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Table of Contents

Section A.....	3
Question 1	3
Answer	3
Introduction	3
Main Body	3
Risk Management tools and their use in the prevention of terrorism and problems related to them	3
Conclusion.....	7
Part A References	8
Section B	11
Question 2	11
Answer	11
Introduction	11
Main Body	11
Describing the Importance of drones in counter-terrorism	11
Evaluating the existing technologies that have been used in drones for counter-terrorism ..	13
Discussing how the use of military drones has changed counter-terrorism	15
Conclusion.....	16
Part B References.....	17

Section A

Question 1

“Do radicalisation risk assessment tools help prevent terrorism or are they inherently problematic?”

Answer

Introduction

Risk assessment has been recognised as an effective process of identifying potential risks and collecting information about potential risks and interpreting strategies to deal with the risks. On the other hand, risk assessment tools have been designed to assess the risk of radical violence and extremism. These tools have contained multiple indicators to identify the risk level of potential violence or the extent of extremism in an individual. Besides this, it has been observed that there are several risk assessment tools however some significantly relevant tools are “*VERA-2R*”, “*ERG 22+*”, “*SQAT*”, “*IR46*”, “*RRAP*”, “*Raderr*”, and “*VAF*”. These effective risk assessment tools have been developed by following four basic risk assessment approaches which are “*Unstructured Clinical Judgement*”, “*Structured Professional Judgement (SPJ)*”, “*The Actuarial Method*” and “*self-assessment questionnaire*”. In addition, these approaches have promoted effective implementations of risk assessment tools to prevent terrorism from the world.

Main Body

Risk Management tools and their use in the prevention of terrorism and problems related to them

The “Violent Extremist Risk Assessment” tool has been promoted first which helps to identify violent extremism. As per the views of Stern *et al.* (2022), the VERA has been created to mitigate the assessment process of violence proposed by radical individuals. This risk assessment tool has been developed from existing knowledge about violent terrorists who are ideologically driven. However, Garcia and Davidov-Pardo (2021) have suggested that the VERA-2 has been formed by using users’ feedback. Besides this, it has been observed that the VERA-2R is the updated version of the VERA-2. This new updated version has included additional indicators which help to determine criminal as well as personal history and mental disorders of individuals. As opined by Vuković (2022), “*National Security Analysts*” and “*Forensic Mental Health experts*” have been using the “VERA-2R” to develop risk management strategies and collect

information about the likelihood of radical actions of extremists. Moreover, it has been observed that this tool has helped users to monitor the risk trajectories and to gather information about early release decisions regarding terrorism. On a contrary note, Logan and Lloyd (2019) have opined that this tool has required effective training to utilise properly. In addition, “the VERA-2R” has been effectively used in Canada and Netherlands. This risk assessment tool has provided satisfying results and created fewer problems than other risk management tools.

Extremism Risk Guidelines (ERG22+) and the VERA-2R have an overlap of multiple indicators and both of the tools have been developed using the SPJ method. As per the views of Wolfowicz *et al.* (2020), ERG22+ has been focused on risk as well as protective factors to improve risk assessment methods. On the other hand, it has been observed that the ERG22+ tool has been developed to focus primarily on casework rather than literary works. However, Augestad Knudsen (2020) has provided that this risk assessment tool has incorporated “**20 cases**” of convicted radical offenders in the UK. The tool has also included 22 risk factors which have been incorporated into the tool from additional casework and user feedback. Besides this, the tool has promoted the analysis of convicted extremists and their behavioural aspects to provide protective measures for future terrorist attacks. On a contrary note, Clemmow *et al.* (2020) have opined that the tool has also required special training for users to effectively implement and derive valuable risk indicators from it. In addition, this tool has been effectively used by the “National Offender Management System” of the UK. As per the views of Benami *et al.* (2021), risk assessment tools are highly important to identify individual risk assessment processes. This tool has also helped to provide proportionate risk management strategies by increasing confidence among front-line staff. This tool has been incorporating a better understanding of the risk factors involved in convicted radical terrorism which promotes positive results despite providing problems in implementation processes.

