

International Relations: Drones and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) 无人机

The first “kill” by an American UAV was on Oct. 7th, 2001, in Afghanistan. Since then, drones have become the preferred tool of U.S. counter-terror strategy by presidents George W. Bush & Barack Obama. There are thus far no signs that Pres. Trump has reduced or intends to reduce their deployment. Estimates of death tolls **死亡人数** from drone strikes from 2009 to present range from 2,000 to over 6,000. In 2017, an estimated 500 civilians were killed in U.S. military strikes, many or perhaps even most by armed UAVs. Their use and legality, however, have been highly secretive **保密的** and controversial **引起争议的**.

Types of UAVs – Micro-Drone Surveillance Drone Combat UAVs (CUAVs)

Armed Drone – 武装无人机

Armed UAVs deliver a “payload **有效荷**” of weapons such as bullets or missiles to a target **目标**.

Uses of UAVs – drone strikes 无人机打击 intelligence gathering **刺探情报**

loitering **闲逛,徘徊** “signature strikes” surgical strikes surveillance **监视**

Advantages of UAVs over “Manned Aircraft” - Drones are much cheaper to manufacture than large aircraft and can loiter for very long periods of time. Drone strikes have an air of high-tech prestige about them and are often presumed to be more precise than conventional airstrikes.

Controversies - Drones reduce the costs of using force internationally. The use of force may become a first resort instead of a “last resort” (**不得已而为之**). Contrast with nuclear weapons, which are highly destructive and imprecise: drones are more likely to be used because they cause relatively little collateral damage and can be undetectable.

Furthermore, under the “Global War on Terror”, drone strikes have pursued “enemy combatants” and suspects with terrorist “signatures” *outside* of active war zones. Legally, a debate continues about whether drone strikes should be regulated under laws of peacetime or war.

civilian casualties **平民的越** due process of law **正当法律程序, 合法程序**

habeus corpus proliferation to less “responsible” regimes

violation of sovereignty? **违反主权**

The Future... - full automation **全面自化的 指挥操作的**

delivery of WMDs?

drone warfare?

Other Vocabulary: Assassination – 行刺, 暗杀 Artificial Intelligence – 人工智能 Counter-

terrorism – 反恐 Decapitation – 斩首 Drone/UAV – 无人机, 无人驾驶飞行器 Drone

Operator-无人机**操作** Enemy of the State Military UAV – 军用无人机 Hobbyist **业余爱好者**

Neoconservatism – 新保守主义 Pre-emptive – 先发制人 (idiomatic: to gain the initiative by striking first) Preventive War – 预防性战争 Proliferation – 扩散 Reconnaissance – 侦查 Shoot

Accidentally While Polishing a Gun (Chinese idiom for a minor incident which sparks a war) – 擦枪走

火 Slippery Slope Argument - **滑坡, 主 最初就要决定种行 或决定, 因假**

若支持 种行 或决定 今后将 致其它明 本 当抵制 的行 或决定

Surgical (as in

“surgical strike”) – 外科手术式 Targeted Killing – 定点清除 Terrorist – 恐怖分子 War Zone - **交**

战地带, 紧张的国际关系