TECHNICAL FLYER #1

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This technical flyer, a joint effort of the Digital Group technical staff, is delivered free of charge on an irregular basis to all D.G. system owners. All related correspondence should be directed to the attention of D.G. Tech. Staff.

The goal of this flyer is to make available to the system user the little hints and tricks which the technical staff has deemed valuable to the trouble-shooting and maintenence of the system.

A NOTE ON EROMS

Z-80 system EROMS are presently supplied in the ZE version. Previous versions included the ZA, ZB, ZC, and ZD code. Those of you who have upgraded to a 64 character display board or have recently purchased a Z-80 system with the 64 character option may soon find a problem in the operating software. You should note that only a ZC, ZD or ZE EROM will completely clear the screen for the 64 character line, as the ZA and ZB version were written before the 64 character line display was created. The ZD version EROM has another inherent difference. This version will print a 6 rather than a . for an incorrect data load. If you are a Z-80 system owner and need to upgrad your ZA, ZB or ZD EROM please return it with a \$5.00 reprogramming fee and we will return the ZE version.

THE 64 CHARACTER LINE

The new TVC-64 board deserves a few lines here. If you received one of the first kits and discovered an elusive problem with random characters (especially alpha's) on the display, you should be able to solve the problem by changing R3, R4 to 15K ohms and C4, C5 to 100 picofarads; IC 20 must be a 74L123. These components are available as a kit for no charge. Changing these values will bring the memory write strobe pulses within acceptable limits.

Another point is the video inversion feature. It appears in most cases to be necessary to swamp the video output of the board with a 10 ohm resistor to ground. This should be done on the coax connector (SO-239) mounted on your computer cabinet so as to avoid modifying your TVC board. This should equalize the print quality for black on white characters. Another interesting point is the reduced need for high bandwidth in the monitor or television if the display is inverted. Black characters on the white backround are less demanding of the monitor. This is achieved by grounding the DATA INVERT line (pin T or 16). Also remember that program tapes written for the 32 character board will not work well with the 64 character display and vice-versa. However a software upgrading service is available from DGSS. If the original tape and \$2.50 is returned to them, they will recopy the tape with the 64 character software routines. Their address is: Digital Group Software Systems, P.O. Box 1086, Arvada, Colorado 80001.

NOT ALL MEMORY TESTERS ARE CREATED EQUAL

Remember that the memory tester routine included on the OP system tape is not foolproof and is rather limited. The new memory tester routines, now available separately from DGSS, are truly more effective and can catch things the original cannot. It is helpful for finding memory chips which appear good but fail after warmup, or seem to work fine until you load Basic. The cassette including memory test routines and several other programs is \$7.50 from DGSS.

PHI-DECK

The Phi-F board also deserves some mention here. If you are getting bit errors and cannot find the cause check the date code on the LM-324. If it is a 650 date code it could be the problem. Also, if you can select a deck before the motor actually stops on the stop command replace IC 49 which is a 7400 with a 74S00. Also note that the 74S188 may be replaced with a 6330.

The Z-80 Phi-Deck demo routine (not applicable to 8080) may have errors in either the listing or the tape, depending on version, which may keep the program from printing error diagnostics (E). The listing in the new documentation is correct, however there may be errors in the tape. (PHI-DECK ROUTINES II). The listing in the old documentation for the Z-80 has wrong object code, but may have correct mnemonics. The errors and corrections are shown below.

	address	code	mnemonic	label
correct	OBE2	05	DEC B	RTD(read test data)
error	OBE2	ОВ	DEC BC	RTD
correct	ОВВ6	1602	LD D,2D	RCTD
error	OBB6	1606	LD D,6D	RCTD (record test data)

PADDLE CARD CONNECTOR BLOCK STANDARDS

As you may or may not have gathered, the Digital Group has started to set some interconnect standards. We will adjust these standards as necessary to keep up with additional peripherals. A diagram showing connections to the paddle card connector block has been included. Connection standards for the Phi-Deck follow.

