

Drones - Equipment to supervise- Machine to kill

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Introduction

This publication is still under construction ...

Recently, [most of our articles have been about drones](#)- a danger that two years ago most people didn't know about. That's why the [working group Police & Secret Services](#) from our [campaign freedom instead of fear](#) have been busy with this theme very thoroughly.

Drones for Surveillance

Die Polizeibehörden sind gerade dabei sich Überwachungsdrohnen anzuschaffen, um Demonstrationen und Fußballspiele zu beobachten oder "Geiselnehmer und Entführungsopfer zu verfolgen", so die offiziellen Begründungen.



*Police drone against demonstrations
in Dresden, Feb. 2011,
elbflorenz, CC-BY-NC-SA20*

Already a few years, the Federal German Armed Forces are in possession of various drones for the surveillance of "the enemy" when in foreign assignments. Currently they are in the process of getting Fight drones for military assignments.

*Sensocopter , Linksunten
IndymediaOrgCC-BY-NC-SA20*

These drones are often small (not all) and fly quite low. They transfer videos to the one controlling them. In the EU- Project INDECT they are evaluating the video streams by using a software. "Abnormal behaviour" should be recognized automatically and countermeasures (identification, arrests, and more) are steered by programmes.

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Military drones

The USA has most of these drones. They also have the most victims caused by military drones.

The US Military are in possession of 183-244 Predator/Reaper, the CIA have 30-35 of them. It is planned that 100 drones more should be available. In 2004-2012, due to 350 drone attacks, Pakistan have lost 2600-3350 people including 500-900 civilians and 175 kids. All male dead, regardless of any proofs, are being called "terrorists". An other 1400 people were injured in these attacks.



Global Hawk, Wikimedia CommonsCC 2.0

Pakistan has, militarily, formed an alliance with the USA and also the government in Yemen (10-23 drone attacks with 60 to 170 deaths) counts as US friendly. However, the USA carry out drone attacks on villages without the permission of the authorities in both countries.

At the moment the arsenal of our armed forces enclose:

- Euro Hawk long range/ strategic work (4-5 pieces) 20.000m flight altitude/ 28 hours flight time/ 7.500 km application radius.
- Heron 1 middle range/ tactic work (SAATEG) (3 pieces) 24 hours flight time/ 6.400 to 8.430 m flight altitude/ 200km application radius
- LUNA short range (90 pieces) 3 to 5 hours of flight time/ 150 to 800 m flight altitude over ground/ 40 km application radius
- KZO middle range (60 pieces) 3 to 5 hours flight time/ about 3.500m flight altitude/ 100 km application radius
- ALADIN local and close range (224+ pieces) 30 to 60 minutes flight time/ 50 to 150 m flight altitude/ 15+ km application radius
- MIKADO (Airbot and Helicopter) local and close range (about 50 pieces) 20 minutes flight time/ 100 m flight altitude/ 500 to 1.000m application range.

Source: IMI Fact-Sheet „Drohnen-Kriege“, <http://www.imi-online.de/download/Drohnen2012>

Bild

Global Hawk, RQ-3, Wikimedia Commons, CC-BY-NC-SA20

The Federal German Armed Forces want to purchase fight drones either the American type called Reaper or the Israeli type called Heron.

Furthermore until 2020 the EU will develop their own fight drones.

Arguments against Drones

- Disregarding the legal statement and our international law,
- Denying the proclamation of innocence,
- It can get to anyone with no prediction nor traceability
- Behavioural changes due to invisible danger,
- The greater the distance to the opponent, the easier it is to kill
- 35% of the “collateral damage” does not correspond to what the military calls “surgical strikes”. Verletzung der Rechtstaatlichkeit, des Völkerrechts, ...

The two last arguments do not come from the “left corner of the peace friends” but from the magazine about foreign affairs and security policies, ADLAS 2/2012 ISSN 1869-1684, P. 28.

The 16-year-old US citizen Abdulrahman al-Awlaki and his cousin are killed in Yemen by an US drone, just 14 days after a drone murdered his father because he was a „supposed terrorist“.

How should their families put together basic values and clan custody/murdering?

- International assessment by experts of the German “Bundestag”
- Experts question the legitimacy of “targeted killings” in the fight against terrorism.
- The committee for human rights and humanitarian aid Berlin: (hib/AHE)

Experts recognize a violation of international law in the practice of “targeted killings”. That resulted in a hearing of the committee of human rights and humanitarian aid on Wednesday evening.

Among other things the experts referred to the danger of a hollowing of the humanitarian international law. The background are the attacks of US military with armed drones on terrorists and terror suspects in Pakistan or in Yemen.

Andreas Zimmerman from the centre of human rights of the University of Potsdam warned about a development in which certain “legal assertions” and interest-escorted interpretations of the international law could harden. Although an attack on hostile fighters and under quite narrow conditions temporarily involved civilians would be covered during armed conflicts by the international law. However the area of the fightings would limit the applicability of these rules.

Nevertheless the government of the USA would argue that because of the specific features of the worldwide operating network al-Qaeda the conflict would not be limited geographically. The expert Christian Schaller spoke of an “dissolved” beginning, which would refer to the opposing party and not a defined area. From his point of view “to speak of a worldwide opposing party” goes too far.

