

Helicopter Rally and Garden Party

6th June, 1959



WORLD HELICOPTER PHOTO

Smiling in spite of the rain are (right) the host Mr Charles Hughesdon, with Lt |Col J W Richardson, the Association's Charman

Mr and Mrs Hughesdon were again hosts to the 525 members of the Association and their guests, in the grounds of their home, Dunsborough Park, Ripley This affair was as usual a great success although we were not quite so fortunate over the weather

Twelve helicopters flew into the Rally, and we were very pleased to welcome Messrs Otto Rietdorf, W Kuntz and H Kaulisch in a Bell 47-H of Deutscher Helicopter Dienst, Rietdorf K G, Germany Bristol Aircraft sent a Sycamore, flown by Mr C T D Hosegood, with Mr and Mrs

White-Smith, Mrs Hosegood, and Mr Farrand as passengers Mr W H Sear, of Westland Aircraft, arrived in a Widgeon, with Mr Wheeldon and Mr and Mrs Hollis Williams as passengers British European Airways were represented by an S 55 flown by Capt R W Dibb, bringing Capt and Mrs James, and Capt and Mrs Cameron Messrs Saunders-Roe sent a Skeeter The Army Air Corps were represented by Lt-Col J F T Scott, Major Parker, Capt Cullens, Capt Whitehead and Capt Child, in an Alouette and three Skeeters The Joint Experimental Helicopter Unit sent a Whirlwind and a Sycamore, carrying F/Lt Russell, Major Bandy, Capt Truble, F/Lt Clarke, Capt Richardson, and Capt Tippen

The Association wish to record their great appreciation of the kind and generous hospitality of Mr and Mrs Hughesdon who have thrown open their delightful grounds and entertained such a large number of members and guests on four successive occasions The setting of this event in such charming surroundings and the absence of any airfield atmosphere display the aircraft at their best The informality of the arrangements, with helicopters landing and taking off apparently quite casually, provides a most effective demonstration of their proper use, it also conceals some very clever organisation on the part of Capt Cyril Hagues, of B E A, who once again looked after the flying, ably assisted by our host himself

We should also like to thank the firms who sent aircraft and Shell-Mex and B P Ltd, who provided the refuelling facilities