

# Raven Small Unmanned Aircraft System (SUAS)

## INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



## MISSION

To provide reconnaissance, surveillance, target acquisition and force protection for battalion commanders and below during day/night operations.

## DESCRIPTION

The RQ-11B Raven Small Unmanned Aircraft System (SUAS) is a hand-launched, unmanned aircraft system capable of 90 minutes of flight time with an operational range of approximately 10 kilometers. Normal operational altitude is 500 feet or lower. The system, aircraft, and ground control station, are assembled by operators in approximately five minutes. The aircraft, which has a wingspan of 4.5 feet, weighs 4.2 pounds. A small hand controller displays live video and aircraft status. Mission planning is performed on the hand controller or a laptop running flight planning software. Aircraft flight modes include fully manual, altitude holding, fully autonomous navigation, point loiter, and return home. Raven incorporates a secure global positioning system.

The RQ-11B system consists of: three aircraft; two control stations (primary control or remote video monitoring); ten each air vehicle and ground station batteries; two universal battery chargers; two day electro-optical color sensors; three night infrared sensors with laser illuminator; a spare parts kit; and a mission planning laptop.

The Raven is operated by two Soldiers. No specific military occupational specialty is required. Operator training is 10 days in duration.

## SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

None

## PROGRAM STATUS

- **System** is currently in the Production and Deployment phase
- **Raven** is currently operational in both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom

## PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **FY09–10:** Development, integration, testing, and deployment of Digital Data Link

## ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

## Raven Small Unmanned Aircraft System (SUAS)

### FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Denmark

### CONTRACTORS

Aerovironment, Inc.

(Simi Valley, CA)

Indigo System Corp. (Goleta, CA)

All American Racers, Inc.

(Santa Ana, CA)

L-3 Communications (San Diego, CA)

Bren-Tronics (Commack, NY)

