Navy airma complete their training

18th December 1953

H.M.S. Goldcrest - the school for Navy flyers, near St. David's, Permbrokeshire, where Fleet Air Arm pilots (and an American under an exchange scheme) undergo their final training before being posted for service

2083

Flying Seahawks (the single-seater turbo-jet fighter) the men, (already qualified pilots) are being prepared for one of the toughest flying jobs - that of landing a plane safely, in all weather conditions, on the heaving deck of a carrier.

It's a tough school, with rigorous and exacting tuition; a few feet of expror can mean the difference between a perfect landing, or, at the very least, an icy ducking.

Even as these pictures were taken, one plane came to grief. Imagine a similar occurrence in mid-ocean, miles from the carrier, and you realise the courage of the men who keep the Navy planes flying For this exercise, the tarmac was marked out like acarrier's deck. trick And, one by one, flying control provided brought them into land, under actual flying conditions. Fledglings, who having won their wings; become the "sea-hawks" of the Fleet.