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VERTICAL JET:

America lifts the security veil from the Ryan X-13 - a jet plane that solves the problem of runways by just not needing one! The X-13 uses a vertical take-off - and that's no mere gimmick, for the ever-increasing speed of modern planes has made the supply of suitable runways a major headache. There she goes - straight up like a helicopter, but with a performance that makes a helicopter look half-paralysed. Once levelled out, she behaves like a normal jet. There's no problem about landing, either - just the same performance in reverse.

This unusual plane spends a lot of its time with its nose in the air. But then, it has got something to boast about!