MEMORANDUM

TO: 413/Roy V. Harris, Jr.
FROM: 359/Richard T. Whitcomb
SUBJECT: Means for Reducing Drag Due to Lift

September 23, 1971

The 8-Foot Tunnels Branch has determined by experimentation that drag due to lift can be substantially reduced by placing the engines or specially designed end plates at the wing tips. Flow surveys indicate that these devices break up the tip vorticity. Work on these approaches will continue. In spite of the many hard-nosed engineers who feel that any such method is impractical - some means of reducing drag due to lift will be utilized on future aircraft design. However, as I indicated in the meeting the other day, we must concentrate our research on methods that common sense indicate could be used in the real world.

Richard T. Whitcomb