776	/IS NBLOCK A 1?	
0642	7650		SNA CLA		
0643	5246		JMP .+3 /Y, SKIP THE LETTER 'S'		
0644	1037		TAD B+2		
0645	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0646	4441		JMS I CRLF		
0647	7402		HLT		
0650	5651		JMP I .+1		
0651	0200		200		
0652	7200	ER,	CLA		
0653	1030		TAD 0+2		
0654	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0655	1027		TAD 0+1		
0656	4440		JMS I TYPE		
0657	4441		JMS I CRLF		
0660	1045		TAD CCHK+1		
0661	7402		HLT		
0662	5663		JMP I .+1		
0663	0200		200		
0664	0000	RD,	0		
0665	7200		CLA		
0666	6011		6011		
0667	5266		JMP .-1		
0670	6016		6016		
0671	5664		JMP I RD		



0672	0000	LFCR,	0
0673	7200		CLA
0674	1301		TAD .+5
0675	4440		JMS I TYPE
0676	1302		TAD .+4
0677	4440		JMS I TYPE
0700	5672		JMP I LFCR
0701	0215		215
0702	0212		212
0703	0000	CHK,	0
0704	7200		CLA
0705	1022		TAD T3
0706	1023		TAD T4
0707	1044		TAD CCHK
0710	3044		DCA CCHK
0711	5703		JMP I CHK
*776			
0776	7777		7777
0777	0303		OUTPUT

