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DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT CO.
TOLSA DIVISION

TO JESS HIGHTOWER

FROM CROSBY MAYNARD

FOLLOWING IS 61-50 FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

WITH NATIONAL AIRLINES

SANTA MONICA, CALIF., APRIL 14- PURCHASE OF SEVEN OF THE NEWEST TYPE OF DC-8S BY NATIONAL AIRLINES INCREASES TOTAL SALES OF THE DOUGLAS JET TRANSPORTS TO 166, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY JACKSON R. MCGOWEN, VICE PRESIDENT-COMMERCIAL SALES FOR DOUGLAS.

THE TURBOFAN-POWERED MODEL ORDERED BY NATIONAL ARE DESIGNATED BY THE MANUFACTURER AS SERIES 50. THEY INCORPORATE ALL THE AERODYNAMIC AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS DEVELOPED SINCE THE ORIGINAL DC-8 MADE ITS MAIDEN FLIGHT ON MAY 30, 1959.

AVERAGE SALES PRICE FOR DOMESTIC SERIES 50 DC-8S WAS GIVEN BY MCGOWEN AS AROUND FIVE AND ONE-HALF MILLION DOLLARS EACH. HE SAID AN ACCOMPANYING ORDER FOR SPARE PARTS ADDS SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE TOTAL CONTRACT.

"NATIONAL WAS ONE OF THE FIRST AIRLINES TO PURCHASE DC-8S" MCGOWEN SAID, "AND WE FEEL THAT THE RE-ORDER DEMONSTRATES THE AIRLINE'S COMPLETE SATISFACTION WITH THE PERFORMANCE, DEPENDABILITY AND SUPERIOR FLYING QUALITIES OF THE JETLINER."

DOUGLAS SAID THE NEW DC-8 CONTRACT WILL ULTIMATELY HAVE A FAVORABLE EFFECT ON EMPLOYMENT AT ITS LONG BEACH PLANT, ALTHOUGH SOME CONTINUING LAYOFFS MUST BE EXPECTED. EMPLOYMENT THERE HAS BEEN CURTAILED DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS, AS MORE THAN 125 DC-8S WERE DELIVERED