

Bombdrop

Bomb Drop

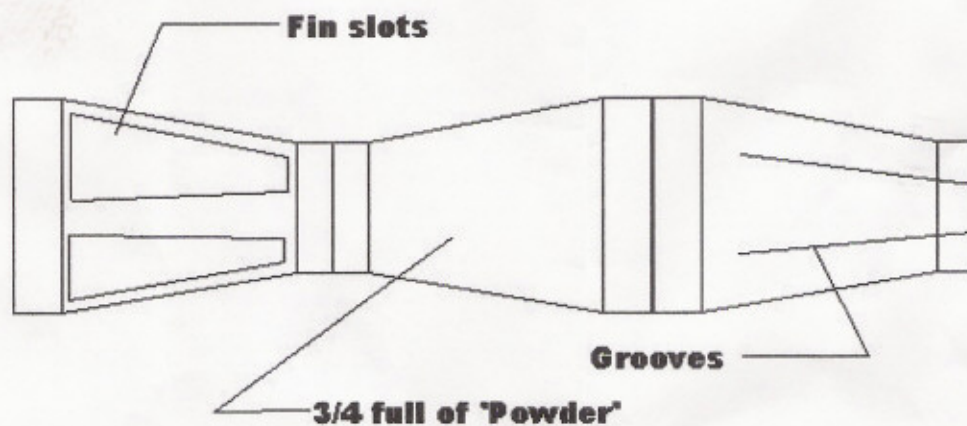
One of the fun things to do, when your looking for something different. Is to drop toilet paper, or styrofoam bombs from your sport plane. Much fun can be had in dropping the toilet paper for folks to chase with their planes. Two months ago, I snuck over to another clubs field and bombed them into submission. Declaring their field MINE!! I did allow them the use of it when I am not present. I know it's silly, but have some perspective and lets get to converting your hum drum sport machine for tactical warfare.

First off, to make this easy you'll need a 5 or 6 channel radio. You will install an extra and cheap servo inside the fuselage on the side of the exhaust. I fuel proof all my radio compartments with thinned epoxy, but if you do not, you can smear a little in the area where the servo is to mount. Then mount the servo with some double sided foam tape. It's usually best to glue a small piece, 1"x1", of light ply to the fuse opposite the servo. Then drill a 1/8" hole directly across from the servo and slightly above. This hole is for a small piece of inner nyrod, a bearing. Without the bearing, sooner or later your wire will saw it's way through the fuselage side. Put a z-bend in a piece of pushrod and and install it on the servo with the other end out of the fuselage. The servo should be hooked up and the transmitter on with the retract switch in whichever position you wish to be your hold position. Verify that there is room for the servo arm in the drop position. When you have the arm set to the drop position, mark the pushrod even with the fuselage side, move the switch to the hold position and cut the pushrod just a little past the mark. When you put your switch to the drop position, the pushrod should retract totally into the fuselage. Here's a quicky diagram to look at.

And now, for the ***SERIOUS*** cargo.

Styrofoam bombs!

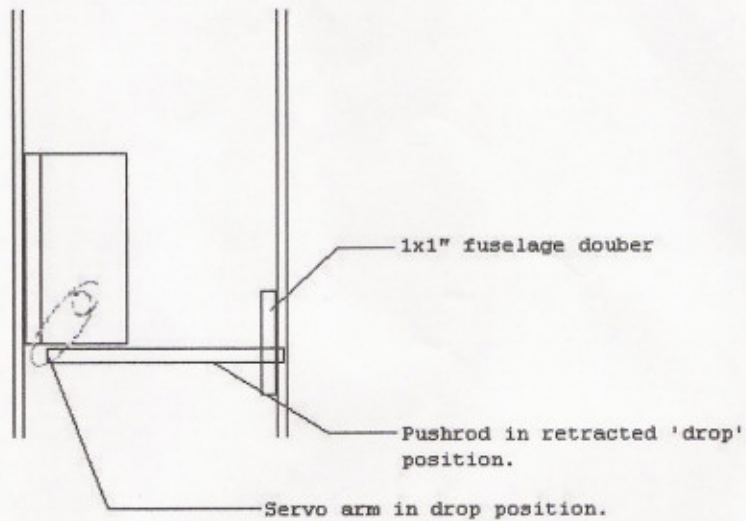
Well go to the store and buy up some of them Styrofoam cups. You can get 100 for under a dollar. You might buy a small bag of cheap flour, unless your wife buys it in 25-pound bags like mine does. In that case, she'll never miss a little. Cut four equally spaced slots into one cup and glue it, bottom to bottom, to another cup. Now fill that cup 3/4 full with flour and glue it top to top with a third and final cup. Lightly cut grooves in the last cup to weaken it and you're done! Hook the TP bomber's rubberband around the head of the bomb and drop it over a hard surface. It will make a good puff of 'smoke' when it hits. Here's a drawing for reference.



