
Subject: Re: Bug? Hash and System Variable
Posted by [SonicKenking](#) on Fri, 31 May 2013 04:10:48 GMT
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On Friday, May 31, 2013 2:08:14 PM UTC+10, SonicKenking wrote:

> The following simple code errors out

```
>  
>  
>  
> defsysv, '!SOME_SYS_VAR', hash()  
>  
> help, !SOME_SYS_VAR  
>  
> (!SOME_SYS_VAR)['A'] = 1  
>  
> end  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> The output is as follows
```

```
>  
> <Expression> HASH <ID=1 NELEMENTS=0>  
>  
> % Expression must be an array in this context: !SOME_SYS_VAR.
```

> The funny thing is that I can actually run the same command by typing it on the IDL prompt. So following command runs:

```
>  
>  
>  
> IDL> (!SOME_SYS_VAR)['A'] = 1  
>  
> IDL> print, !SOME_SYS_VAR  
>  
> A: 1  
>  
>  
>
```

> Is it a bug or feature? And how can I correct the code so it can run inside a routine instead of on the prompt (@ is the same as typing on the prompt).

```
>  
>  
>  
> Thanks!
```

BTW, this is the content of !VERSION

```
** Structure !VERSION, 8 tags, length=104, data length=100:  
ARCH      STRING  'x86_64'  
OS        STRING  'linux'  
OS_FAMILY  STRING  'unix'  
OS_NAME    STRING  'linux'  
RELEASE    STRING  '8.2.1'  
BUILD_DATE STRING  'Aug 20 2012'  
MEMORY_BITS INT     64  
FILE_OFFSET_BITS  
INT     64
```
