

Listening: True or False. Listen to the radio programme about China's drone industry and answer the questions T for True and F for False.

China Develops Its Drone Industry



1. It is known to use UAV, or unmanned attack vehicle, strikes against non-foreign targets.
2. The United States has never justified drone attacks because other governments have been unwilling to help.
3. One of the Chinese made drones can fly over 32 hundred kilometers.
4. China is seriously considering drone attacks outside its borders.
5. The US government is not clear on the conditions of its drone attacks.
6. China is more active in the international sphere to protect its interests beyond its borders than it has to date.
7. China is also modernizing a global nav. system to compete with other countries around the world.
8. The technology is becoming so cheap, that it is only a matter of time before countries with less responsible regimes, will have this technologies.
9. For years, the United States has been mass producing drones.
10. The US shares its drone technology with its closest allies.
11. The plan was to bomb the drug lord's hideout in northeastern Burma using manned aircraft.
12. China said last week that it had considered launching adrone strike against a major Burmese drug trafficker wanted in the killings of 30 Chinese sailors.
13. The US is having a bad effect on China behavior in the area of UAV attacks.
14. Naw Kham was captured last April in a joint operation with Laos.
15. China has greatly improvised its drone technology.
16. China is moving away from its earlier policy of interference in international affairs.

TRANSCRIPT AND ANSWERS

China said last week that it had considered launching a drone strike against a major Burmese drug trafficker wanted in the killings of [12F] 13 Chinese sailors.

China's top drug official, Liu Yuejin, said the plan was to bomb the drug lord's hideout in northeastern Burma using [11F] unmanned aircraft.

The official said the drone strike idea was eventually passed over in order to capture Naw Kham alive. [14T] He was captured last April in a joint operation with Laos.

The comments by the official are a sign of China's increasing development of unmanned aerial technology. They also suggest that [4T] China is seriously considering drone attacks outside its borders.

Peter Dutton is with the United States Naval War College. He says China is moving away from its earlier policy of [16F] non-interference in international affairs.

"This is a new change. [6T] This is China behaving more actively in the international sphere to protect its interests beyond its borders than it had in the past."

For years, the United States has [9T] led the global drone market. [8F] It is known to use UAV, or unmanned aerial vehicle, strikes against [1F] foreign targets.

In recent years, China has greatly [15F] improved its drone technology. It showed off many of its new models at recent air shows in the country. One of the drones reaches distances of [3T] over 3,200 kilometers.

[7T] The country is also modernizing its global navigation system to compete with those of the United States, Russia and Europe.

[2F] The United States has justified drone strikes in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia by saying their governments have been unwilling or unable to suppress the threats from the individuals targeted.

American University law professor Stephen Vladeck says [5F] Washington needs to be much more specific about its conditions for using armed UAVs.

"Part of the problem is that because the U.S. government is engaged in what seems like so many drone strikes, and has not exactly been forthcoming about the criteria it uses, it's possible for countries like [13T] China to point at the U.S. example and say, 'if they're doing it, so can we.'"

The [10T] United States exports unmanned aircraft to only a few of its closest allies. China is now seen as an increasingly reliable and cheap supplier. Several countries have bought or built their own UAVs, mostly for surveillance. Professor Vladeck finds this concerning.

[8T] "The problem is that this technology is becoming so widely available and so cheap, that I think it is only a matter of time before countries with far smaller militaries, countries with far less responsible regimes, are in a position where they want to use these technologies as well."