

New Installations

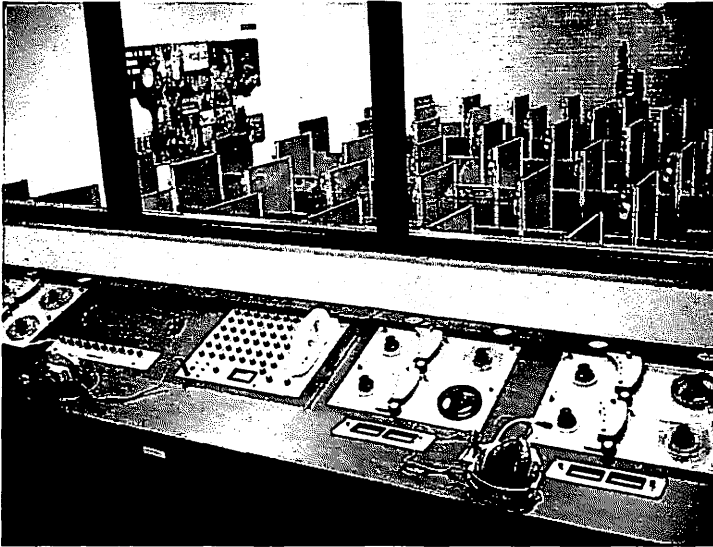
PRE-PROGRAMMING THE PROGRAM

by Mr. Stephen Zirko

The recently completed Audio-Lingual Program Center at Eastern Montana College provides maximum support for numerous audio programs and provides also a reference model for other institutions of learning. It occupies 2,191 square feet of space on the seventh floor of the Liberal Arts Building.

The heart of the Center consists of two control consoles which feature flexibility, providing for maximum use of all eighty student positions. The student positions are subdivided into two program centers (Numbers 1 and 2) with 48 and 32 positions respectively. Each program center is separated by a glass-enclosed control area and each program center is independently controlled through its master console in the control area which provides the primary program sources for its group of student positions. Both control consoles are alike except for capacity.

Each control console consists of nine Chester Student Record Machines, CTMR-642B, modified to provide switch selectable record-playback track choice, one full-track Chester Program Machine, one



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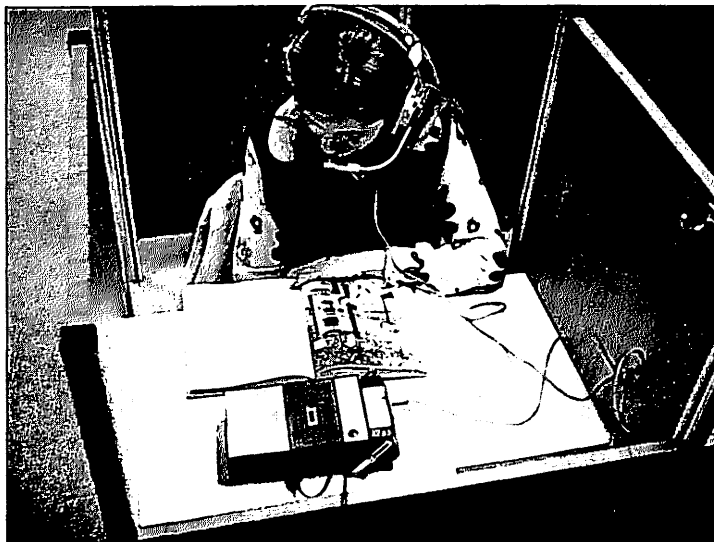
Bogen Turntable, and one console dial position capable of retrieving programs from Central Audio-Visual Equipment Room in the adjacent building.

Substitute programming is possible via the special patch panel which allows distribution of the same program to both centers or any combination of programs from one console to the other. The patch panel makes available programs from two phones, two 16mm projectors, and a short wave radio receiver.

Each center is equipped with loudspeakers tied to the consoles. The air-conditioned facility provides comfortable and ideal working conditions. All floors throughout the Audio-Lingual Program Center are carpeted for good acoustics. Each carrel is designed for the user's comfort. The Program Centers are normally open 40 hours per week.

Program Center Number 1 is utilized by the language instructors at regularly scheduled (twice a week) class sessions. Here, the instructor uses programmed lesson tapes, cultural tapes, plays music, and shows films. This section has 48 carrels. Each instructor pre-programs to conduct his own classes. Student responses are monitored by the instructor or assistant and corrected as necessary. Oral testing, a la Stack, takes place here. Independent study students are provided with pre-recorded tapes and proceed at their own pace.

