

ET'S FACE IT — like a lot of you out there, I'm a computer freak. Sure, I put good promotional copy on my book jackets — "Avocations are sailing, mathematical games, ham radio, Eastern European folk dancing, alligator wrestling, and driving Grand Prix race cars" — but, in fact, you'll see me in the wee hours hacking away on the Color Computer and other equipment. Lately, though, things have gotten somewhat boring. Even sophisticated Radio Shack equipment gets stale.

It was one of those boring mornings not long ago, when I forsook the computer room for brush-up steps on a Polish mazurka. I had just brought out my peasant costume when I happened to glance at the paper. "New for '83," the ad said. The Radio Shack MC-10 computer system!

Several hours later I was the apprehensive owner of an MC-10. Apprehensive, primarily because of its size. Shades of the Timex/Sinclair TS1000! Can this computer really do anything?

Inside the MC-10

An hour later I had hooked up the system, run some short benchmarks, and gotten my first impressions — the Basic isn't bad — not as powerful as the Color Computer, but not bad. The graphics were not too impressive — 64 by 32 elements in color is a far cry from the Color

by William Barden, Jr.

Computer. And no assembly language hooks such as USR and VARPTR!

Eight hours later I had revised my impressions. Shards of tin lay around me—I had cut off the shielding over the printed circuit board inside the MC-10. The wastebasket was stuffed with partial sketches and pieces of notepad paper. Bleary-eyed, I summarized what I had found:

• Item: The MC-10 uses a 6803 microprocessor. It's better than the older 6800, although not as powerful as the Color Computer's 6809. Believe it or not, it has a hardware multiply instruction and some other goodies.

• Item: The 8K ROM Basic is mounted on a socket. The socket has enough pins that a larger ROM can be installed!

• Item: The graphics are controlled by a 6847 Video Display Generator chip, the same chip that's in the Color Computer! A high-resolution 256 by 192 color graphics is possible with this chip, but not implemented in the Basic.

• Item: There are more Basic commands in the MC-10 than the manual describes. Among the existing commands are USR for machine-language linkage, EXEC for transferring control to machine-language subroutines, CLOADM for loading ma-

chine-language programs, and VARPTR for finding the location of variables.

• Item: The cassette recording technique appeared to be compatible with that used on the Color Computer!

Color Computer and MC-10 Cassette Compatibility

The last item interested me the most. Would it be possible to transfer programs from the MC-10 to the Color Computer and vice versa? It seemed plausible.

The first step was to try some tapes. I cut an MC-10 tape and loaded it into the Color Computer. There it was! It loaded fine. The Basic line numbers were correct, but the Basic commands were not as expected. (Why? We'll get to that in a second...) Going the other way around, cassette files from the Color Computer loaded into the MC-10. Again the line numbers and numbers of lines were all right, but the Basic commands were different.

Up to this point I had verified that the recording formats of the MC-10 and Color Computer were the same. Here's how each works: The Color Computer uses a digital-to-analog converter to produce a sine wave output of either 1200 or 2400 cycles per second (hertz), as shown in Figure 1. The MC-10 doesn't

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use a "dac," but its output is a square wave of the same frequency. As a matter of fact, the Model III/IV in high-speed cassette mode also uses the same recording to a higher the formats were also the same the same header data for the file name, and so forth.

Now I knew I could eventually transfer files between the MC-10 and the Color Computer, using the cassette recorder as an intermediary device. This scheme is not too elegant compared to transferring data over RS-232C lines, but it would certainly be handy to use the editing, renumbering, and other features of the Color Computer on MC-10 Basic programs. And, as stoic as my constitution is, my cramped fingers could benefit from the larger keyboard of the Color Computer.

Tokenism

For those of you who are uninitiated into the mysteries of Microsoft Basic architecture, let me explain how I knew I could eventually get that supercilious Color Computer talking to his baby brother...

All Microsoft Basics are similar. Microsoft presumably cranks them out on an assembly-line basis in Bellevue on a Digital Equipment VAX system using a combination of automatic and manual methods. It's efficient to use the same structure, and certainly cost effective as far as development time. The structure of Microsoft Basic program lines is shown in Figure 2.

All Basic program lines are stored in a contiguous area in memory. This really means that the second line follows the first immediately, the third follows the second, and so forth. Although there could be gaps between the lines, there usually aren't. The first byte of the next line starts one byte after the last byte of the previous line.

