Merrill Bell of the Thermal Thumbers had a new A-2 of 87 inch span, but since he was still testing, he didn't finish very high.

Jim Scarborough, who flew on many of the Air Force teams, was making himself heard from at this contest turning in a lot of good times finishing high in the winner ranks. Jim, out of the Air Force, is working at Servo Mechanisms.

Unusual Prizes. The San Valeers run a set of contest prizes that is very much different than any other contest in that all the trophies are the same size, the only difference being the inscriptions. They give them thru 10 places and merchandise along with every trophy.

Incidentally, we found out why we got lost, too—they are tearing up the asphalt and reclaiming it. The contest ended as it started raining again. A real fine contest and one of the largest in Southern California this year. Bill Krecek and Gene Wallock as co-contest directors did a fine job.

We saw some fine contest balsa. Sig's stuff, white in color, quarter grained and light. We had almost forgotten what it was like.

Hard Luck Ken. To Ken Willard would go the yearly trophy (if one could be presented) for clobbering R/C jobs due to interference. First it was some ham on 10 meters in the midwest, then the Los Angeles traffic control signals on 27.255 and just last Sunday he claims the power company's transmission on 27.255 spun in his 22" low wing baby. There is a lot of activity by repair crews due to the damage caused by the latest Santana "hot devil" wind which we frequently get out here.

Transplanted Aces. We ran across three modellers from England having a real ball at the Basin recently. Jack Headly, Ron Harrison and Kevin Flynn by name. Kevin has been over here for about 4 years, Jack and Ron for less than a year. When we asked them whether they ever got homesick Jack answered, "Who could get homesick with such a wonderful flying field like this at your disposal?" Their opinion of the Sepulveda Basin: paradise. All three are very active free flight builders, Nordic A-1 and A-2's, gas jobs and scale models. They are now members of the San Valeers.

Anything Goes. When it comes to something different in the way of contests you can count on those San Valeers. Their latest club meet consisted of unlimited gliders. Unlimited to size-weight-or towline. But the topper was the five 3 minute flight limit. Some guys were seen to try to use 200 yards of fishing line only to have the model pop off at much lower altitude due to oscillations under tow or line drag. But they enjoyed every flight.

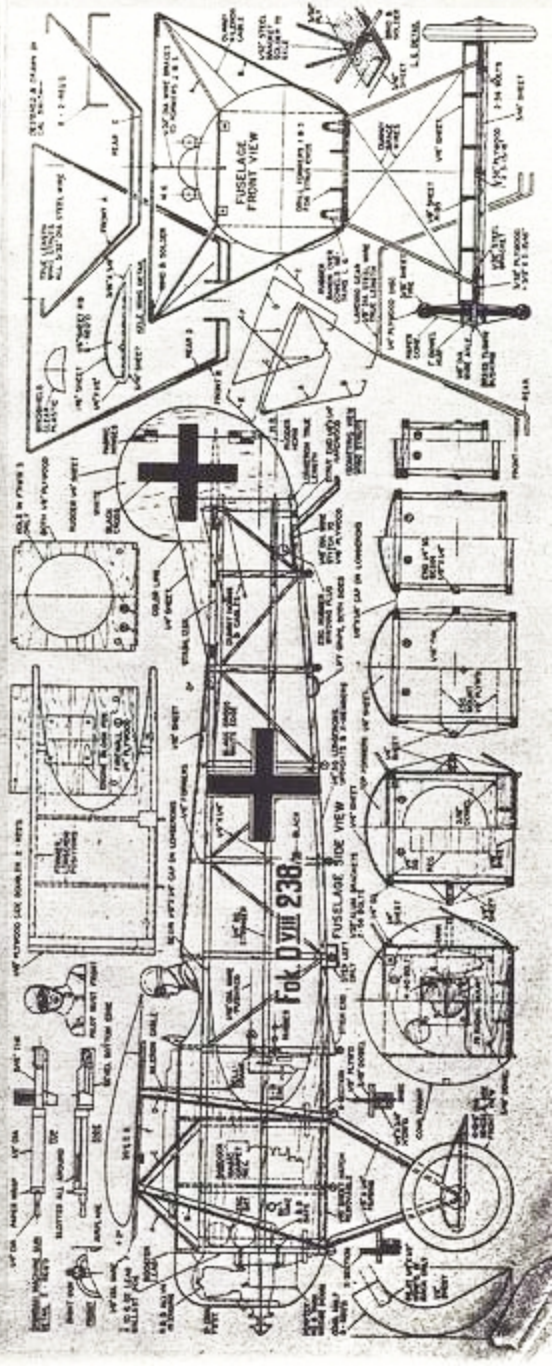
Thumbers' Battle. On the same day the Thermal Thumbers had an unlimited rubber and hand launched glider contest. There were only 30 contestants probably due to the lack of publicity. The day was very calm and fairly warm but only the slightest hint of thermals.

