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# Data Processing Techniques

# Operating System/360 OTAM User's Guide -- Message Control Task Specification Preliminary Edition

The Queued Telecommunications Access Method (QTAM) provides macro instructions for the programming of a communications-based data processing system within the Operating System/360. This book is a compilation of logic flowcharts and explanations designed to instruct the programmer in the coding of a program using QTAM. In a tutorial manner, **Programming** the reader is led through the necessary decisions and a workbook-like development of the system macro coding on the queued access method level.



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### INTRODUCTION

The Operating System/360 Queued Telecommunications Access Method (QTAM) provides macro instructions for specifying the operation of a communications-based data processing system. This book is a compilation of logic flowcharts and explanations designed to instruct the programmer in the use of these macros. In a tutorial manner, the reader is led through the necessary decisions in a workbook-like development of the system macro coding on the queued access method level.

A sample program using QTAM is included in the Appendix along with some guidelines to designing message formats for efficient use of QTAM.

Upon completing this book, the user will have completely specified and put together all the coding needed to perform the following functions:

Polling and addressing of terminals
Dialing and answering of terminals
Allocation of core storage buffers
Routing of messages
Queuing of messages
Header analysis and synthesis
Message logging
Error checking
Error procedures

Functions not provided for in this book are:

Processing of message contents

Formulating replies to inquiry messages

Operator control of the communications system

This book is largely a presentation of information found in the SRL document IBM Operating System/360: Telecommunications (C28-6553). It is intended that the SRL document be a reference for further detail in specific areas.

Prerequisites for using this book are:

- Knowledge of a system configuration and its application-oriented operating procedures.
- Layouts of the message formats that will be sent and received via communication lines.
- An understanding of the principles of Operating System/360 (IBM Operating System/360, Concepts and Facilities, C28-6535).
- A general, but not extensive, knowledge of the System/360 Assembly Language (IBM Operating System/360; Assembler Language, C28-6514).

The QTAM macro coding produced with this book specifies the operation of a Message Control Task within the framework of Operating System/360. A Message Control Task encompasses all the communications-oriented functions listed but does not include user programs to process the data content of messages received from communications lines. The processing of the data content of the messages is performed by Message Processing Tasks that are user-provided and operated as separate tasks within Operating System/360. These Message Processing Tasks are not obtainable through use of this book.

There is, however, the facility within QTAM to incorporate programs as subtasks of the Message Control Task in order to do a moderate amount of data processing. These subtasks will not then operate as separate tasks of the Operating System, and consequently will make it possible to operate in a task-restricted environment.

Instruction is given at the appropriate points in this book for inclusion of such subtasks. The reader is again referred to C28-6553 for further description of the details and restrictions of such operation.

The Message Control Task to be developed here consists of the following parts:

Data set definition Control information Line procedure specification

Data Set Definition is concerned with the writing of DCB (data control block) statements. These statements specify the operation of direct access storage devices, logging devices, and communication lines.

Control Information is necessary for operation of communication lines. It consists of terminal device information, polling list descriptions, and buffer assignments.

Line Procedure Specification (LPS) uses standard delimiter and functional macros to provide the necessary logic flow for header analysis/synthesis and for message handling.

This book breaks the above three main parts into the following sections:

- A. Communication Line Group DCB
- B. Direct Access Storage Device Queue DCB
- C. Logging Device DCB
- D. Terminal Table
- E. Polling List
- F. Buffers
- G. Receive Segment
- H. Receive Header
- J. End Receive
- K. Send Header
- L. Send Segment
- M. End Send
- N. Data Set Initialization
- P. Structuring

Using this book to develop a Message Control Task, the reader will proceed through each of the above sections as directed. As part of the job of progressing through a section, macro statements for that section are to be filled out. These macro statements will then be collected and ordered to form the three parts: Data Set Definition, Control Information, and LPS(s). These, in turn, are gathered to form the Message Control Task.

The first part to be considered will be Data Set Definition. Here we will be concerned with the writing of DCB macro statements. This is in harmony with the control procedures for Operating System/360.

## SECTION A. COMMUNICATION LINE GROUP DCB

BEGIN

Write "Section A. Communication Line Group DCF" in the margin at the top of the first coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section A.

Each communication line group in the system must have a statement defining its characteristics. This is done with a Data Control Block (DCB) statement. (A line group consists of all communication lines in the system that have the same channel programs, the same buffer requirements, the same line procedure specifications, the same send-receive relative priority, the same polling intervals, and the same type terminals.)

Choose symbolic names for each line group. Enter each name in a Name field of macro statements for this section. (Allow about two lines per statement.) Each of these statements will be a DCB statement — one for each line group.

#### EXAMFLE DCB

والمستوال والمستوا		
Nane	Operation	Operand
DCBGRUP1	DCB	DDNAME=DDGROUP, DSORG=CX,
		MACRF=(G,P),CPOLL=(POLLINE1,
		POLLINE2), INTVL=5, BUFRQ=3,
		ACLOC=bb, CLPS=LPS1

From here on, the discussion will be per DCB. For more than one DCB a similar procedure should be followed for each.

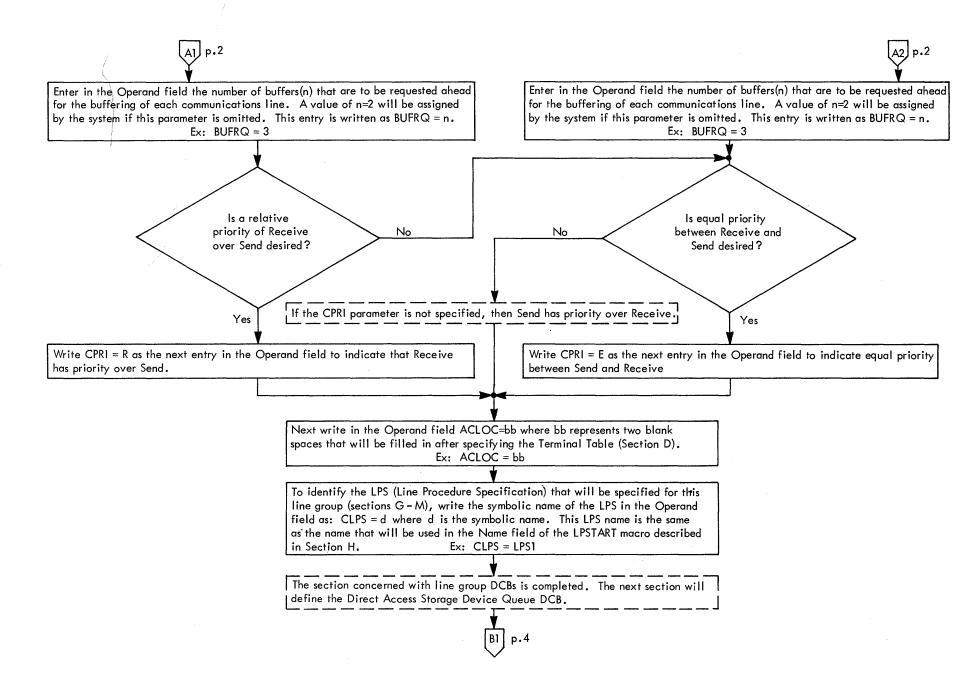
Write DCB in the Operation field of the macro statement.

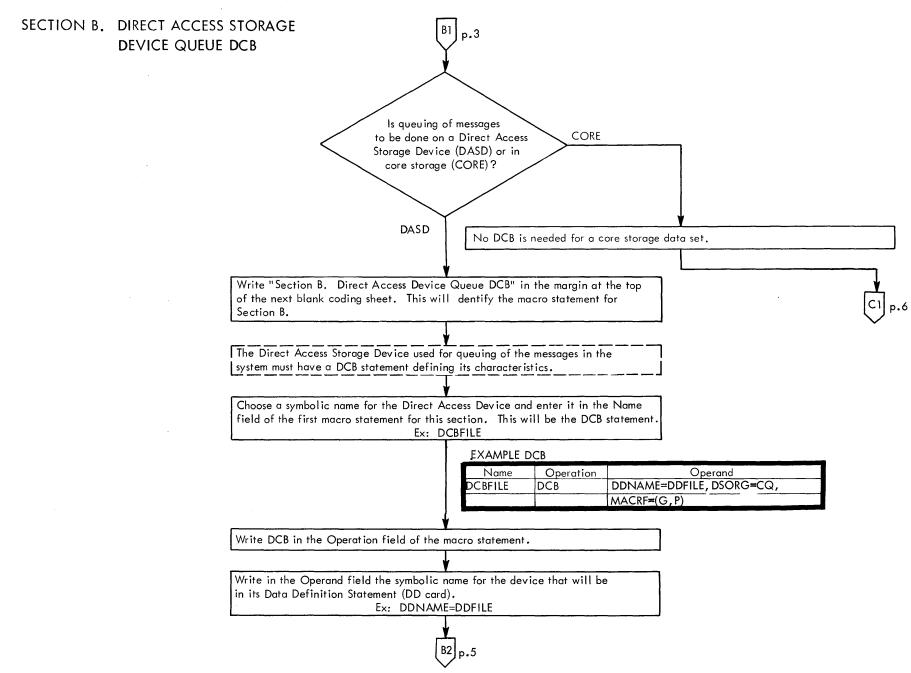
Write DDNAME = name in the Operand field, where name is the symbolic name for the line group that will be in the Data Definition Statement (DD card) for this line group. (DD cards are job control cards that will be prepared when the Message Control Task being written is entered into the Operating System for execution. There will be a DD card entered for every Data Set defined by a DCB statement in the Message Control Task.)

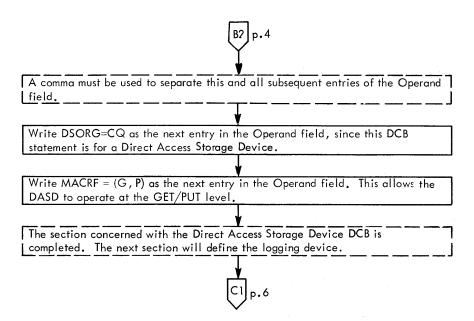
Ex: DDNAME = DD GROUP

Use a comma to separate this and all future entries of the Operand field.

Write DSORG = CX as the next entry in the Operand field; CX identifies this statement as a communication line group DCB. Write MACRF = (G, P) as the next entry in the Operand field. This allows the lines to operate at the GET/PUT level. Write CPOLL = (x,y,z) in the Operand field, as the polling list names for all the lines in the line group, where x,y,z represent the polling list names of each line as specified by the POLL macro (section E.) Every line in the system must reference a polling list name, whether it actually has polled terminals on it or not. (An output-only or non-polled line will not have any terminal entries in the polling list specified by its POLL macro. The polling list name for such a line may be shared by all other similar lines.) These names are to be listed in the order specified in the Data Definition Statement, each one separated by commas and the list enclosed in parentheses. Ex: CPOLL=(POLLINE1, POLLINE2, POLLINE5) Are the terminals in No Yes this line group to be polled? Do you want a No delay between consecutive passes of the polling lists? Yes Write in the Operand field INTVL=t, where t is the time delay desired between consecutive polling passes in seconds ( $t \le 255$ ) for each line of the line groups. Ex: INTVL = 5



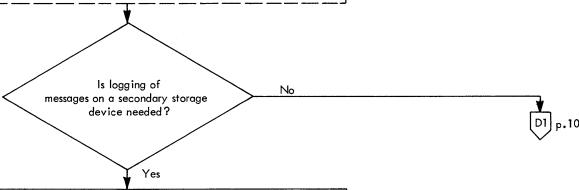




# SECTION C. LOGGING DEVICE DCB



Messages are automatically retained when a Direct Access Storage Device is used for the queuing of messages. In addition to this, messages may be logged sequentially on a secondary storage device by use of the LOGSEG macro instruction in the LPS. Use of the LOGSEG macro implies using the Queued Sequential Access Method (QSAM), the operation of which will be taken care of completely by QTAM. The message segments logged on this device will be interleaved if more than one line uses the same device.



Write "Section C. Logging Device DCB" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section C.

Each secondary storage device used for the logging of messages in the system must have a statement defining its characteristics. This is done with a DCB statement for each specified logging device.

# NOTICE

The parameters of the Logging Device DCBs are subject to the requirements of QSAM and are described here only to ensure their inclusion in the Message Control Task. The reader is referred to IBM Operating System/360: Control Program Services (C28-6541) for exact specification.





Choose symbolic names for each logging device needed and enter them in the Name fields of the macro statements for this section. The symbolic names will be a parameter of the LOGSEG macro instructions issued in the LPS. Different LOGSEG macros may use the same symbolic name or different ones, depending on whether the same logging device is to be used. Each of the macro statements containing symbolic names will be a DCB statement — one for each logging device.

Ex: LOGFILE

#### **EXAMPLE DCB**

Name	Operation	Operand
LOGFILE	DCB	DDNAME=DDLOG, DSORG=PS, LRECL=95
		BLKSIZE=95, MACRF=(PM),
		RECFM=V,BFTEK=S,DEVD=TA,DEN=1,
		TRTCH=T

Subsequent discussion for specification of the logging device DCB's will be for a single logging device with the understanding that a similar DCB is needed for each.

Write DCB in the Operation field of the macro statement.

Write in the Operand field the symbolic name for the logging device that will be in its Data Definition Statement (DD card) specified as DDNAME=name.

Ex: DDNAME=DDLOG

A comma must be used to separate this and all subsequent entries of the Operand field.

Write DSORG=PS as the next entry in the Operand field, since this DCB statement is for a logging device.

Write LRECL=n as the next entry in the Operand field, where n is the maximum-length logical record to be written on the logging device.

Write BLKSIZE=n as the next entry in the Operand field, where n is the maximum physical block length in bytes to be written on the logging device. Ex: BLKSIZE=95 Write MACRF = (PM) as the next entry in the Operand field. This allows the device to operate in the PUT and MOVE mode. Are the messages to be No written on the logging device as blocked records? Write RECFM = V as the next entry in the Operand field. This allows writing of Yes variable length records. Write RECFM=VB as the next entry in the Operand field. This allows writing of variable-length blocked records. The maximum physical block size will be defined by the BLKSIZE parameter. Write BFTEK = S as the next entry in the Operand field. This allows the logging device to use simple buffering techniques. To define the device upon which the data is to be logged, a DEVD parameter is needed. The various options for this device are described in the referred QSAM document. For illustration, the specification of a magnetic tape device with a recording density of 556 bits/inch, odd parity, BCDIC to EBCDIC translation, is written as: DEVD = TA, DEN = 1, TRTCH = T. The logging device DCB section is completed. The next section will define the terminal table.

# SECTION D. TERMINAL TABLE

D1 pp.6,8

The sections needed to define the Data Sets are finished. The next sections will define Control Information needed for QTAM.

Write "Section D. Terminal Table" in the margin at the top of the next coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section D.

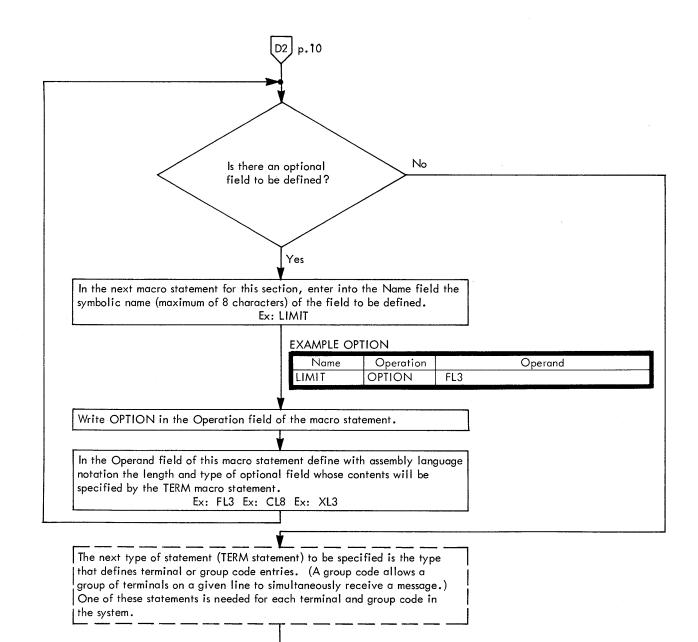
The first Control Information Section that will be specified is that of the Terminal Table. The series of statements needed to define the size of the table, each terminal device in the system, each distribution list of terminals, and each processing message queue is described here. (Other information about the particular terminal devices is specified at System Generation time.)

Write TERMTBL in the Operation field of the first macro statement.

#### **EXAMPLE TERMTBL**

The next type of statement that may be specified, following the TERMTBL statement, is one that will identify and give the size of optional user fields within each TERM terminal entry. There must be one of these statements for each type optional field. The optional fields defined might be used for such things as to limit the number of consecutive polls for a terminal, to supply QTAM with an alternate destination for a terminal, or any other user-desired information that is needed on a per-terminal basis. If an INTERCEPT macro is specified in the LPS section, a two-byte optional field named INTERCEPT must be specified.

D2 p.11



Although the following discussion is written per statement, a TERM statement should be written concurrently for each terminal (or group code) in the system.

For each TERM statement to be defined, write in the Name field the symbolic name for each terminal or group code to be defined. The symbolic names assigned will be referred to as "Terminal Table entry names" and will be stated in message headers to identify message source and destination(s). Each symbolic name may be of a different length, up to a maximum length of 8 characters, provided that they are delineated by blank character(s) when stated in the message header. (A field equivalent to the maximum name specified will be reserved for each TERM statement entry.) If they are not delineated by blank characters in the message header, each name must be of the same length, and that length must be specified in the functional macro statements that reference them.

Ex: NYC

#### **EXAMPLE TERM**

i	Name	Operation	Operand
	NYC	TERM	L, DCBLINE, 1, 6202620E, (1)

Write TERM in the Operation field of the macro statement.

Information to be entered in the Operand field of the Term statement depends on the terminal type and desired method of operation. Those currently supported will be classified here as:

Type 1. IBM 1050 - Polled Terminals

IBM 1060 - Polled Terminals

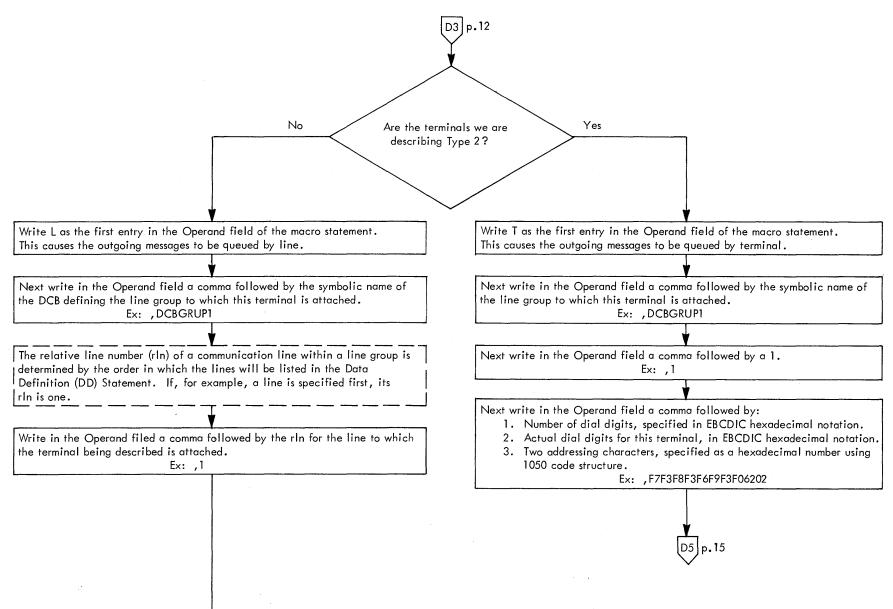
AT&T 83B3 - Polled Terminals

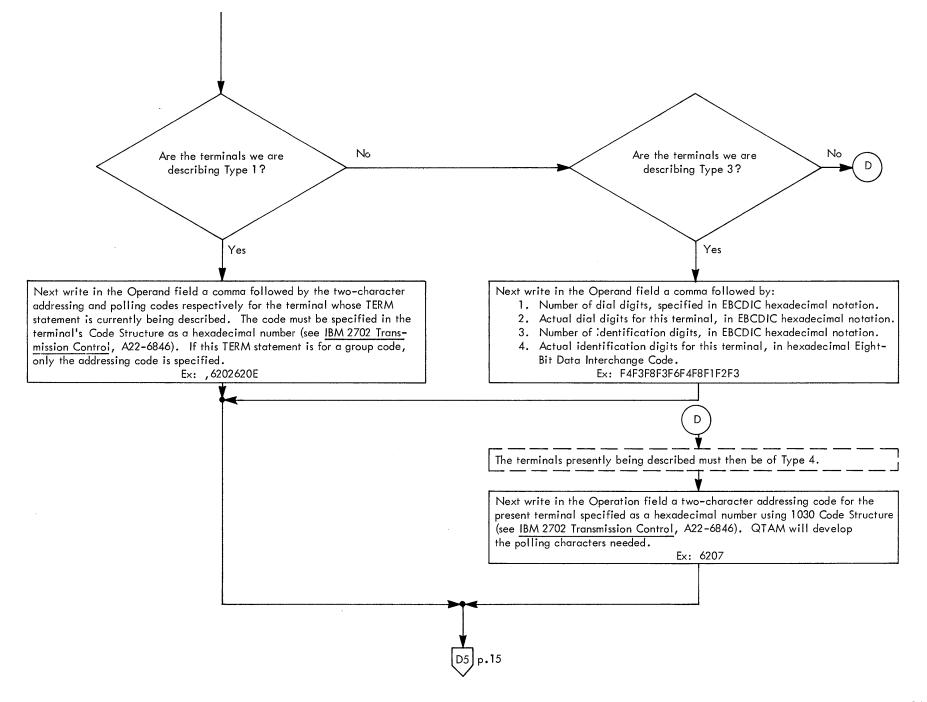
WU 115A - Polled Terminals

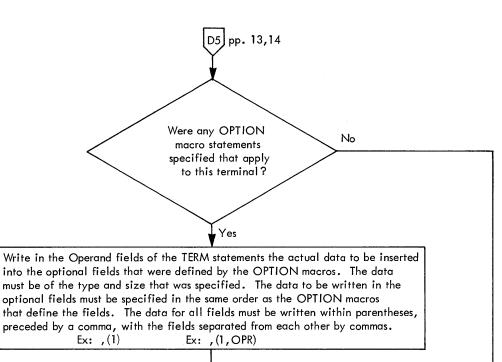
Type 2. IBM 1050 - Dialing

Type 3. Common Carrier TWX

Type 4. IBM 1030







Is this strictly a message switching application?