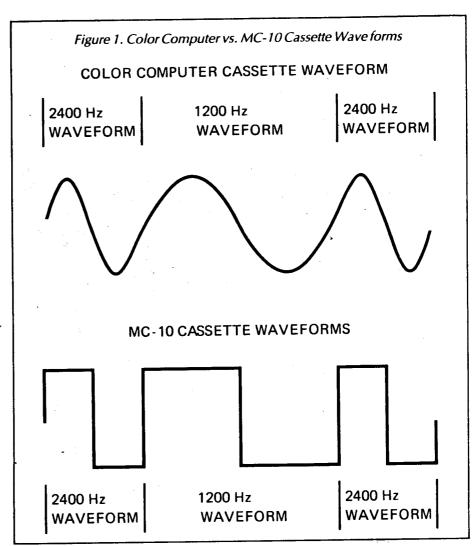
Each Basic line has three parts. The first part is a header. This header consists of four bytes. The first two bytes are the starting address of the *next* line in binary. The last line of the program has a next line pointer of 0, to signify the end of the program. The next two bytes are the line number in binary.

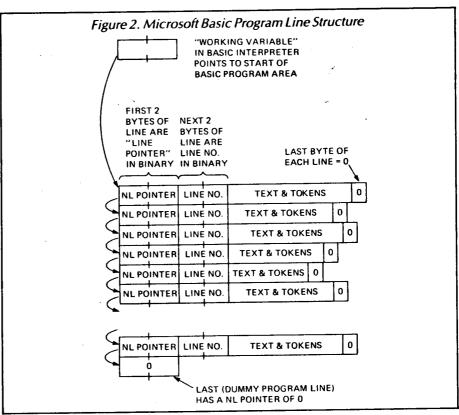
The third part of the line is a terminating 0 byte. It defines the end of the line.

The second part of the line is the text of the line itself. For example, if you have the line:

100 FOR I= 1 TO 1000

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the "FOR I=1 TO 1000" would be in the second, or central, part of the line.

If you were a software house designing Basic interpreters, how could you make memory storage more efficient? One way is by "compressing" data. If you had text that frequently used 128 words, ranging from "aardvark" to "zebra," you might consider assigning a special code to each of the 128 words, say 128 through 255. That way, the eight letters of aardvark could be compressed into a single byte of, say, 153. You would have saved seven characters (seven bytes) each time "aardvark" was used.

So it is with Basic commands. There are only so many Basic commands, and each is assigned a special code, called a "token." In the Color Computer, for example, the token for the long Basic command RESTORE is a code of 143, saving six characters. or bytes.

If you look at a Basic program in memory, you'll find that each Basic command uses a token to save memory storage. You'll see the normal text interspersed with Basic tokens, as shown in Figure 3.

One important point about the tokens, by the way: tokens are almost always values in the range of 128 through 255. The reason for this is that values in the range of 0 through 127 represent ASCII characters — normal printable or displayable characters of 0-9, A-Z, a-z, and special characters such as # or %.

The main problem, then, is to decode those Basic tokens in both the Color Computer and MC-10 so we can translate from one to another.

Disassembling Basic

How do you compile a list of tokens on a Microsoft Basic computer? One obvious way is to put in all the possible combinations of Basic commands, find the area in RAM where the Basic program is stored, and then display the tokenized version of the line, compiling a list of Basic tokens by manual methods. For example, suppose you started with a NEW command and then entered the Basic lines:

100 REM \$#
110 FOR I = 0 TO 65535
120 A\$ = CHR\$(PEEK(I) + CHR\$(PEEK(I + 1))
130 IF A\$ = "\$#" THEN PRINT [
140 NFXT |

This short Basic routine searches all the memory space, ROM and RAM, for the occurrence of the two unique characters \$#. Every time that particular combination is encountered, the address at which

Figure 3. Normal Text Interspersed with Basic Tokens PEEK (LINE LINE NO. 100 AT 17246 175 188 49 67 94 100 73 1 4 4 8 2 5 PEEK (TOKEN TOKEN LINE **END** 41 54 188 40 49 56 DECIMAL 53 167 **VALUE** I = PEEK (147) * 256 + PEEK (148)

they are found will be printed out. It's a way of locating the start of the Basic program area.

This program might produce two or three locations at which this particular character string was found, but you could then further define the area by trying additional unique characters. Knowing where the character string was, you can work back one location to find the start of the first Basic line, the REM token, which you could define by a PEEK. From that point it's easy to substitute other Basic commands and compile a list.

