NAME

exit_curses, exit_terminfo - check for memory leaks in curses

SYNOPSIS

#include <curses.h>
void exit_curses(int code);

#include <term.h>
void exit_terminfo(int code);

/* deprecated (intentionally not declared in curses.h or term.h) */
void _nc_freeall(void);
void _nc_free_and_exit(int code);
void _nc_free_tinfo(int code);

DESCRIPTION

These functions are used to simplify analysis of memory leaks in the ncurses library.

Any implementation of curses must not free the memory associated with a screen, since (even after calling **endwin**(3X)), it must be available for use in the next call to **refresh**(3X). There are also chunks of memory held for performance reasons. That makes it hard to analyze curses applications for memory leaks. When using the specially configured debugging version of the *ncurses* library, applications can call functions which free those chunks of memory, simplifying the process of memory-leak checking.

Some of the functions are named with a "_nc_" prefix because they are not intended for use in the non-debugging library:

_nc_freeall

This frees (almost) all of the memory allocated by *ncurses*.

_nc_free_and_exit

This frees the memory allocated by *ncurses* (like _nc_freeall), and exits the program. It is preferred over _nc_freeall since some of that memory may be required to keep the application running. Simply exiting (with the given exit-code) is safer.

_nc_free_tinfo

Use this function if only the low-level terminfo functions (and corresponding library) are used. Like _nc_free_and_exit, it exits the program after freeing memory.

The functions prefixed "_nc" are normally not available; they must be configured into the library at build time using the **--disable-leaks** option. That compiles-in code that frees memory that normally would not be freed.

The **exit_curses** and **exit_terminfo** functions call **_nc_free_and_exit** and **_nc_free_tinfo** if the library is configured to support memory-leak checking. If the library is not configured to support memory-leak checking, they simply call **exit**.

RETURN VALUE

These functions do not return a value.

PORTABILITY

These functions are not part of X/Open Curses; nor do other implementations of curses provide a similar feature.

In any implementation of X/Open Curses, an application can free part of the memory allocated by curses:

• The portable part of **exit_curses** can be freed using **delscreen**, passing the *SCREEN* pointer returned by **newterm**.

In some implementations, there is a global variable **sp** which could be used, e.g., if the screen were only initialized using **initscr**.

• The portable part of **exit_terminfo** can be freed using **del_curterm**.

In this case, there is a global variable **cur_term** which can be used as parameter.

SEE ALSO

curses(3X), curs_initscr(3X), curs_terminfo(3X)