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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY **France**

SUBJECT **Societe Nationale de Constructions Aeronautiques du Sud-est (SNCASE) Helicopter Pilot School/Helicopters and Pilots for Indo-China**

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATIONSOURCE

1. "The French have now asked through Saigon for a total of one hundred R-300 equipped S-55 helicopters. At least five have already reached Indo-China [as of 15 Mar 54].
2. "Soon the US government will receive a request from the French Ministry of National Defense to assure the supply of spare parts for these helicopters.
3. "SNCASE has also requested complete and formal quotations covering ten sets of S-55 components, including five spare engines. These are for the French army and are covered in a contract between SNCASE and the French government.
4. "The French army has asked for radio equipment for these S-55's similar to that on the S-55's now being delivered, as follows:
 - VEF AN ARC - 3
 - Radio Compass AN ARN - 6
 - Interphone AN AIC - 10
 - Manipulateurs Automatiques ME 31 ARA 8 KY 61 ARA 26
5. "SNCASE has a pilots and mechanics school at Buc and La Courneuve, where 75 pilots will be trained in 1954. These pilots will have 50 hours of training on Bell and Hiller helicopters followed by 40 hours on the S-55. The pilot candidates are army personnel and most of them are not even fixed-wing pilots."

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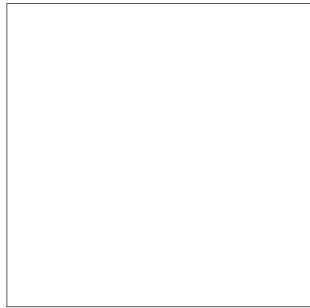
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