This manual method is pretty tedious. I used a much nicer technique to find the tokens for the MC-10, one that I had used on the Color Computer and other Radio Shack systems before. The day was flying by, but I had to uncover the secrets of the MC-10. I executed this program:

100 FOR I=0 TO 65535 110 A=PEEK(I): IF (A<32) OR (A>127) THEN 130 120 PRINT CHR\$(PEEK(I)); 130 IF I-INT(I/256)*256=0 THEN PRINT I 140 NEXT I

This short piece of code will spew out all ASCII characters in memory on the screen, interspersed with every multiple of 256 memory locations. I ran it and saw a display of characters that looked like this:

FOGOTOGOSUREIDATPR

This represented the Token Table found in every Microsoft Basic. It's generally a sequential listing of all tokens to be found in the computer system, even undocumented tokens! In some cases this

will be one large table. In other cases, such as the Color Computer, there may be two or more segments of the symbol table.

One unique feature of the Token Table: the first or the last character of every Basic keyword is set to an ASCII character plus 128. This is done to delimit or denote the end of each keyword, compacting the table. That's why the delimiting character will not print in the code above.

In the case of the MC-10, the Token Table (in my version) is located at ROM location 57413 (\$E045 where \$ stands for hexadecimal). (This area is also addressable by using addresses 8192 bytes lower in the \$C045 area.) It's one large block of tokens, as shown in Table 1. You'll note that there are several undocumented tokens, such as USR and EXEC, that hold the promise of big plans for the small MC-10.

Table 1 not only shows the MC-10 tokens, but also lists the corresponding Color Computer tokens. Note that some of the Color Computer tokens are two values (two bytes) long. The Color Computer has a lot of tokens, and it was necessary to extend the token representation into two-byte values simply because the range of 128 through 255 couldn't hold them all. In the case of two-byte tokens, the Basic keyword is compressed into a two-byte value, the first of which is a value of 255 (\$FF). The Color Computer tokens start at 43622 (\$AA66) in my system and are shown in tabular form in Table 2, along with the corresponding MC-10 tokens.

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Cross-Referencing Tokens

At this point I had forgotten completely about my folk dancing. Dusk was settling in as I wrote down the token values. Only my allegiance to Radio Shack computer systems kept me going.

The next thing I did was to compile a cross-reference of Basic keywords and the token values for both the MC-10 and the Color Computer. This is shown in Table 3. I was glad I did this, for I detected several problems.

First, there are many Color Computer Basic commands that are not (yet) found on the MC-10. These would have to be detected in any translation program, of course.

There are also certain MC-10 tokens that have to translate into two-byte tokens. This poses certain problems. The proper way of doing this would be to expand the MC-10 program line by one byte to fit in the Color Computer token when going from MC-10 code to Color Computer code, and shrink the Color Computer program line by one byte when going from Color Computer code to MC-10 code. I'll show you how I circumvented this, shortly.

The next problem is one of GOSUBs and GOTOs. In the Color Computer a GOTO is represented by a token of 129 for GO, and a token of 165 for TO. In the MC-10, there is a single token for GOTO, a 129. In the Color Computer a GOSUB is represented by GO and SUB, for two tokens of 129 and 166. In the MC-10, GOSUB is a single token of 130. Here again, the problem is fitting two bytes into a one-byte area and vice versa in the translation.

After a hefty bite of kielbasa, left over from the beginning of the mazurka, I was ready to tackle the conversion. The results of my marathon all-night session are shown in Program Listings 1 and 2. Let's look at the Color Computer version first (Listing 1).

The Data statements in Program Listing 1 represent a duplicate of the data in Table 2. Rather than listing the Color Computer tokens, however, there are two tables, one for one-byte Color Computer tokens, and one for two-byte Color Computer tokens.

The one-byte tokens are stored in a 128-byte array called T1. The first entry in this array corresponds to Color Computer token 128, the next for token 129, and so forth. Each entry holds the corresponding MC-10 token, or a 0 value for "no MC-10 token."

