

GB 2451.

~~Bedford~~

Bedford: Determined to remain in the forefront of aeronautical research - Britain's new thirty-million pound extension to the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough - incorporates a supersonic wind tunnel. The most advanced of its kind in the world, it will test model prototypes under high-speed conditions.

This new "testing-bed" was set in motion by Mr Aubrey Jones, Minister of Supply - as the official opening of the new extension.

Inside the tunnel, the airspeed is built up to 1,250 miles an hour - testing the model under actual flight conditions.

~~Meanwhile, technicians~~

Meanwhile, on a closed-circuit television system - technicians watch the shock-waves engulf the model - noting its resistance to varying stresses. The wind tunnel cost eleven million pounds.

Other research apparatus include a land-based steam catapult - to test new machines for service on aircraft-carriers.

Trials are also in progress with a nylon crash-barrier. Here, the Royal Navy's experience (~~gathered~~ when aircraft miss the arrester-hook in carrier landings)

~~is being applied for R.A.F. use.~~ *DOWN*

After every runway test, the nylon barrier is examined - for only constant research can raise the safety standards of aviation.

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