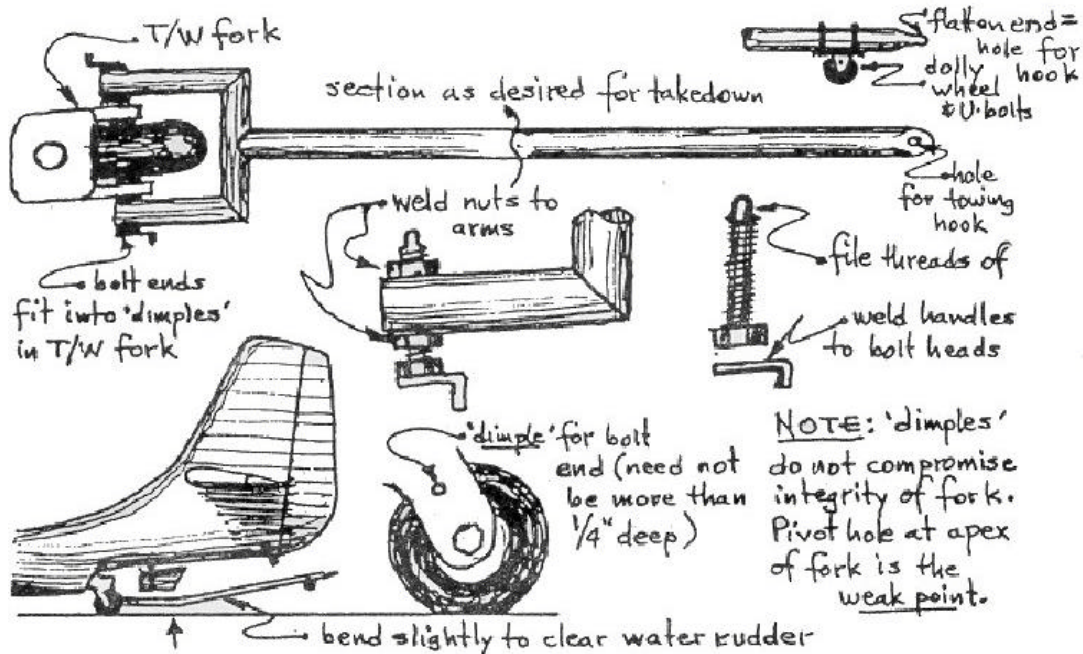


TAILWHEEL TOWBAR: If you hangar your 'Bee, and we wish everyone could protect his 'Bee that well, one of the most useful items to have is a towbar. A friend made one for me years ago and I could not imagine having to do without it. In fact, when I moved from the Dallas/Ft Worth area to Ft Lauderdale, I had to bring it in the plane with me so that I wouldn't have to be without it when we arrived. That towbar is 9' long, made of heavy plumbing pipe, and weighs 20 lbs. How did I get it into the poor ol' 'Bee? I sectioned the towbar so that it would be in shorter lengths. Does that emphasize its importance? But, if given the chance, I'd make it of much lighter material. If it were constructed of aluminum tube, or square tube, it'd be a fraction of that weight. And I'd section it into lengths that would fit sideways in the baggage compartment, or secured to the rear frame of the front seat. The rather simple drawing will give you an idea of what's involved. The "dimples" in the T/W fork are NOT compromising the integrity. If you landed so hard on the T/W as to break something, that something would be around the pivot bolt hole in the T/W fork. That's the weak point.



WING PLATFORMS are also indispensable pieces of equipment for your 'Bee. Years ago I made two, covered them with padded carpeting, and they've prevented an untold number of scratches and dings on top of the wings whenever the engine needed working on. Using as a guide the blueprint-style drawing shown in Republic Service News #1, p2, I modified them to be much lighter and easier to move and store. Reducing the width and height saved a large percent of the total weight without compromising their usefulness. When not in use, they're hanging from hooks on the hangar wall. The contour of the wing is given in the "blueprint" and the construction is done quite simply, with only basic tools. Additionally, here's a pictorial graph-like wing contour illustration, contributed by Ted Lissauer, s/n 482, in Kentucky. As noted, the squares are of 2" sides that you can transpose measurements from directly. Once you've used the platforms, you'll agree that they are indeed indispensable. And your wings will thank you.