The Significant Quest Assessment Test (SQAT) has been recognised as one of the vital risk management tools which have not been incorporated from the SPJ method. As per the views of Hassan *et al.* (2022), the SQAT tool has incorporated the self-questionnaire method to measure the degree of radicalisation of detainees. Moreover, it has been found that the tool has promoted the 3-N approach and includes 66 questions divided into three scales of the 3-N approach which are “**network**”, “**needs**”, and “**narrative**”. This tool has focused on the idea that any radical activist promotes extremist behaviour due to their psychological condition which has been

influenced by social recognition. However, Abbasi *et al.* (2021) have suggested that the tool has failed to provide a significant as well as substantial amount of knowledge regarding the “network” aspect of the 3-N approach. This lack of knowledge has been influenced by the extremely radical point-of-views of terrorists and their mindset of not providing information about other potential suspects. Furthermore, it has been observed that the tool has been evaluating the answers of detainees and providing an understanding of the “**overall risk level**” of an individual. The SQAT risk management tool has been providing answers to the questions such as “what is the personal significance of terrorism”, “which ideological aspects have been promoting these behaviours” and “how lack of social recognition can promote extremism”. On the other hand, Zulfiqar and Prasad (2021) have promoted that the tool has promoted difficulties regarding the framing of the questions and that inappropriate questions can negatively affect the effectiveness of the process. In addition, this tool is quite problematic to implement and takes more time than other effective tools.

The Islamic Radicalisation model 46 (IR 46) has been also recognised as one of the effective models which promote the prevention of extreme radicalisation. As mentioned by Breidlid (2021), this tool has helped intelligence organisations and police to identify signals from Islamic radicalisation at the initial stage. This risk management tool has been developed from International Literature Reviews, case studies and interviews with experts. On the other hand, Shi *et al.* (2020) have provided that this tool has incorporated four stages and provides 46 indicators which are also been divided into nine sections. These factors have been creating problems while developing an effective “IR 46” model which can help to provide accurate signals regarding potential extremism from Islamic radicalisation. The tool has promoted the effective use of indicators in the process of identifying regional radicalisation and potential risks of extremist activities. As per the views of Kumar *et al.* (2021), the “IR 46” tool has provided flexibility which can be helpful for professionals to change its indicators according to the requirement. Besides this, the tool has also promoted the use of “gut feelings” of police and intelligence agencies and made changes to the indicators of the tool. On a contrary note, Goel *et al.* (2021) have opined that this tool has not relied on the objective point-of-view of the collected information which lacks the predictability and accuracy of the identification of potential threats. In addition, the effectiveness of this tool has been very high which promotes the negligence of the heretical problems in the implementation process of the tool.

The Radicalisation Risk Assessment in Prisons (RRAP) has been specifically designed to enhance probation settings in prisons. As per the views of Sumpter (2020), the RRAP risk assessment tool has been effectively used in prisons to identify potential terrorist activities and the tool has been highly effective in general prisons. This tool has focused on the potential vulnerability and risk in general prisons rather than convicted prisons. As mentioned by Dudenhoefer *et al.* (2021), the RRAP has provided an effective signalling technique to alert prison staff to potential radical activities. Furthermore, it has been observed that the tool has incorporated 36 indicators which are divided into 9 sections and each section has been measured by a scale of “severity”. This technique has helped prison staff ³ to understand the level of risk on the prison premises and promote effective strategies to eliminate those risks. On a contrary note, González-Ortega *et al.* (2021) have promoted that the assessment of the risk has been dependent on a decision-maker which can lead to the incorporation of inaccurate analysis or strategic decision regarding a potential risk. Moreover, it has been found that the tool has also utilised three risk management instruments which are “Frontline Behavioural Observation Guidelines”, “Individual Radicalisation Screening”, and “Critical Incidents Readiness Assessment”. These three risk instruments have helped prison staff to identify potential threats by effectively screening and monitoring the behaviours of the prisoners. However, Eaglin (2019) has suggested that the tool does not focus on convicted prisoners which is the primary disadvantage of this tool. In addition, this tool has been effectively implemented in the prisons of Portugal where the tool has been promoting emotional, cognitive and behavioural aspects of the prisoners. As mentioned by van Haastrecht *et al.* (2021), risk assessment tools have been used not only to provide an overview but also to provide guidelines for tackling potential terrorist violence. The effectiveness of this tool has not been very significantly high as the process inherits the role of a decision maker who has been misjudging the signals of the tools and often promotes wrong strategies.

