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The U.S. Army and Boeing (NYSE:BA) signed a \$192.5 million contract for 13 new AH-64D Apache Longbow multi-role combat helicopters for the U.S. Army on Friday, September 23.

The new Apache Longbow aircraft, to be built in the current Block II configuration, are in addition to AH-64A Apaches being remanufactured under a multi-year contract with the Army. Production will begin in early 2006 and will be performed at the Boeing facility in Mesa, Ariz., where Apaches have been manufactured since the program started.

"Execution of this contract bridges the way to an additional 96 remanufactured AH-64Ds for the U.S. Army and to Block III Apache Longbow helicopter production," said David Almond, Boeing Apache Block II program manager. "This is a true team effort and a key Apache milestone achievement."

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