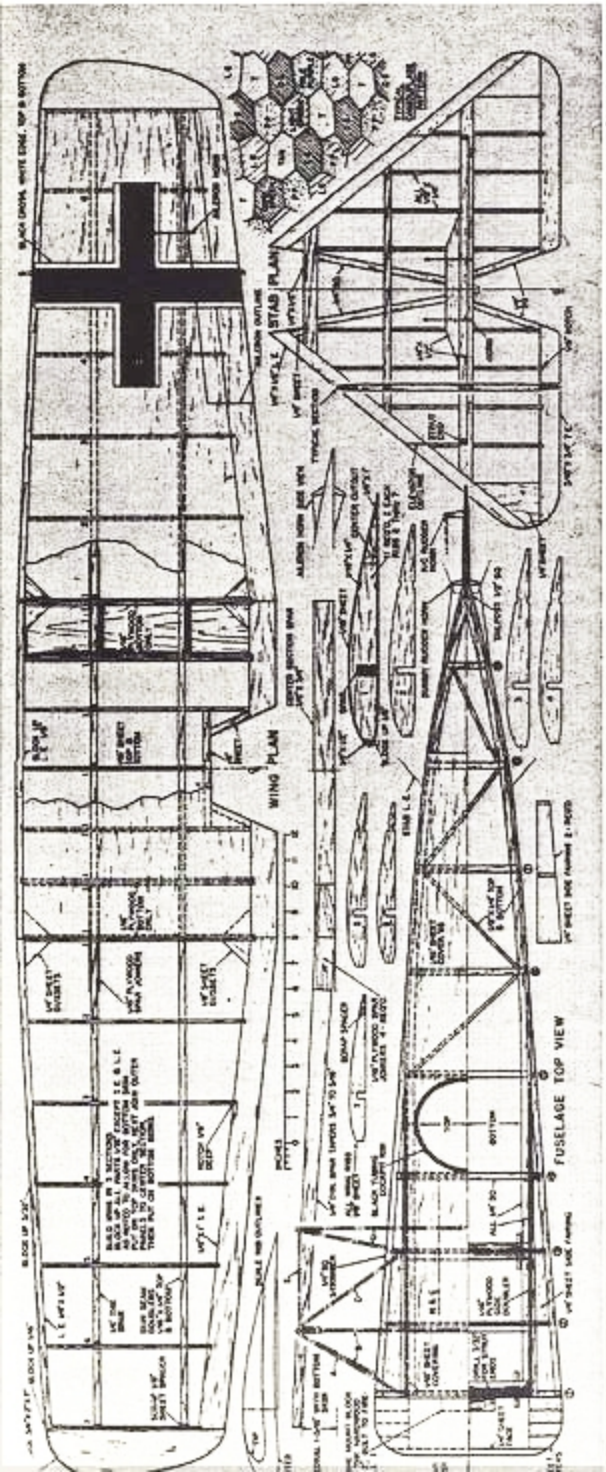
Top man in rubber was Jack Block who very early posted a total of 12:11, then sweat it out until all the rest of the guys took pot shots at his time.

