Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command	Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400: *Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Defense-Wide* / BA 7: *Operational Systems Development*	**R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)** PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*

COST ($ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	232.287	43.276	37.188	34.851	-	34.851	-	-	-	-	Continuing	Continuing
S851: *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	232.287	43.276	37.188	34.851	-	34.851	-	-	-	-	Continuing	Continuing

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

This Program Element (PE) identifies, develops, rapidly prototypes, integrates, and tests Special Operations (SO)-peculiar mission kits, mission payloads, weapons, and modifications on MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Ground Control Stations (GCSs), and training systems as a component of the Medium Altitude Long Endurance Tactical (MALET) program. The United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) is designated as the DoD lead for planning, synchronizing, and as directed, executing global operations against terrorist networks. The USSOCOM requires the capability to find, fix, finish, exploit, and analyze time-sensitive high-value targets. These targets can often only be identified with patient collection of information and require rapid, decisive action during the short periods in which they present themselves. This program element addresses the primary areas of Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Target Acquisition and Strike. This PE received Congressional Adds in FY 2023 for lightweight open architecture pod ($7.500 million) and to support Adaptive Airborne Enterprise ($5.840 million).

Beginning in FY 2026, MQ-9 RDT&E funding has transitioned to PE 1160403BB, Aviation Systems, Project SF100: Aviation Systems Advanced Development, to support the acceleration of the A2E concept.

The total cost of the MQ-9 Middle Tier of Acquisition effort is $310.606 million, including RDT&E and procurement of prototype units. The MQ-9 is fully funded across the Future Years Defense Program.

B. Program Change Summary ($ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total
Previous President's Budget	27.340	37.188	44.851	-	44.851
Current President's Budget	43.276	37.188	34.851	-	34.851
Total Adjustments	15.936	0.000	-10.000	-	-10.000
• Congressional General Reductions	-	-			
• Congressional Directed Reductions	-	-			
• Congressional Rescissions	-	-			
• Congressional Adds	-	-			
• Congressional Directed Transfers	-	-			
• Reprogrammings	16.934	-			
• SBIR/STTR Transfer	-0.998	-			
• Adjustments to Budget Year	-	-	-10.000	-	-10.000

Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command	Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400: *Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Defense-Wide I* BA 7: *Operational Systems Development*	**R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)** PE 1105219BB *I MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*

Congressional Add Details ($ in Millions, and Includes General Reductions)	FY 2023	FY 2024
Project: S851: *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*		
Congressional Add: *Lightweight Open Architecture Pod*	7.226	-
Congressional Add Subtotals for Project: S851	7.226	-
Congressional Add Totals for all Projects	7.226	-

Change Summary Explanation

Funding:

FY 2023: Net increase of $15.936 million is due to reprogramming of funds to the congressionally mandated Small Business Innovative Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) programs (-$0.998 million) and an Adaptive Airborne Enterprise (A2E) increase to establish the System Integration Lab and the Modular Open-system Architecture capability ($16.934 million).

FY 2024: None.

FY 2025: Net decrease of $10.000 million is due to transition of Adaptive Airborne Enterprise (A2E) funds to PE 1160403BB, Aviation Systems, Project SF100: Aviation Systems Advanced Development. This supports the development of the Modular Open-system Architecture, collaborative environments that facilitate integration and fielding of Special Operation peculiar capabilities and enhance long-range strike.

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command			Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 7	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	Project (Number/Name) S851 / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	

COST ($ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
S851: *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	232.287	43.276	37.188	34.851	-	34.851	-	-	-	-	Continuing	Continuing
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

As the supported Combatant Command in global operations, the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) requires the capability to find, fix, finish, exploit, and analyze time-sensitive high-value targets. These targets can often only be identified with patient collection of information and require rapid, decisive action during the short periods in which they present themselves. This project addresses the primary areas of Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Target Acquisition and Strike. The majority of the developmental funds provides for the Operational Flight Program (OFP) Software for the aircraft, Ground Control Station (GCS), and turret. Special Operations-peculiar (SO-p) modifications to the OFP allow for a rapid integration of emerging capabilities in order to maintain relevance and dominance of the MQ-9 in support of the 2022 National Defense Strategy (NDS).