The two-byte tokens are stored in a 128-byte array called T2. The first entry

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Table 1. MC-10 Basic Tokens

TOKEN ! VA	LUE COL	OR 📆	TOKEN	VALUE	COLOR
THAT CONSTRUME C		UTER MILL	and the second		OMPUTER
	VAL	57. IZ7.1 1	- A 100	ur yu	VALUE
FOR 1	28 🔻 🗫 128	4.4	STEP	7 165	169
GOTO 🐍 1	29		OFF	166	170
GOSUB	30	A WILLIAM	i + 17 * .	⊁ 167 °	. 171
REM 1			0.25	168	172
	32 : 133		* * *	169 📆	173
	33 134		6.7	🦻 170 🎺 🎉	174
DATA *** 1. PRINT *** 1	34 2 135	Mark Control	CARET	171	175
ON 4 1	35 45 136	The second second	AND	172 -	176
INPUT 1			OR	了 . 173 🧐	" 177
	37 138		· > · · ·	174	178
	38 1 139	The make mineral	jerri Ar == i		179
NEXT 1.	39 140	Sec. Sec.	* <	176	180
READ 1	40		∌ SGN	177	255,128
LET 1	41 186		INT	- 178	255,129
	42 142		ABS	179	255,130
RESTORE 1			USR	180	255,131
RETURN 1			RND	181	255,132
STOP 5			SQR	182	255,155
POKE 1	46 146		LOG	183	255,153
CONT 1			EXP	184	255,151
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	48 148		SIN	185	255,133
a publication	49 149		COS	186	255,149
	50 150	100000	TAN	187	255,150
	51 151		PEEK	188	255,134
	52	100 PROFESSION TO THE PROFESS	LEN	189	255,135
	53 155		STR\$	190	255,136
LPRINT 1	54	4000	VAL	4 191	255,137
	55 156	75.50	* ASC .	192	255,138
RESET 1	47.9	and the second second	CHR\$	193	255,139
CLS 41	*********	and the second of the second o	LEFT\$	1- 194	255,142
T = 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	58		RIGHT\$	્રેકે 195	255,143
	59 162	(14, 13)	MID\$	196	255,144
SKIPF 1		outinize.	POINT	197 🛨	255,145
TAB(, O DO 1			VARPTR		255,157
	62 n 165			रच्य हर्श्वच ं ः ः ः ः ः ः ः	255,146
	63		MEM 🐟	290	255,147
	64 11 168	الأراحية والماشات الما	45%	IN FLAC	
'''' '				* *	

Table 2. Color Computer Tokens

The state of the s	S.	73	
TOKEN VALUE MC-10	TOKEN !		MC-10 VALUE
FOR 10 128 390 128	RUN **	142	142
GO 100 129 1 10 —	RESTORE	143	143
REM 130 131	RETURN	144	144
131	STOP	145	145
ELSE 132 132	POKE 🤞	146	146
133 % 132	CONT	147	147
DATA 134 133	LIST	148	148
PRINT 135 134	CLEAR	149	149
ON 136 3 135	NEW	150	150
INPUT 137 136	CLOAD	151	151
END 138 137	CSAVE 4	152	152
NEXT 139 138	OPEN	153	_
DIM 140 139	CLOSE	154	_
READ 141 140	LLIST	155	153
		Please turn t	σp. 58

