

Twitter Thread by Jon Hawkes



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The #OMFV industry day last week provided some clarity and a few new angles on the requirement. A few highlights and thoughts below

(Image an old NGCV concept art, not from recent industry day)



Unsurprising desire to prioritise survivability, stated as #1 priority. At this stage specifics are unclear, but for contemporary ATGM/KE you need APS, ERA & some rather fancy composites. Even then overmatch will be tough in conjunction with mobility/transportability aspirations

A. *Survivability.* The OMFV shall be survivable against modern direct fire, indirect fire, and blast threats. The OMFV should reduce likelihood of detection by minimizing thermal, visual, and acoustic signatures.

Firepower requirements to engage infantry up to tanks, and helicopters. So an ATGM essential, and high elevation cannon. Given need for unmanend turret (see further down), could mean high profile turret, or loss of swept volume inside vehicle to allow that big 50 mm to elevate

D. *Lethality.* The OMFV equipped platoons must defeat future near-peer soldiers, infantry fighting vehicles, helicopters, small unmanned aerial systems, and tanks as part of a Combined Arms Team in rural and urban terrain.

The OM is back in OMFV. Clear statement that

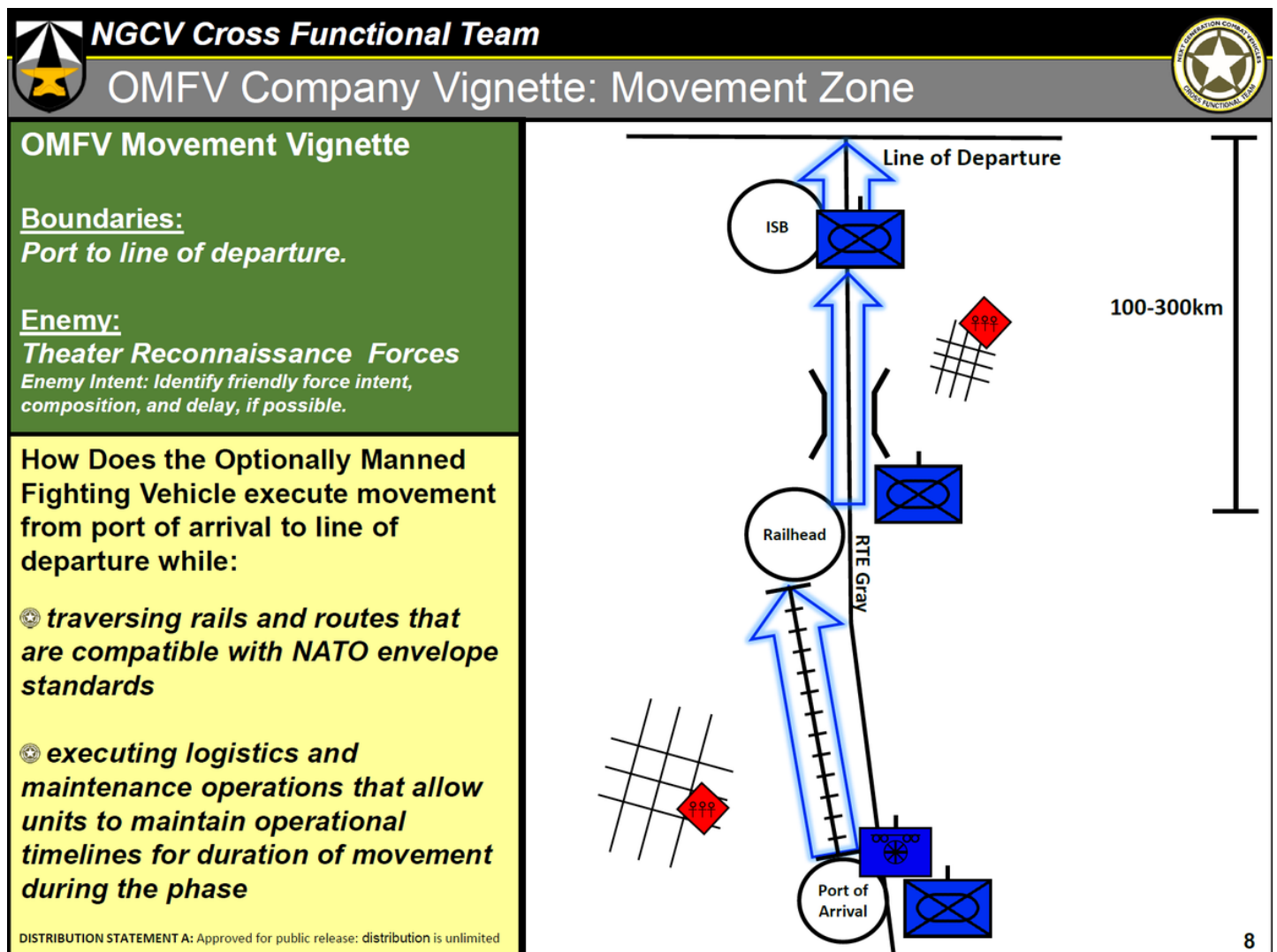
"The OMFV should allow commanders to choose between manned or remote operation based on the tactical situation."

