

AIRCRAFT FIRE RESCUE

The men who fight air crash fires have one ever-present fear - that they may not be able to free trapped victims from the blazing wreckage. Portable electric saws are a great help, like this one being demonstrated on an old Lincoln bomber at an Australian airfield. All right when the heat's not too intense - but when it is, Australia's Civil Aviation Department has a new answer which is quicker and safer than the hand-saw.

Watch the new rescue tender as it goes to work, laying a blanket of foam to clear the path through the flames. A special rotating saw, operated from the tender, cuts an escape hatch in the fuselage in a matter of seconds.

The cutter head does its job and withdraws. Firemen can now enter the fuselage and drag survivors clear. Soon to be standard equipment on all Australian airfields, this tender can save lives in flying's worst danger - the fire that may follow a crash landing.