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs ($ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Title: MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Program Number 839	36.050	37.188	34.851
Description: Identifies, develops, integrates, and tests SO-p mission kits, mission payloads, weapons, and modifications on MQ-9 UAS, GCSs, and training systems. ***FY 2024 Plans:*** Develop, test, and integrate SO-p emerging technology mission kits, mission payloads, weapons and modifications onto the MQ-9 aircraft. This includes Adaptive Airborne Enterprise (A2E), GCSs, turrets, and training systems; additionally, facilitate integration of SO-p weapons and sensors. ***FY 2025 Plans:*** Continues to develop, test, and integrate SO-p emerging technology mission kits, mission payloads, weapons and modifications onto the MQ-9 aircraft for UAS, GSCs, and training systems. The MQ-9 platform is a key airborne enabler and provides a pathway for A2E capabilities. Enhanced capabilities (i.e., Pods and software) are being developed to continue to evolve the MQ-9 and meet current operation requirements and while also providing foundational capabilities to meet initial A2E needs. ***FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:*** Net decrease of $2.337 million; $10.000 million decrease is due to transition of A2E capability funds to PE 1160403BB, Aviation Systems, Project SF100: Aviation Systems Advanced Development and $7.663 million increase supports further development of modifications on MQ-9 UAS, GCSs, and training systems.			
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	36.050	37.188	34.851

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 7	**R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)** PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	**Project (Number/Name)** S851 / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*

	FY 2023	FY 2024
Congressional Add: Lightweight Open Architecture Pod	7.226	-
FY 2023 Accomplishments: Supported development of the Adaptive Airborne Enterprise (A2E) concept, which includes the MQ-9 Weapon System. These efforts will include integration of a Modular Open-System Architecture (MOSA) and collaboration environments that facilitate a more efficient and expeditious integration and fielding of SO-p capabilities.		
Congressional Adds Subtotals	7.226	-

C. Other Program Funding Summary ($ in Millions)

Line Item	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
• PROC/1108MQ9: *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle*	14.000	17.684	19.583	-	19.583	25.990	48.439	46.500	47.430	Continuing	Continuing

Remarks

D. Acquisition Strategy

MQ-9 UAV implements an agile acquisition approach for the MQ-9 aircraft, GCS and Electro-Optical/Infrared (EO/IR) turret sensor and OFP software development. The MQ-9 UAV provides rapid prototyping activities and technology maturation events in order to increase first pass lethality. Contract types include a mix of cost type and fixed priced. Proprietary issues with the aircraft, GCS and sensor software as well as aircraft modification may require sole source contracting to the original equipment manufacturer. MQ-9 UAV leverages service common Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) contracts for aircraft and ancillary equipment sustainment. The MQ-9 program has been designated a Middle Tier of Acquisition (MTA) in accordance with Section 804 of Public Law 114-92, the authority in Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 5143.01, and guidance in DoD instruction 5000.80.

Exhibit R-3, RDT&E Project Cost Analysis: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command			Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 7	**R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)** PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	**Project (Number/Name)** S851 / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	

Product Development ($ in Millions)

Cost Category Item	Contract Method & Type	Performing Activity & Location	Prior Years	FY 2023 Cost	FY 2023 Award Date	FY 2024 Cost	FY 2024 Award Date	FY 2025 Base Cost	FY 2025 Base Award Date	FY 2025 OCO Cost	FY 2025 OCO Award Date	FY 2025 Total Cost	Cost To Complete	Total Cost	Target Value of Contract
MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Ground Control Stations (GCS), and Training Systems	SS/ Various	General Atomics Aeronautical Services : San Diego, CA	125.631	12.116	Feb 2023	18.340	Nov 2023	25.851	Nov 2024	-		25.851	Continuing	Continuing	-
MQ-9 UAVs, GCS, and Training Systems	SS/ Various	Raytheon : McKinney, TX	15.550	1.000	Feb 2023	6.000	Nov 2023	7.000	Nov 2024	-		7.000	Continuing	Continuing	-
Adaptive Airborne Enterprise (A2E)	SS/ Various	General Atomics Aeronautical Services : San Diego, CA	-	16.934	Apr 2024	9.848	Nov 2023	-		-		-	Continuing	Continuing	-
Lightweight Open Architecture Pod (Congressional Add)	SS/CPFF	General Atomics : Poway, CA	-	4.363	Jul 2023	-		-		-		-	Continuing	Continuing	-
Prior Years Completed Projects - Base	Various	Various : Various	15.671	-		-		-		-		-	0.000	15.671	-
Prior Years Completed Projects - Congressional Adds	Various	Various : Various	32.009	-		-		-		-		-	0.000	32.009	-
		Subtotal	188.861	34.413		34.188		32.851		-		32.851	Continuing	Continuing	N/A

