

MQ-1C Gray Eagle Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



MISSION

Provides combatant commanders a real-time responsive capability to conduct long-dwell, persistent stare, wide-area reconnaissance, surveillance, target acquisition, communications relay, and attack missions.

DESCRIPTION

The MQ-1C Gray Eagle Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) addresses the need for a long-endurance, armed (up to four HELLFIRE missiles), UAS that offers greater range, altitude, and payload flexibility.

The Gray Eagle UAS is powered by a heavy fuel engine (HFE) for higher performance, better fuel efficiency, common fuel on the battlefield, and a longer lifetime.

Its specifications include the following:

Length: 28 feet

Wingspan: 56 feet

Gross take-off weight: 3,600 pounds

Maximum speed: 150 knots

Ceiling: 25,000 feet

Range: 2,500 nautical miles via satellite communications (SATCOM)

Endurance: 27+ hours

The Gray Eagle UAS is fielded in platoon sets, consisting of four unmanned aircraft, two Universal Ground Control Stations (UGCS), two Ground Data Terminals (GDT), one Portable Ground Control Station (PGCS), one Portable Ground Data Terminal (PGDT), one Satellite Ground Data Terminal (SGDT), an Automated Take-off and Landing System (ATLS), Light Medium Tactical Vehicles (LMTV), and other ground-support equipment, operated and maintained by a company of 128 Soldiers within the Combat Aviation Brigade.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

In this Publication

None

Other Major Interdependencies

PM-Robotic Unmanned Sensors (PM-RUS) provides the electro-optical/infrared (EO/IR) and SAR/GMTI payloads; PM-Joint Attack Munition Systems (PM-JAMS) provides HELLFIRE missiles; PM-Warfighter Information Network-Terrestrial (PM-WIN-T) provides communications relay payload

PROGRAM STATUS

- **Current:** Low-rate initial production

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **4QFY12:** Initial operational test and evaluation
- **3QFY13:** Full-rate production decision

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering & Manufacturing Development

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

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FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

Aircraft:

General Atomics, Aeronautical Systems Inc. (San Diego, CA)

Ground Control Station:

AAI Corp. (Hunt Valley, MD)

Tactical Common Data Link:

L-3 Communications (Salt Lake City, UT)

