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PASS CHARGE

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THE DUAL MODE CAPABILITY AS SOON AS PRACTICAL WHICH WE
ASSUME TO BE IN THE LATE 79 OR EARLY 80 TIME PERIOD. THE
PLAN SHOULD BE TO RETAIN AT LEAST VEHICLE 50 AND POSSIBLY
VEHICLE 51 IN THEIR CURRENT CONFIGURATION UNTIL THE DUAL MODE
CAPABILITY IS AVAILABLE. ONCE THE DUAL MODE CAPABILITY IS
AVAILABLE, THE PLAN SHOULD BE TO RETROFIT VEHICLE 50 AND 51
IF THEY HAVE NOT BEEN LAUNCHED IN THE INTERIM TO OBTAIN THE
DUAL MODE CAPABILITY ON ALL REMAINING GAMBIT VEHICLES. THE
PLAN SHOULD ASSUME THAT ONE OF THE DUAL MODE VEHICLES WOULD
BE LAUNCHED TO DEMONSTRATE THE CAPABILITY AND THAT THE
REMAINING VEHICLES WOULD BE HELD IN A STANDBY CONFIGURATION
SUCH THAT ONE COULD BE CALLED UP ON SHORT NOTICE. THE
LAUNCH CALL-UP (REACTION TIME) SHOULD BE THE CRITERIA WHICH
YOU CONSIDER REASONABLY CONSISTENT WITH THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE
OF KEEPING THE COST WITHIN REASON. YOU SHOULD ALSO
SEPARATELY IDENTIFY THE COST OF TRANSITIONING THE DUAL MODE
GAMBIT VEHICLE TO THE SHUTTLE, ASSUMING THAT THE AGENA
WORLD BE USED TO OPTIMIZE ON-ORBIT MANEUVER.
CAPABILITY.

2. I REPEAT THAT THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO MODIFY

...THE REMAINING FIVE GANDIT VEHICLES INTO A DUAL MODE CONFIGURATION, TO LAUNCH ONE OF THE VEHICLES TO DEMONSTRATE THE CAPABILITY IN BOTH THE HIGH RESOLUTION AND SEARCH MODE IN ALL THE REMAINING VEHICLES IN A LAUNCH CALL-UP CONFIGURATION. DE. MARSH IS CONVINCED THAT THIS IS BOTH TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE AND SHOULD BE LESS EXPENSIVE THAN THE ANNUAL COST OF FLYING OUT REMAINING VEHICLES.

3. PLEASE PROVIDE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE IF YOU FEEL THAT THIS PLAN IS NOT FEASIBLE. OTHERWISE PROVIDE A PRELIMINARY PROGRAM PLAN AND ROUGH COSTING BY THE 26TH OF SEPTEMBER. IF ADVANTAGEOUS, YOU CAN PROVIDE A FINAL UPDATE OF THESE COST ESTIMATES NOT LATER THAN 30 SEPTEMBER. IF THE ALTERNATIVE IS SELECTED WE WILL ATTEMPT TO GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVALIDATE THE COSTS FOR AT LEAST FY 79 PRIOR TO THE END OF OCTOBER.