



		<b>Sicherheitspolitik Schweiz und Air2030</b>
bulletin-1.ch Dr. Peter Forster 30.12.2021	BISS – “Emotionen wurden unterschätzt”	<p>Strikt militärisch geht die OG beider Basel ihren Auftrag an. Führungsstark und mit beeindruckender Stabsarbeit packt sie das Jahr 2022 an, das stärker noch als 2021 im Zeichen des Kampfes gegen die GSoA und ihre politischen Spiessgesellen steht. In der gut gestalteten Zeitschrift “OG inform” analysiert der Vorstand die Kampfjet-Abstimmung vom 27. September 2020, welche die Armee hauchdünn mit gut 8’000 Stimmen Vorsprung gewann. Die OG Basel schreibt:</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Artikel abrufbar unter: <a href="https://bulletin-1.ch/biss-emotionen-wurden-unterschaetzt/">https://bulletin-1.ch/biss-emotionen-wurden-unterschaetzt/</a>)</i></p>
admin.ch 29.12.2021	Versuch mit neuen Trainingsflugzeiten für die Kampfjets der Schweizer Armee	<p>Die Trainingsflüge der Kampfjets der Schweizer Armee finden von Montag, 3. Januar, bis Donnerstag, 13. Januar 2022, ausnahmsweise zu anderen Uhrzeiten statt: Die Jets fliegen von 10 bis 12 Uhr sowie von 13.30 bis 19.30 Uhr. Nachdem im Januar 2021 ein erster solcher Versuch zu neuen Möglichkeiten der Lärmbegrenzung am Abend stattgefunden hat, will die Armee die Erfahrungen nun konsolidieren. Gleichzeitig sollen die Nachtflugtrainings erhöht werden, die für den permanenten Luftpolizeidienst unumgänglich sind. Neben Payerne ist erstmals auch der Militärflugplatz Meiringen am Versuch beteiligt.</p> <p><i>(Vollständige Medienmitteilung abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.admin.ch/qov/de/start/dokumentation/medienmitteilungen.msg-id-86640.html">https://www.admin.ch/qov/de/start/dokumentation/medienmitteilungen.msg-id-86640.html</a>)</i></p>
weltwoche.ch 25.12.2021	Ob Wilhelm Tell gelebt hat, ist zweitrangig. Wichtig ist, dass er das Problem mit Gessler gelöst hat und warum	«Ein Staat, der nicht (mehr) willens ist, die Rechte und Freiheiten des Individuums bis zum Äussersten zu schützen, braucht keine Polizei, keine Armee und erst recht keine Kampfflieger. Er hat sich aufgegeben. Der Apparat wurde zum Selbstzweck.»
<a href="mailto:info@allianz-sicherheit.ch">info@allianz-sicherheit.ch</a> 23.12.2021	<b>JETZT MITGLIED WERDEN:</b>  <a href="https://allianzsicherheit.ch/mitgliederanmeldung/">https://allianzsicherheit.ch/mitgliederanmeldung/</a>	<p>Liebe Mitglieder und Interessierte</p> <p>Zu Weihnachten geschehen noch Wunder. Dank dem Engagement vieler unserer Mitglieder wurde der Druck auf das SRF aufgebaut. So, dass die Tagesschau doch noch über den finnischen Entscheid, auch den F-35 zu beschaffen, berichtete. Der Einsatz des F-35 von Belgien, Italien, Grossbritannien, Polen, Norwegen, Niederlande, Dänemark, Finnland, Griechenland und der Schweiz machen den F-35 zum europäischsten aller Kampfflugzeuge. Damit entfällt ein wesentliches Argument unserer Gegnerinnen und Gegner endgültig.</p>

		<p>Bemerkenswert ist insbesondere, dass der finnische Beschaffungsentscheid von einer links-grünen Regierung getroffen wurde. Freundliche Grüsse und herzlichen Dank für Ihren Einsatz Allianz Sicherheit Schweiz Ständerat Thierry Burkart Präsident und Marcel Schuler Geschäftsführer</p>
<p>ar.admin.ch 22.12.2021</p>	<p>armafolio 02/2021 Seite 12</p>	<p>Das Magazin armafolio wird von armasuisse, dem Bundesamt für Rüstung, halbjährlich veröffentlicht. armafolio richtet sich an die Mitarbeitenden von armasuisse sowie an Zulieferer und Partner von armasuisse als auch an die interessierte Leserschaft. Das jeweils im Juli und Dezember erscheinende Magazin berichtet aus sämtlichen Themengebieten und Fachbereichen von armasuisse.</p> <p>Seite 12: Fakten und Zahlen zum F-35A Seite 14: Intégration des drones dans l'espace aérien</p> <p><i>(Magazin abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.ar.admin.ch/de/dokumente-und-publikationen/armafolio.html">https://www.ar.admin.ch/de/dokumente-und-publikationen/armafolio.html</a>)</i></p>
<p>admin.ch 20.12.2021</p>	<p>Cyber-Defence Campus: Internationale Kooperation mit dem deutschen Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik</p>	<p>Der Cyber-Defence (CYD) Campus von armasuisse arbeitet erstmalig mit dem deutschen Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (BSI) im Bereich der Cybersicherheit zusammen. Die Zusammenarbeit beinhaltet die Bereitstellung von Open-Source Softwareanwendungen, die es ermöglichen, Sicherheitsempfehlungen in einem für Maschinen verwertbaren Format zu erstellen und zu verwalten. Das Ziel dabei ist, Informationen zu Sicherheitsschwachstellen einfacher austauschen zu können und die Cybersicherheit zu verbessern.</p> <p><i>(Vollständige Medienmitteilung abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.admin.ch/gov/de/start/dokumentation/medienmitteilungen.msg-id-86565.html">https://www.admin.ch/gov/de/start/dokumentation/medienmitteilungen.msg-id-86565.html</a>)</i></p>
<p>srf.ch 18.12.2021</p>	<p>«In Europa will nicht nur die Schweiz den F-35 beschaffen» von Andy Müller</p>	<p>Finnlands links-grüne Regierung will 64 US-Flieger kaufen. Die Linke in der Schweiz will – wenn überhaupt – eine europäische Lösung.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Beitrag abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.srf.ch/news/schweiz/us-modelle-versus-eu-loesungen-in-europa-will-nicht-nur-die-schweiz-den-us-kampffjet-beschaffen">https://www.srf.ch/news/schweiz/us-modelle-versus-eu-loesungen-in-europa-will-nicht-nur-die-schweiz-den-us-kampffjet-beschaffen</a>)</i></p> <p><i>(Tagesschau-Videobericht abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.srf.ch/play/tv/sendung/tagesschau?id=ff969c14-c5a7-44ab-ab72-14d4c9e427a9">https://www.srf.ch/play/tv/sendung/tagesschau?id=ff969c14-c5a7-44ab-ab72-14d4c9e427a9</a>)</i></p>

		<i>(Anmerkung Redaktion: Für einmal eine gute, informative Berichterstattung SRF über den F-35!)</i>
nzz.ch 18.12.2021	«Der F-35 wird zum europäischen Standard» von Georg Häsler	Nach der Schweiz entscheidet sich auch Finnland für den F-35 als neues Kampfflugzeug. Bei allen Unterschieden zwischen den zwei Ländern: Das Schweizer Auswahlverfahren wird damit bestätigt.  <i>(Vollständiger, registrierpflichtiger Artikel abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.nzz.ch/schweiz/der-f-35-wird-zum-europaeischen-standard-ld.1660031">https://www.nzz.ch/schweiz/der-f-35-wird-zum-europaeischen-standard-ld.1660031</a>  oder in der Rubrik «Aktuell/Medienspiegel» von swiss-f35.ch)</i>
vbs.admin.Ch 09.12.2021	«Wir brauchen Pandemiebekämpfung und Luftverteidigung»	Interview: Oliver Thränert und Andreas Wenger, Center for Security Studies (CSS), ETH Zürich. Frau Bundesrätin Viola Amherd beantwortet folgende Fragen zur F-35 Beschaffung: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>° Über die Anschaffung der F-35 und neuer Luftabwehrsysteme hat der Bundesrat erst kürzlich entschieden. Welche innenpolitischen Hürden muss dieses Projekt nun noch nehmen?</li> <li>° Welche Aussichten auf Erfolg hätte eine solche Initiative?</li> <li>° Welche aussenpolitischen Folgen hat der Entscheid für den F-35?</li> <li>° Hätte ein Entscheid für ein europäisches Flugzeug die europapolitischen Verhandlungen erleichtern können?</li> </ul>
vtg.admin.ch 2021-2	VBS/CdA: Stratos 2-21	<b>EIN MUST!</b>  Militärwissenschaftliche Zeitschrift der Schweizer Armee mit folgenden Air2030 Themen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>° «Die Schweiz braucht keine Kampfbomber» von Lic. Phil. Adi Feller, GsoA</li> <li>° «F-35: ein starker Entscheid des Bundesrates – und politisch klug» von Markus Gygax, ehemaliger Kdt der Schweizer Luftwaffe»</li> <li>° «Nouvel avion de combat: quelques considerations politiques” von Dr. Félicien Monnier, pratique le barreau dansle canton de Vaud comme avocat independent</li> </ul> <i>(Broschüre abrufbar unter: <a href="http://www.armee.ch/stratos">www.armee.ch/stratos</a>)</i>
vbs.admin.ch	Air2030 - Broschüre Populärfassung	<b>EIN MUST!</b>  Air2030 - Neue Kampfflugzeuge F-35A und bodengestützte Luftverteidigung Patriot zum Schutz der Schweiz

		(Abrufbar unter: <a href="file:///C:/Users/Standard/Downloads/Air2030_Broschuere_Populaerfassung_d%20(3).pdf">file:///C:/Users/Standard/Downloads/Air2030_Broschuere_Populaerfassung_d%20(3).pdf</a> )
		<b>Luft- und Marineluftstreitkräfte sowie strategische und weitere luftgestützte Einsatzmittel</b>
defbrief.com 30.12.2021	USN: Lockheed nets \$847M order for 105 more F-35 jets	Lockheed Martin has received an \$847 million contract modification from the US Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) for the delivery of an additional 105 F-35 jets. Announced by the US defense department on December 29, the contract increases the scope to procure long lead materials, parts, and components for Lot 17 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft for the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and foreign military sales (FMS) customers. Lockheed Martin will perform work under this order in Texas and other US locations, as well as in Italy, the UK, and Japan. The Pentagon expects the company to complete this batch of work by May 2026.
defenseworld.net 30.12.2021	PAK: Pakistan Orders 25 Chinese J-10C Fighters	Pakistan's Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed confirmed the country's acquisition of 25 J-10C multirole fighters from China.  <i>(Ergänzende Information economictimes.indiatimes.com vom 30.12.2021: The J-10C aircraft were part of the Pak-China joint exercise last year, where experts from Pakistan had the opportunity to have a close look at the fighter jets. The joint exercises started on December 7 in Pakistan and lasted about 20 days, with China sending warplanes including J-10C, J-11B jets, KJ-500 early warning aircraft and Y-8 electronic warfare aircraft, while Pakistan participated with the JF-17 and Mirage III fighter jets.)</i>
airforce-technology.com 29.12.2021	IND: India's LCA Tejas Mark 2 achieves CDR acceptance	India's home grown light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mark 2 has achieved a milestone with the Deputy Chief of Air Staff (DCAS) accepting its comprehensive design review (CDR). DCAS air marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari accepted the CDR for Tejas Mark 2 last month, reported Business Standard. Considered an essential step in designing an aircraft, CDR involves evaluation of the air frame design so that the aircraft gets all set for fabrication and testing processes. With this CDR acceptance, the state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) can start releasing drawings for fabricating the first prototype of LCA Tejas Mark 2.  Meanwhile, HAL and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) agency Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) need to fix a few existing issues in the Mark 1 fighter jet.

<p>globaltimes.cn 29.12.2021</p>	<p>CHN: PLA Naval Aviation University receives Y-9 transport aircraft</p>	<p>The Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Naval Aviation University recently received the Y-9 transport aircraft. Analysts said on Wednesday that this will enable cadets to better learn about the Y-9 before they graduate as they are expected to fly the standard version as well as a wide variety of special mission variants when they enter active service. At least three Y-9 transport aircrafts were delivered to the base, according to the report. With the Y-9 platform, the university can train pilots to fly the base transport aircraft version and special mission aircraft variants developed based on it since they share many basic characteristics, a Chinese military expert who requested anonymity told the Global Times on Wednesday. These could include versions of the aircraft for electronic warfare , anti-submarine warfare, early warning, psychological warfare and medical service, analysts said. China displayed these special mission aircrafts at the National Day military parade on October 1, 2019 in Beijing.</p>
<p>defense.gov 27.12.2021</p>	<p>USN: F-35 variant tailored for an unspecified Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customer</p>	<p>Lockheed Martin Corp. is awarded a \$49,059,494 cost-plus-incentive-fee-contract that provides engineering and other related activities in support of the design and development of a Joint Strike Fighter aircraft variant tailored for an unspecified Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customer. Work is expected to be completed in December 2026.</p> <p><i>(Anmerkung Redaktion: Bei diesem Kunden dürfte es sich um Israel handeln)</i></p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information thedrive.com vom 29.12.2021: More radical changes are embodied in Israel’s one-off test version of its F-35I “Adir,” specially equipped to put the type’s equipment through its paces, including aircraft and weapons trials, avionics integration, and airframe modification and testing. In particular, the Israeli test jet will help with the introduction of Israeli-developed weapons destined for operational F-35Is, expected to include the Rafael SPICE precision-guided bomb, but potentially also air-to-air missiles and other weapons. The operational F-35Is are also adding specific communications and electronic warfare systems, which will be tested locally first. These jets are also distinct from other F-35As thanks to Israel’s ability to install its own distinct mission software and do so independent of the Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS), which also handles plenty of critical mission functions.)</i></p>
<p>defensie.nl 27.12.2021</p>	<p>NLD: Netherlands Declares IOC for F-35 Squadron</p>	<p>The Netherlands Ministry of Defense officially declared Initial Operational Capable (IOC) for the Air Force’s F-35 squadron. “With this we are taking another important step in our transition to a future-proof air force. I expect that on our path to Full Operational Capability we will enter a period of heavy deployment of this wonderful new weapon system. Just as we have seen almost continuous deployment of F-16s over the past 30 years, more is only possible with this ' next level ' fighter aircraft,” commented Commander Air Forces Lieutenant General Dennis Luyt. The military will now be able to deploy a unit of 4 F-35s with personnel and equipment anywhere in the world for a short period of time. Last year the squadron moved from Leeuwarden to Volkel for exercise Frisian Lightning II. The aim was to prepare the unit for a move in the shortest possible</p>

		time. Exercise Frisian Lightning I previously trained the packing and preparation of equipment and spare parts. Similar steps were also taken from Leeuwarden to the United States this year. The Netherlands received the first F-35 at the end of 2019. It is replacing old F-16s by a total of 46 F-35s until the end of 2024.
bulletin-1.ch Dr. Peter Forster 26.12.2021	POL: Polen: F-35 – plus F-16? plus MiG-29?	Bekanntlich beschafft Polens Luftwaffe von Lockheed Martin insgesamt 32 F-35A. Den Zeitplan legte sie bereits fest: 2024 Beginn der Piloten-Ausbildung, zuerst in Texas, dann auch in Polen 2026 Eintreffen der ersten F-35A in Polen. 2028 Erste F-35A-Staffel einsatzbereit. Derzeit verfügt die polnische Luftwaffe über 95 Kampffjets: 22 MiG-29A Fulcrum, 7 MiG-29UB Fulcrum 36 F-16C Block 52+ Fighting Falcon, 12 F-16D Block 52+ Fighting Falcon 12 Su-22M4 Fitter, 6 Su-22UM3K Fitter  <i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar: <a href="https://bulletin-1.ch/polen-f-35-plus-f-16-plus-miq-29/">https://bulletin-1.ch/polen-f-35-plus-f-16-plus-miq-29/</a>)</i>
alert5.com 26.12.2021	JPN: Japan to allocate \$445 million next year for 4 F-35Bs	Japan's cabinet has finalized the defense budget for 2022 and Tokyo will allocate \$445 million to buy four F-35B fighters. Another \$671 million will go towards the purchase of another eight F-35A fighters. To prepare JS Izumo for the operation of F-35Bs, a sum of \$53 million was approved. \$343 million will go towards the program that will develop an extended-range variant of the Type 12 anti-ship missile. For the F-X fighter program, near \$750 million will be allocated. While the F-15SJI will proceed with a huge \$454 million allocation.
norwaytoday.info 23.12.2021	ROU/NOR: Romania wants to buy 32 Norwegian F-16 fighter jets for 454 million kroner	Romania wants to purchase 32 F-16 fighter jets from Norway. The estimated total budget amounts to EUR 454 million, the government stated on Wednesday. "The F-16 aircraft have served the Armed Forces and the nation for over 40 years until they have been replaced by the F-35. I am very pleased that Romania, a NATO ally, wants to buy 32 Norwegian F-16s from us," Minister of Defense Odd-Roger Enoksen (SP) stated. Forsvarsmateriell will now begin to explicate the details and finalize the contract between the nations. Before the planes are handed over to Romania, they are scheduled to undergo maintenance. According to the plan, the first aircraft will be delivered in 2023 and the last in 2024.
flightglobal.com 23.12.2021	USAF: US Air Force to advance stealthy successor for	The US Air Force's (USAF's) Next-Generation Air Dominance (NGAD) fighter remains under wraps, but some clues about capabilities the service wants in the aircraft are surfacing. The sixth-generation fighter aircraft (one full-scale flight demonstrator secretly flew for the first time in 2020) is expected to replace the service's

	F-22	<p>Lockheed Martin F-22 Raptor fleet, starting in the 2030s. Whereas past generations of fighter aircraft relied upon speed and manoeuvrability to defeat foes, it seems the NGAD will lean heavily on stealth characteristics to hide from opponents and on computing power to outsmart them, according to comments from the USAF and likely development partners. NGAD will be a multi-role combat aircraft, but air dominance will be its primary mission, General Charles Brown, USAF chief of staff, told the US House Armed Services Committee in June. He added that the service wants the aircraft to have an increased weapons load and increased range. Greater range would be useful flying across the vast areas of the Indo-Pacific region, Brown said. Greater weapons load would probably be needed in combat against China’s air force, which the Pentagon expects to have a numerical advantage.</p> <p>Winning air battles will require more than a bigger arsenal of missiles. In order to eliminate China’s numerical advantage, each fighter will have to be able to repeatedly find enemy aircraft and fire quickly – again and again.</p> <p>Lockheed, a leading contender to develop the sixth-generation fighter, says new digital technologies will give NGAD “omniscient situational awareness”. That is reminiscent of the “quarterback” role the USAF has given the Lockheed F-35 stealth fighter. That aircraft is increasingly valued by the service for its ability to use its sensors, software and connectivity to survey the battlefield.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Artikel abrufbar unter:</i>  <a href="https://www.flightglobal.com/defence/us-air-force-to-advance-stealthy-successor-for-f-22/146892.article">https://www.flightglobal.com/defence/us-air-force-to-advance-stealthy-successor-for-f-22/146892.article</a><i>)</i></p>
defensenews.com 22.12.2021	IDN: Indonesia gives up on Russian aircraft purchase, instead turning to US and French options	<p>Indonesia has admitted defeat in its attempt to buy Russian fighter jets and will now decide between the Boeing F-15EX Eagle II and the Dassault Rafale, according to the country’s Air Force chief of staff. Speaking to media during a gathering at Halim Perdanakusuma Air Base near the Indonesian capital Jakarta, Air Chief Marshal Fadjar Prasetyo said the Southeast Asian nation is seeking a 4.5-generation mediumweight or heavyweight fighter. He said the narrowing of the choices to the American F-15EX and the French Rafale was made together with the Defense Ministry, adding that Indonesia wants two to three squadrons’ worth of fighter jets, depending on the budget. Prasetyo noted that if Indonesia chooses the F-15EX, deliveries of the multirole fighter could start as early as 2027.</p> <p>Prasetyo also confirmed that it was “with a heavy heart” that Indonesia would abandon its plan to acquire the Sukhoi Su-35 Flanker-E. The country had selected the Russian twin-engine, single-seat fighter in 2015 but never signed a contract for 11 aircraft following negotiations with Russia in 2018. While Indonesia has not explicitly said so, it’s possible its reticence to conclude the Su-35 acquisition was due to concern the move could trigger</p>

		<p>U.S. sanctions under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act. The law was passed by Congress in 2017 and is meant to discourage governments or entities from acquiring weapons as well as military hardware and parts from American adversaries like Iran, North Korea and Russia.</p> <p>Any new fighter will serve alongside Indonesia's existing fleet of refurbished Lockheed Martin F-16C/D Fighting Falcons and Russian Sukhoi Su-27/30 Flankers. The former were previously operated by the U.S. Air Force.</p>
<p>ukdefencejournal.org.uk 21.12.2021</p>	<p>JPN/GBR: Japan and Britain finalising F-X fighter engine development plans</p>	<p>Several government officials have revealed. The government wants to solidify the framework of cooperation by March next year. A prototype will be manufactured from 2026, with the aim of starting flight tests in the 2030s. The UK will participate in the development of the air intake for jet engines and the area near the exhaust. These parts also have importance closely related to the stealth performance of the aircraft and the overall shape. It was also previously reported that Rolls-Royce will partner with Japan's IHI Corporation. The Mitsubishi F-X is a sixth-generation stealth fighter in development for Japan and it is the nation first domestically developed stealth fighter jet. It is hoped that the aircraft will replace the Mitsubishi F-2, a design based on the F-16, by the mid-2030s.</p>
<p>af.mil 21.12.2021</p>	<p>USAF: MacDill AFB named preferred location for next KC-46A Pegasus</p>	<p>The Department of the Air Force selected MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, as the preferred location to host the next active duty KC-46A Pegasus aircraft, Dec. 21. Twenty-four KC-46As will replace active duty KC-135 Stratotankers at MacDill AFB. The new tankers will bring many enhanced capabilities, such as boom and drogue refueling on the same sortie, worldwide navigations and communication, cargo capacity on the entire main deck floor, receiver air refueling, improved force protection, and multi-point air refueling capability.</p>
<p>pib.gov.in 20.12.2021</p>	<p>IND: Tejas</p>	<p>Tejas is not being inducted as a replacement of MIG-21 fighter aircraft, but as a part of modernisation of IAF. Amount spent so far on the manufacture of 24 LCA Tejas delivered till 30.09.2021 is Rs 6,653 crore. Considering the contract with HAL by IAF, a total of 123 Tejas fighter aircraft are to be manufactured. Further production depends upon requirement for Indian Defence Services/export to customers.</p>
<p>jpost.com 20.12.2021</p>	<p>ISR: Israel dropped the ball in KC-46 refuelers saga</p>	<p>Recent reports that Israel may have to wait years before receiving new refueling aircraft are part of a wider pattern indicating how the Jewish state has dropped the ball when it comes to strategic long-term planning. The KC-46A is an advanced refueling aircraft made in the United States by Boeing and is supposed to eventually replace Israel's aging fleet of 707 refuelers, which are essential for long-range missions. The aircraft has a range of over 11,000 km. and Israel may eventually acquire up to eight. So far, a deal signed earlier this year to purchase two planes from the United States. This put it further down the line in orders for the KC-46A, behind</p>

