

Outside the Wire

Outside the Wire is a 2021 American science fiction action film directed by Mikael Håfström. It stars Anthony Mackie (who also produced) as an android officer who works with a drone pilot (Damson Idris) to stop a global catastrophe. Emily Beecham, Michael Kelly, and Pilou Asbæk also star. The film was released by Netflix on January 15, 2021, and received mixed reviews from critics.

Plot

In 2036, a civil war between pro-Russian insurgents and a resistance movement in Ukraine leads the U.S. to deploy peacekeeping forces after a failed U.N Intervention. During an operation, a team of U.S. Marines and robotic soldiers, called "G.U.M.P."s, are ambushed. Disobeying an order, drone pilot Lt. Thomas Harp deploys a Hellfire missile in a drone strike against a suspected enemy launcher, killing two Marines caught in the kill zone but saving the lead Lieutenant and the remaining 38 Marines who would have been killed by the launcher. As punishment, Harp is redeployed to combat duty at Camp Nathaniel, the U.S. base of operations in Ukraine. Harp is assigned to Capt. Leo, a highly advanced and experimental android super-soldier masquerading as a human officer, a secret known only by Harp and camp commander Col. Eckhart.

Harp and Leo, under the cover of delivering vaccines to a refugee camp, set out on a mission to prevent terrorist Victor Koval from gaining control of a network of Cold War-era nuclear missile silos. On the way, they respond to a reported attack on a friendly aid truck, resulting in a stand-off between the Marines and armed locals. After a G.U.M.P. shoots a local who threw a rock, Leo negotiates a peaceful solution by giving the locals the contents of the aid truck. However, pro-Russian insurgents ambush the locals and Marines, leading to a firefight. This forces Leo and Harp to travel to the refugee camp on foot, while the Marines remain behind to engage the insurgents.

At the refugee compound, Leo and Harp are shot at by an insurgent, who kills some civilians. Leo tortures the insurgent for information, before leaving him to be killed by the gathered mob. Leo and Harp meet their contact Sofiya, a resistance leader. Sofiya leads them to an arms dealer who knows the location of a bank vault containing nuclear launch codes that Koval is looking

Outside the Wire



Official release poster

Directed by	<u>Mikael Håfström</u>
Screenplay by	<u>Rob Yescombe</u> <u>Rowan Athale</u>
Story by	<u>Rob Yescombe</u>
Produced by	<u>Brian Kavanaugh-Jones</u> <u>Anthony Mackie</u> <u>Ben Pugh</u> <u>Erica Steinberg</u> <u>Jason Spire</u> <u>Arash Amel</u>
Starring	<u>Anthony Mackie</u> <u>Damson Idris</u> <u>Emily Beecham</u> <u>Michael Kelly</u> <u>Pilou Asbæk</u>
Cinematography	<u>Michael Bonvillain</u>
Edited by	<u>Rickard Krantz</u>

for. Harp and Leo travel to the bank and are met by Koval's forces, which include several Russian-built G.U.M.P.s. Harp rescues a few of the civilians caught in a crossfire between U.S. and Russian G.U.M.P.s, while Leo retrieves the codes but cannot find Koval. A drone strike called in by Eckhart destroys the bank and several buildings, leading the military command to believe Koval dead and Leo destroyed.

Leo reunites with Harp, and tells him that he has his own plans for the codes, and has been manipulating Harp into helping him evade the eye of military command. He knocks out Harp and leaves him on the side of the road where he is picked up by Sofiya's men. Leo meets with Koval to give him the codes but kills him when Koval refuses to give Leo access to a nuclear missile silo. Harp informs Sofiya and Eckhart of Leo's actions, and they realize that Leo is planning to launch the nuclear missiles to strike the United States, in order to prevent them from fighting more wars in the future. Harp volunteers to infiltrate the silo and finds Leo has taken over. He disables Leo but not before Leo initiates the launch of a missile, explaining that his goal was for the android super-soldier program to end in failure. Harp escapes as the silo is destroyed by a drone strike before the missile can launch, destroying Leo in the process and saving the United States. With his field work now over with, Harp returns to Camp Nathaniel and receives praise from Eckhart, who informs him that he will be returning to his Stateside drone pilot duties.

Music by	<u>Lorne Balfe</u>
Production companies	Automatik Entertainment 42 Films Inspire Entertainment
Distributed by	<u>Netflix</u>
Release date	January 15, 2021
Running time	115 minutes ^[1]
Country	United States
Language	English

Cast

- Anthony Mackie as Leo
- Damson Idris as Thomas Harp
- Enzo Cilenti as Miller
- Emily Beecham as Sofiya
- Henry Garrett as Brydon
- Kristina Tonteri-Young as Bale
- Pilou Asbæk as Victor Koval
- Michael Kelly as Eckhart
- Elliot Edusah as Adam's

Production

The film was announced in June 2019, with Anthony Mackie set to star and produce, and Mikael Håfström to direct.^[2] Damson Idris and Emily Beecham joined the cast the following month.^[3] Michael Kelly and Pilou Asbæk signed on later.^[4] Filming began around Budapest in August 2019, lasting eight weeks.^[5]

Release

Outside the Wire was released by Netflix digitally on January 15, 2021.^{[6][4]} The film was the most-watched on the platform over its debut weekend.^[7] On April 20, 2021, Netflix reported that the film was watched by 66 million households during its first quarter.^[8]