Since the application is not strictly message switching, some of the messages need special processing. To do this, the messages are sent to a process queue where the user's processing programs can access them by means of GET/PUT macro instructions. The statements needed to define these process queues are called PROCESS macro statements. Messages that would need special processing could be Inquiry, Data Collection, Control Messages, etc.

#### **EXAMPLE PROCESS**

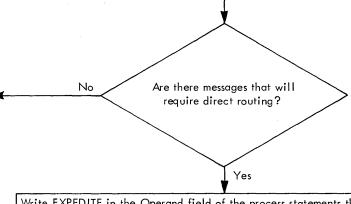
Name	Operation	Operand
INQ	PROCESS	

In the next macro statements enter into the Name field the symbolic name assigned to each Process queue. These names are subject to the same restrictions as terminal table entry names specified in the TERM statement.

Ex: INQ

Write PROCESS in every Operation field that contains a Process queue terminal table entry name.

Messages destined for process queues may be routed directly to a process program, bypassing the normal queuing on a DASD (or in core storage). If messages are routed directly, their segments are not collected until the entire message is received. GET macro instruction may then obtain interspersed segments of other messages between segments of a multisegment message. If direct routing is specified, the messages are not written on the DASD and the RETRIEVE macro may not be used.

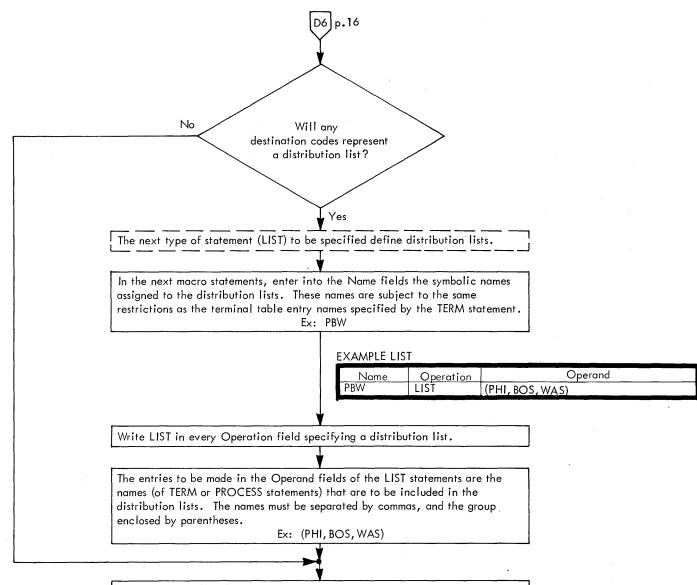


Write EXPEDITE in the Operand field of the process statements that define "direct routing" queues.

Ex: EXPEDITE

A destination code can be a "terminal table entry name" that represents a list of terminals. Each terminal on the list will represent a destination for the message.

D6 p.17



Go back and fill in the Operand field of the TERMTBL statement with the name of the last entry in the Terminal Table, followed by a comma and the decimal number of bytes used by the maximum-length Terminal Table entry name.

Ex: INQ,3

#### **EXAMPLE TERMTBL**

Name	Operation	Operand
	TERMTBL	INQ,3

We are now able to finish specification of the ACLOC parameters that were not written in the Communication Line Group DCB's in Section A. The numbers to be written in the blank spaces reserved will define the "Device Address" field of each terminal relative to the first character of its Terminal Table Entry.

To calculate this decimal number n, use the formula n = 9+x+y, where x = the maximum number of characters used for a TERM statement Terminal Table entry name and y = the number of characters used for optional fields in each TERM statement.

Ex: ACLOC=14

# **EXAMPLE DCB**

: , , , , , , , <sub>2</sub> = 2 = 3		
Name	Operation	Operand
DCBGRUP1	DCB	DDNAME=DDGROUP, DSORG=CX,
		MACRF=(G,P),CPOLL=
		(POLLINE1, POLLINE2), INTVL=5,
		BUFRQ=3, ACLOC=14,
		CLPS=LPS1



# SECTION E. POLLING LIST

E1 p.18

Write "Section E. Polling List" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section E.

Each line in the line group must have a polling list associated with it. Lines that are for output only, or any non-polled lines, may share a common polling list with no terminal entries in it. The terminals on each line must be listed in the order in which they are to be polled. A given terminal may be listed more than once within a list. Each terminal on the list will be polled to exhaustion unless a POLLIMIT macro instruction is specified in the LPS. The polling list is specified with a POLL statement.

Write symbolic names (up to 8 characters) for each polling list to be specified in the Name fields of the macro statements for this section. The names will be specified in the CPOLL parameter of the line group DCB. Each of these will be a POLL statement — one for each line.

Ex: POLLINE2

**EXAMPLE POLL** 

1	Name	Operation	Operand
1	POLLINE2	POLL	(NYC, PHI, NYC, WAS)

Write POLL in the Operation field of each of these macro statements.

Write in the Operand field for each POLL statement a list of the polled terminals on its associated communication line. (There will be none for the non-polled lines.) This polling list must contain the terminal table entry names in the order in which they are to be polled for each line. These terminal table entry names must be those used in the Name fields of the TERM macro instructions. The entry names must be separated by commas, and the group enclosed by parentheses. A given entry name may be listed more than once in a given POLL macro instruction.

Ex: (NYC, PHI, NYC, WAS)

The polling list section has now been completely specified. Go to the next section which defines the buffers.



# F1 p.20 SECTION F. BUFFERS Write "Section F. Buffers" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet This will identify the macro statement for Section F. A statement is needed to define the size of a buffer pool and to define whether main storage or direct access device queuing is to be used. The statement used to specify this is the BUFFER statement. Write BUFFER in the Operation field of the macro statement for this section. **EXAMPLE BUFFER** Operand Name Operation DCBFILE, 10,95 BUFFER Is queuing of No the messages to be done on a direct access device? Yes The first entry in the Operand field of the BUFFER statement must identify the symbolic name given to the direct access device DCB statement. Ex: DCBFILE

Place a comma next in the operand field of the macro statement.



The next entry to be made in the Operand field is the decimal number of buffers to be reserved for QTAM. An order of magnitude estimate for the number of buffers required will be the product of the number of lines in each line group times the BUFRQ parameters of the line groups.

If main storage queuing is to be used, the amount of core storage needed must be provided for in the buffer number specification. (Maximum number of buffers = 32,768). The specified number must be followed by a comma.

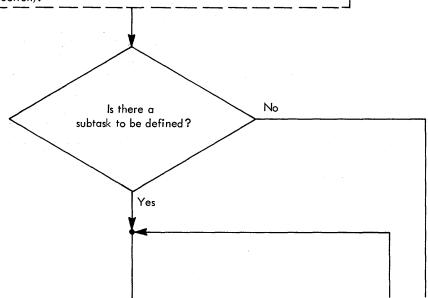
Ex: 10,

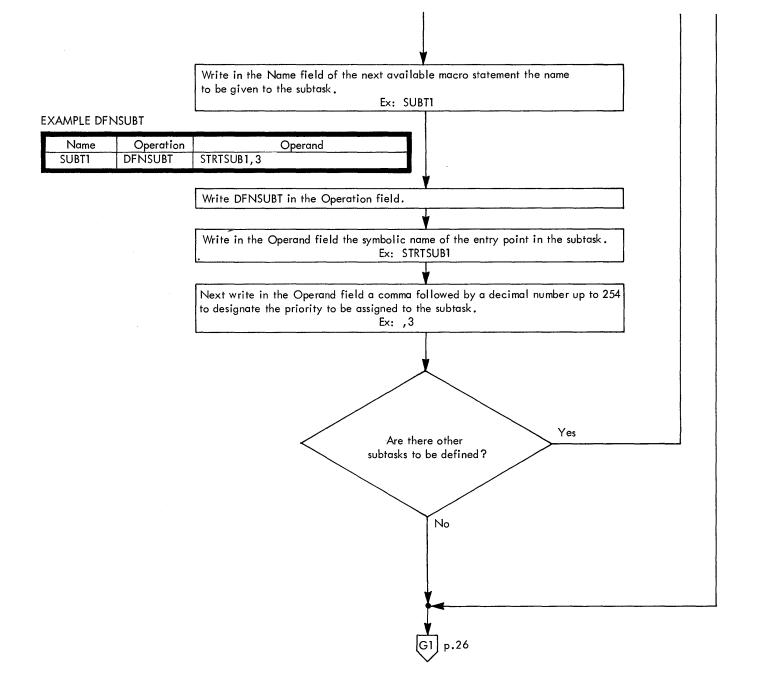
The next entry to be made in the Operand field is the number of bytes in each buffer. All buffers in the buffer pool will be of this length. The minimum-size buffer is equal to the message header prefix (32 bytes) plus the maximum size of the message header. The maximum size that may be specified for the buffer length is 278 bytes.

Ex: 95

The buffers section is completed.

Before leaving the system definition sections of the Message Control Task specification, there is one more related item-definition of a subtask to operate within the Message Control Task — if such an operation is desired (refer to Introduction).





# SECTION G. RECEIVE SEGMENT

G1 p.24

Data Sets and Control Information Sections have now been completely specified.
The next area to be considered is that of the Line Procedure Specification (LPS).

An LPS defines the message-handling and header analysis functions for messages sent and received on communication lines. Each group of lines that have the same terminal controls and transmit the same message formats will need an LPS.

The next chart sections will define statements that when finally assembled will make up an LPS. When more than one LPS is needed to make up the Message Control Task, directions will be given to repeat these sections until each LPS has the set of macro statements needed to perform its desired functions.

If a subtask of the Message Control Task was defined in the previous section, it is here pointed out that activation of such a subtask can be specified at any point within any of the LPS sections about to be specified. This is accomplished by writing on ACTSUBT macro statement, with the name of the subtask as its Operand parameter, at the point that activation is desired. It is important to note that the subtask will be activated each time the sequence of macros in which the ACTSUBT macro is embedded is referenced. To operate in other than this manner, the ACTSUBT macro may be included in the Data Set Initialization section described later in this book.

Deactivation of a subtask is accomplished within the subtask itself by use of an ENDSUBT macro statement.

G2 p.87

The macros needed to specify an LPS will now be defined.

Write "Section G. Receive Segment" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section G.

Each LPS requires as its first statement a LPSTART macro. The LPSTART macro identifies the beginning of the LPS and reserves space in the first buffer of the input message for insertion of timestamp, datestamp, and output sequence number fields.

Write LPSTART in the Operation field of the first macro statement for this section.

G3 p.26

#### **EXAMPLE LPSTART**

Name	Operation	Operand
LPS1	LPSTART	

Write in the Name field a symbolic name of 8 or fewer characters to identify this LPS. This name is used for the CLPS parameter of the associated Communication Line Group DCB (Section A).

Ex: LPS1

: LPS

Write RCVSEG in the Operation field of the next macro statement for this section to identify the succeeding macros of this section as those concerned with both header and text portions of the message received. (This type of macro statement is known as a delimiter macro and is not to be confused with the delimiter character which is a blank.)

#### **EXAMPLE RCVSEG**

Name	Operation	Operand
	RC√SEG	

Specify code translation of the incoming message by writing TRANS in the Operation field of the next macro statement. Normally only one receive code translation table is permitted per LPS/Line Group.

# **EXAMPLE TRANS**

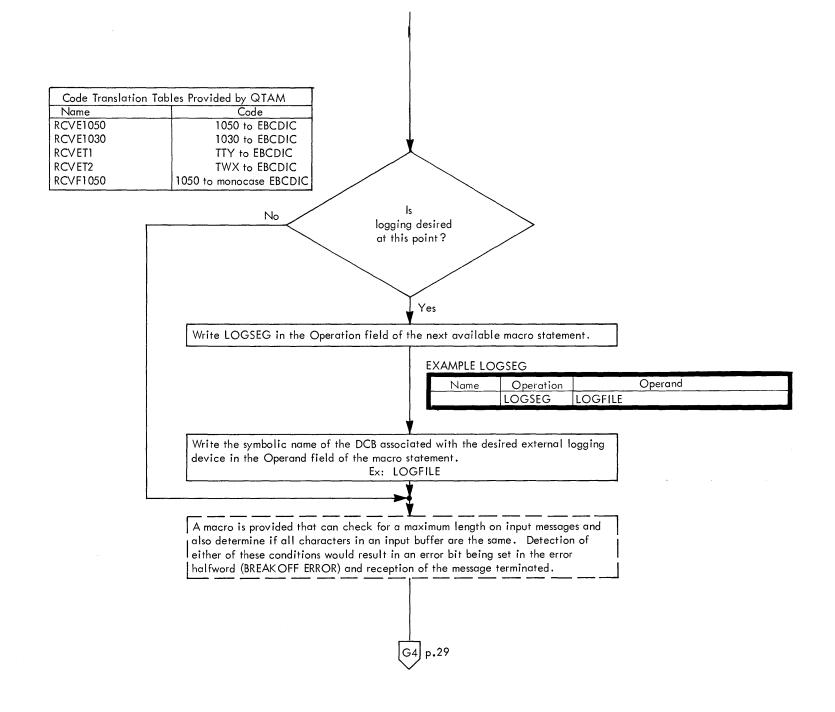
Name (	Operation		Jperand	
TRA	ans	RC√E1050		

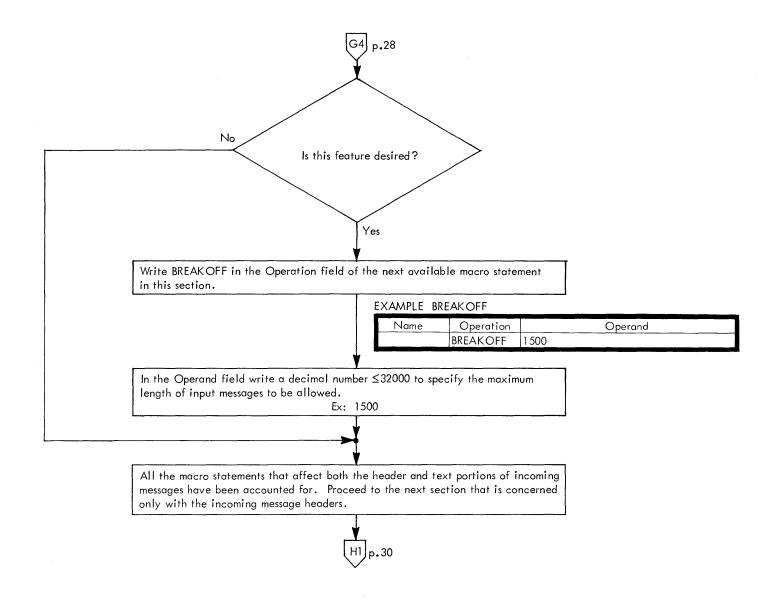
Write the symbolic name of the particular code translation table needed for the incoming messages in the Operand field of the macro statement.

Ex: RCVE1050



It is possible to log entire messages at this stage of header analysis. Messages logged on an external I/O device at this point will not contain header additions such as timestamp or datestamp. It should be noted that this logging is in addition to the queuing of messages on the DASD.





#### SECTION H. RECEIVE HEADER

H1 p.29

Write "Section H. Receive Header" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section H.

Write the delimiter macro RCVHDR in the Operation field of the first macro statement for this section to identify the succeeding macros of this section as those concerned only with incoming message headers.

#### **EXAMPLE RCVHDR**

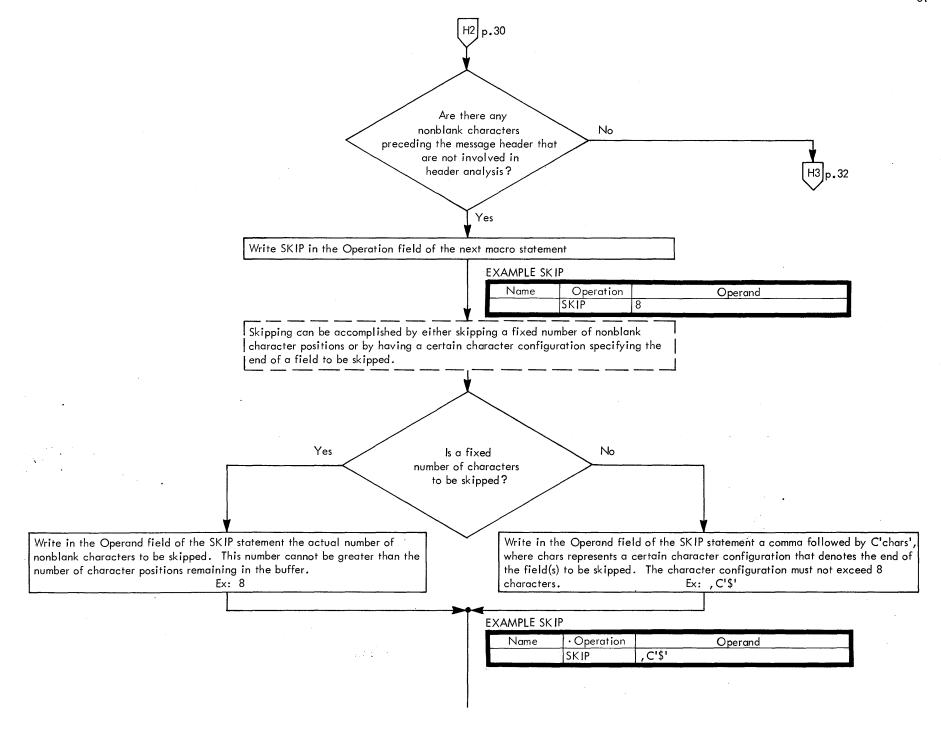
Name	Operation	Operand
	RCVHDR	

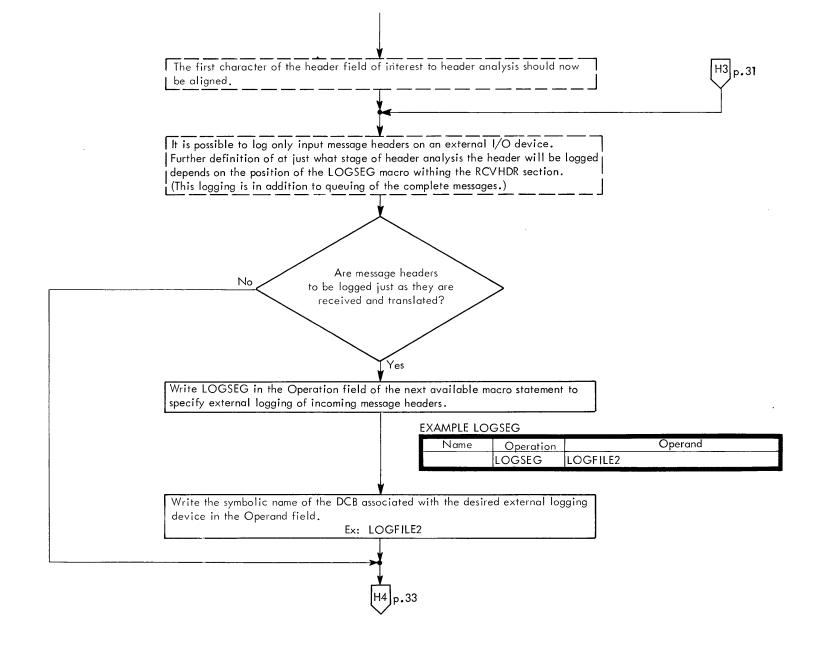
This section of the LPS will perform the desired header analysis/synthesis of incoming message headers. To do this, it is necessary to start at the beginning of the message header and proceed through it (left to right) by specifying the appropriate functional macro instructions in the same order in which they apply to the header. As each macro that operates on a particular field is executed, the LPS will advance to the beginning of the next field of the header before the next macro will be executed. The beginning of the next field will be the first nonblank character after the end of the field being operated on. It should be noted that all blank characters will automatically be skipped between the fields.

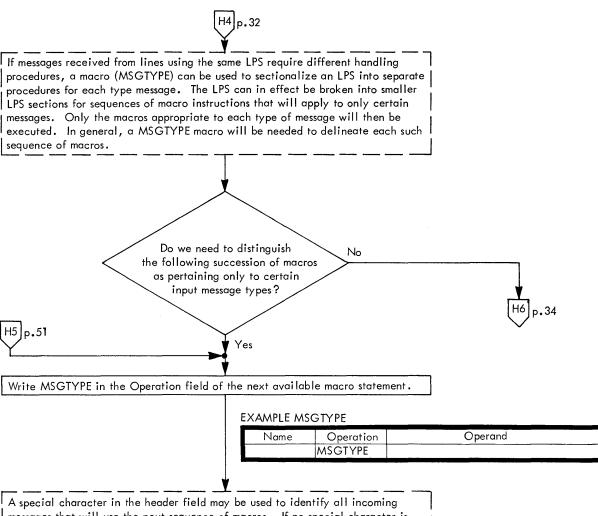
It is important that the LPS be kept aligned with the actual message header by proper delineation of the header fields. This is done by specifying field lengths within the macro statements and by skipping over nonblank fields not involved in header analysis with the SKIP macro.

At this point the LPS program is automatically aligned with the first character of the received message (not necessarily the first meaningful character of the header).

