NAME

git-merge-index - Run a merge for files needing merging

SYNOPSIS

git merge-index [-o] [-q] <merge-program> (-a | ([--] <file>...))

DESCRIPTION

This looks up the <file>(s) in the index and, if there are any merge entries, passes the SHA-1 hash for those files as arguments 1, 2, 3 (empty argument if no file), and <file> as argument 4. File modes for the three files are passed as arguments 5, 6 and 7.

OPTIONS

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Do not interpret any more arguments as options.

-a

Run merge against all files in the index that need merging.

-o

Instead of stopping at the first failed merge, do all of them in one shot - continue with merging even when previous merges returned errors, and only return the error code after all the merges.

-q

Do not complain about a failed merge program (a merge program failure usually indicates conflicts during the merge). This is for porcelains which might want to emit custom messages.

If *git merge-index* is called with multiple <file>s (or -a) then it processes them in turn only stopping if merge returns a non-zero exit code.

Typically this is run with a script calling Git's imitation of the *merge* command from the RCS package.

A sample script called *git merge-one-file* is included in the distribution.

ALERT ALERT ALERT! The Git "merge object order" is different from the RCS *merge* program merge object order. In the above ordering, the original is first. But the argument order to the 3-way merge program *merge* is to have the original in the middle. Don't ask me why.

Examples:

```
torvalds@ppc970:~/merge-test> git merge-index cat MM
This is MM from the original tree.            # original
This is modified MM in the branch A.          # merge1
This is modified MM in the branch B.          # merge2
This is modified MM in the branch B.          # current contents
```

or

```
torvalds@ppc970:~/merge-test> git merge-index cat AA MM
cat: : No such file or directory
This is added AA in the branch A.
This is added AA in the branch B.
This is added AA in the branch B.
fatal: merge program failed
```

where the latter example shows how *git merge-index* will stop trying to merge once anything has returned an error (i.e., **cat** returned an error for the AA file, because it didn’t exist in the original, and thus *git merge-index* didn’t even try to merge the MM thing).

GIT

Part of the **git**(1) suite