



ASSM

80880 Assembler

User's Manual

ASSM Advanced 8080 Assembler User's Manual

Describes ASSM, Release 1.0.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE
1 GENERAL INFORMATION.....	1-1
1.1 INTRODUCTION.....	1-1
1.2 THE ASSEMBLER.....	1-1
1.3 PROCEDURE FOR USING ASSM.....	1-4
2 STATEMENTS.....	2-1
2.1 INTRODUCTION.....	2-1
2.2 LINE NUMBERS.....	2-1
2.3 LABEL FIELD.....	2-2
2.4 OPERATION FIELD.....	2-2
2.5 OPERAND FIELD.....	2-2
2.5.1 Register Names.....	2-3
2.5.2 Labels.....	2-3
2.5.3 Constants.....	2-3
2.5.4 Expressions.....	2-4
2.5.5 High- and Low-Order Byte Extraction..	2-5
2.6 COMMENT FIELD.....	2-5
3 PSEUDO-OPERATIONS.....	3-1
4 ERROR MESSAGES.....	4-1
4.1 CONSOLE ERROR MESSAGES.....	4-1
4.2 ASSEMBLY ERRORS.....	4-2

APPENDICES

- 1 8080 INSTRUCTIONS
- 2 ASCII CODES
- 3 ASSEMBLER LISTING
- 4 PACK AND UNPAC
- 5 ABOUT CASSETTE RECORDERS AND CASSETTE FILES

SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

There are three programs recorded on the cassette tape that this manual accompanies. The first is ASSM, an assembler. The assembler translates a symbolic 8080 assembly language program ("source code") into the binary instructions ("object code") required by the computer to execute the program.

ASSM is designed for use on the Sol Terminal Computer or another computer that uses the CUTER monitor program and CUTS module. The assembler itself occupies almost 8K of memory; additional memory is required for the symbol table, which will be described in the next subsection, and for the user program. Two cassette recorders are also required.

This manual is not intended as an assembly language tutorial. It does not discuss the 8080 instruction set (though there is a summary of the instruction mnemonics in Appendix 1), nor does it offer an exhaustive explanation of what an assembler does. Two books that do describe such material in detail are 8080A/8085 Assembly Language Programming, by Lance A. Leventhal (Adam Osborne & Associates, Berkeley, CA., 1978) and 8080/8085 Assembly Language Programming Manual (Intel Corporation, Santa Clara, CA., 1977). The purpose of the following pages is to enable you to develop programs using the ASSM assembler. The manual does include a complete discussion of the pseudo-operations recognized by the assembler.

The two other programs recorded on the tape are named PACK and UNPAC. These programs convert a cassette file from either of the two SOLOS/CUTER file formats (single-block and multiple-block) to the other. Appendix 4 of this manual describes the programs, and there are some references below to their possible use in relation to ASSM.

1.2 THE ASSEMBLER

This subsection outlines the operation of ASSM; the next subsection will describe the actual procedure for using the program.

INPUT TO THE ASSEMBLER

The assembler operates on a multiple-block source code file created in EDIT and recorded on a cassette in tape unit 1. (Any file that you create in EDIT will be a multiple-block file. The SOLOS/CUTER User's Manual, Second Edition, contains information about file structures.) If the file to be assembled is a single-block file, use the UNPAC program described in Appendix 4 to convert the file to multiple-block structure.

Because the input and processing of the source program is done block by block, there is no absolute restriction on the length of an input file. In theory, you might even use the COPY pseudo-operation (see Section 3) to create a source program that exceeded the length of a cassette tape! The real restriction on the length of a source program is that it can contain only a limited number of symbolic labels (see Section 2.3). For each 1K of memory between the 8K occupied by the ASSM program and the beginning of SOLOS or CUTER, there can be 146 labels in the source program.

Each line of an acceptable source file consists of the characters in that line and a carriage return (0DH). A file may or may not have 4-digit line numbers in character positions 1-4 of each line; it is not permissible for only some of the lines to have line numbers.

OPERATION OF THE ASSEMBLER

Step numbers in parentheses following an explanation refer to the accompanying figure.

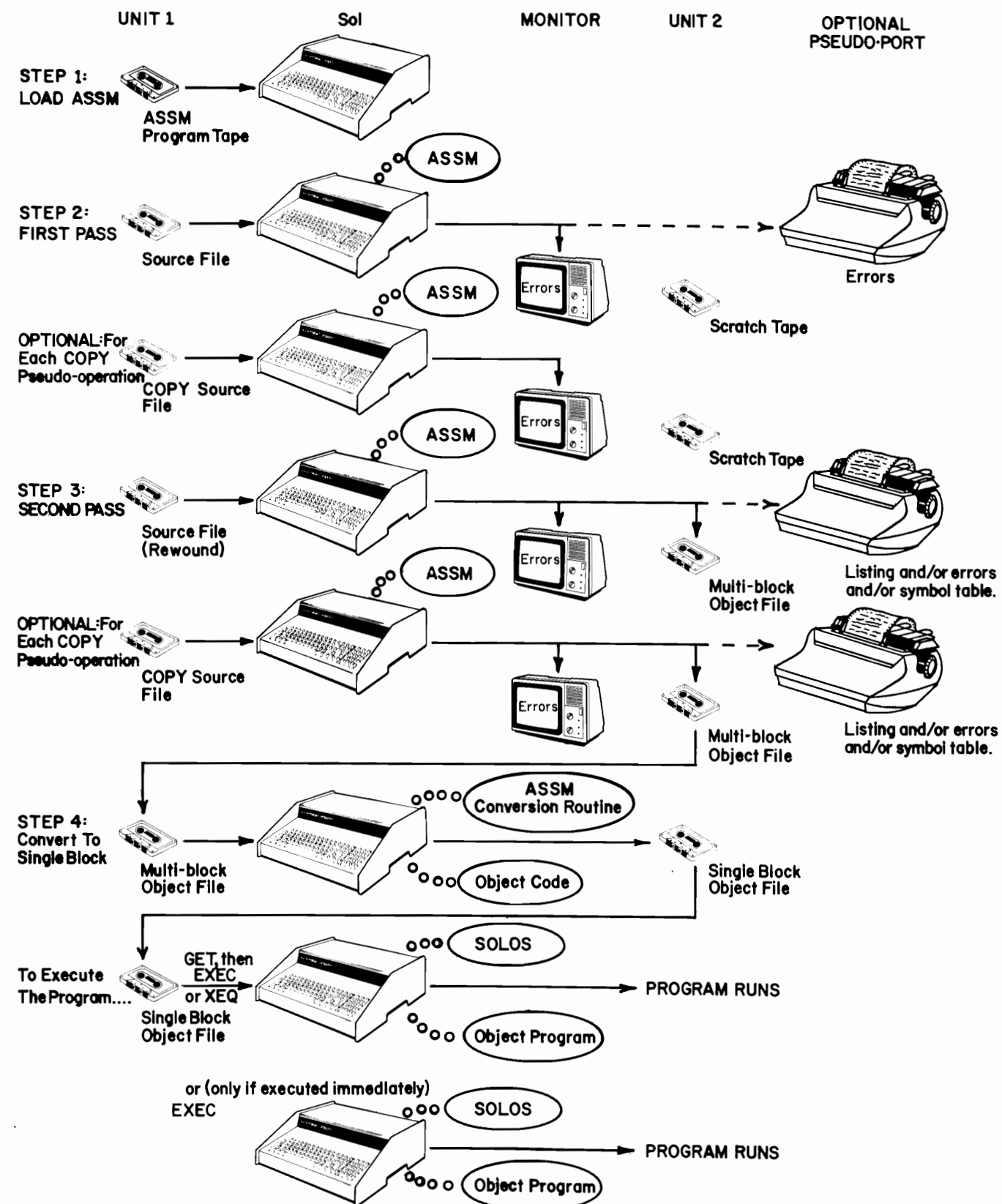
The assembler is loaded from tape unit 1 into memory starting at location 0 (step 1). It processes the source code file in two passes; although nothing is written to tape unit 2 until the second pass, you will be asked to set up both an input tape, containing a source code file, and an output tape, to contain the temporary object file, before the first pass.

