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UAV NEWS

Iraqi outraged by use of US drones: report

by Staff Writers
Washington (AFP) Jan 29, 2012

Iraqi officials have expressed outrage at the United States' use of a small fleet of surveillance drones to help protect the US embassy, consulates and American personnel in Iraq. The New York Times reported late Sunday.

The newspaper said the State Department began operating some drones in Iraq last year on a trial basis and stepped up their use after the last US troops left the country in December.

The US government plans to take bids for the management of drone operations in Iraq over the next five years, the report said.

The State Department drones carry no weapons and are meant to provide data and images of possible hazards, like public protests or roadblocks, to security forces on the ground, the paper noted. They are much smaller than armed drones.

But the US government needs formal approval from Iraq to use such aircraft there, the paper noted, citing unnamed Iraqi officials.

Such approval may be hard to get given the political tensions between the two countries, The Times said.

A senior American official said negotiations were under way to obtain authorization for the drone operations, but Ali al-Mosawi, a top adviser to Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki; Iraq's national security adviser, Falih al-Fayadh; and the acting minister of interior, Adnan al-Asadi, all said in interviews that they had not been consulted by the Americans, the report said.

"Our sky is our sky, not the USAs sky," Asadi is quoted by the paper as saying.

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**Emanuel S. Lombard** · UCLA/USC

There is something in the culture that fosters a grandiosity of impotent, overblown rhetoric that is really dysfunctional, but so far much to Israel's advantage. Do keep it up!

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**Scott Simpson** · Sydney, Australia

Asadi you are a total dip shit, if the americans didn't pay for that sky your ass wouldn't even have a job at the moment, every time you take a bite of camel just remember who buttered your bread, insolent cocksucker.

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UAV NEWS

Northrop Grumman, U.S. Navy Test Autonomous Aerial Refueling for Unmanned Combat Air System Demonstration

St. Augustine, FL (SPX) Jan 27, 2012

Northrop Grumman and the U.S. Navy have successfully completed a series of flight tests to demonstrate technology that could help extend the operating range and flight duration of future carrier-based unmanned systems. The flight tests, completed Jan. 21 in St. Augustine, proved the functionality of the hardware and software that will enable the X-47B unmanned aircraft to demonstrate auton ... [read more](#)



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