

La Chronique

The Alouette II takes the air for the first time

Le Buc, France, March 12, 1955. Alouette II prototype No. 01 is ready and the weather is very calm. Test-pilot Jean Boulet takes place on board the helicopter and starts the Artouste II engine. When comes time for taking-off, all present engineers and technicians hold their breath. Skids are leaving the ground ... and everything is going well. Jean Boulet is hovering the Alouette for about 10 minutes and is then landing. *"Stick is soft and accurate ... it's fantastic"* is declaring the pilot (*) to the engineers once landed.

(*) Jean BOULET, Histoire de l'Hélicoptère racontée par ses pionniers, éditions France-Empire, Paris, 1991, ISBN 2-7048-0676-4.

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