COSTLY COMBAT PROTECTION

The current cost to outfit a U.S. soldier is about $17,500, primarily for body armor and other protection. But the ratio of wounded to killed soldiers is far less than in previous wars. Future costs may double.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORLD WAR II</th>
<th>VIETNAM WAR</th>
<th>CURRENT OPERATIONS</th>
<th>FUTURE SYSTEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approximate uniform and equipment cost</td>
<td>$1112</td>
<td>$17,472</td>
<td>$28,000-$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$170 per soldier</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Equipment**
- Combat belt with equipment
- Steel helmet and liner
- M1 rifle
- Flak vest*
- Leather combat boots
- Spats
- Equipment weight: 35.8 pounds
- 35.1 pounds
- 75.3 pounds

**Ratio of killed in action to wounded**

- 41%
- 1 killed to 2.40 wounded
- 11.3 million soldiers served
- 32%
- 1 to 3.12
- 2.3 million
- 12%
- 1 to 8.3
- 766,066

*SOURCES: Department of Defense; GlobalSecurity.org

The Associated Press