

~~TOP SECRET~~
TAGBOARD

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System 1

PRO E 2d

11 JUL 1969



MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

SUBJECT: Successful TAGBOARD Test Flight, July 10, 1969

On July 10, 1969, the TAGBOARD System was successfully flown over the Pacific Missile Range by drone #520. This was the second consecutive successful TAGBOARD launch.

The drone was launched from the B-52 mother aircraft at 2156Z (1756 EDT) without incident. The drone profile was from a launch point north of Kauai (Hawaiian Islands) down range over enroute islands past Midway, with a similar return route and recovery of the hatch and payload in the vicinity of Kauai.

The range was approximately 3,000 miles which is less than full range of the drone but exactly as programmed for this flight. With the exception of momentary deviations while in programmed turns, the drone course was within two miles of course centerline. The maximum drone altitude was approximately 93,000 feet at termination fuel off.

The hatch was recovered at 2350Z (1950 EDT) by a JC-130 aircraft. The total drone flight to hatch ejection was 96 minutes.

The above performance data is based on real time read-out. Further information will be available after evaluation of the processed film and instrumentation data.

CC: NRO Staff

FRANK W. HARTLEY, JR
Colonel, USAF
Director, Program D

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