

Detachable Media

*In addition to the assign entry,*

The Resource Assignment Manager contains five special entry points concerned with the attaching of detachable media to the computer. Detachable media of concern to the RAM include tape reels, 4-ply paper, and pre-signed checks.

*(These entries are accessible only to the administrative via calls to them are changed through the resource)*

1. **Locate.** This is a request to locate and move into the general

area of the I/O device the particular detachable medium desired. This request would be issued a few minutes in advance of the beginning of expected usage of the I/O device and the detachable medium.

2. Load. This is a request, specifying both a detachable medium and a device, which asks that the medium be loaded onto the device. This call is only appropriate if the device has already been assigned to the process.
3. Unload. This is a request to remove the specified medium from the specified device.
4. Return. This is a request to move the detachable medium back to its normal storage area.
5. Get-media-status. Normally, the four requests described above cannot be complied with at the instant of the call. Instead, an interuser signal channel identifier is returned with each call; a signal on this channel means that final disposition of the request has occurred. The caller would typically wait for the wakeup associated with this signal, and then call get-media-status to learn what actually happened. At this time he may learn, for example, that the operator could not locate the desired tape reel, or that the combination to the vault containing the presigned checks would not work.

