MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

PROJECT MAC

October 1, 1969

Dr. Larry Roberts
Chief Scientist
Advanced Projects Research Agency
Information Processing Techniques
The Pentagon, Room 3D-169
Washington, D.C.

Dear Larry:

Enclosed you will find a copy of an important milestone of the Multics Project: the 500-page preliminary edition of the Multics Programmers' 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 sacrificing any of the extra versatility of Multics. The one-processor configuration 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:JHS/bm
cc: Professor J. C. R. Licklider