MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

PROJECT MAC

October 1, 1969

Mr. Marvin Denicoff
Program Director
Information Systems Branch, Code 437
Department of the Navy
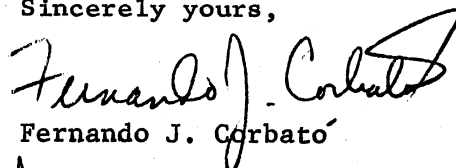Office of Naval Research
Washington, D.C.   20360

Dear Mr. Denicoff:

     Enclosed you will find a copy of an important milestone of the
Multics Project: the 500-page preliminary edition of the Multics Pro-
grammers' Manual. This manual is a milestone because its publication
coincides with the public offering of Multics as a service to the
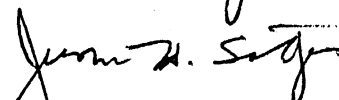M.I.T. community.

     As you know, for several months we have been working against a
deadline of October 1, 1969, for a demonstration of raw performance
exceeding that of the much less versatile 7094 time-sharing system.
By all of our available performance measures (including the most stringent
one: a live load of system programmers) it appears that we have now met
with a comfortable margin the desired goal of performance without sacri-
ficing any of the extra versatility of Multics. The one-processor config-
uration now handles thirty average-to-heavy users with ease and reasonable
response.

     We now look forward to attracting a full load of users within the
M.I.T. community thereby demonstrating the feasibility of the Multics
design. We also look forward to the enhancement of Multics as this larger
user community begins to contribute to the library of useful programs.

Sincerely yours,

Fernando J. Corbato

Jerome H. Saltzer
Computer Systems Research Group

FJC:FHS/bm
cc: Professor J. C. R. Licklider