

Glossary: Defense

Autonomous Robots: Robots that can perform tasks without explicit human control.

Ballistic missile: A missile designed to follow a ballistic flight path to deliver one or more warheads, usually nuclear, to a predetermined target.

C-130J Super Hercules: A military transport aircraft produced by the Lockheed Martin that was first introduced into service in 1999. It is a comprehensive update of the C-130 Hercules, a transport aircraft that has been in service since 1957.

Vint Cerf: American computer scientists famous for his role in developing the first commercial email system and the founding of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). He is recognized as one of “the fathers of the Internet.”

F-35 Fighter Jet (Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II): A fighter jet designed and built by Lockheed Martin. It is expected to enter service by 2015. There are three variants—the F-35A, F-35B and F-35C—all of which are designed with different combat missions in mind.

Huawei Technologies: A Chinese multinational networking and telecommunications equipment and services company serving 45 of the world’s 50 largest telecoms operators.

Ian Bremmer: Leading political scientist and professor at New York University. Bremmer is the founder and president of the Eurasia Group, a research and consulting firm that assesses global political risk.

Millennial Generation: Also known as Generation Y. It follows Generation X, with birth dates ranging from early 1980s to early 2000s.

Predator Drone (General Atomics MQ-1 Predator): A UAV built by General Atomics originally intended for reconnaissance missions. First used in 1995, it has since been modified for offensive capability, and since 2001 the armed version of the Predator has been the primary offensive UAV used in Afghanistan and Pakistan by the U.S. Air Force and the CIA.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV): Also known as a drone. An aircraft without onboard human pilot, usually controlled by either internal computers or remote human pilots with varying degrees of autonomy. UAVs may be used for civilian, commercial or military purposes.

Unmanned aerial combat vehicle (UCAV): Like UAVs, UCAVs are an aircraft without an onboard human pilot, usually controlled by either internal computers or remote human pilots with varying degrees of autonomy.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS): Includes ground stations and other elements beyond the actual aircraft.

U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM): A sub-unified command subordinate to the United States Strategic Command, itself a part of the United States Department of Defense. It is tasked with commanding cyberspace operations and defending military networks.

X-47 (Northrop Grumman X-47B): An unmanned combat air vehicle (UCAV) produced by the Northrop Grumman company used primarily by the United States Navy. The X-47 is currently in a test phase and is expected to enter service by 2019.

3D Printing: Also known additive manufacturing. The process of making three dimensional solid objects from a digital model. Various 3D printing techniques have utilized mediums ranging from metals to human tissue.