Advanced Weapon Technology

Terrorists have been increasingly interested in expanding technological capabilities that could be used as more effective weapons. Typical conventional weapons in a terrorist's arsenal may consist of guns and bombs, including car, truck, and suicide bombings.

But devices like drones, which are relatively inexpensive, easy to buy and operate, and can provide anonymity, are becoming popular. Although the U.S. has not yet experienced a drone attack, FBI Director Wray told the U.S. Senate Homeland Security committee that there is a growing risk of this type of terrorist activity.

Organizations use drones for different purposes. Hamas and Hezbollah use drones to survey territory. ISIS uses them to collect intelligence, but the group also can use drones with IEDs and bombs. The organization first experimented with this type of technology in October 2016, when it attached a bomb to a drone which detonated upon being picked up, resulting in the death of 2 Kurdish soldiers. Later, ISIS developed a grenade-drop mechanism on drones.

In addition to drones, terrorists' possession of missiles is concerning. Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, which the U.S. designated as a terrorist organization, has a collection of ballistic missiles. But equally worrisome are man-portable air defense systems (MANPADS). These weapons, which are meant to strike planes flying at low altitudes, can be transported by one person, making them easy to smuggle and hide. It is possible that several terrorist organizations possess MANPADS. For example, Al-Qaeda is suspected of having many after thousands went missing in Libya in the early 2010s.

The international community is also concerned that terrorists are exploiting artificial intelligence (AI) and obtaining weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). Terrorists could use AI in numerous ways, such as mapping social networks and automating attacks. As barriers to entry for AI decrease with more people possessing knowledge and skills and tools becoming easier to use, increased competition among terrorist groups is likely.

Additionally, the threat terrorists armed with WMDs has lingered for years. ISIS has been known to use chemical weapons, such as sulfur mustard which it first used in an attack in August 2015. Compared to states, the use of chemical weapons by terrorist organizations remains virtually insignificant, but the greater threat lies in a group being able to seize unsecured arsenals or create dangerous compounds.

Source: American security project.

Posted By Cat Cronin on Jun 20, 2019.

Name: _____. Sec: _____. Id# _____ Date: _____

How can we stop the supplies of modern weapons to
terrorists?_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

What policies should be enforced to all the airports and public transports for security
purpose?_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

How can we all raise the awareness against terrorism and follow the rule," if you see something, say

something."_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____