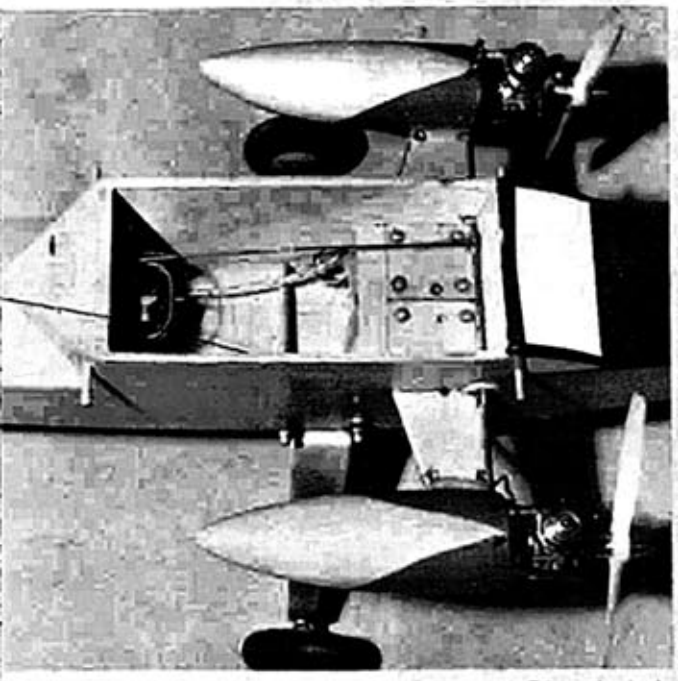
Twin Engine R/C
. . . the east way!

Half-A Wild Deuce

Retired Navy type's been modeling for 30 years, last 13 in radio control. Brings you single channel twin for much fun and action. Throttled 049's, Min-X Capri rcvr, Bonner Varicomp. ROG's straight as arrow!

BY ED R. SIMPSON



Synchronization is no problem, reports Ed, nor is single engine operation. Author is ardent single channel man.

When I decided to build a single-channel rudder-only twin, I wasn't too confident of the results. However, I wanted to try it just for the satisfaction of doing something different.

Personally, I think that the most impressive thing about a twin is the sound of the engines, especially when they are in or out of synchronization. Most of the time, I keep Wild Deuce directly overhead, just to hear that pulsating "beat" you get only with a twin.

Don't let the name mislead you. This Deuce is actually mild. With .09's it could be a little wild, but I'm sure it could handle that power. By removing exhaust restricter on the .049 Cox Medallions and using intake throttle only, rpm's increase about 2,000-rpm, resulting in much faster flights. Although no bad effects showed up (even when engines went out of "sync"), extended single-engine operation is not advised. No danger unless the pilot gets too lazy on the button or lets admiring spectators distract him.

Takeoffs are arrow-straight and rudder gives good ground steering on the takeoff run. If you use new engines, we would advise that you build up the engine pods and pylons and mount them on a wood block, so you can log at least a half hour of break-in time on each engine.

Cut engine mount pylons from ⅛" birch plywood. Carve balsa pods or turn on a lathe, then hollow them out to 3/16" wall thickness. Mount fuel tanks, glue pylons over tanks, then fuel-proof pod interiors. Use plenty of white glue in securing pylons to pods, joining pod halves, or in mounting tanks or firewalls; we want all joints associated with powerplants to be robust. Allow pod assemblies at least 24 hours' drying time at this stage. Cut out firewalls, secure engine mounts with blind mounting nuts, then glue firewalls to pods. When glue is thoroughly dry, remove engine mounts and cover firewall (using about ½" overlap around perimeter) with gauze or cotton material. Coat with cement, sand, then cover both pods entirely with silk.

Pin fuselage side sheets together (or tack-cement) and cut to outline shape. Cement 1/16" diagonal sheeting (*See pg. 66*)