
THE CURTISS SOC "SEAGULL"

by

David Brazelton

One of the more handsome aircraft built between the World Wars was the Curtiss SOC. The series started with the XO3C-1 of 1934, and ended with the XS02C-1 of 1937. Although some SOC's saw service in World War II, the last SOC-4's were built prior to 1940 and were rapidly being replaced by the SO3C and Vought OS2U at the outbreak of war.

The role of the SOC was Battleship Observation and Cruiser Scouting, or "the eyes of the fleet". To accomplish this it was fitted for either wheels or floats, a configuration known officially as "convertable". Its normal operation was on floats, being catapulted for take-off and recovered from the sea by hoist upon landing.

(Continued on page 193)



XO3C-1 (Original design)

Curtiss



XO3C-1 (Modified)

U. S. Navy



SOC-1

W.T.Larkins



SOC-2

W.T.Larkins



SOC-3

W.T.Larkins



SOC-4

G.S.Williams



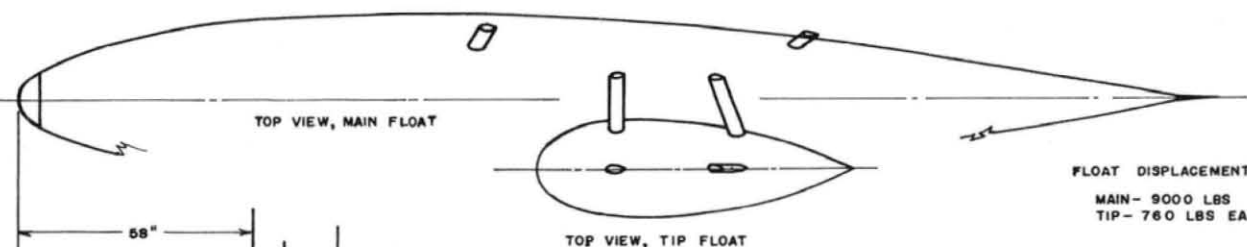
XS02C-1

National Archives

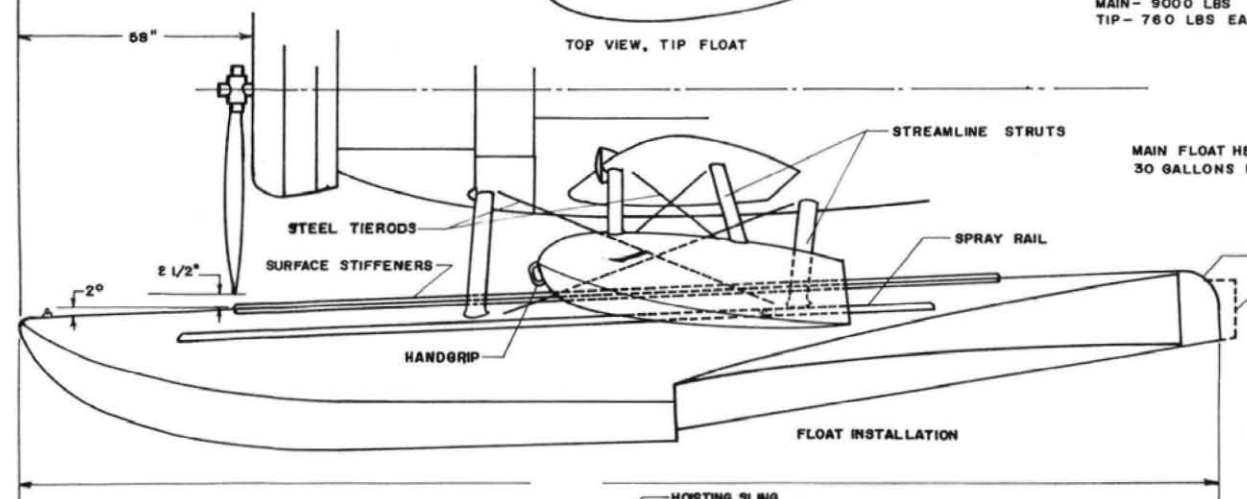


N.A.F. SON-1

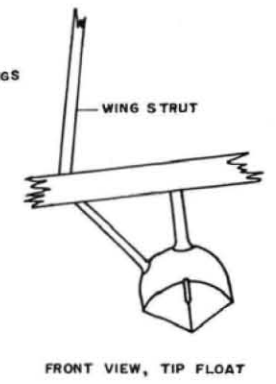
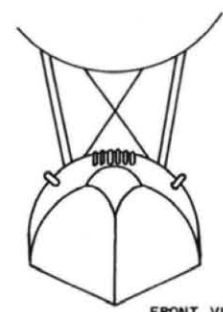
W.T.Larkins



