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SWISSAIR'S OPERATIONS IN FIRST HALF OF 1960

Swissair carried 10 per cent more traffic in the first half of 1960 compared with the same period a year previously. Capacity produced rose by 6 per cent, resulting in an improved average load factor on the scheduled services of 59.9 per cent, compared with 57.6 per cent for the first half of 1959. Freight traffic showed relatively the largest expansion with a rise of 16 per cent.

In the period under review Swissair received its first Douglas DC-8 and Caravelle jets, which were put into service on the North Atlantic and between London and Zurich from the end of May. The results achieved with the new aircraft are highly encouraging; the Caravelle "Solothurn" carried between Zurich and London in the first 30 days of operation a total of 7,425 passengers, corresponding to an average utilisation of 75.2 per cent. The DC-8 "Matterhorn" carried 2,369 passengers across the North Atlantic in the first month of operation, producing a seat utilisation of 75.9 per cent. Technically and operationally experience so far with both types of jet has been good.

Owing to the delayed delivery of the first DC-8, less traffic was carried on the North Atlantic in the period under review than the company had anticipated. This setback was aggravated by the fact that on other sectors, too, operation of some services originally planned had to be reduced — without leading to a corresponding lowering of costs. It is expected, however, that the situation will largely improve in the second half of the year.

Competition became more severe on the routes to the Middle East and Far East, where other carriers

were already operating jets. To the Middle East Swissair has been progressively introducing Caravelles since July, and thereby expects to strengthen its position. South America traffic developed favourably.

STATISTICS

	January-June 1960	January-June 1959
	Ton-kilometres	
Offered	100,147,000	94,833,000
	+ 6%	
Utilised	59,941,000	54,562,000
	+ 10%	
Passenger and baggage	43,732,000	40,452,000
	+ 8%	
Freight	13,030,000	11,254,000
	+ 16%	
Mail	3,179,000	2,856,000
	+ 11%	
Load factor on the scheduled services	59.9%	57.6%

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