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POGO PLANE

WEIST -- Aarseth

The Navy's revolutionary ~~vertical-takeoff aircraft~~ XFY-1 is poised for the first straight-up takeoff in history by a fighter aircraft. The pilot climbs into a specially-constructed cockpit that move into position for the flight.

The Navy plans to use the ~~new~~ plane as a convoy escort fighter, taking off from the deck of an ordinary cargo ship. Now, the history making flight -- the plane climbs slowly -- but surely -- straight up. It can hover overhead like this -- or level off and fly horizontally at more than five hundred miles an hour. Returning from its mission, the plane can back down for a tail-first landing.

The Navy's "pogo plane" launches a fantastic new chapter in aviation's jet age.