Remarks

Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract awards every two years for MQ-9 UAVs, Ground Control Stations, and Training Systems.
FY 2023: $16.934 million increase to establish A2E system Integration laboratory (SIL) and further maturation of the A2E Modular Open-System Architecture (MOSA) capability.

Test and Evaluation ($ in Millions)

Cost Category Item	Contract Method & Type	Performing Activity & Location	Prior Years	FY 2023 Cost	FY 2023 Award Date	FY 2024 Cost	FY 2024 Award Date	FY 2025 Base Cost	FY 2025 Base Award Date	FY 2025 OCO Cost	FY 2025 OCO Award Date	FY 2025 Total Cost	Cost To Complete	Total Cost	Target Value of Contract
MQ-9 UAVs, GCS, and Training Systems Developmental Test and Evaluation (T&E)	SS/ Various	General Atomics Aeronautical Services : San Diego, CA	27.741	3.000	Feb 2023	1.500	Feb 2024	-		-		-	Continuing	Continuing	-

Exhibit R-3, RDT&E Project Cost Analysis: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command			Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 7	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	Project (Number/Name) S851 / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	

Test and Evaluation ($ in Millions)

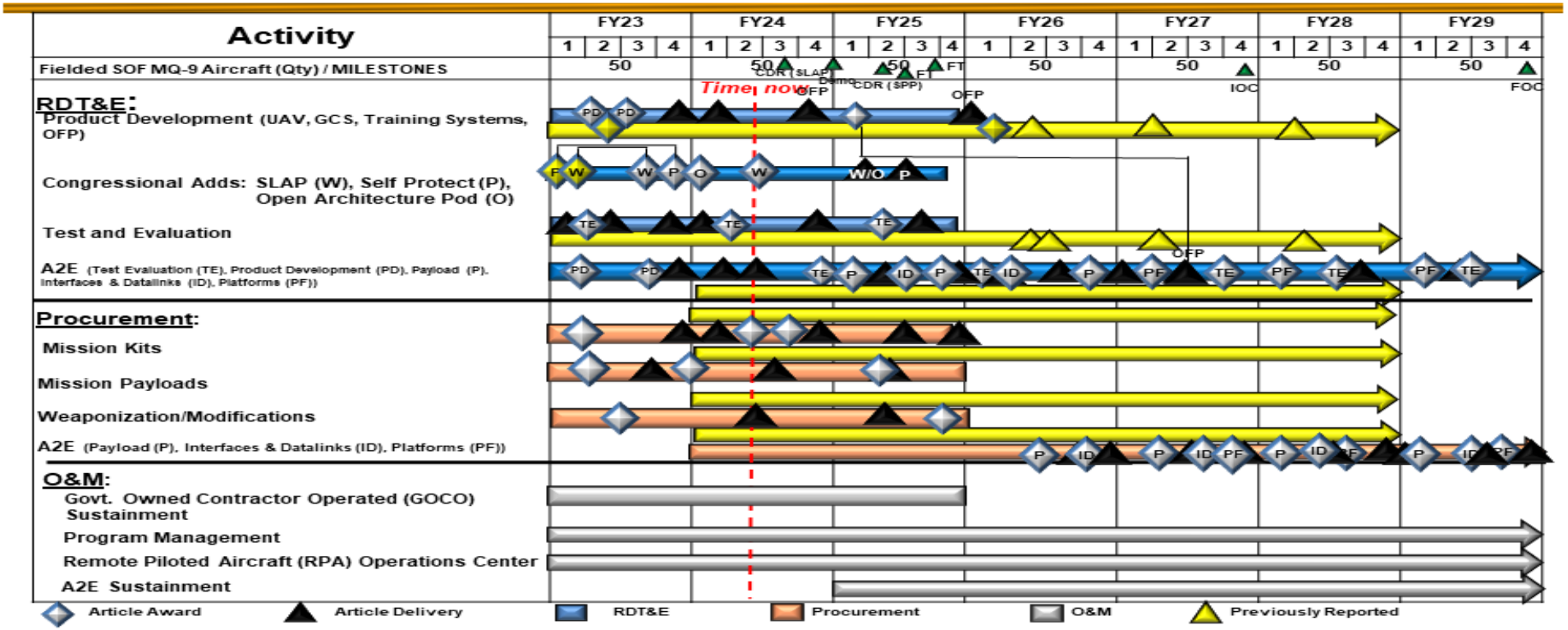
Cost Category Item	Contract Method & Type	Performing Activity & Location	Prior Years	FY 2023 Cost	FY 2023 Award Date	FY 2024 Cost	FY 2024 Award Date	FY 2025 Base Cost	FY 2025 Base Award Date	FY 2025 OCO Cost	FY 2025 OCO Award Date	FY 2025 Total Cost	Cost To Complete	Total Cost	Target Value of Contract
MQ-9 UAVs, GCS, and Training Systems Live Fire T&E	SS/ Various	General Atomics Aeronautical Services : San Diego, CA	-	3.000	Sep 2023	1.500	Feb 2024	2.000	Feb 2025	-		2.000	Continuing	Continuing	-
Lightweight Open Architecture Pod Developmental T&E (Congressional Add)	SS/TBD	General Atomics : Poway, CA	-	2.863	Jul 2023	-		-		-		-	Continuing	Continuing	-