Shaller added that there are people from the US administration that justify offences against the international law by using the right to self-defence. However, it is to question whether the “indisputable lasting danger” from al-Qaeda appeals to the self-defence right from article 51 of the charter of the United Nations- or whether it should rather concern a self-made interpretation of spatially and time wise scattered events of a “lasting attack”. Wolfgang Kaleck (European centre for Constitutional and Human Rights) pointed out to the fact that through international cooperation, Germany could have been indirectly involved, in under international law, dubious methods- like the utilisation of the confessions which could have originated under certain countries torture methods or by concealed “kidnapping flights” with which the USA have also brought Germanys terror suspects to the much talked about Guantanamo bay detention centre. Therefore, the far-reaching cooperation with United States in the fight against terrorism must be made depended by clear

criteria, says Kaleck. He also referred to a judgment of the European Court of human rights that exclude a proof utilisation-not only after proof found, but already that a statement could be forced by torture when a “high risk” was identified. Steven Watt (American Civil Liberties union) criticised, that apparently the USA would set the juridical frames of “specific homicides” when they see fit. It is not only illegal but also dangerous to assume that “the whole world could become a battlefield” and to derive from it that it is allowed to kill terror suspects far away from conflict zones. Watt called in the connection to so-called “signature strikes” in which people, whose identity could not be identified but whose behaviour would show a certain pattern, could apparently be attacked. With such attacks the USA created, in the long term, new enemies for themselves in the affected countries and like that endangers its own security.

Source: hib - heute im bundestag Nr. 111, Neues aus Ausschüssen und aktuelle parlamentarische Initiativen, Thu, Feb 28th 2013, time of going to press 10:55

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Actions against Drones



Action by Codepink documented on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZsfKJc4Tgg>

Obama adviser John Brennan's speech was disrupted by Medea Benjamin of CODEPINK. Over the weekend Benjamin helped organize the International Drone Summit in Washington, D.C.: "How many people are you willing to sacrifice? Why are you lying to the American people and not saying how many innocents have been killed? I speak out on behalf of Tariq Aziz, a 16-year-old in Pakistan, who was killed because he wanted to document the drone strikes. I speak out on behalf of Abdulrahman al-Awlaki, a 16-year-old born in Denver, killed in Yemen, just because his father was someone we don't like. I speak out on behalf of the Constitution, on behalf of the rule of law. I love the rule of law. I love my country. You are making us less safe by killing so many innocent people."

"Wie viele Leute sind Sie bereit zu opfern? Warum belügen Sie das amerikanische Volk und sagen nicht, wie viele Unschuldige getötet wurden? Ich spreche im Namen von Tariq Aziz, ein 16-Jähriger in Pakistani, der getötet wurde, weil er die Drohnenangriffe dokumentieren wollte. Ich spreche im Namen von Abdulrahman al-Awlaki, ein 16-Jähriger US Bürger aus Denver, im Jemen getötet, nur weil sein Vater jemand, den wir nicht mögen. Ich spreche im Namen der Verfassung im Namen der Rechtsstaatlichkeit. Ich liebe die Rechtsstaatlichkeit. Ich liebe mein Land. Sie machen uns weniger sicher durch das Töten so vieler unschuldiger Menschen."



More to the background of the video you will find here: <http://mondoweiss.net/2012/05/shame-on-you-why-i-interrupted-obama-counter-terrorism-adviser-john-brennan.html>

Drones for Playing

Nachdem uns mehrere Anfragen erreichten, was man als Privatmensch in Deutschland mit Drohnen tun darf, hier ein paar Regeln.

- Im privaten Bereich kann Jede/r seine Drohnen frei fliegen lassen, ab 5kg Fluggewicht benötigt man eine Genehmigung..
- Ausnahme: In Hessen reguliert das Regierungspräsidium private Einsätze von Drohnen und in Berlin ist das Fliegen innerhalb der Bannmeile um Kanzleramt, Reichstag, u.ä. genehmigungspflichtig, also erstmal verboten.
- Drohnen unterliegen keiner Kennzeichnungspflicht.
- Das Luftverkehrsgesetz gibt den gesamten Luftraum Deutschlands zur Nutzung frei. Damit ist auch das Fliegen über fremden Grundstücken erlaubt. Fühlt sich jemand belästigt folgt eine zivilrechtliche Auseinandersetzung.
- Privatsphäre und Datenschutz müssen beachtet werden, bei optischer Aufzeichnung gelten die üblichen Persönlichkeitsrechte.
- Die Sorgfaltspflichten aus der Luftverkehrsordnung müssen beachtet werden, d.h. Menschen und Gegenstände Dritter dürfen nicht gefährdet oder beschädigt werden. Eine Haftpflichtversicherung ist empfehlenswert.