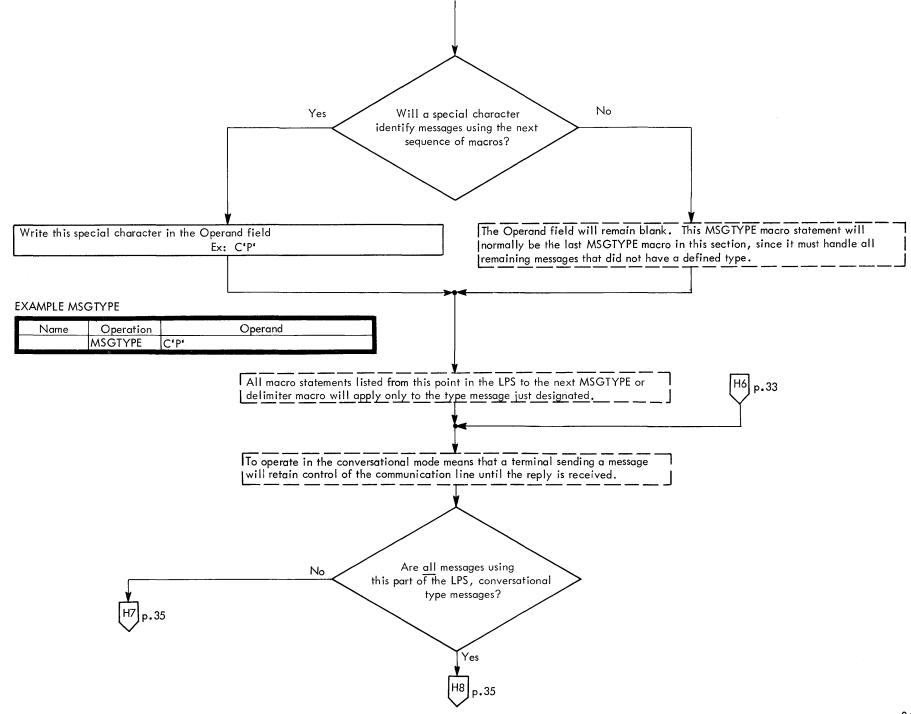


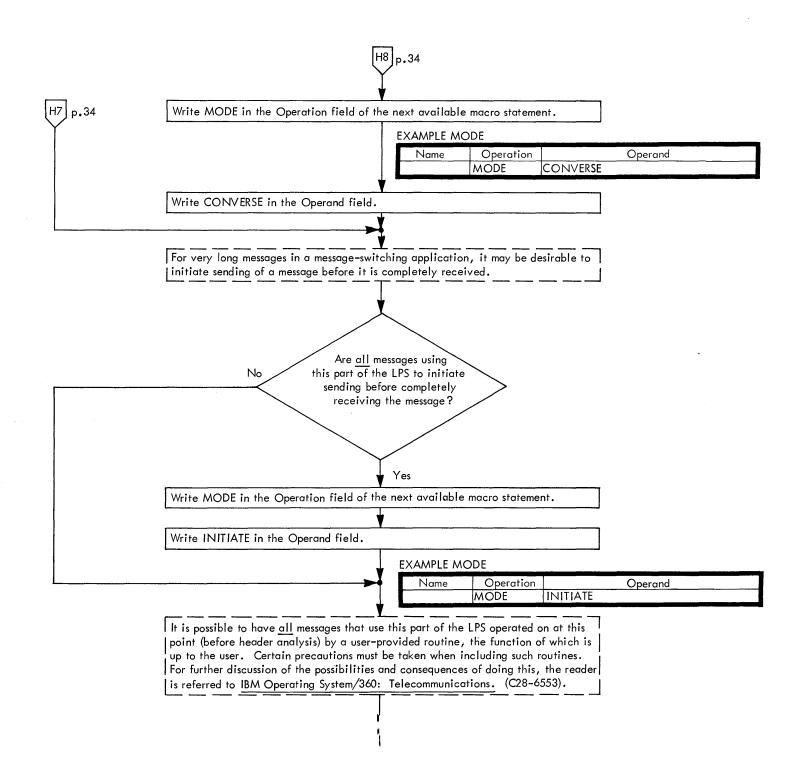


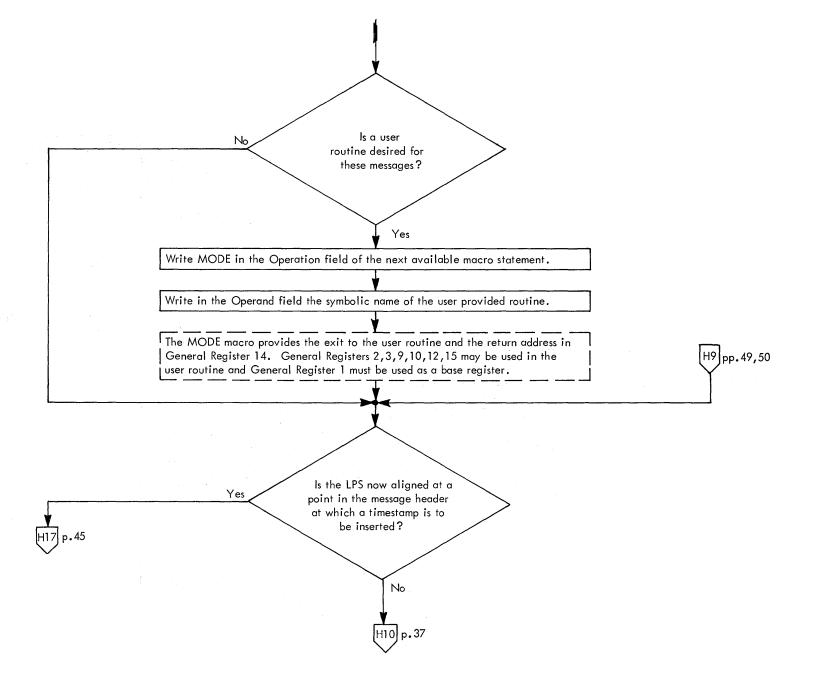


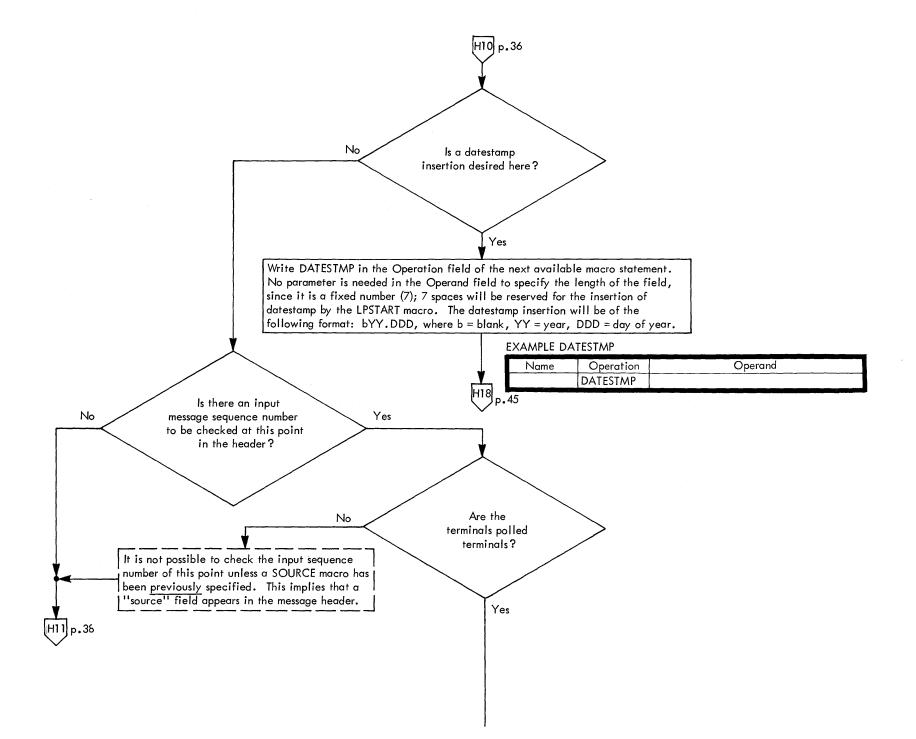


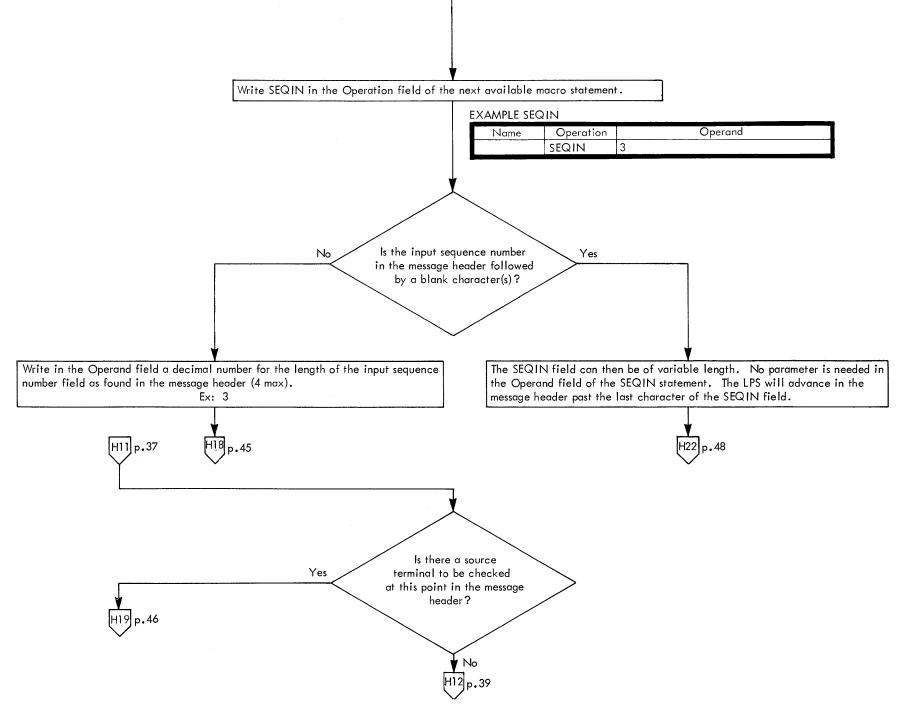
A special character in the header field may be used to identify all incoming messages that will use the next sequence of macros. If no special character is present, all such messages will be handled by the next sequence of macros. A MSGTYPE macro, with no special character, must be specified to identify the sequence of macros to handle these messages.

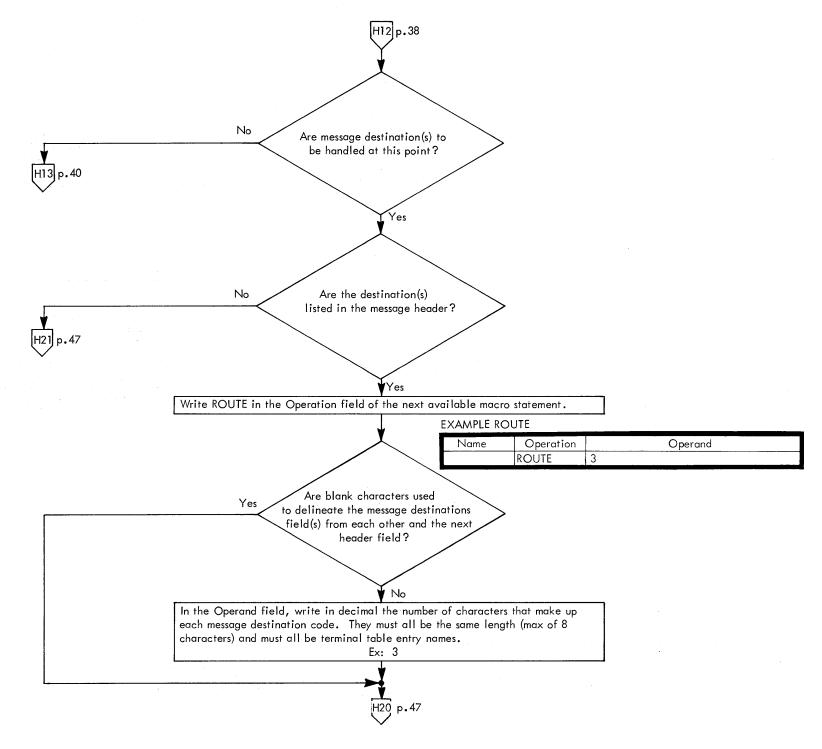


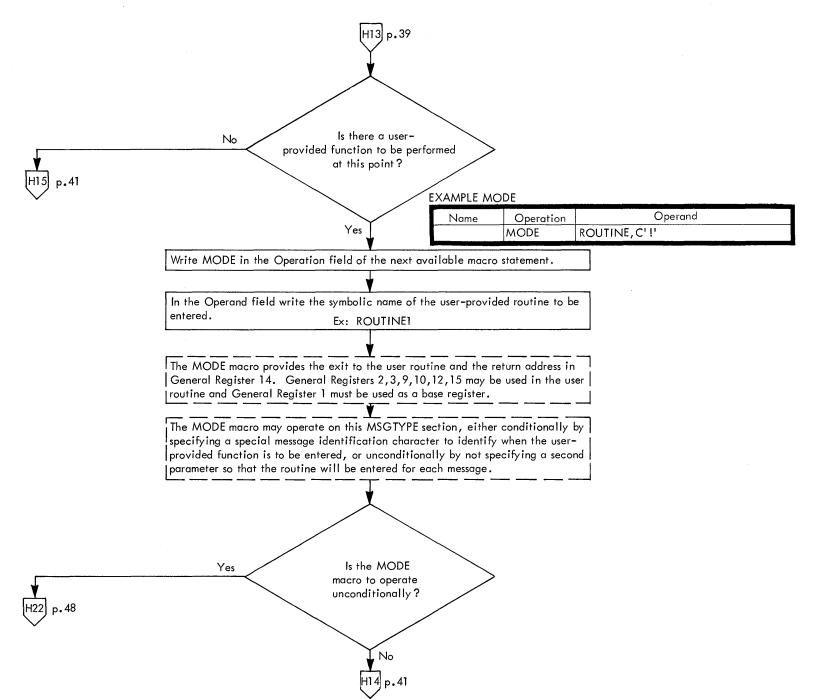


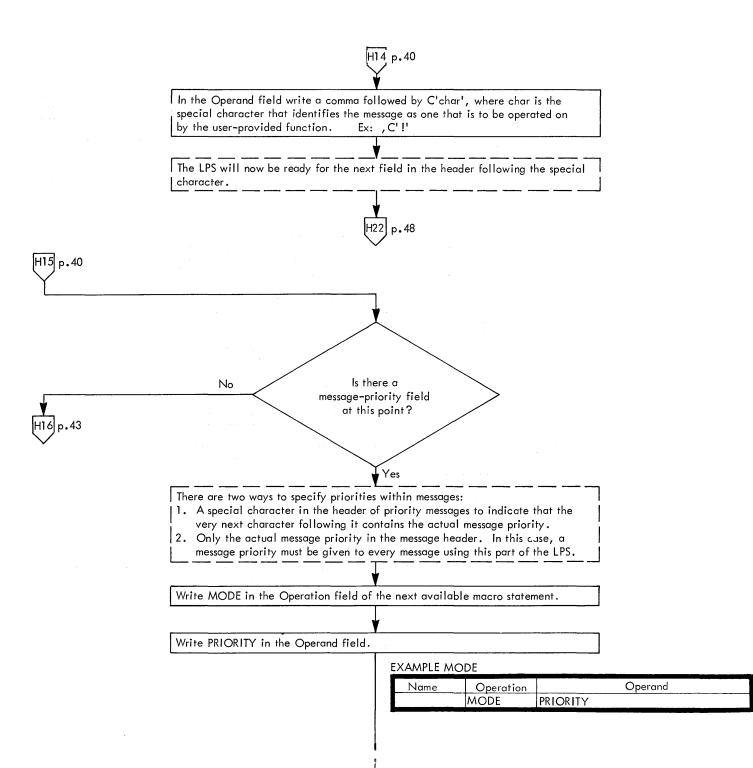


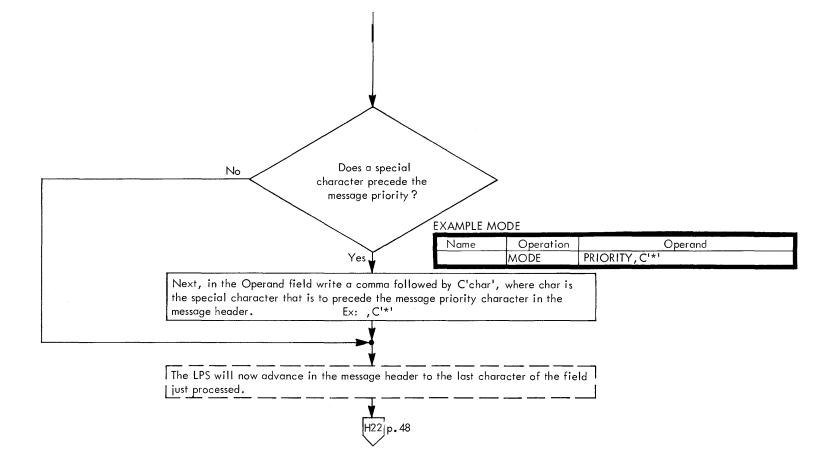






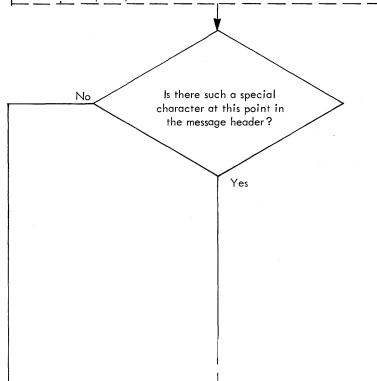


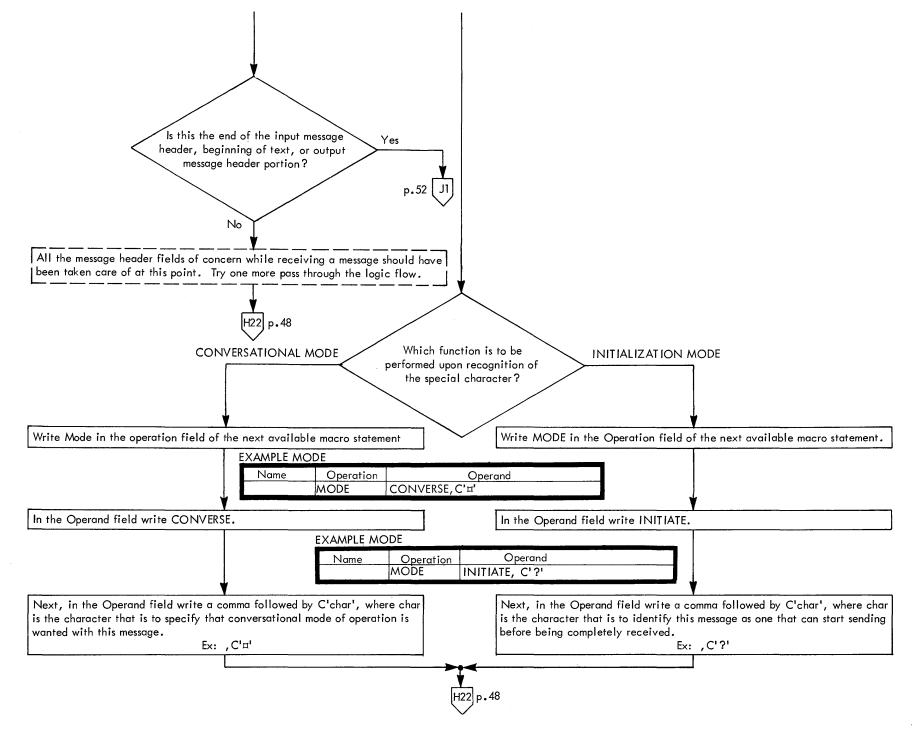


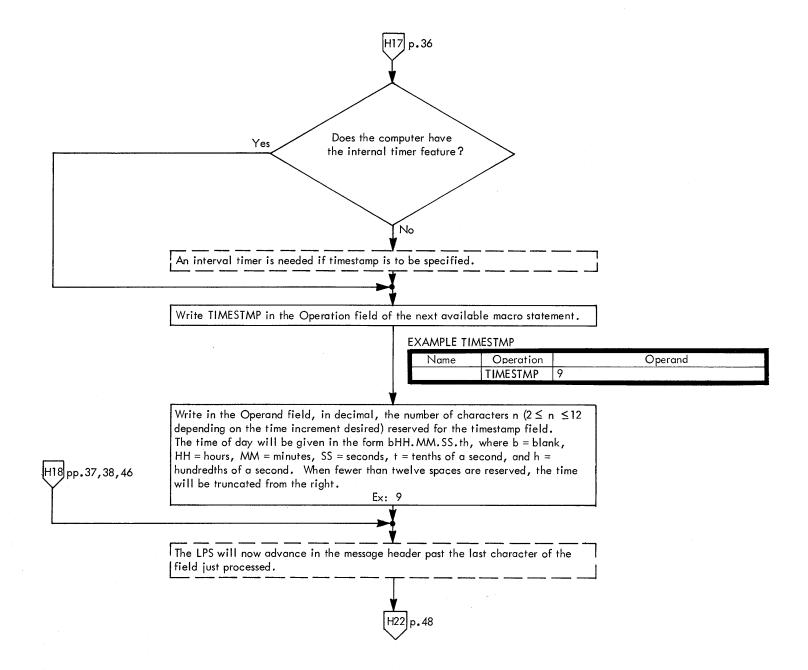


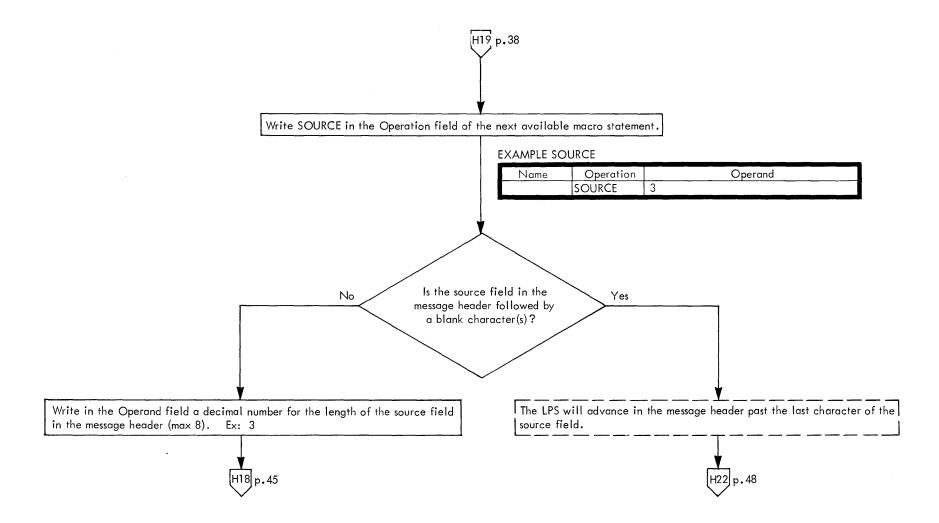


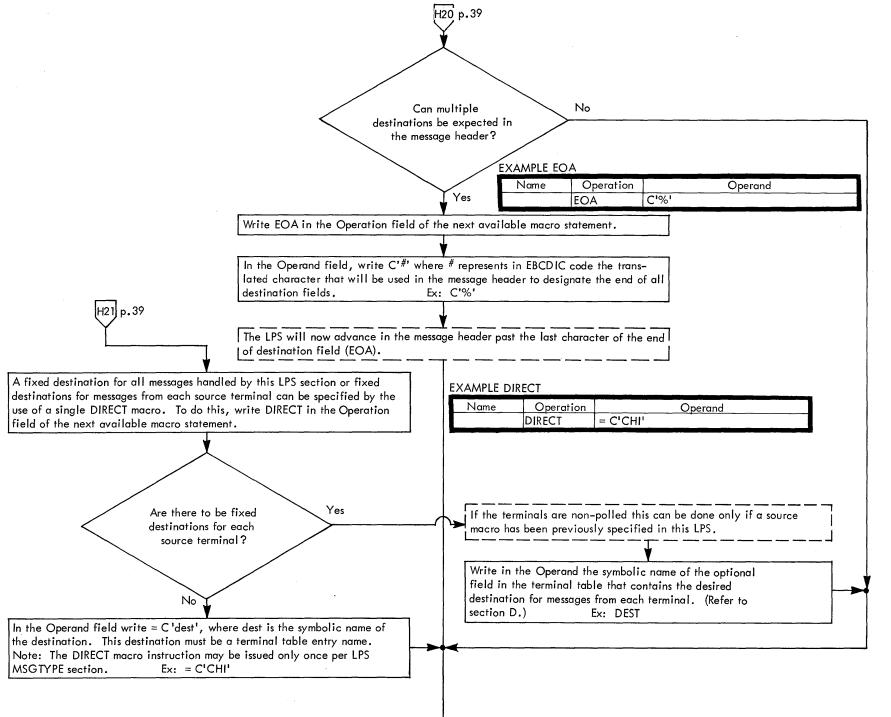
A special character field may be specified in the message header to indicate conversational mode of operation, or the desire to start sending a message before it is completely received.