PHI-DECK CONNECTION STANDARDS

In an effort to maintain compatability between Digital Group systems using Phi-Decks, complete wiring diagrams have been included for connecting Phi-Decks to your system. Refer first to the Phi-Deck system block diagram to locate the appropriate wiring diagram. A brief explanation of each wiring diagram is included.

DETAIL 1: This diagram details the motherboard connections between the I/O Port card and the Phi-Deck card using the wire wrap pins on the 36 pin connector of each board. Please note, a labeling change has been made on the pinout of the motherboard wire wrap pins. A conversion chart and explanation appears on a subsequent page.

DETAIL 2: The connections between the backplane of the paddle card connector block and the Phi-Deck card 36 pin connector are detailed on this diagram. Complete the wiring as if your system were using four Phi-Decks, even if you are using less than four decks. There are several wires in the cable for decks 1 and 3 that are common to all the decks. The best approach is to make-up cables with molex connectors on each end that slip over the wire wrap pins. If you should prefer not to use this method, please refer to your Phi-Deck documentation for the actual Phi-Deck card pinout.

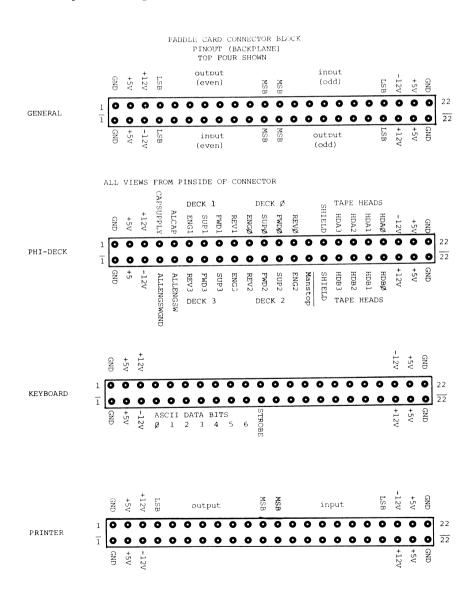
DETAIL 3: This detail shows the cabling between the paddle card going to the CPU cabinet (22 pin) and the paddle card going to the Phi-Deck cabinet (36 pin). There are two groups of wires on this diagram. Shielded cables should be used for the group on the left, since this cable contains the tape head signals. Also note that the shield from the shielded cable doesn't go to chassis ground, but is strictly ground for the tape heads to help avoid noise on the head ground. Ribbon cable (20 conductor) works best for the group on the right.

DETAIL 4: Phi-Deck cabinet wiring is detailed in this diagram. Your wiring needs will depend on the number of Phi-Decks in your system. The Phi-Decks are numbered \emptyset thru 3, so if you are using only one Phi-Deck, connect the cables labeled for deck \emptyset .

The Digital Group strongly recommends you follow the interconnect standards. This will greatly facilitate repair of your system, should you find it necessary to return it for service. If you send us your system please detail the connections on the paddle card connector block, etc. or state that you are following the Digital Group standard.

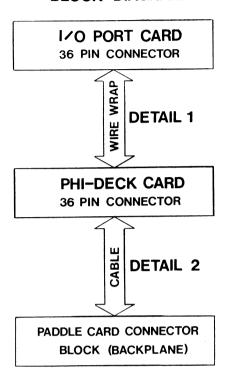
MOTHERBOARD PINOUT LABELING CHANGE

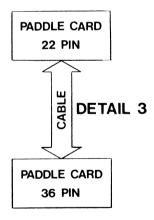
The wire wrap pins on the backplane of the motherboard, previously labeled with letters (A thru Z, etc.) are now being labeled with numbers and an overhead bar, i.e. $\overline{1,2,...36}$, etc. (Read: one not, two not, ... thirty-six not). This should make locating specific wire wrap pins easier. The conversion chart below shows the new labeling system and the labels currently in use on the CPU card and the rest of the Digital Group boards.



