

We have already been at war longer than any other time in US history. When 70-80% of Americans want to end the wars, what pretext will the government use next? It's time for all of us to demand peace!

Take Action!

- **Learn more.** Check out the resources at Upstate NY Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars: upstatedroneaction.org

- **Write the Syracuse Post-Standard** (letters@Syracuse.com) urging people to oppose the Reaper.

- **Contact our representatives:**

Sen. Schumer 315-423-5471

Sen. Gillibrand 315-448-0470

Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle 315-423-5657

and tell them you don't want the Reaper drone in Upstate New York or anywhere in the U.S. arsenal.

- **Get active with Upstate Drone Action**

Visit our website at upstatedroneaction.org

To join our email list-serve send a message to judith@papillonweb@gmail.com

Join our monthly vigils:

4:15-5 pm the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the main entrance to Hancock Air Base.

Other Upstate NY groups working to Ground the Drones and End the Wars

Broome County Peace Action

The Buffalo Interfaith Peace Network

The Gandhi Institute

Ithaca Catholic Worker

Peace Action & Education of Metro Justice, Rochester

Peace Action of Central New York

The Peace Education Project of Buffalo

Peace Now Ithaca

Veterans for Peace (Buffalo Chapter 128, Ithaca Chap. 038

NYC Chap. 034, Maury Colow Chap. 058 – Woodstock)

Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Ithaca Chapter

Western NY Peace Center



For more information about drones

- Background info: shutdowncreech.blogspot.com
- Upstate NY Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars: upstatedroneaction.org
- Ban Killer Drones: Why ban killer drones? bankillerdrones.org/why-a-ban
- Drone attack victims in Pakistan: pakistanbodycount.org
- Every reported U.S. air strike that has affected civilians since September 11, 2001: ourbombs.com/strikracker
- Drones at Hancock Air National Guard Base: see syracuse.com/drones:

"Drones Transform How America Fights Its Wars," 6/23/11

"Unmanned drones will fly over the Adirondacks," 2/6/11

"Congress might clear airspace for Reaper surveillance drones at Hancock Field in Syracuse," 2/10/11

"Drones from the 174th begin mission in Afghanistan," 12/1/09

"Syracuse Air National Guard at Hancock Field operating Reaper drones," 12/7/09

"FAA airs safety concerns over Hancock drones," 8/15/09

- Info on legal challenges to drone warfare: aclu.org/blog (search on drones)
- *Wired for War: The Robotics Revolution and Conflict in the 21st Century*, P. W. Singer, 2009. 500 page book, interviews with Singer available online.
- "The Predator War: What are the Risks of the C.I.A.'s Covert Drone Program?" Jane Mayer, Oct. 26, 2009 *New Yorker* (available online).

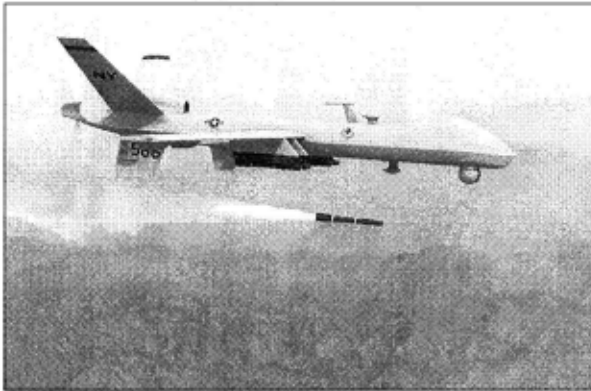
Ground the Drones! Stop the Wars!



Ban Killer Drones

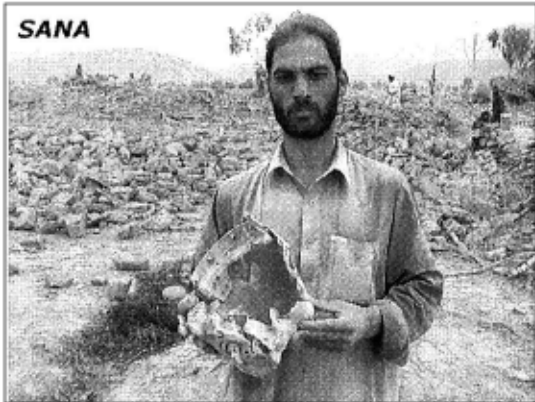
NOW !!

What is a drone?



Predator drone firing missile
<http://dronewarsuk.wordpress.com/aboutdrone/>

Drones are unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) used by the military for surveillance, targeted assassinations, and bombings. Drones are usually controlled by a human operator on the ground, though they can also be programmed to fly fully autonomous missions - with no pilot at all. The operator who makes the decision to launch a missile from the drone can be located thousands of miles away from their victims. The United States has used armed drones in Iraq, Yemen, Afghanistan and Pakistan. A drone's selling point is that no pilot or crew is at risk of being killed or captured if the drone crashes or is shot.



SANA
SANA21-41
N Waziristan: Man showing part of missile fired by US drone killing 12 people including children in Dande Darpa Khel. (SANA PHOTO)

We oppose drones for the following reasons:

1. Drones used in Afghanistan, Pakistan and other countries have killed hundreds of innocent civilians, violating just war principles.
2. Drones violate international and American law on political assassinations.
3. Intelligence used in drone target selection is notoriously unreliable.
4. Killing (by computer command) an unknown person 3000 miles away is morally reprehensible.
5. Such killings, especially of innocent civilians, fuel revenge and therefore terrorism.
6. Drone training in this region poses a risk for civilian aircraft. Technical failures that lead to rogue drones crashing are a risk to all people in this region.
7. Only certain war-profiteering corporations benefit from war. We don't. Wars and military spending take precious resources away from our domestic needs – education, housing, healthcare, infrastructure repair, developing nontoxic energy.
8. Killing by using drones must be seen in the larger context of our belief that war is not the answer to human disagreements. Drones make killing more abstract, impersonal, and antiseptic, so they make killing more "convenient" and war more likely, and must be opposed.
9. A drone arms race is well underway with more than 40 countries developing these weapons. According to the Fellowship of Reconciliation, armed drones have been used by the U.S. military in Afghanistan, Iraq and Yemen, by the CIA in Pakistan, by the UK military in Afghanistan, and by Israel in Gaza.



Hasbunallah Khan, AP
Pakistani children gather near a bloodstained wall after suspected U.S. drones struck a home in Mohammadkhel, Pakistan, last year.

What can Upstate New Yorkers do?

Hancock Air Base, near Syracuse, is the home of the 174th Attack Wing of the NY Air National Guard. The base has become a center of reaper drone activity - it is a training center for drone maintenance technicians, pilots and sensor operators, and pilots stationed there fly missions over Afghanistan. Upstate New York is being brought into the front lines of the wars.

Please join us in saying:

"NO!" to drones,
"NO!" to warfare, &
"YES!" to peace.