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Scattered wreckage around a row of suburban homes at Downend, near Bristol, casts a shadow over a famous name in British aviation, the mighty "Britannia"

The aircraft, prototype of the model 300 (a long-range version) ~~was~~ <sup>AT</sup> these nearby woods, when returning to Filton Airfield, after a development flight test.

Ten houses were damaged by the flying debris - and residents had a narrow escape. ~~An inexplicable disaster,~~ The "Whispering Giant" had completed 700 flying hours on test flights.

The crew of four and eleven technicians were killed.

**But** on this same day, British aviation may have lessened the risk of future crashes on landing, or take-off, with the maiden flight of the world's first Vertical Take-off Airliner.

Demonstrated at White Waltham, Berkshire, this revolutionary craft (known as the Fairy "Rotodyne") takes off like a helicopter...

But once airborne, it can fly like a fixed-wing airliner, at a speed of nearly 200 miles per hour.

Reverting to its helicopter characteristics, it can land in a city square. Driven by turbo-prop engines, the "Rotodyne" carries no less than forty-eight passengers, the inter-city "airliner of the future".

1 Tk - 4p.