

DID YOU KNOW...?

- Drones are being used by the U.S Military, CIA, and Department of Homeland Security in the Middle East, central Asia, Africa, and along the U.S borders. Airspace is currently being opened for use of domestic drones in our own communities that could be used against U.S citizens.
- Drone strikes are responsible for the killing of more than 2400 people, only 2% of which have been labeled as high-level targets. Only about 20% of all victims have been identified by name. Hundreds of women and children have been killed by U.S. weaponized drones.
- A common practice in drone strikes is to follow-up the initial strike with a second one. The result: rescuers attending to the injured are also killed in the follow-up strike. This is known as a “double tap” strike and is in violation of international law.
- In 2009, it was reported by the Air Force that 1/3 of their Predator drones crashed, mostly in Iraq in Afghanistan. There have been 133 documented large drone crashes since 2007, which does not include the myriad crashes of Raven and Scan Eagle drones
- The fly away cost of a weaponized MQ-9 Reaper is \$16.9 million. We don't know the full costs of the U.S. weaponized drones program because much of the cost is built into the CIA budget which is secret.

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Version Updated: January 2015

VETERANS FOR PEACE



NO DRONES

Drone attacks have resulted in high civilian casualties and have greatly increased resentment towards the United States.



**Exposing the True Costs of War
and Militarism Since 1985**

WHAT IS A DRONE?

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), also known as drones, are aircraft either controlled by 'pilots' from the ground or increasingly, autonomously following a pre-programmed mission. While there are dozens of different types of drones, they basically fall into two categories: those that are used for reconnaissance and surveillance purposes, and those that are armed with missiles and bombs.

WHY ARE THEY SO POPULAR?

The use of drones has grown quickly in recent years because unlike manned aircraft they can stay aloft for many hours, they are much cheaper than military aircraft and they are flown remotely so there is no direct danger to the flight crew.

WHAT IS THE DOWNSIDE TO DRONES?

The U.S. has used weaponized drones to kill over 2400 people in Afghanistan, as well as Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia—countries with which the U.S. is not at war. The vast majority of the victims have been civilians.

"The U.S. has used weaponized drones to kill over 2400 people in Afghanistan, as well as Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia."



The UN's Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Philip Alston, has said that this use of drones is not combat as much as 'targeted killing.' He has repeatedly tried to get the U.S. to explain how they justify the use of drones to target and kill individuals under international law. The U.S. has, so far, refused to do so.

The U.S. weaponized drones program is violation of international law including the UN Charter and the Geneva Conventions as well as the U.S. Constitution.

"The use of drones by police and law enforcement agencies raises many questions about privacy rights."



WHO ELSE ARE THEY WATCHING?

Foreign drone missions have terrorized villages and entire communities with ongoing attacks and constant surveillance. In the United States, this type of military surveillance may seem like a distant issue. But is it?

Drones are rapidly becoming more relevant on U.S. soil as military drone manufacturers look for civilian uses for remote sensing drones, expanding their markets and profits.

The use of surveillance drones particularly by law enforcement agencies raises many questions about privacy rights under the Fourth Amendment. Drones could theoretically be used to spy on entire cities and put an end to outdoor privacy. Drones will no doubt make possible the dramatic expansion of the surveillance state.

As the use of drones and other military equipment on U.S. civilians expands, the distinction between domestic policing and the military functions of government slowly deteriorates.



For more information on the U.S. drone program, visit:

- www.knowdrones.com
- www.SDVFP.org
- www.veteransforpeace.org