



HOVERCRAFTSMANSHIP: (Left) Vickers' high-speed hovercraft launch and trials vehicle with an operating payload of up to 4,000lb dependent on powerplant installation. (Right) Proposal for a hovercraft of over 70 tons to operate as a passenger or freight vehicle. A payload of 250 passengers or 25 tons of freight would be carried at 80kt

IN BRIEF

The world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, *Enterprise*, is to be launched at Newport News, Va, on September 23.

Electric Autolite Co and Hiller Aircraft Corporation have signed a merger agreement, and approval is shortly to be sought from stockholders.

The name *Buccaneer* has been mentioned for the NA.39 strike aircraft. Neither the Admiralty nor Blackburn Aircraft, however, have made any official announcement.

Fashion-note for Farnborough: on the Avro Vulcan B.2 the dark blue used in RAF roundels has given way to a sky-blue colour, and serial numbers will be in the same shade.

A complete engine test plant for post-overhaul testing of Rolls-Royce Darts is being supplied to Hindustan Aircraft Ltd of Bangalore by Heenan & Froude Ltd, Worcester.

RAF exhibits at the Radio Show (Earls Court, London, until September 23) include an automatic landing system, long-range surveillance ground radar and airborne weather radar.

Prof A. G. Smith, Professor of Aircraft Propulsion at the College of Aeronautics, Cranfield, has been elected as the first holder of the Hives Chair of Thermodynamics, endowed by Rolls-Royce Ltd, at Nottingham University.

D.H. Propellers Ltd have received a contract for propeller equipment for the prototype Breguet 1150 Atlantic (two Rolls-Royce Tynes). The propellers are 16ft in diameter, with four aluminium alloy blades. Among their operating features is Beta control.

Two Westland Whirlwind Series 2 helicopters (750 b.h.p. Alvis Leonides) were handed over to Lt-Col Abdullah Bitar, Jordanian Military and Air Attaché, at Yeovil on August 11. They are being dismantled and shipped to Jordan, where they will go into service with the Royal Jordanian Air Force.

Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd announce the appointment of Mr L. F. Trueman, AACCA, as secretary. He joined the company in 1955 and was appointed financial accountant in July last year. Mr F. S. King, JP, who joined in 1935 and has been chief accountant at the Weybridge works since 1956, has been appointed chief accountant of the company.

On August 22 the USAF announced a research contract with the Northrop Corporation for a laminar-flow system. The work is expected to cost at least \$20m over three years, to involve two prototypes and be concerned with a system of sucking air through thin spanwise slits. Handley Page have been strongly advocating drag-reduction by such means since 1949.

Purchase by Bristol Aero-Industries of the old-established Vancouver helicopter operators, Okanagan Helicopters, was taken a stage further last Saturday, when Okanagan shareholders approved the sale for \$4,061,589. Completion is now only dependent on approval by the Air Transport Board and the Department of Transport, and on the arrangement of satisfactory financing. Bristol Aero-Industries is a subsidiary of the Bristol Aeroplane Co of Canada Ltd.

(Further "From all Quarters" news will be found overleaf)

FLAPS AND FANS: the port powerplants and outboard leading-edge flap of the converted Boeing 707-120B of American Airlines, described in "Flight" last week. It is now learned that the Pratt & Whitney JT3D-1 turbofan installed in the "B" members of the 707 and 720 family does in fact have a reverser for the hot jet



"PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP": The Russian and British teams competing in the World Parachuting Championships at Sofia exchange pennants. The story of the event, told by the British team captain, appears on pages 293-296 of this issue

