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## Swissair Setting the Standards with Natural Gourmet

Swissair has become the first airline to introduce organically grown products in all classes of its inflight catering. "Natural Gourmet" is the name of the new catering concept being introduced on Swissair flights departing Switzerland. Within three years, Natural Gourmet should be expanded to cover Swissair's entire flight schedule. The variety and quality of the menus will not be diminished. On the contrary, Natural Gourmet means healthy and enjoyable fare on all Swissair flights.

- Being environmentally conscious in both word and deed is a firm commitment of Swissair. Technical advancement has made it possible to reduce noise levels and the amount of pollution emissions coming from aircraft. Swissair's environmental report card is a positive standout among airlines. Swissair is also a prominent practitioner of environmentally-correct garbage and waste disposal. Now the introduction of organically grown food products in preparing inflight meals compliments Swissair's environmental care efforts.

## Mini news from Switzerland

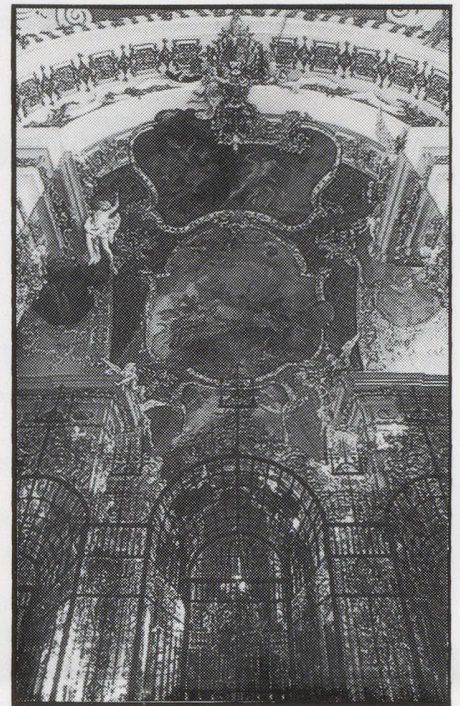
New car sales in Switzerland have been rising sharply, providing new evidence that the economy may be coming out of recession. Sales in September rose by 8 % over August which was also a very good month. However the industry reports that the first 6 months of the year were poor leading to an overall drop in sales in the first 9 months of 1 %.

A new anti-racism newspaper has been launched by the Swiss Government. The newspaper is called "Spock", after the famous science-fiction character and free copies are being distributed to vocational Schools and companies. With this newspaper the federal commission against racism fulfils its mandate.

A Postal conference in Geneva has been told that letter deliveries and postal services are set to expand for the next 8 years. This message was delivered to 500 Ministers and postal officials by the Universal Postal Union. With the livelihood of more than 6 million postal employees it is also warning against complacency. The biggest challenge of the Postal Union is not the electronic market but the development of private postal services and the expansion of express delivery companies. And it's very vulnerable to the overall state of the economy of any country. The Berne-based organisation is urging its members to become more competitive to appeal to business users. At the same time it says postal services must expect to perform as a public service and to remain part of the social fabric. One of the challenges will be to keep hold of some of the booming parcel-delivery-business generated by internet shopping, - it used to be known as mail-order.!!

A new survey shows 56 % of Swiss people are in favour of Switzerland joining the European Union as soon as possible (1.10.97).

Nearly one in five said they had recently changed their opinion on the issue and of that number 2/3 said they joined the camp of EU-supporters. The survey also establishes that a majority of Cantons are in favour of joining the EU. Five years ago voters rejected a treaty on closer ties with Brussels.



## Successful Restoration at Einsiedeln

*The big restoration job at the monastery-church of Einsiedeln has come to an end.*

*The project has taken 22 years to complete.*

*And the cost?*

*19.5 million Sw. francs came from private donations and from the sale of candles. And the rest from subsidies.*