Prior Years Completed Projects - Base	Various	Various : Various	5.300	-		-		-		-		-	0.000	5.300	-
Prior Years Completed Projects - Congressional Adds	Various	Various : Various	10.385	-		-		-		-		-	0.000	10.385	-
		Subtotal	43.426	8.863		3.000		2.000		-		2.000	Continuing	Continuing	N/A

	Prior Years	FY 2023		FY 2024		FY 2025 Base		FY 2025 OCO		FY 2025 Total	Cost To Complete	Total Cost	Target Value of Contract
Project Cost Totals	232.287	43.276		37.188		34.851		-		34.851	Continuing	Continuing	N/A

Remarks

Exhibit R-4, RDT&E Schedule Profile: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 7	**R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)** PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	**Project (Number/Name)** S851 / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*

MALET – MQ9 & A2E Schedule



The RDT&E and Procurement A2E schedule activities are identified in both MQ-9 UAV program schedule as well as the A2E Congressional brief program schedule.

Exhibit R-4A, RDT&E Schedule Details: PB 2025 United States Special Operations Command		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 7	**R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)** PE 1105219BB / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*	**Project (Number/Name)** S851 / *MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)*

Schedule Details

	Start		End	
Events by Sub Project	**Quarter**	**Year**	**Quarter**	**Year**
MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)				
Operational Flight Program (OFP) Software (SW)	1	2023	4	2025
Electro-optical/Infrared (EO/IR) SW	1	2023	4	2025
Special Operations Forces-peculiar (SOF-p) Mission Kits/Payloads/Mods	1	2023	4	2025
Speed Loader Agile Pods (Congressional Adds)	1	2023	3	2025
Self Protection Pods (Congressional Adds)	1	2023	3	2025
Lightweight Open Architecture Pod (Congressional Adds)	1	2023	3	2025
Test and Evaluation	1	2023	4	2025
Adaptive Airborne Enterprise	1	2023	4	2024