Documents Leaked to The Intercept Open Unprecedented Window into Drone Program



Washington, October 16 (RHC)-- Newly leaked U.S. government documents have provided an unprecedented window into the secret U.S. drone assassination program across the globe.

In the "Drone Papers," the website The Intercept reveals drone strikes have resulted from unreliable intelligence, stemming in large part from electronic communications data, or "signals intelligence," that officials acknowledge is insufficient.

The documents also undermine U.S. government claims that the drone strikes have been precise. In Afghanistan, strikes on 35 direct targets killed at least 219 other people.

The documents were leaked to The Intercept by an unnamed U.S. intelligence source. The source told The Intercept: "It's stunning the number of instances when I've come across intelligence that was faulty, when sources of information used to finish targets were misattributed to people. And it isn't until several months or years later that you realize that the entire time you thought you were going after this target, it was his mother's phone the whole time. Anyone caught in the vicinity is guilty by association -- it's a phenomenal gamble."

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