Supports combat and contingency operations with a light, rapidly deployable helicopter capable of armed reconnaissance, security, target acquisition and designation, command and control, light attack, and defensive air combat (defensive) missions.







DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

Kiowa Warrior is a rapidly deployable single-engine, two-man, lightly armed reconnaissance helicopter that features advanced visionics, navigation, communication, weapons, and cockpit integration systems. Its mast-mounted sight houses a thermal imaging system, low-light television, and a laser rangefinder/designator that permits target acquisition and engagement at stand-off ranges and in adverse weather conditions. The navigation system can convey precise target locations to other aircraft or artillery via its advanced digital communications system. It can also transmit battlefield imagery to deliver near real-time situational awareness to command and control elements.

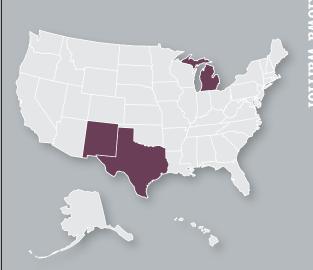
The Kiowa Warrior armament systems provide anti-armor, anti-personnel, and anti-aircraft capabilities at stand-off ranges. Although Kiowa Warrior fielding is complete, the Army is installing a series of safety and performance modifications to keep the aircraft safe and mission-effective until it is retired.

PROGRAM STATUS

- 1QFY00 Completed initial Kiowa Warrior fielding
- **2QFY04** Awarded contract for SEP Lot VII (22 aircraft)

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- FY05 Reset/Operation Iraqi Freedom support
- 2QFY05 Award SEP Lot VIII contract (20 aircraft)
- FY07 Weight reduction program production begins
- FY07 Begin retirement of Kiowa Warrior as the Army fields the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter
- FY09 Return last SEP-modified aircraft to the field



CONTRACTORS

Bell Helicopter, Textron (Ft Worth, TX) Honeywell (Albuquerque, NM) Smiths (Grand Rapids, MI)

177

NVESTMENT COMPONENT

Maintenance

ACOUISITION PHAS

• Operations and Support

UNITED STATES ARMY
WEAPON SYSTEMS 2005