

# PINEY MOUNTAIN AIR FORCE

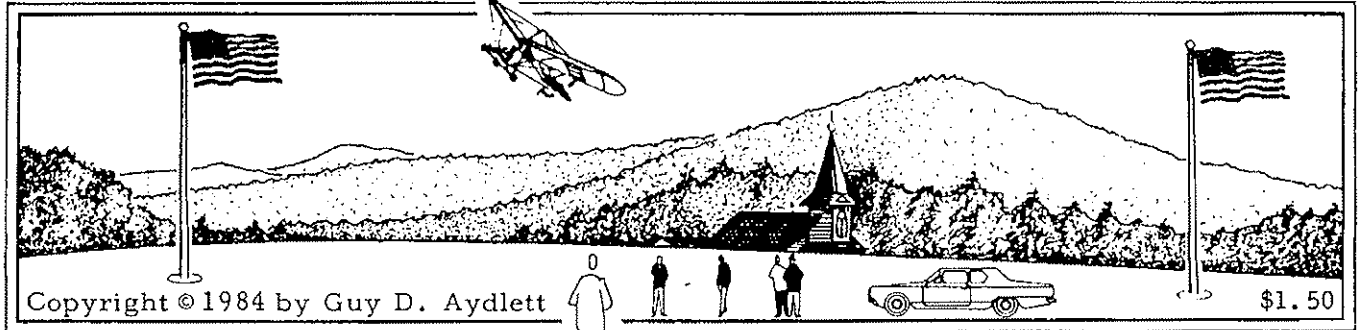
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## DATA ☆ LETTER

VOLUME III, No. 8

August 1984

Whole Number 45



August 1984

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Birthstones: Sardonix, Peridot

- 1st—Be ready to harvest your garlic
- 7th—Fast of Av
- 11th—Full Moon; Dog Days end

### AUSTRALIA'S 'RANGERS WHIP THE YANKS!

As many *Data Letter* readers know, a team of Americans invaded Australia in 1981, competed with The Boomerang Association of Australia, and came back home with Boomerang Challenge Cup I, much to the chagrin of the folk on whose home turf the boomerang was developed by aboriginal Stone Age hunters.

This year, the Aussies got their revenge: they brought their curved sticks to America, handily won the last two of three test matches, and happily returned home with Boomerang Challenge Cup II. The test matches were performed in Washington, DC, Bethlehem, PA, and Delaware, OH: June 2nd, 6th, and 10th. DR. BOB VENABLE, avid kiteflier and boomeranger said: "...We had a fine time at the match on Saturday, June 2, which was won by the U.S. team (by a hair). The throwing was excellent despite pretty heavy winds that kept it from being a real record breaker. . . ."

"The Aussies were superb throwers. . . ."

I understand that the conditions were windy in Delaware, Ohio also, which makes for difficult throwing. According to Ben [Ruhe], the Aussies put on a splendid performance even under tough conditions. . . ."

As a donor to the 1984 Boomerang Challenge Fund, PMAF proudly displays a hand-crafted boomerang that bears signatures of the teams.

DAVE TOWN, the kite camera wizard of Sea Isle City, NJ, writes: ". . . Recently, while flying my Flexifoils, I noticed an interesting phenomenon. When the wind lets up and the foils go into a glide, my controls go negative! . . . When you pull left, the stack goes right, and vice-versa. I never noticed this effect before with [other two-line kites], but it's possible that I saw it without giving it a second thought.

"Is this something that all stunt kites do, or is it limited to foil-shaped stunters? What causes the controls to go negative like that? Would the controls of an airplane or jet ever flip-flop like that. . . .?"

[With regard to conventional two-liners, we cop out; maybe, though, the dedicated stunt kite klan might send us an explanation, Dave.]

Horizontal axis rotor kites, when flown as stunters on two lines, require control motions contrary to most others, as you may know.

As for airplanes, the aerobatic specials experience reverse control effects when they actually move backwards during maneuvers such as whipstalls. Also of interest: severe wind-shears and gusts will raise hell with the *savoir-faire* of a pilot in a slow-moving craft.]