On the first pass (step 2), ASSM reads the source program from tape unit 1 and builds a symbol table containing all of the labels defined in the source program. (See Section 2.3.) The symbol table begins at the memory location immediately following the assembler; each entry in the table is 7 bytes long. Certain errors may be detected during the first pass, causing error messages to be output to the video display. The user may also specify that errors be sent to the current pseudo-port. For information regarding pseudo-ports, consult the SOLOS/CUTER User's Manual.

If the source program is recorded on more than one cassette tape, each additional tape must read from tape unit 1 (optional step, applying only when the source contains the COPY pseudo-operation described in Section 3).

On the second pass (step 3), ASSM again reads the source program from tape unit 1 (you will have been told to rewind the input tape), generates the object code and usually writes it out as a temporary multiple-block file on the scratch tape in unit 2. This object file is temporary because only a single-block program file can be executed conveniently in SOLOS/CUTER. In addition, a formatted listing of source and object code, errors, symbol table, or any combination of these, may be output to the current pseudo-port. Errors detected during the second pass are always output to the video display and may also be sent to the current pseudo-port.

USING ASSM



Again, if the source is recorded on more than one cassette tape, each additional tape must be read from tape unit 1 (optional step, applying only when the source contains the COPY pseudo-operation described in Section 3).

Finally, the assembler must make one pass over the object code file (step 4). For this purpose, you will be asked to insert the cassette that contains the temporary file in tape unit 1, and the cassette that will contain the final output file in tape unit 2. ASSM will load the multiple-block object file as though it were going to execute the program: that is, each byte is loaded at the address that was assigned to it when the object code was generated. (Thus, memory must be available at the same locations that the program is intended to occupy when it runs.) The object code is then written to tape unit 2 in the single-block structure that is required if the program is to be loaded and executed within SOLOS/CUTER.

OUTPUT FROM THE ASSEMBLER

If the assembly runs to completion and no errors are detected, the resulting object code file is a file that you can execute using the SOLOS/CUTER XEQ command (if the source code contained an XEQ pseudo-operation - see Section 3). To load the file without executing it, or to execute a file that does not contain an XEQ pseudo-operation, use the SOLOS/CUTER GET and EXEC commands. It is also possible to execute the program from memory, because it is loaded at the appropriate address during the last stage of assembly; give a SOLOS/CUTER EXEC command that specifies the starting address for the program.

1.3 PROCEDURE FOR USING ASSM

While still in SOLOS/CUTER, decide whether you want to send output to another pseudo-port in addition to the screen. If you do, use the SOLOS/CUTER SET command (see your manual) before loading ASSM.

To load ASSM from cassette into memory, place the cassette containing the program in tape unit 1, and put the recorder in PLAY mode. (If you are not familiar with the operation of cassette recorders, you might want to look at Appendix 5, entitled "About Cassette Recorders and Cassette Files." If you are not sure how to connect your recorder to the computer, look at Section 7 of your Sol Manual.)

If you want to load ASSM and execute it immediately, type the SOLOS/CUTER command XEQ ASSM and then press RETURN; if you want to load but not execute the program, type GET ASSM and press RETURN. Once the program is loaded with the GET command, it can be executed with the command EXEC 0. The loading process can be aborted with MODE SELECT or by pressing the CTRL and @ keys simultaneously.

After the assembler begins to execute, it will display the following series of instructions and questions. At any time during this interactive portion of ASSM, the ESCape key will cause the program to start over again with the first instruction.

Enter source file name:

The name entered at this point must be the one to five character file name of the multiple-block source program file. If you plan to use the COPY pseudo-operation to assemble several files, give the name of the first file to be assembled. The DElete key can be used to delete an erroneous character at any time before the carriage return is entered.

Enter object file name (optional):

If the assembler is to generate and write an object code file, the one to five character file name that will be written to the file header must be specified at this point. If no file name is entered before the carriage return terminates the response, the assembler will not generate an object file. The DElete key can be used to delete an erroneous character at any point before the carriage return is entered.

Does source file have line numbers? (Y/N)

As will be seen in Section 2, the column in which a statement begins is significant to the assembler. For this reason it is necessary to specify whether or not each line of the source file begins with a line number. Type Y for yes and N for no. A carriage return is not required to terminate this response.

Should errors, listing, and/or symbol table
be output to the current pseudo-port? (E/L/S):

Specify one or more of these options by typing the appropriate letter(s). To select more than one option, type the two or three letters consecutively without an intervening blank, e.g., EL for errors and listing. (Consult your SOLOS/CUTER User's Manual for information concerning pseudo-ports.) If no options are specified, lines that contain errors will still appear on the video display, but no output will go to the current pseudo-port (unless the pseudo-port coincides with the display). Enter a carriage return to terminate the response.

Should printed output be Paginated and/or have
new line numbers added? (P/N):

If the response to the last question determined that no output will be sent to the current pseudo-port, this question is not asked. If the P option is selected, output to the current pseudo-port will be paginated. The name of the source program file will be printed on the top left-hand corner of each page, and a page number will be printed on the top right-hand corner. A page length of 66 lines will be assumed. If the TITL pseudo-operation occurs in the source program, the title provided in the instruction will be centered at the top of each page. If the N option is selected, new line numbers will be assigned to the source code. To select both options, type PN. Enter a carriage return to terminate the response.

For what width should printed output be formatted;
no formatting, 72, 80, 132? (0/1/2/3):

If formatting is requested, additional spaces will be inserted between fields in the output to fit the width of the paper or output device.

0 for no additional spacing
1 for 72- column paper or output device
2 for 80- column paper or output device
3 for 132- column paper or output device

Enter a carriage return to terminate the response.

Set up tapes. (Hit return when ready)

Place the tape containing the source program file in tape unit 1, position the tape a little before the file, and put the recorder in PLAY mode. Place a scratch tape in tape unit 2 and put the recorder in RECORD mode. Remember that the scratch tape will receive the temporary multiple-block object file on the second pass. When a carriage return is entered to terminate this response, ASSM will begin the first pass.

A MODE SELECT or CTRL-@ can be used to abort the assembly at any time after this point. If assembly is aborted by this means, ASSM will have to be reloaded from cassette in order to be executed again.

If a COPY pseudo-operation is encountered, ASSM will request that the appropriate cassette be put in tape unit 1 (see Section 3).

At the end of the first pass, ASSM reports:

Done with pass 1, all input tapes need to be rewound.
Rewind tape unit 1. (Hit return when rewind)

Power is applied to tape unit 1 so that the tape(s) containing the source file(s) can be rewound. When this step has been completed, place the original source tape in tape unit 1, and put the recorder in PLAY mode. When the carriage return is entered, ASSM will begin the second pass. If the source program contains a COPY pseudo-operation, ASSM will request that the appropriate cassette be inserted in tape unit 1. Any output that is being sent to the current pseudo-port will be sent during the second pass. If an object file is being generated, ASSM will give this instruction after the second pass:

Place scratch tape in tape unit one, and final output tape in tape unit two. (Hit return when done)

Place the tape containing the temporary multiple-block object file in tape unit 1, and the tape to receive the final single-block object file in tape unit 2. When the carriage return is entered, ASSM will make the final pass on the object file. When this pass is complete, control will return to SOLOS/CUTER.

