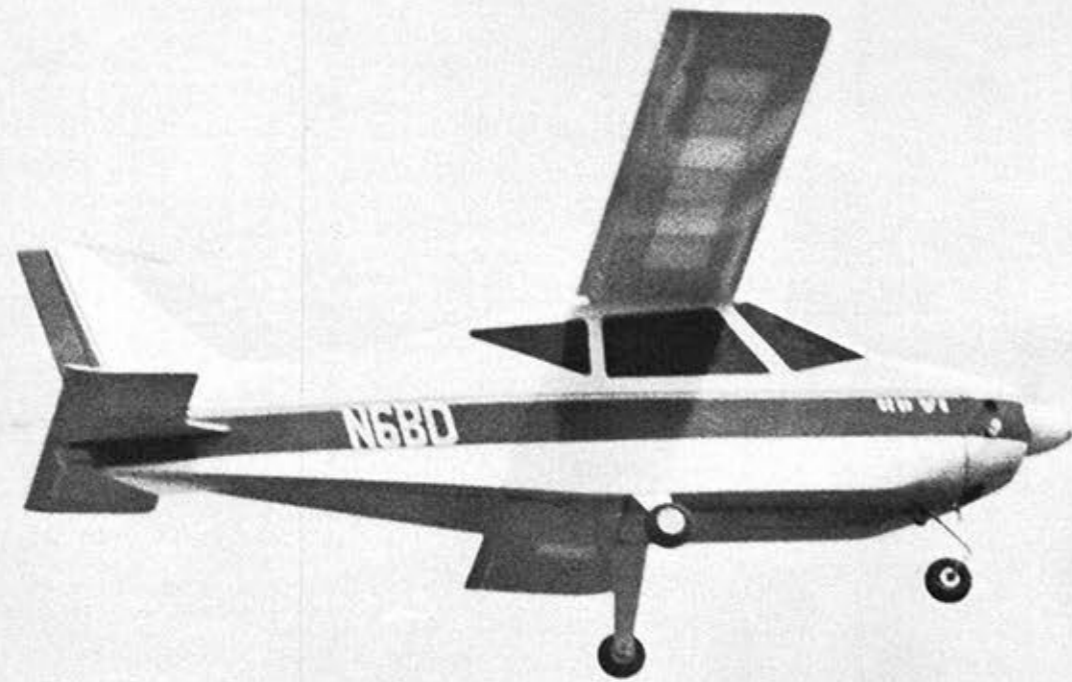


BEDE - 6	
A SINGLE PLACE LIGHTPLANE DESIGNED BY BEDE AIRCRAFT CO.	
MODEL DESIGN AND PENCILS BY BOB ABERLE	
INTENDED FOR R/C STAND OFF SCALE	
.19 TO .35 POWER / WING SPAN - 56" / WING AREA - 375 SQ. IN.	
TOTAL-WEIGHT 4 LBS. 3 OZ. / 24.6 OZ./SQ.FT. WING LOADING	



A fly-by. Bob attempts to position the model in same flight attitude as full scale BD-VI printed at right. Pilot's head behind the cabin post.



BD-VI

Little known, but Bede's unique single place machine is a superb R/C Stand-Off Scale project.

by Bob Aberle

I'm sure most model builders by now are familiar with Mr. Jim Bede and the achievements of his Bede Aircraft Corporation. Jim's original "BD-1," later became the popular American Aviation, "Yankee". That particular model is still being offered by the Grumman American Aviation Corp.

Back in the late 1960's Bede Aircraft directed their attention to the design of a new high wing, four place configuration which they designated the "BD-IV." This design is offered in full kit or semi-kit versions for the homebuilder. Many of

these planes have been built and flown over the past couple of years. In 1973, at the EAA annual "Fly-In," Bede Aircraft unveiled their single place version of the "BD-IV," designated "BD-VI." The prototype made its first flight shortly after that show and was quite successful. Due to the tremendous interest in their radical "BD-V" design, both piston and jet versions, most of Bede's resources during the past year or so have been directed exclusively towards that project. The result being that the little "BD-VI" prototype, up until recently, was a one-of-a-kind airplane. At this writing it is my understanding that final plans are being prepared and homebuilder's kits are in the works.