# BLUE BIRD KITE

## A Dimensional Analysis by Beauforce Stringfellow

BLUE BIRD KITE is a moderately well-made cotton covered English product that generous AKA Life Member, John Douglas Forbes, gave to PMAF. Evidently, the kite is several years old. The original package bears no dates or patent information.

Blue Bird Kite is remarkably heavy: It has an area loading of 1.85 oz/ft<sup>2</sup>; but it is an excellent flyer in steady winds of about ten

AREA (not including keels) = 2.57 ft<sup>2</sup>

WEIGHT = 4.76 oz (135 g)

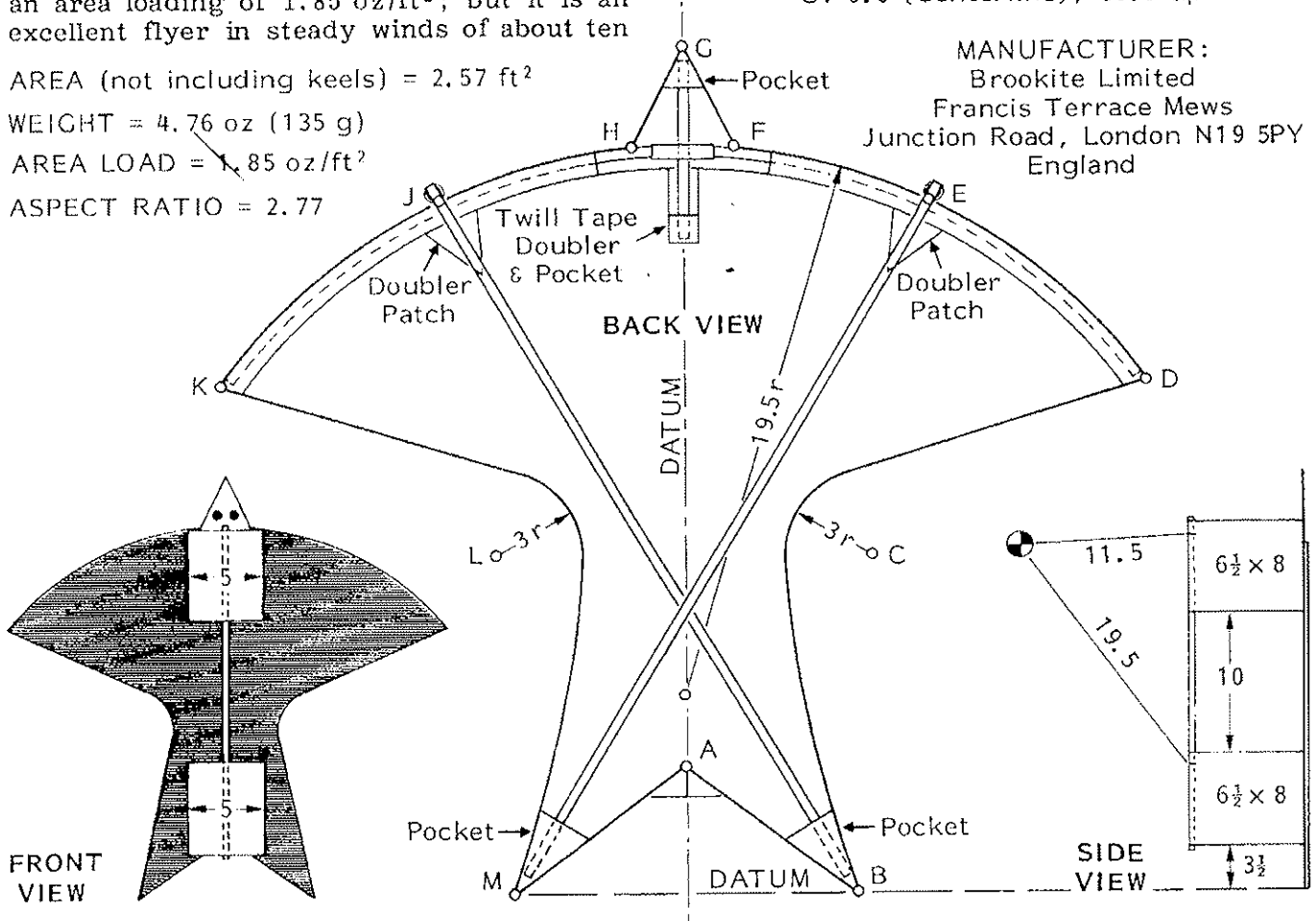
AREA LOAD = 1.85 oz/ft<sup>2</sup>

ASPECT RATIO = 2.77

### TABLE OF POINTS AND THEIR LOCATIONS

A: 0.0 (Centerline); 4.5 up	M: 6.0 left; 0.0 up
B: 6.0 right; 0.0 up	L: 6.5 left; 12.0 up
C: 6.5 right; 12.0 up	K: 16.0 left; 18.0 up
D: 16.0 right; 18.0 up	J: 8.5 left; 24.5 up
E: 8.5 right; 24.5 up	F: 1.75 right; 26.5 up
F: 1.75 right; 26.5 up	H: 1.75 left; 26.5 up
G: 0.0 (Centerline); 30.0 up	

MANUFACTURER:  
Brookite Limited  
Francis Terrace Mews  
Junction Road, London N19 5PY  
England



miles per hour. No tail streamer is necessary.

