

'KILLER' SAUCER

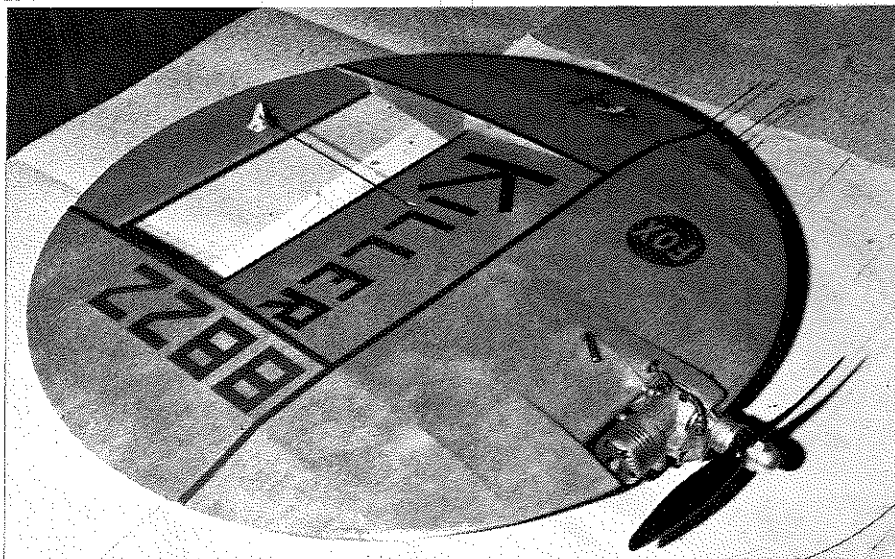
By HOWARD "CRASH" EVANSON . . . The saucer will make your combat competition do a double-take, and while they're doing it, you can *CHOP 'EM!* Also a great, attention-getting sport model.

• The flying saucer, "Killer," was originally designed to be a new approach to fast combat. After many enjoyable flights with "Killer", I found that, although it is as fast as any other combat bird, it won't turn quite as tightly as the more conventional wing/boom layout. However, the saucer never fails to attract a lot of interest among both spectators and other modelers, so I feel this makes up for its "in the groove" flight characteristics.

Please don't interpret what I've said to mean that "Killer" is anything but a capable combat machine. It is really fun to fly, and would also make a fine, attention-getting sport flier with a .19 or .29 engine.

Construction of the saucer is as different as its final shape. You'll need a dozen 3/32 x 3 sheets of balsa. Using the full size plan as a guide, pre-cut as many sheets as required to roughly form a 22 inch diameter disc. Butt-glue the sheets together, and when dry, establish a center and draw an 11 inch radius circle, using a large compass. If a large compass isn't available, use a piece of dacron line, a tack, and a pencil. While you're at it, you can draw a pattern for the 3/4 inch wide edge molding.

After cutting the 22 inch disc to shape, use a soft pencil or ball-point pen to draw all of the rib and spar locations directly on the disc, both sides. Note that ribs are perpendicular



At last! A flying "Round TUIT!" The "Killer" Saucer is an exact 22 inch diameter disc. With combat streamer, it looks just like a tadpole, but a little more deadly.

to the grain direction.

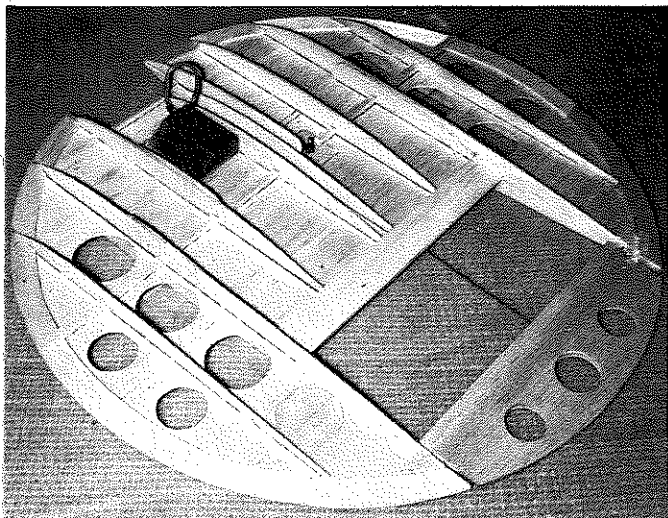
Next, pin disc to flat surface and install all ribs, spars, and edge molding pieces on the exposed side. Make sure that edge molding joints don't coincide with the disc sheet joints.

Now turn structure over and install spars, ribs, and molding to opposite side. After this, add the control system, tank, and engine mounts. The elevator on the original was built up, but shown as 1/4 inch solid sheet on the plans. To install the 1/16 hinge wire, cut the ele-

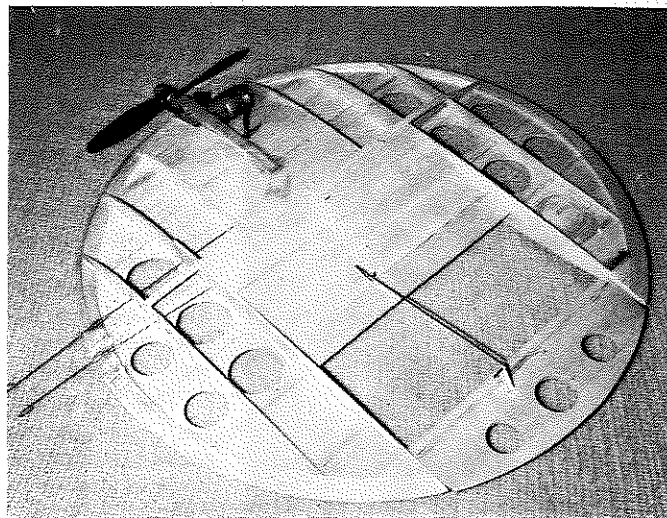
vator apart along the hinge line, cut a shallow "V" notch out of each half, just big enough for the wire, and then glue parts back together. Tank and engine mounting are not detailed, as this will vary with each builder.

The original "Killer" was covered with "bullet-proof" yellow Coverite and clear doped about four times.

Now then . . . load the tank, fire up the engine, and get a good "out of the circle" launch. Happy flying! •



The saucer is built up . . . and down, from a center disc of 3/32 balsa sheet. Add ribs and spars to both sides and you're almost there.



Structure complete, and ready for covering. Tough Coverite was used on the original. "Crash" refers to it as "bullet-proof."