

Drones arms race underway

State-owned Aviation Industry Corp. of China (AVIC) is exporting combat drones to conflict zones around the world, drawing accusations that it is fuelling an arms race

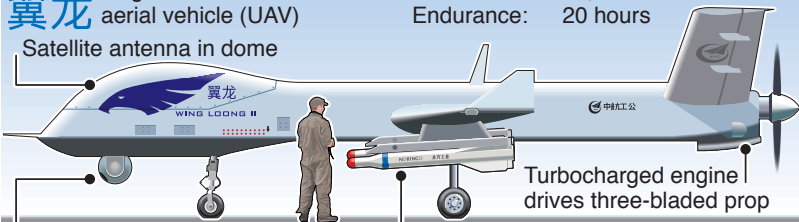


Wing Loong: "Pterodactyl" is medium-altitude, long-endurance unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)

Length: 11 metres
Max speed: 370km/h
Max altitude: 9,000m
Endurance: 20 hours

翼龙

Satellite antenna in dome

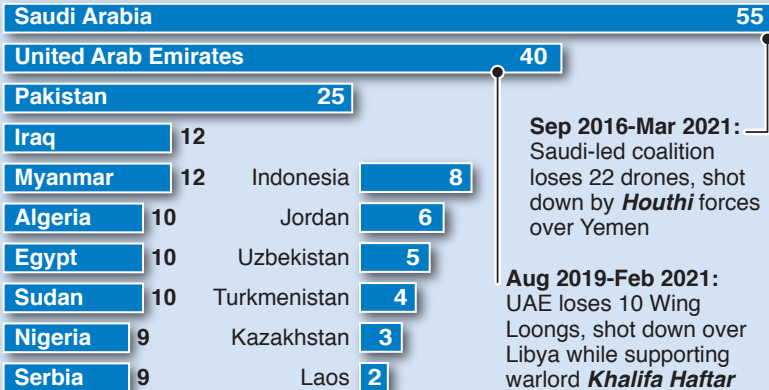


Turbocharged engine drives three-bladed prop

Electro-optical payload pod:
Daylight, infrared cameras, sensors

Weapons: Laser-guided bombs or missiles with total weight of 480kg

China drone sales (2010-2020)



Sep 2016-Mar 2021:

Saudi-led coalition loses 22 drones, shot down by **Houthi** forces over Yemen

Aug 2019-Feb 2021:

UAE loses 10 Wing Loongs, shot down over Libya while supporting warlord **Khalifa Haftar**