		<p>the US Air Force, Japan and possibly other countries. According to the reports, Israel could wait until 2023 or 2024 until it receives the aircraft.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Bericht abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-689279">https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-689279</a>)</i></p>
<p>ekathimerini.com 20.12.2021</p>	<p>GRC: Revived hopes for buying the F-35 aircraft</p>	<p>The passage by the US Senate of the country's defense budget, including the Menendez-Rubio amendment enhancing defense cooperation with Greece, has revived talk about Greece's possible acquisition of the fifth-generation F-35 stealth multirole combat aircraft. Greece's air force certainly wants the jet, which it considers a necessary upgrade. With the latest program to upgrade 83 of its F-16 fighters to the Viper configuration, air force officers point to enhanced interoperability possibilities with the F-35. Plus, by adding the F-35 to the upgraded F-16 and the Rafale aircraft acquired from France, the air force will dramatically enhance its capabilities and become one of the strongest in the region. Senior air force officers that have seen the F-35's capabilities describe it as the "last manned aircraft," estimating that the sixth generation of multirole aircraft will more likely be unmanned. The main issue is money. But, with 720 F-35 aircraft already delivered, most to European countries, and with even non-NATO countries such as Finland and Switzerland deciding to buy them, it is hoped that the price, now at around \$100 million per unit, will go down. Lockheed Martin managers estimate that Greece can acquire the F-35A, the conventional takeoff and landing variant, for under \$80 million per unit. Greece has already committed €2.5 billion to buy 18 Rafale aircraft and €3.05 billion for three advanced FDI frigates. Exercising the option for six more Rafale and three or four corvettes will cost another €2.5-3 billion. Also, if Greece does decide to buy the F-35, it will be five years before they can become operational and air bases must be upgraded.</p>
<p>asia.nikkei.com 19.12.2021</p>	<p>TWN: Taiwan upgrades F-16 fighters with U.S. stealth-busting radar</p>	<p>Taiwan has upgraded nearly half of its fleet of F-16 fighter jets, the self-ruled island's air force said Thursday, bolstering its defense capability with cooperation from the U.S. despite years of objections from mainland China. Taiwan purchased 141 F-16A/Bs from the U.S. in the 1990s. Sixty-four of them have now been retrofitted to the advanced F-16V Block 20 standard, and the remaining 77 will be upgraded by 2023. The new F-16V possesses more advanced features than the F-16A/B, including a new radar system and the ability to track multiple targets at once.</p> <p>The U.S. agreed to sell 66 F-16V Block 70 fighters -- a more advanced model than the ongoing retrofit project - - to Taiwan. Deliveries are expected to be completed by 2026, expanding Taiwan's F-16 fleet to over 200 aircraft.</p>

dailysabah.com 17.12.2021	TUR: Turkish Navy adds 2 maritime patrol aircraft to its fleet	The Turkish defense industry has delivered two more maritime patrol aircraft P-72 developed under the Meltem-3 project were delivered to the Naval Forces Command (DzKK). Following the delivery of the first maritime patrol aircraft on Dec. 10, 2020, an additional three such aircraft and a general-purpose maritime aircraft were entered into the inventory of the Turkish Navy this year. Turkey had previously used its domestically built maritime patrol aircraft in missions across several regions, including the Black Sea, the Aegean, the Eastern Mediterranean and Libya's coast. With the latest delivery, the number of the P-72 aircraft, which is seen as an important force multiplier for protecting the seas surrounding Turkey, dubbed Blue Homeland, reached four. The last two aircraft to be produced within the project's scope are planned to be completed in 2022.
defense.gov 16.12.2021	USN: E-2D Advanced Hawkeye	Northrop Grumman Systems Corp. is awarded a \$21,477,974 modification to a firm-fixed-price order (N0001921F0064) against a previously issued basic ordering agreement (N0001920G0005). This modification exercises an option to provide installation of five aerial refueling retrofit kits on the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye. Work is expected to be completed in May 2023.
		<b>Hubschrauber und Kipprotor-Flugzeuge</b>
pna.gov.ph 29.12.2021	PHL: Contracts for Black Hawk choppers possibly out by January	Department of National Defense (DND) Secretary Delfin Lorenzana expressed hope that the contracts for the additional 32 Polish-made S-70i "Black Hawk" combat utility helicopters will be finalized and signed by January.
en.yna.co.kr 27.12.2021	KOR: S. Korea plan to locally develop a landing attack helicopter	Also at the virtual committee session, the military approved a basic plan to locally develop a landing attack helicopter under a 450 billion won project that runs from 2022-26. The committee also approved a plan to purchase large military choppers from foreign companies under a project to replace aging CH-47D helicopters currently operated by the Army. The project is to last from 2022-28 with a budget estimated at 1.4 trillion won.
airbus.com 23.12.2021	ESP:	The Spanish Ministries of Defence and Interior have ordered 36 Airbus H135 helicopters. This signature takes place in the context of the stimulus plan activated by the Spanish government to support the industry. The

	Spanish Ministries of Defence and Interior sign for 36 H135s	<p>Ministry of Defence will receive 18 helicopters to be operated by the air force and the navy while the Ministry of Interior will also take delivery of 18 helicopters to be operated by the National Police and the Guardia Civil. The deliveries will start next year. The Spanish Army already operates a fleet of 16 H135 helicopters. With this acquisition, these will be the Spanish Air Force's first H135s and the Spanish Navy's first Airbus Helicopters product. As was the case for the H135s acquired some time ago by the army, the new aircraft for the air force and navy will replace older helicopter models currently used for advanced pilot training. The standardisation of training fleets across the three armed forces will create synergies and lead to the implementation of new and more efficient training and support activities.</p> <p>The Ministry of Interior currently has a fleet of 31 helicopters from the H135 family in operation with the National Police, the Guardia Civil, and Tráfico. The new helicopters will enable the Policía and Guardia Civil to replace the BO105 helicopters in a wide range of missions including law enforcement, surveillance, and rescue activities.</p>
janes.com 23.12.2021	NLD: Netherlands retires CH-47D Chinooks	The Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAf) has retired the last of its Boeing CH-47D Chinook heavy-lift transport helicopters. The service announced the event on 22 December, noting that after more than 25 years of CH-47D operations, the variant has been replaced by the latest CH-47F-model Chinook. The CH-47Ds were received into service in 1995. These were augmented in 2012 with six early-standard CH-47F helicopters (the Netherlands was the first export customer for this variant). In 2016 the country acquired a further 12 newbuild CH-47F Chinooks through the US Department of Defense Foreign Military Sales programme, and two further helicopters were added to the order the following year for a total order of 14.
airbus.com 22.12.2021	FRA: France orders the H160M for its Joint Light Helicopter programme	<p>The French Armament General Directorate (DGA) has signed a contract with Airbus Helicopters for the development and procurement of the H160M in the frame of the Light Joint Helicopter programme (HIL). The contract includes the development of several prototypes and the delivery of a first batch of 30 aircraft (21 for the army, 8 for the navy and one for the air force). The French Ministry for the Armed Forces plans to order a total of 169 H160M helicopters, or Guépard as it will be known in the French armed forces. Deliveries will start in 2027 beginning with the French Army.</p> <p>The H160M Guépard will be equipped with the Safran Euroflir 410 electro-optical system, the Thales FlytX cockpit avionics suite, and AirMaster C radar. The pilots will be able to use the Thales TopOwl Helmet-mounted Sight &amp; Display. The Guépard will also carry a self-protection suite, a satellite communication system and tactical data link system. The weapon package will include the MBDA ANL anti-ship missile, pod mounted and door mounted guns. The military version of the H160 will be more discreet than previous helicopters with a</p>

		reduced acoustic signature made possible by the Blue Edge blades. The H160's stability, maneuverability, and an automatic flight control system will be key assets for the military version. The H160M will be equipped with Airbus Helicopters' HForce weapon system, a modular and incremental solution enabling the use of a large choice of weapons. Equipment will also include a hoist and a fast roping arm.
janes.com 22.12.2021	ESP: Spain approves Tiger III upgrade	Spain has approved its participation on the Tiger Mk III upgrade, to be conducted alongside partners France and Germany. Once all the nations have given their approval via the Organisation for Joint Armament Co-operation (OCCAR), a contract is likely to be awarded to Airbus Helicopters in early 2022. The major system upgrades for the Mk III programme include improvements to the mast-mounted electro-optical system; the helmet-mounted sight system; the enhanced vision system; radios; datalinks for manned-unmanned teaming; new air-to-surface and air-to-air missiles, guns, and rockets; improved countermeasures; a new navigation system synchronised to the Galileo global positioning system; and an updated avionics suite that includes a new tactical data management system and battlefield management system.
janes.com 22.12.2021	BRA: Brazilian Navy accepts final H135 helicopter	The Brazilian Navy (Marinha do Brasil) has completed the process of accepting delivery of its third and final Airbus Helicopters H135 (UH-17 in Brazilian service) lightweight twin-engine multipurpose helicopter, according to a service spokesperson. Three second-hand H135s and associated five-year support packages were purchased in February 2019 from Helibras, the Brazilian division of Airbus Helicopters. These replace the AS355F2 Écureuil (UH-13 in local service) helicopters of the Squadron Águia. The first H135s were delivered in 2020. The UH-17s are dedicated to troop and cargo transport, surveillance, casualty evacuation, search-and-rescue, and medical evacuation.
defense.gov 21.12.2021	USN: Night Vision System AN/AAQ-44	Raytheon Co. is awarded an \$8,638,884 modification (P00002) to a firm-fixed-price, cost-plus-fixed-fee order (N0001921F0810) against a previously issued basic ordering agreement (N0001920G0007). This modification exercises an option to procure nine Night Vision System AN/AAQ-44 Forward Looking Infrared kits for Lot 6 CH-53K production aircraft. Work is expected to be completed in May 2024.
globaltimes.cn 21.12.2021	CHN: PLA reveals details of Z-10 attack helicopter, 'superior to foreign counterparts'	The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) revealed many details of the country's first domestically developed Z-10 attack helicopter in a recent program aired by the state broadcaster. The Z-10 has been commissioned by the PLA in large numbers in recent years, including an aerial assault brigade affiliated with the 83rd Group Army, China Central Television (CCTV) reported on Monday. With a range of 1,120 kilometers, the Z-10 has an empty weight of about 5,100 kilograms. It has four external hardpoints that can carry air-to-ground and air-to-air missiles as well as rockets, plus a 23 millimeter caliber revolver gun, according to CCTV's report. The helicopter can be armed with up to 16 anti-tank missiles, four 7-barrel multiple rocket launchers or two 32-

		<p>barrel multiple rocket launchers. For different missions, different configurations will be used. For example, missiles will be used against armored vehicles and tanks, and rockets and the gun will be used against infantry targets, Zhang Zhengfei, an ace pilot at the brigade, told CCTV.</p> <p>When attacking a hostile tank group, the Z-10 will usually carry eight air-to-ground missiles and two multiple rocket launchers, Zhang said, explaining that the missile has an accuracy of 85 percent and each Z-10 sortie can at least destroy six enemy tanks. The Z-10 can also launch the 50 kilogram-class TY-90 air-to-air missile against hostile helicopters, the report mentioned.</p> <p>In October, the Z-10 helicopter was spotted in PLA exercises near the island of Taiwan for the first time. Having a record of operations in Northwest China's high-altitude desert regions and Southwest China's Qinghai-Xizang Plateau, the Z-10 can also handle China's high-elevation border regions, observers said.</p>
janes.com 20.12.2021	QAT: Qatar receives NH90 helos	Qatar has received NHIndustries NH90 helicopters that were displayed at the country's recent national day military parade. One of a batch of NH90 helicopters, delivered just days earlier, participated in the flypast for the first time.
defense.gov 17.12.2021	USN: TH-73A	AgustaWestland Philadelphia Corp. is awarded a \$159,421,443 firm-fixed-price modification (P00016) to a previously awarded contract (N6134020C0007). This modification exercises options for the production and delivery of 36 TH-73A aircraft Lot III and initial spares in support of the Advanced Helicopter Training System program. Work is expected to be completed in December 2023.
mindef.gov.sg 15.12.2021	SGP: New helicopters & robust air defence capabilities strengthen RSAF's edge	<p>The Singapore Armed Forces' (SAF's) operations will be getting a power lift with the addition of two new helicopters. Joining the current fleet are the H225M Medium Lift helicopter and the CH-47F Heavy Lift Helicopter. They will take on a wide range of wartime and peacetime missions as part of the Republic of Singapore Air Force's (RSAF's) Participation Command, from Search and Rescue (SAR) to Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) and aeromedical evacuation operations.</p> <p>A modern multi-role helicopter with enhanced lift and reach capabilities, the H225M is set to replace the RSAF's existing fleet of AS332M Super Pumas, which have been in service for almost four decades. The H225M features an improved engine that allows the aircraft to fly further and longer, giving it a range that is 20 per cent longer than that of its older counterpart. It also has a higher load capacity and can carry more than 20 personnel, 11 stretchers or up to 4,750kg of underslung cargo.</p>

		The other aircraft is the CH-47F Heavy Lift Helicopter, which will replace the CH-47D Chinook helicopter that has been in service since 1994. With a fully integrated, digital cockpit management system, the platform is able to provide pilots with more information of their surrounding and advanced autopilot capabilities.
		<b>Unbemannte Luftfahrzeuge (UAV) und Robotik</b>
en.yna.co.kr 27.12.2021	KOR: S. Korea's military to deploy homegrown surveillance drones by 2031	South Korea's military approved a plan Monday to locally develop and deploy a reconnaissance and surveillance drone by 2031 to better defend the country's northwestern border islands, the state arms procurement agency said. The Defense Project Promotion Committee endorsed the project worth 570 billion won (US\$479 million) for the drone designed to be operated aboard Navy warships and by Marine Corps units on frontline islands, according to the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA). "The new drone, if developed, will reinforce the military's capability to respond to security threats through the real-time monitoring of maritime areas and northwestern border islands," the DAPA said in a press release.
theaviationist.com 24.12.2021	ITA/QAT: Italian Air Force's Counter-UAS Capability Carries Out First Operational Deployment To Qatar	From Nov. 23 to Dec. 20, 2021, the Italian Air Force deployed a Counter-Unmanned Aerial Anti-drone System (C-UAS) Task Group, to Qatar, to support the local armed forces during the FIFA Arab Cup 2021 competition. The role of the C-UAS component, was to provide the defense against the threat posed by the so-called "mini and micro drones", very small remotely piloted aircraft that can be deployed alone or in groups (making reaction by the air defense system more difficult) to fly over sensitive or forbidden areas such as military installations or events venues at low altitude. Small drones can also carry warheads and can be used to launch attacks on sensible targets and individuals. The drone is usually disabled by means of EW (Electronic Warfare), by disrupting multiple RF frequency bands simultaneously denying radio signals from the controller, making Live Video Feed and GPS signal unavailable to the remote operator. In Qatar, the Italian Air Force deployed the fixed anti-drone system "ACUS" (AMI Counter UAS) together with portable jammer systems. Overall, about 30 military are employed in the Task Group, including Air Riflemen of the 16° Stormo (Wing) "Forces Protection" and operators of the Force Protection sector belonging to the 4th, 6th and 32nd Wings. The Task Group, reported directly to the Italian National Contingent Command AIR (IT NCC Air)/Task Force Kuwait, supporting OIR (Operation Inherent Resolve), the multinational campaign against Daesh in Iraq and Syria, as part of "Prima Parthica", as the Italian Armed Forces operation is dubbed at national level.

<p>taiwannews.com.tw 23.12.2021</p>	<p>TWN: Taiwan tests second Teng Yun 2 drone</p>	<p>The second prototype of the indigenous Teng Yun 2 drone was seen flying near the Jiashan Air Force Base for tests, reports said Thursday (Dec. 23). Tests on the first prototype were scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, but the Air Force found results were not up to scratch, so it ordered tests with a second prototype, the Liberty Times reported. Mass production of the Teng Yun 2 should start in 2023. In September, testing for the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) was transferred from Zhihang Air Force Base in Taitung County to the more isolated Jiashan Air Force Base. The second prototype made by the National Chung-Shan Institute of Science and Technology (NCSIST, 中科院) reportedly included more advanced electronic surveillance and interference systems. On its exterior, the second aircraft of the Teng Yun 2 type was equipped with more antennas and new landing gear, while it could also carry bombs. The TPE331 turboprop engine was still the same as the United States MQ-9 Reaper drone from General Atomics. . Tests on the latest model are expected to be completed sometime next year, according to the Liberty Times report.</p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information focustaiwan.tw vom 23.12.2021: New battlefield drone to enter combat testing in mid-2022. The Teng Yun is a medium UCAV that resembles the U.S. MQ-1 Predator and is compatible with the AGM-114 Hellfire.)</i></p>
<p>taiwannews.com.tw 22.12.2021</p>	<p>TWN: Taiwan looking forward to receiving US notification on drones</p>	<p>The Ministry of National Defense said Wednesday (Dec. 22) it was expecting to receive the letter of offer and acceptance (LOA) from the United States for the MQ-9B Sea Guardian unmanned aerial vehicles by March 22. The four drones manufactured by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. and equipped with reconnaissance systems, formed part of a US\$600 million (NT\$16.68 billion) package approved by the Biden administration in November.</p>
<p>boeing.com 20.12.2021</p>	<p>USN: U.S. Navy, Boeing Complete First Carrier Tests for MQ-25</p>	<p>The U.S. Navy and Boeing have successfully maneuvered the Boeing-owned T1 test asset on a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier for the first time – an early step forward in ensuring the MQ-25 unmanned aerial refueler will seamlessly integrate into carrier operations. During an underway demonstration aboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77), Navy flight deck directors – known as “yellow shirts” – used standard hand signals to direct T1 just like any other carrier-based aircraft. Instead of a pilot receiving the commands, however, it was a Boeing MQ-25 Deck Handling Operator (DHO) right beside the “yellow shirt” who commanded the aircraft using a new handheld deck control device. The demonstration was intended to ensure the design of the MQ-25 will successfully integrate into the carrier environment and to evaluate the functionality, capability and handling qualities of the deck handling system both in day and night conditions. Maneuvers included taxiing on the deck, connecting to the catapult, clearing the landing area and parking on the deck. The deck handling demonstration followed a two-year flight test campaign for the Boeing-owned T1 test asset, during which the Boeing and Navy team refueled three different carrier-based aircraft – an F/A-18 Super Hornet, an E-2D Hawkeye and an F-35C Lightning II.</p>

tass.com 19.12.2021	RUS: Reconnaissance drone trials to be completed by 2022 year-end, source says	Tests of the looking-forward radar reconnaissance drone based on the Orion unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) are scheduled for completion by 2022 year-end, a source in the Russian defense industry told TASS. The Orion drone developed by Kronshtadt fitted with the radar is capable to perform surveillance of various seaborne and ground targets, including reconnaissance of air defense missile sites, air defense and missile defense complexes, and get other information, the source noted. The new Orion reconnaissance UAV will be able to perform functions of target designation for strike drones and transmit data for a swarm of drones. Furthermore, this drone is planned for introduction into the reconnaissance and strike channel of the integrated battlefield control system currently undergoing deployment in units and elements of the Russian Ground Forces.
yle.fi 18.12.2021	FIN: Finland tightens rules for drone pilots	Finland is set to introduce stringent regulations for drone pilots next year, in line with new EU guidelines. New regulations imposed this year require all drone pilots (with the exception of those flying aircraft that do not have a camera and weigh less than 250g) to register with the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency Traficom and pass an online theory test. From February 2022 onwards, in addition to the online test, pilots of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) will have to undergo an assessment conducted in a controlled environment to be able to fly drones in urban areas. The new regulations will be applicable throughout the EU, so anyone who acquires the permit in Finland will be able to fly drones in other countries as well. In the future, a pilot who flies drones close to highly populated urban areas must renew their permit every five years. The EU also plans to mandate remote identification for drones in the future, which would enable authorities to determine the location of the aircraft and its pilot as well as identify the owner.
		<b>Bewaffnung und weitere Nutzlasten</b>
taiwannews.com.tw 30.12.2021	TWN: Taiwan signs Mirage missile system service agreement with MBDA	The Air Force has signed a NT\$429 million (US\$15.5 million) agreement with French-based MBDA to service the missile systems for its Mirage 2000 jets, reports said Thursday (Dec. 30). Taiwan bought 60 of the fighters from France in 1992, along with 480 MICA medium-range air-to-air missiles and 960 Magic 2 short-range missiles. The Hsinchu Air Force Base is home to all the French jets. The new contract, which will be valid from Jan. 1, 2022 to the end of 2026, covered technical assistance service for both the MICA and Magic missiles, the Liberty Times reported.

