Aviation History and Nostalgia - Fairey Rotodyne - I am in the process of writing a book on Rotodyne, to be published mid-2009. I already have a wealth of information, sufficient to complete the book, but naturally I would like more if it should become available in time. The Fairey Rotodyne was a large British compound helicopter designed and built by the Fairey Aviation Company and intended for commercial and military applications. It was considered to be one of the iconic aviation projects of the 1950s/60s and a bright future was planned for the aircraft. This book seeks to fill a gap in aviation literature on the history of the Rotodyne, an aircraft ahead of its time. Fairey Rotodyne 1958 by G. S. Hislop. The Fairey Rotodyne. Fairey "Rotodyne" 1957. The Rotodyne was a compound aircraft with wings, tractor engines and a tip-driven rotor system. Unfortunately, it was use of the tip jets at and near the airport that was the problem. The Rotodyne put out a painful 106 decibels of shrieking noise. Much work was done on silencers, but it was never reduced to the 96 decibels that the authorities demanded. Budgetary problems of the time saw the RAF and British Army withdraw their interest and the Rotodyne became a wholly civil project. The British company Fairey had built several compound helicopters in the 1940s. One of these was modified with tip jets as the Jet Gyrodyne in 1953. Based on this data, Fairey designed the 33,000 lb Rotodyne, a 40 passenger transport powered by two 2,800 shp Napier Eland 3 turbine engines. The fuselage was 59 ft long with nearly 3,300 cubic feet of internal volume, ending in rear clamshell loading doors. The Fairey Rotodyne was a large British compound helicopter designed and built by the Fairey Aviation Company and intended for commercial and military applications. It was considered to be one of the iconic aviation projects of the 1950s/60s and a bright future was planned for the aircraft. This book seeks to fill a gap in aviation literature on the history of the Rotodyne, an aircraft ahead of its time. Industries Transportation Transportation Aviation Business. This book is currently unavailable. 282 printed pages.