FLOAT DISPLACEMENT:
 MAIN - 9000 LBS
 TIP - 760 LBS EA

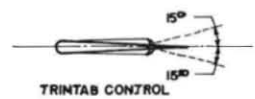
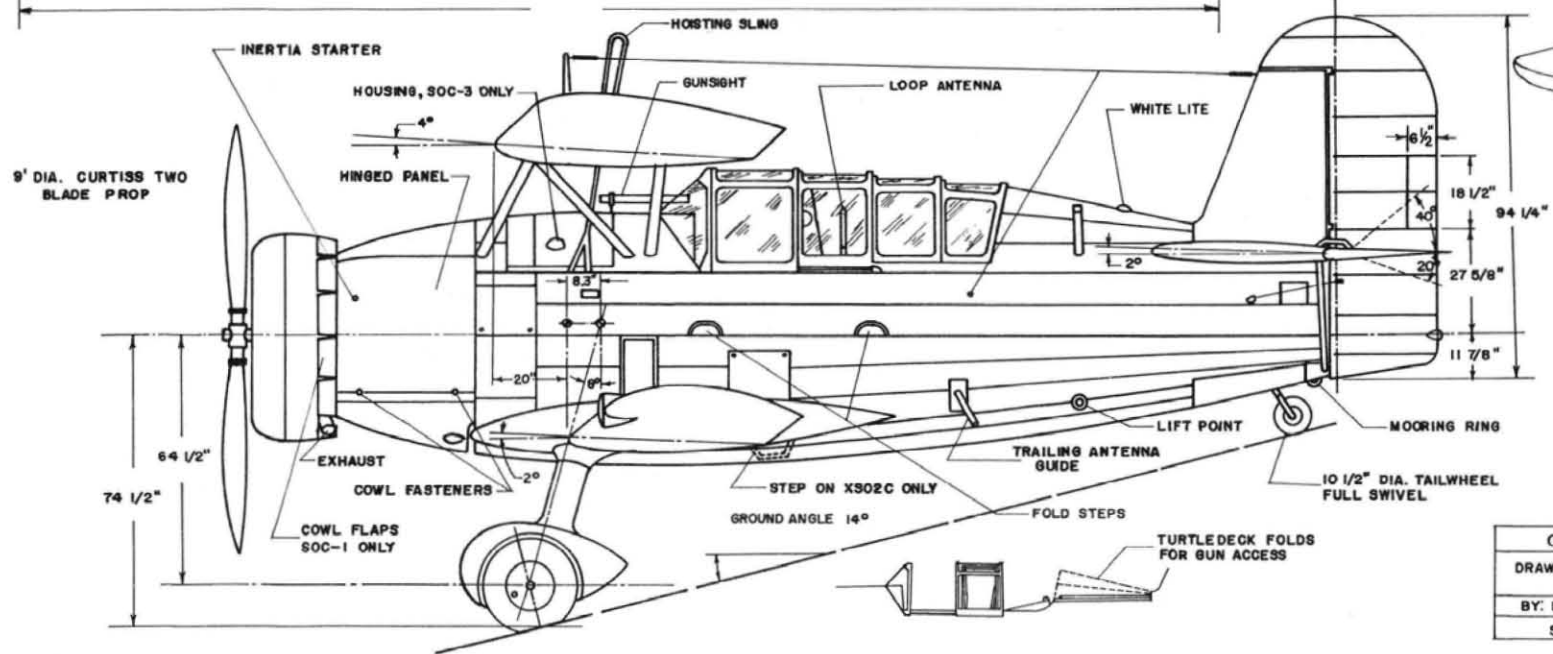
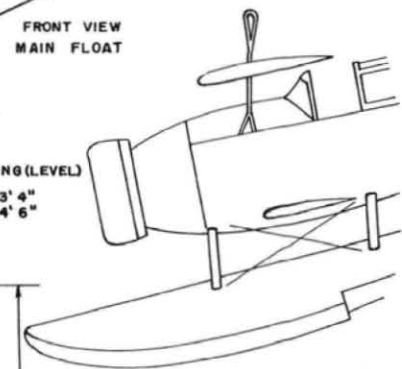