		In September, the military signed a similar agreement with Mirage manufacturer Dassault valued at NT\$790.96 million (US\$28.45 million). The company will send French technicians to Hsinchu Air Force Base to help with the maintenance work on the jets.
airforce-technology.com 29.12.2021	IND: ASRAAM onto the Tejas Mark 1A jet.	HAL is reportedly integrating the Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile (ASRAAM), onto the Mark 1A jet.
defence24.com 23.12.2021	Aircraft-borne Variant of Warmate TL Loitering Munitions	The WB Group has showcased another launching method for the Warmate TL loitering munitions system, that would involve launching off aircraft. The above refers to pods that could be carried by air platforms, such as tactical UAVs and other aircraft. Work is currently underway, aimed at preparing the system for rotary-wing operations. Warmate is a type of loitering munitions developed by the WB Group - not only as a standalone solution, but also as armament that could be used by various types of land, naval, and air platforms. To accomplish this, WB developed the Warmate TL variant. It has been fitted with a warhead and guidance unit identical to the standard, portable system. However, it also features folding wings, and a special-purpose multiple-use pod is used for launch. Almost immediate launch is possible when the launch container is placed on a vehicle or an aircraft. Currently work is underway to tailor a container-launched variant for testing in a role of a weapons system for the Black Hawk multi-role helicopter. This is the reason for the joint presentation of the launcher, Warmate TL system, and Sikorsky S-70i Black Hawk, during this year's edition of the MSPO exhibition in Kielce. The presentation took place at the PZL Mielec stand. Warmate TL is an ISdRC solution taking off from a container launcher. Its take off weight is 4.9 kilograms, while the range is defined as 30 kilometres. The system utilizes warheads identical to the standard Warmate variant - training, shaped charge, HE, and thermobaric warheads are available, weighing up to 1.5 kilograms.
defense.gov 23.12.2021	USAF: GBU-53/B StormBreaker SDB II (Small Diameter Bomb II)	Raytheon Missiles and Defense has been awarded a modification totaling a \$250,000,000 ceiling increase (P00006) to previously awarded contract FA8672-17-D-0004 for a StormBreaker® Small Diameter Bomb II (SDB II) integrated engineering change proposal. This contract provides for design, development, integration, test and production engineering for changes to the SDB II GBU-53/B technical and production baseline. Work is expected to be completed by Aug. 22, 2027.
defense-aerospace.com 21.12.2021	BRA: Brazil Orders IRIS-T Air-to-Air Missiles for Gripen-E	Continuing the process of modernization of its aircraft fleet and weapons, the Brazilian Air Force (FAB) on Dec. 17 signed the contract for the acquisition of a new batch of air-to-air IRIS-T short-range air-to-air missile.

<p>northropgrumman.com 21.12.2021</p>	<p>USAF: Northrop Grumman Completes Successful Anti-Access/Area Denial Missile Flight Test</p>	<p>Northrop Grumman Corporation successfully completed the second flight test of its new anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) missile, demonstrating capabilities that will meet key objectives for the upcoming Stand-in Attack Weapon (SiAW) program. The test was completed utilizing a company-owned CRJ-700 aircraft as the testbed for the air to surface mission computer and sensors. This second flight test demonstrated the mission capability of the missile sensor systems combined with the mission computer. This is the first of a new series of company funded flight tests which will continue to test the system with more stressing scenarios in preparation for the missile launch in 2022. The Northrop Grumman A2/AD solution leverages lessons learned on the Navy's AARGM-ER, engineering manufacturing and development, low-rate initial production and integration work on the F-35 aircraft. The Northrop Grumman A2/AD missile is capable of being integrated on a variety of aircraft. The first complete missile is planned to be built and ready for launch in 2022.</p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information airforcemag.com: The weapon is based on the extended-range version of the Navy's Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missile in development at Northrop Grumman. SiAW targets include theater ballistic missile launchers, land attack and anti-ship cruise missile launchers, GPS jammers, anti-satellite systems, and integrated air defense systems. Military testers will vet the SiAW on the F-35 in the early 2020s so it can begin regular operations by the mid-2020s. It's expected to wield a new warhead, the design of which is slated to end in fiscal 2021.)</i></p>
<p>dsca.mil 20.12.2021</p>	<p>AUS: Australia – Hellfire AGM-114R2 missile</p>	<p>The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Australia of Hellfire AGM-114R2 Missiles and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$108 million. The Government of Australia has requested to buy up to eight hundred (800) Hellfire AGM-114R2 Missiles. This proposed sale will improve Australia's capability to meet current and future threats by enhancing the Australian Army's armed reconnaissance and anti-tank warfare mission capabilities. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing these missiles into its armed forces.</p>
<p>esut.de 20.12.2021</p>	<p>BRA: Brasilianische Luftstreitkräfte erhalten weitere Meteor- Flugkörper</p>	<p>Brasilien stattet seine 36 Kampfflugzeuge Gripen mit insgesamt 100 Flugkörpern des Typs Meteor aus. Nachdem mit einem ersten Los die Integration in die Flugzeuge erfolgreich vorgenommen werden konnte, wurde jetzt das zweite Los mit den restlichen Flugkörpern ausgeliefert, wie die brasilianischen Luftstreitkräfte gemeldet haben. Der 190 kg schwere Flugkörper ist 3,7 m lang und wird von einem Feststoffraketenantriebwerk und einem Staustrahltriebwerk angetrieben. Die Höchstgeschwindigkeit übertrifft Mach 4 und die Reichweite liegt bei 200 km. Die Navigation im Flug erfolgt mit Trägheitsnavigation von LITEF. Der hochexplosive Gefechtskopf mit Splittern wird über Aufschlag- oder Annäherungszünder ausgelöst.</p>
<p>janes.com 20.12.2021</p>	<p>QAT: Qatar receives Meteor missiles, NH90 helos</p>	<p>Qatar has received MBDA Meteor beyond visual-range air-to-air missiles (BVRAAMs). Images posted by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) on 18 December showed Dassault Rafale combat aircraft carrying the Meteor missile, confirming for the first time the Gulf state's receipt of the BVRAAM. As noted by Janes World Air Forces,</p>

		the Qatar Emiri Air Force (QEAF) has received 23 of 24 Rafale combat aircraft. These fighters are equipped with a range of French- and European-made weaponry including the anti-ship MBDA AM39 Exocet Block II, MBDA SCALP EG cruise missile, medium-range air-to-ground AASM, MICA IR air-to-air missile, and the Meteor. The Meteor will also equip the QEAF's Eurofighter Typhoons.
alert5.com 18.12.2021	HUN: Hungary to buy IRIS-T missiles as part of its Gripen MS20 Block II upgrade program	A Hungarian government official says the country has signed a deal to buy the IRIS-T dogfight missile for its Gripen C/D fleet. The deal is part of the MS20 Block II upgrade program that will keep the Hungarian Gripen fleet relevant for the next 10 years. The IRIS-T allows Hungary's fighter fleet to regain the off-boresight lock-on capability that it once had with the MiG-29.
defense.gov 17.12.2021	USAF: GBU-53/B StormBreaker SDB II (Small Diameter Bomb II)	Raytheon Missiles and Defense was awarded a \$92,908,493 contract modification (P00002) to previously awarded contract FA8672-21-C-0005 for StormBreaker Production All Up Rounds and Containers for the U.S. Air Force. Work is expected to be completed by Feb. 28, 2025.
defense-aerospace.com 17.12.2021	BRA: Brazilian Air Force Receives First Batch of Meteor BVRAAMs	The Brazilian Air Force (FAB) received the second batch of the Meteor missile, which will equip the F-39 Gripen fighter aircraft, whose first four units were delivered by Saab on 24 November.
eglin.af.mil 16.12.2021	USAF: Dragon unleashed in palletized weapon's first live fire test	<p>The Air Force Rapid Dragon Program, a fast-paced experimentation campaign led by the Air Force Strategic Development Planning and Experimentation office, successfully completed its final flight test Dec. 16 at the Eglin Overwater Test Range. The flight test capstoned a two-year series and culminated in a live fire of a current inventory cruise missile armed with a live warhead. Rapid Dragon demonstrates the ability to employ weapons using standard airdrop procedures from cargo aircraft using the Rapid Dragon Palletized Weapon System. The Rapid Dragon concept is an airborne delivery system for U.S. Air Force weapons. And like its namesake, these palletized munitions promise to unleash mighty salvos en masse on distant adversaries.</p> <p>During the December test, an MC-130J flown by an Air Force Special Operations Command operational flight crew, received new targeting data while in flight which was then routed to the cruise missile flight test vehicle. The aircraft agnostic Battle Management System's inflight receipt and upload of the new targeting data into the FTV was a first-time achievement with a live cruise missile.</p>

		<p>Once inside the drop zone over the Gulf of Mexico, the MC-130J aircrew airdropped a four-cell Rapid Dragon deployment system containing the FTV and three mass simulants, which were sequentially released from the palletized deployment box while under parachute. Safe separation from the deployment box and weapon deconfliction was demonstrated using an unconventional deployment method (nose-down vertical orientation). Immediately after the vertical release, the FTV deployed its wings and tail, achieved aerodynamic control, ignited its engine, performed a powered pull-up maneuver, and proceeded toward its newly assigned target. The cruise missile successfully destroyed its target upon impact.</p> <p>The next step for the Rapid Dragon Program will be a live-fire test with a cruise missile from a C-17 in Spring 2022, demonstrating the aircraft agnostic capabilities of the Palletized Weapon System. Of note, the new retargeting methodology developed by the Rapid Dragon team is designed to be transferrable to other strike and cargo platforms, potentially increasing the lethality of those aircraft. Lastly, a follow-on program will look at expanding the Rapid Dragon carriage portfolio to include additional weapon systems and multiple effects capabilities, as well as continuing the maturation of the system, taking it from a developmental prototype to an operational prototype over the next two years.</p> <p>Agility and collaboration enabled this government/industry team to go from a design to a system level flight test in 10 months, followed by a live fire five months later. During those last five months, Rapid Dragon has conducted five system level flight tests using three different aircraft (MC-130J, EC-130SJ, and C-17A).</p>
<p>defense.gov 16.12.2021</p>	<p>USAF: AGM-158 JASSM</p>	<p>L3 Technologies Inc. has been awarded a \$9,536,068 Joint Air to Surface Standoff Missile (JASSM) Weapon Data Link (WDL) other transaction agreement. This agreement provides for the prototype of a WDL to be integrated into the AGM-158 JASSM weapon system. Work is expected to be completed by July 1, 2022.</p>
<p>mountainhome.af.mil 13.12.2021</p>	<p>USAF: Gunfighters' first shots with new smart bomb, StormBreaker</p>	<p>The 391st Fighter Squadron became the first operational unit to use the GBU-53/B, the Air Force's new small diameter bomb known as StormBreaker, Nov. 2 at the Utah Test and Training Range. Four F-15Es from the 366th Fighter Wing had the opportunity to employ this new capability as part of WSEP (Weapon System Evaluation Program). The evaluation involved multiple aircraft targeting and engaging four ground-based vehicles with four of StormBreakers. Despite all of the vehicles being moving targets and this being a relatively new munition, all four were successfully hit. The StormBreaker measures at 69 inches long, 6-7 inches in diameter, weighs 204 pounds and carries a 105 pound warhead. By using a combination of millimeter wave active radar homing, semi-active laser guidance, infrared homing, GPS coupled inertial guidance and data-link, the bomb is proven to strike stationary targets at 69 miles and moving targets at 45 miles.</p>

		<p>Because of the small size of these new munitions, the F-15E Strike Eagle can carry up to 28 GBU-53/Bs. The ability to carry more munitions is critical in situations where there exists a high number of ground targets that require a high level of accuracy as offered by the StormBreaker. However, there was additional coordination and planning required to employ the new bomb. Due to increased capabilities of this munition, the bomb and the aircraft are able to communicate with each other, which requires intelligence airmen to load encrypted communication information into the bomb's computer.</p> <p>While the GBU-53/B is currently only approved for integration on the Strike Eagle, results will also support the employment of StormBreaker by joint capabilities with the U.S. Navy's F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and eventually fifth generation platforms such as the F-35.</p>
		<b>Air Power</b>
taiwannews.com.tw 31.12.2021 08:59	TWN/CHN: 3 Chinese military spotter planes enter Taiwan's ADIZ	Three Chinese military planes entered Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) on Thursday (Dec. 30), marking the 23rd intrusion this month. One People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Shaanxi Y-8 electronic warfare plane, one Shaanxi Y-8 reconnaissance airplane, and one Shaanxi Y-8 anti-submarine warfare aircraft flew into the southwest corner of Taiwan's ADIZ, according to the Ministry of National Defense (MND). A total of 83 Chinese aircraft have been spotted in Taiwan's identification zone so far in December, including 46 fighter jets, 2 bombers, and 35 spotter planes.
taiwannews.com.tw 30.12.2021 12:25	TWN/CHN: Taiwan girds for increased Chinese ADIZ incursions in 2022	Taiwan is anticipating more intrusions by Chinese warplanes into its air defense identification zone (ADIZ) in 2022, based on the pattern of ramped-up sorties over the past few years and impending key political events. According to data from the Ministry of National Defense, since January of this year, there have been approximately 950 intrusions by People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) military planes into the ADIZ. This is a 60% increase over the 380 sorties recorded in 2020.
itamilradar.com 29.12.2021	NATO/RUS: Traffic in the Black Sea area	<p>Eventful morning in the Black Sea area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>° an USAF Boeing RC-135V (63-9792) departed Souda Bay AB is making an usual ISR mission off Crimea</li> <li>° an US Army Bombardier Challenger 650 ARTEMIS (N488CR) departed Constanta, Romania, is in flight over the eastern Black Sea off Russian coast</li> <li>° a NATO Northrop Grumman RQ-4D (MM-AV-SA0018) departed NAS Sigonella is in flight to the Black Sea too</li> </ul>

		<i>(Ergänzende Information @GDarkconrad vom 30.12.2021: Ukraine: USAF E8C Joint STARS REDEYE6; Blacksea: RAF RC135W Rivet Joint RRR7217 und US Army CL600 ARTEMIS BRIO68)</i>
terrorism-info.org.il 29.12.2021	Spotlight on Global Jihad December 23-29, 2021	<u>Syria</u> : In the Idlib region the Russian Air Force carried out airstrikes against rebel targets in the northern periphery. Iraq: In the Diyala Province the Iraqi Air Force destroyed 14 ISIS targets in the southern part of the Hamrin Mountains, in the northern part of the province.
taiwannews.com.tw 29.12.2021 10:03	TWN/CHN: 5 Chinese military planes enter Taiwan's ADIZ	<p>Five Chinese military planes entered Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) on Tuesday (Dec. 28), marking the 21st intrusion this month. Two People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Shenyang J-11 fighter jets, one Shaanxi Y-8 electronic warfare plane, one Y-8 reconnaissance aircraft, and one Y-8 electronic intelligence airplane entered the southwest corner of Taiwan's ADIZ, according to the Ministry of National Defense (MND). A total of 75 Chinese aircraft have been tracked in the identification zone so far this month, including 42 fighter jets, 2 bombers, and 31 spotter planes.</p> <p>Since September of last year, China has increased its use of gray zone tactics by routinely sending aircraft into Taiwan's ADIZ, with most occurrences taking place in the southwest corner of the zone. An ADIZ is an area that extends beyond a country's airspace where air traffic controllers ask incoming aircraft to identify themselves. Gray zone tactics are defined "as an effort or series of efforts beyond steady-state deterrence and assurance that attempts to achieve one's security objectives without resort to direct and sizable use of force."</p>
reuters.com 28.12.2021 03:50 AM CET	ISR/SYR/IRN: Fires erupt in Syria's Latakia Port following Israeli attack- Syrian state media	<p>Fires erupted in Syria's Latakia Port's container storage area following an Israeli missile attack, Syrian state media reported on Tuesday. The attack, the second in December, damaged facades of a hospital, some residential buildings and shops. "The Israeli "aggression" caused big materialistic damages and assessing its results is still a work in progress", the Syrian defence ministry said in a statement. Live footage aired by the Syrian State TV showed flames and smoke in the containers area. "Fire fighters are trying to put the fires off while ambulances arrived at the scene," the state TV reporter said.</p> <p>Israel has mounted frequent attacks against what it has described as Iranian targets in Syria, where Tehran-backed forces including Lebanon's Hezbollah have deployed over the last decade to support President Bashar al-Assad in Syria's war. Latakia, a Mediterranean port, is Syria's main commercial port. Russia, which has been Assad's most powerful ally during the war, operates an air base at Hmeimim some 20 km (12 miles) away from Latakia.</p>

		<p><i>(State-controlled SANA: "At 3:21 a.m. [0121Z], Israel carried out attacks with missiles from the depth of the Mediterranean, west of Latakia, targeting the container yard in the commercial port in Latakia, which led to fires in the place and causing great material damage.")</i></p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information timesofisrael.com vom 28.12.2021 04:29 AM: Videos posted to social media show huge explosions and fires raging across the port. An Al-Ikhbariyah TV reporter in the area said Tuesday's attack appeared to have been larger than the strike earlier this month and the explosions could be heard in Tartus, another coastal city more than 80 kilometers (nearly 50 miles) away.)</i></p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information reuters.com vom 28.12.2021 06:22 PM CET: Official Syrian reports made no mention of any casualties. A source familiar with the operations of the port said the strike hit a container area where large consignments of Iranian munitions that had arrived last month were stored. "These blasts and huge fires were caused by the explosions from the munitions stored in a warehouse close to commercial cargo," the source who requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter told Reuters. Another Syrian source familiar with Iranian military movements in Syria said Tehran had in recent months transferred weapons by sea as it sought to dodge intensified Israeli strikes that struck eastern Syria near a weapons supply corridor along the border with Iraq. The drone strikes disabled several large weapons convoys sent by Tehran from Iraq, he added in information confirmed by a Western intelligence source.)</i></p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information timesofisrael.com vom 28.12.2021 10:11 PM: Defense Minister Benny Gantz warned Iran on Tuesday that Israel will not allow it to spread "game-changing" weaponry to its proxies in the region, hours after the Israeli military reportedly struck arms shipped from Iran in Syria's Latakia port. "I call on all countries of the region to stop Iran's harm to their sovereignty and to their citizens. Israel will not allow Iran to stream game-changing weapons to its proxies and to threaten our citizens," he said.)</i></p>
<p>nato.int 28.12.2021</p>	<p>NATO: NATO jets scrambled hundreds of times in 2021 to guard Allied airspace</p>	<p>NATO fighter jets scrambled around 370 times across Europe in 2021, mostly to check aircraft flying unannounced near Allied air space. Around 80 percent of the missions, 290 in total, were in response to flights by Russian military aircraft. Most of the intercepts in 2021 occurred in the Baltic region, where NATO operates an air-policing mission for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. NATO has similar missions for Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Slovenia. Allies also help to police the skies of Romania, Bulgaria and Iceland. Generally, intercepts occurred without incident as NATO planes take off to identify the approaching aircraft and escort it out of the area. Very few intercepted flights entered Allied airspace. Across Europe, over 60 NATO jets are on high alert at all times, ready to respond to unannounced military flights, as well as to civilian aircraft losing communication with air-traffic controllers for any reason – which could range from technical problems to hijacking. NATO has two air operations centres – one in Germany, covering northern Europe, and one in Spain covering the south – which monitor all air movements across Europe.</p>

<p>defence-blog.com 27.12.2021</p>	<p>UKR/USAF: US Air Force battle management plane spotted over Ukraine</p>	<p>The U.S. Air Force E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System battlefield management command and control aircraft was spotted over Ukraine on 27 December. Freelance journalist Vladimir Vorobyov posted the photo of E-8C during flew in Ukrainian airspace. The E-8C aircraft was spotted over Ukraine for the first time. The E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System, or Joint STARS, is an airborne battle management, command and control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platform. The radar and computer subsystems on the E-8C can gather and display detailed battlefield information on ground forces. The information is relayed in near-real time to the Army and Marine Corps common ground stations and to other ground command, control, communications, computers and intelligence, or C4I, nodes.</p> <p>The antenna can be tilted to either side of the aircraft where it can develop a 120-degree field of view covering nearly 19,305 square miles (50,000 square kilometers) and is capable of detecting targets at more than 250 kilometers (more than 820,000 feet). The radar also has some limited capability to detect helicopters, rotating antennas and low, slow-moving fixed wing aircraft.</p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information forbes.com vom 27.12.2021 06:00 PM EST:A pair of the U.S. Air Force’s best surveillance planes on Monday flew over eastern Ukraine fewer than 40 miles from territory controlled by Russian-backed separatists. The two-jet mission, involving an E-8C ground-surveillance plane and an RC-135V signals-intelligence plane, is one of the first missions that the USAF openly has flown inside Ukrainian air space—and comes nine months after Russia built up a potential invasion force along the border with Ukraine. That force—including around 100,000 troops, 1,200 tanks and scores of specialized vehicles—has diminished slightly in recent days as 10,000 troops wrapped up what Russian officials characterized as a long-planned exercise, and returned to their bases.)</i></p>
<p>reuters.com 26.12.2021</p>	<p>SAU/HOUTHİ: Houthis have fired 430 missiles, 851 drones at Saudi Arabia since 2015</p>	<p>The Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen said on Sunday the Iran-aligned Houthi group had fired 430 ballistic missiles and 851 armed drones at Saudi Arabia since the war started in 2015, killing 59 Saudi civilians. The spokesman of the Saudi alliance, General Turki al-Malki, said the Iran-aligned movement had been using Sanaa airport as a base to launch attacks on the kingdom, an allegation the Houthis deny. Yemen has been mired in violence since 2014 when the Houthis took over the capital Sanaa and ousted the internationally recognised government of Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates intervened against the Houthi movement in 2015 but the war has stalemated for years, killing tens of thousands of Yemenis, mostly civilians. The conflict is largely seen as another proxy war between Middle East arch rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran.</p>
<p>taiwannews.com.tw 25.12.2021</p>	<p>TWN/CHN:</p>	<p>China sent a Shaanxi Y-8 anti-submarine warfare (ASW) plane into Taiwan’s air defense identification zone (ADIZ) during Christmas Day Saturday (Dec. 25), according to the Ministry of National Defense.</p>

