

Stealthy robot planes

Little planes, small enough to be launched from the back of a truck, fly quietly and nearly invisibly over enemy lines and back. Remotely piloted aircraft proved effective during the war in Vietnam and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. In future battles, pilotless planes will perform surveillance missions and jam signals, as well as guide and deliver weapons in skies considered too hazardous for humans. **Page 64**



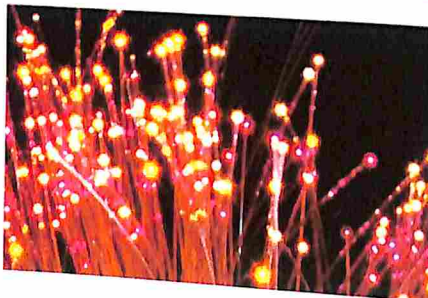
Detroit for '88

Led by Ford and the high-tech Continental, the Big Three are re-engineering the family car with improvements that remain mostly invisible to the driver, including: a computer-controlled air suspension, balance shafts for smoother V6s, and the first domestic four-valve engine. **Page 82**



Optical fibers

These ubiquitous hair-thin glass fibers are stirring a communications revolution: Soon they may be feeding telephone calls, movies, music, and computer data into your home. **Page 70**



Is there life after lead?

Are you the owner of one of the 30 million autos, trucks, motorcycles, and tractors still in service that were built to run on leaded gasoline? Deprived of lead, some of these engines can suffer expensive internal damage. And leaded gas is facing oblivion in some areas. POPULAR SCIENCE tells you what you can do about it. **Page 92**

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The WHAT'S NEW magazine

OCTOBER 1987

\$1.75
CANADA \$2.25

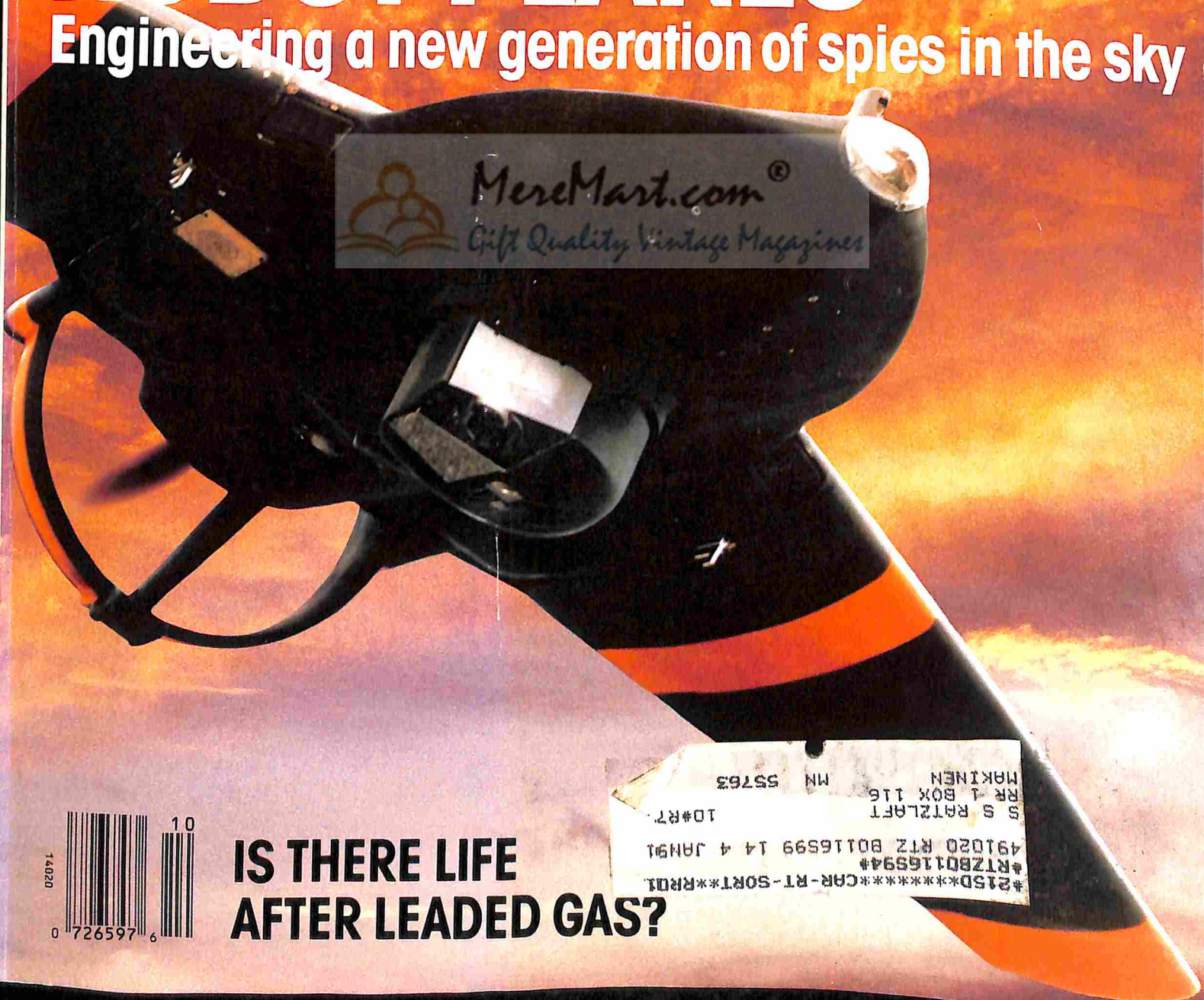
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