HISTORIAN SPEAKS ON 75 YEARS OF NASA LANGLEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July 17, 1992 marks the 75th anniversary of the NASA Langley Research Center. On July 17, 1917, Langley became the nation's first civilian aeronautical laboratory and since then has been in the forefront of air and space flight.

To commemorate this historic event, Dr. James R. Hansen, Langley historian, will reflect on seven and a half decades of aerospace accomplishments during a NASA Langley colloquium Thursday, July 16. Hansen's lecture, "A Flight Through 75 Years of Langley History," will be held in the H.J.E. Reid Conference Center, 14 Langley Boulevard, at 2 p.m. and is open to employees, retirees and contractors.

Hansen, a history professor at Auburn University in Alabama, is the author of Engineer in Charge: An Institutional History of Langley Aeronautical Laboratory, 1917-1958." He is writing a history of NASA Langley from 1958 through 1975, and is transforming the tape-recorded historical reminiscences of Fred E. Weick, the pioneering American aeronautical engineer and NACA researcher, into a complete autobiography. He was a distinguished lecturer of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics for 1986-87.

In addition to Engineer in Charge, Hansen is the author of papers delivered before the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Conference for Historic Aviation -more-
Writers, the Society for the History of Technology, the Air Force Historical Foundation and the History of Science Society. He received the Dr. Robert H. Goddard Essay Award for 1985 from the National Space Club and the Air Force Historical Foundation Award for the best scholarly article to appear in Aerospace Historian in 1985.

A native of Indiana, Hansen received a bachelor of arts degree from Indiana University in 1974, a master of arts from The Ohio State University in 1976 and a doctorate in history of science from Ohio State in 1981.

NOTE TO EDITORS: A press conference will be held Thursday, July 16, at 1:15 p.m., in the H.J.E. Reid Conference Center, 14 Langley Boulevard. To participate in the briefing, please call the Office of Public Affairs, 864-6124, prior to noon that day.