FAQs 250th BIRTHDAY PARADE

Parade equipment

M1A2/Abrams tank



The Army has used the M1A2/Abrams tank since 1980; it was known for shooting accurately while on the move. First used in combat during Operation Desert Storm in 1991, Soldiers found it exhibited good reliability, lethality, survivability and mobility, but had limited range. The Abrams was tough. During the Persian Gulf War, the Army didn't lose any due to enemy fire.

UH-60 Black Hawk



U.S. Army has used **UH-60 Black Hawk** helicopters for almost 50 years in air assault, medical evacuation and re-supply operations. Designed as a medium-lift, four-blade, twin-engine utility helicopter, four crew members and a fully equipped 11-person infantry squad can fit inside. A Black Hawk can lift a 105 mm howitzer or a Humvee. It can fly 172 mph up to 20,000 feet with a range of 690 miles for four hours.

Bradley Fighting Vehicle



The **Bradley Fighting Vehicle** has proved itself to be lethal and survivable in multiple theaters since first fielded in the 1980s. Armed with a 25mm chain-driven autocannon, a 7.62 mm machine gun and twin tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-quided missiles, the Bradley has accompanied American troops in multiple theaters.

Paladin



The **Paladin**, while it looks and sounds like a tank, is technically a Self-Propelled Howitzer, and was first introduced in the 1960s. Over the years, it's been upgraded to perform in versatile battlefields from Vietnam to the Soviet Union to Iraq, it's a tough and effective weapon. It can carry a crew of four and is made of all-welded aluminum.

Strykers



Strykers are eight-wheeled, armored vehicles around which Army Stryker brigades are centered. They come in ten variants, including an infantry carrier vehicle, mortar carrier vehicle, commander's vehicle, and medical evacuation vehicle. Depending on the variant, Strykers can carry up to 11 occupants and reach speeds up to 60 miles per hour. The Army has eight Stryker Brigade Combat Teams: six in the Active Component and two in the National Guard.

Infantry Squad Vehicle



The **Infantry Squad Vehicle** provides enhanced tactical mobility for an Infantry Brigade Combat Team, with its associated equipment, to quickly maneuver around the battlefield. This allows commanders greater freedom of movement and action. The ISV provides the warfighter with increased flexibility for entry operations, as well as counter threat anti-access strategies to ensure infantry units maintain momentum to achieve mission success.

Joint Light Tactical Vehicle Family of Vehicles



The **Joint Light Tactical Vehicle Family of Vehicles** is a U.S. Army-led, Joint-service program designed to replace a portion of each Service's light tactical wheeled vehicle fleet, while closing existing capability gaps. JLTV provides the warfighter with protected, sustained, and networked mobility for both personnel and payloads across the full range of military operations. The vehicles provide improved off-road mobility, fuel efficiency, and reliability.

M777



M777 lightweight howitzers may not look particularly lightweight, but because they are made from titanium, they are 7,000 pounds lighter than the M198, which they replaced. They weigh around 9,500 pounds and have a maximum range of about 24 miles when firing their 105-pound 155mm shells. Currently being used in Ukraine, the Army has used the M777 since 2005.

M119



The **M119** is a smaller howitzer used by Infantry Brigades, particularly for air assault missions and was first used in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1991 and is also seeing active use in Ukraine. It weighs around 4,700 pounds and has a range of about 12 miles when firing its 40-pound 105mm shells.

AH-64 Apache



The **AH-64 Apache** has more than five million flight hours under its rotors and 40 years of technological advances behind it. In Desert Storm, it flew deep into Iraq to destroy enemy radar facilities. During Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom, Apache helicopters provided convoy escorts and supported ground forces. The Apache has over 1,340,000 flight hours in combat and peace-keeping operations in Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, and surrounding areas.

CH-47 Chinook



CH-47 Chinook has been the Army's heavy lift aircraft for the past 63 years and is suited for a variety of missions, including air assault, lift operations, medical evacuations, resupply operations, aircraft recovery and paradrop/rappelling operations. The Chinook is a tandem-rotor helicopter capable of reaching speeds in excess of 170 knots, making it the fastest in the U.S. Army. It features a triple-hook cargo system, allowing it to carry heavy payloads, such as bulldozers, 155 mm M198 howitzers, or 40-foot cargo containers.

HIMARS



The **High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS)** is a multiple launch rocket system platform that delivers precise fire from long distances and can quickly move in and out of the operating environment as an air-mobile platform, making it a very elusive target. It can fire six guided rockets in quick succession or one or two missiles- depending on ammunition. The HIMARS can fire a variety of munitions, such as the newly developed Precision Strike Missile, or PrSM, which can reach up to 310 miles and has the potential to strike a moving ship.