MIT again top recipient
as aid to colleges rises

By Jonathan Webber
MIT was the top recipient
of federal funds in the 1970-71
school year during which the
government gave a record
amount of aid to higher
education.

According to last Sunday's
New York Times, the ranking
appeared in a report issued re-
cently by the National Science
Foundation.

The NSF figures report that
the Institute received
$89,574,000 out of a total of
$3.8 billion given by the govern-
ment for that year. MIT thus
 retained its position as the lead-
ing government beneficiary,
 receiving $13 billion more than the
nearest, University of Minnesota.

Included in the figures is aid
given to universities by all fed-
eral agencies. Thus a widely-
pub licated Department of
Defense education grant exceed-
to the lowest level in 1963 was
more than replaced by big-well
known increases by the Depart-
ment of Health, Education and
Welfare and other agencies. No
figures for '71-'72 have yet been compiled.

There remains some ques-
tion as to exactly which funds
were included in the report's
figures. According to Com-
troller Stuart H. Cowen the total
amount of money being given to
MIT by the government is closer
to twice the figure stated in the
report. This includes funds for
the Draper and Lincoln labora-
tories, however, which might not
have been considered aid to
higher education.

Furthermore, Cowen pointed
out that, were these laboratories
considered a part of MIT, such
facilities as the Lawrence Radia-
tion Laboratory of the Univer-
sity of California would also
have to be taken into account.
"If you strip out the big labs, we
will be receiving the most money
any way you look at it," Cowen
remarked.

The drop in Defense Depart-
ment allocations has lead to a
 cut in the amount of research
funds in the physical sciences.
According to the report, this reduc-
tion in physical sciences research funding has
caused the percentage of the
entire $3.8 billion received by the
top 100 aid-recipients to drop
from 71% in 1969-70 to 69% in
1970-71. There was a correspond-
ing increase in the amount of aid
for non-scientific purposes, funded mostly by HEW.

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