



18) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

November 16, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Martin Company Briefing on FASTBACK

On October 1, Martin Company people from Denver briefed us on their concept for a crises response system known as FASTBACK. FASTBACK is based on the use of surplus MINUTEMAN Boosters, short orbital lifetime, recovery in the Atlantic and return of film packages to Andrews Air Force Base.

The proposal apparently originated with General William A. Tidwell, Jr. (Ret) (cleared across the board) apparently as a result of Mr. Cline's recent correspondence on NRO capabilities in crises response. The briefers and their clearances were:

Lawrence J. Adams - H, G, E, Rd

Frederick Donald Selbie, Jr. - G, E, Rd

Robert Boyce - $E^{(2)}$

William A. Tidwell, Jr. - Across the board

FREDERICK L. HOFMANN Major, USAF

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