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SCIENCE SEEKS PREVENTION OF CRASH-FIRES

At an Ohio Research Station old planes were used in an experiment to determine just how fire starts in a crash. Cameras at many points filmed in slow motion as the aircraft was run on to a crash barrier. The pictures established that when the fuel tanks were smashed petrol vapour took fire in exhaust flames.

So for the next test water-sprays cooled the exhaust pipes and automatic fuel-tank valves closed. Carburettors *sealed*. Result - the petrol vapourised harmlessly. All passenger planes may soon carry anti-fire devices based on the findings of this experiment.