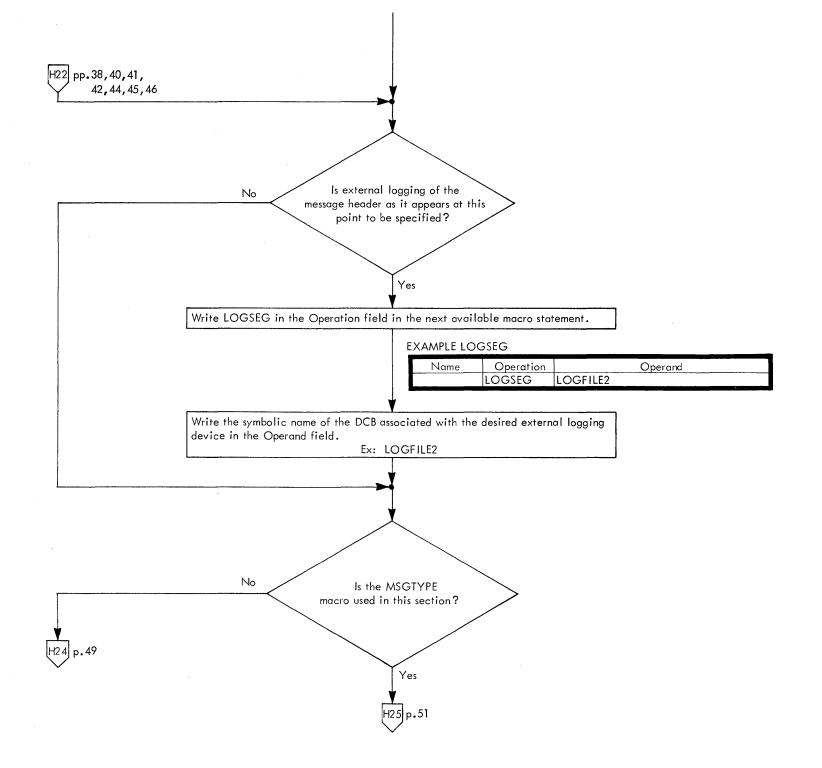


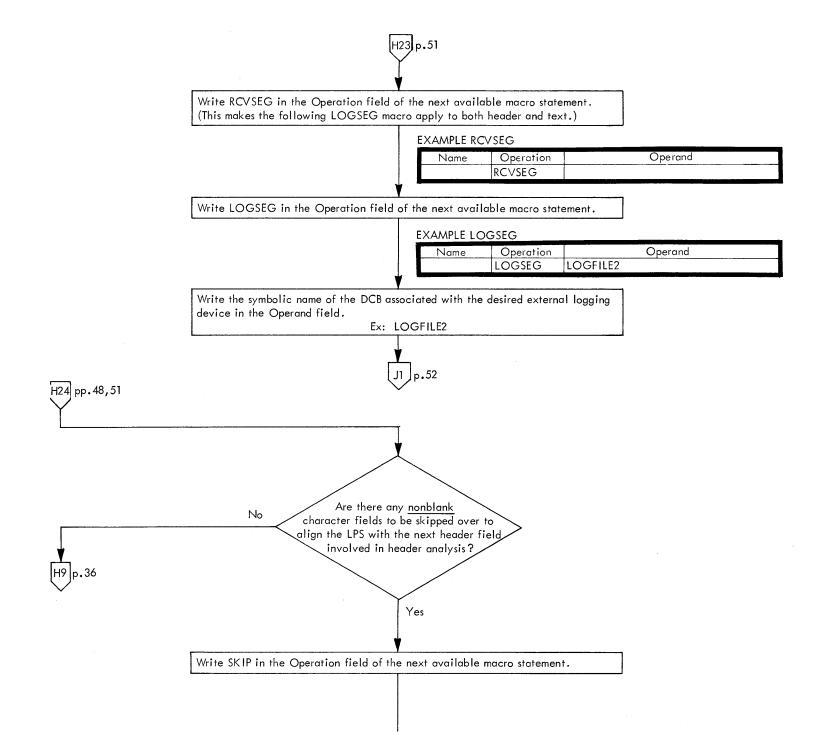








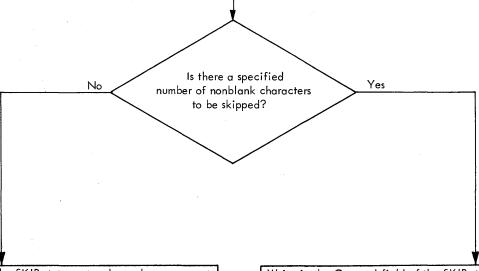




## EXAMPLE SKIP

Name	Operation	0	perand
	SKIP	,C'#'	

A field can be skipped by either specifying a given number of nonblank characters to be skipped or by specifying a particular character configuration that will indicate the end of the skipped field.



Write C'chars' in the Operand field of the SKIP statement, where chars represents the particular character configuration in the internal system code.

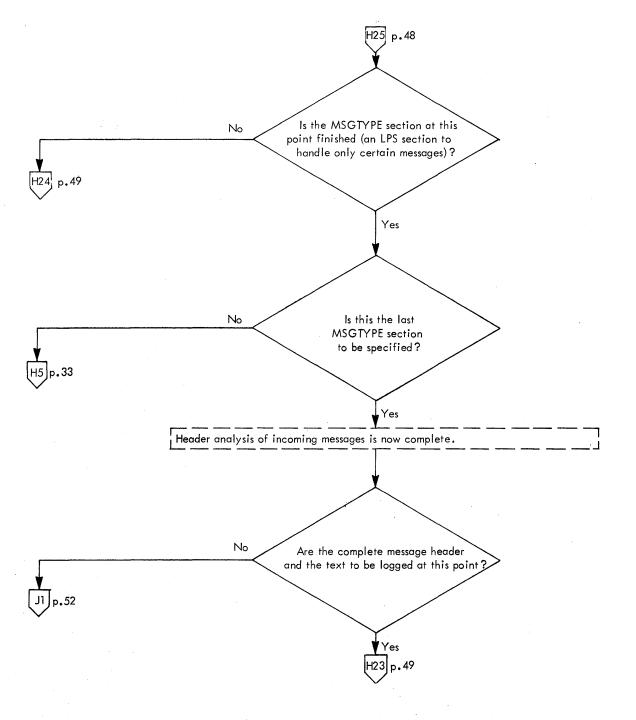
Write in the Operand field of the SKIP statement the actual number of nonblank characters to be skipped. The number cannot be greater than the number of character positions remaining in the buffer, past the present position of the LPS.

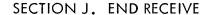
Ex: 10

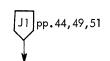
p.36 H9 EXAMPLE SKIP

 Name
 Operation
 Operand

 SKIP
 10





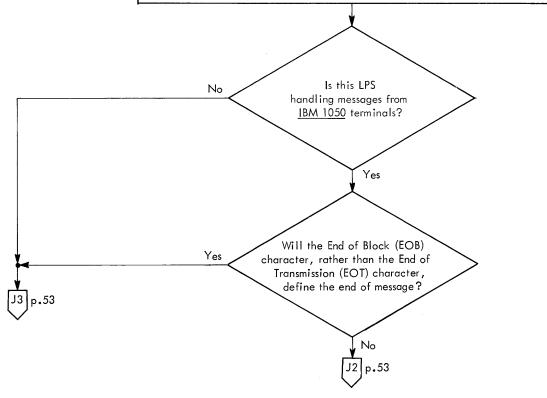


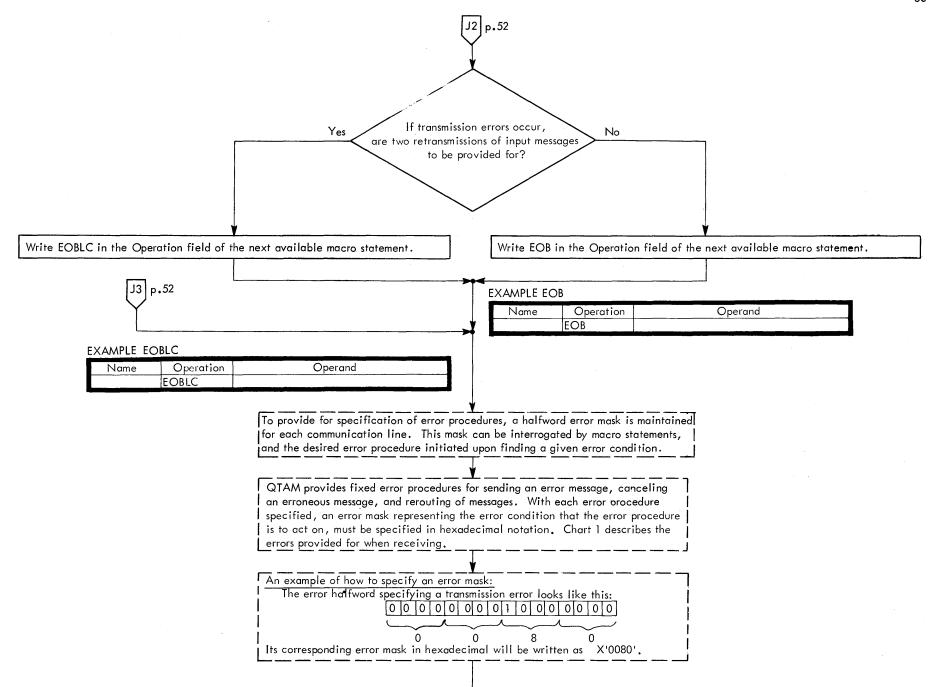
Write "Section J. End Receive" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section J.

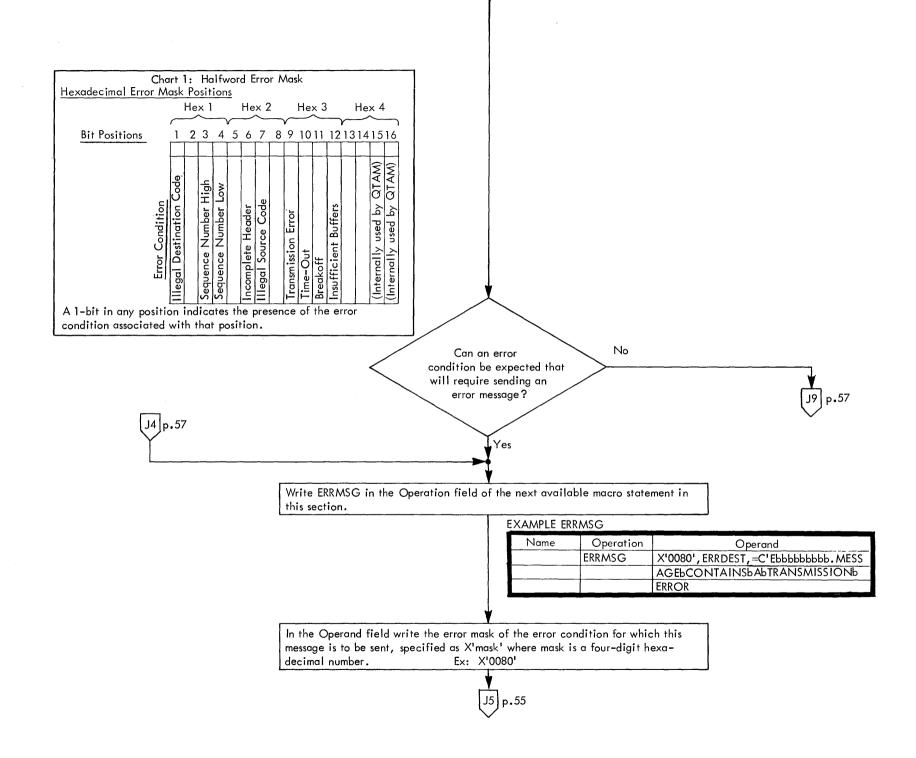
## EXAMPLE ENDRCVE

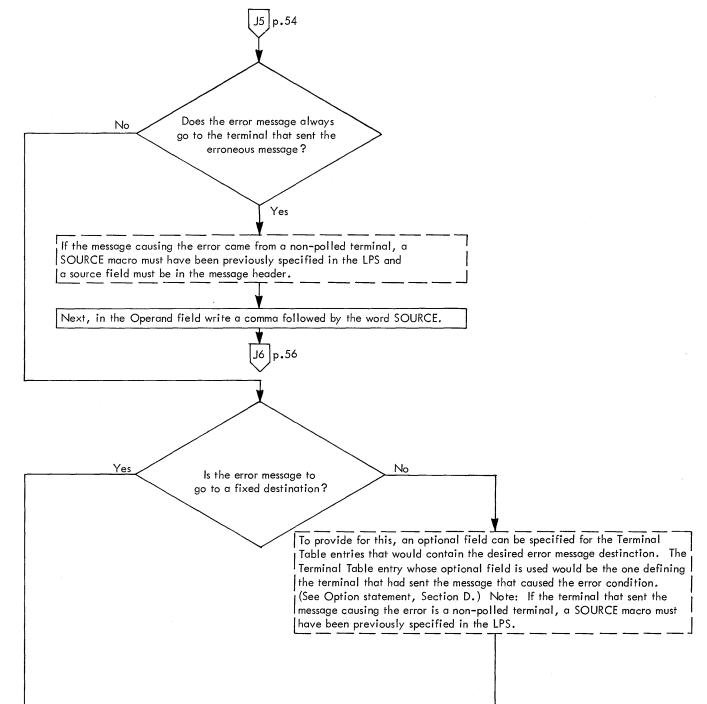
Name	Operation	Operand
ENDRCVE		

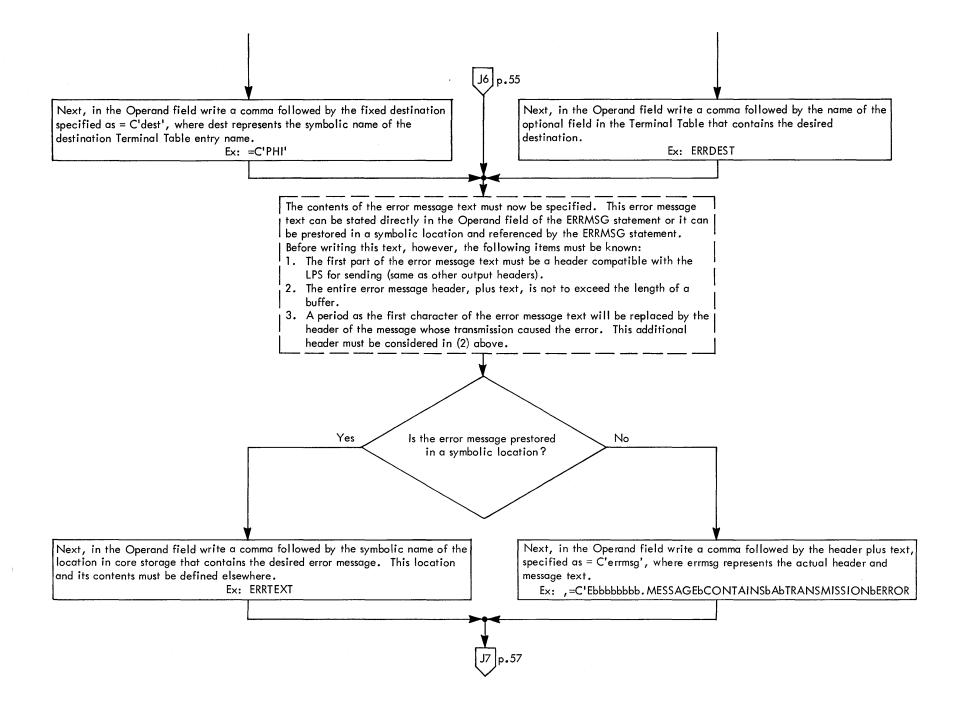
To identify the following section of the LPS as macro instructions concerned only with functions to be performed after the entire message has been received, write the delimiter macro statement ENDRCVE in the Operation field of the first macro statement for this section.

