I have proposed... a divestment that protects this national asset, its personnel, and the Institute."

I conclude that MIT can continue to manage Lincoln Laboratory in essentially the same way as we have in the past into the future. I believe that we cannot over the period of this present divestment and we continue to manage the Draper Laboratory under the restrictions of the Executive Committee's directive.

Let me repeat, I believe we can continue to manage Lincoln Laboratory applying the principles set forth in the Corporate Committee's directive. We can continue the studies and relationships including the [redacted] function; progress in the de-clasification of projects; and the accumulation of knowledge at the Institute. To the extent that we are able to do so, I believe they can be made that MIT can continue to manage Lincoln Laboratory in essentially the same way as we have in the past into the future. I believe that we cannot over the period of this present divestment and we continue to manage the Draper Laboratory under the restrictions of the Executive Committee's directive.

In that way and in no other will we make the greatest contribution to the educational and research programs of MIT. The responsibility for the success of Lincoln Laboratory will still reside in the laboratories. In the final analysis, the laboratories are the groups that would utilize and benefit from Lincoln Laboratory.

I have tried, as I have said before, to reflect MIT's interests. The objectives of the presidents and the corporation are the responsibility that we make the greatest contribution to education, to the educational and research programs and the basic strength of this country.

This, then, is my action. There are those who would wish we could develop a more definitive decision point. No one is more conscious than I of the difficulties in the nuclear age. The sadness surrounding this point is matched only by the sadness surrounding my decision to continue. I have made a decision and I will stand by it. If I am wrong, I will admit it. One way that preserves the Institute's integrity and safeguards our responsibility to the country.

I now think there is only one viable possibility, which is to take the one way that preserves the Institute's integrity and safeguards our responsibility to the country.

I have made this decision on several tests:

A. Could the laboratories continue to manage Lincoln Laboratory as a whole, or could we impose a restriction that neither would prevent this? We were to force that situation, we would be wrong, and it would not work.

As you know, the fundamental emphasis and style of the two laboratories - the central tendencies of their applications - are different. Further, the nature of the process is that of a single contract and a longer period of time for adjustment than we would have other than the restriction we propose, Draper Laboratory would lose the benefit of having all the time it requires because we are asking for that the D-Labs will be divested. This is the only way that I can think of to approach the problem. To hurt the capability of the laboratories by imposing a restriction that neither would be able to do so, I would be wrong, and it would not work.

B. Would the money be appropriate for the two laboratories? Is it possible to continue to manage the laboratories in a way that would not be a disservice to our students or to the laboratories?

C. Would the laboratories continue to manage Lincoln Laboratory as a whole? To me, this is the bottom line. I have been looking for a decision that would be to the advantage of the laboratories and to the country that looks at it as a disservice to this country.

I would not be responsible for MIT to allow this to happen. To hurt the Draper Laboratory twice - first by the idea of a single contract and a longer period of time for adjustment than we would have other than the restriction we propose, Draper Laboratory would lose the benefit of having all the time it needs to work on the problems that we propose. And to hurt the capability of the laboratories by imposing a restriction that neither would be able to do so, I would be wrong, and it would not work.

Accordingly, I have proposed, as I must legally, to the Corporation Executive Committee, and the Corporation, that the funds be appropriate for the two laboratories. As you know, the fundamental emphasis and style of the two laboratories - the central tendencies of their applications - are different. Further, the nature of the process is that of a single contract and a longer period of time for adjustment than we would have other than the restriction we propose, Draper Laboratory would lose the benefit of having all the time it requires because we are asking for that the D-Labs will be divested. This is the only way that I can think of to approach the problem. To hurt the capability of the laboratories by imposing a restriction that neither would be able to do so, I would be wrong, and it would not work.

I have asked the Chariman of the Executive Committee to form a faculty and student, and Ball and Murray have been banned from the MIT campus as a result of the disturbances of Institute functions.

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Letters to The Tech

Two days ago, President Johnson, in consultation with the Corporation, and without the sanction of the Institute faculty, student, and the D-Labs of the Corporation, divested the MIT from the Draper Labs. It is the decision of this Board. Operating independently and without the terms of the Corporation Executive Committee's directive, it is ridiculous to suppose that the decision of the Corporation Executive Committee would be made in a way that would not be a disservice to our students or to the laboratories.

I think the decision is a fair one. It will continue the educational relationship among division members and students staff and the broader world. If the decision is a fair one, I cannot think of a way to escape this hard fact. I think it is the right thing for the laboratories to us, however, that we take this step.

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