

The new look! During fun sessions at '66 World Champs, Splinter vanquished all comers. Threatens 100 mph with good mill.

THE SPLINTER

Its shape and proportions dictated by math, this combat machine proved many times that the .15 can take the .35!

By BILL NETZEBAND

Your quick look at the photos and lead blurb got you this far, so stick around for some revelations. This little ship is perhaps the most completely engineered and debugged combat machine so far presented. Its shape and proportions were dictated by mathematics, not my whim, and the structure was developed to quickly build a straight, light wing which will survive a few unscheduled landings.

Of the ten ships built during development (since June 1964) there were no flying problems, except powerplant. Most changes were to the basic structure to beef-up weak spots. The ship has been flown in England against the best the World Combat Champs could muster, and was never touched; while taking pieces of streamer at will. Dan Jones did this tremendous job during fun flying sessions at the '66 World Cham-

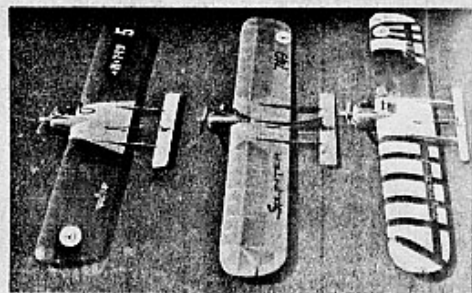
pionships. Of course, having Dan demonstrate your Combat design is about as risky as opening the water concession in Death Valley. Nonetheless, the superiority of the Splinter, in all departments, was spectacular. We must give the airplane credit, since Dan was very impressed with the ability of the British flyers. They love to fly combat, up to six at a time, and are very skillful. Besides all this, we have had everyone we can find try her out, and to a man they've had a ball. It's a fun machine in the air, since it will do anything you want, when you call for it.

The "15" powered combat ship is supposed to be cheaper, tougher, and slower. Most "scaled down" from 35-sized ships are just that, unfortunately suffering from being smaller. Lacking the brute power of a 35 to haul its excess induced drag around corners, the

15 ship didn't measure up. You'll note that the Splinter's basic difference is a slim wing and tail. Herein lies the whole secret of superior performance.

You've seen the induced drag equation $Cd_i = \frac{C_L^2}{\pi e AR}$ used to prove low

Three versions. One walked over field of 43 at British Summer Gala. (FAI Combat may be official by 1968.)



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AMERICAN MODELER