



Written by [Joe Wolverton, II, J.D.](#) on May 30, 2012

## President Obama Readies the Sale of Drone Ordnance to Italy

President Obama will soon apprise Congress of his [plan to supply arms with which to equip American-made Italian drones](#).

The current occupant of the White House has a fondness for remote control killing and it seems his fascination has prompted him to extend the range of these unmanned airborne assassins to the European mainland and beyond.



According to a [story printed by Reuters](#), “within two weeks” the Obama administration will proceed with the arming of the American-made drones already sold to Italy. Italy will then join the United Kingdom in deploying the remote control weapons loaded with “laser-guided bombs and Hellfire missiles.”

Until the sale of the weaponry is complete, Italy’s reported arsenal of six [MQ-9 Reaper](#) drones sit unarmed and thus useless to the President and his global allies who remain committed to avoiding the tedium of trials of those suspected of threatening international security.

The cost of mounting these sophisticated weapons to the Italian drones runs about \$17 million, money that can then be redistributed into accounts funding the cost of policing the globe and protecting the “homeland.”

Reports indicate that West Wing water carriers already have made the trip up Capitol Hill to bring key congressmen up to speed on the President’s ramp-up of the remote control drones we have sold to Italy.

In its report on the impending weaponizing of Italy’s inventory of drones with American ordnance, the [Wall Street Journal indicates](#) that the consultations between the Executive and Legislative branches are progressing speedily and without apparent obstruction:

The administration gave Congress a longer-than-usual 40 days to review the proposed sale. The period ended May 27 without a move to block the sale, according to congressional officials, clearing the way for the deal to move forward and for a formal notification of Congress as soon as this week.

Congress still could block the sale if it passes a joint resolution of disapproval in both the House and the Senate within 15 calendar days, though several members of Congress from both parties say such a move is unlikely.

Now that the National Defense Authorization Act has designated the United States as an active theatre in the interminable War on Terror, it’s about time Europe be officially tagged, as well. The sale of drone weapons to Italy (and previously to Britain) is likely just the first of many such deadly deals to be made with other regimes clamoring to join the clique of countries with the capacity to eliminate enemies with the push of a button.

In fact, Reuters reckons that the delivery of drone weapons to Italy will facilitate similar transactions



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with “the other members of the 28-country NATO alliance or by close U.S. partners such as South Korea, Japan and Australia....”

“I think that if you sell armed drones to Italy, you will very likely make a decision that any member of NATO that wants them can also get them,” said a former congressional staff member as quoted in [the Reuters piece](#).

Anyone at all familiar with the zero-sum game that is post-Cold War realpolitik will readily recognize the likelihood that the distribution of these newly empowered drones will spark similar sales by those countries outside the “coalition,” namely: “Israel, Russia and China.”

Membership in this decades-old, though constantly shifting “coalition” is reportedly what greased the skids for the proposed sale of bombs to arm Italian drones.

Witness this comment from the Reuters report:

The State Department does not comment on proposed sales of U.S. military hardware until formal notifications have been completed. But a State Department official described Italy as a strong NATO ally which contributes significantly to coalition operations.

“The transfer of U.S. defense articles and service to allies like Italy enables us to work together more effectively to meet shared security challenges,” said the official, who declined to be named.

Yes, security. It is the freedom and civil liberties of Americans that is the now common sacrificial lamb tied to the altar of security. The Constitution is shredded and used as kindling in the fires that consume the blood offering. When safety is “secured,” due process and other judicial protections are then stripped and prepped for surrender to the gods of globalism.

In the post-NDAA era into which the United States has now entered, the government has assumed all power over life and death and has passed law after law and innumerable volumes of regulations that legalize that usurpation. In this nation today, every man, woman, and child (including unborn children) is required by force of law to appeal to the ultimate arbiter of the right to life for their continuing existence. Should they fail to adequately demonstrate the requisite level of obsequiousness, their life, liberty, and property may be confiscated without recourse and seemingly without remorse on the part of those carrying out the sentence.

To that end, a couple of recently published articles in the [New York Times](#) and [Newsweek](#) reveal, “key tenets of the Obama administration’s counterterrorism policy”:

(1) a policy seen as violating the law can be made to seem legal by shaping the law to give it proper justification (2) if it seems illegal, rewrite terminology so that the policy is now legal (3) anyone killed is likely a militant or terrorist because the US killed them (4) the president must have many options available when dealing with terror suspects so that he can appear to be pragmatic; (5) the president is willing to sign off personally on the executions because he believes he is taking a measured approach to ordering the killings and it is the moral thing to do.

This scheme creates a codification of the conversion of the President (and key intelligence community advisors) into the judge, jury, and executioner of those suspected of defying the unassailable executive will.

Weekly this Star Chamber convenes in the White House to “pore over terrorist suspects’ biographies and recommend to the president who should be the next to die.” In order to prioritize the placement of names on this proscription list, the council considers “the infeasibility of capture, the certainty of the



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intelligence base, the imminence of the threat.”

Finally, designated members then conduct PowerPoint presentations aimed at aiding the President in the making of the difficult “due process or no due process” decision that is his sole prerogative.

The implications of such a scenario becoming the accepted American method of justice were discussed in [a recent article](#) by Kevin Gosztola:

The likelihood of people who are innocent being eliminated is amplified by the fact that it is the president, who is making the decision. His credibility, his integrity and his re-election and ability to get things done is dependent on not making a mistake and letting someone go that just might pose a threat later on down the road. Someone with that sort of emotional stake in deciding whether a suspect is executed should not be considered a fair arbiter of justice.

Now that Congress [has consented to allowing local authorities to fill the skies with their own fleet of drones](#), the likelihood of death by “friendly fire” of some law-abiding American citizen makes the proliferation of this robot army something to be feared and fought.

Lest one doubt the accuracy of the prediction, remember that math doesn’t lie and according to the [Economist](#), drone strikes have increased by 1,200 per cent since 2005. This is equivalent to one strike every four days.



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