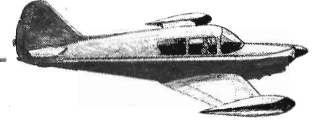


CORBEN DEVELOPMENT, CORP.

DESIGNING, ENGINEERING AND FABRICATION OF MOLDED AIRCRAFT PARTS

VENICE AIRPORT
P. O. BOX 1603
VENICE, FLORIDA

F.F.A. PARTS MANUFACTURER APPROVAL

December 20, 1967.

Dear Mr. Baird:

I dont really know who owes who a letter, at any rate it has been quite a long time since I heard from you. I note you still have an ad in S/A so guess you are still in business. At least I hope so ! .

Things down here have not been too good. I sold both the Baby Aces I had here just to keep the wolf away from our door. Also sold the Swift mod. business but looks like I may have to take it back much as I would dislike to do so. Outside of the float project (which has not even got off the ground yet) I have the little boats just about ready to put on the market and expect to have some brochures on them right after the first of the year.

All in all, I am about as free of work and money as I ever have been, and have been casting around for something to do that will actually bring in a few dollars before they go off the market.

Note your ad for engine mounts, cowlings, ect. I still have the jig for the Cub mounts and could make you a few if you let me know about what price you could pay for them, and how many you would take at one time, also if you would want the extra small tubing welded on for the cowling fastners ???.

I could also make up some molded fiberglass cowlings for you, but would need a good cowling to pull a mold from.

From where I sit, it looks like the homebuilders are only interested in plans for something with a hot-rod look, two seats and a speed of over 100 mph. A couple years back I redesigned the Swift (on paper) with a tri-gear and I added 24" to the fuselage, made a door on one side and a few other changes that turned out to be a very good looking design. Now as I sit here staring at a pile of bills I can not help but feel that this design made up in wood (the very first Swift was made of wood and flew better than the tin ones) would be a real hot do it yourself item.

With all the Super Swift modifications I have made and sold, I can not help but feel my name tacked onto a wooden, tri-gear (folding or otherwise) would be a money making project if I could go through with it before I get too old to see the drawing board—So if this idea should sound interesting to you we might be able to get something started. I already have the cowling molds and a lot of other parts. Give this some thought and let me know if you can come up with any ideas to get it rolling.

Over



As soon as I get some good pictures of the new boat in action with the Jet Pump drive, I am going to run an ad in S/A for kits to assemble them at home. However; most parts would be molded and the whole kit would only require a little sanding and putting the two hulls together, installing the engine and drive unit and adding the trim.

I have two models underway, one a single seater and the other a tandem two seater, both boats will take a prop. drive, Jet Pump drive, or an outboard motor can be used, this gives a good choice of power units to fit most any pocket book. If things work out as planned the two place boat with a 25H.P. outboard should pull a water skier, if this is possible I think they will really sell.

Well that just about winds up the late news from Venice Airport. So will get this on it's way to arrive in time to wish you a Merry Xmas and the very best for the New Year!

As Always

Just



Ace