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INTERDEPARTMENTAL

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02139

from the office of

To: Mike Dertouzos
From: Jerry Saltzer *JAS.*
Date: March 25, 1975
Subject: Contract for Certification work

We have just uncovered a major mix up between the M.I.T. Office of Sponsored Programs and Project MAC related to the MIT/HISI contract for our work. In October, 1974, M.I.T. received a draft copy of a proposed contract for our work (which began in January, 1974). Although OSP thought they forwarded a copy for our review, it was apparently never received here. We discovered the existence of the contract yesterday when a HISI manager came to visit and asked where his office was to be, and said that the contract called for us to furnish him an office.

Upon obtaining a copy today, I reviewed the proposed contract carefully and found that it differs in several important ways from the agreement negotiated in May, 1974. In quick summary, the differences are additional commitments on our part; most of them are commitments we explicitly refused to make during the original negotiations. The contract, as written, does not recognize the research nature of work at Project MAC.

This situation would be an unsurprising part of negotiations in normal circumstances, with a contract for future work. The problem in the present case is that we are 15 months into the 18 month period of the contract.

Mike Schroeder and I are planning to get together with Tom Lightburn of OSP later this week to try to work out an appropriate response.

xc: M. Schroeder
D. Clark
G. Oro
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