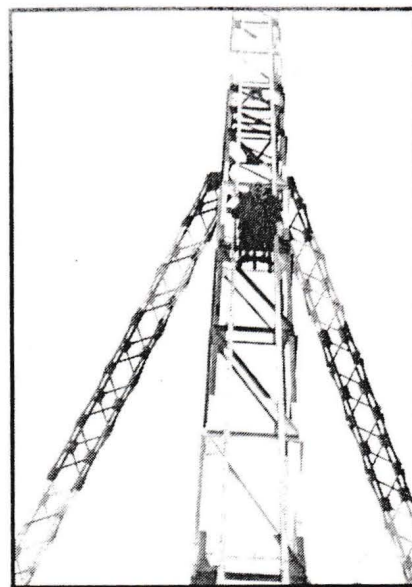


A PRACTICE seat-ejection tower, designed to give RCAF aircrew instruction and training in the technique of emergency escape from the T-33, Sabre or CF-100, has been erected and recently put into operation at the Air Force's Advanced Flying School at Portage la Prairie, Man. The only one of its kind in Canada, it was manufactured by Canadian Flight Equipment Ltd., Cobourg, Ont., under agreement with Martin-Baker Aircraft Co. Ltd. of England.

According to the Air Force, the same sensation as being ejected by any one of the three RCAF jet aircraft is experienced by students during their ascent. Slanted at an angle of



THE GREAT ESCAPE

It's a Toss-up

70°, the tower is 70 feet high. The trainee sits in a seat similar to those used in the aircraft. During the practice ascent, which takes six-tenths of a second, the aircrew student is subject to 12 to 14 G.

The basic ejection seat employs one standard primary cartridge giving it an ejection velocity of 50 feet per second. After firing, the seat attains a height of approximately 55 feet and is stopped by means of an air brake.

The trainee seats himself in the ejector seat, places his feet in the footrests and secures the safety harness. On command from the instructor he draws the firing handle, in the form of a face screen, down over his face, thus releasing the trigger which fires the ejector, and shoots upward. Upon reaching the top, the seat is lowered by means of a suspension tackle incorporated in the tower structure.

The ejection trainer is intended to help familiarize future aircrew with sensations associated with bail-out from high-speed jet-propelled aircraft.

The apprehensive looking officer shown demonstrating the tower in the accompanying photos is Group Captain C. W. Burgess, commanding officer at the RCAF Station at Portage la Prairie. G/C Burgess is in the driver's seat in the picture at upper left, while Canadian Flight Equipment's R. S. Sheaff carries out last-minute adjustments.