TOKEN	VALUE	MC-10 VALUE	TOKEN VALUE	MC-10 VALUE	TOKEN	VALUE	MC-10 VALUE
SET	156	. 155	DEF 🔭 185		LEN 🖏	255,135	
RESET	157 🖫	ំ 156	LET 2 186	141	STR\$ 1000	255,136	
CLS	158 🕂	157	LINE 🐼 🐪 🤧 187	J. J	VAL 🥬	(\$255,137	
MOTOR	<i>ै</i> 159		PCLS 👫 188	7.7-17.	ASC	255,138	
SOUND	160	158	े ् PSET 🤏 🙀 189	**************************************	CHR\$	255,139	
AUDIO	161		PRESET 190		EOF	255,140	
EXEC	162	. 159	SCREEN 191	3 .3- ↑ '*.*	JOYSTK 🕺	255,141	
SKIPF	· 163	#a₋ 160	PCLEAR 1 192		LEFT\$	255,142	
TAB(₫ 164	ু 161	COLOR 🥞 193		RIGHT\$	255,143	
TO ·	165	162	CIRCLE 4 194	is a marine in the second	MID\$		
SUB	166 *		PAINT 195		POINT	255,145	
THEN	🥯 🏄 167 🐪	163	- GET 👬 🛂 196	$\mathcal{M}_{ij} = \mathcal{M}_{ij}$	🔙 🕖 INKEY\$ 🎉	्रे 255,146	
NOT	168 🕺	164	PUT 197		MEM	255,147	
STEP	169	3 €165`	DRAW 🖟 📜 198	·	ATN 📜	255,148	
OFF.	. 170 s	- i. 166	PCOPY 💢 199		🧱 COS 🧷	255,149	
+ 3.3	171 🐮	્રેં હું 167	PMODE 👺 200	**	TAN	255,150	
_ * * * ·	× 172	ি∵ 168	PLAY 201		EXP 🥕	្ល 255,151	
*	173	ું કે 169	DLOAD 📜 202		்சு் FIX 💢 🦠	255,152	
1	174	🧳 🤉 170 🕝	RENUM 🞉 203 -		္ LOG 🎉 🦠	255,153	183
CARET	175	171	FN 204	852 - 100 Feb. 1	🕍 POS 🐩 🖫	255,154	
AND	176	172	USING 205		ું SQR ૈંં ે	255,155	182
OR	177	173	* * * * * * *	* * * * * * *	HEX\$	255,156	
> 4.4%	178	174		128 🖟 177 🕍 💥 🖈	VARPTR	255,157	
	179	175	் 🛴 े INT 🥍 🐔 े 255,	129 - 178 📜 🎏 🛴	ीं INSTR 🚕	255,158	
< **	180 🖟	176		130 🖟 179 🍂 🦠 🦠	TIMER	255,159	
DEL 🕀	181	A	🐪 USR 🖟 255,	131 🖟 180 🔆 🛴 🛴 📜	PPOINT	255,160	
EDIT	ં કે 182 🕻	*:	RND 2 255,	132 🖔 181 🚞 🚞	STRING\$	255,161	
TRON	ે 183 ે	77-		133 🤾 185 🦄 🛒 🛴 💮		is a spring	
TROFF	184	9 M	PEEK 255,	134 * 188	***	1 + 3 M	



in this array corresponds to Color Computer token 255, 128, the next for 255, 129, and so forth. Each entry holds the corresponding MC-10 token, or a zero value for no MC-10 token.

Assume that the conversion program is at lines 1 to 99 and that the Color Computer program to be converted to MC-10 format is somewhere above in Lines 100 through 59999. The first action is to move the Data values into the two arrays, T1 and T2.

Now the starting address of the Basic program area is put into variable PL. PL always points to the next byte of the program area lines to be processed. The starting address of the Basic program area can be found in RAM location &H19 (\$19 or decimal 25). Variable NL is set equal to PL. NL holds the next line pointer value from the current Basic program line.

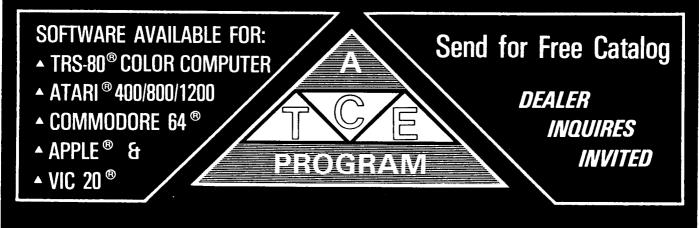
The Process One Line subroutine processes one line of the Basic program. For each line, these actions occur:

- The next line pointer value is read from the first two bytes of the line and put into variable NL.
- The line number of the line is read from the next two bytes of the line and put into variable LN.

Please turn page

		Reference Listing,	
	Color Computer	and MC-10 Token	'S
TOKEN COLO	OR MC-10	TOKEN A	COLOR MC-10
COMPL	JTER 🖈 🔭		OMPUTER
152" SWA 131	bush-		~ 140 and a 139
171	167	DLOAD 🦩	202
172		DRAW	198 🔭 — 🦬
		igna 🧖 EDIT 🔧 🦹	182 📆 — 🕉
174 X 174	A STATE OF THE STA	ELSE	
A STATE OF THE STA	171	END 4	P (42)
3		EOF 45	255,140 ₀₁ — 🔏
> 178		EXEC	
100 P	130 7 179		255,151 184
AND 176	7-45 - 4 C -	FN FN	255,152 — 204 —
	,138 1 192 1	FOR a T	128 2 128
* ATN 1255		GET	196 —
L AUDIO 161		GO *	129
* CHR\$ *2*255		GOSUB	— ? · · · · 130 '
CIRCLE 194	## - T	GOTO	129
CLEAR 149	149	HEX\$	255,1 56 —
CLOAD151	151	IF Z	133 🐃 132
CLOSE 154		INKEY\$	255,146 199
- : Z.J	157 中	- INPUT	137 136
COLOR 193	54 C 57 E 6 E	instr	255,158 —
CONT	47 EME 177 30 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	INT	255,129 178
CSAVE CON 153		JOYSTK	255,141. —
CSAVE 152 DATA 134	The second secon	LEFT\$	255,142 194
DATA 1134	Company of the control of the contro	LEN LET	255,135 189 186 141
DEL 181		W Jan H. Link	Please turn the page
·····			

