

Adm. Gaylor ↓

~~OCT 10 1980~~

Dear Noel. STOL landing gear concept.

Crazy New Year's fantasy

(In fact a rediscovery of some old notes)

Would it help to provide lift as well as drag by pulsing air jets* up from the runway in synchrony with the progress of the aircraft?

This is an adaptation of SATO* but keeps the SATO unit(s) on the ground/deck, to avoid the obvious weight penalties.

The air cushion is intended to allow for steeper landings, less vulnerable to wind shear etc.

And the "jets" might be solid fuel rocket engines. If we can get air tanks on and off the jet we mitigate a lot of strategic problems.

Has this been looked out?

JAN 5 1981

Yours,
John