TO: NASA Langley Employees

SUBJECT: Airborne Trailblazer

Enclosed is your personal copy of AIRBORNE TRAILBLAZER: Two Decades with NASA Langley's 737 Flying Laboratory. The book, the first aeronautics title to be published for the prestigious NASA History Series, tells the story of one research aircraft, Langley's Boeing 737, and the people who used it to further aeronautical research. Since its early days with NASA, our 737 has been a testbed for cutting-edge research, including aircraft safety, efficiency and reliability.

This is not just a history book! Author Lane Wallace explores the creative methods of technology transfer which the 737 made possible during its 20-year career at Langley. There are several "technology transfer myths" which the author puts to rest--including the idea that industry automatically "gobbles up" new technology as soon as it is received; that a "better mousetrap" is self-evident and doesn't need setting; that "exciting and valid" technology will "automatically" be used.

AIRBORNE TRAILBLAZER describes successes in technology transfer. It provides examples which demonstrate how successful technology transfer has consistently been achieved. Twenty years of case studies dramatically show the
value of personal contact between our researchers and our industry counterparts throughout the technology development process.

I hope that you will enjoy this book for years to come.

J. F. Creedon

Enclosure