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- If the next line pointer is 0, the last program line has been processed.
- If the line number of the current line is under 100, a line of the conversion routine itself is being processed and no conversion is done.
- The next byte of the line is tested.
- If this byte is a zero, the end of the line has been reached and the subroutine returns back to the main code.
- If this byte is less than 128, it is an ASCII character and not a token. In this case PL is bumped by one to point to the next byte of the line. A special case of a literal string ("THIS IS A LITERAL STRING") is detected also. All data within the string is ignored. (This is most important in the MC-10 version of the program, in which graphics characters can be embedded in strings; graphics characters are greater than 128 and would look like tokens if they were processed.)
- If this byte is not 255 or 129 (GO), the corresponding MC-10 token is found from array T1 and POKEd into the current byte, unless the corresponding token is a zero. If the MC-10 token is a zero, an error message of "NO CORRESPONDING MC-10 TOKEN" is displayed and the program stops.
- If the byte was a 255, an ASCII blank is POKEd into the token byte. The next value of the two-byte token is then picked up, and the corresponding MC-10 token is picked up from array T2 and POKEd into that byte. POKEing a blank character causes no problem, as Basic program lines can have extraneous blanks anywhere except in literal string values.
- If the byte was a 129 (GO), the action is similar to a two-byte Color Computer token a blank is stored for the GO, the next token value is picked up, and the GOSUB or GOTO token for the MC-10 is stored in the second byte.

The conversion continues a line at a time until a next line pointer of zero (end of program) is found. For each line processed, a period is displayed.

To run the conversion program, the program to be converted must start at Line 100 or above. Simply Run it and all program lines will be converted. After the conversion you'll be able to list the converted lines, but they will have MC-10 tokens — garbage as far as the Color Computer is concerned. Delete all lines under 100 and then CSAVE the converted program to cassette. The result is a program in MC-10 format, loadable by

TOKEN	COLOR OMPUTER	MC-10	TOKEN	COLOR COMPUTER	MC-10
1. The second of	5 187	3_1 * 5 3	REM	130	131
LIST	148	148	RENUM	203	
LLIST	155	153	RESET	T. 157	156
LOG 🐍	255,153	183	RESTORE	143	143
LPRINT	×.—	154	RETURN	144	144
MEM	255,147	200	RIGHT\$	255,143	195
MID\$	this .		RND	255,132	181
MOTOR	A	5 _	RUN	142 🔭	142
NEW 🤼	ි 150 📆	150	SCREEN	191	<u> </u>
NEXT :	ે 139 ેે	÷138	SET	156	155
NOT 🔏	🎉 168 🌅	164	SGN SGN	255,128	
OFF :	170	166	SIN	255,133	185
ON	៊ី្ខ 136 💢 🕻	<u>135</u>	SKIPF	163	160
OPEN 🧬	្នា 153	The second	SOUND	160	158
OR 😓	177 🎍 🦈	* 173 · 🕠 .	SQR	255,155	182
PAINT	🏃 195 🧷	<mark>화 —</mark> 는 10 원리 연인	STEP	169	165
PCLEAR :	: 192	—	STOP	145	145
PCLS 🖔	188	3 — 96	STR\$	255,136	190
PCOPY	199	<u> </u>	STRING\$	255,161	. —
PEEK	255,134	⁶ 188	SUB	166	
PLAY	201	a in the first	TAB(164	161
PMODE	200	:	TAN	255,150	187
POINT	255,145	, 197	THEN	167	163
POKE	146	146	TIMER	255,159	
POS	255,154		ТО	165	162
PPOINT 🤅	ু 255,160	<u> </u>	TROFF	184	
PRESET -	190 🗽	4- 22	TRON	183	
. PRINT	135 🏡	134	USING -	205	" _
PSET 🦂	🏰 189 🦠 🦠	. — ;	USR	255,131	180
PUT	🤼 197 🎺		VAL -	255,137	
*** READ	141	140	VARPTR	255,157	198

```
Program Listing 1. Color Computer to MC-10 Program Converter
   1 COLOR TO MC10 CONVERTER
   2 REM ONE-BYTE DATA
  DATA 128,0,131,0,0,132,133,134
  7,135,136
  4 DATA 137,138,139,140,142
   44,145,146,147
   5 DATA $148,149,150,151,152,0,0,1
6 DATA 157,0,158,0,159,160,161,1
 62,0,163
 7 DATA 164,165,166,167,168,169,1
 70,171,172,173
   8 DATA174,175,176,0,0,0,0,0,141
   9 REM TWO-BYTE DATA
 36,10 DATA 177,178,179,180,181,185,
   188,189,190,191
   11 DATA 192,193,0,0,194,195,196,
   197,199,200
12 DATA 0,186,187,184,0,183,0,18
   2,0,198
   13 CLS: PRINT "CONVERTING"
   14 DIM T1(127), T2(127)
   15 REM INITIALIZE TOKEN ARRAYS
   16 FOR I=OTO 58:READ Tl(I):NEXT
                         Listing continued on page 62
```

