

## Sunday Fun



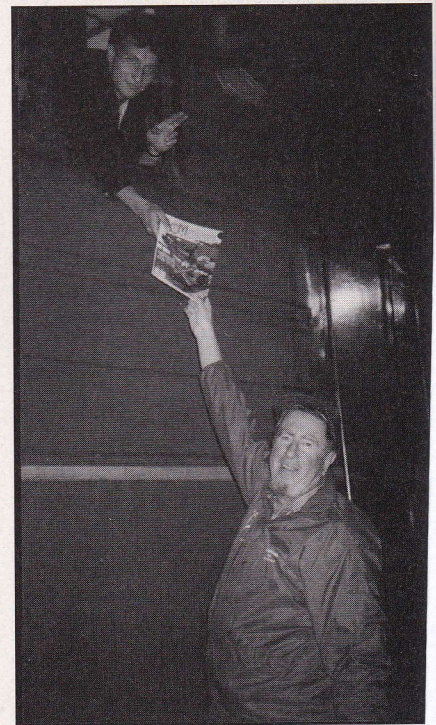
Left: We left a copy of RCM at the entrance to a private commercial venture hobby shop ... deep in the middle of Siberia. Right: The Russians still don't much like pictures taken at their airports ... I aimed at Lynn but focused on the Tu-154b2.



### Ramblin' In Russia

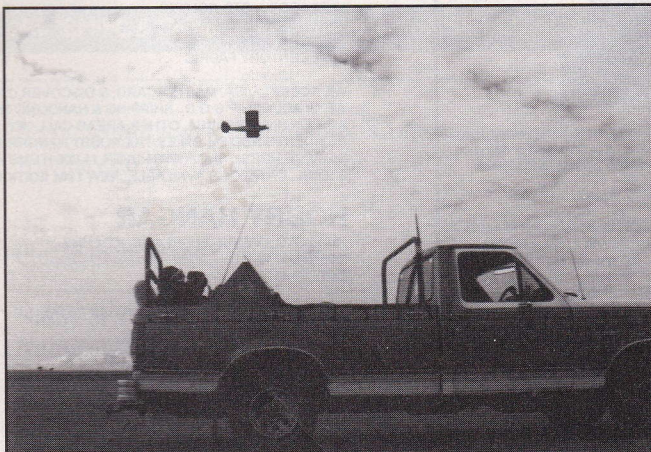
Some of the world's finest flying fields are in Siberia, a huge region of eastern Russia that is among the least-populated areas on the globe. Our last column left us in Russia with no success in finding model airplanes in Khabarovsk, and we'd made the decision to ride the Trans-Siberian Railroad inward and westward to continue ramblin' and searching. I've often heard that R/C modelers are among the world's higher intellect people ... we tend to be more technical, more mechanical, more clever and

more ingenious it seems. I reasoned that the engineer in the locomotive of the Trans-Siberian train we were boarding ought to be of the same intellect and made an extreme (and successful) effort to get a copy of our favorite magazine passed up to him. I figured his chances of being able to read the words was slim to none, but that his inquiring mind would let him "read" the pictures and the ads that are the best presentation of new R/C products in



A locomotive engineer on the Trans-Siberian Railroad gets a copy of RCM from our Sunday Fun rambler.

the world's model press. I'm sure the copy of RCM we gave him is still being looked at, studied and probably drooled over a bit too. Publications like RCM are relatively rare in the former Soviet bloc province. The Trans-Siberian train rumbled eastward for three long days while Lynn and I rocked along through miles and miles of the most flat grassed areas I've seen ... this was absolutely an R/C modeler's dream as far as places to fly. In truth, though, the area was covered with snow 9 or 10 months of the year, and it's a little tough to get to! We left the train in Irkutsk in the heart of Siberia.



Left: Truck in motion and model in flight shows how Peter Geroni of Australia has set a new FAI R/C distance record. Right: World distance model is home-designed and scratch-built. 7' span; O.S. Max 46SF dieselized. Prism radio with HS-80 servos. Team leader Peter Geroni is right rear.