ALL MODELS EQUIPPED WITH FITTINGS
 FOR BOTH WHEELS & FLOATS



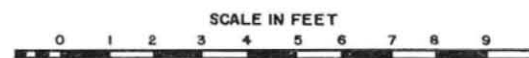
HEIGHT TO SLING (LEVEL)

WHEELS - 13' 4"
 FLOATS - 14' 6"



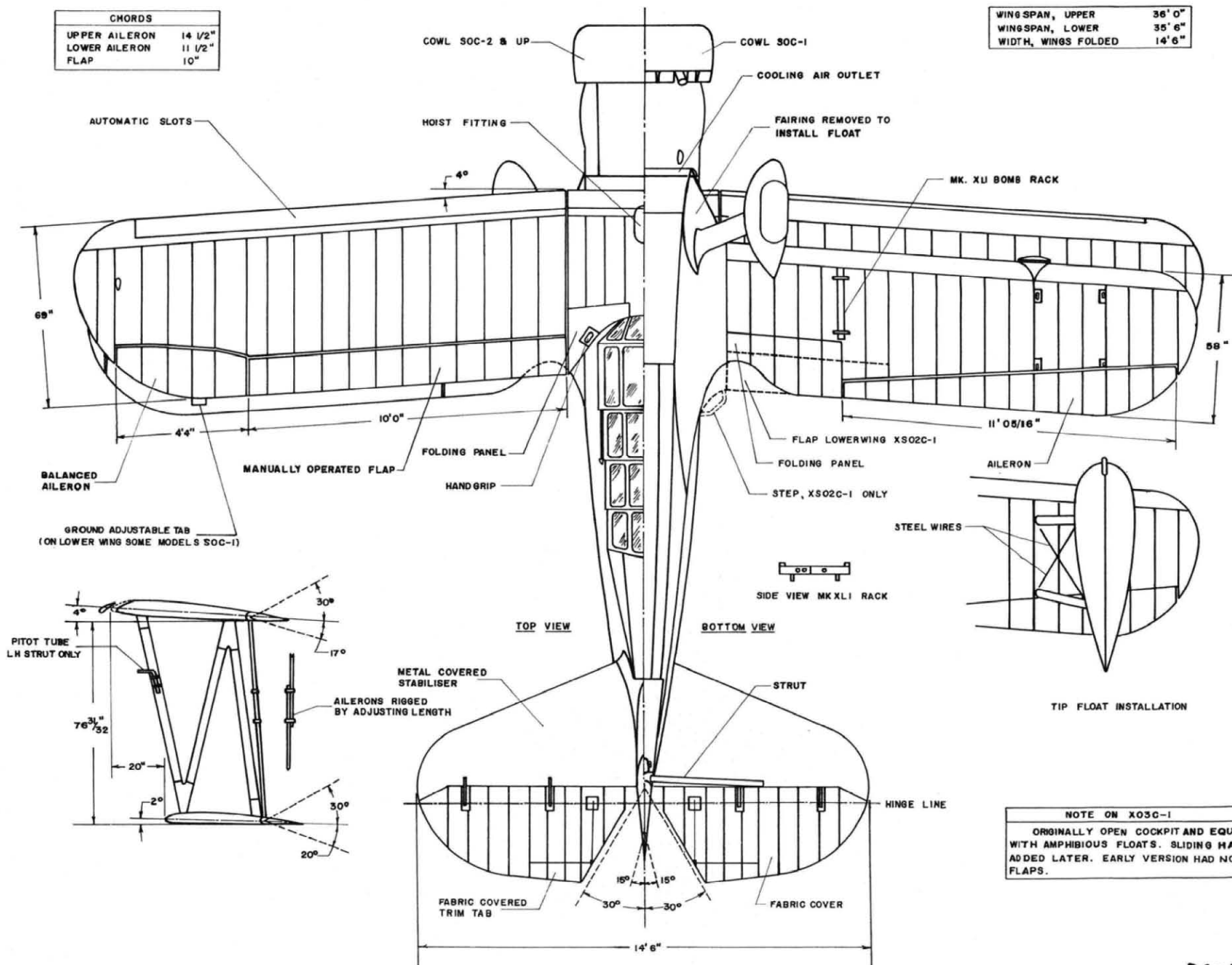
VERTICAL STABILISER AND
 TURTLEDECK - METAL COVER
 RUDDER - FABRIC COVER

CURTISS SOC-1 SEAGULL	
DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY JOURNAL	
BY: DAVID BRAZELTON	DATE: 1 JULY 1958
SCALE 1/4" = 1'	PLATE 1 OF 3