the MC-10. Important note: If you do not delete the lines under 100, the MC-10 will go screaming bonkers attempting to list the invalid tokens of the Color Computer program!

Program Listing 2 shows the antithesis of this conversion, a program to convert an MC-10 program to Color Computer format. It operates similarly.

Here we have only one array, T1. The first entry holds the corresponding Color Computer token value for MC-10 value 128, the next the Color Computer token value for MC-10 value 129, and so forth. The negative values represent Color Computer tokens which are two-byte tokens.

Initialization and conversion proceed pretty much the same as in the Color Computer program. The exceptions are negative values and GOSUBs and GOTOs.

If the byte in a line is found to be a token and the token value for the Color Computer is a negative value, then a test is made for a blank preceding the MC-10 token. There must be a blank preceding the token value to convert, otherwise a "NO SPACE BEFORE TOKEN" message is displayed and the program stops. If there is a preceding blank, a 255 is stored, followed by the Color Computer token.

A similar situation exists for the GOSUB and GOTO. If the MC-10 value is a 129 or 130, a 129 (Color Computer GO) is stored in the preceding blank, followed by a TO or SUB value. Here again, there must be a preceding blank before the MC-10 GOSUB or GOTO, otherwise an error message is displayed and the program stops.

To run the MC-10 conversion, the program to be converted must start at or above Line 100. Run it, and you'll see periods displayed as each line is converted. At the end of the conversion, delete all lines under 100 and CSAVE to cassette. The result is a cassette file that is loadable by the Color Computer and is in Color Computer token format.

There is one thing that the MC-10 to Color Computer conversion program won't do; any keyboard-generated MC-10 graphics character will not be properly converted unless within a string literal. Normally, though, such graphics characters would be within a string literal, as in 100 A\$ = "xxxx", where X is a nonprintable graphics character.

By the time I had finished the two programs, the morning paper had been delivered and my wife was fixing coffee. Here I was 20 hours later with workable programs that made the MC-10 a little more usable. Unfortunately, however, the guitar player had left. Ah well, I could always provide my own accompaniment. Let's see, where had I put that peasant costume...

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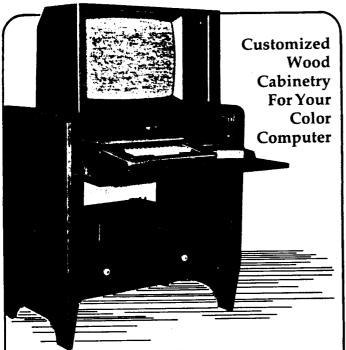


