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49

Amid the budget crunch, the U.S. Air Force is for the second year pushing to quickly retire the A-10 fleet, in part because it is a single-mission aircraft designed to provide close-air support.

50 India's military may be lucky if it can buy half the helicopters the country needs in next five years

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ON THE COVER

In an uncertain business environment, there are nonetheless several helicopters and a commercial tiltrotor in development (see page 52). Bell Helicopter has returned to the light single-turbine market it once dominated with the Model 206 JetRanger, and is developing the five-seat Model 505 Jet Ranger X, seen here in flight test near Montreal, with certification expected by year-end. Bell Helicopter photo by Pierre Seager. Also in this issue are reports on flight rules for civil UAS (page 61), Japan's defense exports (page 29) and the Single European Sky (page 32).

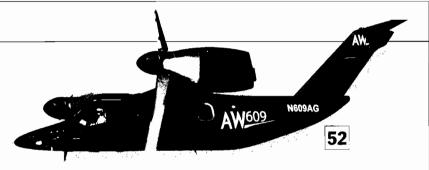
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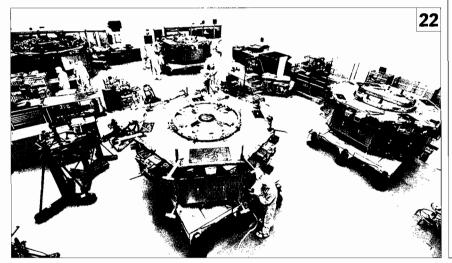
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