

Although sketches may not be of the particular plane you are building, they show typical construction procedure.

This fuselage is built with the new Comet SPEED-O-MATIC construction method. Begin by carefully cutting the top and bottom longerons from the printed wood sheet. Pin these longerons down on plan in their respective places and glue in the connecting pieces—a 1/16" sq. strip in front and a piece cut from the printed sheet at the rear. When dry, remove this unit from plan.

Glue the formers to the longeron frame, lining them up with the marks on longerons. Refer to plan for arrangement. Do not use excessive amounts of glue at this stage of assembly so the formers will not be warped and thrown out of line.

Glue side longerons in their notches, making certain that they are even at the back and that all formers are perpendicular to longerons. Then glue the wood noseplate or cowling to the front former and remove the 1/16" sq. connecting piece. Apply an additional coat of glue to all joints.

Stringers are glued in notches next. Do this in pairs—one on each side—to keep the fuselage from springing out of line. When stringers are all in place, glue in cockpit former if your model has one.

Next glue on the paper covers that fit around the wing. Also glue cockpit covers in place. If desired, transparent portions may be made of cellophane. See sketch elsewhere for cockpit details, where on plan for cockpit details.

Build wing directly over the plan. A piece of waxed paper may be used over plan to prevent glue from sticking to it. Start by gluing down the leading and trailing edges. Cut out wing tip pieces and glue them in place.

Install the top spars, lapping but not gluing them to ribs "B". These are glued when dihedral angle is built into wing. When dry, remove framework from plan.

Stick tissue to framework using banana liquid or tissue cement. Fibers of tissue should run the length of part being covered. Use narrow strips for covering rounded fuselages and cover between stringers. After all parts of model have been covered, glue them together and spray lightly with water. This shrinks the tissue smooth. A few coats of banana liquid or clear dope may be applied to keep tissue taut.

