COMMENTARY
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SPECIAL ISSUE: PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTH SYMPOSIUM ON OPERATING SYSTEM PRINCIPLES

10-12 Dec. 1979  Asilomar, CA

ACM SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP ON OPERATING SYSTEMS (SIGOPS)
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PATTERN FOR DIST. SYSTEM CASE STUDY PAPERS:

1. Say: Distributed = Good

2. Notice: wires → messages

3. IDEA: POST FACTO wires → use messages everywhere

4. Resolve 99 details of message semantics

If implementation is up before paper deadline:

5. Express astonishment about path length to send a message
3

If there are idle cycles about, someone will covet them.
NEW HAZARD: Robustness

unplanned total dependence

If service-available use service

else do-it-yourself

law: little-used functions become flaky
THE RECOVERY AND COORDINATION JUNGLE
Lots of not-quite-orthogonal abstractions

(Resembles quantum chromodynamics)
HEADLINES WE HAVEN'T SEEN YET

AIR FORCE LOGISTICS SYSTEM
UP SIX MONTHS EARLY

WWACCS NETWORK 50% UNDER BUDGET

SECURITY PACIFIC BANK FOILS
45th COMPUTERIZED ROBBERY TRY

AIR LINE CONTROLLERS PRAISE
ARTEC COMPUTER SYSTEM