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Popular Science

THE WHAT'S NEW MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 1993

A TIMES MIRROR
MAGAZINE

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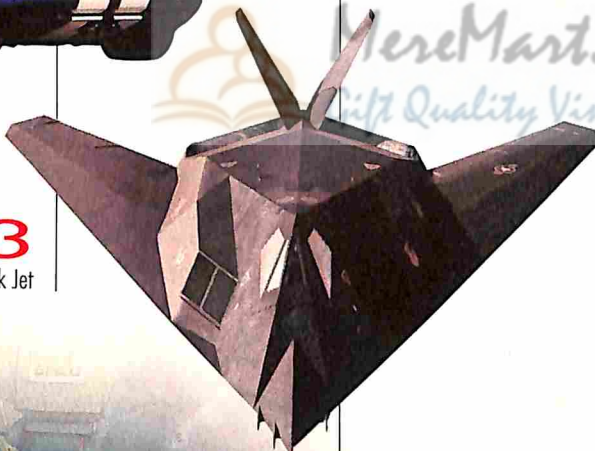
COVER BY TOM WHITE



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Cars to come



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FEATURES

THE BLAST HEARD 'ROUND THE WORLD

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Earlier this year, New York's World Trade Center withstood the most destructive terrorist attack ever unleashed in the United States. But the question remains: Could a powerful bomb catastrophically damage—or topple—a landmark skyscraper?

SECRETS OF THE F-117A

73

An exclusive "flight" in a classified simulator reveals that the stealth plane has more tricks up its sleeve than the ability to elude radar. Our test ride puts you in the pilot's seat.

THE TECHNOLOGY OF TOOLS

78

A field that is "older than dirt" has arrived at the cutting edge of science. In this brave new world, tools "think" with microprocessors, measure with lasers, and cut with diamonds.

PREVIEW GUIDE DOMESTIC CARS TO COME: 1994-1998

87

"More practical, less sporty" is the refrain as the U.S. auto industry enters a utilitarian era. Strategies at the Big Three automakers show a renewed interest in compact, more affordable transportation and a proliferation of minivans and trucks.

RADIO WAVES

92

Only a clock radio? Take a closer look: This tabletop invention is more than the sum of its parts. Bose Corp.'s newest incarnation of waveguide technology may offer the most beautiful sound that's ever roused you from sleep.

MENU OF OPTIONS

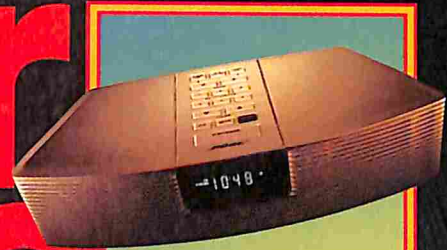
94

A new generation of small cars no longer falls short in features, construction, and handling. But for the nameplates that were formerly synonymous with the word economical, the price tag is getting heftier as well. This car test compares the Dodge Colt, Geo Prizm, Saturn SL1, Subaru Impreza, and Toyota Corolla.

THE TECHNOLOGY OF TOOLS

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RADIO WAVES

SECRETS OF THE F-117A



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