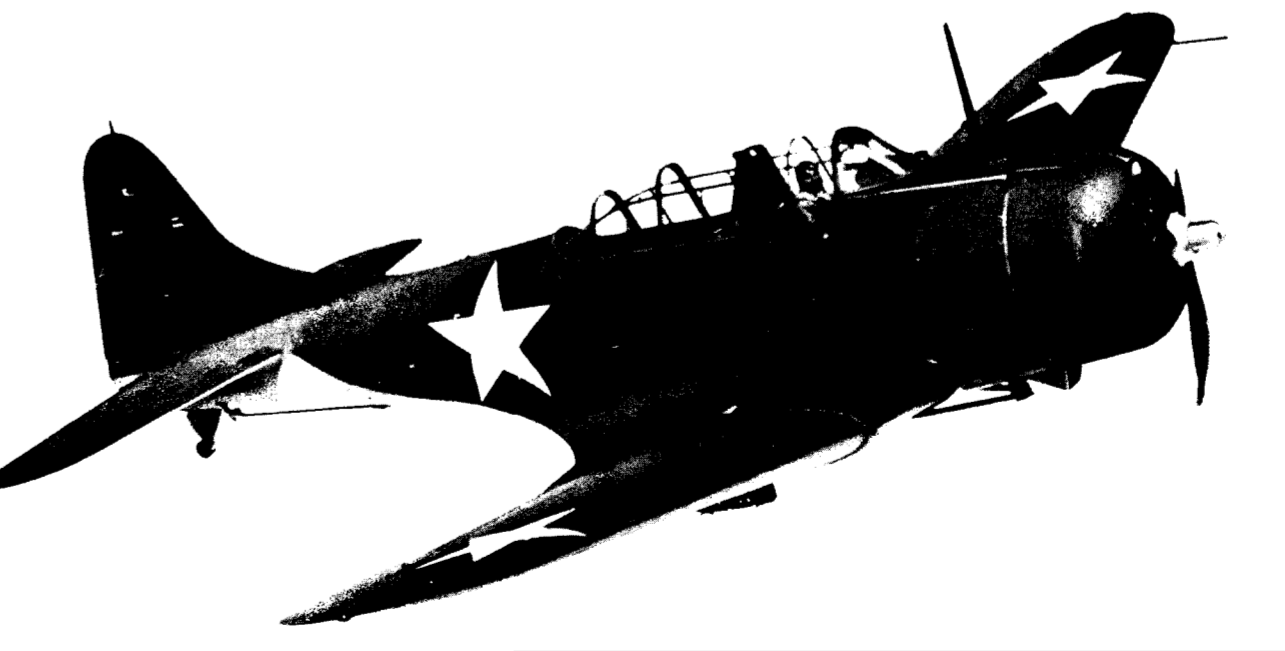
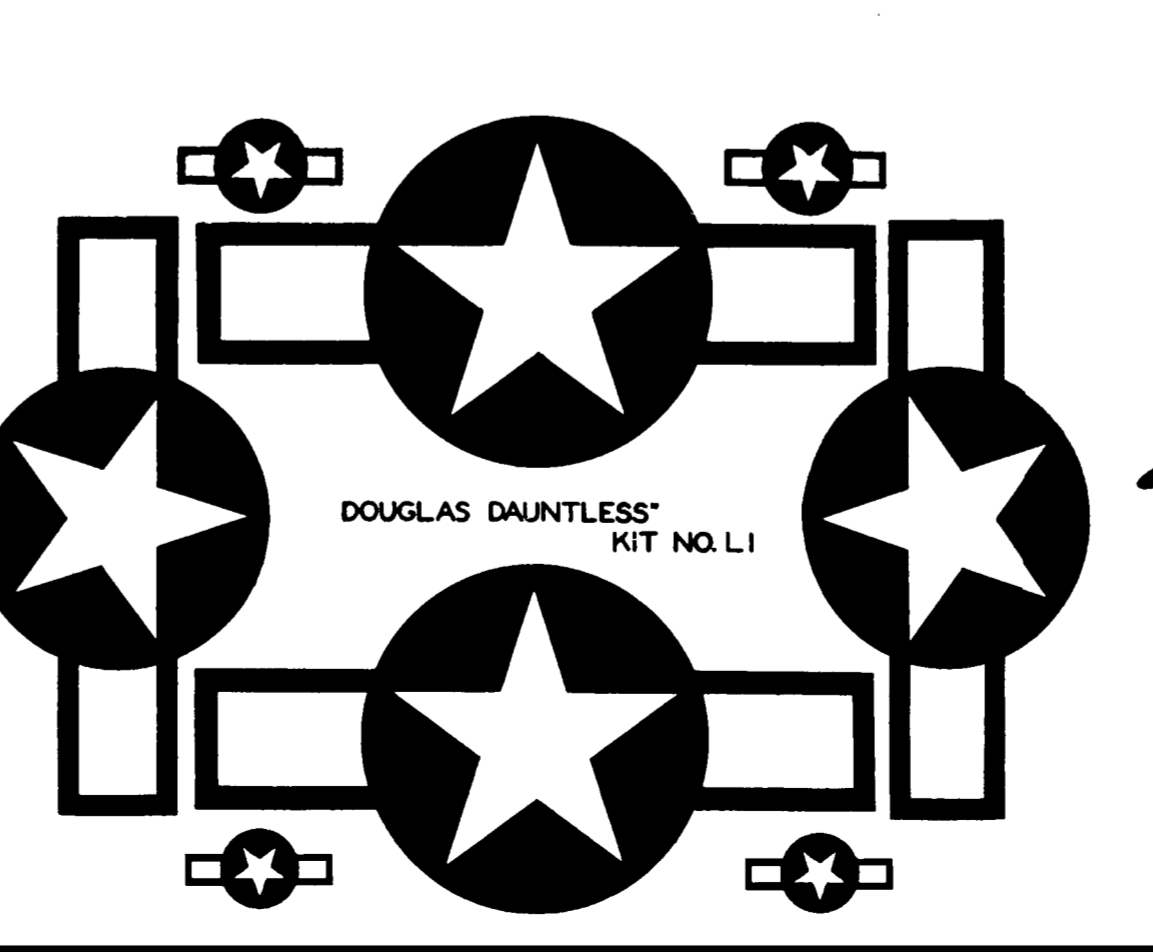
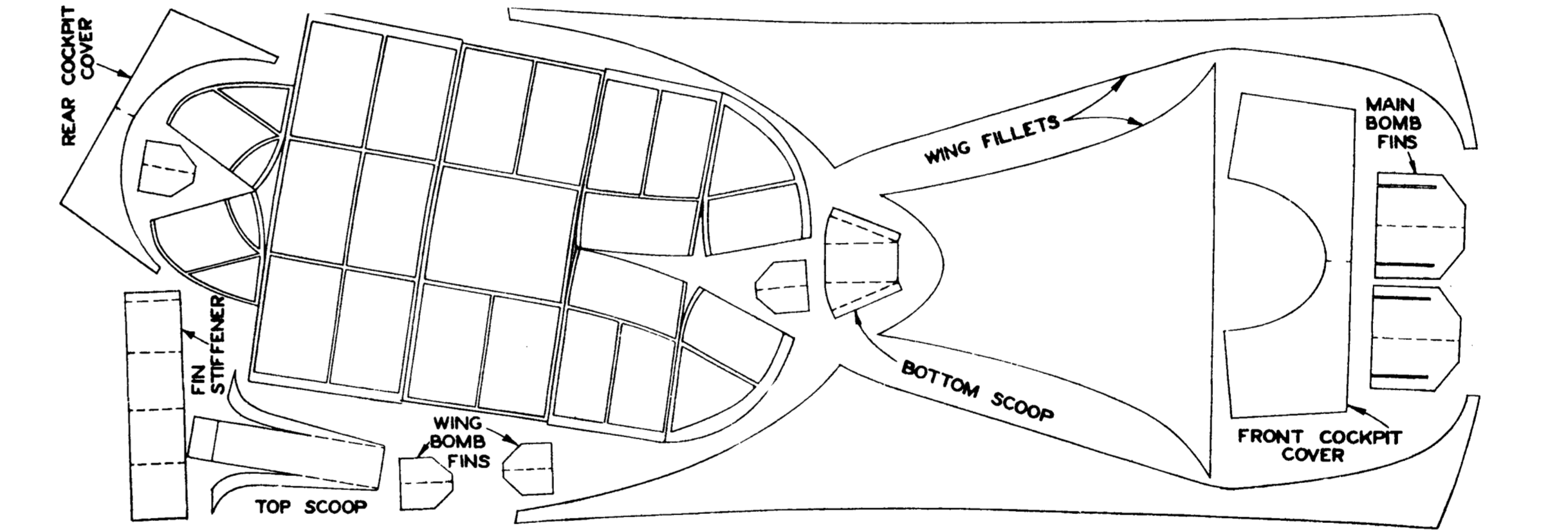
