



UNAC STATEMENT ON DRONES

The U.S. government uses unmanned aerial vehicles, called Drones, for targeted assassinations in countries with which we are and are not at war, often in civilian areas that result in the deaths of unarmed civilians and the murder of American citizens who are *suspected* of committing crimes, but who *have not been tried and convicted* before a court of law. Extrajudicial targeted killings by Drones are a deliberate use of lethal force in violation of the U.S. and international human rights law.

In the case of military Drone attacks in a war area, the targets of these attacks are decided by military technocrats located in the U.S., who have no experience of direct combat with their targets, and no understanding of the cultural patterns and habits of the civilians that would allow them to differentiate between military targets and civilians engaged in peaceful pursuits. These attacks violate the Geneva Conventions and the UN Treaty and constitute crimes against humanity and they bring U.S. cities into the legally designated war zone.

More typically, when CIA-controlled Drone attacks occur in countries with which we are not at war, these attacks violate the security and integrity of sovereign nations and violate international law, including the UN Treaty and the Kellogg-Briand Pact. The targets of these attacks are decided by secret unaccountable panels and the President with no legal basis, and they are as likely to be unarmed civilians as the attacks in war zones.

Drones are used in the U.S. to support Police and Border patrols and plans are being made to arm at least some of them. Unarmed Predator and Reaper Drones patrolling our borders require military support for operation and were designed to carry bombs and missiles. Use of Drones (which can be tiny and go unnoticed) for surveillance within the U.S., creates an unprecedented violation of privacy to citizens, enhanced by a deadly threat. Congressional pressure on the FAA to rush Drones into the common airspace is dangerous and unjustified.

UNAC makes the following demands:

- We demand that the use of unmanned aerial vehicles, referred to as Drones, by the U.S. Military and the CIA, for purposes of waging war and policing the international community cease immediately.
- We demand that Drone surveillance and Drone support for Police, Border Patrol and Homeland Security within the U.S. be ended immediately.
- We demand that Congress and the FAA ensure the privacy of individuals within the U.S., protect the safety and security of ordinary air traffic and passengers and restrict the use of Drones in the common airspace.
- We demand that Congress and the State Department initiate International Treaties and Laws that directly curtail the exploding proliferation of drones used for spying, war-making and targeted assassinations.
- Furthermore, we demand that the legal cases brought by the families and communities of civilians and U.S. citizens murdered by Drone attacks be given a timely, fair and just hearing under current National and International Law in an open courtroom.