

PRIME MINISTER

SPACE

Mr Pattie is seeking your endorsement of Robin Nicholson's proposals for the setting up of a British National Space Centre.

Robin Nicholson's report is at Flag A. Geoffrey Pattie's covering minute is at Flag B. Robin Nicholson has provided a useful summary of the main points in the report, at Flag C.

Robin's own note, at Flag D, identifies the key points for your decision. Are you content, as Robin proposes:

(i) to endorse the proposals and ask Mr Pattie to implement them, after circulating them to colleagues.

(ii) That Mr Pattie should try and find the right person in the UK to appoint as Director General, who could take up the job in the Autumn;

(iii) agree that only Defence need have a special reporting line from the Director General, in view of the highly classified space work in MOD.

(iv) agree that April 1986 should be adopted as the date for setting up the trading fund?

Mark Addison

MARK ADDISON

23 August 1985

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