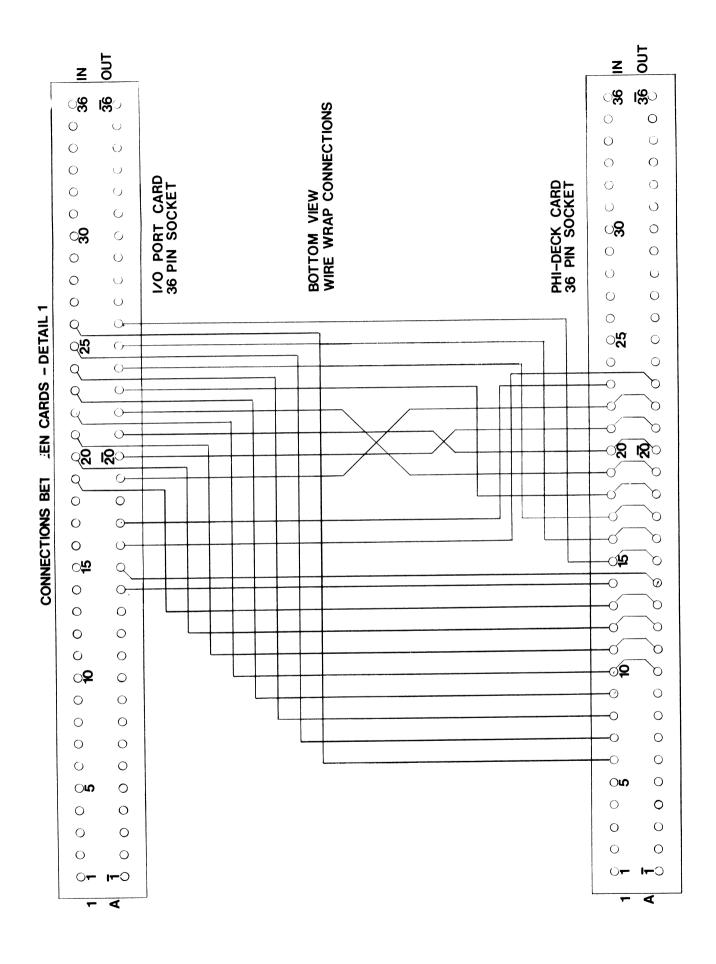
OLD CONNECTOR LABEL CPU GENERAL	NEW LABEL
A A B B C C	$\frac{\overline{1}}{\frac{2}{3}}$
D	$ \begin{array}{r} \hline $
J К L	$\frac{\frac{8}{9}}{11}$
N N P P R	14
S	$\begin{array}{c} \cdot \cdot \overline{15} \\ \underline{16} \\ \underline{17} \\ \underline{18} \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c} 19 \\ \cdot 20 \\ \hline 21 \\ \hline 22 \end{array}$
Z	$ \begin{array}{r} $
AE	28
AJ	$\begin{array}{c} \cdot \cdot \frac{\overline{30}}{31} \\ \underline{31} \\ \underline{32} \\ \underline{33} \\ \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{r} 34 \\ \cdot 35 \\ \hline 36 \\ \hline 37 \end{array}$
AT AU AV	$\begin{array}{r} 38 \\ \hline 39 \\ \cdot 40 \\ \hline 41 \\ \end{array}$
AX AY AZ	$ \begin{array}{r} 41 \\ 42 \\ 43 \\ 44 \\ \hline 45 \\ 46 \\ 47 \end{array} $
BA	$\frac{\frac{46}{46}}{\frac{47}{48}}$
BE BF	50

