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# NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS

AIRCRAFT ENGINE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
CLEVELAND AIRPORT, CLEVELAND, OHIO

August 12, 1946.

TELEPHONE: ORCHARD 5200

COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS  
1500 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE., DUPONT CIRCLE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY  
LANGLEY FIELD, HAMPTON, VA.

AMES AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY  
MOFFETT FIELD, CALIF.

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AMES  
AUG 28  
1946

Mr. Smith J. DeFrance, Engineer-in-Charge,  
Ames Aeronautical Laboratory,  
Moffett Field, California.

Dear Smitty:

Excuse my delay in writing to you in reference to the conference at Ames on July 16, 1946. First I want to thank you for the very excellent time I had there and for the very excellent hospitality of your group. I am sure we will all remember the party at Ricci's for some time.

In connection with specific comments on the presentations, first I want to say that the staff at Ames made an excellent showing as was indicated by the interest of the audience and in discussion on the conference both at San Francisco and later at Los Angeles. There are a few comments I might make: the speakers should have been more at ease. Several of them gave the impression that their talks were memorized. There was a tendency for them to use cliches. I think it is preferable that the men assume an informal attitude in their talks--more as though they were conversing with the group rather than talking to them.

I think at future conferences our displays should be less elaborate. There was a tendency to wonder in what manner the charts would be changed in each succeeding demonstration. In the flight work, I would have appreciated more information on the test results and less on the instrumentation.

Of course, the purpose of this conference was to familiarize the people attending it with the apparatus available at Ames. But I think at a future meeting more emphasis should be placed on results. When I went to the Langley conference I felt I was getting a rather intense course in aerodynamics as contrasted to an explanation of research facilities.

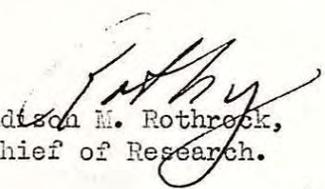
The operation of the wind tunnels at the Ames conference was discussed in somewhat too much detail. I thought the icing talk was quite excellent. The movie was well prepared and interesting

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although the shots of the men getting into the plane might be deleted. The talk at the full-scale wind tunnel was particularly interesting because of the material it presented with which I was unfamiliar. I particularly enjoyed the discussion at the 12-foot wind tunnel.

In connection with the group leaders, I think a little more pep might have been shown in keeping the group together in moving from one building to another. It is my impression that in handling a group of this sort they specifically want to be told where to go and to be prevented from straggling. Although, in that line, I might mention an experience we had at Cleveland:- We were showing a group through the laboratory one of the members being Dr. Hunsaker. Unfortunately, one of our guides did not know Dr. Hunsaker. During the course of the tour, he called Dr. Hunsaker and told him we would prefer not to have any straggling. Dr. Hunsaker said, "Young man, if I want to straggle, I'll straggle!"

Very truly yours,

  
Addison M. Rothrock,  
Chief of Research.

AMR:jhg

JEROME C. HUNSMER, SC.D., CHAIRMAN  
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NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
 FOR AERONAUTICS

AIRCRAFT ENGINE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
 CLEVELAND AIRPORT, CLEVELAND, OHIO

TELEPHONE ORCHARD 5200

August 5, 1946.

COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS  
 1800 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE., DUPONT CIRCLE  
 WASHINGTON 25, D.C.  
 LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY  
 LANGLEY FIELD, HAMPTON, VA.  
 AMES AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY  
 MOFFETT FIELD, CALIF.

AMES  
 AUG 12  
 1946

AIRMAIL

Mr. Smith J. DeFrance,  
 Engineer-in-Charge,  
 Ames Aeronautical Laboratory,  
 Moffett Field, California.

Dear Smitty:

It was certainly nice of you to write the very fine letter of July 29, complimenting our staff on service rendered for your Annual Inspection, and I am passing it on to the boys who did the work. A little pat on the back always helps, and I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

We will be very happy to have you call on us at any time for any service we can render you.

I didn't really have a chance to visit around and talk to the group out there. The stay was much too short. But I want to tell you how very much I enjoyed the trip, and particularly the dinner, one feature of which - according to Walter Diehl - was the best example ever seen of collaboration and concerted action on the part of the laboratories! It does seem too bad you have all the good restaurants - Rickey's (?), Dinah's, Longbarn's, etc. - all grouped together there.

Best regards to you, and thanks for your fine hospitality.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ray.*  
 Edward R. Sharp,  
 Manager.

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Moffett Field, California,  
July 29, 1946.

J.

MEMORANDUM For Staff

Subject: FIRST ANNUAL INSPECTION - AMES AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY.

