



# Paypod

By FRED LEHMBERG. . . Here's an RPV for fun use that can serve as a flying lab. . . use it for photo-mapping or install instruments for collecting in-flight data on altitude, airspeed, thermal searching, and more.

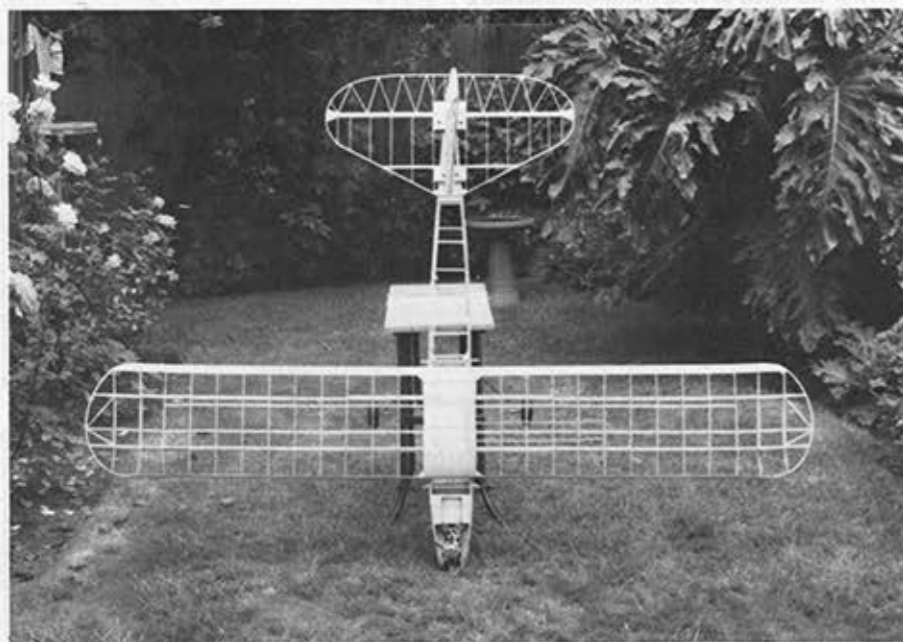
• Israel's highly successful use of radio-controlled models has been well-documented in newspapers, aviation and model aviation magazines over the past few years. Here in the US we have the growth of new

industries conceived for the purpose of building such machines and providing the equipment they require. This equipment includes the avionics and payload equipment to provide visual surveillance of hostile ter-

ritory, air sampling, detection and measurement of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation (radioactivity and high-frequency radio), etc. A considerable amount of information can be obtained with no risk of human life and less chance of detection and destruction of the aircraft. Of course, no government agency would have it intimated that their project involved toy airplanes, so they refer to these craft as Remotely Piloted Vehicles (RPV). In the agency's all-encompassing wisdom, is it possible that the name was selected so in the case "The thang just don't fly, sir!" the project could fall back, restaff, and submit an offroad auto as the RPV?

Whatever, Hangar 3 decided to develop a civilian RPV to provide aerial photography of existing or proposed flying sites, in-flight data, such as, altitude, airspeed, rate of altitude change, rpm, etc. This data would be useful to any modeler interested in development of model aircraft or in the effects of design changes. It even will impress your local yokels! You can have a ball looking for thermals, or checking props, or . . .

This is not the usual construction article. A builder of Paypod will have the knowledge of wooden construction required. This article will be a commentary on incidents during construction and/or amplification of plan detail.



Assembled Paypod, sans covering; simple structure of this flying laboratory makes it useful for all sorts of experiments, plus aerial photography.

