Inter-Office Memorandum

To

Bob Ayers, Ed Satterthwaite,

Smokey Wallace, John Wick,

Richard Johnsson

From

Barbara Koalkin

Date

October 17, 1978

Location

Palo Alto

Subject

Proposal for Debugger Interface

Organization

SDD/SD

XEROX SDD ARCHIVES

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Attached is a copy of the draft of the proposal for a new user interface for the Mesa 5.0 debugger. This proposal has been drawn together from suggestions from the Mesa task list, Greg Shaw's suggestion list (based on the experience of ETM), the change requests classified as debugger wishes, experiments with the Tools Environment and the SmallTalk Browser, and discussion with experienced Mesa users. It consists of ideas of how we can change the present interface in order to make better use of windows/selections/menus and sample pictures of what such an interface might look like. Please note however, that this proposal is by no means the final plan. You will notice comments and questions in small print.

Please read through this draft and bring your comments to the first meeting of the Debugger Working Group on Wednesday, 18 October at 2 p.m. in the front conference room. The plan is as follows:

- * Discuss the attached proposal at the first meeting
- * Incorporate the suggestions of the meeting into the proposal and circulate it among other interested users (Juniper group, User Prototype group)
- * Meet again (if necessary) to work out the rough edges in the design and discuss implementation issues
- * Begin implementation
- * Meet again (if necessary) to work out unexpected problems and further design decisions after initial implementation