

Russia Invents Flying, Shooting Kalashnikov Rifle Drone

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SB/Youtube

Russia's largest defense contractor has invented an assault rifle drone capable of flying and shooting at the same time.

The state-owned Almaz-Antey company <u>filed</u> a patent for the armed drone with the Federal Service for Intellectual Property in 2018. <u>Described</u> as "a fully functioning [gun] inside a set of wings," the 23-kilogram drone is capable of flying for 40 minutes and staying aloft while shooting.

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"Our task was to lift a device with a weapon into the sky and provide maximum stability of its performance and high accuracy of striking the target," <u>said</u> its designer, the Moscow Aviation Institute.

According to the institute, the drone is equipped with an autoloading Kalashnikov rifle with a 10-round, box-type magazine.

The drone rifle can continue tracking a target that it misses the first time around without the need to manually adjust its flight path, the aviation institute said.

Video footage shows the drone taking off and <u>flying</u> for several minutes before landing. Another video shows a shooter picking up the airframe and <u>firing</u> a few rounds.

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Media outlets have <u>expressed</u> doubts that the Kalashnikov drone will be able to "shoot people in what would essentially be a flying drive-by," <u>saying</u> it will likely function as a "crazy-looking distraction."

Others have <u>described</u> the invention as a "terrifying vision of the future of warfare."

Meanwhile, Kalashnikov <u>unveiled</u> a suicide drone last month and is <u>still working</u> on its steel-frame "flying car."

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