



Photo by Fred Hefty

George Moffat on tow in the Airmate HP-8 sailplane during the Nationals. Wheel retracts.

GEORGE MOFFAT SETS 2 NEW SPEED RECORDS

George B. Moffat, Jr., has made two flights in the Airmate HP-8 sailplane at El Mirage Field, Calif., which should establish new world soaring records, subject to approval of documentation by FAI. On August 16th he averaged 77.6 mph over a 70.5-mi. course to exceed the Russian-held record of 69.2 mph for the category of Speed for 100 Kilometers (62 miles) Over a Triangular Course. A cloud street bisected the apex of his course and was used to good advantage.

The second flight was made on August 19th and was for the category of Speed For 300 Kilometers (186 miles) Over a Triangular Course. Moffat's course measured 208 mi., with turns at Camp Irwin town and Giant Rock Airport. His average speed was 67.5 mph, eclipsing the previous record of 60.17 mph, set by Richard E. Schreder who designed and built the HP-8 and used it to set world soaring speed records in all three categories in 1959 at Odessa, Texas.

Moffat is a school teacher of English from New Brunswick, N.J., and had competed in the National Soaring Championships at El Mirage Field just a few weeks earlier. His 100-km. record gives the U.S. its sixth of the eight single-place world soaring records; Russia and New Zealand each have one.

FOUR NEW RECORDS CLAIMED BY POLAND

FAI has announced that Polish pilots have made three soaring flights recently which should establish four new multi-place world records if documentation is subsequently approved.

On July 29th, a goal and return mark of 545 km. (338.66 mi.) was set by Stanislaw Batusinski flying a Bocian sailplane with Stanislaw Ma-

ciejewski as passenger, from Przylep to Lublinek and return.

On August 8th, a goal mark of 630 km. (391.46 mi.) was set by Franciszek Kepka with Edward Lopato as passenger.

On the same date, the feminine multi-place distance and goal records were raised to 540 km. (335.53 mi.) with a flight by Palagia Majewska and Irene Raze.

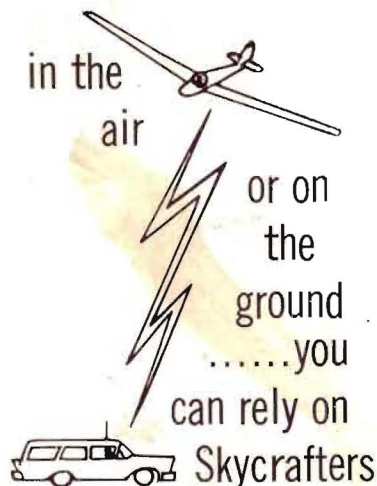
BRITON SOARS 460 MI.

A new British national distance record was set up on June 1st by Flight-Lt. Peter D. Lane of the R.A.F., flying a Skylark 3F sailplane 460.5 miles from Geilenkirchen, West Germany, to Hiersac, France, near Bordeaux. This exceeds by 76 miles the record previously held by G. A. J. Goodhart. Lane is a Canberra navigator and was participating in the R.A.F. Germany Gliding Competitions.

1961 LILIENTHAL MEDAL AND TISSANDIER DIPLOMAS

The FAI Lilienthal Medal, soaring's highest award, will be presented to Switzerland's Adolph Pirat Gehrig for the year 1961 at the 55th FAI General Conference in Athens, Greece, on September 28th. The Medal is given to reward a particularly remarkable sporting performance in gliding or eminent services over a long period of time on behalf of gliding. Mr. Gehrig has been the active head of FAI's gliding committee, CVSM, for many years.

Three Americans will be presented with Paul Tissandier Diplomas of the FAI in Athens on the same date. These diplomas are given in recognition of work to promote the cause of aviation in general, and private and sporting aviation in particular. The three are: Ernest Schweizer, for soaring, well-known sailplane designer and builder; Vern Haughland, an aviation writer; and Mrs. Frances W. Nolde, for general aviation.



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