

JB
June 6
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HUNGARY

COMMUNICATIONS (500)
Air Transportation (501)

BUDAPEST-ISTANBUL DIRECT FLIGHT TO BE INAUGURATED.

SOURCE ISTANBUL: Air-line announcement.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: May 1956.

EVALUATION COMMENT: The inauguration of the air-lines between Hungary and non-Communist countries is an interesting development in the East-West contacts, since all non-Communist air-lines had been ^{previously} banned from the Hungarian air space.

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The Royal Dutch Air-Lines KLM have announced that a direct flight between ISTANBUL and BUDAPEST will be inaugurated on June 21.

The company will have flights every Thursday connecting FRANKFURT, BUDAPEST, ISTANBUL and CAIRO. The planes' return trip will be the same. On Fridays the KLM flight from AMSTERDAM will pass via DUESSELDORF, SOFIA, ATHENS, BEIRUT and DAMASCUS. KLM officials in Turkey have outlined that recent changes in East-West policy and increasing trade and cultural relations between the two blocs have made it a necessity to open a direct flight between Turkey and Hungary.

End.