



Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE): Ensuring lethality and dominance of Army aviation over tomorrow's battlefield.

Integrated information flow and aviation technology countermeasures are crucial to maintaining the tactical and strategic dominance of the Objective Force.

Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) ensures the lethality and dominance of Army aviation over tomorrow's battlefield. The Army faces a range of current and future operational contingencies that require integrated information and aviation technology to maintain tactical and strategic dominance.



Air assets will play a pivotal role in the development and fielding of a transformed Objective Force. Defeating a range of enemies, many with increasingly sophisticated air defense artillery (ADA) capabilities, necessitates integration between aviation and combined arms or joint forces to detect, avoid, neutralize and destroy opponents. The ability to See First, Understand First, Act First and Finish Decisively removes the enemy's advantage of surprise.

With superior information and aviation integration, commanders control when and how they will take the fight to the enemy. To maintain this advantage, aviation assets must utilize the technological leaps in networked systems, improved warning and countermeasure systems, such as the AN/ALQ-211 Suite of Integrated Radio Frequency Countermeasures (SIRFC) electronic combat system, and multiple-use weapon platforms, such as the dual reconnaissance and attack functions of the RAH-66 Comanche helicopter.



AN/ALQ-211 Suite of Integrated Radio Frequency Countermeasures (SIRFC)

The Suite of Integrated Radio Frequency Countermeasures combines threat awareness and jamming capabilities in a single system to provide aviators with a wide-scope battlefield picture and increased protection from enemy ADA attack. The SIRFC serves multiple functions for tactical superiority,

combined arms/joint force operational effectiveness and the aircraft itself. The warning, situational awareness and countermeasures protect individual aviation assets and improve their odds of survival during engagements.



Aircraft Survivability Equipment (continued)



Integrated for Action

Exploiting the information dominance and integration that characterize the Objective Force philosophy, SIRFC can increase combat efficiency with selective targeting and precision engagement. The real-time data entering the cockpit provide pilots and crews with a clearer concept of existing tactical conditions. Simultaneously, commanders and soldiers on the ground benefit from information fed back through the integrated system.

SIRFC also provides the single-system/multiple-detection countermeasures that contribute to dominant battlefield maneuver. Its subsystem components employ automatic radar jamming and threat warning while integrating off-board sensors and information networks.

Those warning and countermeasure functions respond to enemy radio frequency (RF), infrared (IR) and laser targeting system variations. SIRFC can engage and neutralize both long-range and "pop-up" defensive systems from surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) to anti-aircraft artillery (AAA).



Identifying and locating the enemy further and faster increases aircraft survivability. The result is an air asset that is practically "impossible to hit."



The Army will install the SIRFC on its RAH-66 Comanche and AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopters. The SIRFC is scheduled to be fielded by 2003, beginning with Special Operations Aviation assets including the MH-60K and MH-47E. The Air Force is set to use the SIRFC on its Special Operations CV-22. A Suite of Integrated Infrared Countermeasures (SIIRCM) will accompany the installation of the SIRFC.