This kite might rank as an outstanding performer were it to be enlarged 1.5 to 2.0 times and fabricated of ripstop nylon, spruce, and thin-walled, lightweight fiber glass tubing.

**SPECIFICATIONS:** The main canopy and the flexible V-keels are made of porous, heavy cotton cloth with sewn hems; color scheme: white keels on powder blue planform.

**SPAR**—Rattan reed: 2 pieces 1/4" in diameter and 18 1/2" long. They are slipped into a leading edge casing of sewn, appliquéd twill tape and the center joint is contained in a 2" long ferrule of aluminum tubing.

**BEAK LONGERON**—Rattan reed: 1/16" x 1/4" x 6 1/4" long.

**DIAGONALS**—Obeche wood: 2 pieces 1/4" sq. and 28 1/2" long. Lower ends are slipped into tail-pockets; slotted upper ends are snapped into two brass rings that are secured by twill tape loops that are sewn at locations E and J (Back View, above). The X-intersection is tied to the belly fabric.

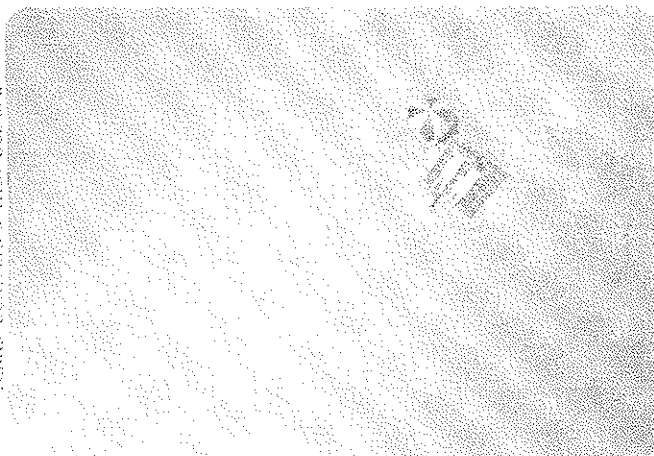
**KEEL LONGERON**—Obeche wood: 1/4" sq. x 23 1/2" long; inserted into sewn sleeves on the apices of the flexible V-keels, and fixed in position with miniature staples.