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17 FOR I=0TO 29:READ T2(I):NEXT 18 PL=PEEK(&H19)*256+PEEK(&H1A): NL=PL 19 GOSUB 22: PRINT ".";: IF NL<> 0 THEN 19 20 PRINT "SUCCESSFUL TOKEN TRANS LATION": STOP 21 ' SUBROUTINE: PROCESS 1 LINE 22 IF PL<>NL THEN A\$="CATASTROPH IC ERROR": GOTO 47 23 NL=PEEK(PL) *256+PEEK(PL+1): P L=PL+224 LN=PEEK(PL)*256+PEEK(PL+1): P L=PL+2 25 IF NL=0 THEN RETURN 26 IF LN<100 THEN PL=NL: RETURN 27 REM TRANSLATE TOKENS 28 ST=0 29 TN=PEEK(PL): PL=PL+1: IF TN=0 THEN RETURN 30 /IF TN=34 THEN ST=(ST+1)AND 1 31 IF ST=1 THEN 29 32 IF TN<128 THEN 29 33 IF TN=255 THEN 38 34 IF TN=129 THEN 42 35 TN=T1(TN-128): IF TN=0 THEN A \$="NO CORRESPONDING MC10 TOKEN": GOTO 47 36 POKE PL-1,TN: GOTO 29 37 REM TWO BYTE TOKEN HERE 38 POKE PL-1,32: TN=PEEK(PL): PL 39 TN=T2(TN-128): IF TN=0 THEN A \$="NO CORRESPONDING MC10 TOKEN": : GOTO 47 The state of the s 40 GOTO 36 41 REM GOTO OR GOSUB HERE 42 POKE PL-1,32: TN=PEEK(PL): PL =PL+143 IF TN=165 THEN POKE PL-1,129: **GOTO 29** 44 IF TN=166 THEN POKE PL-1,130: **GOTO 29** 45 A\$="INVALID TOKEN AFTER GO": **GOTO 47** 46 REM ERROR HERE 47 PRINT: PRINT A\$ 48 PRINT "LINE NUMBER ";LN 49 STOP Program Listing 2. MC-10 to Color Computer Program Converter

1 'MC10 TO COLOR CONVERTER

2 REM ONE BYTE DATA

3 DATA 128,165,166,130,133,134,1 35,136,137,138

4 DATA 139,140,141,186,142,143

```
5 DATA 144,145,146,147,148,149,1
 50,151,152,155
 6 DATA 0,156,157,158,160,162,163
 ,164,165,167
 7 DATA 168,169,170,171,172,173,1
 74,175,176,177
 8 DATA 178,179,180
 9 REM TWO-BYTE DATA
 10 DATA -128,-129,-130,-131,-132
 ,-155,-153,-151,-133,-149
 11 DATA -150,-134,-135,-136,-137
 ,-138,-139,-142,-143,-144
 12 DATA -145,-157,-146,-147
 13 CLS: PRINT "CONVERTING"
 14 DIM T1(127)
 15 RE INITIALIZE TOKEN ARRAY
 16 FOR I=0TO 72:READ T1(I):NEXT
 17 PL= PEEK(147) *256+ PEEK(148):
 NL=PL
18 GOSUB 21: PRINT ".";: IF NL<>
 0 THEN 18
 19 PRINT "SUCCESSFUL TOKEN TRANS
LATION": STOP
 20 'PROCESS ONE LINE SUBROUTINE
21 IF PL<>NL THEN A$="CATASTROPH"
IC ERROR": GOTO 44
22 NL= PEEK(PL) *256+ PEEK(PL+1):
 PL=PL+2
23 LN= PEEK(PL) *256+ PEEK(PL+1):
 PL=PL+2
24 IF NL=0 THEN RETURN
25 IF LN<100 THEN PL=NL: RETURN
26 REM TRANSLATE TOKENS
27 ST = 0
28 TN = PEEK(PL): PL=PL+1: IF TN=
O THEN RETURN
29 IF TN=34 THEN ST=(ST+1)AND 1
30 IF ST=1 THEN 28
31 IF TN<128 THEN 28
32 IF T1(TN-128)<0 THEN 36
33 IF TN=129 OR TN=130 THEN 39
34 POKE PL-1,T1(TN-128):GOTO 28
35 REM TWO-BYTE TOKEN HERE
36 IF PEEK(PL-2) <> 32 THEN A$="NO"
 SPACE BEFORE TOKEN": GOTO 44
37 POKE PL-2,255: POKE PL-1,-T1(
TN-128): GOTO 28
38 REM GOTO OR GOSUB HERE
39 IF PEEK(PL) <> 32 THEN A$="NO S
PACE AFTER GOSUB OR GOTO": GOTO
40 POKE PL-1,129
41 POKE PL, T1(TN-128)
42 PL=PL+1: GOTO 28
43 REM ERROR HERE
44 PRINT: PRINT A$
45 PRINT "LINE NUMBER "; LN
```

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