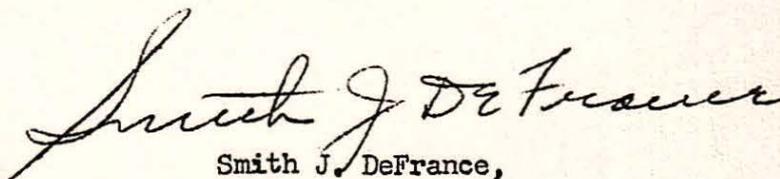
1. The excellent manner in which the First Annual Inspection was organized and conducted was greatly appreciated by the Director of Aeronautical Research and I want to give to the staff a quotation from a letter just received from Dr. Lewis.

" I was very pleased to receive your letter of July 17, and am indeed sorry that I was not able to be present at the First Annual Inspection of the Ames Laboratory. I want to extend to you and all the members of your staff my most sincere appreciation of your efforts in making this First Annual Inspection an outstanding success.

"All the returns are not in, but everyone has indicated his pleasure and appreciation of being able to be present and witness the most interesting of demonstrations. Special mention was made of the talks given by the members of the technical staff, which were clear and to the point.

"Admiral Richardson made a special call at the office Tuesday to tell me how pleased he was, as a Member of the Committee, with the outstanding success of this First Annual Inspection. He spoke in a most enthusiastic manner with reference to the subjects discussed, the research equipment, and the generally excellent appearance of the Laboratory. I most sincerely regret that Admiral Richardson is leaving the Navy, because he has been a most helpful and understanding Member.

"I would greatly appreciate your expressing to your staff my personal pride in the manner in which the First Annual Inspection was conducted and the research projects discussed."



Smith J. DeFrance,  
Engineer-in-Charge.

JEROME C. HUNSAKER, SC. D., CHAIRMAN  
GEORGE J. MEAD, SC. D., VICE CHAIRMAN

CHARLES G. ABBOT, SC. D.      ROBERT H. HINCKLEY, A. B.  
MAJ. GEN. HENRY H. ARNOLD, U. S. A.      CAPTAIN SYDNEY M. KRAUS, U. S. N.  
MAJ. GEN. GEORGE H. BRETT, U. S. A.      FRANCIS W. REICHELDERFER, SC. D.  
LYMAN J. BRIGGS, PH. D.      REAR ADMIRAL JOHN H. TOWERS, U. S. N.  
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DONALD H. CONNOLLY, B. S.      ORVILLE WRIGHT, SC. D.  
WILLIAM F. DURAND, PH. D.

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AMES AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY  
MOFFETT FIELD, CALIF.

AIRCRAFT ENGINE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, CLEVELAND, OHIO

July 25, 1946.

TELEPHONE: HAMPTON 6341

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PREP REPLY \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Smith J. DeFrance, Engineer-in-Charge,  
Ames Aeronautical Laboratory,  
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics,  
Moffett Field, California.

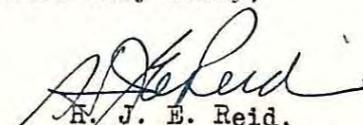
Dear Smith:

Now that I am home again, I want to let you know how much I appreciated the hospitality of all you folks out there, and particularly to let you know how much I appreciated the work of Hood and Parsons. They had preparations for the conference very nicely organized, and I was particularly pleased that I was able, through their organization, to work effectively with them. The teamwork shown by everyone was splendid, and I appreciated the courtesy and cooperation shown by everybody with whom I had contact. It was a swell show and an indication of a good organization.

I also want to thank you and Ruth for your kind hospitality, as I thoroughly enjoyed myself while there.

With kind regards, I am

Yours very truly,

  
E. J. E. Reid,  
Engineer-in-Charge.

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July 17, 1946

Mr. Smith J. DeFrance  
Engineer-in-Charge  
Ames Aeronautical Laboratory  
Moffett Field, Calif.

Dear Mr. DeFrance:

On behalf of the NACA I wish to congratulate and commend the entire staff of the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory on the grand success of the First Annual Inspection on July 16, 1946.

Despite the fact that this was the first such affair at the Ames Laboratory, it measured up to the NACA standards in every respect and reflected credit not only on the Laboratory but also on the NACA as an organization. The visitors with whom I talked were unsparring in their praise of the NACA and were impressed not only by the clearness and extent of the data presented but also by the smooth efficient teamwork of all who had a part.

The members of the main Committee who were present were proud of the splendid showing made by the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory and wish their congratulations to be conveyed to all personnel of the Laboratory and especially to those who contributed to the success of the occasion.

Sincerely yours,

John F. Victory,  
Executive Secretary.

JFV:lsb