

Kiowa Warrior

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

MISSION

Performs aerial reconnaissance and security in support of ground maneuver forces.

DESCRIPTION

The Kiowa Warrior is a single-engine, two-man, lightly armed reconnaissance helicopter with 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 permitting target acquisition and engagement at standoff ranges and in adverse weather. The navigation system can convey precise target locations to other aircraft or artillery via its advanced digital communications system. It provides anti-armor and anti-personnel capabilities at standoff ranges.

The Army is currently installing modifications to address safety, obsolescence, and weight to keep the aircraft viable through its projected retirement date of FY25. Additionally, the Army has started an aircraft replacement program to address Kiowa Warrior losses.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

In this Publication

2.75 Inch Rocket Systems (Hydra), Hellfire Family of Missiles

Other Major Interdependencies

M3P .50 Caliber Machine Gun, various communications, navigation, and weapons systems

PROGRAM STATUS

- **FY10:** Reset 53 aircraft re-deploying from Operation Iraqi Freedom/ Operation Enduring Freedom
- **FY10:** Fielded 85 condition-based maintenance sets
- **2QFY10:** Inducted 6th CAT-B aircraft for restoration to flyable status
- **2QFY10:** Contract awarded for engineering services

- **3QFY10:** Contract awarded for Single Channel FADEC enhancements
- **3QFY10:** Inducted 7th CAT-B aircraft for restoration to flyable status
- **3QFY10:** Kiowa Warrior Cockpit and Sensor Upgrade Program (CASUP) system requirement review
- **3QFY10:** Completed delivery of lot 12 Safety Enhancement Program (SEP) aircraft (27 aircraft)
- **4QFY10:** Contract awarded for improved cabin heater
- **4QFY10:** First induction for SEP lot 13 (30 aircraft)
- **4QFY10:** Inducted 8th CAT-B aircraft for restoration to flyable status (one remains)
- **4QFY10:** Begin fielding floor armor

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **1QFY11:** Induct pilot aircraft for Kiowa Warrior sustainment maintenance program at Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD)
- **1QFY11:** Begin fielding Level II Manned Unmanned Teaming to first squadron (first unit equipped)

- **1QFY11:** Kiowa Warrior CASUP Milestone B briefing
- **2QFY11:** First production modifications of AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System-equipped Kiowa Warrior aircraft
- **2QFY11:** Induct 9th CAT-B aircraft for restoration to flyable status (last aircraft)
- **2QFY11:** Award production contract for Kiowa Warrior cabins (used to build wartime replacement aircraft)
- **3QFY11:** Kiowa Warrior CASUP critical design review
- **3QFY11:** Begin structural modifications on first Kiowa Warrior CASUP test aircraft
- **3QFY11:** Delivery of pilot Kiowa Warrior cabin from Bell Helicopter; induct into final assembly at CCAD
- **4QFY11:** Begin fielding single channel FADEC safety improvements
- **4QFY11:** Complete SEP lot 13; program completion (last lot of 30 aircraft)

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Kiowa Warrior

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Taiwan

CONTRACTORS

Bell Helicopter Textron (Fort Worth, TX)
DRS Optronics, Inc. (Palm Bay, FL)
Rolls Royce Corp. (Indianapolis, IN)
Honeywell (Albuquerque, NM)
Elbit Systems of America (Fort Worth, TX)

