The Blazing Trail, known in the United Kingdom as The Forged Will, is a 1949 American western film directed by Ray Nazarro and starring Charles Starrett. Charles Starrett as The Durango Kid (aka Steve Allan), Marjorie Stapp as Janet Masters. Fred F. Sears as Luke Masters. Steve Darrell as Sam Brady. Jock Mahoney as Full House Patterson. Trevor Bardette as Jess Williams. Hank Penny as Musician. Slim Duncan as Musician. Smiley Burnette as Smiley Burnette. Steve Pendleton as Kirk Brady. It introduces the reader to the history of early rocketry and the subsequent developments that led into the space age. People of various nations and from various lands contributed to the breakthrough to space, and the book takes the reader to far away places on five continents. It also includes many quotes to give readers a flavor of how the participants viewed the developments. Most publications on the topic either target narrow aspects of rocket history or are popular books that scratch the surface, with minimal and sometimes inaccurate technical details. This book bridges the gap. It introduces the reader to the history of early rocketry and the subsequent developments which led into the space age. People of various nations and from various lands contributed to the breakthrough to space, and the book takes the reader to far away places on five continents. This world-encompassing view of the realization of the space age reflects the author’s truly unique personal experience, a life journey from a child growing on the Tyuratam ballistic missile launch base in the 1950s and early 1960s, to an accomplished space physicist and engineer to the founding director of a major spacecraft. In the 18 chapters of Blazing the Trail, Mike Gruntman covers the “humble beginnings” to the “first thousand years” and provides a thorough description of the "long road that led us from simple fireworks to intercontinental ballistic missiles and powerful space launchers that open the ways to the cosmos" (p. 455). He also discusses the infrastructure required to support the development and testing of rockets and spacecraft, including the building of test and launch sites. Gruntman combines a heavy dose of engineering details with some political insight.