

THE KNOWLEDGE DRONE INFORMS ABOUT: DRONES

Drones are becoming a widely used weapon in the U.S. war on terror. Hundreds of civilians have died in the attacks, and operators report about mental ill-health. Despite that, the use of unmanned planes continues.

Since the beginning of the 21th century the use of drones, also called Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicles (UCAV), has increased in warfare. The U.S. is the leading country in drone usage worldwide. The first program was initiated in Afghanistan as an effort to spare American lives in combat. Since then, attacks has also been executed in Yemen, Sudan and Pakistan. Drones are also being used by Israel, Russia and Great Britain, amongst many other countries. Unmanned planes exist in many various kinds, and are used both for surveillance missions and military attacks. Although, all drones have in common that they are either homing or controlled by a operator on ground. Former drone pilots have reported about post traumatic stress syndrome, as a result of their work. The use of drones has been widely criticized. Almost 200 children have been killed by drones in Pakistan, and a judge in the town of Peshawar ruled out the attacks as war crimes since they where performed in countries to which the U.S. has not officially declared war. Despite this, the use of drones continues. The fact is that under Barack Obama, more attacks has been performed than under the Bush administration. Obama personally selects which suspect al-Qaida-members the drone operators should attack.

Pakistan

Total Obama strikes: 318
Total U.S. strikes since 2004: 370
Total reported killed: 2,548-3,549
Civilians reported killed: 411-890
Children reported killed: 168-197
Total reported injured: 1,177-1,480

Yemen

Confirmed U.S. drone strikes: 46-56
Total reported killed: 240-349
Civilians reported killed: 14-49
Children reported killed: 2
Reported injured: 62-144
Possible additional U.S. drone strikes: 80-99

Sources

NY Times
New America Foundation
The Bureau of Investigative Journalism
NBC News, Today exclusive, June 06, 2013

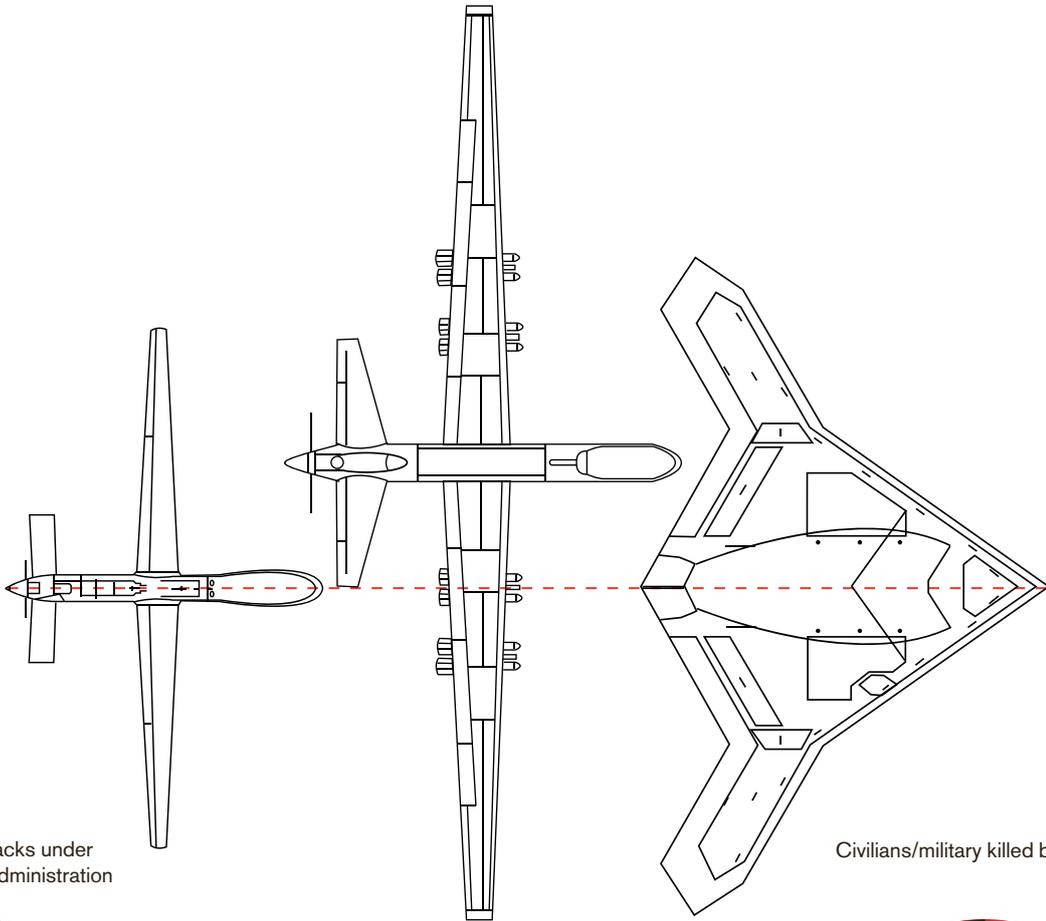
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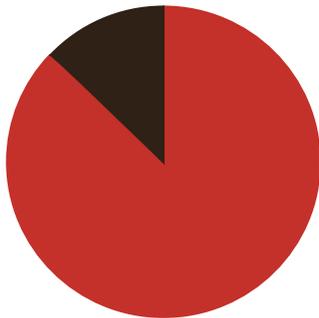
Text & design

Knut Stahle

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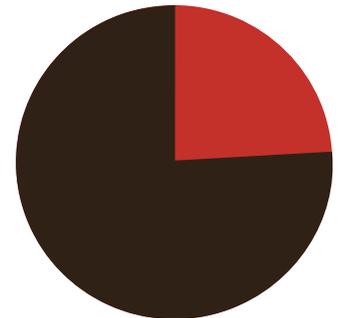


Number of attacks under Bush/Obamas administration



47 Bush strikes
318 Obama strikes

Civilians/military killed by drones



2959 military
939 civilians

US drones are recognized by the United States Air Force (USAF) banner.



"When the drones hit, they don't see children."