Rader r”, and “**VAF** is measured as a risk assessment tool that helps to identify the risk and the authority can make the decision to make the solution as per the selected tool. VAF is an important tool that addresses threats of a particular situation by identifying the frequency. In one word it can be said that VAF is identifying the particular frequency for analysing the problem. **Variant allele frequency (VAF)** is matching the specific as well as the similar DNA to identify the issues that are impacting the human body (Mcdougall *et al.* 2020). The oncology department is using

this VAF method to identify the same type of DNA variant. On the other hand, VAF is calculated as the risk assessment tool for the human body and identifies the risk of the human body

On the other hand, Radar r is used to monitor the overall work process of the Diptera, ecosystem services, ***plant–pollinator network***. In the case of the above-mentioned subject, it has been observed that Radar r is mainly focusing on the working process and this factor helps to identify the issues that have been observed to create the difficulties. Therefore, Radar r is playing a vital role in detecting challenges in the case of an upcoming threat (Hall *et al.* 2022). An effective network system is required to monitor the overall process that has been observed for identifying the issues in military organisation

Military organisations, as well as the defence section, are using this technology to monitor air activity by analysing the frequency. Therefore, this activity can easily mitigate the risk of air crashes. Network company is also using Radar to detect upcoming threats.. Environmental conditions are also easily detected by this Radar r technology and it is a crucial factor that helps a group mitigate risk (Robinson-Miles *et al.* 2019). Therefore, Radar r technology is used in various aspects to detect the problem in aircraft in the shipping section Radar r ***technology is used to identify the nature of the environment***. In that case, Radar r technology is used in the environmental sector for forecasting the weather. Therefore, organisational productivity can also be maintained with the help of this Radar technology.

VAF is a computerised tool that is used by the organisation to detect the issues and the threat that is hampering the computer system. Therefore, this tool is mainly used by the military as well as the defence group to detect the virus attack from the terrorist organisation, in addition, anti-terrorist activity can be mitigated with the help of this particular tool (Zhongming *et al.* 2020). Cyber attacks are prevented by developing a strong firewall with the help of this VAF tool.

Conclusion

Rader r is evaluating the channel programming and the vernalizes for devolving a better network. Most airline companies are using the Radar for detecting frequency. Therefore, based on the above analysis RaderR and VAF is playing an important role in better development.

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Section B

Question 2

"Has the use of drones change counter-terrorism for the better?"

Answer

Introduction

Counter-terrorism refers to the activities that are prominent in preventing terrorist attacks. ⁵ A drone is an aerial vehicle that can be used remotely by using its software for autonomous flight. Moreover, it has the ability to click high-quality images from long distances. There are four kinds of drones such as ¹ fixed-wing drones, single-rotor drones and multi-rotor drones. Accordingly, fixed-wing drones are useful for military operations. Military drones are effective in preventing terrorism. In this context, this study highlights the importance of drones in changing counter-terrorism for the better.

Main Body

Describing the Importance of drones in counter-terrorism

Drone plays an important role in preventing terrorist attacks by providing up-to-date information to military groups. As per the view of Fu *et al.* (2021), the image-capturing ability of drones is beneficial for military groups in preventing attacks. In this context, military groups use fixed-wing drones to monitor the hotspot locations in order to monitor the activities of terrorists regarding further attacks. As per the opinion of Al-Turjman *et al.* (2020), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) help in targeting certain locations. Accordingly, military groups are able to target and decoy the locations of terrorist groups through the monitoring ability of drones. Moreover, the image-capturing ability of drones helps armed forces to simulate the aircraft or missiles of enemy groups.

Information collection is an important factor for military groups in terms of preventing terrorist attacks. As per the study by Ali (2021), the high-resolution camera and software of drones help

the armed forces to collect intelligence from enemy groups. In this context, military groups utilise high-resolution cameras to monitor enemy locations to understand their tactics for further attacks. Similarly, it helps armed forces to make strategies by understanding their tactics previously. In history, various attacks have been prevented by using the advanced software of drones. For instance, 62 terrorist attacks were stopped in the UK by utilising drones in the year 2020 (Statista.com, 2023). Moreover, drones are effective in eliminating high-value targets from a long distance through intelligence collection. Thus, it can be said that drones are useful in providing information on enemy groups through monitoring abilities.

