



INCLUDING SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

AUGUST 1972

THE
aeronautical
JOURNAL



THE ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY



Bulwers Albatross photo: M. J. Cooper, Currys Coleman Ltd.

birdbrain?

Everything that flies needs a brain of some kind.

What kind of brain for the latest reconnaissance and strike aircraft, with their far probing sensors and variety of weapons?

It obviously needs to be pretty alert to cope with all the information flooding in and the systems to be controlled.

Computers with this sort of capability have been a bit thin on the ground up to now. And even thinner in the air.

Now there's one that's right for the job and ready for action.

It's called FM1600D.

Sounds familiar?

It has the same kind of power as our FM1600B, at the heart of action information and weapon control systems for so many of the new ships of the Royal Navy and other friendly fleets.

Specially developed for airborne use FM1600D comes with revised interfaces making for simpler systems engineering and greater integrity between system units.

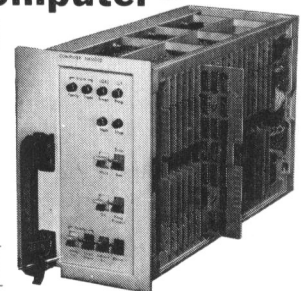
And it takes future storage developments in its stride.

FM1600D provides fast 48-bit floating-point arithmetic, 24-bit fixed-point arithmetic, over 320 instructions and up to 65,536 words of ported core and/or semiconductor memory.

It can concentrate its power on any sensor, weapon or tactical activity as events require.

Ferranti Limited, Digital Systems Division, Bracknell, Berkshire, England, RG12 1RA

FM 1600D computer - some birdbrain!



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contents

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Cover picture:

Latest anti-submarine helicopter in the Royal Navy, the twin-engined boat-hulled Westland Sea King is based on the Sikorsky SH-3D. Powered by Rolls-Royce Gnome H1400 shaft turbines the Sea King has an endurance more than double that of the earlier Wessex 3. Captains Bryson, Heenan and Johnson in their paper in this issue say that the Sea King specification represents a milestone in the history of naval helicopters because, for the first time, the manufacturer was bound contractually to achieve certain basic standards of reliability and maintainability.

Exhibitors at Farnborough 1972

Notices

iii

Captain L. B. Bryson, Captain F. E. Heenan and Captain C. A. Johnson

HELICOPTERS IN THE ROYAL NAVY

469

R. C. Rainey

FLYING INSECTS AS POTENTIAL TARGETS: INITIAL FEASIBILITY
STUDIES WITH AIRBORNE DOPPLER EQUIPMENT IN EAST AFRICA

501

TECHNICAL NOTES

R. Le Claire

Energy Flow Diagrams

507

R. C. Sachdeva

A numerical experiment of two-dimensional turbulent separation

509

Library, Reviews, Additions, Reports

512

Council

517

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

Sydney L. W. Mellen

The operation of the Intelsat communications satellite system

519

Dr. N. Simmons

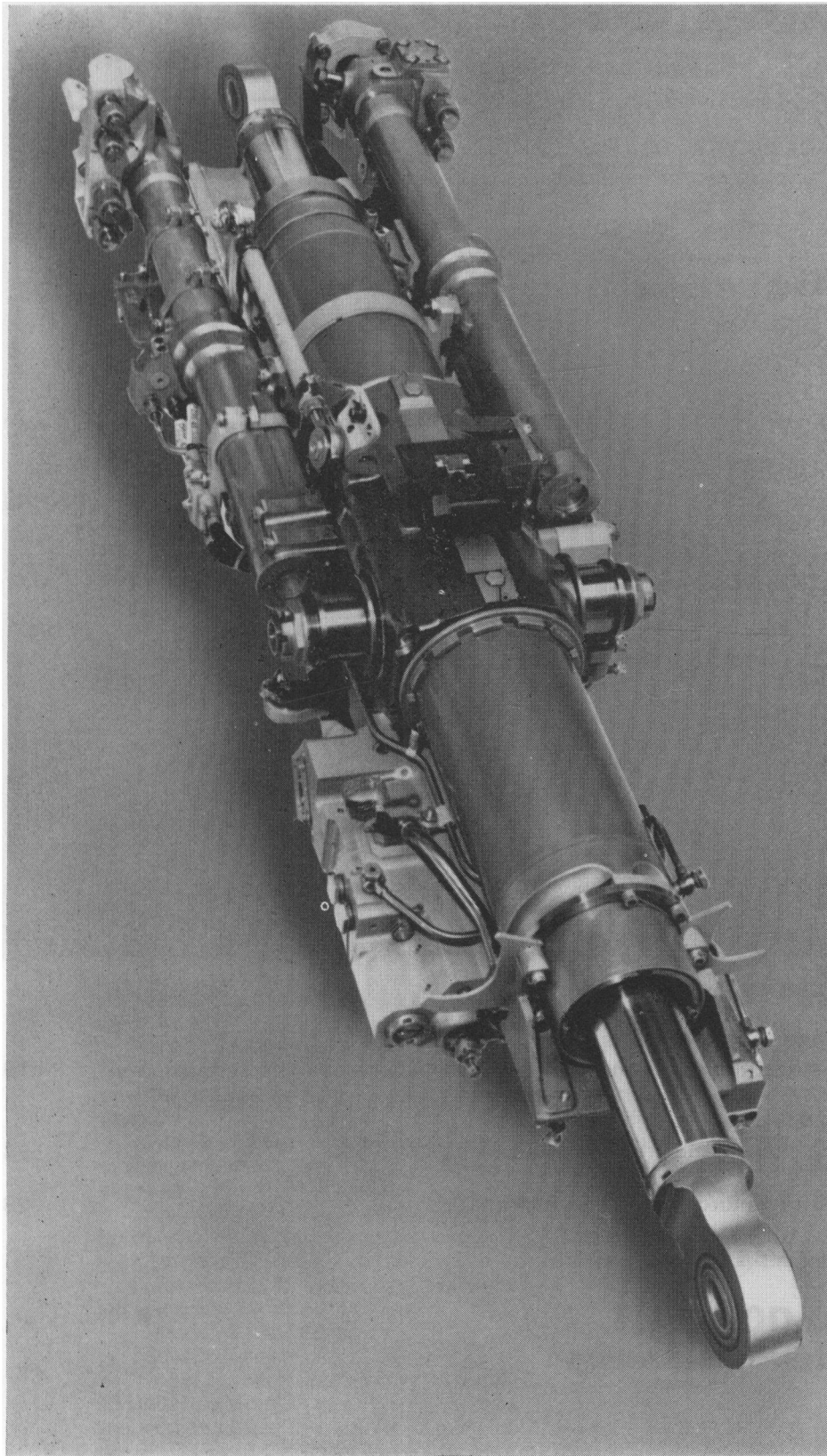
The state of the art in remote sensing from space

524

List of Rotorcraft Section Reprints

528

Dowty and Concorde



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