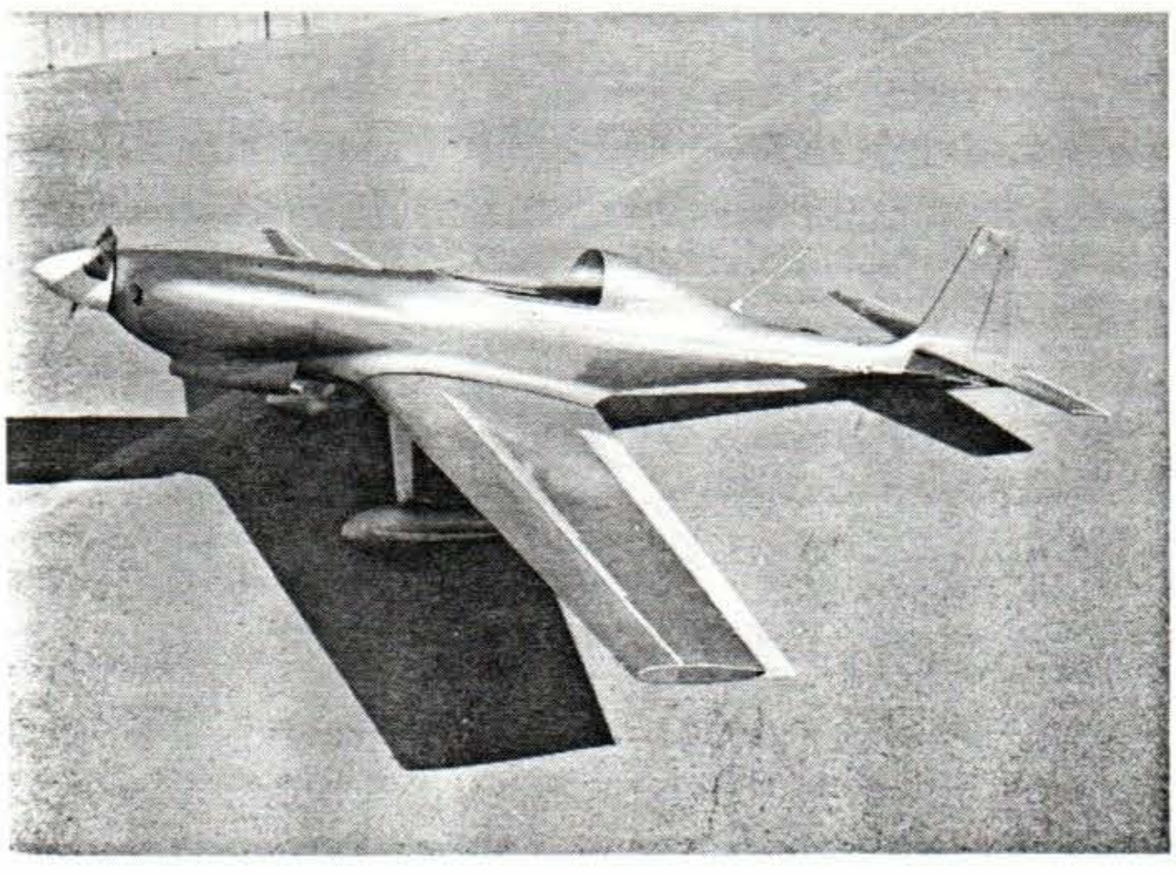
more than that, but he was a friend and he did a lot of this helping me out because he liked the little airplane, wanted to see it get going.

No successful airplane design is built and flown without the help of others. Bill Tracy provided some good information on Lancair constuction. Robert Jones provided most able engineering and construction assistance (Robert, perhaps you would be willing to share some of your engineering knowledge with readers of Contact! ?)

Skyblazer is a throwback to early Rockford days when most every airplane on the flight line was the result of individual creativity. Contact! intends to cover other unique designs in future issues. Let us know more and we'll do the rest. MCM

Fully adequate instrument panel for Arizona-Oshkosh and other X-country flights. Hand held NavCom radio (not shown) is normally connected to the external antenna.



The Skyblazer is a low cost, one-off design and proves once again that performance and looks are in reach of any craftsman. Moldless construction is a viable alternative.