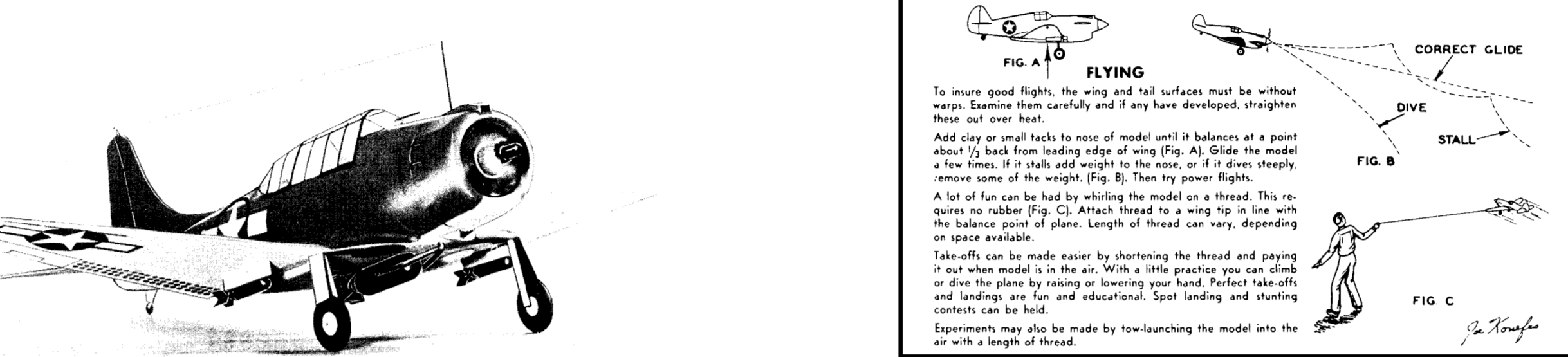
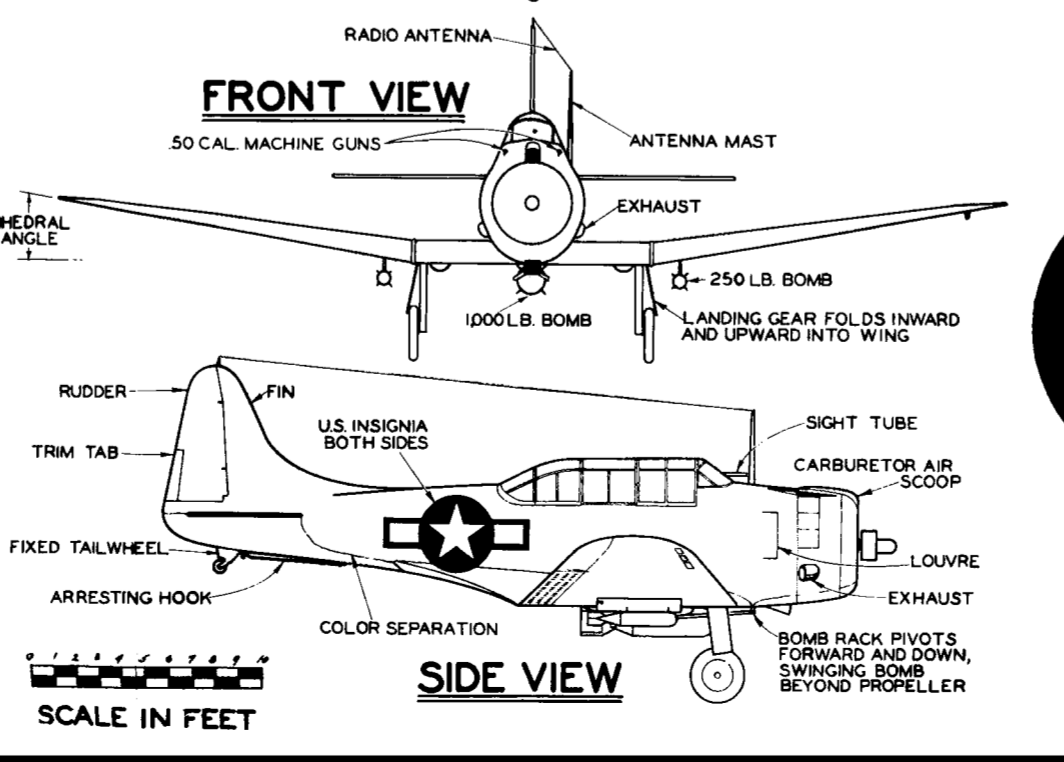
