

LETTER OF THE DAY

Slings and Arrows

RE: "AIRPLANE opened era of mass tourism," by Eric Margolis, Dec. 14.

Although we appreciate any aviation article in the media, we offer some additional information on the development of passenger jets.

We speak of the Canadian AVRO jetliner designed by the brilliant Jim Floyd, member of the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame, who went on to design the world renowned Concorde!

First flown on Aug. 10, 1949, the AVRO jetliner was the first jet transport in North America, second in the world after the ill-fated British Comet by only 14 days. The Canadian jetliner was the first aircraft to successfully fly higher (35,000 feet) and faster (350 mph) than conventional aircraft of the day.

Unfortunately, the Canadian government refused to let AVRO Aircraft build it, preferring to build the CF 100 Canuck fighter aircraft for NATO and, they hoped, the Korean War. The jetliner flew for some seven years, criss-crossing even the U. S. in the service of AVRO Aircraft Co.

The first jet airmail flight to New York on April 18, 1950, saw the jetliner's crew paraded through the streets to be honored by the mayor.

We think Margolis was remiss in not mentioning the considerable contribution made by the Canadian aviation industry during this period. Indeed the Boeing 727, 747 and McDonnell Douglas DC8 and even the Concorde were all conceived by Canadian designers at AVRO.

**Doug Hyslip, President
ARROW 2000 PROJECT**

(Thanks for setting the record straight.)