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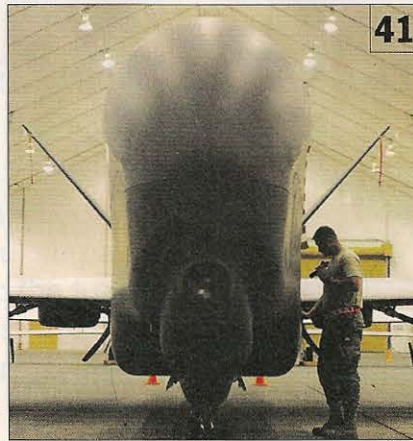
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Among the aircraft on display at North Korea's first public air show were U.S.-made Hughes (now MD Helicopters) MD500 light helicopters operated by the Korean People's Army Air Force.



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**ON THE COVER**

Nearly three years after its merger with US Airways, American Airlines is generating robust profits, expanding its global network and refreshing its fleet with new state-of-the-art aircraft from Boeing and Airbus. Madhu Unnikrishnan reports on how CEO Doug Parker pulled off the complicated merger that created the world's biggest airline (page 52). Joe Pries photo. Also in this issue: SpaceX founder Elon Musk's bid to take humans to Mars for \$100,000 a seat (page 34), a report on hybrid-electric propulsion aircraft (page 48) and rare photos from a North Korean air show (page 44). Aviation Week publishes a digital edition every week. Read it at [AviationWeek.com/awst](http://AviationWeek.com/awst) and on our app.







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