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SOFTKEYS (tm) Instructions

Purpose:

SOFTKEYS (tm) provides the user with ten user definable keys in order to minimize the amount of typing required to program or to respond to input or accept requests from the computer.

Equipment Required:

- Extended Basic
- 32K Memory Expansion
- Disk Drive

General Information:

When SOFTKEYS (tm) is loaded and enabled, it is a powerful programming tool that can reduce program entry time significantly. SOFTKEYS (tm) can also be used in the run and immediate mode to enter commonly used inputs (ie. Device and Filenames) and commonly used commands. SOFTKEYS (tm) is a 100% Assembly Language program.

It is transparent to the Extended Basic programmer.

All keys (CTRL 0-9)

can be separately defined or all ten can be defined and saved in a disk file that can be loaded by a single command. This makes SOFTKEYS (tm) a very powerful and flexible tool for programming and for use in programs.

To Load SOFTKEYS (tm) into memory:

- Press ALPHA LOCK down.
- Plug in the Extended Basic module.
- Turn on all power switches, console switch last.
- Insert SOFTKEYS (tm) disk into drive 1.
- From Master Title screen, press any key.
- From Master Menu: Select 2 Extended Basic.
- SOFTKEYS (tm) will automatically be loaded.

SOFTKEYS can also be loaded manually from the command mode of Extended Basic:

- Insert SOFTKEYS disk into disk 1.
- RUN "DSK1.LOAD"

How to use SOFTKEYS (tm).

When SOFTKEYS (tm) is loaded, the keys are loaded to their default values. To use the keys, simply press the CTRL key and the desired key (0-9) simultaneously and then release them. The value of the key pressed will appear on the screen at the present location of the cursor, and the cursor will then reappear at the character following the value that just appeared on the screen.

The default values for the SOFTKEYS are as follows:

```
CTRL 0 = RUN
CTRL 1 = CALL CLEAR
CTRL 2 = LIST
CTRL 3 = DISPLAY AT(
CTRL 4 = ACCEPT AT(
CTRL 5 = CALL SPRITE(#
CTRL 6 = CALL SOUND(
CTRL 7 = CALL COLOR(
CTRL 8 = OLD DSK
CTRL 9 = SAVE DSK
```

To ENABLE the keys.

```
CALL LINK("KEYON")
(This is done in the autoload program for you.)
```

To DISABLE the keys.

```
CALL LINK("KEYOFF")
```

To redefine a key.

```
CALL LINK("DEFKEY",X,A$)
Where X is the value (0-9) of the key to be redefined.
Where A$ can be any string-variable or expression of up to 140
characters. Use two quote marks where you want one quote mark
to appear: e.g. A$="LIST ""PIO"""
```

```
Example: CALL LINK("DEFKEY",6,"CALL SCREEN(8)")
This command will define key 6 = CALL SCREEN(8)
```

To define a set of keys and save to a disk file:

```
Insert SOFTKEYS (tm) disk into drive 1.
RUN "DSK1.DEFINEKEYS"
Follow on screen instructions for this program and enter a new
value for each key. If you do not wish to alter the present value
press enter and the program will proceed to the next key without
altering the key. The current values are saved to disk when you
respond to the prompt: 'SAVE CURRENT KEY VALUES TO DISK?' with a
'Y'. The current definitions are retained if you wish to start
the program over.
```

To load a set of predefined keys from a disk file:

```
CALL LINK("GETKEY","FILENAME")
```

This command will load a set of previously defined set of softkeys from the File specified by the FILENAME, e.g. "DSK1.AA"

This command available in the immediate mode, whenever the keys are enabled by pressing the FCTN and CTRL keys simultaneously. 'CALL LINK("GETKEY","DSK' will appear on the present line of the command input line. Complete the line by entering the rest of the FILENAME and the right parenthesis and press enter.

Each of the above instructions (except for defining complete sets of keys) can be used within an Extended Basic program.

The SOFTKEYS can be used in an Extended basic program for common responses to input and accept requests.