19:32	China sends anti-submarine aircraft into Taiwan's ADIZ on Christmas	
economicetimes. indiatimes.com 25.12.2021	MMR: Myanmar airstrikes displace more people along Thai-Myanmar border	Myanmar's military carried out more airstrikes on a rebel-controlled area near the Thai border, the rebel group said on Friday, in the latest escalation of violence that has sent hundreds fleeing into Thailand. The Karen National Union (KNU) said the military launched at least two airstrikes and fired some artillery rounds on an area under its control near the Thai-Myanmar border late on Thursday. A Reuters reporter at Mae Sot, a Thai border town some 15 km (10 miles) from where the air strikes reportedly took place, heard several explosions on Thursday evening at around 11 p.m. local time.
@RALee85 24.12.2021 2204	RUS/UKR:	The Russian MoD said Su-27SM3 and Su-30M2 fighters from the 3rd Composite Aviation Regiment in Krymsk, Krasnodar practiced redeploying to airfields in Crimea.
english.alarabiya.net 24.12.2021 11:05 PM GST	SAU/HOUTHİ: Two killed after Houthi projectile hit Jazan: Arab Coalitio	<p>The Arab Coalition said on Friday a Houthi projectile that hit the Saudi city of Jazan has led to the killing of two civilians, a Saudi national and a Yemeni resident. The coalition said another Houthi projectile hit the Saudi city of Najran. The Arab Coalition added that the hostile attacks were launched from the Yemeni city of Sadaa, warning that it will carry airstrikes to deal with the source of the threat. On Thursday, the Arab Coalition said it had destroyed an armed drone attempting to target Abha International Airport.</p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information aljazeera.com vom 23.12.2021: The Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen has said it launched air raids against a military camp in the rebel-held capital Sanaa, as the Houthi rebels said the attacks hit a prison compound and a hospital. The coalition said it destroyed seven drone and weapons stores at the camp, Saudi state TV reported on Thursday, adding that the air raids were in response to an armed drone launched from north Yemen towards Saudi's Red Sea region of Jizan.)</i></p>
terrorism-info.org.il 23.12.2021	IRN: Spotlight on Iran	Pro-opposition Syrian sources reported that Iran deployed two new UAVs to the T-4 Air Base of the Syrian Army in eastern Homs. According to these reports, Iran transferred the two reconnaissance UAVs through Iraq to the air base to utilize them in the military campaign against ISIS in eastern Syria, which is being waged by Iranian-backed militias, Russiansupported Syrian forces, and the Syrian Army. ISIS has recently stepped up the pace of its attacks against pro-Assad forces in the region. Iran reportedly used two military trucks with Iraqi license plates to smuggle the UAVs through an informal border crossing between Syria and Iraq, which is controlled by the IRGC and the Iranian-backed Fatemiyoun Brigade, an Iranian-backed Afghan militia (the Telegram channel modafe_haram2, December 10). The proopposition Syrian outlet Ayn al-Furat reported (December 13) that a

		few days after the deployment of the UAVs to the air base, they carried out three reconnaissance flyovers in the Hayan Mountain area southeast of Homs. On December 11, Ayn al-Furat reported the reinforcement of pro-Iranian militias in the T-4 Base area with military trucks, armored vehicles, and ambulances, which were transferred from the Deir Ezzor area.
tasnimnews.com 23.12.2021	IRN: Drones New Component of IRGC Ground Force's Attack Power	Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami said military drones have turned into the new pillar of the IRGC Ground Force's assault power. Speaking to reporters on Thursday on the sidelines of 'Payambar-e Azam 17 (The Great Prophet)' war game, underway along Iran's southern coasts, Major General Salami said a range of UAVs have been effectively utilized in the drill. The commander said the new combat, suicide and reconnaissance drones have become the new components of the IRGC Ground Force's attack power. In comments on Wednesday, IRGC Ground Force Commander Brigadier General Mohammad Pakpour said the assault and combat drones in possession of the IRGC are capable of targeting any place and destroying any target.
ruaviation.com 23.12.2021	RUS: Batch of Su-34 bombers has arrived at the Lipetsk Aviation Center of the VKS	A batch of Su-34 bombers has arrived at the state aviation personnel training and military testing center of the Russian Defence Ministry stationed in Lipetsk. The crews of the Aerospace Forces performed a flight from the Novosibirsk region to a permanent-based airfield. They covered about four thousand km. The relocation was carried out without intermediate landings. In the near future, the aircraft will be used for their intended purpose as part of the winter training period.
jpost.com 23.12.2021	ISR/HEZBOLLAH: Hezbollah has some 2,000 unmanned aerial vehicles	<p>Hezbollah has some 2,000 unmanned aerial vehicles, many of them advanced UAVs from Iran and others manufactured independently by the Lebanese terrorist group, a new report by the ALMA Research Center has found. Hezbollah has been using UAVs since the 1990s and has used its drones in Syria as well as against Israel. Even before the Second Lebanon War in 2006, the group launched drones into Israel; and during the war, Hezbollah launched several armed drones into the country. The report by ALMA listed several attempts by Hezbollah to fly its drones into Israel, including in October 2012 when a UAV launched over the Mediterranean Sea reached the Negev before it was intercepted by Israel Air Force jets.</p> <p>According to the report, Hezbollah "most likely" has advanced UAV models such as the Mohajer, Shahed, and Samed (KAS-04), Karrar and Saegheh types. It also possesses dozens of smaller civilian drones made by China that are used to photograph as well as to carry and drop bombs.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i></p>

		<a href="https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-689470?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_content=Hezbollah+has+2%2C000+drones+that+can+fly+into+Israel&amp;utm_campaign=December+22%2C+2021+Night">https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-689470?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_content=Hezbollah+has+2%2C000+drones+that+can+fly+into+Israel&amp;utm_campaign=December+22%2C+2021+Night</a>
taiwannews.com.tw 23.12.2021 10:17	TWN/CHN: 4 Chinese military planes enter Taiwan's ADIZ	Four Chinese military planes flew into Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) on Wednesday (Dec. 22), marking the 17th intrusion this month. Two People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Shenyang J-16 fighter jets, one Shaanxi Y-8 electronic intelligence spotter plane, and one Shaanxi Y-8 electronic warfare plane entered the southwestern corner of the ADIZ, according to the Ministry of National Defense (MND). A total of Chinese aircraft have been tracked in Taiwan's identification zone so far this month, including 38 fighter jets, two bombers, and 24 turboprops. Chinese military planes have been spotted in the zone every day this month except for on Dec. 5, 12, 17, 20, and 21.
ac.nato.int 23.12.2021	NATO: US F-15 fighter aircraft successfully supported NATO Enhanced Air Policing in Romania	From December 18-22, under the umbrella of NATO's Assurance Measures U.S. Air Force Airmen from Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, South Carolina, successfully supported NATO enhance Air Policing in Romania. Alongside with Italian and Romanian Air Forces they were flying together to protect and safeguard Allied airspace. This planned deployment was focused on assuring the Allied air presence in the Black Sea Region, enhancing multinational relationships and improving interoperability between Allies.
jpost.com 22.12.2021	ISR: Israel's incoming Air Force chief: We can attack Iran tomorrow if needed	<p>Israel could successfully strike Iran's nuclear program tomorrow if necessary, incoming commander of the Israel Air Force (IAF) Maj.-Gen. Tomer Bar said in an interview published on Wednesday.</p> <p>Concerning the reported US refusal to advance the delivery of two KC-46 tanker refueling aircraft to Israel, Bar said that he was at the meeting when the request was made and that the IDF is currently examining the reason for the refusal. "The US is more than an acquaintance, and they have a desire to form deep and real cooperation. I do not know the reason for the refusal, but I have not yet exhausted the possibility of getting at least two refuelers in advance."</p> <p>On the northern front with Lebanon, Bar said he believes that the next war with Hezbollah will break out as soon as Israel strikes Iran. "I have to assume that he [Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah] will automatically be all in. 30 years he has waited for this order and there is no way that he will not be there and with the highest intensity," Bar said. "We have to be prepared for this." The outgoing Force Design Directorate head stressed that the Third Lebanon War "cannot be compared" to the first two wars with Lebanon. "This is not raising the volume on the same radio. The familiarity with Hezbollah, the number of targets, the strength built over the years in matters of intelligence and attack capability, electronic warfare, cyber" make it a whole</p>

		different scenario. "I can stand by my word." Bar added that the next war with Lebanon will definitely involve a ground operation, saying that combined with the effectiveness of the IAF "is something else entirely."
english.alarabiya.net 21.12.2021 02:41 AM GST	SAU/HOUTHY: Arab Coalition conducts strikes against military targets at Yemen's Sana'a airport	The Arab Coalition conducted on Monday precision aerial strikes against legitimate military targets in Yemen's Sana'a airport. The Coalition lifted the protection off certain sites at Sana'a airport according to international and humanitarian laws. It also stressed that the strikes were in response to the threat presented by the use of the airport's facilities to launch cross-border attacks. Coalition spokesman Brigadier General Turki al-Malki said the Iran-backed Houthi militias in Yemen used civilian sites as cover for its military operations. The strikes targeted six locations used to manage the activities of drones – specifically explosive-laden ones, training drone personnel, housing trainers and trainees, in addition to two warehouses for explosive-laden drones. Malki stressed that the Coalition strikes will have no effects on the operational capacity of the airport or affect the management of the airspace, air traffic, and ground handling operations.
eng.mil.ru 20.12.2021	RUS: The crews of the MiG-31 Su-34 and Su-24MR performed about 200 refueling exercises near Chelyabinsk	Crews of MiG-31BM high-altitude interceptor fighters, Su-34 multifunctional fighter-bombers and Su-24MR reconnaissance aircraft of the Central Military District performed about 200 refueling from the Il-78 air tanker during the exercise, which ended in the Chelyabinsk region. Pilots of three types of aircraft worked out paired and single refueling day and night at an altitude of 4000 to 7000 meters. The crews performed the most difficult element of flight training at a speed of 600-700 km/h. Fuel transfer was carried out with the help of special equipment: the rod of the refueled aircraft and the IL-78 cone sensor. In a two-week tactical flight exercise for refueling in the air, 13 units of aviation equipment were involved, as well as about 200 military personnel from among the flight, engineering and technical personnel, flight control and support groups.
taiwannews.com.tw 20.12.2021	TWN/CHN: Chinese reconnaissance plane enters Taiwan's ADIZ	A Chinese military spotter plane flew into Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) on Sunday (Dec. 19), marking the 16th intrusion this month. A single People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Shaanxi Y-8 electronic warfare plane entered the southwest corner of Taiwan's ADIZ, according to the Ministry of National Defense (MND).
ac.nato.in 20.12.2021	NATO/NOR: Norwegian Air Policing : The past and the future	The Norwegian F-16 Fighting Falcon, which has safeguarded the skies for 40 years, will close an honorable and historic chapter as the F-35 Lightning II opens a new one, starting its Quick Reaction Alert (QRA) duties from Evenes Air Base next January. On January 6, 2022, the Royal Norwegian Air Force F-35 fighter jets will launch an active QRA from Evenes for the first time. According to the plan, the last two F-16 QRA aircraft will have their last mission out of Evenes and return to Bodø, marking the official end of Bodø Air Base as a home to fighter aircraft; one of the long-standing reliable F-16 jets will remain as a museum exhibit at the Aviation Museum in Bodø.

<p>reuters.com 19.12.2021 09:27 AM CET</p>	<p>SAU/HOUTHİ: Saudi defences destroy two Houthi drones targeting Abha airport</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia's air defences on Sunday destroyed two drones launched by Yemen's Houthis toward the Abha international airport in the southwest of the kingdom, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. State-run SPA cited a statement from the Saudi-led coalition fighting the Iran-aligned Houthi group which controls most of northern Yemen.</p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information jpost.com vom 20.12.2021 00:56: The Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen destroyed early on Monday a drone it says was aimed at civilians at King Abdullah airport in the southern Saudi city of Jizan, Saudi state media reported. The coalition added that the drone was launched from Sanaa international airport in the Yemeni capital, where the Iran-aligned Houthi movement holds control.)</i></p>
<p>timesofisrael.com 19.12.2021 03:55 AM</p>	<p>IRQ: Two rockets launched at Baghdad's Green Zone</p>	<p>Two rockets targeted Baghdad's ultra-secure Green Zone that houses the US embassy early Sunday, Iraq's security forces said in a statement. "The Green Zone in Baghdad was the target of two Katyusha rockets. The first was shot down in the air by C-RAM defense batteries, the second fell in a square, damaging two vehicles," the statement said. A security source told AFP that the shot down rocket fell near the US embassy, while the second came down roughly 500 meters (1,640 feet) away. In recent months, dozens of rocket assaults or drone bomb attacks have targeted US troops and interests in Iraq. The attacks are rarely claimed but are routinely pinned on pro-Iran factions in Iraq.</p>
<p>english.alarabiya.net 19.12.2021 09:25 AM GST</p>	<p>SAU/HOUTHİ: Saudi Arabia destroys Houthi drone launched towards Khamis Mushait</p>	<p>Saudi Arabia's defenses destroyed a drone launched by the Iran-backed Houthi militia towards the Kingdom's Khamis Mushait, the Arab Coalition said. The drone took off from Sana'a International Airport in Yemen, the coalition said. On Thursday, a "hostile" projectile launched by the Houthis fell on civilian objects in Saudi Arabia's Ahad al-Masariyah, a Governorate in Jazan, resulting in material damages, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.</p>
<p>rferl.org 18.12.2021</p>	<p>RUS/BLR: Russian Strategic Bombers Patrol Over Belarus Amid High Regional Tensions</p>	<p>Russia has sent two nuclear-capable strategic bombers to patrol the western borders of ally Belarus, the authorities in Minsk say, amid heightened tensions across Eastern Europe. The two Tu-22M3 bombers were accompanied by Su-30SM fighter jets from both the Russian and Belarusian air forces. It was the third such mission in the area in the last month. Tensions between Russia and the West have been heightened by a buildup of Russian troops in the region near the country's border with Ukraine.</p>
<p>taiwannews.com.tw 18.12.2021</p>	<p>TWN/CHN: Chinese military plane enters Taiwan ADIZ on day of referendums</p>	<p>As Taiwanese mobilize to vote in the four-question referendum on Saturday (Dec. 18), a Chinese military plane briefly entered the country's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) in the morning. Liberty Times reported that, according to radio and flight path records, the plane entered the southwestern corner of Taiwan's ADIZ at 9:19</p>

		a.m., at an altitude of 4,000 meters. Liberty times cited the Ministry of National Defense as saying Chinese military planes have entered Taiwan’s ADIZ on 930 occasions so far in 2021, in 229 days.
thedrive.com 17.12.2021	ISR/SYR: Alleged Israeli Airstrike Cratered the Runway At Syria's Damascus International Airport	<p>While information is still limited, satellite imagery released by an American satellite imaging firm appears to reveal prominent cratering damage at Damascus International Airport in Syria, seemingly as a result of Israeli airstrikes yesterday 16.12.2021. Unconfirmed reports suggest that cruise missiles were launched by Israeli Air Force jets and at least some of these may have been responsible for damaging the runway at the airport. Damascus International has been used in the past to fly in supplies to support Iranian militia and affiliates operating in Syria and Lebanon, including Hezbollah, and has also come under repeated Israeli attack.</p> <p>“On December 16, from 1:51 to 1:59, four Israeli Air Force F-16 tactical fighters from the airspace over the Golan Heights struck with eight cruise missiles at targets near the Damascus International Airport,” Rear Adm. Vadim Kulit, deputy head of the Russian Center for the Reconciliation of Warring Parties in Syria said at a briefing.</p> <p>As is usual for these kinds of instances, Russian sources state that Syrian-operated, Russian-supplied Pantsir-S1 air defense systems shot down seven of the eight missiles launched yesterday. However, a satellite image provided by Capella Space and shared on Twitter by Aurora Intel seems to confirm the presence of three impact craters approximately 2,000 feet apart along the runway. If these missiles were indeed responsible for the runway damage at Damascus International then it’s clear that these Russian claims, once again, do not stack up.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Beitrag abrufbar unter:</i>  <a href="https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/43576/alleged-israeli-airstrike-cratered-the-runway-at-damascus-international-airport-in-syria">https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/43576/alleged-israeli-airstrike-cratered-the-runway-at-damascus-international-airport-in-syria</a><i>)</i></p>
raf.mod.uk 17.12.2021	RAF: RAF Typhoon destroys terrorist drone in Syria	A RAF Typhoon has shot down a small hostile drone in Syria which posed a threat to Coalition forces in the area. This unprecedented event was the first operational air to air engagement conducted by a RAF Typhoon, and also the first RAF air to air missile firing during Operation SHADER – the UK’s contribution to the Global Coalition against Daesh. The engagement took place on 14th December, when the drone activity was detected above the At Tanf Coalition base in Syria. Two RAF Typhoon FGR4s from RAF Akrotiri were conducting a regular patrol over Syria and Iraq, as part of Operation SHADER when they were tasked to investigate. On arrival in the At Tanf area, the pilots identified a small hostile drone and succeeded in eliminating the threat during an air-to-air engagement with an ASRAAM Short Range Air to Air Missile.

		<p><i>(Factsheet ASRAAM abrufbar unter:  <a href="https://www.mbda-systems.com/product/asraam/">https://www.mbda-systems.com/product/asraam/</a>)</i></p>
<p>washingtonpost.com  17.12.2021</p>	<p>USA/AFG:  U.S. airstrikes on Taliban surged in war's final month amid failed bid to prevent Afghan army's collapse</p>	<p>U.S. airstrikes against the Taliban surged in August 2021, rising to levels not seen in nearly a year as part of the final, failed attempt to prevent the Afghan army's collapse as militants rapidly took over the country, according to data disclosed Friday. The burst of attacks came as Taliban fighters encircled numerous provincial capitals and ultimately seized control of Kabul, Afghanistan's capital, on Aug. 15. About 153 U.S. bombs or missiles were dropped by U.S. war planes and drones that month, up from 18 in July, the data showed.</p> <p>The data does not include strikes launched by the Afghan air force, which routinely carried out bombing until disbanding along with the central government. Nonetheless, the numbers offer a fresh look at how the American military scrambled in the waning days of its longest war, as the situation on the ground grew increasingly desperate for U.S.-trained Afghan forces being overpowered by the Taliban's assault.</p> <p>The airstrikes occurred as hundreds of civilians were killed per month in 2021, mostly in roadside bomb explosions or fighting between Afghan forces and the Taliban, according to U.N. mission reports. The U.S. military did kill some civilians, however, including in an Aug. 28 strike in Kabul in which commanders thought they were striking an Islamic State bomber but killed an aid worker and nine other civilians.</p> <p>At the height of its air campaign against the Taliban, the U.S. military conducted thousands of strikes annually, reaching a high of 7,423 in 2019, as commanders attempted to force the Taliban to negotiate an end to the war. The bombing campaign remained busy early in 2020, with 415 weapons dropped in January and 360 in February of last year. But it plummeted after the withdrawal deal was signed, with 116 weapons dropped in March, 27 in April, 15 in May and 18 that June, the newly released data show. The numbers climbed again from there, as the Taliban mostly held true to not attacking U.S. troops but waged a bloody campaign against Afghan police and soldiers. The U.S. military dropped 246 weapons in October 2020, and then more than 100 per month for the first third of 2021, the reports show. The numbers tailed off again beginning in May, before the last spike as the Taliban asserted control of the country.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Artikel abrufbar unter:  <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2021/12/17/us-airstrikes-afghanistan-taliban/?utm_source=Sailthru&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=12.20.2021">https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2021/12/17/us-airstrikes-afghanistan-taliban/?utm_source=Sailthru&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=12.20.2021</a>)</i></p>

		<b>Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance</b>
tass.com 29.12.2021	RUS: Defense contractor delivers upgraded A-50U long-range 'flying radar' to Russian troops	<p>The Vega Group and the Beriev Aircraft Company delivered an upgraded A-50U long-range air surveillance/control aircraft to Russia's Aerospace Forces, the Rostec press office reported on Wednesday. The upgraded 'flying radar' is equipped with new systems, Rostec stressed. "The modernized A-50U has received new, better performing and faster electronics, which has boosted its software functional capabilities. The aircraft is also furnished with a navigation instrumentation system. Lighter modern equipment has increased the plane's operational range and the time of accomplishing combat tasks at a designated frontier," the statement says. The A-50U is designated to detect, track and identify aerial, large ground, and naval targets, transmit the relevant data to command posts, guide fighters to aerial targets, and frontline combat aircraft to ground and naval targets.</p> <p>Work on upgrading the A-50 air surveillance aircraft to the A-50U's level continues, Vega Group CEO Vyacheslav Mikheyev said. "We are continuing work on upgrading the operational A-50 aircraft to the A-50U level. This is already the seventh airborne platform delivered to the troops. We are planning to deliver the next plane in 2023," the Rostec press office quoted the chief executive as saying.</p>
defense.gov 28.12.2021	USN : Multi-spectral targeting systems for the U.S. Navy MQ-4C Triton unmanned aircraft system (UAS)	Raytheon Co. is awarded a \$23,175,000 firm-fixed-price order (N0016422FJ026) under basic ordering agreement N0016417GJQ02 for the procurement of multi-spectral targeting systems for the U.S. Navy Triton unmanned aircraft system (UAS) and for the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). These systems provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) detection, identification and targeting capability in day/night operations for both manned and unmanned platforms. Work is expected to be complete by March 2023.
defbrief.com 23.12.2021	FRA: Northrop gets \$353.5M for French E-2D Hawkeye deliveries	The US Naval Air Systems Command has awarded Northrop Grumman a \$353.5 million contract modification for work on the delivery of three E-2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft to the French Navy. The option contract was awarded to the company after France and the US reached a \$2 billion agreement for the purchase in December last year. E-2Ds are newer, more modern, variants of the three existing E-2C Hawkeyes that are operated by the French Navy, Marine Nationale. According to plans, France should receive the new airborne command and control aircraft by 2028. The French Navy has been operating the E-2C Hawkeye since 1998 and is the only country other than the United States to operate Hawkeyes from an aircraft carrier. The French Navy is the second international customer of the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye, with the first being the Japan Air Self Defense Force.