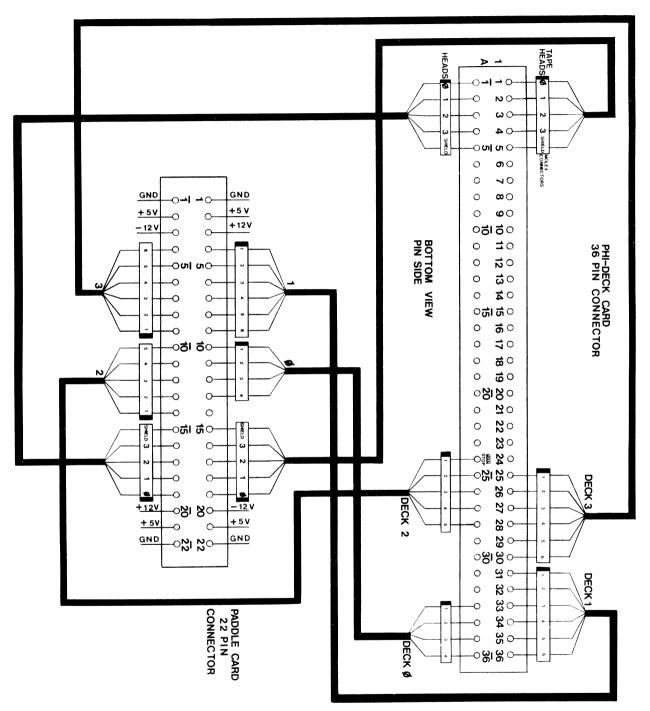
PHI-DECK SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM



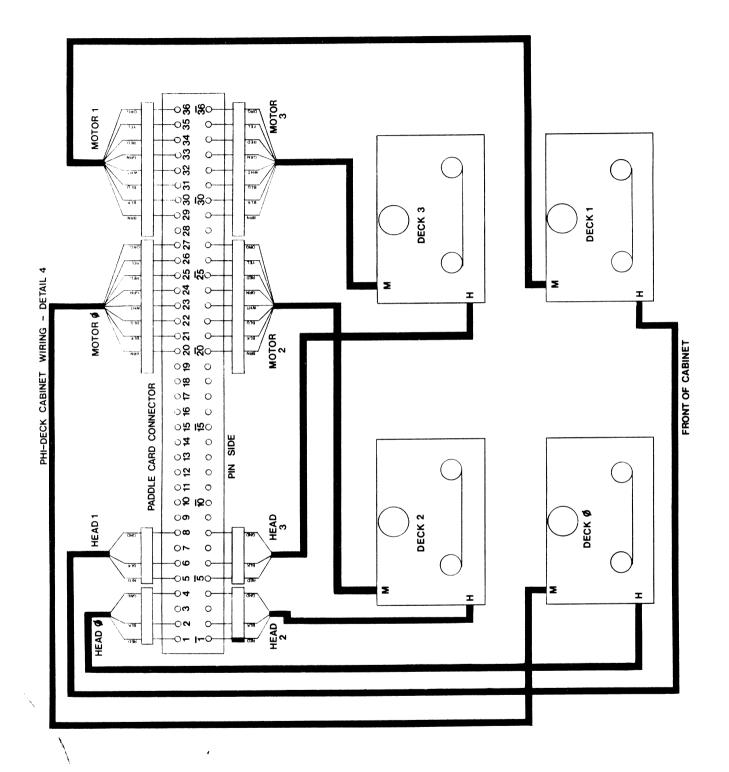


PHI-DECK CABINET WIRING DETAIL 4





PHI-DECK CARD CONNF ONS TO PADDLE CARD BACKPLAI DETAIL 2



APPENDIX A

New DG OP SYS Format

A new format of TV Storage Dump and keyboard program is included on the front end of this software system. You will notice the new wording of options 3 and 4, and that 5 and 6 are missing.

Pressing option 3 (octal program) will initially result in the familiar register display. However, subsequent operations are somewhat different.

Press the Space Bar. You will notice the page of octal bytes is one line shorter. The major difference is an arrow at the top left pointing to byte 000000 presently. This pointer indicates the byte where programming might take place if desired (since 000000 is in read only memory, no change is possible.) This pointer may be preset by entering the page (H) and byte (L) similar the H&L presetting operation of the older DG OP System's keyboard programming system. Try entering H070 and then L123. Notice where the pointer has now moved to. Since this is RAM area in a 16K or greater system, the observed byte may be changed by entering the desired data. e.g. 321 could be entered from the keyboard. Notice the bottom line "scratchpad effect." The actual data is not entered at the indicated address until after the final entry. Emergency abort may be done by pressing the "reset key" on the system prior to the final entry, with no affect on memory.