2.1 INTRODUCTION

An assembly language program (source code) is a series of statements specifying the sequence of machine operations to be performed by the program.

Each statement resides on a single line and may contain up to four fields as well as an optional line number. These fields, label, operation, operand and comment, are scanned from left to right by the assembler, and are separated by spaces.

2.2 LINE NUMBERS

Line numbers in the range 0000-9999 may appear in columns 1-4. Line numbers need not be ordered and have no meaning to the assembler, but they may make it easier to locate lines in the source code file when it is being edited. The tape and memory space required for normal text files will be increased by five bytes per line if line numbers are used; this may become significant for large files.

If line numbers are not used, the label field starts in column 1 and the operation field may not start before column 2. If line numbers are used, they must be followed by at least one space, so the label field starts in column 6 and the operand field may not start before column 7.

Once the starting column for the label has been established, the same format must be followed throughout the file: either all of the lines or none of the lines can have line numbers. Any other file(s) assembled along with the main file (using the COPY pseudo-operation) must conform to the format of the main file.

Example of source statements with line numbers:

```
column
1234567
-----
0000 LABEL ORA A   Label field must start at column 6.
0001 JNZ NEXT     Operation field starts at column 7 (minimum).
0002 LOOP MOV A,B Operation field starts one space after label.
```

Example of source statements without line numbers:

```
column
1234567
-----
LABEL ORA A       Label field must start at column 1.
  JNZ NEXT        Operation field starts at column 2 (minimum).
  LOOP MOV A,B    Operation field starts one space after label.
```

2.3 LABEL FIELD

The label field must start in column 1 of the line (column 6 if line numbers are used). A label gives the line a symbolic name that can be referenced by any statement in the program. Labels must start with an alphabetic character (A-Z,a-z), and may consist of any number of characters, though the assembler will ignore all characters beyond the fifth; e.g., the labels BRIDGE, BRIDG and BRIDGET cannot be distinguished by the assembler. A duplicate label error will occur if any two labels in a program begin with the same five letters.

A label may be separated from the operation field by a colon (:) instead of, or in addition to, a blank.

The labels A, B, C, D, E, H, L, M, PSW and SP are pre-defined by the assembler to serve as symbolic names for the 8080 registers (see Section 2.5.1). They must not appear in the label field.

An asterisk (*) or semi-colon (;) in place of a label in column 1 (column 6 if line numbers are used) will designate the entire line as a comment line; see Section 2.6.

2.4 OPERATION FIELD

The operation field contains either 8080 instruction mnemonics or assembler pseudo-operation mnemonics. Appendix 1 summarizes the standard instruction mnemonics recognized by the assembler. More information on the 8080 machine instructions can be found in the two books mentioned in Section 1.1, above. Assembler pseudo-operations are directives that control various aspects of the assembly process, such as storage allocation, conditional assembly, file inclusion, and listing control. The pseudo-operations are described in Section 3.

An operation mnemonic may not start before column 2 (column 7 if line numbers are used) and must be separated from a label by at least one space (or a colon).

2.5 OPERAND FIELD

Most machine instructions and pseudo-operations require one or two operands, either register names, labels, constants, or arithmetic expressions involving labels and constants.

The operands must be separated from the operator by at least one space. If two operands are required, they must be separated by a comma. No spaces may occur within the operand field, since the first space following the operands delimits the comment field.

2.5.1 Register Names

Many 8080 machine instructions require one or two registers or a register pair to be designated in the operand field. The symbolic names for the general-purpose registers are A, B, C, D, E, H and L. SP stands for the stack pointer, while M refers to the memory location whose address is in the HL register pair. The register pairs BC, DE, and HL are designated by the symbolic names B, D, and H, respectively. The A register and condition flags, when operated upon as a register pair, are given the symbolic name PSW.

The values assigned to the register names A, B, C, D, E, H, L, M, PSW and SP are 7, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6 and 6, respectively. These constants, or any label or expression whose value lies in the range 0 to 7, may be used in place of the pre-defined symbolic register names where a register name is required; such a substitution of a value for the pre-defined register name is not recommended, however.

2.5.2 Labels

Any label that is defined elsewhere in the program may be used as an operand. If a label is used where an 8-bit quantity is required (e.g., MVI C,LABEL), its value must lie in the range -256 to 255, or it will be flagged as a value error.

If a label is used as a register name, its value must lie in the range 0 to 7, or be 0, 2, 4, or 6 if it designates a register pair. Otherwise, it will be flagged as a register error.

During each pass over the source code, the assembler maintains an instruction location counter that keeps track of the next location at which an instruction may be stored; this is analogous to the program counter used by the processor during program execution to keep track of the location of the next instruction to be fetched.

The special label \$ (dollar sign) stands for the current value of the assembler's instruction location counter. When \$ appears within the operand field of a machine instruction, its value is the address of the first byte of the next instruction.

Example:

FIRST EQU \$	The label FIRST is set to the address
TABLE DB ENTRY	of the first entry in a table and LAST
*	points to the location immediately after
*	the end of the table. TABLN is then
*	the length of the table and will remain
LAST EQU \$	correct, even if later additions or
TABLN EQU LAST-FIRST	deletions are made in the table.

2.5.3 Constants

Decimal, hexadecimal, octal, binary and ASCII constants may be used as operands.

The base for numeric constants is indicated by a single letter immediately following the number, as follows:

D = decimal
H = hexadecimal
O = octal
Q = octal
B = binary

If the letter is omitted, the number is assumed to be decimal. Q is usually preferred for octal constants, since O is so easily confused with 0 (zero). Numeric constants must begin with a numeric character (0-9) so that they can be distinguished from labels; a hexadecimal constant beginning with A-F must be preceded by a zero.

ASCII constants are one or two characters surrounded by single quotes ('). A single quote within an ASCII constant is represented by two single quotes in a row with no intervening spaces. For example, the ASCII value of a single quote mark (') is represented by the expression ''', where the two outer quote marks are the delimiters of the ASCII string, and the two inner quote marks represent the string itself, i.e., the single quote character. A single character ASCII constant has the numerical value of the corresponding ASCII code. (Appendix 2 contains a list of ASCII codes.) A double character ASCII constant has the 16-bit value whose high-order byte is the ASCII code of the first character and whose low-order byte is the ASCII code of the second character.

If a constant is used where an 8-bit quantity is required (e.g., MVI C,10H), its numeric value must lie in the range -256 to 255 or it will be flagged as a value error.

If a constant is used as a register name, its numeric value must lie in the range 0 to 7, or be 0, 2, 4, or 6 if it designates a register pair. Otherwise, it will be flagged as a register error.

Examples:

MVI A,128	Move 128 decimal to register A.
MVI C,10D	Move 10 decimal to register C.
LXI H,2FH	Move 2F hexadecimal to register pair HL.
MVI B,303Q	Move 303 octal to register B.
MVI A,'Y'	Move the ASCII value for Y to register A.
MVI A,101B	Move 101 binary to register A.
JMP 0FFH	Jump to address FF hexadecimal.

