Identification

Multics Bootload Simulator (MBS)
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Purpose

The purpose of the Multics Bootload Simulator is to simulate in software the action that would be taken if the GIOC bootload (64-word diode matrix) were to contain the Multics Bootload.

Discussion

The Multics Bootload Simulator is written in assembly language and assembled into an object program in card deck form. The object deck is headed by a bootcard, the function of which is to bootstrap in the Multics Bootload Simulator. When the Multics Bootload Simulator has been read in from the card reader, control passes to the MBS. The MBS sets locations for the interrupt vector and the GIOC mailboxes. It then copies the Multics Bootload into the correct location and passes control to it by performing on XED on (transferring to) the first entry of the Interrupt vector. In brief, control passes from hardware to software via the MBS interface in the following sequence:

1. GIOC bootload button
2. GIOC bootload
3. Bootcard
4. Multics Bootload Simulator
5. Multics Bootload