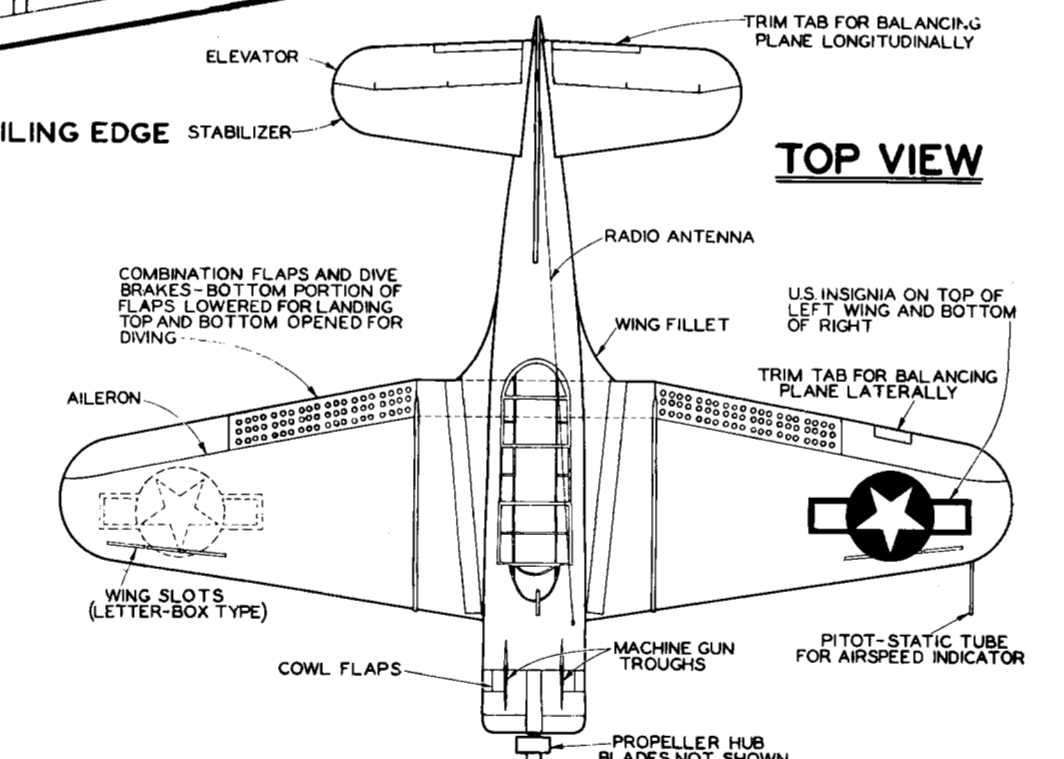
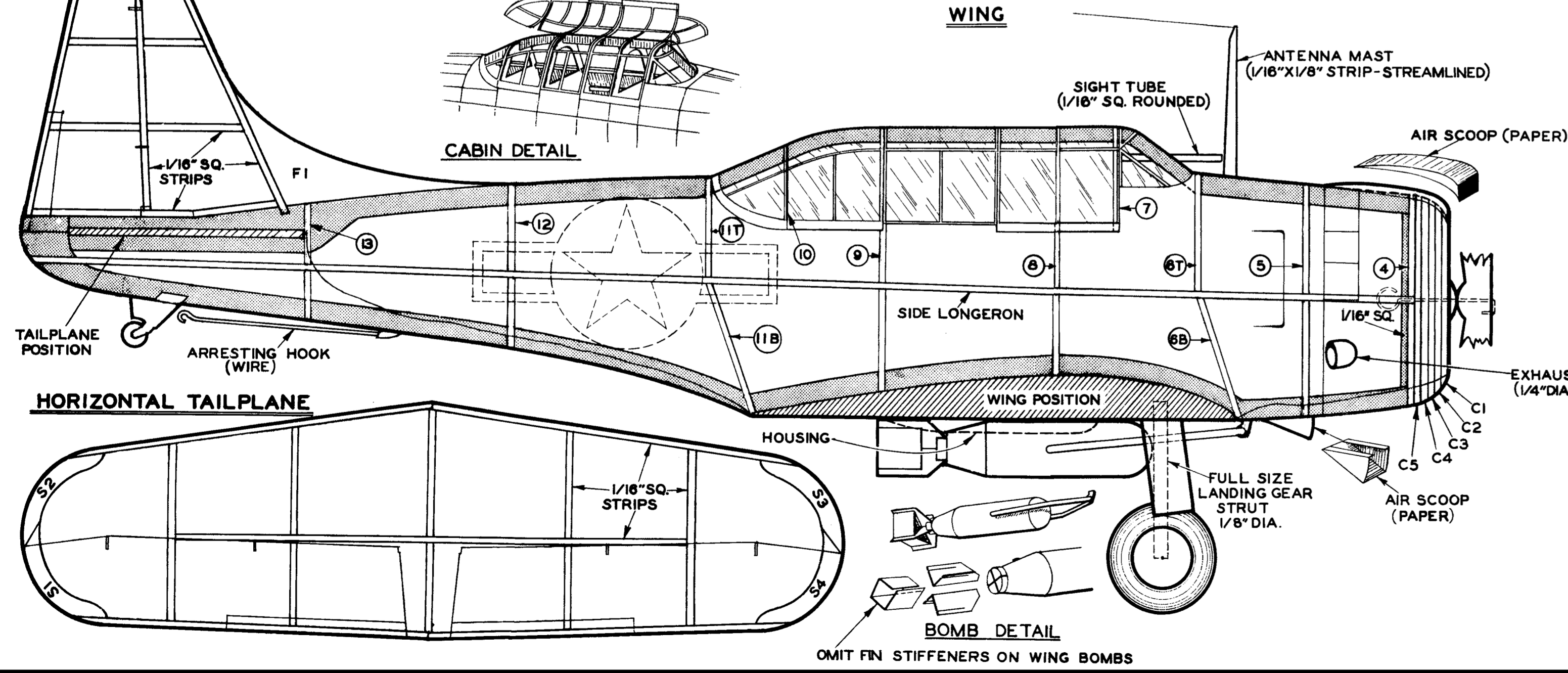
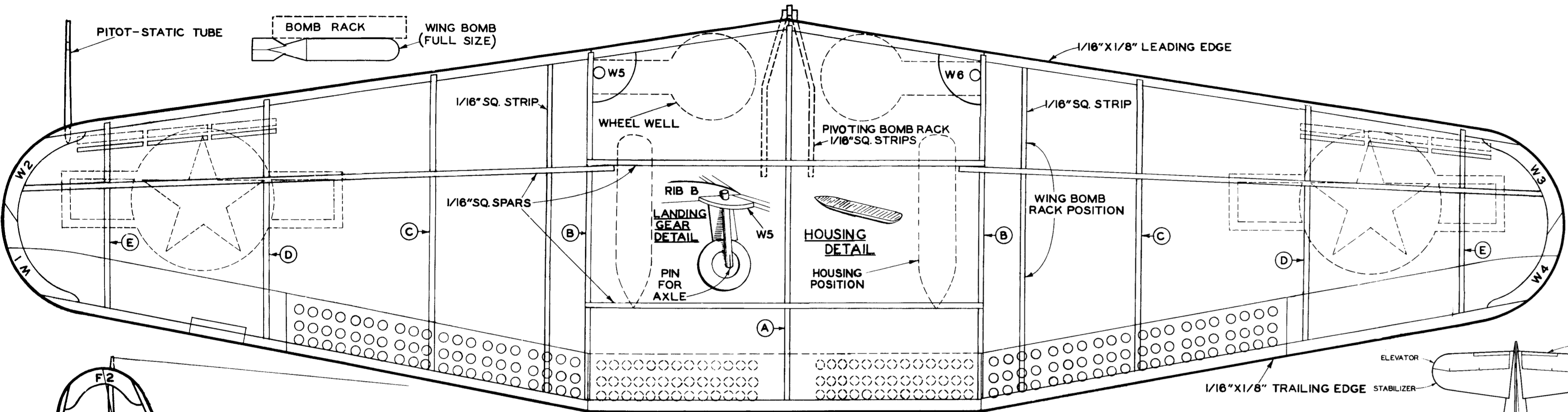