		<p>The E-2D AHE represents a two-generation leap in technology compared to its predecessor, the E-2C Hawkeye. The aircraft features a new radar and upgraded aircraft systems that improve supportability and increase readiness. The centerpiece of the E-2D AHE is the APY-9 radar system, designed specifically to provide enhanced surveillance detection and tracking capability against advanced threat aircraft and cruise missile systems in the overland, littoral, and open ocean environments. With the addition of aerial refueling capabilities, the E-2D remains the most advanced command and control platform in the world.</p> <p><i>(Factsheet E-2D Hawkeye abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.navair.navy.mil/product/E-2D">https://www.navair.navy.mil/product/E-2D</a>)</i></p>
defense.gov 17.12.2021	USAF: Active Electronically Scanned Array radars of Air Force F-16 aircraft	Northrop Grumman Systems Corp. has been awarded a \$189,761,282 firm-fixed-price modification (P00049) to contract FA8615-17-C-6047 for Active Electronically Scanned Array radars of Air Force F-16 aircraft. This modification exercises options to include 83 production radars, as well as associated spares. Work is expected to be completed by Dec. 31, 2024.
defense.gov 16.12.2021	USAF/SAU: AWACS Modernization Program, Phase 2	The Boeing Co. has been awarded a \$397,921,549 firm-fixed-price contract for the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) Modernization Program, Phase 2. This contract provides for production, training and installation and checkout, in order to keep the RSAF E-3 AWACS fleet interoperable with the U.S. Air Force and functionally viable through its expected end of life in 2040. Work is expected to be completed by Feb. 21, 2026.
		<b>Cyber- und Electromagnetic Warfare</b>
defense.gov 23.12.2021	USN: Next Generation Jammer-Mid Band	Raytheon Co., is awarded a \$226,732,672 fixed-price-incentive modification (P00005) to a previously awarded contract (N0001921C0053). This modification exercises options for the production and delivery of five Next Generation Jammer-Mid Band low rate initial production lot II ship sets. Additionally, this modification provides for the production and delivery of associated spares, peculiar support equipment, gold units for operational test program set development, travel and associated data. Work is expected to be completed in September 2024.

<p>terma.com 23.12.2021</p>	<p>New Compact Jamming System ready for F-16s</p>	<p>In late October 2021 a Danish F-16 conducted a series of flight demonstrations of the Leonardo Compact Jamming System (CJS) integrated in Terma’s ECIPS-pylon. The two companies are now ready to provide the integrated solution to potential customers. Fighter jets like the F-16 have a need for protection and the ability to jam enemy radars. The Leonardo CJS-jammer has a small form factor and incorporates modern Digital Radio Frequency Memory (DRFM) technology, making it the obvious choice to integrate into the Terma modified F-16 Wing Weapon Pylon while still retaining the full use of the underwing station to carry standard external stores. “Having supported the F-16 warfighter community for over 44 years, supplying over 15.000 pylons and 2.500 ALQ-213 EW Controllers. After thorough laboratory tests were passed successfully, the system was put to the ultimate test onboard a Royal Danish Airforce (RDAF) F-16 operated by the test pilot, “POL”. He conducted safety of flight sorties followed by several performance demonstrations against an RDAF radar test site with a challenging ground threat emitter. Terma and Leonardo are now looking forward to discussing more details on the ECIPS-CJS with potential customers.</p>
<p>c4isrnet.com 16.12.2021</p>	<p>USAF: US Air Force cyber team demonstrates first ever in-flight mission</p>	<p>A U.S. Air Force mission defense team demonstrated the ability to conduct near real-time cyber threat analysis aboard for the first time earlier this year. The first was executed by the 27th Special Operations Communications Squadron Mission Defense Team aboard an active MC-130J Commando II. It was the first time their capability was connected to an operational weapon system outside of the labs, according to an Air Force release. Mission defense teams are specialized groups that protect critical Air Force missions and installations such as critical infrastructure or computers associated with aircraft and remotely piloted systems. They are separate from the cyber protection teams each of the services provide to U.S. Cyber Command. The demonstration has led to approval for the team’s capabilities to be integrated into flight operations with the MC-130J while it is in flight.</p> <p>The Air Force said as of Dec. 8 the mission defense team successfully conducted an in-flight test of the new cyber suite aboard the MC-130J and it was the first time flight data had been collected in near real time to enable cyber defense of flight operations in flight. Specifically, the cyber analysis provided by the team could shape preventative maintenance functions for the aircraft and could predict requirements needed to harden operations.</p>

		<b>Boden- und seegestützte Luftverteidigungssysteme</b>
tass.com 29.12.2021	RUS: First S-550 air defense systems enter service in Russia	<p>Russia's new S-550 air defense system has successfully passed state trials and the first S-550 brigade has entered combat duty," a source close to the Russian defense ministry has told TASS. The source described the new system as "an absolutely new and unrivalled mobile system of strategic missile defense," capable of "hitting spacecraft, ballistic missile reentry vehicles and hypersonic targets at altitudes of tens of thousands of kilometers." According to the source, the new system becomes a part of Russia's comprehensive missile and air defense, comprised by Pantsir systems (low-altitude), long-range S-350, S-400 and S-500 systems and S-550 (in space).</p> <p><i>(Ergänzende Information thedrive.com vom 29.12.2021: Two Russian state media outlets, both citing unnamed sources, have offered wildly different claims about the status of the development of the country's S-550 missile defense system, which could also have anti-satellite capabilities. RIA Novosti reported today that, while there is active work being done on the S-550, no full-scale prototypes have been built so far and there are no live-fire tests scheduled yet. That comes a day after a story from TASS that declared that the system had entered operational service.)</i></p>
dailysabah.com 26.12.2021	TUR: Turkey's HISAR O+ missile successfully completes test firing	<p>The HISAR O+ missile defense system, which reached the stage of mass production in July, has successfully hit target aircraft in test firing, the Defense Ministry said Sunday. In a statement posted on Twitter, the ministry said that the test-fire was carried out at the Aksaray Shooting Range on Dec. 24, 2021, from an Autonomous Missile Launching System. Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry also said that the HISAR O+ is ready for use. The Hisar-O+ short-range air defense system has full 360-degree defense capability and can simultaneously engage and fire against at least nine different targets. Effective against warplanes, helicopters, air-to-land missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles, it can also intercept targets at a range of 25 kilometers (15.5 miles). The Hisar project has major Turkish defense firms as stakeholders, namely Aselsan and Roketsan, who partnered in the development of the air defense system.</p> <p>The development of long-range missile defense system SIPER is still in progress and it is expected to be ready by 2023.</p>
janes.com 23.12.2021	SWE: Swedish Patriots reach IOC	<p>The Försvarsmakten (Swedish Armed Forces) announced on 17 December that its Patriot air-defence system, designated by Sweden as Luftvärnssystem 103, had reached initial operational capability (IOC). IOC was declared during an exercise conducted by the Försvarsmakten's Air Defence Regiment in Halmstad in mid-December. The commander of the regiment's 61st Air Defence Battalion, Colonel Magnus Stegmark, said the exercise "ensured that we can now use the new capability in the defence of Sweden". The Försvarsmakten said</p>

		Patriot will give it the capability to shoot down enemy aircraft and ballistic and cruise missiles. During part of the exercise, the battalion was supported by the Swedish Air Force's (SwAF's) 72nd Fighter Squadron from the F7 base in Satenas with JAS 39 Gripen combat aircraft.
defense.gov 21.12.2021	USN: Standard Missile-2 (SM-2)	Raytheon Missiles & Defense was awarded a \$578,314,177 firm-fixed-price modification to a previously awarded contract (N00024-21-C-5411) to procure Standard Missile-2 (SM-2) production requirements including all up rounds, instrumentation kits, engineering services and spares; and to definitize the long-lead-material undefinitized contract action in support of the Navy and the governments of Korea, Denmark, Taiwan, Netherlands, Spain, Chile, Japan and Germany. This contract is expected to be complete by December 2026.
economictimes. indiatimes.com 20.12.2021	IND: India deploys first S-400 air defence system in Punjab sector, to take care of aerial threats from both China, Pakistan	"The first squadron is being deployed in the Punjab sector. The batteries of the first squadron would be capable of taking care of aerial threats from both Pakistan and China," government sources told ANI. Parts of the Russian missile system had started reaching India earlier this month and the unit is expected to be operationalized in the next few weeks, they said. The S-400 air defence system was contracted for by India in a deal worth around Rs 35,000 crore and five squadrons would be provided to India for tacking air threats from up to 400 km. The first squadron deliveries are expected to be complete by the end of this year. Indian Air Force officers and personnel have trained in Russia on the system.
defenseworld.net 19.12.2021	RUS: Russian Pantsir Systems Shot down 40 Turkish Drones over Syrian, Libya	Turkish Bayraktar drones are easy targets for domestic air defense systems such as Pantsir, according to the deputy chief of the anti-aircraft missile forces of the Russian Aerospace Forces Yuri Muravkin. Speaking on "Russia-1" TV channel, he said, "Bayraktar drone has such high-speed and mass-dimensional characteristics that it is not difficult to shoot down a drone even for an average-skilled crew." Pantsir-S in service with Syria and Libyan forces shot down more than 40 Bayraktars and Anka heavy Turkish drones with the TV channel reported quoting Russian officials. The channel also showed remnants of a Bayraktar drone shot down over Syrian skies. In 2011, it was reported that Russia had supplied Syria with 36 Pantsir-S1 anti-aircraft missile and gun systems.
thebarentsobserver. com 17.12.2021	RUS: New Barnaul-T air defense system comes to motorized rifle brigade in Pechenga	The fully automatic command and control (C2) system strengthens Russian control over air space in the borderland to Norway and Finland. Servicemen from the Northern Fleet's 200th Separate Motor Rifle Brigade had spent four months in the training field of Yeisk in southern Russia to learn to handle the system. This week, they used their new acquired skills in one of the shooting ranges in Pechenga, few kilometers from the border to Norway and Finland. The Barnaul-T enables the local units to significantly enhance their air space surveillance and track down flying enemy objects. That includes drones, local instructors explain. "With the help of the radar-location equipment installed in this technology we can detect the target, and the target

		<p>becomes visible on the screen, and the commander shares the information with the combat machines that subsequently can execute elimination or tracking,” says Aleksandr Bychenkov, commander of a missile division. The local Barnaul-T system is carried by MT-LBu, the amphibious auxiliary armored tracked vehicles. The vehicles carrying the Barnaul-T system were first revealed in a 2019 defence and security exhibition. Since then, the system has been deployed in several key units in the Russian Armed Forces.</p>
<p>africanmilitaryblog.com 17.12.2021</p>	<p>EGY: Egypt Air defence strengthened with IRIS-T SLM acquisition</p>	<p>The First Batch of the IRIS-T SLM medium-range air defense system has been delivered to Egypt a few months ago. Egypt signed a contract to purchase seven batteries of the IRIS-T SLM and an additional ten IRIS-T SLX Long-range GBAD system batteries were received. The IRIS-T SL will significantly boost the Egyptian Air Defense Forces by having a layered and integrated air defense network coverage against any aerial threats within different ranges/altitudes. SLM medium-range GBAD system, and 6 IRIS-T SLS short-range GBAD system. The new GBAD system will work in tandem with the recently acquired French-made Thales Ground Master 400 (GM400) AESA air defense radars. These long-range, mobile, 3D radar system has a maximum range of up to 515Km.</p> <p>The IRIS-T SLM medium-range GBAD system has an effective range of 40km while the IRIS-T SLX Long-range GBAD system has an effective range of +80km/altitude of 30km with a dual-mode seeker for the missile. The IRIS-T SLX and SLS contract was recently approved by the German government. The IRIS-T SL (Surface Launched) is a new, mobile, medium-range surface-to-air guided missile designed and developed by Diehl BGT Defence to meet future medium-range air defence needs of the German Air Force. IRIS-T SL is an advanced version of the IRIS-T air-to-air guided missile, which entered service in December 2005.</p> <p>The new missile is effective against all types of aircraft, helicopters, cruise missiles, guided weapons, air-to-surface missiles, anti-ship missiles, anti-radar rockets and large-calibre rockets. It also has high probability of kill against unmanned aerial vehicles, unmanned combat aerial vehicles and other small manoeuvring threats at very-short and medium-range distances. The IRIS-T SL missile is equipped with a global positioning system (GPS) / inertial navigation system (INS) technology for autonomous navigation. A radiofrequency (RF) data link is incorporated to transmit virtual target data from an external radar to the missile during the flight. A high-precision passive infrared seeker is incorporated to provide missile guidance, increased countermeasure resistance and high target accuracy.</p> <p>Egypt has been upgrading its air defences capabilities, and in mid-2017 began receiving S-300VM/Antey-2500 surface-to-air missile systems from Russia. The S-300VM is the export version of the S-300 system. It can engage</p>

		<p>four targets out to 200 km and altitudes of up to 25 000 metres. Egypt also ordered Tor-2ME surface-to-air missiles from Russia.</p> <p>Last year, the United States supplied Egypt with excess air defense units including the Chaparral air defence system. The deal involves the supply of parts to maintain Egypt's Chaparral anti-aircraft missile units currently deployed along the nation's border.</p>
		<b>Boden- und seegestützte Einsatzkräfte, Strategische Kampfmittel und Space Forces</b>
tasnimnews.com 30.12.2021 14:11	IRN: Iran Successfully Launches Research Cargos into Space	Iran has successfully sent three research cargos to space by its homegrown Simorgh satellite carrier, a spokesman said. Seyed Ahmad Hosseini, a Defense Ministry spokesman, said on Thursday that in this launch, the performances of the space center and the satellite carrier were properly done and the research objectives were achieved. In this research space mission, he added, for the first time three research cargos were simultaneously sent to 470 kilometers above the earth with a speed of 7,350 km/s.
en.yna.co.kr 28.12.2021	KOR: S. Korea to begin project for solid-fuel space rocket next year	South Korea plans to embark on a civilian-military project next year to design a solid-fuel space launch vehicle under a broad initiative to develop the country's space defense industry, the state arms procurement agency said Tuesday. At a policy forum, the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) unveiled the initiative consisting of 24 key tasks aimed at locally developing cutting-edge technologies, nurturing the space industry and strengthening civilian-military cooperation. "If the technology transfer project proceeds successfully, we will be able to begin a full-fledged commercial space launch service in the mid-2020s, under which a homegrown satellite atop a space launch vehicle produced by our enterprise would lift off from our soil," DAPA said. South Korea's military has recently been stepping up efforts to build space security capabilities, as the United States, China and other major powers beef up their presence in the emerging security realm.
tass.com 24.12.2021	SRB: Shipment of Russian anti-tank missiles arrive in Serbia	A shipment of Kornet anti-tank missile systems arrived from Russia to Serbia, Politika newspaper reported on Friday. The missiles were delivered to the Belgrade military airfield Batainitza on Thursday by an Il-76 military transport aircraft, the report said. The Russian missiles, some of the most advanced weapons of this type, will significantly strengthen the Serbian armed forces, the newspaper said.

		Earlier, Russia handed over to Serbia 30 T-72MS tanks and 30 BRDM-2MS armored personnel carriers. From 2018 to February 2020, Russia donated four Mi-35M helicopters, six MiG-29 fighters, 10 BRDM-2 amphibious armored scout cars, three Mi-17V-5 transport helicopters, and Pantsir-S1 air-defense missile-gun systems to Serbia as military-technical assistance.
edition.cnn.com 23.12.2021	SAU/CHN: US intel and satellite images show Saudi Arabia is now building its own ballistic missiles with help of China	US intelligence agencies have assessed that Saudi Arabia is now actively manufacturing its own ballistic missiles with the help of China, CNN has learned, a development that could have significant ripple effects across the Middle East and complicate the Biden administration's efforts to restrain the nuclear ambitions of Iran, the Saudis' top regional rival. Saudi Arabia is known to have purchased ballistic missiles from China in the past but has never been able to build its own -- until now, according to three sources familiar with the latest intelligence. Satellite images obtained by CNN also suggest the Kingdom is currently manufacturing the weapons in at least one location.  <i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://edition.cnn.com/2021/12/23/politics/saudi-ballistic-missiles-china/index.html">https://edition.cnn.com/2021/12/23/politics/saudi-ballistic-missiles-china/index.html</a> <i>)</i>
pib.gov.in 23.12.2021	IND: DRDO successfully conducts second flight-test of indigenously developed conventional Surface-to-Surface missile 'Pralay'	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted second flight-test of indigenously developed conventional Surface-to-Surface missile 'Pralay' from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on December 23, 2021. For the first time, two consecutive flight tests of a ballistic missile have been conducted successfully on two consecutive days. The flight test met all the mission objectives. This launch proves the system in both the configurations of the missile. In today's launch, the 'Pralay' missile was tested for heavier payload and different range to prove the precision and lethality of the weapon. This launch was monitored by all the range sensors and instruments, including Telemetry, Radar and Electro-Optic Tracking System deployed across the eastern coast and the down range ships positioned near the impact point. The Missile is powered with solid propellant rocket motor and many new technologies. The missile has a range of 150-500 kilometre and can be launched from a mobile launcher. The missile guidance system includes state-of-the-art navigation system and integrated avionics.
defensenews.com 21.12.2021	PAK: Pakistan tests homegrown missile with additional range	Pakistan's military test-fired a homegrown Babur cruise missile on Tuesday that has a range of more than 900 kilometers (560 miles). The missile, dubbed the Babur Cruise Missile 1B, is domestically developed, said the military statement. An earlier version had the limited capacity to travel just 450 kilometers (280 miles). The missile's extended range further enhances nuclear-armed Pakistan's military capability.

tass.com 21.12.2021	RUS: Russian Navy sub strikes coastal target with Kalibr cruise missile from Sea of Japan	The Pacific Fleet's diesel-electric submarine Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky struck from a submerged position a coastal target at a range of 1,000 km with a Kalibr cruise missile from the Sea of Japan, the Fleet's press office reported on Tuesday. The Kalibr cruise missile struck the coastal target position at the Syurkum tactical field at the designated time, the press office said. "The firing range exceeded 1,000 km," the Russian Defense Ministry said. Before the missile launch, the submariners conducted a tactical maneuver of stealthily deploying to the area of accomplishing assigned missions, the press office said.
tass.com 21.12.2021	RUS: Testing of Tsirkon missile about to end, supplies to begin 2022	Government certification tests of the hypersonic cruise missile Tsirkon (Zircon) are drawing to an end. The missile's batch supplies will begin next year, Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu said at an enlarged meeting of the ministry's board on Tuesday. Earlier, the Defense Ministry said that the Northern Fleet's frigate The Admiral Gorshkov had successfully fired a Tsirkon missile from the White Sea to hit a target at a proving ground in the Arkhangelsk Region. A source told TASS a machine-building research and production association in Reutov had begun to produce batches of Tsirkon missiles for the Russian Navy.
scmp.com 19.12.2021	CHN: China's future spaceplane may be able to take off and land at airports	<p>China's space flight technology may have advanced beyond that of the United States as it can now launch spaceplanes without rocket propulsion, according to a Chinese military magazine. It means the spaceplanes will not need launch sites and will be able to take off and land at airports – a cost-saving development that has added to concerns over the weaponisation of space. China is developing a spaceplane known as Tengyun, which has a horizontal take-off and horizontal landing (HTHL) system. That gives it an advantage over the US equivalent, the X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle (OTV), which is rocket-launched, according to military magazine Naval and Merchant Ships. A video clip of the magazine's editors discussing US hegemony in space and the Tengyun spaceplane project was posted on its Chinese social media accounts on December 12. "Chinese spaceplane technology was inspired by the US X-37B, but the American OTV still needs to be launched by rocket, while China has now overcome this limitation," magazine editor-in-chief Su Ming said in the video. He was referring to a test flight of the Tengyun carried out by its developer, state-owned China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), in July. It was launched on the suborbital flight by a mother ship instead of a rocket.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Artikel abrufbar unter:</i>  <a href="https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3160221/chinas-future-spaceplane-may-be-able-take-and-land-airports">https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3160221/chinas-future-spaceplane-may-be-able-take-and-land-airports</a><i>)</i></p>
economictimes. indiatimes.com	IND:	India on Saturday successfully tested the new generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile 'Agni P' from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast, the Defence Research and Development Organisation said. The 'Agni

18.12.2021	India successfully testfires nuclear capable strategic Agni Prime missile	P' is a two-stage canisterised solid propellant ballistic missile with dual redundant navigation and guidance system, it said. This second flight-test has proven the reliable performance of all the advanced technologies integrated into the system, it said. The surface-to-surface ballistic missile has a range of 1,000 to 2,000 km.
tass.com 17.12.2021	RUS: First Sarmat ICBM regiment to enter service in late 2022	The first Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) regiment will enter service in late 2022 in Uzhur, Russian Strategic Rocket Forces commander Colonel General Sergey Karakayev said Thursday. The RS-28 Sarmat is a Russian advanced silo-based system with a heavy liquid-propellant intercontinental ballistic missile. It has been in the process of its development since the 2000s to replace the R-36M2 Voyevoda ICBM. It weighs about 200 tonnes and has a throw weight of around 10 tonnes. The Sarmat is capable of breaching any existing and future missile defenses. According to the experts, the RS-28 Sarmat ICBM can deliver a 10-ton multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle to any point in the world, both through North and South Poles of Earth.  <i>(Ergänzende Information tass.com vom 20.12.2021: The first launch of the latest liquid-fueled intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) Sarmat has been postponed to the first quarter of 2022, a source in the defense industry told TASS.)</i>
thedrive.com 17.12.2021	USAF: Third Test Of The Air Force's Hypersonic Weapon Has Failed Like The Ones Before It	The U.S. Air Force has failed for a third time to conduct a successful test of the rocket booster on a prototype AGM-183A Air-Launched Rapid Response Weapon hypersonic missile, or ARRW. This can only add to the palatable frustration within the service, as well as elsewhere in the U.S. military and in Congress, about the progress, or lack thereof, in the testing of various new hypersonic weapons.  <i>(Vollständiger Beitrag abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/43575/third-test-of-the-air-forces-hypersonic-weapon-has-failed-like-the-ones-before-it">https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/43575/third-test-of-the-air-forces-hypersonic-weapon-has-failed-like-the-ones-before-it</a>)</i>
		<b>Geo- und Sicherheitspolitik, militärische Übungen</b>
jpost.com 29.12.2021	ISR/SYR: Hezbollah deploys air defense systems in	Hezbollah is reportedly deploying air defense systems in Syria, where it would be able to defend against Israeli airstrikes there as well as in Lebanon. According to the Alma Research Center, the group is deploying the systems to the Qalmoun Mountains region northwest of Damascus, which borders Lebanon's Bekaa Valley,

