

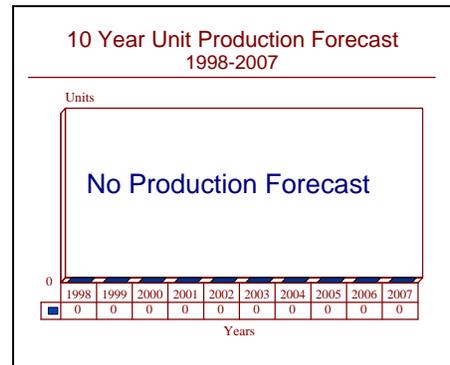
ARCHIVED REPORT

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ELT-562/566 - Archived 7/99

Outlook

- Technology now dated
- Believed to be out of production
- This report will be dropped next year, 1999



Orientation

Description. Deception jammers. The ELT-562 is designed to counter pulse threats, while the ELT-566 is intended to counter continuous wave emissions.

Sponsor

Ministry of Defense
Office for Military Production
Via XX Settembre 123
Pal Eserceto
I-00100 Rome
Italy

Contractors

Elettronica SpA
Via Tiburtina Valeria Km 13,700
Loc Settecammni
I-00131 Rome
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Tel: +39 6 415 41
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Licensee. No production licenses are known to have been granted.

Status. Production presumed complete.

Total Produced. An estimated 195 systems were produced.

Application. Italian combat aircraft, including Panavia Tornado, F-104 Starfighter and Aeritalia G-91Y. Suitable for a wide range of other military aircraft, including BAe Hawk, Mirage III/5/50 and Mirage F-1. Proposed for the AMX, but an Elettronica EW system integrated into the aircraft's avionics suite was used instead.

Price Range. Indeterminate due to the unavailability of pertinent information.

Technical Data

Characteristics

Frequency ranges: H to J bands

Design Features. The ELT-562 and ELT-566 are deception anti-radar jammers designed to provide protection for either fixed-wing or rotary-wing aircraft from radar threats. Both systems are installed internally to the aircraft platforms and can operate complementary to one another.

Operational Characteristics. The ELT-562 is intended to counter pulsed radar emissions, while the ELT-566 is

intended to combat continuous wave threats. The systems can operate in the standalone mode and/or can be interfaced to an electronic support measures (ESM) system. They are designed to provide platform protection against battlefield radars and are optimized for operations in the forward edge of the battle area.

Variants/Upgrades

There are no known variants of, or upgrades applied to, these systems.

Program Review

Background. Information on the ELT-562 and ELT-566 first became available in 1982. At that time, it was claimed that they had already entered production for an unspecified client, almost certainly the Italian Air Force. Information released by Elettronica has indicated that these jammers were frequently deployed in conjunction with the Colibri ESM system. This suggests that acquisition extended to the Italian Navy.

Other than the above Italian applications, little information has surfaced regarding the systems. A careful evaluation of available deployment data during 1991 revealed that the majority of Italian combat aircraft used the SL/ALQ-234 and SL/ALQ-238 pods and that these were considered to be the standard operational Italian EW equipment. However, this analysis also revealed that the ELT-562 and ELT-566 pods were extensively used for training purposes by the Italian, Spanish, Norwegian and German Air forces.

Reported operational use of the ELT-562 and ELT-566 pods during the 1991 Persian Gulf War is understood to have applied to non-Italian forces. The requirement for dissimilar air combat training against Mirage F.1 and other Western aircraft revealed that Iraq had been supplied with ELT-562/566 pods. The use of these pods by coalition forces meant that Iraqi airborne EW capability could be accurately simulated.

As part of a reorganization of the Italian defense electronics industry undertaken in the early 1990s, re-

sponsibility for the vast majority of Italian EW activity was transferred to Elettronica. The new product range announced by Elettronica revealed that most of its airborne EW equipment would be derived from products obtained from Alenia.

Any NATO operational use of the ELT-562 and ELT-566 pods was as interim units until the SL/ALQ-234 became available. They were then relegated to training roles prior to being replaced by the Erijammer A-100. The last operational use of the ELT-562 and ELT-566 seems to have been restricted to a small number of Middle Eastern customers. There has been no indication of any further sales.

During late 1992 and early 1993, Elettronica concentrated its marketing efforts on the new family of pods, derived in part from the SL/ALQ-238 and partly from work carried out in conjunction with the AMX program. Mention of the ELT-56X series systems was conspicuously absent. A major contract was awarded to FIAR for the upgrade of Pakistan Air Force A-5P aircraft, to include installation of a new Grifo-P radar, navattack systems and EW equipment. The last is believed to be an internally mounted version of the SL/ALQ-238, further evidence that the ELT-56X series pods were no longer actively promoted by the mid-1990s.

Funding

Development may have been funded by the Italian government and company resources, but no figures have been identified.

Recent Contracts

No contractual information has been made publicly available.

Timetable

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Major Development</u> |
|--------------|-------------|--|
| | 1982 | Information on systems first available |
| Jan | 1991 | ELT-562 and ELT-566 used in Persian Gulf War |
| | 1994 | Production believed to have been concluded |

Worldwide Distribution

Developed for and initially procured by the air force and navy of **Italy**, the ELT-562 and ELT-566 have been exported to other NATO nations (such as **Germany, Norway** and **Spain**), as well as customers in the Middle East (such as **Iraq**; others unidentified). Of the 195 systems estimated to have been produced, up to 50 are thought to have filled domestic requirements, with exports accounting for the balance.

Forecast Rationale

Production of the ELT-562 and ELT-566 systems is believed to have been completed in 1994, as existing domestic requirements had been filled and other products, like the SL/ALQ-238, became more prominent on the international market. The manufacturer has de-emphasized these jammers – and the media not

mentioned them at all – for several years. No additional production is forecast. This report has been reissued in 1998 to incorporate final corrections and updates, so that Forecast International's archives will be as accurate as possible.

Ten-Year Outlook

This report will be dropped next year, 1999.

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