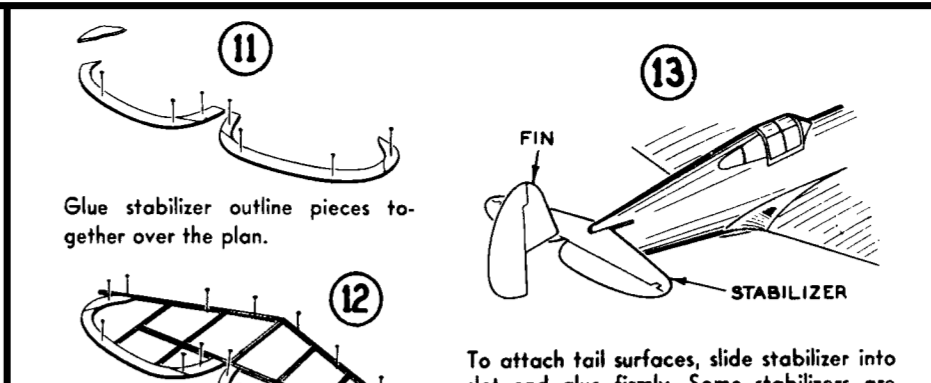
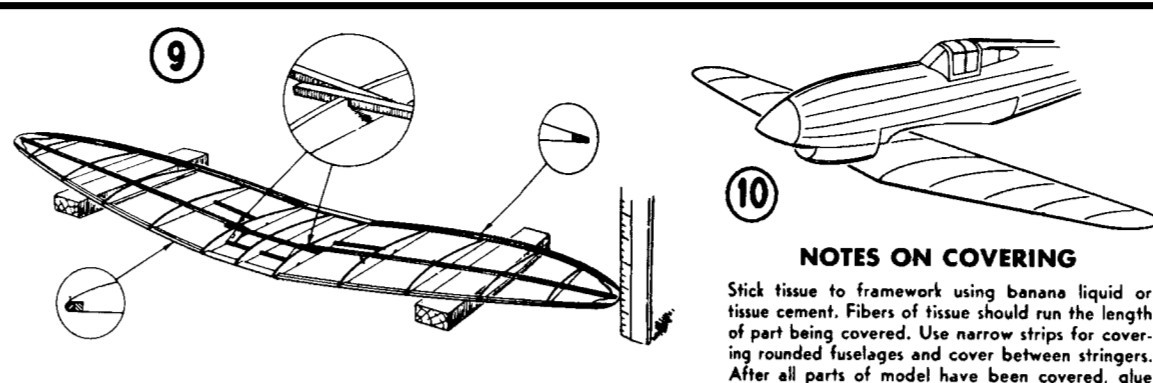
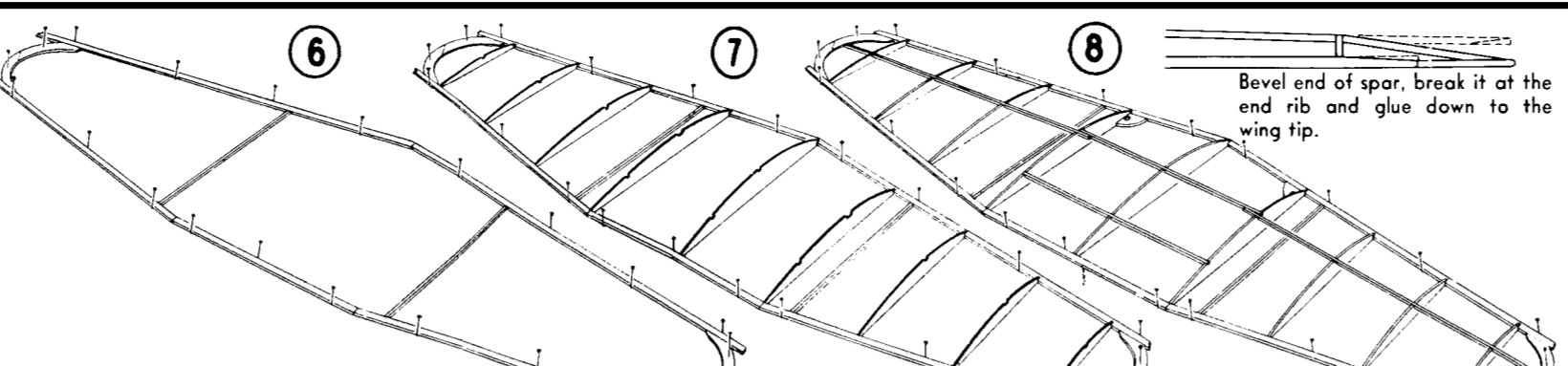