Updates

Update 19.06.2016: German Government will purchase five armed Drones

Matthias Monroy hat am 9.6.16 einen wichtigen aktuellen Beitrag zur deutschen Kampfdrohnenbeschaffung auf Netzpolitik.org eingestellt:

"Bundeswehr spricht nunmehr von fünf bewaffnungsfähigen Drohnen"

<https://netzpolitik.org/2016/bundeswehr-spricht-nunmehr-von-fuenf-bewaffnungfaehigen-drohnen/>

Und: "Die parlamentarische Befassung soll dem Staatssekretär zufolge spätestens im ersten Quartal 2017 erfolgen".

Update 07.07.2016: Armed Drones: President Obama's Favorite Weapon

Hi, Could you please have a look at our new infographic, "Armed Drones: President Obama's Weapon of Choice"? Given your past interest in U.S. drone strikes, I think you'll find it interesting.
<http://ammo.com/articles/armed-drones-obamas-weapon-of-choice-infographic>

To be continued ...

We look forward to your comments to this topic (Mail to kontakt@aktion-fsa.de)

Links

Anti-Drone web sites:

<http://www.drohnenkampagne.de/>

<http://www.ag-friedensforschung.de/themen/Drohnen/Welcome.html>

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/antidrohnenkampagne>

<http://www.knowdrones.com/>

Our flyer to this topic "Keine Drohnen für Krieg und Überwachung"

<https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/images/stories/docs/201503fsaFlyerLayoutDrohnen.pdf>

and in English: Aktion FsA Flyer No Drones for War and Surveillance.pdf

<https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/images/stories/docs/201305FsaFlyerDrohnenEN.pdf>

Fight drones: Interview with Jan van Aken

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/2013/04/30/kampfdrohnen-interview-mit-jan-van-aken/>

Panorama Report (Nov. 2013) about the Secret war of the US

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PoKHzXiMAOo>

Stop Britain being a launchpad for killer drones. Sign the petition

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/2013/04/30/stop-britain-being-a-launchpad-for-killer-drones-sign-the-petition/>

VIDEO: 600 march on RAF Waddington in drone protest

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/2013/04/30/video-600-march-on-raf-waddington-in-drone-protest/>

David Swanson -- Fighting Drones

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/2013/04/30/david-swanson-fighting-drones/>

Anti-drone movement must become worldwide

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/2013/04/29/anti-drone-movement-must-become-worldwide/>

ANTIDROHNEN BLOG

<http://antidrohnenkampagne.wordpress.com/>

Antidrohnen Kapagne FACEBOOK SEITE

<https://www.facebook.com/antidrohnenkampagne>

Videos about Drones

German Drone Almost Collided with Passenger Jet

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beIN8mLzEuo>

200 Mio \$ hightech Drone crashes - Euro Hawk Prototype

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=XfSyHAoxUfs

Drohnen -- Neue „Wunderwaffe“? - Informationsstelle Militarisierung

http://youtu.be/ZiJ3K_1YDyl

UAE: War robots on the loose in Abu Dhabi

<http://youtu.be/wk7igCtP-BA>

The future of (military)robots - Documentary about the evolution of drones, autonomic flying machines and eventually real terminator behavior of machines.

<http://youtu.be/-quWk8E45MU>

Human Hunter's DARPA's Military Robot Police Force

<http://youtu.be/S9WbSKP9B0c>

Military Robot 2013 DARPA LS3 Automatically Follows Soldiers

<http://youtu.be/Yj7DgklsZDk>

Military Robot Technology

<http://youtu.be/diOrq17Cs-M>

Robots of tomorrow to help fight the wars of today RIA Novosti Copyright

<http://youtu.be/f1pOjuFVCmQ>

Robots go to war: American insect Terminators

<http://youtu.be/hP7FtwEejVI>

Robot-War: Soldier of the future and Militär-High-Tech

<http://youtu.be/Wp6mNcBwSc4>

<http://youtu.be/hP7FtwEejVI>

US-Drones kill civilians - UN-Report - RT 10.2.13

http://youtu.be/L0FBJWj_Vb0

Living under drones, Jan 2013 (dt.)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wp075bBuFGM>

Illegal Drone war in Pakistan - Dennis Kucinich (US-Congress) 22.12.12

http://youtu.be/RxxdQjP_z48

3378 Death by Drones in Pakistan - Dennis Kucinich (US-Congress) 22.11.12

http://youtu.be/T_ZHnnngxBk

US-Drone war: Female activist protests - 6.5.12

<http://youtu.be/ve39tfL2-Xs>

Further Links

- Ausbau der deutschen Drohnenflotte <https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/de/articles/2723-20120223-ausbau-der-drohnenflotte.htm>
- Töten nach Gusto <https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/de/articles/3287-20121203-toeten-nach-gusto.htm>
- Hessen setzt auf Drohnen <https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/de/articles/3180-20121010-hessen-setzt-auf-drohnen.htm>
- Droneneinsatz bei Demo <https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/de/articles/3154-20120924-droneneinsatz-bei-demo.htm>
- Demnächst 30.000 Drohnen über USA <https://www.aktion-freiheitstattangst.org/de/articles/3133-20120914-demnaechst-30-000-drohnen-ueber-usa.htm>
- Petition zum Bann von Drohnen <http://banweaponizeddrones.org/>