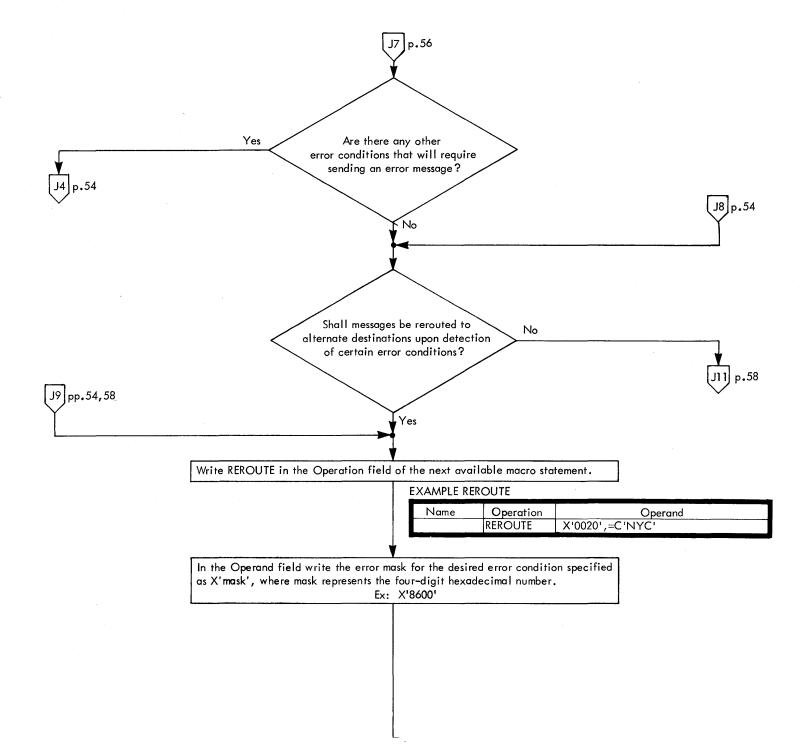


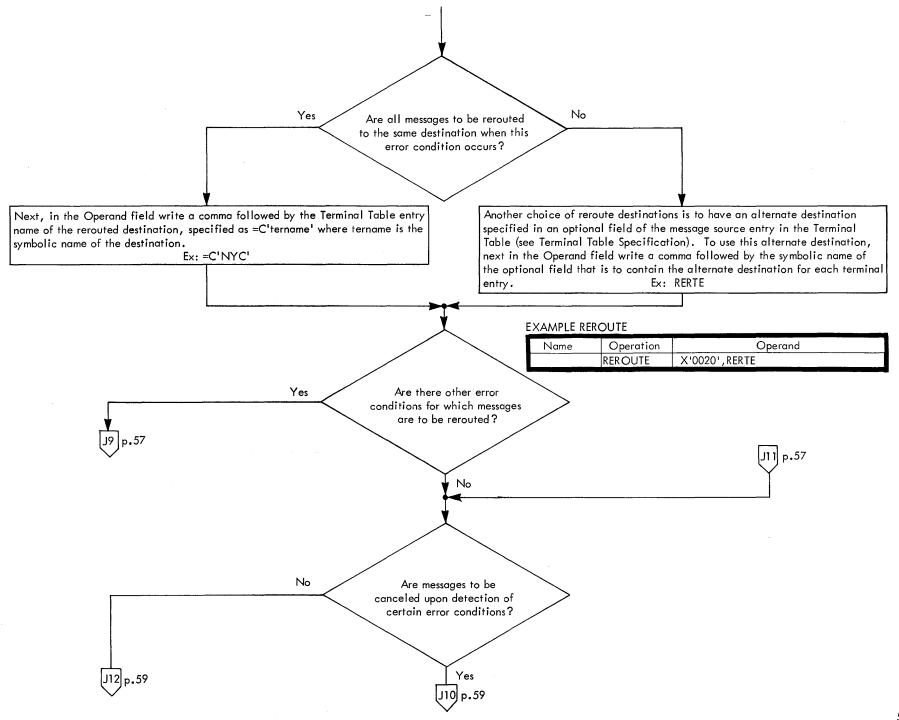


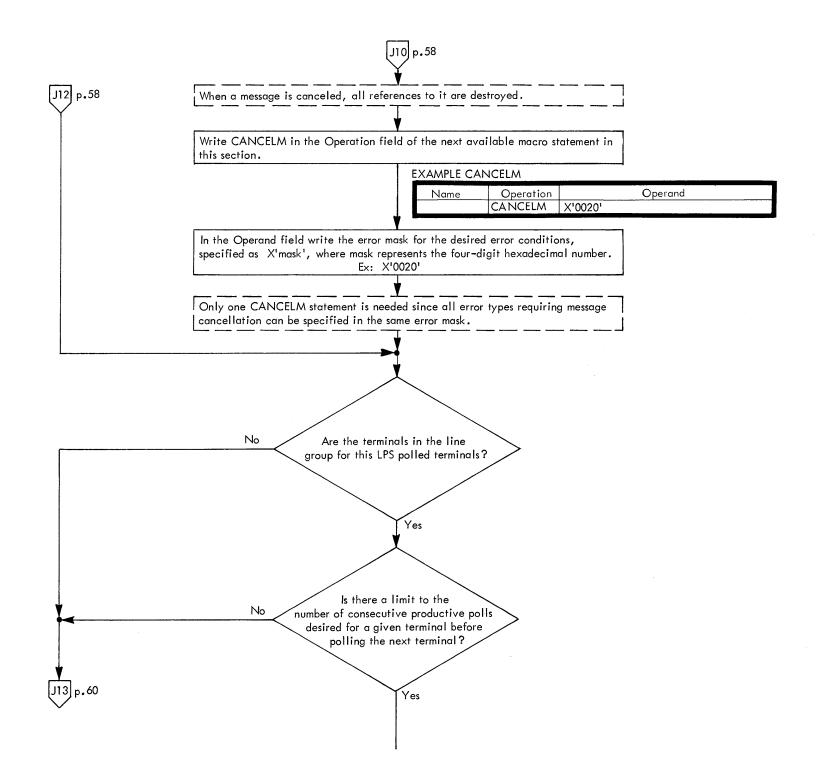


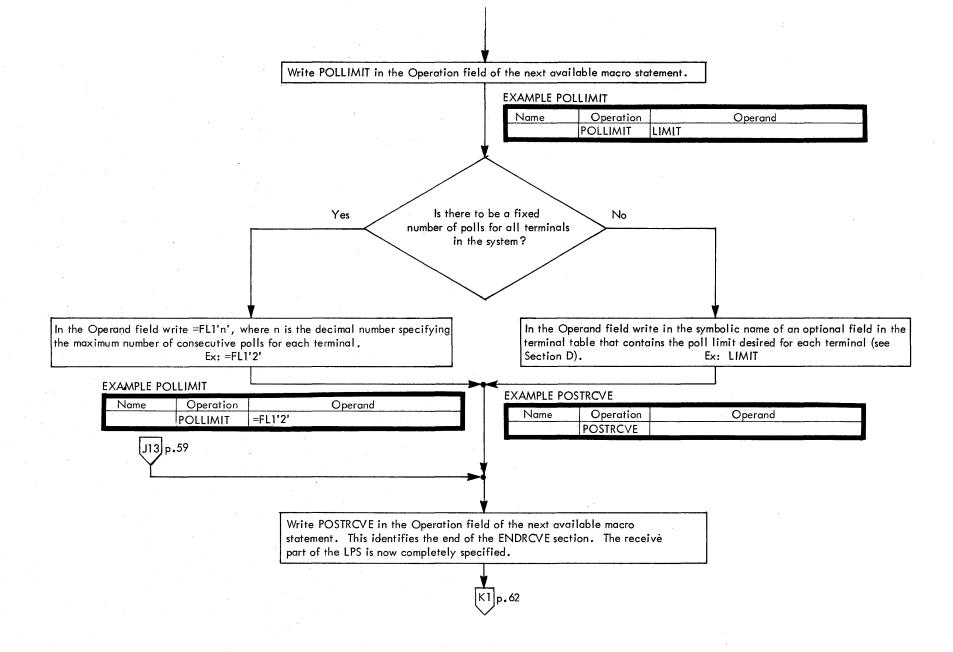


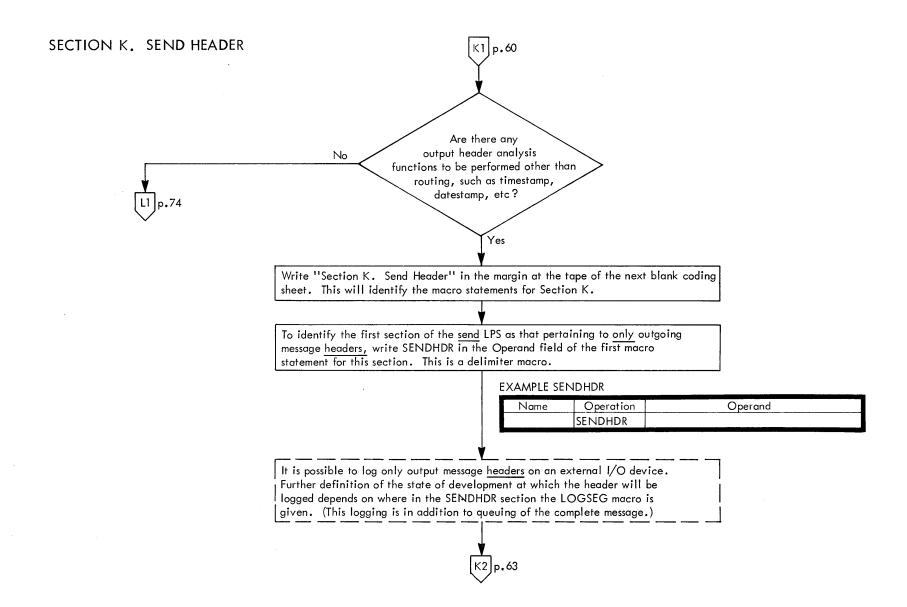


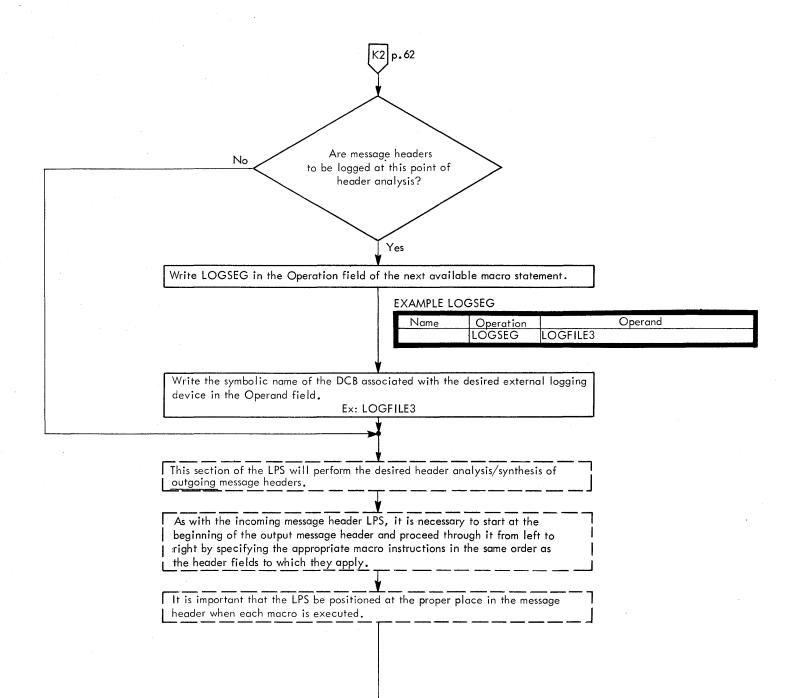


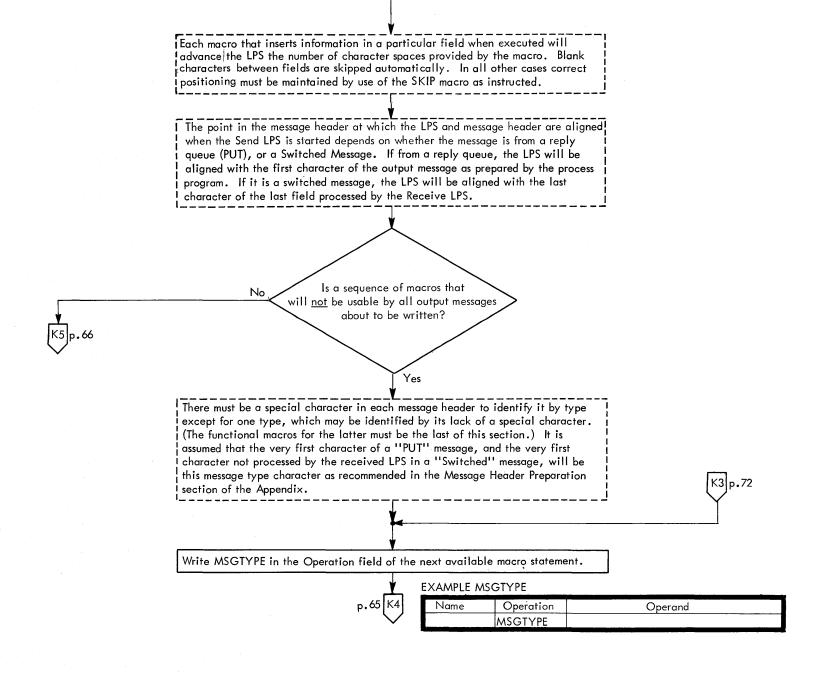


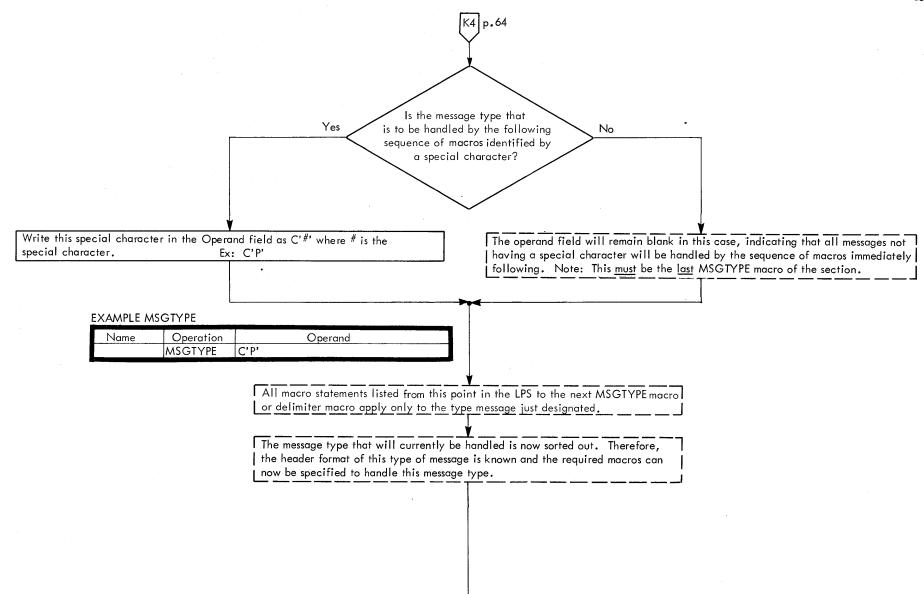


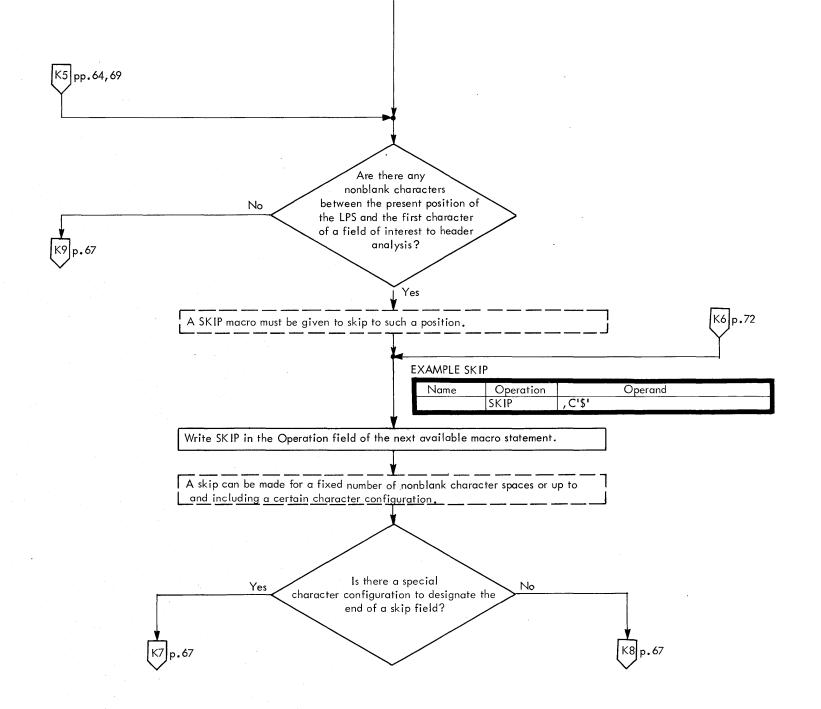


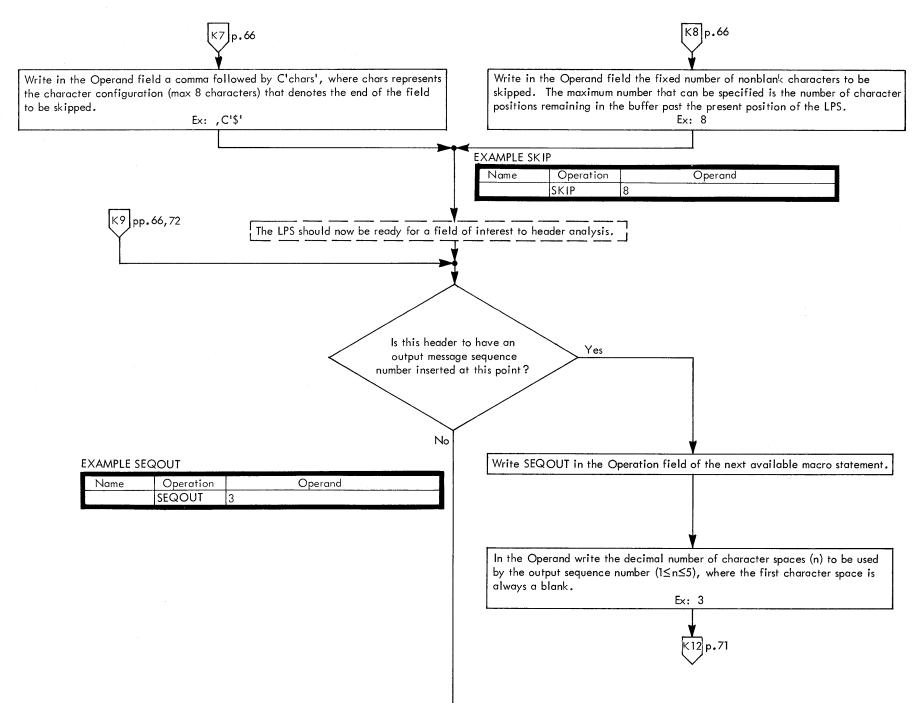


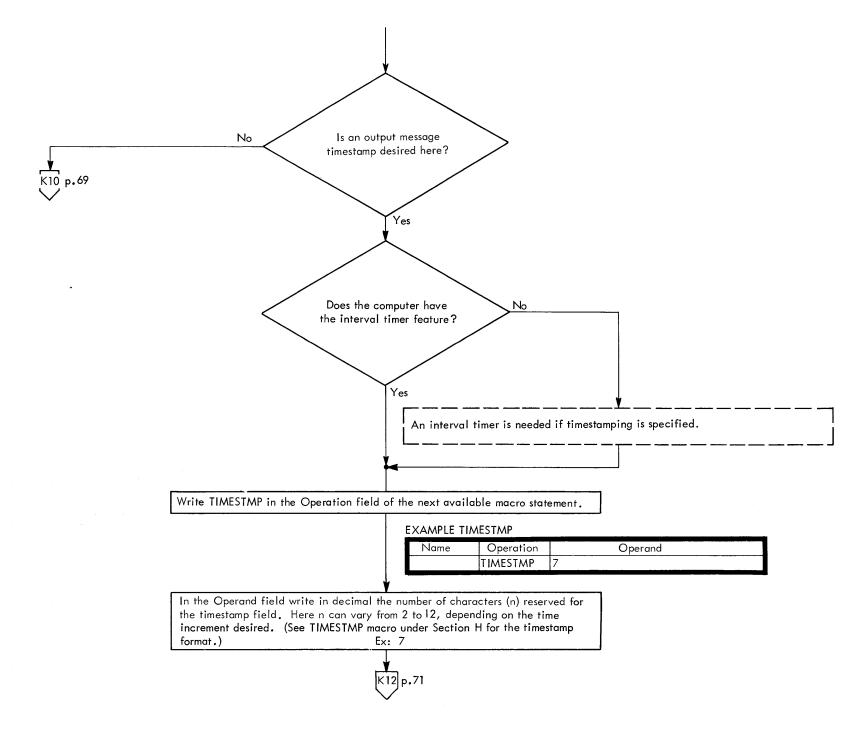


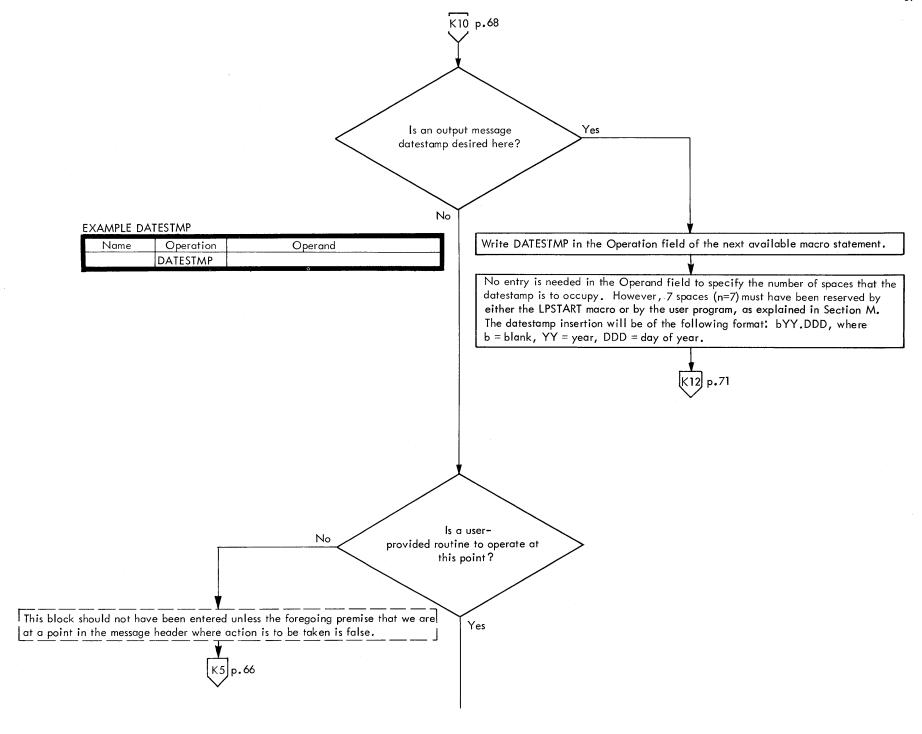


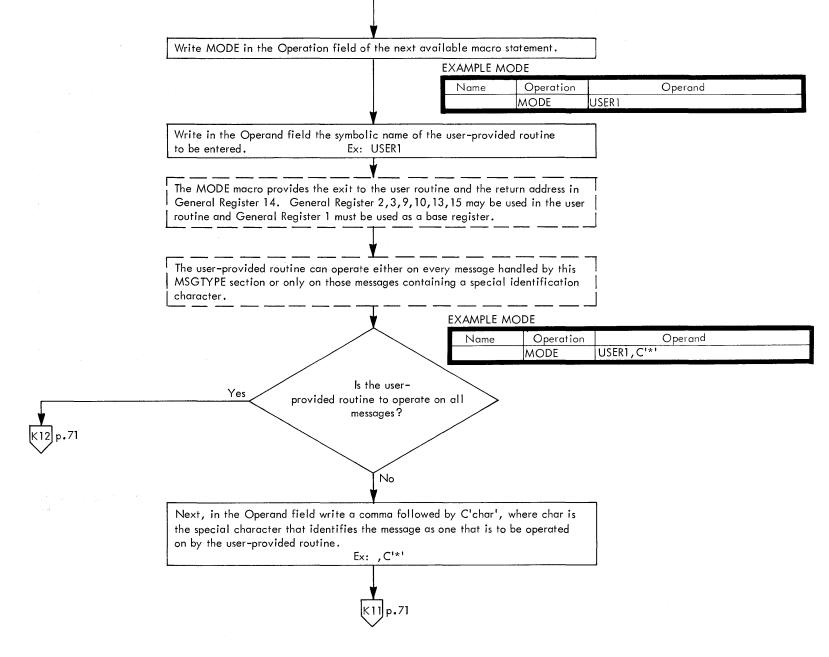


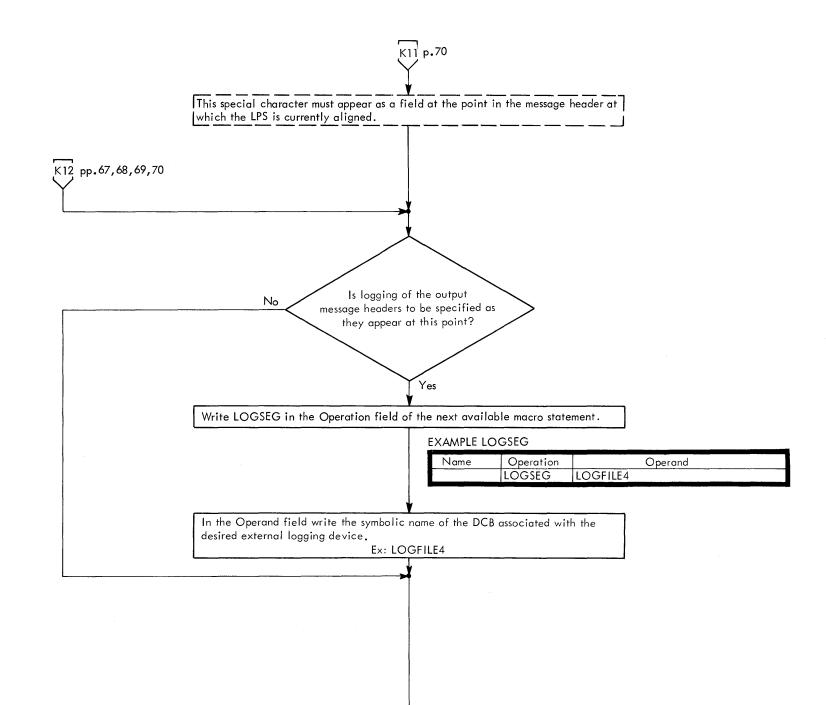


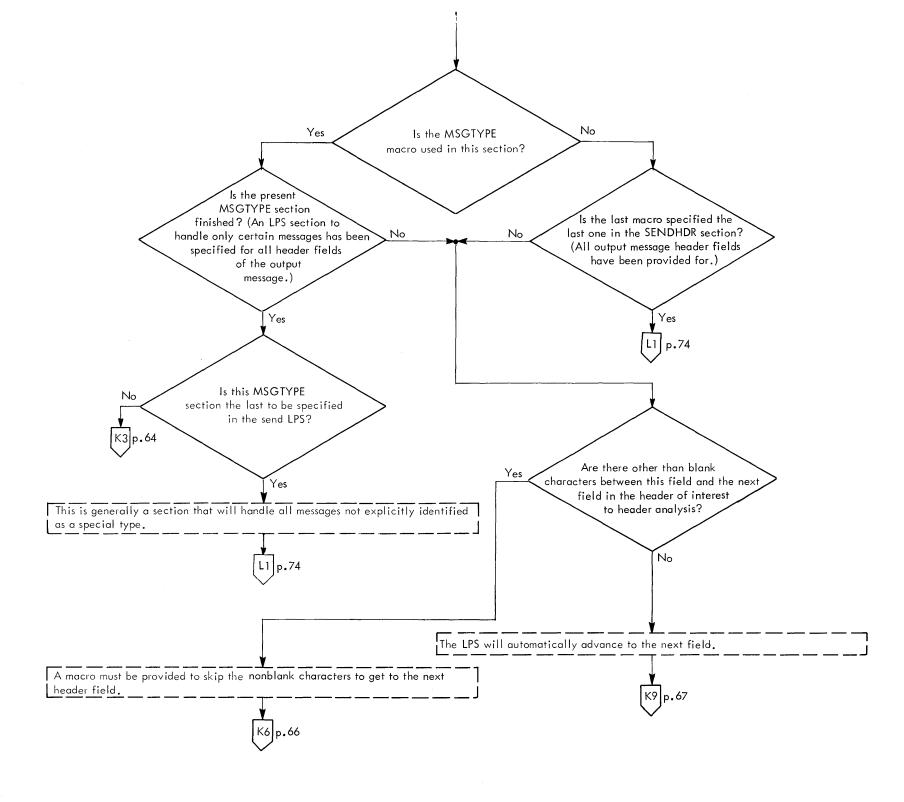


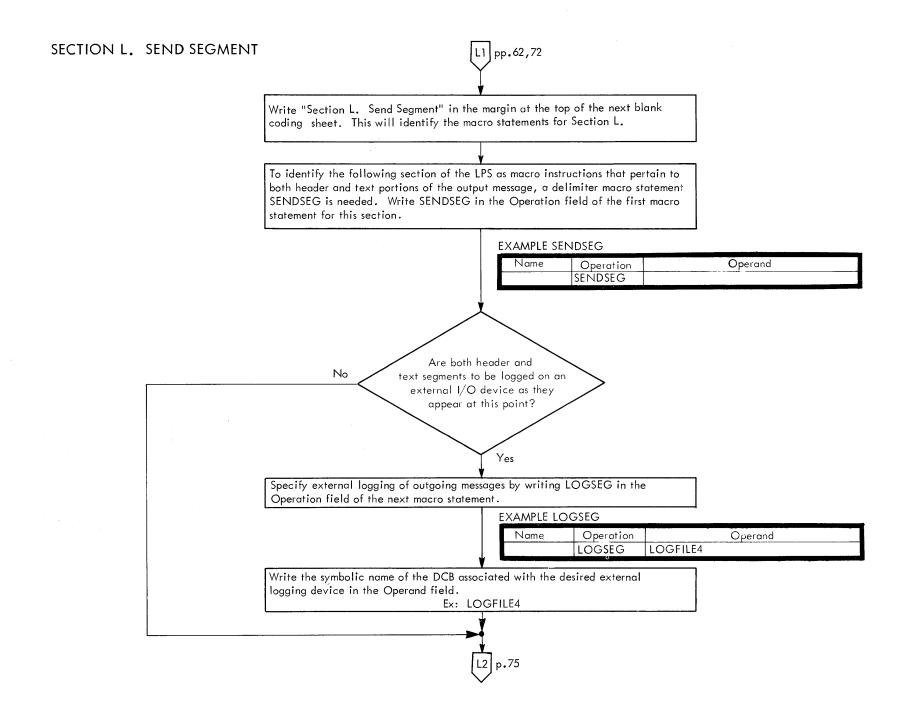


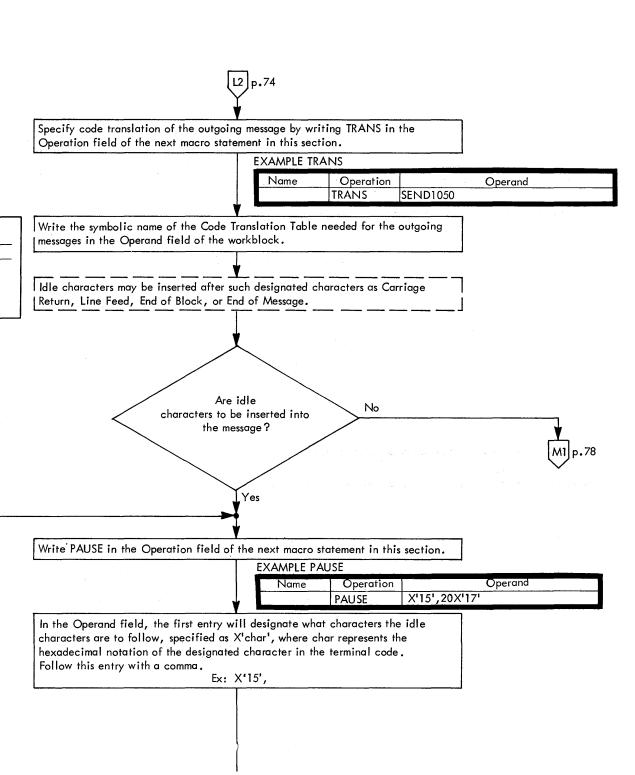












Code Translate Tables

Provided by QTAM

Name SEND1050

SEND1030

SENDT1

SENDT2

Code

EBCDIC to 1050

EBCDIC to 1030

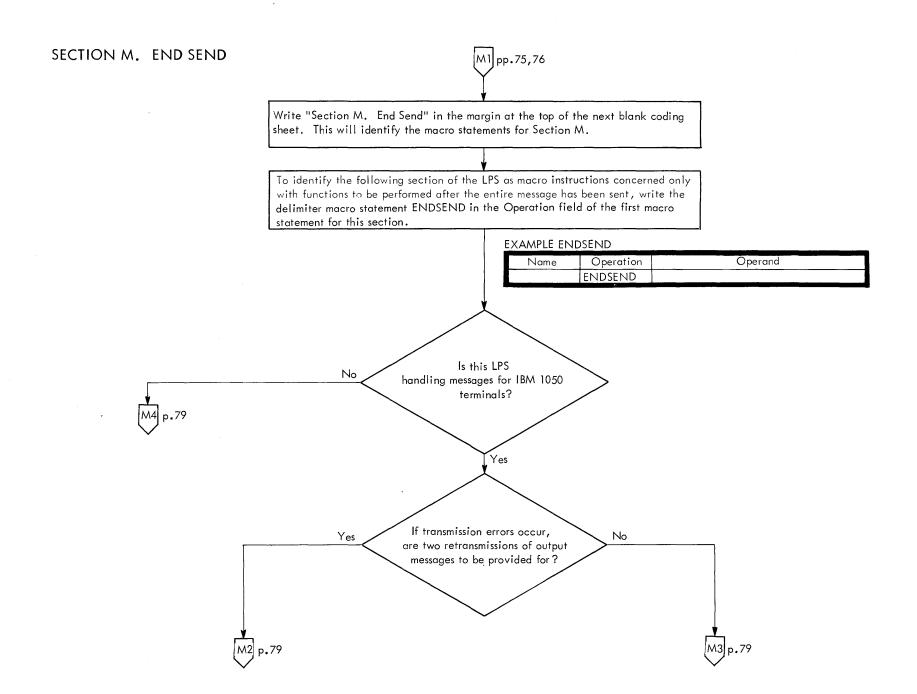
EBCDIC to TTY

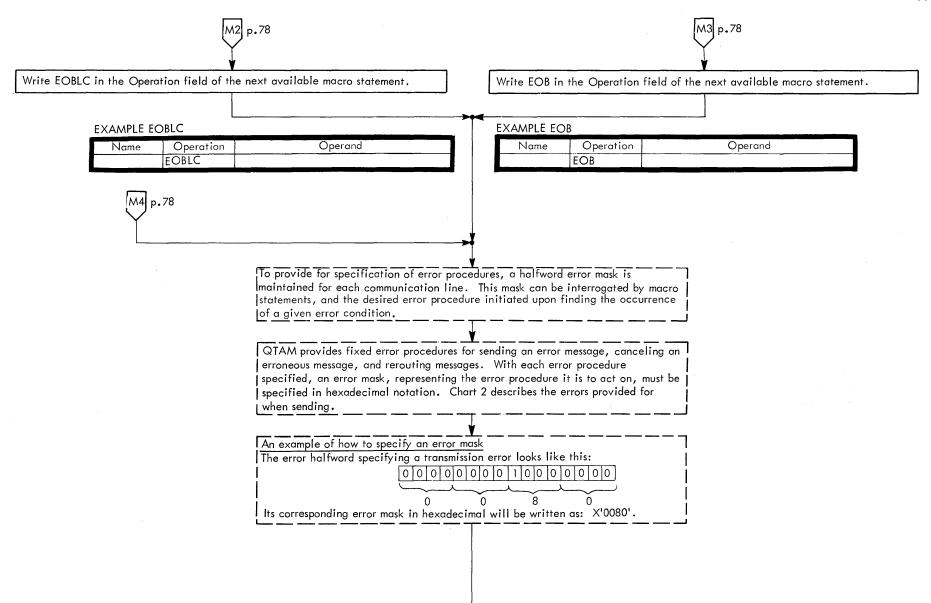
EBCDIC to TWX

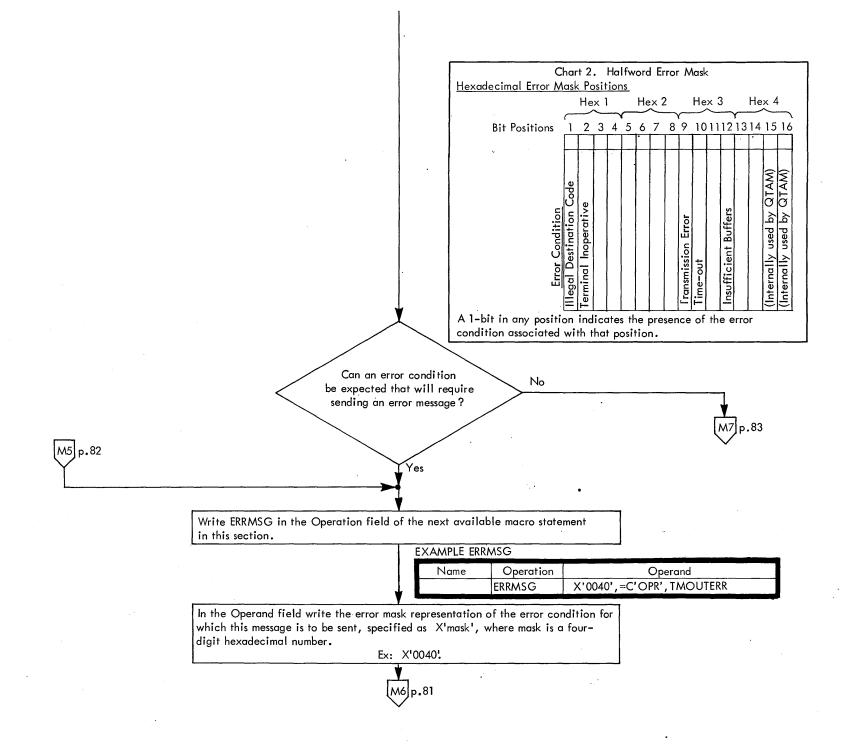
The next entry in the Operand field defines the idle character and the number of idle characters to be inserted, specified as nX'id', where n represents the actual decimal number of idle characters to be inserted after char, and id represents the hexadecimal notation of the idle character in the terminal code.

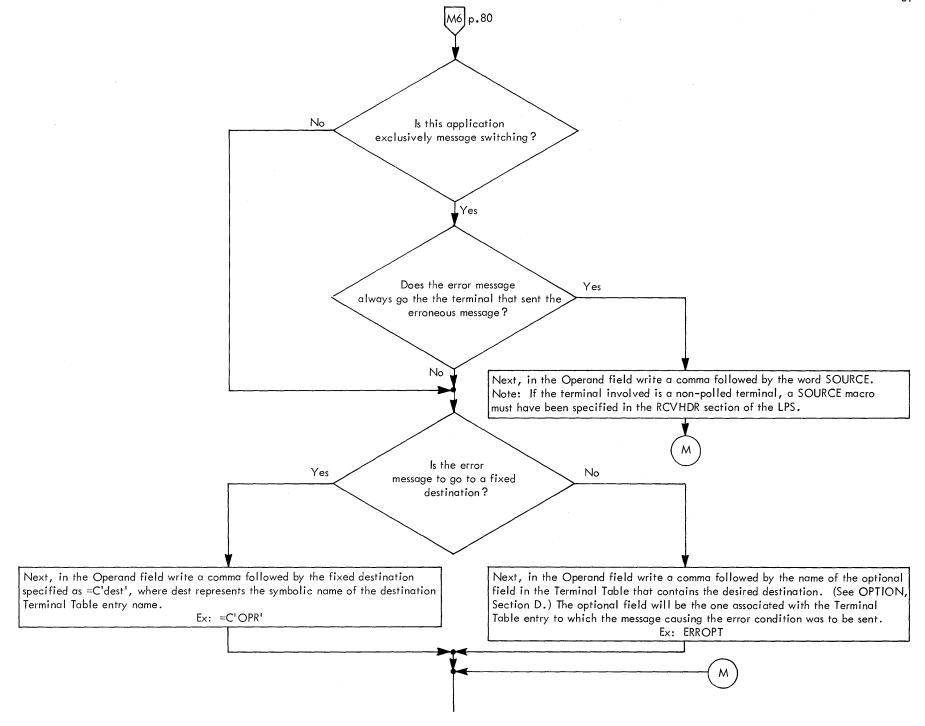
Ex: 20X'17'

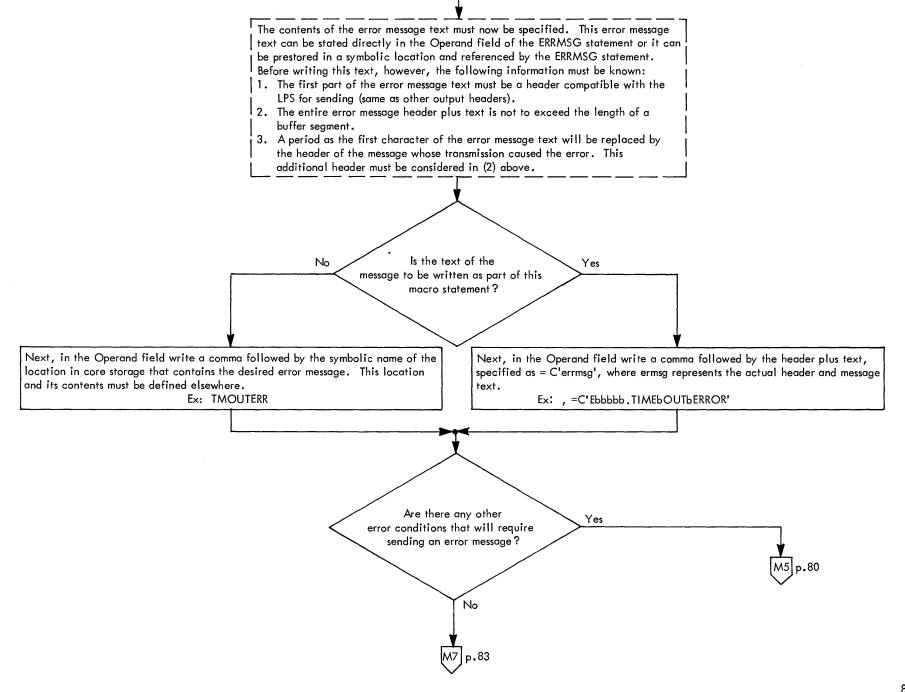
PAUSE macro statement needed?

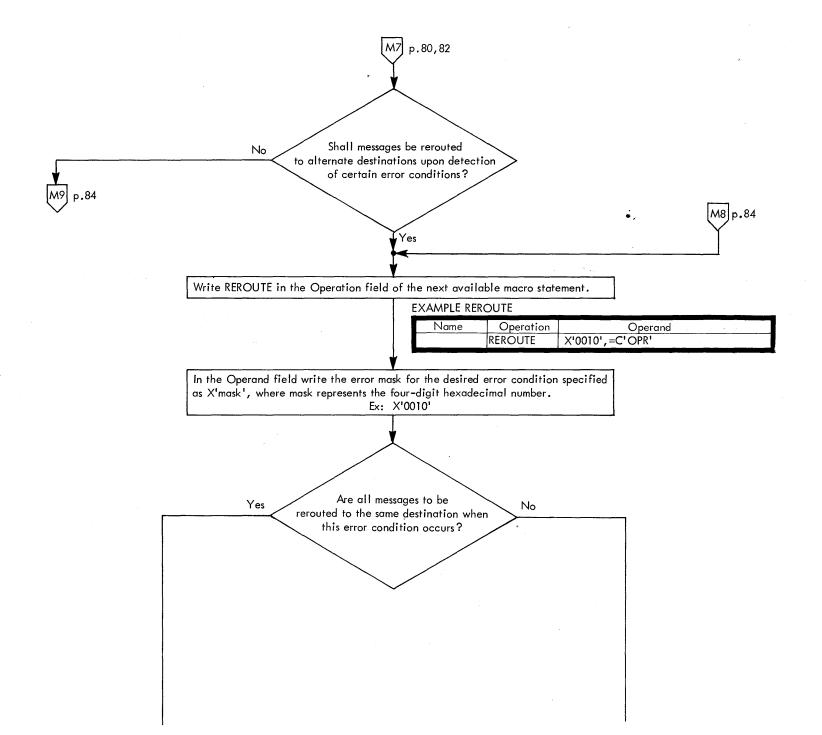


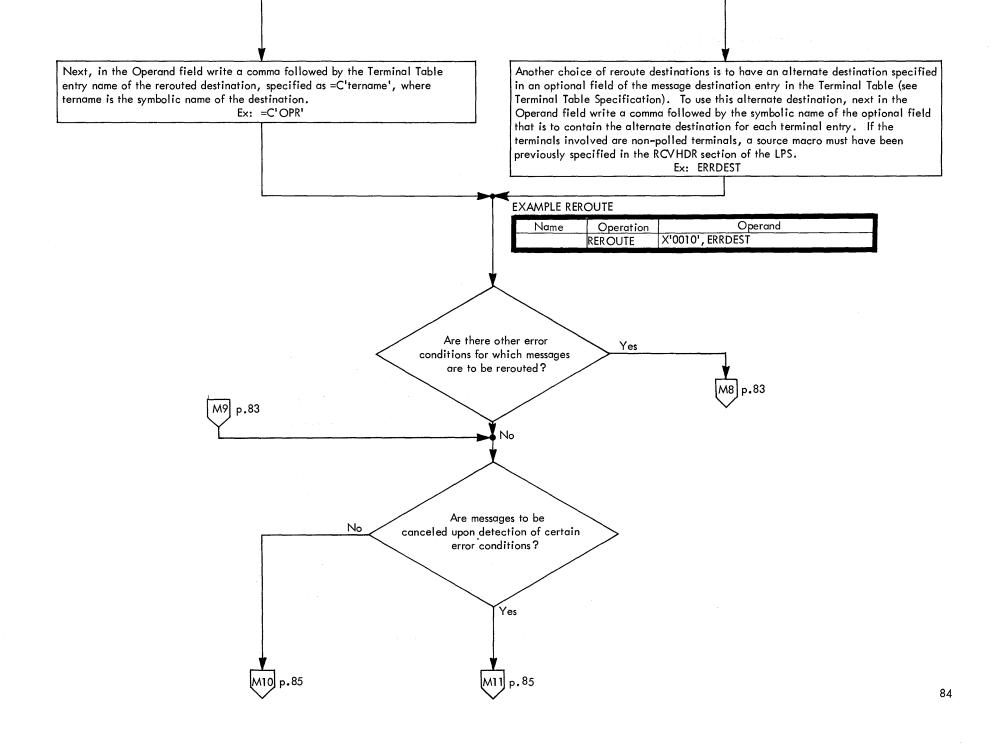




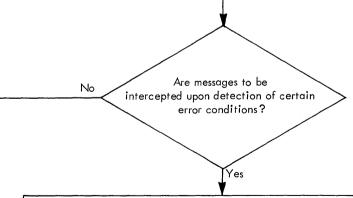








M10 p.84 M11 p.84 When a message is canceled all references to it are destroyed. Write CANCELM in the Operation field of the next available macro statement in this section. In the Operand field write the error mask for the desired error conditions, specified as X'mask', where mask represents the four-digit hexadecimal number. Ex: X'0010' Only one CANCEL statement is needed, since all error types requiring message cancellation can be specified in the same error mask. Transmission of a message to a terminal can be halted and all further messages to that terminal suppressed by use of an INTERCEPT macro statement. The interception of all messages to the terminal will occur when the error specified by the mask is detected. The sequence number of the first untransmitted message for a terminal will be stored in the INTERCPT optional field of the terminal table.



Write INTERCPT in the Operation field of the next macro statement in this section.

#### **EXAMPLE INTERCPT**

Name	Operation	Operand
	INTERCPT	X'0010'

In the Operand field write the error mask for the desired error conditions, specified as X'mask', where mask is a four-digit hexadecimal representation of the error mask.

Ex: X'0010'

Make sure that an optional field has been specified in the Terminal Table (Section D) to receive the sequence number of the next message to be transmitted after an intercept.

The send part of the LPS is now completely specified. To identify the end of the ENDSEND section, write the delimiter macro POSTSEND in the Operation field of the next macro statement.