Critical response

On review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes, the film holds an approval rating of 37% based on 90 reviews, with an average rating of 4.9/10. The website's critics consensus reads, "A serviceable sci-fi diversion, *Outside the Wire* packs enough action to keep viewers watching – even if they aren't likely to remember much later."^[9] According to Metacritic, which calculated a weighted average score of 45 out of 100 based on 15 critics, the film received "mixed or average reviews".^[10]

David Ehrlich of IndieWire gave the film a grade of C and wrote that "...the result of [the screenwriters'] efforts is a high-concept slab of 'Netflix movie of the week' sci-fi that wrestles with some big questions about the future of modern warfare via a conceit that borders dangerously close to *Chappie*."^[11]

References

1. "Outside the Wire" (<https://www.netflix.com/title/81074110>). *Netflix*. January 15, 2021. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210111114825/https://www.netflix.com/title/81074110>) from the original on January 11, 2021. Retrieved January 17, 2021.
2. Wiseman, Andreas (June 7, 2019). "Anthony Mackie To Star In Action-Sci-Fi 'Outside The Wire' For Netflix; 'Captain America' Star Will Produce With Automatik & 42" (<https://deadline.com/2019/06/netflix-anthony-mackie-captain-america-avengers-outside-wire-1202628679/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210111235914/https://deadline.com/2019/06/netflix-anthony-mackie-captain-america-avengers-outside-wire-1202628679/>) from the original on January 11, 2021. Retrieved December 13, 2020.
3. N'duka, Amanda (July 17, 2019). "'Snowfall' Star Damson Idris Set As Co-Lead Opposite Anthony Mackie In Netflix Film 'Outside the Wire'; Emily Beecham Also Cast" (<https://deadline.com/2019/07/damson-idris-emily-beecham-anthony-mackie-outside-the-wire-netflix-1202648094/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210112034548/https://deadline.com/2019/07/damson-idris-emily-beecham-anthony-mackie-outside-the-wire-netflix-1202648094/>) from the original on January 12, 2021. Retrieved December 13, 2020.
4. Patches, Matt (December 11, 2020). "Get your first look at Anthony Mackie's new sci-fi thriller, *Outside the Wire*" (<https://www.polygon.com/2020/12/11/22169296/anthony-mackie-outside-the-wire-photos-preview-release>). *Polygon*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210109231830/https://www.polygon.com/2020/12/11/22169296/anthony-mackie-outside-the-wire-photos-preview-release>) from the original on January 9, 2021. Retrieved December 13, 2020.
5. Daniels, Nia (June 26, 2019). "Netflix Sci-Fi Feature to Film in Budapest" (<https://www.kftv.com/news/2019/06/26/netflix-sci-fi-feature-to-film-in-budapest->). *Kemps Film and TV Production Services Handbook*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210112035501/https://www.kftv.com/news/2019/06/26/netflix-sci-fi-feature-to-film-in-budapest->) from the original on January 12, 2021. Retrieved December 13, 2020.
6. @NetflixFilm (December 11, 2020). "A drone pilot (Damson Idris) is sent into a deadly militarized zone and finds himself partnered with an android officer (Anthony Mackie) on a mission to stop a doomsday device. Kick 2021 into action with OUTSIDE THE WIRE, from director Mikael Håfström. On Netflix January 15" (<https://x.com/NetflixFilm/status/1337449870110560257>) (Tweet) – via Twitter.

7. Brueggemann, Tom (January 19, 2021). "'Tenet,' Now at \$5.99, Strong Against PVOD Debut of Tom Hanks in 'News of the World' " (<https://www.indiewire.com/2021/01/tenet-pvod-debut-tom-hanks-in-news-of-the-world-1234609995/>). *IndieWire*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210120185635/https://www.indiewire.com/2021/01/tenet-pvod-debut-tom-hanks-in-news-of-the-world-1234609995/>) from the original on January 20, 2021. Retrieved January 20, 2021.
8. Romano, Nick (2021-04-21). "'Outside the Wire' and 'Fate: The Winx Saga' top most-watched Netflix movies and TV shows of the year" (<https://ew.com/movies/outside-the-wire-fate-the-winx-saga-most-watched-netflix-movies-tv-shows/>). *EW.com*. Retrieved 2021-04-27.
9. "'Outside the Wire (2021)'" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/outside_the_wire). *Rotten Tomatoes*. *Fandango*. Retrieved November 29, 2022.
10. "'Outside the Wire' Reviews" (<https://www.metacritic.com/movie/outside-the-wire>). *Metacritic*. *Red Ventures*. Retrieved January 20, 2021.
11. Ehrlich, David (January 15, 2021). "'Outside the Wire' Review: Anthony Mackie Is an Android Soldier in Netflix's Silly Future 'Training Day' " (<https://www.indiewire.com/2021/01/outside-the-wire-review-netflix-1234609669/>). *IndieWire*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210116160025/https://www.indiewire.com/2021/01/outside-the-wire-review-netflix-1234609669/>) from the original on January 16, 2021. Retrieved January 15, 2021.

External links

- *Outside the Wire* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10451914/>) at IMDb
-

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Outside_the_Wire&oldid=1213200401"

▪