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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

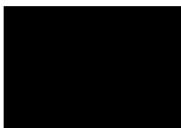
25X1A2g

COUNTRY Belgium

SUBJECT Sabena Helicopter Operation Costly/  
Brussels Airport Construction Program

DATE           

PLACE ACQUIRED  
(BY SOURCE)



25X1X6

Supplemental to:

25X1A2g

DATE ACQUIRED  
(BY SOURCE)

Responsive to

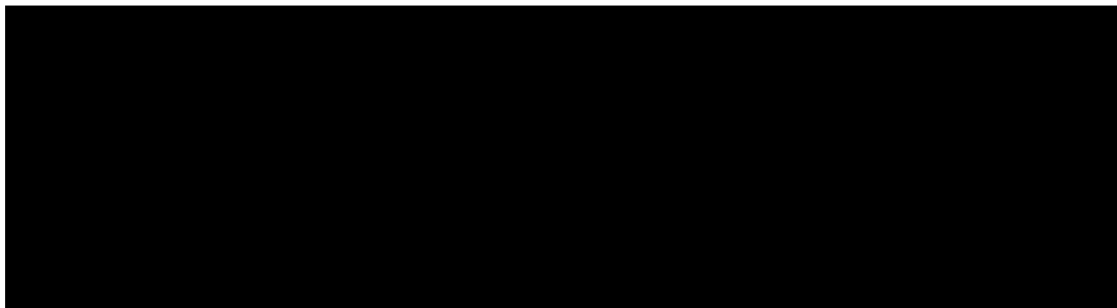
DATE (OF INFO)

Mid-Jul 54

PROCESSED

25X1X6

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1. Sabena [Société Anonyme Belge d'Exploitation de la Navigation Aérienne] helicopter operations are [as of mid-July 1954] very satisfactory but definitely costly in that revenues come nowhere near meeting operating expenses. A sight-seeing service is being operated around Waterloo but the numerous take-offs and short flights have caused a large increase in the need for replacement parts. One of Sabena's helicopters recently experienced a successful auto-rotation landing after losing the tail rotor due to the faulty functioning of the throttle control.
2. Sabena's fourth, and largest, hangar is [in mid-July 1954] nearing completion and in about a month will be ready for occupancy by the DC-6 line service activity. The hangar presently used for this purpose will then be occupied by the DC-3 and DC-4 service groups. The location now used by these groups will become the site for the performance of the IRAN [Inspection and Repair As Necessary] maintenance on USAF C-119s which Sabena has contracted to undertake. A new freight terminal, adjacent to the present passenger terminal, is nearing completion and plans are being readied for the construction of a new passenger terminal, near the hangar area, to be finished in early 1958 to coincide with the opening of the World's Fair or Centennial to be held in Brussels at that time. A new highway from the airport to Brussels will be in use in about a year [July 1955].
3. Sabena may be purchasing a KLM Royal Dutch Airlines DC-4 in the near future for Sobelair [Société Belge de Transports Par Air, SA]. Mr. Verheyen and a few Sabena inspectors will arrive in Amsterdam around 21 Jul 54 to look over the airplane.

airline activities, repair  
56-50.4, 6

126 Belgium

TYPE AGT-DATE INFO-REF-DATE AREA  
- 54 - 54

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helicopter use  
15-48, 9

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