Plane-in-a-box

Chris Heinz, president of Zenair Ltd. of Nobleton, Ontario is convinced that flying should be totally accessible to anyone and has developed two versatile new aircraft to fill that need.

For the hobbyist who enjoys building and is a flying enthusiast, the solution is simple. The Cricket MC-12, which its makers claim is the world's smallest twinengine plane in the world, can be delivered to your door in a box. Chris Heinz maintains that it can be put together in 600 hours, carried out to the backyard and be airborne within 120 metres. The Cricket has its own hangar-trailer that can reach any nearby airfield and cuts the cost of airfield maintenance and tiedown expense.

Zenair, as one of the earliest pioneers to service the needs of builders of Amateur-Built Experimental Aircraft, has also developed a first in the new generation of Ultralight airplanes. The Zenair Zipper is a foldable aircraft that is also



Zenair's new Cricket MC-12 which makers claim is the smallest twin-engine plane in the world. Powered by 15 horsepower engines, it cruises at 185 kilometres an hour.

designed by Chris Heinz and manufactured by Zenair's aircraft methods.

It is practical, light, has a strong airframe and is completely assembled while still in the factory. The revolutionary

wing design is a strong structural part of the Zipper yet makes it flexible enough to allow a quick and neat folding operation to enable you to trailer it anywhere you wish.

News briefs

Canada will contribute \$500 000 to aid victims of the recent earthquake in Turkey. The funds are given in response to an appeal from the League of Red Cross Societies and will be channelled through the Canadian International Development Agency. The earthquake which struck on October 30 has left over 1 200 dead, some 30 000 homeless and many villages destroyed.

Canadian Astronautics Ltd. of Ottawa has been awarded a \$3-million federal contract for the design and manufacture of a radar system to study plasma interactions in the ionosphere. Two Doppler radar systems, located at National Research Council installations Nipawin, Saskatchewan and Red Lake, Ontario, will gather data from the atmosphere 107 kilometres above Churchill, Manitoba.

Digital Equipment of Canada Ltd., Kanata, Ontario has announced Microvax I, the first micro-computer version of its VAX super minicomputer family, and the VAX-11/725, a multi-user system that can serve as the heart of a singleuser graphics work station.

Canadian Commercial Corporation, in co-operation with Foundation Company of Canada Limited of Toronto, has been awarded a contract valued at \$18 million

for the completion of a 215-bed hospital in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. The hospital, to be opened in November 1984, will provide top medical services in the fields of surgery, pediatrics, gynecology and obstetrics and radiology. Foundation Company is one of Canada's leading construction firms. Financing for the contract is provided by the Export Development Corporation.

A container that mops up oil spills has been developed by Transtech Container Systems Co. Ltd. of Toronto, Transtech has been awarded a \$242 691 federal government contract for delivery of several of these containers, which will be used by the Canadian Coast Guard for emergencies and operations in the Arctic.

Prevost Car Inc. of Sainte Claire de Dorchester, near Quebec City, is introducing a 255-centimetre wide, 12-metres long inter-city bus with 47 passenger capacity and 33 per cent more cargo space than the earlier 240-centimetre model. (Most current highway coaches seat 43 or 45 passengers.) A prototype has been tested over 50 000 kilometres of highway. Prevost received a \$1-million Quebec loan to help. Production in 1984 will be aimed at Canadian and US operators, now that most states have accepted 255-centimetre buses. Prevost is also developing a prototype articulated four-axle intercity bus, 18 metres long.

with advanced anti-jackknifing systems, to carry 72 passengers.

> Novatel Communications Ltd. of Calgary, Alberta has entered into an agreement with Hickman Investments Inc. of Fort Worth, Texas to set up Car Com Inc., a unit that will market cellular mobile telephones throughout the automotive industry in the United States. A Novatel official estimated that the automotive market for the telephones will be approximately \$2 billion over the next three years. Novatel is a joint venture of Nova Corp. of Calgary and Alberta Government Telephones.

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