Armed forces utilise drone software in different types of missions in terms of preventing terrorist attacks. In this context, there are majorly four types of missions such as target and decoy, Reconnaissance, logistics and combat (Netivist.org, 2023). Accordingly, armed forces use the high-resolution camera of drones in order to target and decoy an aeroplane or missile of enemy groups for preventing terrorist attacks. Moreover, reconnaissance is a necessary mission for armed forces in terms of preventing terrorism through gathering important information from enemy groups. As commented by Nassiet *al.* (20199), drones are useful in delivering cargo in hotspot areas of terrorism. In this context, military groups utilise drones for monitoring hotspot locations to deliver military equipment properly. In the year 2018, Venezuelan President Maduro stopped the landing of explosives by terrorist groups with the help of two GPS-guided drones (Ausa.org, 2023). It signifies that drones are also beneficial in tracking the locations of explosives in order to prevent a terrorist attack. Hence, it can be said that the utilisation of drones is essential for preventing the delivery of explosives by terrorist groups.

Combat operations can be taken into consideration as high-value operations for armed forces for preventing terrorism. As opined by Alharthiet *al.* (2019), the ultra-detecting software of drones helps military groups to plan combat operations in high-risk locations. In this context, military groups are able to collect information from drones in terms of planning combat operations. Accordingly, the information helps military groups for tracking the haunts of terrorists. As highlighted by Palavenis (2022), armed forces use drones to command and control combat operations. Similarly, the fixed-wing drone allows armed forces to make plans and procedures to eliminate the haunts of terrorists through conducting surveillance missions over an area. Accordingly, the conduction surveillance mission is effective in guiding the planes of military

groups for eliminating the haunts of terrorists. Therefore, the surveillance mission of drones is important to prevent a terrorist attack in a large region.

Drones are useful in supporting land force operations by providing information and target acquisition ability. As per the observation of Borg (2020), armed force groups utilise the ultramagnetic software of drones for target acquisition in land force operations. In this context, military groups use fixed-wing drones to conduct undercover operations in terrorist zones. Accordingly, it helps the military groups by providing up-to-date information about the zones. Similarly, the utilisation of drones is prominent in combat operations to track the location of terrorists in night operations. As opined by Kurmashevet *al.* (2022), the optoelectronic technology of drones helps in detecting the locations of terrorists at night. Therefore, it can be highlighted that drones are beneficial for armed force groups for conducting night operations to prevent high-risk terrorist activities.

Drones help in providing crucial information to armed force groups about the movement of enemies and strategic positions for conducting plans and procedures to prevent the movements. As highlighted by Thong (2020), remotely controlled drones allow military groups to strike targets on enemies or their haunts without risking the life of any military persons. On the other hand, military drones can be used for saving the lives of military persons from hotspot locations. Moreover, armed forces utilise the software's of drones to access real-time data on military groups for better counter-terrorism.

Evaluating the existing technologies that have been used in drones for counter-terrorism

Technologies are the major reason for preventing terrorism through drones. As per the view of Chen *et al.* (2022), there are various kinds of technologies in drones such as wireless communications, optoelectronics, inertial navigation system, global navigation satellite system, connectors and social cells. In this context, wireless communication helps military groups communicate with others via drones in combat operations. Accordingly, wireless communication software helps military groups to gain information on enemy movements through communications in terms of demolishing terrorist activities. Moreover, wireless communication reduces the risk of obtaining false information or unclear information regarding the haunts of terrorists.

Optoelectronic technology is an important emerging technology that helps armed force groups in detecting objects at night. As commented by Martini *et al.* (2020), optoelectronic technology helps in detecting and controlling lights in a land force area. In this context, armed force groups utilise optoelectronic technology for determining the locations of explosives in terrorist haunts. For instance, the UK military force uses Desert Hawk-III to detect explosives in the land force area through optoelectronic technology (Iwm.org.uk, 2023). On the other hand, optoelectronic technology is effective in night operations that military forces use to demolish terrorist attacks. Thus, it can be highlighted that optoelectronic technology enhances the service of drones in preventing terror attacks in different regions.

