

Jan. 14, 1955

Music: Wings Over America  
Klein  
Abbott  
Non  
Issue 1/14/55

MINUS RUNWAY: FIRST ZERO-LENGTH LAUNCHING FOR JET AIRCRAFT

Edwards Air Force Base, California. The Air Force adapts "guided-missile" launching techniques to jet aircraft. Using a platform, mounted on a truck, as Department of Defense films show, the piloted jet fighter is raised to launching angle, by the truck's 'arms'. The "zero-length" launchings are assisted by the swift thrust of booster bottles beneath the tail of the craft. Now -- ready for the world's first flight of a jet fighter, without preliminary take-off run!

The booster bottle is jettisoned -- and, away we go!! ...

Normally, an eight thousand foot runway is required -- today, it becomes possible to eliminate runways under certain combat conditions.

8000  
2700  
176  
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940