

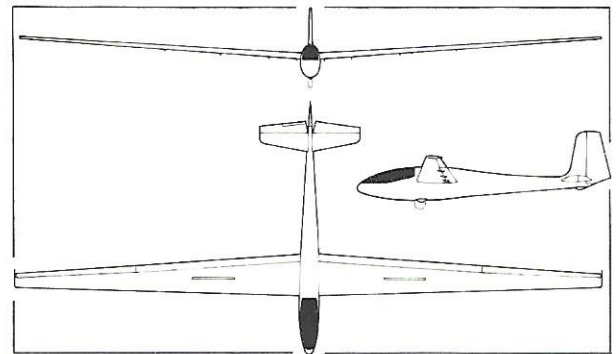
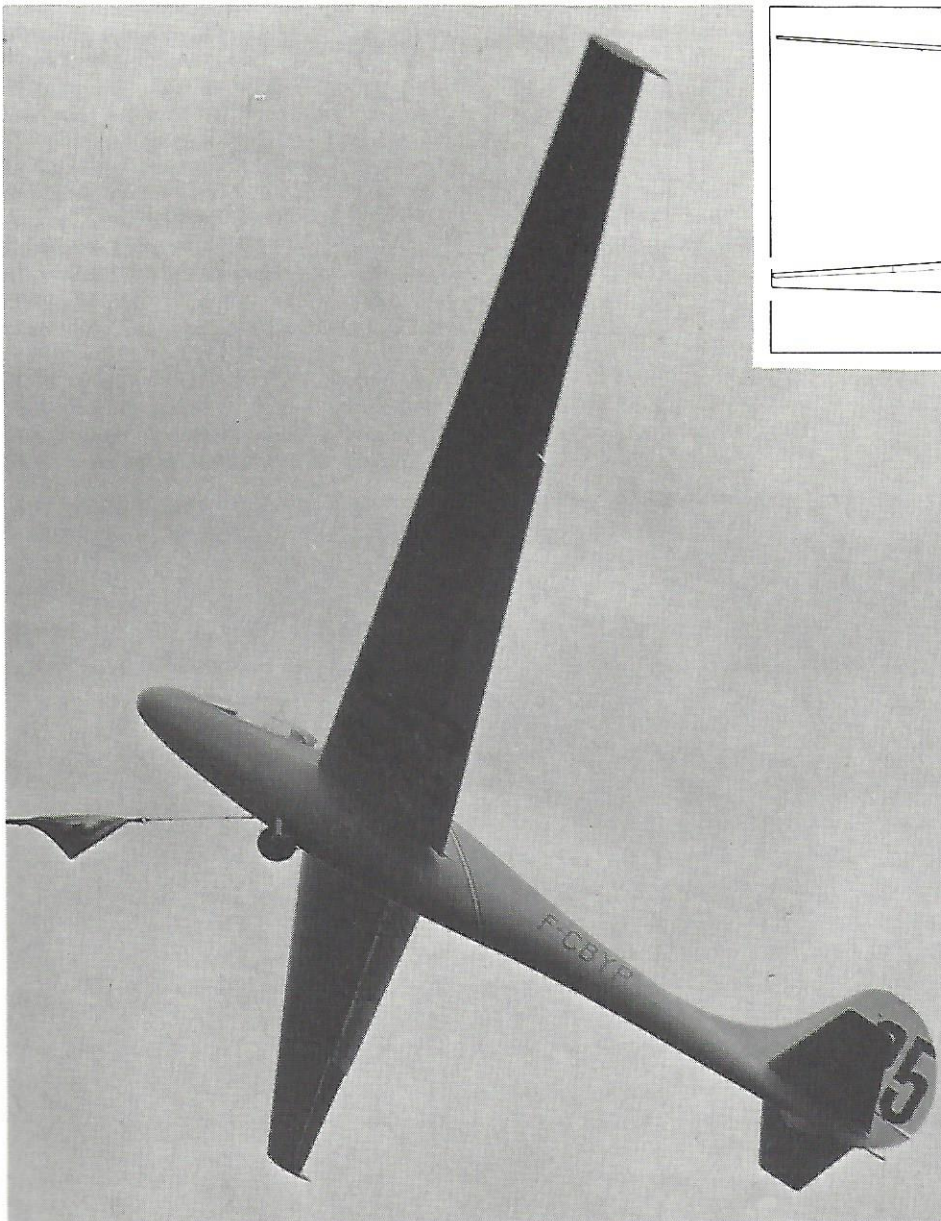
Breguet 901 /France

The first sailplane produced by the long established French aircraft firm of Breguet was the Breguet 900, which flew 470 km (254 nm) on its first flight in 1949. Four years later the Breguet 901 was developed and turned out to be one of France's most successful sailplanes.

The single-seat 901 designed by J. Cayla was ahead of its time, featuring multi-hinged Fowler flaps and ailerons. The large blown Plexiglas canopy is inset flush with the fuselage, setting a precedent for modern sailplanes, and 75 kg (165 lb) of water ballast are carried in the wings and can be discharged through openings on each side of the fuselage just beneath the wings.

Built entirely of wood, it has ply- and fabric-covered single-spar wings and tail unit and a wooden monocoque fuselage which is aerodynamically clean but has the disadvantage of a large hole left in the bottom when the wheel is retracted.

The Breguet 901-S1 is a modified version of the 901 with different flaps and a slightly longer fuselage and larger tailplane. It first flew in 1956, the same year that the tandem two-seat 20-metre Breguet 904 was produced. The 901 showed its worth by winning the World Championships twice, in 1954 and 1956.



Data	901-S1
Manufacturer	Breguet
First flight	1956
Wing span	17.32 m (56 ft 10 in)
Length	7.57 m (24 ft 10 in)
Wing area	15.0 m ² (161.5 sq ft)
Wing section	NACA 63 series
Aspect ratio	20.0
Empty weight	265 kg (584 lb)
Max weight	430 kg (948 lb)
Water ballast	75 kg (165 lb)
Max wing loading	28.67 kg/m ² (5.87 lb/sq ft)
Max speed	119 kt (220 km/h)
Stalling speed	33.5 kt (62 km/h)
Min sinking speed at 39 kt (72 km/h)	0.60 m (2.0 ft)/sec
Max rough air speed	97 kt (180 km/h)
Best glide ratio at 46 kt (85 km/h)	36