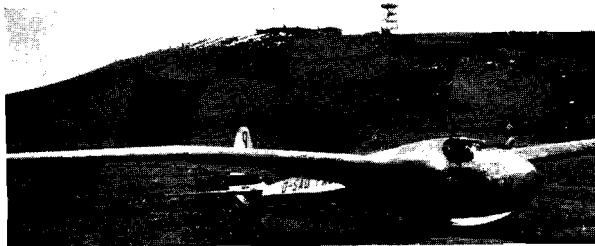


Foreign News

THE INTERNATIONAL SOARING CONTEST

Held this year on the Wasserkuppe July 4-18th by the Aero Club of Germany under the auspices of the I.S.T.U.S., the International Soaring Contest was a great success. Highest number of points was won by the German team, with the Polish team a close second. So keen was the competition that it is the opinion of a number of qualified observers that if the contest had been held in territory strange to all teams Poland would have come out on top with Switzerland a close second.



The "Sau Paulo" at the Wasserkuppe

Wolf Hirth

Over half of the flying days were in favor of those who knew the country, that is, to make distance flights slope soaring had to be done in the morning until the thermals built up to enable the pilots to get under way. The relative standing of the teams of the seven countries competing was as follows: Germany (6634.5 Points); Poland (2597 Points); Switzerland (2217.7 Points); England (1055.5 Points); Austria (275 Points); Czechoslovakia (89 Points); Jugoslavia.



Close-up of the cockpit of the Sau Paulo, which also holds the world's altitude record.

Best altitude of the Contest was 3293 meters or 10,792 feet, made by Zabski, a member of the Polish team. It is interesting to note that Mynarski, leader of the team, has over 600 hours of soaring to his credit and that the least any member of the Polish team had was 200 hours.

Best distance of the Contest was 350 km. or 218.75 miles, made to Hamburg by three pilots on July 4th. Heini Dittmar flying the "Sau Paulo" and Hanna Reitsch in her new "Reiher" made the flight together. Half an hour after their arrival, Mynarski landed on the same airport. Total distance flown during the Contest was 14,566 km. or 9,103 miles.

Best duration was 19 hrs., 1 min., made by Frena of the Austrian team. Fox and Murray of the English team set a new two-seater endurance record of 9 hrs. 48 min. with the Falcon III.



The "Moazagotl" which placed second

Wolf Hirth

The final line-up of individual pilots in the totalled scoring was as follows:

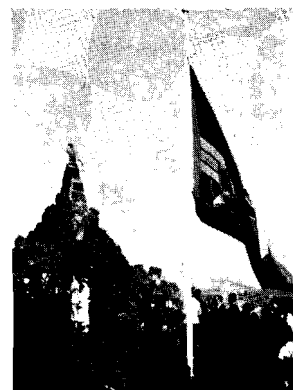
- 1st, Dittmar (Germany) in the "Sau Paulo", 1,662.5 points.
- 2nd, Hofmann (Germany) in the "Moazagotl", 1,427 points.
- 3rd, Spaete (Germany) in a Minimoa, 1,325 points.
- 4th, Sandmeier (Switzerland) in the "Spir III", 1,127 points.
- 5th, Schmidt (Germany) in the "Atalante", 1,116 points.
- 6th, Hanna Reitsch (Germany) in the "Reiher", 1,104 points.



Hanna Reitsch prepares to take off

The Swiss sailplanes attracted more attention than any of the others as they were so small and light that they seemed more like models. Their performance, however, was about equal to the best.

Mention should be made of the performance put on by Peters flying the Aero Club of Germany's Minimoa. Every morning he took off with shock cord launching only in order to test conditions before the launching of the competing ships, and every time he was able to land back on top. Several times, when all of the other ships were forced down, Peters, in the Minimoa, was able to keep flying. He and his ship were voted the unofficial champions by the contestants.



The Rhön Statue

The Germans deserve much credit for their smooth operation of the Contest. The committees had carefully considered all the possible problems that might arise. The only difficulty that developed was the treatment of the pilots who landed in Czechoslovakia. Reports are that one Swiss contestant was shot at and that several of the Germans put in some time in their jails.



Men and Ships—Sunset on the Wasserkuppe