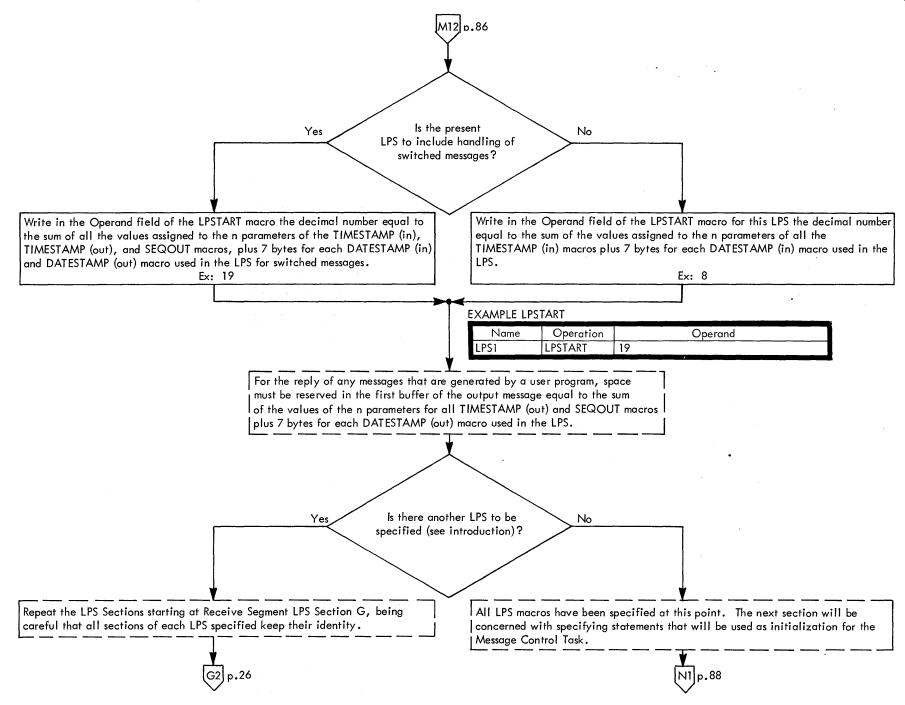
#### **EXAMPLE POSTSEND**

Name	Operation	Operand
	POSTSEND	

The LPS is now finished except for one remaining item.

The Operand field of the LPSTART macro that was written as the first macro of the Receive Segment LPS (Section G) must now be filled in.

The number of character spaces to be reserved in the first buffer of an input message by the LPSTART macro depends on whether or not the first buffer of an input message is also the first buffer of an output message (e.g., Message Switching Application). It this is the case, space must be reserved in the first buffer for both input and output — timestamp, datestamp, and sequence out number.



## SECTION N. DATA SET INITIALIZATION



Write "Section N. Data Set Initialization" in the margin at the top of the next blank coding sheet. This will identify the macro statements for Section N.

The purpose of this section is to provide for specification of macros that will initialize all Data Sets that will be referenced by the Message Control Task and by use of OPEN and ENDREADY macros.

When a Data Set is "opened", the following functions are performed:

- 1. Control blocks are initialized.
- 2. Subroutines are acquired for the access method.
- 13. Control blocks are assigned core storage locations.
- 4. In the case of a communication line, the line will be made operative for sending or receiving provided its polling list and terminal entries are in an active status.\*

Data Sets which will be referenced by the Message Control Task, and which therefore must be "opened", are:

- 1. Communication Line Groups.
- 12. Direct Access Storage Device used for queuing messages.
- 3. External I/O device (s) used for logging messages.

Each such Data Set has a Data Control Block (DCB) by which it is referenced.

Opening of the Direct Access Storage Device, Logging Devices, and Communication Line Groups will now be provided for.

Write OPEN in the Operation field of the first macro statement for this section.

**EXAMPLE OPEN** 

\*Terminals may be activated on a per-line or perterminal basis, rather than by line group, by use of the CPYRL/CHNGPL or STRTIN/STOPIN macro instructions respectively. These macros may be included in the present section prior to, and immediately following, the OPEN macro instruction(s) as required to provide the necessary control (see C28-6553).

Name Operation Operand
STQTAM OPEN (DCBFILE, (INOUT), LOGFILE1, (OUTPUT)
DCBGROUP, (INOUT))



Write in the Name field of this macro statement the symbolic name to be given to the Message Control Task. (The OPEN statement described is considered to be the first statement of the Message Control Task. This is not necessarily the case, since other user coding, if specified, may precede the OPEN statement. In such a case it would be the first such statement that would have the name of the Message Control Task.)

Ex: STQTAM

First write in the Operand field of the OPEN macro a left parenthesis.

Ex: (

No on a direct access storage device (rather than in core storage)?

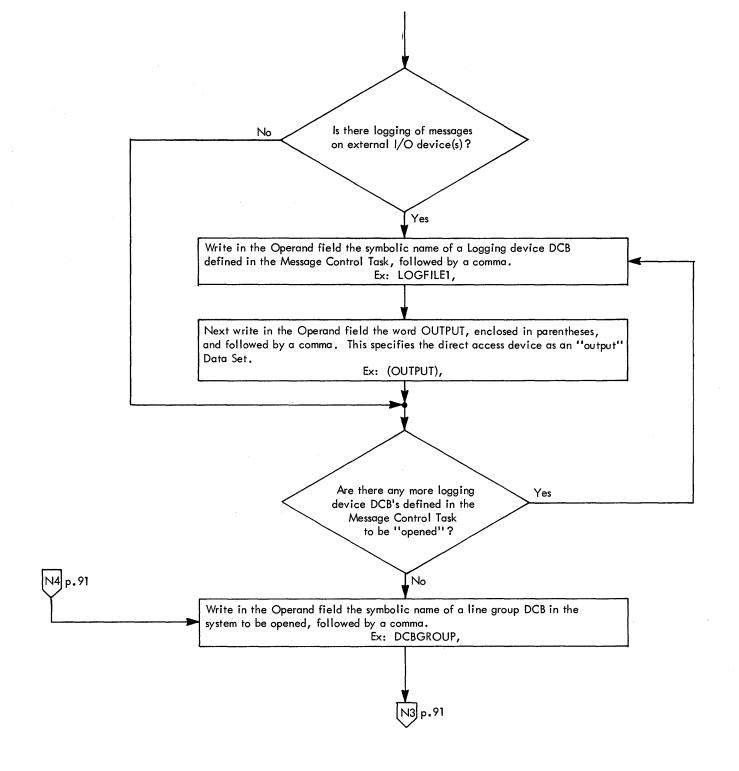
Yes

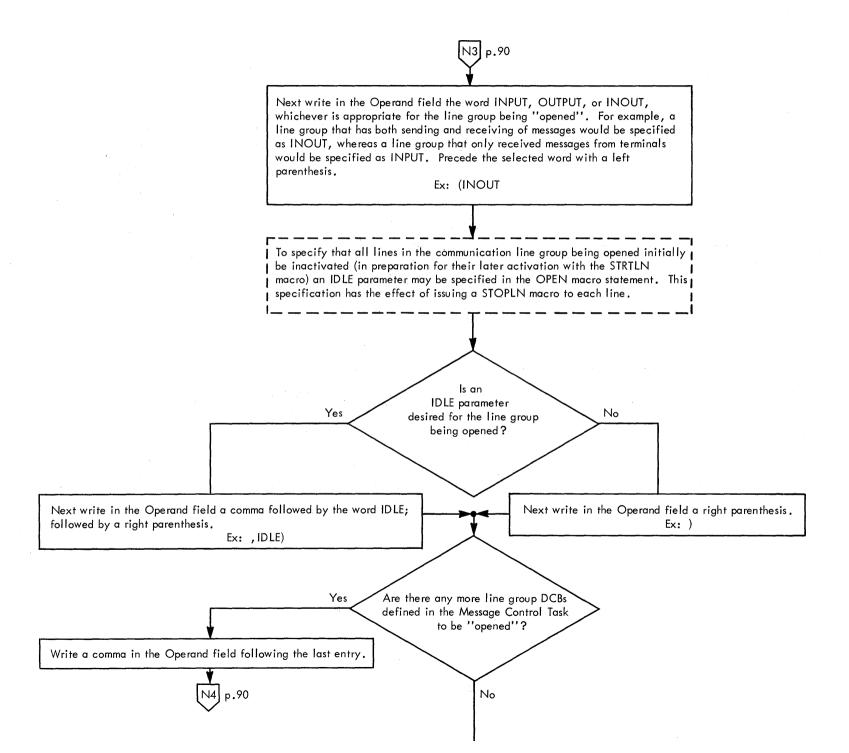
In the Operand field, write the symbolic name of the Direct Access Storage Device DCB on which messages are to be queued, followed by a comma.

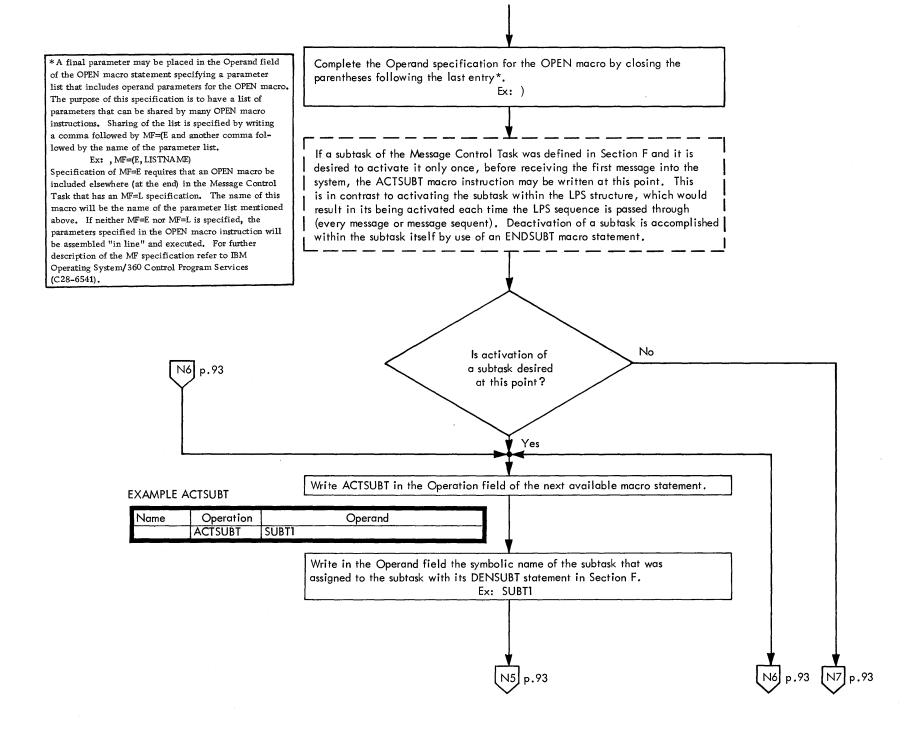
Ex: DCBFILE,

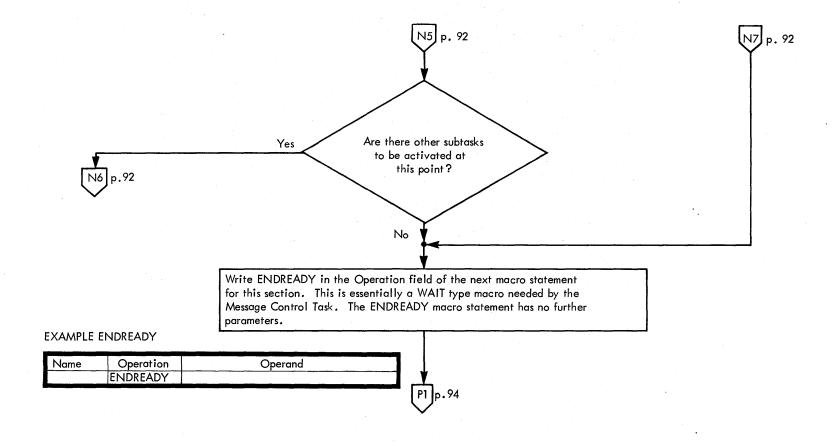
Next write in the Operand field the word INOUT, enclosed in parentheses, and followed by a comma. This specifies the direct access device as both an "input" and an "output" Data Set.

Ex: (INOUT),









## SECTION P. STRUCTURING



All of the Message Control Task Sections of QTAM have now been completely specified. Now it is necessary only to assemble the sections in the proper order.

To do this the user merely has to take the macro statements of the various sections and assemble them sequentially in the following order for each LPS specified:

Section G. Receive Segment
Section H. Receive Header
Section J. End Receive
Section K. Send Header
Section L. Send Segment

der (

LPS

Section M. End Send

After assembling all sections of each LPS, each LPS must be assembled in sequence as shown below with the Data Set Initialization section placed at the head of the Assembly and all of the Data Set Definition and Control Information Sections placed at the end of the assembly. Order is not important within and-or between the Data Set and Control Information Sections.

Section N. Data Set Initialization

LPS1 (Sections G-M) LPS2 (Sections G-M)

Section A. Communication Line Group DCB

Message Control Task Section B. Direct Access Storage Device Queue DCB

Section C. Logging Device DCB Section D. Terminal Table Section E. Polling List Section F. Buffers

This assembly will be the desired Message Control Task.

To incorporate this coding as the Message Control Task of QTAM within an Operating System, the user is referred to IBM Operating System/360 Job Control Language (C28-6539). A brief checklist of other considerations necessary for an operable communications systems is given here:

- Specification of message-processing tasks
- Operator control messages and procedures
- Activating and reactivating of communication lines
- Specification of Operating System/360 control cards

The End

### APPENDIX A: SAMPLE PROGRAM

The sample problem used here to illustrate the Queued Telecommunication Access Method will consist of three areas:

1. Message Switching Application. A message switching application involves messages sent from a remote terminal that have as their destination another terminal or a group of terminals and require no intermediate processing. In this application, the following functions will be provided for:

#### Receive

- a. Control 1050 communication terminals and lines
- b. Assemble messages received over communication lines
- c. Code convert messages from line code to internal EBCDIC code.
- d. Perform message-editing functions, such as time and date stamping, sequence number and source checking
- e. Route messages according to destination code to either single or multiple destinations
- f. Check for errors in messages
- g. Perform corrective action when errors are detected
- h. Perform queuing and logging of messages on a 2311 Disk Storage Drive.

#### Send

- a. Insert sequence-out number of message
- b. Format message for transmission to terminal
- c. Code-convert message from the system EBCDIC code to the line code
- d. Address terminal and transmit message
- 2. Inquiry Application. In the inquiry application described here, messages are sent from remote terminals that contain data to be processed, and a reply is sent back to the source terminal. A system data file is accessed by the processing program using an Operating System/360-supported access method. This file is on a 2311 Disk Storage Drive and is separate from the one used for the queuing of messages.

In addition to those functions listed under message switching, an inquiry application must also provide for the following:

- a. Get message from the inquiry Process
  Queue
- b. Access file record
- c. Extract required information as indicated by message type
- d. Compute value specified by inquiry message
- e. Format reply message
- f. Put message into the message source destination queue

3. Operator Control Program. In the operator control program described here, the control messages are entered into the system through an inhouse system terminal. These messages are sent either to modify the polling list or to inquire about the line or process queue. This operator control program consists of one main program and two subroutines. The main program will be permanently resident in core storage. The two subprograms will be linked by the main program. They will not necessarily be resident in core storage.

In addition to functions a - g under message switching, an operator control program must also provide for the following:

- a. Get message from the Control Process Queue
- b. Examine message to determine type
- c. Link to the program that will handle the message type
- d. Operate on message request
- e. Format reply message
- f. Return to initial program
- g. Put message to the in-house terminal destination queue

# APPLICATION IMPLEMENTATION

For these applications, certain functions are supplied by QTAM while other functions must be provided by the user. The functions listed under message switching and used by the other applications will be completely specified through the use of this manual and will be handled by QTAM.

The remaining functions listed under inquiry application and operator control program will be programmed as separate tasks. These tasks will be programmed like other processing programs in the system and are completely the responsibility of the user. QTAM does, however, supply certain macro instructions so that the needed programs can communicate with the main QTAM Task (Message Control Task).

The QTAM Task, the Inquiry Task, and the Operator Control Task will all be assembled and executed through a normal job stream. Job control cards required by the job scheduler, such as JOB, EXEC, and DD statements, are not discussed here (see IBM Operating System/360 Job Control Language, C28-6539).

#### SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

The configuration of the system for the sample program is shown in Figure 1. Each device shown may be categorized into one of two groups.

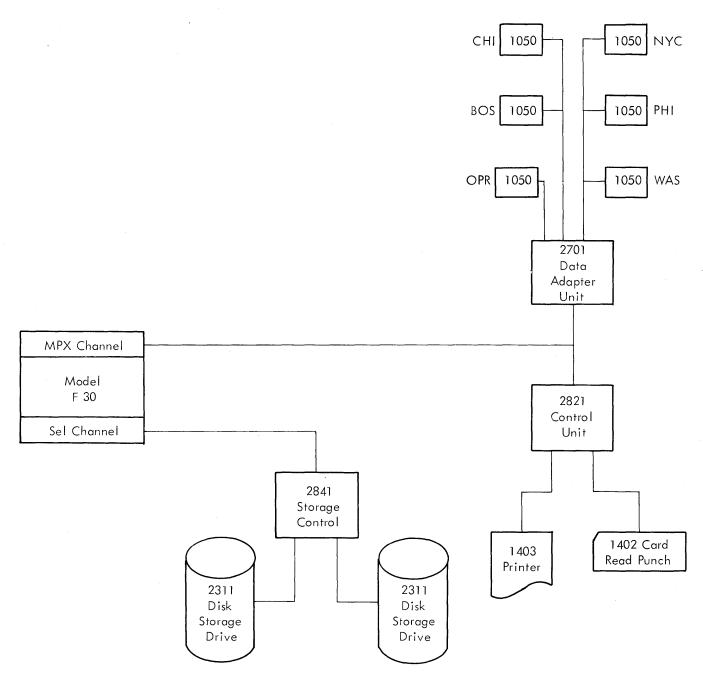


Figure 1. System configuration for sample problem

#### For Communications:

- 6 1050 Data Communication Systems
- 2 Half-Duplex Communication Lines
- 1 Data Adapter Unit
- 1 Multiplexor Channel
- 1 2311 Disk Storage Drive

For the Operating System: System/360, Model F30 (64K)

- 1 Selector Channel
- 1 1052 Console
- 1 2311 Disk Storage Drive
- 1 Printer
- 1 Card Read Punch

#### JOB DEFINITION

Each task difference and peculiarity is defined in the following paragraphs.

## Message Switching Application

Switched messages (which require no processing of message text) are to be routed to their destinations. Destinations specified in the input header may be any of the following.

- Single destination specified in the destination field of the header for example, NYC.
- Multiple destinations specified in sequence in the header for example, NYC PHI....
- Distribution list specified in the header. For example, PDW would specify destinations contained in the terminal table list for PDW, that is, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington.

The switched message, when sent to its destination, will have inserted in its message header the in-time stamp and in-date stamp, and a sequence-out number. Output messages will be given priority over input, or received, messages.

## Inquiry Application

Inquiry messages require processing of the message by a problem program resident in the central processing system. A reply message must be generated for transmission back to the sending terminal. The input message to be processed by the Inquiry routine must have the destination code INQ. The message entering the process queue (INQ) will have the date and time stamp inserted in the message header. The reply message generated by the inquiry processing program must contain the message type code P in the outgoing message header format. This outgoing message type will have inserted within the message header an out-date and time stamp and a sequenceout number. To allow for these insertions, 19 blank spaces must precede the first character of the reply message.

## Operator Control Program

Control messages require processing of the message by a problem program resident in the central processing system. A reply message must be generated for transmission back to the in-house terminal (OPR). The message generated by the Operator Control program will have the destination code (OPR). The message entering the process queue (CTR) will have the date and time stamp inserted in the message header. These messages will be queued in main storage rather than on disk. The reply message is handled in the same manner as the Inquiry reply message.

The message text format of a control message might be like one of the following:

Text	Function					
CUDI INTI	Ct 11: 1: 1					
CHPL, LINE1, 0	Stop polling line 1					
CHPL, LINE1, $1$	Start polling line 1					
CHPL, LINE2, 0	Stop polling line 2					
CHPL, LINE2, 1	Start polling line 2					
CPYQ, LINE1	Get line one queuing information					
CPYQ, LINE2	Get line two queuing information					
CPYQ, INQ	Get INQ queuing information					
CPYQ, CTR	Get CTR queuing information					

### MESSAGE FORMATS

Figure 2 shows the message formats for the switched, inquiry, and control messages. The format of the messages is shown for both the receiving of the message from the terminal and the sending of the message or the reply to the terminal.