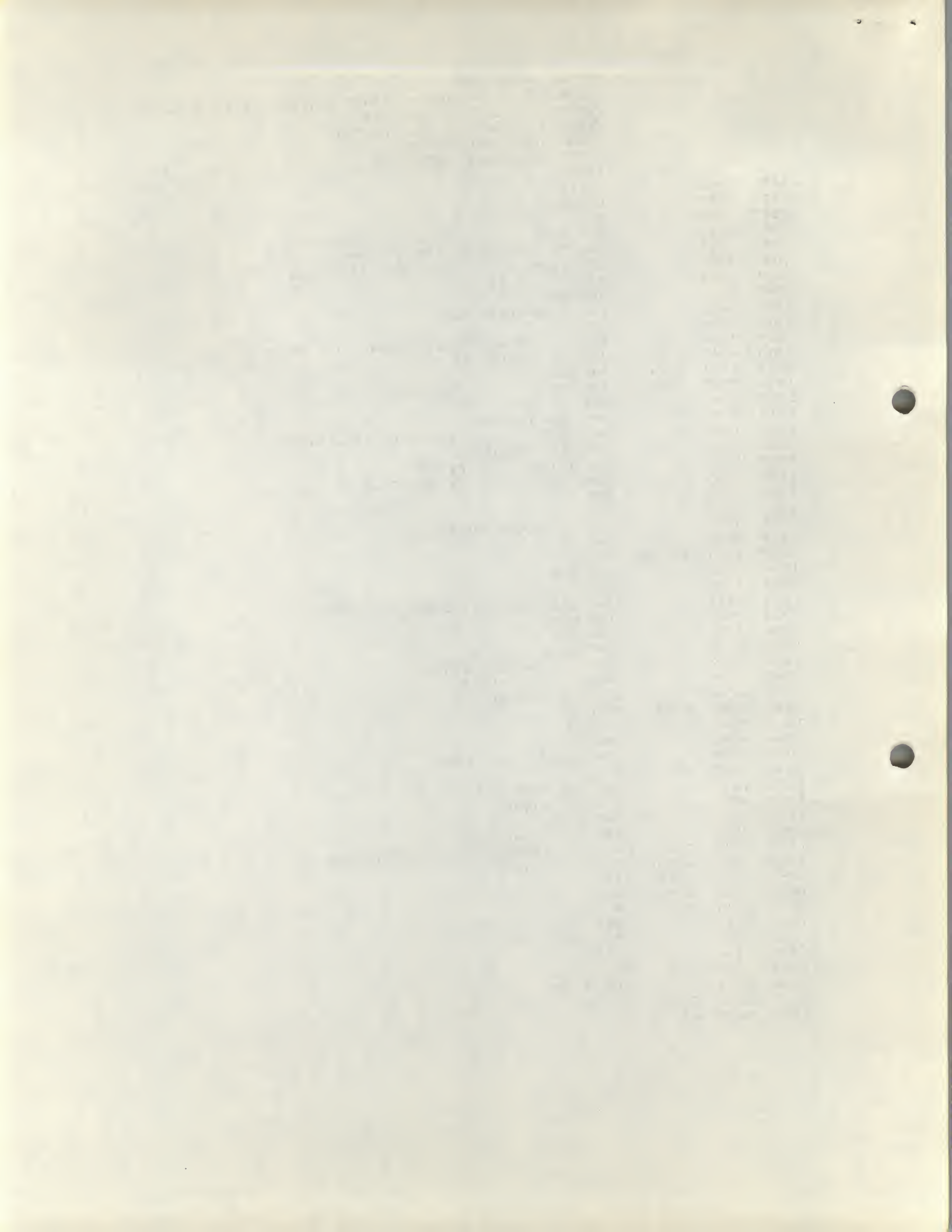
AD	0253
B	0035
CCHK	0044
CHK	0703
CRLF	0041
END	0600
ER	0652
FST	0046
INLOC	0042
K77	0025
LFCR	0672
LOJP	0225
M200	0050
NBLOCK	0047
NOAD	0276
O	0026
OUT	0033
OUTPUT	0303
RD	0664
READ	0024
TYPE	0040
T1	0020
T2	0021
T3	0022
T4	0023



```

/OCTAL PRINT OUT
/SUBROUTINE TO TAKE A BINARY PATTERN IN ACCUMULATOR
/AND PRINT OUT ON TELETYPE
/LEADING ZEROS ARE ELIMINATED
/S.A. 1000 (RELOCATABLE)
/USES 70(OCTAL) LOCATIONS
*1000
1000 0000 OUT,0
1001 3253 DCA CH
1002 7100 CLL
1003 3265 DCA FLAG /FLAG FOR LEADING 0'S
1004 1253 TAD CH /STORE CALLED UP CHAR IN AC
1005 0254 AND K7000 /PULL OUT 1ST DIGIT
1006 7450 SNA /A 0?
1007 5214 JMP SEC /Y, GO ON
1010 2265 ISZ FLAG/N, SET FLAG
1011 7006 RTL
1012 7006 RTL /MOVE TO RIGHT HAND SIDE OF AC
1013 4246 JMS PR /PRINT IT
1014 1253 SEC, TAD CH
1015 0255 AND K700 /2ND DIGIT
1016 7440 SZA /0?
1017 5223 JMP .+4/N, PRINT IT
1020 1265 TAD FLAG /Y, BUT IS IT LEADING?
1021 7650 SNA CLA /LEADING 0
1022 5230 JMP THIRD /Y, GO ON
1023 2265 ISZ FLAG /Y SET FLAG
1024 7012 RTR
1025 7012 RTR
1026 7012 RTR /MOVE TO RIGHT
1027 4246 JMS PR
1030 1253 THIRD, TAD CH
1031 0256 AND K70
1032 7440 SZA
1033 5237 JMP .+4 /ALL THIS LOGIC AS BEFORE
1034 1265 TAD FLAG
1035 7650 SNA CLA
1036 5242 JMP FOUR
1037 7012 RTR /MOVE 3 DIGITS
1040 7010 RAR /TO RIGHT
1041 4246 JMS PR /PRINT
1042 1253 FOUR, TAD CH
1043 0266 AND K7
1044 4246 JMS PR
1045 5600 JMP I OUT /DONE
1046 0000 PR, 0
1047 1252 TAD .+3 /260 + #
1050 4257 JMS TY /TYPE
1051 5646 JMP I PR
1052 0260 267 /CONSTANT
1053 0000 CH, 0 /STOREHOUSE OF CHARACTER
1054 7000 K7000, 7000 /MASKS
1055 0700 K700, 700
1056 0070 K70, 70
1057 0000 TY, 3
1060 6041 6041
1061 5260 JMP .-1
1062 6746 6746
1063 7200 CLA
1064 5657 JMP I TY
1065 0000 FLAG, 0
1066 3097 K7, 7

```



CH 1053
FLAG 1065
FOUR 1042
K7 1066
K73 1056
K730 1055
K7300 1054
OUT 1000
PR 1046
SEC 1014
THIRD 1030
TY 1057

