

Silver

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Digital Development Memo #295

To: Internal Program Users of Keyboard and Display Program
From: Alan Green
Subject: Proper Use of Flash by Internal Programs
Date: January 25, 1965

It has recently come to my attention that some confusion exists about when an internal program using the Keyboard and Display Program may turn on the flash when using the Please Perform verb, Please Mark verb, or internally generated display with flash.

The proper place is after the return from NVSUB (or NVSUBWAIT), but before going to ENDIDLE. It is incorrect to go to FLASHON after the GRABDSP, but before the call to NVSUB. Before passing the NVSUB test, no program has permission to do anything to the DSKY. It is possible that the operator is using the DSKY, and until he releases it, it is obviously improper for any program to turn on the flash in anticipation of finding NVSUB available, which in fact may not be the case.

Operationally, the operator would see the flash suddenly come on in the midst of his manipulation of the DSKY when he is supposed to have it locked out to internal users.

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