

# AVIATION WEEK *& SPACE* TECHNOLOGY

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**Military Space**

**Coming  
Of Age**



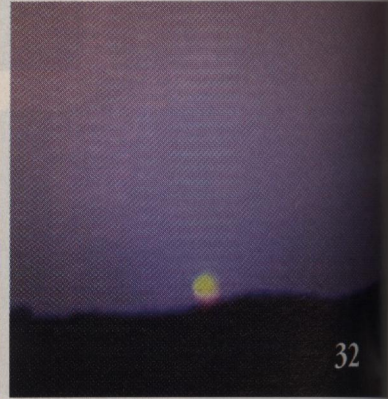
**Asian Airlines  
Turning To Info Tech**

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## About the Cover

The U.S. Navy/Ball Aerospace Geosat Follow-On satellite, scheduled for launch in late October, will measure average ocean wave height and atmospheric water vapor levels, then transmit data directly to ships at sea (see p. 46). Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. painting by B. Scott Kabler.



## HEADLINE NEWS

### NRO radar, sigint launches readied

Set with Air Force to launch two of the U.S.' most advanced intelligence spacecraft 22

### Titan motor fixes speed NRO launches

Program and contractors recovering from generic problem discovered in the thrust vector control systems 24

### Mir external EVA prepared as partial power restored

One objective will be to inspect Spektr exterior for punctures 27

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Lewis remote-sensing demonstration satellite goes into spin, loses power two days after it was orbited 31

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### Sukhoi schedules S-32 maiden flight

Equipped with forward canards and has forward swept-wing design and twin D-30F6 engines 36

<http://www.awgnet.com>

Aviation Week's Web site offers selected articles from the current issue, as well as daily news updates, the Safety Resource Center, a gallery of photos and features from special issues. It's also a great jumping off spot for surfing to other aerospace sites. We're available on CompuServe, too; just GO AWG.

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Push for 'one level of safety' in aviation must be an international program, ALPA forum is told 39

### American seeks cargo alliances

In Europe and Latin America, in wake of rising traffic demand 39

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ATR 72 is key part of Xinjiang Airlines' plan to modernize fleet 40

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All-new 13,000-15,000-lb.-thrust SPW14 for 58-84-seat aircraft 40

### Dragonair expands fleet

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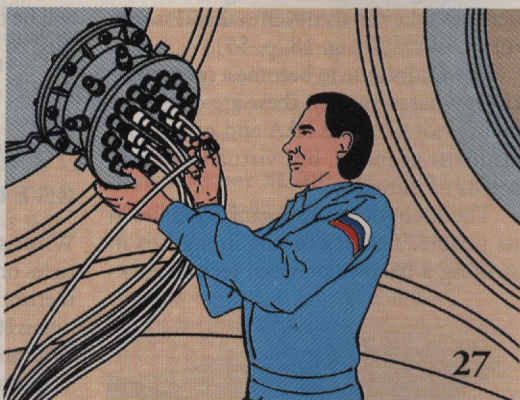
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