	<p>Syria's Qalamoun mountains</p>	<p>home to Hezbollah's logistical and operational rear base. The group is believed to have the SA8 low-altitude, short-range tactical surface-to-air missile system, SA17, and SA22 man-portable air defense missile systems in its arsenal in order to defend against Israeli airstrikes. Hezbollah has fired on Israeli platforms using its air defenses, most recently in February of last year, when an Israeli drone was fired on by anti-aircraft fire during routine operations over Lebanese territory. It was not hit and continued on its mission. In October 2019 an SA8 surface-to-air missile was fired at an Israeli drone but also missed its mark.</p> <p>In addition to deploying the batteries to Syria, Maj. (ret.) Tal Beerli, head of the research department at the Alma Center, told The Jerusalem Post that Hezbollah has also deployed SA8 batteries in south Lebanon. According to Beerli, these systems can "theoretically" pose a threat to Israeli jets operating over Lebanon. In addition to its independent air-defense system, Beerli said, it is possible that Hezbollah operatives have trained on Iran's Bavar-373. The Iranian system is based on Russia's SA-300 air-defense system that can supposedly simultaneously engage up to six targets up to 250 km. away with 12 missiles. Iran says the system can target jet bombers and fighters, stealth aircraft and drones.</p> <p>In October, Israel's defense establishment said that it had identified growing Iranian efforts to improve its air defenses in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and other locations, in an attempt to disrupt Israel's "war between the wars" campaign and bring down an Israeli aircraft. The Iranian systems have helped Syria improve its capabilities, shorten its response time to attacks and destroy more munitions fired by the Jewish state. While the IDF's aerial superiority has worsened, the military believes that it still has the ability to carry out operations over Lebanon and Syria despite the threat posed by Iranian and Hezbollah air-defense systems.</p> <p>Hezbollah has also violated Israeli airspace, sending 74 drones into Israel over the past year, down from 94 drones in 2020.</p>
<p>reuters.com 28.12.2021 09:30 PM CET</p>	<p>USA/RUS/UKR: U.S., Russia set for Jan 10 security talks amid Ukraine tensions</p>	<p>U.S. and Russian officials will hold security talks on Jan. 10 to discuss concerns about their respective military activity and confront rising tensions over Ukraine, the two countries said. A spokesperson for U.S. President Joe Biden's administration announced the date late on Monday, and said Russia and NATO were also likely to hold talks on Jan. 12, with a broader meeting including Moscow, Washington and other European countries set for Jan. 13. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov confirmed those dates on Tuesday and said he hoped the talks with the United States in Geneva would start a process that would give Moscow new security guarantees from the West.</p>

scmp.com 28.12.2021 06:00 PM	CHN/USA: South China Sea: think tank calls for Beijing vigilance as US steps up surveillance of disputed waterway	The United States intensified its surveillance of China over the South China Sea in 2021, a Beijing-based think tank said while calling on Beijing to remain vigilant about any heightened risk over the waters. Hu Bo, director of the South China Sea Probing Initiative, said that in 2021 the US had conducted 1,200 surveillance missions using large-scale reconnaissance aircraft – up from 1,000 sorties last year – including several approaches 20 nautical miles from the baseline of territorial waters claimed by Beijing. The US sent aircraft carrier strike groups and amphibious groups to enter the South China Sea 13 times – double the number sent in 2020. At least 11 attack nuclear submarines sailed to the South China Sea and its surrounding waters last year, Hu said. “Relations between China and the US have become the biggest uncertainty in the security of the South China Sea. The two nations have the most dialogue platforms but also are facing the most serious confrontation,” Hu said. Last month, the think tank said US aircraft carried out 94 spy plane sorties over the disputed waters in November, with the Boeing P-8 Poseidon, an anti-submarine surveillance plane, accounting for 80 per cent of the operations. Beijing protested repeatedly and also deployed its own military vessels and aircraft to the waters for drills.
upi.com 28.12.2021 04:52 PM	USA/NATO: USS Harry S. Truman to stay in Mediterranean to reassure European allies	U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has ordered the USS Harry S. Truman to remain in the Mediterranean Sea, delaying a scheduled to journey to the Middle East. The schedule change for the carrier, as well as its strike group and its escorts, which entered the Mediterranean on Dec. 14 and are currently operating in the Ionian Sea between Greece and Italy. Austin ordered the change to reassure European allies of U.S. commitment to regional security. While officials did not mention the Russian military buildup on the Ukrainian border in Eastern Europe, but tensions have been building since troops and equipment started massing there.
defensenews.com 27.12.2021	SWE: Sweden’s top general on watching Russia and responding to an invasion of Ukraine	<b>EIN MUST!</b>  In a Dec. 15 interview with Defense News the supreme commander of the Swedish Armed Forces, Gen. Micael Bydén said this visit, and future ones, to Washington are part of Sweden’s efforts to deepen international defense cooperation. Sweden borders the Baltic Sea — a body of water also adjoining Russia. The northern European nation is not a NATO member but cooperates closely with the alliance. Like others in Europe, Sweden bolstered its defense budget after Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine 2014, and the government is continuing to deepen pan-Nordic defense cooperation. This interview was edited for length and clarity.  (Vollständiges Interview abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.defensenews.com/interviews/2021/12/27/swedens-top-general-on-watching-russia-and-responding-to-an-invasion-of-ukraine/">https://www.defensenews.com/interviews/2021/12/27/swedens-top-general-on-watching-russia-and-responding-to-an-invasion-of-ukraine/</a> )

		<p>(Auszug zum finnischen F-35 Entscheid:          What are the implications of Finland’s decision to buy the F-35 fighter after Sweden pushed the Gripen?  <i>Finland is our closest partner. The relationship we now have, we haven’t done anything like this in modern times. We have plans to fight together beyond peacetime, pending political decisions. I hoped for another outcome, but I fully respect the Finnish decision, and the process has been very thorough. Me and my counterpart have agreed that this will not have an impact on our cooperation because it’s too important right now that we just continue as we have. A fighter system like the F-35 will of course add to our common capability.)</i></p>
<p>globaltimes.cn          26.12.2021</p>	<p>CHN:          China completes record-breaking warplane production goals for 2021</p>	<p>The Chinese aviation industry is wrapping up the warplane production and test flight work scheduled for 2021 in the last week of the year, with many companies already finishing their missions while others are making their final runs. Despite challenges including occasional COVID-19 outbreaks, the high quality and quantity of the aircraft will meet the demands of the aviation forces of all Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) branches, analysts said on Sunday.</p> <p>With the last warplane landing on the runway at the test flight station of <u>Shenyang Aircraft Corporation under the state-owned Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC)</u> on December 15, the Shenyang company wrapped up the year's production and test flight missions 16 days before the year ends, and the number of aircraft the company produced and delivered this year broke a record, AVIC revealed in a statement released on its social media account on Friday. The Shenyang-based company builds the J-15 aircraft carrier-based fighter jet and the J-16 multirole fighter jet. It is also responsible for the development of the FC-31 stealth fighter jet. A heavily upgraded version of the J-15 was recently revealed by the Shenyang company, and the electronic warfare variant of the J-16, the J-16D, made its debut at the Airshow China 2021 in September.</p> <p>The <u>AVIC Changhe Aircraft Industry (Group) Corporation Ltd</u>, which produces helicopters including the Z-10 attack helicopter and the Z-8 transport helicopter, also finished production and delivery missions on December 15, AVIC said in the statement.</p> <p>The maker of the Y-20 large transport aircraft, the <u>AVIC Xi'an Aircraft Industry Group Company Ltd</u>, completed the last batch of test flight on Wednesday, nine days before the end of the year, AVIC said. An aerial tanker variant of the Y-20 was also spotted in a drill near the island of Taiwan for the first time in November.</p> <p><u>AVIC Harbin Aircraft Industry Group Co Ltd</u>, which makes the Z-20 utility helicopter and the Z-9/19 series helicopter, wrapped up 2021's production and test flight missions on Friday, setting a new record in the number of aircraft delivered despite the negative impact of COVID-19, AVIC announced in the statement.</p>

		<p>Known as the maker of the J-20 stealth fighter jet and the J-10 fighter jet, <u>AVIC Chengdu Aircraft Industrial Group Co Ltd</u> revealed on December 10 in a social media post that the company recently broke records in terms of aircraft delivery due to high demand, and it was striving to wrap up the year 2021.</p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i>  <a href="https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202112/1243426.shtml">https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202112/1243426.shtml</a><i>)</i></p>
<p>timesofisrael.com  24.12.2021  04:13 PM</p>	<p>IRN/ISR:  In 'warning' to Israel,  Iran says it fired 16  ballistic missiles able to  hit country</p>	<p>Iran fired multiple ballistic missiles Friday at the close of five days of military drills that generals said were a warning to Israel and included a mock strike on Israel's nuclear facility. "Sixteen missiles aimed and annihilated the chosen target. In this exercise, part of the hundreds of Iranian missiles capable of destroying a country that dared to attack Iran were deployed," armed forces chief of staff Major General Mohammad Bagheri told state television. Iranian Revolutionary Guards forces finished the drill by blowing up a target set up to resemble Israel's Dimona nuclear complex, Reuters reported. According to the IRNA news agency, the missiles were of the models Emad, Ghadr, Sejil, Zalzal, Dezful and Zolfaghar and that their range is from 350 to 2000 kilometers (220 to 1250 miles). The short-range and medium-range missiles, Iran has said, can reach Israel as well as US bases in the region. Iranian officials said the missiles fired during the drill successfully hit one target at the same time as 10 drones simultaneously hit their targets. State TV showed missiles launching in the desert. During the second day of the drill on Tuesday, Iran launched cruise missiles, too.</p>
<p>reuters.com  24.12.2021  04:38 PM CET</p>	<p>RUS/NATO:  Satellite images show  Russia still building up  forces near Ukraine</p>	<p>New satellite images captured by a private U.S. company show that Russia has continued to build up its forces in annexed Crimea and near Ukraine in recent weeks while pressing the United States for talks over security guarantees it is seeking. The images released late on Thursday showed a base in Crimea, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014, packed with hundreds of armoured vehicles and tanks as of Dec. 13. A Maxar satellite image of the same base in October showed the base was half empty. Maxar said a new brigade-level unit, comprised of several hundred armoured vehicles that include BMP-series infantry fighting vehicles, tanks, self-propelled artillery and air defence equipment, had arrived at the Russian garrison. "Over the past month, our high-resolution satellite imagery has observed a number of new Russian deployments in Crimea as well as in several training areas in western Russia along the periphery of the Ukraine border," Maxar said in a statement. It cited increased activity at three sites in Crimea and at five sites in western Russia.</p> <p>Other Maxar images showed a build-up at the Soloti staging ground in Russia close to the Ukrainian border, with photos shot at the start of December showing a larger concentration of military hardware than in September. Pictures also showed continuing build-ups at Yelnya, a Russian town around 160 miles (260 km) north of the Ukrainian border, and at the Pogonovo training ground near the southern Russian city of Voronezh.</p>

tasnimnews.com 21.12.2021	IRN: IRGC Launches Smart Bombs in War Game	A range of drone-launched smart bombs and precision strike missiles were used in a military exercise that the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has staged along the southern coasts of Iran. During the main stage of "Payambar-e Azam 17 (The Great Prophet)" war game on Tuesday, the drone division of the IRGC Navy flew Mohajer-6 reconnaissance and combat drones which detonated fixed and mobile targets. The strike drones launched 'Qaem' smart bombs, which have pinpoint accuracy, and also 'Almas' smart missiles. The IRGC Aerospace Force's Sukhoi Su-22 also scrambled in the drill to hit the targets with 'Yasin' precision strike bombs.
reuters.com 21.12.2021 09:00 PM CET	RUS/UKR: Putin says Russia has 'nowhere to retreat' over Ukraine	President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday that Russia had no room to retreat in a standoff with the United States over Ukraine and would be forced into a tough response unless the West dropped its "aggressive line". Putin addressed his remarks to military officials as Russia pressed for an urgent U.S. and NATO reply to proposals it made last week for a binding set of security guarantees from the West. Putin did not spell out the nature of these measures but his phrasing mirrored that used previously by Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov, who has warned that Russia may redeploy intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe in response to what it regards as NATO plans to do the same. Russia rejects Ukrainian and U.S. accusations that it may be preparing an invasion of Ukraine as early as next month by tens of thousands of Russian troops poised within reach of the border.
reuters.com 21.12.2021	UKR/RUS: 'No walkover': Ukraine could extract high price for any Russian attack	Ukraine's armed forces are heavily outnumbered and outgunned by Russia's but could put up a level of resistance that would force Russian President Vladimir Putin to pay a price of many thousands of Russian lives for any new invasion. Western military analysts say Ukraine's army is better trained and equipped than in 2014, when Russia captured the Crimean peninsula without a fight, and highly motivated to defend the country's heartland. For those reasons, they see it as highly unlikely that Putin would contemplate an outright conquest of Ukraine. "We won't see a big giant red arrow going across Ukraine. I don't believe the Russians have the capability to just completely overrun Ukraine and take over the whole country, nor do I think they want to," said Ben Hodges, a retired U.S. lieutenant general now with the Center for European Policy Analysis. A plausible alternative, he and others said, was that Russia might push south and west from Ukraine's Donbass region - already controlled by pro-Russian forces - to link up with annexed Crimea and the Black Sea. But even that more limited objective would entail high Russian casualties.  <i>(Vollständige Analyse abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/no-walkover-ukraine-could-extract-high-price-any-russian-attack-2021-12-21/">https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/no-walkover-ukraine-could-extract-high-price-any-russian-attack-2021-12-21/</a> <i>)</i>

dsca.mil 21.12.2021	USA/UKR: Lithuania – Javelin Missiles	The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Lithuania of Javelin Missiles and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$125 million. The Government of Lithuania has requested to buy an additional two hundred thirty (230) Javelin FGM-148F missiles and twenty (20) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLUs), that will be added to a previously implemented case that was under threshold. The original FMS case, valued at \$28.23 million, included one hundred eleven (111) Javelin FGM-148F missiles and ten (10) Javelin CLUs. Therefore, this notification is for a total of three hundred forty-one (341) Javelin FGM-148F missiles and thirty (30) Javelin CLUs.
government.se 21.12.2021	SWE: Joint statement by the Nordic Ministers of Defence on Ukraine	We, the Nordic Ministers of Defence, follow the recent developments in and around Ukraine with great concern. Recent Russian military activity, especially the exceptional military build-up along Ukraine’s borders, is a worrying development, which may have a destabilising effect on our shared security environment.  <i>(Vollständiges Joint Statement abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://www.government.se/statements/2021/12/joint-statement-by-the-nordic-ministers-of-defence-on-ukraine/">https://www.government.se/statements/2021/12/joint-statement-by-the-nordic-ministers-of-defence-on-ukraine/</a> <i>)</i>
tasnimnews.com 20.12.2021	IRN: IRGC Stages Massive Drill in Southern Iran	The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps launched a large-scale war game along the southern coasts of Iran on Monday. The exercise, codenamed “Payambar-e Azam 17 (The Great Prophet)”, involves various IRGC units such as the ground force, the aerospace force, and the cyber-electronic division. The war game covers the coastlines of the southern provinces of Hormozgan, Bushehr and Khuzestan.
nytimes.com 18.12.2021	ISR/IRN: Israeli Defense Officials Cast Doubt on Threat to Attack Iran	With diplomatic efforts to curb Iran’s nuclear program teetering, Israel’s defense minister has ordered his forces to prepare a military option, warning the world that Israel would take matters into its own hands if a new nuclear agreement did not sufficiently constrain Iran. But several current and former senior Israeli military officials and experts say that Israel lacks the ability to pull off an assault that could destroy, or even significantly delay, Iran’s nuclear program, at least not anytime soon. One current high-ranking security official said it would take at least two years to prepare an attack that could cause significant damage to Iran’s nuclear project. A smaller-scale strike, damaging parts of the program without ending it entirely, would be feasible sooner, experts and officials say. But a wider effort to destroy the dozens of nuclear sites in distant parts of Iran — the kind of attack Israeli officials have threatened — would be beyond the current resources of the Israeli armed forces.  <i>(Registrierpflichtiger Bericht abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/18/world/middleeast/israel-iran-nuclear-attack.html?searchResultPosition=1">https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/18/world/middleeast/israel-iran-nuclear-attack.html?searchResultPosition=1</a> <i>)</i>

rferl.org 18.12.2021	RUS: Russia Officially Completes Withdrawal From Open Skies Treaty	Russia has officially completed its obligations under the 2002 Open Skies Treaty and finalized its withdrawal from the agreement. Moscow gave treaty signatories six months' notice of its intention to withdraw on June 18, following the withdrawal of the United States in November 2020. The administration of U.S. President Donald Trump accused Russia of "flagrantly violating" the agreement. Specifically, Washington said Russia had imposed flight restrictions over the Kaliningrad region, the area near its border with Georgia, and the North Caucasus region of Chechnya. The treaty allows signatories to conduct unarmed surveillance flights over the territory of other participants as a means of boosting mutual confidence and preventing misunderstandings. Thirty-three countries remain part of the agreement.
globaltimes.cn 18.12.2021	CHN: Chinese aircraft carrier battle group enters Pacific for 'routine drills'	The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy recently sent an aircraft carrier battle group through the Miyako Strait into the Pacific Ocean, with analysts saying on Saturday that the voyage is likely a routine exercise that could feature drills near the island of Taiwan and in the South China Sea. The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force on Wednesday spotted a PLA Navy flotilla consisting of four warships, namely the aircraft carrier Liaoning, the Type 055 large destroyer Nanchang, the Type 054A frigate Rizhao and the Type 901 comprehensive supply ship Hulunhu, which then passed through waters between Okinawa Island and Miyako Island and sailed south toward the Pacific Ocean on Thursday, Japan's Ministry of Defense Joint Staff said in a press release on late Friday.
reuters.com 17.12.2021	IRN: US sees Iran nuclear breakout time as really short-senior official	The United States believes Iran's breakout time to producing enough highly enriched uranium for one nuclear weapon is now "really short" and alarming, a senior Biden administration official told reporters on Friday. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, did not have a precise time for the breakout, which has been estimated to be a matter of months. "But it's really short. It is unacceptably short," the official said, calling it "alarming".
reuters.com 17.12.2021	RUS: Russia demands NATO roll back from East Europe and stay out of Ukraine	Russia said on Friday it wanted a legally binding guarantee that NATO would give up any military activity in Eastern Europe and Ukraine, part of a wish list of security guarantees it wants to negotiate with the West. Moscow for the first time laid out in detail demands that it says are essential for lowering tensions in Europe and defusing a crisis over Ukraine, which Western countries have accused Russia of sizing up for a potential invasion after building up troops near the border. Russia has denied planning an invasion. The demands contain elements - such as an effective Russian veto on future NATO membership for Ukraine - that the West has already ruled out. Others would imply the removal of U.S. nuclear weapons from Europe and the withdrawal of multinational NATO battalions from Poland and from the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania that were once in the Soviet Union. In Washington, a senior administration official said the United States was

		prepared to discuss the proposals but added: "That said, there are some things in those documents that the Russians know are unacceptable."
Jack Detsch @JackDetsch	CHN/IND: Tibet/Aksai Chin Region	Satellite photos from late November also appear to show China constructing a new heliport in Rutog, in the Tibetan region. China had already been building another heliport in the disputed Aksai Chin region. China has also built out a second runway and new facilities in the last 8 months, including a larger ramp for bombers, fighters, and early warning aircraft at Hotan Airport, just north of the disputed Aksai Chin region. Satellite imagery from Nov shows a buildup of Chinese H-6 bombers at Golmud Airport on Tibetan plateau.
asiatimes.com 14.12.2021	RUS/JPN: Russia stepping up its Pacific military presence	Moscow giving new priority to freedom of navigation and coastal defense in ultra-sensitive maritime areas near Japan.  <i>(Vollständiger Beitrag abrufbar unter: <a href="https://asiatimes.com/2021/12/russia-stepping-up-its-pacific-military-presence/?mc_cid=f39062f870&amp;mc_eid=c14b018f66">https://asiatimes.com/2021/12/russia-stepping-up-its-pacific-military-presence/?mc_cid=f39062f870&amp;mc_eid=c14b018f66</a>)</i>
		<b>Analysen, Studien, Reports, Fact Sheets, Infographics, Podcast und Videos</b>
news.usni.org 27.12.2021	USN: USNI News Fleet and Marine Tracker: Dec. 27, 2021	These are the approximate positions of the U.S. Navy's deployed carrier strike groups and amphibious ready groups throughout the world as of Dec. 27, 2021, based on Navy and public data. In cases where a CSG or ARG is conducting disaggregated operations, the chart reflects the location of the capital ship.  <i>(Infographic abrufbar unter: <a href="https://news.usni.org/2021/12/27/usni-news-fleet-and-marine-tracker-dec-27-2021">https://news.usni.org/2021/12/27/usni-news-fleet-and-marine-tracker-dec-27-2021</a>)</i>
jpost.com 26.12.2021	ISR/IRN: Is Iran's new drone swarm Shahed-136 tech a gamechanger?	Over the last several days, images of a new Iranian drone launcher have appeared online and in Iranian media. The drones, dubbed Shahed 136, were combined with missiles in a drill that Iran says took place last week. Iran has called these types of drones a "suicide drone" or kamikaze drone. This means that they fly directly into a target and self-destruct. Now we know that, according to Iran's own government media, the Shahed 136 exists and is not only a kamikaze drone but that Iran has created a new way to launch the drones in a kind of multiple