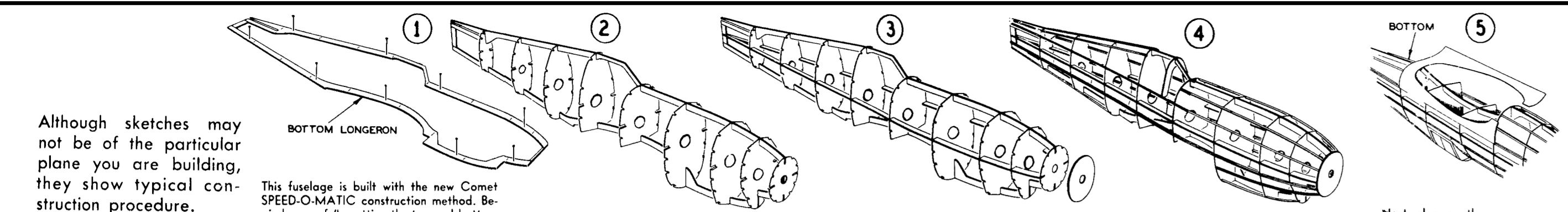
After wing and fuselage have been covered with tissue, assemble as shown, gluing center rib directly to bottom longeron. Comet SPEED-O-MATIC construction assures perfect alignment.