The cursor may be incrementally moved around the screen. The Digital Group keyboard with cursor control keys allows the user to move the pointer in the direction indicated by the cursor keys. Keyboards different from this one can move the pointer about if a control H, control J, control K, or control L is entered.

The system will return to the Op Sys by pressing an R or r on the keyboard. Option 4 (Hex Program) is similar to Option 3 except that the display is in Hex.

Command Summary

Space - New memory display page

H 000 (HH) - Preset page (octal or hex)

L 000 (HH) - Preset byte (octal of hex)

R - Return to Op Sys

H CTRL - Move pointer backward

J CTRL - Move pointer down

K CTRL - Move pointer up

 ${\tt L}$ CTRL - Move pointer forward

000 (HH) - Insert (octal or hex) code at indicated byte

Appendix A

APPENDIX B

Hardcopy Routines

Several different hardcopy machines have been interfaced to the Z-80 TV scrolling system. The driving routines have been located within the 256 bytes of page 6. Two routines have been identified within the page 6 hardcopy routine requirements.

The first routine is the hardcopy machine initializing routine. This can vary from a special character sent to place a hardcopy machine in the "receive mode", to a routine which will carriage return and give several line feeds. This routine is entered when "Option 8" (hardcopy) is selected.

The other routine is the generalized routine as required to print the desired character on the hardcopy machine. The desired character is placed in the accumulator (A register) and Restart 4 called (347 octal). All registers must be returned in their original condition (pushed when entering, popped when leaving this routine).

The sample hardcopy routines included in this software package include drivers for a Baudot machine, an ASR 33 Teletype and an Itel 1051 Selectric.

The Baudot routine converts the ASCII 8 level code to the 5 level code of the Baudot system, keeping track of the Upper and Lower case shift requirements. A software UART system serializes the Baudot and sends the output to port 2 LSB at 60 WPM.

The ASR 33 Teletype routine serializes the ASCII and sends the data to port 2 LSB at 110 baud.

A Selectric routine converts the ASCII to the Correspondence Code for a "Scribe" typeball. This parallel code is then serialized and sent to port 2 LSB at 135 baud. The Selectric routine will have to be customized for the particular machine being used, since many different Selectric electronic driver systems, some serial, some parallel; and typeballs are utilized.

Modifying the DGSS tape for Different Hardcopy Devices

The software tape included with this documentation has three separate tone bursts. The first, and longest, tone burst is the main software system with the Teletype 33 110 Baud Printer routines in page 6 of memory. If this is your hardcopy device, then no further modification is necessary.

The second, and shorter, burst is 1¼K bytes of data which makes up the 5 level 60 WPM Baudot routine. The third burst is the sample Selectric routine.

The second or third burst hardcopy routine may replace the Teletype 33 routine by performing the following steps.

- 1. Load the first program. The screen should then display the Op Sys Display.
- 2. Select either the Baudot (2nd) or Selectric (3rd) routines. Position the cassette so that the recorder is ready to read the data.
- 3. Start the recorder, then select Option "1".
- 4. When the data burst is finished on the screen, the modification is done.
- 5. Put a fresh cassette on your recorder and start the recorder in "record mode".
- 6. Select Option "2". When finished, select Option "2" again for a "backup copy". You now have a customized cassette.

Appendix B

Building your own hardcopy routines

The hardcopy initializing routine's address is 006000.

This subroutine is called by "Option 8". End the hardcopy initializing subroutine with a return instruction (311). If not required, a simple 311 (return) instruction may be placed at 006000.

The general hardcopy routine's address is 006030. Be sure to restore all registers in this page 6 subroutine. End this subroutine with a return instruction (311) also.

Save your customized system by pressing "Option 2", which will make a new master.

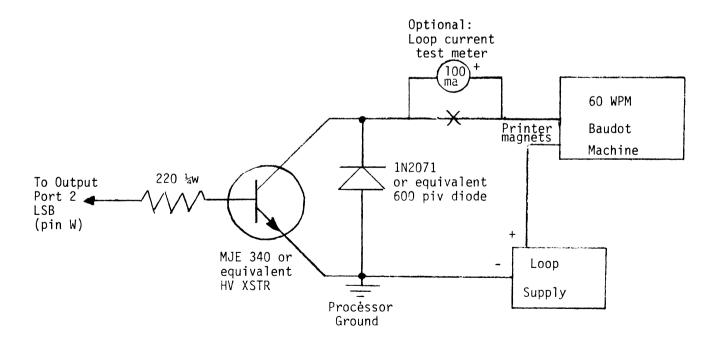
Since so many different potential hardcopy machines are available, The Digital Group is unable to provide specific assistance for all of these devices.

