



PRESS RELEASE

MAILING OUT: 12-26-50
SAN DIEGO (5)
AVIATION MAGS 1 & 2

FROM BILL WAGNER

RYAN AERONAUTICAL COMPANY • LINDBERGH FIELD • SAN DIEGO 12, CALIFORNIA

ARMY TESTS JATO

ON L-17 NAVION

A Ryan Navion L-17B liaison plane with Aerojet Jato Junior rocket motor installation recently underwent service tests at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, headquarters of the Fifth Army. The Jato Junior tests, conducted under the supervision of the Aircraft Section of the Army Field Force Test and Evaluation Board No. 1, were to determine the shortest possible take-off distance.

Approximately 40 rockets were fired in the 29 test flights which were carried out under the direction of Colonel Wallace Ford. Some flights were made from unprepared emergency-type runways. Other tests included take-offs in deep sand and uphill. The Jato performance was 100% perfect with not a single under-par test. Average take-off distance under all types of rough terrain condition was found to be approximately 200 feet at full gross load. Some of the flights were run in an overload condition with excellent take-off characteristics.

The Jato Junior is a development of the Aerojet Engineering Corp. of Azusa, California, and is known as Model 12AS-250B. It carries Army Ordnance Designation T43, and has been issued Civil Aeronautics Administration Engine Type Certificate No. 250. Army Field Force requirements for this rocket may be established as a result of these tests.

12-29-50