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Identification

Printer I/O During Initialization
messag, prt202, printer_io
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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.