TO: Multics Planning Meeting

FROM: F. J. Corbató

DATE: September 3, 1969

SUBJECT: Critical areas requiring attention before October 1, 1969

The following list is an attempt on my part to note the particularly

critical tasks which must be done by October 1, for general usage of

Multics to begin smoothly.   (Even in this short list, a few things could

slip and I've put parentheses about these items.)   The particular alloca-

tion of party lines is only a proposal.   I do feel some allocation pattern

will be essential at first until system administration is smooth, able

to react quickly to changes, and full resource limits are established on

a per shift basis.

A useful suggestion has been made by Saltzer that for login purposes we

generalize the notion of a user to include a weight of "user load units".

An "essential" Multics user would be 1 unit; any normal user, system pro-

grammer, etc., would be 2 units; daemons would have to be calibrated but

may be as high as 5 units.   The party line group mechanism would respect

these weights too.   When this arrangement is installed the login message

would read: "user units = 20, max = 60" for example.

Finally it would appear important to sharpen up and designate individual responsibility for the planning and administrative matters since slip-ups in this area are very conspicuous and painful.

Critical Areas:

1. Documentation: MPM Distribution

   (CTSS Conversion Memo)

   Administrative procedures to register a

   Multics user (this needs to be formalized).

   (Fortran)

   (PL/I)

   Limited

   ~~Essential~~ Multics Memo

   Announcement to Users

2. Minimum Accounting Mechanism and processing need to be set up. (The main problem here is that someone needs to think about the entire operation, from system changes to mailing out the envelopes.)

3. Resource Limits and Quotas need to be established (disk quotas are the only essential ones at first).

4. Performance: get to 30 users (with 1 proc., 256K)

5. (Party line groups should be set up; a possible allocation might be:)

   Operations - 3 (Backup, EPL, Printer)

   Sup. Maint - 3 (Haber, E. Stone, Spall)

   Multics dev.* (MAC) ⎫
   ⎬ 12 Split subject to pending GE-MIT
   Multics dev.* (GE) ⎭ agreements.

   General use (MAC) - 6

   General use (non-MAC) - 6

Note: party lines mean <u>guaranteed</u> access; if system capcity permits, others can get on provided they have the resources.

* - Multics development access is initially set high but should taper down within 3 to 6 months to a total of 8 lines for both GE and MAC.