



Harland Ross

This is where they start. Bishop Airport seen from the south with the town beyond and the mountains in the background.

turned to the Bishop Airport after a flight of 1:45 minutes.

By the time that John Robinson in the Ross Sailplane "Zanonia" was towed up, the large lenticular cloud previously used by Lyle Maxey had completely dissipated, and there was not a cloud in the sky. However, he was towed to the area where the lenticular had been all morning, and he released at 10,500 ASL in a turbulent thermal wave. His climb was 300 to 500 fpm after he was able to battle his way up to 12,000, and he climbed to 24,000 opposite Independence, California, about 40 miles south of Bishop. The lift weakened and he started a glide south toward Mt. Whitney along the crest of the Sierra with normal sink. Finding nothing there, he returned along the mountains and found zero sink in the previous area of climb. Continuing his flight north he ran out of the zero sink and found normal sink again. This is a perfect example of the action of the wave while dissipating, after a frontal passage. Now down to about 20,000 ASL, he decided to explore the area to the windward of the Sierra' crest and found a small patch of lift in which he soared just as one would ridge soar. He made eights, back and forth, which took 7 to 8 seconds between turns, while indicating 55 mph. The climb was 500 fpm. As he gained altitude each beat grew shorter until at the top he was almost circling. The lift stopped at 32,600

ASL. Johnny made a run north at high speed to the Mono Lake area and rode the second wave over the lake, then turned east to the White Mountains and back to Bishop Airport. The total distance during the 5:05 flight was 245 miles.

January 1, 1950, looked good with high lenticulars to the north and a roll cloud building down the Owens Valley to the south. The Bishop winds aloft were fair on the morning run, reaching 48 knots at 20,000 ASL. The direction was more consistent at lower levels than on the previous day.

BISHOP WINDS ALOFT

7:00 A. M.			1:00 P. M.		
6000	110	4	6000	250	4
7000	170	4	7000	250	8
8000	280	2	8000	260	9
9000	270	6	9000	260	8
10000	250	11	10000	260	8
12000	240	14	12000	260	20
14000	230	24	14000	260	33
16000	220	41	16000	260	40
18000	230	40	18000	250	49
20000	230	48	20000	250	44
25000	220	39			

Since the storm center was passing to the north of our station, the wave conditions

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