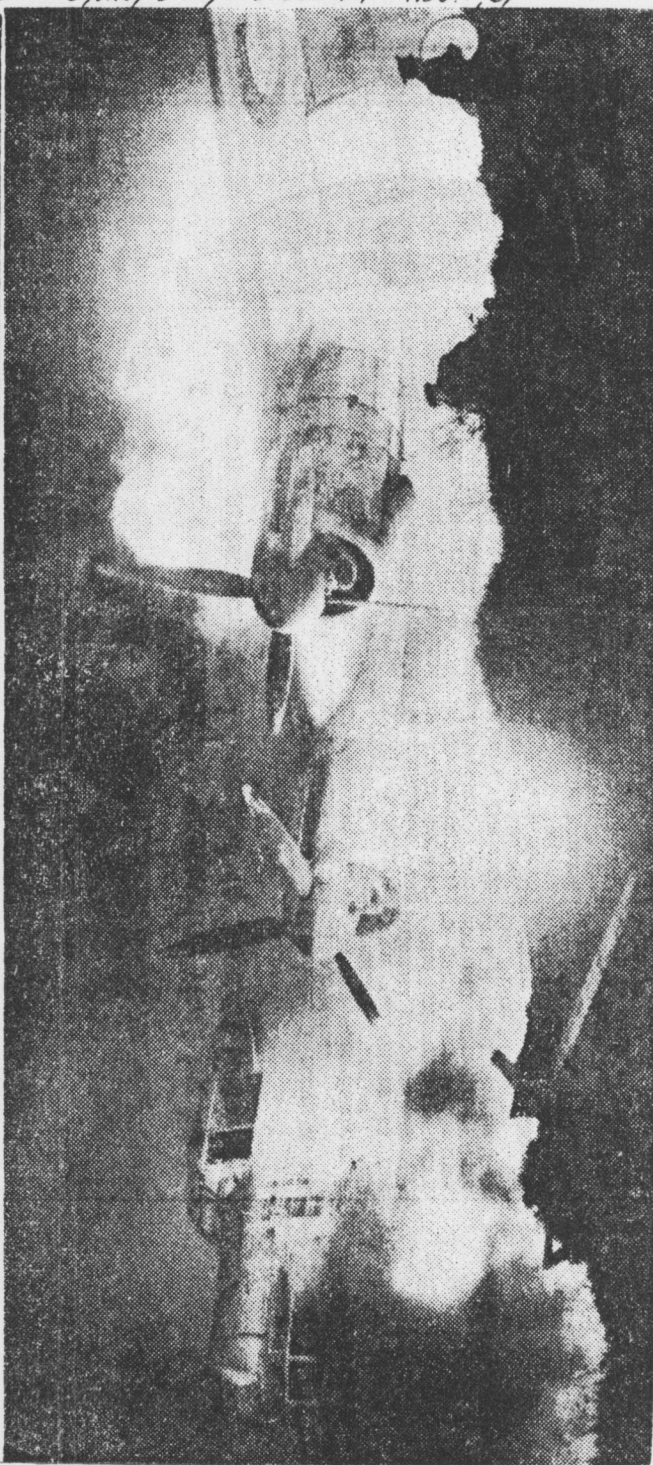


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AIRPORT FIRE EXERCISE



AN OBSOLETE Lincoln bomber burning at Mascot Airport last night when airport authorities had their first night crash and rescue exercise.

Firemen set alight the bomber to provide realism. Police, Central District ambulance and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital staff worked with Civil Aviation airport staff in the exercise. The airport manager (Mr. R. Crampton) controlled the exercise.

He said: "We are not trying to break speed records, but to test coordination and save life."

Dummies inside the bomber represented passengers and crew. Fire tenders brought the blaze under control in sections to allow firemen wearing special fireproof suits and helmets to enter the bomber and carry out the dummies. Firemen cut their way into the bomber using power saws.

Mr. Crampton said the exercise proved that in a real emergency passengers and crew could have been rescued.