

Swissair news

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SWISSAIR NEWS

90-PER-CENT-JET SUMMER FOR SWISSAIR

Ninety per cent of Swissair's summer operations this year will be by jet. The Swiss airline has budgeted for 250 million tkm during the season — 50 million tkm more than last summer.

Throughout the world a Swissair aircraft will be landing or taking off every 4½ minutes, on average.

Government approval has been given for new West African services to Accra, to start on 2nd May. Approval is still awaited for a new twice-weekly North Atlantic service scheduled for 17th May.

The new Atlantic service would link Zurich, Montreal and Chicago by DC-8 jet and would be in addition to the fourteen flights a week between Zurich and New York. Until 30th July it would operate on Mondays and Thursdays. From 4th August flights would be on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

The jets are timed to leave Zurich at 08.30, arrive Montreal at 11.30, depart at 12.20 and arrive Chicago (O'Hare) at 13.20. After a 2hr. 40 min. turn-round the return journey would begin at 16.00, arriving Montreal at 18.50, leaving at 19.30 and landing in Zurich at 07.30 next day.

Swissair's DC-8s carry 130 passengers — 114 economy class and 16 first class.

Coronado services

The new Swissair services by the latest passenger jet — the Convair 990 Coronado — from Zurich to West Africa start on 2nd May, with Wednesday flights leaving Zurich at 13.35, calling at Geneva (14.15 – 14.55), Tripoli (18.10 – 18.50), Lagos (22.05 – 22.45), and “beating the clock” to land at Accra at 22.30.

This service operates until 30th May. On 4th May a Coronado Friday service will begin, not calling at Lagos but otherwise keeping to the same schedule, and landing at Accra at 22.30.

The return journeys, on Thursdays and Saturdays respectively, start at 07.00 from Accra, the May-only flight calling at Lagos (08.50 – 09.30), both flights calling at Tripoli (14.40 – 15.20), Geneva (16.40 – 17.10), and arriving Zurich at 17.50.

A mid-week Coronado service starts on 5th June, leaving Zurich at 22.40 on Tuesdays, calling at Geneva (23.20 – 23.59), Tripoli (03.15 – 03.55), Lagos (07.10 – 07.50), and arriving Accra at 07.35. The return journey on Wednesdays starts from Accra at 20.00, with calls at Lagos (21.50 – 22.30), Tripoli (03.40 – 04.20), Geneva (05.40 – 06.10), arriving Zurich at 06.50.

VICTUAL STATISTICS

Swissair spent £750,000 on food and drink in 1961. About two-thirds of this amount came from the Swiss airline's own flight kitchens, in Zurich, Geneva and Basle, and provisions worth £245,000 were bought from other sources.

Just a few of the items supplied by Swissair's kitchens during the year: 73 tons of fresh meat, 55,000 chickens, 475,000 eggs, 82 tons of fruit, 54,199 tins of asparagus tips, 171,435 bottles of soft drinks and 5,900 gallons of wine.

DUTY-FREE

The turnover of the duty-free shops which opened in September 1961 at Zurich and Geneva airports is now well over one million Swiss francs (£82,000).

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