2.5.4 Expressions

Operands may be arithmetic expressions constructed from labels, constants, and the following operators:

+	addition or unary plus
-	subtraction or unary minus
*	multiplication
/	division (remainder discarded)

Values are treated as 16-bit unsigned 2's complement numbers. Positive or negative overflow is allowed during expression evaluation, e.g., $32767+1=7FFFH+1=8000H=-32768$ and $-32768-1=8000H-1=7FFFH=32767$. Expressions are evaluated from left to right; there is no operator precedence.

If an expression is used where an 8-bit quantity is required (e.g., MVI C,TEMP+10H), it must evaluate to a value in the range -256 to 255, or it will be flagged as a value error.

An expression used as a register name must evaluate to a value in the range 0 to 7, or to 0, 2, 4, or 6 if it designates a register pair. Otherwise, it will be flagged as a register error.

Examples:

MVI	A,255D/10H-5
LDA	POTTS/256*OFFSET
LXI	SP,30*2+STACK

2.5.5 High- and Low-Order Byte Extraction

If an operand is preceded by the symbol <, the high-order byte of the evaluated expression will be used as the value of the operand. If an operand is preceded by the symbol >, the low-order byte will be used.

Note that the symbols < and > are not operators that may be applied to labels or constants within an expression. If more than one < or > appears within an expression, the rightmost will be used to determine whether to use the high- or low-order byte of the evaluated expression as the value of the operand. That is, the rightmost < or > is treated as if it preceded the entire expression, and the others will be totally ignored.

Examples:

MVI A,>TEST	Loads register A with the least significant 8 bits of the value of the label TEST.
MVI B,<0CC00H	Loads register B with the most significant byte of the 16-bit value CC00H, i.e., CCH.
MVI C,<1234H	Loads register C with the value 12H.
MVI C,>1234H	Loads register C with the value 34H.

2.6 COMMENT FIELD

The comment field must be separated from the operand field (or operation field for instructions or pseudo-operations that require no operand) by at least one space. Comments are not processed by the assembler, but are solely for the benefit of the programmer. Good

comments are essential if a program is to be understood very long after it is written or is to be maintained by someone other than its author.

An entire line will be treated as a comment if it starts with an asterisk (*) or semicolon (;) in column 1 (column 6 if line numbers are used).

Examples:

```
LOOP IN  STAT INPUT DEVICE STATUS
      ANI 1   TEST STATUS BIT
      JZ  LOOP WAIT FOR DATA
*DATA IS NOW AVAILABLE
```

If listing file formatting is requested in answer to the question, "For what width should printed output be formatted...?" the comment field must be preceded by at least two spaces. Furthermore, instructions and pseudo-operations requiring no operand must be followed by a dummy operand (a period is recommended).

Examples:

```
MVI A,10 COMMENT
RZ . COMMENT
```

SECTION 3

PSEUDO-OPERATIONS

Pseudo-operations appear in a source program as instructions to the assembler and do not always generate object code. This section describes the pseudo-operations recognized by ASSM.

In the following pseudo-operation formats, <expression> stands for a constant, label, or arithmetic expression constructed from constants and labels. Optional elements are enclosed in square brackets [].

Equate <label> EQU <expression>

This pseudo-operation sets a label name to the 16-bit value that is represented in the operand field. That value holds for the entire assembly and may not be changed by another EQU.

Any label that appears in the operand field of an EQU statement must be defined in a statement earlier in the program.

Examples:

```
BELL EQU 7                    The value of the label BELL is set to 7.
BELL2 EQU BELL*2              Label BELL2 is set to 7*2.
```

Set Origin [<label>] ORG <expression>

This pseudo-operation sets the assembler's instruction location counter to the 16-bit value specified in the operand field. In other words, the object code generated by the statements that follow must be loaded beginning at the specified address in order to execute properly. The label, if present, is given the specified 16-bit value.

Any label that appears in the operand field of an ORG statement must be defined in a statement earlier in the program.

If no origin is specified at the beginning of the source code, the assembler will set the origin to 100H. If no ORG pseudo-operation is used anywhere in the source program, successive bytes of object code will be stored at successive memory locations.

During the pass that converts the multiple-block object code file into a single-block file of the kind that SOLOS/CUTER can load, the object code is actually loaded at the origin given in the program, or at the default origin. The routine that performs the conversion runs in the SOLOS/CUTER stack area: that is, in the 1K of memory beginning at address C800H for SOLOS, or at 800H above the first address assigned to CUTER. Thus, the program to be assembled must NOT be given an origin in the SOLOS/CUTER stack area.

The ASCZ pseudo-operation is the same except that it appends a NUL (00H) to the end of the stored string.

Examples:

```
WORDS ASC "THIS IS AN ASCII STRING"
      ASCZ "THIS IS ANOTHER STRING"
```

```
Set ASCII List Flag   ASCF 0
                     ASCF 1
```

If the operand field contains a 0, the listing of the assembled bytes of an ASCII string will be suppressed after the first line (four bytes). Likewise, only the first four assembled bytes of a DB pseudo-operation with multiple arguments will be listed. If a program contains many long strings, its listing will be easier to read if the ASCF pseudo-operation is used.

If the operand field contains a 1, the assembled form of subsequent ASCII strings and DB pseudo-operations with multiple arguments will be listed in full. This is the default condition.

See Appendix 3 for an example of the listing format.

```
Conditional Assembly  IF <expression>
                      .
                      source code
                      .
                      ENDF
```

The value of the expression in the operand field governs whether or not subsequent code up to the matching ENDF will be assembled. If the expression evaluates to a 0 (false), the code will not be assembled. If the expression evaluates to a non-zero value (true), the code will be assembled. Blocks of code delimited by IF and ENDF ("conditional code") may be nested within another block of conditional code.

Any label that appears in the operand field of an IF...ENDF pseudo-operation must be defined in a statement earlier in the program.

```
YES EQU 1           Sets the value of the label 'YES' to 1.
NO EQU 0            Sets the value of the label 'NO' to 0.
```

```
*
IF YES              The expression here is true (1), so the
MVI A,'Y'           code on this line will be assembled.
IF NO               The expression here is false (0), so the code
MVI A,'N'           on this line will not be assembled.
ENDF                This terminates the NO conditional.
ENDF                This terminates the YES conditional.
```

List Conditional Code IFLS

This pseudo-operation enables listing of conditional source code even though no object code is being generated because of a false IF condition. The assembler will not list such conditional source code if this pseudo-operation is not used.

```
Copy File           COPY <file name>[/<unit>]
```

This pseudo-operation copies source code from a tape file into a program being assembled. The code from the copied file will be assembled starting at the current address.

The resulting object code will be exactly like what would be generated if the copied source code were appended to the original file, but the COPY pseudo-operation does not actually alter any source file.

If the COPY pseudo-operation is used, it must be the last instruction in the source file in which it appears. When the assembler encounters the COPY during each pass on the source file, it will ask you to

```
"Insert <name specified in operand field> into tape
unit 1. (Hit return when done)"
```

The original source tape should be removed from tape unit 1, and the tape containing the requested file should be inserted. Put the recorder in PLAY mode.

A copied file may in turn copy another. Note that one file must not copy another which in turn copies the original file--the assembly will generate duplicate label errors and assemble the same code over and over until the object code file overflows the tape on which it is being written.

All files that are accessed by the COPY pseudo-operation must be of the same format as the main source file, i.e., either having or not having line numbers.

```
Listing Control     NLST
                   LST
```

The NLST pseudo-operation suppresses output of the listing to the current pseudo-port. If object code is being generated, it will still be output to the object code file; lines containing errors will still be output to the video display (and to the current pseudo-port, if the E option was selected). The LST pseudo-operation re-enables output of the listing to the current pseudo-port.

