

Although often under reported, drone strikes or claims of them continue mainly in Afghanistan, but also in Somalia and Yemen. On the next page is a round up of alleged drone strikes in June 2016. Strikes by manned aircraft, often with indistinguishable effect, are excluded where identified as such.

June 8 2016 A widely reported US drone strike killed a senior figure in the Haqqani Network in a night strike in Paktika province, according to the governor's office and the provincial police. Sirajuddin Khademi was described as a "key" commander in the Haqqani Network, an insurgent group and narcotics trafficking syndicate. The Taliban claimed the strike killed three civilians in a car.

June 9 2016 A US strike killed two al Qaeda fighters in Bayda province, destroying their vehicle which was carrying loaded with weapons. The US military reported the strike hit on June 8 and local media reported it hit early on June 9.

June 10 2016 The US military announced an airstrike in Marib province, Yemen, killed two al Qaeda operatives.

June 11 2016 Six Taliban fighters were killed in a US drone strike in the Sargardan area of the eastern province of Nangarhar, according to Attaullah Khogyani, the provincial governor's spokesman. The strike targeted a vehicle.

June 11 2016 Eleven people were killed in a US drone strike in Azara district, Logar province, according to a provincial councilor and the governor's spokesman. However they could not agree on the identities of the dead. Salim Saleh from the governor's office said all the dead were Taliban they were killed when the vehicle they were travelling in was hit. However Abdul Wakil, councilor and resident in Azara where the strike hit, said three civilians were also killed. He could not explain why they were in the same vehicle as eight Taliban fighters.

June 12 2016 A US drone strike destroyed a minibus in Shabwa province, Yemen, killing two al Qaeda operatives, injuring the driver. According to Yemeni security officials, the minibus the militants were travelling in was driving near the town of Haban when it was struck. A third al Qaeda operative reportedly travelling in the car was injured and died after being transferred to Haban hospital.

June 14 2016 Between 10 and 21 Islamic State fighters were killed in a drone or air strike on an IS "hideout" in Karkani area, Nangarhar, according to the provincial governor's spokesman. The night strike killed some Pakistani fighters, Khogyani added.

June 18 2016 Eight Taliban reported killed in a night-time strike (unclear air or drone, US or Afghan Air Force) on a vehicle in Nangarhar's Dasht e Archi district. Lieutenant Colonel Ghulam Hazrat Karimi said the drone strike killed Qari Haleem (aka Qari Ali), a local Taliban commander who played a leading role in the Taliban take-over of the district in 2015.

June 18 2016 A US counter-terrorism drone strike in Nangarhar targeted IS fighters in the province's Achin district, according to Brigadier Charles Cleveland, spokesman for US forces in Afghanistan. The attack killed at least 23 fighters according to the local military command. There were "some foreign IS fighters among the dead [but] there were no civilian casualties" the provincial governor's spokesman added.

June 21 2016 A US drone strike killed five Taliban fighters a commander, Gul Khan (aka Khanjar), and his four bodyguards, local officials told journalists. The attack hit a hideout in Moghul Qeshlaq village, Kunduz province at around midday.

June 21 2016 The US conducted "a self-defence strike against al Shabaab, killing three" in southern Somalia (believed to be drone). A statement from US Africa Command (Africom) said "the operation was conducted after it was assessed the terrorists were planning and preparing to conduct an imminent attack against US forces."

June 22 2016 Four alleged IS fighters were killed in a US drone strike in Pir Shah Khelo area of Nangarhar province, the governor's spokesman said. The attack hit late in the afternoon and destroyed weapons and ammunition.

June 23 2016 Seven Taliban were killed by in two US drone strikes,

according to Nangarhar governor's spokesman.
Attaullah Khogyani told Pajhwok the night strikes hit Rahmati and Marsing areas, destroying a car, a motorcycle and other equipment.
June 25 2016
Two US strikes (unclear) hit the Chahar Dara district of Kunduz, killing a Taliban commander and potentially killing as many as 15 civilians. Some may have been hostages held by the Taliban, possibly murdered by them.</p> <p>June 26 2016
Attaullah Khogyani, the Nangarhar governor's spokesman, said a drone strike killed 30 IS fighters. The attack hit a hideout in Kot district at 4pm local time (12.00 BST).
June 29 2016
TOLO News reported eight US drone strikes killed more than 50 Taliban fighters in the preceding eight days in Dasht e Archi district and Gorpita, Afghanistan</p> <p>Primary source : The Bureau of Investigative Journalism</p>