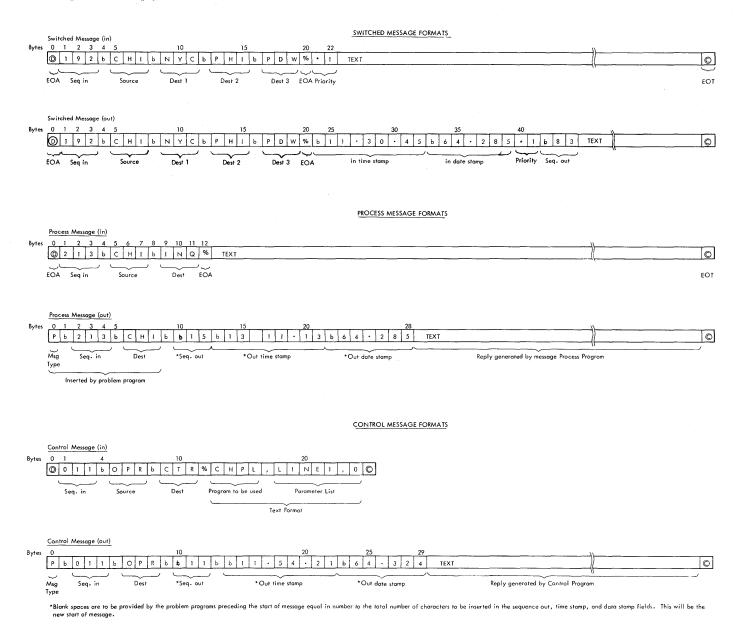
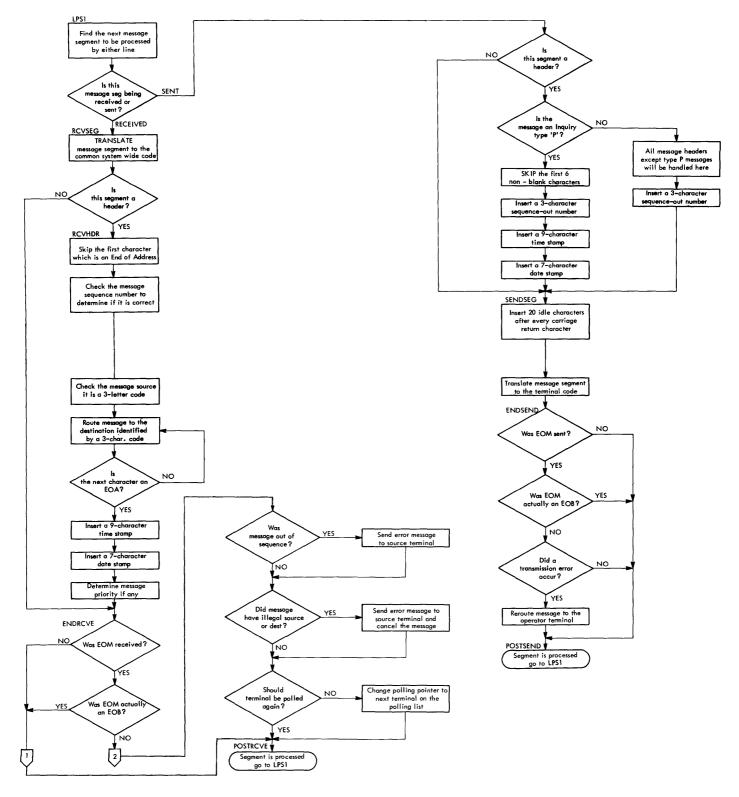


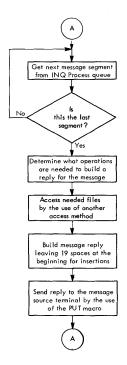
Figure 2. Formats for switched, inquiry, and control messages

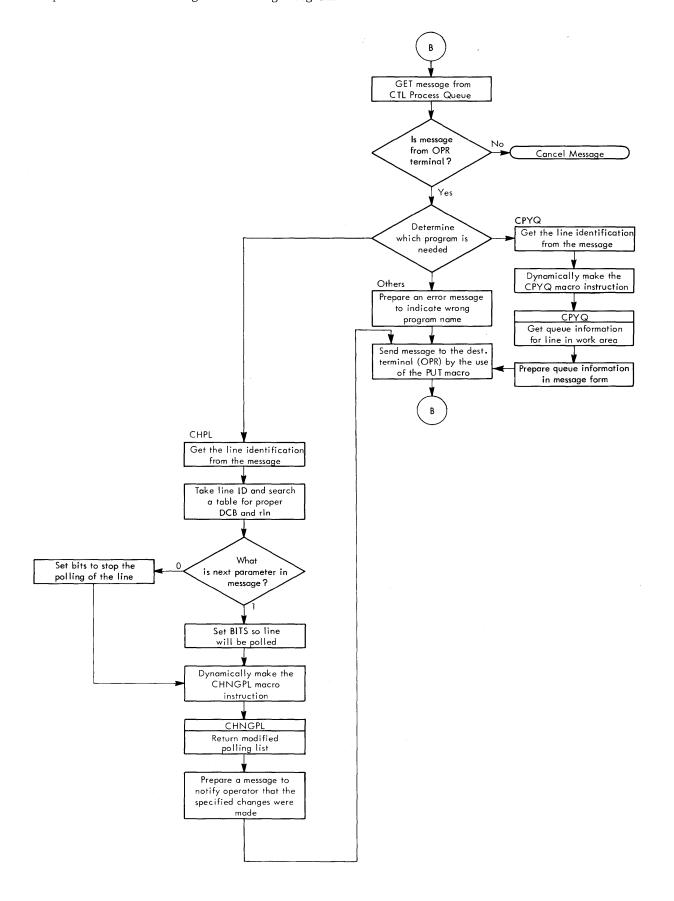
### PROGRAM FLOWCHART

The following charts show the logic flow of the Line Procedure Specification portion of QTAM, the Inquiry Task, and the Operator Control Task. This is included for descriptive information only and does not necessarily represent the actual program logic flow of QTAM.



# Message Processing Program





## MACRO CODING

The following pages illustrate the coding needed for each application. The Message Control Task, the coding of which is obtainable with this book, is completely coded. The Inquiry Application and the Operator Control Programs show methods of using the needed QTAM macro instructions and the overall structure of the processing programs but do not show the actual program coding.

## MESSAGE CONTROL TASK OF QTAM

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments
STQTAM	OPEN	(DCBFILE, (INOUT), DCBLINE, (INOUT), DCBOPRLG, (INOUT))	Data Set Initialization makes ready for use the Operator in-house terminal communication line and the direct access storage device used for message queuing. It causes polling to be initiated on the line, and updating of queue status tables.
	ENDREADY		
LPS1	LPSTART	19	Receive Segment LPS Section — identifies the start of the LPS and reserves 19 spaces for the date stamp, time stamp, and sequence-out number at the beginning of the header segment.
	RCVSEG		Instructions between this delimiter macro and the next will service both the header and the text segments of the input message.
	TRANS	RCVE1050	Converts 1050 message characters to the common system-wide code EBCDIC.
	RCVHDR		Receive Header LPS Section. Instructions between this delimiter macro and the next will service only the header segment of the input message.
	SKIP	, C'#'	Causes all characters up to and including the # to be skipped, thus allowing the LPS to be in position for the first field (# is a translated D).
	SEQIN		Checks sequence of numbered messages for each terminal as they arrive. No operand is needed since the sequence number is ended with a field delimiter character (blank).
	SOURCE		Checks the validity of the source terminal code received in the message header against the code of the terminal that was polled. No operand needs to be specified since the field is ended with a field delimiter character. If the source code is invalid, an error is indicated in the error halfword of the line involved.

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments							
	ROUTE		Routes the message to the destination queue(s) specified in the message header and checks the validity of the destination code against the terminal table provided by the user. If the destination code is valid, the message is queued for the specified destination.							
	EOA	C'%'	Indicates that multiple destination routing is expected and must be checked for. The operand identifies % as the end-of-address character. This character must appear in the message header after the last destination code.							
	TIMESTMP	9	Inserts the time of day in the header field. First character is blank. The operand (9) indicates the number of characters to be inserted.							
	DATESTMP		Inserts the date in the header field. The insertion will consist of a blank character followed by a six-character date stamp.							
	MODE	PRIORITY, C'*1	If the next character is an *, the character following the * will indicate the message priority.							
	ENDRCVE		End Receive LPS Section. Macros between this delimiter macro and the next will service the message after the end of message is received.							
	EOBLC		Allows the 1050 terminal to continue receiving after an EOB. It also provides for up to two retransmissions of the message segment if a transmission error is detected. If the error is not corrected, an error is indicated in the error halfword for this line.							
	ERRMSG	X'3000', SOURCE, =C'bbb. MESSAGE NOT IN SEQUENCE'	Sends the error text specified to the source terminal, when the error type specified by the mask is detected. The header of the message causing the error will be placed at the beginning of the text. The mask 3000 is the bit configuration (in hexadecimal) used to test the halfword error indicator.							
	ERRMSG	X'8600'SOURCE, =C'bbb. MESSAGE HEADER FORMAT ERROR. CORRECT AND RESEND'	Sends the error text specified to the source terminal when the error type specified by the mask 8600 is detected.							
	CANCELM	X'8600'	Message containing error indicated by mask 8600 is canceled.							
	POLLIMIT	LIMIT	Determines whether the terminal has sent the maximum number of messages allowed on a single polling pass. The operand is the symbolic name of an optional field in the terminal table that contains the limit of consecutive polls for each terminal.							

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments							
	POSTRCVE		Delimiter macro which indicates the end of the receiving section of the LPS.							
	SENDHDR		Send Header LPS Section. Macros between this de- limiter macro and the next will service only the header segment of the output message.							
	MSGTYPE	C'P'	Message Type P Section. Determine whether the message is type P. If the next character is a P, the macros between this MSGTYPE macro and the next delimiter macro will handle these messages. The problem program must leave 19 spaces at the beginning of the inquiry reply message for the outtime stamp, date stamp, and sequence number.							
	SKIP	6	Causes 6 nondelimiter characters (sequence-in number and destination code) to be skipped to position the LPS for the first field.							
	SEQOUT	3	Sequentially number outgoing message by terminal. The operand (3) is the number of characters to be inserted (two digits preceded by a blank). Space must be reserved at the beginning of the message by the problem program for the sequence-out number.							
	TIMESTMP	9	Inserts a 9-character time-of-day stamp in the outgoing header field. (The first of the 9 characters is a blank.)							
	DATESTMP		Inserts a 7-character date stamp in the outgoing message header. The first character is a blank, followed by a 6-character date stamp.							
	MSGTYPE		Remaining Message Type Section. All messages except type P messages will be handled by the macros between this MSGTYPE macro and the next delimiter macro (SENDSEG).							
	SEQOUT	3	Sequentially number outgoing messages by terminal. The operand (3) indicates that a three-character output sequence number is to be inserted (two digits preceded by a blank). Space must be reserved by the use of LPSTART for message-switching messages.							
	SENDSEG		Send Segment LPS Section. Macros between this delimiter macro and the next will service both the header and the text segments of the output message.							
	TRANS	SEND1050	Translates output message using code conversion table name SEND1050.							
	PAUSE	X'15', 20X'17'	Upon recognition of each carriage return character (X'15'), this routine will insert 20 idle characters (X'17') to provide time for the carriage to return.							

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments
	ENDSEND		END SEND LPS SECTION. Macros between this delimiter macro and the next define functions to be performed after the message has been sent.
	EOBLC		Informs QTAM to continue sending upon recognition of an EOB. It also specifies retransmission of a message segment if a transmission error is detected. If the error is not corrected, an error is indicated in the error halfword for this line.
	REROUTE	X'0040',=C'OPR'	Causes a message to be queued for the terminal name OPR when the error type specified is detected.
	POSTSEND		Delimiter macro which identifies the end of the sending portion of the LPS. It also indicates the last instruction of this LPS.
DCBLINE	DCB	DDNAME =DDGROUP1,	Communication Line Group DCB Section — identifies DD statement name associated with this DCB.
		DSORG=CX,	Define DCB as a communication line group type.
		MACRF=(G, P),	I/O access level is GET/PUT.
		CPOLL=(POLLINE1, POLLINE2),	Symbolic names assigned to the polling list of the two lines.
		BUFRQ=2,	Number of buffer requests required by each line.
		ACLOC=13,	Relative position of the selecting address of terminals within its terminal table entry (see terminal table entry format).
		CLPS=LPS1	Identifies LPS1 as the name of the LPS for these two lines.
DCBOPRLG	DCB	DDNAME =DDGROUP2, DSORG =CX, MACRF=(G, P), CPOLL=(POLLINE3), BUFRQ=2, ACLOC=13 CLPS=LPS1	Identifies the operator in-house terminal line group.
DCBFILE	DCB	DDNAME=DDFILE,	Direct Access Device Queue DCB Section — identifies DD statement associated with this DCB.
		DSORG=CQ,	Defines DCB as a direct access device type.
		MACRF=(G, P)	Queue to be accessed at the GET/PUT level.
	TERMTBL	PBW, 3	Terminal Table Section — specifies the extent of the terminal table. PBW is defined as the last entry in the terminal table.

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments
LIMIT	OPTION	FL1	Limit is the symbolic name of the field in this terminal table which contains the limit of consecutive polls for each terminal.
СНІ	TERM	L, DCBLINE,1, 6407640D, (3)	The six terminals and their parameters are here defined. L indicates outgoing messages are to be
NYC	TERM	L, DCBLINE, 2, 6207620D, (3)	queued by line; DCBLINE is name of associated DCB;  1 is relative line number within the line group; 6407
PHI	TERM	L, DCBLINE, 2, 6407640D, (2)	is 1050 addressing code; 640D is 1050 polling code; the number in parentheses defines the maximum
BOS	TERM	L, DCBLINE, 1, 6207620D, (2)	number of consecutive polls for each terminal to be inserted in the LIMIT field defined above.
WAS	TERM	L, DCBLINE, 2, 6707670D, (1)	inserted in the bivit held defined above.
OPR	TERM	L, DCBOPRLG, 6207620D, (5)	
INQ	PROCESS		Defines the symbolic names of the process queues in the terminal table, thus allowing INQ and CTR as valid destinations.
CTR	PROCESS	EXPEDITE	The CTR queue will be in main storage since EXPEDITE was used.
PBW	LIST	(PHI, BOS, WAS)	Define a distribution list of message destinations as PHI, BOS, WAS.
POLLINE1	POLL	(CHI, BOS)	Polling List Section — defines order of polling of terminals attached to line 1.
POLLINE2	POLL	(NYC, PHI, NYC, WAS)	Defines order of polling of terminals attached to line 2.
POLLINE3	POLL	(OPR)	Defines polling of the operator in-house terminal line. Polling is initiated upon execution of the open for the line group.
	BUFFER	DCBFILE, 10, 95	Buffer Section — provides internal storage buffering for the DCBFILE used for message queuing. Ten buffers are specified with 95 bytes per buffer.
	II	NQUIRY MESSAGE PRO	CESSING TASK OF QTAM
STPROCES	OPEN	(PROCESSQ)	Opens the message control queue (INQ) so that messages can be obtained from the queue by the use of a GET macro instruction.
	OPEN :	(REPLYQ)	Opens the output DCB; this causes a linkage to the Message Control Task so that the PUT macro instruction can send messages to their destination.
LOOP	GET	PROCESSQ, WORKA1	Queue Access Section. Get the next sequential segment from the queue (INQ) referenced by the DCB and place it in work area WORKA1. If no segments are available, a WAIT it implied.

(The message is now available for processing by the problem program. References to files for data to be used in preparing the reply, if required, would be under normal procedures of Operating System/360.)

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments
	PUT	REPLYQ, WORKA2	Place the processed message on the appropriate destination queue specified by the reply DCB parameter TRMAD. The terminal table entry name in the location specified by TRMAD will be the destination.
	В	LOOP	Branch to beginning to "GET" next message for processing.
WORKA1	DS	CL100	Define work areas.
WORKA2	DS	CL100	
SOURCE	DS	CL3	Defines a 3-character area referred to by the TRMAD parameter of the DCB. It will contain the message destination Terminal Table entry name.
PROCESSQ	DCB	DDNAME=INQ,	Process Program Queues DCB Section (Type 1) — name of the Process Queue Terminal Table entry name and associated DD statement for this process DCB.
		MACRF=G,	Program at the GET level.
		BUFRQ=2,	Two buffers will be queued ahead in core from the direct access device queue.
		SYMAD=ERROR,	Name of routine that will handle overflow of messages.
		TRMAD=SOURCE,	Specifies the name of the location that will contain where the message came from in the case of a GET macro, and the message destination in the case of a PUT macro.
		DSORG=MQ,	Defines DCB as a process program type.
		SOWA=100,	Work area size (in bytes).
		RECFM=S	Working unit is a segment.
REPLYQ	DCB	DDNAME=DDREPLY, MACRF=P,	Process Program Queues DCB Section (Type 2).
		TRMAD=SOURCE, DSORG=MQ, SOWA=100, RECFM=G	Refer to PROCESSQ DCB for explanation of parameters. RECFM=G means that the complete messages are being PUT to the destination.

# OPERATOR CONTROL TASK OF QTAM

Name	Operation	Operand	Comments
STOPRTOR	OPEN	(PRCDCB)	OPENs the message control queue (CTR) so that messages can be obtained from the queue by the use of a GET macro instruction.
	OPEN	(RPLYDCB)	OPENs the output DCB; this causes a linkage to the message control task so that the PUT macro instruction can send messages to their destination.
NEXT	GET	PRCSDCB, WORKA1	Get the next sequential message segment from the queue (CTR) and place it in the work area.

(Determine which subprogram the message requests and LINK to it. The program that is linked will do the compilation required to accomplish the request. The program will execute CPYPL, CHNGPL, and CPYQ macros as required. The linked program will then prepare a reply for the operator and place it in WORKA2 and return to the main program.)

	PUT	RPLYDCB, WORKA2	Sends the reply message to OPR.
	В	NEXT	GET next message from queue, or wait until next message enters the queue.
WORKA1	DS	CL100	Define work areas.
WORKA2	DS	CL200	
SOURCE	DS	CL3	Provide area that will contain the source terminal entry name. The name will be examined by the operator control program to see if it is OPR. If not, the message will be canceled (see program logic flow).
DEST	DS	C'OPR'	Provide the destination terminal entry name. All replies will then go to this terminal (OPR) when a PUT macro references the DCB named REPLYDCB.
PRCSDCB	DCB	DDNAME=CTR, MACRF=G, BUFRQ=2, SYNAD=ERROR, TRMAD=SOURCE, DSORG=MQ, SOWA=100, RECFM=S	
RPLYDCB	DCB	DDNAME=DDRPLY, MACRF=P, TRMAD=DEST, DSORG=MQ, SOWA=200, RECFM=G	•

A message header is a prefix to a message received or sent via communication lines containing information for:

Routing of the message
Sequence numbering
Source validity checking
Time stamping
Date stamping
Priority assignment
Identification of message type

Specification of special user functions
The message header may contain other information
not of immediate use for handling of the message —
for example, various device-required characters,
identification fields for operator use, or fields
required for later processing of the message.

A particular telecommunications system application using QTAM may have all or none of this information in the message headers, depending on the desired flexibility of the system and the functions to be performed.

QTAM provides a flexible, high-level macro language that can be used to specify header analysis procedures for nearly all reasonable message headers and supported communications equipment. This document describes desirable and necessary features for message headers being analyzed by QTAM.

In general, message headers are for input messages (messages received from terminals via communication lines), output messages (messages sent to terminals via communication lines), or both, as in the case of a message-switching application where the same header (and text) is sent as is received, except for additions made by the QTAM program.

Message headers change in appearance as they proceed through, and are operated on by, various parts of the communications system. The following discussion is concerned only with the message headers as they are prepared at the terminal for sending.

A number of considerations should be made when preparing message header formats designed for easy and efficient use of QTAM:

• Line control characters. Depending on the particular terminal device and communication line control discipline used (for example, Teletype 28ASR terminals in an 83B2 control system), particular control characters or sequences of characters will be needed in the message header. The actual characters used are very device-dependent and will not be covered here. To determine what these characters are for a particular system, it is best to consult manuals describing the particular devices used.

Just who is responsible for placing specific control characters in a message header also depends on the devices used. Usually it is a shared responsibility of both the person preparing the message and the terminal device used to transmit it.\* This information is also to be derived from the manual for the particular devices involved.

• Header field definition. The content of a message header is contained within "fields" consisting of one or more characters each (Figure 3). Each such field contains information for a particular operation or function to be performed on that message (header and text).



Figure 3. Example of message header fields

- Fixed or variable length. Message header fields must in general be of a fixed length for each particular field. Exceptions to this are (1) source and destination fields of a message that may consist of any number of characters up to a maximum of eight bytes (characters), and (2) input sequence number fields, which may be any length up to five bytes containing four digits (the first byte is always blank).
- Field separation. Header fields may be separated by any number of blank characters. If blank characters are used to separate the fields, the length of the fields need not be specified in the QTAM macros. For variable-length fields (as discussed above) blank characters must be used to delineate the field, since a fixed length cannot be specified. If fields are not separated by blank characters, the exact length of each field must be specified.
- Order of fields within header. In message headers for a message-switching application using QTAM, all fields concerned with receiving the message must precede those concerned with sending it (Figure 4).

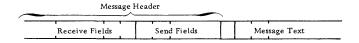


Figure 4. Order of header fields for message switching

\*The same is true for reception of the message by the CPU. Certain control characters will be deleted by the control unit and others will be passed through to be handled by the QTAM program.

- Header length. The length of the message header must be less than or equal to that of the buffer length specified in the QTAM macro program, minus 32 bytes used for the header prefix. Conversely, when specifying the macro program for QTAM, the length of the buffers specified must be sufficient to contain the maximum message header plus 32 bytes for the prefix.
- Message type identification. Message headers that require different handling procedures or have different formats from other messages on a line may be identified by a special character or sequence of characters. It is desirable that this "message type" identification be the first field of the message header. This makes possible early separation of the various types of messages involved so that the proper procedure can be followed by each.
- Skipping unwanted fields. Fields that are not checked or used by header analysis may be skipped by either specifying within the QTAM macros the number of nonblank characters in the field to be skipped or by identifying the end of the field by a special character configuration in the message header. This configuration can be from one to eight nonblank characters in length. (See Figure 5.)



Figure 5. Skipping a variable-length field

• Message priorities. Priority of a message can be identified by either a special character in the message header followed by the message priority or by just specifying the message priority. A special character should be used when all messages are not necessarily given a priority, while the second case can be used when a priority is inserted in every message. Message priority levels range from 1, 2, ---, 9, A, B, ---, Y, Z, where Z is the highest priority and 1 is the lowest.

• Destination fields. When multiple destinations are desired in the message header, a special character or sequence of characters must be reserved to identify the last destination (address) listed. This character(s) is termed the end of address (EOA) character(s). Each destination may be separated by a blank character(s) from the others. If this is done, the length of each destination will not have to be specified within the QTAM macro program, and the destinations may then be variable in length (Figure 6).

																	EOA	
_																		`_
	С	Н	I	N	Y	С	В	0	s	Т	0	N	w	Α	s	Н	@	

Figure 6. Multiple destination fields of variable length

If there is never more than one destination, the End of Address field is not needed, and if the destination is fixed it does not even have to be included in the message header.

- Special handling. A special character may be placed in the message header to specify that the message is to be handled in the "initiate" mode. When a message is handled in the "initiate" mode, message segments may be either processed or sent to a destination before the entire message is received. The special character is needed only when not all of the messages of a given type are to be handled in this mode.
- Conversational mode. A special character may also be placed in the message header to identify that the message is to be handled in "conversational" mode. Receipt of a message in this mode will imply that the next terminal on the line will not be "polled" until a further exchange of messages has occurred. The special character is needed only when not all of the messages operate in this mode.
- <u>User routines</u>. Just as for the "initiate" and "conversational" modes, a user routine can be specified to operate only on certain messages containing a special character. Again, this special character is needed in the message header only if not all messages require the particular user routine.