Listing Title TITL <first line>"<second line>

If the P option is specified in answer to the question, "Should printed output be Paginated ...," the one- or two-line title specified by this pseudo-operation will be centered at the top of each page of the listing.

Page Eject PAGE

If the P option is specified in answer to the question, "Should printed output be Paginated ...," this pseudo-operation causes a skip to the top of the next page of the listing.

End of Source File END

This pseudo-operation terminates each pass of the assembly. Only one END statement should be in the file or files to be assembled, and it should be the last statement encountered by the assembler. Since an end-of-file on the source code input file will also terminate each pass, the END statement is unnecessary in most cases.

SECTION 4

ERROR MESSAGES

4.1 CONSOLE ERROR MESSAGES

A number of console messages may be generated in response to errors in reading or assembly of a source file. Any of the following errors will cause assembly to be aborted and control to return to SOLOS/CUTER.

Read Error- Bad tape file

This message usually indicates that a tape has been recorded incorrectly, or that MODE SELECT or CTRL-@ has been entered during the reading of a tape file.

Too many characters in name of COPY statement: <name>

The name displayed after the colon appears in the operand field of a COPY statement in the source program and has more than five characters in it. A file name that has more than five characters is not valid within SOLOS/CUTER.

Error- COPY statement cannot be other than at EOF.

A source file contains a COPY statement that is not the last statement of the file.

Error- Symbol table overflow.

The source program contains more labels than will fit in the amount of memory available. Remember that the symbol table requires seven bytes per symbol and begins immediately after the code for ASSM.

The other message that you might encounter is CHECKSUM TEST FAILED. This error would occur during an attempt to load ASSM, PACK, or UNPAC. The Appendix entitled "About Cassette Recorders and Cassette Files" explains what the message means and why it is important.

HEX-ASCII TABLE		HEX-ASCII TABLE	
Printing	Characters	Printing	Characters
00	NOP	00	00
01	LXI B,D16	01	01
02	STAX B	02	02
03	INX B	03	03
04	INR B	04	04
05	DCR B	05	05
06	MVI B,D8	06	06
07	RLC	07	07
08	...	08	08
09	DAD B	09	09
0A	LDAX B	0A	0A
0B	DCX B	0B	0B
0C	INR C	0C	0C
0D	DCR C	0D	0D
0E	MVI C,D8	0E	0E
0F	RRC	0F	0F
10	...	10	10
11	LXI D,D16	11	11
12	STAX D	12	12
13	INX D	13	13
14	INR D	14	14
15	DCR D	15	15
16	MVI D,D8	16	16
17	RAL	17	17
18	...	18	18
19	DAD D	19	19
1A	LDAX D	1A	1A
1B	DCX D	1B	1B
1C	INR E	1C	1C
1D	DCR E	1D	1D
1E	MVI E,D8	1E	1E
1F	RAR	1F	1F
20	...	20	20
21	LXI H,D16	21	21
22	SHLD Adr	22	22
23	INX H	23	23
24	INR H	24	24
25	DCR H	25	25
26	MVI H,D8	26	26
27	DAA	27	27
28	DAD H	28	28
29	LHLD Adr	29	29
2A	DCX H	2A	2A
2B	INR L	2B	2B
2C	DCR L	2C	2C
2D	DCR L	2D	2D
2E	MVI L,D8	2E	2E
2F	CMA	2F	2F
30	...	30	30
31	LXI SP,D16	31	31
32	STA Adr	32	32
33	INX SP	33	33
34	INR M	34	34
35	DCR M	35	35
36	MVI M,D8	36	36
37	STC	37	37
38	...	38	38
39	DAD SP	39	39
3A	LDA Adr	3A	3A
3B	DCX SP	3B	3B
3C	INR A	3C	3C
3D	DCR A	3D	3D
3E	MVI A,D8	3E	3E
3F	CMC	3F	3F
40	MOV B,B	40	40
41	MOV B,C	41	41
42	MOV B,D	42	42
43	MOV B,E	43	43
44	MOV B,H	44	44
45	MOV B,L	45	45
46	MOV B,M	46	46
47	MOV B,A	47	47
48	MOV C,B	48	48
49	MOV C,C	49	49
4A	MOV C,D	4A	4A
4B	MOV C,E	4B	4B
4C	MOV C,H	4C	4C
4D	MOV C,L	4D	4D
4E	MOV C,M	4E	4E
4F	MOV C,A	4F	4F
50	MOV D,B	50	50
51	MOV D,C	51	51
52	MOV D,D	52	52
53	MOV D,E	53	53
54	MOV D,H	54	54
55	MOV D,L	55	55
56	MOV D,M	56	56
57	MOV D,A	57	57
58	MOV E,B	58	58
59	MOV E,C	59	59
5A	MOV E,D	5A	5A
5B	MOV E,E	5B	5B
5C	MOV E,H	5C	5C
5D	MOV E,L	5D	5D
5E	MOV E,M	5E	5E
5F	MOV E,A	5F	5F
60	MOV H,B	60	60
61	MOV H,C	61	61
62	MOV H,D	62	62
63	MOV H,E	63	63
64	MOV H,H	64	64
65	MOV H,L	65	65
66	MOV H,M	66	66
67	MOV H,A	67	67
68	MOV L,B	68	68
69	MOV L,C	69	69
6A	MOV L,D	6A	6A
6B	MOV L,E	6B	6B
6C	MOV L,H	6C	6C
6D	MOV L,L	6D	6D
6E	MOV L,M	6E	6E
6F	MOV L,A	6F	6F
70	MOV M,B	70	70
71	MOV M,C	71	71
72	MOV M,D	72	72
73	MOV M,E	73	73
74	MOV M,H	74	74
75	MOV M,L	75	75
76	HLT	76	76
77	MOV M,A	77	77
78	MOV A,B	78	78
79	MOV A,C	79	79
7A	MOV A,D	7A	7A
7B	MOV A,E	7B	7B
7C	MOV A,H	7C	7C
7D	MOV A,L	7D	7D
7E	MOV A,M	7E	7E
7F	MOV A,A	7F	7F
80	ADD B	80	80
81	ADD C	81	81
82	ADD D	82	82
83	ADD E	83	83
84	ADD H	84	84
85	ADD L	85	85
86	ADD M	86	86
87	ADD A	87	87
88	ADC B	88	88
89	ADC C	89	89
8A	ADC D	8A	8A
8B	ADC E	8B	8B
8C	ADC H	8C	8C
8D	ADC L	8D	8D
8E	ADC M	8E	8E
8F	ADC A	8F	8F
90	SUB B	90	90
91	SUB C	91	91
92	SUB D	92	92
93	SUB E	93	93
94	SUB H	94	94
95	SUB L	95	95
96	SUB M	96	96
97	SUB A	97	97
98	SBB B	98	98
99	SBB C	99	99
9A	SBB D	9A	9A
9B	SBB E	9B	9B
9C	SBB H	9C	9C
9D	SBB L	9D	9D
9E	SBB M	9E	9E
9F	SBB A	9F	9F
A0	ANA B	A0	A0
A1	ANA C	A1	A1
A2	ANA D	A2	A2
A3	ANA E	A3	A3
A4	ANA H	A4	A4
A5	ANA L	A5	A5
A6	ANA M	A6	A6
A7	ANA A	A7	A7
A8	XRA B	A8	A8
A9	XRA C	A9	A9
AA	XRA D	AA	AA
AB	XRA E	AB	AB
AC	XRA H	AC	AC
AD	XRA L	AD	AD
AE	XRA M	AE	AE
AF	XRA A	AF	AF
B0	ORA B	B0	B0
B1	ORA C	B1	B1
B2	ORA D	B2	B2
B3	ORA E	B3	B3
B4	ORA H	B4	B4
B5	ORA L	B5	B5
B6	ORA M	B6	B6
B7	ORA A	B7	B7
B8	CMP B	B8	B8
B9	CMP C	B9	B9
BA	CMP D	BA	BA
BB	CMP E	BB	BB
BC	CMP H	BC	BC
BD	CMP L	BD	BD
BE	CMP M	BE	BE
BF	CMP A	BF	BF
C0	RNZ	C0	C0
C1	POP B	C1	C1
C2	JNZ	C2	C2
C3	JMP Adr	C3	C3
C4	CNZ Adr	C4	C4
C5	PUSH B	C5	C5
C6	ADI D8	C6	C6
C7	RST 0	C7	C7
C8	RZ	C8	C8
C9	RET	C9	C9
CA	JZ	CA	CA
CB	...	CB	CB
CC	CZ	CC	CC
CD	CALL Adr	CD	CD
CE	ACI D8	CE	CE
CF	RST 1	CF	CF
D0	RNC	D0	D0
D1	POP D	D1	D1
D2	JNC	D2	D2
D3	OUT D8	D3	D3
D4	CNC Adr	D4	D4
D5	PUSH D	D5	D5
D6	SUI D8	D6	D6
D7	RST 2	D7	D7
D8	RC	D8	D8
D9	...	D9	D9
DA	JC	DA	DA
DB	IN D8	DB	DB
DC	CC Adr	DC	DC
DD	...	DD	DD
DE	SBI D8	DE	DE
DF	RST 3	DF	DF
E0	RPO	E0	E0
E1	POP H	E1	E1
E2	JPO Adr	E2	E2
E3	XTHL	E3	E3
E4	CPO Adr	E4	E4
E5	PUSH H	E5	E5
E6	ANI D8	E6	E6
E7	RST 4	E7	E7
E8	RPE	E8	E8
E9	PCHL	E9	E9
EA	JPE Adr	EA	EA
EB	XCHG	EB	EB
EC	CPE Adr	EC	EC
ED	...	ED	ED
EE	XRI D8	EE	EE
EF	RST 5	EF	EF
F0	RP	F0	F0
F1	POP PSW	F1	F1
F2	JP Adr	F2	F2
F3	DI	F3	F3
F4	CP Adr	F4	F4
F5	PUSH PSW	F5	F5
F6	ORI D8	F6	F6
F7	RST 6	F7	F7
F8	RM	F8	F8
F9	SPHL	F9	F9
FA	JM Adr	FA	FA
FB	EI	FB	FB
FC	CM Adr	FC	FC
FD	...	FD	FD
FE	CPI D8	FE	FE
FF	RST 7	FF	FF

