

Israeli drones head for Afghanistan

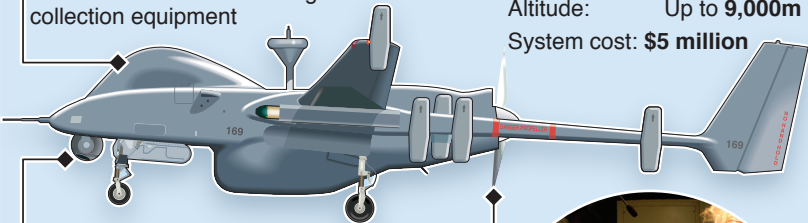
Israel Aerospace Industries is to supply unmanned spy planes to the German air force. The Heron – Israel's largest reconnaissance drone – is to be deployed in northern Afghanistan in early 2010

Heron Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)

Known in Israel as Machatz-1

Payload: 250kg. Can include electro-optical and thermal surveillance equipment, ground surveillance radars or intelligence collection equipment

Length: 8.5m
Wingspan: 16.6m
Maximum speed: 207km/h
Operating range: 3,300km
Endurance: 30 hours
Altitude: Up to 9,000m
System cost: \$5 million



Laser designator

Engine: Rotax 86kW turboprop



Armament: Can carry two Spike-MR missiles

Spike-MR: Range of 200-2,500m.
2.8kg-missile carries 0.45kg explosively formed penetrator (EFP)

Control: UAV can fly missions with operators based thousands of kilometres away

