Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAAV)

DESCRIPTION

The Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle is an armored, tracked, armed amphibious vehicle that can transport personnel. The AAAV's unique combination of offensive firepower, armor, NBC protection, and high-speed mobility on land and sea represents a major breakthrough in the ability of naval expeditionary forces to avoid enemy

strengths and exploit their weaknesses. The AAAV will allow naval expeditionary forces to maneuver ashore in a single, seamless stroke, giving both the ships and landing forces sufficient sea space for maneuver, surprise, and protection. The AAAV remains the Marine Corps' largest ground acquisition program.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The AAAV will allow immediate, high-speed maneuver of Marine infantry units as they emerge from ships located over the visual horizon, 25+ miles from the beach. Projection of these forces will be conducted in a manner that exploits the intervening sea and land terrain to achieve surprise and rapidly penetrate weak points in the enemy's littoral defenses to seize operational objectives.

PROGRAM STATUS

The AAAV program is in the system development and demonstration phase. The next program milestone is the low-rate initial production decision, scheduled for FY 2005. Under the current schedule, full-rate production will begin and initial operational capability will be achieved in FY 2008. The Marine Corps continues to examine its approved acquisition objective (AAO) of 1013 AAAVs. Full operational capability should be achieved by FY 2018.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:	FY03	FY04
Quantity:	*1*	*0*

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER
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