D8 = constant, or logical/arithmetic expression that evaluates to an 8 bit data quantity.

D16 = constant, or logical/arithmetic expression that evaluates to a 16 bit address.

APPENDIX I

APPENDIX 2 TABLE OF ASCII CODES (Zero Parity)

Paper tape 1 2 3 . 4 5 6 7 P	Upper Octal	Octal	Decimal	Hex	Character
.....	0000	000	0	00	ctrl @ NUL
....	0004	001	1	01	ctrl A SOH
... .	0010	002	2	02	ctrl B STX
.. . .	0014	003	3	03	ctrl C ETX
. . . .	0020	004	4	04	ctrl D EOT
. . . .	0024	005	5	05	ctrl E ENQ
. . . .	0030	006	6	06	ctrl F ACK
. . . .	0034	007	7	07	ctrl G BEL
. . . .	0040	010	8	08	ctrl H BS
. . . .	0044	011	9	09	ctrl I HT
. . . .	0050	012	10	0A	ctrl J LF
. . . .	0054	013	11	0B	ctrl K VT
. . . .	0060	014	12	0C	ctrl L FF
. . . .	0064	015	13	0D	ctrl M CR
. . . .	0070	016	14	0E	ctrl N SO
. . . .	0074	017	15	0F	ctrl O SI
. . . .	0100	020	16	10	ctrl P DLE
. . . .	0104	021	17	11	ctrl Q DC1
. . . .	0110	022	18	12	ctrl R DC2
. . . .	0114	023	19	13	ctrl S DC3
. . . .	0120	024	20	14	ctrl T DC4
. . . .	0124	025	21	15	ctrl U NAK
. . . .	0130	026	22	16	ctrl V SYN
. . . .	0134	027	23	17	ctrl W ETB
. . . .	0140	030	24	18	ctrl X CAN
. . . .	0144	031	25	19	ctrl Y EM
. . . .	0150	032	26	1A	ctrl Z SUB
. . . .	0154	033	27	1B	ctrl [ESC
. . . .	0160	034	28	1C	ctrl \ FS
. . . .	0164	035	29	1D	ctrl] GS
. . . .	0170	036	30	1E	ctrl ^ RS
. . . .	0174	037	31	1F	ctrl _ US
. . . .	0200	040	32	20	Space
. . . .	0204	041	33	21	!
. . . .	0210	042	34	22	"
. . . .	0214	043	35	23	#
. . . .	0220	044	36	24	\$
. . . .	0224	045	37	25	%
. . . .	0230	046	38	26	&
. . . .	0234	047	39	27	'
. . . .	0240	050	40	28	(
. . . .	0244	051	41	29)
. . . .	0250	052	42	2A	*
. . . .	0254	053	43	2B	+
. . . .	0260	054	44	2C	,
. . . .	0264	055	45	2D	-
. . . .	0270	056	46	2E	.
. . . .	0274	057	47	2F	/
. . . .	0300	060	48	30	0
. . . .	0304	061	49	31	1
. . . .	0310	062	50	32	2
. . . .	0314	063	51	33	3
. . . .	0320	064	52	34	4
. . . .	0324	065	53	35	5
. . . .	0330	066	54	36	6
. . . .	0334	067	55	37	7
. . . .	0340	070	56	38	8
. . . .	0344	071	57	39	9
. . . .	0350	072	58	3A	:
. . . .	0354	073	59	3B	;
. . . .	0360	074	60	3C	<
. . . .	0364	075	61	3D	=
. . . .	0370	076	62	3E	>
. . . .	0374	077	63	3F	?