Hardcopy interfaces for "The Digital Group" System

The Teletype machines, 5 level or 8 level, may be easily interfaced to The Digital Group System for less than \$5. The 5 level (Baudot) machines generally utilize a high voltage (~ 150 volts) loop which is opened or closed at 45 Baud to generate the required code. The 8 level (ASCII) machines use lower voltage and lower current loops. There are many Selectric interface systems, ranging from RS232 to TTL, etc.

Baudot

The Baudot machine is driven through the LSB of Port 2 output. This is pin W of the 36 pin connector of the I/O board located between the CPU board and the TVC board. Since these hardcopy machines are typically driven by a high voltage loop supply, some means of interface between this loop and the output ports TTL level must be utilized. Several schemes have been used and yield similar results. The simple high voltage transistor scheme shown below certainly represents a low cost method:



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The TTL to loop interface shown on the preceding page is simply an electronic open/closed switch to the 60 WPM Baudot machine.

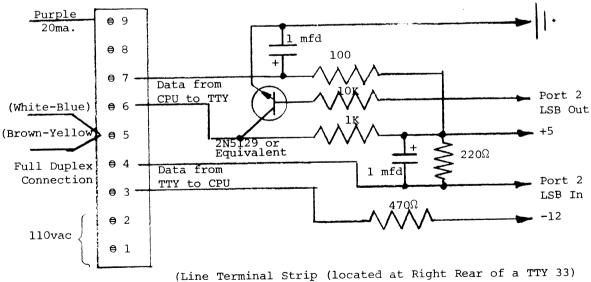
The output ports voltage causes the emitter-collector connection to be "closed" when the TTL input is high (~+3 volts and "open" when the TTL input is low (~ 0 volts). The diode prevents reverse voltage spikes from destroying the transistor or noise problems in the processor. The loop voltage is generally in the range of 100 - 150 volts and the loop current is adjusted to be around 60ma. Several excellent books are available which explain the basics about these machines and the loop supplies. Two books are as follows:

- 1. RTTY HANDBOOK published by TAB, Edited by Wayne Green; and
- 2. NEW RTTY HANDBOOK published by Cowan, Edited by Byron Kretzman.

These books are generally available at most "Ham Radio" supply stores. The loop supply must be transformer isolated from the incoming 110 volts household AC.

After assembling this little interface, connect it to the processor, machine, and loop supply with correct polarities and with all voltages off. Be very certain that the ground return on the processor is connected. Turn on the loop supplies and the machine. The machine should "run open". If not, the line to the diode/ xstr is probably reversed and the diode is forward biased and closes the loop. Removing the I/O board (and others of convenience) should permit placing a temporary +5 volt lead in series with another \simeq 220 ohm resistor. The printer should latch up (quiet down) when the voltage to the xstr's input is applied and run open (noisy) when the xstr's input voltage source is removed. If all tests OK, turn off everything and reassemble the processor. Be sure the interface input goes to Output Port 2, LSB. Remove any I/O devices and interfaces also connected to I/O Port 2 to avoid undesired commands to these devices.

The ASCII machine is driven through the LSB of Port 2 output. This is pin W of the 36 pin connector of the I/O board located between the CPU board and the TVC board. The Teletype model 33 machine may be simply interfaced by using the following circuit. A few extra lines and parts are used to enable data entry from the model 33 if appropriate software were written to sample and deserialized the incoming data.



Digital Group System Interface to TTY 33 20ma loop

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The Teletype 33 should be set up for Full Duplex operation, with a 20ma. loop as per the manuals or the included circuit of the color coded leads.