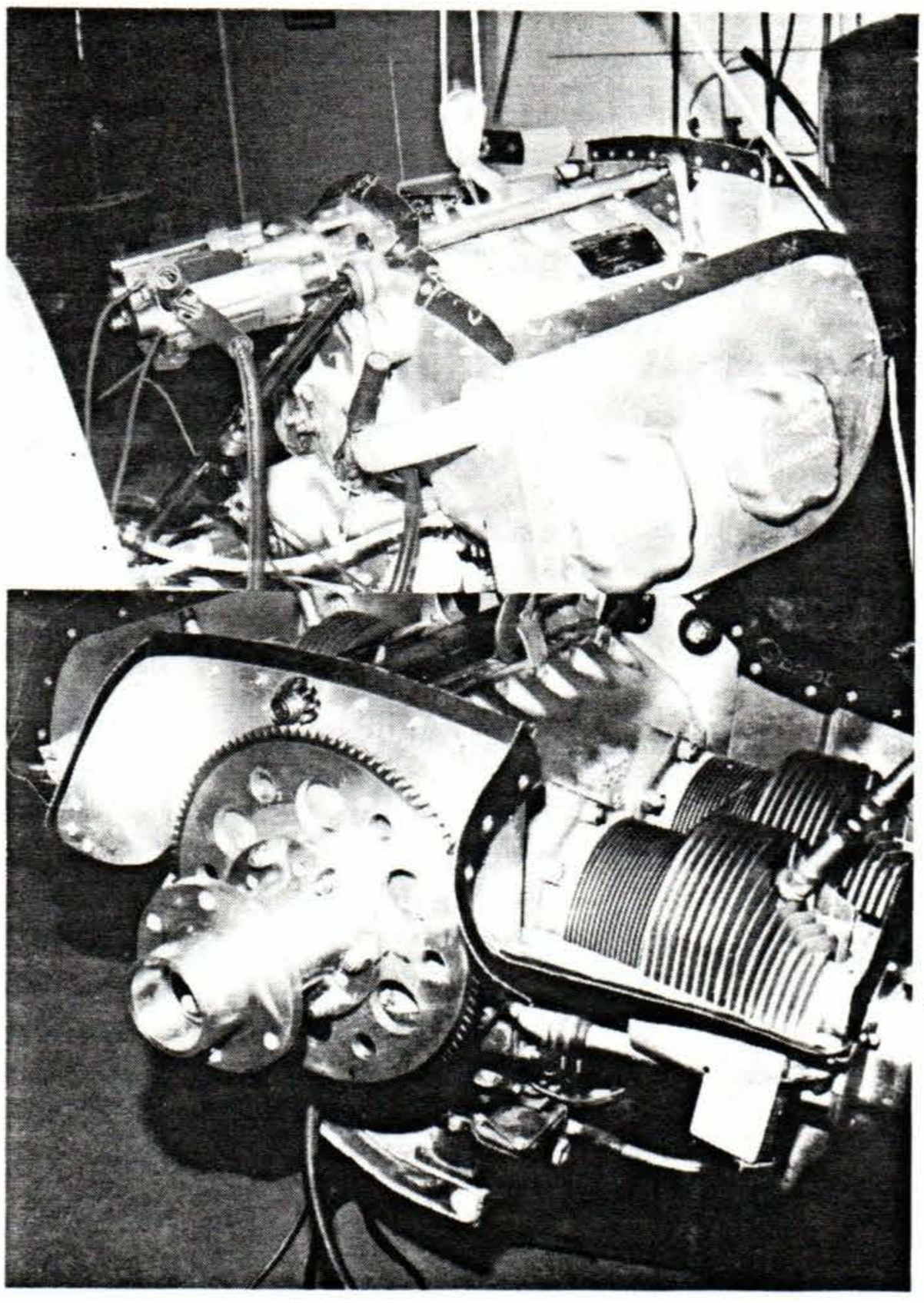
Starter Retrofit for the A-65-75-8 Continental Engines

L.S. Stubler
Route 4 Box 438
Montoursville PA 17754
(717) 435 0552

Except for some welding on the drive shaft and cutting the teeth in the ring gear I did it myself. But it sure pays to have friends with machine shop equipment.

Starter operation is near perfect. It is powered with a Harley-Davidson motorcycle battery. Total additional weight , including starter, mounting plate, pillow block, flywheel and gears, all hardware, wiring and battery is 36.0 pounds. I think the added safety and convenience of my installation is worth the extra weight and effort.

At the present time I plan to use solar cells for recharging. It may involve fabricating an array of cells if I can't find anything off the shelf that supplies 1.0 amp at 16 volts DC. Thus far, I found two sources of solar cells, J.C. Whitney and Northern Hydrualic, which offer the capacity I need but their size is a problem.



A Toyota starter is used to drive a specially machined steel ring gear and 6061 aluminum plate. This configuration minimizes cowling and adverse CG conditions. The 4130 3/4 inch .051 wall shaft is supported at the front by a ball bearing. A well thought out design solution.