Identification

Printer I/O During Initialization
messag, prt202, printer_io
N. I. Morris, M. A. Padlipsky

Purpose

The messag routine is furnished in order to permit character
string information to be output via the on-line printer
during initialization runs.

Usage

The calling sequence is

        call messag (character_string);

with declaration

        dcl character_string char (N);

Implementation

The ASCII character_string argument must be converted
to 6-bit printer codes. The prt202 utility routine performs
this conversion, returning a bit string version of the
original character string. Then the (wired-down) printer_io
routine performs the actual output of the bit string,
constructing the appropriate DCW, generating the connect,
and so on. If neither printer is ready, printer_io will
loop. The routine is impure, as it must copy the bit
string into itself to avoid paging problems. Otherwise
it is quite similar to the Tape Reader's tape_io routine
(see BL.6.02).

Note

Initialization messag appears as xmessag on the Segment
Library Tape, in order to avoid a naming conflict with
the 6.36 messag. The Multics System Tape Generator (see
BL.1.03) should be used appropriately.