

AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY



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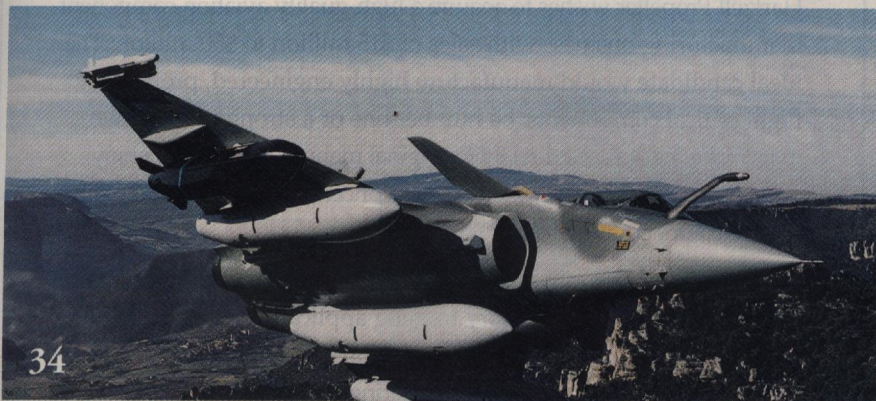
Reno Air Moves Beyond Startup

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Boeing's Supply Chain Turmoil

AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY



HEADLINE NEWS

Boeing suppliers warn of protracted delays

Some reluctant to invest in new capacity; others, spurned during consolidation, aren't coming back

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Boeing recruits former Douglas workers

At least 100 laid-off assembly mechanics as bottlenecks threaten breakneck production buildup

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Boeing picks outside painter

Dallas firm to paint 777s to accommodate higher production rate

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Airbus production doubling to 220-plus aircraft per year

Cuts, delays in Europe's military programs ease efforts to hike output

27

Rohr to become next BFGoodrich addition

Mergers among lower-tier suppliers in early phase, more expected over next 2-3 years

28

Gripen partners press ahead on exports, Mid-Life Updates

Improvements to be installed in third production batch, which will be delivered between 2003-07

30

Defense planners wary of mergers

Fear remaining new projects will suffer neglect because of new layers of bureaucracy

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French defense budget takes new hit

Part of new effort to lower deficits to 3% of gross domestic product

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NRO embraces sigint smallsats

System in early stages of development would continue shift away from small number of megasats

35

About the Cover

Five-year-old Reno Air operates a fleet of 30 MD-90 and MD-80 series aircraft to 24 cities around the U.S.

Its largest hub is at its home base, which is Reno/Tahoe International Airport (see p. 48). Boeing Co. Douglas Products Div. photo by Bernie Roddam.

Mars atmosphere thicker than expected

Engineers compensate with minor altitude changes for Mars Global Surveyor's aerobraking passes

Internal NASA debate surrounds Mir flight

Spawned by controversy over continuing to assign astronauts to stay on Mir

NBAA '97 REPORT

NBAA show reflects era of strong growth

Unprecedented level of optimism for future of business aviation

Airbus steps up competition for large business aircraft

Goes after Boeing Business Jet with version of A319

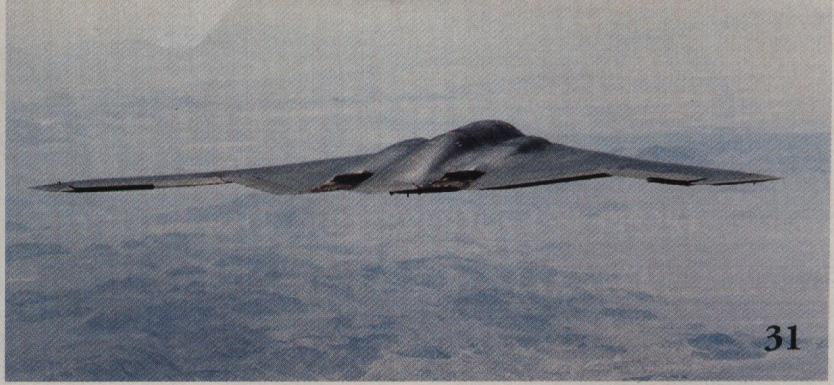
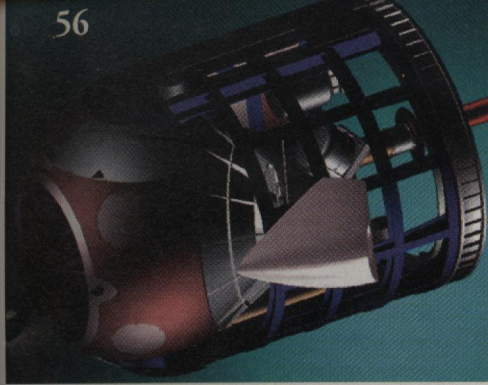
AIR TRANSPORT

German air charter industry consolidates

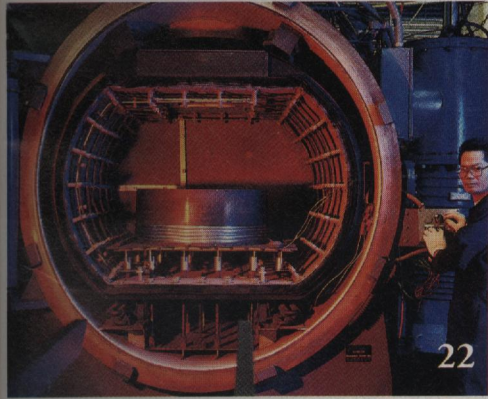
Lufthansa spins off Condor charter unit into joint venture with country's second largest tour operator

U.S.-Japan talks progress; next meeting set for October

Unresolved issues include how to provide new slots at Narita



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Alitalia restructuring progresses slowly

Political instability, management crisis, ill-fated strategic plans fail to stop new initiative 45

FAA: English ATC standards needed

No way to measure adequacy of English to fly in U.S. airspace 46

STARS progress demonstrated

Raytheon ahead in meeting milestones 47

A STARTUP MATURES

Reno Air comes of age

Western carrier seeks to keep fares down while offering passengers more than most low-cost airlines 48

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Aerospace industry rebounding in Europe

On track for even stronger growth this year, thanks to rising commercial aircraft orders 51

Info and space group names top managers

For 11 product areas and related support services 52

AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

Upgraded F-16 to fire Amraam

Will demonstrate integration of new mission computer, upgraded radar and AIM-120 missile system 53

Air Force suspends A-10 recovery efforts

500-lb. bombs still not found 55

Boeing hones turret design

Water tunnel testing confirms proper geometries of ABL inlet 56

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

First phase of DSP-SBIRS transition underway

To begin with construction of a new ground control station 57

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We're available on CompuServe, too; just GO AWG.

JPL assembling Deep Space 1 probe

To be on first flight in NASA's New Millennium program 58

WorldStar satellite tests set to begin

Plan is to deliver news, entertainment and educational programming to developing nations 59

Robotic hand designed for space station assembly

Will allow effective use of handtools in space without EVA dangers 60

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