Selectric

No single circuit will interface the different Selectrics seen. If your Selectric uses RS232, a 1488 and 1489 IC by AMD or Motorola can serve as a level converter from RS232 to TTL and viceversa, as I (Dr. Suding) did on my Itel 1051 Selectric. Those in hopelessly desperate need for Selectric information might try chasing down the rumored existance of a book on interfacing Selectrics called "Interfacing Selectrics to the 8080" from The Center for the Study of the Future, 4110 N.E. Alameda, Portland, OR 97212. The book costs \$12.00. I've never seen one yet.

Possible modifications to the Hardcopy Routines

If there is one thing D.G. has learned in the past year, it's that everybody has to do it their way. Since the Selectrics are a so different, the Assembler copy has been included for your education as needed.

Two areas of modification are anticipated; using a different port, and different speed machines.

The Teletype 33 Port assignment is located at 006131. You will find an 002 at this location presently. Change to your desired port number. Address 006157 contains the software UART's time constant (presently an 034 for 110 Baud for Z-80). Ascii machines with a higher Baud rate may be utilized by decreasing the value at 006157.

The Baudot subroutine has Port assignments at 006221 and 006240. Address 006250 has the 60 WPM Baudot constant of 111. Lowering this octal constant proportionately will permit using the routine at 66, 75, or 100 WPM speeds.

After completing the desired modifications and testing, always load the original as supplied, make the modifications, then write the new master cassette <u>before</u> running. You will then have a clear original.

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ASSEMBLY LISTING OF SELECTRIC INTERFACE ROUTINE:

```
ASSM 006000 100000
006000
                            0100 * SELECTRIC PRINTING ROUTINES.
                            0110 * CORRESPONDENCE CODES FOR ITEL 1051
006000
                            0120 *
006000
                            0130 * INITIALIZE THE PRINTER WITH AN EOA
006000
006000
                            0140 *
006000 076 055
                            0150 EOA
                                        LD A.055
                                        CALL BYTESL
006002 315 171 006
                            0160
006005 311
                            0170
                                        RET
                            0180 *
006006
                            0190 * SKIP TO 006030
006006
                            0200 EXTRA DS 022
006006
                            0210 * PRINT THE CHARACTER IN ACCUM.
006030
                            0220 *
006030
006030 365
                            0230 SELTRC PUSH AF
006031 305
                            0240
                                        PUSH BC
                            0250
                                        PUSH DE
006032 325
006033 345
                            0260
                                        PUSH HL
                            0270
                                        OR 200
006034 366 200
006036
                            0280 * SPECIAL HANDLING FOR CR/LF
                                       CP 212
006036 376 212
                            0290
006040 312 164 006
                            0300
                                        JΡ
                                             Z.ENDSEL
                                        CP
006043 376 215
                            0310
                                             215
006045 302 065 006
                            0320
                                        JP
                                           NZ,SPACE
                                       LD A,267 * CODE FOR CR/LF
006050 076 267
                            0330 CR
006052 315 171 006
                            0340
                                        CALL BYTESL
                            0350 * WAIT .7 SEC FOR CR/LF
006055
006055 076 007
                            0360
                                        LD A.007
                                        CALL 001173 * 100 MS DELAY
006057 315 173 001
                            0370
006062 303 164 006
                            0380
                                        JP ENDSEL
                            0390 * CONVERT ILLEGAL CHAR TO SPACES
006065
                            0400 SPACE CP
                                             241
006065 376 241
                                             NC, CONTIN
                            0410
                                        JΡ
006067 322 077 006
006072 076 003
                            0420
                                        LD
                                             A,003 *"SPACE CHAR"
                            0430 * FORGET ABOUT SHIFT WHEN SPACING.
006074
                                        JP
                                           OUTCAR
006074 303 161 006
                            0440
006077
                            0450 * UPPER/LOWER CASE SHIFT REOUIRED?
                            0460 CONTIN LD
                                            HL TABLE
006077 041 225 006
006102 326 240
                            0470
                                        SUB 240
006104 205
                            0480
                                        ADD
                                            L
                            0490
                                        LD
006105 157
                                             L,A
```

```
11
                1030
                          223
006227 223
                       DB
006230 017
                1040
                       DB
                          017
                              #
006231 041
                1050
                       DB
                          041
                              $
006232 021
                1060
                       DB
                          021
```