Not a small request, will be interesting seeing how contractors answer it. I note that it is 9th of 10 reqs for priority

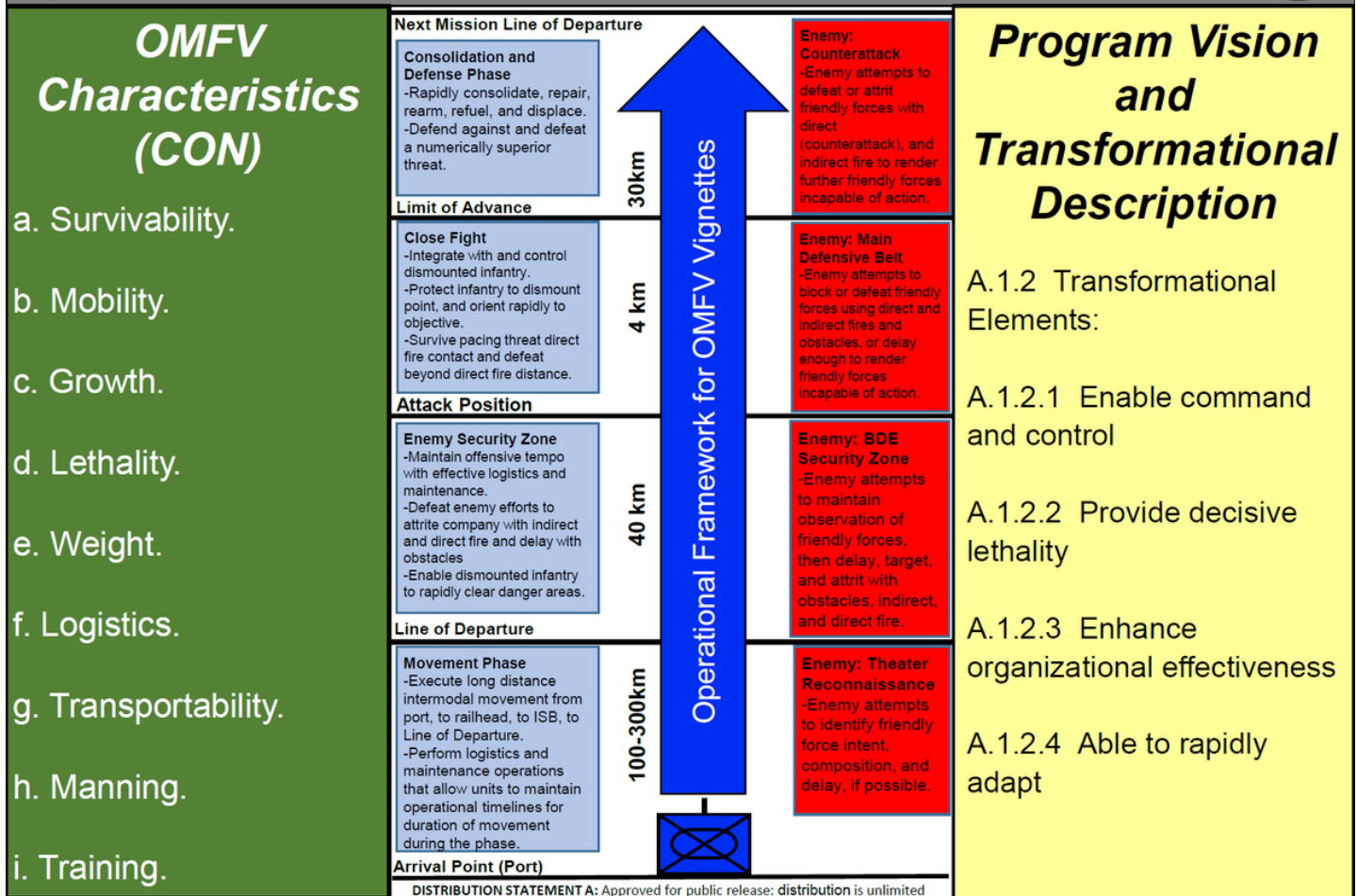
"Each OMFV vehicle will be crewed by no more than two Soldiers who will be positioned in the hull. Squad members can perform crew duties prior to dismounting the OMFV but the vehicles must remain operational after dismounting."