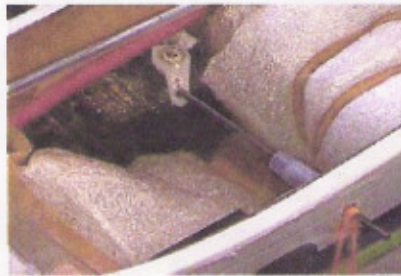
Styrofoam Bombs

And now Pinky, the plans for tonight, Taking over the World

[The Northland Flyer] [Bio] [The Hangar] [Tips 'n' Techniques] [Links] [Combat]



A picture is worth a thousand words, couple thousand in my case!



Here you see the pushrod exiting the fuselage with an orange rubberband wrapped around it. . When brand new the rubberbands are kinda sticky and might try to hold onto the pushrod. Easy fix though, all the oil you need is on the other side when the engine has been run. Here's what it looks like when you pull the switch and the servo retracts the pushrod.



See? No rubberband



This is the underside of this particular airplane with the toilet paper held on by the rubberband. Instead of the rubberband being held by pinching in the wing seat, I've used the conveniently located landing gear. The pushrod side of this picture looks just like the first picture, but upside down. Find Paint in your Windows accessories, load copy the first picture into it and rotate 180°. When the servo is retracted, the rubberband snaps free to the gear and the toilet paper releases. To save transmitting time for this photo, take one of **YOUR** airplanes, turn it over and put a rubberband on the landing gear. Now step back and take a look. That's what the last picture would look like. (you could ignore this step!)

If you don't have landing gear located conveniently, simply put the end of a rubberband under the wing when you put it on, then loop a couple rubberbands together so that you can loop it around the fuselage and hook it snugly to the extended pushrod. Slip your toilet paper or bomb under the rubberband and adjust the band so that it supports your projectile evenly. Like the toilet paper in the above photo.

Now let's have some the fun. Get airborne, remembering that you are less streamlined and heavier, so you may need to keep the nose down a bit more after takeoff, until you build up speed. If you're dropping toilet paper, get lots of air and downwind from your chase zone. When it's time, countdown from 5 so that the people who will be chasing the TP have a chance to get positioned. At 1, pull the switch, it will take a second for the servo to retract and the paper to fall. With paper, I like to unroll a foot or so off the roll and tuck it between the fuse and the roll. Also, the **Premo Waddage** of the TP world is Scots 1000 sheet rolls, cut in half. If we do some math it comes out like this. 3.5" per sheet, 1000 sheets per roll equals 3500" of paper. Divide that by 12 and you get 291' of streamer. Wow, you can't miss that in the air. If you have problems with the toilet paper wadding up and floating away. Clip a large paper clip to one side of the roll and it will make it fall faster. Use cheap paper clips, as you'll probably never see it again. Enviromentally, the Scots toilet paper will fall apart after a heavy dew and dis-appear. In winter however, it could last quite a while. It is all bio-degradable, but that may not please your neighbors. It is however quite fun to TP a tree, car or whatever with this method. One of my favorite tasks is to drop the TP at an altitude such that it will totally unroll just as it hits the ground AND to hit a defined spot. Not as hard as you might think with some practice, the highlight of this career was when I TP'd a freshly crashed 1/4 scale AT-6 and it's retrieval crew. Everyone got the message and after only 3 months, the pilot would talk to me again! HAVE FUN!!!!