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TO JESS HIGHTOWER
FROM CHUCK CHAPPELL

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TELETYPE

FOLLOWING IS TRANSMITTED FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE IN YOUR AREA..

LONG BEACH, CALIF. -- THE FOURTH DC-8 TRANSPORT TO ROLL OFF THE PRODUCTION LINES TODAY JOINED ITS THREE PREDECESSORS IN AN ACCELERATING FLIGHT TEST PROGRAM.

WILLIAM M MAGRUDER, WHO HAS FLOWN THE DOUGLAS JET SINCE THE MAIDEN FLIGHT OF THE FIRST TRANSPORT ON MAY 30, WAS AT THE CONTROLS WHEN DC-8 NUMBER FOUR CLIMBED OFF LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL AIRPORT. IN THE COCKPIT WITH HIM WERE D L MULLIN, CO-PILOT, AND WILLIAM SMITH, ACTING AS SYSTEMS OPERATOR.

TODAY'S FLIGHT MET A DOUGLAS GOAL OF HAVING FOUR JETLINERS IN FLIGHT TEST STATUS BY THE START OF THE YEAR. THIS REPRESENTS ONE-HALF THE TOTAL OF EIGHT TO BE TEST FLOWN CONCURRENTLY.

ONE OF THE IMPORTANT ROLES TO BE PLAYED IN THE TESTING AND C.A.A. CERTIFICATION PROGRAM BY THE J57-POWERED TRANSPORT FLOWN TODAY WILL BE TO DEMONSTRATE SUCH PASSENGER COMFORT FEATURES AS AIR CONDITIONING AND INTERIOR SOUND PROOFING.

IT WILL ALSO ESTABLISH THE EFFICIENCY OF THE JETLINER'S ICE PROTECTION SYSTEM AND RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

THE EIGHT AIRPLANES TO BE USED IN THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM, SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS MONTH, WILL INCLUDE ALL VARIATIONS IN POWER PLANTS, FUEL CAPACITY AND GROSS WEIGHTS.

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