		<p>launch or drone swarming format. Drone swarms are a new technology where multiple drones are used to strike at a target which can overwhelm air defenses.</p> <p><i>(Vollständige Analyse abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-689785">https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-689785</a>)</i></p>
<p>jpost.com 24.12.2021</p>	<p>ISR/IRN: Israel's Iran question: To strike or not to strike?</p>	<p>Will an overt airstrike on Iran really achieve so much more for Israel in terms of a delay than continued covert operations? The targets in Iran would vary. The first would be <u>Natanz</u>, Iran's main uranium enrichment facility. The complex consists of two large halls, roughly 300,000 square feet each dug somewhere between eight and 23 feet below ground and covered by several layers of concrete and metal. The walls of each hall are estimated to be approximately two feet thick. The facility is also surrounded by surface-to-air missiles. The next facility would be the heavy-water plant under construction near the town of <u>Arak</u>, which could be used one day to produce plutonium. Iranians say the material will be used for medical and research isotope production, but in reality could have the ability to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons. Next is Iran's Uranium Conversion Facility (UCF), located at the <u>Isfahan Nuclear Technology Center</u>. Based on satellite imagery, the facility is above ground, although some reports have suggested tunneling near the complex. And then there is <u>Fordow</u>, the uranium enrichment facility near the city of Qom, not far from the Caspian Sea. Officially revealed to the IAEA in 2009, the facility can hold thousands of centrifuges. Built into a mountain, it would be difficult to penetrate the hardened facility. Former defense minister Ehud Barak has noted more than once that the facility is immune to standard bombs. Military planners would also likely feel compelled to attack Iran's centrifuge fabrication sites, since their destruction would make it extremely difficult for Iran to reestablish its program – although the destruction of Natanz, Arak and Isfahan on their own would be enough to set back the ayatollah's dream of obtaining the bomb. <u>In addition to these key targets, the attacker would also want to bomb Iranian radar stations, missile bases, silos and launchers as well as air bases, with the aim of knocking out Iran's ability to strike back with its long-range missiles or combat aircraft.</u></p> <p><i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter: <a href="https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-689634">https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-689634</a>)</i></p>
<p>crsreports.congress.gov 21.12.2021</p>	<p>USA: Renewed Great Power Competition: Implications for Defense—Issues for Congress</p>	<p>The emergence of great power competition with China and Russia has profoundly changed the conversation about U.S. defense issues from what it was during the post-Cold War era: Counterterrorist operations and U.S. military operations in the Middle East—which were moved to the center of discussions of U.S. defense issues following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001—are now a less-dominant element in the conversation, and the conversation now features a new or renewed emphasis on the content of this report, which relates to China and/or Russia</p>

	Updated December 21, 2021	<i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R43838">https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R43838</a> )
voanews.com 18.12.2021	USA: Pentagon Documents Reveal 'Deeply Flawed' US Air War: Report	Newly obtained Pentagon documents show that the U.S. air wars in the Middle East have been marked by "deeply flawed intelligence" and resulted in thousands of civilian deaths, including many children, The New York Times reported Saturday. Asked by the Times for comment, Captain Bill Urban, spokesperson for the U.S. Central Command, said that "even with the best technology in the world, mistakes do happen, whether based on incomplete information or misinterpretation of the information available. And we try to learn from those mistakes. "We work diligently to avoid such harm. We investigate each credible instance. And we regret each loss of innocent life," Urban said.  <i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://www.voanews.com/a/pentagon-documents-reveal-deeply-flawed-us-air-war-report/6360675.html">https://www.voanews.com/a/pentagon-documents-reveal-deeply-flawed-us-air-war-report/6360675.html</a> )
rferl.org 17.12.2021	UKR/RUS: How Long Could Ukraine Hold Out Against A New Russian Invasion?	How long can Ukraine's armed forces hold out against a bigger, more powerful military force like Russia's?  <i>(Vollständiger Bericht abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-ukraine-invasion-scenarios/31614428.html">https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-ukraine-invasion-scenarios/31614428.html</a> )
crsreports.congress.gov 14.12.2021	USA: U.S. Strategic Nuclear Forces: Background, Developments, and Issues	Even though the United States has reduced the number of warheads deployed on its long-range missiles and bombers, consistent with the terms of the 2010 New START Treaty, it is also developing new delivery systems for deployment over the next 10-30 years.  <i>Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i> <a href="https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RL/RL33640">https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RL/RL33640</a> )
crsreports.congress.gov 13.12.2021	USA: North Korea's Nuclear Weapons and Missile Programs	North Korea continues to advance its nuclear weapons and missile programs despite UN Security Council sanctions and high-level diplomatic efforts. Recent ballistic missile tests and military parades suggest that North Korea is continuing to build a nuclear warfighting capability designed to evade regional ballistic missile defenses. Such an approach likely reinforces a deterrence and coercive diplomacy strategy—lending more credibility as it demonstrates capability—but it also raises questions about crisis stability and escalation control. Congress may choose to examine U.S. policy in light of these advances.  <i>(Vollständiger Report abrufbar unter:</i>

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10472>

<p><b>Zielsetzung NACHBRENNER</b></p>	<p><b>Der NACHBRENNER hat zum Ziel eine am Thema Militärluftfahrt und Luftkriegsführung interessierte Leserschaft zeitnah über</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>° Die Fähigkeiten und die Schlüsselfunktion von Air Power,</li><li>° die zentrale Bedeutung einer integrierten Luftverteidigung,</li><li>° die Weiterentwicklung von Luftstreitkräften mit einem besonderen Fokus Europa,</li><li>° Entwicklungen und Entwicklungstendenzen in der 3. Dimension sowie</li><li>° die möglichen verheerenden Folgen eines ungeschützten schweizerischen Luftraums für unsere Bevölkerung und Souveränität im Frieden, bei Terrorangriffen aus der Luft sowie im Konfliktfall</li></ul> <p>zu orientieren.</p> <p>Dafür werden offene staatliche und Firmen-Quellen sowie die Tages- und Fachpresse ausgewertet und in primär englischer Sprache thematisch und chronologisch zusammengeführt.</p>
<p>Ausgewählt und bearbeitet von <b>MILITÄRPOLITISCHE NACHRICHTEN SCHWEIZ (MNS)</b> Konrad Alder Hermann Hiltbrunner-Weg 1 Tel. 044 926 39 36 <a href="mailto:konrad.alder@bluewin.ch">konrad.alder@bluewin.ch</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>° Fact and Figures</li><li>° Science and Technology</li><li>° Entwicklungstrends</li><li>° Beschaffungsprogramme</li><li>° Luftkriegseinsätze</li><li>° Militär- und geopolitische Entwicklungen</li></ul>

<p><b>Beilagen im Anhang zum Versandmail NACHBRENNER 2021-26</b></p>	<p>° Eidg. Volksinitiative «Gegen den F-35(Stopp F-35)»: Argumente der GSoA und Antworten VBS</p>
<p><b>Verbunden in einem Informationsnetzwerk mit</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>° Peter Bosshard – Forum Flugplatz Dübendorf – <a href="http://www.forum-flugplatz.ch">www.forum-flugplatz.ch</a></li> <li>° Thomas Bosshard – Pro Schweizer Luftwaffe – <a href="mailto:thomasbosshard@bluewin.ch">thomasbosshard@bluewin.ch</a></li> <li>° Dr. Peter Forster – Das Bulletin Nr. 1 – <a href="https://bulletin-1.ch/">https://bulletin-1.ch/</a></li> <li>° H.U. Helfer – Informationsgruppe Pro Kampfflugzeuge – <a href="mailto:helfer@presdok.ch">helfer@presdok.ch</a></li> <li>° Daniel Hildinger – Verein Schweizer Armeefreunde - <a href="http://www.chaf.ch">www.chaf.ch</a></li> <li>° Christoph Vollenweider – Gruppe Luftverteidigung – <a href="http://www.lilienberg.ch">www.lilienberg.ch</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Neuabonnement NACHBRENNER</b></p>	<p>Für eine regelmässige, kostenlose Zustellung des NACHBRENNER übermittelt man seine Mailadresse an <a href="mailto:konrad.alder@bluewin.ch">konrad.alder@bluewin.ch</a>.</p> <p>Auf die gleiche Art erfolgt die Annulation des Abonnements.</p>

## Eidgenössische Volksinitiative «Gegen den F-35 (Stopp F-35)»: Argumente der GSoA und Antworten des VBS

3. Dezember 2021

Einleitung: Am 27. September hat die Schweizer Bevölkerung dem Projekt Air2030 nur mit einer hauchdünnen Mehrheit zugestimmt. Dieses knappe Resultat zeigt den grossen Unmut in der Bevölkerung gegenüber den Milliarden-Ausgaben für neue Luxus-Kampffjets. Nun hat der Bundesrat am 30. Juni 2021 entschieden, 36 F-35A Lightning II von Lockheed Martin in der Höhe von über 5 Milliarden zu beschaffen und hat damit klar gezeigt, dass er nicht bereit ist, auf die grösstmögliche Minderheit von 49.9 Prozent zuzugehen.

Klar ist: Auch knappe Resultate gehören zur Demokratie und müssen akzeptiert werden. Hätte aber die Schweizer Bevölkerung nicht über einen wolkigen und undemokratischen Planungsbeschluss, sondern über die konkrete Beschaffung eines spezifischen Kampffjettypen abgestimmt, wäre das Resultat wohl anders ausgefallen. Gerade die beiden US-amerikanischen Typen taten sich dabei klar als die kontroversesten hervor. Darum gilt es nun, den Super-GAU zu verhindern und der Bevölkerung das Recht zu geben, sich auch zu einem konkreten Beschaffungsprojekt äussern zu können. Ein im Unterhalt ultrateurer US-Tarnkappenkampffjet wie der F-35 kommt nicht in Frage. Beim F-35 sitzt zudem die CIA immer mit im Cockpit und die Schweiz erhält nicht einmal den vollen Zugang zu den Quellcodes der Programme. Die Schweiz kann also diese Kampffjets nicht autonom betreiben.

Aus Sicht der Trägerschaft des Kampffjetreferendums sind sämtliche Kampffjet-Typen vehement abzulehnen.<sup>1</sup>

### **Antwort VBS:**

Die Wahl des F-35A beruht auf einer systematischen, gründlichen und objektiven Evaluation. Der F-35A ist im Betrieb und Unterhalt das klar günstigste der evaluierten Kampfflugzeuge, unter anderem weil das Flugzeug in sehr grossen Stückzahlen produziert und betrieben wird, woraus sich Spareffekte für alle Betreiber ergeben. Zudem zeichnet sich der F-35A durch ein modernes Unterhaltskonzept aus. Mit dieser Wahl erhält die Schweiz am meisten für ihr Geld. Luxus wäre, ein anderes Flugzeug zu beschaffen, das gleichzeitig mehr kostet und weniger leistet.

Die Schweiz strebt bei ihren Kampfflugzeugen möglichst viel Autonomie an. Eine vollständige Unabhängigkeit vom Herstellerunternehmen und -land ist in einer globalisierten Welt unmöglich; das gilt für alle Bewerber. Die Schweizer Industrie wäre nicht in der Lage, ein eigenes

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<sup>1</sup> Argumente der GSoA vom 5. August 2021

Kampfflugzeug samt allen Komponenten wie zum Beispiel Elektroniksysteme oder Sensoren zu produzieren.

Beim F-35A entscheidet alleine die Schweiz, wie und wann dieser eingesetzt wird. Die Schweiz bestimmt selbst, welche Daten sie mit wem austauscht und welche logistischen Daten an den Hersteller zurückgemeldet werden. Der F-35A hat zudem eine hohe Cybersicherheit. Und: Der Betrieb und Unterhalt des F-35A erfolgen in der Schweiz durch die Luftwaffe und die RUAG Schweiz.

Zu teuer, zu gross: Wieso ein Kampffjet für die Schweiz mit der Tarnkappentechnologie ausgestattet sein muss, wie dies beim F-35 der Fall ist, leuchtet wenig ein. Zudem ist vorhersehbar, dass diese Technologie in den nächsten Jahren aufgrund neuer Detektionsverfahren obsolet werden wird.

Der F-35 ist ein massiv überteuertes, überdimensioniertes Luxus-Spielzeug für ein paar Armeeoffiziere. Dieser Ansicht ist auch der höchste Offizier der US-Luftwaffe Charles Brown, der den F-35 einen Ferrari nannte, der völlig falsch eingesetzt werde.<sup>2</sup> Andere hochrangige Mitglieder der US-Streitkräfte bezeichnen den F-35 sogar als irrelevant.<sup>3</sup> Es ist ein überdimensionierter Jet, der einzig und allein für den Kampfeinsatz konzipiert wurde und nicht für luftpolizeiliche Aufgaben, die unbestritten ermassen zu erfüllen sind. Wird dieser Luxus-Jets aber für die alltägliche Luftpolizei eingesetzt, so nutzt sich das Material viel zu schnell ab. Die Schweiz schlittert somit in eine unglaublich teure Kostenfalle, die wir uns nach Corona schlicht nicht leisten können. Es macht einfach keinen Sinn, für verirrte Passagier-, Transport- und Sportflugzeuge gigantische Kriegsjets wie den F-35 in die Luft zu schicken, deren Betrieb und Upgrades in die Milliarden geht. Dafür genügen leichte Kampffjets, deren Beschaffung wir stets unterstützt haben.

#### **Antwort VBS:**

Die Schweiz braucht Kampfflugzeuge für die normale Lage, bei erhöhten Spannungen und bei einem bewaffneten Angriff auf die Schweiz. Eine Luftwaffe, die nur für den Luftpolizeidienst ausgerüstet wäre, würde die Bevölkerung gerade dann im Stich lassen, wenn sie am meisten bedroht wäre.

Als Mehrzweckkampfflugzeug eignet sich der F-35A auch sehr gut für den Luftpolizeidienst: Er kombiniert eine sehr gute Steigleistung und Beschleunigungsfähigkeit mit einem grossen

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/02/23/the-us-air-force-just-admitted-the-f-35-stealth-fighter-has-failed/?sh=5cd633501b16>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.avweb.com/insider/is-the-f-35-irrelevant/>

Treibstoffvorrat. Dies ermöglicht eine lange Einsatzdauer, um luftpolizeiliche Massnahmen durchzuführen. Zudem ist der F-35A mit sehr guten Sensoren für das Erfassen und Identifizieren von anderen Flugzeugen – bei Tag und bei Nacht – ausgestattet. Entsprechend wird der F-35A bereits heute durch europäische Luftwaffen für Luftpolizeidienstaufgaben eingesetzt.

Alle bis ans Lebensende der Flotte geplanten (Luftpolizei-) Missionen und damit verbundenen Belastungen sind in die ausgewiesenen Betriebskosten einberechnet. Diese sind beim F-35A im Vergleich zu den anderen evaluierten Typen am tiefsten.

Derzeit ist auf dem Markt kein leichtes Kampfflugzeug erhältlich, das die Minimalanforderungen auch nur für den Luftpolizeidienst erfüllen würde: Je nach Typ fehlt die Fähigkeit zu Überschallgeschwindigkeit, die Steigleistung oder das Beschleunigungsvermögen. Leichte Kampfflugzeuge wären nicht in der Lage, Flugzeuge innerhalb der vorgegebenen Zeitverhältnisse zu erreichen. Leichten Kampfflugzeugen fehlt außerdem die Fähigkeit, allwettertaugliche Luft-Luft-Lenk Waffen zu tragen. Ein Flugzeug, das seine Waffen bei schlechten Sichtverhältnissen – in der Wolkendecke oder bei Nacht – nicht einsetzen kann, kann auch keine luftpolizeilichen Aufgaben erfüllen.

Kampfflugzeuge der fünften Generation wie der F-35A werden in den nächsten Jahrzehnten auf der ganzen Welt bestimmend sein. Sie besitzen dank modernster Informationstechnologie hochgradig vernetzte, umfassende und leistungsfähige Sensoren. Zudem sind sie aufgrund physikalischer Gegebenheiten (Stealth) – unabhängig von weiterentwickelten Technologien – durch andere Waffensysteme sehr schwer zu erfassen. Dass dieses Konzept über Jahrzehnte relevant bleiben wird, wurde auch in anderen Staaten erkannt. So zum Beispiel in China und Russland, welche eigene Kampfflugzeuge der fünften Generation entwickeln. Auch Europa will mit den Projekten Future Combat Air System (FCAS) unter Führung der Hersteller Dassault und Airbus und mit der britischen Tempest mindestens gleichziehen. Italien, Schweden und Spanien sind dabei als Partnernationen eingebunden.

General Charles Q. Brown jr., Generalstabschefs der US-Luftwaffe, lässt keinen Zweifel an der Bedeutung des F-35, wenn er sagt: «To be clear, the F-35 will be the cornerstone of the U.S. Air Force fighter fleet for decades<sup>4</sup>.» Im Budgetentwurf der USA für das Jahr 2022 sind wiederum 85 F-35 zur Beschaffung vorgesehen. Der F-35 wird darin als "Rückgrat" der US-Kampfflugzeugflotte bezeichnet.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.stripes.com/branches/air\\_force/2021-07-16/airforce-f35-fighter-expensive-2167847.html](https://www.stripes.com/branches/air_force/2021-07-16/airforce-f35-fighter-expensive-2167847.html)

<sup>5</sup> [https://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/Documents/defbudget/FY2022/FY2022\\_Budget\\_Request\\_Overview\\_Book.pdf](https://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/Documents/defbudget/FY2022/FY2022_Budget_Request_Overview_Book.pdf), page 2.8

Hohe «Life Cycle Costs»: Beim F-35 zeigen diverse Bericht aus dem Ausland, dass die Schweiz im Falle der Beschaffung dieses US-Tarnkappenkampffjets mit immensen Lebensdauer- und Lebenszykluskosten rechnen müsste. Eine Flugstunde des F-35 kostet die US Air Force aktuell USD 44'000, obwohl Lockheed Martin seit Jahren eine Reduktion auf USD 25'000 bis 2025 verspricht.<sup>6</sup> Die kanadische Regierung hat bei der renommierten Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft KPMG eine Studie erstellen lassen, die zum Schluss kommt, dass der F-35 bei einem Beschaffungsvolumen von 9 Milliarden kanadischer Dollar über die gesamte Lebensdauer über 45 Milliarden kanadischer Dollar kosten würde.<sup>7</sup> Dies entspricht einem Faktor von 1 zu 5 im Verhältnis zum reinen Kaufpreis.

Umgerechnet würde das für die Schweiz bei einem Beschaffungspreis von fünf Milliarden Franken totale Kosten in der Höhe von sagenhaften 25 Milliarden Franken bedeuten. Der ehemalige Chef der Armee André Blattmann rechnet mit jährlichen Kosten von 12 Prozent des Anschaffungspreises, was über 30 Jahre hinweg Lebenszykluskosten in der Höhe von 23 Milliarden Franken zur Folge hätte.

Auch das norwegische Verteidigungsministerium, das F-35-Kampffjets gekauft hat, rechnet mit dem Faktor 3,75. Für die Schweiz würde dies totale Kosten von 18,75 Milliarden Franken bedeuten, was deutlich über der Schätzung des VBS liegt, das für die neuen Kampffjets mit Kauf- und Lebensdauer- und Lebenszykluskosten von 15,5 Milliarden Franken ausgeht. Kosten in dieser Höhe während der gesamten Lebensdauer der neuen Kampffjets würden entweder andere Bereiche der Armee unter massiven Sparzwang setzen oder den Bundesrat zwingen, das Armeebudget noch deutlicher zu erhöhen, was zu Sparprogrammen in anderen Departementen führen würde.

Auch Spanien und Japan kämpfen stark mit den hohen Kosten des F-35 bei luftpolizeilichen Einsätzen.<sup>8</sup> Spanien setzt dabei schon auf ein leichteres Flugzeug. Grundsätzlich gilt: Für luftpolizeiliche Einsätze Super-Kampffjets zu verwenden, ist wie wenn man mit Kanonen auf Spatzen schießen würde. Es ist aber nicht nur völlig absurd, sondern würde auch den Verschleiss

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<sup>6</sup> [https://www.flightglobal.com/fixed-wing/lockheed-martin-defends-value-of-f-35-as-usaf-programme-under-new-pressure/142501.article](https://www.flightglobal.com/flightglobal.com/fixed-wing/lockheed-martin-defends-value-of-f-35-as-usaf-programme-under-new-pressure/142501.article)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/corporate/reports-publications/equipment/next-generation-fighter-capability-annual-update-2014.html>

<sup>8</sup> <https://defence-blog.com/news/airbus-unveils-concept-of-future-light-combat-aircraft.html> und <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/04/02/japan-is-about-to-waste-its-f-35s-shadowing-chinese-planes>

von hunderten Millionen Steuerfranken mit sich bringen. Dieser Irrsinn muss verhindert werden.

**Antwort VBS:**

Für die Schweiz gilt: Der F-35A erzielte in der Evaluation die tiefsten Beschaffungs- und Betriebskosten – bei einem mit Abstand höchsten Nutzen. Die vorteilhaften Beschaffungs- und Betriebskosten des F-35A basieren unter anderem darauf, dass das Flugzeug in sehr grossen Stückzahlen produziert und betrieben wird, woraus sich für alle Betreiber Spareffekte ergeben. Die Gesamtkosten (Beschaffungs- und Betriebskosten) betragen beim F-35A über 30 Jahre gerechnet rund 15,5 Milliarden Franken. Damit dürften die über 30 Jahre aufgerechneten Betriebskosten etwa doppelt so hoch ausfallen wie die Beschaffungsausgaben. Diese Erkenntnis stützt sich auf die Erfahrungen beim Betrieb der heutigen Schweizer Kampfflugzeuge, im Besonderen der F/A-18-Flotte, und den Berechnungen aus dem Evaluationsprozess. Die Offerte für die Beschaffungs- und die beim Anbieter entstehenden Betriebskosten für 10 Jahre ist verbindlich. Allgemein gilt: Internationale Vergleiche sind unzuverlässig, wenn aufgrund von militärischer und kommerzieller Geheimhaltung nicht klar ist, welche Kosten eingerechnet oder nicht eingerechnet sind.