APPENDIX 2
TABLE OF ASCII CODES (Cont'd) (Zero Parity)

Paper tape 1 2 3 . 4 5 6 7 P	Upper Octal	Octal	Decimal	Hex	Character
.	0400	100	64	40	@
.	0404	101	65	41	A
.	0410	102	66	42	B
.	0414	103	67	43	C
.	0420	104	68	44	D
.	0424	105	69	45	E
.	0430	106	70	46	F
.	0434	107	71	47	G
.	0440	110	72	48	H
.	0444	111	73	49	I
.	0450	112	74	4A	J
.	0454	113	75	4B	K
.	0460	114	76	4C	L
.	0464	115	77	4D	M
.	0470	116	78	4E	N
.	0474	117	79	4F	O
.	0500	120	80	50	P
.	0504	121	81	51	Q
.	0510	122	82	52	R
.	0514	123	83	53	S
.	0520	124	84	54	T
.	0524	125	85	55	U
.	0530	126	86	56	V
.	0534	127	87	57	W
.	0540	130	88	58	X
.	0544	131	89	59	Y
.	0550	132	90	5A	Z
.	0554	133	91	5B	[shift K
.	0560	134	92	5C	\ shift L
.	0564	135	93	5D] shift M
.	0570	136	94	5E	^ shift N
.	0574	137	95	5F	_ shift O
.	0600	140	96	60	`
.	0604	141	97	61	a
.	0610	142	98	62	b
.	0614	143	99	63	c
.	0620	144	100	64	d
.	0624	145	101	65	e
.	0630	146	102	66	f
.	0634	147	103	67	g
.	0640	150	104	68	h
.	0644	151	105	69	i
.	0650	152	106	6A	j
.	0654	153	107	6B	k
.	0660	154	108	6C	l
.	0664	155	109	6D	m
.	0670	156	110	6E	n
.	0674	157	111	6F	o
.	0700	160	112	70	p
.	0704	161	113	71	q
.	0710	162	114	72	r
.	0714	163	115	73	s
.	0720	164	116	74	t
.	0724	165	117	75	u
.	0730	166	118	76	v
.	0734	167	119	77	w
.	0740	170	120	78	x
.	0744	171	121	79	y
.	0750	172	122	7A	z
.	0754	173	123	7B	{
.	0760	174	124	7C	
.	0764	175	125	7D	}
.	0770	176	126	7E	~ Alt Mode Prefix
.	0774	177	127	7F	DEL Rubout

APPENDIX 3

ASSEMBLER LISTING

ADDRESS	ASSEMBLED CODE	ERROR FLAG	LINE NO.	LABEL	OPERATION	OPERAND	COMMENT
			0000	*			*SEARCH TABLE FOR MATCH TO STRING
			0001				*EACH TABLE ENTRY IS FOLLOWED BY A TWO-BYTE DISPATCH ADDRESS.
			0002				*TABLE MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE ENTRY AND IS TERMINATED BY A
			0003				*ZERO BYTE.
			0004				*ON ENTRY: HL POINTS TO STRING
			0005				DE POINTS TO TABLE
			0006				C IS NUMBER OF CHARACTERS IN TABLE ENTRIES
			0007				*ON RETURN: ZERO FLAG SET IF NO MATCH, ELSE DE POINTS TO
			0008				DISPATCH ADDRESS
			0009				
			0010				
0100	E5		0011	TSRCH	PUSH	H	SAVE STRING ADDRESS
0101	41		0012		MOV	B,C	INITIALIZE CHARACTER COUNT
0102	1A		0013	TS1	LDAX	D	COMPARE CHARACTERS
0103	BE		0014		CMP	M	
0104	C2 11 01		0015		JNZ	TS3	
0107	23		0016		INX	H	CHARACTERS MATCH, GO ON TO NEXT
0108	13		0017		INX	D	
0109	05		0018		DCR	B	
010A	C2 02 01		0019		JNZ	TS1	
010D	F6 01		0020		ORI	1	MATCHING ENTRY FOUND
010F	E1		0021	TS2	POP	H	
0110	C9		0022		RET		
0111	B7		0023	TS3	ORA	A	TEST FOR END OF TABLE
0112	CA 0F 01		0024		JZ	TS2	
0115	13		0025	TS4	INX	D	SKIP TO NEXT ENTRY
0116	05		0026		DCR	B	
0117	C2 15 01		0027		JNZ	TS4	
011A	13		0028		INX	D	
011B	13		0029		INX	D	
011C	E1		0030		POP	H	
011D	C3 00 01		0031		JMP	TSRCH	
			0032	*			
			0033				*EXAMPLE OF TSRCH USE:
			0034	*			
			0035				*(ASSUME HL POINTS TO A FOUR-CHARACTER COMMAND STRING)
0120	11 35 01		0036		LXI	D,CTABL	DE POINTS TO COMMAND TABLE
0123	0E 04		0037		MVI	C,4	TABLE ENTRIES ARE FOUR CHARACTERS LONG
0125	CD 00 01		0038		CALL	TSRCH	
0128	CA 00 00	U	0039		JZ		ERROR COMMAND NOT IN TABLE
012B	EB		0040		XCHG	.	SET UP STACK FOR RETURN TO MAIN ROUTINE
012C	11 00 00	U	0041		LXI	D,COMMAND	
012F	D5		0042		PUSH	D	
0130	7E		0043		MOV	A,M	DISPATCH TO APPROPRIATE COMMAND ROUTINE
0131	23		0044		INX	H	
0132	66		0045		MOV	H,M	
0133	6F		0046		MOV	L,A	
0134	E9		0047		PCHL		
			0048	*			
			0049				*COMMAND TABLE
			0050	*			
0135	43 4F 4D 31		0051	CTABL	ASC	'COM1'	FIRST ENTRY
0139	00 00	U	0052		DW	SUB1	ADDRESS OF SUB1
013B	43 4F 4D 32		0053		ASC	'COM2'	SECOND ENTRY
013F	00 00	U	0054		DW	SUB2	ADDRESS OF SUB2
0141	00		0055		DB	0	END OF TABLE MARK

ASSEMBLER LISTING (Cont'd)

SYMBOL TABLE LISTING

Label	Addr.	Label	Addr.	Label	Addr.	Label	Addr.
CTABL	0135	TS1	0102	TS2	010F	TS3	0111
TS4	0115	TSRCH	0100				

CROSS REFERENCE LISTING

(Printed in place of Symbol Table Listing if X option is specified.)

Label	Addr.	References
CTABL	0135	0092
TS1	0102	0131
TS2	010F	0192
TS3	0111	0239
TS4	0115	0307
TSRCH	0100	0367 0374

PACK AND UNPAC

In Section 5.2.7 of the SOLOS/CUTER User's Manual, there is a discussion of the two types of files generated and utilized by SOLOS/CUTER. It is important to remember that any given item of software may be able to handle only one of these file structures, and that a program that handles multiple-block files may require that the blocks be of a particular size or in a particular range of sizes. The PACK and UNPAC programs recorded on the same cassette as the software you have purchased convert files of either type into the opposite type; PACK converts a multiple-block file to single-block format, and UNPAC converts a single-block file to multiple-block format.

The following chart is a summary of the file requirements of cassette software. SB stands for single-block, and MB stands for multiple-block. If MB is followed by a slash and a number, that number indicates the block size required or generated by the program.

ITEM	INPUT FILE	OUTPUT FILE

ALS-8*	SB	SB
ASSM	MB/ less than or equal to 1024	No text output file
Ext. BASIC	MB/ 256	MB/ 256
EDIT	MB/ 256 to 1024	MB/ 256 to 1024
SOFTWARE #1	SB	SB

* uses SOLOS/CUTER SAVE and GET commands

If you want to use the output file from one of these programs as the input file for another, and if the file does not have the structure required by the second program, you will need to use PACK or UNPAC to create a file of the correct structure. (Actually, the original file will not be altered; each of these programs reads a file from tape unit 1 and RECORDS A DIFFERENTLY FORMATTED VERSION of the same file on tape unit 2.)

PACK and UNPAC can be used to convert a multiple-block file having one block size into a multiple-block file with another block size. First PACK the file, and then UNPAC it, specifying the block size that you want. (If you have the EDIT program, you will probably find it more convenient to use the n; command than to execute PACK, then UNPAC, for this purpose.)

PACK and UNPAC have only one error message:

Read error - Bad tape file.

This message is displayed during the reading of a file from unit 1; it usually indicates that the file was recorded incorrectly, or that a MODE SElect or CTRL-@ was entered from the keyboard while the tape was being read.