**NOTES ON COVERING**

Build remainder of stabilizer from 1/16" sq. strips. When glue is dry, remove from plan and round off outer edges. Build fin in same manner.

To attach tail surfaces, slide stabilizer into slot and glue firmly. Some stabilizers are slid in from the side. Comet SPEED-O-MATIC construction assures correct angle of incidence of stabilizer. Next glue fin in place. Make certain that fin and stabilizer are aligned in relation to wing.

To insure good flight, the wing and tail surfaces must be without warp. Examine them carefully and if any have developed, straighten these out over heat. Add clay or small tacks to nose of model until it balances at a point about 1/2" back from leading edge of wing (Fig. A). Slide the model a few times. If it stalls add weight to the nose, or if it dives steeply, remove some of the weight (Fig. B). Then try power flight. A lot of fun can be had by whirling the model on a thread. This requires no rubber (Fig. C). Attach thread to a wing tip in line with the balance point of plane. Length of thread can vary, depending on space available. Take-offs can be made easier by shortening the thread and paying it out when model is in the air. With a little practice you can climb or dive the plane by raising or lowering your hand. Perfect take-offs and landings are fun and educational. Spot landing and stunting contests can be held. Experiments may also be made by tow-launching the model into the air with a length of thread.



**DOUGLAS "DAUNTLESS" SBD-3**  
 WINGSPAN 20 INCHES LENGTH 15-7/16 INCHES  
 KIT NO. 3401 DRAWN BY *Hollis Freeman*  
 COMET MODEL HOBBY-CRAFT CORP., CHICAGO, ILL.