Können sie fliegen?: Der F-35 bleibt auch nach Jahrzehnten der Entwicklung das Sorgenkind der US-Luftwaffe und der Marine. Nebst amüsanten Zwischenfällen wie der Unfähigkeit, in einem Gewitter fliegen zu können, weist der Jet erhebliche technische Mängel auf:

- Theoretisch sollte das System von Lockheed Martin automatisch Ersatzteile nachbestellen. Diese Software ist aber ebenfalls mangelhaft, sodass Teile manuell nachbestellt werden müssen. Daraus resultierende Extrakosten rechnet Lockheed Martin den Kund\*innen an.
- Ein Grossteil der Flotte der F-35 in den USA ist immer noch nicht einsatzfähig. Es existieren weiterhin über 800 bekannte Mängel - von diesen sind fast ein Dutzend derart gravierend, dass sie zum Absturz des Flugzeugs führen oder auf andere Weise lebensgefährlich für die Pilot\*innen werden können.
- Die Triebwerke für das F-35-Programm der USA werden nicht schnell genug ausgeliefert, sodass allein aufgrund dieses Problems mit Ausfällen von bis zu sechs Prozent der Flotte zu rechnen ist.<sup>9</sup> Die Bereitschaftsrate der F-35 liegt bei der US-Luftwaffe immer noch unter dem angestrebten Ziel. Das Verteidigungsdepartement hat sich zum

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.defensenews.com/air/2021/02/12/an-engine-shortage-is-the-newest-problem-to-hit-the-f-35-enterprise/>

Ziel gesetzt, dass stets 80 Prozent aller F-35 in der Lage wären, mindestens eine Mission zu fliegen – aktuell ist dies nur bei 69 Prozent möglich. Für den F-35A, also für jenen Typen, den die Schweiz vertieft prüft, hat das Verteidigungsdepartement sich das Ziel von 70 Prozent gesetzt und auch erreicht, was aber ein sehr tiefer Wert ist. Bei 36 Flugzeugen würden in der Schweiz 11 am Boden stehen.

- Die Aussenschicht des F-35 wird regelmässig und sehr schnell beschädigt.<sup>10</sup>

Beim F-35 denken hohe US-Militärs offen darüber nach, statt in die Verbesserung der bestehenden Programme zu investieren, einen ganz neuen Jet zu entwickeln oder wieder verstärkt auf den F-16 zu setzen.<sup>11</sup> Jüngst erklärte beispielsweise gar der Generalstabschef der US-Luftwaffe, Charles Q. Brown, den F-35 für gescheitert.<sup>12</sup> Christoph Miller, kommissarischer Verteidigungsminister unter Trump, nannte den Jet gar ein «Stück Scheisse».<sup>13</sup> Es stellt sich also die Frage, ob die Schweiz wirklich einen Jet kaufen sollte, der vielleicht bereits in wenigen Jahren nicht mehr für die USA produziert und weiterentwickelt wird.

#### **Antwort VBS:**

Heute stehen weltweit mehr als 700 F-35 im Einsatz. Mit diesen werden Luftpolizei- und Kampfeinsätze geflogen. Dereinst sollen über 3'000 F-35 eingesetzt werden. All die Betreiberstaaten – darunter zum Beispiel Belgien, Dänemark oder die Niederlande – tolerieren keine die Flugsicherheit gefährdende Mängel oder eine ungenügende Verfügbarkeit.

Das Führen von Mängellisten ermöglicht bei komplexen Systemen deren stete Verbesserung. Damit wird sichergestellt, dass die sich darauf befindenden Punkte lückenlos dokumentiert und systematisch abgearbeitet werden. Die Liste des F-35A beinhaltet keine flugsicherheitsrelevanten Einträge. Würden solche Mängel auftauchen, müssten diese sofort korrigiert werden, um die Zulassung des Flugzeugs aufrechtzuerhalten. Alle Einträge auf der Liste werden unter Führung des F-35 Programm Büros des US-Verteidigungsministeriums und von Lockheed Martin mit hoher Priorität bereinigt.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.defensenews.com/air/2021/01/20/the-defense-department-still-isnt-meeting-its-f-35-readiness-goals/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/us-admits-f-35-failed-to-replace-f-16-as-planned-needs-new-fighter-jet-44483>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/02/23/the-us-air-force-just-admitted-the-f-35-stealth-fighter-has-failed>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Transcripts/Transcript/Article/2473893/press-gaggle-with-acting-secretary-miller-en-route-to-washington-dc/>

Die Verfügbarkeit des F-35A ist vertraglich vereinbart. Die bereits erreichten 70 Prozent sind ein Wert, welcher über der Verfügbarkeit der Schweizer F/A-18 liegt. Mit dem weiteren Erfahrungsaufbau wird die Verfügbarkeit zusätzlich verbessert werden.

Der F-35A hat bezüglich Gewitterflügen keine anderen Einschränkungen als andere Flugzeuge: Alle Flugzeuge sollten Gewitter wegen auftretendem Hagel und Blitz sowie sehr starken Auf- und Abwinden meiden. Dank seinem sehr guten Radarsystem kann ein F-35-Pilot Gewitterzellen auch bei Nacht oder eingebettet in einer Wolkenschicht erkennen.

Die Logistiksoftware ALIS hat bei der Evaluation in der Schweiz gut funktioniert, wird aber bis zur Einführung des F-35A in der Schweiz durch das neuere ODIN-System ersetzt. Mit dem Logistiksystem verbunden ist die vertraglich garantierte Verfügbarkeit. Sollte eine Ersatzteillieferung widererwarten manuell ausgelöst werden müssen, trägt Lockheed Martin die damit verbundenen Kosten.

Die Triebwerke werden für die neu hergestellten F-35 genügend schnell ausgeliefert. Zudem werden die Triebwerke der Schweizer F-35A dereinst in der Schweiz gewartet. Eine hohe Triebwerkverfügbarkeit ist also unabhängig von den USA gesichert.

Die Aussenschicht des F-35A ist robust und wird nicht regelmässig beschädigt. Dies hat sich auch anlässlich der Evaluation in der Schweiz gezeigt. Sollte trotzdem einmal ein Schaden entstehen, haben die Techniker effiziente Reparaturmethoden.

Befürworter\*innen neuer Kampffjets betonen gerne, dass die Schweiz bzw. das Schweizer Militär auf alle Szenarien vorbereitet sein müsse, mögen diese noch so unwahrscheinlich sein. Im Falle eines Krieges, also der einzig anderen Einsatzsituation für Kampffjets nebst den luftpolizeilichen Aufgaben, sind Kampffjets aber völlig ungeeignet. Aktuelle Kriege wie der Berg-Karabach-Konflikt<sup>14</sup> oder der Konflikt in der Ostukraine zeigen, dass Kampffjets eine untergeordnete oder gar keine Rolle im Kriegsgeschehen spielten. Stattdessen kamen günstigere Drohnen und Lenkwaffen vermehrt zum Einsatz. Ballistische Lenkwaffen vom Typ Iskander-M aus russischer Produktion, wie sie von Armenien eingesetzt wurden, haben eine Reichweite von bis zu 500 km. Diese würden innerhalb weniger Stunden durch die Zerstörung der Startpisten die gesamte Schweizer Luftwaffe lahmlegen.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://caspiannews.com/news-detail/fragments-of-iskander-missile-found-in-azerbajans-karabakh-region-raise-serious-questions-2021-4-4-0/>

**Antwort VBS:**

In jedem neueren grösseren Konflikt hat die Fähigkeit, die Lufthoheit zu wahren, überragende Bedeutung. Deshalb plant die Schweiz, mit der Beschaffung neuer Kampfflugzeuge und bodengestützter Luftverteidigungssysteme einen sich ergänzenden Fähigkeitenmix aufzubauen, der möglichst das ganze Spektrum von Angriffswaffen und Plattformen abwehren kann. Insbesondere Angriffsdrohnen, wie sie beispielsweise im Konflikt um Berg-Karabach eingesetzt wurden, aber auch auf grosse Distanzen einsetzbare Lenkwaffen wie zum Beispiel Marschflugkörper können entweder mit Kampfflugzeugen oder mit bodengestützter Luftverteidigung bekämpft werden. Kampfflugzeuge und bodengestützte Luftverteidigung schützen zudem vor Angriffen gegnerischer Kampfflugzeuge und Helikopter. Mit Patriot – dem ausgewählten System der bodengestützten Luftverteidigung grösserer Reichweite – können auch ballistische Boden-Boden-Lenk Waffen kurzer und in beschränkter Masse auch mittlerer Reichweite bekämpft werden.

Diese Ansicht unterstützt auch der ehemalige Chef der Armee André Blattmann.<sup>15</sup> Gemäss ihm seien Kampfflugzeuge auf einen Gegner ausgerichtet, den es in der Krise und im Konflikt im Schweizer Umfeld kaum mehr gebe.

**Antwort VBS:**

Zwischenstaatliche Konflikte sind nicht «weitgehend verschwunden»: Instabilität und Konflikte auch im Umfeld Europas haben zugenommen. Moderne Kampfflugzeuge sind auch in einem zunehmend von hybrider Konfliktführung geprägten Umfeld für Schutz und Sicherheit von Land und Bevölkerung unverzichtbar. Die Entwicklung der Bedrohungslage zeichnet sich dadurch aus, dass bewaffnete Konflikte verschiedene Formen annehmen können, wobei die Übergänge fließend sind. Um weiterhin den Luftraum über den täglichen Luftpolizeidienst hinaus über längere Zeit intensiv überwachen und im Fall eines Angriffs verteidigen zu können, braucht es neue Kampfflugzeuge und ein System der bodengestützten Luftverteidigung grösserer Reichweite.

Kampfdrohnen können Kampfflugzeuge heute nicht ersetzen: Solche Drohnen wurden bisher von einigen Staaten (vor allem den USA) zur präzisen Bekämpfung von Zielen am Boden eingesetzt. Ihre Verwendung zur Bekämpfung von Luftzielen ist noch nicht so weit entwickelt, dass sie Kampfflugzeuge ersetzen könnten. Kampfdrohnen wären zudem für den Luftpolizeidienst ungeeignet. 20 Kampfflugzeuge sind zu wenig, um alle Aufgaben zu erfüllen. Nur Systeme der bodengestützten Luftverteidigung einzusetzen, wäre zu teuer, einseitig und trägt den verschiedenen Bedrohungen nicht Rechnung. Die Diskussion über den richtigen Mix zwischen

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<sup>15</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ms-pMdj4yS8chNZoXGSULkj3dMjTlrMq/view?usp=sharing>

vielfältig einsetzbaren Kampfflugzeugen und einem statischen System der bodengestützten Luftverteidigung wurde intensiv geführt: Es braucht beides, weil sie sich ergänzen und am effektivsten auch Drohnen und Marschflugkörper abwehren können. Ein Verzicht auf die Flexibilität, Mobilität und Reaktionsgeschwindigkeit von Kampfflugzeugen wäre der Sicherheit der Schweiz abträglich.

Welchen Einfluss hat die USA?: Bereits heute sind in Dübendorf zwei US-amerikanische Offiziere stationiert, die regelmässig die aus den USA gekauften Waffensysteme und Flugzeuge überprüfen. Grundlage dafür bildet die rigorose ITAR-Gesetzgebung der USA; demnach bleiben die USA weltweit allein zuständig, um besonders sensible technische Komponenten zu warten.<sup>16</sup> Die Kontrolle über die Software des F/A-18 bleibt beim Hersteller Boeing. Für das Abschliessen von Kurzstreckenlenkwaffen muss die Schweiz die Erlaubnis aus Washington einholen. Auch das Navigationssystem funktioniert nur mithilfe von Codes, die einmal pro Monat aus den USA geliefert werden. Mit zunehmender technischer Komplexität begibt sich die Schweiz noch stärker in die Abhängigkeit der USA. Das im F-35 eingebaute System ODIN liefert beispielsweise nach jedem Flug Daten zum Flugeinsatz an Lockheed Martin. Offiziell soll dies die automatische Nachbestellung von Ersatzteilen garantieren, doch das System ist weit umfassender. Auf diesem Weg liefert die Schweiz dem US-Militär unter anderem auch detaillierte Informationen über ihre Einsätze.

**Antwort VBS:**

Die USA verfolgen mit den Exportkontrollvorschriften ITAR das Ziel, die Weitergabe und Verbreitung von Kriegsmaterial US-amerikanischer Herkunft zu kontrollieren. Die Schweizer Armee ist Endnutzerin des in den USA beschafften Materials. Die Schweiz entscheidet alleine, wie dieses Kriegsmaterial eingesetzt wird. Der Bundesrat erkennt in den ITAR-Kontrollen keine Einschränkung der Souveränität der Schweiz. Mit Hilfe von Exportkontrollvorschriften will die USA verhindern, dass Kriegsmaterial US-amerikanischer Herkunft nach dessen Verkauf unkontrolliert an Dritte weitergegeben wird. Das liegt auch im Interesse der Schweiz. Diese setzt sich auf internationaler Ebene ebenfalls dafür ein, dass Kriegsmaterial nicht unkontrolliert in Umlauf gebracht und verbreitet wird.

Beim F-35A entscheidet alleine die Schweiz, wie und wann dieser eingesetzt wird. Die Schweiz bestimmt selbst, welche Daten sie mit wem austauscht und welche logistischen Daten an den Hersteller zurückgemeldet werden. Der F-35A hat zudem eine hohe Cybersicherheit.

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<sup>16</sup> ITAR steht für «International Traffic in Arms Regulations». Siehe die Interpellation 21.3148, <https://www.parlament.ch/de/ratsbetrieb/suche-curia-vista/geschaefft?AffairId=20213148>

Und: Der Betrieb und Unterhalt des F-35A erfolgen in der Schweiz durch die Luftwaffe und die RUAG Schweiz.

Die Schweiz erhält beim F-35A Zugang zur gesamten betriebsnotwendigen Software, der Zugang zu Quellcodes bringt der Schweiz hingegen keinen Mehrwert. Die Schweiz kann ihre Flugzeuge autonom mit Lenkwaffen beladen und diese auch autonom einsetzen. Dies geschieht täglich im Rahmen des Luftpolizeidienstes, im Konferenzschutz, aber auch bei den regelmässigen Testschiessen. Zudem bestimmt und kontrolliert die Schweiz selbst, welche Daten mit dem ODIN-System an Lockheed Martin geliefert werden. Es werden ausschliesslich logistische und keine einsatzrelevanten Daten weitergegeben. Der Austausch von logistischen Daten ist vorteilhaft für die Schweiz und wäre bei jedem Kampfflugzeug zur Sicherstellung der Lieferketten notwendig. Das Navigationssystem des F-35A funktioniert auch ohne das militärische GPS.

Es ist anzunehmen, dass die Schweiz ihre Lufthoheit gegen den Willen der USA nicht wahren könnte. Entweder würden die Jets aufgrund eingebauter Backdoors direkt am Boden bleiben, oder aber spätestens, wenn die Zulieferung von Ersatzteilen durch die Hersteller ausbleibt, vom Abheben gehindert werden. Wird diese Lieferkette unterbrochen, könnten die Jets innerhalb eines halben Jahres flugunfähig werden. Bei länger andauernden Einsätzen, vergleichbar mit dem Irakkrieg Anfang der 2000er-Jahre, könnte die Schweiz auf diese Weise dazu gezwungen werden, US-Kampfflugzeugen den Überflug zu gewähren.

#### **Antwort VBS:**

Beim F-35A entscheidet alleine die Schweiz, wie und wann dieser eingesetzt wird. Der Betrieb und Unterhalt des F-35A erfolgt in der Schweiz durch die Luftwaffe und die RUAG Schweiz. Ein Eingriff in die Elektronik zur Fernsteuerung oder Blockierung der Flugzeuge ist nicht möglich. Die Cybersicherheit wurde bei der Entwicklung des F-35 von Anfang an berücksichtigt. Sie wird zum Beispiel durch die Rechnerarchitektur, die Auswahl der an der Entwicklung beteiligten Lieferanten und die durchgängige Regelung des Umgangs mit Daten erreicht. Damit sind sensitive Daten der Schweizer Armee besonders gut geschützt. Der F-35A verfügt über das modernste System der vier evaluierten Kandidaten. Seine Cybersicherheit ist umfassend gewährleistet.

Die Schweiz hat neben ihrer normalen Ersatzteilbevorratung ein zusätzliches Paket, welches mindestens ein halbes Jahr auch bei geschlossener Grenze einen vollständig autonomen und intensiven Flugbetrieb möglich macht. Realistischerweise könnte die F-35A-Flotte in dieser Situation sogar viel länger betrieben werden, wobei einzelne Flugzeugausfälle in Kauf genommen werden müssten. Beim über 25-jährigen Betrieb der Schweizer F/A-18 und dem bald 45-

jährigen Betrieb der F-5 Tiger funktionierten die Lieferketten durchgehend. Die Regierung der USA und die US-Industrie waren für die Schweiz immer verlässliche Vertragspartner.

Der US-amerikanische militärisch-industrielle Komplex und die US-Streitkräfte sorgen dafür, dass die wirtschaftlichen und geostrategischen Interessen der Regierung und der Konzerne nötigenfalls auch mit Gewalt bzw. mit militärischen Interventionen gewahrt werden. Lockheed gehört zu den grössten Produzenten von militärischen Gütern. Der Konzern stellt Atomwaffen und geächtete Waffen her. Die Schweiz würde fünf Milliarden an einen Konzern zahlen, der Waffen produziert, die in der Schweiz verboten sind.

Das US-Militär macht keinen Hehl daraus, dass der Verkauf militärischer Güter auch der Förderung der eigenen Interessen dient. Mit der stark ausgebauten Kommunikation zwischen verschiedenen militärischen Systemen, besteht die Gefahr, dass die Schweizer Flugzeuge in Zukunft nicht nur zum Schutz des Schweizer Luftraums eingesetzt würden. Zu diesem Thema gibt es aus dem VBS bisher keinerlei Klarheit, obschon dies aus Perspektive der Neutralität zahlreiche Fragen aufwirft. Mit einem US-amerikanischen Kampffjet würde die Schweiz einen weiteren Schritt in Richtung NATO gehen. So wird gerade beim F-35 recht offen kommuniziert, was das eigentliche Ziel eines Verkaufs dieses Flugzeuges ist: Die Eingliederung aller Nutzer in eine gemeinsame Militärstruktur.<sup>17</sup>

#### **Antwort VBS:**

Die Schweiz ist völlig autonom, wie und wann sie ihre Kampfflugzeuge einsetzt. Das gilt seit eh und je für alle Kampfflugzeuge, unabhängig vom Herstellerland, und in den letzten 25 Jahren insbesondere auch für den F/A-18 aus US-amerikanischer Produktion.

Zum Beispiel bei der Beantwortung diverser Interpellationen<sup>18</sup>, welche direkt oder indirekt eine engere Zusammenarbeit mit Nachbarländern oder der NATO forderten, hat das VBS auf die Wichtigkeit dieser Zusammenarbeit, aber auch auf neutralitätspolitische Grenzen hingewiesen. Dies gilt unabhängig davon, welches Flugzeug die Schweiz betreibt. Die Schweiz arbeitet mit

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<sup>17</sup> <https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2020/12/16/the-f-35s-interoperability-tech-strengthens-us-alliances>

<sup>18</sup> Antwort des Bundesrates vom 19. Februar 2020 auf die Interpellation von Nationalrätin Franziska Roth, <https://www.parlament.ch/de/ratsbetrieb/suche-curia-vista/geschaeff?AffairId=20194464>; Stellungnahme des Bundesrates vom 19. Februar 2020 auf die Interpellation von Nationalrat Pierre-Alain Fridez, <https://www.parlament.ch/de/ratsbetrieb/suche-curia-vista/geschaeff?AffairId=20194529>; Stellungnahme des Bundesrates vom 26. August 2020 auf die Interpellation von Nationalrat Pierre-Alain Fridez, <https://www.parlament.ch/de/ratsbetrieb/suche-curia-vista/geschaeff?AffairId=20203716>

anderen Staaten und Organisationen militärisch zusammen, dort, wo es für beide Seiten gewinnbringend ist.

Die Schweiz betreibt im Bereich der Luftwaffe schon lange eine gut etablierte, enge Zusammenarbeit, zum Beispiel im Bereich Training oder Luftpolizeidienst, mit Nachbarländern oder anderen befreundeten Staaten. Die Schweiz kooperiert mit ihren Nachbarstaaten zum Beispiel auch im Austausch von Luftlagedaten und wenn es darum geht, verdächtige oder nichtkooperative Flugobjekte zu identifizieren und diese beim allfälligen Überfliegen der Landesgrenzen an die Nachbarluftwaffen zu übergeben oder von den Nachbarn zu übernehmen. Diese Zusammenarbeit ist in bilateralen Verträgen mit Nachbarstaaten geregelt.

Interoperable Kommunikationssysteme, wie sie bereits heute auch auf dem F/A-18 der Schweizer Luftwaffe vorhanden sind, ermöglichen den für diese Zusammenarbeit im Luftpolizeidienst und Konferenzschutz notwendigen Datenaustausch. Die Schweiz bestimmt dabei immer selbst, welche Daten sie über Datenlinkverbindungen mit anderen Luftwaffen austauscht. Dies gilt natürlich auch für die Luftwaffen der Nachbarländer.

Beim Luftpolizeidienst über dem eigenen Territorium oder Luftverteidigungs-, Luftaufklärungs- und Luft-Boden-Einsätzen geht es aber um grundlegende Fragen staatlicher Souveränität. Fast alle Staaten nehmen diese Aufgaben selber wahr – selbst solche, die Bündnissen angehören. Die Überwachung und der Schutz des eigenen Luftraums sind zentrale Aufgaben und Verantwortungen eines Staates. Die Schweiz als neutraler Staat will diese Aufgabe auch weiterhin souverän wahrnehmen, genauso wie die meisten europäischen Staaten auch. Ein Verzicht auf Kampfflugzeuge in genügender Anzahl und mit genügenden Fähigkeiten läuft auf einen Verzicht auf Schutz und Verteidigung gegen Bedrohungen aus der Luft hinaus. Die Schweiz würde damit die bewaffnete Neutralität aufgeben und wäre auf den Schutz durch andere angewiesen.

Für weitere Informationen: [www.vbs.ch/air2030](http://www.vbs.ch/air2030)