

# SURVEILLANCE DRONES Spying on you!



Surveillance drones are a significant threat to privacy and civil liberties. Some police now use drones to spy on citizens with no warrant or legal process whatsoever. Drones are capable of highly advanced surveillance, and can carry equipment that includes: live-feed video and/or infrared cameras, heat sensors and radar. Some can stay aloft for hours or days at a time, and their high-tech cameras can scan entire cities, or zoom in and read the papers on your desk. These drones can determine your location or intercept your texts and phone calls. They also can carry "less lethal" weapons such as tasers or rubber bullets.



Surveillance drone use in the United States is set to expand rapidly over the next few years. The Federal Aviation Administration recently authorized Hancock Air National Guard Base to operate MQ-9 Reaper surveillance drones in the airspace over the Syracuse region.

Several bills currently going through Congress seek privacy protections for Americans under drone surveillance. Last year the Syracuse City Council passed an Anti-Surveillance Drone Resolution **prohibiting the city's use of unmanned aircraft over Syracuse until privacy concerns have been addressed.** We encourage other municipalities to pass similar resolutions.

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# ATTACK DRONES:

## **Killing the Innocent**

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or DRONES, are being used by the U.S. military and CIA for the targeted killing of people around the world. Between 2004 and 2014, the US conducted over 390 drone attacks in Pakistan alone, **killing over 3,000 people, including 175 children.**

According to the September, 2012, Stanford/NYU report *Living Under Drones*, only 2% of the victims were high-ranking militants or alleged terrorists; **most killed are innocent civilians or noncombatants.** These assassinations without trial take place in six countries, including Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia - countries where the US isn't officially at war.

Drone attacks amount to summary executions violating U.S. and international law. Targets are chosen from a "kill list" and approved by the President in secret meetings. Faulty intelligence, misidentifications and malfunctions are common, and have led to the killing of innocent people.

Drone attacks violate national sovereignty, stoke anti-U.S. sentiment and prompt violent acts of revenge. They don't make us, or the world, safer. Weaponized Reaper drones are piloted by the 174th *Attack Wing* at Hancock Air Base in the Syracuse suburb of Dewitt. Plans



for a similar base are developing in Niagra Falls. **These bases make Central and Western New York part of the war zone.**



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