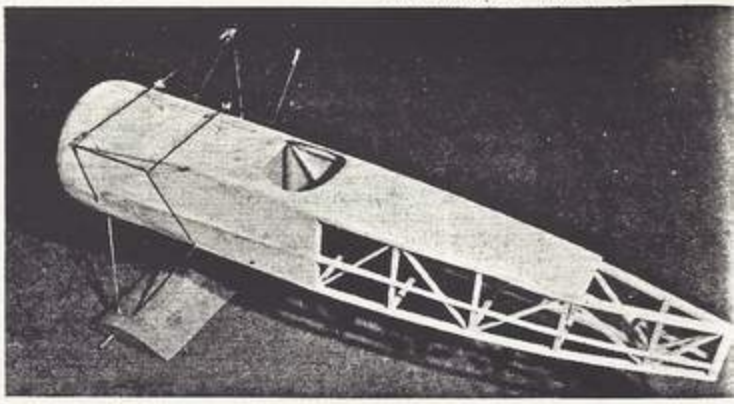
In glider, senior record holder Lee Hines had the right combination to total 9:24 for first place. Newcomer to Cali-

(*Continued on page 52*)

FOKKER D-VIII "FLYING RAZOR" FOR RADIO CONTROL

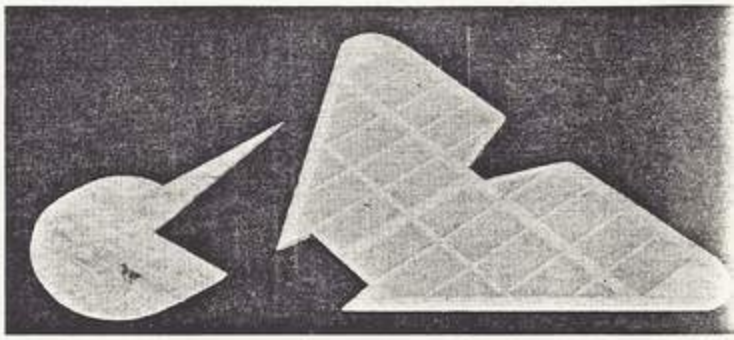


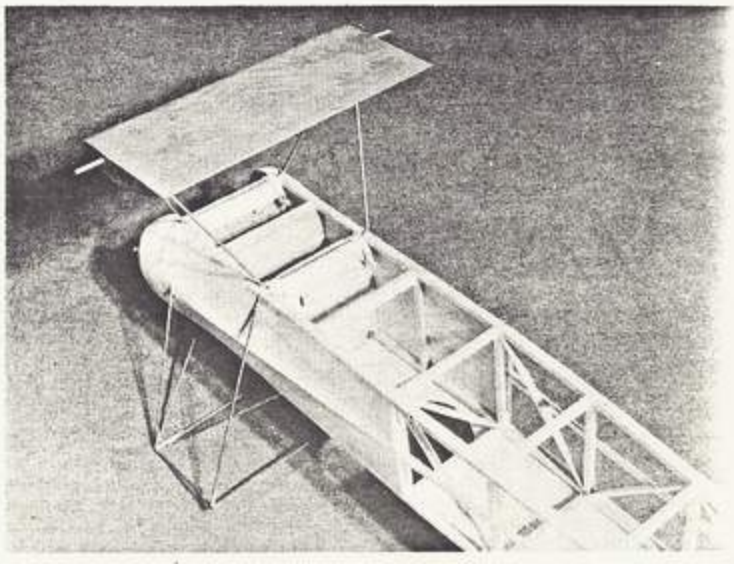




"FLYING RAZOR"

RADIO CONTROL D-8



Designed and Drawn by S. Calhoun Smith

Full size plans for the Fokker D-8 "Flying Razor" are part of Group Plan #358 from Hobby Helpers, 770 Hunts Point Ave., New York 59, N. Y. ($1)