Photonics is another important technology for the armed forces in stopping terrorist movements through advanced drones. As opined by Bae *et al.* (2021), photonics technology in drones has the ability to click clear images from a long-distance area. In this context, military groups utilise photonics technology to gain images of enemy groups in a terrorist area. On the other hand, photonics technology is able to detect ultrasonic sounds with an object that helps in demolishing terrorist activities. Moreover, photonics helps in identifying mini explosives from a long distance through its high-resolution camera that allows military groups to plan for preventing attacks.

Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Solar Cells are one of the major technologies of drones that are used for high-absorption energy. As per the study by Diaz and Calusdian (2022), military groups use the technology of Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Solar Cells in drones to manage combat operations in highly energetic areas. It is easy to create surveillance in an area for a long-term period with the Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Solar Cells technology in drones. For instance, the Black Hornet and Scan Eagle drones of the UK military force help in monitoring enemy haunts for a long time period through Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Solar Cell technology (Parliament.uk, 2023). Hence, it can be observed that Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Solar Cell technology is beneficial in preventing terrorism through monitoring a land force area positively.

Actuators or connectors are another essential technology of drones that helps in producing a motion in the parts of drones. As per the opinion of Zheng *et al.* (2021), connectors have the ability in converting energy and signals in the system by producing motion. In this context, the technology helps to move the parts of drones that armed forces utilise in monitoring terrorist areas properly. Accordingly, the monitoring techniques of connectors are useful in the combat operations of military forces to acquire the targets of terrorists properly. Moreover, it is

beneficial to decoy any kind of craft or missile of terrorist groups by monitoring the area properly.

Discussing how the use of military drones has changed counter-terrorism

Drones can surveillance before the mission starts and mitigate the attacks by surveillance of terrorist activity. Aerial Drone can help the military group to monitor the overall activity in a particular region and action can be taken as per the militant activity. Nowadays drones are playing a vital role in surveillance of the terrorist movement.

Most of cases it has been observed that drones are used for *counter-terrorism operations* by *providing their information to the military head*. The military head is making the plan as per the information that has been taken from the military surveillance drones. Therefore, it can be stated that this is the most important factor that has been used by military groups to minimise terrorist attacks. *“Ground control stations (GCS)”* are monitoring their overall drone activity the video captured with the help of this military drone's camera (Tin *et al.* 2021). Therefore, from the above discussion, it can be stated that terrorist operations can be easily mitigated with the help of this drone *camera by taking videos, pictures and live location updates*. Therefore, based on the above discussion a nation or a military group is operating the drone's camera to monitor the illegal activity of the nation.

Searching and rescue are vital works that are performed by the military group with the help of military drones. Therefore it can be stated that this is the most important work that has been fulfilled by the drone.

Drones are used for intelligence activity, surveillance, target acquisition, and “reconnaissance”. This activity is performed by the military with help of the drone activity and in the case of *target acquisition* it has been observed that at first the target is identified with the help of this drone camera and after fixing the target the military takes the action towards the particular activity (Bury, 2022). As a result of this, it can be said the target selection process can be easily maintained with Bury's help of these drone cameras. In addition, is the most crucial factor that helps a military group to prevent terrorist activity,

High-definition cameras are installed in the drones for taking pictures from a long distance. The pictures and the video are of effective quality due to the drone installation of the HD camera ones. Therefore, it can be stated that terrorists can be easily identified through HD drones and

action can be taken allocation *recording to the videography* (Kendall *et al.* 2021). On the other hand, it can be stated that, in war, condition drones help the military group the war success. Drones are searching for a possible hazard that has been an obstacle for the military group. Additional hazards can be mitigated with the help of this drone photoshoot. Furthermore, the possible threat can be easily identified by the drone camera and action can be taken as per the condition.” *The combat power of ground troops* can help the military group identify the threats. This power ground troop can help to identify the upcoming threat for the military group and the military group is taking the action as per the situation requires.

Conclusion

On a concluding note, it can be said that Drones are effective for preventing terrorism. Drones are effective in monitoring larger locations in a short time which is a beneficial factor in counter-terrorism. It is easy to understand from the study that the utilisation of drones is effective for military groups in preventing terrorist attacks in different regions. The emerging technologies of drones are effective in developing the counter-terrorism service. Moreover, the emerging technologies helps military groups to monitor a hotspot area for a long time period in order to gather information about terrorist movements. Therefore, it can be highlighted that the introduction of drones has changed the process of preventing terrorism properly for a better future.

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