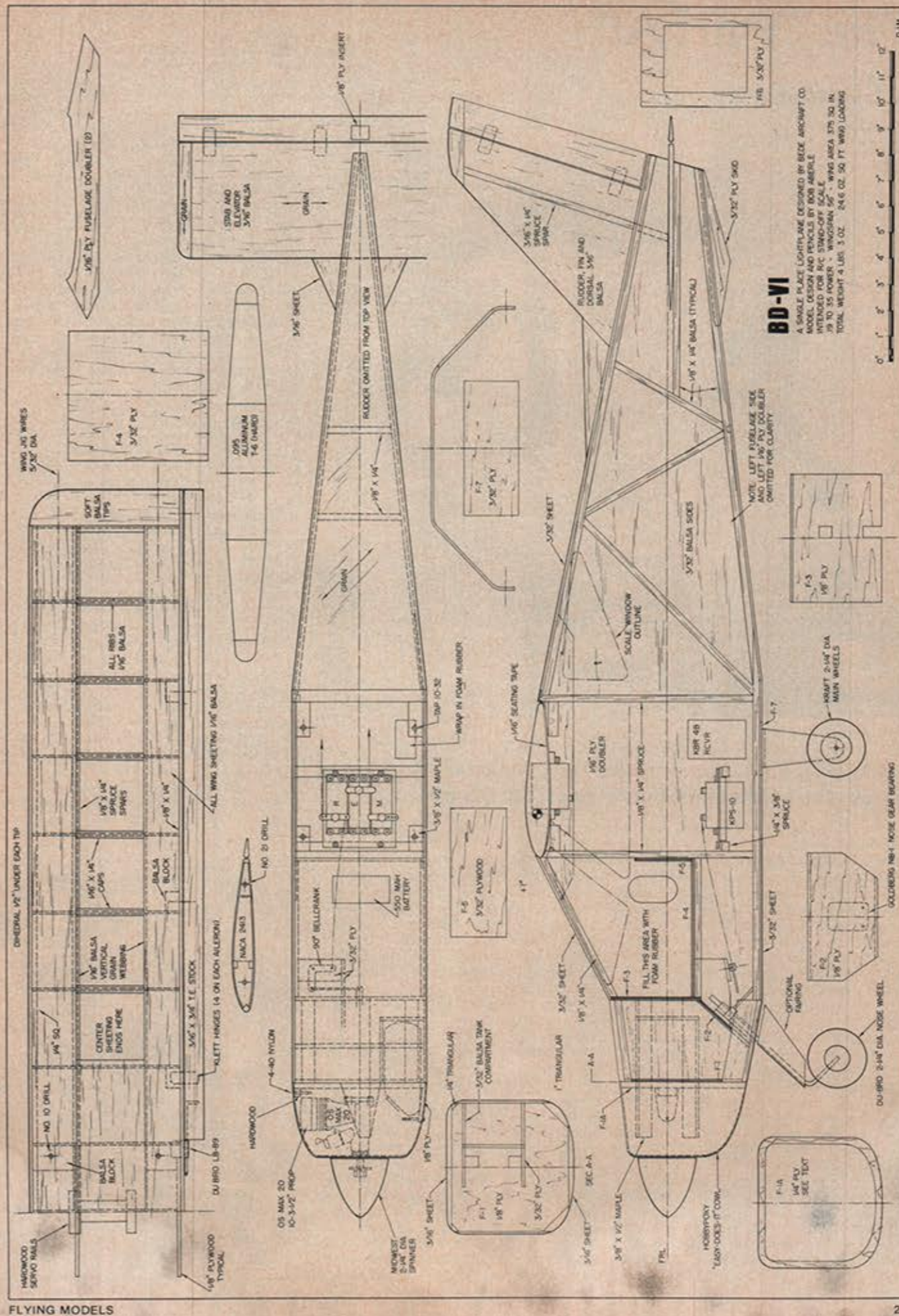
About The Full Size Bird

When one studies the "Bede-VI" three view you get the immediate impression that it is very small. The wing span is only 21 feet and the chord (if you believe it!) is only 2.58 feet. That's only a little more than 50 square feet of wing area. The basic power plant for this little bird

is a 55 hp. Hirth two cycle, two cylinder engine. The German made engine was first used by Bede on their now famous "BD-V" (propeller driven version). Performance specification indicates a cruise speed of 140 mph, a climb rate of 900 fpm and a respectable service ceiling of 14,000 feet. Not bad for such a small plane! Wing construction is the tubular aluminum spar with the slip-on rib modules as originally pioneered by Jim Bede on the "BD-1." By the way, this plane is all aluminum. No fabric covering is employed. Certainly the modern way to go.

A Few Words on the Model

The straight, rectangular shaped fuselage sides and the constant chord wing lend themselves to an easy scale project. Since the trend recently has been towards smaller R/C models it was decided to try a .20 powered version using a wing area of 375 square inches. The exact scale factor used was 2.6 inches equals 1 foot. Remember, with today's modern digital pocket calculators you can easily use any scale



BD-VI

A SINGLE PLACE LIGHTPLANE DESIGNED BY JIM BEDE AIRCRAFT CO.
MODEL DESIGN AND PENCILS BY BOB ABERLE
INTENDED FOR R/C STAND-OFF SCALE
TOTAL WEIGHT 4 LBS. 3 OZ. 24.6 OZ. 50 FT. WING LOADING



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75¢ SEPTEMBER 1975

R/C Boats

Kodachrome: Bob Aberle



Bob
Aberle's **BD-6**