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AW&ST: U2 & UAV Sensors

From: "Frank Markus"
Subject: AW&ST: U2 & UAV Sensors
Date: Tue, 14 Sep 1999 21:13:50 -0400

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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There is an article on page 24 of the September 6 issue of Aviation Week and Space Technology that may be of interest. The headline is headlined 'Gnat Exploits Advance SAR.'

The subject of the article is the Improved-Gant UAV by General Atomics ("the Central Atomics favorite unmanned aerial vehicle") which has an improved synthetic aperture radar (SAR.) After discussing the capabilities of the new SAR (4"), the article mentions that the resolution of the J-STARS is about 12-14 feet. And continues "The latest model of the U-2, which keeps watch on North Korea, can produce a granularity of 1-3 ft." The new SAR package weighs no more than 115 lb. They are trying to reduce the weight by another 15 pounds for the next version of the UAV which will be called the Prowler II UAV.

The resolution of the new SAR is described as being able to "see details smaller than a baseball - including footprints in sort terrain like sand or dust - through the heaviest clouds or the darkest night."

"The radar's imaging was designed to look as much like an optical system as possible. The system can detect very small changes in the scene between one pass and the next. Recently, the radar has been further refined to detect moving targets."

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<p class=3DMsoNormal>The subject of the article is the Improved-Gant UAV by General = Atomics ("the Central Atomics favorite unmanned aerial = vehicle") which has an improved = synthetic aperture radar (SAR.) = After discussing the capabilities of the new SAR (4"), the article = mentions that the resolution of the J-STARS is about 12-14 feet. And continues "The latest model of the U-2, = which keeps watch on North Korea, can produce a granularity of 1-3 ft." The new SAR package = weighs no more than 115 lb. They are trying to reduce the weight by another 15 = pounds for the next version of the UAV which will be called the Prowler II = UAV.<o:p></o:p></p>

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