**ADJUSTMENT**—Bend spars; shift tow-point.

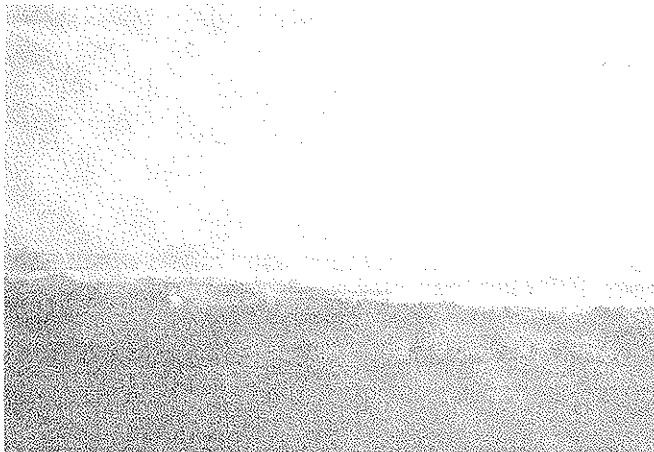
POINTS OF VIEW: A PHOTOGRAPHIC MÉLANGE



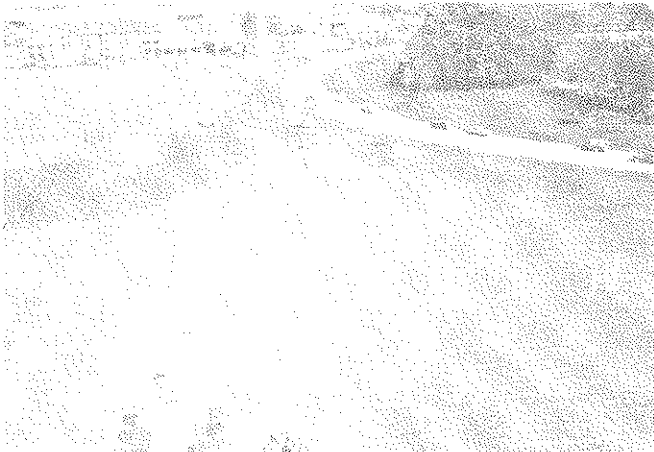
Town on Sea Isle City Beach (NJ) —Oh-No-Kite-Photo-Co.



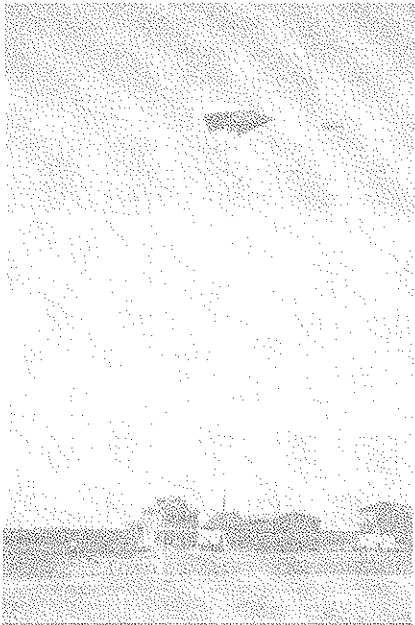
Trolls Solarizing at Sea Isle City —Oh-No-Kite-Photo-Co.



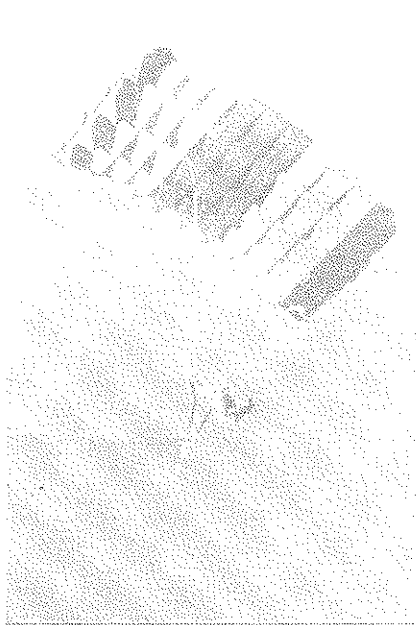
Piney Mountain at Dawn (From Balcon) —Jannthy Horabean



1981 AKA Kitefly Convention: Columbus, OH —David Town



Sutton Aloyu Town —A. Belandier



Scott Foulkner's May Lifter —Horabean



Ash Town Division on Kite Day —Bob Price

ROBERT S. PRICE, Burtonsville, MD, says:  
 ". . . We [Bob and Jewell] enjoyed our visit to Ash Lawn and your home. A thoroughly enjoyable experience.

"I have been concentrating on indexing the AKA News as well as the rest of the AKA archives. Each article reference is an item as is each clipping, magazine, flyer, program, etc.

"There are over 700 items cataloged so far. I have transferred some of the PMAF Data Letter indexing, but the AKA News has higher priority.

". . . Enclosed is a sheet showing the status of inventions of the PMAF Data Letter. There is a three page key to the abbreviations and the column meanings. —Best regards, Bob."

