

Association of Old Crows (AOC) Report - 22 September 2017

The US Department of Defense signed a new official Electronic Warfare Strategy in January 2017 by outgoing Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter.

The vision of the Electronic Warfare (EW) strategy is to be agile, adaptive and integrate electronic warfare to offensively achieve electromagnetic spectrum superiority across the range of military operations. This DOD electronic warfare strategy took on new urgency following Russia's successful use of advanced EW technologies in Ukraine and the pace of global technological progress in the area of EW systems, according to industry and government sources.

Electronic weapons can be used for an increasingly wide range of combat activities – from detecting and defending IED attacks to jamming enemy communications or even taking over control of enemy drones.

"Hardening the kill-chain," for example, uses EW tactics to prevent an armed U.S. drone from being "hacked," "jammed" or taken over by an enemy. Also, EW defenses can better secure radar signals, protect weapons guidance technologies and thwart attacks on larger platforms such as ships, fighter jets and tanks.

New Pentagon electronic warfare strategy calls for increased technology investment



In June London hosted an Electronic Warfare Europe Conference with attendees from 45 nations covering EW, Cyber and SIGINT topics from Russian EW operations to urban terrorism. One of the new issues being addressed is countering threats from remote controlled commercial drones.

AESS' Shannon Blunt has reached out to the AOC to see if there is any interest in the AOC to become involved with the IEEE Radar Conference. They stated that AOC's current involvement with IEEE is with the International Microwave Symposium (IMS) where they provide ad space in the AOC Journal of Electronic Defense (JED) in exchange for a booth at IMS. Dr. Blunt will pursue this further to explore other options for mutual benefit.

Reporting: Erv Gangl, LFIEEE