



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
4000  
CMC  
1 Mar 07

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Subj: MINE RESISTANT AMBUSH PROTECTED (MRAP) VEHICLE

1. The MRAP vehicle has a dramatically better record of preventing fatal and serious injuries from attacks by improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Multi-National Force - West (MNF-W) estimates that the use of the MRAP could reduce the casualties in vehicles due to IED attack by as much as 80%. Since 21 May 2006, when MNF-W issued its first urgent request for the MRAP, over 150 American servicemen and women have been killed and over 1500 seriously injured in vehicle IED incidents.

2. Requirements. An urgent request for 185 MRAP vehicles was submitted by the MNF-W Commander on 21 May 2006. He submitted a second request for 1000 vehicles on 10 July, bringing the total to 1185. These requests were combined and designated as a Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statement (JUONS) by CENTCOM on 26 October. The requirement of 1185 (USMC: 805, USA/USN: 380) was validated by the JROC on 7 December for what then became an ACAT II program. This requirement formed the basis for the Marine Corps' FY-07 supplemental request. At an Army-Marine Corps Board in November 2006, the Army, Marine Corps and Navy established a total requirement of 4060 vehicles (USMC: 1022, USA: 2500, USN: 538). Based on the recognition of significantly reduced lethal and severe injuries in MRAP vs. the HMMWV, on 2 January 2007, Commander, MARCENT requested support for a policy change that would provide MRAP level protection for all Marines operating outside the wire in MNF-W. Under this policy, limited use of Up Armored HMMWV's will be authorized in specific tactical situations where the operational characteristics of HMMWV are required. On 6 February 2007, the MROC validated a Marine Corps requirement of 3700 vehicles in support of this policy. This effectively raised the joint MRAP requirement to 6738 vehicles (USMC: 3700, USA: 2500, USN: 538), which would qualify MRAP as an ACAT 1D program. This number was briefed to the JROC on 8 February. A Capability Production Document (CPD) has been initiated to formally certify this requirement. We request your support in

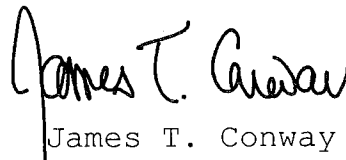
expediting the JROC validation and the rapid acquisition and fielding of these urgently needed combat vehicles in an ACAT 1D program.

3. Resources. Changes to the resource plan have not kept pace with the changes in requirements for the MRAP. Although not formally requested by the administration at that time, Congress appropriated \$570M to the Marine Corps in the FY-07 Title IX (Bridge) appropriation for MRAP on 1 October. The administration's 5 February request for the FY-07 supplemental requested an additional \$1.1B (USMC: \$420M, USA: \$500M, USN: \$180M) for MRAP. This is the last official request to the Hill for MRAP resources for FY-07. The total monies currently requested on the Hill for FY-07 will only provide 1700 vehicles against the requirement of 6738 noted above. The administration requested \$330M in the FY-08 GWOT request (USMC: \$90M, USN: \$240M). The difference between the total resources now requested in FY-07 and FY-08 by the administration, \$2.0B, and what is needed to complete 6738 vehicles, \$7.18B, is \$5.18B. While there is debate over how much of the total requirement can be executed in FY-07 and how much can wait for FY-08 resources, there is no question that the entire requirement can be executed no later than FY-08. I ask for your support in providing formal documentation to the Congress of the total joint resource requirement for MRAP vehicles of \$7.18B (an additional \$5.18B) so that they may appropriate the necessary resources at the appropriate time.

4. Acquisition. Dr. Delores Etter, ASN RD&A, is the acquisition executive for the current ACAT II MRAP program. She has been tasked by Ken Krieg to brief him on 15 March on how she is going to transition the program to an ACAT 1D program. BGen Mike Brogan, CG MARCORSYSCOM, is the designated Joint PEO for the program. They have developed an acquisition strategy based on maximizing the number of vendors and, upon completion of appropriate testing, ramping up production to as many as 750 vehicles per month by Sep and 1200 vehicles per month by December. Given that resources are not a constraining factor, my acquisition community believes that the entire 6738 requirement could be produced by March 2008. There has been considerable discussion over the ability of industry and the acquisition community to hit these targets. I leave that discussion to the experts. I ask for your support in ensuring that resources are not the constraining factor in the urgently needed delivery of these vehicles.

5. Policy. The Marine Corps views the MRAP as a theater specific requirement that meets an immediate need for force protection. It is not particularly expeditionary and is not designed to go aboard ship. It is, however, the best available vehicle for force protection. We view the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle as the desired vehicle which will provide the force protection, expeditionary capability, shipboard compatibility and affordability we need in the future. We see the JLTV as requiring considerable time and investment in research and development in order to accomplish these goals and therefore do not expect to see it in significant quantities for 4 to 5 years. We do not see a direct link between MRAP and JLTV.

6. Getting the MRAP into the Al Anbar province is my number one unfilled warfighting requirement at this time. I request your support in fielding this force protection capability.



James T. Conway  
Commandant of the Marine Corps

Copy to: VCJCS  
CSA  
CNO  
CSAF