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A-D-719 AUG 13 1959 1154AM

TO JESS HIGHTOWER FROM H K GAGOS

FOLLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.

LONG BEACH, CALIF., AUG 13 -- A DC-8 JETLINER STREAKED 2560 STATUTE MILES FROM LONG BEACH TO MONTREAL IN FOUR HOURS AND 12 MINUTES, DOUGLAS TEST PILOT BILL SMITH REPORTED TODAY ON HIS RETURN TO LONG BEACH.

AVERAGE FLYING SPEED, TIMED FROM CONTROL TOWER TO CONTROL TOWER, WAS 610 MILES PER HOUR. TAKE-OFF TO TOUCHDOWN TIME FOR THE FLIGHT WAS FOUR HOURS AND 45 MINUTES, INCLUDING A 30-MINUTE LANDING DELAY BECAUSE OF TRAFFIC AT MONTREAL.

THE FLIGHT WAS MADE IN AN INTERCONTINENTAL MODEL DC-8 POWERED BY PRATT & WHITNEY AIRCRAFT JT4 ENGINES AS PART OF THE OFFICIAL FAA CERTIFICATION TEST PROGRAM.

AMONG THE 22 CREW MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS ABOARD WERE SIX FAA OFFICIALS HEADED BY TEST PILOT JOHN FRANCEK. B. A. FOULDS, DOUGLAS

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CHIEF TEST PILOT, WAS CO-PILOT AND S. V. GENTILE, SYSTEMS OPERATOR.

FINAL LEG OF A 6000-MILE PROVING FLIGHT, BY WAY OF VANCOUVER, B.C. WAS COMPLETED TODAY.

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TO JESS HIGHTOVER

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