

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO CIRCLE
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION ENGINEERING
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
BOX 4348, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60680
TELEPHONE: 996-3423



November 16, 1976

Prof. Melvin Ferentz
Physics Dept.
Brooklyn College
City University of New York
Brooklyn, New York 11210

Dear Mel,

This should hold you for awhile.

I am enclosing the mailing announcement and menu, as well as a release notice for the Toronto software. The latter is a tiny bit premature as I am missing one file; I will have to get it from either Lou Katz, or from Martin Tuori in Toronto. One thing I unfortunately forgot to mention in the Toronto announcement is that it is unfortunately not available through the center to commercial users. They should contact Toronto directly.

When the Newsletter with this stuff in it appears, the mailing will be officially open. All that means is that tapes appearing without specific requests attached get the current mailing. People asking for "Mailing # 1" or "the old mailing" will get the appropriate stuff.

It might be a good idea to rerun the Harvard license agreement when you run the Toronto agreement so they appear at least once in the same place.

That's a really good mailing list in # 9. Gorgeous.

Have fun!

Yours,

Michael T. O'Brien

UNIX SDC MAILING # 2

Contents

1) Rand Corp. Software

- Includes RAND's changes to UNIX (3 new system calls, EOF on pipes, etc.), as well as:
 - a) The RAND windowing editor (a real gem on 9600 baud cursor-addressable CRT's)
 - b) MASTER and OPSER, comprising a general system for handling background jobs; allows re-connection to the job at a later time.
 - c) Many changes to other commands to make life easier.
- All the above completely documented.

2) Naval Postgraduate School Software

Included are fixes to allow remote rebooting of the machine in the event of a crash, a driver for Versatec plotters (block DMA interface only--sob!), a version of DDR, minor editor fix, an 8080 assembler, etc. Note: some of the stuff has a special "//-to-end-of-line" sort of C commenting style that will have to be stripped out. Also available by separate request only is a new scheduler, which scans the process table twice; the first pass throws out a process only if that process alone will make room for the new process. NPS claims 25% improvement on a 48K machine, Ken Thompson thinks otherwise. You will have to judge for yourself. On the same basis is available a modified Version 5 UNIX which attempts to emulate a complete pop-11 at each user terminal, for instructional purposes. Never used in production and good for code-reading only. Documented.

3) UCSD Fortran Update

- Includes bug fixes to the original UCSD Fortran, included in Mailing #1, and includes as well:
 - a) An 8080 assembler and 8080 object file compacter.
 - b) Various modules for talking to RT-11-structured file systems. An overlapping set with RTPIP, distributed last time.
- All of the above are documented.

4) University of London Software

From the people who brought you "ed for mortals" comes another bunch of stuff:

- a) "pop", or "pieces of perspex", a set of routines which divide a cursor-addressable terminal logically into general-purpose, overlaid windows for management of the screen qua

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