PACK

PACK reads a multiple-block text file from tape unit 1 and writes it out as a single-block file on tape unit 2. When you execute PACK, either by typing XEQ PACK<CR> or the sequence GET PACK<CR> followed by EX 0<CR>, the screen will display:

Multi- to single- block converter

Enter name of multi-block file:

Type the name of the multiple-block file that you want to PACK. PACK will also give this name to the single-block file that it creates. A file name should contain one to five characters, no blanks or slashes; when you have typed the whole name, hit the carriage return key. If you make a typing error BEFORE YOU HIT THE RETURN KEY, use DElete to erase the last character typed. If you hit the return and then discover a typing error in the file name, you can use the ESCape key to restart the series of questions.

Should output file be in ALS-8 format? (Y/N):

If the file is intended for use in the ALS-8 system, answer Y; otherwise, answer N. In ALS-8 format each line of a file begins with a count of the number of bytes in that line. Note that the input file for PACK will never be in ALS-8 format, because ALS-8 format is not used for multiple-block files.

Set up tapes. (Hit return when ready)

Insert the tape containing the multiple-block file in tape unit 1, and put the recorder in PLAY mode. Insert the tape that will contain the single-block file in tape unit 2, and put that recorder in RECORD mode. When you hit the return key, the program will begin reading from tape unit 1 and writing to tape unit 2.

At any time before you hit this final carriage return, you can restart the question-answer section of PACK by hitting the ESCape key. Once you have given the carriage return, however, the only way to interrupt the activity of the program is to use MODE SELECT or CTRL-@ to abort it and return to SOLOS/CUTER. If you abort the program and want to execute it again, you will have to reload it from cassette.

UNPAC

UNPAC reads a single-block text file from tape unit 1 and writes it out as a multiple-block file on tape unit 2. When you execute UNPAC by typing either XEQ UNPAC<CR> or the sequence GET UNPAC<CR> followed by EX 0, the screen will display:

Single- to multi- block converter

Enter name of single-block file:

Enter the name of the file that you want to UNPAC. The same name will be given to the multiple-block output file. The file name specifications are the same as those for PACK, and the DElete and ESCape keys serve the same purpose as in PACK (see above).

Is input file in ALS-8 format? (Y/N):

If the input file is in ALS-8 format, answer Y; otherwise, answer N. The output file will not be in ALS-8 format. (The ALS-8 byte counts will be stripped from the input file before it is written out to the output file.)

Enter desired block size for output file:

Enter the block size (in number of bytes per block) as a decimal number, and then type a carriage return.

Set up tapes. (Hit return when ready)

See the explanation under PACK, above. The ESCape and MODE keys function as they do with PACK; like PACK, UNPAC must be reloaded from cassette in order to be executed after MODE SELECT or Control-@ has been used.

ABOUT CASSETTE RECORDERS AND CASSETTE FILES

Successful and reliable results with cassette recorders and cassette files require a good deal of care. You need to use consistent and careful methods, and you need to know what to expect, when you try to read a manufacturer's tape, or your own. The following methods are recommended:

- 1) Use only a recorder recommended for digital usage. For use with the Processor Technology Sol or CUTS, the Panasonic RC-413AS or Realistic CTR-21 is recommended.
- 2) Keep the recorder at least a foot away from equipment containing power transformers or other equipment which might generate magnetic fields, picked up by the recorder as hum.
- 3) Keep the tape heads cleaned and demagnetized in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 4) Use high quality brand-name tape, preferably low noise, high output tape. Poor tape can give poor results, and rapidly wear down a recorder's tape heads.
- 5) Bulk erase tapes before reusing. It can be hard to find the file you want in a jumble of old file pieces. Bulk erasing also decreases the noise level of the tape.
- 6) Keep cassettes in their protective plastic covers, in a cool place, when not in use. Cassettes are vulnerable to dirt, high temperature, liquids, and physical abuse.
- 7) Experimentally determine the most reliable settings for volume and tone controls, and use these settings only.
- 8) On some cassette recorders, the microphone can be live while recording through the AUX input. Deactivate the mike in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In some cases this can be done by inserting a dummy plug into the microphone jack.
- 9) If you record more than one file on a side, SAVE an empty file, named "END" for example, after the last file of interest. Once you read its name, you will know not to search beyond it for files you are seeking. One way to avoid having to search for files is to record only one file per cassette, at the beginning of the tape, if you can afford the extra cassettes.

10) Do not record on the first or last minute of tape on a side. The tape at the ends gets the most physical abuse. Do not be impatient when trying to read the first file on a tape. You, or the manufacturer of a pre-recorded program, may have recorded a lot of empty tape at the beginning.

11) Record a file more than once, before it leaves memory. This redundancy can protect you from bad tape, equipment malfunction, and accidental erasure.

12) Most cassette recorders have a feature that allows you to protect a cassette from accidental erasure. On the edge of the cassette opposite the exposed tape are two small cavities covered by plastic tabs, one at each end of the cassette. If one of the tabs is broken out, then one side of the cassette is "write protected." An interlock in the recorder will not allow you to press the record button. A piece of tape over the cavity will remove this protection.

13) Use the tape counter to keep track of the position of files on the cassette. Always rewind the cassette and set the counter to zero when first putting a cassette into the recorder. Time the first 30 seconds and note the reading of the counter. Always begin recording after this count on all cassettes. Record the beginning and ending count of each file for later reference. Before recording a new file after other files, advance a few counts beyond the end of the last file to insure that it will not be written over.

14) The SOLOS/CUTER command CATALOG can be used to generate a list of all files on a cassette. In SOLOS/CUTER, type CAT <CR>, rewind to the beginning of the tape, and press PLAY on the recorder. As the header of each file is read, information will be displayed on the screen. If you have recorded the empty file called END, as suggested, you will know when to search no further. If you write down the catalog information along with the tape counter readings and a brief description of the file, you will be able to locate any file quickly.

15) Before beginning work after any modification to the system, test by SAVEing and GETting a short test program. This could prevent the loss of much work.

In addition to using the above procedures methodically, you need to know the various ways in which programs may be recorded on tapes you have purchased:

1) If you cannot read a file consistently, and suspect the tape itself, do not despair. The same file may have been recorded elsewhere on the tape. Processor Technology often records a second version, later on the same side of the tape. When you first get a tape, CATALOG it with SOLOS or CUTER so you will know exactly what it contains. Write down the tape counter readings at the same time.

2) An empty file named END is sometimes placed at the end of the recorded portion of a tape. When SOLOS CATALOGs a file, the file header information is displayed as soon as the beginning part of the file passes the tape head, but nothing is displayed when the end of the program passes by. If another filename such as END is displayed, you know you have just passed the end of the previous file.

3) Some of the programs supplied by Processor Technology contain a checksum test within their code, in addition to the checksum test which SOLOS performs. When a program containing this test is first executed after loading, the checksum test reads all of the program in memory, and calculates a checksum number which is compared with a correct value. If the numbers match, the program in memory is correct. Nothing is displayed when the numbers match, but if they do not match, the message CHECKSUM TEST FAILED, or a similar message, is displayed. The message may be followed by two numbers, representing the correct and incorrect checksum numbers.

Even though the checksum test was failed, it may be possible to enter the program anyway by typing the carriage return key. The bad data may not even be apparent, if it is in a portion of the program you do not use. It is best, however, to try to find and correct the problem causing the error so the checksum test is passed. The error can be caused by the cassette interface circuitry, bad memory locations, bad tape, a faulty recording, improper alignment or settings on the cassette recorder, or other equipment problems.