So an unmanned turret and single commander/gunner

A few vignettes of notional OMFV company tasks moving from point of arrival to an attack and then defence against counterattack. Note the repeated referral to remote operation and survivability incl focus on hiding from enemy sensors



In terms of the distances involved in the above tasks, you're looking at up to around 375 km, maintaining pace with assumed accompanying M1 formations

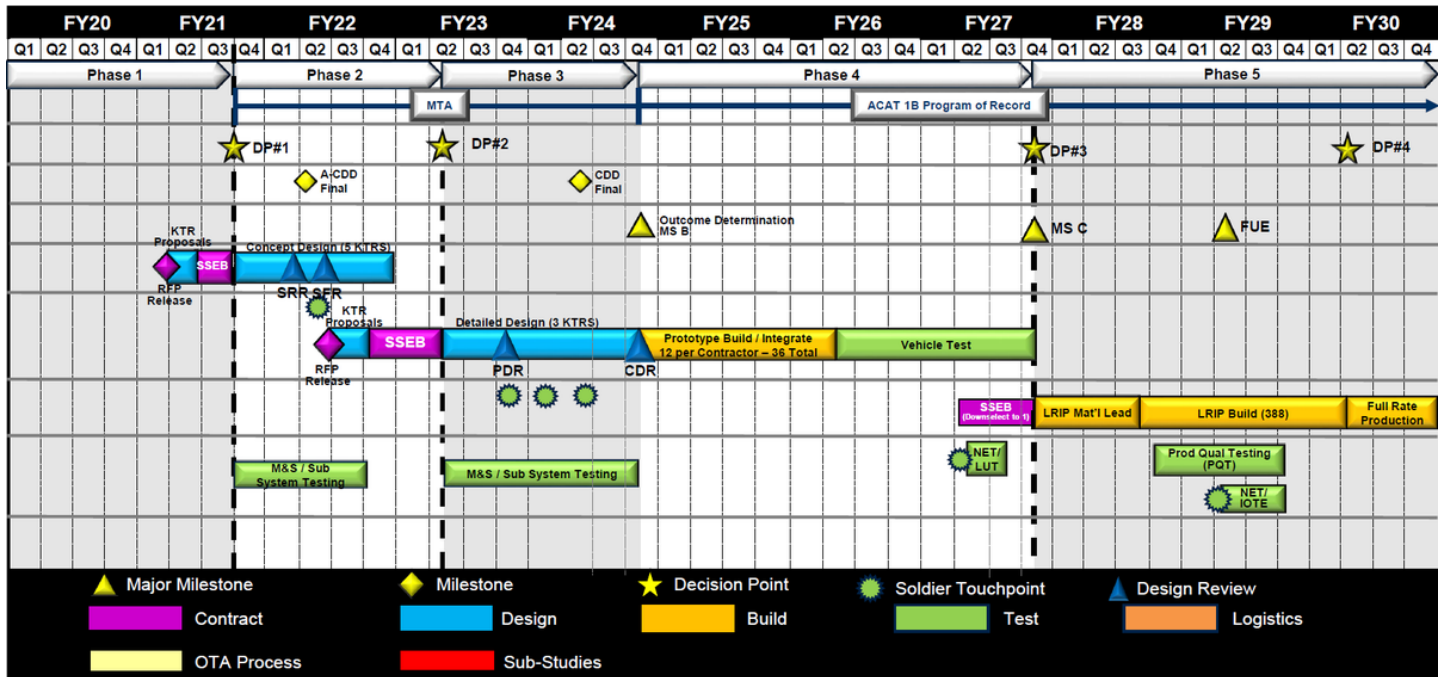


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Timelines broadly as we've seen before. Various development and testing with open competition through to FY27, then selection of a winner for LRIP in FY28/29 and FRP starting in FY30. So if all goes smoothly(!) then it will be 8 years from now to first deliveries, give or take.



OMFV Program Strategy



- Phase 2: Full and Open (Up to 5 contractors)
 - Govt. reserves right to award to more than 5
- Phases 3/4: Full and Open (Up to 3 contractors)
- Phase 5: Down-select to 1 contractor
- **Government Architecture mandatory beginning during Phase 2**
- Transition from MTA-RP at the end of Phase 3
- FUE is an Infantry Battalion, Q2 FY 29

12/9/2020

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Strong focus on a "modular open systems architecture" which whilst a broader concept, always seems like a lot of effort not to use the term GVA. More on MOSA here <https://t.co/mcNnuEFSPy>



OMFV Long Term Program Expectations



- The OMFV requires a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) – it is critical to the long term success of the OMFV. Implementation of a MOSA will ensure the program can avoid major redesigns or re-architecting the systems, subsystems or large portions thereof to address evolving requirements and threats, system upgrades, technology insertions, and to address obsolescence and avoid vendor lock.
- The OMFV will maximize Digital Engineering best practices and develop a “Single Source of Truth”, reducing future upgrade cycle timelines while ensuring that new technologies can transition quickly.
- The Government desires to obtain license rights in technical data, computer software, computer software documentation, and other intellectual property, sufficient to ensure the Government can meet its OMFV objectives throughout the lifecycle.

These will be important selection criteria in future solicitations.

OMFV remains one to watch as bidders assemble. Here's hoping its nth time the charm (depending how you look at it this is somewhere between 3rd & 7th go at a Bradley replacement now)

I remain firmly in support of this Doug Didia visioning concept based purely on rule of cool

