

Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter (ARH)

Provides a robust reconnaissance and security capability for the joint combined arms air-ground maneuver team, improving the commander's ability to concentrate superior combat power against the enemy.

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



Description & Specifications

The Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter (ARH) provides an easily deployable, rapidly reconfigurable, reconnaissance and security capability that can be employed immediately upon arrival in theater. The ARH is a dual-crew station, single-pilot-operable aircraft leveraging the Bell Helicopter 407 commercial platform.

The ARH's standard armed reconnaissance configuration includes the sensor assembly, active and passive countermeasures, external weapon systems, and communication suite. The ARH will communicate on the battlefield with Army, joint, and

coalition forces. The ARH will engage short- and long-range mobile/non-mobile targets with a combination of .50 caliber, 2.75" rockets and/or Hellfire missiles. The armed reconnaissance capability allows the maneuver commander to "see first/shoot first" with a manned system that is well forward, scouting the location and disposition of enemy forces and relevant terrain.

Program Status

- **4QFY05:** Milestone B acquisition decision
- **4QFY05:** Contract awarded to Bell Helicopter
- **4QFY05:** System requirements review
- **1QFY06:** Systems functional review
- **1QFY06:** Preliminary design review
- **4QFY06:** First flight

Projected Activities

- **2QFY07:** Critical design review
- **2QFY07:** Limited user test
- **3QFY07:** Milestone C acquisition decision
- **4QFY08:** Initial operational test and evaluation

ACQUISITION PHASE

Concept & Technology Development

System Development & Demonstration

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter (ARH)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

Bell Helicopter Textron (Ft. Worth, TX)

FLIR Systems, Inc. (Portland, OR)

Rockwell Collins (Cedar Rapids, IA)

Honeywell ES&S (Phoenix, AZ)

