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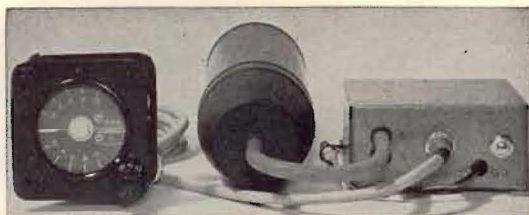
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METEOROLOGY RESEARCH INC.

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Two Washington Wave Soaring Areas Cleared

The Seattle Glider Council and Columbia Basin Soaring Association are proud to announce that we are the third recipients of clearance to conduct wave soaring flights above the 24,000-foot floor of the Area Positive Control air space.

We leaned heavily on the suggestions of John Ryan, SSA, and Dave Johnson, Wave Flights, Inc., in drawing up our proposal to the FAA. This procedure, plus the co-operation of the Seattle ATC Center, enabled us to gain clearance in less than a month.

Our wave areas are designated numbers 1, 2 and 3. Area number 1 encompasses Mt. Rainier (14,410 ft.), a spectacular winter wave area. Areas 2 and 3 cover the Wenatchee-Ellensburg area just east of the Cascades.

We have already had two Diamond altitude flights above 25,000 feet (Harry Higgins and Bob Chase) and expect many more in the near future.

DICK DELAFIELD

West German Statistics

Statistics of German soaring were given by Seff Kunz to a meeting at Heidelberg last November. There are no less than 2,500 sailplanes flying in the region served by the German Aero Club. In 10 post-war years there have been 5,000,000 launches and 1,000,000 flying hours. Since 1957, over 1,240,000 miles have been covered in cross-countries. The soaring groups have 25,000 members, including 6,505 Silver badges, 458 Gold badges and 48 Diamond badges. Diamond legs earned number 588.

From *Sailplane and Gliding*

Thermal-G-Gliderport Distance Award Offered

1. \$200 offered for the flight with the longest straight-line distance from the Thermal-G-Gliderport, Waterford, Pa. (near Erie, Pa.).

2. Rules for FAI distance records apply. Any one pilot can make as many flights as he may desire.

3. Contest runs from sunrise, May 29, 1964, to one hour after sunset on Sept. 7, 1964 (Labor Day).

New SSA Rate Structure

As mentioned in the "President's Message" in the March issue, a new SSA dues/subsorption rate structure became effective on April 1, 1964. *Soaring* magazine has been deleted as a free benefit of SSA membership; however, members may subscribe at the special member rate of \$3/yr., on an optional basis. Annual dues for full Members and Family Members remain the same, \$10 and \$5, respectively, while Associate dues are now \$3 and Student Member dues \$1.

Dues for Sponsoring Members and Industrial Members remain at \$50 and the Life Member payment remains at \$200, with all three grades of membership receiving a free subscription to *Soaring*.

The nonmember subscription rate for *Soaring* remains at \$5, but in the U.S. only libraries and institutions may subscribe.

Readers are encouraged to alter any SSA promotional literature on hand, such as "Soaring . . . The S.S.A. . . . and YOU" pamphlets, "Soaring in America" booklets, membership application envelopes, etc., as per the above schedule so as to minimize confusion and misunderstanding on new and renewal membership applications submitted in the future.

Memberships in effect prior to April 1, 1964, will continue to receive *Soaring* at no additional charge until next renewed.

4. Anyone from anywhere with any sailplane is eligible.

5. \$200 and trophy will be awarded to winner at "The Frost Bite" banquet, Thanksgiving weekend at the Thermal-G-Gliderport.

New SSA Chapter

The latest club to become an SSA Chapter is the Sun Valley (Idaho) Soaring Assn., with 18 members, including sparkplugs Louis Stur (SSA State Governor and L-K owner) and Maj. Ed Butts, USAF (Prue Two owner). The club is sponsoring the 1964 Northwest Regional Soaring Championships at Sun Valley (Hailey Airport) from July 13-17. This brings the total number of SSA Chapters to 66.