

AVIATION WEEK
& SPACE TECHNOLOGY

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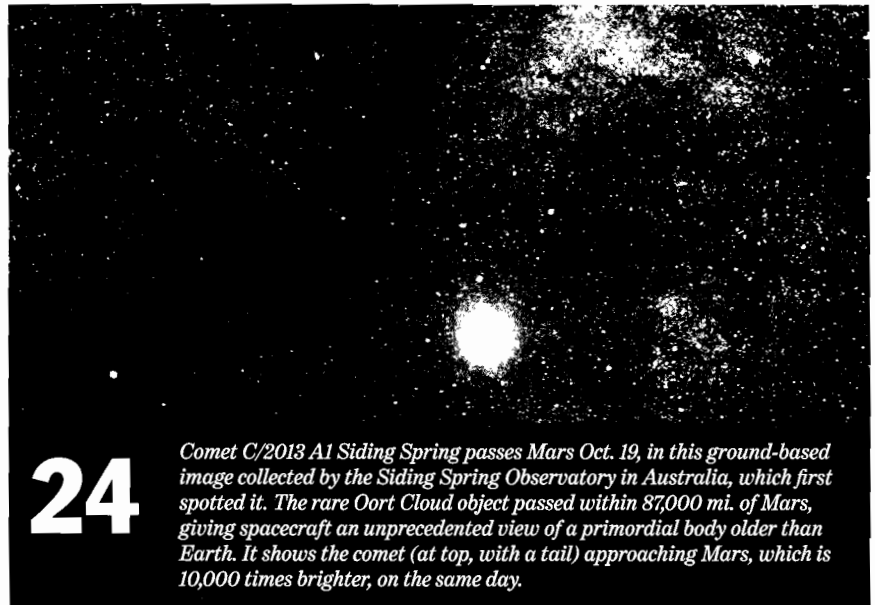
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THE WORLD

- 9 **Airbus close** to launching an increased-maximum-takeoff and long-range version of the A321neo
- 10 **Strong pipeline** of new products boosts Honeywell's latest forecast of 9,450 new bizjets through 2024

DEFENSE

- 18 **Small order for** Russian Su-35 Flankers is clue that Chinese are seeking the fighter's technology
- 18 **India and Russia** nearly past an extended embroglio over their joint next-gen fighter program
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- 21 **Embraer hopes** to take a major share of the airlifter market over the next 10-15 years with KC-390



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Comet C/2013 A1 Siding Spring passes Mars Oct. 19, in this ground-based image collected by the Siding Spring Observatory in Australia, which first spotted it. The rare Oort Cloud object passed within 87,000 mi. of Mars, giving spacecraft an unprecedented view of a primordial body older than Earth. It shows the comet (at top, with a tail) approaching Mars, which is 10,000 times brighter, on the same day.

SIDING SPRING OBSERVATORY/NICK LEE

44 U.S. Navy preparing its first E-2D Advanced Hawkeye squadron for maiden deployment next year

44 Aerial refueling capability will extend the E-2D's range and persistence to at least 7 hr.

45 BAE Systems delivers first of Australia's new assault ships as government mulls equipping it with F-35Bs

UNMANNED SYSTEMS

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BUSINESS AVIATION

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AIR TRANSPORT

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- 29 **Austrian Airlines** can finally focus on business and investment, after years of internal dispute
- 31 **IndiGo's record** A320neo order shows traditional airlines have lost out in India's domestic market
- 32 **Delta Connection** does not expect any cities to lose service as it reduces its fleet of 50-seaters



ON THE COVER

The first Mitsubishi Regional Jet flight-test aircraft is shown during its Oct. 18 unveiling in Nagoya, Japan. A report from Nagoya and Tokyo beginning on page 34 lays out the flight-test program and Mitsubishi's plans to incorporate advanced manufacturing techniques in the production of the jet, only the second passenger aircraft developed in Japan since World War II. Mitsubishi Aircraft Corp. photo. Elsewhere in this issue are articles on how three new aircraft with Pratt & Whitney engines were rolled out on three continents in just one week (pages 21, 26 and 34).



18 Russia and China close to agreeing on an order for Su-35 Flanker fighter aircraft.



31 Indian LCC IndiGo gives Airbus its largest single order to date, for 250 A320neos.



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VIEWPOINT
50 A&D companies have compelling need to globalize as world's economic center of gravity shifts

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- 39 Rockwell Collins** working to help UAVs fly in the national airspace system and obtain FAA certification

U.S. ELECTIONS

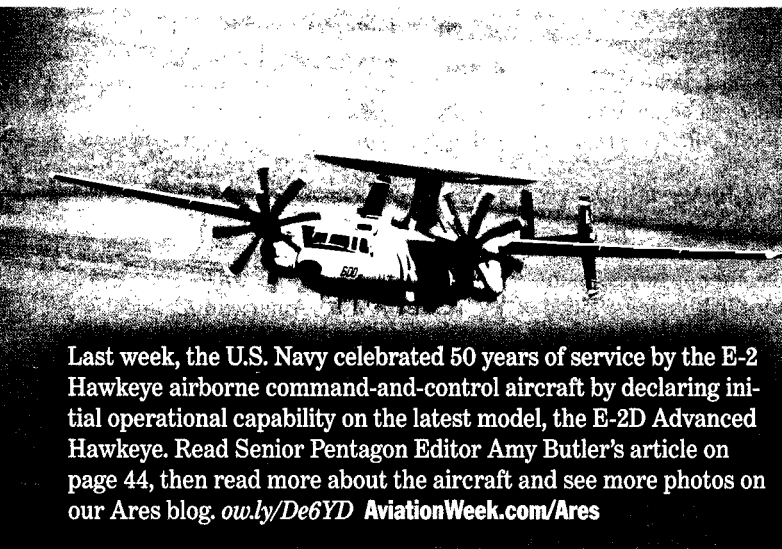
- 40 Republican victory** in Senate may provide Pentagon with its best chance to avoid further defense cuts
- 43 A&D industry** and Wall Street eye megatrends, not who has slim majority in Congress



On the Web *

A roundup of what you're reading on AviationWeek.com

Senior Naval Editor Michael Fabey writes that the recently commissioned amphibious assault ship as part of the U.S. pivot to that strategically significant area. Read his post about the America and on our Ares blog. ow.ly/De5OD



Last week, the U.S. Navy celebrated 50 years of service by the E-2 Hawkeye airborne command-and-control aircraft by declaring initial operational capability on the latest model, the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye. Read Senior Pentagon Editor Amy Butler's article on page 44, then read more about the aircraft and see more photos on our Ares blog. ow.ly/De6YD AviationWeek.com/Ares

U.S. NAVY/ MC1 (SW/AW) ERNEST R. SCOTT

BIG IN JAPAN

After you read our cover story on Mitsubishi's MRJ rollout (page 34), as Executive Editor Jim Asker discusses the program and its implications with Asia-Pacific Bureau Chief Bradley Perrett and Jens Flottau, managing editor for commercial aviation.

On Pierre Sparaco's Reality Check column from last week, "The Declining State of Air France," Planeman 789 wrote: "I feel very sorry to read about which I fear are financially damaging to the airline and are regrettable. They will only mean one thing in the end.

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