

AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY

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NEW COURSE FOR NUCLEAR MONITORING

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SABENA'S SWISS CONNECTION

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AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY

About the Cover

USAF/Boeing WC-135 equipped with fuselage-mounted airfoils was the last of a fleet that once totaled more than 80 bomber, cargo and reconnaissance aircraft dedicated to locating and collecting gas and particulate samples from nuclear test explosions (see p. 50). AFTAC photo.



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HEADLINE NEWS

Ariane 5 succeeds on its second try

Launches test satellites into low orbit; next qualification flight planned for spring

22

Boeing testbed views Ariane 5

Part of joint NASA and ESA effort to enhance range safety

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U.S. military satellites begin orbital checkout

For reconnaissance, intelligence, communications, navigation

24

MGS to resume aerobraking

Project officials to watch data for signs of additional problems with damaged solar panel

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Matra Marconi wins huge satcom contract

High-power buses for one of most complex commercial spacecraft

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ESA moves to save CRV

After France refuses to fund

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Alpha LAMP demonstrates laser beam compensation

Shows simultaneous operation of two mirrors

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Clinton, Jiang break the ice

Summit was stage for agreements potentially worth tens of billions of dollars to U.S. industry

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Historic China purchase viewed as bellwether

Boeing projects China will need 2,200 transports over 20 years

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Devaluation of currencies fails to rattle airframers

Sales denominated in U.S. dollars, so Boeing and Airbus prices rise

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BaE, DASA acquire Siemens' defense units

Rival offer from Thomson nixed

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A-10 case closed; crash ruled suicide

USAF: Altitude, heading changes indicate Button was in control

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France approves multiyear Apache buy

Among first defense programs under new procurement initiative

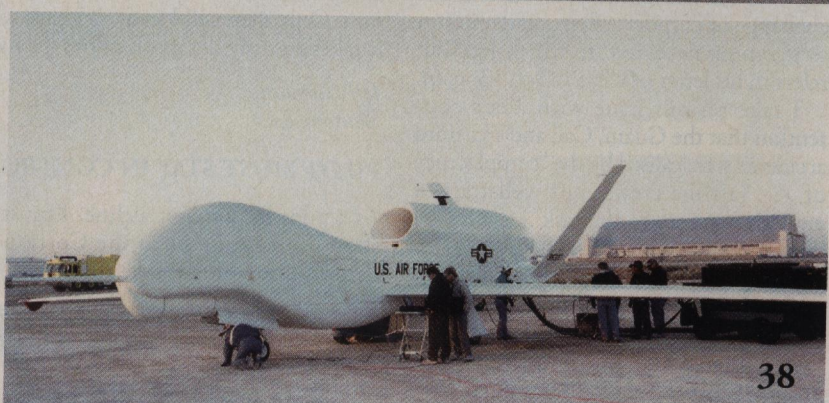
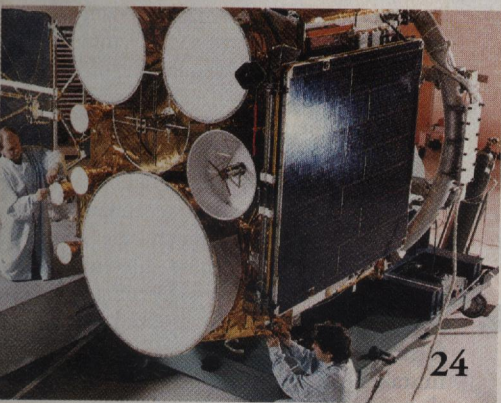
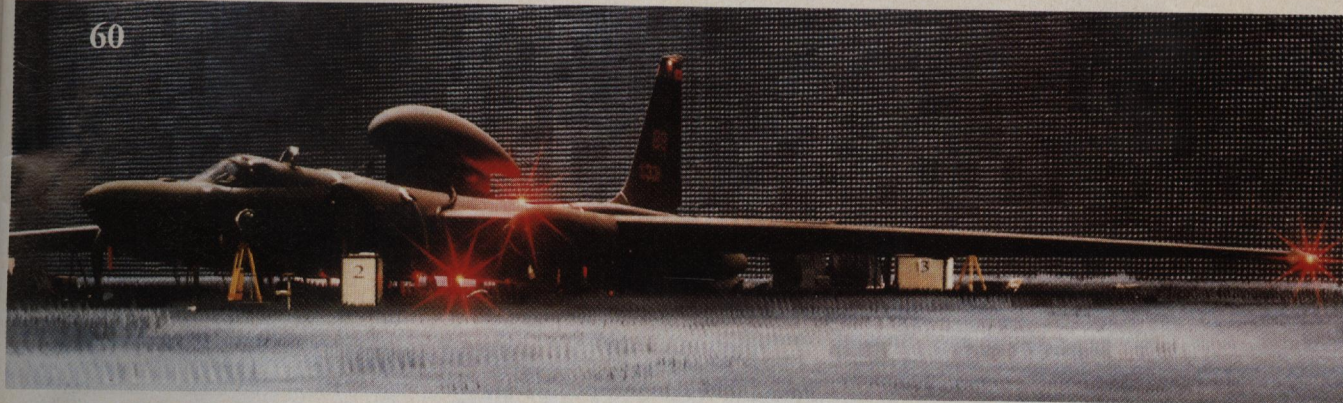
Teledyne Ryan's Global Hawk begins taxi tests

Designed to taxi, takeoff and fly autonomously during a mission

Behind the Scenes

A young William B. Scott, now *Aviation Week & Space Technology's* Rocky Mountain bureau chief, monitors the progress of a nuclear sampling mission from a special equipment operator console on board a C-118 training aircraft. Scott flew as a U.S. Air Force Technical Applications Center SEO in 1969 before the Air Force returned him to the classroom to complete a degree in electrical engineering as part of a commissioning program. After years of classification, AFTAC has allowed Scott to tell the unit's story. His report begins on p. 50.





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AIR TRANSPORT

Garvey commits FAA to safety partnerships

One goal: Expand, protect flight operations quality assurance programs 39

FAA, industry craft new engine checks

To develop better means of preventing uncontained failures 40

FAA orders inspections

Of oldest 737s flying, cracks down on illegal shipments of dangerous goods by courier companies 41

Probe eyes pitot heaters

Failure may have led to anomalous airspeed indications before crash 41

TWA's prospects looking up; UAL posts major gain

But TWA's weak cash position provides reminder of thin margin 44

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France moves ahead on CDG expansion

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USAF nuclear detectives assume new roles

Organization provided critical data that shaped U.S. nuclear policies 50

Sampling missions unveiled nuclear weapon secrets

Experts: Decision to eliminate capability for collecting airborne samples at high altitudes is mistake 54

Debris collection reverts to ground sites

Network to encourage compliance by nations on test cessation 57

ELECTRONIC WARFARE

Unified EW test complex cuts development risks

More work will be done in ground-based laboratories than in past 60

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Aviation Week & Space Technology editors will discuss emerging trends this Friday on the new "Fox on Technology" program. The discussion

will center on issues to be featured in future editions of the magazine. The Fox show airs live at 1:40 p.m. EST. Consult your local listings for the time and cable channel in your area.