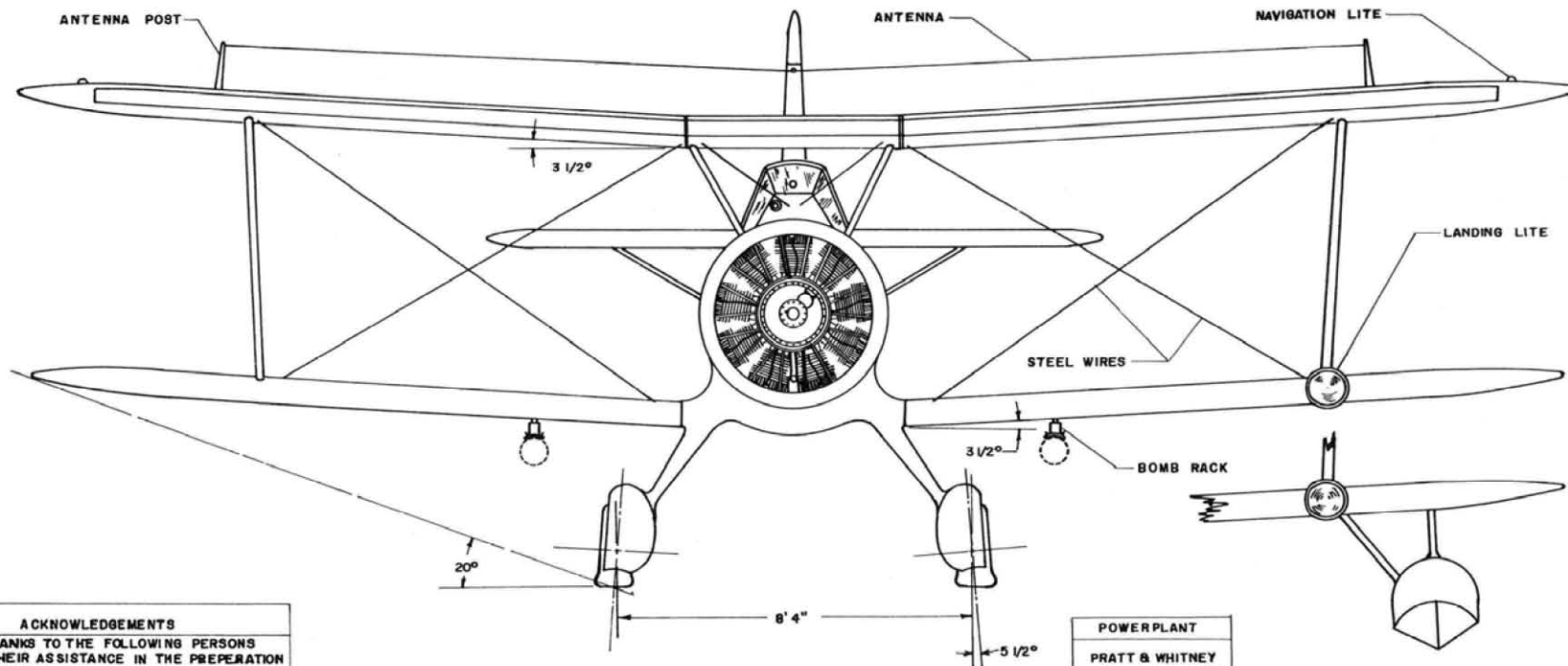
CHORDS	
UPPER AILERON	14 1/2"
LOWER AILERON	11 1/2"
FLAP	10"

WING SPAN, UPPER	36' 0"
WINGSPAN, LOWER	35' 6"
WIDTH, WINGS FOLDED	14' 6"



NOTE ON XS02C-1
 ORIGINALLY OPEN COCKPIT AND EQUIPPED WITH AMPHIBIOUS FLOATS. SLIDING HATCH ADDED LATER. EARLY VERSION HAD NO COWL FLAPS.





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OSCAR E. LOESER, NAVAL AIR MATERIEL
CENTER.

POWER PLANT

PRATT & WHITNEY
SOC-1, R1340-18
SOC-2,3, R1340-22
XS02C-1, R1340-36

FRONT VIEW FLOAT MOUNT