Program Center Number 2 provides an area where the foreign language learners do their oral homework, additional work, independent study, or just relax listening to a foreign radio station.



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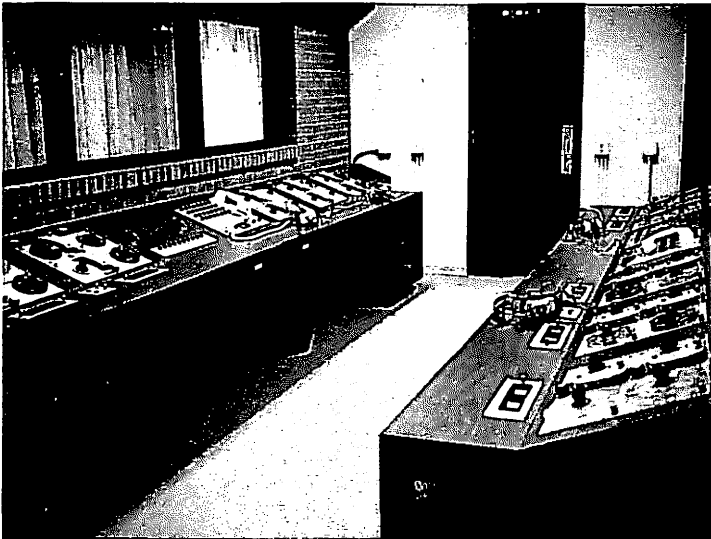
A catalog listing of the tapes of each language is maintained. The catalog shows the title, unit, or chapter, parts of the exercises, description of content, pagination, and length of playing time. The teacher or assistant locates the required tape for play. Each tape reel and box is labeled, with the reel number, title, chapter, and the length of time of play. Each language tape, reel, and box is color coded: German—Green; French—Blue; Spanish—Red; and Russian—Yellow.

A student checks into the number two program center and gleans the catalog for the appropriate tape number. He then informs the assistant about the tape reel to be played. The laboratory assistant inserts the reel into the channel deck and switches to the carrel that the student occupies. The student practices at his own pace and stays as long as he wishes and comes as often as he wants.

Any student can record material for personal use on a reel or cassette. Oral test tapes are prepared by the teaching faculty and are supplementary to tape material provided by the publishers.

The Program Center is equipped with a professional communication short wave receiver. Dubbing is made of international news and cultural broadcasts in the target languages and used at a later date by both faculty and students.

Telex 235 Duplicators (Dubbers) are available which can duplicate 5 tapes simultaneously. The equipment is used to duplicate tapes for students, faculty, and any other person who need such a service.



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Each programmed tape reel is card catalogued. Several copies of each scheduled lesson program tape are always on hand in the tape library, Room LA 709. A student can go back at any point for review, and, he can also check out any tape he wishes. The tape library provides a student the utmost in individualized learning facilities.

Various supplementary tapes are also catalogued, numbered, and color coded. One master set and one student loan set is maintained. To illustrate:

Supplementary Tapes for Spanish 101, 102, 103

Color: Red

Spanish

Course No., Reel No.

101-1

Title

Questions or stories from MLA book.

The catalogued item appears on the shelf as a tape reel box labeled as follows:

101-1 The first 3 digits (101) indicate the first year and the first quarter of Spanish. The fourth digit indicates reel number.

The Program Center is an important aid for furthering speaking and listening comprehension skills, and we have found it to be an essential and very meaningful part of our language program.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Mr. Zirko is the Director of the Audio-Lingual Program Center, Department of Foreign Language, Eastern Montana College, Billings, Montana.

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

13-15 April 1972

Hotel Americana of New York

General Theme: Language-in-Culture

Chairman: Mills F. Edgerton, Jr., Bucknell University

Nine sessions will be devoted to comparing American culture with the cultures of France, French Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Rome and Ancient Greece, the Soviet Union, Spain, and Spanish America. The enduring, non-linguistic benefits of foreign-language study will also be considered. There will be workshops, discussion groups, language films, and exhibits of textbooks and other teaching aids.

For advance programs and preregistration forms, write to Mrs. Nancy W. Lian, 320 Riverside Drive, New York 10025. Each registrant will receive, in advance of the Conference, a copy of the *Reports of the Working Committees*.
