



Jim White's resurrection of the legendary Monocoupe, NC501W, made its flying debut at the annual Cactus Fly-In at Casa Grande, Arizona, in early March.

This is the 1930 110 Monocoupe Johnny Livingston put back through the Monocoupe factory in 1932 to have its one-piece wing shortened from 32 to 23 feet, 2.5 inches. It thus became the first Clipwing Monocoupe or, more properly, Monocoupe 110 Special.

In 1933 Livingston sold 501W to Jack Wright of Utica, New York, who entered it in the England-to-Australia MacRobertson Race in 1934. He and John Polando would get as far as India, where they had to withdraw after the airplane was damaged.

Shipped back to the United States, it was repaired and

sold to Ruth Barron of Rochester, New York, who would die in the crash of the airplane at Omaha on July 3, 1936.

In 1964, Jim Heim of Granada Hills, California, established ownership of the Clipwing, which was Monocoupe serial number 5W47, and began building a new airframe. He sold the project to Al Allin of Grand Haven, Michigan, in 1971. Allin, in turn, sold it to Jim White of Chandler, Arizona, in March of 1996. Jim had the airplane completed and painted in the colors and markings it bore in the MacRobertson Race, including Race No. 33 and the name of its sponsor, the Baby Ruth Candy Co. A major change from the 1934 configuration was the installation of a 185 Warner engine and an 85-inch Aeromatic F-220 propeller.



LIVINGSTON CLIPWING MONOCOUCPE FLIES AGAIN

Famous race plane back in the skies

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY JACK COX

ler. In 1934 the airplane was powered by a 145 Warner and equipped with a Hamilton Standard ground-adjustable propeller. Jim kept the Clipwing pure in one respect, how-

ever. It does not have an electrical system and is devoid of avionics. He says he has flown his Bücker Jungmann all over the country, with just a finger on a chart, and hopes to do

the same with 501W.

Jim White retired as a captain for America West late last year and currently does corporate flying for a Phoenix utility company. 