(Computer printout below)

The American Kitefliers Association, Inc. 84/06/28 0653 Disc 1

4 P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER  
 Search for all variables

.....	10.....	20.....	30.....	40.....	50.....	60.....	70.....	80.....	90.....	100.....	110.....	120.....	1	
303A3	28	Sasaki, Marty	Shigeo	Knotty	Kiteline	Philosophy	P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8310	3	3	2	K	47	Line knots
519A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	(pseudo)	A Recap	of the Hornbeam	Mark I	P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8310	3	3	32	E	W	47
520A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	(pseudo)	A Work	Table and Layout	Square	P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8312	3	12	2	Q	W	47
521A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	(pseudo)	The Astrohex	Kite, The Tailies		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8312	3	12	2	W	W	47
522A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	The Brazilian	Classic Papagaio		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8402	4	2	23	L	W	47
523A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	The Platonic	Sweetheart		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8402	4	2	39	K	W	47
524A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	A Bird Kite	from Thailand		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8403	4	3	29	G	W	47
525A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	The Metric	System of Measure		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8404	4	4	2	Q	W	47
526A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	Das Hochgeir			P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8404	4	4	39	U	W	47
527A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	Table of	Dimensions for	Hornbeam	P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8405	4	5	42	E	a	47
531A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	Rotor Kite	and Related	Patents	P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8103	1	4	1	R	R	47
532A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	Knots			P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8103	1	4	2	K		47
533A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	Weight/Area	vs Wind Velocity		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8103	1	4	3	J		47
534A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	Sanjo	Rokkaku		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8103	1	4	43	W	W	47
747A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	The Canadian	Maple Leaf		P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8407	4	7	27	d	W	47
748A3	28	Aydlett, Guy	D.	An Experiment	Series with a	FIP	P.M.A.F. DATA LETTER	N8407	4	7	35	d	W	47

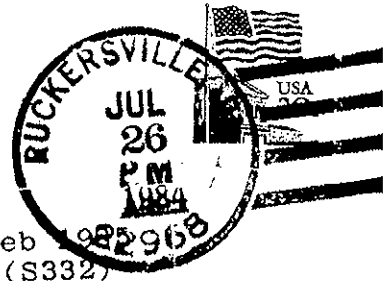
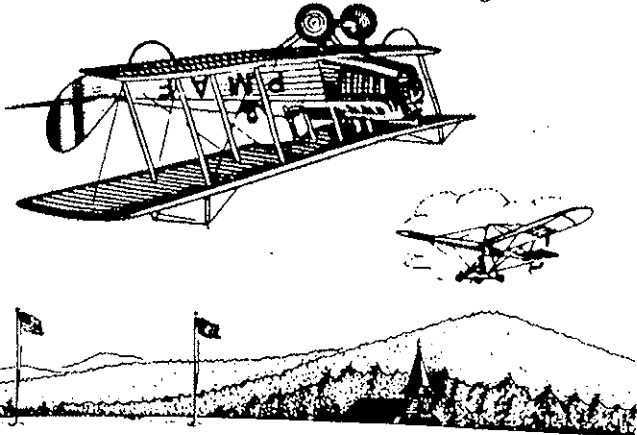
This is a sample portion of the Bob Price index for Data Letter. As any fool can plainly see, Bob voluntarily has assumed an Augean task: a service that does not gut the AKA treasury!

Q & A DEPARTMENT .....

Q: I have copied the Hornbeam Mark I Alliflex Kite. I am offering it for sale marked "Patent Pending." Will kitefliers approve and buy it?  
 A: We think not. Nearly all kitefliers know or have made and flown "The Hornbeam." They know the source and know that the Hornbeam Mark I design was published—given to the public domain in the spirit of Lawrence Hargrave—for the free enjoyment of all fliers. Your patent application may lose you \$\$\$\$\$.

Q: What is the safest approach to kiteflying?  
 A: Stay indoors, get drunk; dream of flying.  
 Q: What in the hell is a fugal?  
 A: A fugal is a helluva lot of kites.  
 Q: I am intrigued by your use of the coined word aerovane as a synonym for kite. Do you think it is beautiful? How about butterfly?  
 A: Jawohl! Would you brefer Schmetterling?

PINEY MOUNTAIN AIR FORCE DATA LETTER  
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