

SUMMARY OF LONG SOARING FLIGHTS OF 1965

The cross-country flight, in thermal, wave and ridge lift, seems likely always to remain the soaring pilot's Grand Adventure. In recent years noteworthy LONG FLIGHTS have been commemorated by means of a special column in *Soaring*. Now, in order to call further attention to long soaring flights, we are pleased to present the accompanying map and analysis.

In all, 103 long flights for 1965 were reported in *Soaring*. At the outset it is important to understand what these flights do and do not represent. They were drawn essentially from reports of successful badge flights submitted for F.A.I. approval. As a consequence very few contest flights are included: there are none reported from the Adrian Nationals for example. Likewise many unsuccessful badge attempts, record attempts and flights made for "character improvement" are missing.

What there is, however, is of substantial interest, and *Soaring* is indebted to George Kern, of the S.C.S.A. Flight Group, and his staff, for the map and the summaries which follow. We hope that the material presented here will provide food for thought, and possibly some inspiration to the fledgling as well as to the serious cross-country pilot.

It is our intention to present a similar, but far more comprehensive report on flights made during 1966. In order to do so we will require cooperation from active pilots. Consequently we would like the following information about any flights in excess of fifty (50) miles (triangles and out-and-returns included):

Name; Date of flight; Make and model of sailplane; Latitude and longitude of point of origin, of any turn points, and destination of flight; Distance of flight; Duration of flight; Pertinent remarks concerning purpose of flight, nature of lift and other matters of particular interest.

Please submit the required information (on a post card or 3x5 card) to Long Flights, Soaring, Box 66071, Los Angeles, California 90066. Your cooperation will be very greatly appreciated.

RANKING OF SAILPLANES (By Number of Flights and Total Distance)

Sailplane	Flights	Total Distance	Average Distance
1-26	24	5091	212.13
1-23	15	3367	224.47
K-6	9	1963	218.11
Prue Std.	6	1627	271.17
BG-12	5	1182	236.40
Cherokee II	5	1142	228.40
K-8	5	1019	203.90
Std. Austria	4	959	239.75
Zugvogel	4	941	235.25
2-32	4	937	234.25
L-Spatz-55	3	652	217.33
Vasama	3	561	187.00
0-2	2	610	305.00
LM-1	2	571	285.50
Skylark	2	532	266.00
Dart	2	386	193.00

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K-6	9	218.11
1-26	24	212.13
K-8	5	203.90

RANKING OF PILOTS (By Total Distance Flown)

Name	Sailplane	Total	Average
Bud Mears	Prue Super Std.	864 (3)	288.0
J. Lincoln	2-32	736 (3)	245.3
R. Semans	1-23H	543 (2)	271.5
M. Claybourn	1-26	506 (2)	253.0
J. Morris	K-6CR	506 (2)	253.0
C. Drew	BG-12	497 (2)	248.5
J. Hard	Cherokee II	490 (2)	245.0
E. Katinsky	L-Spatz-55	463 (2)	231.8
L. Frankoski	K-8B	440 (2)	220.0
M. Greenwald	Std. Austria	439 (2)	219.5
F. Robinson	1-26	428 (2)	214.0
R. B. Smith	1-26	402 (2)	201.0
Totals		6314 (26)	240.8

RANKING OF SITES (By Number of Flights and Total Distance)

Site	Number of Flights	Total Distance	Average Distance
El Mirage, Calif.	34	8014	235.71
Minden, Nev.	12	2792	232.71
Marfa, Tex.	8	1687	210.88
Naperville, Ill.	5	1120	224.00
Elmira, N. Y.	4	810	202.50
Richmond, Ind.	4	758	189.63
Tulsa, Okla.	3	612	204.00
Corning, N. Y.	3	581	193.67
Guthrie, Okla.	2	608	304.00
Prescott, Ariz.	2	542	271.00
Rockwell, Tex.	2	531	265.50
Inyokern, Calif.	2	504	252.00
Tehachapi, Calif.	2	427	213.50
Alamogordo, New Mex.	2	400	200.00
Wenatchee, Wash.	2	399	199.50
Richland, Wash.	2	379	189.50
Totals	89	20,164	224.00

We invite additional reports of flights made during 1965. If enough of these are received at headquarters during the next month or two we will endeavor to bring the long-flights map up to date for the express purpose of reprinting the revised edition (but in a somewhat smaller format) at a later date.