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Subject: Re: The real Nod artillery

Posted by [MexPirate](#) on Wed, 23 May 2007 22:18:04 GMT

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Quote:The cannon is supplied with 1,200 rounds of ammunition and has a maximum rate of fire of 650 rounds per minute. Its 30 millimeter ammunition is compatible with the British Aden and French DEFA 30 millimeter cannon. The usual ammunition is the "M789 High-Explosive Dual Purpose (HEDP)" round, which features an armor-piercing hollow charge with a fragmenting case. The HEDP round can penetrate 5 centimeters (2 inches) of rolled steel armor.

The Apache's primary external armament is the laser-guided AGM-114 Hellfire antitank missile, with a stated range of 8 kilometers (5 miles). The initial Army variant of the missile, the AGM-114A, soon gave way to the improved AGM-114C model. The Apache can carry a rack for four Hellfires on each stores pylon, giving a maximum warload of 16 Hellfires.

Another common load are 19-round 70 millimeter (2.75 inch) "Hydra 70" unguided rocket pods. The rockets can be fitted with armor-piercing, general-purpose blast-fragmentation, flechette anti-personnel, smoke, illumination, or training warheads. Although unguided, the gunner can set fuzing options for the rocket warheads to provide a range of options for attacking different classes of targets -- contact detonation for targets in the open, delayed detonation for targets under cover, and timed detonation for "enfilade" attacks on targets hidden by terrain or other obstacles.

The crew's primary interface to these sensor and targeting systems is the "Integrated Helmet And Display Sight System (IHADSS)", an early and somewhat bulky "smart helmet" with radio, laser-protective visor, and a "Helmet Display Unit (HDU)" known informally as the "hoodoo". TADS and PNVIS can be "slaved" to the helmets, meaning the sensor (and, for TADS the laser target designator) follows the movement of the helmets. The Chain Gun can track TADS as well, which is logical since TADS is a sighting system.

The key improvement over the A-variant is the AN/APG-78 Longbow dome installed over the main rotor which houses a millimeter-wave Fire Control Radar (FCR) target acquisition system. The elevated position of the radome allows detection and (arcing) missile engagement of targets even when the helicopter itself is concealed by an obstacle (e.g. terrain, trees or buildings). Further, a radio modem integrated with the sensor suite allows a D-variant Apache to share targeting data with other AH-64Ds that do not have a line-of-sight to the target. In this manner a group of Apaches can engage multiple targets but only reveal the radome of one D-variant Apache.

It automatically detects and prioritises targets in range, you look and it aims for you and you can blow someone up from 5 miles away over obstacles whilst letting your mates know where the bad guys are from concealed locations.

That's pretty sweet imo.

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