Preflight Precautions

It is your responsibility as airplane commander to see that the following procedures are carried out at required times in order to assure successful bailout if it ever becomes necessary.

1. Before each flight check to see that all crew members and passengers have parachutes, and that parachutes are satisfactorily fitted. Check color patches on chest packs and harnesses to be sure each man has correct type chest pack for his harness. See that all crew members are familiar with bailout signals, proper exits to use for bailout, and operation of hatches. In your transition training these procedures are part of your preflight crew inspection.

2. Most of your crew members have had parachute training. But check anyway to see that everyone aboard inspects his parachute properly and is familiar with proper parachute technique. Inspection of parachutes and parachute technique are covered in detail in your Pilots' Information File. Re-check this information if you are not sure of it.

3. Check to see that extra parachutes are aboard. Carry one extra parachute for every four persons, with at least one extra parachute in forward compartment and one in aft compartment.

4. Have crew members wear parachute harnesses at all times. When crew members are not wearing chest packs, have them keep them in pack slings provided for that purpose. Have each man keep his pack near him at all times.

5. Hold bailout drills as often as possible. In ground bailout drills, simulate bailout emergency, using warning bell signals. On bailout signal time crew members as they leave stations and go out in proper order through assigned hatches. Have them try constantly to improve bailout procedure time.