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& SPACE TECHNOLOGY



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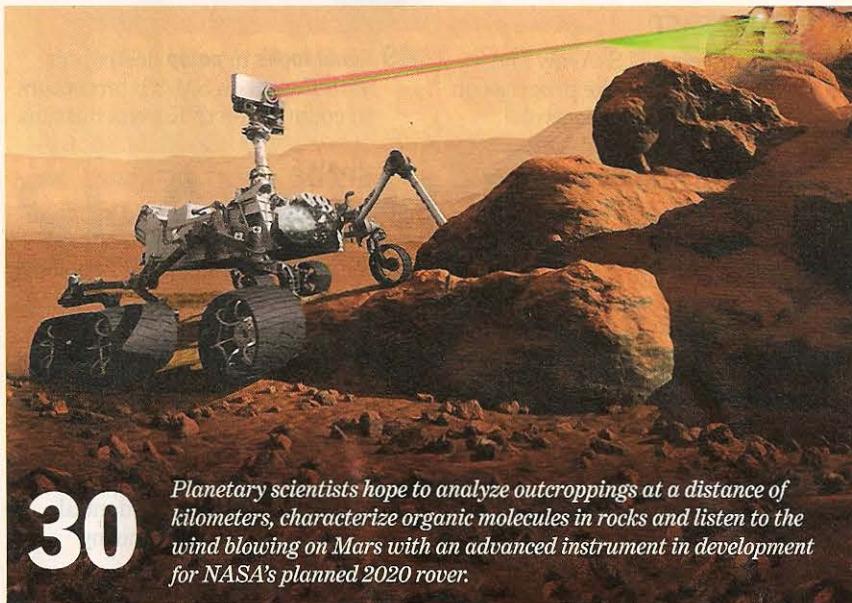
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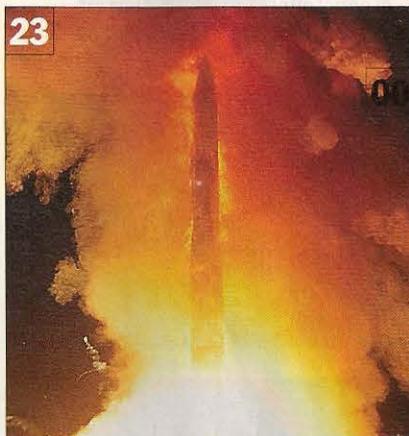


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Planetary scientists hope to analyze outcroppings at a distance of kilometers, characterize organic molecules in rocks and listen to the wind blowing on Mars with an advanced instrument in development for NASA's planned 2020 rover.

- 32 Boeing 747's** struggles indicate the large-aircraft market decline and possibly the icon's production end

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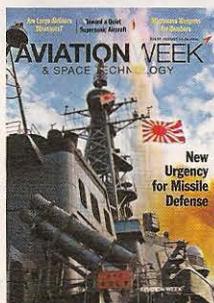


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ON THE COVER As worries about North Korea's missiles and nuclear weapons increase, there is new urgency about defenses in Japan, South Korea and the U.S. (see page 46). On the cover, an SM-3 Block IA interceptor missile launches from JS Kirishima. U.S. Missile Defense Agency photo. This week, Aviation Week publishes two print editions. In both editions are reports on the dim future of large commercial aircraft (page 32), quiet supersonics (page 20) and microwave weapons for bombers (page 38). Inside MRO Edition includes a section on maintenance, repair and overhaul. Aviation Week publishes a digital edition every week. Read it at AviationWeek.com/awst and on our app.



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