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TO JESS HIGHTOWER
FROM CHUCK CHAPPELL

FOLLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SANTA MONICA, CALIF., DEC. 23 -- PURCHASE OF TWO ADDITIONAL DC-8 JETLINERS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE ITALIANE, RAISING ITS ORDER FOR DOUGLAS TURBINE TRANSPORTS TO A TOTAL OF SIX.

J R MCGOWEN, DOUGLAS VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMERCIAL PROGRAMS, SAID ALITALIA IS THE FIFTH AIRLINE TO INCREASE ITS PURCHASE OF DC-8S.

ALL OF THE DC-8S PURCHASED BY ALITALIA ARE EXTENDED RANGE INTERCONTINENTAL MODELS POWERED BY ROLLS-ROYCE CONWAY ENGINES. DELIVERIES ON THE ORIGINAL ORDER FOR FOUR ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN EARLY IN 1960 AND ON THE SUBSEQUENT PURCHASE IN THE SPRING OF 1961.

A TOTAL OF 20 AIRLINES HAVE SELECTED THE DC-8 FOR THEIR DE LUXE JET SERVICES. FIRM ORDERS FOR THE DOUGLAS JET NOW STAND AT 152, MCGOWEN SAID.

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