

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL GARMON

For the sake of ease, the author's U.D. Zilch was covered in MonoKote, but those with a more traditional bent can use silkspan and dope.

doublers. Epoxy in the 1/2-inch square maple engine mounts and formers F1 and F2, then allow to dry. When dry, install the remaining formers F3, F4, and F5. Cut 1/8-inch ply gear mount and install 4-40 blind nuts for the gear. Cement the gear mounts to the bottom of the fuselage. Attach the 1/16-inch wire tail wheel strut to its 1/8-inch ply mount and glue this into the fuselage. Drill the engine mounting holes and install 4-40 blind nuts.

Sheet the bottom of the fuselage with 1/8-inch sheet balsa with its grain running crosswise to the fuselage sides. Using a razor saw, cut through fuselage bottom and sides to provide access during the wing installation. Carefully align the wing and the fuselage, then glue the fuselage to the wing.

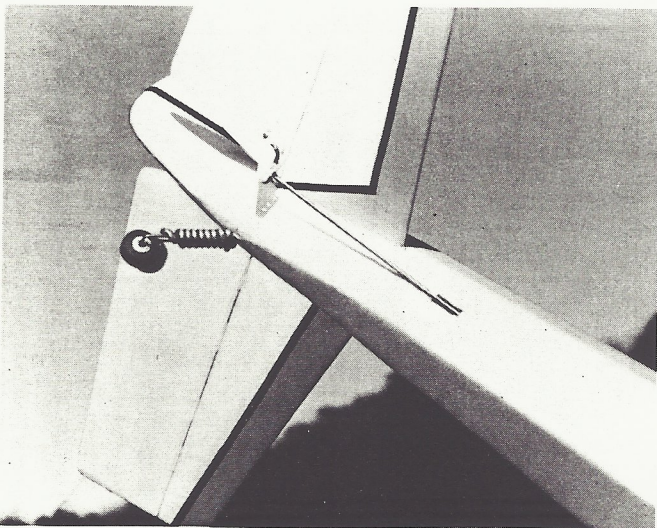
When dry, glue the bottom section of the fuselage back in place. Install the stab and the elevator and connect the 3/32-inch diameter music wire pushrod from the flap horn to the elevator horn. Install two braces on the pushrod to prevent flexing. Install 1/4-inch balsa sheeting inside fuselage sides from one end of the doublers to the forward edge of F3. Sheet the turtledeck with 1/8-inch balsa and install the 3/16-inch top cap.

Tack glue 1/2-inch sheet top block in place forward of the fuselage and round the edges. Remove the block and cut its forward portion to the length of the fuel tank compartment. Permanently glue the rear portion to the fuselage. Install 4-40 blind nuts to scrap plywood and glue to F1 and F2 and install

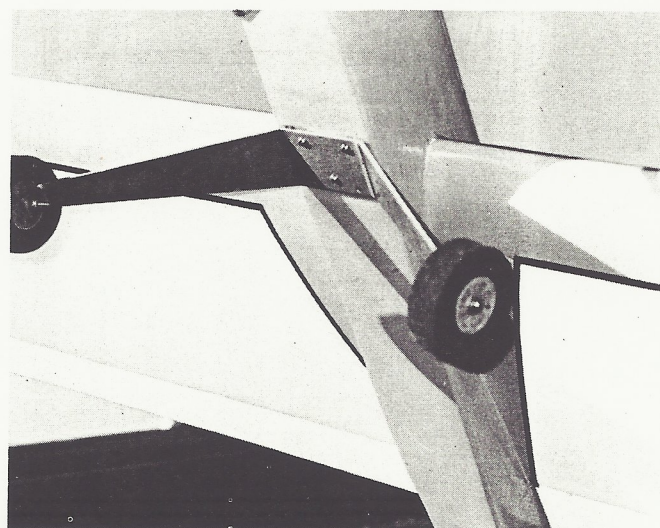
fuel tank compartment hatch using 4-40 screws.

Install 1/2-inch sheet nose blocks and sand to shape. Install Dixon sheet metal landing gear and 2 1/2-inch wheels. Cut and shape the canopy former from 3/32-inch coat hanger wire, and epoxy in place. The canopy can be made from clear sheet plastic, carved balsa blocks, or stiff paper. Install a 1/4 ounce weight in the outboard wing panel and attach leadout guides to an inboard wing tip. Install the vertical fin and rudder and sand the entire airframe in preparation for covering.

Covering and finish are up to the builder, but I recommend using MonoKote as it is light and much easier to apply than the old



Wrapped around the 1/16 tail wheel strut is a length of lead solder (above left), applied to help balance the model. Note how the elevator pushrod exits the fuselage



lage on the right hand side. One change to the original Zilch design was the incorporation of a more robust, fuselage mounted main gear (above right).