

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
PROJECT MAC

Reply to: Project MAC
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Telephone: (617) 864-6900 x6201

March 30, 1972

Mr. Marvin Denicoff
Program Director
Information Systems Branch
Office of Naval Research - Code 437
Department of the Navy
Arlington, Virginia 22217

Dear Marvin:

Ed Fredkin referred your letter of March 14, about an article on Multics for Naval Research Reviews, to me. Corby and I both agreed with you that such an article is a good idea. As a starter, I have enclosed a copy of a paper we recently put together for the 1972 Spring Joint Computer Conference, and which is perhaps a little closer to the kind of material appropriate for your Journal. The S.J.C.C. paper discusses the topics you suggested: recent progress, implementation experience, and future directions, as well as explaining the deeper significance of Multics-class systems. It also has a section on research results, which should be of direct interest to ONR readers.

The only problem with this paper is its length -- it is about 50% longer than the lead article in the copy of Naval Research Reviews which you enclosed. You indicated that ONR has an editorial staff -- would it be appropriate to ask that staff to trim this material down to a size they feel more appropriate? If they do take on the job, we would appreciate the chance to look it over before publication.

Let me know what you think of this as a starting point, and what direction we should go from here. Call me at 864-6900, x6016 if you would like to discuss things in more depth.

Have you seen the advertisements by M.I.T. Press for Elliott Organick's book about Multics? It is to be available starting next week, at a published price of \$12.50. We were certainly pleased to see Elliott's material become easily available.

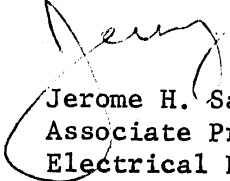
Mr. Marvin Denicoff

-2-

March 30, 1972

The necessary modifications to Multics to allow it to operate correctly on the new 645F hardware (that is the system based on the Honeywell 6080) are in progress and we expect the transition to the new hardware to be completed without much fuss sometime this fall or winter. The business of transferring know-how and responsibility for the system to Honeywell is making a lot of progress -- they have brought up and are operating two Multics sites, in Waltham, Mass., and Paris, France, with essentially no help from us. When the transition to the new hardware system is complete, that should be true of the M.I.T. site, also.

Sincerely yours,



Jerome H. Saltzer
Associate Professor of
Electrical Engineering

JHS/mw

xc: F. J. Corbató
E. Fredkin
C. T. Clingen