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006233 02	7	1070	DB	027	ઢ	
006234 22	2	1080	DB	222	•	
006235 05	5	1090	DB	055	(
006236 04	.7	1100	DB	047)	
006237 03	15	1110	DB	035	*	
006240 31	.1	1120	DB	311	+	
006241 33	14	1130	DB	334	,	
006242 35		1140	DB	354	_	
006243 21		1150	DB	212		
006244 34		1160	DB	340	/	
006245 04		1170	DB	046	0	
006246 14		1180	DB	142	1	
006247 01		1190	DB	010	2	
006250 01		1200	DB	016	3	
006251 04		1210	DB	040	4	
006252 02		1220	DB	020	5	
006252 02		1230	DB	032	6	
006254 02		1240	DB	026	7	
006254 02		1250	DB	034	8	
006256 05		1260	DB	054	9	
006257 32		1270	DB	327	:	
006257 32		1280	DB DB	326	:	
		1290	DB	055	;	(<)
006261 05			DB	310	=	
006262 31		1300		047)	(>)
006263 04		1310	DB		?	()
006264 34		1320	DB	341	@	
006265 01		1330	DB	011		
006266 23		1340	DB	237 157	A B	
006267 15		1350	DB		С	
006270 13		1360	DB	137		
006271 12		1370	DB	125	D	
006272 12		1380	DB	123	E	
006273 31		1390	DB	317	F	
006274 30		1400	DB	305	G	
006275 14		1410	DB	145	Н	
006276 23		1420	DB	231	I	
006277 30		1430	DB	303	J	
006300 13		1440	DB	131	K	
006301 14		1450	DB	143	L	
006302 20		1460	DB	207	М	
006303 11		1470	DB	113	N	
006304 24		1480	DB	243	0	
006305 32		1490	DB	321	P	
006306 33		1500	DB	333	0	
006307 22	25	1510	DB	225	R	
006310 24	‡ 5	1520	DB	245	S	
006311 10	01	1530	DB	101	T	
006312 11	L5	1540	DB	115	U	
006313 21	15	1550	DB	215	V	
006314 25	57	1560	DB	257	W	
006315 10	07	1570	DB	107	X	
006316 34	+7	1580	DB	347	Y	
006317 05	53	1590	DB	053	Z	
006320 00	05	1600	DB	005	(
006321 00	02	1610	DB	002	NC	PΩ
006322 00	04	1620	DB	004)	
006323 00	02	1630	DB	002	ИC	P

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006324		1640	DB	355	UNDERLINE
006325	-	1650	DB	002	NOP
006326		1660	DB	236	A (LOWER CASE)
006327	- · ·	1670	DB	156	В
006330	136	1680	DB	136	С
006331		1690	DB	124	D
006332		1700	DB	122	E
006333		1710	DB	316	F
006334		1720	DB	304	G
006335	- · ·	1730	DB	144	Н
006336		1740	DB	230	I
006337		1750	DB	302	J
006340	130	1760	DB	130	Î,K
006341		1770	DB	142	L M
006342		1780	DB	206	
006343	112	1790	DB	112	N
006344		1800	DB	242	0
006345	320	1810	DB	320	P
006346	332	1820	DB	332	0
006347		1830	DB	224	R
006350	244	1840	DB	244	S
006351	100	1850	DB	100	T
006352	114	1860	DB	114	U
006353		1870	DB	214	V
006354		1880	DB	256	W
006355	106	1890	DB	106	X
006356	346	1900	DB	346	Y
006357	052	1910	DB	052	Z
006360	002	1920	DB	002	NOP
006361		1930	DB	002	NOP
006362		1940	DB	002	NOP
006363	002	1950	DB	002	NOP
006364	002	1960	DB	002	NOP
			*		

^{*} END OF ASSEMBLY LISTING OF SELECTRIC INTERFACE ROUTINE